

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY Friday, June 3, 2011 at 9:15 a.m. 300 West Adams Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room Chicago, Illinois

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Peter M. Ellis welcomed Board Members and guests to the second 2011 quarterly Board Meeting of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. He called the meeting to order and asked General Counsel Lisa Stephens to call the roll.

In addition to Chairman Ellis, Authority Board Members in attendance were:

State's Attorney and Vice Chairman Anita Alvarez
Clerk Dorothy Brown
Sheriff Thomas Dart
Director Bradley Demuzio
Ms. Barbara Engel
Director S. A. Godinez
Mr. Felix M. Gonzalez
Director Hiram Grau
Clerk Becky Jansen
Mr. Eugene E. Murphy, Jr.
Director Michael J. Pelletier
President Toni Preckwinkle
Public Defender Randall B. Rosenbaum
Mr. John Z. Toscas

Approval of Minutes of the March 4, 2011 Regular Meeting

With a quorum in place, Chairman Peter M. Ellis asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the March 4, 2011 Authority Board Meeting.

{Mr. John Z. Toscas moved that the minutes of the March 4, 2011 Authority Board Meeting be adopted. Clerk Dorothy Brown seconded the motion, which was adopted by voice vote with Public Defender Randall B. Rosenbaum abstaining since he had not been appointed to the Board at that time.}

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Ellis noted that this was his first Authority Board Meeting as Chairman, having missed the first 2011 quarterly Board Meeting because of plans that had been in place before his appointment. After introducing himself, he said he was grateful to Governor Pat Quinn for granting him the opportunity to serve and humbled by the Governor's confidence in him. He said he was very impressed with the Members of the Board and looked forward to getting to know and working with each one toward assuring that the Authority continues to make a positive difference in the criminal justice system in Illinois and across the nation.

Chairman Ellis then called upon the other new Board Members in attendance for which this also was their first meeting – Mr. Salvador C. Godinez, Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections; Mr. Hiram Grau, Director of the Illinois State Police; Ms. Toni Preckwinkle, President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and Mr. Randall B. Rosenbaum, Public Defender of Champaign County -- and asked each to introduce themselves. After their remarks, Mr. Ellis thanked them and recognized Dr. Toni Irving, the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff, who was a guest. He then turned to Mr. Cutrone for his remarks.

Executive Director's Remarks

Mr. Cutrone thanked Chairman Ellis. He began by stating that one of the main areas people think of when they think about the Authority is funding. He said in that regard, he wanted to focus particularly on the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, which is one of the Authority's main sources of grant funds. He reported that the President requested for federal fiscal year '11, the current federal fiscal year, that Byrne JAG funding be maintained at the same level that it has been. He then explained that as a result of the changeover in the make-up primarily of the House, the bill that actually constituted the federal budget for the current federal fiscal year was not passed until about a month ago, although it should have been passed around October.

He went on to say that, as all were aware, substantial cuts were made to many of the items that normally appear in the budget. He said he was sorry to report that a 17 percent cut to the Byrne JAG fund for federal fiscal year '11 was included, which resulted in a reduction to Illinois. Mr. Cutrone explained that Illinois had received approximately \$12 million last year, diminished to a level for federal fiscal year '11 of \$10 million. Mr. Cutrone further explained that the Department of Justice released the allocations for each of the states the prior week, but because of a calculation error withdrew them, so a precise figure was unavailable but would be made known soon.

Referring to the process as to how allocations are made to the various states, he said that every state receives a flat lump sum allocation, followed by adjustments to that amount upward, depending on the state's population and crime rate. He noted that Illinois as a result is in the top handful of states in terms of the amount of its allocation. Mr. Cutrone then explained the Authority's practice of historically not spending a federal fiscal year's

grant within the federal fiscal year it was received because of yearly fluctuations in all the grant funds.

He stated that through this procedure the Authority maintains a reserve, and therefore generally is giving grants out of prior years' JAG funding to prepare for such reductions, or such as occurred in 2008, when there was a two-thirds cut to JAG. He said that by keeping a reserve, it allows the Authority to continue its programs at funding levels sought previously and deemed appropriate. Mr. Cutrone added that JAG, again, a mainstay of the Authority's grant program, is in danger of receiving further cuts in the coming federal fiscal year.

