

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

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Meeting Date: November 22, 2016	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing

Department: Criminal Justice Commission
Submitted For: Criminal Justice Commission

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I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to: **A) ratify** the signature of the Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), as delegated by the County Administrator, on an application to the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to participate in their Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice; **B) authorize** the County Administrator, or _____ designee, to execute the award and amendments; and **C) authorize** the County Administrator, or _____ designee, to execute a contract with Florida Atlantic University School of Criminology and Criminal Justice in an amount not to exceed \$220,000 for three years for services provided in the application, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, after approval of legal sufficiency by the County Attorney's Office, and within budgeted allocations.


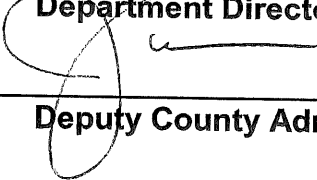
Summary: On September 26, 2016, the CJC voted unanimously to submit an application in response to the John Jay College of Criminal Justice's Solicitation for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice. The Research Network supports and enhances two ongoing CJC initiatives: 1) the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge grant which seeks to reduce the jail and racial disparities in that population; and 2) the CJC's Community Engagement Task Force which seeks to empower residents to enhance public safety through transparent partnerships with the criminal justice system. The product of this Research Network will be reports with data showing enforcement trends by age, gender, race/ethnicity, charge types, disposition types, sentence types, and use of citations in lieu of custodial arrests. This data will inform both of these CJC initiatives, as well as, serve as the foundation for discussion around needed reforms. The CJC has received support from all 23 municipal police chiefs and the Sheriff for this project. The Director of the Florida Atlantic University School of Criminology and Criminal Justice has agreed to serve as the research partner for this project. Countywide (JB)

Background and Justification: The Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice is a three-year initiative that will bring together law enforcement agencies, courts, corrections, and other criminal justice agencies to work with research institutions across seven jurisdictions to examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses such as misdemeanors, citations/summons, and pedestrian and traffic stops. These high volume activities play a significant role in the formation of the public's opinion of the criminal justice system and they consume a large amount of system resources. The goal of the Research Network is to form a national alliance of seven jurisdictions that will examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses. The Network will aim to create smarter criminal justice policies that enhance public safety, increase public trust in the system, and implement fiscally responsible policies.

Attachments:

- 1) Solicitation from John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- 2) Application to John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- 3) Memorandum of signature designation from the County Administrator

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Recommended by:		10-31-16
	Department Director	Date
Approved by:		11-16-16
	Deputy County Administrator	Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Years	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues					
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
Net Fiscal Impact	*	0	0	0	0

ADDITIONAL FTE

POSITIONS (Cumulative)	0	0	0	0	0
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Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes No X

Budget Account Exp No: Fund ____ **Department** ____ **Unit** ____ **Object** ____
Rev No: Fund ____ **Department** ____ **Unit** ____ **RevSc** ____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fund: TBD

Unit: TBD

Grant: TBD

***Fiscal impact is indeterminable at this time. Per solicitation notice, funding availability over a three year period will be between \$160,000 and \$220,000. The budget will be amended upon approval of the application and based on final award amount.**

Departmental Fiscal Review: 10/28/16

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

Lisa Pombz 11/14/16
OFMB JET 10/31 JET 11/2

A. J. Jacobson 11/15/16
Contract Administration
11/14/16 *TR*

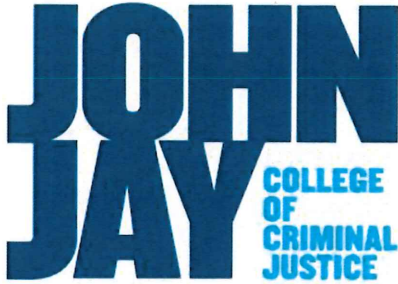
B. Legal Sufficiency:

James Burke 11/15/16
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.



Attachment # 1
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524 West 59th Street
10th Floor
New York City, NY 10019
T: 212-237-8790
pchauhan@jjay.cuny.edu

SOLICITATION FOR THE RESEARCH NETWORK ON MISDEMEANOR JUSTICE

at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Funding Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

The Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice is a three-year initiative that will bring together law enforcement agencies, courts, corrections, and other criminal justice agencies to work with research institutions across seven jurisdictions to examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses such as misdemeanors, citations/summons, and pedestrian and traffic stops.

While most jurisdictions focus attention and publicly report on trends in crime and felony arrests, relatively few also examine the enforcement and outcomes of low-level offenses. These high volume activities play a significant role in the formation of the public's opinion of the police and the criminal justice system. In addition, they consume a large amount of criminal justice resources. These activities have also moved to the forefront of policy discussions as a way to improve the level of public trust in the police and criminal justice agencies.

The goal of the Research Network is to form a national alliance of seven jurisdictions that will examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses at a local and cross-jurisdictional level. The Research Network will aim to create smarter criminal justice policies that enhance public safety, increase public trust in the police, and implement fiscally responsible policies. Through this alliance, the Research Network will produce, for the first time, cross-site analyses on the enforcement and outcomes of low-level offenses.

Following the format of the Misdemeanor Justice Project - New York City, each jurisdiction will form partnerships at the local level between research institutions and local and state criminal justice agencies. Research institutions within selected jurisdictions will receive funding to help build data analytic infrastructure and capacity to examine trends and outcomes of misdemeanors, summons/citations, and stops at a local level. The Research Network seeks to inform and guide criminal justice policy initiatives at the local level. Building this analytic capacity will allow each jurisdiction to continue to monitor these trends after the three-year funding period.

Overview

Our understanding of the enforcement interactions between police and the public – instances when the police use their law enforcement powers – has focused almost exclusively on arrests of individuals suspected of felonies. However, felony-level criminal activity does not constitute the vast majority of public contact with the police. Rather, the most frequent police-public enforcement interactions involve stops on suspicions of criminal behavior, summonses for minor offenses, and arrests for misdemeanors and other low-level crimes.

New York City provides a perfect illustration. During 2013, there were 90,532 felony arrests, but there were also nearly ten times as much enforcement activity that focused on low-level enforcement actions – 265,407 misdemeanor arrests, 191,851 police stops, and 439,029 criminal summonses issued for minor offenses, such as open containers. Cumulatively, this amounts to almost one million documented contact points with the New York City Police Department (NYPD). Most of these interactions are routine, low-level encounters that receive little empirical attention. Yet, it is these interactions that may propel an individual deeper into the justice system (e.g., a warrant for failing to appear in court for a summons can lead to an arrest and jail detention). Low-level enforcement has a profound impact on the rest of the criminal justice system by overwhelming courts with cases that rarely result in convictions, feeding minor arrests into the pre-arraignment process, and ultimately resulting in large numbers of individuals held on pretrial detention for want of monetary bail. These encounters often rise as flash points between communities and police, gaining public attention and influencing the public's opinion of the police and the larger justice system. However, we have not consistently monitored trends and the associated outcomes of these low-level contacts within individual jurisdictions or across jurisdictions. With so much at stake, it is surprising how little work there is on this important topic.

