

Testimony of

**Mannone A. Butler**

Executive Director

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

**FY 2018 Performance Oversight Hearing**

**Committee on the Judiciary**

**The Honorable Charles Allen, Chairman**

**Council of the District of Columbia**

Thursday, February 7, 2019

John A. Wilson Building

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20004

Good morning, Chairman Allen. I am Mannone Butler, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). I am pleased to appear before the Committee today to provide testimony on CJCC’s FY 2018 strategic priorities, performance, and accomplishments. I am joined by Kristy Love, CJCC’s Deputy Executive Director.

In FY 2018, the CJCC’s local and federal members agreed to a three year strategic framework for the agency and established the following overarching strategic goals: (a) prevent and reduce violent crime, (b) limit criminal and juvenile justice exposure and (c) improve the quality and availability of timely data. In furtherance of these goals and in keeping with the agency’s mandate and mission, CJCC, in partnership with our members and other justice system stakeholders, has been laser-like focused on interagency coordination and efforts to address public safety issues.

The CJCC convenes, coordinates, and problem solves with multiple local and federal justice agencies on a daily basis to tackle a myriad of the District’s public safety issues. From addressing the unacceptable rate of homicides in the District to strengthening and sustaining evidenced based practices that stem the tide of youth entering the justice system to improving the flow of information within the justice system, CJCC works relentlessly with local and federal partners to improve the administration of justice in our city.

To effectively carry out the range of responsibilities aligned with the goals established by our members, in FY 2018, CJCC continued to organize and address critical interagency work within the following functional areas:

* Automated Information Sharing: Justice Information System (JUSTIS), the District’s Integrated Justice Information System, is the primary consolidated data portal and exchange system used by the District’s law enforcement and criminal justice agencies.
* Actionable Research and Analysis: Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), which provides effective and rigorous data collection and analysis in response to system-wide policy and research questions.
* Interagency policy-related strategies and collaboration: The CJCC coordinates and supports efforts associated with the following priority areas: Combating Violent Crime, Substance Abuse Treatment and Mental Health Services Integration, Adult Reentry, Juvenile Justice, andGrants Planning.
* Technical Assistance and Training

I will now highlight a few of the agency’s key FY 2018 efforts and accomplishments.

