

Criminal Justice Citizen's Advisory Committee- CJCAC

January 20, 2010

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Name	Position	Present
Mr. Alan Adler	District 1	YES
Mr. James Calvin Henry	District 2	YES
Mr. Dennis T. Brown	District 3	NO
Ms. Shaune Peterson	District 4	YES
Mr. Bill Munson	District 5	YES
Mr. Robert Raffety	District 6	NO
Anthony G. Scheer	Bar Association	YES
Mr. Ray Wilson	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	YES
Mr. Douglas P. Allen	Faith Community	NO
Ms. Carolyn Green Logan	Law Enforcement	YES
Mr. Mark T. Sumwalt	CJCAC Chairman	YES
Ms. Myra Byarm	Rehabilitation	YES
Ms. Karen L. Worrell	Substance Abuse Professional	NO
Michelle Lancaster	Mecklenburg County General Manager	NO
Janet Payne	Staff: Assistant to the County Manager	NO
Tom Eberly	State Justice Services - County Manager's Office	YES
Jamie Privuznak	State Justice Services - County Manager's Office	YES
Mauro Messina	State Justice Services - County Manager's Office	YES
Jessica Ireland	State Justice Services - County Manager's Office	NO

HANDOUTS

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Minutes from December

Criminal Justice Quarterly Report: July – September 2009

Proposed Meeting Objectives:

- Approve Meeting Minutes from December;
- Develop panel questions for upcoming meeting session with court officials; and
- Review CJCAC Work Plan.

Meeting began at 5:27 PM.

Welcome

Bill Munson
District 5 Representative

Bill Munson welcomed the group and asked members to review last month's meeting minutes for approval.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Group

Action Item: The group reviewed and approved by consensus the December 2009 meeting minutes. Ray Wilson motioned to approve last month's meeting minutes, and Alan Adler seconded the motion for approval.

Discussion: Develop Panel Questions

Group

Bill Munson opened the floor for discussion and asked group members for an update on the panel participants' availability for next month's meeting. Tony Scheer informed members he received confirmations from Judge Lisa Bell, Judge Bob Bell and Chase Saunders.

Mr. Munson asked for suggestions on a process for question development. The members then discussed topics which interview questions might focus. Alan Adler suggested all participants should consider what changes or improvements may be made to the court system. Mr. Scheer added all panelists should relay what their agency's top two priorities are moving forward.

An extended discussion took place regarding the accuracy and quality of criminal justice data and statistics presented to the public by various criminal justice agencies. Group members then assessed how to ask a question about statistics generally and information gathering. Mr. Scheer stated the panelists should share their perspective on the accuracy, uniformity and quality of crime statistics reported to the public.

Tom Eberly drew attention to the Criminal Justice Report and explained the difficulties in collecting and reporting data generally. In light of Mr. Eberly's explanation, a member proposed funding a study to evaluate the accuracy of capturing and reporting criminal justice data as part of the Committee's final report to the Board of County Commissioners. The group took no formal action in response to this suggestion.

Other topics discussed by the group include the perception of safety, statistics, data methodology specifically, county responsibilities, sentence disparity by judges and crime reporting.

Group members agreed and decided on the following:

- Interview questions will be provided to panel participants in advance.
- Each panelist will be allotted 20 minutes for presentation, and 10 minutes for follow-up questions and discussion at the end of the session.
- No later than Friday, January 29, Mr. Scheer and Mr. Sumwalt will draft questions and distribute a list of proposed questions for member comment and revision.
- Written response to the group from each panelist to be received by Friday, February 12.

Themes for Potential Questions:

- Inter-agency cooperation, relationships and communication generally,
- Accuracy and quality of metrics reported to the public, and
- Top priorities or big issues facing criminal justice system.

Status of Panelists:

- Judge Lisa Bell – confirmed
- Judge Bob Bell – confirmed
- Chase Saunders – confirmed
- Council member Warren Turner - confirmed
- Bart Menser – Mark Sumwalt to confirm

Review CJCAC Work Plan

Mark Sumwalt
CJCAC Chairman

Tom Eberly reminded the group to keep the CJCAC priorities in mind as the FY11 budget process progresses.

Overview of Next Meeting and Path Forward

Mark Sumwalt
CJCAC Chairman

Tony Scheer asked to call the next meeting 15 minutes early in preparation for the panel discussion.

Action Item: The group agreed to call the February 17 meeting 15 minutes early.

Closing Remarks & Adjourn

Mark Sumwalt
CJCAC Chairman

Mark Sumwalt asked for final comments and then adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Recap of Follow-up Items:

Follow-up Item(s): None.

Recap of Actions Taken:

Action Item: The group reviewed and approved by consensus the minutes from the December 2009 meeting. Ray Wilson motioned to approve last month's meeting minutes, and Alan Adler seconded the motion for approval.

Action Item: The group agreed to call the February 17 meeting 15 minutes early.