

THE BALTIMORE CITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 MEETING

Council Members In Attendance*:

Chair Audrey J.S. Carrión, Circuit Administrative Judge, Circuit Court for Baltimore City
Chair Geoffrey Hengerer, District Administrative Judge, District Court of Maryland, District 1

Dorothy Lennig, designee for the Governor of Maryland

Katie Dorian, designee for Maryland Attorney General

Ivan Bates, State's Attorney for Baltimore City

Derek Loeffler, designee for Commissioner, Baltimore Police Department

Marguerite Lanaux, District Public Defender, Baltimore City

Angelina Guarino, designee for Secretary, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

William Faherty, designee for Deputy Director of Operations for the Division of Parole and Probation, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Kelvin Harris, designee for Commissioner, Division of Pretrial Detention and Services, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Marguerite Murray Currin, designee for Council President, Baltimore City Council

James Wyda, Federal Public Defender for the District of Maryland

Sam Cogen, Sheriff, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office

Betsy Fox Tolentino, Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services

Stefanie Mavronis, Director, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

Xavier Conaway, Clerk of the Court, Circuit Court for Baltimore City

Mary Abrams, Administrative Clerk, District Court of Maryland, District 1

Linda Lewis, Administrative Commissioner, District Court of Maryland, District 1

Crista Taylor, President and CEO, Behavioral Health System Baltimore

Cory McCray, Baltimore City Delegation Senator

Marlon Amprey, Baltimore City Delegation Delegate

Others in Attendance*: Kimberly Barranco, Director of the Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Kara Aanenson, designee for the Department of Juvenile Services

Patricia Johnson, designee for the Circuit Court for Baltimore City Clerk's Office

Nicholas Blendy, designee for the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office

Sam Friedman, Governor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security

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Catherine Flynn, designee for State's Attorney for Baltimore City

Judge David Aldouby, District Court, Co-Chair of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee

Judge James Green, District Court, Chair of the Warrant Committee

Jonathan Hoffman, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

Monica Byrd, Division of Pretrial Detention and Services, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Alycia Capozello, designee for the Office of the Public Defender

Absent: Chair Brandon Scott, Mayor, City of Baltimore

Wes Moore, Governor of Maryland

Anthony Brown, Maryland Attorney General

Richard Worley, Commissioner, Baltimore Police Department

Carolyn Scruggs, Secretary, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Samantha Barrettt, Deputy Director of Operations for the Division of Parole and Probation, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Kimberly Bey, Commissioner, Division of Pretrial Detention and Services, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Zeke Cohen, Council President, Baltimore City Council

Thomas Maronick, Jr., Private Defense Bar Representative, Bar Association of Baltimore City

***We request that all in attendance sign the attendance sheet which is available at each meeting.**

MEETING DIALOGUE

1. **Call to Order and Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Baltimore City Circuit Court Administrative Judge Audrey J.S. Carrión greeted Council members and their representatives.
2. **Approval of the July 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes:** Kimberly Barranco asked members if they had any edits to the July 9, 2025 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved without objection.

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3. Chairs' Reports:

- **Circuit Court Administrative Judge Audrey J.S. Carrión**
- Judge Carrión discussed new Court security procedures which are being implemented statewide.
 - Due to security incidents, 100% security screenings will be done by the Sheriff's Office.
 - Judges and magistrates will be screened as well.
 - Working to get everyone through the screening as quickly as possible.
- **District Court Administrative Judge Geoffrey Hengerer**
- Judge Hengerer advised that the District Court under the direction of Chief Judge John Morrissey is working on their security processes.
- He referenced a letter provided to members from Chief Judge Morrissey and himself that the civil District Court currently at Fayette and Gay streets would be moving over the long October 10 weekend to the new District courthouse at 500 North Calvert Street.
 - There will be no civil dockets on Friday October 10, 2025 and Tuesday October 14, 2025 but Court will be open for filings.
 - This move does not affect criminal matters except for the location of the Court Commissioners.
 - Dorothy Lening asked if there would be a place to obtain an interim protective order at the Commissioner's Central Application station at 1 N. Charles Street on Sunday October 12th and Linda Lewis advised that there will be staff there during the transition.
 - They are waiting for approval for the new building to be named for Judge Mabel Houze Hubbard, the first female African American appointed to the bench in Maryland.
 - Anticipates there will be some space for the Office of the Public Defender and the State's Attorney's Office; criminal traffic dockets will be held in the new courthouse at some point.
 - The move was not made due to legionella as was reported but has been planned for many years.