He moved on to Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding, which he said should remain at about the same level. He then turned to Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding, explaining that those funds do not come from federal tax monies, but rather from fines that are imposed on individuals who are convicted in Federal Court of criminal offenses and thus are not tax revenue dependent. He said that VOCA funding is expected to remain the same, adding however that Congress does set a cap on the amount that can be spent out of that particular Victims of Crime Act fund. He went on to say it is substantially below the amount that is collected each year and efforts have been made in the past to raise the cap without success.

Next Mr. Cutrone discussed the federal fiscal year '12 budget, that is being developed. He noted that, as is well known, there is a substantial move to cut federal spending generally and referring back to the Byrne JAG Fund said he hoped it would not be cut. Mr. Cutrone recounted attending a meeting in May of the National Criminal Justice Association in Washington, D.C., and as part of his duties as the Association's Vice-President, visiting Congressional delegations. He said that given time limitations he tried to concentrate on first-year congressmen

He mentioned that because he cannot lobby, he focused on educating them about the good that the Authority does with Byrne JAG monies and the other federal grant programs. He continued to say that in every congressional office that he visited, he highlighted two areas, with one being the work of the Drug Task Forces that the Authority supports with JAG funds. Mr. Cutrone said that in all those visits, both staff and the congressmen with whom he met, understood the importance of that endeavor, which to them was a reason to continue funding Byrne JAG. He added that at every office he was told that others involved with the Drug Task Forces had repeatedly echoed that sentiment. So he said that there is support for continuing JAG funding at higher dollar levels.

He mentioned the other area he highlighted was the Adult Redeploy Illinois initiative and said that he explained that it was modeled after a successful juvenile program. He said he also explained that in essence the program pays counties not to send people to the Department of Corrections because there is a better result by providing more effective programming and services that are necessary to help people not reoffend. He said he pointed out that this process avoids a much larger cost that would be entailed if those

people were sent to the Department of Corrections and stressed that every one of the congressional offices was impressed with the effort.

He continued to say that Adult Redeploy Illinois is gaining national attention and was pleased that Cook County under its new leadership has applied to the Authority for an Adult Redeploy Illinois grant, thanking President Preckwinkle. He reiterated that it is an important program because it has the potential for better public safety results at a much more reasonable cost, saving the state the higher expenditure of incarcerating people in the Department of Corrections. Mr. Cutrone remarked that it is a pilot program and an evaluation of the adult version is underway. He added that it would be some time before results emerge, but again he underscored that the program was well received.

He then returned to the subject of future funding for JAG and reported that a “dear colleague” letter campaign, whereby members of Congress sign a letter asking their colleagues to support a particular program, was arranged by the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA). He said that the NCJA enlisted every State Administering Agency (SAA), such as the Authority, to contact local members of organizations including the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriffs Association to request that they urge their congressional delegates to sign the letter supporting Byrne JAG funding at federal fiscal year ‘10 levels. He reported that four Illinois Congressmen signed the letter: Daniel Lipinski, Jan Schakowsky, Mike Quigley and Danny Davis, with a positive response from Congressman Bob Dold but unfortunately too late to sign the letter. Mr. Cutrone added that because of the NCJA effort, 115 Members of Congress had signed.

He continued to say that the “dear colleague” letter does not close the issue of Byrne JAG funding for federal fiscal year ’12. Mr. Cutrone commented that the people in the room are the leaders of the criminal justice system in Illinois and asked them to send letters to their congressmen, urging their support to continue Byrne JAG at federal fiscal year ’10 levels. He said that the letter could be very simple with this request or it could cite some of the good things funded by JAG. He stated that such letters do make a difference, particularly coming from people of the importance in the room. He added that he would supply the e-mail address of the particular staffer in each Congressional office to whom such a request should be directed.

Mr. Cutrone then moved on to discussing the status of the Authority’s Criminal Justice Strategic Plan for Illinois. He indicated that it had been hoped the plan would be completed by July 1, but it appeared more likely to be around September 1. He said that part of the date change was due to the volume of work that needed to be done and also that the Authority has been trying to incorporate the works of other agencies into the plan, reaching out to other sources for assistance. He added that it was felt having a strong, comprehensive plan was more important than meeting the deadline of July 1, and hoped that the Board would be understanding of that decision.

