

EXHIBIT C

MINUTES SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Monday, January 10, 2022

1:00 PM

Room A, MAC

Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Alan Clark, Chair; Trent Garner, Terry Rice and Gary Stubblefield; Representatives Carol Dalby, Chair; Stan Berry, Andrew Collins, Cameron Cooper, Kenneth Ferguson, Vivian Flowers, Jimmy Gazaway, Ashley Hudson, Tippi McCullough, Milton Nicks, Jr., Jamie Scott

Other members present: Senator Linda Chesterfield; Representatives Mark Berry, Denise Jones Ennett, Charlene Fite, Steve Hollowell, Austin McCollum, David Ray

Senator Clark called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the December 18, 2020, and November 13, 2020, Meeting Minutes

Senator Garner made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Representative Hudson, and the motion carried.

Consideration to Adopt Interim Study Proposal 2021-111 by Representative Flowers- An Act Concerning the Imposition of the Death Penalty on a Defendant with a Serious Mental Illness.

Representative Flowers made a motion to adopt ISP 2021-111, seconded by Senator Stubblefield, and the motion carried.

Presentation on Technology in Corrections

John Logan, CEO, Smart Communications and Scott Holte, Regional Director, Smart Communications discussed technology to advance the Arkansas Department of Corrections into a paperless and automated environment.

Update on Court Operations in Response to COVID-19

Scott Graves, Director, Office of Research and Justice Statistics; Kristin Clark, Legal Division Director, Administrative Office of the Courts; Jennifer Craun, Juvenile Division Director, Administrative Office of the Courts; and Brian D. Welch II, Executive Director, Arkansas Commission for Parent Counsel provided an update on the impact of COVID-19 on court operations.

Discussion on Access to Public Defenders

John Staley, Lonoke County Sheriff; Gregg E. Parrish, Executive Director, Arkansas Public Defender Commission; Mark Whitmore, Chief Legal Counsel, Association of Arkansas Counties; Bob McMahan, Prosecutor Coordinator discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the availability of Public Defenders.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

1:30 PM

Room A, MAC

Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Alan Clark, Chair; Bob Ballinger, Trent Garner, and Gary Stubblefield

Other members present: Senator Mark Johnson; Representatives Mark Berry, Brian Evans, Justin Gonzales, David Ray, and DeAnn Vaught

Senator Clark called the meeting to order.

Discussion on Access to Public Defenders

Mitch McCoy, News Anchor, KARK-TV Little Rock shared a video presentation. The two videos shown were news stories produced by KARK-TV regarding access to public defenders in certain Arkansas counties.

Kelly Ward, Attorney, Kamps & Ward, PLLC shared her own experience working with a client who had been denied access to a public attorney. She also shared her experience working as a part-time public defender.

Gregg Parrish, Executive Director, Arkansas Public Defender Commission spoke on his personal experience working as a public defender, shared the process and qualifications for being granted a public attorney, and answered questions regarding statutes.

Discussion on County Jail Population Increases

Mark Whitmore, Chief Legal Counsel, Association of Arkansas Counties; Tim Helder, Sheriff, Washington County; Rodney Wright, Sheriff, Saline County; and Phillip Miller, Sheriff, White County all shared regarding county jail population. They spoke on complications, overcrowding, COVID-19 cases, and funding.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.