

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

June 4, 2004
120 S. Riverside Plaza, 21st Floor
Chicago, Illinois

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Sorosky convened the regular meeting of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and asked Robert Boehmer, the Authority's Secretary and General Counsel, to call the roll.

In addition to the Chairman, other Authority members in attendance were:

Clerk Dorothy Brown
Sheriff Timothy Bukowski
Mr. Brad Demuzio
Ms. Barbara Engel
State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor Director Norbert Goetten
State Appellate Defender Theodore Gottfried
DeKalb County Circuit Court Clerk Maureen Josh
Director Thomas Jurkanin
Attorney General Designee Ellen Mandeltort
Mr. John Piland
Mr. John Z. Toscas

Approval of the Minutes of the March 5, 2004 Regular Meeting

{Mr. Toscas made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 5, 2004. Mr. Piland seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.}

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Sorosky welcomed everyone to second meeting of the year. He expressed his personal condolences to Brad Demuzio on the recent passing of his father, State Senator Vincent Demuzio. He noted that Senator Demuzio was a leader in Illinois government for the past quarter century and his loss is truly felt by the people of Illinois.

Executive Director's Report

Director Levin reported that we have hired Ron Litwin as an account supervisor for our Office of Fiscal Management and Haley Peck as a summer intern working for the Public Information Office. She also noted that we have processed two resignations for Dan Dighton and Tim Lavery. Director Levin added that the Authority has been allowed to post 16 jobs, which are headcount for positions that had been personal service contract positions.

Director Levin noted that Authority member Barbara Engel received an award from Rape Victims Advocates for her services to victims. Director Levin highlighted the things she has been doing as executive director, including presenting a report on women offenders to the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section Council. She said that after the ABA meeting she met with Research and Analysis Unit staff and Ms. Engel to discuss a potential research project to study the connection between domestic violence victimization and women offenders. Director Levin also reported that she traveled to Washington once to meet with Department of Justice officials and once to meet with the Illinois congressional delegation. These meetings were to discuss the availability of federal funds and to express concerns over the reduction of federal criminal justice grant funds.

Director Levin reported that she coordinated a meeting between the Illinois Sheriffs' Association and the Department of Mental Health to discuss ways to ensure that sheriff's have appropriate mental health information about persons in their jails. She indicated that money has been set aside for mental health issues in jails.

Director Levin also reported that due to the fact there are two state mobile data systems - ALERTS and IWIN - and half a dozen or so other mobile data systems, we are going to have an *ad hoc* committee dealing with these issues.

Director Levin reported that planning is underway for two elder abuse trainings. She said that the first training would be held on June 10th. She noted that three nationally known speakers have accepted our invitation to present at the training. She noted that we are working closely with the Attorney General's Office and the Department on Aging to put this conference together. She said that the second training would be in southern Illinois in the fall.

Director Levin noted that she would now be serving on the Sex Offender Management Board and an oversight board of Redeploy Illinois. She said that Phillip Stevenson is chairing the Research and Analysis Committee of Redeploy Illinois and the Authority will be coordinating research and evaluation pilot sites and will be receiving funds from the Department of Human Services.

Director Levin then highlighted some information from the unit reports contained in the mailing, including information about the Authority's website; the Research and Analysis unit's work regarding prisoner reentry and Death in Custody reporting; integration activities; federal and state grant unit activities; InfoNet and other Authority information systems; and our publications. She then noted that the \$300,000 that was transferred from the Criminal Justice Information Systems Trust Fund has not been returned yet, but that she has been assured that the funds will be returned through the Capital Development bill currently pending in the General Assembly.

Director Levin noted that a pending appropriations bill contains a transfer of \$1.2 million from the Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) Trust Fund to the general revenue fund. She noted that this will impact the ability to update ALERTS and PIMS, and will impact day-to-day operations. She also indicated that pending legislation would reduce the amount of general revenue funds by over \$428,000 that the Authority provides to state agencies to match federal funds. She noted that impacted state agencies might need to supply their own match. She also discussed other potential reductions in the Authority's budget.

