

Camden Criminal Justice Council
Minutes from meeting on April 26, 2018
Location: Commissioners Meeting Room

Present:

Jackie L Johnson, Chairperson
April Howard, Justice Council Coordinator
Chief Tim Hatch, St. Marys Police Department
Robert Cummings, Camden Re-entry Program
Commissioner Gary Blount
Elaine Powerski, Citizen
Sheriff Jim Proctor, Camden County Sheriff's Office
Chief Darryl Griffis, Kingsland Police Department

Guests:

Holly Douglas, 911 Director Camden County Sheriff's Office
Nelson Cummings, Camden Re-entry Program
Jim Kight, Circuit Defender's Office
William Robinson, District Attorney's Office
Chuck Byerly, Camden County Sheriff's Office
Rob Mastroianni, Camden County Sheriff's Office

The meeting was called to order by Jackie L. Johnson, Chairperson who welcomed everyone.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 15, 2018 MINUTES

Commissioner Blount made a motion to approve the Minutes from the March 15, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Proctor and the minutes were approved unanimously, with no corrections.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION - LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER COMPENSATION

The Board reviewed the proposed resolution to support law enforcement officer pay parity. Members agreed that revisions should be made to paragraph four of the proposed resolution to clarify the issue of funding recommendations for the pay increase. A Motion was made by District Attorney Jackie Johnson to modify the Proposed Resolution. The Motion was seconded by Chief Tim Hatch and approved unanimously.

UPDATE ON CRIMINAL E-FILING

Superior Court Clerk Joy Lynn Turner was unable to attend the meeting, but provided the following update to the Board via email:

“Please advise the Council that pursuant to SB407, the resolution from the Council supporting my proposal for Criminal E-filing will not be necessary. Because this is now a part of the Governor's Criminal Justice Reform Bill, we feel certain this will pass. Criminal and Civil E-filing will become mandatory January 1, 2019. Additionally, I have gained preliminary approval from the CFO, Mike Fender for funding as it relates to the looming mandate.

I will, however, pursue implementation of "voluntary" Criminal E-filing in Camden effective July 1, 2018. This will require a Standing Order from our Chief Judge adopting all the requirements of SB407. I will keep the council informed once I have spoken to Judge Scarlett.”

NEW WORLD UPDATE

Chuck Byerly announced that a new update came through last month. The update will now enable law enforcement to run “pass-down” reports to oncoming shifts. They are still waiting on the component to allow driver license pictures to come through to dispatch. They are currently coming through to the mobile devices.

Commissioner Blount questioned whether or not the New World mobile devices are being used by all agencies. Sheriff Proctor, Chief Hatch and Chief Griffis confirmed that their agencies were using the mobile devices. Holly Douglas confirmed that the County Fire Department has begun using the devices since the appointment of the new Fire Chief.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Camden Criminal Justice Council will be held Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 9:00 am in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located on the second floor of the Commissioner’s Building.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
April Howard



CAMDEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

Superior Court Judge Anthony L. Harrison
Jackie L. Johnson, District Attorney, Chairperson
Sail Coleman, Chief State Probation Officer
Magistrate Court Judge Jennifer Lewis
James K. Proctor, Sheriff Camden County
Chief Darryl Griffis, Kingsland Police Department
Gary Blount, Camden County Board of Commissioners
James H. Starline, Chairman Camden County Board of Commissioners

April W. Howard, Justice Council Coordinator
Stephen Tillman, Public Defender
Joy Lynn Turner, Clerk of Superior Court
Robert Cummings, Camden Re-entry Program
Chief Timothy P. Hatch, St. Marys Police Department
Honorable Robert W. Sweatt, Judge Probate Court
Mayor Kenneth Smith, City of Kingsland

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Sheriff James K. Proctor brought the issue of pay disparity between state-paid law enforcement agencies and local law enforcement agencies to the attention of the Camden County Criminal Justice Council on February 8, 2018;

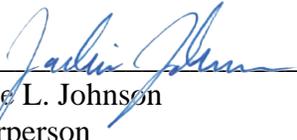
WHEREAS the Council recognizes the difficulty local law enforcement agencies state-wide have experienced in recruiting and retaining qualified law enforcement officers due to low starting salary, the dangers associated with the job, and the negative media coverage of law enforcement in general. In 2017, Governor Deal increased all state law enforcement personnel salaries by 20%, leaving local city and county salaries at an even greater all time low;

WHEREAS Local city and county law enforcement agencies are primary responders and the first line of defense until state law enforcement agencies are requested which are used for support when needed;

WHEREAS some suggested funding options for the State include a penny sales tax or a dollar to be added to fees already imposed on accident reports, or some other combinations thereof, which would be solely dedicated and restricted to fund only local city and county law enforcement officers' salaries and benefits;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Camden Criminal Justice Council hereby passes a resolution in support of the Georgia Sheriff's Association's efforts to seek compensation for local law enforcement officers comparable to that of state officers.

This 14th day of June, 2018.



Jackie L. Johnson
Chairperson
Camden Criminal Justice Council