

COURT SECURITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE (CSSC)

DRAFT MINUTES

July 26, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Conference Room 119 A/B

1501 W. Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Present: Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Mary Jane Abril, Judge Kyle Bryson, Faye Guertin through her proxy Carla Boatner, Richard Colwell, Greg DeMeritt, Rolf Eckel, Joshua Halversen, Keith Kaplan, Judge Rob Krombeen, Tina Mattison, John Phelps, Captain Scott Slade

Absent: Sean Gibbs, Sheriff William Pribil, Sheriff Scott Mascher

Guests: Earle Lloyd, Superior Court in Maricopa County, Security Office

Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) Guest: Jeff Schrade

AOC Staff: Jennifer Albright

Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Mr. Reinkensmeyer welcomed Ms. Carla Boatner, proxy for Faye Guertin, and asked members to introduce themselves to Ms. Boatner. The Chair then outlined the plan of action for today's meeting. He stated that he had some suggestions for consideration regarding a statewide court security fund and some additional recommendations related to funding at the end of the draft report for discussion. The Chair thanked Pima County for all the help that they have provided and acknowledged that Jennifer Albright has been hard at work on the draft report and is looking for additional resources for the report's appendices such as checklists and other tools.

Approval of Minutes

Marcus Reinkensmeyer noted that Jennifer Albright had a comment regarding the draft minutes and asked Jennifer to clarify. Jennifer stated that after discussing the draft minutes and the draft report with a member she noted absence of a recommended addition to the training related security standards in the draft minutes. Ms. Albright noted she made an addition under the heading Courthouse Security in the minutes. That edition reads: *"Recommend that AOC have approved training curriculum for court security officers and basic minimum standards for any private security companies that provide court security; provision for exemption if court security officer is AZ POST certified; consider grandfathering current security officers based on prior training and experience."*

Motion to approve minutes: Judge Bryson moved to approve the June 27, 2016, minutes as amended by Jennifer Albright. **Seconded:** Judge Krombeen **Vote:** unanimous

Prior to delving into the agenda items, Mr. Reinkensmeyer shared a couple of news items related to court security around the country:

Navajo County, Arizona – Mr. Reinkensmeyer recounted the shooting on the front steps of the courthouse just after court had closed. The National Center for State Courts went to Navajo County to debrief the staff on what happened and to provide suggestions on court security.

Berrien County, Michigan – Two bailiffs were killed and a sheriff's deputy was wounded by an inmate being transported from jail who was handcuffed in front and able to get ahold of the gun of one of the bailiffs. The inmate was later killed by a sheriff's deputy.

Coconino County, Arizona – Judge Krombeen discussed a difficult order of protection incident that happened in his court involving a retired police officer who was ordered to surrender his firearms. The defendant requested a hearing regarding the surrendering of his firearms and when the hearing was over the judge instructed the bailiff to escort the plaintiff and her sister to their vehicle before releasing the defendant. When the bailiff escorted the women to their vehicle he looked into the defendant's vehicle and noticed a couple of rifles in the backseat of the defendant's truck. The police were called and the defendant was detained in the courtroom, it turns out the rifles were pellet guns.

Mr. Keith Kaplan commented that after the incident in Berrien County, Michigan there was some local discussion on the reality that you can secure the court from weapons brought in from outside the court; however, you can't secure the court from weapons worn by armed security or law enforcement personnel in the court. He stated that the incident is something to keep in mind when the committee considered its proposed standard on armed security or law enforcement officers in court buildings.

Court Security Funding Strategies

Marcus Reinkensmeyer outlined a funding proposal for a statewide court security fund and asked for the committee's input. If the committee approves the proposal, it will be submitted to the legislative liaison for approval to vet with the legislature. Mr. Reinkensmeyer noted if the legislative proposal to create a statewide security fund was adopted, it would be the middle tier of a three tier court security funding structure. The three tiers were discussed.

Mr. Reinkensmeyer provided two examples of how existing funding sources might be used to fund the proposed statewide security fund. Neither of the examples would divert monies from existing projects or require new fees to be assessed.

One member suggested that the funding recommendation, as it would appear in the Committee's final report, should provide some guidance on the distribution structure of fund monies. It was suggested a formula be used that put small and large counties on equal footing.

Discussion was also had on the various types of funding available that could possibly be used to fund court security such as: local JSEF, Fill the Gap, and other funds to be researched.

The Committee reached consensus on the security fund recommendation and supported a legislative proposal related to creation and funding of the fund.

Review of Draft Standards

Marcus Reinkensmeyer asked the committee to vote regarding the direction of the draft report and allowing Jennifer Albright leeway in making edits to the report after the committee reviewed and discussed it during the remainder of the meeting. He explained the necessity of this being done so that a revised draft report could be taken to each of the standing committees for their input and support. The report would then be fine-tuned with any comments or suggestions from the standing committees and presented at the Committee's September 12th meeting for review and approval prior to being presented to the Arizona Judicial Council and Presiding Judges for their input and support in October.

Review and Discussion of Draft Report

The chair deferred to Jennifer Albright to go through the draft report section by section, focusing heavily on the draft security standards. Ms. Albright moved through each standard asking members to provide edits, comments, or other feedback. Ms. Albright either made edits on a working draft projected for the members to see or made notes on the recommended edits when there were more in depth. Once members indicated they had no, or no additional edits or feedback, then the next proposed standard was be addressed. In summary, the edits and recommendations were focused on language choice and organization.

The members did have in-depth discussion on the standards involving: court security assessments and the structure of those assessments; armed security and armed court employees in the court and training requirements for anyone who was armed in the court, whether court security of court employees; and possible addition of a standard requiring courts to conduct background checks on vendors and contractors or have such persons escorted through the court if not back ground checked.

After the members moved through all of the proposed standards, additional comment and feedback on the related recommendations section of the draft report were sought.

After discussion concluded on the draft report, the Chair moved for a motion on the draft report.

Motion: Judge Bryson moved to support the court security standards with the refinements discussed. **Seconded:** Greg Demeritt **Vote:** Unanimous.

Announcements/Call to the Public

No public in attendance

Next Committee Meeting:

September 12, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Arizona State Court Building, Conference Room 119 A/B
1501 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Adjourned at 2:34 p.m.