

Arapahoe County Justice Coordinating Committee
Meeting
Friday, May 6th, 2016
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members and Visitors Present:	
George Brauchler	District Attorney, 18 th Judicial District
Kally Enright	Criminal Justice Planning Coordinator
Doug Gray	Chief Probation Officer
Bill Holen	Commissioner, Arapahoe County
Mark Hurlbert	Assistant District Attorney, 18 th Judicial District
Nancy Jackson	Commissioner, Arapahoe County
James Karbach	Arapahoe County Public Defender's Office
Louie Perea	Undersheriff, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
Amanda Petermann	Sr. Admin Assist., Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
Ron Rakowsky	Mayor, Greenwood Village
Jared Rowlison	Captain, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
Todd Spanier	Criminal Justice Planning Coordinator
Kim Verdoorn	Pre-Trial Services Supervisor, Judicial Services
Craig Wagner	Arapahoe County Bar Association

No public comment.

Ron Carl and Don Klemme are absent.

No court representatives due to en banc.

Commissioner Jackson, strategic planning update, behavioral health:

- BH subcommittee has been pretty active; very optimistic that we can do some wonderful projects.
- Had guest from Corporation for Supportive Housing talking about social impact bonds and the bond they have been implementing in Denver. Discussed possibility and thinking through some technical issues of how maybe here in Arapahoe County we might be able to utilize that for funding projects.
- Two subgroups, Continuity of Care is working on a grant for the Navigator program. A pilot program to get the navigator in place, who will work with inmates from booking through release. Grant will be submitted Tuesday (05/10). Also working on some kind of strategic plan for housing, whatever that may look like and identify what our needs are. WE have identified 108 frequent fliers that we want to target as our "audience" so to speak to find supportive housing.

Undersheriff Perea, crime prevention/operational update, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office:

- Nothing to add as far as crime prevention for the Sheriff.
- Regarding the Sheriff's Office in general... Sheriff Walcher is at Camp George West today. One of our former Deputies, Deputy Hollingsworth, was killed in the line of duty back in the late 1800's and his name is being placed on the Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial.
- Some of our deputies will be attending events at Police Week next week.

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- We have a new look which went live on 05/01/16. There were approximately 485 commissioned staff to replace. New shoulder patch designed in-house by DOT Kyle McKenzie. Comfort was one of the major complaints regarding the old uniforms. The new uniforms are cost saving. There was no increase in budget for uniforms. We also took a look at the way uniforms were assigned. Quantity of uniforms were issued based on service area, i.e. Investigators (plain clothes to work) were issued less full uniforms than a Patrol Deputy.
- Deputy Bill Foreman, who was injured on duty on 02/10/16, was released from rehab center and went home last Friday. Total of 80 days in the hospital and rehab. Got married while he was in rehab. He will be receiving a Purple Heart award at our awards ceremony. His personal goal is to be able to walk on his own and be back to work by 02/10/17.
- This past Saturday was National Drug Takeback Day. We were one of four sites in the county. We had a record of over 1400 lbs. Its' very important for us to take these drugs out of homes so they can be disposed of properly. We are committed in supporting drug takeback and we have a drop box here at SO for citizens to utilize.
- Thursday, 05/12/16, is our Spring Awards Ceremony. We will be recognizing SO employees and citizens who have gone above and beyond. Doors open at 6 pm and ceremony begins at 7 pm. We have made a few changes, if you have been to previous ones, and Command Staff will no longer be doing MC duties and presenting awards. We will have an MC, Anastasiya Bolton from 9 News.
- Saturday, 05/14/16, is the Shred-a-Thon, we are one of 5 sites in the county. All proceeds collected will support Metro Crime Stoppers. From 0700-1200 hours.
- Special Olympics Torn Run, 06/04/16, we are proud to participate in this event.