The national dialogue on the relationship between the police and the public, and the effectiveness of the criminal justice system, is changing rapidly. Events across the nation – from Ferguson, MO and Minneapolis, MN to Staten Island, NY and Baltimore, MD – have sparked conversations around the exercise of police discretion to enforce low-level crimes, particularly in high crime areas and in communities of color. In 2015, President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing identified a need for data on the prevalence and quality of police-public interactions with a focus on the enforcement of low-level offenses.

Through a generous three-year grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice will build upon the success of the Misdemeanor Justice Project in New York City. We invite six other cities or counties to replicate reports from the Misdemeanor Justice Project – New York City (MJP), which examined [trends in misdemeanor arrests, criminal summonses](#) (e.g., citations), [and combined enforcement activity including felony and misdemeanor arrests, criminal summonses, and pedestrian stops](#). The analyses by the Research Network, for the first time, will shed light on the critical challenges facing local law enforcement agencies, namely making effective use of police power while promoting legitimacy. We also invite these cities or counties to examine patterns in pretrial detention, if possible. Ideally, the jurisdictions will examine trends by demographics, charges, and disposition. Further, all analyses will examine the trends as a rate, to take into account the changing population base of the jurisdiction.

The MJP reports on the enforcement of low-level offenses in New York City have generated substantial attention from media, scholars, and city and state policy makers. These reports have provided an empirical framework for robust policy debate in New York – the role of “broken windows” policing, the choice of criminal versus administrative tribunals for addressing “quality of life” offenses, the extent of pretrial detention, the role of pre-arrest diversion, and the impact of enforcement actions on subpopulations, particularly young men of color. These reports have started an ever-growing conversation regarding criminal justice policy reform within New York City. We hope that the Research Network will inform these same discussions on a local scale, within the six jurisdictions, and on a national scale, through cross-site comparisons. Ultimately, the Research Network will inform and promote large-scale evidence-based policy reform.

Indeed, the primary goal of the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice is to inform criminal justice policy. Building on the experience of the MJP – New York City, the key strategy is to produce readable, accessible, objective reports that present data and analyses in ways that support robust discussion about the implications of the results. This approach will also define the presentation and analytic approach of the Research Network. Although the research agenda will ultimately encourage scholars to engage in complex analyses to explore issues of causation and correlation, the signature reports of the Research Network will forgo these analyses in favor of straightforward statistical presentations. After site-specific analyses are completed, the Research Network will be able to examine - for the first time, in a systematic manner, across jurisdictions - the prevalence and outcomes of police enforcement of low-level offenses. These analyses will allow us to describe the differential experience of residents – disaggregated by age, race, gender, and geography – within their jurisdictions.

Within each site, the Research Network will work with a non-government affiliated research partner to create a group of stakeholders such as the police department, local jails, the Mayor’s office, the Governor’s office, the Courts, and District Attorneys to work together to create a within site network of stakeholders. Stakeholders can work closely with the research partner to provide data, guide essential policy questions, and ensure data accuracy.

The Research Network will provide each site with funding, provided by the John and Laura Arnold Foundation, for personnel, data extraction, and other costs. The total funding per site, over the three years will be between \$160,000 and \$220,000. The John Jay team will also provide technical assistance and help each jurisdiction better understand their own analyses, as well as discuss differences and similarities across sites to maximize cross-site comparisons. Further, the John Jay team will provide each site with population estimates using Census data at necessary levels of aggregation (e.g., City, Police Precinct, and/or Census Block). This will ensure similar data collection methods of Census data and comparability across sites. We will ask each site to produce at least one report, as well as participate in cross-site analyses.

Three-Phase Project

In *Phase-I*, we will select the Research Network sites and convene a kick-off meeting at John Jay College to set timelines for data analyses, reports, and other dissemination strategies. We will also work with each site to develop a list of site-specific stakeholders. In addition, we will

develop a site-specific plan for the remaining phases of the project. The funding for each site for *Phase-I* will be between \$40,000 and \$60,000.

In *Phase-II*, research institutions within each site will acquire and analyze the site-specific data. The John Jay team will provide Census level data for the sites. The John Jay team will work with the sites to establish data sharing agreements and Memoranda of Understanding with data partners within their jurisdictions. We ask for each site to replicate one or more of the New York City analyses ([misdemeanor arrest trends by demographics, charges, and dispositions](#); [pretrial detention trends by demographics, charges, and disposition](#); and/or [overall enforcement trends combining felony and misdemeanor arrests, issuance of criminal summonses, and pedestrian stops](#)). These reports will form the basis for cross-site comparisons.

Each site will convene two stakeholder meetings prior to the release of report(s). We plan to work with each site to release their report(s) with a public presentation, ideally in a forum attended by policymakers and stakeholders within the jurisdiction (e.g., the Citizens Crime Commission has hosted the release of the New York City MJP reports). In addition, sites will be required to send two representatives to John Jay College for two annual meetings (one per year). John Jay College will provide travel funding for the annual meetings. The funding for each site for *Phase-II* will be between \$80,000 and \$120,000.

In *Phase-III*, the Research Network will work with each site to secure funding to continue monitoring the trends to influence policy and publish in scholarly journals. Ideally, each site will be able to secure governmental funding to continue monitoring trends over time. Further, the capability created in *Phase-I* and *Phase-II* will provide a platform for additional research and funding. It will also provide a network of researchers to help build knowledge on the enforcement of low-level offenses, nationally. At this time, each site will also have the option to work with the John Jay team on writing cross-site comparative reports, scholarly publications, and opinion pieces for news outlets. The funding for each site for *Phase-III* will be between \$40,000 and \$60,000.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Either a city or county agency or research institution within the site can respond to this solicitation.

If a city or county agency is responding to the solicitation, it should identify a research institution within the site that will carry out the analyses.

If a research institution is responding to the solicitation, it should provide letters of support from relevant site agencies such as the police department, Mayor's office, and/or Department of Corrections.

SELECTION CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

The six jurisdictions, in conjunction with New York City, will constitute the Research Network. We will consider the following in selecting a city or county:

- (1) Each jurisdiction should have the ability to access high quality administrative data, including at least 10 years of reliable data on misdemeanor arrests for low-level offenses. Ideally, the

jurisdictions will also have data on summonses and stops and case outcomes, including pretrial detention. Sites should indicate the types of analyses they intend to carry out, in the attached form. We will place a premium on the ability to examine enforcement actions and their associated dispositions.

(2) The Mayor's Office or County Executive or the Police Department must have a genuine interest in promoting a local policy discussion about its research findings, and participating in a national conversation on these topics.

Once we receive interest, we will select jurisdictions and hold further discussions about joining the Research Network. In each site, we will ensure that the local law enforcement and criminal justice agencies and a university or non-profit research institute are working together. The ultimate sustainability and objectivity of the project will *require a partnership between the government and a local research institution*.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR SUBMISSION

- 1) Cover Letter
- 2) [Interest and Data Form](#)
- 3) Letters of Support & Participation

COVER LETTER should

- Introduce the jurisdiction and lead agency and highlight the jurisdiction's data analytic capabilities as well as indicate who will lead the project;
- Illustrate the jurisdiction's interest in the work of the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice and the desire for evidence-based policy reforms; and
- Indicate other key stakeholders.