Mr. Cutrone continued to say that the plan is not only important for Illinois, but for many other states looking at it as a model and at the process for developing it. He said that

every time he attends a national conference and introduces himself as the Executive Director of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority he hears comments about the good work that Illinois is doing. He remarked that people cite the state as a national leader for which he thanked the Authority Board. He also thanked the Authority staff for their impressive work toward that national recognition, and additionally thanked the Governor who he said has been entirely supportive of the Authority's efforts in the development of the plan.

Mr. Cutrone then called attention to several matters not on the agenda. He said that in addition to the scheduled Lake County Probation Office presentation on Evidence-Based Practices Initiatives, there would be a brief presentation by Authority staff on the Authority's efforts to help the Chicago Police Department and other jurisdictions with crisis intervention training. He went on to say that as is well-known, one of the major problems in the criminal justice population is the large percentage of those with mental health issues. He said that this situation has led to a designation the Budget Committee will be requesting for the creation of a Center of Excellence. He explained that the Center will provide guidance to counties throughout Illinois in establishing mental health courts and that more details would be presented later in the meeting.

A final item he mentioned was a memo in the meeting materials requesting preferences for Committee appointments, which he pointed out are made by the Chairman. He asked Board Members to complete the form as to whether they wanted to remain on a Committee, be removed, or added. He also asked that the names of permanent Designees made to Committees by Board Members be given, and directed attention to the Authority Members Handbook in the meeting materials which showed current Committee membership, Permanent Designees and Committee descriptions. He then cautioned against everyone requesting appointment to the Budget Committee, explaining that Board Members can be a member of any Committee for the particular meeting that they attend, but said if one wanted to be a regular member to so indicate. Mr. Cutrone then concluded his remarks.

At that point, Chairman Ellis asked for clarification as to whether all Board Members will be given notice of when Budget Committee Meetings are scheduled even though they are not on the Budget Committee, with Mr. Cutrone responding in the affirmative.

Clerk Dorothy Brown, referring back to the discussion regarding JAG funding, then inquired as to whether drafts of the congressional letters of support that were mentioned were available for Board Members to send. Mr. Cutrone stated such drafts could be provided.

Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Cutrone and then turned to financial matters, calling on Budget Committee Chairman Eugene E. Murphy, Jr., for a report. He also named all Board Members and Budget Committee Designees present and by phone as Members of the Committee as a whole for the Budget Committee portion of the Board Meeting.

Budget Committee Report by Eugene E. Murphy, Jr., Chairman

Budget Committee Chairman Murphy said that in recent years, the Budget Committee has been meeting with increased frequency in an effort to ensure that funds are used as productively as possible.

Authority Director Cutrone said that at the last Budget Committee meeting there was a recommendation regarding two years of funding for the Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Task Forces (MEGs/TFs). One year's funding was passed, but the Budget Committee wanted more information about the work of these units before committing to the second year of funding. He said that related information had very recently been sent to the Authority members, so no action will be taken at this meeting regarding the second year of funding for the MEGs/TFs; such action will be taken at a future meeting after the Authority members have had ample time to review said information. Staff is conducting in-depth evaluations of these programs and that will take some significant time, thus these items are not being presented today.

Budget Committee Chairman Murphy said that there is no need to address these funds immediately since the next year of funding for the MEGs/TFs was approved. The plan is to address this funding issue and any questions related to it at the September 2, 2011 Authority Regular meeting when the issue will be considered before the totality of the group.

Budget Committee Chairman Murphy said that for the purposes of the Budget Committee meeting, Brian Murphy would represent the Chicago Police Department and Christopher Garcia would represent Honorable Abishi Cunningham.

Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) FFY10 Plan Adjustment

Recommended Designation

Authority Program Supervisor Mike Carter, referring to the memo regarding Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) FFY2010 Designation and dated June 3, 2011, said that staff recommends designating \$260,000 in federal fiscal year 2010 Justice Assistance Grants funds to Winnebago County, which will partner with the University of Illinois, to develop the Center of Excellence. The Center of Excellence looks to develop and enhance research and training on mental health issues within the criminal justice system. He then introduced two representatives from Winnebago County: Judge Kathryn Zenoff and Michelle Rock.

