



King County

Public Defense Criminal Justice Reform Advisory Task Force Meeting

Friday, July 12, 2013
3 pm – 6 pm

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

MINUTES

Attendees

Members: Christie Hedman (Chair), Marvin Lee, Sophia McSherry, Karen Murray, Brenda Williams, and George Yeannakis

Staff: Gwen Clemens and Amy Tsai

Invited Guests: Dave Chapman, Eileen Farley, Anne Daly, and Lisa Daugaard

Observers: Michelle Clark, KCC; Jessica Erickson, WDA; Nora Gay, WDA; Le'Jayah Washington, KCC.

Welcome

- Welcome by Christie Hedman, PDAT Chair
- Introduction of Guests
- June 25, 2013 minutes approved by consensus
- Agreement to post agendas and approved minutes on website approved by consensus
- Protocols approved with a note to correct numbering error

Administrative Details

- Amy Tsai reviewed instructions for logging onto King County email addresses and sending text message alerts to notify of a message
- Meeting schedule was approved for August 1, noon – 3 pm
- Remaining PDAT meetings tentatively scheduled for:
 - August 9, 3 pm – 6 pm
 - August 23, noon to 3 pm (Karen is not available for this meeting)

Public Disclosure Requests

- Amy Tsai provided a confidential Public Records Act memo and reiterated the use of county email as standard task force practice to facilitate public disclosure productions. If task force members have detailed questions they may contact John Gerberding in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office directly.

Charter Amendment and Implementing Ordinance Update

- Amy Tsai reviewed the Proposed Charter Amendment (King County Ordinance 17614) and the Proposed Implementing Ordinance (PO 2013-0242)
- The Council has opened a 60-day public comment period on Proposed Ordinance 2013-0242 (the implementing ordinance to the proposed charter amendment for public defense). The comment period will end August 26, 2013. Comments can be provided using an online form available at www.kingcounty.gov/pdcomments

Dolan and risk management update

- Attorneys were not available to attend this meeting. The requested documents have been posted on the PDAT website (<http://kingcounty.gov/council/issues/pdataskforce.aspx>). Please let Amy know if you have specific questions.

In house model and structure

- Dave Chapman provided an overview of the current structure noting that:
 - the Office of Public Defense is now the Department of Public Defense
 - the department has an interim structure with four divisions plus an administration division
 - the non-profit corporations elected to change their names, which are now being used by the divisions
 - the Seattle Municipal Court, Sexually Violent Predator, and ROYAL contracts have been brought into the county in the interim structure
 - the Racial Disparity Project was not brought in house, it is a grant funded project and the grant funds are not available to government organizations
 - the Death Penalty Assistance program was not brought into the county at the decision of the non-profit corporation with the contract

Specialized areas of social justice work

Each non-profit public defense agency was invited to send a representative to the meeting to discuss the agencies specialized area(s) of social justice work. They were asked to address how a separate organization might preserve innovative thinking and criminal justice reform efforts within funding constraints; and how agencies have used counsel assistance from other agencies to promote their social justice efforts and whether the approach spurs ideas for collaborative strategies moving forward.

- Eileen Farley, NDA; Anne Daly, SCRAP; Lisa Daugaard, TDA; and Karen Murray, ACA discussed the innovative social justice aspects of their organizations work
- Each one spoke to this work as an integral part of providing public defense
- Documents provided by NDA and TDA are attached
- Characteristics discussed by the task force included:

- which social justice activities could be appropriately handled by an in-house department (with or without dedicated staff) versus outsourced, and in-house restrictions
- funded versus pro bono work, which both have aspects that contribute to the culture
- how funding has occurred and how funding would occur in future
- specific programs versus general social justice activities
- whether work could occur as stand-alone or requires partnering or direct involvement in case representation
- programs that were started with a funding source (county or county and partners) that evolved and became their own organization (e.g. TeamChild)
- Task force expressed interest in hearing more about the public corporation model mentioned by Lisa and how it might be applied

Next Steps

- Christie is checking on Thomas Giovanni's availability (Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law – holistic defense)
- Sophia will draft survey for social justice efforts in other counties; staff are available for surveymonkey.com assistance
- Staff will check on availability of legal counsel to attend 8/1/13 meeting
- Staff will draft social justice activity template for agencies to fill out
- Staff will set up a SharePoint site and start a report template; PDAT members can provide input to report via SharePoint or email