



**State Advisory Board Meeting - Virtual**  
Tuesday, January 18, 2022 - 2:00 – 4:00pm

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**The meeting will also be streamed live and recorded for the public on YouTube at:**  
[https://youtu.be/7F-bqYXx\\_qA](https://youtu.be/7F-bqYXx_qA)

**Minutes**

**Members and guests in attendance:**

Judge Gale Rasin	Eric Solomon
Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera	Lauren Gordon
Judge Gary Bair	Sarah Kaplan
Sam Abed	Sherlana Hanna
Rosemary King Johnston	Judge Michael Stamm
Andrew Tress	Crystal Flemming Bryce
Scott Beal	Lynn Davis
Nick Moroney	Lamar Davis
Christina Church	Jenny Egan
Kathleen Callan	Ashley Watson
Jessica Wheeler	Michael Guilbault
Rexana Wyse	Senator Lee / Michael Lore

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

*Rosemary King Johnston / Sam Abed*

- Approval of November 30, 2021 meeting minutes
- Welcome / Introduce Judge Gale Rasin, Judge Gary Bair, Chief Judge Barbera

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

Sec. Abed introduced special guests for this meeting, which included Judge Gale Rasin, Judge Gary Bair (Ret.) and Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbara (Ret.). These special guests are present to honor the late Judge George B. Raisin, who was a formative advocate for juvenile justice throughout his career and helped form the Department of Juvenile Services.

**II. Department of Juvenile Services Update**

*Sam Abed*

- Presentation of Award / Recognition – Judge Rasin
- Juvenile Services Education Program (JSEP) Board update
- 2022 DJS Legislative Package

Sec. Abed provided a brief departmental update and discussed the hiring of the JSEP Superintendent who is new to her role.

Andrew Tress provided the Board with a legislative update, describing the two bills DJS is sponsoring this legislative session. Which are:

- Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) compliance bill - no bill number has been assigned at this time.

- This bill requires all youth under 18 be removed from adult jails and held in juvenile detention facilities while pending trial. This is an emergency bill and would go into effect as soon as it is signed by the Governor.
- DJS currently houses these youth when ordered by the court. They currently account for 1/3 or 1/2 of youth in DJS detention facilities.
- DJS currently averages 72 transfer-eligible youth in detention and anticipates that the population would increase to 100 should this bill pass. DJS has the capacity to serve this additional population.
- The second bill is SB0172 - Department of Juvenile Services - Facilities - J. DeWeese Carter Center
  - This bill removes the Carter Center from the statutory list of DJS operated detention and committed treatment facilities. This reflects the continued downward trend over the last several years in the DJS committed population as well as DJS' ongoing efforts to detain youth in the least restrictive setting.
  - SB 172 also removes "train" from the list of services provided in DJS operated detention and treatment facilities. Train is an unnecessary, outdated, and obsolete term. Career, job, or workforce training is included in educational programming.

Nick Moroney commented that this is a federal requirement and asked what would happen if this bill didn't pass.

Sec. Abed stated that, although losing some federal funds would be of concern, more consequential is the inability to appropriately place youth. DJS strives to be in compliance with federal law and will continue to do so to the best of its ability.

### **III. Fatality Review Subcommittee\*** *Rosemary King Johnston/Andrew Tress/Scott Beal*

- Subcommittee findings and recommendations

*\*The findings and recommendations can be found in the meeting materials which are available on the DJS website.*

Rosemary King Johnston provided an overview of the four cases the subcommittee reviewed. Two of which we reviewed twice because of the complexity of the competency process. The other findings included inter-agency coordination, vulnerability to gangs, credit recovery services, case management across jurisdictions and access to state IDs. The recommendations included having a subcommittee on Best Practices which would also address the findings from these case reviews.

There was some discussion from the Board and some small changes to the recommendations were made. Including, expanding the documentation needed to get a state ID and recognizing gang targeting as human/child trafficking)

Sec. Abed indicated that DJS can help with getting a state ID and, before the April SAB meeting, will start working on a process to get DJS youth access to state IDs.

The findings and alterations to the recommendations were approved.

### **IV. Juvenile Justice Monitoring Unit Update**

*Nick Moroney*

Nick Moroney provided an update from the JJMU, first highlighting that a recent quarterly JJMU report was sent out and is happy to address any questions. He also mentioned that the conditions in DJS facilities have suffered due to COVID. He suggested we improve conditions for allowed activities and take a closer look at how many hours kids are spending without activity during the pandemic.

For JJMU, the two most important bills so far are HB0269/SB0053 (child interrogation protection), which protects youth in situations that can be tense and difficult to navigate. The JJMU plans to support and would like DJS to support SB0165 which eliminates direct file for juveniles, starting all youth in the juvenile system, regardless of the charge. This is the proper place for youth.

## V. Good of the Order

*Board Members*

- Best Practices Subcommittee
- Review Competency Process

Andrew Tress discussed that, during the legislative session, the Subcommittees won't meet formally but will schedule planning meetings. These meetings will finalize the goals and objectives for the Subcommittee and assign research priorities so the Subcommittee(s) can get started once the SAB meetings resume in April.

Lynn Davis emphasized the importance of individuals and agencies providing testimony for these bills.

## VI. Adjournment

Nick Moroney added that DJS has made numerous reforms over the years, hopes we're in a new wave that continues those efforts in the spirit of the good work of Judge Rasin, and that the legislature passes the necessary and important legislation.

The meeting was adjourned.

### **Upcoming Meetings / YouTube Livestream Links:**

- 2022
  - 4/19/22 : <https://youtu.be/cpCpIT4TGRY>
  - 5/17/22 : <https://youtu.be/k0hsRwf324o>
  - 6/21/22 : <https://youtu.be/RonuW3JSb7w>
  - 9/20/22 : [https://youtu.be/\\_73s\\_5MsxuM](https://youtu.be/_73s_5MsxuM)
  - 10/18/22 : <https://youtu.be/rQOee6ZTlsw>
  - 11/15/22 : <https://youtu.be/2mjrBLkVHHc>

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