

**Public Safety Coordinating Council  
Pinellas County  
December 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

The Pinellas County Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) met in regular session at 2:00 PM on this date in the Third Floor Judicial Conference Room at the Pinellas County Justice Center, 14250 49th Street North, Clearwater, Florida.

**Present**

Chris Scherer, Chair, County Commissioner  
Deanna Carey, representing Sheriff Bob Gualtieri  
Kendall Davidson, representing State Attorney Bruce Bartlett  
Christopher Dudley, Department of Corrections  
Michael Jalazo, Pinellas Ex-Offender Re-Entry Coalition (PERC)  
David Moran, representing Public Defender Sara Mollo  
Dorothy Vaccaro, County Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit

**Not Present**

Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney  
Shawn Crane, Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit  
Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff  
Jim Miller, Operation PAR, Inc.  
Sara Mollo, Public Defender

**Others Present**

Tim Burns, Pinellas County Human Services  
Yashira Gonzalez, Pinellas County Justice Administration  
Cody Ward, Assistant County Attorney  
Karen Barfield, Central Florida Behavioral Health Network  
Tristian Byrne, Pinellas County Justice Coordination  
Kerry Ann Fuller Rainey, Sixth Judicial Circuit  
Kenneth Lyons, Department of Corrections  
Pilar Poligo, Department of Corrections  
Dominique Randall, Pinellas County Human Services  
Ashley Pabilonia, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk  
Other interested individuals

*All documents provided to the Clerk's Office have been filed and made a part of the record.*

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PSCC MEMBERS**

Chair Scherer called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM and requested that those in attendance introduce themselves.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Scherer indicated that the first agenda item is approval of the minutes for the last PSCC meeting. Upon his call for a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Dudley made a motion to approve; whereupon, the motion was seconded by Mr. Jalazo and carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one responded to the Chair's call for public comment.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Data Subcommittee Update

Referring to a document titled *2025 PSCC Data Subcommittee – Year-End Summary*, Ms. Gonzalez explained that the data subcommittee met throughout the year and identified the following indicators for further discussion:

- Unhoused/Housing Instability
- Misdemeanor Incompetent to Proceed
- Length of Stay Distribution
- Juvenile Justice Trends
- Specialty Court Engagement and Outcomes
- Court Processing Indicators

Ms. Gonzalez noted that the document includes details regarding the purpose, status, and importance of each indicator; and that, pending approval by the PSCC of the proposed indicators, the next step will be to identify key agencies that will consistently provide data for each indicator; whereupon, discussion ensued regarding conversations at previous data subcommittee meetings, the potential utilization of indicators to drive funding decision policies and inform operational decision-making, and use of the data to support deeper discussions among agencies and across counties.

In response to a query by Chair Scherer, Mr. Moran provided brief comments regarding the Pasco County PSCC. Responding to a further query by the Chair, Ms. Gonzalez

related that she can contact the Pasco County PSCC facilitator and also conduct research regarding whether other counties across the State utilize a more collaborative approach than Pinellas and Pasco counties; whereupon, brief additional discussion ensued related to the number of other judicial circuits in the State which are comprised of more than one county.

Mr. Burns noted that the PSCC has not previously conducted a meeting with its counterpart in Pasco County; and that it appears that the members are interested in developing a list of policy topics for a joint discussion. Chair Scherer indicated that he is amenable to the prospect of a joint meeting; whereupon, responding to a query by Chair Scherer, Ms. Gonzalez indicated that, provided that no issues arise, the members can expect Pasco County PSCC members to attend the March meeting either in-person or virtually.

At Mr. Burns' request, Mr. Jalazo made a motion to accept the indicators which were recommended by the data subcommittee; whereupon, the motion was seconded by Mr. Moran and carried unanimously.

#### Open Discussion / Q&A on Old Business

This item was not addressed.

## **REPORTS**

### Indicators Report

Referring to a document titled *Indicators Report*, Ms. Gonzalez pointed out that a summary of the report is included within the document; whereupon, Mr. Burns noted that this will be a new feature in future reports. He also related that the average daily population (ADP) continues to increase and described trends in jail population from the beginning of 2024 through October of 2025.

*Judge Vaccaro arrived at 2:19 PM.*

Mr. Burns reviewed jail population statistics and noted that the number of pre-dispositional felony cases is steadily increasing; that the number of County-sentenced felons is slightly increasing as well; and that there is a continued increase in the number of individuals who are placed on short-term holds by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); whereupon, he related that these trends may be contributing to the increased ADP.

