

# KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH



## Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting Date, Time</b>	June 13, 2024; 12:00 PM EST
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Administrative Office of the Courts 1001 Vandalay Drive. Frankfort, Ky 40601
<b>Virtual Option</b>	The meeting was also offered virtually through Zoom; however, a recording is not available.

<b>Attendees</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Crystal Adams	Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Robin Boggs (ZOOM)	Kentucky Guardianship Association
Ryan Bowman (ZOOM)	Kentucky Chamber Workforce Center
Judge Stephanie Burke	District Judge
Hon. Wes Butler (ZOOM)	Kentucky Hospital Association
Hon. Denise Clayton (ZOOM)	Kentucky Court of Appeals
Judge J. Foster Cotthoff	District Judge
Katie Comstock	Director, Administrative Office of the Courts
Margaret Cornelison (ZOOM)	Kentucky Opioid Response Effort
Casey Ellis (ZOOM)	Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts
Rebecca Frost (ZOOM)	Western State Hospital
Erica Hargis	Division of Probation and Parole
Hon. Tanisha Hickerson (ZOOM)	District Judge
Yvette Hourigan	KYLAP, Kentucky Bar Association
Van Ingram (ZOOM)	Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy
Hon. Lisa Jones (ZOOM)	Kentucky Court of Appeals
Hon. Debra Hembree Lambert	Kentucky Supreme Court
Sarah Johnson (ZOOM)	Department of Corrections
Amy Lutrell	Goodwill Industries
Dr. Katie Marks	Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities
Judge Kevin Mullins	District Judge
Cora McNabb	Office of Vocational Rehab
Hon. Melissa Murphy (ZOOM)	District Judge

Hon. Rebecca Phillips (ZOOM)	Circuit Judge
Dr. Vestena Robbins (ZOOM)	Eastern Kentucky University
Brenda Rosen	National Association of Social Workers, Kentucky
Dr. Koleen Slusher	Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Center
Judge John Lindsay Tackett	District Judge
Hon. Larry Thompson	Kentucky Court of Appeals
Judge Marcus Vanover	Family Court
Diane Thompson	Nelson County Circuit Court Clerk
Dr. Silas Session	Delegate Representative for Whitney P. Allen, Jr., Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs
Dr. David Susman (ZOOM)	Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental, and Intellectual Disabilities
Courtney Maynard	Delegate Representative for Tom Vicini, Operation UNITE
Denise Durbin	Delegate Representative for Russell Coleman, Attorney General
Blake Vogt	Delegate Representative for Secretary Eric Friedlander, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
B. Scott West	Delegate Representative for Damon Preston, Department for Public Advocacy
Mona Womack (ZOOM)	Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Dr. Marc Woods (ZOOM)	University of Kentucky HealthCare
Brian Wright (ZOOM)	Commonwealth Attorney

## Agenda

- I. Registration and Lunch**
- II. Welcome and Commission Updates**
- III. Town Hall Findings**
- IV. Committee and Workgroup Updates**
- V. Closing Remarks**
- VI. Adjourn**

### Welcome and Commission Updates

The Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health (KJCMH) convened at 12:00 PM EST on June 13, 2024, at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) in Frankfort, Kentucky, with participation both in person and via Zoom. Deputy Chief Justice Debra Hembree Lambert welcomed commission members and extended her thanks for their presence. She also acknowledged the proxy members, Denise Durbin from the Attorney General's Office and Blake Voight from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, who was representing Secretary Friedlander. Updates were provided on the final stages of the first KJCMH annual report. Deputy Chief Justice Lambert commended the commission members on the passage of House Bill 385, also known as Seth's Law. She gave an overview of the key provisions of Seth's Law and expressed her gratitude to Representative Kimberly Moser, Director Katie Comstock, Stacy Tapke, Dr. Koleen Slusher and Wes Butler for their dedicated efforts in advancing this legislation. The next steps will be discussing the impact of Seth's Law on jails and creating informational messaging.

Congratulations were extended to Dr. Koleen Slusher on completing her doctorate and to Judge Lisa Jones for her appointment to the Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Larry Thompson also announced that Deputy Chief Justice Lambert received the System of Care Champion Award. Others were invited to share accomplishments, but none were offered.

### **Town Hall Findings**

Deputy Chief Justice Lambert thanked Dr. Marks and Secretary Friedlander for their contributions to the Town Hall findings report, and to the AOC Research and Statistics Department, Ian Shephard and Jennifer Van-Ort Hazzard. Ian and Jennifer reported on the findings from the surveys and town hall shared experiences. The Town Hall Report 2024 booklet was included in the materials provided to attendees. Attendees were allotted time to ask questions and share comments.

Audrey Collins shared information about the Recovery-Oriented System of Care summits and invited community partners to attend and share materials that could be distributed to attendees. Shawna Mitchell also discussed the upcoming community mapping, which will combine the Sequential Intercept Model and Upstream mapping, starting this summer.

### **Committee and Workgroup Updates**

I. **Criminal Justice Committee:** Honorable John Tackett, 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District, provided the Criminal Justice Committee updates. The committee received a presentation on FindHelpNow.org and discussed potential legislative recommendation proposals.

A. Dr. Koleen Slusher, Director, Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Center (KCPC), provided updates for Competency Workgroup. This workgroup is examining the next steps for House Bill 385, while using technical assistance from Council of State Governments. They are also exploring approaches for rescinding competency orders and developing forms for firearms prohibition. Dr. Slusher shared information about a pilot program in Louisville for competency restoration outside of the KCPC physical location.

