

The Council is grounded in prevention and works to ensure justice by building equitable and effective opportunities for children, youth and families to thrive in Vermont.

Council for Equitable Youth Justice
Approved Meeting Notes June 20, 2024, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting or at WSOC if desired

Members Present: Linda Johnson, Laurey Burris, Stuart Berry, Jessica Barquist, Julia Brand, Matt Wolf, Paul Groce, Mike Loner, Christopher Lukasik, Katherine O'Day, Karen Vastine

Partners Present: Zoe Souder

Members Missing: Sparks, Amy Davenport, Donn Hutchins

Karen is moving between meetings, so Christopher chaired the first portion of the meeting and Karen joined by phone.

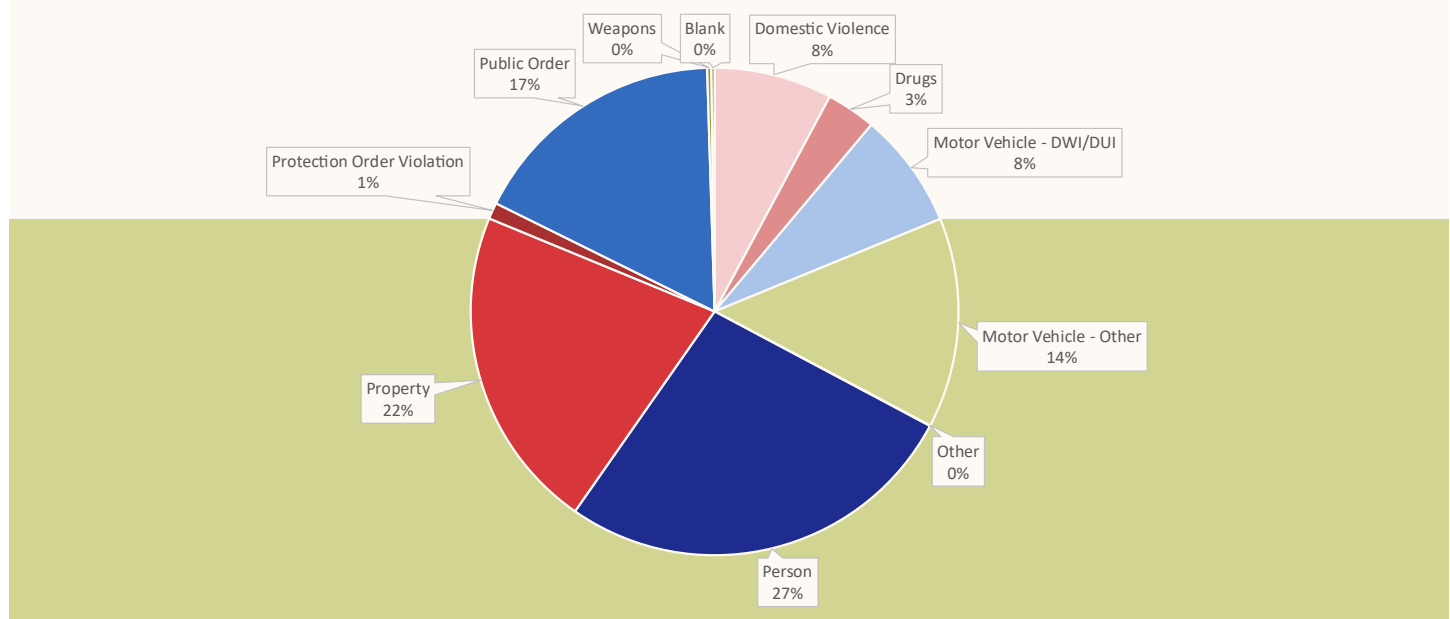
Motion to approve meeting minutes. All yes. Unanimous approval. Passed.

Youth Judiciary Data Continuation:

