

## **Charles County CJCC Meeting M a r c h 2 0 2 5**

**Date | Time: 3/6/2025 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)
- Sheriff Troy D. Berry (CCSO)
- Deb Hall (Charles County Government)
- Jason DuBard (Parole and Probation)
- Tanisha Sanders (Charles County Department of Social Services)
- Gary Ruble (Department of Juvenile Services)
- Abena McAllister (State's Attorney's Office)
- Dr. Yolanda Bethea (Parole and Probation)
- Julee Snyder (Circuit Court)
- Ryan Ross (Charles County Detention Center)
- Wanda Frink-Little (Department of Juvenile Services)
- Jeremy Widder (SoMD Criminal Defense)
- Katy Batey (SoMD Criminal Defense)
- Lisa Yates (Circuit Court Clerk)
- Mckayla Wilkes (Life After Release)
- Julie Walton (Charles County Community Mediation Center)
- Sara Carruth (Circuit Court)
- Sue Radcliffe (Maryland Department of Health)
- Carmen Johnson (Life After Release)

### ***Meeting Objectives***

1. Approve Meeting Minutes from January 2025
2. Presentation – Emotional Trauma & the Brain
3. CJCC Committee Updates
4. Open Discussion

Meeting convened at 8:00 a.m.

The Meeting Minutes from the January 9, 2025, CJCC Meeting were approved.

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- The January 2025 meeting minutes were emailed to all CJCC members.
- Motion to approve January meeting minutes: Jason DuBard
- Seconded by: Judge Devine
- Outcome: Approved unanimously.

### Presentation on Emotional Trauma and the Brain

Speaker:

- Sue Radcliffe, Mental Health Therapist, Maryland Department of Health

Key Points:

- Presentation focused on the effects of emotional trauma on brain function, particularly in relation to the criminal justice system.
- Key discussion points:
  - How trauma impacts the brain, particularly the limbic system.
  - The effects of stress and trauma on memory recall.
  - The importance of understanding trauma responses in victims, first responders, and individuals involved in the justice system.
  - The role of secondary and vicarious trauma for justice professionals.
  - Trauma-informed care and strategies to mitigate long-term effects.
- Ms. Radcliffe agreed to share her slides with the committee for further review.
- A follow-up video on trauma-related epigenetic changes was offered to be shared with the committee.

### Committee Updates

Presented by: Sara Carruth

- **Mental Health Committee (Met February 24, 2025)**
  - Chair: Katy Batey
  - Vice Chair: Cory Gutterman
  - Committee's primary goal is to improve access to mental health resources and ensure better communication between different justice and health agencies.

- **Juvenile Justice Committee (Met February 25, 2025)**
  - No chair was identified during the meeting.
  - Plans to expand the committee by inviting additional members.
- **Pretrial Services Committee (Met February 27, 2025)**
  - Chair: Wes Adams
  - Vice Chair: Jeremy Widder

### Open Discussion & Announcements

- **Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT):** Judge West suggested that the committee explore the implementation of AOT, a new program coming to the county.
- **New Leadership Updates:**
  - Dr. Yolanda Bethea introduced herself as the new Director of Parole and Probation for the State of Maryland.
  - Gary Ruble announced that Shawn Toller was appointed as the new Regional Director for Juvenile Services, overseeing Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and the Tri-County area.

### 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 March 6, 2025, CJCC meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:40 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.