



Board of Juvenile Justice  
Thursday, October 24, 2019  
Decatur, GA

### Opening Remarks

Chair Taylor called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice at 10:06 am. The meeting was held at the DJJ Central Office, Decatur, GA.

**DJJ Staff Present:** Commissioner Tyrone Oliver, Chief of Staff Mark J. Mitchell, Assistant Commissioner Sean C. Hamilton, DC Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Chaplain Danny Horne, Zane Shelfer, Interim Asst. Associate Superintendent Dr. Rufus Johnson, Doris Patterson, Carolene Maddox, Ombudsman Herman Archie, DC Victor Roberts, ADC Rusty Rodgers, Director Latera Davis, Tracy Cassell, Chris Wood, DC Pamela Johnson, Sophia Thomas, Tamara Mays, Dr. Letunya Walker, Director Scott Cagle, Director Glenn Allen, Director Zach Louis, Barry Ogletree, Doricia Thompson, Janssen Robinson, Director Dana Kilpatrick, Steven Carter-Williams, Andrew McGee, Susan Miller, Edward Butler, Caitlyn Weber, Marcia Pfister, Jewell Jackson, ADC Lisa Mantz, Director Matthew Wolfe, Debaja Coleman, Director Joan Quin-Cannon, ADC Michael McNeely, Evelyn Phillips, Montaeya Dixon, ADC Martha Dalesio, Gale T. Smith, Tricia Phillips, Sateisa Smith, Tisa Hardaway, Theodosia Ware, Melody Stanfield, Lisa Sanchez, Kevin Brown, Spencer Gaudet, Helen Troutt, Dr. Michelle Staples-Horne, Marissa Durkin, Robbin Pickerson

**Others Present:** Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office; Sam Marticke, Nelson Mullins; Major John Clifton, Johns Creek Police Department

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Danny Blackmon, Sandra H. Taylor, Judge Lisa G. Colbert (teleconference), Angie Holt, Adam Kennedy, Dick Yarbrough, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Fred Stephens, Judge Quintress Gilbert, Willie C. Bolton, Margaret Kaiser

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the current agenda. A motion was made by Secretary Kennedy and seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2019 Board meeting. A motion was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### Commissioner's Report:

The Commissioner's Report was included in the Board materials. Commissioner Tyrone Oliver presented the report to the Board.

The following topics were discussed:

Commissioner Tyrone Oliver updated the board on recent staffing changes. He introduced the new Director of Investigations, Mr. Matthew Wolfe. The Commissioner thanked Chief Investigator, Mr. Scott Cagle for acting as the Interim Director of Investigations.

Senior Human Resources Manager Tamara Mays presented the Faithful Service Awards. Commissioner Oliver provided an update on the Associate Superintendent search, and he should have a decision by the end of the week.

Commissioner introduced Major John Clifton with the Johns Creek Police Department. Major Clifton discussed the Special Olympics of Georgia, and how well DJJ participates every year. Major Clifton thanked Director Latera Davis for her service, and Director Davis presented a slide show of the Special Olympics.

Commissioner Oliver presented HR Updates - The onboarding/outboarding process, and the Diana Screening rolled-out on 10/16/2019. So far, only 1 applicant failed the Diana Screening. Additionally, we currently have 1,100 vacancies. Personnel actions were identified. Employee surveys will be implemented soon, and on Nov. 1st, employee training contracts will be implemented for POST certified positions.

Commissioner Oliver announced that DJJ won the Golden Raddish Award on September 15, 2019 at the Mercedes Benz Stadium. Assistant Deputy Lisa Mantz provided an overview of the of Golden Radish Award.

Commissioner Oliver shared the number of youths released and admitted from the RYDC's and YDC's in the past month. Board member Stephens stated this information helps to show that the programs are helping. Board member Stephens asked could we see metrics that would prioritize one youth over another? Vice-Chair Bolton asked about the number of youths in population. Commissioner Oliver stated there are 400 youth in population. Judge Lisa Colbert asked if anyone was tracking to find how many youths are waiting? Deputy Commissioner Pamela Johnson stated we have about 173 waiting, but she will get a break down, and provide more information.

Commissioner Oliver concluded his report by acknowledging a youth and his achievements. Commissioner Oliver will try to highlight a youth each month.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn from the regular DJJ Board Meeting and reconvene as the DJJ School Board. A motion was made by Vice-Chair Bolton and seconded by Board member Holt. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Board of Education:**

Interim Associate Superintendent Dr. Rufus Johnson discussed teacher retention, and the teacher turnover rates for the month of September 2019. Staff vacancies turn-over rate is 10%.

He also mentioned the AdvancED/Measured process is changing its name to Cognia. There will be a new curriculum, and lastly, Georgia Preparatory graduation will be held at Rockdale RYDC on December 20th, at 1:00 pm

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn from the DJJ School Board and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board. A motion was made by the Board member Yarbrough and seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton. The motion carried unanimously.

**Chair's Comments:**

Chair Taylor thanked Director Latera Davis, and staff for their participation with the torch run for the Special Olympics events.

**Old Business:**

No old business

**Comments:**

Judge Lisa Colbert thanked the Commissioner for attending the Council of Juvenile Court Judges Council Committee meeting in Athens, GA. Thanks for taking the time to come and share. Chair Taylor thanked Commissioner Oliver for attending the Study Committee meeting in Lagrange, GA. Chair Taylor also thanked Commissioner Oliver for his leadership. Adam Kennedy and Lisa Colbert shared their condolences for the passing of Juvenile Court Judge Ben Brinson. He served on the bench for 23 years.

**New Business:**

Board member Yarbrough moved for Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Secretary Kennedy seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. After session, Secretary Kennedy moved to resume regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coleman and approved unanimously.

**Comments:**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting will be on December 12, 2019, at 10 AM in the Central Office, Decatur, GA 30032.

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Sandra H. Taylor, Chair  
Board of Juvenile Justice

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Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner  
Department of Juvenile Justice

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Adam Kennedy, Board Secretary  
Board of Juvenile Justice