



**Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission  
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family  
1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona 85007**

A general meeting of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission (AJJC) was convened June 4, 2020, via teleconference, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (17)	
Cindi Nannetti, Chair	Vada Jo Phelps
Shaun Rieve	Heather Carter
Jane Kallal	Dorothy Wodraska
Alice Bustillo	Robert Thomas
Joseph Kelroy	Shawn Cox
Maria Dodge	Dennis Pickering
Don Walker	Jeff Hood
Nicole Schuren	Navin Crump
Michael Faust	
Staff/Guests Present (6)	Members Absent (10)
Kate Howard, Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections	Guadalupe Durazo
Maria Fuentes, GOYFF	Helen Gándara
Kristin Sorensen, GOYFF	Jose Gonzales
Steve Selover, GOYFF	James Molina
Kim Brooks, GOYFF	Earl Newton
Ryan Soto, GOYFF	Joseph Grossman
	Robert Brutinel
	Jason Holmberg
	Mindy Flannery
	Tom Callahan

**Call to Order**

- Ms. Cindi Nannetti, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. with 17 members and six staff and guests present.

**Introductions**

- Ms. Nannetti asked members to acknowledge their attendance. Ms. Nannetti recognized James Beene, Leslie Quinn and Debra Olson, who recently resigned from the commission, and thanked them for their service. Ms. Nannetti also recognized member Navin Crump, who will be resigning from the commission as well, and thanked him for his participation.

**Approval of Minutes**

- Ms. Nannetti requested a motion to approve the February 6, 2020, meeting minutes.
  - Mr. Joseph Kelroy motioned to accept the minutes as drafted.
  - Ms. Dorothy Wodraska seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

## Authority and Purpose of the Commission

- **Mr. Steve Selover**, program administrator at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF), presented the new Executive Order and the roles and responsibilities of the commission.
- **Mr. Selover** explained the connection between the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and the partnership between the commission and GOYFF.
- A brief overview of the Title II Formula Grants program was provided.
- **Mr. Selover** referenced other responsibilities of the commission to be conducted in coordination with GOYFF, including:
  - Seeking and gathering input from juveniles in the justice system
  - Submitting a report to the governor and legislature
  - Serving as the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision
- **Mr. Dennis Pickering** asked whether the Children's Justice (Task Force) would continue under the new executive order or if it had been moved. Mr. Selover advised that the task force has been moved to the Governor's Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment.
- **Ms. Maria Fuentes** added an in-depth overview of the commission's change of focus outlined in the governor's executive order.
- **Mr. Pickering** inquired whether the task force, when appropriate, would present to the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission and thanked **Ms. Nannetti** for the work she has done to support the Children's Justice Act programming and purpose. Ms. Fuentes stated the task force would be available to periodically share information with the commission, acknowledging the crossover between child welfare and juvenile justice and the need for both systems to inform each other to further the work. Ms. Fuentes echoed Mr. Pickering's gratitude and thanked the members who volunteered to serve on both work groups.

## Juvenile Justice System Updates

- **Mr. Joseph Kelroy**, Juvenile Justice Services Division (JJSD) Director with the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), provided an update of the county juvenile probation system, which included a summary of procedural changes impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.
- Highlights of **Mr. Kelroy's** presentation include:
  - Overall, while cases of Covid-19 have climbed, the county juvenile probation, detention and court services have continued to provide services without any major setbacks.
  - The Chief Justice has issued multiple administrative orders to provide guidance on how courts should function during the pandemic pursuant to laws that dictate what hearings must be conducted in person versus those that can be conducted remotely.
  - Beginning March 15, employees at the AOC have been teleworking, with various personnel, including some justices and judges, working onsite as necessary.
  - **Mr. Kelroy** has been holding weekly meetings with juvenile court directors and the Department of Health Services to discuss managing services in light of Covid-19, ensuring all necessary precautions are made to minimize risk.
  - The chief justice has been meeting with presiding judges and AOC directors twice per week to ensure communication remains strong.
  - Many judges are working from home. A few judges had contracted the virus, but have since recovered and are back to work.
  - Probation officers are using a mix of personal, audio and video methods for contacting youth and families.
  - Detention is the most challenging function to manage due to the close contact involved with detained youth. Incoming juveniles are quarantined for 14 days to prevent infecting the general population. PPE equipment has been used by detention staff when contacting incoming youth.

