

**BRIAN P. KEMP**  
GOVERNOR



**JAY NEAL**  
DIRECTOR

## Minutes

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
Full Council Meeting  
Tuesday, June 20th, 2023 | 2:00 P.M.  
The State Bar Office and by Remote Conferencing

### Attendees

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The following members were present: Chairman Joseph Hood\*, Vice Chairman Tyrone Oliver\*, Ms. Lauren Bell\*, Judge Nancy Bills\*, Parole Board Vice-Chair Jacqueline Bunn\*, Mr. Jerry Bruce, Director Cynthia Clanton\*, Mr. Brian DiNapoli\*, Chief Denise Downer-McKinney\*, Ms. Sonja Fillingame\*, Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb\*, Director Pete Skandalakis\*, Mr. Russell Lewis\*, Mr. Scott Maurer\*, and Director Chris Stallings\*.

The following Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) staff members were present: Executive Director Jay Neal, Deputy Director Steven Hatfield\*, Kristy Carter\*, Aisha Ford\*, Madeline Lara, Britney Hough\*, Stefanie Lopez-Howard\*, Kristen Lee, Ursula Kelley\*, Rachel Kilgore\*, Dannielle Lewis\*, Mia Smith\*, and Robert Thornton\*.

The following guests were present: Edith Darden (Department of Juvenile Justice)\*, Meghan Davidson (Attorney General's Office)\*, and State Representative Marvin Lim\*.

\*by remote conferencing

### Welcome and Call to Order, *Chairman Joe Hood*

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Chairman Hood called the meeting to order at 1:59 P.M. Ms. Madeline Lara called the roll, and a quorum was confirmed.

### Review of Minutes, *Chairman Joe Hood*

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Chairman Hood called for a review of the minutes of the April 13, 2023 meeting. Ms. Bunn made a motion to approve the minutes; Director Clanton seconded, and the motion carried without dissent.

### Victim Assistance Grants Committee, *Ms. Kristy Carter*

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Chairman Hood recognized Ms. Kristy Carter for the purpose of presenting the Victim Assistance Grants committee recommendations of the Victim Assistance Division (VAD) collectively.

**Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

**Recommended: \$1,336,599**

First, Ms. Carter shared an overview of the FY23-24 TANF Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Grant Program: TANF funding has been identified to promote the development of a system of care service delivery to meet the needs of this special population of CSEC victims. TANF funds are used to coordinate a statewide response to CSEC with the assistance of partnering agencies throughout the state. These funds also assist with CSEC/DMST trainings, research/evaluation, and the coordination of the Georgia Statewide Task Force. All recommended awards will begin on July 1, 2023 and end on June 30, 2024.

*Committee Recommendations:*

- 1) Award Children’s Advocacy Centers of Georgia to manage the 24/7 statewide DMST hotline, to manage coordination of assessments at local CACs to determine victimization and needs, to manage coordination of community-based follow up and after care services, and to develop and conduct training in the amount of **\$798,974**.
- 2) Award identified CAC Network for Assessments and Services. **\$200,000**.
- 3) Award Wellspring Living – Receiving Hope Center, CSEC residential provider, funding to support private pay youth in receiving specialized trafficking services. CSEC residential provider requests will be reimbursed on a case-by-case basis not to exceed **\$115,614**.
- 4) Award University of Georgia CEASE Clinic - Social Worker & Legal Advocacy Support for HOPE Court **\$166,990**.
- 5) Award Tharros Place, a residential project in Chatham County, to support the installation of secured fence **\$55,021**.

FY2023-2024 TANF Recommendations	
Grantee	Award
Children’s Advocacy Centers of Georgia – CSEC Response, Hotline, Assessments, Coordinator	\$798,974
CJCC to Identified CAC Network - Assessments and Services	\$200,000
Wellspring Living – Receiving Hope Center – Private Pay for Non-custodial Youth	\$115,614
University of Georgia CEASE Clinic - Social Worker & Legal Advocacy for HOPE Court	\$166,990
Tharros Place – Residential Project	\$55,021
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,336,599</b>

**FY22 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)**

**Recommended: \$5,200.00**

Next, Ms. Carter explained that CJCC recently received our FY23 STOP VAWA allocation in the amount of \$5,063,103. This is an \$1,029,809 increase from our FY22 allocation. Overview

of the FY22 VAWA Grant Program-The Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecution (STOP)Violence Against Women Act Grant program has two overarching goals:

- 1) To foster initiatives that develop and strengthen effective law enforcement, prosecution, adjudication, and offender monitoring strategies to combat violent crimes against women; and
- 2) To foster initiatives that expand and bolster services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

*Staff Recommendation:*

As a result of the increase in allocations, staff recommends awarding the Georgia Commission on Family Violence to fund 15 scholarships for the judiciary in the State of Georgia to attend the 2023 Annual Statewide Georgia Commission on Family Violence Conference. The registration cost is \$325 per each attendee for a total of **\$5,200**.

