



Operation & Leadership

Committees of diverse membership – including members outside of the Commission and its Advisory Committee – and Ad Hoc Committees meet regularly, while the full Commission meets quarterly. The next full Commission meeting is December 14, 2017. Chief Justice O’Connor chairs the Commission and the Vice-Chair is Judge Nick Selvaggio from the Champaign County Court of Common Pleas.

I. Juvenile Justice – Chair Paul Dobson, Wood County Prosecutor

Juvenile Probation – The committee received a project proposal from the RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice for a multi-county site review of juvenile probation in Ohio. The committee continues to evaluate the best approach to systemic juvenile probation reform and will hear more from those involved with JDAI at its January 2018 meeting.

Juvenile Data – the committee will hear from Case Western Reserve University researchers at the January 2018 meeting, as they have completed the evaluation of the impact of HB86 and other enacted sentence reform measures.

II. Sentencing & Criminal Justice – Chair Judge Spanagel, Parma Municipal Court

Bail Reform – The report and recommendations from the Commission have generated interest in potential legislation and the Supreme Court of Ohio will consider the recommendations in the 2018-2019 rule review period.

For its upcoming work, the committee identified the 2925 Drug Chapter, the 2929 Sentencing Chapter and Appellate Review as priorities from the Recodification Committee’s Plan. Additionally, the committee will make recommendations regarding T-CAP, 2929.15 probation violator caps and pending legislation including SB201, SB201 and HB365 – the Reagan Tokes Act.

III. Ohio Justice Reinvestment 2.0 Ad Hoc Committee

The Commission is facilitating Ohio’s next phase of criminal justice reform through reengagement in Justice Reinvestment (JRI) with the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center. The Commission sanctioned the Ad Hoc Committee at its September 2017 meeting and the JRI 2.0 kick-off meeting was November 9, 2017.

The focus is on the system’s “front end” and will include a comprehensive analysis of available data for crime, arrest, conviction, sentencing, probation, incarceration, behavioral health, post-release control and recidivism. CSG Justice Center staff will examine probation, post-release control, and incarcerated population trends; length of time served in incarceration and on supervision; statutory and administrative policies; and availability of treatment and programs designed to reduce recidivism.

This effort will build on the consensus-driven platform of the Commission and ensure Ohio’s commitment to the development of policies, practices and legislative criminal justice reforms that maximize public safety, reduce recidivism and wisely spend tax resources.