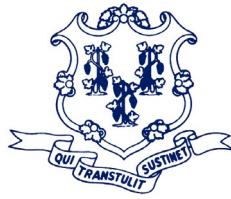


# The Connecticut General Assembly



## Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Response and Enhancement Advisory Council

### MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

1:00 PM in Room 1C of the LOB and Zoom and YouTube Live

ATTENDANCE: Senator Mae Flexer, Meghan Scanlon, Karen Foley O'Connor, Joe DiTunno, Marc Pelka, Nancy Turner, Ginger Wilk, Andrea O'Connor, Attorney Johanna Canning, Honorable Kevin Doyle, Attorney Phyllis DiCara, Captain Heather LaRock, Merit Lajoie, TFC Daniel Richman, Chief Alaric Fox, Eulalia Garcia

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Chairwoman Flexer called the meeting to order at 1:35PM.

#### II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

- a. Chairwoman Flexer offered welcoming remarks and Council members introduced themselves.

#### III. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> MEETING MINUTES

- a. A motion was made to approve the December 18, 2024 meeting minutes by Chief Fox and seconded by Mr. Pelka. The motion passed unanimously with Merit Lajoie abstaining.

#### IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

##### a. LAW ENFORCEMENT MODEL POLICY

- i. Chief Fox discussed the topics considered by the subcommittee in its recent meetings:
  - 1. The subcommittee is working to ensure that the Council can consider and vote on recommendations related to the state's Model Policy at a point in the year when they can be included in POST's "red book" which is policy guidance used by law enforcement across the state.
  - 2. Working with Arrest Warrants subcommittee on various proposals.
  - 3. Discussing including the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) as a best practice outlined in the Model Policy.

b. ARREST WARRANTS & ORDERS OF PROTECTION: COMPLIANCE, ENFORCEMENT & OUTCOMES

- i. Subcommittee members met virtually with Darren Mitchell from the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and are working to arrange dates in April that he can come to CT to observe processes here and work with the group on potential efficiencies. He will also join the subcommittee's planned March meeting virtually to discuss challenges and successes in other states.
- ii. Division of Criminal Justice is making updates to its tracking system to better track arrest warrants as they come in, are sent back for changes, etc. The subcommittee will collaborate with the Law Enforcement Model Policy subcommittee on any changes.
- iii. The subcommittee has been working on its previous recommendation for a consistent process across all courts that allow victims to keep their addresses confidential. The Judicial Branch is working on creating a form to accomplish this. Mr. DiTunno advised the Council that there will need to be a statutory change allowing for a sealing of the address in the court record and that Judicial Branch legal services is working on language, which is similar to the existing process used in family court. Chairwoman Flexer asked if the Council wants to vote now to submit language this session. Chair Scanlon asked for the language to be shared with the Council.
  1. Chairwoman Scanlon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lajoie, to submit language this session contingent upon the full Council receiving it to be reviewed. Attorney Canning asked if there would be discussion upon receipt of the language. Mr. DiTunno stated that this is similar to other Judicial processes in terms of sealing addresses, but he will share the language for comments when it is ready.
  2. The motion was unanimously approved with Attorney Canning abstaining.

c. OFFENDER INTERVENTION STANDARDS

- i. Ms. Lajoie was announced as the new subcommittee co-chair.
- ii. The subcommittee is working with prosecutors on the recommendation included in the Council's annual report to develop a form that defendants may take to a treatment provider to attest that the treatment meets the major tenets of the Domestic Violence Offender Program Standards. The Chief State's Attorney's Office is reviewing the form and will make a final decision on use of the form. The goal is to broaden knowledge among behavioral health treatment providers of the major tenets and thereby increase availability of providers who are willing to address those major tenets in their treatment plans with offenders.

- iii. Discussed a bill on use of the supervised diversionary program and judicial discretion to add a family violence component, which stems from a recommendation of the Council.

V. REVIEW CALL OF THE COUNCIL

- a. Chairwoman Scanlon asked the Council to consider any other areas of the call that should be considered during year. Mr. DiTunno suggested that the subcommittees also examine additional topics as they relate to the existing subcommittee.
- b. Mr. Pelka suggested reviewing data related to use of all of the Judicial Branch diversionary programs for domestic violence offenders. Mr. DiTunno thinks that could come under offender standards subcommittee.
- c. Ms. Foley O'Connor noted an increase in family violence outside of IPV since pandemic and the need to look through the lens of all family violence.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. None

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a. The next meeting of the full council will be held on May 28, 2025.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chairwoman Flexer adjourned the meeting at 2:04PM.

**Please Click the Following Link to Access the Meeting on the Judiciary Committee YouTube Channel:**

[Click Here](#)