

**MINUTES OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (CJCC) MEETING**

**OCTOBER 20, 2025 AT 12:00 P.M.**

Chairperson: Daniel Bryant-Chief Judge-12<sup>th</sup> JDC

Chief Judge Daniel Bryant commenced the meeting at 12:02 PM:

Present:

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| <b>12<sup>th</sup> JDC:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angie Schneider, District Court Judge, Div. IV, <input type="checkbox"/> Denise LeDoux, TCAA, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daniel Bryant, Chief Judge, Div. III, <input type="checkbox"/> Vicki Moran, TCAA, <input type="checkbox"/> Lori Gibson Willard, District Court Judge, Div. II, <input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Carrillo, TCAA, <input type="checkbox"/> John Sugg, District Court Judge, Div. V, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rachel Skinner, TCAA, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephen Ochoa, District Court Judge, Div. I, <input type="checkbox"/> Kaitlan Ruckel, TCAA, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audrey Hukari, CEO, <input type="checkbox"/> Jane Granier, Hearing Officer, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S. Diane Medina, Court Manager, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sylvia Zamora, Court Supervisor, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amanda Edwards, Project Manager, <input type="checkbox"/> Maureen Schmittle, Program Manager, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donnell Bryant, Pretrial Supervisor, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phil Hefter, Court Services Manager, <input type="checkbox"/> Jeremy Domingo, IT Specialist, <input type="checkbox"/> Bobbie Shearer, Program Manager |
| <b>Magistrate Court:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brittany Aguilar, Court Manager, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Lund, Lincoln County Magistrate Judge, Div. II, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melanie Zamora, Court Manager, <input type="checkbox"/> A. Richard Greene, III, Otero County Magistrate Judge, Div. II, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mickie Vega, Lincoln County Magistrate Judge, Div. I, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Secrest, Otero County Magistrate Judge, Div. I, <input type="checkbox"/> Alyssa Orona, Court Manager; <input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Herrera, Lincoln County Court Clerk  |
| <b>LOPD:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Bennett Baur, Chief Public Defender, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dayna Jones, District Public Defender, <input type="checkbox"/> Joel Lobo, Otero Managing Attorney, <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Sutherland, Lincoln Managing Attorney, <input type="checkbox"/> James Walker, Public Defender, <input type="checkbox"/> Haashir Lakhani, Public Defender, <input type="checkbox"/> Zoe Psiakis, Public Defender <input type="checkbox"/> Karl Mundt, Public Defender, <input type="checkbox"/> Shane Brill, <input type="checkbox"/> Michelle Hailey, <input type="checkbox"/> Katina Slaughter <input type="checkbox"/> Karina Rodriguez, <input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Cairns, <input type="checkbox"/> Deena Daniel, <input type="checkbox"/> Kacey Taylor, <input type="checkbox"/> Anthony Spaulding, <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Deer, <input type="checkbox"/> Steph Guerra, <input type="checkbox"/> KC Quirk, <input type="checkbox"/> Ashley Ventura, <input type="checkbox"/> Lindsey Cerny  |
| <b>District Attorney's Office:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Suggs, District Attorney, <input type="checkbox"/> Hannah Burleson, Office Manager, <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Heitz, Chief Deputy District Attorney; <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Tighe, Chief Deputy District Attorney  |
| <b>Private Bar:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Erin Atkins, <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Mitchell, <input type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Miller, <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Van Keulen, <input type="checkbox"/> Todd Holmes   |
| <b>County, City and Village:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Alan Morel, <input type="checkbox"/> Ira Pearson, <input type="checkbox"/> Pamela Heltner, <input type="checkbox"/> RB Nichols, <input type="checkbox"/> Perry Lawson, <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Freedman, <input type="checkbox"/> Nadia Sikes, <input type="checkbox"/> Ashley Smith, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Barela   |
| <b>Law Enforcement and Detention:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Barela, <input type="checkbox"/> Darren Hooker, Ruidoso Police Department Chief, <input type="checkbox"/> David Black, Otero County Sheriff, <input type="checkbox"/> Geraldine Martinez, Lincoln County Undersheriff, <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Wood, Lincoln County Sheriff, <input type="checkbox"/> Martin Cook, OCDC, <input type="checkbox"/> Ross Castleton, OCDC, <input type="checkbox"/> Sean Jett, Otero County Undersheriff, <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Colvin, LCDC, <input type="checkbox"/> Randy Spear, Capitan Police Department Chief, <input type="checkbox"/> David Kunihiro, Alamogordo Police Department Chief, <input type="checkbox"/> Steven Minner, Ruidoso Police Dept. Cheif, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ian Daugherty, LCSO Undersheriff, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LT Orlando Ayers, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LT Raymond Brown, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capt. Jay Blakeney, NM State Police, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCSO  |
| <b>Probation:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Casillas, <input type="checkbox"/> S.A. Castro, <input type="checkbox"/> Peter Sanders, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samantha Monroy, <input type="checkbox"/> Sergio Castro, <input type="checkbox"/> Juanita Jaye Arellano, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Skinner  |
| <b>Behavioral Health:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeanette Borunda, <input type="checkbox"/> Johnna Arredondo, <input type="checkbox"/> Denise Williams (Kimmie Jordan's Office), <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Bronwyn Neeser (Hive Consulting)  |
| <b>Other:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Robin Rafkin, <input type="checkbox"/> Darla Goar, <input type="checkbox"/> Genevieve Grant, <input type="checkbox"/> Derek Chin, <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Fletcher, <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew Crecelius, , <input type="checkbox"/> Jamie Goldberg, <input type="checkbox"/> Veronica Gutierrez, <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Garza, <input type="checkbox"/> Violette Cloud, <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Hillis, <input type="checkbox"/> Francis Valencia, <input type="checkbox"/> Stefany  |

