



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

300 W. Adams Street • Suite 200 • Chicago, Illinois 60606 • (312) 793-8550

**MINUTES**

**Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority  
Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting**

April 27, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.

300 West Adams, Suite 200 - Large Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois 60606

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority met on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, at 300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois. SOC Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

<b>SOC Member Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Director John Baldwin		X	
Director Patrick Delfino	X		
David R. McNaughton for Superintendent Eddie Johnson			X
Cynthia Hora for Attorney General Lisa Madigan	X		
Sheriff Michael McCoy			X
Director Michael J. Pelletier	X		
Lanetta Haynes Turner for President Toni Preckwinkle	X		
Rick Tanksley			X
Paula Wolff, Committee Chair	X		
<b>Other Authority Members Present</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Public Defender Amy Campanelli	X		
Kathryn Dunne for Sheriff Tom Dart		X	
Judge Elizabeth Robb, Authority Chair	X		
Jennifer Vollen-Katz	X		

Also in attendance were:

John Maki, Authority Executive Director  
 Kevin Givens, Authority Federal and State Grants Unit Associate Director  
 Angie Weis, Authority General Counsel  
 Robin Murphy, Authority Associate General Counsel  
 Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor  
 Jude Lemrow, Authority Federal and State Grants Unit Administrative Assistant

Shai Hoffman, Authority Program Supervisor  
Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor  
Ron Reichgelt, Authority Program Supervisor  
Randy Kurtz, Authority Deputy Director  
Mary Ann Dyar, Authority Program Director  
Linda Taylor, Authority Criminal Justice Specialist  
Rebecca Janowitz, Cook County Justice Advisory Council  
Other Authority staff members and guests

Director Maki began the meeting by introducing the new Authority Chief of Staff and General Counsel Angie Weis. Ms. Weis then took role and stated that there was not a quorum.

### **Framing Our Work**

Authority Executive Director Maki began to a PowerPoint presentation describing the Authority's Federal and State Grants Unit's policies and procedures. He said that adherence to these policies and procedures, which are well grounded in the Authority's governing rules and which will evolve to accommodate new initiatives such as the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA), is critical to protecting the work of the Authority and its grantees.

Program Supervisor Ron Reichgelt, referring to a PowerPoint slide, entitled "*Audit of California VOCA*," said that the Authority's Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) federal awards will be in excess of \$75 million for FFY15 and FFY16. He described a recent federal audit of California's VOCA programming and said that the Authority can expect an audit by the federal government of its VOCA programming and spending in the near future. He said that the California audit exposed issues relating to supplanting of state victim service funds with VOCA funds and conflicts of interest concerning advisory committees. He said that the Authority's policies and procedures are designed to safeguard against these issues.

Authority Associate Director Kevin Givens addressed a PowerPoint slide describing the purpose and impact of GATA.

Director Maki, referring to a PowerPoint slide, entitled "*HR 888 Audit: Lessons Learned*," said that the audit results highlighted the importance of the Authority's policies and procedures and why it matters that they are crafted and followed in a fashion that ultimately protects the Authority's work.

Authority Associate General Counsel Robin Murphy, also referring to the PowerPoint slide entitled "*HR 888 Audit: Lessons Learned*," said that the audit focused on three state-

funded programs: the Illinois Community Violence Prevention Program, the After School Program, and the Chicago Area Project. He described the causes and program deficiencies and shared steps that the Authority has undertaken to ensure the issues that prompted the audit are never repeated. He said that efforts were underway to recover roughly \$5.1 million in questionably spent funds from about 90 agencies and that approximately \$3.6 million has been recovered to date.

Strategic Opportunities Committee Chair Paula Wolff suggested creating an Authority Audit Committee to address audit-related issues throughout all grant-making processes.

Authority Special Projects Advisor Reshma Desai referred to a PowerPoint slide, entitled “*IL Partnerships to Reduce Violent Crime Request for Proposals & Guiding Principles.*” She described the purpose, eligibility, and overall goal of the process. Discussed was the role public defenders could play in the program given that they were not included in the list of multidisciplinary Team members required as part of the request for proposals.

All PowerPoint slides referenced are included in the minutes as Attachment A.

### **Discussion of the FFY16 Strategic Opportunities Committee Action Steps**

Director Maki, referring to a PowerPoint slide, entitled “*Committee Action Steps: FFY16,*” described three items that he wanted the Authority Board to accomplish by the end of the federal fiscal year. They included:

1. Develop particular goals and objectives for the Authority’s use of research-informed RFPs for all of its federal block grants, informed by the 2014 Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA).
2. Create criteria for how the Authority will define and assess Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) programs that deliver a statewide benefit.
3. Explore whether it should establish percentages of Byrne JAG funding that should be set aside for particular program areas.

Director Maki, referring to Item #3, said that it would be important to prioritize the seven JAG Purpose Areas and consider the possibility of assigning funding percentages to particular program areas.

JAG Program Supervisor Greg Stevens delivered a brief history of the Authority’s use of JAG funds and programming. He said that over the years, fewer RFPs had been released for JAG programming. As a result, JAG funds have been used to maintain existing programs rather than support innovative new programs.

Director Maki said that his goal was to use ongoing strategic planning process to make RFP-based grant-making a central focus of Authority JAG administration by 2019.

Director Delfino said that while the Authority develops priorities for spending JAG funds, it must also consider the effects of targeted spending on the overall balance of the criminal justice system; for example, the balance would be upset if public defenders received support, but not prosecutors or law enforcement.

Committee Chair Wolff asked if there was Committee consensus on three action steps. She summarized them as follows:

- 1) Use RFPS as much as possible.
- 2) Define statewide benefit and apply as a standard for Authority work.
- 3) Prioritize purpose areas and agree on what level of specificity and detail is appropriate at the Committee level to set policy direction for this process.

Hearing no objections, Chair Wolff asked the staff to develop a set of more detailed recommendations with measureable benchmarks for all three action steps.

Committee member Vollen-Katz suggested that the Board be provided with tools, perhaps a checklist, to ensure that any decisions relate back to the Guiding Principles. Director Maki agreed that the goal is for all grants to be tied back to the Guiding Principles.

### **March 29, 2016, Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting Minutes**

With a quorum established, Committee Chair Wolff brought the March meeting minutes to everyone's attention. Ms. Hora requested a correction (corrected text in *italics* below):

On Page 5, the first paragraph should read: "...funds should be *used* for core victim services."

**Motion:** Ms. Vollen-Katz moved to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2016, SOC meeting, as corrected. Ms. Hora seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **Research and Analysis Unit FY16 Goals**

Authority Research and Analysis Unit Associate Director Dr. Megan Alderden delivered a PowerPoint presentation, entitled “*Research and Analysis Unit: Research Priorities.*” She addressed slides describing:

- The Authority’s high-level performance metrics.
- Research & Analysis Unit structure
- The unit’s 2016 Priorities

## **6. Other Business**

None.

## **Adjourn**

**Motion:** Ms. Hora moved to adjourn the meeting. Director Pelletier seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.