Judge Zenoff said that she was at this meeting as the co-facilitator of an ad-hoc group of representatives from various agencies and the judiciary that have been meeting since December to discuss the feasibility and advisability of a Center of Excellence here in Illinois. The ad-hoc group includes the heads of the division of mental health, the mental health court association, and the president of the mental health court association, Michelle Rock. She said that she was also here today as the chairman of the Supreme

Court Advisory Committee for Mental Health and Justice Planning, which was established by the Illinois Supreme Court in the spring of 2010.

Judge Zenoff said that the discussion regarding the Center of Excellence began in 2008 as part of the transformation transfer initiative begun and spearheaded by the Division of Mental Health. In connection with the transformation initiative, there was a gap study throughout the state that reviewed resources available to persons with serious mental illnesses and co-occurring substance abuse disorders. The initiative started a strategic planning process for Illinois. The initiative generated a written report and during the course of discussions within the group, the idea of a Center of Excellence emerged. There were only four Centers of Excellence in the entire United States. Each of these centers has a slightly different focus, but each of them has as its goal the diversion of appropriate persons with serious mental illnesses and co-occurring substance abuse disorders from the criminal justice system. The vision and focus of a Center of Excellence is technical assistance to communities and court systems throughout the state, the provision of training; the provision of evidence-based practice research, and the ability to provide those things throughout the entire state.

Judge Zenoff said that the mission that this group formally adopted is to equip communities to appropriately respond to the needs of persons with behavioral health disorders who are involved in the criminal justice system. The group feels that a project such as this one can make a difference, especially in time of scarce economic resources.

Judge Zenoff, in response to a question by President Preckwinkle, said that Winnebago County is 90 miles northwest of Chicago and it includes the Second Appellate District in Rockford. The partnership with the University of Illinois is meant so that the Center of Excellence, even though it might be based in Rockford, would have staff and activities throughout the state at their other campuses.

Ms. Rock said that the proposal would support a director position, field staff, and a part-time administrative assistant. The immediate goals of the Center of Excellence would be to review the statewide strategic planning and mapping that has been done over the last several years, research and recommendations of evidence-based practices, education, promotion of the Center of Excellence, survey of current mental health courts; crisis intervention training (CIT) and diversion programs, creating training plans, training for jurisdictions, and data collection. The hope is that this will extend beyond mental health courts to work with drug courts and veterans' courts.

Judge Zenoff said that the members of the judiciary who have participated in this discussion have included Presiding Judge Paul Biebel of the Cook County Criminal Courts, retired Judge Larry Fox who was the Cook County Specialty Court's coordinator, Chief Judge Beth Robb of the 11th Judicial Circuit, Chief Judge Janet Holmgren of the 17th Judicial Circuit, and Mike Tardy, the Supreme Court Committee liaison from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.

Ms. Engel said that this seems like an excellent idea, but it also seems to be reliant on having a community-based response so that there is an alternative to putting people in courts and in our prisons. It doesn't make any sense to incarcerate persons at \$70,000 a year without getting treatment or help to address the underlying issues that brought the persons into the criminal justice system to begin with. There must be places for people to go, and my sense is that there is a dearth of such places. The building of such places in communities all across the state must be a part of any statewide strategy.

Judge Zenoff said that there are currently over 15 mental health courts throughout the United States. Cook County has a mental health court and the outlying districts also have mental health courts. There are a number of them in various counties in Illinois. Many of the communities in Illinois have found that it doesn't just take money to establish a mental health court or a diversion program, but it actually takes leadership in bringing stakeholders to the table to discuss ways to start these programs. She said that she was also the national co-chair of the Judges' Leadership Initiative for Criminal Justice and Mental Health Issues and one of the things that that panel has discussed and tried to promote throughout the country is judges taking leadership roles to bring the important parties, including community mental health centers and behavioral health centers, to the table to provide services and to partner with the court systems and with counties to develop the services that are needed.

Ms. Rock said that there are lots of jurisdictions that want to start these courts, but need the leadership and guidance to get it done. Communities already have to deal with these populations and they can be effectively dealt with if resources are properly allocated.

Ms. Engel said that such programs could spur some very exciting ways for the courts to grow. She expressed concern that community mental health groups and other alternative entities in the communities might not all be at the table, but there should be strategies to ensure that they are supported. She said that she didn't doubt that with proper leadership other judges and courts would follow these recommendations and create specialized courts. However, this doesn't stop the individuals from being brought into contact with the police because nobody knows what to do with them.

