



**Baltimore County, Maryland
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
April 12, 2016
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
Room 118, Historic Court House
400 Washington Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204**

MINUTES

Attendees

Judge Sherrie Bailey, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Kimberly Barranco, Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Dr. Gregory Branch, Baltimore County Department of Health & Human Services
Judge Kathleen Cox, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Theresa Cunningham, Baltimore County Department of Social Services
Dr. Kimberly Cuthrell, Baltimore County Bureau of Behavioral Health
Sheriff R. Jay Fisher, Baltimore County Sheriff's Department
Mathew Fonseca, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services
Rachel Geise, Baltimore County Office of Information Technology
Chief James W. Johnson, Baltimore County Police Department
Donna Morrison, Baltimore County Administrative Office
Richard Muth, Baltimore County Public Schools
Walter Nolley, Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services-Community Supervision
Scott Shellenberger, Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office
Timothy Sheridan, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Tanya Smith, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Rob Stradling, Baltimore County Office of Information Technology
Sharon Tyler, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Judge Alexandra Williams, District Court for Baltimore County

Welcome/ Approval of Minutes

Chief Johnson welcomed everyone to the April meeting of the Baltimore County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Minutes of the March 8, 2016 meeting were presented, and a motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the minutes as presented.

Committee Reports & Updates

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council: Committee report was distributed prior to the meeting and a copy will be filed with the minutes of this meeting. The April 2016 newsletter was also sent electronically to all Council members.

Offender Employment Network: Committee report was distributed prior to the meeting and will be filed with the minutes of this meeting. Sharon Tyler highlighted the Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Program. All food stamp recipients under 49 years of age will be required to engage in 20 hours per week, 80 hours per month, of job training, employment, volunteer activities or job searching. Department of Social Services personnel are working in conjunction with the community colleges on this effort, and Dr. Branch expressed his appreciation for the outstanding efforts of his personnel on this program – many good success stories!

Forensic Mental Health Workgroup: Committee report was distributed prior to the meeting and will be filed with the minutes of this meeting. Scott Shellenberger discussed the Juvenile Reinvestment Act legislation which is designed to move people who are serving jail time for low-level drug offenses into drug treatment, and investing the savings in drug treatment and expanded mental health services. This legislation would become effective October 2017.

Other Business/Updates:

- Donna Morrison welcomed Judge Sherrie Bailey to the Council. Judge Bailey reported that Family Magistrate Wendy Schenker has been added to the Juvenile Court.
- Ms. Morrison offered condolences to Deb Richardson on the passing of her brother.
- Chief Johnson gave a brief update on Police Department activities: We've had 11 homicides this year compared to 9 this time in 2015. Most are known associates. -- The department has seen an increase in false reports, especially involving drugs. Dr. Branch commented that this increase could be contributed to the fact that physicians won't issue a new prescription without a police report. Chief Johnson stressed the importance of accurate reporting of crime numbers as the Uniform Crime Reports are the foundation used to build the department, its resources and funding. -- Chief discussed the use of Tasers in the field stating that they reduce injuries to citizens, and that police officer brutality complaints are decreased. -- The department will be deploying 150 body worn camera units around July 1, 2016. Mr. Shellenberger interjected that 8-10 employees will be needed just to redact information from the videos. -- Chief Johnson advised that due to population growth, a study will be taking place over the next several months to review post car and precinct boundaries. -- The department continues to provide aide to Baltimore City during the trials for officers involved in the Freddie Gray incident. This is expected to continue over the next eight months. -- The Public Safety Building will be undergoing garage renovations and new construction. Over the next two years parking will be limited. -- The Pistol Range is experiencing problems with the evacuation system and the department is working with engineers to rectify this problem.
- Donna Morrison reminded everyone about the County Executive's Budget Message to be presented to Thursday, April 14 at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers.
- Judge Cox advised that the Circuit Court has received funding for two new judges. They are currently addressing space issues and Sheriff's needs. This is expected to be completed by the end of the year. There are changes in the screening of people entering the Circuit Court Building – magnetometers have been ordered and once in place, everyone will be scanned. Effective May 1, 2016 there will be a change in how people can pay for a jury trial. If a jury trial is requested, it will be scheduled for the next day.
- Dr. Branch shared information regarding a seminar on "Prescribing Drugs Responsibly" which is scheduled for May 5, 2016.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting date is June 14, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Street, CAP
Baltimore County Police Department