- In-person visitation has been suspended, but youth are still able to meet with their attorneys and psychologists who are providing assessments.
- Tele-counseling services have been increased in for both youth in detention and on probation.
- **Mr. Kelroy** thanked the Department of Child Safety and the Department of Juvenile Corrections for their continued communication and cross-systems collaboration.
- A four-phase return plan for the courts began this Monday with phase 1, which is 50 percent return to the office for the Supreme Court. For the superior courts, probation is operating at about 90 percent during this phase. Throughout the process, the phase-in will be watched closely and administrators are ready to pull back if necessary.
- The Supreme Court published a plan B document that included recommendations to address challenges related to returning to work. A list of the administrative orders can be viewed on the Supreme Court website: [azcourts.gov](http://azcourts.gov).
- Given the county budget challenges, the AOC and DCS are working to provide as much support as possible to ensure staff are equipped with the necessary PPE equipment and cleaning supplies.
- **Ms. Nannetti** explained that courtrooms now require masks, and asked everyone to share this news with anyone they may know who is planning to attend a court hearing.
- **Ms. Wodraska** asked whether the procedural changes have impacted or changed educational programs within detention. **Mr. Kelroy** stated that education and programming have continued with a mix of teachers and staff, and maintaining appropriate distances has been a major focus for ensuring safety.
- **Ms. Maria Dodge** stated the freeze on in-person visitation has been difficult for youth who are unable to see their parents and asked **Mr. Kelroy** whether he knew when it would be reinstated or if additional telephone or video visitation is being offered. **Mr. Kelroy** acknowledged detention has halted in-person visits from family members to prevent people from coming in and possibly infecting the population, and phone and video calls have been increased as a result, but also advised no date has yet been decided for resuming in-person visits. **Ms. Dodge** stated the Durango Juvenile Detention Center has a very limited number of phone lines and asked whether there are any plans to remedy this problem. **Mr. Kelroy** advised he would ask the chief of probation whether any arrangements have been made to address this. **Mr. Kelroy** also advised that the Southeast Facility Juvenile Detention Center has temporarily closed, and all juveniles are currently being held at the Durango facility.
- **Ms. Dodge** expressed overall satisfaction of with the court's management of Covid-19 from her point of view. **Mr. Kelroy** thanked **Ms. Dodge** for her input.
- **Mr. Jeff Hood**, director at the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC), gave an update on juvenile corrections operations. Highlights of the presentation include:
  - Adobe Mountain School currently houses 218 youth. Of these 186 have been committed during the 11 months of state fiscal year 2020, compared to 195 youth committed during SFY 2019.
  - The department has 147 youth supervised in the community, of which 76 are youth under interstate compact. In 2018, there were 34 incoming youth under interstate supervision, with 29 outgoing, compared to 2019, with 53 incoming and 38 outgoing.
  - ADJC is due for a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit this year. The department has received two audits in the past, both of which found the agency 100 percent compliant with PREA requirements. The audit was originally scheduled in May, but was postponed due to the pandemic. It has been rescheduled for July 13 through 17. **Mr. Hood** stated the appropriate staff are preparing for the audit, and he is confident the department will once again be in full compliance.
- **Ms. Kate Howard**, government affairs and public relations administrator at ADJC, provided an update on agency operations related to Covid-19.
  - Access to the Adobe Mountain School campus has been restricted for essential staff only. Everyone entering the facility is screened for symptoms.
  - On March 16, family visitation and volunteer services were suspended. During this period, phone and video conferencing using Google Meet has been used, with assistance for families from parole officers. The

department plans to resume in-person visitation June 16 with enhanced sanitation and distancing practices in place to minimize risk.

- Youth entering the facility are quarantined for 14 days to monitor for symptoms. Quarantined youth receive the same level of care and services as youth housed in general population. Due to the 14-day quarantine, intake has been moved from once per week to every two weeks.
- Testing for Covid-19 is occurring on site for youth and staff. So far, four staff and two youth have been diagnosed positive. Once these youth were found to have contracted the virus, they were separated together from the general population.
- **Ms. Wodraska** asked whether the educational programs have changed since implementing procedures to minimize risk. Ms. Howard advised youth continue to be educated face to face with their instructor, with an option for distance learning using Google Meet from the youth's housing unit.
- **Ms. Nannetti** thanked the presenters for their innovation adapting to the current situation, and stated she is hopeful that youth will soon have contact with their families again.

### FY 2019 Compliance Monitoring Report

- **Mr. Selover** presented on the fiscal year 2019 compliance monitoring report for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act core requirements.
- An overview of the compliance rates for Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders, Separation from Adult Inmates and Removal of Juveniles from Adult Jails and Lockups was provided, and included specific information on the makeup of the total violations and the agencies that committed them.
- **Mr. Selover** reported the rates of disparities for youth decision points within the juvenile justice system. Mr. Selover stated the data table provided is what the state provides OJJDP as a component of reporting on the Racial and Ethnic Disparities requirement.
- **Mr. Hood** asked for clarification on the rates reported, as the rate for the previous year appeared higher than the maximum allowable. Mr. Selover stated the maximum allowable rate fluctuates based on a formula calculated by OJJDP each year. The rate from 2018 was under the maximum rate set that year.
- **Ms. Dodge** asked why the Casa Grande Police Department has experienced high rates of violations over the past two years. Mr. Selover acknowledge their rates are high compared with other departments in jurisdictions with higher populations, and stated more work needs to be conducted with this agency to determine why violations are occurring and how this can be addressed. Mr. Selover advised the next compliance visit conducted onsite with this agency will focus on this issue.

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

- **Ms. Nannetti** asked members to review the emailed list of upcoming meeting dates and to add the dates to their calendars.

### Adjournment

- **Ms. Nannetti**, Chair, requested a motion to adjourn.
  - **Ms. Wodraska** moved to adjourn the meeting.
  - **Alice Bustillo** seconded the motion.
- Motion carried with no dissenting votes. Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Dated June 4, 2020  
Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission  
Submitted by Steve Selover  
Program Administrator, GOYFF