

# **PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020**



**PSCC**



**MEETING CHAIR:**

Honorable Judge Tara P. Paluck

**FACILITATOR:**

Jennifer Alvarez

**NOTETAKER:**

Anne Donohue

**MEMBERS:**

Chairperson & Chief County Judge:

Honorable Tara P. Paluck

Chief Circuit Judge:

Honorable Frank Porter

Chief Correctional Officer:

Chief Eric Smith

Clerk of Court:

Linda Doggett

County Commissioner Chair:

Cecil Pendergrass

County Manager:

Roger Desjarlais

Court Administator:

Scott Wilsker

Department of Children and Families Representative:

Nekesha Nash

Director of a Community Mental Health Agency:

Stacey Cook Hawk

Director of County Probation or Pretrial Program:

Amy Kinsey

Director of Department of Juvenile Justice Facility:

Director Bill Naylor

Department of Juvenile Justice Chief Probation Officer:

Margaret LaMarca

Director of a Local Substance Abuse Treatment Program:

Tanya Slater

Lee County Sheriff:

Sheriff Carmine Marceno

Police Chief Cape Coral:

David Newlan

Community Based Treatment Family Member:

Daleen O'Dell

Primary Consumer of Mental Health Services:

Dana Foglesong

Primary Consumer of Substance Abuse Services:

Kari Anne Spiller

Public Defender:

Kathy Smith

Representatives from County and State Jobs Programs  
and Other Community Groups:

Kate Geist &

Roger Mercado

Representative from Lee County Homeless Coalition

Janet Bartos

State Attorney:

Amira Fox

State Probation Circuit Administrator (DOC):

Brad Rouskey

**ATTENDEES via Suntel Conference Call:**

Administrative Office of the Courts

Jennifer Alvarez; Doug Jaye; Amy Kinsey; Joseph Rea;  
Scott Wilsker

AIM Target

Mary Ellen Saba

Center Stone

Adina Bridges

Chief Correctional Officer

Eric Smith

Clerk of Court

Kevin Karnes

County Commissioner

Ray Sandelli

Department of Corrections

Brad Rouskey

Department of Juvenile Justice Facility:

Director William Naylor

Judiciary:

Honorable Josephine Gagliardi; Honorable Tara  
Paluck

Lee County Port Authority:

Craig Giovannelli

Lee County Sheriff's Office:

Sgt. Travis Allen; Lt. LaDonna Brady; Colonel Tom  
Eberhardt; Michelle Sargis

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

Daleen O'Dell

Public Defender's Office

Kathy Smith

SalusCare

Jessica Plazewski

Salvation Army Triage Center

Heather Cross

State Attorney's Office

Paul Poland

# Lee County Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting via Suntel Conference Call

## DISCUSSION

### Open & Approval of Previous Minutes

Honorable Judge Tara Paluck

- The meeting was called to order was at 12:00 p.m. by the Honorable Judge Tara Paluck.
  - Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2020 stand approved as outlined with no changes.
  - Thank you to everyone for attending through this conference call. If you would prefer to utilize Zoom or another venue please advise.
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### Item 1) Jail Population Update

#### Internal Changes Due to Pandemic

Sgt. Travis Allen, LCSO

- Currently we have 1,218 inmates. Compared to this time last year we are down an average of 320-400 due to the pandemic.
- The jail has conducted 43 COVID tests with 6 of those resulting in positive results. Any inmate that tests positive is quarantined for 14 days.
- Any inmate that is transported to Court gets tested before leaving.
- All visits for out of state and out of county inmates are conducted via the Zoom platform (telephonically not video). They have experienced no problems with Zoom, just a large increase in use.
- There was concern in reference to confidentiality of calls – The inmate is in a secured area. Recordings of calls is unknown and will be researched.

### Item 1) LCSO HOT Team

#### Overview and Key Initiatives

Lt. LaDonna Brady, LCSO

Michelle Sargis, LCSO

- Any individual deemed homeless is put in contact with certified personnel to identify the individual's needs and based on those needs may be supplied with hygiene kits, medical, housing, bus passes, etc.
  - The HOT Team goes out on a monthly basis
  - The homeless population and people of need is more apparent due to the pandemic especially with some of our biggest resources that had to close.
  - The LCSO is in collaboration efforts with the Cape Coral P.D. and the Ft. Myers P.D.
  - Lt. LaDonna Brady is available to answer any questions.
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### Item 2) AOC Treatment Court Updates

#### Problem Solving Courts Planning

Joseph Rea, Treatment Court Manager

- All meetings continue to be conducted by Zoom.
  - Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Program is on hold pending funding
  - Center Stone is providing clinical services to all individuals in Mental Health and Veterans Court.
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- The Treatment Court Evaluator began November 20<sup>th</sup> averaging 5-6 evaluations in custody weekly. We have 29 pending in custody, 7 pending screenings which are pending for average of 20 days.
  - Implementation of evidence based criminogenic risk instruments and clinical tools to increase equity in access end of year data:
    - Drug Court:
      - Served 135 unique defendants
      - Received 147 new referrals
        - Accepted 32 (22%)
        - COVID impact (no entries from March)
        - Currently 19 referrals pending
        - 67% success rate
    - Mental Health Court
      - Served 64 unique defendants
      - Currently 54 referrals pending
      - 82% success rate
    - Veterans Court
      - Served 27 unique defendants
      - Currently 24 referrals pending
      - 100% success rate
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**Item 3) Salvation Army Triage Center Efforts and Key Initiatives Addressing Homelessness and Community Resources**

**Heather Cross, Program Director  
Emergency Transitional Shelter**

- This is a 12 month program.
  - Average capacity under “normal” conditions is 67-75.
  - Right now we are at 81 and have opened an additional 20 emergency cots with the cold weather.
  - 8 beds are preserved for medical needs individuals.
  - We just took in 7 individuals out of the cold.
  - While in Triage, individual assessments are done. If an individual decides not to stay they will leave with a blanket, sack lunch and a bus pass if they have somewhere they would prefer to stay.
  - In the past 30 days, 16 individuals have received housing. In the past 60 days 32 individuals have received housing along with 2 bags of groceries, \$200 credit at the Salvation Army Thrift Store to be used for furniture, clothing, whatever they need. They provide transportation and even have connections to moving agencies to get their furniture placed.
  - Referrals can come from anywhere in the community such as Park Royal, Pretrial Services, Vet Affairs, Specialty Courts and Officers on patrol.
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**Item 4) Florida Department of Corrections Pandemic and Operational Updates**

**Brad Rouskey, Chief Administrator**

- We remain in Phase 3 of 4. Everything is going well so we don’t want to rush into Phase 4 prematurely.
- All lower risk offenders are reporting by telephone and reports being sent in by mail and email.
- In last year, Circuit 20 has made more than 9,000 field contacts and collected 1,100 drug tests.
- We are attending court and reporting violations. 122 technical violations have been reported without a warrant and 17 of those were alternate sanctions were imposed.
- The staff continues to conduct meetings and attend trainings, virtually when possible. Staff that has to recertify at the academy is being conducted virtually as well. Tactical classes are taking place locally.

- Sexual Offenders, Community Control, Drug Offender Probation and Prison Release Defendants are reporting in person.
  - We have 16 staff telecommuting.
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**Item 5) Open Discussion**

- What processes would you like to see that we are currently practicing stay in place in the event we go back to full opening? Virtual court attendance is working well. Utilizing Polycom and Zoom makes a lot of sense to facilitate permanently while keeping the option open of attending court in person.
- Happy Holidays to everyone.
- The next PSCC Meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2021.
- Meeting is adjourned.