



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

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Criminal Justice Services Board

October 15, 2020

NOTE: This meeting was held by electronic means, via ZOOM meeting software, in response to the Governor's Declaration of a State of Emergency due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Members Present

Ms. Mary Biggs
Chief Craig Branch
Ms. Angie Carrera
Ms. Tonya Chapman
Sheriff Vanessa Crawford
The Hon. Karrie Delaney
The Hon. Sarah Deneke
The Hon. Carolyn Dull
Ms. Lisa Hernandez for
Mr. Harold Clarke
Mr. David Johnson
Mr. Jagdish Katyal
Mr. Edward M. Macon
The Hon. Mary Malveaux
Ms. Victoria Pearson
Ms. Kristen Peterson for
Ms. Valerie Boykin

Members Present (Cont'd)

The Hon. Bryan Porter
Colonel Gary Settle
Ms. Pat Smith
Superintendent William Smith
Mr. Matt Wheeler for
Senator Joseph Morrissey
Chief James Williams, Chair
Chief Kelvin Wright

Members Absent

Ms. Francine Horne
Mr. Michael HuYoung
The Hon. Jay Jones
Senator Jennifer McClellan
Sheriff Anthony Roper

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 11:00 a.m. A quorum of the Board was present.

Chairman Williams welcomed new members: Officer Bennie Evans, Jr., representing a police fraternal organization, and Mr. Paul Taylor, Co-Founder of RVA League for Safer Streets, who is an at-large member.

Mr. David Johnson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Mary Biggs, to accept the minutes of the May 21, 2020, meeting of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Director's Report

Ms. Shannon Dion, Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), gave an update.

More than \$3.5 million dollars in competitive federal funding has been awarded to DCJS to help vulnerable youth in Virginia through two awards from the Department of Justice:

\$1,832,682 from the Bureau of Justice Administration's Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Program. The STOP School Violence grant will fund a 36-month project called VA CARES (Caring, Awareness, Recognition, Engagement, and Support). The CARES Program will increase mental health awareness throughout Virginia's schools by helping to build positive school climates, awareness of resources, recognition of at-risk behaviors, and engagement with the community.

\$1,684,000 from the Office of Justice Programs for the Services for Minor Victims of Sex Trafficking (SMVST) program which will develop, expand, and strengthen services to minor victims of sex trafficking, including comprehensive wrap around case management services, trauma-informed mental health services, substance abuse counseling, legal services, residential treatment options, and a non-traditional host home program.

DCJS is also co-hosting and participating in the *Underserved Populations Learning Collaborative* to enhance Virginia's sexual and domestic violence programming. The goal of this 24-month Learning Collaborative is to support local sexual and domestic violence agencies to become strong allies to underserved populations and to promote access to culturally-responsive, comprehensive services.

DCJS continues to adapt well to the pandemic and is still teleworking. In September, policies and procedures were implemented that enable staff to regularly return to the office if needed.

DCJS veteran, Bill Dodd, is retiring. Bill has served for 30 years at DCJS in the Grants Team. All the grants that the Board has reviewed and approved have Bill's fingerprints on them. He will be missed.

III. Committee Reports

▪ Committee on Training (COT)

Chief Kelvin Wright gave an update from the COT meeting.

Re-Certification as a Certified Crime Prevention Community – City of Virginia Beach

Mr. Derrick Mays, DCJS Accreditation Program Manager, provided the Committee a review of the application for the recertification of the City of Virginia Beach as a Certified Crime Prevention Community.

Virginia Beach met or exceeded all of the required elements to meet the standards for recertification and it was recommended that Virginia Beach be recertified as a Certified Crime Prevention Community.

Chief Wright made a motion to approve the recertification of the City of Virginia Beach as a Certified Crime Prevention Community. The motion was seconded by Chief Craig Branch and passed unanimously.

- **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee met on Thursday, August 27, 2020.

The committee voted to approve 172 awards totaling \$6,054,850 for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding, two awards totaling \$353,144 for the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment funding, and one award totaling \$75,000 for the Drive to Work Program funding. The Executive Committee also approved the recommendation of the Nominations and Appointments Committee to fill four vacant seats on the Private Security Services Advisory Board. They are as follows: Electronic Security Business Representative: Frank Kollmansperger, Locksmith Business Representative: Christopher Mortensen, Personal Protection Specialist Representative: Michael Niner, and Special Conservator of the Peace Representative: Charles Law.

- **Grants Committee**

The Grants Committee met on Thursday, October 1, 2020.

The committee received overviews and evaluations from staff and recommended approval of 24 awards totaling \$525,306 in Sexual Assault Services Program funding.

Ms. Mary Biggs made the motion, seconded by Mr. Dave Johnson, to accept the recommendations of the Grants Committee and approve the grants totaling \$525,306. The motion passed.

Recusals:

Chief Branch: SASP Grant for the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault

Judge Sarah Deneke: SASP Grants for Hanover Safe Place and the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault

Mayor Dull: SASP Grant for New Directions Center, Inc.

Chairman Williams:

The Grants Committee also received a request from the Town of Vienna regarding Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) # 20-A4922AD16. This JAG award supports the Northern Virginia Gang Taskforce. As a result of the resignation of Vienna's financial officer, the town is no longer able to effectively manage the award. The Grants Committee recommended approval to transfer the Justice Assistance Grant #20-A4922AD16 from the Town of Vienna to the County of Fairfax, which has agreed to assume the grant responsibilities going forward.

Ms. Biggs made the motion, seconded by Chief Branch, to approve the transfer of JAG Grant #20-A4922AD16 from the Town of Vienna to the County of Fairfax. The motion carried.

Recusals

Colonel Gary Settle recused himself as Virginia State Police is an active member of the Northern Virginia gang task force

IV. Old Business Decertification Update - Kevin Santiago

Mr. Erik Smith, Manager for Standards and Policy, Law Enforcement Division, gave an update on the decertification appeal from Kevin Santiago. Mr. Smith noted that on August 5, 2020, the charge against Mr. Santiago was dismissed after being continued several times. Mr. Santiago is no longer employed with the Richmond Police Department and all attempts to reach him have been unsuccessful.

Chairman Williams:

On December 6, 2018, the Board deferred action on Mr. Santiago’s appeal. The Board may now either sustain the decertification or reinstate Mr. Santiago’s certification.

Chief Branch made the motion, seconded by Chief Wright, to sustain the decertification of Mr. Santiago. The motion passed.

Recusals: *Judge Malveaux*

Abstentions: *Mr. Taylor*

V. New Business

Mr. David Cotter, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs, gave a legislative update to the Board. Highlights from the update:

HB5108 (Guzman) and SB5030 (Locke)

The bills increase the membership of the Board from 29 members to 32 members adding a representative of a social justice organization, a mental health service provider, and a representative of community interests who represents one of four minority groups listed in the Virginia Code.

HB5051 (Simon) & SB 5030 (Locke)

The bills provide that the Board will adopt statewide professional standards of conduct applicable to all law-enforcement and jail officers and expand the grounds for decertifying an officer. The Board may initiate decertification proceedings against any current officer, regardless of whether the conduct has been reported to the Board by the officer’s employing agency.

HB 5049 (Helmer) & SB 5030 (Locke)

The bills prohibit law-enforcement agencies from acquiring certain types of military equipment. An agency may request a waiver from the Board to continue to use previously-acquired items for limited purposes.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.