

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
3101 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA

June 8, 2022 Commission Meeting
MINUTES

Before: Vice-Chairman John P. Delaney, Jr.
Mr. John T. Adams, Commissioner
Reverend Dr. Anne Ard, Commissioner
Ms. Karen Baker, Commissioner
Mr. Mark H. Bergstrom, Commissioner
Honorable Tim Briggs, Commissioner
Sheriff James Custer, Commissioner
Mr. Philip Damiani, Commissioner
Mr. Michael J. Deery, Designee for Honorable Vincent Hughes
Honorable Elizabeth Doyle, Commissioner
Honorable Diane Ellis-Marseglia, Commissioner
Ms. Suzanne V. Estrella, Commissioner
Colonel Robert Evanchick, Commissioner
Ms. Tanoa Fagan, Designee for Ms. Meg Snead
Ms. Faith Haeussler, Designee for Ms. Keara Klinepeter
Honorable David W. Heckler, Commissioner
Dr. Gerald Huesken, Designee for Mr. Eric Hagarty
Ms. Carol L. Lavery, Commissioner
Mr. George Little, Commissioner
Mr. Sean T. McGinley, Commissioner
Dr. Edward B. Michalik, Commissioner
Mr. Geoff Moulton, Commissioner
Commissioner Michael Muldrow, Commissioner
Honorable Carolyn H. Nichols, Commissioner
Ms. Joni Shenck, Designee for Honorable Sheryl Delozier
Honorable Russell D. Shurtleff, Commissioner
Mr. Keith B. Snyder, Commissioner
Mr. Richard D. Steele, Commissioner
Mr. R. Kevin Sutter, Commissioner
Ms. Phoenicia D.W. Wallace, Commissioner
Mr. William Ward, Commissioner
Ms. Vicki Wilken, Designee for Honorable Patrick Browne

Guests: Mr. Timothy Clawges
Ms. Donna George
Mr. Bradley Keen
Mr. Charles McIntyre
Mr. Carl Reynolds

Staff: Michael Pennington, Executive Director
Sally Barry, Director, Office of Justice Programs
Kathleen Buckley, Director, Office of Victims' Services
Kirsten Kenyon, Director, Office of Research, Evaluation and Strategic Policy Development
Derin Myers, Director, Office of Financial Management and Administration
Debra Sandifer, Chief Counsel
Jeffrey Blystone
Vicki Bonner
Stacie Brendlinger
Corinne Burr
Kathy Clarke
Christina Cosgrove-Rooks
Chris Epoca
James Haas
Nancy Heisler
Heather Hewitt
Mary Hickok
Daniel Hoover
Rebecca Kiehl
Samantha Koch
Geoffrey Kolchin
Carol Kuntz
Crystal Lauver
Michael Leister
David McMeekin
Joseph Minter
Diane Morgan
Natalie Novotny-Goles
Robert Orth
John Pfau
Morgan Rainey
Jennie Seigler
Brian Swoyer
Lindsay Vaughan
Jacqueline Weaknecht
Randa Weikel
Gregory Young

I. Call to Order

The June 8, 2022 meeting of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice-Chairman John Delaney. Roll call was requested. He informed members that the meeting was being recorded, to which there were no objections.

II. Chairman's Report

Vice-Chairman John Delaney

- The first order of business was to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting.

Motion: Snyder. **Seconded:** Briggs. **Abstentions:** None
Aye Votes: 29 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

- Vice-Chairman Delaney opened his report by introducing new Commission member Sheriff James Custer of Fayette County. Sheriff Custer has been with the Fayette County Sheriff's Office since 2011 and was elected as Sheriff and took office in January 2016.

He also recognized Commission member Rick Steele, who will be retiring in July as Executive Director of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission after 43 years in juvenile justice. He thanked Mr. Steele for his service on the Commission and on several Advisory Committees, as well as his excellent leadership and work over the years to advance the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy and the Balance and Restorative Justice goals.

III. Executive Director's Report

Michael Pennington, Executive Director

- Mr. Pennington reported that the majority of projects approved through PCCD's 2021 Gun Violence Reduction and Violence Intervention and Prevention, or VIP, grant programs have been awarded, started, and are underway.

These grants provide support for a wide range of gun violence and group violence prevention and response strategies, from youth-focused mentoring and engagement to hospital-based intervention programs to street outreach and violence interruption programs like Cure Violence and Group Violence Intervention.