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4. Standing Reports:

- **Director's Report:** Kimberly Barranco apologized for the multiple Google meeting invites sent. She explained that when a new member or designee is invited, new invitations are sent by Google to everyone instead of only those individuals requested. She advised that members do not need to confirm their attendance if the meeting is already on their calendar and apologized for the inconvenience.
- She reported that all CJCC committees: the Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee, the Interagency Data and IT Committee, the Pretrial/Post Arrest Committee, the Transportation Committee, the Warrant Committee, the Community Justice Committee, and the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team have all met and begun their important work.
- Ms. Barranco congratulated Secretary Scruggs and her team on the excellent reentry simulation held in July and advised that she would continue to send members information regarding training opportunities of interest. She asked members to send her information regarding training or events that they would like to share with the Council.
- **Division of Pretrial Detention and Services Report:** Deputy Commissioner Kelvin Harris provided the Pretrial Detention Report on behalf of Commissioner Kimberly Bey.
- Advised that total bookings in August of 1541 are down from 1672 last month.
- The report noted that bookings for most violent crimes were also down.
- Explained the top three offenses continue to be aggravated assaults, CDS, and larceny theft.
- The report noted there were 794 police warrant arrests last month and 874 in July.
- Discussed the Youth Detention Center population of 70 juveniles total with 63 males and seven females at present.
- Explained that all youth in their custody attend the Eager Street Academy which is a Baltimore City Public school. Back to school day will be held on September 25, 2025 and resources will be offered by various organizations. Mr. Harris invited the OPD to attend the resource fair to discuss the services they offer.
- The Seeds of Light events for young people continued, featuring speakers NFL Player Torrey Smith and Boston Celtics Assistant Coach Sam Cassell.

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- **Division of Pretrial Detention and Services Report:** Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services Assistant Secretary of Data, Policy, and Grants Angelina Guarino discussed the Pretrial Detention Report.
- Monthly report was originally provided for prior CJCC meetings and is used internally.
- DPSCS wants to assess how the report can be utilized to provide the data that is needed today.
- Report data notes basic metrics of who is booked, who is committed, where they are committed to, and who is released is directly drawn from the DPSCS database.
- Annual and monthly report provides the ability to identify the number of bookings, the number of commitments and number of distinct individuals.
- Advised that there are significantly more bookings than people; very small percentage of population are coming in multiple times.
- Report can be used to give attention to broader issues as well as to the individuals who need the most attention.
- Judge Carrión inquired if these individuals can be identified and Assistant Secretary Guarino advised that they can.
- Dorothy Lennig asked if the metrics in the report are what the members want to see or if other data points should be provided since data drives policy decisions and she is interested in outcomes.
- Suggested that an annual report may be more useful and DPSCS believes they can tell the story better with a different format.
- Advised that no capability would be lost by paring this report down.
- Judge Carrión asked where the data came from, and Assistant Secretary Guarino advised that it comes from their database populated by intake staff at pretrial detention facilities.
- Addressed questions about how arrests are measured, stating they use an internal matrix to rank the most severe offenses.
- Senator McCray stated that he wants to continue to see warrant trends.
- Judge Carrión asked if the database had crime location information and Ms. Lennig suggested that Ms. Guarino collaborate with Jeffrey Zuback, the GOCPP Director of Research, Analysis and Evaluation on tracking crime locations within

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the city. Stefanie Mavronis advised that MONSE has neighborhood level data in their database using Open Baltimore.

- Marguerite Lanaux asked about individual data for multiple bookings for the same person, and Assistant Secretary Guarino advised that aggregate data is in the report, but that row level data is available. She stated that operationally they could produce a report with this specific information if requested.
- Clerk Conaway asked about the methodology used to verify accuracy and Assistant Secretary Guarino stated that they do go back if there are accuracy questions and will then issue a revised report.
- Judge Carrión requested Ms. Barranco re-send the DPDS report to members and asked that they review the report and determine what top level data points are valuable and what questions they have that can be answered with the data.
- **Baltimore Police Department Report:** Major Derek Loeffler provided the report on behalf of Commissioner Richard Worley. He noted the continuing positive trend in homicides.
 - 27 % decrease in homicides; 94 year to date, 130 last year.
 - All other major crime is down significantly.
 - Narcotics arrests are up to address crime.
- Maryland State Police (MSP) will be assisting with crime efforts on the weekends and will be deployed strategically based upon crime trends.
- Advised they will be looking at data to focus the mission of traffic enforcement and warrant service support.
- Sheriff Cogen asked about funding and Major Loeffler advised it is through state resources.
- State's Attorney Bates asked if they would be issuing criminal citations and Major Loeffler advised that they may issue citations if the situation is encountered, but that they are focused on traffic enforcement and license plate recognition.
- Advised that MSP has supported the city in the past.
- MSP will process any arrests made through booking.
- There is a liaison between the agencies and they will share intelligence.
- Commissioner Lewis asked if the MSP would be submitting applications for statement of charges and Major Loeffler advised no.