INTEREST AND DATA FORM: Please fill out the attached form.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT & PARTICIPATION: Please provide letters of support from the police department, research institution, and any other agencies that will have an integral role.

HOW TO APPLY:

Submissions are due, in electronic format (either Word or pdf), by October 15, 2016.

Please submit documents to:

Meredith Patten

Executive Director

Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

mpatten@jjay.cuny.edu

[\(212\) 237 -8308](tel:(212)237-8308)

Kristina Henson M.

From: Kristina Henson M.
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:49 PM
To: Kristina Henson M.
Subject: FW: Proposal for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
Attachments: 10-14-16JohnJayMisdemeanorResearchNetwork-PBC-Application.pdf

Attachment # 2
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From: Kristina Henson M.
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:48 PM
To: 'mpatten@jjay.cuny.edu'
Cc: Verdenia Baker; 'John Smykla'; Cassandra Atkin-Plunk; Lincoln Sloas; Bert Winkler; Damir Kukec; Katherine Hatos; Jon Van Arnam; 'Lee Waring'; Lawrence Leon; Ted Gonzales; 'Gauger, Michael E'; 'Erika Sasson'
Subject: Proposal for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice

Dear Ms. Patten,

Attached please find our proposal in response to the Solicitation for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

The Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) has a 28-year history of bringing together all the federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies in our county to reduce crime, coordinate services, and provide for a cost effective and efficient criminal justice system. The CJC has met on a monthly basis for 28 years and in that time has diminished the silo mentality that plagues so many jurisdictions across the country. The agency heads are used to examining the big picture when making decisions. The CJC has a long record of proactive and innovative criminal justice policy and program development that includes projects such as, Weed and Seed, Community Court, Community Justice, Youth Violence Prevention, Crisis Intervention Teams, Gang Resistance Education and Training, Restorative Justice, Drug Court, Pretrial Services, Reentry, jail population reduction, and more.

The CJC works through a committee process bringing together stakeholders and subject matter experts in the fields needed to address an issue. Through research and discussion, these committees build consensus around issues and make recommendations to the full CJC which then provides recommendations to the appropriate agency head with the authority to implement change. One of these committees is the Law Enforcement Planning Council (LEPC) which has been meeting monthly since 1991. This group includes the chiefs of the 23 municipal police departments, the Florida Atlantic University Police Department, the School District Police Department, the Sheriff's Office, and the federal and state agency leaders within our county. Because of this long relationship, the CJC has obtained the support of these local law enforcement agencies for this proposal as set forth in the attached letters of support.

The CJC is a partner site in the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge. Our MacArthur committees meet monthly to move progress on a variety of topic areas all with the goal of reducing our jail population and any racial disparity in that population. We are excited to be a member of the Challenge Network and see this as an opportunity to generate significant system reform. We feel the Research Network will provide a great complement to this work.

Our research partner, Florida Atlantic University (FAU), is a member of the State University System of Florida. FAU's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice holds the distinction of being the largest undergraduate degree program in the state of Florida. Its faculty are experienced researchers with practical knowledge and working relationships with our local criminal justice system stakeholders. Their attached letter of support describes some of these relationships.

Because of this collaboration, we believe our proposal to be part of the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice offers a unique opportunity to demonstrate what can be accomplished when the system leaders work together. We are eager to team with you in this exciting and meaningful project.

Best regards,

Attachment # 2
Page 2 of 28

Kristina Henson
Executive Director
Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission
(561) 355-2314 | KHenson@pbcgov.org





Criminal Justice Commission

301 North Olive Avenue, Suite 1001

West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4705

(561) 355-4943

Fax: (561) 355-4941

www.pbcgov.com/cjc



**Palm Beach County
Board of County
Commissioners**

Mary Lou Berger, Mayor

Hal R. Valeche, Vice Mayor

Paulette Burdick

Shelley Vana

Steven L. Abrams

Melissa McKinlay

Priscilla A. Taylor

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

*"An Equal Opportunity
Affirmative Action Employer"*

Attachment # 2
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October 14, 2016

Ms. Meredith Patten
Executive Director
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th Street, 10th Floor
New York City, NY 10019

DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL TO: mpatten@jjay.cuny.edu

Dear Ms. Patten:

Please accept this letter as the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission's (CJC) response to your solicitation to serve as one of the sites for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice. As the lead agency, the CJC would facilitate all aspects of this Project in Palm Beach County, Florida in partnership with the stakeholders described in this application.

Palm Beach County is the third-most populous county of all 67 Florida counties, with a population of 1,422,789, and is the largest in land size in Florida and east of the Mississippi River in the United States encompassing 2,034 square miles. The county has 39 municipalities, 23 with their own police departments. The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) has jurisdiction for all unincorporated areas and contracts with 13 municipalities to provide police services. PBSO also operates the county jail which encompasses two facilities. The predominant population is between the ages of 19 and 64 (57.6%), female (51.7%), and white non-Hispanic or Latino (56.7%). In addition, the county's population is made up of 6.7% veterans, 23.2% foreign-born, 87.7% high school graduates, 679,023 housing units, and a median household income of \$52,878.

The lead agency, the CJC, was established by County Ordinance in 1988 to study all aspects of the criminal justice and crime prevention systems within the federal, state, county, municipal and private agencies within the county. This 28-year partnership has served to cultivate and enrich local criminal justice practice, policy, and program development by serving as a catalyst to bring together criminal justice and related agencies in partnerships that diffuse the silo mentality. The CJC's objectives include: 1) to provide overall coordination to law enforcement and crime prevention efforts in the county; 2) to provide an efficient, cost effective and timely criminal justice system in the county; and 3) to affect the reduction of crime in the county on a permanent basis. It has 21 public sector members representing local, state, and federal criminal justice and governmental agencies, 10 private sector business leaders representing the Economic Council of Palm Beach County and 1 clergy member nominated by a variety of clergy associations in the county representing a broad-range of faiths.

Letter to: Ms. Meredith Patten
October 14, 2016
Page 2

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The CJC has succeeded in creating partnerships among criminal justice, government, businesses, and community agencies in the County. Uniting public and private forces, the CJC has created programs such as, Pretrial Services, Drug Court, Community Court modeled after the Midtown Community Court, Crisis Intervention Team Training, and Reentry. It operates through various committees and task forces which bring together over 200 subject matter experts in the field of criminal justice, government, and social services. These committees meet regularly to identify, research, and develop recommendations to improve the local criminal justice system. Some of the committees include the Court System Task Force, the Corrections Task Force, and the Behavioral Health Task Force. The CJC's Law Enforcement Planning Council established in 1991, brings together on a monthly basis all 26 local law enforcement agencies with federal (USAO, ATF, DEA, FBI, OHS, TSA, IRS) and state law enforcement agencies to share information, address crime problems, and discuss issues of mutual concern.

