

THE BALTIMORE CITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 14, 2015 MEETING

Council Members In Attendance*: Chair Judge Charles Peters; Mary Abrams, Administrative Clerk for District I, District Court of Maryland; Warren Alperstein, Bar Association of Baltimore City; Kimberly S. Barranco, CJCC Executive Director; Tammy Brown for Marilyn Mosby, State's Attorney for Baltimore City; Jay Cleary for Sam Abed, Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services; Deputy Commissioner Darryl D. DeSousa for Interim Baltimore Police Commissioner Kevin Davis, Baltimore Police Department; Elizabeth Embry for Brian Frosh, Attorney General of Maryland; Elizabeth Julian, Baltimore City Public Defender; W. Michel Pierson, Administrative Judge, Baltimore City Circuit Court; The Honorable Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mayor of Baltimore City; Tyrone Roper for Bernard J. McBride, President and CEO, Behavioral Health System Baltimore; Rod J. Rosenstein, U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland; Chris Shank of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; Brenda M. Shell, Commissioner, Division of Pretrial Detention and Services, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Major Sabrina Tapp-Harper for Sheriff John Anderson, Sheriff's Office; and Bernard C. "Jack" Young, President, Baltimore City Council.

Others in Attendance*: Margaret Boyd-Anderson, CJCC; Dr. Diana Cheng, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Doug Colbert, Maryland Law School; Jessica Dickerson, DJS; Michael C. Hanlon, USAO; Don Leatherwood, DPSCS; Dorothy Lennig, House of Ruth Maryland; Paul Plymouth, Baltimore City Council's Office; Stephanie Robinson, Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice; Claire Rossmark, DLS; and Stephanie Young-Medina, Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

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

MEETING DIALOGUE

The meeting was called to order at 12:38 p.m. and Judge Charles Peters greeted the Council.

I. CHAIR'S REPORT – JUDGE CHARLES PETERS

Judge Charles Peters welcomed Council members and their representatives. He advised that the next CJCC meeting is November 18, 2015, which is one week later than normal due to the Veteran's Day holiday. Judge Peters informed that there will

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be a presentation by Chief Marshall Goodwin on the Baltimore City Schools Police Force at the November meeting. Judge Peters requested a motion to approve the September 9, 2015 meeting minutes and they were unanimously adopted.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – KIMBERLY SMALKIN BARRANCO

Kimberly Barranco reported on the IDVC Dialogue and Training Session for Clergy. She stated that at this moment, nearly 300 members of the clergy, their lay staff, and domestic violence advocates are convening in Annapolis for the Third Annual Interfaith Domestic Violence Dialogue and Training Session. Ms. Barranco advised that in cooperation with the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, the Interfaith Domestic Violence Coalition IDVC, (spearheaded by Circuit Court Judge Karen Friedman and retired Circuit Court Judge David Young) have planned a day-long training and education session to strengthen faith and community leaders from across the state to take a stand against domestic violence. She further advised that during the presentation on the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team's recommendations later in the meeting, Council members would hear from Major Sabrina Tapp-Harper, Commander of the DV Unit of the Sheriff's Office and member of the IDVC, that the Team recommended in 2010 that a subcommittee be created to explore developing partnerships with the faith-based community since many domestic violence victims and perpetrators reach out to the clergy for advice and support.

Ms. Barranco stated that The Interfaith Domestic Violence Coalition began as a small effort in Baltimore City as a CJCC workgroup and has morphed into a statewide group dedicated to making outreach to the clergy and educating them on domestic violence issues and resources. She further stated that the initial Day of Dialogue and Training was held in Baltimore two years ago and was attended by approximately 100 persons. Ms. Barranco conveyed that the initial Today's event is at capacity with nearly 300 attendees. She further conveyed that as a member of the IDVC, she coordinated an effort to have sixteen domestic violence service providers from across the state attend the event to provide brochures and information to further educate the clergy in attendance. Ms. Barranco shared that the training sessions would include clergy to clergy discussions, presentations by DV advocates, information on protective orders and peace orders, and a session concerning the traumatic effect domestic violence has on children. Ms. Barranco said that she is looking forward to continuing to work with many of the CJCC to further the progress on this very important issue.

