

Public Safety Coordinating Council

March 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Council Members (or designee) in Attendance:

Commissioner Bill Proctor	County Commission
Judge Ashenafi Richardson	Judiciary
Rachel Lagos	Public Defender's Office
Owen McCaul	State Attorney's Office
Chief Craig Carroll	Leon County Sheriff's Office
Brylan Jacobs	Florida Department of Corrections
Nancy O'Farrell	NAMI Tallahassee
Teresa Broxton	Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives

Council Members Not in Attendance:

Rebecca Kelly-Manders	ReFire Culinary
Kelli Mercer	HCA Healthcare (Behavioral Health)
Anne Meisenzahl	Big Bend AFTER Reentry Coalition

Also in attendance:

Captain Isaac Boykin	Tallahassee Police Department
Rayshell Holmes	Leon County Commission Aide
Kimberly Holland	Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives
Rayshell Holmes	Aide for Commissioner Proctor
Jasmine Queen	Apalachee Center, Inc.
Dr. Hairston	SWAN
Simone Franklin	Department of Children and Families

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

Issues Discussed

I. Approval of the February 18, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Proctor moved to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2025 (Attachment #1), meeting; seconded by Judge Ashenafi Richardson.

The motion passed unanimously.

II. LCDF Population Update – Chief Craig Carroll, Leon County Sheriff's Office

Chief Craig Carroll presented the Leon County Detention Facility Status Report for 3/24/25 (Attachment #2). The population as of 3/24/25 was 946. Chief Carroll commented that the 946 was average; however, the population declined to approximately 910 during spring break but has returned to average. Chief Carroll advised that at present there are 14 individuals in custody with ICE holds, but all have local pending charges. He also shared that ICE will not address the holds until the local charges are released and then they have 48 hours to pick them up from the LCDF.

Commissioner Proctor inquired as to who pays the housing costs for those the individuals during the 48 hours after their local charges are released and ICE comes to pick them up. Chief Carroll advised that currently LCDF is responsible for the costs. He added that LCSO staff is completing the immigration training and once completed, LCDF will be able to request reimbursement from the federal government. He believes the reimbursement costs is less than the average daily costs for housing.

Commissioner Proctor inquired if Chief Carroll anticipated an increase in the number of ICE detainees. Chief Carroll said he does expect an increase due to I10 traveling through Leon County and FHP is also being certified to make arrests on civil warrants for ICE.

Ms. Broxton inquired if there was any discussion among the Sheriff's Offices within the 2nd Judicial Circuit to contract with ICE for bedspace of immigration holds without corresponding local charges. Chief Carroll advised there are four facilities with contracts throughout the state with Baker County being the closest to Leon County.

Judge Ashenafi Richardson shared in past years ICE Officers have been in the courtrooms waiting to make arrests outside of the courtroom after the defendants are arraigned. Fortunately, this is not currently occurring.

Ms. Broxton announced that the average length of stay (ALOS) is currently 41 days and shared that they are working on analyzing the changes impacting the ALOS such as changes in the number of bookings and/or dispositions.

- III. Forensic Intervention Reentry Services Team (FIRST) – Jasmine Queen, Apalachee Center, Inc.
Ms. Broxton introduced Ms. Jasmine Queen, Associate Director of Residential & Forensic Services to present the quarterly report on the Forensic Intervention Reentry Services Team (FIRST). Ms. Broxton reminded the Council that the FIRST receives funding through the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant (CJMHSR) and was recently awarded a new three-year funding cycle beginning in 2024.

Ms. Queen presented the first quarterly report from 11/15/2024 – 2/14/2025 (Attachment #3). She shared that the FIRST Program serves clients who are on Mental Health Supervised Pretrial Release or Probation, defendants found incompetent to proceed, or not guilty by reason of insanity, and conditional releases. The FIRST staff assists participants with essential services (housing, benefits, employment, etc.).

Commissioner Proctor inquired of the FIRST Program's ability to assist individuals in applying for benefits such as social security, food stamps, etc. Ms. Queen advised their team is SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certified to assist participants with applying for benefits.

Ms. Broxton inquired of the program's ability to financially assist participants with costs (rent, utilities, etc.) of obtaining housing. Ms. Queen advised this funding cycle does include financial assistance for housing. Ms. Broxton advised she would follow up with Ms. Queen to share information on the Reentry Housing Assistance Program.

