

Meeting Summary
Alaska Criminal Justice Data Analysis Commission
February 20, 2025
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Peratrovich Hall, Juneau, and Zoom

Chair Matt Claman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Members present were Lt. Jean Achee, Sen. Matt Claman, Samantha Cherot (for Alex Cleghorn), Rep. Andrew Gray, Ret. Judge David Mannheimer (Zoom), Judge Kari McCrea, Heather Phelps (for Mary Wilson) (Zoom), Lisa Purinton (for James Cockrell), John Skidmore, Brenda Stanfill, Ret. Judge Trevor Stephens, April Wilkerson, and Capt. Brian Wilson. Tracy Dompeling was absent due to a legislative conflict, and Terrence Haas was absent. Dr. Mary Wilson was able to join via Zoom for part of the meeting.

Staff present were Susanne DiPietro, Teri Carns, Brian Brossmer (Zoom), and Susie Dosik (Zoom).

Elect Chair and Vice-Chair

Chair Claman said that the Commission needed to elect its officers for the year. Ms. Purinton nominated Mr. Claman to continue as Chair. Ms. Stanfill seconded the motion and members approved it unanimously. Chair Claman called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Ms. Purinton nominated retired Judge Mannheimer and Judge Mannheimer said he would be willing to serve. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion, and members approved it unanimously.

Approve December 10, 2024 meeting summary

Capt. Wilson moved to approve the December 10, 2024 meeting summary. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

Public Comment Period

Chair Claman opened the meeting to public comment at 1:10 p.m. There were no public comments, and the Chair closed the public comment period at 1:30 p.m. Chair Claman noted that the Commission receives public comment at any time on its website.

Presentation from Ken Sanchagrin, E.D., Oregon Criminal Justice Commission

Mr. Sanchagrin described Oregon's ballot efforts to de-felonize, and then de-criminalize drug possession between 2017 and 2024. In 2024, Oregon re-criminalized most forms of

drug possession (marijuana personal use possession remains legal). He noted that success of the effort depended in part on the willingness of law enforcement to issue tickets, the availability of treatment, and user willingness to engage in treatment rather than pay small fines. Because new treatment programs came online some months after the law changed, and because many people possessing drugs for personal use appeared to prefer accepting the fine, Oregon decided to return to a partial re-criminalization of drug possession, still emphasizing treatment.

DV Report

Members reviewed the most recent version of the DV report. Ms. DiPietro summarized the changes, including using a database of arrests and dispositions from DPS rather than the previous court-case database. Ms. Purinton noted that DPS describes “race” rather than “ethnicity,” and suggested using “race” rather than “ethnicity” in the tables and text.

Judge Stephens moved and Ms. Stanfill seconded a motion that the report be accepted, with the noted changes. Judge Mannheimer objected because the report should also be revised to explain why the Commission was using different terms. Chair Claman suggested a subcommittee review the report and recommend changes at the next meeting. Ms. Stanfill said that she would participate in the interests of finalizing all changes and adopting a final report. Judge Mannheimer agreed to participate. They will report back by March 28.

Unjustified Disparities Discussion

Chair Claman said that staff had provided memos on the history of disparities in justice provision since 1970. He said many of the issues were the same today. Ms. Cherot said the lack of law enforcement resources for remote villages was at a crisis stage, and research should be done to show the wait times for police response, and the relationship of that to case outcomes, including filing of charges and disposition of cases. Relevant to this discussion are two recent legislative grants to study disparities in the population of DOC, one going to DOC and one going to AFN. The UAA Justice Center is doing the work for both grants.

Members discussed what data would be needed. Lt. Achee said smaller departments document response times by hand, and have limited time for data entry in addition to their main responsibilities. In response to a question by Mr. Skidmore, he said different law enforcement agencies use different software to record response time information. Ms. Purinton noted that Troopers’ response times differ depending on the weather, transportation available, and other situational factors. Chair Claman asked staff to work with ANJC to prepare a document outlining a research methodology, resources for data collection, and a proposal for undertaking the work, if feasible. Capt. Wilson noted that federal funding was complex, with FBI funds available from different places depending

on the work being done. Chair Claman asked Judge Stephens, John Skidmore, Capt. Wilson, and ANJC to work with staff in subcommittee to prepare a report by March 28.

Pre-indictment hearing definition for DAC Glossary

Mr. Skidmore moved to adopt Judge Mannheimer's definition. The motion was seconded, and members approved it unanimously. The definition will be added to the DAC Glossary.

Survey of agencies for information about how they compile victim data

Ms. DiPietro said staff have received responses from about one-third of those contacted, and they will re-connect with Ms. Purinton and Mr. Skidmore. This project is a several step process. Staff will now draft a proposed form to use to actually compile data, and will work with agencies to refine that for use in the field. That process should be decided upon in time for the 2025 annual report, but it is unlikely that any actual data could be collected in time.

Probation and Parole Proposal

Ms. DiPietro said that staff will work with Dept. of Corrections to determine what data are available and when. Judge Stephens said that information about the effectiveness of probation/parole supervision in reducing recidivism would be valuable. Chair Claman asked for a more detailed research proposal by May 2, for the DAC to consider at its May meeting.

National Association of Sentencing Commissions

Chair Claman said that he would not be available to attend this year's annual conference. Ms. Stanfill, Capt. Wilson, and Judge Stephens said they would go.

Adjournment

Chair Claman adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.