Judiciary Database: FFY2021-FFY2023

20

YOUTH CASE TYPES: 10-19



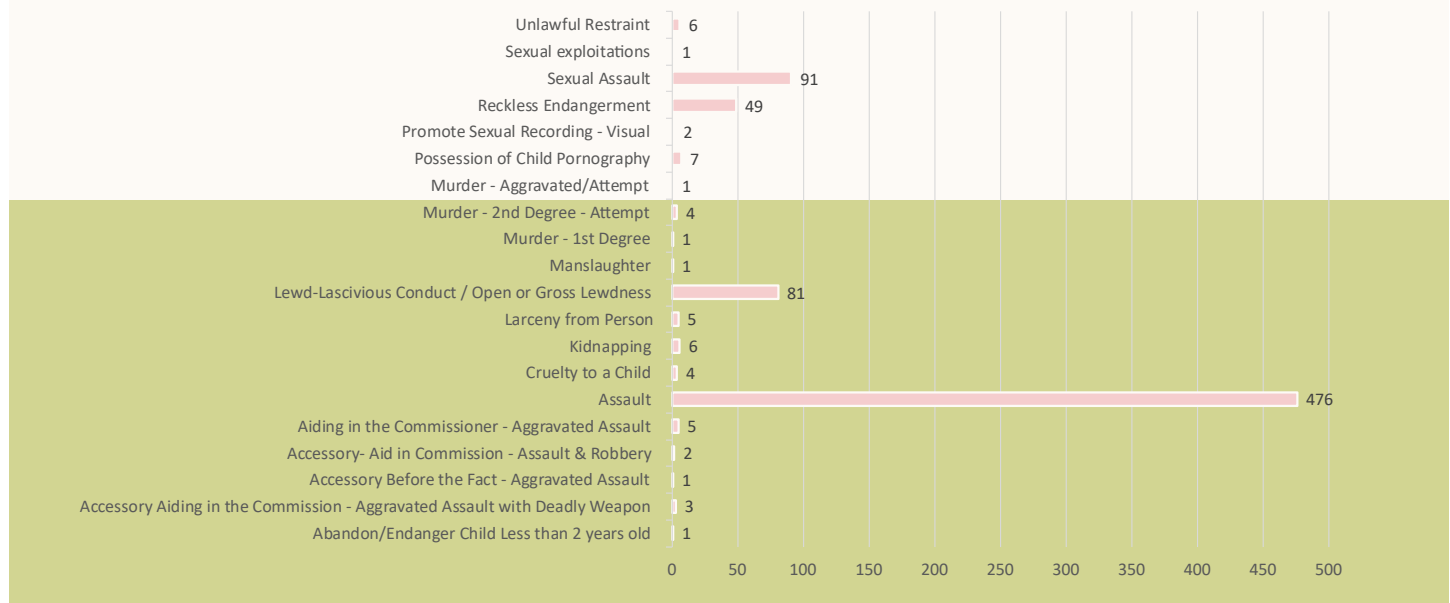
- What charges are defined as public order? Disorderly conduct is the most common one. Assault category versus disorderly conduct can be a thin line, but one of the elements can be fighting. Disorderly conduct might be because it happened at school.

The Council is grounded in prevention and works to ensure justice by building equitable and effective opportunities for children, youth and families to thrive in Vermont.

Judiciary Database: FFY2021-FFY2023

21

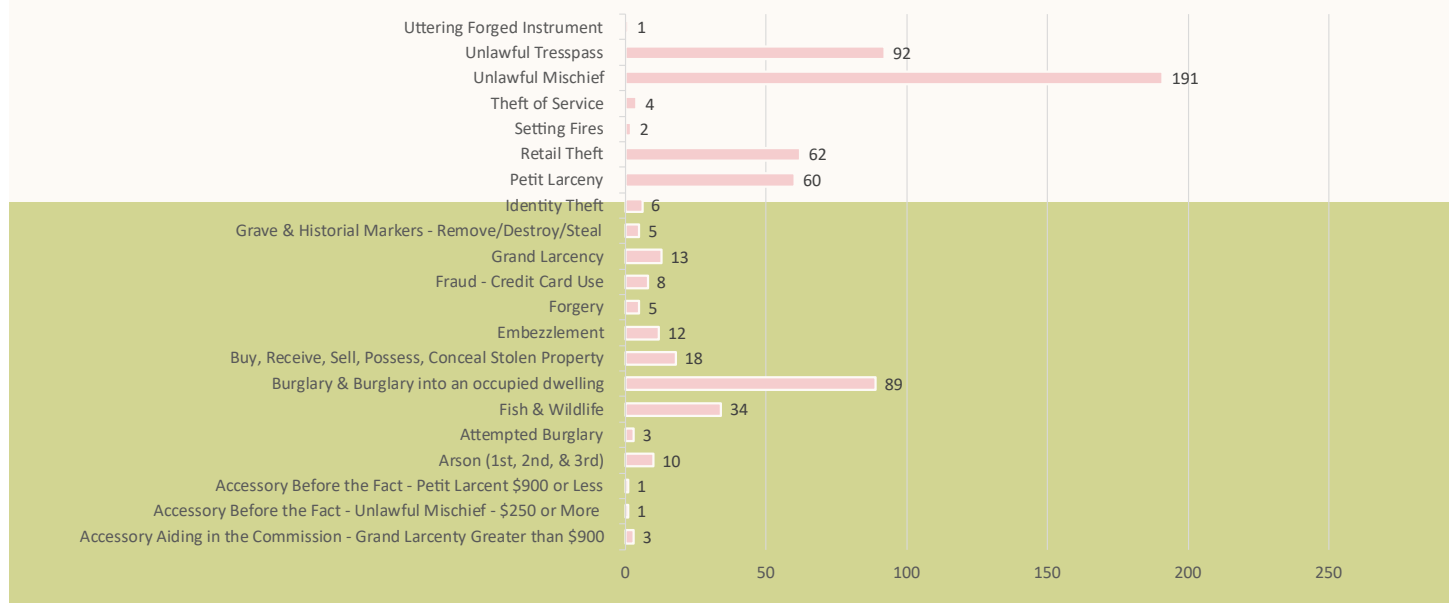
PERSON: MOST SERIOUS OFFENSE 10-19



Judiciary Database: FFY2021-FFY2023

22

PROPERTY: MOST SERIOUS OFFENSE 10-19



The Council is grounded in prevention and works to ensure justice by building equitable and effective opportunities for children, youth and families to thrive in Vermont.