Chief Carroll expressed appreciation from LCDF for any individuals that were eligible for diversion through FIRST as they have some individuals in custody who have been waiting placement at the Florida State Hospital (FSH) for three months.

Ms. Simone Franklin, NW Regional Forensic Liaison for DCF's Office of Youth and Mental Health, was in attendance and introduced herself to the Council and stated that their office is working on discharge and admissions. She stated there are barriers (applications for benefits, addressing housing instability, etc.) to discharging patients which drives the ability to free up bed space for new admissions.

- IV. FY 2025 Funding Recommendations – Chairman Proctor

Ms. Broxton shared that the Council requested this item be included on the March agenda for continued discussion on the recommendation to the Board to allocate the FY 2024/2025 funds for the continuation of the Reentry Housing Assistance (RHA) Program.

Following Ms. Queen's report, Commissioner Proctor recommended that a portion of the RHA funding be allocated to assist individuals participating in the FIRST Program or being released from Florida State Hospital and continue efforts to assist individuals being released from the LCDF. Ms. Broxton advised that based on discussions from the February meeting and guidance to extend the

focus of the RHA to the 32304 area, she scheduled a meeting with the HOST deputies to ensure they are knowledgeable of this resource as they conduct their outreach services and, likewise, will meet with Ms. Queen.

Commissioner Proctor reflected that mental health issues are still stigmatized, and acceptance of mental health diagnoses is slow within society. He discussed the need for additional mental health resources in correlation with the state's population growth. He inquired of ways the PSCC can encourage legislature and policy makers for funding of mental health facilities on the I10 corridor. Commissioner Proctor expressed that he wished his work promoting acceptance of mental health disorders was further along.

Judge Ashenafi Richardson commented that Commissioner Proctor's voice and championship of people with mental health issues has been heard and has made an impact over his career. She shared that people are becoming better educated about mental health particularly as it intersects with the criminal justice system. She shared that the legislature is funding programs such as Felony Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court to pay for services such as competency evaluations. Ms. Brown added that the courts have made progress in connecting people with treatment but continue struggling with housing solutions. Ms. Brown stated that when individuals are released from incarceration or treatment services without housing it creates a cycle of rearrests or readmissions. Ms. Brown stated that additional capacity for housing would have a significant and long-term impact on this population.

Judge Ashenafi Richardson inquired as to how the Council could engage the business/private sector in addressing the need for housing. Commissioner Proctor proposed a future special meeting to invite local philanthropists and business leaders for a presentation on the PSCC's mission and the intersecting needs for housing individuals with mental health issues and criminal justice involvement. The council discussed whether the recommendation for the FY 2024/2025 funding for the RHA program is in conjunction with efforts to engage the private sector or a bifurcated issue. The Council agreed the two issues were related but separate.

Judge Ashenafi Richardson motioned to allocate the FY 2024/2025 to the Reentry Housing Assistance Program; seconded by Chief Carroll.

Motion passed unanimously.

Judge Ashenafi Richardson motioned for the PSCC to invite the business/private sector leaders in the community to a special meeting and presentation on the PSCC's mission and the community's need for housing for individuals with mental health issues, and to develop a specific request to be discussed during the meeting for future collaboration. Brylan Jacobs seconded the motion with an amendment that the PSCC identify and outline the specific need such as permanent supportive housing prior to scheduling the special meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Broxton stated that she would work with Ms. Brown and Ms. Queen and discuss the PSCC request with Mr. Lamy, Assistant County Administrator, for additional guidance on moving forward. Ms. Broxton will bring back additional information to the PSCC prior to moving forward with scheduling a special meeting date.

The Council established a subcommittee with the following members: Judge Ashenafi Richardson, Brylan Jacobs, Nancy O'Farrell, Kendra Brown, and Jasmine Queen to develop the presentation materials.

- V. OIDA Electronic Monitoring Report – Kimberly Holland, OIDA, Coordinator
February 2025 Electronic Monitoring Program Report (Attachment #4).

- VI. Other Business:

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 PM

Next Meeting: April 15, 2025
4:00 PM
Commission Chambers, 5th Floor, Leon County Courthouse