Judge Zenoff said that the groups are already at the table because of the initiative of the Division of Mental Health: the transformation initiative. There is a process ongoing throughout the state for strategic planning. The Authority is part of that and Director Cutrone talked about it in the Authority's strategic plan. Hopefully, the Center of Excellence would be a part of that coordinated strategic plan. These people are already at the table and the program would provide resources and knowledge to help them move ahead. The mental health courts in Illinois have saved significant dollars for the jails and for the state.

Clerk Brown said that she supported Ms. Engel's statements. She said that she is on the board of a non-profit community health council in Chicago and the program is suffering to the point that it has had to lay off staff. We get courts that will convert these individuals to our organizations, but then we're not able to provide the services. This

should all be part of a strategic discussion, but it's probably incumbent on this board to look at this from the standpoint of helping these organizations to position themselves to be able to support the diversion of these individuals.

Judge Zenoff said that it is up to professionals in the judiciary to help come up with innovative solutions. One such solution that was successfully implemented in Rockford recently was the merging of the mental health community service organization with the substance abuse association. In Rockford, the Rosecrance substance abuse clinic has merged with the Janet Wattles Center (for mental health) in looking ahead to combining behavioral health resources. Perhaps something like that can be a model throughout the state where there are fewer dollars and agencies that combine resources would be able to serve similar populations.

Director Cutrone said that the three largest mental institutions in the country are Rikers Island, Los Angeles County Jail, and Cook County Jail. Clearly, the system is broken. In years past, Illinois had something like 20,000 mental health beds; it now has 1,300. Either that needs to be changed or communities need to be provided with resources to deal accordingly. He said that this is an area of particular interest for Deputy Chief of Staff Irving. Perhaps the Authority can free up some correctional funds and put them toward making resources available for appropriate community treatment.

Budget Committee Chairman Murphy said that the more we can coordinate and cooperate, the longer we can go and the money will stretch a little further. This is not just a crime issue; this is a mental health issue, too.

Mr. Rosenbaum asked how this proposed Center of Excellence would differ from the other Centers of Excellence that exist and how duplicative research would be avoided among them.

Judge Zenoff said that the panel has been in touch with all of the existing Centers of Excellence. During these discussions, we wanted to see what the other models were. There have been teleconferences and data shared with respect to each program. He said that Ohio has focused on improving CIT. However, it is our view that Illinois is actually ahead of the game regarding CIT, but more certainly needs to be done. Massachusetts has focused on research. Pennsylvania is focused on a gap study, which was done here in Illinois in 2008 and 2009. Illinois's focus would be more similar to the Gains Center, which is a more national model; it would focus on being a technical assistance center for mental health courts and diversion programs and it would come up with innovative ideas to coordinate efforts with respect to this population.

Sheriff Dart said that the problem is enormous and even though there are mental health courts in Cook County, they only process a handful of cases whereas the county has thousands of inmates with mental health issues who get released from jail with no plan. The courts are only dealing with a small portion of the larger problem. While this program would help, nobody should fool themselves about the enormity of the problem. Cook County has started to set up its own connections for some service providers

throughout the jail, but there are few available and they certainly are not looking for more clients. Cook County Jail is the largest health care provider in Illinois right now. Addressing these problems will consume a lot of resources.

Authority Staff Member Lisa Braude said that a concurrent process that the Authority is chairing that came out of the strategic planning process is to address the lack of services for justice-involved individuals. With the advent of health care reform in 2014, the Authority has pulled together the Department of Human Services, the Department of Corrections, and some representatives who sit on the Center of Excellence steering committee to focus on developing a plan for bringing in the hundreds of thousands of individuals who are now ineligible for Medicaid, who are justice system-involved, who will become Medicaid eligible. That is the current process with the Center of Excellence: to figure out a plan of providing services on the end while bringing the capacity of the courts to bear.

Sheriff Dart said that, on average, at any time there are between 20 and 30 people in the Cook County jail who are not supposed to be there; who have been found guilty, but mentally ill. These persons are not supposed to be in jail, but they are because the Department of Mental Health doesn't have any beds. There aren't even state beds for people the courts have specifically determined are not fit to stand trial. This is a big problem and it is usually the counties that are left holding the bag.

