

# CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

## ***Recidivism Reduction Committee Meeting***

Monday, April 1, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

DOC Café 24 Conference Room

24 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT

**Members Present:** *Vivien Blackford (Co-Chair), Maureen Price-Boreland (Co-Chair), Lauren Biembab, James Dzurenda, Sherry Haller, Loel Meckel, Sue Quinlan, Gary Roberge, John Santa*

**Also Participating:** *Jason DePatie, Linda Meyer, Ron Schack*

## **MINUTES**

### **I. MEETING CONVENED**

Vivien Blackford called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

### **II. UPDATE: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

At the March 21<sup>st</sup> Full Sentencing Commission meeting, the Recidivism Reduction Committee's recommendations to the Department of Correction were unanimously approved. These recommendations emerged from the white paper entitled, "Evidence-Based Reentry Initiatives Devoted to Strengthening Positive Social Relationships," which was presented to the Full Sentencing Commission at its December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. In the coming weeks, Judge Shortall will officially transmit the recommendations to the Department of Correction. Vivien Blackford and Maureen Price-Boreland thanked Monica Rinaldi, Director of Programs and Treatment, and the Department of Correction for their valuable assistance developing these recommendations.

### **III. CHILD SUPPORT INDEBTEDNESS**

A group of Yale Law students at the Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic have been working on the issue of child support indebtedness in Connecticut. Vivien Blackford and Maureen Price-Boreland requested that the students make a presentation on the issue at the next Recidivism Reduction Committee meeting at the end of April.

### **IV. RESULTS FIRST & RESULTS-BASED ACCOUNTABILITY**

The committee discussed Connecticut's Results First and Results-Based Accountability (RBA) initiatives. Ron Schack, a principal at Charter Oak Consulting, briefly discussed the implementation of RBA over the past five years. Jason DePatie updated the committee on the progress of Results First since the November informational meeting with PEW's technical experts. The committee decided it should educate itself on Results First and RBA since Connecticut is adopting these initiatives.

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### **V. MEDICATION-ASSISTED ADDICTION TREATMENT PROGRAM**

Lauren Biembab and James Dzurenda briefed the committee on the issue of methadone licenses limiting the distribution of methadone to the address of the provider. This creates a gap in services since providers are unable to reach clients in the community.

### **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

The committee discussed the change in rates for inmate phone calls and DOC's pilot program to allow video conferencing to inmates and their families.

### **VII. MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.