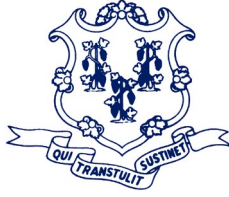


# The Connecticut General Assembly



## Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Response and Enhancement Advisory Council Arrest Warrants & Orders of Protection: Compliance, Enforcement & Outcomes Subcommittee

### MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, October 16, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Attorney Phyllis DiCara, Joe DiTunno, CJ Forcier, Attorney Gail Hardy, Attorney Hakima Bey-Coon, Andrea O'Connor, Geralyn O'Neil-Wild, Marc Pelka, Chief Robert Rosado, Attorney Nancy Tyler, Capt. Ryan Maynard

- I. CALL TO ORDER  
Chairwoman Geralyn O'Neil-Wild called the meeting to order at 11:03 am.
- II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS  
Welcoming remarks and members introduced themselves.
- III. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL  
Chief Rosado made a motion to accept the September meeting minutes with one correction Attorney Nancy Tyler was not in attendance at the September meeting. Second CJ Forcier. Meeting minutes with one correction approved all in favor.
- IV. DISCUSSION AND FINALIZE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Chairwoman Hardy began the discussion first reviewing the September meeting discussion including the subcommittee recommending Darren Mitchell return to work with the subcommittee to explore and identify opportunities to strengthen Connecticut's current policies and procedures as they relate to orders of protection, firearm compliance, monitoring, enforcement and victim safety. Attorney Nancy Tyler motion for Darren Mitchell to return. Second Attorney Hakima Bey-Coon. All in favor.

Discussion continued with a recap of the September discussion related to the confidentiality of a victim's address on an order of protection specifically in criminal court. Family court has a mechanism for applicants to request their address be protected but the same uniform process/practice is not available in criminal court. The recommendation was that there be a similar form available on the criminal side for victims to request their address be confidential.

Joe DiTunno reiterated that Judicial legal was looking at the form currently available on the civil side but there may need to be a statutory modification.

## **The Connecticut General Assembly**

Chairwoman O'Neil-Wild raised the issue of a uniform policy or procedure related to arrest warrants including resubmitting corrections, how follow-up is conducted on both law enforcement and the State's side when a warrant is sent back for corrections and/or additional information. Discussion included various agencies' data collection/case management systems and whether they can be utilized to help support tracking and follow-up on warrants.

Chairwoman Hardy discussed how various court locations may differ in how they follow-up on warrants. For example, court locations where there is a dedicated domestic violence prosecutor that dedicated prosecutor may be the person following up on the domestic violence warrants.

Marc Pelk inquired as to what degree is or can the PRAWN system be used or help us to understand the flow of information. It may be helpful to further review or discuss more deeply the ways that electronic systems like PRAWN, are utilized. Maybe there is someone that can help walk the subcommittee through how these systems are managed

Capt. Maynard suggested it may be worth discussing the Judicial online communication exchange – it would be a centralized place where a lot of information is being entered with the shift to go paperless. It could create a system of record and it would be the best path forward and also consolidate and centralize.

Chief Rosado explained a warrant can get kicked back to law enforcement for many reasons. Locking in a timeline for law enforcement may be difficult depending on the reason for a warrant being kicked back – if law enforcement has to track down a witness, someone that is not cooperative

Chief Rosado suggested it may be easier to address the follow-up in the model policy.

Discussion continued as to whether the model policy subcommittee discussions have included the uniform policy for arrest warrants and if this should/could be coordinated with the model policy subcommittee. It is unclear whether the other subcommittee has discussed this issue. It was agreed that the co-chairs will reach out to the other subcommittee to inquire and discuss collaborating on this issue. The issue will be revisited at the November meeting.

A topic that came up at the first subcommittee meeting and presentation regarding law enforcement response to a domestic violence specific to the need to statutorily define "dangerous instrument." Capt. Maynard suggested the subcommittee explore if this was being addressed by the model policy subcommittee and table the discussion until the November meeting when we have more information. All agreed.

# The Connecticut General Assembly

The subcommittee reviewed the prior meeting discussion related to modification of protective orders and some of the complaints that the Office of the Victim Advocate has received from victims around the State regarding the process for modifying a protective order. In certain courts victims file a motion to modify, in other court locations victims are told they can not file a motion. The subcommittee previously agreed to table the conversation until more information could be obtained from stakeholders in the Geographical Area courts regarding current practices. This information gathering was to occur at the Domestic Violence Prosecutor Roundtable meeting October 15<sup>th</sup> but was rescheduled to October 28<sup>th</sup>. All agreed to hold the conversation until additional information was available at the November meeting.

Discussion regarding a victim having the right to be notified if a defendant or respondent is compliant with the firearm surrender requirement. This has been raised numerous times as a safety concern by victims and advocates. The Office of the Victim Advocate raised the issue and a proposal which was introduced in 2017 in S.B. 980 AN Act Concerning a Victim's Right to be Reasonably Protected from the Accused. The bill was not successful.

Attorney Nancy Tyler suggested if Darren Mitchell returning to support the subcommittee regarding the issue of firearms that it may make sense to wait until the subcommittee meets with him before making any recommendations. He may also be able to share what other states are doing.

The subcommittee agreed to hold-off on the conversation until the November meeting and Attorney Hakima Bey-Coon agreed to research the proposed bill and the debate that occurred.

- V. UPDATES AND OTHER BUSINESS  
None
- VI. NEXT MEETING  
Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2024, hybrid 11:00-12:30 pm.
- VII. ADJOURNMENT  
Motion to adjourn Marc Pelka and second Hakima Bey-Coon. Gail Hardy called the meeting to an end at 12:28 pm.