

**Jefferson Area
Community Criminal Justice Board**

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Albemarle • Charlottesville • Fluvanna • Goochland • Greene • Louisa • Madison • Nelson • Orange

CCJB Meeting Notes: 7-14-21

Present: Carl Bayer, Amy Morris, Sherri Stader, Kevin McGhee, Nick Reppucci, Ross Carew, Jeff Haislip, Sena Magill, Avnel Coated, Susan Morrow, Neta Davis, Hon. Richard Moore, Dale Johnson, Jim Hall, Tommy Barlow, Neal Goodloe

Member Reports:

OAR:

Ross: Effective 8/1, OAR will be moving to a fully open office. Staff will continue to put up a pop-up tent in parking lot, but will also see clients inside, per their preference. The new CVRJ reentry program is up and running. The new Orange and Madison Drug Court is preparing to start up later this year. OAR has navigated COVID without incident.

Susan: Recently submitted a Federal grant application for expansion of the Albemarle-Charlottesville Therapeutic Docket, which has been growing rapidly. A Federal grant application has also been submitted to assist in the funding of the Orange/Madison Drug Court, supplementing \$40,000 in funding from Orange County and \$20,000 in Madison County, which will be used to hire a coordinator for the Drug Court. Establishment of a Drug Court in Nelson County is also in the works.

Amy: District 9 is fully operational, and other than temperature checks in the lobby and extra sanitation procedures, business is back to normal, including drug testing and home contacts. District 9 just received a 100% compliance rating on its triennial audit. Given all of the new legislation that became law on 7/1, District 9 management staff has been working with judges and Commonwealth's Attorneys to coordinate a systemic response and to train staff on new requirements under the law. District 9 brought on six new probation officers during COVID, and currently have only one staff vacancy. COVID did stop the process of creating a sub-office in the Fluvanna/Louisa area, and the effort remains on hold while the DOC looks at telework options to reduce the need for new office space. Currently, the greatest need is in securing reliable meeting space to see Louisa clients in their jurisdiction, rather than requiring them to find transportation to Charlottesville.

Neta: Region Ten reopened the lobby to clients on Monday, although masks are still required inside facilities. Outpatient programs are currently a hybrid of face-to-face and

telehealth options. Individual and group treatment participation actually went up during COVID, possibly because telehealth services alleviated the transportation burden many clients experience. The Wellness Recovery Center is open, but with capacity currently at 7 residents. The plan is to expand to 10, then 12, then full capacity of 16 over time. Meanwhile, admission into five of eight state hospitals has been curtailed for the foreseeable future. Reopening is dependent on hiring qualified staff, which is proving hard to do. Region Ten is also experiencing staff shortages, which will slow reopening.

Jeff/Sherri: The Fluvanna Drug Court is really hitting its stride, with 8 active participants and one more in the pipeline. The Drug Court has gotten a lot of help from the Sheriff's Office and Region Ten. Victim/Witness cases have held fairly steady at 30-40 victims per quarter.

Judge Moore: Really enjoying working in Fluvanna Drug Court. From the Commonwealth's Attorney to the Sheriff's Office, everyone is encouraging clients and letting them know they care. The Sheriff has offered his deputies as a resource to run drug testing of male Drug Court participants. With regard to new legislation, there are three big challenges facing the Courts. One is the ending of jury sentencing, which may result in more jury trials than the system can handle. Limiting penalties in first and second technical probation violations is another, whereas judges may elect to put more special conditions on probationers to get around the new limitations. In District 9, officers for many years have had discretion on when to employ intermediate sanction and when to move for revocation, usually resulting in probation revocations that include multiple noncompliant events. Thirdly, there is a concern that marijuana legalization may adversely impact kids, who are more likely to have access.

Nick Reppucci: Things are going along just fine at the Public Defender's Office. Feeling empowered by some of the changes in law. The office is in the process of hiring a new atty, and no longer drowning in cases.

Kevin: Madison County is looking forward to participating in the new Orange-Madison Drug Court. He is thankful for everyone who is helping get it started. The need is there.

Sean Magill: Charlottesville is facing employment challenges, especially in hiring school bus drivers. Approved during a July 8 City Council Meeting was funding to support the work of two groups (Conscious Capitalists and Peace in the Streets) to address the recent escalation in shots fired and to work on violence de-escalation in the community. The City is taking a good look at Vibrant Community grant money, and how essential functions, like OAR, Drug Court and the Therapeutic Docket get funded. Kaki Dimock, who had been leading that review, is leaving city government to become Director of Albemarle Department of Social Services. City Hall will not be reopening to normal business until at least September, given the cramped layout of the building. Over the weekend, statues came down without violence or protest.

