

# THE BALTIMORE CITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

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## MINUTES FROM THE JULY 9, 2014 MEETING

**Council Members In Attendance\*:** Chair Judge Barry Williams; Mary Abrams, District Court; Warren S. Alperstein, Bar Association of Baltimore; Commissioner Anthony Batts, Baltimore Police Department; Jay Cleary for Secretary Sam Abed, Department of Juvenile Services; Major Samuel Cogen for Sheriff John Anderson, Sheriff's Office; Elizabeth Embry for Gregg Bernstein, State's Attorney; Wendell M. France, Director, Central Region, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Elizabeth Julian, District Public Defender; Brian Kleinbord for Doug Gansler, Office of the Attorney General; Ed Parker, Governor's Office; Rod Rosenstein, U.S. Attorney; Bernard J. McBride, President, Behavioral Health System Baltimore; Barbara Baer Waxman, Administrative Judge for District Court I; Bernard C. "Jack" Young, President, Baltimore City Council.

**Others in Attendance\*:** Carolyn Atkins, Director of Detention, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Mark Behlert, DPSCS; Margaret Boyd-Anderson, CJCC; Doug Colbert, University of Maryland School of Law; Damion Cooper, City Council President Office; Mike Hanlon, USAO; Claire Rossmark, DLS; Nicole Egerton Taylor, BABC; Bob Weisengoff, Pretrial Release Services; Kate Wolfson, Safe and Sound Campaign; Stephanie Young-Medina, Circuit Court.

**\*We request that all in attendance sign the attendance sheet which is available at each meeting.**

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## MEETING DIALOGUE

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m. and Judge Barry Williams greeted the Council.

### **I. CHAIR'S REPORT – JUDGE BARRY WILLIAMS**

Judge Williams requested a motion to approve the May 14, 2014 meeting minutes. Council President Young suggested one correction to the minutes and the May 14, 2014 meeting minutes were unanimously adopted as edited. Judge Williams advised that there will not be an August meeting and that the next meeting will be held on September 10, 2014. Judge Williams discussed two memos detailing funding requests to purchase CJCC fiber network equipment, which was approved by the Council via e-mail on June 19, 2014. He reminded Council members of the change in contractor from the initial quote of Canterbury at \$13,959.90 to Daly at \$13,783.70. Judge Williams stated that this change occurred after Baltimore City received a fourth bid, which indicated a cost reduction of \$176.20. Judge Williams requested a motion and the Council unanimously ratified the approval of the funding. Judge Williams informed that the DVCC Committee Report was in the Council members packets and he called on Director France for his report.

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## **II. CENTRAL REGION REPORT – WENDELL M. FRANCE, DIRECTOR,**

### **CENTRAL REGION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**

Director France introduced Carolyn Atkins, Director of Detention, DPSCS and she advised that a copy of the Central Region Statistics Report was provided in the meeting packets for the Council's review. Ms. Atkins stated that she would answer any questions that the Council may have about the report. Judge Williams thanked both Director France and Ms. Atkins for their report and called on Commissioner Anthony Batts for his report.

## **III. BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – POLICE COMMISSIONER ANTHONY BATTIS**

Commissioner Batts advised that a copy of the Police Commissioner's Report was provided in the meeting packets for the Council's review and stated that he would answer any questions the Council may have about the report. Commissioner Batts reported that homicides were down 13% year to date compared to the same time last year. He further reported that the total Part I crime was down 16% and total violent crime was down 22%. Commissioner Batts said that there had been a spike in car jacking's, but those numbers are currently down 2% as compared to the same time last year and that they seem to be going in the right direction. He explained that 50 percent of cars stolen are arising from individuals leaving keys in the ignition and that this seems to be an insurance issue or a cultural issue. Commissioner Batts added that there is a human cry over juvenile activities in the communities with juveniles committing multiple crimes, which is becoming a bigger problem. He further added that both he and the Mayor have completed presentations throughout the City and that he was asked to bring this issue to the CJCC in efforts to establish empirical data on this issue. Judge Williams thanked Commissioner Batts for his report and called on Council President "Jack" Young for his rotating report.