Ms. Engel expressed concern that the cut to the state agency match was short sighted because it could result in the return of funds to the federal government. Director Gottfried said that his agency may lose all the federal grants. He noted that the funds are not in his appropriation. Mr. Piland expressed concern that shifting the match funds to the state agencies may constitute supplanting. Director Levin noted that there are currently no proposed transfers from the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund, in part due to Secretary White's efforts. Sheriff Bukowski expressed concern over the proposed transfer from the CJIS Trust Fund. He noted that this issue came up in the past and noted that chiefs and sheriffs may need to seek a legal opinion. In response to a question from Ms. Engel, Chief Fiscal Officer Ted Miller said that we have not yet done an analysis of how much we may have to return to the federal government if the state agency match is not provided. Mr. Miller noted that difficult decisions would have to be made regarding how to deal with the situation.

Chairman Sorosky suggested that the leadership in Springfield would be concerned about the potential loss of federal funds and that we should send them information to make them aware of that issue. Mr. Demuzio noted that the amendment making these cuts has been endorsed by the Governor's Office. Chairman Sorosky suggested that it is not so important to present the leaders with the exact amount of federal funds to be cut, but to note that some federal funds would be lost. Director Levin noted that the Office of Management and Budget certainly would not want Illinois to lose federal money. She indicated that the CJIS Trust Fund issue is a different issue.

{Mr. Toscas made a motion to authorize the Chairman of the Authority to send a letter to the legislative leaders and Governor expressing concern about the potential loss of federal funds due to the proposed cut in state agency match funds. Ms. Josh seconded the motion, which was adopted by a unanimous roll call vote.}

Director Goetten suggested that the letter note what agencies will be impacted. Director Gottfried suggested that members be informed as to when the appropriations bill will be dealt with so that they can contact some House members. Mr. Piland again noted that if state agencies will be required to provide their own match, Authority staff should do an analysis of potential supplanting issues. Ms. Josh suggested that the letter be forwarded to Authority

members so that they can make their own phone calls.

Sheriff Bukowski noted that we still have not dealt with the issue regarding the transfer of funds from the CJIS Trust Fund. Director Levin said that she did express concerns to the Office of Management and Budget that while they are in the process of working on returning the \$300,000 transferred last year, they are talking about taking four times that amount this year. Sheriff Bukowski reiterated that the loss of funds could create a huge public safety issue that needs to be addressed. He said that if the funds are transferred, there may not be enough money to make needed repairs.

{Sheriff Bukowski made a motion to send a letter to the legislative leaders and the Governor expressing concern about the transfer of money from the Criminal Justice Information Systems Trust Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Toscas and adopted by unanimous voice vote.}

During the discussion of the above motion, Mr. Demuzio said that the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and the Illinois Sheriff's Association representatives might also want to sign the letter.

Director Levin reported that House Bill 5415, now awaiting the Governor's signature, adds the chairman of the Cook County Board as a member of the Authority. She noted that the chairman would not be allowed to appoint a designee to serve on the Authority.

Sheriff Bukowski said that the Sheriffs' Association should have involvement in the Deaths in Custody Reporting Act implementation. Director Levin replied that our staff has met with representatives from the Association on this issue. In response to a question from Sheriff Bukowski, Mr. Ramker indicated that the report would ask for details regarding the circumstances of the death in custody.

Budget Committee Report

Chairman Sorosky called on Barbara Engel to provide a report on the April 21st Budget Committee Meeting. Ms. Engel noted that an extended summary is at members' places. She said that the committee discussed and approved the reallocation of FFY99 funds in the amount of \$65,367 for livescan projects. Lapsing FFY00 funds in the amount \$690,852 were approved for addition to CHRI improvement funds.

Ms. Engel also noted that there was a designation reduction approved for projects in each of fiscal years 2001 through 2003. The committee designated FFY02 funds for projects and programs of the Attorney General, Cook County State's Attorney and Dekalb County. She also noted that \$874,931 in FFY03 funds were allocated for 12 month continuation programs and projects for Christian, Kendall, Lee, Kane, Ford and Cook Counties. She said that the committee also approved allocating lapsing FFY01 ADAA funds to allow funding an additional 40 LLEBG proposals that we received in fiscal year 2003 RFP. The money was used for equipment.

