# Criminal Justice Advisory Group - CJAG September 20, 2011 **MINUTES**

# **ATTENDANCE**

Name	Position/Agency	Present
Mauro Messina	Criminal Justice Planning	Y
Bart Menser	District Attorney's Office	Y
Robyn Withrow	District Attorney's Office	Y
David Kelly	District Attorney's Office	Y
Donna Price	District Attorney's Office	Y
Tim Siblaff	District Attorney's Office	Y
Bill Stetzer	District Attorney's Office	Y
Pam Rikard	Mecklenburg County IST	Y
Jamie Privuznak	Criminal Justice Planning	Υ
Rachel Vanhoy	Mecklenburg Sheriff's Office	Y
Tangela White	State Justice Services	Y
Myra Clark	Center for Community Transitions	Y
Hope Marshall	Structured Day Program	Y
Daniel Bowes	NC Justice Center	Y
Heather Taraska	District Attorney's Office	Y
Kevin Black	Cornelius Police Department	Y
Philip K. Potter	Huntersville Police Department	Y
Jeanne A. Miller	Davidson Police Department	Υ
Scott Hall	Mint Hill Police Department	Y
Martha Curran	Clerk of Court	Y
Todd Nuccio	Trial Court Administrator	Y
Richard Boner	Superior Court	Y
Tracy Lee	Division of Community Corrections	Y
Kevin Tully	Public Defender	Y
Andrew Murray	District Attorney	Y
Lisa Bell	District Court	Y
Michelle Lancaster	Mecklenburg County Manager's Office	Y
Karen Johnson	Magistrate's Office	Y
Fonda Dowdell	Child Support Enforcement	Y
Joan Kennedy	Child Support Enforcement	Y
Janeanne Tourtellot	Drug Treatment Court	Y
David Dufresne	Matthews Police Department	Y
Glenn Cole	District Attorney's Office	Y
Mary Barnhardt	Division of Community Corrections	Y

#### **HANDOUTS**

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes 08/16/11
- Focus Areas for Justice Reinvestment Report
- NC Second Chance Alliance Information Sheet
- NC Justice Center Brochure

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:12 AM

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Michelle Lancaster (Criminal Justice Services) opened the meeting and briefly introduced the guest speakers.

#### **Mecklenburg County Justice Reinvestment**

Tom Eberly (State Justice Services) informed members that formation of focus area committees would be placed on hold until October. The pause will provide members the opportunity to review focus area goals and determine which committee they wish to participate.

## Open Discussion on Recent Changes in NC Criminal Justice

Bill Rowe (NC Justice Center) provided background regarding the formation of the NC Justice Center (NCJC), a criminal justice advocacy group. In part, NCJC efforts led to the formation in 2009 of a study commission in the NC legislature. The commission produced over twenty recommendations, two of which NCJC is focusing upon at present: The Collateral Consequences of Criminal Records, and The Need for Comprehensive Reentry Plans. Mr. Rowe spoke briefly about the issues underlying each of these focus areas and their import to criminal justice policy.

Sterling Freeman (NC Dept of Justice) spoke about the StreetSafe/Reentry initiative currently pursued by the State. StreetSafe is a taskforce formed to identify barriers impeding offenders' successful return to society following arrest and/or incarceration. The program's goals are to reduce re-offense through education and training programs. One aspect of this effort is the formation of Reentry Councils in each county. The councils would serve to organize the community resources and programs necessary to provide reentry services.

Nicole Sullivan (NC Dept of Correction) addressed the impact of the recently enacted NC Justice Reinvestment Act which, in part, will require all felons to be supervised following their release from prison. The goals are to strengthen supervision, increase accountability, and reduce reoffense. Previously, not all felons were supervised following release. Supervision will be based on the offender's risk to the community; as risk increases, so will the level of supervision.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Ms. Lancaster thanked the panel for their participation and information.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:20 AM**