

# COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF THE **November 19, 2020** MEETING Meeting Conducted Via Microsoft Teams

### **MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Chair: Kathryn Barger, Supervisor, Fifth District and Chair of the County Board of Supervisors

Erika Anzoategui, County Alternate Public Defender

Jacki Bacharach, County Quality & Productivity Commission

\*Ben Barron for Nicola Hanna, U.S. Attorney

Reaver Bingham for Raymon Leyva, County Chief Probation Officer

Mark Diorio for Selwyn Hollins, Director, County Internal Services Department

Elaine Duong for Richard Llewellyn, Los Angeles City Administrative Officer

Peter Espinoza, Director, Office of Diversion and Reentry

\*Xiomara Flores Holguin for Bobby Cagle, Director, County Department of Children and Family Services

Ricardo Garcia, County Public Defender

Nicole Gougis, President, County Prosecutors Association

Victor Greenberg, Presiding Judge, Juvenile Superior Court

Lajuana Haselrig for Alex Villanueva, Sheriff

\*Jason Hasty for Debra Duardo, Superintendent, County Office of Education

T. Warren Jackson for Ed Eng, County Economy and Efficiency Commission

\*Ruby Javed for Jonathan Lucas, County Coroner – Chief Medical Examiner

Dean Milligan, President, Southeast Police Chiefs Association

Ezekiel Perlo, Directing Attorney, Indigent Criminal Defense Appointments Program

Kris Pitcher for Michel Moore, Chief, Los Angeles Police Department

Ray Regalado for Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Human Relations Commission

Susan Sullivan Pithey for Xavier Becerra, California Attorney General

Rachel Teitelbaum for Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

Christopher Thompson for Jonathan Sherin, Director, County Department of Mental Health

\*Thida Van for Fesia Davenport, County Acting Chief Executive Officer

\*Richard Walczak for John Curley, President, San Gabriel Valley Police Chiefs Association

Andrea Welsing for Barbara Ferrer, Director, County Department of Public Health

Noro Zurabyan for Rodrigo Castro-Silva, Acting County Counsel

**\*Not a designated alternate**

**I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Kathryn Barger, County Supervisor, Fifth District

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair of CCJCC.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chair Kathryn Barger, County Supervisor, Fifth District

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the October 14, 2020 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

**ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.**

**IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mark Delgado, Executive Director, Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee

Mark Delgado, Executive Director of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC), provided the Executive Director's Report to the committee.

November 3, 2020 Election

Mr. Delgado noted that Proposition 20 and Proposition 25, which were on the November 3<sup>rd</sup> statewide ballot, both failed to pass. These Propositions were discussed at the CCJCC meeting that was held on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

Locally in the November 3<sup>rd</sup> election, George Gascon was elected to be the Los Angeles County District Attorney and State Senator Holly Mitchell was elected to be Los Angeles County Supervisor for the Second District.

Mr. Delgado stated that CCJCC looks forward to welcoming both District Attorney-elect Gascon and Supervisor-elect Mitchell and working with them in the future.

Mr. Delgado also acknowledged the work that outgoing District Attorney Jackie Lacey has done for the local criminal justice system and thanked her for her leadership and many years of service to this committee.

### Court-Referred Community Service Program

CCJCC, in partnership with the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), has supported the Court-Referred Community Service (CRCS) program through the implementation of monitoring services over the prior three years. The CRCS program serves as an alternative to incarceration and other sanctions.

The current funding agreement with LACDA expired in October. A Board Letter is targeted for the December 8, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting to obtain authority to execute a new five-year funding agreement to continue those services and support of the CRCS program.

### Psychiatric Social Worker Program with Public Defender and Alternate Public Defender

In partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), a Psychiatric Social Worker (PSW) program has begun with the Public Defender's Office and Alternate Public Defender's Office.

The funding agreement with CDCR provides for two PSWs assigned to the Public Defender's Office and one PSW assigned to the Alternate Public Defender's Office for up to five years.

The PSWs will work cases with female defendants who are facing state prison sentences and will prepare social history reports that may be contributing factors when alternative dispositions are considered.

### Administrative Updates

The Chair of the County Board of Supervisors, which rotates every year, also serves as the Chair of CCJCC. Therefore, this will be the last meeting of the year that Supervisor Barger will serve as Chair of CCJCC.

Mr. Delgado thanked Supervisor Barger for her leadership over this past year. He also stated that he looked forward to working with Supervisor Hilda Solis in the coming year. Supervisor Solis will become Chair of the Board of Supervisors on December 8, 2020.