Mayor Rakowsky asks, regarding the National Drug Takeback, for figures regarding the drop box at SO HQ. US Perea advises that we average about 60 to 80 lbs. a week. Mayor Rakowsky adds that a funding source that could be looked at is water quality. Mayor Rakowsky spoke with a family whose patriarch passed away. The prescriptions were disposed of by flushing them down the toilet. This isn't all that uncommon. In stressing the drop-off, maybe some publicity and tie-in to water quality could be helpful. Also, Mayor Rakowsky states that when he goes to Realtor meetings, he stresses to make sure homeowners are removing their Rx drugs during open house events. This is a perfect opportunity for people to steal. Mayor Rakowsky adds that GV broke their own record and collected 555 lbs. of Rx drugs.

Captain Rowilson, operational update, Arapahoe County Detention Facility:

- Hit a record high for the year this weekend. Captain adds that we have seen a recent increase. This is partially due to the RISE Program. We have 16 more beds on a regular basis. Last Wednesday, 94 people were booked in, with about 65 to 70 releases. We are on track to see 17,000 total for the year.
- With the RISE expansion, the dayroom expansion is nearly at a place where we are ready to begin the construction. There are weekly discussion with the general contractor, CCS, and the architect. We are finalizing things, to include budget, and we anticipate to open the dayroom in July.

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Commissioner Jackson asks is there is a particular trend or reason to cause the increase in bookings. Is it drug related or just general? Captain Rowilson responds that he has not heard any particular reason for the higher numbers. DA Brauchler adds that nationally, there has been an increase in violent crime in particular, and we have weathered that storm pretty well statistically. We may catch a small “bump” while these other cities are going through larger problems.

Kally and Todd, operational update, Criminal Justice Planning Coordinators:

- Commissioner Jackson talked about the grant, and it has occupied a good portion of our time since our last meeting.
- Chief Judge asked for some support. He convened a group to look at revising the bond schedule. Pretrial Working Group has done the same research. Provided information on FTA and re-arrest trends by crime type and by some of the other factors we have. Essentially, our highest recommendation was to take special notice of those booked into the jail on FTA in an existing case because those people are the problem cases dragging down the average of almost everyone.
- We continue to support the 24/7 Sobriety program and Chief Line. There will be an evaluation on that in the next few weeks. The start date was pushed back until August.

Captain Rowilson adds, re: 24/7, that there are logistical issues to work through, i.e. software, equipment and the physical location where we will operate.

DA George Brauchler, 18th Judicial District Attorney:

- There's a lot going on with the DA's Office. The courts are moving to an e-file system. Internally, the DA is moving to a paperless system. That has its own issues, like what do we do with all the paper. We need plans for shredding and interns, etc.
- Also, we are ground central for the statewide move for e-discovery. This will alleviate some stress logistically on agencies as well as the DA, and pushing things out to defense. It will cut down on unnecessary continuances because documents haven't been turned over in a timely manner. All of these things are sort of converging to be done by the end of August.
- DA Brauchler attended a church safety summit with Sheriff Walcher and Sheriff Spurlock, which was well attended and well received. There were several that reached out, as they have a growing awareness of their vulnerabilities. They asked for training and guidance. One of the logistical challenges is that before this, we were never really aware of all the churches, synagogues, etc., that we have in the county. We have a pretty good sense now of where these places are all located now.
- We have for the third year in a row been selected for an award by Mothers Against Drunk Driving. This year, it was “Prosecutors of the Year.” This is the second time in two years that we've done that. This year, awarded to Kelly LaFave and Chris Opfer. They did a great case and it all preceded the change in the law that gave us felony DUI.
- People have been moved out to the Family Resource Pavilion, which is a huge plus having them on-site. It also gives a little room for upgrades. The space will be maxed out in the next few years.

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James Karbach, Public Defender's Office:

- Working some of the same issues as the DA's Office regarding e-file.
- We are looking forward to unshackling juveniles in the courtroom. It is in holding now as the Sheriff's Office hires additional staff. Over the next few months, the implementation of Judge Samour's Chief Justice Directive will occur. No exact start date.

Commissioner Holen expresses concern, from the law enforcement standpoint, about identifying potentially dangerous individuals who may need to be shackled. Has there been a criteria laid out?

James Karbach answers:

- It will be determined by a judicial officer, factors including current charges, recent violent history, etc. The bigger concern is how it will impact the efficiency of the juvenile docket, which is already taking a lot of time. The goal is to have a more efficient system and also implement this directive without the docket slowing down.

