Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

October 21st, 2021
2pm-3:30pm
Zoom Meeting
Opening Remarks

• Meeting facilitation
  • Meeting is being recorded
  • Remain “muted” on Zoom, unless speaking
  • Refrain from interrupting with comments or questions until each presenter is finished speaking
  • Questions and Comments will be limited to JJPOC members
    • Use the “Chat” and “Hand Raising” feature so TYJI can help monitor and facilitate the meeting
Meeting Overview

- Congratulations Kelly!
- Welcome Patrick!
Meeting Overview

• Acceptance of the September 2021 Meeting Minutes
• Presentation on PA 19-187 by JBCSSD
• Presentation on PA 19-187 by DOC
• Overview of the Updated JJPOC Strategic Plan
Presentation on PA 19-187

Gary Roberge, Executive Director of Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division
Prone Position and Chemical Agents in Juvenile Detention Centers*

Pursuant to Public Act 19-187

*Per JBCSDD Policy 8.304, the use of prone holds and pepper spray or chemical agents are strictly prohibited. The prone position is only utilized to transition to another position or to re-secure from another position. Youth are immediately transitioned to another position and should not be prone more than 60 seconds.

**Prone Incidents by Month**

- **2020**:
  - Oct: 4
  - Nov: 0
  - Dec: 0
  - Jan: 1
  - Feb: 0
  - Mar: 2
  - Apr: 0
  - May: 1
  - Jun: 1
  - Jul: 0
  - Aug: 0
  - Sep: 0

- **2021**:
  - Oct: 2
  - Nov: 0
  - Dec: 0
  - Jan: 0
  - Feb: 0
  - Mar: 1
  - Apr: 1
  - May: 1
  - Jun: 0
  - Jul: 0
  - Aug: 0
  - Sep: 0

**Incidents by Facility**

- Bridgeport: 4, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0
- Hartford: 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0

**Incidents by Population Group**

- Number and % of Total:
  - Pre-Disposition: 8, 88.89%
  - REGIONS: 1, 11.11%

**Incidents by Race/Ethnicity**

- Number and % of Total:
  - Black Non-Hispanic: 6, 66.67%
  - Hispanic: 2, 22.22%
  - White Non-Hispanic: 1, 11.11%
  - Other: 2.03%
  - Hispanic/Latino: 18.49%
  - White: 5.90%

**Average Daily Population**

- Number and % of Total:
  - Black: 28.13%
  - Hispanic/Latino: 18.49%
  - Other: 1.07%
  - White: 5.90%
Questions?
Presentation on PA 19-187

Warden Derrick Molden,
Department of Corrections
MYI Incident Trends: Chemical Agent incidents involving individuals under the age of 18, by calendar year from Jan 1, 2018 – Sept 30, 2021.

37% reduction in chemical agent use 2018 vs. 2021
MYI incidents involving individuals under the age of 18. Comparison by type of incident without chemical agent versus with chemical agent for Jan 1, 2018 – Sept 30, 2021.
Juvenile Justice Policy Oversight Committee - October 21, 2021 - Warden Derrick Molden

MYI incidents involving individuals under the age of 18. Comparison by type of incident without chemical agent versus with chemical agent for October 1, 2020 – Sept 30, 2021.

**Total incidents in MYI**

- Physical altercations involving youth (34)
- Assault on staff (2)
- Actively restrain (1)

**Incidents at MYI involving chemical agent response**

- Physical altercations involving youth (8)
- Assault on staff (2)
- Actively resistant (0)
Physical altercations (8 occasions total)

Steps taken before usage of Chemical Agent during physical altercations: Staff members give combatants loud verbal directions for individuals to stop fighting and advise them that chemical agent may be utilized if they do not cease their actions. Once it is determined that verbal intervention is not successful, in order to gain compliance and prevent injuries, chemical agent is authorized.

Combative & assaultive individuals (2 occasions total)

May 2021
Individual became disruptive in a classroom. Punched a staff member in the facial area and continued to be combative. Chemical Agent was utilized in order to regain control of the actively combative individual.