On September 26, 2016, after reviewing and discussing the solicitation for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice, the CJC unanimously agreed to apply to join the Research Network. The letter of support from the CJC attached provides a listing of the stakeholders involved. County Administration is supportive of this proposal and will be scheduling this for discussion at the next available Board of County Commissioner's meeting in November. With the support letter attached from Palm Beach County's Chiefs of Police Association, this proposal includes support from all 26 local law enforcement agencies with the county. The research partner for this project will be Florida Atlantic University (FAU), School of Criminology and Criminal Justice which is located within Palm Beach County. FAU has partnered with our largest municipal law enforcement agency, West Palm Beach Police Department, to evaluate the implementation of their body-worn camera project. They are well-versed in research methodology and have a great reputation with the law enforcement agencies within the county.

The CJC is committed to evidence-based policy reform dating back to its establishment when it contracted for an overall assessment of every aspect of the local criminal justice system. This two-year study resulted in recommendations that served as the work of the CJC for its first decade. It is also evidenced by the CJC's long partnership with Florida Universities to evaluate the programs it creates. Additionally, in 2007, the CJC reorganized its staff and created a Research and Planning Unit to develop local data capacity and regular reporting to the CJC on national, state, and local criminal justice trends.

As a MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge site, we recently implemented enhanced access to arrest, citation, demographics, charge, court appearance, disposition and sentence data through our local Office of the Clerk of the Court. Through the MacArthur Project we have partnered with the Pretrial Justice Institute to reform our First Appearance Hearings and Pretrial Services Program by implementing a validated risk assessment instrument (RAI) and risk management matrix with varying levels of supervision. We are currently negotiating a contract with Florida State University, College of Criminology and Criminal Justice to assist us in analyzing our implementation of this RAI with an eventual validation in coming years. In addition, we have partnered with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) to develop an implementation plan for a FUSE Program (Frequent User System Engagement) that will identify frequent users of the jail, homeless and behavioral health services, and hospitals. The goal of the program is to provide supportive housing with wrap-around services to increase stability for this population and reduce their involvement with these systems.

Letter to: Ms. Meredith Patten
October 14, 2016
Page 3

We are keenly aware of recent events across the country and within our own jurisdiction that impact the public's trust in law enforcement and the criminal justice system. As a result of these events and our work with the MacArthur Foundation, we have established a Community Engagement Task Force to *empower citizens to enhance public safety through transparent partnerships*. This Task Force is developing an action plan that calls for community and criminal justice forums, public service announcements, and brochures that address topics of concern, such as implicit bias, procedural justice, and body-worn cameras. All of these will include data to highlight realities in the system and reforms underway to address any disparities found.

The CJC is aware of the role that mental health and drug addiction play in the criminal justice system. Palm Beach County is the epicenter in the nation for a growing opioid epidemic combined with an unregulated Sober Home industry. Fatal overdoses have increased from 14 in 2010 to 248 in 2015. In the first 8 months of 2016, fatal overdoses have already surpassed 2015 numbers at 280. Our State Attorney's Office was provided funding by the Florida Legislature to establish a task force to review and recommend regulations for this industry. Becoming a partner in this Misdemeanor Research Project will aid in our county's ability to assess the impact on first responder services of this epidemic and use data to develop remedies.

The Criminal Justice Commission in Palm Beach County is a collaborative body with well-established partnerships willing to use data and consider evidence-based justice policy reforms. We are certain that you will find working with our agency to be not only fulfilling to the mission you desire to serve, but also a pleasure. We thank you for your consideration and look forward to discussing our application in the near future. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us should you or your colleagues have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kristina Henson
Executive Director
Criminal Justice Commission

cc: Lee Waring, Chair, Criminal Justice Commission
Chief Larry Leon, Chair, Palm Beach County Chiefs of Police Association
Dr. John Smykla, Director and Professor, FAU, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Verdenia Baker, County Administrator, Palm Beach County
Jon Van Arnam, Deputy County Administrator, Palm Beach County

Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
Interest and Data Form

Attachment # 2
Page 6 of 28

Name of Contact Person: Kristina Henson

Title: Executive Director

Affiliated Agency: Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission

Contact Information (address, phone number, and email): 301 North Olive Ave,
West Palm Beach, FL 33401. 561-355-4943 khenson@pbcgov.org

Jurisdiction: Palm Beach County, Florida

Population Size: 1,422,789 based on U.S. Census 2015 estimate

Lead Agency: Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission

Partner Agency (if more than one, please list all): Please see attached Letters of
Support

Types of Analyses the Proposed Site is Interested in:

(If more than one, please note the priority)

**See the linked reports as a reference for what has been done in NYC. For PC users,
please right click to open the hyperlink.**

- 1 Misdemeanor Arrests
- 2 Summonses and/or Citations
- 4 Pedestrian Stops
- 4 Traffic Stops
- 3 Pretrial Detention
- 4 Overall Enforcement Trends (combining arrests, summonses, and stops)

**Comments (please indicate specific analyses your jurisdiction would like to carry
out or are particularly relevant for policy):**

We are interested in replicating all the descriptive reports concerning misdemeanor arrests (including felony comparison) and summonses and/or citations with in-house staff and with the support of our research partner. This would include descriptive analyses that examine long term trends (from 2006 to 2016) concerning gender, age, race/ethnicity, charge types, disposition types, sentence types, and citations versus custodial arrests. We are interested in conducting research that examines enforcement patterns in all of these

areas with our research partner in order to document these trends. The final report produced through this effort would be utilized by the Commission’s Law Enforcement Planning Council to inform discussion on these enforcement trends and identify opportunities to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and reduce costs.

We are very interested in examining “pedestrian” and “traffic” stops. Data on these stops are kept in each of the 26 local law enforcement agencies in the form of Field Interview Reports (FIRS). When a police action results in no official arrest or citation, some of these actions are documented in these FIR reports. There has never been a countywide review of FIR data so the level of availability, quality, and consistency of this data across the 26 local law enforcement agencies is unknown at this point. However, we are very interested in attempting to conduct the first analysis of this data and have the support from the chiefs/sheriff to do so. As a result, we would develop and test these data sources in year one and two, and complete an initial analysis in year three with a goal to building 100% capacity.

Examining “enforcement trends” and final justice outcomes is vital to the work of the Commission’s Community Engagement Task Force whose goal is to improve trust in law enforcement and the broader criminal justice system. Data and analyses are required to fully inform the work of this task force in the coming months. Eventually the goal of the Task Force is to share the results of the analyses with the community and engage them in discussion about the findings.

Please check the availability of the following data in your jurisdiction regardless of interest in analyses

(Note: not being able to access certain data does not preclude a site from being considered).

- Misdemeanor Arrest Data
- ☒ Currently available
 - ☒ Can produce easily
 - ☐ Will need assistance in producing
 - ☐ Cannot obtain
 - ☐ Do not collect

If available and obtainable, for how many years?

We have over ten years of jail and court case data. Sources include Palm Beach County’s Sheriff’s Office, Booking Information Retrieval System (BIRS), and the Clerk of Court Case Management System (CaseView). We have direct access to both systems via Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) protocol.

