



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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JUSTICE INVOLVED WOMEN PANEL

Meeting Date: December 6, 2024

Meeting Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Meeting Place: Microsoft Teams (Virtual Meeting)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

On Friday, December 6, 2024, at 1:15 pm Chairwoman Kyle Pelletier called to order a meeting of the Justice Involved Women Panel. Advance notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with the open meeting laws. A quorum of the membership was present, and roll call was taken.

	Membership	Present	Absent	Oct/Nov	2024 Annual Report
1	Chairwoman, Kyle Pelletier	X		Approve/Approve	Yes
2	Rebecca Brink	X		Approve/Approve	Yes
3	Dr. Nancy Connolly	X		Abstain/Approve	Yes
4	Sarah Ruiz	X		Approve/Abstain	Yes
5	Corinn Crowinshield / Dianne Fasano	X		Abstain/Abstain	Yes
6	Rep Chynah Tyler		X		
7	Senator Liz Miranda		X		
8	Colleen Stocks	X		Approve/Approve	Yes
9	Katherine Moran /Meghan Winston	X		Abstain/Abstain	Yes
10	Daisy Hernandez		X		
11	Vacant				
12	Vacant				

EOPSS Staff: John Melander and Lisa Caputo

2. October and November Meeting Minutes Review

No changes to the October minutes.

An edit of the attendance for Sarah Ruiz to the November minutes was made.

Motions were made and seconded to approve the minutes of October and November meetings.

A Roll call vote was taken, and the motions passed unanimously.

3. 2024 Report Discussion/Vote

Discussion

Chairwoman Pelletier provided a complete overview of the 2024 Annual Report. The Panel reviewed for discussion the sections of acknowledgements; current panel membership; recommendations; and reference section before voting and highlighted that the recommendations are broad and understanding that not all recommendations are appropriate for all custody settings.

- **Acknowledgements Section**

Colleen Stocks updated the section with language choices and made some edits to using the word jail and changed to the Sheriff's Department.

- **Panel Membership Section**

Names and titles were reviewed, and current panel membership is correct.

- **Recommendation Section**

The five recommendations were new language based on the conversation the Panel had discussed. A thorough review of each recommendation was discussed.

Recommendation (1) was reviewed in full, Video visitation, along with Recommendation (2), Tablet based phone calls. A discussion about video visitation, Tablet based phone calls and in person visits language were updated for clarity for both recommendations.

Recommendation (3) was reviewed in full, and no changes were made in reference to the low participation rates for family engagement activities.

Recommendation (4) was reviewed in full. The Panel had a thorough discussion that touched on a child friendly way to do a security check. It was discussed that stronger language is necessary in this recommendation. It was also recognized that maintaining safety at a facility should continue to be a priority. The age of the child and what clothes the family has available, such as jeans and leggings, were discussed acknowledging the safety concerns as it relates to contraband. The Panel also recognized that this recommendation should not be so restrictive that it gets ignored by a facility. The challenge of having an immediate appeal process was discussed, and it is necessary for the recommendation that efforts should be made so that the goal of the recommendation that no child is turned away is achieved.

The Panel agreed on the final language of Recommendation 4, “We recommend that facilities make changes to their dress code and entrance procedures to ensure children who come to visit with their loved ones are not turned away. This should include child friendly dress code guidelines developed for children 17 and younger that accommodate the current styles and access to clothing options and the ability for a supervisor to authorize a child’s entry for the visit.”

Recommendation (5) was reviewed in full, and no edits were made to the language for waiting room area improvements.

- **Reference Section**

References left as in the final report because they are referenced even if they are not in the actual report as the panel did review them at some point during the year.

Vote

A Motion was made by Nancy Connolly and seconded by Colleen Stocks to approve 2024 Annual Report. A Roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

The 2024 Annual Report will be filed by December 31, 2024, with the assistance of EOPSS Legislation team.

4. Member Comment

The panel will continue meeting every other month starting on January 3, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. On the agenda for the January meeting will be setting goals and then narrowed down at the March meeting.

Chairwoman Pellitier stressed, again, the importance of active participation of the Panel going forward to continue the good work.

5. Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.