



PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE/ Public Safety Coordinating Council

Palm Beach County Governmental Center
301 N. Olive Avenue, 12th Floor McEaddy Conference Room
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Wednesday, April 1, 2009; 12:00 P.M.

- SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Douglas Duncan, Roth and Duncan, P.A.
Bob Bozzone, Executive Director, Comprehensive Alcohol Rehabilitation Program
Sandra Bosso Pardo, Judge, County Criminal
Maureen F. Brickous, County Probation, PRIDE Integrated Services, Inc.
Patrick Cannan, Workforce Alliance
Roger M. Crane, Police Chief, Palm Beach County Chiefs of Police Association
Nancy Perez*, Judge, County Court Criminal Division (**via video conference*)
Alton Taylor, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation
Charles Trotta, Manager, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency
Barbara White, Public Defender's Office

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rosalyn Baker, Florida Department of Corrections
Vice-Chairman Chris Kneisley, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Jill Richstone, State Attorney's Office
Gene Thompson, Chaplain, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Louis Tomeo, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller, Director Criminal Court Services
Shelley Vana, Commissioner, Palm Beach County

GUESTS PRESENT:

Barry Echols, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Barry Fondiller, Jail Counselor, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Ken Huxold, Pride Integrated Services Inc.
Ken Johnson, Florida Department of Corrections
Shelby King, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Bea Lovelace, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller
Mike Nefzger, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Elizabeth Parker, State Attorney's Office
Nicole Saunders, Justice Services Director

David Sleeth, Captain, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Michelle Spangenberg, Criminal Court Manager, Court Administration
Tammy Waldrop, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
John Viola, Bail Bond Agent

CJC STAFF PRESENT:

Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager
Jenise Link, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. **Chairman Duncan welcomed the members and guests of the task force.**
- II. **The agenda was approved without additions or deletions.**
- III. **The minutes of the March 4, 2009 meeting of the CTF/PSCC were approved.**
- IV. **Reports**

A. Jail Population Report

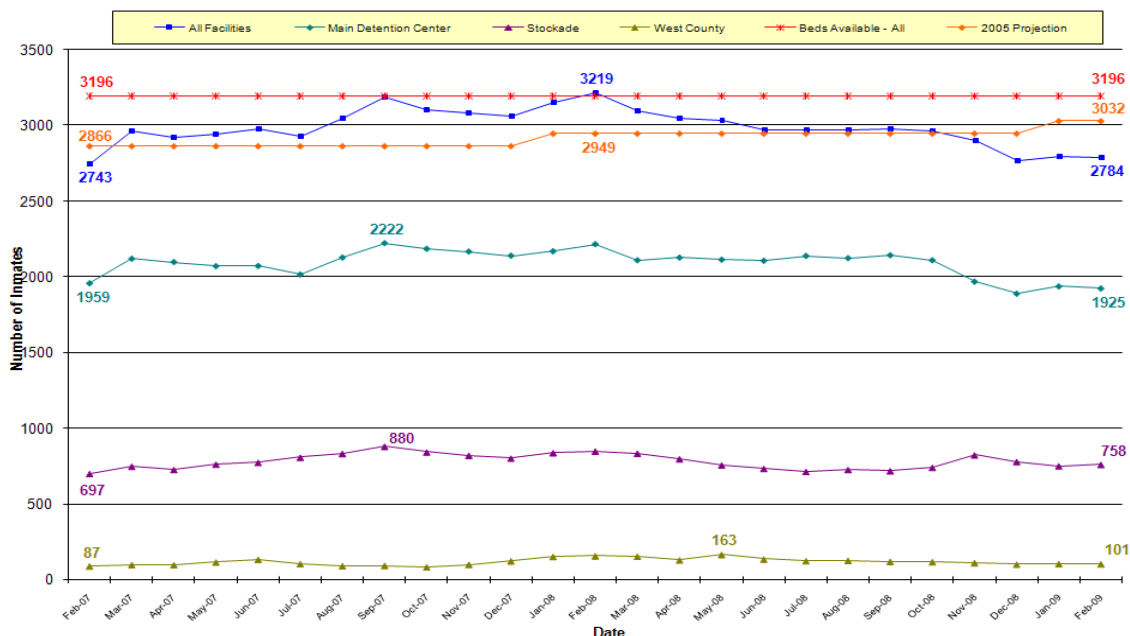
Major Waldrop reported that the total population today of the jail is 2,646 which represent a continued downward trend. She reported that the population count today is approximately 60 inmates less than last month.

See Charts/graphs following from previous month:

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council							
Palm Beach County Correctional Facilities Monthly Population Report January - February 2009							
Data Source: Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Department							
Facility	February Average Daily Population	Jan - Feb Average Daily Population	EXISTING CAPACITY			FUTURE CAPACITY	
			Number Beds*	February Percent Occupied (ADP/Capacity)	Jan - Feb Percent Occupied (ADP/Capacity)	Number Beds*	Jan - Feb Percent Occupied (ADP/Capacity)
Main Detention Center	1,925	1,932	2,114	91%	91%	2,114	91%
Stockade Detention Center (Including 96 bed Drug Farm)	758	753	944	80%	80%	944	80%
West County Detention Center	101	102	138	73%	74%	262	39%
COUNTYWIDE TOTAL	2,784	2,787	3,196	87%	87%	3,320	84%

*Does not include 106 beds for medical.

