

---

## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

May 24, 2019



---

Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

### JOINT MEETING OF CJJPAC, PSAB, AND SORC — MAY 2019

**Meeting.** The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Advisory Council (CJJPAC), the Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB), and the Sex Offender Research Council (SORC) convened in a joint meeting on May 15, 2019, at the Polk County River Place in Des Moines.

**Merger of CJJPAC, PSAB, and SORC.** Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division (CJJP) Administrator Steve Michael discussed the enactment of [House File 634](#) (Justice Advisory Board Act), which establishes a Justice Advisory Board (JAB) and eliminates the CCJPAC, the PSAB, and the SORC. The Act is effective July 1, 2019, and provides a new process for Board membership, establishes a new purpose and set of duties, and establishes reporting requirements. The new process includes:

- Establishing a 28-member Board consisting of 22 voting members and 6 ex officio members, all residing in the State of Iowa. Nine voting members will be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, for a four-year term. Other voting members will represent the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault; the American Civil Liberties Union; the Iowa County Attorneys Association; the departments of Human Services, Corrections (DOC), Public Safety, Public Health, and Justice; judicial district DOC services; the Office on the Status of African Americans; the Board of Parole; the State Public Defender; and the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy. These representatives will also serve a term of four years. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will designate a district judge and a district associate judge or associate juvenile judge to serve as ex officio, nonvoting members for four-year terms. Additionally, the chairperson and ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee will serve in ex officio capacity for four-year terms. The chairperson and the ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee or the House Public Safety Committee will serve as ex officio, nonvoting members on alternating two-year terms.
- Defining the purpose of the JAB to achieve the following:
  - Develop short-term and long-term goals to improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems.
  - Identify and analyze justice system issues.
  - Develop and assist others in implementing recommendations and plans for system improvement.
  - Provide the General Assembly with an analysis of current and proposed criminal code provisions.
  - Provide for a clearinghouse of justice system information to coordinate with data resource agencies and assist others in the use of justice system data.
- Establishing Board duties, including:
  - Identifying issues and analyzing the operation and impact of present criminal and juvenile justice policy and making recommendations for policy changes.
  - Coordinating with data resource agencies to provide data and analytical information to federal, State, and local governments.
  - Assisting agencies in the use of criminal and juvenile justice system data and reviewing data supplied by the Department of Management, Legislative Services Agency (LSA), and other departments.
  - Reporting criminal justice and juvenile justice system needs to the Governor, the General Assembly, and other decisionmakers to improve the criminal justice system.
  - Providing technical assistance to State and local agencies.
  - Administer State, federal, and grant funds for purposes of research, planning, and implementation in the areas of criminal juvenile justice.

- Recommending legislative and executive action to the Governor and General Assembly.
- Studying and making recommendations for treating and supervising adult and juvenile sex offenders in institutions, in community-based programs, and in the community.
- Providing expertise and advice to the LSA, the DOC, the Judicial Branch, and others charged with formulating fiscal, correctional, and minority impact statements.

[House File 634](#) also requires that the JAB submit a three-year criminal justice plan for the State beginning December 1, 2020, and by December 1 every three years thereafter. The plan is required to be updated annually and must include short-term and long-term goals for the criminal and juvenile justice systems, as well as reporting on the Board's fulfillment of its duties as listed above.

**Legislative Update.** Division Administrator Michael also provided an update on the recent legislative session. As part of the Justice System Appropriations Act ([Senate File 615](#)), the CJJP is required to administer a \$140,000 grant to a program committed to deterring juvenile delinquency through early intervention in the criminal justice system by providing comprehensive, multi-faceted delivery of social services to a city with a higher than average crime rate as determined by the CJJP and a population of greater than 80,000 as determined by the 2010 federal decennial census.

CJJP Research Director Sarah Fineran provided an update on current and proposed research projects the Division is participating in. Current projects include, among others:

- **The Youthful Sex Offender Research Project (YSOTP).** The purpose of the Project is to provide a program evaluation of the pilot Youthful Sex Offender Treatment Program.
- **Iowa Partnership for Success (IPFS).** In collaboration with the Bureau of Substance Abuse of the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Public Health, the Partnership addresses Iowa's substance abuse prevention priorities of reducing underage drinking and youth binge drinking by providing funding for research, data collection, and analysis and providing recommendations to assist communities.
- **Indigent Defense Project.** The Project allows indigent defendants to select their own attorney under the client choice model. The CJJP analyzes data collected for those served under this model and plans to publish a full assessment of data outcomes.

Proposed projects include, among others:

- **An Evaluation of Statewide Recidivism Reduction (SRR).** The Project involves an evaluation of the DOC's SRR initiative, proposing to analyze recidivism as a new disposed charge and/or conviction rather than a new prison admission.
- **Longitudinal Analysis of Iowa's Sex Offender Special Sentence.** The CJJP is proposing to update a 2014 study on the effectiveness of Iowa's special sentence procedures to track original cohorts of sex offenses for an additional five years for a total of eight years. This would allow the CJJP to gain a better understanding of how low recidivism rates were sustained over a longer period of time and what additional costs may be involved with a special sentence, and to provide a forecasted projection of the number of new offenders in future years.

**Next Meeting.** The first meeting of the new JAB has been tentatively scheduled for September 18, 2019, at a location to be determined.

LSA Staff Contact: Christin Mechler (515.250.0458) [christin.mechler@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:christin.mechler@legis.iowa.gov)