

# Sanford “Sandy” Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council Meeting

## MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, June 28, 2016

1:00pm – 3:00pm

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### **I. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 1:15pm in the Homeland Security Conference Room on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor of City Hall.

### **II. Roll Call**

Mr. West called roll of Councilmembers. 14 members were present, quorum was met.

#### ***Present at Roll Call***

Andy Kopplin  
Camille Buras for Laurie White  
Candice Bates-Anderson  
Carla Gendusa for Stacy Head  
Charles West  
Chris Bowman for Leon Cannizzaro  
Derwyn Bunton  
Glenn Holt  
Lakeasha Cooley  
Luceia Ledoux  
Rebecca Dietz  
Susan Guidry  
Thelma French

#### ***Absent at Roll Call***

Arthur Morrell  
Bobby Jones  
David Kent  
Desiree Charbonnet  
Jason Williams  
Jeffrey Rouse  
John Penny  
Marlin Gusman  
Melanie Talia  
Michael Harrison  
Steven Lassalle

#### ***Arrived Later***

Calvin Johnson

### **III. Consideration and Approval of Minutes from March 8, 2016 Meeting**

No corrections were requested to the March 8 minutes.  
Rebecca Dietz motioned to approve minutes; Glenn Holt seconded.  
All in favor – no nays – no abstentions.  
The minutes were approved.

### **IV. Opening Remarks**

Mr. West welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Mr. West introduced Jim Craft, Director of LCLE, to say a few words. Mr. Craft discussed the new requirements for voting on grant allocations. He made clear that his staff is available for advice or information. James Franklin, Deputy Director of LCLE, briefly introduced the new four stage process: notice of funding opportunity, notice of intent, risk assessment, and scoring sheet. He also noted that a Councilmember cannot vote on funding their own project as it is considered a conflict of interest.

## **V. Unfinished Business**

### **a. None**

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. Presentation by Pew Center on the States, Justice Reinvestment Initiative**

The Pew Center on the States is expanding into Louisiana at the request of Governor Edwards. Terry Schuster spoke about the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. The Pew Center was brought in to provide data-driven, fiscally sound recommendations for reducing the prison population and producing better outcomes. Emily Levitt briefly recapped their work in Mississippi, where they also provided services on prison reduction, which ultimately resulted in the passage of HB585 and a 15% reduction in the prison population.

Mr. West asked about the timeline of their process. The will work through March of next year. Mr. Kopplin asked about the key elements of the bill that passed in Mississippi. Ms. Levitt explained that some were sentencing changes which diverted lower-level offenders to prison alternatives and some changes were to institute best practices on the probation side.

### **b. Presentation by Orleans Public Defenders, Budget Update**

Derwyn Bunton presented a budget update on behalf of the Orleans Public Defenders. Due to changes made during the state legislative session, which codify that 65% of the state's appropriation of public defenders goes directly to the districts, the Orleans Public Defenders will be receiving a \$1.7 million increase over last year. However, there remains a significant backlog of waitlisted and refused cases. Additionally, due to the Supreme Court decision in Montgomery vs. the State of Louisiana, approximately 70 people in Orleans Parish are entitled to resentencing hearings. Going forward, the CJC will receive a more formalized notice of amendments to the Public Defenders' restrictions of services plan. A settlement negotiation with the ACLU is in progress and will likely result in a consent decree overseen by the federal court. CM Guidry asked if the legislative changes will result in adequate funding for the Orleans Public Defenders Office every year. Mr. Bunton replied that he hoped that would be the case, but that the question going forward was whether the state's funding would be sustainable.

### **c. Grant Matters**

- i. FY14 State Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Residual allocation in the amount of \$5,894**

The FY14 State Byrne grant had a small amount of residual funds remaining. Mark Forsythe from NOPD presented their proposal to allocate the funds to purchase equipment to assist the Field Operations Bureau to open a new Crime Analysis Division.

CM Guidry motioned to approve the allocation; Judge Buras seconded.

All in favor – no nays – no abstentions

**ii. FY15 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the amount of \$38,598**

Mr. West introduced the FY15 JJDP grant and explained that since the grant amount was so small, only one program could be selected for funding. OCJC received four proposals; of those four, three were deemed eligible. Mr. West invited applicants for the grants to give a brief presentation of their proposal.

The Youth Advocate Programs representative requested money to expand their Alternatives to Detention mentorship program.

The Juvenile Court requested funding to create a Men Engaging in Leadership Opportunities (MELO) program. The program is patterned off a similar program they offer to at-risk females, which has been very successful in ensuring appearances in court and reducing re-offenses. Judge Johnson asked some clarifying questions of Judge Bates-Anderson about the program procedure.

The Louisiana Center for Children’s Rights presented their proposal to hire a Youth Advocate to assist in providing holistic advocacy services. Mr. West asked if the adjustment in the state public defenders board’s funding formula affected LCCR. Mr. Perry explained that they did not receive any additional funds as they’re treated as a non-profit. A discussion ensued between CM Guidry, Judge Bates-Anderson, Judge Johnson, Ms. LeDoux and Josh Perry about the work of LCCR advocates and how LCCR coordinates with other non-profits on advocacy work.

Derwyn Bunton moved to vote on the proposals; Judge Buras seconded.

OCJC staff recommended funding LCCR’s proposal.

Judge Buras, Mr. West, Ms. LeDoux, Ms. Gendusa, and James Franklin discussed the best way to vote in order to comply with the new rules. A vote was conducted by ballot. Councilmembers were instructed to vote to approve one proposal and to deny or abstain from voting on the other two. The vote found in favor of LCCR’s proposal, with the final results as follows:

	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Youth Advocate Program	0	13	1
Juvenile Court	4	8	2
Louisiana Center for Children’s Rights	9	4	1

**iii. FY16 Local Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) in the amount of \$265,832**

Mr. West explained that the FY16 JAG grant does not require Council approval, merely notification. OCJC staff recommended and the Mayor approved allocating \$51,000 to Criminal District Court to introduce

the HEAT curriculum to the Drug Court, Track 2 program, \$85,341 to the Health Department and Municipal Court for the Community Alternatives Program, and \$111,460 to the Criminal District Court's Domestic Violence Monitoring Court. The small remaining balance will be used for administrative purposes by the OCJC. No vote was required.

#### **VII. Councilmember Updates**

There were no Councilmember updates.

#### **VIII. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

Mr. West bid farewell to Mr. Kopplin as this was his last meeting before moving to a position with the Greater New Orleans Foundation. Mr. Kopplin stated that it was a pleasure and an honor to serve on the Council and complimented Mr. West and the Councilmembers for putting the CJC on a stronger path.

Councilmembers motioned to adjourn with multiple seconds.

All in favor – no nays – no abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 2:24pm.