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission
 Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council
Average Daily Populations by Date and Facility
 Data Source: Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Department



B. Jail Counselor Report

The Jail Counselor, Mr. Fondiller, provided a report that showed the status of DCF transfers and misdemeanor booking averages. Mr. Fondiller reported that the total average of days misdemeanants spent in jail in March was 2.7 days. He added that the average number of days for misdemeanants between booking and sentencing was 2.8 days. When he ran his report by taking out misdemeanants that spent one day at the jail the average was 3.99 days. He reported that all DCF transfers took place within the statutory 15 days.

C. Pretrial Services Report

The Pretrial Services Manager, Mr. Trotta, provided members with a printed report detailing the Supervised Release Pretrial Services Program. The report notes that it is current as of March 30th. He stated that there are a total of 1,199 defendants on Supervised Own Recognizance (S.O.R.) and that 1,013 of these are out of custody and are not occupying jail space. He further reported that there are a total of 542 defendants on S.O.R. only and 657 that have a money bond attached to the S.O.R. Seventeen individuals were on S.O.R. and were in custody for the following reasons:

Probation/Parole Violation	2
S.O.R. to Treatment	1
Bonds or No Bonds on Other Charges/Holds	12
Serving Time on Other Charges	2

He stated that within the past day, the person that was SOR to treatment is now in the category for bonds since there were additional charges found on the individual.

V. Old Business

A. Status update on in-patient and out-patient treatment assessments and placement from the jail.

Mr. Fondiller explained that he performed an analysis of the court ordered evaluations from the Sheriff's office data for February 2009 and provided members with a printed report. He reported that there were 129 total evaluations ordered in that time period. Of those 129 cases, there were 2 categories of evaluations: mental health (13) and SAAP (109). And there were 3 categories for the others: unresolved (4), inmates with release dates (3), and no evaluations ordered (3). He also reported that there were no court ordered evaluations for a private treatment facility.

Members discussed having unresolved cases come back before the court automatically in 5 days. Judge Perez stated that she would address these issues on a case-by-case basis but disagreed that cases should be set to come back in 5 days automatically since those have already been before the court. Judge Perez stated that she would investigate the instances where cases were unresolved or the evaluation was not completed.

Chairman Duncan inquired about the cases that were ordered for a mental health evaluation but where the inmate left before an evaluation could be completed. Ms. Spangenberg volunteered to review those cases through GEO Care.

B. Misdemeanor FTA bonds per F.S. 903.046

Ms. Spangenberg reported that Misdemeanor Failure to Appear (FTA) bonds are being set by the Clerk for \$200.00, pursuant to Florida Statute 903.046 the bond should be set at \$2,000.00. She reported that after monitoring these cases, 470 defendants were identified as Misdemeanor FTA's. She noted that the numbers reported by the Jail Counselor appeared low and Mr. Fondiller stated that his report shows new bookings only.

Mr. Nefzger noted that the bond industry has been using the fast track system at the warrants division to bond out defendants. He stated that this is widely being used. Ms. Spangenberg mentioned that there used to be a program that was used in past years that provided for bonding out defendants on certain offenses without having to go through the booking process. Police Chief Crane discussed that some departments had certified officers that were able to exchange the funds with the Clerk's office. Chief Crane and Ms. Spangenberg will research the aspects of the fast track booking program and bring more information to the Task Force in an upcoming meeting.

Judge Basso Pardo explained her concern that there will be instances where an indigent or homeless person will be booked into jail on a misdemeanor trespass charge and does not appear for various reasons, they will not have the means to pay a \$2,000 bond. Members discussed the discretion that attorneys and judges can use in reference to low level misdemeanor cases. Chairman Duncan requested the Public Defender's office and the State Attorney's office to draft a memorandum for the court system pertaining to the process for misdemeanor FTA's.

VI. Update

Ms. Spangenberg provided an update on a proposed Administrative Order (AO) for the Courts that would expedite the Competency cases when a motion is filed for psychological evaluations. In addition, a Mental Health Checklist was created for the State Attorneys, the Public Defenders and Private Defense Attorneys so that they may provide information regarding the Defendant's mental health history, any pending/cross-over cases, and history of prior competency evaluations. She will circulate the AO to the Task Force for everyone's input.

Ms. Saunders provided an update of the Drug Court Advisory Board. She mentioned that the Board discussed the enhanced drug court DTAP alternative program that was referred by this task force. She reported that a smaller group was formed to research funding opportunities for federal grants and that group will also determine if the DTAP program meets any criteria for those grants. Ms. Saunders noted that there are three subcommittees that are currently meeting: operations, partnerships, and funding. These subcommittees will continue to meet and report the full Drug Court Advisory Board in June and that Board will report to the Court Systems Task Force.

VII. Additional Member and guest comments

Ms. Link reminded members that the deadline for any interested parties that will be applying for Byrne/JAG funding through the CJC is Monday, April 6, 2009.

Mr. Nefzger requested that the Task Force review the number of no bond cases in the jail. He stated that of particular concern would be misdemeanor VOP's that could be affecting the jail population. Major Waldrop will collect data for the next monthly meeting to report on this issue.

VIII. Adjournment