



OFFICE OF THE  
JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
69 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1110  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
TELEPHONE 312-603-1133  
FACSIMILE 312-603-9974

## MINUTES

Meeting of the Justice Advisory Council

March 12, 2021

8:30 am-10:00 am

Virtual

### Call to Order and Roll Call

The Justice Advisory Council met on March 12, 2021 virtually.

Justice Advisory Council Board Member Justice P. Scott Neville called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

JAC Council Board Member Attendance	Present	Absent
Honorable Justice P. Scott Neville	x	
Honorable Justice Michael Hyman	x	
Dia S. Weil	x	
Edith Crigler	x	
Lisa S. Stephens		x
Ed Tivador	x	
Marlon Everett	x	
Professor Samuel Jones	x	
County Staff Present	Present	Absent
President Toni Preckwinkle	x	
Ali Abid, JAC	x	
Wynetta Scales, JAC	x	
Rebecca Janowitz, JAC	x	
Savannah Felix, JAC	x	
Kim Ambrose Davis, JAC	x	
Christopher Hawkins-Long, JAC	x	
Dayna Behrens, JAC	x	
Denise Brown, JAC	x	

**Members of the Public:** Annie McGowan, Victoria Moreno

**I. Call to Order:** Justice Advisory Council Board Member Justice P. Scott Neville called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

**II. Remarks:**

New JAC staff: Denise Brown, Grants Monitor. Wynetta Scales transitioning to Grants Monitor position as well.

**III. Review and approval of Minutes:**

Dia Weil motions to approve, Edith Crigler seconds

**IV. Council Discussion:**

**a. Safety and Justice Challenge**

Savannah Felix: SEED (felony drug distribution diversion program) has taken off. Now looking toward sustainability regarding funding, since right now it is just a pilot program.

Kim Davis-Ambrose: Community engagement has had challenges with technology with getting community to join the discussion sessions. We've had 30 sessions, just wrapped up emerging adults and intergenerational sessions last night. Planning our qualitative theming exercise to capture the themes heard across the three communities. After that, we are hoping to have our Action Summit outdoors in late June, where community members and elected officials will meet to discuss the concerns of the community that came out of our dialogue sessions.

Justice Neville asks: For technical challenges, could there be a screen in county facility set up for JAC specifically so that community members can join? Similar to court system where there's a designated online space.

Justice Hyman asks: do you have a list of the issues brought up by community that you can send us to review? Kim responds: when we complete the theming exercise we will have a better idea of the issues, and we will also have a narrative report after that action summit.

**b. Grants:**

Chris Hawkins-Long: JAC has received one of the R3 grants from ICJIA so we can pass it on to providers in Robbins, Ford Heights, and Harvey. \$100,000 per organization, 6 organizations, will start by next month.

Funding 108 separate programs in Cook County, roughly \$17.5 million

Ex: Large organizations such as Metropolitan Family Services, smaller organizations such as Vision of Restoration, Youth Guidance, legal services, wide range

**c. Policy:**

Savannah Felix: Omnibus Criminal Justice Reform Bill original intent was police accountability, got a number of other things into the bill such as the pretrial fairness act which

is probably the biggest that has gotten the most interest. This act abolishes money bond so that people are either detention eligible or not – the assumption is that people will be released, and for those who are detained the state has to be held to justify why they are being detained – non-probational gun felonies, sex charges, etc. Act also expands definition of willful flight so only those intentionally missing court are held responsible. Gives judges more discretion in giving warrants and how individuals can address their warrants, and gives people an additional 48 hours to appear in court before a warrant is issued. Ensures credit for those on EM as time served, along with a review every 60 days on EM to see if a less restrictive form can be utilized for that individual. Data transparency through new working group. Savannah will provide document detailing the police accountability pieces involved in the bill. Pretrial fairness act will be implemented Jan 1, 2023, the rest of the bill will be Jan 1, 2022.

Edith Crigler asks: what is the reaction to the bill by law enforcement? Savannah responds: some do believe it's an attack on law enforcement, we're getting memos out for specific concerns, CPD is probably frustrated about a lot of elements but we will see how it progresses, and we're also giving them time to implement the initiatives.

Savannah Felix: JAC has submitted a bill this year (HB 3591, SB 2200) that address non-probational offenses for young adults (younger than age 26). We want to eventually expand it for wider population, but starting with younger folks as developmentally appropriate.

Savannah Felix: JTDC Advisory Board making a report by end of year.

Ali Abid: Clerk dashboard regarding Bond reform should be going with new clerk to catch up with missed quarters from previous clerk as they switched over their tracking systems. Dashboard from Loyola for SJC will have a public-facing dashboard, no anticipated launch date yet but meeting regularly. For JAC, we only have KPI for the president's office that details some things we do, but with new staff positions we will be looking to get some kind of public-facing review of what the JAC does.

Rebecca Janowitz: Every day we get a list of people in the jail who would be released on EM if they had an acceptable place to stay. Right now working on getting more information on individuals health needs so we can refer them to the most appropriate housing.

Dayna Behrens: At the beginning of 2020 there were 100 men on the list, currently there are 76. 25 women successfully placed (14 in February), 102 men successfully placed (37 in February).

Ali Abid: Public Defender search chose Sharone Mitchell for April 1 start date after a long interview process that JAC facilitated.

Toni Preckwinkle: states appreciation to JAC regarding PD search assistance.

**V. New Business:**

Justice Neville: noticed in the minutes from last time there was a lot of medical concerns for healthcare. Will bring up creating a healthcare-oriented committee for next time. Also saw a need for the south suburbs, could we create a committee for that? Finally, could we create a communications committee so that citizens know about the work JAC does as well as getting zoom access for the community.

**VI. Public Comment:** none

**VII. Adjournment:** Dia Weil seconds the motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:39 am.