Although we are less than six months into these projects, well over 10,000 individuals have been served, reached, and/or engaged by these grant-funded programs, including over 1,600 referrals for crisis intervention services, victim services, or other community-based resources. Nearly 1,000 individuals have been engaged by 31 violence interrupters and outreach workers supported by this funding. Further, the majority of individuals reached or served by these programs were young, Black, adult males, which is the population most targeted and impacted by gun violence. For additional details related to these projects, please contact Samantha Koch.

The number of shootings, homicides, and other firearm-related crime is arguably the most important performance indicator for these initiatives. PCCD is closely monitoring that data where it is available and has published a new interactive "Gun Violence and VIP Grants Dashboard", which maps out the 117 approved and awarded VIP projects. Users can filter by project type, geographic location of service areas, and other data points.

As an added reference feature, the dashboard also includes layers of firearm-related injuries (sourced from data PCCD received from the PA Health Care Cost Containment Council) as well as firearm-related crime data from the Pennsylvania State Police. The dashboard is available on the 'Grants Maps' section of PCCD's website, as well as on the Gun Violence webpage.

- On April 27, the School Safety and Security Committee – which is responsible for the oversight of VIP funds – endorsed the launch of a new statewide technical assistance initiative to support local

gun violence prevention efforts. The Committee approved a \$750,000 application from WestEd, in partnership with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), to implement a new VIP Technical Assistance Project over the next two years.

The project will create and operate a Statewide Community of Practice comprised of PCCD's Gun Violence Reduction and VIP grantees, as well as additional grassroots community-based organizations and stakeholders from across the Commonwealth.

- PCCD hosted the 2022 Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) Conference in State College on April 12 and 13. This year's theme was "*Administering Justice in a Changing World*". Nearly 400 participants, presenters, and staff attended the two-day conference which highlighted collaborative solutions and innovative strategies to address new and re-emerging issues impacting the criminal justice and behavioral health systems. Mr. Pennington thanked Commissioner Muldrow for presenting a workshop on Gun Violence, as well as Commissioner and CJAC Chair Mike Vereb for offering remarks and helping to introduce several of the speakers and sessions.
- PCCD staff have been working to make updates to the agency's website and other communication platforms. Earlier this spring, PCCD updated the content and structure of the website's "Funding" section to streamline navigation to resources for applicants, grantees, and other stakeholders. This included making enhancements to the description of PCCD's competitive grant process, as well as linking out to new video resources and webinar recordings that have been uploaded to the agency's newly created YouTube channel.
- PCCD is putting the finishing touches on the latest agency Annual Report, which will cover programs and activities conducted during fiscal year 2020-2021. Given the time period the report covers, much of its content centers on how PCCD and its partners/grantees worked to maintain services and provide flexibility as they continued to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also highlights performance indicators and other impacts of the agency's initiatives, including criminal justice, juvenile justice, victims' services and child advocacy, and school safety and security programs. PCCD will notify Commission members when the report is available to view.
- The Committee of Chairs recently approved a request from PCCD staff, in consultation with the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) and the Adult Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) Subcommittee, to utilize up to \$250,000 in JAG funds to support the work of the Adult R/ED Subcommittee. The Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funding Plan was approved at the September 2021 Commission meeting.

Within that plan, \$623,152 was set aside in a Strategic Plan/Emerging Priorities line item, with the intention that it be used to address unexpected needs, or support priorities included in PCCD's 2021-2025 Strategic Framework. One of the critical priorities included in the Framework was addressing racial and ethnic disparities.

A portion of that line item will be used to support a competitive funding announcement to conduct a needs assessment and analysis of disparity in the "front end" of Pennsylvania's criminal justice system (defined as all decision points beginning with initial contact by law enforcement through arrest and disposition, including sentencing). The data, statistics, and findings that result from this study are intended to assist practitioners in identifying imbalances in criminal justice processing, which may be caused by a variety of case-specific and societal factors.

Recognizing the critical role of community members' and local stakeholders' perspectives, PCCD will prioritize funding for applicants with demonstrated experience utilizing participatory research methods that engage the community, people with lived experiences, and others in a meaningful way as part of proposed qualitative research design.

The one-year project will employ both quantitative and qualitative research methods and will help provide a foundation to inform strategic priorities, action plans, and initiatives the Adult R/ED Subcommittee may undertake in collaboration with CJAC and the Commission in years to come.