If available and obtainable, at what geographic level?

- ☐ x-y coordinates
- ☐ Census block/tract
- ☐ Precinct or police district level
- ☒ City or county level
- ☐ State
- ☐ Unknown

We can geocode address information to x-y coordinates.

What data elements are available or obtainable?

- ☒ Age
- ☒ Race
- ☒ Gender
- ☒ Charge Severity
- ☒ Disposition
- ☒ Sentence
- ☐ Unknown

Any Comments: We have all of the data elements noted above. In arrests/cases where there are multiple charges we have severity logic based on charge level (felony, misdemeanor, etc) and degree (capital, life, first, second, third).

Summons and/or Citations Data

- ☒ Currently available
- ☒ Can produce easily
- ☐ Will need assistance in producing
- ☐ Cannot obtain
- ☐ Do not collect

If available and obtainable, for how many years?

We have over ten years of data.

If available and obtainable, at what geographic level?

- ☐ x-y coordinates
- ☐ Census block/tract
- ☐ Precinct or police district level
- ☒ City or county level
- ☐ State
- ☐ Unknown

We can geocode address information to x-y coordinates.

What data elements are available or obtainable?

- ☒ Age
- ☒ Race
- ☒ Gender
- ☒ Charge Severity
- ☒ Disposition
- ☒ Sentence
- ☒ Warrant Information
- ☐ Unknown

Any Comments: We have warrant information for felony, misdemeanor and other cases resulting in a warrant spanning over ten years.

Pedestrian Stop Data

- ☐ Currently available
- ☐ Can produce easily
- ☒ Will need assistance in producing
- ☐ Cannot obtain
- ☐ Do not collect

If available and obtainable, for how many years?

Unknown.

If available and obtainable, at what geographic level?

- ☐ x-y coordinates
- ☐ Census block/tract
- ☐ Precinct or police district level
- ☒ City or county level
- ☐ State
- ☐ Unknown

We can geocode address information to x-y coordinates.

What data elements are available or obtainable?

- ☐ Age
- ☐ Race
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Reason for Stop
- ☐ Outcome of Stop

- ☐ Police Officer Information (demographics)
X Unknown

Any Comments: Pedestrian stop data is kept in what are called Field Interview Reports (FIRS). There has never been a countywide review of FIR data so the level of availability, quality, and consistency of this data across the 26 local law enforcement agencies is unknown at this point. However, we are very interested in attempting to conduct the first analysis of this data and have the support from the chiefs/sheriff to do so. As a result, we would develop and test these data sources in year one and two, and complete an initial analysis in year three with a goal to building 100% capacity.

Traffic Stop Data

- ☐ Currently available
☐ Can produce easily
X Will need assistance in producing
☐ Cannot obtain
☐ Do not collect

If available and obtainable, for how many years?

Unknown.

If available and obtainable, at what geographic level?

- ☐ x-y coordinates
☐ Census block/tract
☐ Precinct or police district level
X City or county level
☐ State
☐ Unknown

What data elements are available or obtainable?

- ☐ Age
☐ Race
☐ Gender
☐ Reason for Stop
☐ Outcome of Stop
☐ Police Officer Information (demographics)
X Unknown

Any Comments:

Traffic stop data is kept in what are called Field Interview Reports (FIRS). There has never been a countywide review of FIR data so the level of availability, quality, and consistency of this data across the 26 local law enforcement agencies is unknown at this

point. However, we are very interested in attempting to conduct the first analysis of this data and have the support from the chiefs/sheriff to do so. As a result, we would develop and test these data sources in year one and two, and complete an initial analysis in year three with a goal to building 100% capacity.

Pretrial Detention Data

- ☒ Currently available
- ☒ Can produce easily
- ☐ Will need assistance in producing
- ☐ Cannot obtain
- ☐ Do not collect

If available and obtainable, for how many years?

We have over ten years of data available.

If available and obtainable, at what geographic level of the person detained?

- ☒ Home Address of Person Detained
- ☐ Census block/tract
- ☐ City or county level
- ☐ State
- ☐ Unknown

Can you link arrest data to pretrial detention data?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unknown

What data elements are available or obtainable?

- ☒ Age
- ☒ Race
- ☒ Gender
- ☒ Charge
- ☒ Length of Stay
- ☒ Bail Information
- ☒ Warrant Information
- ☐ Mental Health Indicators
- ☒ Disposition
- ☒ Sentence

Any Comments: Information concerning those inmates with mental health issues is protected health information under HIPAA and as such would be difficult to obtain from

the jail. We may be able to obtain aggregate data on this population, such as, the number of inmates in the dedicated mental health unit and those in general population on psychotropic medications. Also, we have a business associate's agreement (under HIPAA) with South East Florida Behavioral Health Network (SEFBHN) where we may be able to search the level of access to behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse treatment) in South Florida.

Is your jurisdiction participating in other National Reform Initiatives such as the Safety & Justice Challenge, National Network for Safe Communities, Bloomberg Cities, Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program, etc? Please comment on any current criminal justice initiatives or data transparency initiatives.

We realize that we live in a very important time for the criminal justice system, both locally and nationally—a time of reflection and reform. We are excited to participate in that reform and are committed to creating positive change.

In that spirit, we are honored that Palm Beach County is a partner site in the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge. Our goal is to reduce our local jail population without compromising public safety and address racial and ethnic disparities in that population. The lead organization for this initiative is our Criminal Justice Commission (CJC). The CJC, created in 1988, is a 32 member body consisting of key representatives of criminal justice and governmental agencies, as well as additional community and business leaders. The goal of the CJC is to strengthen the criminal justice system in Palm Beach County through research and collaboration.

During the first phase of the Safety and Justice Challenge we gathered the key stakeholders in our local system and conducted extensive planning sessions to develop strategies to safely reduce the jail population.

We are now in the second phase of the challenge and will apply in summer 2017 for implementation funding. We are working toward implementing our strategies, which include the revamping of the front end of our system and developing a diversion project for homeless individuals who frequently cycle through the jail for low level offenses. Additional information on these projects will be provided in our response to the next question.

In regard to data transparency, we have begun an initiative which will allow us the ability to access timely information from our Clerk's Office on an ongoing basis. This will enable us to better evaluate data of the key decision points as a defendant travels through our local criminal justice system. In addition, the diversion project referenced above will include the creation of a system which will facilitate the prompt sharing of relevant data among the jail, homeless agencies, behavioral health services, and hospitals.

We are contracting with Florida State University College of Criminology and Criminal Justice to evaluate our initiatives for the Safety and Justice Challenge. Additionally the

City University of New York, Institute for State and Local Governance is providing us with technical assistance in the gathering of relevant data and the development of data capacity.

Furthermore, the CJC has a Program Monitoring and Evaluation Committee which tracks the progress and results of our various criminal justice programs. Data is shared by funded programs.