At the conclusion of Ms. Carter’s report, Chairman Hood asked the Council if there were any questions for staff. Hearing none, Vice Chairman Oliver was recognized, and he made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented. Mr. Maurer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Victim Assistance Division Updates**

Next, Chairman Hood recognized Ms. Carter to present Victim Assistance Division updates to the Council.

**FFY23 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Program**

Ms. Cater reported that CJCC attended the VOCA bi-annual summit in May 2023. The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and the VOCA Center did report out on the status of the Crime Victims Fund. The OVC reviewed deposit levels into the Crime Victims Fund. Please see below for a chart outlining deposit levels provided by OVC. OVC gave a brief overview of a proposal that would set a permanent obligation cap to promote consistency in services and to protect the solvency of the fund. The proposal includes the permanent obligation cap, and if the fund fell below what was needed to meet the obligation cap, appropriations would be added to the fund to meet the cap. Any deposits collected above the cap in subsequent years would be paid back, essentially creating a loan program for the fund. CJCC will keep members informed if the proposal gains traction.

Crime Victims Fund Monthly Deposits (Criminal Fines)													
Fiscal Year	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Total
2019	\$ 69,364,719	\$ 33,460,447	\$ 95,488,530	\$ 13,208,611	\$ 15,737,697	\$ 11,621,399	\$ 38,918,948	\$ 127,574,082	\$ 35,361,749	\$ 10,647,214	\$ 28,922,843	\$ 15,129,906	\$ 495,436,145
2020	\$ 13,319,629	\$ 3,412,111	\$ 80,259,109	\$ 61,282,604	\$ 7,913,540	\$ 6,479,172	\$ 6,317,760	\$ 149,760,781	\$ 66,275,530	\$ 62,674,589	\$ 7,527,798	\$ 37,759,236	\$ 502,981,859
2021	\$ 124,705,462	\$ 46,744,512	\$ 5,612,140	\$ 25,346,308	\$ 6,905,780	\$ 104,236,572	\$ 119,204,757	\$ 9,738,425	\$ 14,170,888	\$ 6,889,053	\$ 56,633,267	\$ 29,588,735	\$ 549,775,898
2022	\$ 30,564,455	\$ 11,938,737	\$ 13,879,124	\$ 32,833,118	\$ 49,229,775	\$ 5,818,826	\$ 8,124,903	\$ 6,169,453	\$ 7,404,677	\$ 7,808,692	\$ 110,353,061	\$ 6,534,131	\$ 290,658,951
2023	\$ 201,714,152	\$ 101,024,060	\$ 15,376,809	\$ 15,536,982	\$ 6,218,320	\$ 272,856,974							\$ 612,727,297

  

Crime Victims Fund Monthly Deposits (Deferred Prosecutions)													
Fiscal Year	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Total
2021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 224,554,004
2022	\$ 179,460	\$ 824,316	\$ 36,741,670	\$ 130,766	\$ 1,091,066	\$ 225,875,364	\$ 109,967	\$ 43,942,843	\$ 51,072,168	\$ 191,849	\$ 169,816,930	\$ 1,516,202	\$ 531,492,600
2023	\$ 45,473,304	\$ 10,814,917	\$ 90,696,613	\$ 54,690,022	\$ 2,203,598	\$ 55,766							\$ 203,934,220

Based on the projections of the upcoming FY24 and FY25 funding levels based on the CVF and deposit levels, CJCC estimates that we would have a VOCA balance of about \$114M – with the distribution of up to 35M and set-asides of \$2,723,000 for the implementation of the statewide automated notification system and two agency grant funded positions (SANE

Coordinator and HT Advocate). That would mean a spend down of \$107,723,000.00 over the next 3-year cycle which would leave about 6-7M in reserves to account for further reductions and/or emergencies.

