

Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission

Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Co-Chairs: Commissioner Diane Rondini and Commissioner Carl Ashley

Subcommittee	Commissioner Ben Gonring, Commissioner Sharlen Moore,
Members Present:	Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Diane Rondini, Greg Bucholtz, Commissioner Shelby McCulley, Commissioner Ron Hermes, Kyle Peaden, Commissioner Dana Brown, Commissioner Andrew Miller
Subcommittee	
Members Not Present:	Commissioner Carl Ashley
Other GJJC Members	
Present:	Commissioner Edjron Pearson
Wisconsin DOJ Staff:	Kiley Komro, Lara Kenny, Sabrina Gentile, Matt Allord, Mark Rather

Convene

The Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee convened at 12:00 p.m.

Chair's Welcome and Roll Call

Commissioner Diane Rondini welcomed subcommittee members to the meeting. Commissioner Rondini introduced new Commission members Dana Brown and Andy Miller to the subcommittee and asked members to introduce themselves. Quorum was present.

Commissioner Rondini requested a motion to approve the April 25, 2023, Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Motion to Approve April 25, 2023, PLC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Ben Gonring and seconded by Commissioner Ron Hermes to approve the April 25, 2023, Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 10 Ayes, 0 No

DOJ Staff Updates

Kiley Komro reported DOJ Staff has reviewed applications for the Juvenile Deflection and Diversion Program. Komro reported the Grants Workgroup is currently reviewing applications for approval. Komro hopes to finalize grant awards sometime this fall.

Matt Allord shared the *Summary of 2023 reported on the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Compliance Report*. The report covers monitoring activities from October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022.

Allord explained the way the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) calculates data for each of the core requirements. Allord reviewed summary in detail for the subcommittee. Allord answered questions from the subcommittee.

Sabrina Gentile reported on GJC supported legislation. Assembly Bill 48 and Senate Bill 55 are companion bills that relate to prosecuting or adjudicating delinquent a person under the age of 18 for committing an act of prostitution. This legislation, also known as Safe Harbor legislation, is primarily designed to steer young victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking away from delinquency or criminal justice system involvement.

AB48 was referred to the Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee and received a public hearing on June 1, 2023. 24 people/groups testified in favor and ten people registered in favor of the bill. An executive session has not been scheduled.

SB55 was referred to the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee. No further action has been taken by the committee.

Gentile reported the Assembly Speaker has created the Speaker's Task Force on Truancy and the Speaker's Task Force on Human Trafficking. The task forces have assembly members only. The Task Force on Human Trafficking scheduled a hearing for September 27, 2023, and the Task Force on Truancy scheduled a hearing for October 4, 2023. DOJ Staff will monitor the task forces and provide more information to the subcommittee.

Act 185 and SRCCCY Updates

Kelly Pethke – Children, Youth and Family Services Administrator for Milwaukee County

Pethke used a power point to update the subcommittee on 2017 Wisconsin Act 185 which provided for the closure of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools; expansion of Mendota Mental Health Institute; creation of new Type 1 facilities operated by the Department of Corrections; and the creation of Secure Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth (SRCCCYs) operated by counties. Pethke specifically gave an update on the funding and building of the Milwaukee County SRCCCY.

Pethke answered questions from the subcommittee and offered to share her power point for more information.

DOC Administrative Code 346 Secure Detention for Juveniles

Greg Bucholtz – Director, Office of Detention Facilities (ODF), Department of Corrections (DOC)

Greg Bucholtz reported the updates to DOC 346 by ODF Staff have been completed. The revised rule has been sent to the Secretary's office and the DOC Legal Counsel for their approval. Once those approvals are completed, Bucholtz will meet with detention facilities' staff and other stakeholders to discuss the rule changes. Bucholtz hopes to meet with detention facilities and stakeholder groups by the end of the year. If work is completed by the end of the year, the public hearings could be scheduled in Spring 2024.

Raise the Age Position Statement

Subcommittee Co-Chair and Commissioner Diane Rondini reported legislation to raise the age of adult court jurisdiction from 17 years old to 18 years old in Wisconsin is being drafted. Rondini is hopeful a bill will be introduced this session. Rondini would like the GJJC to reinstate their full support of "Raising the Age" legislation in Wisconsin.

Motion to Re-affirm the GJJC Statement Supporting Raising the Age to 18 Years of Age for Adult Court Jurisdiction

Motion was made by Commissioner Sharlen Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ben Gonring to update the GJJC Statement to support raising the age of adult court jurisdiction in Wisconsin.

The subcommittee discussed the previous GJJC statements.

The GJJC initially passed a motion in September 2013 supporting returning 17-year-olds to the juvenile justice system and has re-affirmed this position multiple times by supporting legislation and provisions in previous state budgets.

Commissioner Shelby McCulley provided more information on previous bills and Governor Evers' State Budget provisions that raised the age and fully funded the reimbursement to counties for the costs associated with services for 17-year-olds in the juvenile justice system.

Subcommittee members volunteered to form a workgroup to update the GJJC statement. DOJ Staff offered to combine the previous statements for the workgroup to review.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 10 Ayes, 0 No

Phone Call Fees in Juvenile Detention Centers

Matt Allord reported Commissioners had the opportunity to meet youth that were at Lincoln Hills School at the August GJJC meeting. The youth discussed the phone call fees at some detention centers and said they were not able to talk with their families because of the high costs per call. The GJJC asked DOJ Staff to provide more information on the phone call fees at some detention centers.

Allord contacted Greg Bucholtz for more information. Bucholtz provided the list of fees for the detention centers. There are 12 detention centers. Seven detention centers do not charge youth for phone calls. The other five detention centers' fee ranged from \$.19 per minute to \$.24 per minute.

Allord distributed a memo that included DOC 346 policies on phone calls and federal legislation.

The subcommittee discussed the rates and detention centers that are collocated with the county jail and how that might affect the phone call rates. DOJ Staff will do more research to help determine next steps.

Upcoming PLC Subcommittee Meeting

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

Upcoming GJJC Quarterly Meeting

November 14, 2023, 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Public Comment

Public comment was provided to the subcommittee.

Announcements

Commissioner Andy Miller reported Chapter 938 has implementation issues because SRCCCYs and Type 1 Facilities have not been built. DOJ will consolidate applicable statutory information and put this item on the agenda for a future time to discuss in more detail.

Commissioner Sharlen Moore requested DOJ Staff provide a summary of Type 1 Facilities and SRCCCYs being built and planning to be built, numbers regarding costs for secure placement options.

Commissioner Andy Miller noted that updates regarding the MJTC expansion and statutory mechanisms for ordering a youth to MJTC may be useful for a future meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Moore and seconded by Commissioner Edjron Pearson to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 7 Ayes, 0 No