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Judge Peters thanked Ms. Barranco for her report.

III. CENTRAL REGION REPORT – BRENDA M. SHELL, COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF PRETRIAL DETENTION AND SERVICES

Brenda M. Shell, Commissioner, Division of Pretrial Detention and Services advised Council members that a copy of the Central Region Statistics Report was provided in the meeting packets for the Council's review. Commissioner Shell reported that the FY16 bookings processed during the month of August were 2,849. She further reported that Police warrants were 1,257; Bookings released on their own recognizance were 981; and Detention Intakes from booking floor were 1,582. Commissioner Shell advised that the Incarceration Rate (per 100,000 population) for the month of August was 599.9. Commissioner Shell conveyed that the new juvenile detention facility is projected to open at the end of next year.

Judge Peters thanked Commissioner Shell for her report.

IV. BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – DARRYL D. DESOUSA, DEPUTY POLICE COMMISSIONER

Deputy Police Commissioner Darryl D. DeSousa advised Council members that the Police Commissioner's Report was included in their packets. He reported that as of October 10, 2015 homicides year-to-date were at 261, which is an increase of 49% and that non-fatal shootings year-to-date were at 79%. He further reported that the total Part I crime is up 4%; the total violent crime in Baltimore City is 12%; and the total Property Crime is up 2%. Deputy Commissioner DeSousa informed that approximately 155 BPD officers in three different districts would be equipped to wear body cameras during a five to six-week piloted program and that by February 2016, a new policy for the cameras should be in place.

Judge Peters thanked Deputy Police Commissioner DeSousa for his report.

V. MAYOR'S REPORT – THE HONORABLE MAYOR STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE

The Honorable Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake thanked everyone for allowing her the opportunity to provide updates on the status of some of Baltimore's major public safety initiatives. She said that there has been a lot that has transpired in public safety since the last time she presented to the CJCC and that she would do her best to stay within the tight time limit. Mayor Rawlings-Blake reported that she has nominated Kevin Davis to serve as the permanent police commissioner and she further reported that the Baltimore City Council has scheduled its hearing this evening on his nomination. She conveyed

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that since Commissioner Davis assumed command of the Baltimore Police Department earlier this summer, she believes that he has set the tone for a true collaborative approach to law enforcement. Mayor Rawlings-Blake further conveyed that she is hopeful that all of the CJCC partners around the room agrees and she stated that she believes that Commissioner Davis has made a real effort to reach out to the CJCC Council members in an effort to find ways to work together to advance the fight against violent crime. Mayor Rawlings-Blake identified that within the department, she believes Commissioner Davis has distinguished himself as a “cop’s cop,” one who has earned the trust and respect of the rank-and-file officers. Mayor Rawlings-Blake further identified how Commissioner Davis is taking steps to ensure officers are better trained in areas that would enhance police-community relations, from developing a new foot patrol curriculum, to ensuring that new recruits learn about the culture of Baltimore before they are put out on the streets. She advised that from mid-July through September, gun seizures were up 44% over the same period in 2014. Mayor Rawlings-Blake further advised that from a community standpoint, she have yet to see a community meeting where Commissioner Davis is not willing to talk to everyone in the room and he is often the last one there until they turn out the lights, and he is accommodating to every last question and concern. She stated that she is confident that Commissioner Davis will have a smooth confirmation process and that he would prove to be an effective leader as stakeholders work to bring this surge in violent crime under control.

Mayor Rawlings-Blake reported on body-worn cameras, which she identified was an issue of great interest to many people within the community. She further reported that later in the month, there will be a launch to a piloted program for body-worn cameras. Mayor Rawlings-Blake informed that there would be more than 150 police officers in three BPD districts that would test the options from three different manufacturers. She said that by year’s end, a report on three options in addition to the winning choice would be selected in early 2016. Mayor Rawlings-Blake conveyed that she anticipates that later in the winter months, BPD would begin equipping their officers with body-worn cameras. She further conveyed that as movement begins to distribute the cameras, while ensuring that police officers are properly trained in both how to use the cameras and how to respect the privacy rights of citizens; she recognizes that there has been some criticism about the pace of body-worn cameras, but everyone has witnessed instances where cities have rushed too quickly into a new technology without doing the homework and the study to ensure it that it was completed accurately. Mayor Rawlings-Blake stated that the end-result was a waste of tax-payers dollars, and she thanked the work of the City’s task force in addition to the RFP process that was engaged, which would allow Baltimore City to get it right.

