

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 21, 2026, | 12-1:30 pm

Location: Government Center – C-1291 Amdahl Conference Room

Committee Members/Representatives Present

Eric Werner, Jeff Lunde (virtual), Kevin Anderson, Eli Farhat (proxy), Mary Moriarty, Dawanna Witt, Chela Guzman-Wiegert, Mike Berger, Leah Kaiser, Danette Buskovich (proxy), Dr. Tamara Mattison (proxy), John Freude (proxy), David Bernstein (proxy), Kerry Meyer, Todd Fellman, Hilary Caligiuri, Sara Gonsalves, Andrew Draper (proxy), Travis Riddle (virtual), Jason Nelson, Julie Maas-Kusske, Joseph Dotseth, Angela Willms.

Staff: Jackie Braun-Lewis, Susan Winterfeld Thompson, Liz Mohr.

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5 minutes | Roll Call & Old Business

Lead: Chief Werner, CJCC Chair

- Meeting was called to order.
- Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.
- March Meeting Minutes were approved.
- Welcomed new member, Deputy Chief Riddle representing the City Of Minneapolis Police Department.
- Director Kaiser provided an overview of the Criminal Justice Mental Health Initiative report, highlighting a decade of collaborative system-improvement efforts supporting individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders involved in the criminal justice system.
- The committee received an update on the Youth Stabilization Center, highlighting its recent recognition with a Hennepin County Administrator Award and continued provision of crisis stabilization services for youth and families.
- National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Week were recognized in honor of officers who have lost their lives in service.

20 minutes | Corrections Advisory Board (CAB) Update

Lead: Danette Buskovich, Area Director, Operations and Innovation Services, Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation

- Area Director, Danette Buskovich, outlined Minnesota's three community supervision models and Hennepin County's role as a Community Corrections Act (CCA) county.
- Updates were shared on statewide community supervision reforms, including a new funding formula and the creation of the Minnesota Community Supervision Advisory Committee (CSAC).
- The Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCCR) completed and submitted its required draft comprehensive plan to the Minnesota Department of Corrections.

- The Corrections Advisory Board (CAB) was formally established as a CJCC subcommittee following bylaw changes approved in December 2024.
- CAB membership includes CJCC, education and racial equity representatives.
- The CAB approved the draft plan in April, followed by approval from the Law, Safety, and Justice Committee and the County Board.
- Future CAB will focus on developing the next comprehensive corrections plan and expanding stakeholder input.

30 minutes | 2026-2027 Strategic Focus

Lead: Susan Winterfeld-Thompson, Senior Strategic Planning Consultant

- CJCC mission, vision, and goals were reviewed, emphasizing system-level collaboration, community safety, and reducing justice system disparities.
- Members identified potential 2026–2027, including warrant management, delinquency age implementation, system efficiencies, data sharing, and information sharing, cybercrime prevention, and countywide coordination.
- Emerging issues included youth firearm offenses, youth involvement in violent crime, cyber threats, court system efficiencies, and potential impacts of federal funding reductions on behavioral health and related services.
- Staff will distribute a survey to help prioritize focus areas and identify subject matter experts for future work.

30 minutes | Open Forum Information Sharing

Lead: Chief Werner, CJCC Chair

- Members discussed implementation of the new state law raising the delinquency age threshold from age 10 to age 13, effective August 1, 2026, including planning, intervention pathways, law enforcement response, service capacity, and interagency coordination.
- The County Attorney’s Office highlighted diversion and support services available to assist youth and families.
- A new Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor position was announced to support drug-impaired driving education, training, and prosecution.
- Metro Transit Police reported reduced crime, higher staffing levels and continued organizational progress.
- An update was provided on the Auto Theft Task Force, including vehicle recoveries, regional collaboration, and grant funding supporting enforcement and investigations.
- An update was provided in the first year of the SBIRT initiative (Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment) i for first-time DWI offenders with preliminary results showing effective identification of individuals needing intervention and treatment .

5 Wrap-up and next steps

Lead: Chief Werner, CJCC Chair

- Staff will compile feedback from the strategic planning discussion and distribute a survey to members.
- Future meetings will include legislative updates and continued discussion of identified priority focus areas, including delinquency age changes and youth-related public safety concerns.
- Next CJCC scheduled: July 23, 2026.
- Meeting adjourned.