## 1. DISTRICT COURT

- **Introductions.**
- **Topics:** (Judge Bryant)
  - Items I am aware of, issues that have been raised are Officer prosecutions in Mag. Ct. cases and need for training, LOPD and DA have request to consider a Technical Probation Violation Program, from Sam Monroy have proposed unsupervised probation order for use in cases from District Court going into APO when the Judge is contemplating unsupervised probation for some or all of probation period.
- **Updates:** (Audrey Hukari)
  - Working with Lincoln and Otero Counties on the behavioral health initiative coming out of Santa Fe. Our region has been awarded a \$60,000 planning grant. Using that funding to facilitate some community discussions and work groups to help develop a region plan for our behavioral health initiative response.
  - Otero County Pro Bono Legal Fair will be November 8<sup>th</sup> at the District Courthouse in Alamogordo from 10AM to 2PM. Will have attorneys providing free legal services. Will have a lot volunteers but can always use more. Will also have representatives of the Ruidoso Downwinders that will be able to help people who may be eligible for compensation for those impacted by the testing of the Atomic Bomb. Should be a robust fair and looking forward to be able to offer that.
- **REACH Program:** (Judge Schneider)
  - Have launched our young adult court (REACH Court) Restoring Emerging Adults with Connections and Hope. It is the same model that is used for the Adult Treatment Court that Judge Bryant runs and the Veterans Treatment Court that Judge Ochoa runs but is specific to the needs and issues in individuals aged 18-24. At this point taking referrals. Few things we are working out with the treatment modality, putting that into our policies and procedures. Have our team together with representatives from the DA, LOPD, APO and the Counseling Center has been contracted to run the treatment piece of it. Want to go ahead and start taking referrals. Keep that in mind, 18–24 year olds. Do look to expand it to age 26 but the treatment modality is a little different for the 25-26 year olds. Working on that. Please feel free to reach out if want to be included in any of the planning meetings moving forward. Just know that we followed the standards that are required by AOC and the 10 key components required of any treatment court. Want a focus in this Court on community and doing what we can to connect people with community in a more robust way.
- **Competency Diversion Program:** (Judge Schneider)
  - Continue to be the managing/supervising Judge on the Competency Division Program. Judge Vega is the presiding judge. Never be shy about letting me know if you have questions or concerns. If want to be included in the regular statics that our program manager sends out.
- **New Otero District Courthouse:** (Audrey Hukari)
  - Have engaged with an architect and a construction company. Going through a process called value engineering right now to make sure we are completing a building that provides the functionality that we need and price we can afford. Have been some redesigns that we have had to go back and too to make sure we stay within budget. Still functional. Hoping to have new plans within 30 days or so then will have the construction company do another quick look to make sure the adjustments we made brought the project down to the budget we are able to work with.
- **Adult Drug Court:** (Judge Bryant)
  - Have been going through a period of transition between treatment providers. All of that has come full circle now. Are on contract in both counties. Will be ramping back up to full participation and function of the treatment court. If interested, come by the courthouse in Alamogordo. Keep a board on the wall with photos of some of our graduates over the course of the last several years. It's great to look at some of the faces that you will recognize. Many of them are doing really, really well. That system should be ramped back up to full operation pretty quickly. Judges, please don't hesitate to refer people for assessment when appropriate.

