

Minutes

STATE ADVISORY GROUP ON JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION MEETING

September 12, 2025
Office of Juvenile Affairs
MC Connor Building
2501 North Lincoln Blvd, Ste 500
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

Ms. Erin Jones-Slatev, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Present: Demetrius Bell, Dr. Jaime Burns, James Edwards, Pray'eon Jackson, Erin, Jones-Slatev, Jake Roberts, Jessica Teszlewicz and Brian Wahnee. Maureen Guerrero and Dr. Greg Parks arrived at 10:07, Marquess Dennis arrived at 10:21 and Les Thomas arrived at 10:37.

Absent: Rep. Emily Gise, Chad Gragg, David Grewe, and Jamie Sherman.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Brian Wahnee and the second was made by James Edwards. Demetrius Bell, James Edwards, Pray'eon Jackson, Erin Jones-Slatev, Dr. Greg Parks, Jake Roberts, Jessica Teszlewicz, and Brian Wahnee voted yes. Dr. Jaime Burns and Maureen Guerrero abstained. The motion carried.

III. Old Business

The SAG approved changes to the last paragraph in Article IV of the by-laws at the annual retreat in August. A handout of the approved by-laws was given. The updated section reads: "Any member attending less than four (4) out of six (6) meetings, including the voting day of the annual retreat, in a calendar year, he/she may have forfeited his/her appointment, and the SAG Chair or Designee and State Juvenile Specialist at their discretion may ask the Governor to declare a vacancy and request a new appointment."

As it may have been rushed due to the time constraints at the retreat, Les Thomas, Chair, wants to revisit the wording. A small edit was developed and presented to the SAG: In a calendar year, if a member fails to attend a minimum of four (4) regular meetings and participate/attend at least half of the scheduled annual retreat, the SAG Chair, or designee, and the State Juvenile Justice Specialist may, at their discretion, declare the membership position on the SAG vacant. The reasoning behind the changes is that using the term regular meetings removes the need for "out of 6", because this is the SAG's "regular"

meeting schedule under the Open Meetings Act. The rest is language simplification as there is no need to discuss forfeiting appointment; declaration of vacancy is sufficient.

After a brief discussion, Demetrius Bell made a motion to adopt the new by-law language and the second was made by Maureen Guerrero. All present voted yes, and the motion carried.

IV. New Business

- 2025-26 Committee Formation**

Ms. Alison Humphrey, JJ Specialist, spoke to the SAG regarding the establishing work group committees for the next year. The four committees being created will be Tribal, Title II Funding and Grants, Three-Year State Plan and Social Media and Outreach. Each member should designate themselves to at least one of the committees.

Jake Roberts, Brian Wahnee and Chad Gragg will be on Tribal. Dr. Greg Parks, Dr. Jaime Burns, Demetrius Bell and James Edwards will be on Title II Funding and Grants. Erin Jones-Slatev, Les Thomas, Maureen Guerrero and Marquess Dennis will join Three-Year State Plan.

The SAG had indicated at the retreat that they wanted to have OJA staff lead and organize the work group committees. Tribal will be led by Alison Humphrey, Title II Funding and Three-Year State Plan will be led by Jennifer Francis and Alison Humphrey. Social Media and Outreach will be led by Jennifer Francis.

- Committee Deliverables**

Ms. Alison Humphrey provided the SAG with a timeline for committee deliverables. The first committee huddle will be had or scheduled by October 4. A draft committee white pages including a scope of work, members, established meeting cadence and calendar year quarter 1 goals will be emailed by October 31. A brief presentation and discussion with possible action will be given to the SAG at the next SAG meeting on November 14.

- SAG Logo Selection**

The SAG was given a handout with three choices for a SAG Logo. Mr. James Millington put together the designs and explained the concepts behind each one.

A motion was made by Marquess Dennis to select the logo with the state map and a path leading upwards. The second was made by Brian Wahnee. All present voted yes, and the motion carried.

- Request for Proposal (RFP) Planning and Scoring Process**

The Grant Management Program, FLUXX, is getting closer to be available online. It will be ready for training by December. The goal is for the Tribal Subcommittee to have a one day gathering with all the tribes to present Tribal RFPs and to coordinate it with the launch of FLUXX.

A discussion was held by the SAG on conflicts of interest. The main concern was whether, if a member had a conflict of interest with on application, should they be able to score the rest of the applications. It was determined that if a member of the SAG would benefit (financially or in any other way) from the approval of one or more applicants, they would recuse themselves from scoring any of the applications.

- **Calendar Setting**

The SAG had a discussion to set the 2026 annual retreat as the doodle poll that was sent showed the June 3-5 timeframe winning by 1 vote over the August 5-7 timeframe.