{Mr. John Z. Toscas moved to approve the JAG FFY10 Plan Adjustment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Felix Gonzalez and it passed by unanimous voice vote.}

Adjourn

At approximately 9:35 a.m., the Budget Committee portion of the meeting concluded and the Authority Regular meeting resumed with discussion of other items on its agenda.

Fiscal Report by Dreena Jones, Chief Fiscal Officer

Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Murphy and Mr. Carter and called on Dreena Jones, Chief Fiscal Officer, for a fiscal report. Ms. Jones started by summarizing the Office of Fiscal Management activities for fiscal year 2011, covering the period from July 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011. She stated that the Office worked on the quarterly federal financial status reports, call center reports, and monthly reports for the funding and expenditures related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grants. She added that the Office updated and administered the Illinois State Legislative Forms for the fiscal year '12 budget, and noted it also has conducted preliminary budget reviews of approximately 336 inter-agency agreements and processed 274 Contract Obligation Documents in the amount of approximately \$34.4 million, and 848 vouchers, amounting to approximately \$27.7 million.

Ms. Jones then directed attention to Exhibit 1 in the meeting materials showing that the Authority has expended and obligated 57 percent of its General Revenue operations,

totaling approximately \$1.1 million. Turning to Exhibit 2, she reported that under Awards and Grants, the Authority has expended and obligated 46 percent of its General Revenue Matching Fund appropriation, and 46 percent of the total appropriation. She said that of the total expenditures under Exhibit 2, totaling \$51.9 million, \$49.2 million of that amount was expended in the Criminal Justice Fund; \$290,000 in the General Revenue Fund; and \$2.3 million in the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Fund. At that point she concluded her report.

Clerk Brown then inquired, given that the Board only meets quarterly, if it would be possible to have the fiscal report numbers brought forward to the date of Board Meetings. She noted that this report ended March 31, 2011, the first quarter, and the meeting was taking place in June, the last month of the second quarter, leaving the Board without knowledge of two months of financial activity. She acknowledged that Fiscal Reports historically have been presented in this time sequence but said it would be helpful if the timing could be changed as suggested so the Board could have more current information. Clerk Brown also suggested that the positioning of Ms. Jones written report be changed from Tab 2 to Tab 3, for greater clarity.

Clerk Brown went on to say that the numbers quoted represent the expenditure side and asked if there were any way for the Board to know the revenue side, such as grants received during the year. She said she thought that knowing the balances on the revenue side as well would help Board Members have a clearer financial picture.

Mr. Cutrone responded that the information Clerk Brown requested will be provided. Chairman Ellis thanked Ms. Jones and said that before moving on from financial issues he wanted to emphasize and make a final point about the important role of the Budget Committee. He thanked the members and all those who participate in Budget Committee meetings for their work and particularly their focus on doing more with less. He also thanked the staff for their assistance in helping the Committee, and ultimately the Authority, accomplish that goal.

Presentation on “Evidence Based Practices Initiatives” by Rosemarie Gray, Director of Adult Probation, 19th Judicial Circuit, Lake County, Illinois

Chairman Ellis then introduced Rosemarie Gray, Director of Adult Probation Services, 19th Judicial Circuit Court, for her presentation on “ Implementing Evidence-Based Practices in Adult Probation Services.” At that point Mr. Cutrone added that because the Authority has been promoting the use of evidence-based practices to generate the most cost efficient and effective use of funds, he thought the presentation by Ms. Gray was important for the Board to see the results of such a program.

Ms. Gray then introduced Mr. Robert Verborg, the 19th Judicial Circuit Court’s research analyst and explained that they both would be presenting on two program initiatives which are evidence-based: “Cognitive Outreach Groups (COG)” and the Circuit’s “Group Reporting Project (GRP).” She said that both are based on the “Thinking for a Change”

Program curriculum developed by the National Institute of Corrections, with the former for the high-risk population and the latter for low-risk offenders.

Next, she reviewed the history of using evidence-based practices programming, starting in 2000. She said that at that time, lower level offenders terminated probation at a 75 percent success rate, with higher risk offenders terminating at a 9.5 percent success rate, meaning that 90 percent of high risk offenders failed to complete probation successfully. She said that by the time of their termination, they incurred some kind of violation that warranted punitive sanctions by the court, which prompted investigating how to improve those responses.

