

Georgia Public Defender Standards Council

MINUTES

7/18/2014

11:00 AM

GPDSC CENTRAL OFFICE, SUITE 200
104 Marietta Street NW, Atlanta GA 30303

MEETING CALLED BY	Chairman Ron Cross
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Meeting
FACILITATOR	W. Travis Sakrison, Executive Director
NOTE TAKER	Cheryl Karounos
COURT REPORTER	JPA Reporting, 404-853-1811
ATTENDEES	Council members present: D. Sims, R. Cross, D. Seagraves, L Paris, Hon. M. Miller, E. Tolley, D. Kennedy, G. Hodges (by phone), Sen. J. Stone (by phone), B. Bullard, K. Beal, C. Karounos. Other attendees included Stefan Ritter, State Dept. of Law, and members of the Southern Center for Human Rights, Circuit Public Defenders, and GPDSC Central Office staff.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ron Cross at 11:00 AM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA	R. CROSS	Agenda unanimously approved.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	R. CROSS	Minutes from prior meeting unanimously approved.
DIRECTOR UPDATE	T. SAKRISON	Mr. Sakrison announced B. Bullard as new general counsel of the GPDSC. Reminded the council about ACA and new weapons laws. Circuits to make their own policies on weapons. Announced the reappointment of Rome Circuit CPD. Announced mental health forms on intranet for CPD's. Central office sending letters to local supervisory panels about upcoming annual reviews. GPDSC is working on joint projects with GPAC regarding discovery and best practices and pay equity.
BUDGET UPDATE	T. SAKRISON	Mr. Sakrison informed the council that zero based budgeting was implemented in program one last year and will be implemented in program two this year. Continuing to make progress on both PDSC program and PD's program. Announced that this is the first year the GPDSC will be able to fund both conflicts and all statutory positions.
SPECIAL PROJECTS	T. SAKRISON	Mr. Sakrison announced joint project with DOC on inmate contact, the goal of which is to implement a consistent protocol. Updated the council on the electronic file retention program. Certain offices have agreed to be the pilot project for paperless offices. Also, informed the council that the central office is working the JCATS on this project.
JUVENILE UPDATE	T. SAKRISON/S. MERRIT	S. Merrit updated the council on and explained the Detention Assessment Instrument. Officers at the Department of Juvenile Justice make decisions, based on the DAI, on whether to incarcerate juveniles. The DAI guides courts in their decision making processes. T. Sakrison updated the council on the ACCG project for alternatives to detention and for state funding for attorneys.
CAPITAL DEFENDER	J. WARD	J. Ward, updated the council on the organization of the capital defender program. Informed the council that the Capital Defender's local presence as resulted in significant cost savings.
CONFLICT UPDATE	J. STOKES	J. Stokes updated the council on the monthly growth of conflicts cases over the course of 2013 and 2014.

FUND RETENTION RE-APPROVAL 2015

D. SEAGRAVES

The council approved threw new applications to retain funds and re-approved the circuits that applied to retain funds for 2015.

NEXT MEETING DATE

TBD

EXEC SESSION

Four legal matters discussed for informational purposes only; no action was taken. Adjourned at 12:37 PM.