All of the above activities are supported with data and have been for several years. This initially started with the downturn in the mid-2000s when policymakers required data in discussions concerning funding. Our program monitoring and evaluation sub-committee tracks programmatic outcomes and expects funded programs to share data in an effort to facilitate data transparency. We have direct access to jail data that tracks inmates from booking to release. We have direct access to court case data for the 15th Judicial Circuit – which covers all of Palm Beach County. The court data is vital to understanding how charges are resolved for individuals who are arrested (or receive summons or citations). As part of the MacArthur Foundation, we are in the process of designing a data dashboard which will be made available to the public on the County's public website. We have multiple data sharing agreements in place to help compute various outcome variables, such as recidivism. This includes agreements with CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance to facilitate technical assistance for the MacArthur Foundation (e.g., RTI cross site evaluation and jail projections) and Florida Department of Law Enforcement to obtain statewide reports on criminal arrest and juridical histories, for example.

Our internal research staff with operational knowledge and legal expertise, have enabled us to leverage the MacArthur Foundation to provide policymakers with the expected data analyses to inform discussion and decisions. We are also fortunate to have relationships with local experts affiliated with the Criminal Justice Commission and academic experts across the country.

Name (if any) local justice reform initiatives in your jurisdiction:

The Safety and Justice Challenge is our primary reform initiative at the present time. One of its components focuses on our first appearance process for defendants in custody. We are in the process of implementing the use of a validated risk assessment instrument for the first time in Palm Beach County. We have identified the Virginia Risk Assessment Instrument (VRAI) as the tool that will be used by our judges as a foundation for making release decisions based upon risk rather than subjective factors. We are now in the process of developing a matrix for risk management in conjunction with the instrument which will assist the court in determining appropriate supervisory conditions for release. Then we will proceed to a phase providing training for judges, attorneys and Pretrial Services staff. The Pretrial Justice Institute is providing technical assistance for this initiative.

The diversion project referenced above is FUSE (Frequent Users System Engagement). This is a national model developed by the New York based Corporation for Supportive Housing, who is advising us on its development and implementation. The concept is to develop a list of the top 100 utilizers of the jails, homeless shelters, behavioral health services, and hospitals. Then, through a process of outreach and “inreach”, these individuals are located and placed in permanent supportive housing with wrap around services to address their respective needs. With the benefits of housing and services, these individuals should be able to stabilize their lives and end the cycles of incarceration and homelessness.

Two additional initiatives began in April of this year. Both of them are designed to help low level misdemeanor offenders resolve their cases without incarceration.

On Saturday, April 30th we held our initial Operation Fresh Start event. Individuals with outstanding misdemeanor warrants were sent notices inviting them to come to court on that date to have their warrants withdrawn without fear of incarceration. 379 people appeared. All of their warrants were withdrawn. Some had their cases resolved at that time, and the rest received a new court date. Representatives from the Division of Driver Licenses were on hand, and more than 200 individuals with suspended licences had their licenses reinstated on the spot.

Our Driving Under Suspended License (DUS) Diversion Project also began in April, with weekly dockets designed to give defendants the opportunity to reinstate suspended driver licences and avoid incarceration. The DUS Project is already having a positive impact on many of our residents.

As part of the Safety and Justice Challenge, we have also implemented a program of alternative sanctions for misdemeanor technical probation violations, allowing probationers to avoid incarceration. In conjunction with this, judges now have the option of issuing a notice to appear rather than an arrest warrant for an alleged probation violator.

The Criminal Justice Commission also recently created a Community Engagement Task Force. The task force is working to make certain that a wide variety of perspectives from the diverse cities and communities of our county are considered whenever we make important criminal justice decisions. The first strategy of the task force is to raise the level of awareness about race and the criminal justice system to system players and community members in an effort to bridge gaps of knowledge and misperceptions. We hope to achieve this through regional forums, public service announcements, brochures, clergy outreach, and training in the areas of implicit bias and procedural justice.



October 11, 2016

Ms. Meredith Patten
Executive Director
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th St., 10th Floor
New York City, New York 10019

Dear Ms. Patten:

On behalf of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), I am pleased to express our commission's unanimous support for the referenced proposal. Please accept this letter as our formal request to be considered for selection as a site for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice. Our organization is looking forward to participating in this important initiative.

The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) has a long history of researching and developing innovative and progressive programs and solutions relating to important criminal justice issues in Palm Beach County. It was created by ordinance in 1988 and has 32 members, 21 from the public sector representing local, state and federal criminal justice and governmental agencies and 11 members from the private sector. The private sector members consist of business leaders, community leaders, and clergy.

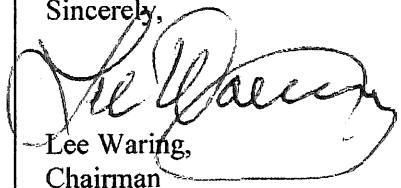
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A thorough examination of low level criminal offenses and the related police interaction within our community is both timely and important. We expect that further research and understanding of these dynamics, can help facilitate more effective outcomes for our criminal justice system.

This is also a crucial time for the relationship between police and the community. Participating in this initiative should assist us in understanding how that relationship can be improved through mutual trust and respect. This will also aid us with our new Community Engagement Task Force efforts, which seek to empower residents to enhance public safety through transparent partnerships with the criminal justice system.

For all these reasons, the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission enthusiastically supports this proposal.

Sincerely,


Lee Waring,
Chairman

Criminal Justice Commission
11 North Olive Avenue, Suite 1001
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4705
(561) 355-4943
Fax: (561) 355-4941
www.pbcgov.com/cjc

**Palm Beach County
Board of County
Commissioners**
Mary Lou Berger, Mayor
Hal R. Valeche, Vice Mayor
Paulette Burdick
Shelley Vana
Steven L. Abrams
Melissa McKinlay
Priscilla A. Taylor

County Administrator
Verdenia C. Baker

"An Equal Opportunity
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PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION (CJC)
MEMBERSHIP LIST – 2016
(Revised 9/2016)

Chairman

Mr. Lee Waring
Client Advisor
Seaside National Bank & Trust

Vice-Chairman

Mr. Gerald Richman
Richman, Greer P. A.

Treasurer

Mr. Barry Krischer
Retired – former State Attorney

Secretary

Ms. Rosalyn Baker
Circuit Administrator
Florida Department of Corrections

Public Sector Members

Honorable Dave Aronberg
State Attorney
15th Judicial Circuit

Honorable Carey Haughwout
Public Defender
15th Judicial Circuit

Honorable Jeffrey Colbath
Chief Judge
15th Judicial Circuit

Honorable Sharon R. Bock
Clerk & Comptroller
Palm Beach County

Honorable Ric Bradshaw
Sheriff, Palm Beach County

Honorable Commissioner Priscilla Taylor
Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners

Honorable Dr. Debra Robinson
Palm Beach County School Board

Honorable Judge Kathleen Kroll
Administrative Judge Juvenile Division
15th Judicial Circuit

Honorable Dave Kerner
Florida House of Representatives
Legislative Delegation

Commissioner Keith James
West Palm Beach City Council
League of Cities

Ms. Nellie L. King
Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

Chief Bryan Kummerlen
West Palm Beach Police Department

Chief Frank Kitzerow
Jupiter Police Department
Chiefs of Police Association

Deputy Karl Martin
Crime Prevention Officers Association

Mr. Frank Mercurio
Special Agent Supervisor
Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Mr. John McKenna
Resident Agent in Charge
Drug Enforcement Administration

Mr. Michael D'Alonzo
Asst. Supervisory Resident Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Rolando Garcia
U.S. Attorney's Office

Mr. Robert Shirley
Resident Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives

Mr. Gregory Starling
Chief Probation Officer
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
15th Judicial Circuit

Private Sector – Clergy Member

Reverend Kevin L. Jones
Tabernacle Baptist Church

Private Sector Members – Economic Council

Ms. Barbara Cheives
President, Converge & Associates Consulting

Mr. Douglas Duncan
Roth and Duncan, P.A.

