

Governor’s Juvenile Justice Commission

Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Co-Chairs: Commissioner Diane Rondini and Commissioner Carl Ashley

Subcommittee	Commissioner Meaghan Henry, Commissioner Diane Rondini, Greg
Members Present:	Bucholtz, Commissioner Lance Horozewski, Commissioner Evelyn Coker, Commissioner Dana Brown, Kim Jenkins, Commissioner Carl Ashley, Commissioner Lesley Baird Chapin, Judge Everett Mitchell, Commissioner John Bauman, Commissioner Ella Bostwick, Commissioner John Bauman, Commissioner Ella Bostwick, Commissioner Maurice Newton, Jr., Commissioner Trevor Strickler
Subcommittee	Commissioner Ben Gonring, Commissioner Andrew Miller,
Members Not Present:	Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Aidan Raney
Wisconsin DOJ Staff:	Kiley Komro, Sabrina Gentile, Matt Allord, Jessica Reindl, Mark Rather, Lara Kenny, Brad Rollo

Convene

The Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee convened at 12:01 p.m.

Chair’s Welcome and Roll Call

Co-Chair Diane Rondini welcomed subcommittee members to the meeting. Co-Chair Rondini confirmed quorum with DOJ Staff.

Co-Chair Rondini asked for a motion to approve October 28, 2025, meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve October 28, 2025, PLC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Carl Ashley and seconded by Commissioner Ella Bostwick to approve October 28, 2025, Policy, Legislation, and Compliance Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

DOJ Updates

Co-Chair Rondini asked staff for DOJ updates.

Staff: Matt Allord reported that Jeff Sauer resigned from the Limited Term Employee Compliance Monitor position. Brad Rollo, DOJ Crime Information Bureau Director and Acting Deputy Division Administrator of Law Enforcement Services, introduced himself and explained his role within WI DOJ.

Compliance: Matt Allord reported all Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) audits have been completed. WI DOJ staff are completing the analysis of audit data. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has not yet opened the compliance monitoring tool (CMT) to submit data. Allord expects Wisconsin to remain in compliance with JJDP core requirements.

WI DOJ received the 2025 Compliance Determination Letter from OJJDP. A notice of funding opportunity for the Title II funding associated with this previously reported data still has not been opened for application.

Allord reported that WI DOJ will still receive a 2026 OJJDP audit to confirm an effective system of monitoring compliance with the core requirements of the JJDP. OJJDP has not shared the date of this audit and will likely give about one month notice. WI DOJ staff continue to work on selecting and communicating with agencies that OJJDP may visit during the audit.

Legislation – Sabrina Gentile reported on the following bills (AB/Assembly Bill) (SB/Senate Bill)

- AB114/SB109 – clinician initiation of emergency detention of a minor and providing a penalty – Assembly and Senate hearing was held.
- AB115/SB110 – authorizing youth behavioral health program under the Medical Assistance program – no action/no hearing on the bills.
- AB116/SB111 – transportation of minors for emergency detention – SB111 passed Sen on June 18, 2025 with 18-14 vote is now waiting for Assembly action.
- AB112/SB107 – consent to mental health treatment by minors who are age 14 or older – A&S public hearing held – Assembly and Senate hearing was held.
- AB79/SB73 – to eliminate prosecution or adjudication of minors for committing an act of prostitution – no action/no hearing on the bills.
- AB773/SB 755, treatment of a pregnant or postpartum person in prison or jail, has been introduced. This bill applies to all Department of Corrections detention facilities, Secure Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth (SRCCCY), county juvenile detention centers and jails. The bill limits the use of physical restraints on pregnant and certain postpartum people in custody. The legislation is the current practice in DOC facilities. This bill would put this practice into statute. Limiting the use of restraints is currently one of the 33 requirements in the JJDP. No action/no hearing on the bills.
- AB860/SB847, written resource guides informing inmates and juveniles in custody of their rights and making an appropriation. Adult resource guides are updated annually. This bill provides the same requirements for juveniles in custody, except that DOC is responsible for maintaining the written resource guide relating to juveniles, posting and distributing the resource guide for type 1 juvenile detention facilities, and ensuring that any juvenile detention facility, secured residential care center for children and youth, or juvenile portion of the county jail approved by DOC has a plan to distribute the resource guide. No action/no hearing on the bills.

