

## **MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

**September 5, 2008, 9:25 a.m.  
160 North LaSalle Street, Room C-500  
Chicago, Illinois**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Sheldon Sorosky convened the regular meeting of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Before beginning formal proceedings, he noted that it was Clerk Brown's birthday the previous day, thus on behalf of the Board, he wished her a happy birthday. He then asked Jack Cutrone, the Authority's General Counsel, to call the roll.

In addition to Chairman Sorosky, other Authority Members in attendance were:

Clerk Dorothy Brown  
Sheriff Tom Dart  
Mr. Brad Demuzio  
State's Attorney Richard A. Devine  
Director Norbert Goetten  
Clerk Becky Jansen  
Director Thomas Jurkanin  
Ms. Ellen Mandeltort  
Director Michael J. Pelletier  
Ms. Mariyana Spyropoulos  
Mr. John Toscas

#### **Approval of Minutes of the June 6, 2008 Regular Meeting**

Chairman Sorosky welcomed Board members and, with a quorum in place, asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the last Authority Meeting.

{Director Goetten moved that the minutes of the June 6, 2008 Authority Meeting be approved. State's Attorney Richard Devine seconded the motion and it was adopted by unanimous voice vote.}

#### **Chairman's Remarks**

He then reported that two members of the Authority Board have retired from their governmental positions: Sheriff Jerry Dawson and State Appellate Defender Ted Gottfried. He explained that as a result, by law, they have resigned their Authority positions, and he referred to resolutions of praise that were prepared for them, asking for a motion of adoption.

{Mr. Toscas moved that the resolutions be adopted, with State's Attorney Devine seconding the motion, which was approved unanimously by voice vote.}

Chairman Sorosky stated that both men personified hard-working, diligent public servants. He added that they undertook their positions effectively, with Sheriff Dawson for the prosecution, and Ted Gottfried representing the accused, but both willing to work with the other side in the interest of fairness. He said that they will be missed by the Authority and in their respective positions.

### **Executive Director's Remarks**

Next, Chairman Sorosky called upon Executive Director Lori Levin for an update on Authority activities. He referred particularly to letters from Senators Durbin and Obama under Tab 2 in the informational materials concerning restoring funding. Director Levin noted that in addition to the referenced letters, which were received in response to Chairman Sorosky's letter that urged restoring the Justice Assistance Grant monies, the Authority has been working very closely with both Senators' offices on this issue.

She reported that the Authority also has been working with the National Criminal Justice Association and Senator Durbin's office to help obtain anti-gun initiative funding. She explained that it will be going to the City of Chicago and some parts of the Northern District of Illinois for additional dollars to try to fight crime. She also reported on the status of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant funding. She said that although the Senate was working to add and restore the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant funding in the first emergency supplemental bill to help fund the war, it did not make it on the House side and, in fact, did not make it on the supplemental.

Director Levin stated that there is a second emergency supplemental bill, and that a letter urging support has been circulating both in the House and Senate. She remarked that for the most part, Illinois Congresspersons did commit to try to restore that money. She said their commitment makes a difference for the Authority in all of its funding situations not only for traditional Justice Assistance Grant grantees. She recalled that last year, the decrease in the Victim of Crime Act fund was made up for a one-time basis using some Justice Assistance Grant funding.

Turning to the history of Justice Assistance Grant funding, Director Levin recounted that it had gone down from more than \$20 million when it was just the Byrne Anti-Drug Abuse Act Grant money to \$14.4 million and later decreased to \$8.5 million. That reduction necessitated some harsh cuts and a 25 percent reduction to all JAG grantees that year. Director Levin later went up to approximately \$12.4 million last year but most recently all Byrne funds were reduced by two-thirds and now there is a little over \$4 million.

She explained that at this point since the Authority generally operates in arrears, she did not believe that cuts will be recommended for any Justice Assistance Grant funding this

year. However, she said that the Authority does not have any money to help any of the victims' organizations because they did not receive the cuts that the JAG grantees did.

The Director reported that the National Criminal Justice Association has been working with the National Governors' Association as well as the National Narcotics Officers' Association on a major public relations campaign aimed at restoring JAG dollars and that the Authority was asked to respond to press calls. She added that the Authority has been in contact with Senator Durbin's office concerning this issue.

Another matter the Director discussed was the decrease in Victims of Crime Act funding. She pointed out that it was not appropriated money, but basically a trust fund, which had its cap lowered. She said work needed to be done to raise the cap so that hopefully some of the cuts that the Authority Board is going to be asked to implement currently, could be restored at some later date.