CCJCC staff will be reaching out to member departments/agencies in the coming weeks to ensure the accuracy of records with respect to membership, designated representatives, and contact information.

Supervisor Barger stated that her office will continue to be engaged in the work of this committee and that she looks forward to continuing to work with CCJCC and its members.

**ACTION: For information only.**

#### **IV. CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA SHARING INITIATIVE**

Fernando Angell, Assistant Director, Information Systems Advisory Board (ISAB)

Fernando Angell, Assistant Director with the Information Systems Advisory Board (ISAB), provided a status update on the criminal justice data sharing initiative, which has been approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Angell also discussed the proposed establishment of an ad hoc CCJCC work group to develop strategies and plans for capturing requested victim impact-related data.

PowerPoint slides that were used for this presentation have been posted online at <http://ccjcc.lacounty.gov>.

This presentation is an update from the presentation that Mr. Angell made to this committee at the September 9, 2020 meeting.

As a reminder, on August 4, 2020, the Board of Supervisors passed a motion for ISAB to commence a Criminal Justice Data Sharing Initiative in collaboration with various stakeholders. This is a proactive approach to data transparency that will provide a data portal that is available to the public.

ISAB was specifically directed to start collecting, analyzing, and publishing data that is currently and reasonably accessible about the justice-impacted population beginning in three months. The motion stated that the data should be published monthly with the goal of publishing data weekly within six months of the start of this data sharing initiative.

An amendment to the August 4<sup>th</sup> directive calls for incorporating victim impact-related data in the Criminal Justice Data Sharing Initiative. This amendment from Supervisor Barger requests that this data include the following elements:

1. Number of crime victims served
2. Region where crimes occurred
3. Victims served, by crimes committed
4. Victims served, by adverse consequences, including: economic, health, or mental health
5. Victims served, by type of service connection

Mr. Angell reported that there have been challenges with respect to this victim-related data request. Notably, data for all five (5) data points noted above are not currently and reasonably accessible based on the following findings:

- The justice community lacks a single-source system than can provide the requested data points;
- While several justice agencies may collect some information about victims, the ability to link the disparate information together does not exist; and

- The County lacks identity resolution technology and application policies that are needed to establish a collection of consistent victim information based on a person-centric view.

On behalf of Supervisor Barger (see NOTE below), Elisa Arcidiacono, Justice Deputy for the Fifth District the Board of Supervisors, made a motion for CCJCC to establish an ad hoc work group to do the following:

- Conduct an assessment of existing system capabilities to capture victim data.
- Develop strategies and plans for capturing the requested victim impact-related data and other meaningful victim data points that would support this effort.

The motion further directs the Executive Director of CCJCC to convene this ad hoc work group with the support of ISAB staff, and include the Chief Information Office (CIO), District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, Superior Court, local law enforcement, Public Defender's Office, Alternate Public Defender's Office, and other relevant agencies.

Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender Erika Anzoategui seconded this motion.

**ACTION:** The motion for CCJCC to establish an ad hoc work group was approved without objection. The ad hoc work group is to do the following:

- Conduct an assessment of existing system capabilities to capture victim data.
- Develop strategies and plans for capturing the requested victim impact-related data and other meaningful victim data points that would support this effort.

The Executive Director of CCJCC is to convene this ad hoc work group with the support of ISAB staff, and include the Chief Information Office (CIO), District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, Superior Court, local law enforcement, Public Defender's Office, Alternate Public Defender's Office, and other relevant agencies.

**NOTE:** Supervisor Barger left the meeting during this presentation. County Alternate Public Defender Erika Anzoategui served as Chair Pro Tem until Supervisor Barger's return later in the meeting.

## V. **OPIOID EPIDEMIC TRENDS AND RESPONSES**

Assistant U.S. Attorney Benjamin Barron, Special Counsel to the U.S. Attorney on Opioids, Chief, Santa Ana Branch Office,  
U.S. Attorney's Office – Central District of California  
Ruby Javed, Ph.D., Chief, Forensic Sciences Laboratories Division,  
Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner

Assistant U.S. Attorney Benjamin Barron provided a review of CCJCC's Ad Hoc Opioid Epidemic Work Group Report and its recommendations.

In addition, Ruby Javed, Ph.D., Chief of the Forensic Sciences Laboratories Division of the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner, made a presentation on recent drug overdose death data in Los Angeles County.

PowerPoint slides that were used for both of these presentations have been posted online at <http://ccjcc.lacounty.gov>.

### Ad Hoc Opioid Epidemic Work Group Report

#### *Background*

As background, at the April 17, 2019 meeting of CCJCC, several member agencies presented on initiatives and partnerships in place to combat the opioid crisis.