- Christopher: There's a lot of unlawful mischief & retail theft, we should work to strengthen the line for pre-charge (these are property charges). Especially for bigger stores.
- Stu: Those are urban phenomenon's, a lot of the state don't have big box stores like Walmart. So it's a general question, do we focus on something that is specifically on urban areas.
- Christopher: It happens at grocery stores. We (Brattleboro) has a pretty strong connection between Hannaford, market 32, & Aldi to pre-charge without police being called.
- Rutland has a Walmart, St. Albans, Berlin, Bennington, Derby (not just Chittenden county)

When looking at the sexual abuse charges, what happens to the youth at DCF when they have a charge? Does DCF have any data on the substantiations for youth who have committed sexual abuse on a child, do they get added to the registry, etc. If someone from FSD could come and unpack the numbers for us and how they parse out who goes where and the registry and all that.

Updates

Karen began facilitation again.

- Retreat – [Branbury State Park](#)
 - o [Sign up](#) to bring an item for the retreat potluck
 - o We will be mainly working to approve the three-year plan grid, and some other necessary to-dos.
 - o Officer ballot has already been sent to you in advance of the retreat as well.
- CJJ Conference Updates
 - o Hill Visits were successful with an engaged staff.
 - o It felt most like we're going to have a working relationship with Becca Balint's team.
 - o Now that the JJRA is moving forward with reauthorization, we know that this is a long game.
 - o Amy drafted some language that we already shared.
 - o With respect to the CJJ conference, one of the themes was youth engagement.
 - o Highlight from Jay: Youth talking about how experience is just as important as expertise. "Be a fish that swims not one that runs" stuck with them.
 - o FYI: A few previous CJJ employees issued a complaint against the former director, you all may have received an email. We're just watching to see how things progress.

HESOC:

Jessica left at this point.

- Tyler's Facility Planning for Justice Involved Youth is creating 5 committees.
 - Building design
 - Treatment/Program design
 - Oversight
 - Admissions/ Due Process
 - Youth Engagement
- o Right Sizing the facility and admissions/due process seems to be what CEYJ would be most interested in participating in. Do we want to have somebody on every single one of these committees? We could take a few minutes at the retreat and discuss who wants to be engaged in these groups.

The Council is grounded in prevention and works to ensure justice by building equitable and effective opportunities for children, youth and families to thrive in Vermont.

- Stu: I think from the beginning, we don't want to be in a situation of "if we build it, they will come." It's a common thing for police or others to show up and override an admissions decision because they say, "parent's won't take them/they're a danger." We shouldn't be overresponding to kids. In a perfect world we'd have somebody at every committee from CEYJ. Stu would consider being on a committee if there's any specific discussion.
- Vote to allow for a request for a "pass-through waiver."
 - The JJRA requires that 66⅔ percent of funds received by the State be expended through programs of units of local government that oversee juvenile justice work, or through programs of local private agencies.
 - Unlike some other states, Vermont does not have a county or local structure for juvenile justice work, so the majority of title II funds have always been allocated to local non-profits or school districts, etc.
 - Because of the requirement that we spend 50% of the funds "addressing" our sight & sound separation issues, we need a waiver so that we can fund a HESOC consultant and DOC training/support, otherwise we are over the two-thirds requirement of funding to support the community, and not the state agency/department, etc.
 - Matt has to leave (still have quorum with 9 people)
 - **Motion to empower Elizabeth/DCF to request for a pass-through waiver for our FFY2022 funds? Seconded. Yes. All in favor yes!**

Committee Updates:

1. ERD Committee – great discussions about the three-year plan. This past month we started surveying youth who had received funding from programming.
2. YS Committee – We are trucking on our three-year plan! Also – potential leadership summit. Putting on an event melding together a young adult youth conference and youth service professionals' development. That would meld together different outcomes for our three-year plan and there would be a large youth leadership/development piece to it.
3. SI Committee – haven't met this month yet.
4. Governance Committee
 - a. By-laws **VOTE** to be postponed due to lack of time in meeting.
 - i. Committee Section has been completely rewritten

Stu: Two opportunities, both are time limited.

- on-line foundational Probation Transformation series developed by AECF. [Here](#).
- pending site selection process for states/jurisdictions to have local teams participate in the upcoming (later this year) Family - Engaged Case Planning (FECF) training. Application [here](#).