

**Age of Delinquency Task Force  
Minutes**

November 6, 2019 / 1:30PM-4:00PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor Meeting Room, 710 Kipling, Lakewood, CO

**ATTENDEES:**

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Jessica Jones, Task Force Co-chair, Private Defense Attorney  
Joe Thome, Task Force Co-chair, Division of Criminal Justice  
David Bergman, Youthful Offender System  
Jim Bullock, District Attorney's Office, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
Maureen Cain, Office of the State Public Defender  
Shawn Cohn, Denver Juvenile Probation  
Priscilla Gartner, Office of the State Public Defender  
Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez, Representative, House District 4  
Gretchen Russo, Department of Human Services  
Tariq Sheikh, District Attorney's Office, 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

**ABSENT**

Molli Barker, Juvenile Assessment Center, 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
Audra Bishop, Department of Public Health & Environment  
Kelly Friesen, Grand County Juvenile Justice Services  
Beverly Funaro, Victim Representative  
Melanie Gilbert, At Large  
Arnold Hanuman, Colorado District Attorney's Council  
Anders Jacobson, Division of Youth Services  
Dan Makelky, Child Welfare  
Dafna Michaelson Jenet, Representative, House District 30  
Angie Paccione, Department of Higher Education

**STAFF**

Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant  
Kim English, Division of Criminal Justice  
Stephané Waisanen, Division of Criminal Justice

**GUESTS**

Sarah Pak, Second Chance Scholarships, Higher Education (for Angie Paccione)  
Al Estrada, Division of Youth Services (for Anders Jacobson)  
Rich Persons, Warden, Youthful Offender System

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Jes Jones &amp; Joe Thome, Task Force Co-chairs</p>	<p>Jes Jones and Joe Thome welcomed Sarah Pak (Department of Higher Education), Al Estrada (Division of Youth Services), and Rich Persons (Youthful Offender System). They asked the Task Force members to introduce themselves.</p>
<p><b>October Meeting Recap</b> Richard Stroker</p>	<p>Richard Stroker recapped the October meeting, stating that the group continued to review data on the 18-25 year-old population.</p> <p>The Working Groups and areas of work are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youthful Offender System (YOS) Working Group – Reviewing eligibility, criteria, and capacity.</li> <li>• Community Supervision – Focusing on diversion, specialty courts, types of assessments, alternative sentences, training for supervision staff, and community corrections.</li> </ul>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p><b>Data Update</b> Kim English</p>	<p>Kim English (Division of Criminal Justice) reviewed two handouts distributed to members. The first handout concerned the numbers of 18-21 year-olds serving eight years or more in the Department of Corrections (DOC) for non-violent offenses. Currently there are 54 individuals in this age group who are serving eight or more years and 7 of these are serving time for non-violent offenses.</p> <p>The second handout reflects defendants (court filings) ages 18-24 categorized by offense, gender, and whether the charge is a felony or misdemeanor. The most serious <i>felony</i> filing offense for males was assault and drug possession. The most serious <i>felony</i> filing offense for females was drug possession/forgery and fraud. The most serious <i>misdemeanor</i> filing offense for males and for females was third degree assault.</p>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p><b>Working Group Update</b></p> <p><b>Community Supervision Working Group</b> Shawn Cohn</p>	<p>Shawn Cohn stated that she had met with several probation officers along with Benita Martin who runs the juvenile diversion program for the Denver District Attorney's Office.</p> <p>Benita gave an overview of Denver's pre-file diversion program for 18-26 year-olds with felony charges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The case manager-to-client ratio is 1:25.</li> <li>• The biggest challenge staff faced was funding.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Issue/Topic</b>  <b>Working Group Update</b></p> <p><b>Community Supervision Working Group</b>          (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The diversion population is very transient, and many individuals who are not successful in the program have limited/non-existent family support.</li> </ul> <p>The group discussed training needs for probation officers who might manage this age group.</p> <p>Richard identified the following four areas this group might consider for the development of recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversion approaches - What are the implications of trying new ideas?</li> <li>• Supervision approaches and philosophies.</li> <li>• Training for staff working with this population.</li> <li>• Community Corrections possibilities.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic</b>  <b>Legislative Update</b></p> <p>Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Serena reported on a bill she proposed from the Prison Population Management Interim Study Committee. The bill requires consideration and approval by the Legislative Council Committee before it can be introduced during the upcoming Legislative session. The bill provides a process to petition for a transfer for those in the 18-25-year-old population to the juvenile justice system. Legislative Council provided a fiscal note for the bill totaling \$400M.</p>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic</b>  <b>Second Chance Scholarship Program</b></p> <p>Sarah Pak, Coordinator          CO Department of Higher Education</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Sarah Pak, Coordinator (Second Chance Scholarship Program/ CDHE), described a new initiative mandated by Senate Bill 2019-231 (<i>Concerning the creation of the Colorado second chance scholarship in the pursuit of higher education for youth previously committed to the division of youth services</i>). This bill provides scholarships for individuals who have spent time in the Division of Youth Services.</p>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic</b>  <b>Fieldtrip: Tour of YOS</b></p> <p>Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez &amp;          Maureen Cain</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>The group decided to among options for a Youthful Offender System tour. The date chosen was December 5, from 11:00 -3:00. More information will be sent via email.</p>
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<p><b>Issue/Topic</b> <b>Next Steps &amp; Adjourn</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p>
<p><b>ACTIONS</b></p> <p>Kim English to provide additional data analyses</p> <p>Tariq Sheikh to report on the 17<sup>th</sup> JD Diversion Program for 18-25 year-olds</p> <p>Jim Bullock provide info on the Adult Diversion Funding Board Programs for 18-25 year-olds</p> <p>Shawn Cohn provide Boulder data on 18-20 year-olds</p> <p><b>Adjourn</b> Jes Jones &amp; Joe Thome</p>	<p>The following agenda items will be included for the December 2019 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kim to review data analyses to ensure that juvenile delinquency cases have been removed.</li> <li>• Tariq to discuss diversion cases for the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.</li> <li>• Jim to gather information on possible programs for the 18-24 year-old population supported by the Adult Diversion Funding Board.</li> <li>• Shawn to gather data information/contact Mike Penske on 18-20 year-olds in Boulder county.</li> </ul> <p>Co-chairs, Jes and Joe thanked everyone for their contributions and adjourned the meeting.</p>

**Next Meeting**

Wednesday, December 11, 2019  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room  
 710 Kipling, Lakewood, CO 80215