Per these conversations and projections, CJCC intends to release up to \$35M in total awards for the FY23 VOCA grant program beginning October 1, 2023. This is a competitive opportunity, thus CJCC will accept applications from new applicants. CJCC plans to award up to \$2.1M out of the \$35M total to support new programs that meet eligibility and priorities identified. In preparation, the Victim Assistance Division released the FFY2023 Competitive Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant opportunity on Monday, June 5, 2023. The division hosted an application informational session on Thursday, June 8, 2023. Please see attached materials for review. Applications are due on Monday, July 17, 2023. The applications will be scored, and funding will be determined through a competitive review process. Applications for funding may undergo reviews by CJCC staff, external peer reviewers/subject matter experts, the Survivors Advisory Council, the Victim Assistance Grants Committee, and the Council. Each application will be rated, utilizing a scoring review tool, if the application meets eligibility. Applications will undergo a financial and programmatic review. Please see below for the timeline for the competitive VOCA grant program funding opportunity.

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Target Date</b>
Release RFA and open application	June 5, 2023
Application Informational Session	June 8, 2023
All RFA questions must be submitted	July 11, 2023
Application closes	July 17, 2023
Recommendations Presented to Council	September 21, 2023
CJCC sends award packets to subgrantees	September/October 2023
Award packets due to CJCC	December 2023
Start of VOCA grant year	October 1, 2023
<b><i>Note: Timeline is subject to change at the discretion of CJCC and the Council.</i></b>	

At the conclusion of Ms. Carter’s report, Chairman Hood asked her to remind the Council how the \$35 million offering compares to years past and what that means for a program cut as a whole. Ms. Carter shared that in FY18, CJCC went through the last competitive cycle of VOCA and were awarding around \$81 million. We are looking at an over 50% cut since FY18 levels. There is some strategic approaches that the division has taken in going competitive with our VOCA funds this cycle. CJCC still does have a balance with the America Rescue Plan Act Program funds for non-profits in the amount of around \$23 million. Additionally, other COVID-19 supplemental funds that were received through the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act grant program as well as a CDS request that we were approved for. With these sources, there are supplemental funds at least for the next year. These funds are only available to those who seek a continuation of their funds, not new organizations.

Chairman Hood thanked Ms. Carter for this information and turned to the Council for any additional questions. Hearing none, Chairman Hood moved on to the next agenda item.

Chairman Hood recognized Mr. Robert Thornton for the purpose of presenting the Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommendations collectively.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

### **Lumpkin County DARE Project**

#### **Recommendation: \$50,000**

Mr. Thornton reported that the Georgia Legislature allocated \$50,000 in the FY24 budget to support the Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office Drug Awareness Resistance Education (DARE) project trainings to take place several times throughout the year.

#### *Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends approving the state allocation **\$50,000** to award to Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office for the purpose of providing DARE trainings.

### **Criminal Justice Strategic Planning Update**

Next, Mr. Thornton provided the Council with an update on the Criminal Justice Strategic Plan. Following a second, targeted release of the criminal justice stakeholder survey earlier this year, our agency received approximately 400 responses from federal, state, and local partners. In consultation with division staff, our Strategy and Development Coordinator Rachel Kilgore worked to review and evaluate the data received. Along with other members of the Justice and Compliance Division and the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), Ms. Kilgore attended a two-day conference by the Carl Vinson Institute on data analytics. Here, she and the SAC director discussed next steps and process improvement for data prioritization to better support the developing strategic plan. Ongoing meetings to explore the existing data repository have been scheduled. Additionally, after consultation with National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) partners, CJCC plans to host multiple stakeholder engagement meetings. Two meetings in August will invite statewide partners to assist in the development of a statewide SWOT analysis, identify gaps in services, and prioritize the state's most critical criminal justice needs. Council members and other key partners have been invited via email and asked to RSVP to [Rachel.Kilgore@cjcc.ga.gov](mailto:Rachel.Kilgore@cjcc.ga.gov) by June 23, 2023.

## JUVENILE JUSTICE

Mr. Thornton shared that the Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group (SAG) met on June 8, 2023, however, a quorum was not met. Although the SAG was unable to formally vote on the following requests, they did support the staff recommendations.

