

BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND JUDICIARY

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2024 Interim

September 18, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 3rd meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Justice and Judiciary was held on September 18, 2024, at 9:00 AM in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Shelley Funke Frommeyer Co-Chair; Representative Patrick Flannery Co-Chair; Senators Christian McDaniel and Michael J. Nemes; Representatives Adam Bowling and George Brown Jr.

Guests: Dr. Bill Ralston, Chief Medical Examiner, Office of the State Medical Examiner; Captain Joey Adams, Forensic Laboratory Division, Kentucky State Police; Randy White, Commissioner, Department of Juvenile Justice; Elzie Burgher, Executive Director, Office of Support Services, Department of Juvenile Justice

LRC Staff: Zachary Ireland, Perry Papka, and Benjamin Thompson.

Update - Department of Juvenile Justice

Randy White, Commissioner, Department of Juvenile Justice; Elzie Burgher, Executive Director, Office of Support Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, provided an update on the budgetary status of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).

In response to Senator McDaniel's questions, Commissioner White confirmed that the department had received no responses to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for mental health professionals.

In response to questions from Chair Funke Frommeyer, Mr. Burgher noted that the department had pragmatically utilized staffing agencies that already had contracts with the state to acquire qualified mental health professionals. Commissioner White stated that the department partners with nineteen different school districts to provide a classroom learning experience to incarcerated juveniles.

Update - Northern Kentucky Medical Examiners Office and Northern State Police Crime Lab

Dr. Bill Ralston, Chief Medical Examiner, Office of the State Medical Examiner, and Captain

Committee meeting materials may be accessed online at <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/CommitteeDocuments/17>

Joey Adams, Forensic Laboratory Division, Kentucky State Police, provided an update on the status of the new joint location in northern Kentucky for the Medical Examiners' Office and the State Police Crime Lab.

In response to a question from Chair Funke Frommeyer, Dr. Ralston noted that the new facility is expected to be completed within eighteen to twenty-four months of the design phase being completed, but construction could be finished earlier. The design phase is scheduled to close on August 1, 2025.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 AM.