



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

Shannon Dion
Director

Megan Peterson
Chief Deputy Director

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Criminal Justice Services Board

October 14, 2021

***James Monroe Building
101 N. 14th Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Rooms C, D, E***

Members Present

Chief Craig Branch
Ms. Angie Carrera
Ms. Tonya Chapman
The Hon. Sarah Deneke
Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.
Ms. Lisa Hernandez for
Mr. Harold Clarke
Mr. Michael HuYoung
Mr. David Johnson
Delegate Jerrauld "Jay" Jones
Mr. Jagdish Katyal
The Hon. Mary Malveaux
Mr. K. Scott Miles
Colonel Gary Settle

Members Present (Cont'd)

Ms. Pat Smith
Superintendent William
Smith
Capt. Derrick Thorne,
Proxy for Sheriff Vanessa
Crawford
Ms. Angela Valentine
Mr. Matt Wheeler for
Senator Morrissey
Chief James Williams,
Chair
Chief Kelvin Wright
Ms. Kristi Wright, Proxy
for Mr. Karl Hade

Members Absent

Ms. Mary Biggs
The Hon. Karrie Delaney
The Hon. Carolyn Dull
Senator Jennifer McClellan
The Hon. Bryan Porter
Sheriff Anthony Roper
Mr. Paul Taylor

I. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Chairman Chief James Williams called the meeting of the Criminal Justice Services Board (Board) to order at 11:05 a.m. A quorum of the Board was present.

Mr. David Johnson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Tonya Chapman, to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2021, meeting of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Director's Report

Ms. Shannon Dion, Director of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), gave an update on the recent and upcoming activities of DCJS.

DCJS is a member of a national organization called the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA). NCJA's members are agencies like DCJS from each state and provide many services including training, sharing of best practices, and advocating for many federal grants that DCJS benefits from. One area they have expressed interest in at DCJS is the efforts taken to open our grants process to smaller, grassroots organizations, especially those that provide services to historically marginalized communities. DCJS has been asked to share our efforts as a model for what can be done at recent meetings and at their annual national conference.

DCJS is finishing up the first year of the Courageous Conversation Project. This project helped to bridge the gap between marginalized communities and their law enforcement partners, by providing a way for honest and difficult conversations to occur about implicit bias, use of force, and recruitment and training of officers. DCJS teamed up with UVA's Batten School of Public Policy to host and facilitate weekly sessions.

DCJS received a letter from the Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors requesting an exemption for one of the grant conditions for a grant, and DCJS' response granting this exemption is one of the items that was previously emailed to members. The unique circumstances of their grant and the timing of information provided to the county by DCJS, as outlined in my response letter, made granting this exemption the right decision.

Director Dion thanked board members for all of their work and dedication to the Board.

III. Committee Reports

- **Committee on Training (COT)**

Chief Kelvin Wright gave an update from the COT. The COT reviewed the application for the Town of Smithfield to become a Certified Crime Prevention Campus and for the City of Newport News to become recertified as a Certified Crime Prevention Community.

Chief Wright made the motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the certification of the Town of Smithfield as a Certified Crime Prevention Campus and the recertification of the City of Newport News as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Executive Committee**

Chief Williams updated the Board on items that were voted on at previous Executive Committee meetings on June 8, July 23, and September 21, 2021.

- **Grants Committee**

Chief Williams gave an update from the Grants Committee which met on October 6, 2021. There was a quorum of committee members present at the meeting. The committee recommended the full Board approve of the following grants:

- Virginia Stop Violence Against Women Act Funding in the amount of \$8,260,288 in federal and matching funds for 86 awards.
- Critical Incident Stress Management Funding in the amount of \$300,000 for two awards.
- Residential Substance Abuse and Treatment Funding in the amount of \$234,916 for one award.

Mr. Johnson made the motion, seconded by Chief Wright to approve the grant funding recommended by the Grants Committee in one block.

Recusals:

Judge Deneke for the VSTOP grants for Caroline County C/A and Caroline County Sheriff's Office, VSTOP grants for Rappahannock CASA and Richmond County/The Haven grants,

Chief James Williams for the VSTOP grant for Augusta County/City of Staunton C/A.

Superintendent K. Scott Miles for the VSTOP Office of the Attorney General grant,

Judge Malveaux for VSTOP Office of the Attorney General grant,

Kristi Wright, proxy for Eddie Macon, for VSTOP Supreme Court of Virginia grant.

The motion passed.

IV. Old Business

Minimum Standards for Local Community-Based Probation

Ms. Pat Smith gave an update on the Minimum Standards for Local Community-Based Probation. Ms. Smith then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Michael HuYoung, to approve these standards. The motion passed unanimously.

Compulsory Minimum Standards for Law Enforcement Officers

Ms. Lois Kinch, Training Standards Coordinator, DCJS, gave an update on these standards.

V. New Business

Combatting Hate Crimes Grant

Mr. Tracy Matthews, Acting Manager, Law Enforcement Grants and Training, presented the staff evaluations for the Combating Hate Crimes grant.

Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Chief Wright to approve these grants in the amount of \$892,218. The motion passed unanimously.

Electronic Meeting Participation Policy

Ms. Maria Garnett, Policy Advisor, DCJS, gave an overview on a request for an electronic meeting participation policy.

Mr. HuYoung made a motion, seconded by Ms. Angie Carrera, to approve of this policy. The motion passed unanimously.

Military Equipment Waivers

Mr. Harvey Powers, Division Director, Law Enforcement, DCJS, gave a report on a request for a military equipment waiver approval for Southampton County Sheriff's Office.

Chief Wright made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the military equipment waiver for Southampton County Sheriff's Office.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.