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Mayor Rawlings-Blake shared that several CJCC Council members had raised questions during the recent days concerning issues that involved the 911 Center. She further shared that she also has been concerned about the complaints with 911 for some time. Mayor Rawlings-Blake reported that the issue appears to be staffing and demand. She further reported that there have been a 20 percent increase in calls, year over year and that there are not enough trained 911 call takers. Mayor Rawlings-Blake conveyed that given some of the recent issues in crime, she does not think that the increased 911 calls should be a surprise to anyone. She further conveyed that this issue was noticeable earlier in the summer, and to address the issue a training class of 10 new 911 operators was launched. Mayor Rawlings-Blake stated that those 10 new operators should be ready by early November and that a second class is scheduled to launch shortly. She further stated that in the meantime, there have also been questions raised about who is managing the 911 system, and where there should be more of a public safety focus in management. Mayor Rawlings-Blake advised that she shared those concerns; therefore, starting this past weekend, management of the police dispatchers has been returned to the police department. She further advised that later this month, the management of the 911 call takers would shift to the fire department. Mayor Rawlings-Blake discussed that while a case could be made that the 911 call takers could be assigned to police; the reality is that-at this time-the fire department has better capacity for the management function. Mayor Rawlings-Blake informed that BPD is focused on its "all-hands-on-deck fight" against violent crime and by adding the 911 call taker management to the police department's list of tasks did not seem like the responsible thing to do. Mayor Rawlings-Blake said that ultimately, Baltimore's vision is to create a unified emergency communications division, under a central command. She further stated that there is a need to figure out the best approach for the above mentioned new structure. Mayor Rawlings-Blake reiterated that until that time, having police and fire oversee Baltimore's emergency communications operations represents like the best interim step.

Mayor Rawlings-Blake concluded her report by advising the CJCC that October was the month in which Baltimore would raise the awareness of domestic violence and the harm it does to the fabric of society. She announced that she was pleased that effective October 1, 2015 second degree assault would be included among the list of crimes for which a person could obtain a permanent, final protective order. Mayor Rawlings-Blake further announced that judges could also impose enhanced penalties for domestic violence committed in the presence of a minor in the home. Mayor Rawlings-Blake stated that there is continuous work with stakeholders that includes judges, police, prosecutors, and community partners such as the House of Ruth, Baltimore Child Abuse

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Center, and Turnaround in order to eradicate domestic and sexual violence. She further stated that a newly hired SART coordinator, Lori Lickstein has already begun to work on strategies for better data collection and exchange. Mayor Rawlings-Blake thanked all of the partners around the table and she recognized that The U.S. Attorney, Baltimore City State's Attorney, and other partners at both the state and federal levels have been working diligently with the Mayor's Office in efforts to bring Baltimore City's violent crime under control. Mayor Rawlings-Blake stated that the partnerships are paying dividends for the citizens of Baltimore.

Judge Peters thanked Mayor Rawlings-Blake for her report.

VI. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS- DOROTHY LENNIG, CHAIR AND LEGAL CLINIC DIRECTOR, HOUSE OF RUTH, MAJOR SABRINA TAPP- HARPER, VICE-CHAIR AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT COMMANDER, BALTIMORE SHERIFF OFFICE AND DR. DIANA CHENG, CHIEF, PERINATAL AND WOMEN'S HEALTH, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

Dorothy Lennig thanked the CJCC for inviting the Team to present their 2015 Recommendations. She advised that the Baltimore City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (BCDVFRT) was formed as a recommendation out of the CJCC's Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee in 2006 and the Team reviewed its first case in January 2007. She further advised that the BCDVFRT has begun its eighteenth case review through a systemic multi-disciplinary process and meets on a monthly basis. Ms. Lennig stated that the Team works with the DVCC on implementing yearly recommendations, which are recognized as a model in the state. She further stated that the BCDVFRT mission is to reduce domestic violence-related fatalities and near fatalities through systemic multi-disciplinary review of domestic violence fatalities and near fatalities in Baltimore City; through interdisciplinary training and community-based prevention education; and through data-driven recommendations for legislation and public policy.