### **FY23 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program No Cost Extension Requests**

Mr. Thornton reported that in FY22, the Council approved special requests for various juvenile projects. Staff received the following request:

Agency	Summary	Amount Remaining	Request
AOC - JDEX Support Contract	The purpose of this contract is to assist remaining court systems functionality to provide data into JDEX, assist with the associated changes required with the validation of the DAI, and other updates as needed. The extension would allow for the support of treatment/service data addition to JDEX. This will allow courts to examine program effectiveness, proper juvenile treatment placement, creation of dashboards and reporting, support initiatives to support Incentive Grant Courts, and provide statewide outreach.	\$60,000	One year no-cost extension

*Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends approving a one year no-cost extension to the Administrative Office of the Courts for the JDEX Support Contract.

**FY23 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program Deobligations and Reallocations**

**Recommendation: \$473,000**

Continuing, Mr. Thornton reported that at the end of Quarter 3, the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program expended a total of \$4,242,672 and served 740 youth through evidence-based programs in their communities.

The total amount of state deobligations was \$852,973. To date, the Council approved a total of \$362,750 in reobligations. The total amount remaining of state deobligations is \$490,223. Staff received the following request for additional funding:

- Carl Vinson Institute of Government requested \$473,00 for the purposes of piloting an evaluation study on the three pilot courts.

*Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends approving the CVIOG Proposal using deobligated state funds in the amount of **\$473,000**. If approved, the remaining amount of unallocated funding will be \$17,223.

Chairman Hood requested that Mr. Thornton confirm to the Council members who are not of the Criminal Justice Grant Committee that the money for this allocation would not solely be going to Carl Vinson as they will be contracting a third party to conduct the recidivism data collection and that it would be a robust, in-depth study. Mr. Thornton confirmed that this is the case.

**FY24 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program Award Recommendations**

**Recommendation: \$8,210,734**

Next, Mr. Thornton explained that CJCC released the FY24 JJIG RFP on March 1, 2023 with a deadline of April 28, 2022. CJCC received 25 applications serving 35 counties across the state of Georgia for a total \$9.5 million.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Staff Recommendation</b>
Bartow	\$147,644	\$114,076
Bibb	\$396,938	\$326,346
Chatham	\$612,735	\$500,000
Cherokee	\$191,731	\$175,000
Clayton	\$511,741	\$450,000
Cobb	\$646,071	\$500,000
Columbia	\$150,000	\$150,000
Columbus	\$713,136	\$635,000
Coweta	\$92,045	\$92,045
DeKalb	\$602,284	\$500,000
Dougherty	\$433,470	\$375,000
Douglas	\$351,397	\$325,000
Fayette	\$92,045	\$92,045
Fulton	\$710,388	\$484,313
Glynn	\$91,113	\$91,113
Gwinnett	\$552,960	\$448,395
Hall	\$697,929	\$600,000
Henry	\$216,021	\$200,000
Houston	\$455,054	\$375,000
Lowndes	\$363,179	\$346,372
Richmond	\$525,575	\$450,000
Rockdale	\$259,535	\$259,535
Troup	\$419,412	\$419,412
Union	\$152,082	\$152,082
Walker	\$172,541	\$150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,557,027</b>	<b>\$8,210,734</b>

*Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends funding the allocations listed in the above chart column “Recommended Amount” for a total **\$8,210,734**.

**FY24 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program Model Fidelity Grant Funds**

**Recommendation: \$353,830**

Continuing, Mr. Thornton informed the Council that counties are provided technical assistance and support through our model fidelity coordinators and related trainings. These supports are funded through state dollars.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
MF Coordinators	\$196,936

5 Points Incentive Grant Tool Annual Maintenance	\$33,369
FFT Advanced Supervisor's Training	\$11,000
MST Advanced Supervisor's Training	\$8,000
Angela Dash Training Contract Group Facilitation, T4C Booster, T4C Facilitator, E.I., Navigating & Embracing Personality Differences	\$24,950
Jennifer Farming Training Contract ART Facilitator, ART Booster	\$8,800
ART Licensure Agreement (25 manuals)	\$9,375
LGBTQ+ Best Practices Training	\$2,000
CVIOG Data Updates/Support CaseWorx	\$59,400
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>\$353,830</b>

*Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends the allocations listed in the above chart column "Amount" for a total **\$353,830**.