Following the presentation, CCJCC approved a motion to create an Ad Hoc Opioid Epidemic Working Group. The Working Group – co-chaired by Mr. Barron and Ms. Carly Palmer of the U.S. Attorney's Office – was tasked with developing and identifying strategies to assist with interagency coordination in the areas of enforcement, prevention, and treatment with respect to the opioid epidemic, and to report back to CCJCC with recommendations.

The Ad Hoc Opioid Epidemic Working Group began meeting on a regular basis starting in June 2019. The Working Group included representatives from the following Departments/Organizations:

- U.S. Attorney's Office (co-chairs)
- District Attorney's Office
- Department of Public Health (DPH)-Substance Abuse Prevention & Control
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Joint Regional Intelligence Center
- Los Angeles Police Department
- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- Medical Examiner-Coroner
- Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County

The following were major topics that were covered at the meetings:

- Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP)
- Public health strategies
- Law enforcement efforts
- Department of Health Services (DHS) efforts
- Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner prescriber notification program
- Access to Naloxone
- Prisoner rehabilitation and diversion programs

### *Final Report and Recommendations*

The Working Group developed fifteen (15) recommendations for consideration in its report back to CCJCC on March 11<sup>th</sup> of this year. The recommendations are divided into the following four categories:

- Access to Opioids and Public Education
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Approaches
- Enhancing Data Capacity
- Investigation and Enforcement

The recommendations under each of these categories are as follows:

#### Access to Opioids and Public Education:

1. Support DHS expected practices in educating patients who receive opioids.
2. Provide outreach to non-County health care clinics and community organizations.
3. Provide education to mental health professionals on trends and resources.
4. Expand accessibility of safe drug disposal at DHS pharmacies and facilities.
5. Engage with CalRecycle to provide input on the implementation of SB 212.

#### SUD Treatment Approaches:

6. Support expansion of access to MAT.
7. Support ongoing work to engage with current and former inmates.
8. Expand access to peer advocates.
9. Support naloxone acquisition and deployment.

#### Enhancing Data Capacity:

10. Support efforts of the Emergency Medical Services Authority to set statewide standards for tracking opioid overdoses.
11. Increase resources for the Chief Medical Examiner (CME) Office's data maintenance and analysis capabilities.
12. Support ODMAP data collection and analysis.

## Investigation and Enforcement:

13. Educate first responders on the importance of preserving evidence found at the scenes of overdose deaths.
14. Engage with hospitals on preserving blood samples for suspected overdose deaths.
15. Increase resources to fund placement of law enforcement officers on opioid task forces.

Mr. Barron provided a brief description for each recommendation.

**NOTE: Supervisor Barger returned to the meeting and resumed as Chair during the Mr. Barron's presentation.**

Judge Peter Espinoza, Director of the Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR), stated that ODR has engaged with the Sheriff's Department in a large Naloxone distribution program in the county jail. Thousands of doses are being provided to individuals leaving the jail who have self-identified as either opioid users or who have witnessed an overdose prior to their incarceration.

In addition, ODR has a Project LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) site in Hollywood that is being financed with federal funding and is focused on opioid users. ODR is expecting to launch a second site in East Los Angeles next year, also with federal funding, to address the opioid crisis in that region.

Judge Espinoza encouraged Mr. Barron and the work group to contact Shoshana Scholar of ODR who is overseeing these Project LEAD programs. She can provide more information about these efforts.

Mr. Barron noted the expense of Naloxone and the importance of committing the resources needed to replenish supplies.

Supervisor Barger stated that this is an important issue to the Board of Supervisors, and she thanked Mr. Barron for this presentation.

Mr. Barron thanked Robert Philibosian of the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County for his efforts in establishing the Ad Hoc Opioid Epidemic Work Group.

## Overdose Deaths in Los Angeles County

Ruby Javed, Ph.D., Chief of the Forensic Sciences Laboratories Division of the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner, made a presentation on recent drug overdose death data in Los Angeles County.



The past few years have seen an increase in accidental drug overdose deaths both within the county and the state. Nationwide, the number of overdose deaths caused by synthetic opioids has increased dramatically throughout the second half of the last decade.

In terms of deaths per 100,000 people in the population due to synthetic opioids, which includes Fentanyl, the number increased nationwide from 1 in 100,000 in 2013 to 9.9 in 100,000 in 2018.