Presentation: Length of Stay at ACRJ and CVRJ

- Length of stay is one of the three factors that are most influential in determining jail costs, in addition to the number of inmates taken into the facility, and overall operational expenses (personnel being the most expensive).
- Comprehensive reports prepared for both jails reflect that during the past decade, the average length of stay for an ACRJ inmate dropped 25% (from 42.6 days in 2011 to 30.2 days in 2019), while the average length of stay at CVRJ rose 28% (from 30.7 days in 2012 to 43 days in 2019).
- Combined, a 53% difference in the average length of stay trend was observed between the two jails.
- While inmates serving longer than 30 days represent less than a quarter of all inmates taken in at both jails, they account for over 90% of bed day expenditures.
- Increases in the number of inmates serving longer sentences has a greater impact on bed day expenditures than does increases among inmates serving shorter sentence.
- Much of the decrease in the average length of an inmate's stay at ACRJ is associated with those serving sentences of 90 days or longer.
- Much of the increase in the average length of an inmate's stay at CVRJ is associated with those serving sentences of 90 days or longer.
- These differences have significant cost implications.
- Federal inmates have a much larger impact on CVRJ bed day expenditures than at ACRJ.
- However, the number of bed days associated with Federal inmates at CVRJ dropped 44% from 2012 to 2019, suggesting that it is local inmates that are largely responsible for increases in bed day expenditures in longer length of stay bins at CVRJ.
- Once Federal inmates are omitted from the data, the top four charge types associated with longer lengths of stay at both jails are narcotics offenses, probation violations, larcenies and assaults.

Presentation: 2020 ACRJ and CVRJ Bookings, Intakes and Average Daily Population

- 2020 represents the first year in which a full ten-year data set is available for both ACRJ and CVRJ booking and release records.
- This analysis takes both a long-range (2011-2020) view of the data, in addition to a short-term analysis of 2020 trends specifically.

Booking Trends:

- The ten-year trend in booking volume at ACRJ was up 7%, moderated significantly by a 27% decrease in bookings in 2020 alone.

- CVRJ's ten-year booking volume trend was down 11%, accentuated by a 32% decrease in 2020.
- From 2011 to 2020, ACRJ consistently had a higher percentage of misdemeanor bookings compared to CVRJ, although the extent of this difference shrunk significantly in 2020.
- However, felony bookings at ACRJ increased 40% from 2011 to 2020, while falling 5% at CVRJ.
- During 2020, felony bookings dropped 23% at ACRJ and 31% at CVRJ, while misdemeanor bookings fell 31% and 33% respectively.
- CVRJ's 2020 booking drop was sharper than that observed in the ACRJ data, but with a stronger rebound later in the year.
- CVRJ's bookings for probation violations were significantly impacted in 2020, including a sharp drop in the spring, followed by a full rebound in volume by November. ACRJ probation violation bookings in 2020, month to month, do not appear to have been significantly impacted.

Bookings by Charge Type:

- Driving while intoxicated was the #1 charge type observed in booking volume at both jails from 2011 to 2020. The two jails also shared several other charge types in their top five, including assault, larceny and narcotics.
- Over the decade, ACRJ experienced the greatest increase in booking volume among weapons violations (up 118%), narcotics (up 49%) probation violations (up 43%) and assault (up 40%).
- At CVRJ, the greatest increases from 2011 to 2020 were probation violations (up 233%) and narcotics (up 43%). All of the other eight charge types in the top ten were down.
- During 2020 alone, reductions in booking volume among all top ten charge types at booking at both jails were observed.

Intakes:

- While ACRJ experienced a 7% increase in bookings from 2011 to 2020, intakes dropped 14% (suggesting that the number of bookings per intake increased during that time frame).
- By comparison, CVRJ's intake volume fell nearly 30% from 2011 to 2020, more than twice the rate of ACRJ.
- During 2020 specifically, intakes at CVRJ dropped more sharply than at ACRJ during the spring, but also rebounded more steeply during the second half of the year.
- In January 2020, ACRJ had 31% greater intake volume than did CVRJ. This difference had fallen to 10% by December 2020.

Average Daily Jail Populations:

- Data was captured from the Virginia Compensation Board LIDS Average Daily Population Report, which has been updated through June 2021. The tallies include inmates both inside and outside of the facility on home electronic incarceration.
- Over the past five years, the average daily population at ACRJ has fallen by nearly the same percentage (-15.6%) that CVRJ's has risen (+14.9%).
- During the first half of 2020, the average daily population dropped sharply at ACRJ, with a partial rebound thereafter. Still, ADP remained 12.2% lower in June 2021 than the pre-pandemic average (not including ~60 HEI inmates).
- During the first half of 2020, the average daily population dropped more gradually at CVRJ, with a full rebound by December, followed by a second drop. ADP in June 2021 was down only 1.8% from the pre-pandemic average.
- Statewide, ADP has fallen 16.7% in the last five years, consistent with the drop at ACRJ. Statewide ADP in June 2021 was down 13.8% from the pre-pandemic average.

Next Steps:

- Phase two of this study will include an analysis at both jails of average length of stay, release patterns, use of home electronic incarceration and bed day expenditures, particularly among the most costly charge types.
- Once this second phase is complete, the planner will begin work on annual reports for ACRJ and CVRJ, along with individual annual reports for CCJB member jurisdictions.

Notes prepared by Neal S. Goodloe, Criminal Justice Planner