June 2021
Individual actively resisted staff with a psychiatric observation placement. To reduce a risk of injury to staff and the individual, a short burst of Chemical Agent was utilized on the individual who became combative and spat on staff.

Immediate actions after every Chemical Agent usage
All exposed individuals are promptly decontaminated from the chemical agent. Once decontaminated, they are evaluated by health services staff for any adverse side effects and receive further treatment if deemed necessary.
Chemical Agent Usage on Juveniles since October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021

Post Incident Review

- Video footage and associated paperwork is reviewed by MYI’s administrative team.
- Incident is forwarded for review to the district office overview team.
- An administrative review is completed to determine if use of chemical agent was necessary and justified.
- Incident is reviewed with a staff member administering the chemical agent to ensure the tool was properly utilized. In addition, alternative measures are discussed with the staff members if applicable.
- Mediating session with the juveniles involved in the incident may be conducted.

Staff injuries in incidents that include chemical agent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

600% increase in staff injuries 2020 vs 2021.
Prone (Therapeutic) restraint usage (1 occasion)
June 2021
A physician ordered placement due to individual's rapidly deteriorating mental health state so that appropriate calming medication could be safely administered to the patient. Shortly after, the medication achieved the desired effect the individual was removed from the soft restraints.
# Juvenile Justice Policy Oversight Committee - October 21, 2021 - Warden Derrick Molden

## Age and Ethnicity Breakdown

### Chemical Agent Exposure and Prone Restraints (Therapeutic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overall MYI Population Race Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Chemical agent by age

- **Seventeen**
- **Sixteen**

### Chemical agent by race and ethnicity

- **Black**
- **Hispanic**
- **White**
Questions?
Updated JJPOC Strategic Plan

Tow Youth Justice Institute and JJPOC Workgroup Co-Chairs
JJPOC Strategic Plan - Process

March 2021 – October 2021

• Multiple meetings with the workgroup co-chairs and workgroup members to obtain their feedback on strategies and measures, as well as working drafts

• Feedback from the JJPOC Executive Committee and Community Expertise Workgroup

• Input from national consultants, including the Center for Children’s Law and Policy and the Council for State Governments
JJPOC Strategic Plan - Goals

- **Goal 1:** Limit youth entry into the justice system.
- **Goal 2:** Reduce incarceration.
- **Goal 3:** Reduce racial and ethnic disparities of youth in Connecticut’s juvenile justice system.
- **Goal 4:** Right-size the juvenile justice system by setting appropriate lower and upper age limits.
Limit youth entry into the justice system

Reserving the formal justice system only for cases that cannot be diverted or otherwise appropriately served by alternative means or systems

- Landscape analysis for YSBs and JRBs and issue report
- Reviews of appropriate referrals for diversion
- Restorative Practices Trainings
- Parent and youth satisfaction of YSBs and JRBs
- Partnership with Statewide Minor Homelessness Taskforce
Reduce incarceration

• Effective programming and additional resources needed for the REGIONS
• DCF implementation of Education Administrative Oversight
• Plan for serving MYI/YCI juveniles in juvenile facilities and programming.
• Tracking youth and family engagement opportunities and eligible youth automatic who have had their records automatically erased each year
• Recidivism rate broken out by risk level, community, race, ethnicity and gender
Reduce racial and ethnic disparities of youth in Connecticut’s juvenile justice system

• Action plan with strategies to eliminate barriers to partnership with community experts

• Establish new community partners engaged in RED workgroup and RED committees.

• Analyze youth of color who are arrested and/or served by JRBs

• Identify strategies that can effectively address inequities at particular decision points in the youth justice system.

• Strategies adopted by state agencies to address inequities in the youth justice system.
Right-size the juvenile justice system by setting appropriate lower and upper age limits

Lower Age

- Analyzing the data for 7-9 year olds referred to and receiving services from YSBs through new referral process

Upper Age

- # of 18-21 year olds rearrested after the age of 18
JJPOC Strategic Plan - Supports

- National Consultants
- Research
- Education Committee
- Cross-Agency Data Sharing Workgroup
- Community Expertise Workgroup
Questions?
Next JJPOC Meeting
November 18th, 2021
2:00-3:30 PM