The competitive funding announcement opened on June 4 and will close on July 12, 2022. A formal funding recommendation resulting from the funding announcement will be considered by CJAC in August and then the full Commission in September.

- In July of 2021, the legislature created the **Task Force on Child Pornography** at PCCD to review the current state of the law in Pennsylvania related to the identification, investigation, and prosecution of child pornography cases. The Task Force has had six meetings to date, and at the most recent meetings in April and May 2022, they continued to review materials and hear presentations relevant to the review. PCCD's research team prepared and presented a robust data analysis that was gathered from the courts and other sources and they heard from subject matter experts on community supervision of convicted offenders and national research trends surrounding these offenders.

At the most recent meeting, Task Force members approved several draft recommendations and PCCD's partners at the Joint State Government Commission have already begun drafting the legislatively required report. Once the report is complete and adopted by the Task Force, it will be submitted to the Governor and the legislature.

- At its March meeting, the Commission approved a motion to delegate authority to the Executive Director to approve, with the approval of Chairman and the Act 83 review team, to support a \$5.2 million FY21-22 Nonprofit Security Grant Fund Program solicitation.

These funds are used to distribute grant funding to 501(c)(3) organizations who principally serve individuals, groups, or institutions that may be susceptible to or have experienced a hate crime. Applicants were eligible for awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000 for a wide range of physical security enhancements for their facilities.

A project summary of the applicants invited to make application into PCCD's Egrants system has been included in the meeting packet as a separate document at the end of the materials. If there are any questions regarding the review or any projects, please let Mr. Pennington know.

IV. Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee Report

Honorable David W. Heckler

Ms. Kirsten Kenyon

- Committee Chair David Heckler provided the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC) report, which begins on page 1 of the Commission meeting materials. Mr. Heckler provided brief highlights from the CACAC meetings, held on March 16 and May 3, 2022 via Teams, and presented three action items for the Commission's consideration.

Action Item: State Endowment Act Funds

Staff and the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee are recommending approval of ten applications requesting a total not to exceed \$955,041 in state Endowment Act funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Heckler. **Seconded:** Michalik. **Abstentions:** Adams, Evanchick, Lavery.

Aye Votes: 28 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: State Endowment Act Funds

Staff and the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee are recommending approval of ten applications requesting a total not to exceed \$999,840 in state Endowment Act funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Heckler. **Seconded:** Moulton. **Abstentions:** Ard, Evanchick.

Aye Votes: 29 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: State Endowment Act Funds

Staff and the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee are recommending approval of ten applications requesting a total not to exceed \$3,029,115 in state Endowment Act funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Heckler. **Seconded:** Briggs. **Abstentions:** Ard, Evanchick.

Aye Votes: 29 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

V. County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee Report

Honorable Russell D. Shurtleff

Honorable Timika Lane

Ms. Sally Barry

- Committee Co-chair Judge Russell Shurtleff provided the County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee (CAPPAC) report, which begins on page 14 of the Commission meeting materials. Judge Shurtleff provided brief highlights from the CAPPAC meeting, held on May 5, 2022 via Zoom, and presented one informational update and three action items for the Commission's consideration.

Action Item: 2022-2023 Intermediate Punishment Treatment Program Initiative Funds

Staff and the County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee are recommending approval of 59 applications requesting a total not to exceed \$16,488,456 in Intermediate Punishment Treatment Program funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Shurtleff. **Seconded:** Bergstrom. **Abstentions:** Shurtleff.

Aye Votes: 30 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: Delegation of Authority- Intermediate Punishment Treatment Program Funds

Staff and the County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee are recommending approval of this request for a Delegation of Authority for Intermediate Punishment Treatment Program funds.

Motion: Shurtleff. **Seconded:** Michalik. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: FY 2022-23 & FY 2023-24 County Adult Probation and Parole Funding

Staff and the County Adult Probation and Parole Advisory Committee are recommending approval of the FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 County Adult Probation and Parole Funding Framework, the Continuing County Adult Probation and Parole Grants (CCAPPG) funding formula, and the proposed expenditure of CCAPPG funding for FY 2022-23 in a total not to exceed \$16,222,000 in CCAPPG funds and \$3,029,161 in JRI-2 savings, pending the resolution of any outstanding program and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Shurtleff. **Seconded:** Ard. **Abstentions:** Shurtleff.