Director Levin then related that she had a piece of good news to report. The Authority was recently awarded a discretionary grant in the amount of \$564,960 under the Rural Violence Against Women Act funds. The grant was for work with the Family Violence Coordinating Councils of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, as well as for the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council. She stated that the Fourth Judicial Circuit was comprised of several downstate counties, where a roving multidisciplinary team would be utilized to deal with domestic violence and sexual assaults.

Director Levin then remarked that while she does not like to repeat information that appears in the briefing materials, she wanted to highlight several initiatives that were included. First, she recounted that the Authority is continuing to implement the evaluation of the Safety Networks program under the direction of the Authority's Associate Director for Research and Analysis, Mark Myrent. She explained that the Safety Net Works program is the Governor's juvenile violence reduction initiative and that the Authority is funding some of it through JABG monies via the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority, as well as doing the evaluation.

Next, she cited the Go To 2040 regional comprehensive planning initiative launched by the Chicago Community Trust and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning in which the Authority was asked to participate. She explained that the long-range planning project covers the entire Chicago region for the seven counties including Cook, DuPage, Kane, Will, Kendall, Lake and McHenry. She further explained that Go To 2040 deals with all aspects of planning for Northern Illinois and that the Authority in partnership with UIC and their criminal justice department were selected to provide leadership in the area of public safety, crime and justice.

She added that ICJIA Board Members will be contacted to report on existing conditions and for thoughts regarding issues to be targeted for Go To 2040. Board Members will be asked to identify federal, state and local policies; resources, and organizations critical to successful planning for the region. She remarked that it is an exciting project and that

she was pleased that the Authority is part of it, adding that Mark Myrent deserves credit for spearheading the initiative's public safety, crime and justice portion.

She then reported that the Authority's "Trends and Issues 2008" continues to be very much in demand, for which she credited all of the Research Unit and in particular, Kim Burke, Chris Devitt, Jessica Ashley and Erica Hughes.

She reported that the Authority was to be acknowledged for its work related to Children's Advocacy Centers at a statewide meeting in Peoria.

Responding to a question raised by Director Norbert Goetten concerning the state budget, she said that last year's Authority budget was affected seriously. As to this year's budget, the Authority had only some issues. These affected only add-ons and not the Authority itself. As an example, she pointed to the Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee which requested \$250,000, but received \$125,000.

Also, she stated that the Governor vetoed add-ons for the South Suburban Major Crimes Initiatives and the Downstate Capital Punishment Project. As another example, she remarked that the Department of Human Services added to their budget to make up for the VOCA cuts for domestic violence and for sexual assault but those additions also were vetoed. She indicated that budget issues would be covered more thoroughly by the Authority's Acting Chief Financial Officer, Ron Litwin.

Before concluding her report, Director Levin called attention to a sign-in sheet for Board Members which she explained needed to be signed in addition to Board Members having to take the ethics test as part of the ethics legislation. She added that attempts are being made to make the test less burdensome.

Chairman Sorosky thanked Director Levin for her presentation and called on Ron Litwin, Acting Chief Financial Officer, for a fiscal report.

### **Fiscal Report by Ron Litwin, Acting Chief Financial Officer**

Mr. Litwin said he would be presenting fiscal results and variances to the budget for the first 12 months of FY08 for agency operations, awards and grant activities. He noted that these results do not include lapse period expenditures. He added that afterwards, he would make a brief presentation on the FY09 budget.

He directed attention to Exhibit 1 in the handout materials, explaining that it represented a comparison of the expenditures and obligations to the total year budget for the General Revenue Fund and that he would only be commenting on the large budgeted variances. He said that the Personal Services, Retirement and FICA line item expenses were favorable due to open unfilled budgeted positions. Mr. Litwin then moved to the Contractual expenditures, which he remarked were lower than budget primarily due to a lowered monthly rent offset by moving expenses. Referring to the EDP line item, he

stated that these expenditures were favorable by approximately \$70,000 due to less spending for equipment, supplies, contractual and audit fees.

Mr. Litwin next turned to Exhibit 2. He mentioned that the Criminal Justice Trust Fund – Federal Section expenditures and obligations were 83 percent of the full year budget primarily due to higher budgeted than realized activity. He moved to the Federal Assistance Support line item stating that it represents expenditures of federal funding to administer the federal grants and the amount spent is also indicative of the activity for the year. Next he discussed the State Agency line item expenditures, explaining that they are expenditures of federal funding by various State of Illinois agencies and stating that the variance is primarily due to reduced expenditures in the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program.