**Title II Grant Program**

**Recommendation: \$50,000**

The Title II Grant Program funds an area of programming that support Georgia's 3-Year Juvenile Justice Plan. At this time, there is a total of \$327,716 unallocated FY18 Title II funds. The SAG received the following request:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Habersham County	To partner with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District to offer G.R.E.A.T program for 100 School Resource Officers in the northern district.	\$50,000

*Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends making an award to Habersham County for a total **\$50,000**.

Chairman Hood asked Mr. Thornton to explain the G.R.E.A.T program to the Council. Mr. Thornton explained that it stands for Gang Resistance Education and Training and this it is a gang prevention training for school resources officers.

**FY20 Juvenile Delinquency and Prevention Grant Program**

**Recommendation: \$15,000**

CJCC was awarded the FY2020 Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program. The award is a five- year grant. Awards are made on a federal fiscal year. The grant award will end September 2026. Five awards were made in Year 2 totaling \$222,876. Year 2 award period is October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023. Staff received the following request:

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Requested	Staff Recommendation
Carroll	To serve five more families in FFT and 130 more hours of individual and family counseling.	\$24,679	\$15,000

*Committee Recommendation:*

The Criminal Justice Grants Committee recommends funding Carroll County a total of **\$15,000** for the purposes of SFP, FFT, and individual and family counseling.

At the conclusion of Mr. Thornton's report and recommendations, Chairman Hood turned to the Council for any further questions. Director Clanton thanked staff for the consideration on the JDEX extension. Hearing nothing further, Director Skandalakis made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented. Ms. Fillingame seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Director Clanton noted that she would be abstaining from the vote on JDEX due to a conflict of interest.

Old/New Business

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Next, Chairman Hood recognized Mr. Thornton to share new business with the Council.

**Proposed Administrative Rule Change**

Mr. Thornton reported that during the past legislative session, HB 216 was introduced. The aim of this legislation was to provide victims of sexual assault with the ability to opt out of the Crime Victims Compensation Program (Program) requirement to submit medical and counseling expenses to their insurance providers when the victims are not the primary policyholders.

As the Council is likely aware, the Program eases the financial burden faced by victims of violent crimes by covering expenses related to medical bills, funeral expenses, mental health counseling and crime scene sanitization, as well as loss of income or support. Since the Program is the payor of last resort, victims who are covered by insurance are currently required to submit eligible expenses to their insurance providers before any payments for medical and counseling benefits can be processed.

After reviewing the bill, staff determined that the proposed change would be beneficial to victims of sexual assault and would not negatively impact the fund. Staff also determined that the change could be made via an administrative rule change and relayed this information to the bill's sponsor, State Representative Marvin Lim.

In addition to the change proposed in HB 216, staff has proposed extending the ability to opt out to victims of family violence. These proposed changes can be found in Section 5 of the attached rule:

(5) Eligibility and Exhaustion of Resources.

- (a) With the exception of those acts enumerated in O.C.G.A. § 17-15-2(3)(A), a crime must have been committed in Georgia to qualify for

compensation.

(b) The agency shall review each claim for the required findings, shall render an agency decision as to eligibility, and shall award an amount based on the factors set forth in O.C.G. A. § 17-15-7 and O.C.G.A. § 17-15-8.

(c) **Except as provided for in subparagraph (d),** no award will be made until the claimant has exhausted all other public and private resources available to him or her (such as health insurance, employee benefits, worker's compensation, other state government assistance, Medicaid/Medicare).

(d) **When medical treatment or counseling is provided to a sexual assault or family violence survivor and such survivor, who is not the subscriber or primary policyholder of an insurance policy, opts out of submitting a claim for such services under such policy, the cost of such medical treatment or counseling shall be paid by the fund in an amount as provided in O.C.G.A. § 17-15-8; provided, however, that such award shall not be reduced or set off by the amount of any payment that would have been made under such policy.**

If the initial adoption of this rule is approved by the Council and the Crime Victims Compensation Board at its meeting on June 22, 2023, it will be posted for public comment and a public hearing will be scheduled. If everything moves according to schedule, final adoption of the amended rule can be considered at the next Council meeting on September 21, 2023.