Ms. Engel noted that the new FFY03 LLEBG award total is \$1,009,362 and we designated \$979,081 of these funds to 60 entities. She said that there was a designated reduction in FFY 98 VAWA funds in the amount of \$35,755 and new designations in fiscal year 02 and '03 funds, which were made to supplement or continue 13 programs. The majority were transitional housing programs. Ms. Engel noted that VOCA had reductions for FFY01 and FFY02 and designated reductions for FFY04. The committee also approved staff recommendations of over \$10 million in VOI-TIS funds for new local projects such as juvenile detention projects, juvenile boot camp projects and local jail construction. Staff is currently working on the development of a competitive process for the ultimate disposition of these funds.

InfoNet – The Collection and Analysis of Victim Services Data

Chairman Sorosky called upon Karen Griffiths of the Authority staff to provide information about the Authority's InfoNet System. Chairman Sorosky noted that this system is a highly regarded system throughout the country. Ms. Griffiths first thanked James Yuan and Ming Xie, the programmers responsible for designing the system, for their hard work, patience and creativity. In addition she thanked Michael Willeford, the consultant on the project, for all of his hard work. Ms. Griffiths then made a PowerPoint Presentation providing a brief overview of the InfoNet.

Ms. Griffiths reported that InfoNet is a web based data collection system for victim service providers in Illinois. She said that it was designed, implemented and supported by the Authority. She described the system structure and noted

that all of the data in InfoNet travels over a virtual private network. She said that the Authority created this system because of the increase in funds to the state for victim services and the need to improve data collection efforts for victim service providers. She said that the system was developed in partnership with the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She noted that the Illinois Department of Human Services has also recently become involved. She said that in short, InfoNet was created to standardize data that was collected and reported across the state for victim services and to create a centralized repository of data to enhance efforts to do statewide and regional analyses. In addition, she said that an important part of the system is to facilitate reporting to funders. She noted that we currently have over one hundred agencies using InfoNet, that the Department of Human Services will be adding 15 additional domestic violence programs by July 1st, and that we are working to make InfoNet available to Child Advocacy Centers. She said that the next group of users would be the victim-witness units throughout the state.

Ms. Griffiths noted that InfoNet has received a lot of national recognition over the last two years. She said that she has been invited to several national conferences where VOCA and VAWA administrators have asked her to demonstrate the system to other states. She indicated that there is significant interest throughout the country in replicating the system in other states and territories. She said that states are not only interested in our experience with identifying variables to be collected, but they are also interested in learning how we got everybody to the table and to agree to use the application. Ms. Griffiths then described the types of information collected in the system, including demographic information, presenting issues, special needs, income source and referral source. She emphasized that there is no identifiable information in InfoNet. She also said that offender information, service contacts, and administrative information is also collected. She also demonstrated some of the available reporting tools. She said that programs are using the data to comply with reporting requirements; analyze client profiles and services; examine resources committed for specific services and client populations; assess impact of services and outreach efforts; and compare client population to the targeted jurisdiction. In addition she noted that funders are using the data to assess program performance; examine impact of funds targeted for specific purposes; determine if resources are used effectively; identify emerging trends and unmet needs; and coordinate efforts among multiple funding agencies.

Ms. Engel noted that the development of InfoNet is indicative of the trust that has been built over time between the Authority, the two coalitions and the advocacy centers. She said that in her experience it is very hard to get everyone on the same page. She commented that while the technical part of InfoNet may be difficult, getting people to the table and getting them to buy in is a major task. Ms. Griffiths responded that we really had to get the trust of the agencies as well as the coalitions. She said that they were initially concerned that a state agency would be coming in and dictating the requirements. She indicated that we convened user group meetings and determined their needs. She said that we let them build the system that was going to work for them and that that built trust. She also said that we continually let them know that we did not own the data – the data was maintained at the Authority, but they had complete ownership of their own data. Ms. Engel complimented Ms. Griffiths on a very thoughtful and very well done process for developing the system. Director Levin acknowledged Mr. Griffiths personal contributions to the success of the InfoNet. She said that without her passion and dedication to be meeting the needs of the users and addressing their confidentiality concerns this would not be a successful system that is gaining national recognition.

New Business

None.

{The motion to adjourn by Ms. Josh and seconded by Mr. Toscas was adopted by unanimous voice vote}

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert P. Boehmer
Secretary and General Counsel