

MINUTES
State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention/Juvenile Justice
Standing Committee
Use of Force Workgroup Meeting

Board of State and Community Corrections
2590 Venture Oaks Way
Sacramento, CA 95833
May 13, 2016

The State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP)/Juvenile Justice Standing Committee (JJSC) Use of Force Workgroup (UOF) meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Sandra McBrayer.

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Ms. Sandra McBrayer, Chair
Ms. Sue Burrell
Mr. James Bell by Conference Call
Ms. Michelle Brown

Agenda Item A

Welcome and Introductions

Chair McBrayer welcomed members to the first meeting of the SACJJDP/JJCS's Use of Force Workgroup. Chair McBrayer reminded members that SACJJDP's charge is not only to oversee the four core protections under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act, but also to examine emerging issues and trends and report that information to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), the California Legislature, the Governor and the juvenile justice field. She explained that prior input had been sought on the SACJJDP role from Illinois State Advisory Group Chair Judge George Timberlake and that input will be sought from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Administrator Robert Listenbee, who is interested in attending a future SACJJDP meeting. Chair McBrayer explained that both the UOF and proposed Behavioral Health Workgroups had been formed under SACJJDP, but that the JJSC had also demonstrated an interest and need in the same focus areas so, to maximize efficiency and effectiveness, each Workgroup will have dual membership from both the SACJJDP and the JJSC and report outs will regularly occur to both committees.

Agenda Item B

Current Efforts and Landscape – National, State and Local

Chair McBrayer initiated a discussion on use of force. Members asked staff to obtain information on national best practices from the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA), Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), and other such websites and bring it to the next meeting. Chair McBrayer noted that there is currently no clearinghouse of research and recommendations around use of force. Deputy Director Allison Ganter suggested the possibility of using the Juvenile Justice corner of the BSCC website as a way to provide information. Sue Burrell stated that past multi-disciplinary Transfer of Knowledge Workshops were helpful in communicating information to a larger audience. Staff and members were asked to prepare lists of known types of use of force and to bring those lists to the next meeting. Sue Burrell noted that California does not have a state-run juvenile justice system. Chair McBrayer said there would therefore be a need to define terms and understand their differing usage across multiple settings. Chair McBrayer noted that the Workgroup is interested in understanding more about the types of use of force in juvenile detention facilities, the frequency of use, and the policies and practices in California. The members noted that they were not ever intending to provide directives to counties, but instead share national best practices and options and alternatives that counties could consider.

Agenda Item C**Group Discussion: Defining the Purpose of the Workgroup**

Members and staff discussed the possibility of: conducting research on national best practices, surveying counties in partnership with the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC), conducting listening sessions with parties involved (both those who used force and those upon whom force was used), and preparing a whitepaper presenting national best practices and options and alternatives on use of force. James Bell said that the listening sessions Sandré Swanson held around the state with Boys and Men of Color were a good example of just listening to people's experiences (not assuming you have all the answers at the get go). James Bell also discussed the Research to Practice Listening Sessions Model and resulting whitepaper that he and others had produced on eliminating disparities in school discipline. Staff was asked to provide a link to the article in advance of the next meeting. He discussed in detail steps that have been taken in other areas for understanding and review including scanning national and evidence practices, listening to stakeholders at all levels of the system, gathering relevant and current data, and developing a concise report on findings, scope of issues and recommendations. Staff was asked to have a further conversation with James Bell to lay out the framework of a Research to Practice Listening Sessions model for consideration by the UOF Workgroup. The need for Board and CPOC support was discussed. Probation Chief Michelle Brown noted that Chief Probation Officers may have concerns about how the data would be used. Chair McBrayer stated that the Workgroup must make it very clear to CPOC and to participants that the data is being collected for use in anonymous aggregate statistics/reporting and will definitely not be used to hold any county up for criticism. Sue Burrell stated that there are vendors who have provided counties with use of force training and that people in charge of the facilities are making some of the changes. Ms. Burrell stated that Performance-based Standards (PbS) is one organization that works with juvenile facility administrators to measure changes over time. Deputy Director Ganter explained that under Title 15, probation departments have to have procedures in place for measuring and reviewing their performance, but that they report internally, not to the state. The committee discussed a multipronged approach: conducting research on national best practices in relation to use of force; gathering information from Deputy Director Ganter's division on the types of use of force they see in California detention facilities; surveying county probation facilities on the type, frequency, etc., on use of force; developing and implementing listening tours, and developing a white paper on findings and recommendations.

Agenda Item D**Next Steps and Timeline**

Chair McBrayer reviewed the following action items for the next meeting of the Use of Force Workgroup: all workgroup members and Deputy Director Ganter will work with staff and provide the committee with a list of known types of use of force (Ms. Ganter will share her list with Chief Brown to add items); Staff will look to the CJCA for studies or surveys that have been completed pertaining to the use of force; Staff will send a link to the report James Bell co-authored on disparities in school discipline; Staff will have a further conversation with James Bell to delineate the framework of a research to practice listening session model for review and consideration as a possible approach at the next meeting. Chair McBrayer stated that the next meeting would be in July if schedules permitted.

Agenda Item E**Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates**

National Research on Best Practices from CJCA
Types of Use of Force Lists
Research to Practice Listening Sessions Framework
Next Steps

Adjournment

The May 13, 2016 SACJJDP/JJSC UOF meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.