



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Commission on Sensitive Crimes

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

8:30 AM

MPD South Precinct, 825 Hughes Pl, Madison

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A. Call To Order

Present 10 - JULIE AHNEN, SHANNON BARRY, SHARYL KATO, JAN MIYASAKI, Chair
MICHAEL MURRAY, ERIN THORNLEY-PARISI, MARLYS HOWE, DAVE KARLS,
PAUL RUSK, and BARBARA MCKINNEY

Absent 4 - SHARI GRAY-DORN, CARMEN JUNIPER NEIMEKO, MATT TYE, and HAYLEY
YOUNG

Others Present: Heather Crowley, Jaime Sathasivam, Christine White, Diara
Williams-Sturtevant, Amy Scarr, Jennifer Ginsburg (Safe Harbor Child Advocacy
Center), Julie Johnson (MPD)

B. Consideration of Minutes

1. [2016](#) 2017_0221 Commission on Sensitive Crimes Minutes
[MIN-577](#)

Attachments: [2017_0221 COSC Minutes](#)

**A motion was made by AHNEN, seconded by BARRY, that the Minutes be
approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Ayes: 9 - AHNEN, BARRY, KATO, MIYASAKI, THORNLEY-PARISI, HOWE, KARLS, RUSK
and MCKINNEY

Absent: 4 - GRAY-DORN, JUNIPER NEIMEKO, TYE and YOUNG

Abstain: 1 - MURRAY

C. Action Items

1. CCR Hours Allocation

*Murray reported that the County has agreed to cover sign language interpreter services
for the CCR's, so the Commission's LTE hours allocation will be adjusted. Murray
explained the process for sign language interpreter services. He will prepare a new
motion for the next meeting.*

**A motion was made by KATO, seconded by HOWE, that this be postponed to
the Commission on Sensitive Crimes April 25 meeting. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Ayes: 10 - AHNEN, BARRY, KATO, MIYASAKI, MURRAY, THORNLEY-PARISI, HOWE, KARLS, RUSK and MCKINNEY

Absent: 4 - GRAY-DORN, JUNIPER NEIMEKO, TYE and YOUNG

[2016](#)
[ACT-632](#)

PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF 2017 CCR LTE HOURS - Motion

Attachments: [PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF 2017 CCR LTE HOURS - Motion](#)

D. Presentations

Barry, Parisi and Ginsburg presented on a Channel 3 news report by Adam Schlager regarding Judge Ellen Berz's interactions with victims of trauma in the courtroom. They along with Tony Gibart, the Associate Director at End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, met with Judge Berz after the report to encourage her to take advantage of training opportunities available to judges regarding the dynamics involved in sensitive crimes.

For news report copy and paste the following into your browser:

<http://www.channel3000.com/news/victim-advocates-take-stand-against-dane-county-judge/368830328>

The COSC members discussed the potential for a more systematic and robust court watch program to monitor how cases involving sensitive crimes are handled. Howe noted that bench cards are available to judges and data regarding sensitive crimes has been presented at judges meetings. Howe stressed that any group who does a court watch needs to be familiar with systems and courtroom nuances.

Miyasaki commented that it would be beneficial to have a court watch at sentencing as well. She suggested strengthening victim rights language in the COSC ordinance. Murray explained that control is in state statute which is very clear about treatment of victims. The COSC could issue policy statements, statements of intent or value statements. He suggested members bring proactive statements or statements of concern to a future meeting for discussion.

Scarr and White spoke about how, in their experiences, having an informed person in the courtroom seemed to modify judges behavior. Barry stressed that every victim should be treated with respect even if they don't have an advocate with them in the courtroom. Murray requested that all CCR's add this topic to their next agenda for discussion. Barry suggested that Jillian Falligant from DAIS present at a future COSC meeting about current court watch data and implementation. There was also interest in inviting someone from the court system to a future COSC meeting. Howe noted that the judges hold an open meeting every month and it is possible to request a place on their agenda.

E. Reports to Committee

1. Amending COSC Ordinance to Improve Diversity on the Commission

Murray will draft a motion for approval at next month's meeting based on feedback he has received.

2. COSC Website Discussion

Murray is working with County IT staff. He encouraged members to send images to include on the website with proper permission to use.

3. Legislative Update/Announcements:

- Kato attended the POS leadership coalition where MA block grants and implications for a lot of families we work with was discussed. Murray will arrange a short briefing at a future meeting on effects of repealing the Affordable Care Act.
- Kato suggested a VAWA grant update in April or May.
- Barry suggested a policy presentation in light of potential cuts to victim services included in the federal budget.

4. CCR Updates:

Child Abuse & Neglect: Kato reported that the mapping process will include a half day event. We are defining what we need to do in the area of child abuse and making sure all systems needs are met through advocating. The trauma informed initiative continues. • Developmental Disabilities: White commented that Family Care will substantially change developmental disabilities services in Dane County. She feels it will be important to rejuvenate the DD CCR by 2018.

• Domestic Violence: Williams-Sturtevant reported that subcommittees are working on long-term projects. Howe reported that Legal Issues is starting a mapping project and working on a 911 project with Deaf Unity.

• Elder Abuse: Scarr reported that World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15. Look for social media and news reports. Rusk will draft a County Board resolution. The CCR has received a \$4800 DV in later life grant. FAST and the Hoarding Task Force are meeting regularly. The Legislative Committee has identified hoarding as a need for commitment.

• Sexual Assault: Sathasivam reported that April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. See info on the RCC website. Miyasaki reported that the CSEC is discussing earlier intervention practices, implementation of non-caregiver protocol, a parent-to-parent peer program, and ways of supporting kids when they are being victimized.

There was discussion about challenges for the Latino community, i.e., 911 calls are not answered in Spanish, lack of bilingual officers, etc.

Thornley-Parisi noted that RCC is making services for black sexual assault victims more accessible. She noted that April 1st is the 3rd annual Black Women Heal day.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 25, 8:30 a.m. – MPD South Precinct, 825 Hughes Place, Madison

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjourn

10:00 a.m.

Recorded by Dawn MacFarlane 242-6267 (WI Relay 711)