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| Seal2  **MAURA T. HEALEY**  Governor  **KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL**  Lieutenant Governor | The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  Executive Office of Public Safety and Security  One Ashburton Place, Room 2133  Boston, Massachusetts 02108  Tel: (617) 727-7775  TTY Tel: (617) 727-6618  Fax: (617) 727-4764  www.mass.gov/eopss | **TERRENCE M. REIDY**  Secretary |

**RESTRICTIVE HOUSING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Date:** May 3, 2023

**Meeting Time:** 12:00PM – 2:00PM

**Meeting Place:** Microsoft Teams (virtual)

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05PM when a quorum of members had been established.

*Members Present:*

Undersecretary Andrew Peck, Chairman

Justice Geraldine Hines

Hollie Matthews

Sheriff Tom Bowler

Bonnie Tenneriello

Bob Fleischner, Esq.

Joanne Barros

Kyle Pelletier

Tatum Pritchard, Esq.

Dr. Brandy Henry

*Members Absent:*

Kevin Flanagan

**Review/Vote on March 2023 Minutes**

There was a motion by Hollie Matthews to accept the minutes. This was seconded by Joanne Barros. A roll call vote was taken, and the minutes passed unanimously.

**County/DOC Reporting Updates (if any)**

There were no updates on any applicable reporting.

**Final Report Update**

Chairman Peck will be checking in with individuals on their aspects of the report but by next month or the following month, a draft should be ready for Committee review. At that point, Chairman Peck will discuss the voting process of the report.

Attorney Tatum Pritchard and Dr. Brandy Henry joined the meeting at 12:08PM.

Dr. Henry asked if our non-voting members, Romilda and Dennis, will have any involvement in the final report drafting. Chairman Peck agreed their feedback would be valuable and stated that he is happy to share the draft with them however they are unable to vote.

**Member Comment**

Atty. Bonnie Teneriello raised that incarcerated persons are believed to be in the Disciplinary Detention Unit (DDU) at Souza-Baranowski and asked for Kyle Pelletier or Chairman Peck to respond to that. She also wondered if the Committee could get an update from the Falcon Group. Atty. Tenneriello asked if the M-1 Unit at Souza is acting as the DDU. Kyle responded that no, it is not the DDU. The M-1 Unit at Souza is for persons that engage in significant violence typically those who previously were sent to the DDU for a sanction. However, now the DOC is trying to intervene on those behaviors. It is the SAU-1 which is M-1, not the DDU. She further stated that the DOC closed the doors after the March meeting and should be officially closing the DDU in 2023. She stated the DOC is ahead of schedule on the closing. She stated that with respect to the intervention model in place, you may begin the program in restraints because it could be a recent assault that occurred. Bonnie thanked Kyle for her helpful clarification on that. Kyle stated that placement reviews are being completed sooner in the context of having a BAU as well. She further stated that of the 13 in SAU-4, they came in for new behavior and not from the DDU. Atty. Bob Fleischner asked what the door being closed after the March meeting meant. Kyle clarified that it meant there were no new admissions to DDU proper. That announcement was made toward the end of March and there were a few in the process of DDU hearings but no sanctions since that announcement. Bob said getting things done in advance is extraordinary, especially in government.

**Public Comment**

Mary Valerio stated that she recently learned in response to her FOIA filing, there were fewer than 40 educators at the DOC. At Gardner, there were three teachers total. She said there is only 1 actual teacher at the Treatment Center. She is concerned about the level of education and programming inmates are getting at a specialized unit since they are spread thin as it is in a general population unit. She spoke about the quality of the education and programming as well to address the needs of those incarcerated since it’s an “education desert”.

Gerri Hines wanted to congratulate Tatum on her appointment to the JNC.

**Adjourn**

There was a motion to adjourn from Dr. Henry. This was seconded by Kyle Pelletier. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:29PM.