

Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual

Chairperson: Commissioner Diane Rondini

Commission Members:	Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Edjron Pearson, Commissioner Diane Rondini, Commissioner Lesley Chapin, Commissioner Carl Ashley, Commissioner Meaghan Henry, Commissioner Ben Gonring, Commissioner Charles Tubbs, Commissioner Aidan Raney, Commissioner Evelyn Coker, Commissioner Lance Horozewski, Commissioner Muskadee Montano, Commissioner Emily Zernick
Members Not Present:	Commissioner Sharlen Moore, Commissioner Tweed Shuman, Commissioner Dana Brown, Commissioner Mariama Ceesay, Commissioner Charles Greer, Commissioner Andrew Miller,
DOJ Staff:	Sabrina Gentile, Kiley Komro, Matt Allord, Steve Wagner, Jess Reindl, Lara Kenny
Agency Partners and Agency Staff:	Kim Jenkins (DPI), Greg Bucholtz (DOC)

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order

Chair Diane Rondini welcomed commissioners to the meeting. Chair Rondini welcomed new member Emily Zernick and led introductions of members. Quorum was present.

Chair Rondini requested a motion to approve the August 13, 2024, GJJC Meeting Minutes.

Motion to Approve Minutes

Motion to Approve August 13, 2024, GJJC Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lesley Chapin proposed a revision to the August 13, 2024, meeting minutes regarding the Lincoln Hills School population.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lance Horozewski and seconded by Commissioner Aidan Raney to revise the Lincoln Hills School population in the August 13, 2024, meeting minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 13 Ayes, 0 No

Motion was made by Commissioner Lesley Chapin and seconded by Commissioner Ben Gonring to approve the amended August 13, 2024, meeting minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 13 Ayes, 0 No

Subcommittee Sharing

Ethnic and Racial Disparities (ERD) Subcommittee – Commissioner Edjron Pearson reported Dr. Chris Bijoux, Deputy Director for Equity and Racial Justice at Georgetown University, presented strategies for messaging information on racial inequities to advance positive change.

Youth Voice Commission (YVC) – Commissioner Aidan Raney reported the Youth Voice Commission outlined a youth outreach initiative and formalized a plan. Commissioner Raney reviewed the questions for youth. Commissioners suggested additional questions to ask youth. Commissioner Raney and Kiley Komro provided additional detail on how the questions will be administered.

Policy, Legislation and Compliance (PLC) Subcommittee – Commissioner Carl Ashley reported DOJ Staff started Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPa) compliance audits of law enforcement agencies, DOC Staff updated the Subcommittee on DOC Administrative Code 346, and the Subcommittee continued discussing a possible legislative change for Type 1 Facility commitment.

DOJ Updates

Compliance Update – Matt Allord reported Staff has completed some JJDPa compliance audits covering the data period of 10/1/23 to 9/30/24. The JJDPa Annual Survey was distributed to all facilities throughout the state of Wisconsin asking that sites report any youth under the age of 17 securely detained or confined during the reporting period. Compliance staff will do 50 – 60 audits and record reviews. Audits will be done at secure facilities and due to increased staffing capabilities will continue to audit of self-reported nonsecure facilities, to ensure they meet the federal definition of nonsecure. Audits are done every three years for secure facilities.

Compliance monitor Jeff Sauer will not be doing audit visits this year. Sauer is a DOJ Limited Term Employee and is busy with his other part time employment and wants to spend more time with family. Sauer hopes to return sometime in 2025. Presently, all JJDPa audits will be completed by Matt Allord and Jessica Reindl.

Allord announced if Commissioners want to attend a compliance audit, they should contact him, and Allord will let them know of upcoming audits.

Sabrina Gentile reported in year two of the three-year audit schedule, DOJ requests a full year of records from jails. Gentile reminded the Commission that DOC Staff does the on-site audit of the jails and DOJ Staff audits the records of the jails. Audits are required under the JJDPa because jails are a secure facility. Gentile has requested the records from jails and has started reviewing them.

