

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Special COVID-19 Meeting

Friday, April 17th, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 PM

Video Conference Call

MINUTES

Members Present: *Robert J. Devlin (chair), John Santa (vice-chair), Marc Pelka, Bill Dyson, Gary Roberge, Carlton Giles, Chris Rapillo, Frank Riccio (on behalf of Jennifer Zito), Patrick L. Carroll III, Michael Norko (on behalf of Miriam Delphin-Rittmon), Michael Chase, Natasha Pierre, Richard Colangelo Jr., Robert Farr, Sarah Russell, Thomas Kulhawik, Gail Hardy, Rollin Cook*

Guests: *Bryan Sperry (Judicial Branch, Court Special Services Division), Richard Sparaco, Leland J. Moore (Board of Pardons and Paroles), Deborah Sullivan (Office of the Chief Public Defender), Eleanor Michael (Office of Policy and Management, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division)*

Staff: *Alex Tsarkov (Executive Director), Andrew Clark, Van Augur*

I. MEETING CONVENED

The meeting convened at 2:08 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 1.23.2020 MEETING

Commissioner Carroll made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Giles. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. PRESENTATION FROM OPM CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY AND PLANNING DIVISION

Marc Pelka presented to the Commission on trends in Connecticut's Correctional population since 1993, focusing on trends over the months of March and April since the COVID-19 pandemic began in the state.

IV. 10% CASH BAIL UPDATES

Bryan Sperry presented to the Commission on initial findings regarding the utilization of the 10% cash bail option.

V. COVID-19 UPDATES

Commissioners Roberge, Giles, Rapillo, Chase, Colangelo, Pierre, Cook, Kulhawik, Norko, Frank Riccio, and Judge Carroll provided updates on how the agencies and constituencies they represent have adjusted their operations and responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Russell recommended that agencies consider using mechanisms such as Medical or Compassionate Parole to release those who are medically-vulnerable.

VI. MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.