

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Minutes

March 1, 2017

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Attendees: Tim Tipton, OHP; John Scully, OK Bureau of Narcotics Director, Sean Grigsba, Kay County Undersheriff; Randy Tyner, Ponca City Police Captain; Dewayne Wood, Blackwell Police Chief; Colt Chandler, OSU Police Lieutenant; Brian Thomas, Perry Police Chief; Forrest Smith, Perry Police Assistant Chief; Teena Stone, Office of Juvenile Affairs; Mark Silkey, Darrell Frost, Troy Cochran, Dr. Pam Stinson; and Dr. Rae Ann Kruse.

Pam Stinson welcomed the committee members.

Mark Silkey started introductions. Mark announced his retirement in May and his successor, Darrell Frost. Mark also introduced new CRMJ faculty, Troy Cochran. Troy holds police certifications in Kansas and Oklahoma. He worked as a detective for 7 years and was two-time officer of the year. He is a military veteran serving for 8 years with duties in Iraq and Kuwait. Advisory committee members introduced themselves.

Rae Ann Kruse referred advisory committee members to the handout in their packet and asked for input on creating a guideline of possible intern activities. Recommendations included: traffic, booking, investigations, evidence, records and distribution.

Troy then gave a brief review of the course offerings and program electives before starting the discussion.

Question 1: We are committed to improving our curriculum and are interested in what courses you would choose as we prepare CRMJ majors. Of the following courses, which create the most value for your agency?

- Introduction to Corrections
- Interpersonal Communication
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Introduction to Addictive Behaviors

Responses included:

Overwhelming support for Interpersonal Communications with members providing examples of situations which need interpersonal communication skills—deescalating situations; differences between communicating with superiors, peers, and victims; and generational relationships. New generation of officers are quicker with Intel, better at information gathering, and more productive with paperwork. Would prefer the course be customized for CRMJ students because Language Arts instructors aren't familiar with this realm.

Students also need to be aware of the importance of report writing. Can make the difference in winning a case or having a case progress through the system. The group discussed techniques used when wearing a body camera to digitally document evidence and build a case. New officers are good at recording context and verbally describing evidence the camera can't record—for instance, smells.

Question 2: What areas of general education would make our students more employable with your agency? Are you more interested in verbal communication skills, writing skills, social, psychological and ethical awareness, etc.?

Discussion focused on having students graduate with Community Oriented Policing Services certification. Seven schools have Community Oriented Policing Services programs. Very difficult for small police forces to hire without Community Oriented Policing Services certificate. Costs them 4-7 months of salary plus room, board, ammo, etc. At the Community Oriented Policing Services academy. It would be possible to provide instructors (skilled officers) from around the area and between area departments there are facilities available for just about all areas of training, except maybe the driving course.

Ethical awareness is also a concern. Students who make the decision to join the criminal justice field at an early age usually know to stay away from drugs, don't get tattoos, and don't run with the wrong people. Activities in their youth can impact career opportunities moving forward. The vetting process to become an officer is extensive. Officers offered to provide blank background check investigation packets to students so they can see how extensive the vetting process is. Statements were made about increase in candidates failing polygraph exams in the past three years.

There was a thorough discussion on the various department requirements regarding tattoos.

Question 3: How can NOC serve you in the completion of your agency's mission?

There were a few more comments regarding the Community Oriented Policing Services program. Consensus that between Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater locations, student would prefer to stay local, go to school, then go to work in their own communities.

There were recommendations for scenario-based report writing, body-camera roll playing, and practice scenarios where students have a camera in their face.

Job openings?

Please notify us if you have job openings. Troy can post on the CRMJ Facebook page.

Dr. Stinson recapped the comments and Mark Silkey thanked the committee members and the meeting concluded at 1:20 p.m.