B. Honorable Lisa Jones, from the 1<sup>st</sup> Appellate District, Division 2, Kentucky Court of Appeals, shared updates on the Juvenile Justice Workgroup. They are reviewing the juvenile justice community mapping that was done with the National Center for State Courts. The workgroup also reviewed the vaping survey results and discussed the impact of the legislation passed during the 2024 session related to juvenile justice.

Upcoming action items for this workgroup include: identifying legislative recommendations, with a focus on legislation that impacts juvenile involuntary hospitalization; identifying prosocial efforts for youth in custody; exploring training opportunities for providers; and increasing crisis stabilization services. The workgroup is also considering dividing into subgroups to focus more on these priorities. The next meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2024.

C. Jim Daley, President, Kentucky Jailers Association, and Joe Ross, Logan County Attorney, were unable to attend. Judge Tackett noted that the Prearrest and Diversion Workgroup's report was included in the attendees' packet.

D. Erica Hargis, Director, Division of Probation and Parole, Department of Corrections, reported that the Reentry Workgroup has held a total of three meetings. The workgroup is still in the process of adding members. In recent meetings, guest speakers have discussed efforts to understand the current landscape of reentry. Attention and gratitude were given to workgroup members with lived experience for their willingness to share their perspectives. The workgroup has discussed the mental health and reentry checklist from the Department of Corrections. Upcoming meetings will focus on legislative recommendations.

II. **Civil and Family Justice Committee:** Honorable J. Foster Cotthoff, 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District, provided updates on the Civil and Family Justice Committee. They last met on May 15, 2024, where they heard from Department of Community Based Services about programming for high acuity youth and non-traditional placements.

A. Honorable Denise Brown, 30<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, was unable to attend to report on the Domestic Violence Workgroup. The Domestic Violence Workgroup report was provided in the attendees' materials.

B. Honorable Marcus Vanover, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, provided updates from the Dependency, Neglect and Abuse Workgroup. The workgroup is exploring training programs, such as the the Relationship Matters Series, to enhance collaboration. They are also creating a bench card to clarify the roles of treatment providers and the types of recommendations they can make. Additionally, the workgroup is working on resource guidelines, exploring priorities from the Upstream Mapping Report, and considering legislative recommendations. Attention was also given to upcoming community mapping opportunities.

C. Stacy Tapke, Kenton County Attorney, was unable to attend to report on the Guardianship and Commitment Workgroup. The Guardianship and Commitment Workgroup report was provided in the attendees' materials.

III. **Treatment and Access Committee:** Honorable Kevin Mullins, 47<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, provided an update on the Treatment and Access Committee. Additionally, he shared information about the SB90/Conditional Dismissal pilot program, noting how the presentation is being shared both nationally and within Kentucky.

A. Crystal Adams, Director, Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, reported on the Intellectual and Development Disabilities Workgroup. The workgroup heard from the Elizabethtown Police Department programs that addresses special needs and disabilities. The workgroup also discussed communication needs and exploring how to address these needs across a broad range of disabilities, including potential education opportunities. Additionally, the workgroup is looking at initiatives from other states related to autism and developing outlines for training and educational content.

B. Honorable Stephanie Burke, 30<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, reported that the Court Responses Workgroup has prioritized reviewing civil commitment statutes. Their discussions address involuntary commitment concerns related to admission, length of stay, and discharge criteria. The workgroup has also heard from the Treatment

Advocacy Center about legislation in other state and received an update on funding and the expansion of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) and Mental Health Courts (MHC).

C. Wes Butler, Attorney with the Kentucky Hospital Association, reported on the Strengthening Community Responses Workgroup. The workgroup heard about Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in primary care training and practice. Additionally, the workgroup received a presentation from the representatives of FindHelpNow.org and Kentucky Primary Care Association. The workgroup continues to explore access to care and resources and will discuss legislative recommendations in upcoming meetings.

### Closing Remarks

Deputy Chief Justice Lambert encouraged everyone to remain engaged with the commission's work and to attend the workgroup meetings. She emphasized that Kentucky is leading in collaboration and open communication. Thanks was given to everyone attending in person and by zoom.

Contact information: [JCMH@kycourts.net](mailto:JCMH@kycourts.net).

Webpage: [Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health – Kentucky Court of Justice \(kycourts.gov\)](http://KentuckyJudicialCommissiononMentalHealth-KentuckyCourtofJustice.kycourts.gov)

The commission adjourned at 3:00 pm ET.

**Next quarterly meeting to be held on September 12, 2024.**

### Additional Information

#### Noncommission Members and Public in attendance:

Name	Organization
Garland Ellis	Intern-Supreme Court

#### KJCMH Support Staff in attendance:

Name	Department
Jacinda Rowe	Kentucky Supreme Court
Rebecca Hisel	Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health
Hon. Nathan Goins (ZOOM)	Family and Juvenile Services
Jennifer Van Ort-Hazard	Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health
Shawna Mitchell	Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health
Melana Gross	Pretrial Services
Nadalie Hardwick	Family and Juvenile Services
Robert Ian Shepherd	Office of Statewide Programs
Elizabeth Nichols	Specialty Courts

Audrey Collins	Specialty Courts
Eboni Blackford	Family and Juvenile Services
Angie Darcy	Pretrial Services
Jason Dufek	Pretrial Services
Debbie Hall	Specialty Courts
Tina Morrow	Office of Statewide Programs
Robert Pack	Pretrial Services
Jason Reynolds	Office of Statewide Programs
Hon. Alex Clay	Kentucky Supreme Court
Hon. Maria Macaluso (ZOOM)	Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health