



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

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Criminal Justice Services Board

December 8, 2022

Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
East Reading Room

Members Present

Sheriff C. O. Balderson
Ms. Mary Biggs
Chief Craig Branch, Chair
Sheriff Michael Chapman
Ms. Ebony Clark (Virtual)
Mr. Timothy Coyne for
Ms. Maria Jankowski
The Hon. Sarah Deneke
The Hon. Chadwick Dotson
Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.
Ms. Lisa Hernandez for
Mr. Harold Clarke
Sheriff Brian Hieatt
Mr. Jagdish Katyal
Judge Joseph Lindsey
Mr. Edward M. Macon

Members Present (Cont'd)

D. Bradley Marshall, Esquire
Ms. Renee Maxey
Senator Jennifer McClellan
Dr. Sesha Joi Moon
Ms. Abbey Philips
The Hon. Bryan Porter
LTC Tricia Powers for Colonel
Gary Settle
Superintendent William Smith
Mr. James Towey for
Ms. Amy Floriano
Ms. Ashley Waddell
Mr. Anthony Williams
Ms. Nicole Wittman for
The Hon. Jason Miyares
Delegate Scott Wyatt

Members Absent

Ms. Angie Carrera
Chief Maggie DeBoard
Chief Jeffrey Katz
Senator Joe Morrissey
Delegate Wren Williams

I. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Chairman Chief Craig Branch called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) to order at 11:05 a.m. A quorum of the Board was present.

Ms. Ebony Clark participated through electronic communication pursuant to *Virginia Code* § 2.2-3708.2(A)(1)(b) due to being on maternity leave from Henrico County, Virginia.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Anthony Williams made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bryan Porter, to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2022, meeting of the CJSB. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Director's Report

Mr. Jackson Miller, Director of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) gave his report to the Board.

- DCJS has codified response responsibilities in crisis situations when victims are involved. In response to the shootings at UVa and at the Walmart in Chesapeake, DCJS and the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund worked together as lead coordinating agencies for those individuals determined to be victims. Staff responded to both situations and deployed to the locations for on-site assistance. Director Miller applauded his staff for their willingness to sacrifice their own time, even on Thanksgiving, to assist in these crisis situations.
- The K-12 Digital Mapping Program has been a huge success with over 85% of all school divisions participating in the program. Uniform, consistent mapping technology of all Virginia public schools allows all first responders to have access to school maps in the event of a critical incident, speeding the response and reunification efforts. Staff is working with the remaining school divisions to encourage full participation.
- The Standard Response Protocols/ Standard Reunification Method Program offered by the "I Love You Guys" Foundation has been acquired to assist school divisions across the Commonwealth with a uniformed and consistent model for response and reunification in the event of a crisis. The program will launch in 2023 and all training will be available free to all school divisions.
- The Handle with Care Program is offered by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety in Virginia and enables law enforcement to notify schools if they encounter a child at a traumatic scene or incident. Schools and mental healthcare leaders can then provide trauma-sensitive support to the child immediately upon their return to school. The program is offered as part of a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant awarded to DCJS. To date, 24 school divisions are participating with 42 more expressing interest and requesting training.
- The Active Attack Program is expanding with the addition of two more instructors, bringing the total to 1 FTE and 4 part-time instructors. These positions will assist DCJS in meeting the tremendous demand to provide more sessions of the Civilian Response and Casualty Care (CRCC) to civilians across the Commonwealth. These new trainings will provide skills and best practices in response to multiple types of active attack events.
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention grant. The deliverables of this grant will include Domestic Extremism and Violent Extremism Awareness training and a 2-day Community Behavioral Threat Assessment Team (CBTAT) training that will help bridge the gap between K-12 and higher education behavioral threat assessment teams. These CBTAT trainings will help train law enforcement, mental health professionals, and community stakeholders recognize, report, and better respond to threatening behavior.

- In addition to the grants before the CJSB, DCJS will be releasing more funding opportunities in 2023 to include:
 - Over 65 million in ARPA funds
 - 12 million in JAG funds
 - 5 million in Body Worn Camera funds
 - 27 million in SRO/SSO funds
 - 1.1 million in hate crime prevention funds
- Director Miller identified three individuals retiring from DCJS. The combined total of their years of service with DCJS is 87 years. These individuals are: Leon Baker, Division Director, Licensure and Regulatory Services, Paula Harpster, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator, Division of Programs and Services, Adult Justice Programs, and Dr. Jim McDonough, Manager of the Criminal Justice Research Center of DCJS. They will be missed.

IV. Committee Reports

- **Committee on Training**

Chief Branch called on Superintendent William Smith to give a report from the Committee on Training (COT), which met that morning.

The COT recommended that the CJSB approve the recertification of the Chesterfield County Police Department as a Certified Crime Prevention Community.

Superintendent Smith made the motion, seconded by Ms. Nicole Wittman, to approve the recertification of the Chesterfield County Police Department as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. The motion passed unanimously.

The COT recommended that the CJSB also approve the recertification of the Town of Christiansburg Police Department as a Certified Crime Prevention Community.

Superintendent Smith made the motion, seconded by Ms. Renee Maxey, to approve the recertification of the Town of Christiansburg Police Department as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. The motion passed. *Recusal: Ms. Mary Biggs.*

- **Executive Committee**

Chief Branch gave an update from the CJSB Executive Committee, which met on November 16-17, 2022.

- **Grants Committee**

The Grants Committee met on December 1, 2022, and made the following recommendations:

- **Operation Ceasefire Fund.** DCJS received 30 applications, including two (2) for the state agency portion of \$2,600,000, totaling \$9,869,134. The Grants Committee approved funding in the amount of **\$4,850,040** for **17** awards.
- **Virginia Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund (FVIPF) – Virginia Hospital Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative.** The Grants Committee approved funding in the amount of **\$5,000,000** in for **one** award.