## 2. MAGISTRATE COURT

- **Officer Prosecutions:** (Judge Bryant)
  - Topic I opened up with. DA's office has contracted with a company called Technical Solutions. Will be coming into the district to offer training to officers who will be conducting prosecutions in Magistrate Court in order to help the officer understand what their burdens are, what the rules are and responsibilities. Excited to see that. Thank it is a first in New Mexico that we can find in the work that we have done in the last couple of weeks, looking at the issue and trying to identify how to get that training started. Looking for it to grow and become an asset. Have officer prosecutions happening all over the state and just need to help those folks understand the differences when they step into the role.

## 3. MUNICIPAL COURT

- Nothing to report.

## 4. LOPD

- **Technical Probation Violation Program:** (Dayna Jones)
  - Dayna Jones: Last I know we had presented it to the Courts and are hoping to get approved.
    - ❖ Judge Bryant: Think the direction that we have gotten is that it's okay to put in place and to give a shoot at. Needs to be something in there that would allow a Judge in a particular situation, if looking at a defendant who has something going on that the Court thinks needs to be more formal then the technical violation program that we have the ability to move that one in that direction if necessary.
    - ❖ Dayna Jones: Know DA is not on the call. The DA and the PD spent a lot of time negotiating this and figuring it out. The problem then, with that respectively, going to have people treated differently depending on which Judge they are in front of. Really what we were trying to avoid. Folks can still go through the full adjudicatory process if they pick up new charges if it's a none technical violation. Think the Court does have that ability but it's under the idea that is only for non-technical violations. Think that's where I struggle because if the whole thing becomes discretionary then what's the point of the program because we're right back to where we are. Really just like a recommendation maybe to the Courts. Maybe I'm misunderstanding but I'm open to being corrected. Think the idea of the Technical Violation Program is so that you know the outcome. So when someone goes on probation the defense attorney can say this is what is going to happen if you agree to this probation. So there is a degree of certainty to it and at a certain point you get kicked out for certain things or too many violations. Think if you take away the certainty it sort of takes away the point of the program unless I'm missing something.
    - ❖ Judge Bryant: Let me cover a couple of things with that. Ryan Suggs and his crew send their apologies. Suggs and several of his lawyers and staff, including Hannah, are traveling to a training. They were doing what they could to try and participate but couldn't get that set up. We just don't have them with us. Let me take those concerns, thank you for being so clear and explicate about it. I will run that back around the communication loop with the judges and then I will reach out to you and Suggs within a week and let you know the results of that discussion.
    - ❖ Dayna Jones: Thank you.

## 5. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- No parties from the District Attorney's Office present.

## 6. PRIVATE BAR

- No parties from the Private Bar present.

## 7. COUNTY/CITY and VILLAGE

- No parties from the County, City and Village present.

## 8. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DETENTION

- Lincoln County Sheriff's Office: Nothing to Report
- Otero County Sheriff's Office: Nothing to Report
- NM State Police(Jay Blakeney): Request Technical Solutions training information.
  - ❖ Judge Bryant: Contact Hannah at the DA's Office
- Otero County Detention: Not Present
- Lincoln County Detention: Not Present