A motion was made to approve the 2026 annual retreat for June 3-5 by James Edwards and the second by Pray'eon Jackson. All present voted yes. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on November 14, and the December 12 meeting will be cancelled.

V. Reports

- **OJA's OJJDP Finances – Kimberlee Gray, Comptroller**

Ms. Kim Gray provided the monthly financial report as of July 31, 2025. The Finance Report was handed out to the SAG.

- **Title II – Jennifer Francis**

Ms. Jennifer Francis updated the SAG on the 8 Title II awards approved by the SAG at the annual retreat. The OJA board approved them as well. The next part of the process was working with the applicants on their budgets. 2 of the applicants decided they would not be able to accept the awards at this time due to the deadline of September 30th.

The first to decline was Poetry and Chill. There was some confusion with the school district in which they were implementing their program. The school board would not be able to approve the program in time for it to be done in the time frame needed. Ms. Francis invited them to reapply for future grants.

The second applicant to decline was Waylan Cubit with the Oklahoma City Public School District. Again, it had to do with the timing. Due to the internal process and the size of their district, they would not be able to get the program approved in time. They were also invited to reapply during the next round of funding, hopefully in late fall.

Over \$137,000 in award money is now available for future funding. Ms. Francis and Ms. Amy Wright have been looking at past money not awarded and will be looking to reassign it. There are available funds that go back the FY2020 and will be used first for future grants.

- **Youth Emerging Leaders (YEL) – Pray’eon Jackson**

Mr. Pray’eon Jackson spoke to the SAG regarding Youth Emerging Leaders (YEL). They are working on increasing their membership. Interviews for several young people were held over the past two weeks. They had their first YEL meeting yesterday with 13 members in attendance. His goal is for them to feel comfortable with each other so they can talk about what they want for the future and who they are.

Currently, they are getting ready for Voices Unlocked. Mr. Jackson also spoke at a meeting with Impact 405, a social impact organization. Impact 405 is a resource collaborative for non-profits across Oklahoma and will feature Mr. Jackson in the September issue of their magazine.

- **Compliance & R/ED – Joshua Holder**

Mr. Joshua Holder gave the Compliance and R/ED report. He has cleared the Compliance backlog with the process he spoke about at the SAG Retreat two months ahead of schedule. On-site inspections will now be done on a county-by-county schedule which will decrease travel time significantly. This will allow new and/or more in-depth tasks like OPI Audits and outside agency collaborations.

A new goal for the onsite visits will be to make the most of the one-on-one interactions. The visits will not only verify compliance but will create a kind of resource dialogue so that these facilities know what is expected of them and what tools are at their disposal. A prime example of how this will be utilized is the in-person dispersion of evidence-based curriculum on effectively interacting with diverse youth, impacts on trauma, skills for de-escalation, etc.

Collaborations have already begun. Mr. Roger Wills will schedule individual visits with the local Youth Service Agencies that service each county before my on-site visits for the purpose of gaining an in-depth knowledge of their total services. In addition, a further collaboration was made with Ms. Aquitta Walker, Program Manager for Juvenile Justice and Adolescent Substance Abuse, with the goal of gaining information for all programs, such as Mobile Crisis Screening.

- **Family Advisory Council – Emily Burns**

Ms. Emily Burns addressed the SAG regarding the Family Advisory Council. Due to the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (ODMHSAS) disconnecting from over 300 contracts, things are not going well with the Family Advisory Council. It has created some uncertainty amongst all the lower-level service providers. The legislature has until October 1st to step in and stop cuts from being made.

The Family Advisory Council is doing great things and are focusing on determining what resources are still available to provide as much support as they can to their clients. They had a meeting a few weeks ago and are recruiting new members. Ms. Burns asked the SAG to send any information to Apryl Owens if they knew of good candidates for the council. Ms. Burns spoke with the director to give an overview of the SAG retreat. She wants more development with the OJA resources page.

VI. Announcements and Comments

Mr. Demetrius Bell invited the SAG to the Noble/Mindful Resolution Graduation that will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at the Rayfield Baptist Church. An email will be sent after the meeting with the details.

Mr. Les Thomas thanked the OJA staff for their time and efforts in making the board meetings a success. He also thanked Co-Chair, Ms. Erin Jones-Slatev for conducting the board meeting this morning.

In August, Ms. Erin Jones-Slatev was appointed as a new Canadian County Special Judge.

Ms. Jessica Teszlewicz was asked to speak at a workshop on the impact of the Cornerstone Foundation. She also received a grant to be a Credit Union Development Educator.

VII. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.