

Governor’s Juvenile Justice Commission

Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Co-Chairs: Commissioner Diane Rondini and Commissioner Carl Ashley

Subcommittee	Commissioner Carl Ashley, Commissioner Ben Goring,
Members Present:	Commissioner Shelby McCulley, Commissioner Sharlen Moore, Kyle Peaden, Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Diane Rondini, Commissioner Ron Hermes
Subcommittee	Commissioner Melinda Tempelis, Greg Bucholtz, Commissioner
Members Not Present:	Jennifer Ginsburg
Wisconsin DOJ Staff:	Kiley Komro, Lara Kenny, Sabrina Gentile, Matt Allord

Convene

The Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee convened at 12:03 p.m.

Chair’s Welcome and Roll Call

Commissioner Carl Ashley welcomed subcommittee members to the meeting. Quorum was present.

Subcommittee Member Sharing

Commissioner Carl Ashley reported the Milwaukee County Race, Equity, and Procedural Justice Annual Conference will be Friday, April 21, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The conference will be in-person at the Milwaukee Area Technical College. Jeff Robinson, founder of “The Who We Are Project,” is the featured speaker. Robinson’s talk and feature-length documentary film, “Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America,” about the history of anti-Black racism and white supremacy in the United States, will be presented at the conference.

Commissioner Ron Hermes reported the next court-appointed Monitor visit for Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools is February 9–10, 2023. This will be the 16th visit by the Monitor over the last four years. Commissioner Hermes will report on the visit at the GJC Quarterly meeting on February 14, 2023.

Commissioner Hermes reported Mayor Cavalier Johnson will approve on January 25, 2023, at 11:30 a.m, the recommendation from the Common Council to change the zoning to allow for the DOC Juvenile Correctional Facility to be located at 7930 West Clinton Avenue. The new facility could be operational in 2026.

Commissioner Ashley requested a motion to approve the September 27, 2022, Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Motion to Approve September 27, 2022, PLC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Sharlen Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ben Gongring to approve the September 27, 2022, Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee Meeting Minutes. No discussion.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 7 Ayes, 0 No

DOJ Staff Updates

Kiley Komro reported there are two new grant opportunities open to various agencies including county human services, tribal governments, local government agencies, and nonprofits.

- **Implicit Bias and Racial and Ethnic Disparities Reduction: \$50,000.**
 - This program provides funding to Wisconsin county agencies, tribal governments and agencies, any unit of local government including law enforcement and juvenile court agencies, and nonprofit organizations to expand an existing or design and implement a new program or system improvement to address and limit the impact of implicit bias on the community juvenile justice system and reduce racial and ethnic disparities.

- **Youth Program Evaluation Study: \$55,463**
 - This program provides funding to Wisconsin county agencies, tribal governments and agencies, any unit of local government, and nonprofit organizations to conduct an evaluation study on an existing program serving youth at-risk of or currently involved in the juvenile justice. The evaluation study must analyze the program's impact on recidivism, whether there are different outcomes for program objectives for participating youth of any race and ethnicity, and if so, what factors contributed to the disparate outcomes.

Komro reported there is one new grant opportunity for Indian Tribes.

- **Indian Tribes Grant Opportunity: \$50,000**
 - Funding is available for tribes to implement new or enhance existing programs that aim to address juvenile justice and delinquency prevention issues for Native American and Alaska Native youth. Programs should reflect the needs of the applicant community and could include mentoring programs, community-based alternatives to detention, mental health and substance abuse services, family-strengthening support and therapy, afterschool programs that provide educational, recreational, or employment activities, and others.

Komro asked the subcommittee to share the grant opportunities with their constituencies.

Compliance Updates

Matt Allord reported that compliance monitoring of law enforcement agencies and juvenile detention facilities is ongoing. The compliance monitors expect to complete all compliance visits by end of February and finish compliance reports in March. Feedback from law enforcement during compliance visits has been positive.

