

Louisiana State Bar Association Criminal Justice Committee Meeting

Friday, February 12, 2021
3:00PM to 4:00PM

Attendees:

Claire Bergeron Edwards, Attorney at Law
Adam Crepelle, Attorney at Law
Jennifer Eagan, Louisiana Supreme Court
Judge Jules Edwards, (ret.) 15th Judicial District Court
Jean Faria, Attorney at Law
Conor Gaffney, Southern Poverty Law Center
Scherri Guidry, 15th JDC Public Defender
Loren Lampert, Louisiana District Attorneys Association
Quintillis Lawrence, Ossie Brown
Simone Levine, Court Watch NOLA
Norma Dubois, Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office
Jared Nelson, Liskow & Lewis
William Snowden, Vera Institute
Vanessa Spinazola, Justice and Accountability Center of Louisiana
Madalyn Wasilczuk, Louisiana State University
Jon Wool, formerly Vera Institute

Louisiana State Bar Association Staff:

Amy Duncan, Access to Justice Training & Projects Counsel
Jordan Maier, Access to Justice Administrative Assistant
Monte Mollere, Access to Justice Director

Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Jean Faria welcomed the group.
- II. **Review of [Minutes](#) from previous meeting** – The minutes were adopted as written.
- III. **2020-2021 Committee Project Initiatives** (reporting out):
 - a. [Mental Health Subcommittee](#) to host a track of legal programming at the [Mental Health Association of Greater Baton Rouge Conference](#) on April 13.
 - i. The subcommittee's proposal was accepted. Several experts were added to the panel: Barksdale Hortenstine, Orleans Public Defender; Katherine Mattes, Director of the Tulane Law School Criminal Justice Clinic; Dr. Sarah DeLand, specialist in Forensic Psychiatry; and Dr. J. Brad McConville, specialist in Forensic Psychiatry.
 - ii. The Mental Health Association of Greater Baton Rouge requested that the subcommittee produce another session. The subcommittee proposed a

session exploring the difference between treatment of the mentally ill in the criminal justice system treatment vs. in civil justice system through the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Court in New Orleans. The panel will include Sheriff Greg Champagne, Barksdale Hortenstine, Judge Kern Reese, and Ursula Davis.

iii. These sessions are not eligible for CLE credit.

b. Jennifer Eagan shared progress on the [Community Supervision Project report](#).

i. Judge Edwards reminded the committee of the purpose of the report: Many judges are reluctant to assign community service as an alternative to incarceration because they not satisfied with level of supervision occurring under community service programs. The report presents best practices for program supervision and details a model community service program, assigned by a court and administered by a local government.

ii. Subcommittee members: Jon Wool, Jean Faria, Judge Edwards, Loren Lampert, Jennifer Eagan, and Vanessa Spinazola

iii. The working group is currently editing the report and hopes to present the final version to criminal justice stakeholders for support. Loren Lampert expressed reservations at the document's scope expanding into policy.

c. Jean Faria shared updated on the results of [Resolution 9](#), created by the Funding Subcommittee:

i. Two points were removed from the resolution before being passed by the LSBA House of Delegates.

ii. The Louisiana Public Defender Board Optimal Funding Group will meet at the Louisiana legislature on March 12 at 10 AM.

IV. Open Discussion

a. Judge Edwards shared research by the Louisiana Department of Health on Post-Incarceration Syndrome (PICS) with the group. The syndrome shares some similarities with Complex PTSD, plus the effects of institutionalization. The group discussed the topic's potential for future mental health cross trainings and collaboration with Building Bridges.

i. Jean Faria suggested planning another Mental Health Summit to address new findings, including PICS. Madalyn Wasilczuk offered to contribute her research on trauma. Quintillis Lawrence and Scherri Guidry also volunteered to assist in developing plans for the summit.

V. **Next Meeting** – Friday April 30, 2021

VI. **Adjourn**