



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee

September 14, 2020

3:00PM-4:30PM

Virtual GoToMeeting Webinar

Minutes

JJAC Attendance: Ruth Budelmann, Chair, Laura Ames, Judith Bevis, Glenn Daly, Margie Daniels, Carson Domey, Elizabeth Englander, Mariellen Fidrych, Sheila Gallagher, Duci Goncalves, Cecely Reardon, Marlene Sallo, Tracey Vasile, Elisha Willis, Peter Forbes

Guests: Joshua Dankoff, Sana Fadel

EOPSS Attendance: Lynn Wright, Jim Houghton, Samantha Frongillo, Patricia Bergin, Elizabeth Flynn

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions – Ruth Budelmann, Chair
2. Approve April 2020 Meeting Minutes – Ruth Budelmann, Chair
3. FY20 JJ Formula Grant 3-Year Plan Submission
 - a) Status of Award-Jim Houghton, Senior Program Manager, Justice & Prevention Division (JPD), OGR
 - b) Compliance Monitoring Status – Jim Houghton
 - c) Juvenile Data/Trends in Massachusetts – Patricia Bergin, Senior Research and Policy Analyst, OGR
 - d) Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) Plan – Patricia Bergin
4. FY 2021-2023 JJ Formula Grant 3-Year Plan Next Steps – Lynn Wright, Division Director & Jim Houghton, Justice & Prevention (JPD), OGR
 - a) Discussion of Juvenile Justice Policy and Data (JJPAD) Board Findings/Recommendations
 - b) Next Steps – Subcommittee Development

c) Schedule for Planning Meetings
5. Meeting Adjourn

Handouts: Agenda, Meeting Minutes

Chair Budelmann introduced herself and informed members that attendance would be taken after the meeting. A **motion to APPROVE the April 2020 meeting minutes** was made and minutes were approved.

Jim Houghton provides members with the status of the FY2020 JJ Formula 3-Year Plan submission, informing them that it was submitted at the end of March 2020. After receiving a letter from OJJDP, Massachusetts is still out of compliance for sight and sound separation and received a penalty of a 20% cut in funding. The OGR was awarded \$621,877.00, however the funds were put on hold until October 15, 2020 due to the transition from GMS to JustGrants. Mr. Houghton also informs members that the OGR is still operating with FY18 funds, with FY20 being the third year of the 3-Year Plan. October 1, 2020 will mark the first year for compliance monitoring cycle.

Patricia Bergin discusses the data trends that she has been able to collect for that section of the 3-Year Plan. Upon further examination of the trends for Massachusetts juveniles arrested for crimes against persons and property, the patterns display a similar trajectory over time. The property crime rate dropped 80% between 2009 and 2018 and 42% in the period from 2017 to 2018. The violent crime rate fell 71% over the same ten-year period and 35% from 2017 to 2018.¹

Examining the race/ethnicity of individuals charged as a youthful offender in SFY 2019, Hispanic youth account for 42% of the cases, followed by Black/African American youth (32%), White youth (17%), and Other (9%). Minority youth comprise the majority of youthful offender cases in many of the counties. This is especially true for the counties of Bristol (100%), Franklin/Hampshire (100%), and Hampden (100%).²

Ms. Bergin provides update on RED, and informs members that the OGR collaborates with JDAI, DYS and several other agencies to discuss what programs each agency is offering for juveniles. A Racial and Ethnic Disparities working group has been formed, with history of racism in America being a big discussion topic. Ms. Bergin expresses the need for a RED subcommittee and asks members to let her know if they are interested in taking part, while informing them that the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform from Georgetown is a great article to look at.

Lynn Wright discusses updates on the FY2021-2023 JJ Formula 3-Year Plan informing members that federal contractors came in to teach the OGR more about the plan and what needs to be included. Ms. Wright also informs members that the OGR doesn't plan to completely change the priorities of the plan, and that we are hoping to be in compliance with sight and sound separation. The OGR is interested in hiring a diversion coordinator to get youth out of the courts and potentially reduce violations.

¹ Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Uniform Crime Reports*, 2007-2015, 2017 Table 41; 2016, Table 20; 2018, Table 38 (National data) and 2009-2015, 2017-2018 Table 69; 2016, Table 22 (MA data).

² Executive Office of the Trial Court, Department of Research and Planning, *Case Filings and Demographics of Selected Case Types*, February 21, 2020.

Ms. Wright informs members that we will be sending out an email/survey to see who is interested in being involved in the 3-Year Plan and the RED portion of the plan. Ideally, these two subcommittees could meet once or twice a month virtually to discuss next steps. For now, we will wait for comments from member via email, reevaluate and discuss before submitting. Ms. Wright goes over other save the dates with members, reminding them to register for the OJJDP National Conference. Samantha Frongillo will email information to members, and members can email Ms. Frongillo for reimbursement if attending.

Ms. Budelmann informs members that we will be sending out an email to discuss the next JJAC meeting, subcommittees and registration details for the conference. Any questions can be sent to Ms. Frongillo via email.

Meeting Adjourned.