## **IV. PRESIDENT OF THE BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL'S REPORT – BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG, PRESIDENT**

Council President Jack Young explained that as the legislative arm of Baltimore City, the City Council uses legislative and oversight capabilities to strengthen Baltimore City's neighborhoods. President Young stated that he and other council members continue to travel to Annapolis when the General Assembly is in session to advocate for legislation, which will help build a safer Baltimore, in addition to, working with fellow City Council colleagues to support bills that improves public safety in the City of Baltimore. He further stated that over the past year, the City Council has considered a number of resolutions. President Young discussed Ordinance 13-0261, which reformed the Baltimore City curfew law to change the curfew hours for minors divided by those above and below age 14 and removing criminal penalties from the curfew reform program. President Young further stated that the curfew for children under the age of 14 is currently 9:00 P.M. and youth ages 14 through 17 is 10:00 P.M. on school nights and 11:00 P.M. other nights. In conclusion, President Young commented about the importance to remove criminal penalties from the curfew reform program, primarily because there are a lot of parents who are working two and/or three jobs and they entrust that their children are at home doing the right thing. Judge Williams thanked Council President Young for his report and called on Warren S. Alperstein for his rotating report.

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## **V. BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY REPORT-WARREN S. ALPERSTEIN**

Warren S. Alperstein announced that Michael Reed, Associate Judge, Maryland Court of Special Appeals is currently serving as President of the Bar Association of Baltimore City. Mr. Alperstein shared that the Implementation of Richmond from an attorney's perspective has been a challenge; however, the current status is good. He reported that the appointed attorneys as well as private attorneys are representing arrestees at initial appearances and that there is positive feedback from the attorneys who are working at Central Booking. Mr. Alperstein acknowledged the Court Commissioners, DPSCS, and Pretrial who worked hard to make the *Richmond* implementation a success. He further acknowledged Wendell M. France, Director, Central Region, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Carolyn Atkins, Director of Detention, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; and Security Chief Thomas Barnes for provisions of a secure office space and bookshelves; the CJCC and GOCCP for funding and procuring a laser printer, fax machine, copy paper and other requested office equipment and supplies; Bar Association for donating a refrigerator, coffee maker, and microwave; the Judiciary for providing ink pens, paper, and other office supplies; Judge Barbara Baer Waxman, Administrative Judge for District Court I for her guidance and support in addressing the many concerns from attorneys; and Kimberly S. Barranco, Executive Director, CJCC for all of her initial efforts surrounding *Richmond*, because without her efforts none of this would have been made possible. Judge Williams thanked Mr. Alperstein for his report.

## **VI. COMMITTEE REPORT- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE- JUDGE BARBARA BAER WAXMAN, CHAIR**

Judge Waxman shared that the Sheriff's Office is now serving all protective orders in every district that are issued from the District Court. She stated that this is a major change and improvement. Judge Waxman further stated that the statistics for the rate of service is over 50% for the month of June. Judge Waxman recognized Major Sam Cogen and the Sheriff's Office and said that she will share additional information at a later time.

Judge Williams informed the Council that he recently communicated with Ms. Barranco and that she is doing well. He asked the Council to keep Ms. Barranco in prayer. Judge Williams and Council members recognized Margaret Boyd-Anderson, CJCC Project Coordinator for all of her efforts and hard work during Ms. Barranco's absence.

Judge Williams adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 12:30 p.m.**, Courthouse East, Room 510.

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## MEETING HANDOUTS

- 1) Minutes from the May 14, 2014 meeting
- 2) Central Region Statistics Report
- 3) The Police Commissioner's Report
- 4) President of the Baltimore City Council's Report
- 5) Bar Association of Baltimore City Report
- 6) CJCC Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee Report

*Respectfully submitted,*

Margaret Boyd-Anderson

CJCC Project Coordinator

*(On Behalf Of)*

Kimberly Smalkin Barranco

CJCC Executive Director