



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

**OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ELDER ABUSE COMMISSION
APRIL MEETING MINUTES
VERN RIFFE CENTER FOR GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS
77 SOUTH HIGH STREET, 31ST FLOOR
WEST B & C CONFERENCE ROOM
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2013
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

NAME

David Barney
Marc Baumgarten
Shelly Boyd
Judith Brachman
Melanie Cooley
Jodi Crowe
Dustin Ellinger
Cindy Farson
Gene Fischer
Frank Fleischer
Steve Hanson
Jane McKenzie
Sylvia Pla Raith
Thomas Swift
Adreana Tartt
John Thatcher

REPRESENTING

Ohio Department of Insurance
Ohio Department of Mental Health
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Interests of the Elderly
Ohio Attorney General's Office – Crime Victim Services
Ohio Board of Nursing
Ohio Department of Health
Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association
Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services
Supreme Court of Ohio
Ohio Victim Witness Association
Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services
Ohio Association of Probate Judges
Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services
Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association

Ursel McElroy

Ohio Attorney General's Office – Commission Staff/Lead

WELCOME – Ursel McElroy

- Opened the meeting by welcoming members.
- Agenda and housekeeping items reviewed.

REVIEW MEETING MINUTES – Commission

- February 25, 2013 meeting minutes approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Commission

- The Attorney General will host its 22nd annual Two Days in May Victim Assistance Conference in Columbus, Ohio on May 14 - 15, 2013. Commission members encouraged to attend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Commission

Elder Abuse Forensic Center

- U. McElroy postponed her April visit to California to visit two elder abuse forensic centers (Irvine, California and San Diego, California). Once a new date is scheduled, it will be announced.

Criminal Justice and Mental Illness (CJMI) Task Force – Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton

- The Commission has expanded its current duties to also serve as the Aging Subcommittee of the CJMI Task Force. Justice Stratton gave an overview of the CJMI Task Force and the role of the Aging Subcommittee.
- CJMI Task Force evolved from the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Mental Illness and Courts (ACMIC) originally founded in 2001. The CJMI Task Force works to increase public safety and reduce the number of persons with mental illness trapped in the criminal justice system. It is co-chaired by Justice Stratton and Attorney General DeWine and comprised of ten subcommittees:
 - Aging
 - Diversion and Re-Entry
 - Housing
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Law Enforcement
 - Mental Health and the Courts
 - Policy and Legislation
 - Psychiatry and Treatment
 - Research and Best Practices
 - Veterans Courts and Military Affairs
- Coupling the efforts of the Commission with resources of the CJMI Task Force will benefit work on either end. Commission members will have access to all CJMI Task Force meetings. Conversely, CJMI Task Force members are welcome to attend Commission meetings.
- Settlement funds in the amount of \$500,000 were made available by the Attorney General to fund projects to improve mental health services in Ohio. CJMI Task Force subcommittees submitted proposals and six projects were awarded. The Aging Subcommittee (Commission) has been awarded \$50,000 to conduct regional trainings for Ohio’s first responders on the intersection of elder abuse and mental illness.
- Ohio currently has 144 specialized dockets - the most in the country. Sup.R. 36.20(A) defines a specialized docket as “a particular session of court that offers a therapeutically oriented judicial approach to providing court supervision and appropriate treatment to individuals...” There was considerable discussion on the utility of specialized dockets for the elderly and “senior courts”.
- A statewide resource directory for the courts on issues related to the elderly would have practical application for courts. The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will be consulted.

Legislative Update – Chris Ventura, Legislative Aide to Representative Mike Dovilla

- Chris Ventura gave an update on the status of H.B. 49 – the Ohio Elder Justice Act.
- February 12th – Representatives Mike Dovilla [R – 7th District] and Wes Retherford [R – 51st District] introduced H.B. 49 before the House Judiciary Committee.
- February 20th – Sponsor testimony heard by the House Judiciary Committee.
- February 21st – Press conference announcing the introduction of H.B. 49.
- March 12th – Fiscal note released.
- March 13th – Proponent testimony heard by the House Judiciary Committee.
- The House did not include funding for H.B. 49 in the Main Operating Budget FY 2014-15. The vague fiscal note and lack of supporting data likely contributed to this.
- Pursuit of budget requests should be made in the Senate at this time. Detailing the amount, funding priorities and supporting data will be important. There was consensus that local operational costs are the chief priority.
- Mobilizing an “enactment team” inclusive of organizations represented on the commission was suggested. U. McElroy to consult with Attorney General’s Legislative Team on next steps.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Postponed until June 24, 2013 meeting.

ADJOURN