Director Skandalakis was recognized for a question and he asked how the Victims Compensation Fund currently stands. Deputy Director Hatfield explained that CJCC did receive a substantial add in the FY23 amended budget that has stabilized the Fund for the time being. Additionally, the legislature put in an ongoing add of \$4 million in the FY24 budget; however, the add was part of the “disregard” language put out by Governor Kemp. As a result, we do not have access to that funding. While the add in the amended budget is welcomed and helpful to the Fund, a decrease in deposits as a result of the decline in probation fees means that staff is constantly analyzing the Fund to ensure that the demands can be met. As of right now, the Fund is stable for the next 18 months.

Director Neal followed up stating that we have not seen a rebound in the loss of probation fees since the pandemic. Legislation that has been passed in the past few years in regards to criminal justice reform has meant individuals are being taken off probation sooner and, therefore, almost no recovery of the probation and parole fees has been seen and we do not expect that to change moving forward. The add from the legislature would have certainly helped navigate this challenge and present an opportunity for internal adjustments to be made to solidify the Fund. As it currently stands, it looks like CJCC will be approaching the legislature again in the upcoming legislative session to ask for an infusion of funds in the amended budget. We appreciate

Governor Kemp and the legislature for the inclusion of those infusions into the amended budgets the past two years. Director Skandalakis thanked Director Neal for his comments and added that he does not believe that the Fund will be able to be supported by the parole and probation fees moving forward. He further stated that he appreciates the work done by CJCC staff and by Representative Lim to address the issues facing the Crime Victims Compensation Fund.

Representative Lim thanked the Council and the staff for their work on this issue and advised the Council that he has been using this bill and the conversation surrounding it to talk up the need of the Fund and other means by which to fund it. He assured the Council that he is very much invested in the long-term viability of the fund.

At the conclusion of Mr. Thornton's report and the Council's discussion, Chairman Hood recognized Director Skandalakis, who made a motion to accept the recommendation as presented. Commissioner Reynolds-Cobb seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Reallocation of Unclaimed Law Enforcement Training Grant Award**

#### **Recommendation: \$12,761**

Continuing, Mr. Thornton reported that last year, CJCC received \$375,000 to support first responder agencies throughout the state. CJCC was able to award approximately \$12,000 to each qualifying applicant. The city of Ashburn has not provided staff with their award packet despite staff's efforts to obtain it from them and, therefore, CJCC has not been able to release those funds. Meanwhile, the City of Cohutta Police Department has contacted CJCC staff to request assistance in replacing their fingerprint system, which was recently damaged in a fire. The city of Cohutta has submitted the necessary paperwork for receive this award.

#### *Staff Recommendation:*

Rescind the award from the city of Ashburn and reallocate the award to the city of Cohutta in the amount of **\$12,761** to support their purchase of the electronic fingerprint scanner.

Chairman Hood asked for confirmation that these funds expire at the end of June. Mr. Thornton confirmed that this is the case and explained that this is why this recommendation has been moved forward so quickly. There being no further questions, Ms. Fillingame made a motion to accept staff's recommendation. Commissioner Oliver seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Future Council Meetings**

Next, Chairman Hood informed the Council members that, moving forward, the Full Council meetings will take place in person rather than virtually. Director Neal was recognized to expand upon this change. While we have appreciated being able to conduct the business of the Council virtually over the past three years, we are very much interested in getting back together in person. Our hope is to have an exclusively in-person meeting and only to provide a virtual option if it is needed to obtain a quorum. Chairman Hood also noted that being in person allows the public more direct access to the meetings, which is always welcomed.

### **Staff Update**

Lastly, Director Neal informed the Council that Statistical Analysis Center Director, Ms. Stefanie Lopez-Howard, will be leaving CJCC to join DBHDD at the end of the month. Director Neal thanked Ms. Lopez-Howard for all of her work over the years at CJCC. Ms. Lopez-Howard thanked the Council for all of their support as she grew the SAC and expressed her excitement to

start new projects focusing on addressing mental health issues in the state of Georgia. She advised the Council that her phone number will not change, and she encouraged them to keep in touch with her if she can ever be of assistance in her new role. Chairman Hood expressed his congratulations to Stefanie. Director Neal then shared that Mr. Samuel Gonzales will be taking over as the Director of SAC, and he is confident that the great work of the SAC will continue under this new leadership.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

At the conclusion of the new and old business, Chairman Hood recognized Commissioner Oliver who made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Approval

  
Vice Chairman Tyrone Oliver

  
Date