Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Prevention

This meeting will be held through electronic communication means

FINAL

Pursuant to § 2.2-3707.1 of the Code of Virginia this DRAFT of the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Prevention (ACJJP) Advisory Committee is available to the public. The public is cautioned that the information is provided in DRAFT form and is subject to change by the Advisory Committee prior to becoming final. Once the minutes have been finalized, they will be marked "FINAL" and made available to the public.

January 15, 2025

Members Present	**Members Absent**
Sallie Amos	Stephanie Ayers
Teresa Berry	Delegate Debra Gardner
Valerie Coley	Joseph Gong
Erik Conyers	Maria Matricardi
Laurie Crawford (DSS Proxy)	Melissa Morgan
Demetria Davis	Toni Randall
Senator Jennifer Carroll Foy	Kathryn Rowell
Robert Gray	Kari Savage (DBHDS Proxy)
Julianna Herbek (Vice Chair)	
James Laster	
Sandra Lawyer	
Dana Partin	
Samuel Perez (Chair)	
Brook Rudis	
Olivia Saunders	
Sandra Serma (VDH Proxy)	
Alexandria Wall	
Joseph Wharf (DOE Proxy)	
Jack White	

DCJS Staff Present	**Guests**
Makayla Burnett	Chantal Matthews, Safer Communities Program Manager, City of Portsmouth
Chad Felts	
Ed Holmes	

Greg Hopkins
Laurel Marks
Jennifer Quititquit

I. **ACJJP Member Roll Call –** DCJS staff Greg Hopkins conducted a verbal roll call. A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM.

II. **Approval of Minutes –** The committee received and reviewed the draft minutes of the September 17, 2024, meeting. Sammie Perez made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Laurie Crawford. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. **DCJS Updates –** Ed Holmes updated the committee on Virginia's status with compliance with the three core requirements tied to facilities holding juveniles, and data collection to determine compliance status. Mr. Holmes shared that all site visits for 2024 have been completed and that DCJS is currently reviewing all compliance data from DJJ and the Compensation Board. Additionally, DCJS is currently receiving technical assistance from the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States for two of the four core requirements, Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders and Jail Removal. Mr. Holmes also informed the committee that Mr. Tony Nelson, DCJS Compliance Monitor, recently accepted a new position with another state agency. DCJS will be recruiting soon for his position.

Greg Hopkins provided the committee with DCJS updates to include upcoming trainings and grant funding opportunities. Mr. Hopkins also provided a recap of the 2024 OJJDP STRAD Training which took place November 19-22nd in Washington, DC. ACCJP committee members Sandra Lawyer and Demetria Davis both shared their experiences at the conference with fellow committee members.

IV. **Presentations**

a. Human Trafficking State Updates: Mckayla Burnett, DCJS State Trafficking Response Coordinator

Mckayla Burnett, State Trafficking Response Coordinator, provided ACJJP members with human trafficking state updates. Ms. Burnett gave an overview of the 2024 human trafficking legislation which included the establishment of a multidisciplinary response to human trafficking. Ms. Burnett updated the committee on the new Human Trafficking training, which included prosecution specific training opportunities and training for local criminal justice providers and school resource officers. Ms. Burnett shared that DCJS has now developed specific online learning opportunities for public learning institutions, hotel employees and Basic Human Trafficking 101 training.

b. Safer Communities overview: Chad Felts and Greg Hopkins, DCJS, and Chantal Mathews, Portsmouth City Safer Communities Program Coordinator

DCJS staff Office of Safer Communities update:
Mr. Felts provided the committee with an overview of DCJS's, Office of Safer Communities, to include the legislative background and the current grant programs. Mr. Felts reviewed the three priority areas associated with the Office of Safer Communities: coordination, performance reporting, and research and evidence-based practices. Greg Hopkins detailed the last three years of grant program allocations for Operation Ceasefire, Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention and the Safer Communities Program.

Local Safer Communities update:
Ms. Matthews presented to the committee how Portsmouth is implementing their Safer Communities Program, Portsmouth United. The presentation included a description of the local mini grants process for community-based organizations. Ms. Matthews also provided updates on the local violence interruption initiatives and the Portsmouth Police call-in programs.

V. **2025 Juvenile Justice Legislation –** Ed Holmes and Greg Hopkins provided the committee with General Assembly updates along with juvenile justice related bills of interest being tracked by DCJS during the 2025 General Assembly session.

VI. **Public Comment –** Committee member Valerie Coley shared information with the committee of an upcoming Empowerment Celebration for Mothers on Monday January on January 15, 2025, at 3pm at the Peter Paul Development Center located in Richmond Virginia**.**

VII. **Next Meeting –** The next scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 8, 2025. This meeting date is subject to change.

VIII. **Adjournment –** Meeting adjourned at 11:33am