

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE/CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT
PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2008

A meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Court Appointed Special Advocate and Children's Justice Act programs was held on Friday January 25, 2008, at the Richmond Police Training Academy in Richmond.

Members Present

Lauren Caudill
Terica Hodge
Darby Lowe
Michelle Clayton
Ruth Ann Cutright
Sharon England
A. Michael Hall
Mindy Loiselle
Nan McKenney
Claudette Overton

Members Not Present

Shawn Schwertfeger

Staff Present

Laurel Marks
Melissa O'Neill

Staff Not Present

Denise Hampton
Holly Oehrlein
Hope Hodgson

- I. **Call to Order** – Mike Hall called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the November Retreat meeting were reviewed. Mike Hall moved to approve the minutes and Claudette Overton seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved the minutes.

III. **CASA Update**

Revision of Regulations – The public hearing was held on November 16th 2007. The joint subcommittee met to consider the public comments received and prepared a final document for consideration to the Criminal Justice Services Board at the December 13th meeting. This version was approved. The next steps of the administrative process act are being followed.

COMET Standardization - Programs have been using the VA COMET database and the DCJS Reporting tool has been upgraded and distributed. There have been some problems reported since the distribution of the reporting tool which was expected. Some programs have been able to submit outcome reports.

NCASAA Self Assessment Compliance – DCJS received notification that the state office is in full compliance with state office National CASA Standards.

Governor’s Budget – CASA programs are currently in the Governor’s Budget at level funding.

2008 State CASA Conference – The planning for the 2008 State CASA Conference has begun and the dates will be in November.

Case Studies Training Event - DCJS supported a collaborative training event that was held among all of the Tidewater area CASA programs in October. The event brought a training module from North Carolina entitled “Case Studies: Working it Out Together” to volunteers from each of the area programs. This was an excellent training program DCJS plans to replicate statewide.

IV. CJA Update

John Reid Training – The date for the event is March 4- 6 and will be held at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel. Participants will be asked to pay \$75 each toward the cost.

Improving Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse Conference – The conferences will be held in May and October. The locations are in the process of being determined.

Finding Words - The dates and locations for the training are still being determined.

V. Legislative Update

The Advisory Committee discussed introduced legislation. The Committee agreed to forward a letter to Secretary Marshall in support of the following bills:

SB 228
SB 330
SB 331
SB 394
SB 637
HB 98

HB 149
HB 325
HB 811
HB 812
HB 813
HB 1141
HB 1143
HB 1321
HB 1387
HB 1530
SB 249
SB 250

- VI. Citizens Review Panel** – A report on child deaths in Virginia will be provided to Committee members at the April meeting. The CPS regulations and the Differential Response Report are currently being reviewed by the Department of Planning and Budget. The FY07 CPS statistics are posted on the State DSS website and were distributed to committee members. Additional reports on substance exposed infants, shaken baby incidence and a fact sheet were also distributed to members.
- VII. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M.