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- Judge Carrión asked about an end date for MSP's deployment and Major Loeffler advised that there is no end date scheduled. He further advised that they began last weekend.
- Major Loeffler elaborated on the past collaboration with BPD and stated it was two-three years ago and is now picking back up.
- Senator McCray asked about deployment policies and Major Loeffler replied that MSP will follow their procedures and BPD will follow theirs.
- Judge Hengerer asked if MSP could assist with emergency petitions and Major Loeffler replied that if they encounter this issue they will request BPD support and assist as they can, but they are not there to assume patrol responsibilities.
- Judge Carrión remarked that there is no mental health crisis center in the city, and she asked if officers have Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training. Major Loeffler replied that all officers in the academy receive 16 hours of behavioral health awareness training, and every officer receives 8 hours of behavioral health training annually. He further stated that they may receive 40 hours of specialized CIT training on a voluntary basis. He further advised that approximately 159 officers in patrol and 275 officers agency-wide are CIT trained. He noted that there are approximately 25% of patrol officers who are trained in CIT, but some shifts are significantly lower. Per the consent decree, CIT training is voluntary. Judge Carrión advised that this topic should be further explored.
- Delegate Amprey asked if the recent successes in crime are being used as a recruitment tool and Major Loeffler affirmed they are seeing positive trends.
- Advised hiring has increased with 70-80 applicants per week.
- Currently there are 150 officers in the Police Academy with a 10-month training period (80-90 last year).
- Recruitment vehicle with QR codes for hiring is successfully being used at public events.
- Clerk Conaway asked if there has been improvement in retention. Major Loeffler replied that he did not have the statistics but that resignations are lower and there are fewer retirements due to raises for senior officers. He noted positive hiring and retention trends.
- Stefanie Mavronis commented later in the meeting that MSP had a longstanding partnership with BPD and that they provide support in all jurisdictions. She noted looking forward to continued collaborations.

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5. **Member Reports:** State's Attorney Ivan Bates distributed a handout about a proposal for the CJCC to consider a plan for the implementation of a secure computer access program for incarcerated defendants in pretrial status to view discovery. He proposed rolling out secure controlled access computers within the Baltimore City correctional facilities for use by incarcerated defendants scheduled for trial in Baltimore city courts. The devices would be equipped with restricted software solely for the purpose of review of electronic discovery and should operate under security and supervision protocols.

- Constitutional rights would be protected.
- Pro se defendants would have the ability to review discovery which the MD Rules Committee is currently addressing.
- Court postponements would be reduced.
- Allows for better communication for all parties and will assist the OPD and private defense bar.

Mr. Bates suggested that a workgroup be formed to address this for pretrial defendants and advised that this technology is already used in the DOC. Marguerite Lanaux stated she appreciated the plan for discovery but noted that there are tablets currently available at pretrial facilities. She further noted there have been conversations regarding virtual platforms for meeting with defendants and electronic review of discovery. Ms. Lanaux advised that the discovery portal is not fully utilized and would like to see this issue as part of the broader discussion. Judge Carrión advised that the secure technology piece was important, and Deputy Commissioner Harris stated that the proposal was worth exploring. Judge Green advised that there have been discussions with DPSCS regarding technology improvements to reduce the need for transportation. James Wyda advised that the federal system has the ability to allow attorneys to email their clients in federal detention centers and enable the viewing of discovery. He further advised that they have a very secure system. Ms. Lanaux reminded members that discovery needs to be sent to the appropriate party, which would be counsel if they are represented.

Mr. Bates made a motion to have this proposal referred to the CJCC Pretrial/Post Arrest Committee for further discussion and the motion was approved.