He indicated that the Locals and Non-Profit Organization expenditure line item experienced a 90 percent level to budget. Moving to the Miscellaneous Awards and Grant line item, he explained that it is composed of federal and national organization funding primarily used for research of criminal justice issues and that the funding level for this activity was lower than budgeted. The Federal Crime Bill initiative was the next line item he detailed explaining that it accounts for the Violent Offender Incarceration and Truth in Sentencing Grant, which ended in September, 2008. He stated that the Shared Services line item was favorable due to no charges being assessed for the limited shared services that the Authority received.

Under the General Revenue Matching Funds/Other section, Mr. Litwin reviewed the first line item which he said accounted for the state match requirement for federal grants and explained that the amount of \$13,241 is low because that was the line item vetoed in last year's budget. Lastly under this section, for the Shared Services line item, he again pointed out there were no charges assessed due to the limited services that the Authority received.

Turning to the Criminal Justice Information Projects Section, he explained that the line item represents funding obtained from non-federal governmental entities, private sources, and not-for-profit organizations, based on grants sought and awarded, and that no funding was received for FY08. With respect to the last section, the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Fund, Mr. Litwin stated that the variance is due to a lower level of Federal Grant funding and once more, no charges were assessed for the Shared Services that the Authority received.

He then directed attention to the presentation of the FY09 Authority Budget Memorandum. He said that Director Levin covered some aspects and basically there was no change from one year to the next except for four items. First, he said there was a change in the retirement line for the General Revenue Fund, due to an increase in the amount that is required by the state pension system. The next large variance or change he detailed was the funding for the state match, which was line item vetoed last year, and is now at \$1 million. He then pointed out that the Study for Capital Punishment Reforms line item is at \$125,000, which is an increase due to the restoration of funding, although

\$250,000 had been requested. The last line item he covered was the Violent Offender Incarceration/Truth in Sentencing grant, which decreased due to its ending in September, 2008. He pointed out however that the FY09 appropriation is provided for possible refund activity, which concluded his report.

Chairman Sorosky thanked Mr. Litwin for his presentation and asked if there were any questions. Receiving none, he turned to the subject of adjustments to grants for which staff made recommendations that needed to be considered primarily in three areas: Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grants, and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants. In accordance with Authority rules, he declared the meeting a Budget Committee meeting, operating as a Committee of the Budget as a whole for the limited purpose of addressing the budget-related agenda items. He then called upon Associate Director John Chonacki to present those adjustments.

### **Budget Committee Meeting Report and Minutes, September 5, 2008**

#### **Approval of the FFY07 Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Plan Adjustments**

Associate Director Chojnacki, referring to a memo in the meeting materials dated September 2, 2008 and regarding proposed JAG FFY07 plan adjustments, said that staff requested permission to reallocate previously designated JAG FFY07 funds from the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice's (IDJJ) Young Offender Re-entry Program to the Illinois Department of Corrections' (IDOC) Community-based Residential Treatment for Adults Program. He said that Program Supervisor Mike Carter was available to answer any questions.

Director Levin said that, essentially, this request was intended to prevent a lapse in funds back to the federal government by allowing the funds to be reprogrammed between the IDJJ and the IDOC. Mr. Chojnacki confirmed that \$40,000 would transfer from the IDJJ program to the IDOC program.

{Director Goetten moved to approve the FFY07 JAG Plan Adjustments. Director Demuzio seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.}

#### **Approval of the FFY02, FFY04, and FFY05 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Plan Adjustments**

Mr. Chojnacki, referring to the memo dated August 22, 2008 in the meeting materials and regarding proposed VAWA FFY02, FFY04, and FFY05 plan adjustments, said that the memo detailed designation reduction requests and recommended new designations. He said that Program Supervisor Greg Stevens was available to answer any questions.

Director Levin said that staff recommended \$364,000 in FFY05 funding to the City of Chicago's Domestic Violence HelpLine. She said that staff had received permission from the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) to shift the funding source for this

program from Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds to VAWA Law Enforcement funds. She said that staff is trying to come up with creative uses of limited funds. She also said that staff requested that \$55,500 in FFY05 funds be designated to the East Central Illinois Mobile Police Training Unit and that \$20,000 be designated to the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault for improving the medical response to rape victims. She said that the total amount of the new designation requests was \$439,500.

