



Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Prevention

Tuckahoe Library
1901 Starling Drive
Henrico, VA 23229

FINAL

September 17, 2024

Members Present

Teresa Berry
Valerie Coley
Laurie Crawford (DSS Proxy)
Demetria Davis
Delegate Debra Gardner
Joseph Gong
Julianna Herbek (Vice Chair)
James Laster
Linda McWilliams (DJJ Proxy)
Melissa Morgan
Dana Partin
Samuel Perez (Chair)
Toni Randall
Kathryn Rowell
Brook Rudis
Sandra Serma (VDH Proxy)
Alexandria Wall

DCJS Staff Present

Chad Felts
Ed Holmes
Greg Hopkins
Tony Nelson
Jennifer Quititquit

Members Absent

Sallie Amos
Stephanie Ayers
Erik Conyers
Senator Jennifer Carroll Foy
Robert Gray
M. Sandra Lawyer
Maria Matricardi
Olivia Saunders
Kari Savage (DBHDS Proxy)
Jack White

Guests

Wiley Nash, Virginians for Cannabis Safety
Linda Odell, City of Alexandria, Crime Prevention Manager
David Ulloa, City of Alexandria, Mentoring Coordinator
Zoha Zafar, City of Alexandria, External Affairs Coordinator

- 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 10:05 AM.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – The committee received and reviewed the draft minutes of the April 23, 2024, meeting. Toni Randall made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Teresa Berry. The motion was approved unanimously.
- III. **DCJS Updates** – Tony Nelson 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. Nelson shared that DCJS has submitted compliance data to OJJDP for FY 23, and confirmed for the committee that Virginia anticipates being out of compliance in two of the core requirements: Jail Removal and Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders. Mr. Nelson provided additional information to the committee detailing the cause for non-compliance and the agency’s steps to address the non-compliance.

Greg Hopkins shared a list of upcoming conferences and trainings and informed the committee about funding opportunities that DCJS anticipates releasing in the near future in the Title II and Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Programs.

IV. **Presentations**

Virginians For Cannabis Safety

Nash Wiley with Virginians for Cannabis Safety (VCS), whose website lists itself as “a coalition of health, public safety and education organizations committed to supporting common-sense laws to regulate intoxicating cannabis and hemp-derived products,” provided an overview of the organization, the loopholes that it identified in earlier law, and the bi-partisan legislation that passed the Virginia General Assembly in 2024, which tightened regulation on the sale of hemp-derived products containing intoxicating levels of THC.

City of Alexandria: Increasing Family Engagement and Community Involvement for Youth

Mr. David Ullua facilitated Alexandria’s presentation on the Mentoring Partnership initiative, the history of the mentorship program, and program data. Ms. Zoha Zafar provided the committee with a brief overview of Alexandria’s Mentor University initiative, detailing local partnerships with schools, parents and youth development professionals.

To close the presentation, Ms. Linda Odell, shared with the committee how Title II funding has been instrumental over the years in the development of local programing, including the most recent initiative, Mentor University.

V. **Public Comment** – None

- VI. **Next Meeting** – The next scheduled meeting November 12, 2024.
- VII. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 11:56am