

**Drug Offense Task Force
Minutes**

July 9, 2020 / 1:30PM-4:00PM
Virtual Meeting

THIS MEETING FAILED TO REACH A QUORUM

ATTENDEES:

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Megan Ring, TF Co-Chair, Office of the State Public Defender
Chris Andrist, Colorado Bureau of Investigation
Maureen Cain, Office of the State Public Defender
Joe Thome, Division of Criminal Justice (*Diversion Working Group Co-leader*)
Audrey Weiss, District Attorney's Office, 1st Judicial District (*Sealing Working Group Leader*)

STAFF

Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant
Kim English, Division of Criminal Justice
Stephané Waisanen, Division of Criminal Justice
Laurence Lucero, Division of Criminal Justice
Damien Angel, Division of Criminal Justice
Kevin Ford, Division of Criminal Justice

ABSENT

Tom Raynes (CCJJ), TF Co-Chair, Colorado District Attorneys' Council
Janet Drake (CCJJ), Attorney General's Office
Terri Hurst, Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition
Andrew Matson (CCJJ), Colorado CURE
David Quirova, Office of the State Court Administrator
Jack Regenbogen, Colorado Center on Law & Policy
Glenn Tapia (CCJJ), Division of Probation Services
Abigail Tucker (CCJJ), Community Reach Mental Health Center
Adam Zarrin, Governor's Office (*Diversion Working Group Co-leader*)

GUESTS

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Welcome & Quorum Failure Megan Ring, Task Force Co-chair</p>	<p><u>This meeting failed to reach a quorum and was abandoned.</u> Due to the failure to reach a quorum, Megan Ring, Co-Chair, did not call the meeting to order, but offered specific observations summarized in the “Next Steps” section below.</p> <p>The only item on the agenda was to consider and conduct a final vote on Recommendation FY20-DR #02 (see below). This recommendation was prepared in response to the mandate to CCJJ in Senate Bill 2019-008 to develop recommendations regarding, “alternatives to filing criminal charges against individuals with substance use disorders who have been arrested for drug-related offenses.” The Diversion Working Group was unable to present the draft recommendation for consideration. For reference, the following describes this recommendation:</p> <p><u>Recommendation FY20-DR #02.</u> Fund and Support Four (4) Innovative Adult Diversion Pilot Programs [Statutory]</p> <p>This recommendation would establish statewide funding to support alternatives to filing criminal charges against adults with substance abuse issues who are contacted by law enforcement for drug-related offenses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot programs will be conducted for a minimum of four (4) grant cycle years to mitigate against the obstacles common in startup programs; • Programs will have an applicant advisor with appropriate knowledge/experience with the public health and criminal justice systems, • Four pilot projects will be funded, representing diverse communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two metropolitan (one large and one mid-sized areas) - Two rural areas – high priority due to lack of resources available

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Next Steps Megan Ring, Co-chair</p> <p>ACTION: Staff will schedule a meeting of the Diversion Working Group prior to the August 13, 2020 meeting of the Drug Offense Task Force.</p> <p>ACTION: The Diversion Working Group will review Rec. FY20-DR #02 and make revisions, if necessary.</p>	<p>Megan Ring observed that Recommendation FY20-DR #02 was finalized by the Diversion Working Group in February 2020 preceding the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in a variety of impacts on the criminal justice system. Also, Maureen Cain noted that the CO General Assembly completed a pandemic-delayed session on June 15, 2020 and some enacted bills may affect the recommendation. <u>Ms. Ring requested that the Diversion Working Group: a) reconvene to discuss these and any other potential impacts, b) determine whether the recommendation requires any modification(s) to account for these impacts; and c) if required, to revise the recommendation accordingly.</u></p> <p>Joe Thome and Adam Zarrin (Co-Leaders, Diversion Working Group) are expected to present Recommendation FY20-DR #02 at the August 13 Drug Offense Task Force meeting for final consideration and vote.</p> <p>With that, no further comments were offered and the meeting was abandoned.</p>

Next Meetings (Virtual)

Diversion Working Group
To be determined, Week of July 13-17

Drug Offense Task Force
Thursday, August 13, 2020 / 1:30 - 4:00PM

Virtual meeting details will be forwarded to Task Force and Working Group members by email and posted on the Commission website for members of the public.