

Georgia Public Defender Standards Council

MINUTES

10/17/14

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), B. Bullard, K. Beal, C. Karounos, B. Bullard. Other attendees included 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	T. Sakrison introduced new budget analyst, T. Raiford. County commissioner council members reappointed. T. Sakrison announced that the Southern Circuit CPD Kent Edwards is retiring. He was presented with a token in appreciation for his service. CPD annual reviews mostly in. Announced new travel policy change beginning in February 2015. Reminded council of annual enrollment. Announced survey project with CJCC. Survey will be sent out to CPDs. Conflicts Contractor survey will go out during the next month. A. Ross was presented with a plaque recognizing his contribution to CPDs.
ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS	T. SAKRISON/F. CRUZ	T. Sakrison introduced F. Cruz. F. Cruz gave a remote presentation on the ideal treatment of substance abuse disorder in the criminal justice system.
BUDGET	T. SAKRISON	T. Sakrison announced that the budget discussion with the Governor's office had just been finished. Announced that both programs of the budget are now zero-based. Informed the council that meetings are underway for FY16. This year 2% merit increases will be included for public defenders. Announced joint project with the Governor and PACG on pay parity. Informed the council that the Indigent Defense Fund brought in \$40 million for 2014.
ELECTRONIC FILE RETENTION PROJECT	T. SAKRISON	T. Sakrison informed the council that the electronic file retention project had begun in July. Changes to JCATS are being made to allow the upload and storage of files. Announced that PACG is moving forward on this project as well, which could have big implications discovery.
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE	T. SAKRISON	T. Sakrison announced that the juvenile code rewrite has caused a 7% increase in cases so far. 78% of those cases will be conflicts. CHINS cases are projected to increase by 15%.
GRANT RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES	T. SAKRISON	T. Sakrison introduced Kari Kitchens to the council.
FUND RETENTION RE-APPROVAL 2015	D. SEAGRAVES	The council approved the Western Circuit fund retention. The council reauthorized Douglas County to retain funds in 2015.
NEXT MEETING DATE		TBD

EXEC SESSION

The council meeting broke for the executive session at 12:22 PM, and adjourned at 1:07 PM.