Craig Wagner, Bar Association:

- Arapahoe County Bar Association report, related to the Bar Foundation, nonprofit sister organization. We have for several years had a "Laptops from Lawyers" program which provides students in need, students going to college. Applications taken from high schools in the county and awarded as such. Giving out 10 at meeting in June.
- Two new District Court Judges being sworn in during the upcoming months. Both are already judicial officers, so there will be replacements for them coming as well.
- Craig serves on the YMCA board in Aurora and they are very active in the anti-tobacco initiatives, the "kick butts" program. Very happy with the response. Programs in picking up butts off the high school grounds, literally garbage bags full. Littleton YMCA will be getting more involved with this, as well.

Mayor Rakowsky states this is a good segue into what he would like to discuss, which is issues on vaping. We have good news from the FDA on vaping. Vaping is the great cover for using marijuana when you aren't old enough under the law to use. The public health impact is great because ingesting all that smoke just can't be healthy in any case. Three vaping shops in GV and there is a vigorous anti-vaping ordinance. That coupled with the FDA ruling might indicate a declining business. FDA pointed out that smoking by HS students has dropped about 6% in the last few years, but vaping has increased 400%.

Doug Gray, Probation:

- Still in the middle of the move from the Justice Center to the new location at Lima. Meeting with construction folks and the building is coming along really nicely. Hoping to make that move sometime in August. There will still be a presence at the Justice Center; the intake unit will still remain here.
- Same issues with e-file, muddling through it along with everyone else.

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Kim Verdoorn: Pre-trial working group did not meet last month. Haven't been informed of anything new to pass along.

Mayor Rakowsky advises that the Metro Mayor's Group, in January, created a Public Safety Committee. The first thing they looked at, and continue to look at, are opiates and heroin. The Chief Medical Officer in the state, the Director of Tri-County Health, and one person from the Justice Department, on a national level, and the Attorney General's Office were at a meeting. Putting together a template to hand out to cities that the mayor can implement. Hopefully this will have positive impacts in the various areas represented in our meeting here today. Will share the template once it is received.

Mayor Rakowsky also brings up for discussion: In Pennsylvania, there are 2500 municipal jurisdictions and commonwealths. Only 1200 of them have their own police departments. Regular patrol functions at the municipal level for the remaining are provided by the Pennsylvania State Police. There is a fascinating study for law enforcement that if you go back to the first implementation of the "Sheriff" and look at the power of the Sheriff, it has been gradually eliminated in our country in the east. In the west, it has been fortified. What is interesting about the state police providing local protection is there is no fee; it comes out of the state budget. That's an interesting model to look at. It follows Sheriff's Walcher's model on municipal prisoners.

Last item, Mayor Rakowsky asks that we have a Vice Chair for the ACJCC and nominates Assistant District Attorney Mark Hurlbert. Commissioner Holen seconds the nomination. Congratulations and welcome as Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Holen would like to recognize and thank Mayor Rakowsky for his efforts in initiating prescription drug efforts amongst the mayors. Adams County will be joining in the effort. Interesting to note that we started this program four years ago and now it's on national platforms of both political parties. It adds to the belief that it only takes a few people to change the world. Thank you to everyone for their cooperation. It is obvious that with 1200 lbs. in the drug take back, and up to 80 lbs. brought in a week, that we are saving lives.

Commissioner Jackson: Every year, the Mayors and Commissioners give scholarships to students who have overcome obstacles. They are folks who have really struggled to overcome obstacles and have also given back to the community. They are nominated by their counselors. Very inspiring program. Awards event held last week and gave 10 scholarships.

* Fire in Littleton and man of our elderly folks have been displaced. We are collecting donations on the website, our foundation, Arapahoe County Foundation. Mayor Rakowsky adds that there is an underlying issue. There weren't many units damaged, but the issue was asbestos. Commissioner Jackson also states that the problem is also the complete rehab of the building and subsequent increase of rent. Many of the current residents will not be able to afford to live there.

Next meeting 06/03. Adjourned 1240.