Legislative Update – Gentile updated the Commission on the Legislative Study Committee on Emergency Detention and Civil Commitment of Minors. This Study Committee was created to

study the appropriateness of current emergency detention and civil commitment laws as applied to minors and to recommend legislation that creates child-appropriate emergency detention and civil commitment procedures and maximizes civil commitment placement options for minors in Wisconsin. Over the course of three meetings, the Study Committee has heard multiple presentations focused on the insufficiency and complexities of addressing the acute mental health needs of children. Limited resources, bed availability, workforce shortages, and reimbursement rates were among the issues raised. Presenters proposed numerous recommendations to address these issues. The Study Committee will meet again November 21 to consider bill drafts.

Gentile summarized the legislative elections and said the 2025-2026 Legislative Session will begin January 6, 2025.

Grants – Kiley Komro reported the four subgrants that were awarded regarding Indian Tribes, Positive Youth Development and Ethnic and Racial Disparities, began on October 1, 2024.

Allord reported DOJ Staff has been working with the Milwaukee Police Department Central District on space for juveniles brought in for booking. The Milwaukee Police Department Central District holds the second largest number of juveniles each year. Milwaukee County Juvenile Detention Center holds the most. DOJ Staff worked with the federal Office of Justice Programs to create a non-competitive grant opportunity to assist the Milwaukee Police Department Central District using remaining federal Justice Assistance Grant funds. The Milwaukee Police Department was awarded \$47,518 and will create two juvenile-only interview spaces on the sixth floor of Milwaukee Police Department Central District which is also their Police Administration Building. The spaces will align with best practices for holding youth and meet the definition of “nonsecure” under the JJDPA.

Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) Updates

Lance Horozewski, Administrator of Juvenile Corrections and Commissioner designee and Greg Bucholtz, Office of Detention Facilities Director

Commissioner Horozewski had the following updates:

- The populations at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools.
- Construction has started on the Type 1 facility in Milwaukee. Commissioner Horozewski showed pictures of the construction site.
- Funding was approved to design the Type 1 facility in Dane County. This facility will also hold girls.
- There has been an uptick in youth in the Serious Juvenile Offender program and fewer youth being waived into adult court jurisdiction.

Greg Bucholtz had the following updates:

- DOC 346 Secure Detention Facilities revision is with the legislature and DOC is waiting to see what happens with the rule.

- The Racine County Juvenile Detention Center is having an open house on January 16, 2025.
- Milwaukee County Secure Residential Care Center for Children and Youth (SRCCCY) facility is still under construction. They have had to move youth around to accommodate the construction. They plan to have the facility open in late 2025.

Business

Title II Subgrant Presentation: Your Move MKE Restorative Justice Rap Album

Raquel “Rockz” Aleman and Joseph “SilkE” Wilke

Aleman and Wilke presented on the program evaluation final report and responded to questions from the Commission. The presentation covered the program’s demographics, goals and interview results, as well as major findings. The program was a success. Youth felt safe, connected with peers and staff, expressed themselves, and built new skills.

Announcements

Komro reported DOJ Staff, Department of Children and Families Staff and Commissioner Diane Rondini attended the Coalition for Juvenile Justice 2024 R/ED Conference on October 16-17, 2024, in Seattle, Washington. Komro and others summarized a few presentations.

DOJ Staff and Commissioners will be attending the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention National Conference on Juvenile Justice on November 19-21, 2024, in Washington, DC.

Commissioner Edjron Pearson reported Melissa Agard was elected Dane County Executive and was sworn in today.

Public Comment

Commissioner Diane Rondini reported the Raise the Age Coalition is meeting on November 21, 2024, to start planning for the 2025-2026 legislative session. Commissioner Rondini forwarded the meeting information to DOJ Staff. Public member Kris Fleming commented that she has communicated her support to some legislators that may author the legislation.

Tony Maggiore Youth Excellence Award Presentation

Komro announced Kahmara Kelly has received the 2024 Tony Maggiore Youth Excellence Award. The Commissioners congratulated Kahmara Kelly.

2025 GJJC Quarterly Meeting Dates

- To be determined

Adjourn

Commissioner Rondini asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn

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

Motion approved.

The vote was: 13 Ayes, 0 No