

DRUG COURT PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

March 8, 2002

Meeting Summary

The Drug Court Partnership (DCP) Executive Steering Committee met on March 8, 2002 at the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP), Sacramento, California. Committee members in attendance included Del Sayles-Owen, with the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs; Judge Stephen Manley, with the Judicial Council; Maureen Bauman, with the California Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California; Stephanie Marquez (for Dan Carson), with the Legislative Analyst Office; Carl Sparks, with the California State Sheriff's Association, and Joseph Guydish, with UCSF Institute for Health Policy Studies. David Panush, with Senator Burton's Office; and Catherine Camp, with Senator Peace's Office were also invited but unable to attend.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss (1) the final DCP report to the legislature; (2) the drug court funding reduction impacts; (3) the comprehensive drug court implementation (CDCI) program status; (4) the Governor's proposed State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2002/03 drug court budget, and (5) the Drug Court Partnership Executive Steering Committee name.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

- (1) Susan Nisenbaum (ADP's Office of Applied Research and Analysis) indicated that the report had not yet been officially approved through the required channels and she could not provide any specific details but that the report was positive and would probably be made available in a few weeks.
- (2) Laura Choate reported on the impacts that resulted from the \$3 million drug court funding cuts from the SFY 2001/02 budget. She referred the group to the document titled, "SFY 2001/02 Drug Court Program Budget Reduction Implementation Overview" which was provided to the group. This document provided a statewide overview of local decisions in applying the reduction to DCP grants and CDCI grants. She also reported that impact information from the counties suggests that in general fewer offenders will be able to participate in drug courts and for some who do gain entry into drug courts their treatment will be less intensive.

- (3) Laura Choate provided a current status and an overview of the CDCI program including information on counties' requests to extend first year grant expenditure periods and the total funding devoted to CDCI by counties during SFY 2001/02.
- (4) Del Sayles-Owen gave a brief overview of the Governor's proposed SFY 2002/03 budget and its impact to the DCP and CDCI programs. She explained the difference between the May and July funded counties and that the July counties are not funded in the proposed SFY 2002/03 budget. Judge Manley then reviewed the separation of powers between the Executive and Judicial branches of governments; and noted that the Governor's proposed SFY 2001/02 budget reduced drug court funding by 50 percent, but the legislature restored the funds, and ultimately the Governor's line-item reduction was well below the original 50 percent. Sheriff Sparks indicated his support for drug courts and his willingness to continue to gather support from local law enforcement for drug courts. Del noted that the proposed budget continues the \$3 million reduction from SFY 2001/02. Judge Manley reminded the counties to keep ADP informed of the impacts of drug court funding reductions. This will assist the Administration and the Legislature in detailing the cost of these reductions in terms of the number of persons not served or served at a lesser level of intensity. Maureen Bauman suggested that ADP may want to consider combining the DCP report to the legislature with the projected impacts of the SFY 2002/03 budget.
- (4) Judge Manley lead a discussion regarding the renaming of the Committee. The Committee and audience generated several alternatives which the Committee then narrowed down to two recommendations: Drug Court Treatment Systems Executive Steering Committee, and Drug Court Systems Executive Steering Committee. The final selection by the Judicial Council and the Department will be announced at the next meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The Committee brought up several agenda items for future meetings. Recommendations include

1. Updates on the SFY 2002/03 budget and its impact upon drug courts;
2. The interplay between drug courts and implementation of the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Proposition 36);
3. CDCI evaluation design;
4. Updates on the drug court coordinator's event planning in recognition of drug court month, and
5. Continuing mission and purpose of the Committee.

The next meeting will be convened after the Budget Act has been signed.