



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

## Governor's Crime Commission

Roy Cooper, Governor  
Casandra Skinner Hoekstra, Interim Secretary

Robert A. Evans, Chairman  
Diane Barber-Whitaker, Interim Executive Director

**Governor's Crime Commission Quarterly Meeting**  
**Virtual Meeting via WebEx**  
**1201 Front Street**  
**Raleigh, NC 27609**  
**Thursday, September 2, 2021**

**Attendees:** Ms. Sherri Allgood, Justice Phil Berger Jr., Sheriff Charles Blackwood, Sheriff Alan Cloninger, Commissioner Leto Copeley, Judge Julius Corpening, Judge Mary Covington, Commissioner Benjamin Curtis, Chairman Robert Evans, Judge Andrew Heath, Interim Secretary Casandra Hoekstra, Chief Dan House, Commissioner Karen Howard, Colonel Freddy Johnson Jr., Asst. Chief Anthony Kelly, Deputy Secretary William Lassiter, Commissioner Patricia Lawler, Ms. Theresa Starling (on behalf of Commissioner Tracy Lee), Commissioner Virginia Lee Jicha, Judge Thomas Lock, Sheriff Hans Miller, Ms. Susan Osborne, Chief Deputy Richard Parks, Dr. Hubert Peterkin, Commissioner Matthew Scott, Commissioner Rebecca Spragins, Reverend Bruce Stanley, Commissioner Pamela Thompson, Mr. Tabari Wallace, Chief Michael Yaniero

**Non – Attendees:** Chief Patrice Andrews, Judge Charles Brown, Commissioner Matthew Cooper, Commissioner Todd Ishee, Director Robert Schurmeier, Commissioner Lauren Smith, Sheriff Keith Stone, Commissioner Christopher Suggs, Commissioner Hoyt Tessener, Mr. Jeff Welty, Commissioner James Williams

**Call to Order:** 9:00 a.m.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Robert Evans called attention to the meeting minutes for June 3, 2021. Sheriff Alan Cloninger moved to approve minutes; Commissioner Karen Howard seconded. The minutes were approved by the Governor's Crime Commission members.

**Reminders:**

Ethics: The General Statute, Chapter 138A-35, and other provisions of the State Government Ethics Act/Recusal

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**Executive Director's Report:**

Interim Executive Director Diane Barber-Whitaker introduced the new Commission member and shared information on the process for the Commission to make their recommendations on grant priorities for fiscal year 2022. Executive Director announced that GCC will host a free virtual Grants Award workshop on September 14<sup>th</sup> and a virtual Grants Writing workshop on September 21<sup>st</sup>. She also provided a federal update for GCC's main federal funding sources, which included the following information: VOCA Fix has passed; VAWA is being reauthorized by Congress; Byrne JAG passage is tied to criminal justice reform which isn't moving much at the time but is expected to move eventually; and there are no new updates for JJ at the federal level.

**Senate Bill 300, NC Criminal Justice Reform - Senator Danny Earl Britt, Jr.:**

Senator Danny Earl Britt, Jr. presented on North Carolina Criminal Justice Reform, Senate Bill 300. A task force was created by the Governor's Office and the Attorney General, along with a selected committee created by the Speaker of the House, to consolidate ideas with the goal of creating a bill that makes improvements to policing.

**Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) – Landscape – Jamie Seales, Operations Manager:**

CIT is a prebooking jail diversion program designed to route individuals in a behavioral crisis into treatment options rather than incarceration. CIT will be used as a training tool for officers to obtain needed skills to assist individuals in a behavioral health crisis.

**Statewide CIT Training Partners with NC Mental Health Professionals and NC Law Enforcement – Tracy McPherson, Director:**

There are 58 community colleges who serve the 100 counties in North Carolina. Legislation has designated these colleges as the primary lead agencies for delivering workforce training. The Legislature, under state statute allows the waiver of course registration fees for eligible public safety responders and law enforcement.

**CIT Local Implementation – Lee Hinson:**

CIT has been successful in Robeson county due to the close relationships formed between the local agencies and Managed Care Organizations (MCO). The local agencies include Robeson Sheriff's Department and Lumberton Police Department.

## **FFY 2022 Governor's Priorities – CVS, CJJ and JJPC**

### **Crime Victim Services (CVS) Funding Priorities FFY 2022 – Commissioner Leto Copeley**

After funding the VOCA mandatory categories, the committee allocates priority percentages within the competitive priorities based on requested funds. Priorities were set to avoid agencies serving specified victim groups such as child abuse and human trafficking survivors from competing against each other. This enabled the committee to look closely at each category to assess the amount of funding they could provide to the individuals agencies. Caps have been recommended in many priorities (especially with VAWA) to ensure that the smaller districts can receive funding.

### **Criminal Justice Improvement (CJI) Funding Priorities FFY 2022 – Sheriff Alan Cloninger**

The CJI Committee recommends the following funding priorities: Standard local law enforcement block grants with a federal funding maximum of \$24,500 for 1 year for equipment and psychological testing for existing and new officers; Statewide accreditation priority for state and local agencies to meet the accreditation at no cost; Crisis intervention training; and Mental health/LEO model pilot project.

### **Juvenile Justice Planning Committee (JJPC) Funding Priorities FFY 2022 – Adonica McAllister**

JJPC has three main funding recommendations: They are instituting funding caps for all OJJDP-funded juvenile justice awards. Second, JJPC is replacing Raise the Age Implementation with Community Violence Intervention Programs. This is a new funding priority. The third main recommendation is to introduce a Juvenile Justice Discretionary priority. There is a total of five funding priority areas in JJPC, Children's Justice Act, Community Violence Intervention Programs, Racial and Ethnic Disparities, School Justice Partnerships and Juvenile Justice – Discretionary.

The funding recommendations and priorities have already been approved by commissioners through the committees, there was no need to motion or second for approval. A voice roll call from the full commission was taken.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** A commissioner expressed that there is law enforcement recruitment challenge across the state. Recommends that the Commission start to look into ways to sustain staffing levels. Chair will discuss and plan with staff for December meeting.

**Adjournment:** Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Meeting minutes taken by Nicki Livingston

Attachments:

1. Commission Meeting Agenda
2. Commission Roll call for attendance
- 3. Commission Meeting minutes roll from Friday, June 18, 2021**
4. (Committee name) Voting Roll (for application or scoring)
5. All other attachments listed individually