



Marc Elrich
County Executive

Dr. Raymond Crowel
Director, DHHS

COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT: Kimberly Alfriend, Tracey Friedlander, Dan Gaskill, Chris Jennison, Erynn Penn, Joshua Pestaner, Kevin Redden, Melanie Rush, Vernon Scott, Ebony Stoutmiles, Thomas Squire and Angela Tolliver.

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT: Joanna Bonner, Amy Daum, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Susan Farag, Patty Lyman, Steve Miller, Steve Neff, Mary Siegfried, Nathaniel Tipton, and Carlotta Woodward.

EMERITUS MEMBERS PRESENT: Carole L Brown and Chris Fogleman

ABSENT MEMBERS: Diana Barney, Wendy Pulliam, and Gwen Williams.

STAFF LIASON PRESENT: Diane Lininger

GUESTS: Dr. Rolando Santiago, Selena Singleton and Sara Rose.

- I. **Welcome** – Chair, Christopher Jennison, welcomed members, called meeting to order, and communicated goals of the meeting to present members and guests.
- II. **Attendance** – Diane will take attendance. Please Mute your microphone unless you are speaking.
- III. **Speaker – Introduction of Dr. Rolando Santiago, Chief of Behavioral Health and Crisis Services**
 - Started October 2020
 - Spent 7 years at SAMSA – child/adolescent/family.
 - Projects in behavioral health – looking at a stabilization center where people in crisis can be sent for stabilizing after having a crisis episode rather than being sent to jail or an emergency room.
 - Integrated call center
 - Mobile crisis team
 - Air traffic control model for people in crisis
 - System of care/crisis care services.

Questions:

1. **What would the stabilization center be for, specifically (i.e., mental health crisis – instead of calling the police)?**
 - a. Yes, people from the mobile crisis unit who are trained would be deployed.
 - b. The dream is to be able to appropriately triage and send the appropriate person or team who can deescalate and transport that person to the stabilization center.
 - c. Not necessarily violent towards others, but violent behavior towards themselves, or other behavioral health issues
 - d. we have the mobile crisis unit, but they are only deployed with a police escort now.
 - e. 3 teams
 - i. Deploy without police escort.
 - ii. Deploy with communications to the police.
 - iii. Deploy with a police officer escort.
 - f. We want to reduce the number of people who go to jail.

IV. Old Business

- a. Minutes from January 2021 unanimously approved.

V. Legislative Subcommittee

- a. Thank you, Ebony for testifying on bill HB315/SB136 Juvenile Interrogation and Protection Act and thank you Tracey for writing the testimony.
- b. [HB0409](#) **Juveniles Convicted as Adults - Sentencing - Limitations and Reduction (Juvenile Restoration Act) - Authorizing a court, when sentencing a minor convicted as an adult, to impose a sentence less than the minimum term required by law; prohibiting a court from imposing a sentence of life without the possibility of parole or release for a minor; authorizing an individual convicted as an adult for an offense committed as a minor to file a motion to reduce the duration of the individual's sentence; requiring the court to conduct a hearing on a motion to reduce the duration of a sentence; etc.**
 - How many instances have we had with juveniles being sentenced to life without parole in Maryland in the past five years?
 - Removing the requirement of a mandatory minimum
 - Removing life without parole – can still receive life, but not without parole.
 - It is limiting the judge from having to impose minimum mandatory sentences – allowing judges to use their own discretion and judgement.
 - Chris Fogelman said that he personally does not usually like mandatory sentences or anything that removes discretion from judges.
 - Motion Passed.
 - Legislative committee will write a letter in support of the bill.

- c. [HB0382](#) **Juvenile Law - Conduct by Children Involving Sexually Explicit or Nude Images - Prohibiting a child, an individual under the age of 18 years, from knowingly sending, displaying, or publishing to another a sexually explicit or nude image depicting another child under certain circumstances; prohibiting a child from knowingly sending, displaying, or publishing to another a sexually explicit or nude image depicting only himself or herself under certain circumstances; prohibiting a child from knowingly possessing a sexually explicit or nude image depicting another child without the other child's consent; etc.**

- Removes the criminality of child pornography for some aspects.
- Motion passed.
- Legislative committee will write letter in favor of the bill.

d. **HB0180**

- Cannot be sentenced for distribution of child pornography if it is of you – protects children from being labeled as child pornography distributors.
- Cannot be detained for it in certain situations.
- There are certain caveats.
- Child pornography must have sexual intent.
- Motion passed.
- Legislative committee will write letter in opposition of the bill.

e. [HB0672](#) **Department of Juvenile Services – Juvenile Offense Database**

Requiring the Department of Juvenile Services, in coordination with the Administrative Office of the Courts, to develop, maintain, regularly update, and publish a searchable database of all offenses involving juveniles on its website; prohibiting the database from containing certain information; providing that certain provisions of law mandating the confidentiality of certain juvenile records do not prohibit the publication of, or access to or use of, certain information concerning certain juveniles in a certain database; etc.

- Mary Siegfried discussed bill:
- Not clear what the bill is asking.
- Allows juvenile “offenses” to be put into a public database without identifying information - “offense” is not defined.
 - Could be a status offense, or something more serious.
- Implications – could make people believe that all crimes are due to children.
- Crack the cone of confidentiality – juveniles could be identified and labeled when they become adults.
- Write a letter opposing this legislation - Motion has passed.
- Legislative committee will write a letter opposing the bill.

VI. New Business

- a. March meeting – what would Commissioners like to have as topic and or speaker.
- b. Annual meeting with the Circuit Court Judges will be on May 18, 2021. Judge Callahan is retiring in June. Invitation has been extended to the Circuit court judges.

VII. Announcements from Commission members or Members of the Public.

The Commission on Juvenile Justice did not propose any interest in future events or items.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned.

After discussing the Agenda, the Chair moved to adjourn the meeting. Adoption of the motion closed meeting at 8:57 pm.

Commission on Juvenile Justice

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