- **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) – One Time grants** in the amount of **\$658,476** in state funding for **eleven** awards.
- **Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) – CY 2023** in the amount of **\$667,576** in federal funds for **26** awards.
- **Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) – Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners** in the amount of **\$998,750** in state funds for **nine** awards.
- **Improving the Criminal Justice Response Grant Program (ICJR)** in the amount of **\$693,347** in state funds for **four** awards.
- **Hate Crimes Grant Program (HCGP) – Round IV** in the amount of **\$372,238** in state funds for **three** awards.
- **Law Enforcement American Rescue Plan Act (LE ARPA) – Grants to Localities with High Violence Crime Rates** in the amount of **\$7,425,846** in ARPA funds for **12** awards.
- **Law Enforcement American Rescue Plan Act (LE ARPA) – Option V Out of State Lateral Program Academy** in the amount of **\$148,600** in ARPA funds for **two** awards.
- **Law Enforcement American Rescue Plan Act (LE ARPA) Regional Criminal Justice Academy - Equipment** in the amount of **\$2,366,260** in ARPA funds for **11** awards.

A motion was made by Mr. Marshall to approve the block of grants as recommended by the Grants Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Renee Maxey. The motion passed.

Opposed for the Operation Ceasefire grant: Ms. Abbey Phillips, Dr. Sesha Joi Moon, Ms. Biggs, and Judge Sarah Deneke.

Opposed for the Law Enforcement American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants: Ms. Phillips and Dr. Moon.

Recusals: Judge Joseph Lindsey for the Virginia Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund – Virginia Hospital Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative.

It was suggested that minutes from the grant committee meetings be made available to the CJSB members for their information prior to the full board meetings, even though they are draft minutes only until approved by the CJSB.

- **Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee**

Chief Branch called on Mr. Ed Macon to give a report from the Nominations and Appointments subcommittee which met that morning to appoint an individual to the vacant Locksmith Business Representative position.

A motion was made by Mr. Macon to approve the appointment of Mr. Jason Back as the Locksmith Business Representative for a three-year term as recommended by the Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jagdish Katyal, and approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

Arlington Restorative Justice Program Update

The grants committee received an update from Kristina Vadas, Victims Services Section Chief, DCJS, on the status of the request from Arlington County to move the Arlington Restorative Justice grant to an organization outside of county government.

If you recall, the County made this request earlier this year and questions arose as to whether the grant could be re-assigned in addition to the issues related to the grant. The question was returned to the CJSB grants committee.

Ms. Vadas reported that the county had responded to a letter from DCJS requesting information related to the grant and has withdrawn the request to re-assign the grant to a different entity.

Arlington County sent two letters since the October CJSB meeting (in response to DCJS requests for information): the first indicated that they no longer intend to subaward grant funding to Restorative Arlington, and the second confirmed this decision and stated that they are still figuring out how they will meet the grant goals and objectives during the remaining seven months of the grant period.

Questions still remain about several programmatic matters, as outlined in a letter DCJS sent to Arlington County, and DCJS must still determine if the project, as currently structured, meets Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) requirements for restorative justice activities.

This was an update to the committee on the status of the request to transfer the program to a different organization. No action was being requested by the committee.

VI. New Business

Modification of the Minimum Number of Field Training Hours for Jail Officers

Ms. Lois Kinch, DCJS, gave a report on the Modification of the Minimum Number of Field Training Hours for Jail Officers and explained that once new deputies/jail officers graduate from the academy, they return to their agency where they are teamed up with a Field-Training Officer (FTO). The FTO's role is to work with the recruit to ensure the knowledge, skills, and abilities learned during the academy are demonstrated appropriately as a jail officer. Currently, there are no minimum number of hours mandated for the recruit to work with an FTO before being allowed to work on their own.

The Jail/Civil Process/Courtroom Security Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) considered numerous factors, including agency size, time currently spent in field training, and the anticipated time that will be required to complete the newly proposed Performance Outcomes. They realize that agencies want, and in many cases, need to get the new deputies/ jail officers into the jail but this needs to be balanced with the need for a sufficient minimum number of hours for the newly graduated recruit to complete the objectives and gain valuable, supervised, hands-on experience before being released on their own. The CRC recommends establishing the **minimum** number of Field Training hours at 120 hours.

A motion was made by Ms. Mary Biggs to approve the CRC recommendation establishing the **minimum** number of Field Training hours at 120 hours. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Smith and approved unanimously.

Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Jail Officers – New Officer Wellness Category

Ms. Kinch gave a report on the Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Jail Officers – New Officer Wellness Category.

Subject matter experts met for many months in 2021 and created four Performance Outcomes that deal with various aspects of officer wellness:

1. Inclusion of new Performance Outcome mandating 30 hours of exercise during academy time.
2. New performance outcome requiring dragging a heavy object from a vehicle to simulate a rescue.
3. New performance outcome involving the identification of the causes of stress, its impacts, and reduction strategies.
4. New requirement of the identification of suicidal ideation.

A motion was made by Ms. Biggs to approve the Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Jail Officer – New Officer Wellness Categories. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Smith. *Opposed: Dr. Moon.* The motion passed.

IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Meeting Dates

The recommended meeting dates for 2023 (all beginning at 11:00 a.m.) are: March 9, May 11, June 15, October 12, and December 7.

A motion was made by Mr. Porter to approve these meeting dates for 2023. The motion was seconded by Superintendent Smith. The motion passed.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.