{Mr. Toscas moved to approve the FFY02, FFY04, and FFY05 VAWA Plan Adjustments described in the memo. Director Goetten seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.}

### **Approval of the FFY06 and FFY07 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Plan Adjustments and the FFY08 VOCA Plan Introduction**

Mr. Chojnacki, referring to the memo dated August 22, 2008 and regarding proposed VOCA plan adjustments for FFY06 and FFY07 and the FFY08 introduction, said that Program Supervisor Greg Stevens was available to answer any questions.

Director Levin, referring to the table at the bottom of Page 13 of the memo, said that the table summarized all available funds, assuming the adoption by this committee of the proposals set forth in the memo. She said that the table indicates that there would be virtually no funds available for future programming out of existing federal fiscal year awards. She added that all VOCA programs endured a 27.8 percent cut. That cut was primarily a function of the VOCA cap having been lowered. She said that staff did as much juggling as possible in crafting the recommendations in the memo in an attempt to spend all of these funds and to deal funding cuts in an even-handed manner to all grantees.

Director Levin said that last year staff had temporarily moved some grants to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and a grant to the Authority off of VOCA funding and covered those grants with JAG funds. As it is not possible to continue maintaining those grants with JAG funds, they were moved back under VOCA funding and this contributed to the exhaustion of available VOCA funds.

Director Levin said that there would be no back-up funds for next year. She said that it is very, very crucial that the Authority Board members do whatever they could to educate their legislators and elected representatives because the Authority is now in a very difficult position. The Authority has never been in this sort of a situation before where it has had to demand that its grantees take an almost 28 percent funding reduction. She said that when staff first began working on the funding cuts, the reductions originally looked like they would be greater than 28 percent.

Director Levin said that staff has done its best. She asked that the board approve the many designations listed in the memo. She said that all affected grantees had been notified in advance of these pending funding cuts.

{Mr. Toscas moved to approve the FFY06 and FFY07 VOCA Plan Adjustments and the FFY08 Plan Introduction. Director Jurkanin seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.}

### **Adjourn**

At this point, Chairman Sorosky declared the conclusion of the Budget Agenda portion of the meeting and the Authority Regular meeting resumed.

### **Presentation on Campus Crime by ICJIA Research Analysts Kimberly Burke and Erica Hughes**

Chairman Sorosky then called upon Authority Research Analysts Kimberly Burke and Erica Hughes for a presentation on campus crime and safety. Ms. Burke began by stating that after the incidents at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University, the Authority decided to examine campus crime and campus safety in Illinois as the subject of a research report. She said that the purpose of the report was to look at the nature of crime on college campuses and what is being done to ensure that institutions of higher education are safe learning environments for everyone.

She remarked that while researching the topic, a major body of data collected by the United States Department of Education was discovered, which she said Ms. Hughes would be discussing. Ms. Burke then called attention to some of the high profile cases of campus violence in the United States and cited one in particular that motivated changes in the federal legislation around campus crime, the rape and murder of Jeanne Clery in 1986 on the campus of a small school in North Carolina.

She continued to say that subsequently Jeanne Clery's parents became advocates of safer college campuses, which led to the creation of Security on Campus Incorporated, a not-for-profit agency that provides training for campus law enforcement and campus safety. That initiative, she explained, led to the Students Right to Know Bill, which later became known as the Jeanne Clery Act. She stated that the three components of the Clery Act are: timely warnings, making campus security policies public, and assuring that crime data are collected and disseminated to current and prospective students and employees every year.

She mentioned that there has been a conflict between the Clery Act and the Family Education and Right to Privacy Act, in terms of how much the mental health community can tell campus law enforcement about a suspect, as demonstrated somewhat with the offender from NIU. Ms. Burke next referred to the Campus Security Enhancement Act, which the Governor signed, making Illinois the first state to require all colleges and universities plan for and practice their response to emergencies of all types. She said that the law includes not just crime, but natural disasters and anything that affects the campus, ensuring that plans are developed in partnership with local law enforcement response agencies and mental health service providers.

Erica Hughes then began her part of the presentation. She explained that the campus crime data submitted to the U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education come from Title IV schools and reflect reported violent and property offenses, arrests, and referrals for disciplinary action (disciplinary process through the school).

She mentioned that the information from the Department of Education is more complete than any received previously. She added that data from more than 400 schools that report to the Department of Education are being used for trend analysis.

