Criminal Justice Reform Monitoring Committee

Conference Call
August 4, 2016

Call Summary

Participants:  Gail Hagerty, Commissioner (North Dakota); Louise Nadeau, Commissioner (Connecticut); and Brian Lewis, Legislative Counsel.

Summary: The Chair, Gail Hagerty, and Vice Chair, Louise Nadeau, of the Uniform Law Commission (ULC) Criminal Justice Reform Monitoring Committee (CJRMC) held a conference call with ULC Legislative Counsel, Brian Lewis, to strategize for the first conference call of the entire CJRMC. Chair Hagerty and Vice Chair Nadeau identified three issues that the ULC Scope and Program Committee have officially referred to CJRMC for study: Police Worn Body Cameras, Alternatives to Bail, and Forced Marriage. Chair Hagerty and Vice Chair Nadeau agreed to initially focus the committee’s work on these issues in order to provide a substantive report to the Executive Committee at its upcoming midyear meeting, however, still allow for the scope of the CJRMC’s work to remain broad in order to examine cutting edge topics and issues in criminal justice reform.

Chair Hagerty and Vice Chair Nadeau decided to initially poll the CJRMC for a 30-day period in order to gather ideas and topics that committee members are interested in studying. Once responses are received from committee members, Chair Hagerty and Vice Chair Nadeau will analyze the responses received over a two-week period. It was decided that the CJRMC will hold its first conference call of the entire committee in about 6 or 7 weeks from now.

The call participants briefly reviewed the current and active existing ULC criminal law acts, which include: the Uniform Electronic Recordation of Custodial Interrogations Act, the Uniform Collateral Consequences of Convictions Act, and the Criminal Records Accuracy Act that is currently in drafting. These acts will be presented to the CJRMC members during their first conference call. Chair Hagerty and Vice Chair Nadeau agreed that the CJRMC can be a body that reviews ULC criminal law acts, examines what should be the appropriate status of those acts (ex. targeted, active, uniform, model, superseded, obsolete status), make recommendations to the ULC Executive Committee on criminal law acts and issues in criminal justice reform, develops enactment strategies, and serves as counsel on criminal law acts and non-criminal law acts with criminal law components that have been approved or are in drafting.

Action Items/Next Steps: Legislative Counsel, Brian Lewis, will draft a request for proposals for the approval of Chair Hagerty and Vice Chair Nadeau. Afterwards, the request for proposals will be sent to all members of the CJRMC. The request for proposals will ask CJRMC members to send supportive materials for topics or issues that they may have interest in, such as articles and active and pending legislation in a state.

Legislative Counsel Lewis will also provide a report from his attendance at the National Conference of State Legislatures 2016 Annual Summit that will be held August 7th – August 12th in Chicago, Illinois, as well as the American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section 2016 Fall
Institute that will be held November 3rd – November 5th in Washington D.C. Legislative Counsel Lewis hopes to be able to identify topics and issues at those conferences for the CJRMC to study and consider.