

# **Criminal Justice Collaborative Council**

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**CJCC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**  
Administrative Building, Lower Level Conference Room  
220 N. Main  
September 14, 2007 -7:30 a.m.

**Members Attending:** Archie Brown (Circuit Court Chief Judge), Brian Mackie (County Prosecutor), J. Cedric Simpson (District Court Presiding Judge), Dan Minzey (Sheriff)

**Members Absent:** Lloyd Powell (Public Defender), Bob Guenzel (County Administrator)

**Others Present:** Scott Patton (CJCC Staff), Stephanie Jensen (CJCC Intern), Barbara Levin Bergman (CCAB)

**Meeting Convened: 7:33 am**

Steering Committee Chair J. Cedric Simpson chaired the meeting.

## **I. Demographic Reports**

Patton presented jail population reports that charted sentenced, unsentenced, felony and misdemeanor inmates by race and gender, as per the request of the CJCC full council. He asked for feedback on the data.

Bergman suggested that we should look at restarting racial sensitivity training. Simpson asked if would be more useful to address the issue of where the individuals were coming from, inside the County versus outside the county, because of the assumptions that could be made based on the constitution of our County. Bergman agreed that was an important point to consider. Patton stated at one point three years ago, 20% of the inmates were from outside the County. He also stated he would find out the current level and send that information out. Bergman added that information would be helpful for interpreting the data further. Simpson added that also determining which jurisdictions individuals are coming from within the County as well. Patton stated that three difficulties with this identification are homeless populations, verifying which city addresses of individuals are located, and transient populations.

Blakney offered that the data is not surprising regarding race, but that it is also not unique to the County. Bergman agreed, and stated that we need to address the problem here. Blakney agreed and stated that we need to do something. Mackie stated looking at the data may help, but it will not solve the problem. Bergman suggested that we need to determine where the sources of the problems are. Blakney stated that we should further examine program alternatives to jail, especially in the face of cuts to funding for programming.

Simpson asked for a further breakdown of data for in-county and out-county, as well as separating the unsentenced and sentenced inmates by felony and misdemeanor. He stated we should examine this data to further determine discrepancies between sentencing and incarceration. Mackie stated that we would need to specify a specific period of time to make a good evaluation and it would be a huge undertaking. Simpson responded that we may not need that level of specificity and investigated. We need to give enough data points that help make assumptions.

Patton observed that the African-American male sentenced population data correlates closely with the dates of overcrowding in a way that the white male population does not. Simpson stated that he observed this in his court as well. Patton added that Livingston County recently reported that 45% of their jail population came from outside their county.

Blakney commended that Sheriff on his department's proactive response to a recent situation with a traffic stop on an unlit road in the County.

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Simpson asked if the data could be ready before the next meeting. Patton said yes, and that the data at the bottom of the charts would also be removed for simplicity.

## **II. Pretrial Committee**

Simpson gave a summary of the discussion at the meeting of the pretrial committee. The committee determined a need for a discussion of a timeframe reduction for preliminary examinations for cases with multiple defendants 30:58

## **III. Public Engagement Update**

## **IV. Jail Population/Building Capacity**

## **V. CJCC Agenda Review**

**Adjourned:** 8:43 am

Next Steering Committee meeting: 10/12/07.