Aye Votes: 30 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

VI. Victims' Services Advisory Committee Report

Mr. John Delaney

Ms. Kathy Buckley

- Committee Chair John Delaney provided the Victims' Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) report, which begins on page 40 of the Commission meeting materials. Mr. Delaney provided brief highlights from the VSAC meeting, held on May 10, 2022 via Teams, and presented three informational updates and one action item for the Commission's consideration.

Action Item: STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Funds

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee are recommending approval of one application from the Crime Victim Center of Erie County, submitted for federal STOP Grant Funding, not to exceed \$158,872, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Baker. **Seconded:** Estrella. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

VII. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee Report

Mr. Keith Snyder

Ms. Sally Barry, Mr. Geoffrey Kolchin, Mr. Gregory Young

- Committee Chair Keith Snyder provided the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC) report, which begins on page 45 of the Commission meeting materials. Mr. Snyder provided brief highlights from the JJJPC meeting, held on May 12, 2022 via Teams, and presented five informational updates and five action items for the Commission's consideration.

Action Item: State Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction (SAEDR) Funds

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee are recommending approval of nine applications requesting a total not to exceed \$1,340,197 in state SAEDR funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Snyder. **Seconded:** Ellis-Marseglia. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: State Violence and Delinquency Prevention (VDPP) Funds

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee are recommending approval of eighteen applications requesting a total not to exceed \$2,534,578 in state VDPP funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Snyder. **Seconded:** Michalik. **Abstentions:** Evanchick, Ellis-Marseglia.

Aye Votes: 29 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: State Violence and Delinquency Prevention (VDPP) Funds

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee are recommending approval of one continuation project requesting a total not to exceed \$945,000 in state VDPP funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Snyder. **Seconded:** Steele. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: State Violence and Delinquency Prevention (VDPP) Funds

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee are recommending approval of one application requesting a total not to exceed \$583,000 in state VDPP funds, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Snyder. **Seconded:** Michalik. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: State Violence and Delinquency Prevention (VDPP) Funds

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee are recommending approval of one application requesting a total not to exceed \$900,000 in state VDPP funding, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Snyder. **Seconded:** Lavery. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

VIII. Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Report

Mr. Mike Vereb

Ms. Sally Barry and Ms. Jacqueline Weaknecht

- Committee Co-Chair Phil Damiani provided the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) report, which begins on page 65 of the Commission meeting materials. Mr. Damiani provided brief highlights from the CJAC meeting, held on May 11, 2022 via Teams, and presented one informational update and three action items for the Commission's consideration.

Action Item: Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Funds

Staff and the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee are recommending approval of four applications requesting a total not to exceed \$508,966 in federal Paul Coverdell funds, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Damiani. **Seconded:** Lavery. **Abstentions:** Adams, Estrella, Evanchick.

Aye Votes: 28 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: Regional Policing Assistance Program

Staff and the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee are recommending approval of six applications requesting a total not to exceed \$642,000 in federal JAG funds, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Damiani. **Seconded:** Briggs. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

Action Item: 2021 Substance Abuse, Education and Demand Reduction, Category 1 – Adult

Staff and the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee are recommending approval of six applications requesting a total not to exceed \$827,149 in state SAEDR Category 1 - Adult funds, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Motion: Damiani. **Seconded:** Ard. **Abstentions:** None.

Aye Votes: 31 No Votes: 0 Motion Adopted

IX. Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee Report

Mr. William Ward

Ms. Sally Barry and Ms. Jacqueline Weaknecht

- Committee Chair William Ward provided the Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee (MHJAC) report, which begins on page 75 of the Commission meeting materials. The May 4, 2022 meeting was canceled. Mr. Ward presented two information updates. There were no action items for consideration.

X. Constables' Education and Training Board Report

Mr. John Pfau

Vice-Chairman Delaney noted that there was no report for the Constable's Education and Training Board other than the material that is included as part of the packet.

XI. Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board Report

Mr. John Pfau

Vice-Chairman Delaney noted that there was no report for the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board other than the material that is included as part of the packet.

XII. Other Business

No other business was brought to the Commission.

XIII. Public Voice

Vice-Chairman Delaney invited anyone from the public to address the Commission. There were no members of the public who addressed the Commission.

XIV. Adjournment

Hearing no further comment, Vice-Chairman Delaney asked for a motion for adjournment.

Commissioner Steele made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Briggs. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting concluded at 11:11 a.m.