



King County

Public Defense Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 2015

**DPD Director's Office
King County Chinook Building
401 – 5th Avenue, 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA**

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Matt Adams, Kim Ambrose, Sharon Armstrong, Marc Boman (Chair), Tom Hillier, and Paul Holland

Board Members Attending By Phone: Leo Flor and Sophia Byrd McSherry

Board Members Excused: Jeffery Robinson, John Strait (Vice Chair)

1. Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:34 am and welcomed those present.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Board's August 20, 2015, meeting were approved by consensus.

3. Comments by the Chair

The Chair provided an overview of significant milestones met during the last year, including the Board's first budget report, selection of a public defender, issuance of the Board's first annual report and participation on the Budget Work Group leading to passage of a Department of Public Defense budget that adequately funds public defense. The focus turns now to the Board's work plan and preparation of the annual report to be issued in the first quarter of 2016.

4. Filling vacancy created by Saudia Abdullah's resignation

Board staff described the process and timeline for filling the vacancy created by Saudia Abdullah's resignation to become Director of the County's Community Corrections Division. The Executive is expected to make an appointment by December 24, 2015, subject to confirmation by the Council.

5. Public Defender Report

Floris Mikkelsen, Deputy Public Defender, provided a status report on the department, including: leadership team recruitment and selection; completion of labor negotiations with department attorneys and staff; technology update including phones, computer, and courtroom resources; the assigned counsel panel application process extended to December 1, 2015; ITA court and video hearing discussions at King County Council. La Mer Kyle-Griffiths discussed upcoming training including October supervisor training, train-the-trainer, and a leadership team retreat.

6. 2015-2016 Work Planning

The Chair will seek information from the DPD Director regarding the Department's ability to meet recommendations made in the Board's 2015 Annual Report. The Board discussed including in each year's Annual Report a description of changes in the Department's work that have occurred since the prior year's annual report. The section entitled, "What King County Public Defenders Do" was proposed as a vehicle for marking such changes.

Judge Armstrong reviewed, and then led a discussion of her memorandum summarizing three issues for possible Board consideration during the coming year: Community Custody Alternative Program (CCAP), work release and setting of bond. Additional topics discussed included issues related to the poor and mental health; legal financial obligations; and advocacy for reduced restitution requirements, particularly for juveniles and young adults. There was agreement that annual report topics will be further discussed at the November meeting with a final decision at the December meeting.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:30 am.