In response to a query by Mr. Dudley, Mr. Burns clarified that while the number of pre-dispositional felony cases and County-sentenced felons continue to incrementally

increase, arrests are remaining relatively stable; whereupon, discussion ensued regarding various topics associated with ICE holds, including potential impacts on the increased ADP.

Following discussion, Mr. Burns noted that the members' queries regarding the ICE holds data provided in the Indicators Report can be presented to the data subcommittee for further exploration.

### Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grants

#### TREATMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS (TIEH)

Boley Centers Vice President of Community Services Rahim Samji distributed a document titled *TIEH Program – Boley Centers Updates* and indicated that 45 clients have been served since grant funding began earlier this year; whereupon, he provided program metrics associated with justice system diversion, crisis stabilization, behavioral health engagement, and housing and benefits. Mr. Samji also referenced questions asked during the last PSCC meeting and provided information regarding action steps for Baker Acts and for clients who leave and cannot be found; whereupon, he briefly summarized several client stories.

### Open Discussion / Q&A on Reports

This item was not addressed.

## **PRESENTATION**

### CareerSource Presentation – Juvenile Social Media Threat Prevention Initiative in Partnership with DJJ

Ms. Gonzalez indicated that this presentation is informed by Circuit Advisory Board meetings and crime prevention efforts by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), which align with certain efforts being made by the PSCC; whereupon, referencing a PowerPoint presentation, CareerSource Tampa Bay Chief of Sector Partnerships Byron Clayton indicated that the purpose of his organization's *MyJourney Career Success Workshops* is to prepare youth in high schools and DJJ facilities for successful careers; and that the DJJ recently awarded funding to CareerSource so that the workshops could be conducted across the State. Mr. Clayton also provided background information regarding the development of the *MyJourney Career Success Workshops* and discussed the successful implementation of the workshops in high schools and DJJ facilities.

Thereupon, Mr. Clayton and CareerSource Tampa Bay Director of Student Engagement Conchita Canty-Jones discussed various components of the *MyJourney Career Success Workshops*, including the following:

- Social media's influence on youth's career journeys
- Career action plan creation
- Data supporting development of the workshops
- Workshop structure and discussion topics
- Feedback provided by students and leadership from the DJJ and school system
- Program growth, expansion, and implementation in Pinellas County

In response to comments and queries by the members and Ms. Gonzalez, Mr. Clayton and Ms. Canty-Jones provided information pertaining to efforts associated with data collection and tracking of youth following their participation in the workshops to identify any subsequent interactions with the justice system and to determine potential positive impacts with regard to finding employment.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 2025 DCF Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant

Mr. Burns distributed a document titled *Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant* and indicated that, once the Department of Children and Families (DCF) releases the grant, the PSCC will have a limited timeframe to solicit program proposals, which may not align with the Council's meeting schedule; whereupon, in response to queries by Mr. Jalazo and Chair Scherer, Mr. Burns provided additional details regarding the grant, including the funding amount and term and related that while staff could start soliciting program proposals and bring them back to the PSCC, DCF has yet to release updated guidelines for the grant.

Mr. Burns indicated that, in certain prior funding cycles, the PSCC recommended a specific program without conducting a competitive solicitation process; whereupon, referencing the aforementioned document, he provided historical details regarding past programs which received grant funding and related that the members may choose to discuss whether to recommend a specific program or to conduct a competitive solicitation.

In response to a query by Chair Scherer, Mr. Burns provided brief comments regarding the PSCC's responsibility to make program recommendations for the grant and related that, depending on when DCF releases the updated guidelines, the Council may need to hold a special meeting in order to make a recommendation.

Following brief discussion, Mr. Burns indicated that, if the members are in agreement, staff can preemptively solicit program proposals and present them to the PSCC at the next meeting; and that, in the past, applicants were asked to submit a one- or two-page program proposal and attend a PSCC meeting to discuss their proposal; whereupon, further discussion ensued.

At Mr. Burns' request, Mr. Jalazo made a motion to begin a competitive solicitation process for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant; whereupon, the motion died for lack of a second.

### 2026 Priorities

Ms. Gonzalez pointed out proposed PSCC meeting dates listed on the agenda and indicated that she will contact the members regarding feedback and priorities for 2026.

### **ROUNDTABLE/UPDATES**

This item was not addressed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 PM.