



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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JUSTICE INVOLVED WOMEN PANEL

Meeting Date: March 7, 2025

Meeting Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Meeting Place: Microsoft Teams (Virtual Meeting)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

On Friday, March 7, 2025, at 1:00 pm Chairwoman Kyle Pelletier called to order a meeting of the Panel on Justice-Involved Women. 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	2/7/25
1	Chairwoman, Kyle Pelletier	X		Approve
2	Rebecca Brink	X		Approve
3	Dr. Nancy Connolly		X	
4	Sarah Ruiz / Carrie Kelley	X		Approve
5	Corinn Crowinshield	X		Approve
6	Rep Chynah Tyler		X	
7	Senator Liz Miranda		X	
8	Colleen Stocks	X		Approve
9	Meghan Winston	X		Approve
10	Daisy Hernandez	X		Approve
11	Sunindiya Bhalla	X		Approve
12	Vacant Seat			

EOPSS Staff: John Melander and Lisa Caputo

2. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes: 02.07.25

A Motion to approve February minutes was made by Carrie Kelley and seconded by Sunindiya Bhalla. A Roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Education and Programing Presentation:

With the assistance of Executive Director Carrie Hill of the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association, the Panel invited Middlesex, Barnstable, Essex and Franklin Counties to provide a brief overview highlighting what education and programming is currently being offered to adult women and the scope of who they oversee. The Panel narrowed down their selection of counties to highlight the facilities that the Panel did not do a site visit in 2024.

- **Middlesex County Sheriff's Office: Director Jillian Ketchen**

Director Ketchen provided the Panel with a detailed presentation on the education programs that are offered and shared the history of the Pre-Release that follows a residential treatment program model with the focus on programming to the needs of the individual. Director Ketchen highlighted the partnership in education with Merrimack College and also having a HiSet instructor on site; the Family Dinner Project that is a series of eight workshops which focuses on the potential physical, mental and emotional benefits of parents eating with their children; and a farming vocational program through Project EARTH that includes a work release program. For a full complement of presentation, link provided below.

[Middlesex County Sheriff's Office Presentation](#)

- **Barnstable County Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Donna Buckley/Chief Barbara Clarkson**
Sheriff Buckley gave the Panel a brief history of the Barnstable County Sheriff's Office and her time as Sheriff and then introduced Barbara Clarkson, Chief of Inmate Programs and Services, to present. Chief Clarkson provided the Panel with a detailed presentation on the education programs that are offered that included GED Prep and Testing; SEIS and independent study topics such as cosmetology. Chief Clarkson also provided an overview of the Women Therapeutic Treatment Program which is a 2-Phase Program that includes education, programming and recovery. Chief Clarkson highlighted the work with many community partners. For a full complement of presentation, link provided below.

[Barnstable County Sheriff's Office Presentation](#)

- **Essex County Sheriff's Office: Superintendent Heidi Mora**

Superintendent Mora provided the Panel with a detailed presentation on education programs that are offered that highlighted the Women in Transition (WIT) facility dedicated to females. The program provides services to prepare women for life after incarceration that includes counseling, education with partnerships with Northern Essex Community College and Merrimack College, employment, and many community service programs. WIT serves women with drug and alcohol addictions. This program is in collaboration with the Barnstable County Sheriff's Office. Superintendent Mora

highlighted the Supporting Transitions and Reentry (STAR) program which has two facilities in Essex County that anyone can come for resources and work with community partners for services that they need.

- **Franklin County Sheriff's Office: Assistant Superintendent Nicole Guertin**
Assistant Superintendent Guertin provided the Panel with a detailed presentation on education programs that are offered that included: job readiness; college prep; organic gardening; digital literacy; HiSET; and print shop. Assistant Superintendent Guertin highlighted the CPT program; many family events; and how treatment continues in the community at the Franklin County Criminal Justice Support Center and the Reentry Center. For a full complement of presentation, link provided below.

[Franklin County Sheriff's Office Presentation](#)

Chairwoman Pelletier thanked each of the speakers for this valuable information and time and opened it up for questions.

A question was asked about workforce development and if the counties, specifically Essex and Middlesex, have an active relationship with their local MassHire. Both counties stated they are very familiar and utilize MassHire as a resource.

Due to the time constraints, the other agenda items were postponed until a future meeting.

4. Data Points Discussion

Added for discussion at April meeting

5. Hybrid April Meeting

Added for discussion at April meeting.

6. Member Comment

Colleen Stocks sent complements to each county for their passion to be working with justice-involved women and looking forward to collaboration on all of this.

7. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

8. Open Session for Topics not Reasonably Anticipated within 48 Hours of the Meeting

No new topics were raised.

9. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Colleen Stocks and seconded by Corinn Crowninshield. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.