Ms. Hughes then turned to a slide displaying the offenses that have been reported on campuses. She explained that they vary slightly from similar information collected through UCR. She called attention to the percent change category, noting a decrease in reported crime. She added that the number of reported crimes themselves have decreased especially for aggravated assaults and for motor vehicle theft. She went on to say that the majority of the violent offenses occurred on public property in close proximity to campuses while property offenses occurred on campus. Ms. Hughes remarked, however, that most forcible sex offenses occurred on campus, stating that 70 percent of the more than one thousand sex offenses in the time period studied happened in residence halls.

She then covered the subject of referrals for disciplinary action and arrests. She pointed out that liquor substantially outnumbered violations of any other kind. In addition, she said referrals for liquor violations more than doubled while arrests for the same violation type remained stable. She further noted that there was a larger increase in referrals than arrests for drug violations, and weapon violations were more likely to result in arrest than referral in more recent years. Ms. Hughes stated that most arrests and referrals were for incidents on campus.

Ms. Hughes continued with some comparisons between Illinois UCR data on statewide overall crime trends and what is happening on college campuses. She reported that for violent and property crime there is a larger decrease statewide than on campuses, but she clarified that thefts are not reported by campuses and said if they were, the spreads might look different.

Ms. Hughes moved on to reported sex offenses and stated that they are decreasing at a greater rate on campus than statewide. She added, however, that they still make up a bigger part of overall violent crime on campus than statewide. Turning to drug arrests, she stated they are actually decreasing statewide while they are increasing on campuses.

Kimberly Burke then reported on some responses to campus crime in Illinois. She said that the Governor in April of last year announced several campus safety initiatives, including the creation of a Campus Security Task Force. She stated that it is comprised of members from community colleges, public and private colleges and universities, the Illinois Terrorism Task Force, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the State Police, and Illinois campus law enforcement and administrators. She explained that the Campus Security Task Force was charged with identifying and implementing training

needs and programs to assist campuses with preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergency or security incidents on campus. She added that the Campus Security Task Force just issued its full report this past summer.

Ms. Burke then stated that last month, the State provided training to develop Campus Community Emergency Response Teams. She added that this training was for teams of campus police, public safety, security, emergency management, emergency services, and other personnel. She said that the goal was to learn about disaster preparedness, fire safety, search and rescue operations, and disaster psychology. She mentioned that the training included a component that simulated disasters or different crime incidents so that the recipients could practice and not just be in the classroom.

She then discussed a collaboration through the Illinois Department of Human Services to enhance and expand the statewide infrastructure for addressing and reducing underage drinking. She said that one of the notable accomplishments is that the Illinois Higher Education Center increased the numbers of college campuses implementing some best practice strategies to reduce underage drinking.

Ms. Burke next stated that Prevention First Incorporated has increased the number of local law enforcement officers who are trained and certified in strategies to reduce underage drinking. She then discussed the Critical Incident Preparedness and Response on Campus Study, which was funded by the Authority and conducted by researchers from Southern Illinois University. She said it surveyed campus and safety officials and local law enforcement agencies for their perceptions of their training and preparedness for any kind of critical incident not limited to crime, but anything that could affect anyone on campus, such as natural disasters.

She cited several recommendations from the study for campuses to become safer places including one calling for incorporating several types of technology to get information to people and also involving the information technology department in the planning process. She said the study also recommended not just having the communications system in place, but using it so that people become familiar with it. Additionally, she mentioned that the study recommends urging students to report any unusual behavior by individuals that they observe.

In conclusion, Ms. Burke remarked that the presentation on campus crime that she and Ms. Hughes made to the Board is an overview of the report that will be placed on the Authority website in approximately a month. She then asked for any questions.

In response, Chairman Sorosky asked if there ever were a survey done comparing residence halls where students are somewhat compelled to live together versus apartments or fraternity houses where students voluntarily select their mates. Ms. Burke said that most of the surveys have been done with staff and personnel, not the actual students and this was an area that needed review. Ms. Hughes added that there were data that could be used for this purpose.

Chairman Sorosky thanked Ms. Hughes and Ms. Burke for their presentation and asked if there were any old business, new business or other concerns. With no response, he called for a motion to adjourn and noted that December 5 will be the last Authority Board Meeting of the year.

**Motion to Adjourn**

{Mr. Toscas' motion to adjourn was seconded by Ms. Spyropoulos and passed by unanimous voice vote.}