

**NH JJ Reform Commission  
Executive Subcommittee**

**Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**MEETING DATE:** December 19, 2022 10am-11am

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**Attendees:** Eddie Edwards, Department of Safety – via zoom  
Joseph Ribsam, Division of Children Youth and Families  
Cody Belanger, Epping Town Selectman  
Alissa Cannon, Diversion Network  
Jennifer Archer, Juvenile Justice Services

**Absent:** Dr. Samantha Morin, Sununu Youth Services Center

**Transcriber:** Jennifer Archer, Juvenile Justice Services

**Meeting Discussion:**

The group discussed leadership for the subcommittee. JJS Archer advised of Dr. Morin's interest in chairing the subcommittee and all members were in support of her leadership.

The group created the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission meeting agenda:

- Welcome and voting on past meeting minutes
- OJJDP conference report outs from Dr. Morin, LISCW Santana, and JJS Archer
- Subcommittee updates
- SYSC and Directors update
- Discussion regarding Juvenile Justice Jeopardy program presentation

The group discussed its responsibility to create the biennial report to the Governor. JJS Archer provided members the two prior reports, which were submitted in a pamphlet format. The information provided was reviewed. The group would like this to be formatted in a formal report with bullet points and will include activities of the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission since its creation. Details listed by the group included highlighting the creation of the bylaws, training received from the Center for Coordinated Assistance for States, and attaching links to the meeting minutes.

The group discussed membership of the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission. It was determined that the team that Mr. Belanger's town selectman status satisfied the requirement of having a locally elected official. Director Ribsam and Selectman Belanger will continue to inquire about the addition of a State Representative who champions juvenile justice reform. JJS Archer updated on the pending addition of Renee Touhey-Childress as an addition to area D. Representatives of private nonprofit organizations, including persons concerned with family preservation and strengthening, parent groups and parent self-help groups, youth development, delinquency prevention and treatment, neglected or dependent children, quality of youth justice, education, and social services for children. JJS Archer outlined the Juvenile Justice Reform Commissions interest in the addition of a juvenile placement provider representative. She advise of the Bureau of Children's Behavioral Health's recommendation of Ms. Touhey-Childress. JJS Archer to forward Ms. Touhey-Childress's resume and letter of intent to Director Ribsam. The group discussed youth membership challenges and ongoing recruitment efforts. The group would like to offset the obstacle of youth creating a letter of intent by allowing a youths Juvenile Probation Parole Officer to provide a letter of recommendation on a youths behalf. Director

Ribsam asked if the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission members terms were know. JJS Archer advised not having those details.

Ms. Cannon discussed the Diversion Network's yearly summit and the possibility of expanding it into a juvenile justice conference where many members of the juvenile justice serving community are involved. She advised planning for the summit in May is underway and offered that a juvenile justice representative could collaborate on the planning team if an expansion were to occur. JJS Archer advised that in order for OJJDP funds to be utilized for conferences applications and prior approvals are required within the budget. JJS Archer to bring this opportunity to Associate Bureau Chief of Field Services McCormack for further exploration.

Director Ribsam recommended that the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission be updated on the progress of the juvenile justice transformation and assessment process. JJS Archer to inquire with Supervisor Sellars regarding a possible March presentation.

The group discussed the meeting schedule and determined executive subcommittee meetings would occur bi-monthly opposite of the Juvenile Justice Reform Commission Meetings on the second Monday of the month at 9am and will be held in the Thayer Building on state office grounds.

**Next Meetings:**

Executive Subcommittee

February 13, 2023 9am-10am Thayer Building State Office 97 Pleasant St. Concord

Juvenile Justice Reform Commission

January 9, 2023 9am-11am Dolloff Building State Office 117 Pleasant St. Concord