* Automated Information Sharing
	+ This past year, the CJCC went live with three multi-year and multi-agency projects: (a) Arrest Feed Enhancement (June 2018), which exponentially increased the data flowing in an automated fashion from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) via JUSTIS to partner agencies; (b) Juvenile Papering (October 2018), which reduces manual processes and improves case processing time; and (c) Mugshot Feed (July 2018), which enables authorized agencies to access mugshots taken by the MPD via JUSTIS. CJCC’s small but dynamic IT staff, alongside interagency partners, worked tirelessly to successfully launch these complex projects and they deserve special acknowledgement.
	+ Significant strides were also made toward completing the Warrant Exchange Project in FY2019, a federal grant funded initiative, which will automate the exchange of warrant related information between the MPD and DC Superior Court (DCSC) and enable MPD to electronically submit warrant information to relevant federal databases.
	+ The CJCC completed key milestones for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Information Sharing Initiative, which included: establishing connectivity between JUSTIS and the Maryland Dashboard IJIS system and the development and deployment of the MARIS Search function within JUSTIS which will allow users to search within JUSTIS to determine whether an individual has certain criminal justice-related records in Delaware, Maryland, or Pennsylvania.
	+ In addition to these projects, the CJCC continued to address JUSTIS’ privacy, security and redundancy through the execution of updated agreements, system-wide training and ongoing testing of the JUSTIS Disaster Recovery site.
* Actionable Research
	+ The Justice Statistical Analysis Tool (JSAT) will automate and enhance criminal justice information sharing in the District for the purpose of research and analysis and will serve as a repository for descriptive analytics of the District’s criminal and juvenile justice systems. In February 2018, the CJCC procured an IT contractor to develop the JSAT Platform which includes the JSAT Enterprise, which will be available to authorized justice system users, and the JSAT Public Portal, which will include aggregate data available to the public to enhance awareness of the District’s criminal and juvenile justice systems. The minimum viable product was launched in September 2018. Following a rigorous testing period and receipt of signed MOA’s from participating agencies, the CJCC anticipates launching Phase II of the Enterprise and Public Portal release in 2019.
	+ In addition to conducting ongoing analysis to inform the strategies of the CJCC’s Combating Violent Crime, Juvenile Justice, Every Day Counts! Data, Reentry and Substance Abuse and Mental Health committees, the CJCC’s Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) released the “Justice Involved One-Day Count 2017” infographic, “Ten-Year Estimate of Justice-Involved Individuals in the District of Columbia” white paper, and “Runaway Youth as Status Offenders” brief. In response to an inquiry during last year’s performance oversight hearing, the CJCC was tasked by its members to conduct a survey regarding justice involved veterans, the results of which were shared with members and the Office of Veterans Affairs.
	+ Throughout FY 2018 and to date, the SAC has also been focused on three additional studies mandated by the D.C. Council. A detailed research plan was developed and exhaustive efforts are underway to conduct the Root Cause Analysis of Youth Crime per the Comprehensive Youth Justice Amendment Act. A significant amount of time has been dedicated to securing data sharing agreements. The CJCC has entered into agreements with DCSC, the Office of the State Superintendent for Education, and the Child and Family Services Agency to obtain the data required for the statistical analysis. The CJCC continues to work towards finalizing a similar data sharing agreement with the Department of Health Care Finance. However, legislative relief may be required in order for DHCF to enter into such an agreement with CJCC. The SAC has also conducted interviews with representatives from District government agencies and nonprofit organizations as well as surveys and focus groups with justice-involved youth housed both in secure facilities and in the community. This study will be completed in 2019. The second legislative mandated study is the public opinion survey of police-community relations in the District per the Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results Act. The CJCC engaged a consultant to conduct the survey and the report is slated to be submitted to the Mayor and Council next month. Lastly, as required by the Prohibition of Human Trafficking Amendment Act of 2010, the SAC is completing its second report, which will describe the nature of human trafficking in the District; the number of human trafficking-related investigations, arrests, prosecutions, and convictions; and demographic information on offenders and victims. The report will be issued later this month.
* Interagency Collaboration
	+ During 2018, CJCC, in concert with the committees focused on combating violent crime, regularly provided custom analyses on micro and macro trends in violent crime to system stakeholders to inform strategies and initiatives and successfully completed risk models utilizing the Risk Terrain Modeling tool, which uses mathematical relationships between places and past crime patterns to identify where a crime is most likely to happen in the future. CJCC also worked with partner agencies to implement a series of changes to improve the identification of system-wide gaps and targeted reviews of policies, practices and programs focused on violent offenders. The analyses that CJCC conducted have been leveraged by justice system stakeholders including, the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement and the Office of Attorney General’s Cure the Streets Initiative. Both of these violence interruption efforts are critical ingredients to addressing the root causes of violent crime in the District.
	+ The CJCC is engaged in multiple efforts to identify the District’s “high-utilizers” (those who have multiple touches with the behavioral health, health and justice systems) and develop interventions to connect them to treatment, thereby diverting them from the justice system.  In order to conduct the requisite data analyses with public health and public safety partners, CJCC has undertaken the rigorous process of developing policies, procedures and agreements that will ultimately ensure the agency’s compliance with the HIPAA Security Requirements and sought a legal opinion from the Office of the Attorney General.
	+ In response to the Comprehensive Youth Justice Amendment Act, CJCC convened a few workgroups comprised of juvenile and criminal justice partners that met consistently during FY 2018; executed an MOA among DCSC, MPD, DYRS and CFSA that reflected a new chain of custody for status offenders to help ensure that these youth would no longer be securely detained when arrested or while awaiting a court hearing or trial; developed process mappings that documented the new chain of custody of Title 16 youth, which enabled partners to identify where policy and practice changes were needed; and established a committee consisting of juvenile justice, health and human services and education partners to better understand and identify services and supports for status offenders who per the Act can no longer be detained but are of concern because they abscond or repeatedly run away.
* Technical Assistance and Training
	+ The CJCC convened 10 formal policy and research-related training and technical assistance events and public meetings aligned with the agency’s strategic goals to support the interagency and cross systems work with partners and stakeholders. Examples include: the 2nd Annual Criminal Justice Summit, which focused on addressing the mental health needs of adults in the justice system; the 3rd Annual Information Sharing Forum, which focused on the challenges associated with information exchanges between local and federal partners and promising strategies to address the challenges and public meetings which focused on how correctional facilities prepare incarcerated persons for successful reintegration and violence prevention.

In closing, I must acknowledge the CJCC members for their continued commitment to working collectively to address the District’s public safety challenges, the CJCC’s dedicated and incredibly talented staff and the CJCC’s stakeholders who are always willing to partner to improve public safety and justice. Chairman Allen, thank you for your leadership and commitment as a CJCC member and your continued willingness to lead the Combating Violent Crime committee. I am prepared to respond to any questions you may have.