Ms. Gray continued to say that in that pursuit, a meeting was held with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, with AOIC representative Mike Tardy suggesting consideration of the National Institute of Corrections Thinking for a Change Program. She pointed out that the goals of the program were to increase the number of offenders who successfully complete their probation, reduce recidivism, and improve probationers' abilities to take control of their lives and their responsibilities.

She recounted that in 2001, a grant was received from the National Institute of Corrections that allowed training 25 probation officers to facilitate the Thinking for a Change Program in Lake County. She said all staff also were trained in this process and that a proposal to run group programs submitted to judges, the State's Attorney, the Public Defender, and community agencies was favorably received.

She reported that the Cognitive Outreach Group Program became operational in 2002 and to date there have been over a thousand graduates with a 71 percent graduation rate, and 42 staff members facilitating 100 groups. She pointed out that because officers and psychological services staff facilitate the groups as part of their daily work functions, the cost of administering the program is very inexpensive, requiring only the cost of supplies to operate it. She continued to say that since a major part of evidenced-based practices is outcomes, Mr. Verborg conducted an outcome study on the program as to whether it is working, does it reduce recidivism and does it do what needs to be done in assisting high risk offenders.

Mr. Verborg then explained that the outcome study on the Cognitive Outreach Group Program was a collaborative effort with Roslyn Franklin University in Lake County utilizing the first group of graduates and a comparison group comprised of matched probation clients who had completed probation in the year before the Cognitive Outreach Group Program started. He said that the study indicated that in terms of successful completion of probation supervision, 62 percent of the Cognitive Outreach Group participants completed probation compared to only 26 percent of the comparison group. At that point, Ms. Gray reiterated that 90 percent of high risk offenders had failed to complete probation successfully before the program started.

Mr. Verborg next cited percentages for re-arrests during probation as 41 percent of the COG participants compared to 66 percent of the comparison group, and once they were

released from supervision, the former had a re-arrest rate of 43 percent, compared to 72 percent for the comparison group. He then gave recidivism statistics for the two groups after following them during the three years after termination of probation with the following outcomes: just over 70 percent for the Comparison Group compared to 44 percent for the COG group.

Ms. Gray then moved on to discussing the Group Reporting Project for low-risk offenders who are placed on probation and need supervision. Ms. Gray said that instead of individual, one-on-one, face-to-face contact with a probation officer, large groups of low-risk probationers are designated to report to various sites located strategically around Lake County. Ms. Gray said that 80 volunteers have been trained since 2002, that 834 individuals are participating, and that there are 155 Spanish-speaking offenders. She said that this population is assisted by a Spanish-speaking probation officer and Spanish-speaking volunteers.

In reviewing the financial benefits of utilizing the Group Reporting Project instead of using an individual officer, she reported that in Fiscal Year 2009 approximately \$231,183 in operating expenses were saved. She then emphasized that the goal also was to assure that the process would not increase recidivism, which led to another outcome study. Ms. Gray continued to say that the Group Reporting Project has demonstrated itself to be an extremely efficient method of monitoring low-risk probationers and turned to Mr. Verborg to discuss the outcomes.

He said that the goal was by meeting in a large group instead of on an individual basis that no harm would be done and that the probationers would recidivate at no larger a level than those who were meeting on an individual basis. He continued to say that they were pleasantly surprised to discover that there was a significantly positive impact, looking at both moderate and low risk offenders with the moderate risk offenders responding best.

In concluding, Ms. Gray stated that the Group Reporting Project is very cost effective, with the use of volunteers, partnering with the community college and utilizing three officers who monitor the group of some 830 offenders. She said it allows more officers to supervise higher risk offenders, spending more time providing close monitoring supervision and implementing treatment options for them. She then reiterated that the Thinking for a Change Program created for high risk offenders does reduce recidivism and asked if there were any questions.

At that point, in response to a question by Ms. Barbara Engle, a discussion ensued covering different programs that are used for sex offenders. Other topics discussed included types of sanctions used for probation violations with Ms. Gray stating that the Division's sanctions program was being updated to be more in line with evidence-based practices. She also mentioned that the county has drug and mental health courts, and soon will have a veterans' court.

Also in response to a question by Clerk Brown concerning funding of the Group Reporting Project, Ms. Gray described the Division's working arrangement with the College of Lake County. She said that students from its criminal justice program were utilized to do service hours and also work as volunteers. She added that training of volunteers has been turned over to the College supported by that portion of the Division's budget.