Allord reported that DOJ compliance staff attended the Wisconsin New Chiefs and Sheriffs conference on Monday January 23, 2023, and distributed information regarding the tasks involved for staying in compliance with the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act.

Sabrina Gentile reported the compliance staff provided technical assistance to Kenosha County juvenile justice stakeholders from the courts, district attorney office, state public defender's office and the Kenosha Police Department regarding the new requirements for court holding and Sect. 223(a)(11)(B). Gentile added that technical assistance is available for any county or juvenile justice stakeholder.

Goals and Priorities

Komro reviewed the three-year plan goals with the subcommittee. Chair Ashley emphasized that raising the age of juvenile justice jurisdiction and changing sentencing rules are difficult goals to achieve but remain core priorities. Komro shared that in the past, the subcommittee has taken the lead on writing the GJJC memo in support of returning 17-year-old youth to the juvenile justice system.

Wisconsin State Biennial Budget

Komro reported the GJJC will consider a motion at the February quarterly meeting to allow the PLC Subcommittee to draft and approve a memo from the GJJC regarding the Governor's proposed budget bill.

Lara Kenny briefly described the budget process including the Governor's announcement of the executive budget and the Joint Finance Committee budget proposal and public hearings. Kenny explained that in previous years the GJJC has submitted a position memo or letter as a part of written comment for the public hearings.

Commissioner Shelby McCulley reported the Governor's biennial budget will be introduced on February 15, 2023.

The subcommittee discussed ways for the GJJC to be more active in the budget process in addition to sending a memo to the Joint Finance Committee and the Legislature regarding the biennial budget bill. The non-state agency commission and subcommittee members can contact

their legislators to express their views regarding the biennial budget bill and other legislation; subcommittee members may attend regional public hearings; information regarding the GJJC's position on the budget and details about public hearings and juvenile justice policy talking points may be posted on the GJJC website. DOJ staff provided information about timing and logistics for submitting comment on the biennial budget.

Commissioner Ashley asked for volunteers from the subcommittee to join him in drafting the memo from the GJJC regarding the biennial budget bill. Commissioner Diane Rondini, Commissioner Ben Gonring and Commissioner Shelby McCulley volunteered to help draft the biennial budget memo.

Raise the Age

Commissioner Diane Rondini reported she is a member of the *Raise the Age Coalition*. Commissioner Rondini reported there is progress in a bill draft to raise the age from 17 to 18 years old for adult jurisdiction and return 17-year-olds to the juvenile justice system. Commissioner Rondini did not have a timeline of when the bill would be introduced. Commissioner Rondini did not know if the Governor would include returning 17-year-olds in the biennial budget like he did in his last biennial budget. The GJJC has consistently supported policies returning 17-year-olds to the juvenile justice system and is ready to provide support for legislation when it is introduced. Commissioner Rondini said she would work with DOJ Staff regarding a GJJC position memo supporting the legislation, once proposed by the legislature.

Review Grants and Outcomes

Komro reported that the first round of backlog subgrants will end on March 31, 2023, and then submit final reports regarding their programs. Komro will review final reports and evaluate how programs improved the juvenile justice system. Komro will invite subrecipients to present to the GJJC during a quarterly meeting later this year.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Announcements

Commissioner Ron Hermes suggested hosting a GJJC meeting at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools in 2023. The Commission members were interested and will discuss at a future meeting.

Upcoming PLC Subcommittee Meetings

March 28, 2023, 12:00-1:30 PM

April 25, 2023, 12:00-1:30 PM

June 27, 2023, 12:00-1:30 PM

September 26, 2023, 12:00-1:30 PM

October 24, 2023, 12:00-1:30 PM

Upcoming GJC Quarterly Meeting

February 14, 2023, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Motion to Adjourn

Commissioner Moore moved to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Rondini seconded the motion.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 7 Ayes, 0 no.