## 9. PROBATION

- **Unsupervised Probation Orders:** (Samantha Monroy)
  - Wanting more clarification on how the Judges would like to proceed with those. Have the discharge order/unsupervised order in our locker as a document but in a previous situation with Judge Sugg. We submitted the unsupervised order however he didn't want the file closed in a sense or we couldn't submit the discharge order until his probation time came up. Just wanted more clarification or direction on how the district Judges want us to proceed with those cases being that they are unsupervised but their case is not technically closed.
    - ❖ Judge Bryant: In your system in for DOC/APO, when you have someone that is unsupervised and the period has expired without violation, what happens in your system, what do you do within your department?
    - ❖ Samantha Monroy: Typically, once the time has expired, we submit the discharge order. It's signed by the officer and the supervisor and that's the document we submit to the court. With the unsupervised orders, it's a bit different because technically the time of probation has not expired however, they're not being supervised by our department. I don't know if the Judges would prefer to keep those open and leave them on our caseload until that time comes. Essentially can't do anything with that individual because they aren't being supervised by us. We don't have authority over that person.
    - ❖ Judge Bryant: Think the concern of the Judges, based on the conversations over the summer, under the rule we lose jurisdiction to modify a J&S 90 days after it's entered. The issue is how do we preserve the ability to sign that probationary order that takes it from supervised to unsupervised. I will run a communication loop through the four of us that have criminal dockets within the next week to see what kind of language we need in the J&S under other conditions that would permit us to approve the order that takes it from supervised to unsupervised during the term of probation. Will make sure exactly what judge Sugg's concern was, that's what I think it was just based on the conversations we've had. Rachel you are with us, do you have any information whether there is something different that Judge Sugg was concerned about.
    - ❖ Rachel Skinner: I'm not sure. Wonder if it was just the fact that the discharge order would show that their discharged from probation when they're not. They still have an unsupervised period of probation and that would count for habitual offender process. I'm not completely sure.
    - ❖ Judge Bryant: Okay. Samantha has put together a proposed form of order. I think Audrey forwarded it to at least all of us on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October. Audrey, would you send it to Rachel so she can bring it to Judge Suggs attention. That way when we talk next week, we can get him in the loop. Judge Ochoa and Judge Schneider are both here so they are both aware of this idea and we will see where the conversation takes us.

- ❖ Dayna Jones: Wanted to share that Mr. Walker came to me about a week ago and asked me to submit a proposed rule change where this could actually be considered in the rules. I know that takes a long time and won't be an immediate fix or a way to address the issue. Promised Mr. Walker I would look into it and do that. So, we are going to propose an actual rule change as well and I just wanted to feed that out since its being discussed.
- ❖ Judge Bryant: The NMJC has a legislation and rules committee, I am vice chair, if you would send that to me, I'll send that to the chair and we will go from there.

## **10. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

- Crisis Intervention: (Judge Bryant)
  - Judge Bryant: I have an issue involving a Tularosa resident who may need a intervention from crisis intervention trained officers. I'm not sure if Tularosa has anyone who has gone through the training. The Municipal Judge up there has called me about a citizen that they are concerned and worried about. I will get with you offline and share that info and see whether there is any ability to provide any assistance.
    - ❖ Jeanette Borunda: You got it. Will do.
- SB Funds: (Dayna Jones)
  - Wanted to raise that the SB Funds, got that notification from AOC today, that the funds were raised from \$45,000 potentially per district to \$60,000 potentially per district. For anyone that doesn't know, Lincoln County will be in charge of allocating and implanting those funds in our district. It is a district wide allocation. Will affect both Otero and Lincoln. Expect to start have stakeholder meeting soon. If anyone is interested and not involved, reach out to the Lincoln County Manager. That's who is coordinating those effects. Wanted to share that because \$60,000 is a lot of money in a district like ours and can go really far. All of us that work with this population, it would be helpful that everybody's perspective is included.
    - ❖ Judge Schneider: Otero County, Lincoln County and Mescalero absolutely have to have a voice on how that money is spent. Already have a small group together that will expand I imagine. Commissioner Barela, myself and Audrey are all on there and we have tribal representation. Just wanted to assure you that we are defiantly on that and have made it very clear that all our voices have to be heard with how that money is allocated.
    - ❖ Jeanette Borunda: Just wanted to add to that. That money, the initial \$60,000, that is planning money. That is not actually the money that is going to be used for the Behavioral Health Bill that's coming through. This really getting our ideas of what we want as a community for the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Want to put forth our priorities to then go for money that is in those senate bills. Ross Coleman is the person to get in touch with in Lincoln County.
    - ❖ Judge Bryant: Want to express the thought that it would be critically important for Law Enforcement to have representatives from all agencies in the district. We all recognize that in this arena, you guys hit the ground and are typically first contact. We really have to have a robust process set up to share information and meet needs at that point clear across the district. I know you all know what those challenges are when you look at all the geography we have to cover here.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 PM