At that point, Mr. Cutrone said that he would like to help Lake County spread their message to other parts of the state, mentioning that the Lake County Adult Probation Services Division is nationally recognized. He said that he recently had been at a national conference on pretrial justice and that one of three counties mentioned was Lake County with respect to successful programs. Clerk Brown then suggested reaching out to other federal agencies for grants other than from the Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs, such as the National Institute of Corrections.

In response, Chairman Ellis stated that such efforts are taking place and as an example cited activities with regards to information sharing. He then thanked Ms. Gray and Mr. Verborg for their presentation.

Presentation on Evaluation of the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) Youth-Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training by Rebecca Campbell, Research Analyst, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Next, Mr. Cutrone introduced Rebecca Campbell, ICJIA Research Analyst, for a presentation on the evaluation of the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) Youth-Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training program. Ms. Campbell pointed out that the program was funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) monies, administered by the Authority. She also acknowledged the support received from the CPD in conducting the evaluation.

Ms. Campbell explained that the CIT program was created through collaboration between the law enforcement, advocacy and mental health communities, with the first CIT model developed by the Memphis, Tennessee Police Department in 1988. She said that the CIT training curriculum has been widely used to address adult mental health issues, with approximately 1,500 adult CIT programs throughout the country, but that the CPD was the first to adapt it to youth.

She pointed out that there is a need for CPD's youth CIT training program, with approximately 70 percent of justice involved youth nationally meeting diagnostic criteria for mental health disorders. She mentioned that CPD established its adult safety program in 2004 and extended it to address youth mental health issues in 2009, which resulted in a five day, 40 hour training curriculum. She went on to explain that the CPD's CIT training program was developed through the collaboration between the CPD and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Greater Chicago.

Ms. Campbell moved on to addressing the goal of the evaluation which she said was to provide recommendations that could enhance CPS's youth training program. She noted that 118 law enforcement officers participated in the evaluation, including 86 with 13 years of experience. She then called attention to a map illustrating the distribution of youth-CIT trained officers throughout the Chicago Police Department's 25 districts, with all but one utilizing them.

She said that the findings showed that participants had a strong belief that they would be able to implement their new knowledge and skills, but results revealed lower actual use ratings. As an example, she said that the mean score for intentions was 4.54 out of 5, but the mean score for actual use was 3.4. She explained that responses to questions regarding their ability to deescalate crises and link youth with community services had the biggest differences between their intentions and their actual use.

Ms. Campbell further explained that focus group participants reported that the training increased their ability to recognize signs and symptoms of youth mental disorders, finding themselves less likely to judge a youth as delinquent, and they applied crisis de-escalation techniques. But she added that they reported barriers they faced such as their role as youth CIT officers not being understood among other non-CIT Chicago Police Department officers nor by their supervisors. She said that they also cited a lack of coordination when exchanging custody of the youth over to hospitals for mental health assessments, and additionally, a lack of awareness of their specialized practices in general.

In conclusion, Ms. Campbell covered the next steps, saying that the second year of training also will be evaluated and will include pre-and-post-tests to measure officer knowledge of their training objectives, as well as their attitude toward mental illness. The course evaluation surveys also will serve as a tool to learn what curriculum material is new to the officers and whether the material was able to deliver the training objectives.

Ms. Engel then complimented the evaluation effort and the fact that the CIT training staff is using it to improve the program. In response, Ms. Campbell stated that the training staff has been very supportive and mentioned that Officer Kurt Gawrisch, the Program Director, apologized for not being able to be in attendance but would welcome calls with any questions and noted his contact information.

At that point, Mr. Cutrone thanked Ms. Campbell. He then stated that Mr. John Z. Toscas, Chairman of the Authority's Appeals Committee, asked him to report that the Appeals Committee held hearings on two individuals who challenged the accuracy of their criminal history records. He said that maintaining criminal history records was a statutory function of the Authority and added that this was the first time such challenges occurred in almost six years of his being with the Authority. He also thanked Associate General Counsel Junaid Afeef for assisting the Appeals Committee.

Chairman Ellis then noted that Ms. Cynthia Hora arrived, delayed by a train accident, and asked if there were any old or new business. With no response, he called for a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment

{President Preckwinkle moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Engle seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.}