Mr. George T. Elmore
President Hardrives of Delray, Inc.

Mr. Joseph Ianno, Jr.
Carlton, Fields, Jorden, & Burt, P.A.

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President, Communications by Johnson, Inc.

Ms. Christina Morrison
Carmel Real Estate & Management

Immediate Past Chair
Mr. William L. Kramer
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October 11, 2016

Ms. Meredith Patten
Executive Director
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th Street, 10th Floor
New York City, NY 10019

Dear Ms. Patten:

Florida Atlantic University's (FAU) School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ) agrees to become the research partner to the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission pending an award is made to the Commission to join the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice. Drs. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk and Lincoln Sloas will serve as co-principal investigators.

FAU is a member of the State University System of Florida, a consortium of 12 public universities. Over 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled at FAU in over 180 degree programs.

SCCJ is the second largest undergraduate degree program at FAU and holds the distinction of being the largest undergraduate degree program in the state of Florida. SCCJ has 15 full-time faculty and a cadre of dedicated adjunct faculty who bring unique perspectives to the classroom. Full-time faculty hold PhDs from Arizona State, Florida State, George Mason, Maryland, Michigan State, NYU, Oklahoma, and Sam Houston State. SCCJ offers the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in criminology and criminal justice. Since 1973, SCCJ has awarded almost 6,000 Bachelor and 200 Masters degrees.

Over the past two years, the SCCJ faculty submitted six grant proposals, had eight undergraduate courses nationally certified as QM (Quality Matters is a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components), progressed discussion of a professional doctorate with the President's office, significantly expanded community engagement, applied for and was awarded FAU's first Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, published 9 books and 38 academically peer reviewed articles, and delivered 37 conference presentations around the globe.

SCCJ places high value on developing relationships with justice agencies to assist with policy development. For example:

- Drs. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk and Lincoln Sloas are co-principal investigators on a grant with the Florida Department of Corrections to evaluate evidence-based practices in offender reentry.
- Dr. Sameer Hinduja's research on cyberbullying is sponsored by Facebook.
- Drs. John Smykla and Vaughn Crichlow are researching police worn body cameras with grants from the City of West Palm Beach.
- Dr. Adam Dobrin volunteers as a county sheriff deputy to expand our knowledge of increasing diversity in law enforcement.
- Dr. Mara Schiff travels the globe as an invited speaker sharing her expertise with school districts on community justice and the school to prison pipeline.
- Dr. Seth Fallik is working with Palm Beach County law enforcement agencies on a Project Safe Neighborhood grant.
- Dr. Lisa Dario is working with ADT on issues of private security.
- Dr. John Smykla consults with The GEO Group Inc. (the nation's largest provider of private correctional services) in its Continuum of Care division.
- Dr. Smykla and his co-author at the University of West Florida are at the end of a five-year randomized controlled trial evaluating the efficacy of reentry court for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida.
- Many justice leaders in our community serve as adjunct faculty and bring practical questions and issues to the classroom debate.

The SCCJ faculty are generating new information with the goal of contributing to the literature on evidence-based practices. Our methodological expertise will create the data analytic infrastructure to examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses in Palm Beach County, and work with the Research Network to create cross-site analyses on the enforcement and outcomes of low-level offenses with the ultimate goal of informing national criminal justice policy.

On behalf of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University and the principal researchers (Drs. Atkin-Plunk and Sloas) who are poised to work with the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission, I am honored to pledge our research partnership support of the grant initiative.

Very truly yours,



John Ortiz Smykla, Ph.D.
Director and Professor



Palm Beach County Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

P.O. Box 1316
West Palm Beach, FL 33402

October 7, 2016

Ms. Meredith Patten
Executive Director
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th St., 10th Floor
New York City, New York 10019

Dear Ms. Patten:

On behalf of the Palm Beach County Police Chiefs of Police Association, I am pleased to express our support for the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission's proposal to be selected as a site for the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice through John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Our association is looking forward to participating in this important initiative.

The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) has a long history of researching and developing innovative and progressive programs and solutions relating to important criminal justice issues in Palm Beach County. Currently, the CJC is a partner site for the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge whose goal is to reduce our local jail population without compromising public safety. The Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice ties in very well to the work being done locally on the Safety and Justice Challenge.

The Palm Beach County Association of Chiefs of Police counts among its members the Police Chiefs and the Sheriff of twenty five law enforcement agencies in the county. Our members recognize the significance of examining the enforcement and outcomes of low level offenses as these types of offenses consume a great share of our policing resources. A thorough analysis of the data which is gathered should assist our respective departments to improve both their effectiveness and their efficiency. The reports produced through this initiative will inform discussion about the trends and issues identified.

This is a crucial time for the relationship between police and the community. Participating in this initiative should assist us in understanding how our community relationships can be improved through mutual trust and respect.

For all these reasons, the Palm Beach County Association of Police Chiefs enthusiastically supports the initiative of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission.

Sincerely,

Chief Lawrence J. Leon
President

Municipality	Population Served*	Sworn Officers
Atlantis	2,106	14
Belle Glade (by PBSO)	18,251	NA
Boca Raton	93,235	203
Boynton Beach	73,966	140
Briny Breezes (by Boynton Beach PD)	603	NA
Cloud Lake (by PBSO)	145	NA
Delray Beach	66,255	156
Glen Ridge (by PBSO)	234	NA
Golf (by PBSO)	275	NA
Greenacres (by PBSO)	39,676	NA
Gulf Stream	836	12
Haverhill (by PBSO)	2,025	NA
Highland Beach	3,729	14
Hypoluxo (by Lantana PD)	2,719	NA
Juno Beach	3,474	16
Jupiter	62,707	116
Jupiter Inlet Colony	445	5
Lake Clarke Shores	3,552	12
Lake Park (by PBSO)	8,538	NA
Lake Worth (by PBSO)	37,498	NA
Lantana	11,136	29
Loxahatchee Groves (by PBSO)	3,397	NA
Manalapan	449	10
Mangonia Park (by PBSO)	1,979	NA
North Palm Beach	12,853	31
Ocean Ridge	1,904	16
Pahokee (by PBSO)	6,071	NA
Palm Beach	8,612	70
Palm Beach Gardens	52,923	112
Palm Beach Shores	1,208	11
Palm Springs	22,341	42
Riviera Beach	34,005	120
Royal Palm Beach (by PBSO)	37,633	NA
South Bay (by PBSO)	5,101	NA
South Palm Beach	1,424	8
Tequesta	5,942	20
Unincorporated County (Sheriff's Office-PBSO)	626,203	1,563
Wellington (by PBSO)	62,560	NA
West Palm Beach	106,779	285
TOTAL INCORPORATED POPULATION		796,586
UNINCORPORATED POPULATION		626,203
TOTAL COUNTY POPULATION		1,422,789
		3,005