- SB882/AB895 Eliminate Juvenile Life without Parole – according to the WI Alliance for Youth Justice – Sen James and Rep Novak are working with Committee chairs to schedule a joint committee hearing.

Gentile reported Raise the Age legislation has not been introduced as a bill.

Gentile reported on the 2026 Legislative Session Calendar.

- The last floor period is February 10 – 19.
- The Assembly expects to be in session one day a week until end of session.
- Governor Evers' State of State address is Tuesday, February 17.
- The last general – business floor period is March 17 – 19.
- Wisconsin Eye operations have been suspended due to lack of funding so legislative hearings and sessions are not being streamed.
- Sen LeMahieu reported the WI LTSB will stream the Senate session on Jan 21.

Gentile reported the 2026 Election dates.

- February 17 is the Spring Primary.
- April 7 is the Spring General.
- April 15 is the first day candidates can circulate nomination papers for the Fall Election.
- June 1 is the deadline to file nomination papers for the Fall Election.
- August 11 is the Fall Primary.
- November 3 is the Fall General.

Grants – Komro reported there are two grants open for applications through January 30, 2026. Youth Justice System Improvement grant and Positive Youth Development Program.

The Positive Youth Development Program will provide up to three awards with a maximum of \$67,434 per award for a project period from 4/1/2026-6/30/2027. This funding will support local positive youth development programs that support delinquent or at-risk youth. Program designs should reflect the needs and strengths of the community. Eligible programs could include mentoring; mental health services; family strengthening or wraparound programs; after-school programs that provide educational, recreational, or employment activities; or other programs that provide positive youth development opportunities for youth at-risk of entering the juvenile justice system and for delinquent youth.

The Youth Justice System Improvement Program will provide up to three awards between \$19,000-\$28,645 per award for a project period from 4/1/2026-9/30/2026. Funding is available to support programs and initiatives that improve objective decision making procedures for youth-serving staff to respond to youth behavior and offending, train staff in best practices including understanding adolescent brain development, communication, and restorative practices, develop or expand alternative responses to youth behaviors that divert or deflect

them from formal involvement in the youth justice system such as restorative practices, alternatives to suspension, and diversion to community-based services, or provide opportunities that bring together youth justice professionals and youth for activities or programming that break stigmas, address miscommunications, build empathy, support community cohesion, and facilitate mentorship.

Grants that ended in late 2025 will present on their project designs and results at the February 10 GJJC meeting.

First Consideration of Position Statement Regarding Juvenile Life Without Parole

Komro reviewed the *End Life Sentences for Children and Youth* position statement for the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee made suggested changes to the position statement including requesting context regarding the economic impact, victim rights, recidivism rates, and judicial discretion.

The Subcommittee discussed how much time revising the position statement will take and the intention to have the GJJC approve the position statement at the February meeting.

Motion to Adopt a Position Supporting the End of Life Sentences without Parole for Children and Youth in Wisconsin.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ella Bostwick and seconded by Commissioner Carl Ashley to adopt a position supporting the end of life sentences without parole for children and youth in Wisconsin and edit the statement for proposal in the future. The motion was approved with one abstaining vote (Subcommittee member Greg Bucholtz).

Action Priorities and Sponsor Proposals

The Subcommittee reviewed the goals and objectives identified in the 2023-2026 Three-Year Strategic Plan and discussed future action items. The Subcommittee also reviewed the Position Statement Development procedures and Komro encouraged members to bring topics for consideration to the Subcommittee at future meetings.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Announcements

Subcommittee member Greg Bucholtz reported the Milwaukee County Secure Residential Care Center for Children and Youth occupancy inspection by the Department of Corrections will be on February 18, 2026, and the facility will likely open to youth in March 2026.

Co-Chair Rondini asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Ashley and seconded by Commissioner Evelyn Coker to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

2026 PLC Subcommittee Meeting Dates: 12:00PM-1:30PM

- March 24, 2026
- April 28, 2026
- June 23, 2026
- October 27, 2026

2026 GJC Quarterly Meetings Dates: 9:00AM-12:00PM

- February 10, 2026, virtual
- May 12, 2026, virtual
- August 18, 2026, virtual
- November 10, 2026, in person