

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2024, 2:00 PM

Members Present: Judge Pavia (Chair), John Santa (Vice-chair), Michael Gailor, Deborah Sullivan, Judge Harmon, Jennifer Zito.

Staff: Alex Tsarkov (Director), Vaughn Crichlow, Lydia Wileden, Patricia O'Rourke, Tommy Dowd.

Guests: Sachin Pandya, Deborah Dorfman.

MINUTES

I. MEETING CONVENED

- Judge Pavia convened the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 5.9.2024 MEETING

- Minutes from the 5.9.2024 meeting were approved.

III. GUEST SPEAKER: DEBORAH DORFMAN – UPDATE ON INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES STUDY

- Atty. Dorfman provided an update on the ongoing study of intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in the criminal justice system. The draft report will be submitted to the Commission for approval in June 2025. The Commission's report to the General Assembly is due on Jan. 1, 2026.

IV. SENTENCING COMMISSION DATABASE UPDATE – Vaughn Crichlow, PhD, Director of Research, IMRP

- Dr. Vaughn Crichlow and Dr. Sachin Pandya provided an update on the sentencing database study. The study is proceeding in two stages:
 - Interviews with external stakeholders from other state sentencing commissions to learn about their data use and maintenance.
 - Interviews with internal (CT) stakeholders to learn about state-specific data needs and challenges.

- The report will include case studies and practical recommendations to provide the Commission with a roadmap for database development.

V. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MURDER RESEARCH REQUEST - Vaughn Crichlow, PhD, Director of Research, IMRP, and Lydia Wileden, PhD, Assistant Research Professor, IMRP

- Dr. Lydia Wileden provided an update on the early stages of the domestic violence murder research study. The study is being conducted by the Commission pursuant to the request from Rep. Stafstrom and Rep. Allie-Brennan.

VI. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SENTENCING COMMISSIONS ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Patricia O'Rourke, PhD, Research Associate

- Dr. Patricia O'Rourke attended the National Association of Sentencing Commissions Annual Conference Raleigh, NC in August.
 - Representatives from about 20 state sentencing commissions were present.
 - Dr. O'Rourke will present highlights from the conference at the next Commission meeting.
 - Dr. O'Rourke was elected to the NASC Executive Committee.

VII. DELEGATION SITE VISIT TO D.C.

- Judge Pavia gave a brief overview of the upcoming trip of Commission stakeholders to Washington D.C.

VIII. SENTENCING COMMISSION ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM – NOVEMBER 21, 2024

- Judge Pavia encouraged members to invite staff and colleagues from their respective agencies.
- Alex shared a draft of the symposium agenda.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

- Judge Harmon provided an update on the work of the Mental Health Subcommittee.
- Michael Gailor provided an update on the work of the Criminal Procedure and Sentencing Subcommittee.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

- Judge Pavia adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

2024 Steering Committee Meetings:

November 7, 2024

December 5, 2024

2024 Sentencing Commission Meetings:

September 26, 2024

November 14, 2024