*Source: 2015 Population Estimate (as of July 1, 2015), <http://www.census.gov/data.html>



Palm Beach County Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

P.O. Box 1316
West Palm Beach, FL 33402

Attachment # 2
Page 22 of 28

October 7, 2016

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Executive Director
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th St., 10th Floor
New York City, New York 10019

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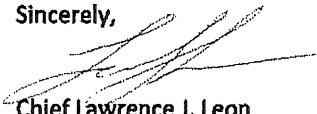
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October 11, 2016

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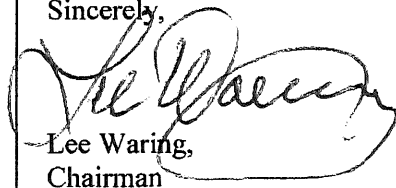
Palm Beach County is a partner site for the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge, whose goal is to reduce our local jail population without compromising public safety. The Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice ties in perfectly to the work being done locally on the Safety and Justice Challenge.

A thorough examination of low level criminal offenses and the related police interaction within our community is both timely and important. We expect that further research and understanding of these dynamics, can help facilitate more effective outcomes for our criminal justice system.

This is also a crucial time for the relationship between police and the community. Participating in this initiative should assist us in understanding how that relationship can be improved through mutual trust and respect. This will also aid us with our new Community Engagement Task Force efforts, which seek to empower residents to enhance public safety through transparent partnerships with the criminal justice system.

For all these reasons, the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission enthusiastically supports this proposal.

Sincerely,


Lee Waring,
Chairman

Criminal Justice Commission
11 North Olive Avenue, Suite 1001
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4705
(561) 355-4943
Fax: (561) 355-4941
www.pbcgov.com/cjc



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Verdenia C. Baker

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PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION (CJC)
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(Revised 9/2016)

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October 11, 2016

Ms. Meredith Patten
Executive Director
Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
524 West 59th Street, 10th Floor
New York City, NY 10019

Dear Ms. Patten:

Florida Atlantic University's (FAU) School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ) agrees to become the research partner to the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission pending an award is made to the Commission to join the Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice. Drs. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk and Lincoln Sloas will serve as co-principal investigators.

FAU is a member of the State University System of Florida, a consortium of 12 public universities. Over 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled at FAU in over 180 degree programs.

SCCJ is the second largest undergraduate degree program at FAU and holds the distinction of being the largest undergraduate degree program in the state of Florida. SCCJ has 15 full-time faculty and a cadre of dedicated adjunct faculty who bring unique perspectives to the classroom. Full-time faculty hold PhDs from Arizona State, Florida State, George Mason, Maryland, Michigan State, NYU, Oklahoma, and Sam Houston State. SCCJ offers the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in criminology and criminal justice. Since 1973, SCCJ has awarded almost 6,000 Bachelor and 200 Masters degrees.

Over the past two years, the SCCJ faculty submitted six grant proposals, had eight undergraduate courses nationally certified as QM (Quality Matters is a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components), progressed discussion of a professional doctorate with the President's office, significantly expanded community engagement, applied for and was awarded FAU's first Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, published 9 books and 38 academically peer reviewed articles, and delivered 37 conference presentations around the globe.

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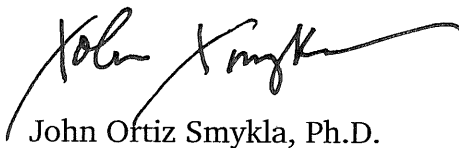
SCCJ places high value on developing relationships with justice agencies to assist with policy development. For example:

- Drs. Cassandra Atkin-Plunk and Lincoln Sloas are co-principal investigators on a grant with the Florida Department of Corrections to evaluate evidence-based practices in offender reentry.
- Dr. Sameer Hinduja's research on cyberbullying is sponsored by Facebook.
- Drs. John Smykla and Vaughn Crichlow are researching police worn body cameras with grants from the City of West Palm Beach.
- Dr. Adam Dobrin volunteers as a county sheriff deputy to expand our knowledge of increasing diversity in law enforcement.
- Dr. Mara Schiff travels the globe as an invited speaker sharing her expertise with school districts on community justice and the school to prison pipeline.
- Dr. Seth Fallik is working with Palm Beach County law enforcement agencies on a Project Safe Neighborhood grant.
- Dr. Lisa Dario is working with ADT on issues of private security.
- Dr. John Smykla consults with The GEO Group Inc. (the nation's largest provider of private correctional services) in its Continuum of Care division.
- Dr. Smykla and his co-author at the University of West Florida are at the end of a five-year randomized controlled trial evaluating the efficacy of reentry court for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida.
- Many justice leaders in our community serve as adjunct faculty and bring practical questions and issues to the classroom debate.

The SCCJ faculty are generating new information with the goal of contributing to the literature on evidence-based practices. Our methodological expertise will create the data analytic infrastructure to examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses in Palm Beach County, and work with the Research Network to create cross-site analyses on the enforcement and outcomes of low-level offenses with the ultimate goal of informing national criminal justice policy.

On behalf of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University and the principal researchers (Drs. Atkin-Plunk and Sloas) who are poised to work with the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission, I am honored to pledge our research partnership support of the grant initiative.

Very truly yours,



John Ortiz Smykla, Ph.D.
Director and Professor



CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Verdenia Baker
County Administrator

THRU: Jon Van Arnam
Deputy County Administrator

FROM: Kristina Henson, Executive Director
Criminal Justice Commission

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristina Henson".

DATE: September 30, 2016

RE: Signature Authority for Application Submittal to John Jay College of Criminal Justice

On September 26, 2016 the Criminal Justice Commission voted unanimously to submit an application to John Jay College of Criminal Justice in response to their solicitation for the Research Project on Misdemeanor Justice. The Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice is a three-year initiative that will bring together law enforcement agencies, courts, corrections, and other criminal justice agencies to work with research institutions across seven jurisdictions to examine trends in the enforcement and disposition of low-level offenses such as misdemeanors, citations/summons, and pedestrian and traffic stops. Florida Atlantic University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, has agreed to be our research partner. The application is due October 15, 2016.

The purpose of this memorandum is to request that you designate me as your designee to submit the application which includes a cover letter, a completed Interest and Data form, and letters of support from Florida Atlantic University, the Palm Beach County Chiefs of Police Association, and the CJC.

If you agree, please sign below and return to me. The application will be submitted for ratification by the Board of County Commissioners on November 1st or 22nd. Thank you for your consideration.

SIGNATURE AUTHORITY IS HEREBY GIVEN TO Kristina Henson, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Commission, to submit this application as stated above.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Verdenia Baker".

Verdenia Baker, County Administrator