

**MINUTES  
of the  
THIRD MEETING  
of the  
COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

**August 9-11, 2021  
State Capitol, House Chambers  
Santa Fe**

The third meeting of the Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee was called to order by Representative Gail Chasey, co-chair, on August 9, 2021 at 9:42 a.m. in the House Chambers of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

**Present**

Sen. Joseph Cervantes, Co-Chair  
Rep. Gail Chasey, Co-Chair  
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon  
Rep. Karen C. Bash  
Sen. Daniel A. Ivey-Soto  
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill  
Rep. William "Bill" R. Rehm  
Rep. Debra M. Sariñana  
Sen. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez

**Absent**

Rep. Zachary J. Cook  
Sen. Mark Moores  
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle  
Rep. Christine Trujillo

**Advisory Members**

Sen. Gregory A. Baca (8/10)  
Rep. Micaela Lara Cadena (8/10, 8/11)  
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo (8/11)  
Sen. Linda M. Lopez (8/10, 8/11)  
Rep. Georgene Louis (8/10)  
Rep. Antonio Maestas (8/11)  
Rep. Roger E. Montoya (8/10, 8/11)  
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero (8/10, 8/11)

Rep. Deborah A. Armstrong  
Rep. Alonzo Baldonado  
Sen. Jacob R. Candelaria  
Rep. Christine Chandler  
Sen. Katy M. Duhigg  
Rep. Doreen Y. Gallegos  
Rep. T. Ryan Lane  
Rep. Andrea Romero  
Sen. Mimi Stewart  
Sen. Peter Wirth

**Guest Legislator**

Rep. D. Wonda Johnson

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

**Staff**

Elisabeth Johnson, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)  
Sean Dolan, Staff Attorney, LCS  
Erin Bond, Research Assistant, LCS

## **Guests**

The guest list is in the meeting file.

## **Handouts**

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

## **References to Webcast**

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov), under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

## **Monday, August 9**

### **Probation and Parole: Statistics (9:42 a.m.)**

Ellen Rabin, senior fiscal analyst, Legislative Finance Committee, provided the committee with a presentation relating to statistics of probation and parole. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/CCJ%20080921%20Item%201%20LFC%20Presentation%20to%20CCJ%2008092021.pdf>.

### **Approval of Minutes (10:50 a.m.)**

The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the July 26-27, 2021 meeting.

### **Probation and Parole: Technical Issues (10:59 a.m.)**

Kim Chavez Cook, appellate defender, Public Defender Department (PDD), and Clint Wellborn, district attorney, Seventh Judicial District, provided the committee with a presentation regarding technical issues relating to probation and parole.

### **Pretrial Detention: Prosecution and Defense (1:40 p.m.)**

Ben Baur, chief public defender, PDD; Jonathan Ibarra, attorney, PDD; and Barbara Romo, district attorney, Thirteenth Judicial District, provided the committee with a presentation regarding pretrial detention.

### **Update from the PDD (3:01 p.m.)**

Mr. Baur; Ibukun Adepoju, district defender, PDD; and Matthew Chavez, district defender, PDD, provided the committee with an update from the PDD.

### **Public Comment (3:56 p.m.)**

The committee received public comment via an online platform. A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

## **Recess**

The committee recessed at 4:12 p.m.

## **Tuesday, August 10**

### **Update from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the New Mexico Supreme Court (NMSC) (9:22 a.m.)**

Michael E. Vigil, chief justice, NMSC, and Arthur W. Pepin, director, AOC, provided the committee with an update from the AOC and the NMSC.

### **Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Courts (11:06 a.m.)**

Celina Jones, general counsel, AOC, and Josh Pando, alternative dispute resolution manager, AOC, provided the committee with a presentation regarding alternative dispute resolution in the courts.

### **Redistricting: Citizen Redistricting Committee Update (1:45 p.m.)**

The Honorable Edward L. Chávez, former justice and chief justice (retired), NMSC, and chair, Citizen Redistricting Committee, provided the committee with an update regarding the Citizen Redistricting Committee. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=8/9/2021&ItemNumber=7>.

### **Redistricting: Advocacy and Academic View of the 2021 Redistricting Process (3:10 p.m.)**

Keegan King, All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG); Casey Duma, APCG; Leonard Gorman, Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission (NNHRC); Lauren J. Bernally, NNHRC; Richard Mason, chair, Action Committee, League of Women Voters of New Mexico, and project leader, Fair Districts for New Mexico; Mario O. Jimenez, campaign director, Common Cause New Mexico; and Gabriel R. Sanchez, Ph.D., professor, Department of Political Science, University of New Mexico, provided the committee with a presentation regarding an advocacy and academic view of the 2021 redistricting process. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=CCJ&Date=8/9/2021&ItemNumber=8>.

## **Public Comment**

The committee did not receive any public comment.

## **Recess**

The committee recessed at 4:31 p.m.

## **Wednesday, August 11**

### **Corrections Department Update (9:25 a.m.)**

Alisha Tafoya Lucero, secretary, Corrections Department; Karen Cann, deputy secretary, Corrections Department; Wenceslaus Asonganyi, health services administrator, Corrections Department; Melanie Martinez, director, Probation and Parole Division, Corrections Department; and Dr. Karla Thornton, professor, University of New Mexico, and associate director, Project ECHO, provided the committee with an update from the Corrections Department.

### **Proposed Corrections Department Ombud (1:45 p.m.)**

Representatives Cadena and Maestas provided the committee with a presentation regarding a proposed Corrections Department ombud.

### **Public Comment (3:11 p.m.)**

The committee received public comment via an online platform. A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.