Prince William County Community Criminal Justice Board

July 23, 2024

**PARTICIPANTS:** Brad Marshall, Judge Bailey, Judge Rogers, George Hurlock, Dr. Yasin, Jacques Poirier, Terry Fearnley, Jim Nesterick, Louis Sager, Michael Carlson, Tara Petty, Sonia Vasquez Luna, Brandan Dudley, John Dowd, Ellen Patterson, Sam Flournoy, Chris Sanders, Eugene Brown

**STAFF:** Steve Austin, Tomaudrie Thomas, Amal Hajjami, and Wendy Dempsey

**CITIZEN:** Eugene Brown for the Prince William Chamber of Commerce

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS (Item 1)** Brad Marshall welcomed members and thanked those in attendance. He welcomed the new appointee Brandan Dudley, representing Prince William County Police, and thanked outgoing member Jacque Poirier for his service on the board.

# APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

Chairperson Marshall asked for a motion to approve the agenda. **The motion was made by Judge Bailey and seconded by Terry Fearnley. The motion was passed unanimously.**

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

Chairperson Marshall requested a motion to approve the April 23, 2024, meeting minutes. **The motion was made by Terry Fearnley and seconded by Judge Bailey. Members voted. The motion was passed unanimously.** Chairperson Marshall noted that his name was not in the participants and asked for it to be added, which was corrected.

**CITIZENS TIME (Item 4)** – *None.*

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRANTS (Item 5)** reported by *Steve Austin*

* Recently, Criminal Justice Services applied for 2 Grants:
* FY2024: In April 2024, Criminal Justice Services applied for a state grant of $22,525 from the Supreme Court of Virginia for hiring one full-time case manager for the Prince William County Adult Recovery Court. The fiscal impact added $22,525 to our budget, and the Board of County Supervisors approved it. This grant funded this position for the remainder of FY2024.
* FY2025, In June 2024, Criminal Justice Services applied to continue the state grant for

$90,099 from the Supreme Court of Virginia for retaining the full-time case manager for the Prince William County Adult Recovery Court. This grant is pending approval by the Supreme Court, and the Board of County Supervisors will review a resolution on September 3, 2024, to approve the grant and allocate the funding if it is approved.

**REVIEW OF CCJB By-Laws (Item 6)** reported by *Steve Austin*

* Criminal Justice Services staff provides oversight to this board
* The by-laws require the board to review them at least every 2 years
* Board members need to be adjusted by adding the Office of Community Safety, Youth Services Office, and Department of Social Services
* The major revisions are remote attendance and remote quorum policies, which are listed and highlighted in this draft, starting in Article Six.
* There is a two-week notice requirement, **given this evening**, on bylaw changes, so this topic is tabled to the October meeting
* To change bylaws, it requires a 2/3 majority vote, so please come in person to the October meeting to vote on remote attendance policy
* Steve Austin asked for feedback on remote meeting guidance and appreciated the member's attendance despite the summer vacation season

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (Item 7)** reported by *Brad Marshall*

* The nominating committee is Brad Marshall, Dan Manza, and Dr. Yasin
* The committee has not met; the matter was tabled to the October meeting

**DATA DASHBOARD UPDATE (Item 8)** The Greater Prince William Community Safety Data Dashboard, Neighborhood Safety Index by *Amal Hajjami and Dr. Yasin*

# Developing a public safety dashboard with data from various sources:

* + A dashboard fosters the ability for stakeholders to identify trends and hotspots in crime and opioid overdoses
  + It can determine resource allocation for intervention and preventive measures, including coordinated intergovernmental policy
  + It can determine targeted outreach and public education
  + The team defined data indicators for tracking public safety concerns in the community, including trends in violent crime, opioid overdose, and domestic violence
  + The index will be tailored to Prince William County, built on existing data and resources, and include protective factors such as green spaces and community connectivity
  + The team is looking at health environmental qualities, aside from primary safety, livability, and neighborhood deprivation
  + The team developed a data dictionary to standardize data collection and integration from various sources, including health department data, crime stats, socio-demographic data, and geographic details
  + Standardized data sets by location, overlaying points on the map for location- specific trends and statistics
  + The primary goal is to create visualizations that are informative and intuitive to the users
  + Next steps regarding this dashboard, our team will be working alongside the Community Safety Office and the county
  + Eugene Brown added that his team is capturing similar information and is looking forward to learning more about the data. Additionally, the discussion was about their shared efforts and initiatives to prevent and intervene in community violence, emphasizing the importance of connecting with nonprofits and private sector participation in public sector initiatives.
  + Dr. Yasin added that data analysts will be meeting in the future to share their data projects within the county
  + Dr. Yasin added that the mapping project with all the points discussed will be an internal tool and then, at some point, will be external
  + PowerPoint to be sent to board members

# EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING (EBDM & PUBLIC SAFETY ASSESSMENT

**(PSA) UPDATE (Item 9)**) reported by *Steve Austin*

* Steve Austin discusses the PSA project for the Virginia criminal justice system; it replaces the VPRAI
* The PSA predicts outcomes to identify potential successes or failures for pretrial release
* The public safety assessment tool does provide recommended release conditions should the judge decide to release the person
* The PSA factors include the age of the current offense, pending charges, prior convictions, and incarceration history, among other static factors
* PSA scores assess risk of FTA, new criminal arrests, and new violent criminal arrests
* The PSA score is used to determine release conditions, including supervision level and frequency on contacts with pretrial officers if supervision is ordered
* The release conditions matrix matches PSA scores with appropriate release conditions, ensuring the least restrictive conditions possible
* Research shows that one of the most effective strategies to have someone appear in court is to remind them of the date and time. Text messages are provided in levels II and III supervision to remind the person about upcoming court dates. However, CJS also notifies level I offenders if they are placed on pretrial supervision,
* The courts are now using the new PSA tool to inform release conditions for defendants
* The new tool was launched on March 27, 2024

# FY24 Q4 PSA Data Report Out PowerPoint presentation by *Amal Hajjami*

* Pretrial assessments and outcomes, with a 99% completion rate and a high percentage of low-risk cases
* PSA assessments were completed by 962 individuals in FY 24 quarter 4, with a 99% completion rate.
* VPRAI assessments completed were approximately 74% because the person could refuse the interview, be hospitalized, or may not be able to participate
* PSA is completed after a person is booked and held with new criminal charges
* Pretrial staff access the relevant data sources and enter the response for each factor in the PSA Scoring Application
* Juvenile records, civil traffic violations and ordinance violations, and self-reported information data are not used to score the PSA
* Most cases under supervision are unlikely to commit new violent crimes based on data provided from various studies, including the Virginia Crime Commission’s pretrial data study.
* Judges erring on the side of caution with pretrial releases
* Expecting outcome data in the near future

**Addiction treatment and recovery efforts in Virginia,** reported by *Steve Austin*

* The Peer Support Workgroup is identifying gaps in peer leadership, ethics, training, diversity, and understanding
* Amal Hajjami added that the recovery house mapping project is a resource for people to know where they can find recovery homes and programs throughout the whole state working with GIS
* The ADC is initiating Suboxone to inmates at the jail through a partnership program with CS and George Mason; the program is doing very well
* The ADC's Reentry Center has been open since February 2024 and has served 183 individuals since May 2024. Captain West has been overseeing the program
* Steve Austin provided updates on drug court and veterans docket coordinator positions; interviews will occur soon
* Chris Mayers has been working on tracking quality assurance and incentives for both dockets
* Steve Austin added that the Board of County Supervisors recognized CJS in May for Proclamation for Specialty Docket month

**DV assessments and Compliance Workgroup** reported by *Tomaudrie Thomas*

* Enhancing domestic violence processes in the criminal justice system
* Tomaudrie Thomas discussed the pre-trial compliance workgroup, sanctions grid, and non-compliance letter
* The agency has implemented a noncompliance letter to streamline the process and handle it internally
* The agency aims to focus on successes and celebrate them more consistently with internal incentives
* Tomaudrie Thomas discusses enhancements to domestic violence services, including a new risk assessment tool O.D.A.R.A
* Tomaudrie Thomas and team plan to enhance DV processes, address gaps in the system, reduce fatalities, and establish a fatality review team

**DCJS QUARTERLY REPORT (ITEM 10**) reported by *Tomaudrie Thomas*; see attached draft DCJS packet, which is the 4th Quarter report

* **Pretrial:** Tomaudrie Thomas highlights data for April through June 2024.
* Pretrial Appearance Rates: 82%
* Public Safety Rate for Pretrial is 90%
* Compliance Rate is 78%

# Probation data:

* Tomaudrie Thomas: Probation data shows 89% of placements are misdemeanors
* She provided an update on the success rate of the probation program, with a 67% success rate for combined misdemeanors and felonies and a 92% public safety rate without new arrests
* The compliance rate is 77% for probation cases that are closed

# ROUND TABLE TOPICS MEMBERS (Item 11)

* Brad Marshall appreciates the data dashboard work and commends staff on the successful implementation of PSA and validated assessment tool
* Steve Austin reported that this week is Probation, Pretrial, and Parole week. CJS celebrated with state probation and JCSU at a lunch that Volunteer Prince William provided. The group celebrated and thanked probation and pretrial officers for their work to help make the community safer. Also, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is in October. ACTS is planning events and is aligned with implementing the new O.D.A.R.A risk assessment tool.
* Tomaudrie Thomas reported that as President of VCCJA, the Association is working with legislators to expand pretrial services to localities in southwestern Virginia. There are 11 counties left within Virginia that do not have pretrial. The association is working diligently to expand pretrial services and speaking to legislators about expansion. Pretrial has made a positive impact in communities.
* John Dowd, advised in major transition mode, added that they are hiring for positions
* Dr. Yasin added that her office is hiring for two positions: community violence interventionists. They will be tasked with working with communities around prevention and intervention strategies across the greater Prince William; we are currently developing relationships in the hospital-based violence intervention phase. We are looking for candidates who have caseworker experience and the positions are posted on the county website.
* Sam Flournoy: Please pass on to Lyle Surprise our appreciation for his work and career with your agency as he announced his retirement
* Eugene Brown added that he appreciates the work that CJS is doing and would like to continue a conversation with this board to have more private-sector participation in all of the public sectors
* Ellen Patterson reported that Juvenile Probation is hiring to fill positions

**ADJOURNED (Item 12)** Chairperson Marshall requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. **The motion was made by Sam Flournoy and seconded by Sonia Vasquez Luna. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: October 22, 2024 @ 5 p.m.**