



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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Lieutenant Governor

## **JUSTICE INVOLVED WOMEN PANEL**

Meeting Date: May 2, 2025

Meeting Time: 1:00-2:30PM

Roca Chelsea and

Meeting Place: Microsoft Teams (Virtual Meeting)

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **1. Call to Order**

On Friday, May 2, 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.

|    | <b>Membership</b>           | <b>Present</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1  | Chairwoman, Kyle Pelletier  | X              |               |
| 2  | Rebecca Brink               |                | X             |
| 3  | Dr. Nancy Connolly designee | X              |               |
| 4  | Carrie Kelley               | X              |               |
| 5  | Corinn Crowinshield         | X              |               |
| 6  | Rep Chynah Tyler            |                | X             |
| 7  | Senator Liz Miranda         | X              |               |
| 8  | Colleen Stocks              |                | X             |
| 9  | Meghan Winston              | X              |               |
| 10 | Daisy Hernandez             | X              |               |
| 11 | Sunindiya Bhalla            | X              |               |
| 12 | Vacant Seat                 |                |               |

**EOPSS Staff:** Lisa Caputo

**2. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes:**

Agenda item moved to June meeting for review and vote.

**3. Roca Justice-Involved Presentation**

Chairwoman Pelletier opened the meeting with a brief overview and invited Sunindiya Bhalla to introduce each of the four presenters.

The women shared their own journey with the Panel. Themes of being young and vulnerable; no guidance or support at home; drug use; exploitation; domestic violence; pregnant and in jail; children removed from their custody; DCF involvement; and being on probation were mentioned. The barriers of navigating both the DCF and the criminal justice system daily felt like a set up for failure.

They shared their transformation and highlighted programs such as Roca, that made them feel accepted, supported and loved. The therapy program of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), as a tool to better understand themselves, and how valuable mentors and being connected to resources changed their lives.

Healing, being sober, job skills, education, permanent housing, and reunified with children were celebrated.

The panel members were thankful for the women taking the time to share their journey and asked questions of

**4. Member Comment**

The Panel would like to invite the Department of Children and Families to present on systems in place with justice-involved women to get a better understanding of the barriers to sharing information to other systems that could inform this Panel.

Daisy Hernandez confirmed that she has two justice-involved women that would like to present at the June meeting. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting located at MPTC Training Facility at 31 Maple Street in Milford, MA.

**5. Public Comment**

No public comment

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

No new topics were raised.

**7. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Carrie Kelley and seconded by Sunindiya Bhalla. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.