Accidental deaths involving the use of Fentanyl locally have similarly been increasing over the years, as shown in the following numbers:

- Year 2014: 31
- Year 2015: 25
- Year 2016: 102
- Year 2017: 149
- Year 2018: 260
- Year 2019: 460
- Year 2020: 660 (as of the end of October)

Another graph showed the increase in Fentanyl-related overdose deaths in Los Angeles County throughout 2019 and the first five months of 2020. The graph shows that Fentanyl-related overdose deaths have been increasing to the point that they are nearly as high as overdose deaths due to methamphetamine, which has remained higher throughout the time period shown.

Dr. Javed stated that Fentanyl-related overdose deaths in this County reached 101 in the month of July 2020, which is the most so far in one month.

The final graph showed that, in addition to an increase in drug overdoses due only to Fentanyl, there has also been an increase in overdoses due to Fentanyl used in combination with other drugs, such as heroin, opioids other than heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine. Dr. Javed noted that individuals aren't always aware that Fentanyl has been combined with the drug that they are taking, which can then lead to an overdose.

Supervisor Barger thanked Dr. Javed for her presentation and thanked the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner/Coroner for their work on this issue.

#### Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Technical Assistance Opportunity

Mr. Delgado noted that one of the recommendations under SUD Treatment Approaches is supporting the expansion of access to Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT). This looks to support the current efforts that are already in place in this County to make MAT available to those involved in the criminal justice setting who can benefit from MAT, both in-custody and in the community.

Consistent with this, there is an opportunity to receive technical assistance from Health Management Associates (HMA), which has expertise in this area and already works with the County on various issues. Earlier in this year, HMA sponsored several web sessions on MAT with justice partners in the County.

Mr. Delgado invited Donna Strugar-Fritsch of HMA to provide more information about this opportunity.

Ms. Strugar-Fritsch stated that HMA is a nationwide organization with three offices in California that do work with government-sponsored healthcare and programs for underserved populations.

HMA received two justice-related grants from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) through the State Opioid Response Fund to address the opioid crisis in California. One of the grants involves expanding access to MAT for addiction treatment in jails and in drug court programs. As of June of this year, more than 6,500 jail detainees have received MAT throughout the state.

One lesson that has been learned from this effort is that, even when MAT is made available during incarceration, the person may encounter resistance to being allowed to continue with this treatment once he/she is out of custody.

The second grant that HMA received from the state may help to address this issue. This grant funds a project called County Touchpoints and Access to MAT for the Justice-Involved. The goal of this project is to educate stakeholder groups about addiction treatment and the use of MAT.

Six stakeholder groups that HMA has been working with are Probation, Adult Collaborative Courts, Youth and Dependency Courts, Public Defenders, District Attorneys, and Child Welfare.

In reference to the web sessions that were held earlier this year with justice partners in the County, Ms. Strugar-Fritsch stated that 650 people participated. Feedback from these sessions provided information about the various obstacles to expanding the use of MAT in addiction treatment. One such obstacle is a lack of consistent support for evidence-based practices for treating addictions based on an incomplete understanding of opioid use disorder and other addictions.

The County Touchpoints project has resources available that HMA can utilize in working with the County and with the six stakeholder groups that were mentioned.

Mr. Delgado stated that the opportunity to receive technical assistance from HMA can help to address the recommendation to expand access to MAT in the County of Los Angeles.

Supervisor Barger made the following motion:

**CCJCC establish an ad hoc work group to support current efforts and develop strategies and plans for expanding the availability of Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) within the criminal justice setting, with technical assistance provided by HMA with State Opioid Response funds.**

**The Executive Director of CCJCC will convene this ad hoc work group with representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, Superior Court, local law enforcement, Alternate Public Defender's Office, Public Defender's Office, Office of Diversion and Reentry, Alternatives to Incarceration, Department of Health Services, Department of Public Health, Department of Mental Health, and other impacted agencies.**

**The work group partners will report back to CCJCC on a quarterly basis through the end of 2021.**

Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender Erika Anzoategui seconded this motion.

**ACTION: This motion was approved without objection.**

#### Availability of Naloxone through DHCS

Ms. Strugar-Fritsch reported that DHCS has funding to provide for free Naloxone distribution to various eligible organizations. Those interested in learning more about this or applying to receive Naloxone distributions are encouraged to visit the following website:

[https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/Naloxone\\_Distribution\\_Project.aspx](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/Naloxone_Distribution_Project.aspx)

#### **VI. OTHER MATTERS / CLOSING REMARKS**

Supervisor Barger thanked the members of CCJCC for their work and dedication. She added that their efforts and participation make a positive difference in the County.

#### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

There will not be a CCJCC meeting in December.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at 12:00 noon on Microsoft Teams.