



Charles County
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE
COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Charles County CJCC Meeting

Date | Time: 7/10/2025 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM

Location: Microsoft Teams Video Conference

Meeting Co-Chairs: Hon. H. James West and Commissioner President Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq.

Meeting Attendees:

- Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq. (Board of County Commissioners)
- Judge H. James West (Circuit Court)
- Judge Patrick Devine (District Court)
- Anthony Covington (State's Attorney's Office)
- Deb Hall (Charles County Government)
- Jason DuBard (Parole and Probation)
- Abena McAllister (State's Attorney's Office)
- Julee Snyder (Circuit Court)
- Ryan Ross (Charles County Detention Center)
- Jeremy Widder (SoMD Criminal Defense)
- Julie Walton (Charles County Community Mediation Center)
- Sara Carruth (Circuit Court)
- Michelle Lilly (Charles County Department of Emergency Services)
- Eve Austin (Circuit Court)
- Jeannine James (Mayor, Town of La Plata)
- Mckayla Wilkes (Life After Release)
- Constance Coggins (Sante Group)
- Janay Tyler (Charles County LBHA)

Meeting Objectives

1. Approve Meeting Minutes from May 2025
2. Presentation – Mobile Crisis Team
3. CJCC Committee Updates
4. Open Discussion

Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened at 8:00 a.m.

Judge West opened the meeting. He welcomed participants, noted the summer holidays since the last meeting, and confirmed a quorum was present.



Charles County CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

The Meeting Minutes from the May 1, 2025, CJCC Meeting were approved.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- The May 2025 meeting minutes were emailed to all CJCC members.
- Motion to approve May meeting minutes: Commissioner President Collins
- Seconded by: Jason Dubard
- Outcome: Approved unanimously.

Presentation on Mobile Crisis Services – Sante Group

Speaker:

- Constance Coggins, Education Outreach Coordinator, Sante Group
- Janay Tyler, Crisis Services Coordinator, Charles County Local Behavioral Health Authority

Sara Carruth introduced Ms. Coggins and Ms. Tyler.

Key Points:

- Overview of Sante: Operating since 1991, serving 15 Maryland counties with mobile crisis services.
- Access: 24/7 hotline support; in-person mobile crisis response available Monday–Friday, 8 AM–4 PM.
- Team Composition: Two-person teams include a master's-level behavioral health professional and a peer with lived experience.
- Services: Suicide prevention, de-escalation, crisis assessment, and referral.
- Client Identification: Anyone who self-identifies as in crisis, regardless of age.
- Southern Maryland Data:
 - 53% of regional calls come from Charles County.
 - 64% of Charles County callers request in-person response.
 - 97% diversion rate from incarceration.



Charles County CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

- Outreach Efforts: Presentations, partnerships with local agencies, printed materials.
- Funding: Services are grant-funded and free to consumers.

Discussion:

- Judge Devine: Suggested distributing Sante materials to District Court mediators.
- Judge West: Offered help distributing materials in Circuit Court, Adult Drug Court, Family Recovery Court, and Help Center, coordinating through Sara Carruth.
- Commissioner President Collins: Emphasized the importance of direct coordination with the Charles County Sheriff's Office.
- Janay Tyler and Constance Coggins: Confirmed ongoing conversations with local law enforcement, including Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, development of MOU drafts, and biweekly meetings with the health department and Sheriff's Office to establish companion response models.
- Jason DuBard: Thanked presenters, noted the value of crisis response for those under supervision.
- Michelle L. Lilly: Reported biweekly meetings working toward companion response plans and aiming to present a proposal to County Commissioners in September.

Committee Updates

Presented by: Julie Walton and Sara Carruth

Juvenile Committee (Julie Walton)

- Building the committee team; ongoing recruitment of members.
- Planning to launch Critical Intervention Mapping (CIM) process in September, pending internal coordination.

Pretrial Services Committee (Jeremy Widder)

- No update on structural decisions; discussions ongoing about agency alignment and authority.
- Judge West stressed urgency given the loss of an electronic monitoring provider's license in Maryland.



Charles County CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

- **Agreed Timeline:**
 - By September 2025: Gather budget data and presentations from St. Mary's and Queen Anne's Counties.
 - October 2025: Deliberate on recommendations.
 - November 2025: Final recommendation to CJCC and County Commissioners for budget cycle inclusion.
- Sara Carruth noted St. Mary's County invited committee members for a site visit. Deb Hall expressed interest in attending with Wes Adams.

Open Discussion & Announcements

- Commissioner President Collins suggested holding at least one in-person meeting annually to foster engagement.
- Deb Hall noted potential venues:
 - The County Government "Blue Room" (with virtual option).
 - Centennial Street meeting space (supports hybrid meetings).
- Judge West supported the idea. Sara Carruth will coordinate scheduling.

Adjournment

- Commissioner President Collins closed the meeting, thanking all participants.
- With no further matters to discuss, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the July 10, 2025, CJCC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

The mission of the CJCC is to enhance the operation of the Charles County adult and juvenile justice systems through interagency collaboration and the coordination of cohesive policies and programs for the purposes of improving public health and safety and heightening public trust.