

## CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

### Mental Health Subcommittee

Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 1:00-2:30pm

#### MINUTES

**Members Present:** Jennifer Zito (Subcommittee Co-chair), Robin Pavia, Gary Roberge, Kevin Lawlor, John Santa, Thomas Canny, Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Maurice Reaves

**Also in Attendance:** Alex Tsarkov (Executive Director), Matthew Hono, Tommy Dowd, Chenoa Greenlee, Ava Caudle, Grace McCann, Andrew Clark, Valerie Gordon, Gina Teixeira, Jessica Waggoner, Kathy Flaherty, Ben Howell, Chris Burke, Denise Paley, Reena Kapoor, Thomas Burr, Janet Walker, W O'Conner

- **Meeting convened** – Atty Zito convened the meeting at 1:03 PM

November 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes Approved

- **Legislative Agenda – An Act Concerning Supervised Diversionary Program** Alex Tsarkov gave an update on the Supervised Diversionary Program Proposal. The bill has not been raised yet, but there will be another update in March. Conversation with state agencies is ongoing regarding the proposal.
- **Mental Health Diversionary Programs Project Update** Matthew Hono, Sentencing Commission Intern, presented his work on the behavioral health diversionary resource, which will be housed on the Sentencing Commission's website. The resource provides interactive visualizations and program descriptions of Connecticut's diversionary programs, meant to be utilized by criminal justice professionals, judges, and the public. The goal is for the resource to be completed by May 2025.
- **Competency to Stand Trial in Connecticut Report Update** Dr Reena Kapoor shared an update on the competency to stand trial in Connecticut report. The final report is forthcoming.
- **Enhanced Forensic Respite Bed Update** Jessica Waggoner and Chris Burke gave a presentation on the Enhanced Forensic Bed Program. The program's capacity has expanded in recent years from 3 beds to 16. The program has shown robust completion rates, with most people satisfying both their legal requirements and their treatment goals.
- **Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Study Update** Gina Teixeira shared an update on the IDD study, highlighting the lack of data being collected in Connecticut. The study is now moving into the interview portion and is proceeding on schedule.

- **Yale SEICHE Center Study Update - Evaluation of community mental health and addiction treatment use in individuals following release from incarceration or on community supervision** Ben Howell provided an update on the progress of the study. The study has two parts: data linkage and analysis and interviews with key stakeholders – both of which have been advanced significantly in recent weeks.
- **SB1 Memo Update** Attorney Zito provided a brief update on the SB1 Memo.
- **Meeting Adjourned 2:10 pm**