



King County

Public Defense Criminal Justice Reform Advisory Task Force Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 2013
11 am – 1 pm

King County Courthouse
516 3rd Ave, Seattle, WA
12th Floor, Southwest Conference Room

NOTES

Attendees

Members: Christie Hedman (Chair), Marvin Lee, Sophia Byrd McSherry, Jon Ostlund, Brenda Williams, and George Yeannakis

Staff: Gwen Clemens and Amy Tsai

Invited Guests: Larry Gossett, Chair, Metropolitan King County Council; Rod Dembowski, Member, Metropolitan King County Council

Observers: Rosa Peralta, NLADA; Lisa Daugaard, TDA; Floris Mikkelsen, TDA; Burns Petersen, ACA; Kristina Logsdon, KCC; Michelle Clark, KCC.

Welcome

- Welcome by Larry Gossett, Chair, Metropolitan King County Council
- Introduction of Christie Hedman as Chair of the PDAT
- Introductory remarks by Rod Dembowski, Member, Metropolitan King County Council

Administrative Details

- Amy Tsai reviewed instructions for logging onto King County email addresses
- Staff will explore whether the county email addresses can be set up with an alert to an alternative email address of an incoming message. Staff will also provide task force with further information on public disclosure considerations
- Mileage reimbursement forms will be made available at the next meeting to cover both meetings

Scope of Task Force

- Amy Tsai reviewed scope of the task force as identified in King County Ordinance 17588

Review draft protocols

- Gwen Clemens reviewed the draft protocols
- PDAT members approved protocols by consensus with the following edits:
 - Number 7: delete “at the conclusion of each meeting” and replace with “at the discretion of the Chair”
 - Correction of numbering

Review draft charter

- Gwen Clemens reviewed the draft charter
- PDAT members approved charter by consensus

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Facilitated identification of options - Amy

Objective: Group identifies initial universe of public defense-related services that could promote system improvements and efficiencies in the King county public defense system through innovative approaches to criminal justice reform. Group provides any initial information-gathering directives to staff.

- Task force members requested the following information:
 - Documents
 - Complete amended Ordinance 17588
 - Dolan Decision
 - Settlement Agreement
 - Metropolitan King County Council Staff Reports
 - Conflicts information – policy & procedures
 - Public disclosure guidance (possibly oral)

Staff may provide some of these materials electronically, as many are lengthy documents
 - Presentations
 - Invite county legal counsel to speak about Dolan, risk management and ethics (7/12/13)
 - Dave Chapman
 - In house model & structure (7/12/13)
 - Copy of MOUs if available
 - Conflicts
 - *Sophia has information on how other county agencies have handled conflicts, if group wants that information*
 - Agencies (7/12/13)
 - Racial disparity / terminal class action project
 - Other specialized areas of social justice work
 - How transformations could occur within the idea of a separate organization and within funding constraints
 - How have agencies used counsel assistance from other agencies to promote their social justice efforts (e.g., criminal class action or coordinated RDP work) – can this concept spur ideas for collaborative strategies?
 - Thomas Giovanni, Director, Community-Oriented Defender Network, Counsel, Justice Program, Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law

- *Possible public disclosure presentation*
- Ideas for future discussions
 - Independence
 - Idea of how a county funded organization would keep the county accountable. Discussion around the ability of an organization funded by the county to sue the county. Does this create practical / political concerns? (Would the county not want to create an entity that could sue it?)
 - Collect data and conduct research to analyze the health of the new system and the effectiveness of the alternative entity
 - Possible options for use of existing state funding
 - The new entity/recommendations of task force could end up serving as a best practices for other jurisdictions around the country

Identify next meeting dates and goals for future meetings

- The consensus of the task force members was to meet for 3 hours at each meeting as follows:
 - July 12th
 - Originally scheduled: 3 to 5 pm (Jon unavailable 7/5-7/26):
 - Reschedule time: Amy and Gwen will work with Christie to schedule for 3 hours around CPD meeting
 - July 26th
 - Originally scheduled: 1 to 3 pm (Jon unavailable 7/5-7/26)
 - Reschedule date: Gwen will send out a survey to reschedule to the week of July 29th (not including August 2nd as several members are not available on July 26th)
 - August 9th
 - Originally scheduled: 3 to 5 pm (Marvin unavailable)
 - Reschedule time: Amy and Gwen will work with Christie to schedule for 3 hours around CPD meeting
 - August 23rd
 - Originally scheduled: Noon to 3 pm (Karen unavailable 8/21,8/23)

Task force members agreed to provide their own lunch for meetings that go through the lunch hour.