

State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Race Equity, Inclusion, and Access Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date | 9/23/2021 7:30 a.m. | Meeting location Virtual (Zoom)

Co-Chairs: Rebecca Dallet
Supreme Court Justice
Wisconsin Supreme Court

Kimberly Lawton
District Attorney
Bayfield County

Staff Matt Raymer
Donna Hahn
Lara Kenny

Subcommittee Members Present

Associate Judge Gwen Topping, Lt. Governor
Mandela Barnes, State Public Defender Kelli
Thompson, Chief Shon Barnes, Deputy Chief Judge
Carl Ashley, Jane Graham Jennings, Rhonda Frank-
Loron, Derek Veitenheimer

Subcommittee Members Not Present

Dr. Jeneise Briggs, Vanessa McDowell, Judge Derek
Mosley

Others Present

Tina Virgil, Adam Plotkin, Ashley Billig

AGENDA TOPICS

Welcome and Opening Comments

Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Dallet welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Race Equity, Inclusion, and Access (REIA) Subcommittee.

Approval of 8/26/2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by State Public Defender Kelli Thompson and seconded by Deputy Chief Judge Carl Ashley to approve the 8/26/2021 meeting minutes. The motion was approved

Membership Updates/Discussion

Justice Dallet updated the subcommittee members that they are still looking for a Sheriff representative on the committee. A suggestion was made to include someone from the Clerk's office as a representative. There was also a suggestion to include community members. Subcommittee members shared ideas on how to involve community members and shared names of people to contact who may be able to help identify interested community members.

Subcommittee Mission/Goals Discussion

Subcommittee members shared ideas for mission statements and agreed to think about options before the next subcommittee meeting. Jane Graham-Jennings presented the following to the committee members from other states.

Proposed: To eliminate systemic barriers to racial and ethnic fairness in the Wisconsin Court System by identifying challenges, researching solutions, making recommendations for improvement, and promoting education.

The subcommittee also discussed the need to address diversity in jury composition. COVID-19 may impact the ability to make changes in the courts in the short-term but the subcommittee will still engage in planning. Initial ideas shared include: use non-DMV curated lists, create video/awareness campaign and appeal to patriotic duty, and create a video for juries that educates about unconscious bias. It was noted that the Chief Judges did a report on this topic.

Sub Current Equity/Inclusion Data Projects in BJIA

Ashley Billig from the Bureau of Justice Information and Analysis presented to the committee on the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program, CORE Reporting System and JSAP program. If any committee member would like the PowerPoint presentation, please let Matt Raymer know.

CJCC/Subcommittee Updates

Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Subcommittee

Raymer announced the TAD applications are due today for the new competitive process and will be awarded for the January 1, 2022 start date. The Diversion Standards have been approved by the State CJCC and include a priority standard for Equity and Inclusion.

Data-Sharing/OTIS Subcommittee

Raymer reported that there is a demographic survey created that will go out to law enforcement regarding data sharing across systems.

Evidence-Based Decision-Making Subcommittee

Raymer noted the major projects for EBDM that have been completed. The strategic plan has been approved for JAG and the Pretrial Pilot project continues to move forward.

Upcoming Meetings

- The next State CJCC Meeting is September 8, 2021. The agenda includes an item to review the EBDM Subcommittee's work on the multi-year strategic plan.

Action Items/Next Steps & Future Meeting Topics

- The Milwaukee County Race, Equity and Procedural Justice 7th Annual Conference was postponed. The goal is to reschedule in March.

- Lara Kenny explained to the group that DOJ created a new page on the WILENET website, which is a resource for law enforcement and prosecutors. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion page will provide information about training and conference opportunities on relevant topics. It will also include contact information for potential instructors or presenters if agencies are looking to bring someone in to train staff on these topics. BJP staff will send an email to solicit content from the CJCC and its subcommittees.

Next Meeting Date

October 28, 2021

Public Comment

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 a.m.