Ms. Lennig reported that the first recommendation is to encourage workplaces to train their employees to identify and respond to domestic violence. She further reported that it is estimated that 75% of victims face stalking and harassment from intimate partners at work. Ms. Lennig identified that research also demonstrates that not only do victims experience compromised work performance, they also often require more time off than co-workers who are not abused. Ms. Lennig elaborated on the recommendation, stating that employers should create a workplace culture that ensures employees are well informed about domestic violence. She further elaborated that employers should offer regular training and educational seminars for staff about how to identify warning signs of

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domestic violence; locally available domestic violence resources; and how to protect a co-worker who is a victim of abuse. Ms. Lennig reported that employers should also be knowledgeable about how to support staff who are experiencing domestic violence and she mentioned that this might include prohibiting an abuser from entering the workplace; not requiring the employee/victim to answer the phone if the abuser is harassing her/him by phone, walking the employee/victim to her/his car, etc.

Major Sabrina Tapp-Harper presented the second recommendation, which is to create a training module/curriculum/program to provide guidance/support for young men after a break up. She stated that this year the Team acknowledged that many of the programs and interventions about dating violence focuses on providing support, education, and services to young women, yet the Team reviewed cases which suggested that young men frequently commit acts of violence against a partner during or after a relationship break-up and there are few resources for young men. Major Tapp-Harper explained that ending a relationship is hard on both young men and women. She further explained that after review, the BCDVFRT believes that intervention programs need to target young men who have been traumatized or have a personal history of exposure to violence and abuse, as these men might be more likely to abuse a current or former intimate partner. She stated that often young men learn at an early age that acts of violence are accepted, tolerated behavior. Major Tapp-Harper further stated that intervention programs targeted to young men who are dealing with a relationship break-up should have special focus on men who have previously perpetrated acts of violence against their partners and should teach new coping strategies.

Major Sabrina Tapp-Harper identified that the third recommendation was to encourage the Baltimore Police Department to recognize the impact of trauma on police and provide mental health services to officers that are truly confidential and encourage them to reach out to national police organizations for best practices. She further identified how the BCDVFRT reviewed a case involving a BPD officer and that the Team recognized the impact of trauma, stress and fatigue on police. She stated that the Team also discussed barriers some officers experienced in obtaining mental health services. Major Tapp-Harper reported that over the years, the BCDVFRT reviews have shown that police officers, emergency care providers, and other city personnel may experience similar physical and emotional manifestations of stress, leading the Team to believe that they may be experiencing "secondary traumatic stress," which is emotional duress from indirect exposure to trauma such as hearing about or working with traumatized individuals (also known as vicarious trauma). She further reported that secondary traumatic stress could lead to compassion fatigue and burnout and that one barrier officers' face is the significant stigma that police and other first responders encounter when they recognize they are

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having their own symptoms of burnout or compassion fatigue or secondary traumatic stress. Major Tapp-Harper conveyed that the third recommendation is to encourage BPD to train police officers and other first responders in trauma informed care, a service model which recognizes the impact of trauma on victims and those who work with victims and that integrates knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practices. She mentioned that ideally, the training would be presented by other professionals in the field who deal regularly with traumatic experiences, such as seeing dead bodies, dealing with severely injured persons, having others attack them, and dealing with cases where lives could not be saved in spite of the best efforts of those charged with serving the public. Major Tapp-Harper further mentioned that such trainings should include topics such as: how to identify stress, compassion fatigue and trauma, with emphases on hazardous duty assignments and domestic violence prevention; how to determine levels of compassion fatigue and trauma exposure, with specific consideration of work hours, lack of vacation, and exposure to violent cases; exposure to police-involved domestic violence cases. Major Tapp-Harper identified that BPD should incorporate some of these topics into the In-Service Training Program. She further identified that the Team also encourages BPD to create options for staff to receive confidential mental health services, including hiring an in-house psychologist who could provide confidential services. Major Tapp-Harper reported that BPD should have a mechanism for offering confidential training to staff in appropriate circumstances. She further reported that BPD should reach out to national police organizations such as the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement (NOBLE) and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) for best practices. Major Tapp-Harper stated that the Team suggests that any police-involved domestic violence cases be assigned to a permanently-ranked supervisor at the time of the initial call triage.