6. **Presentation on the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board:** Director Melanie Shapiro discussed victim compensation in Maryland and stated that the policy of the State is that help, care, and support be provided by the State, as a matter of moral

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responsibility for these victims. She reported that the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) receives approximately 850-900 claims per year.

- Grounds for award:
 - A crime or delinquent act was committed; and the crime or delinquent act directly resulted in:
 - physical injury to or death of the victim; or
 - psychological injury to the victim that necessitated mental health counseling.
 - They have victim services staff to help people if they are not eligible.
 - The crime can now be a misdemeanor – stalking and counseling expenses are now allowed.
- CICB is the payor of last resort and claimant needs to exhaust all other options – crowdfunding is considered.
- Must have incurred an eligible reimbursable expense.
- Claimant must cooperate and provide information requested by CICB to examine their claim – it is the claimant's burden.
- Claims are apportioned if there are two or more persons eligible for an award.
 - \$45,000 cap per victim.
 - \$10,000 cap for funeral expenses.
- Significant changes effective July 1, 2025:
 - Increased timeline for filing a claim – from three years to four years; good cause exception.
 - Ability to prove victimization if the crime is not reported to police.
 - Removal of contributory conduct.
 - Increased award amounts in certain categories - \$7,500 to \$10,000 for funeral expenses, \$250 to \$2,000 for crime scene cleanup, \$5,000 to \$10,000 for emergency claims, and \$10,000 to the full claim amount of \$45,000 for mental health services.
 - Initial claims determination now made at the examiner staff level.
 - Improved timelines for claims processing – 30 days to make determination on the initial claim.
 - Expanded Board Membership – seven members from five.
- Eligible expenses:
 - Funeral and burial.
 - Medical care.
 - Psychological care.
 - Loss of wages.

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- Loss of support.
- Disability.
- Bereavement leave – limited to parent, spouse, or child.
- Crime scene cleanup.
- Relocation.
- Transportation and child care incurred while seeking medical or psychological care.
- Non-eligible expenses:
 - Pain and suffering.
 - Property damage – only crime scene cleanup allowed , not damage to the property. Stolen phones not an eligible expense.
 - Expenses not directly related to the crime.
 - Expenses without necessary documentation
- Emergency awards:
 - First determination
 - An award likely will be made on the claim; and
 - The claimant will suffer undue hardship unless immediate payment is made.
 - Second determination: unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the application is without merit, CICB shall make emergency awards for:
 - Funeral expenses.
 - Crime scene cleanup.
 - Emergency relocation.

Ms. Shapiro discussed how to apply.

- Online portal: <https://ccvcmd.org/>
- Email: cicb.info@maryland.gov
- In person – they are open for walk-ins during certain hours.
- Mail.

Ms. Shapiro also provided her contact information and contact information for the CICB:

- Melanie Shapiro
Director of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
melanie.shapiro1@maryland.gov
- CICB
410-585-3010

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cicb.info@maryland.gov

<https://gocpp.maryland.gov/victim-services/cicb/>

In response to a question regarding referrals, Ms. Shapiro stated it does not matter who the referring source is as long as the claimant is eligible. She advised that their victim services coordinator facilitates emergency claims and that the claim can be processed within 24 hours.

7. **Strategic Plan Discussion:** Ms. Barranco reminded members that at the last CJCC meeting on July 9, 2025, the bylaws and need for a strategic planning process were discussed. She advised that thanks to support from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy, the National Criminal Justice Association has agreed to assist in this process. Ms. Barranco explained that the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, non-partisan membership association dedicated to assisting state, tribal and local criminal justice agencies and other practitioners in the development and implementation of effective criminal justice policy.

Ms. Baranco stated that all members would receive a very brief survey to assist in identifying areas of focus and goals for the CJCC strategic plan, and that it would be emailed to members, designees, member staff, and the CJCC Committee Chairs on or about September 16, 2025 directly by Allison Badger, the Director of the Center for Justice Planning at the NCJA. She said that it should take no more than five minutes to complete and individual responses would be confidential. She asked that members please complete the survey as soon as possible.

Ms. Barranco advised that based upon the survey responses, Ms. Badger would facilitate a strategic planning session at the November 12, 2025 CJCC meeting from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. She said that the meeting time had been extended to three hours to allow sufficient time for full discussion and the establishment of the priorities for the CJCC Strategic Plan. She expressed appreciation for members accommodating the time change to participate in this important conversation to shape the strategic plan for the CJCC.

8. **Adjournment** – Judge Carrión adjourned the meeting and advised that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday November 12, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.