



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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RESTRICTIVE HOUSING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: February 16, 2023

Meeting Time: 11:00AM – 1:00PM

Meeting Place: Microsoft Teams (virtual)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order once a quorum of members had been established.

Members Present:

Undersecretary Andrew Peck, Chairman

Brandy Henry, PhD

Kevin Flanagan

Bonnie Tenneriello, Esq.

Bob Fleischner, Esq.

Joanne Barros

Kyle Pelletier

Justice Gerri Hines

Hollie Matthews

Tatum Pritchard, Esq.

Members Absent:

Sheriff Thomas Bowler

Review/Vote on January 2023 Meeting Minutes

There was a motion by Dr. Henry to accept the January 2023 meeting minutes. Kevin Flanagan seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. The motion carried and the minutes were accepted.

Subcommittees/Final Report Update

Chairman Peck stated that the report is currently being formatted and that EOPSS has received all subcommittee reports at this time.

County and DOC CJR Reporting Updates

The 2021 MSA data is now available online and was posted at the end of January 2023.

Falcon Implementation Update: Kyle Pelletier

Kyle began in saying that the BAU model was implemented at MCI-Framingham on 2/6/2023. This was to get the model in line with the 427 policy. That will be reflected on the March monthly snapshot because it's done on the first full week of the month and the unit has not yet been stood up for a full month yet. That will be followed by the men's secure program interventions. She stated that the DOC is continuing working with Falcon on what needs must to be addressed that are distinct and different from the men at Framingham. Kyle offered to have Falcon join the March meeting if folks would like to have them present to speak on some of the updates at the DOC. Atty. Tenneriello and Dr. Henry supported the idea. Atty. Tenneriello asked why the accountability program (APU) at Framingham was put under the BAU because there is not a lot of violence at Framingham. Kyle explained that the APU predated the MADOCs current responses as a system and there was not a policy that the AP fit in, as well as to be in line of ACA standards. Kyle further explained that Framingham implemented the 103 CMR 427 DOC Policy which gave guidelines of what the DOC should be doing for those that pose a safety and security risk to the institution. She noted that there is a restraint review done a minimum of three times a week at Framingham for the women to see if they can handle being off restraints. Kyle stated that the APU was a one size fits all and there wasn't as much individuality as there will be in the SAU which would afford at least six distinct opportunities for intervention. A concern was raised that the placement in the APU or BAU is not a disciplinary measure, so it seems a larger group of women are being subjected to difficult conditions indefinitely. Kyle states she understands the DOC is committed to tracking this and creating the SAUs which are less restrictive environments as compared to the BAUs.

Update on BAU & SAU Tours

Michaela will send out a poll to confirm the dates of the MCI-Norfolk and MCI-Framingham BAU tours in March.

Member Comment

There were no further comments.

Public Comment

Mary Valerio thanked the Committee for their hard work. She believes the counties need to be held accountable for their lack of data reporting. She urged the Committee to look into this further.

Cassandra Bensihah stated these are public employees and accountability is so important. We need to buy into that. She noted that body cameras are also important for transparency and accountability.

Adjourn

There was a motion to adjourn from Kyle Pelletier. The motion was seconded by Kevin Flanagan. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:18PM.