Dr. Diana Cheng presented the fourth recommendation which is to encourage Baltimore City School nurses to be trained in identifying and dealing with trauma, domestic violence, sexual assault, sexually transmitted diseases and birth control with students as appropriate. Dr. Cheng explained that throughout the course of the BCDVFRT reviews, the Team has seen that adolescents involved as perpetrators and victims often have repeated exposure to traumatic events in their homes and neighborhoods, including seeing adults in their home hit each other, being physically or sexually abused themselves, as well as witnessing shootings, stabbings, violent robberies or seeing dead bodies in their neighborhood. She further explained that cumulative exposure to traumatic life events can result in post-traumatic stress disorder, which may manifest in both overt and subtle ways such as poor scholastic performance, aggressive behavior, and hypervigilance to one's surroundings (anticipating attack even when there is none coming) and physical

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symptoms like stomach pains and trouble sleeping. Dr. Cheng identified that for adolescents, school may be one of the most stable and safe places in their lives. She further identified that victims engaged in the school system may come into contact with school nurses for these physical symptoms associated with exposure to stress and trauma, or be referred to school officials for missing school. Dr. Cheng reported that the recommendation detailed to train school nurses on recognizing and dealing with symptoms of exposure to stress, trauma and abuse. She further reported that as appropriate, school nurses should be encouraged to identify, discuss and refer students for domestic violence, sexual assault, sexually transmitted diseases, and birth control.

Dorothy Lennig concluded the presentation by updating the Council on the progress which was made towards implementation of past recommendations. It was noted that the House of Ruth Maryland (HRM) launched the "Man Up" initiative in the fall of 2014. Ms. Lennig further noted that this was an effort to engage men in efforts to end intimate partner violence. She informed that the initiative is led by a core group of volunteers who come from a variety of backgrounds such as corporate and business, domestic violence advocates, professional athletes, faith leaders, men who have successfully completed an intervention program and men who witnessed intimate partner violence as children. Ms. Lennig further informed that high profile groups such as the Baltimore Ravens and the Aberdeen IronBirds have signed on to and are in support of the initiative. Ms. Lennig identified that the group aims to redefine what it means when a young man is challenged to "man up" and she elaborated on the declaration which reads, *"We lead the way to challenge the attitudes and beliefs of men so women and children can live free from intimate partner violence. We take personal responsibility to prevent intimate partner violence and take action when it occurs."*

Ms. Lennig reported that the group meets monthly and is currently conducting listening sessions with young men in Baltimore City to ask about barriers to speaking out against intimate partner violence and support they may need to address it. Ms. Lennig further reported that the HRM will be launching a three- year project that will be focused on working with youth leaders to incorporate messages about healthy masculinity, healthy relationships and intimate partner violence into the day-to-day work they are already doing with youth. She said that the three target audiences are young athletes, the faith community, and boys who have witnessed intimate partner violence. Ms. Lennig further stated that the goal is to, over time; have the young men's community saturated with the message that violence against women is not acceptable. She advised that throughout the project, HRM will be collecting messages from young men and asking for their ideas about how to speak to other men about the issue of intimate partner violence. She further

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advised that the end of the project would include a city-wide campaign targeting young men that speak against intimate partner violence. It was discussed that a comprehensive listing of the current 2015 recommendations and updates on the past year's recommendations were included in Council member's packets.

Judge Peters thanked Ms. Lennig, Major Tapp-Harper and Dr. Cheng for their report. He adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 12:30 p.m., Courthouse East, Room 510.

MEETING HANDOUTS

- 1) Minutes from the September 9, 2015 meeting
- 2) Central Region Statistics Report
- 3) Baltimore Police Department Report
- 4) Domestic Violence Fatality Review 2015 Recommendations- Letterhead
- 5) Domestic Violence Fatality Review 2015 Recommendations- PowerPoint

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Smalkin Barranco
CJCC Executive Director