



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER #180**

**Relating to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

**WHEREAS**, protecting the lives and property of the citizens of this State is the highest priority of state government; and

**WHEREAS**, this administration is committed to building and maintaining a strong adult and juvenile criminal justice system that employs scarce state and local resources in an efficient manner to most effectively ensure public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, multiple agencies of the state, county, and local governments share responsibilities for Wisconsin's criminal justice system, including state and local elected officials and agency heads, judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and state and local law enforcement officials; and

**WHEREAS**, other non-government members of our state also play critical roles in the State's criminal justice system, including but not limited to victim advocacy and service groups, community treatment providers, and members of the State's higher education community; and

**WHEREAS**, understanding that meeting the goal of best protecting the safety of the citizens of this State requires that these various entities coordinate their efforts and work together to maintain and improve our criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order #65 created the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to further these important public interests and Executive Order #150 provided for the continuing existence of the Council;

**WHEREAS**, the Council was originally attached to the Office of Justice Assistance, the responsibilities and programs of which were subsequently transferred to the Department of Justice and to other state departments and agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, to increase flexibility, improve the ability of the Council to accomplish its mission, and to formally attach the Council to the Department of Justice instead of the Office of Justice Assistance, the Council will now be constituted under this Executive Order;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, SCOTT WALKER**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, and specifically by section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby provide for the continued existence of the **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council** pursuant to this Executive Order, as follows:

1. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council shall be attached to the Department of Justice and shall operate as a nonstatutory committee under Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, for the purpose of assisting the Governor in directing, collaborating, and coordinating the services of state and local governmental agencies and non-governmental entities in the criminal justice system to increase efficiencies, effectiveness, and public safety. In the performance of these duties, the Council shall conduct planning, research, and evaluation activities and make recommendations to improve the criminal justice system policy, operation, and outcomes.


2. Members of the Council shall include the following, who shall serve ex officio:
  - (a) The Attorney General;
  - (b) The Secretary of the Department of Corrections;
  - (c) The Secretary of the Department of Workforce Development;
  - (d) The Secretary of the Department of Children and Families;
  - (e) The Secretary of the Department of Health Services;
  - (f) The State Public Defender; and
  - (g) The Director of State Courts.
  
3. Members of the Council shall also include the following appointed members, who shall be appointed by the Governor:
  - (a) A circuit court judge or court of appeals judge;
  - (b) A district attorney;
  - (c) A county sheriff;
  - (d) A chief of police;
  - (e) A county executive or county administrator;
  - (f) A county criminal justice coordinator or a member serving on a county criminal justice coordinating council;
  - (g) A representative of a crime victim rights or crime victim services organization;
  - (h) A representative with experience on mental health issues and the criminal justice system;
  - (i) A representative of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state;
  - (j) A representative of the Office of the Governor, who shall serve as a non-voting member of the Council; and
  - (k) Any additional members whom the Governor may appoint, which may include representatives of the public at large.
  
4. The Council shall be co-chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and the Attorney General. The Council shall meet no less than 4 times per year at a date and location to be determined by the co-chairs. Members of the executive committee of the Council, which is charged with providing overall leadership for the planning and implementation of the Council's goals and objectives, shall include the co-chairs and such other members as the co-chairs may designate.
  
5. The Council shall do all of the following:
  - (a) Develop statewide criminal justice policy recommendations designed to strengthen public safety, reduce recidivism, and improve offender and system accountability by strengthening the criminal justice system through the promotion of evidence-based practices, risk reduction programming, and implementation of effective and sound strategies for crime prevention, diversion and community-based alternatives to confinement.

- (b) Investigate and disseminate information about effective and innovative criminal justice related programs employed at the county level, including treatment alternatives, diversion initiatives, and specialty courts.
  - (c) Encourage and facilitate the development of effective county or multi-county criminal justice coordinating councils to foster innovations based on local criminal justice environments.
  - (d) Provide recommendations to the Governor regarding the collection and synthesis of real-time criminal justice data and the tracking of system indicators, such as crime and arrest rates, conviction rates, pretrial and re-entry services, and probation, parole, prison and jail population trends, in order to proactively identify what factors are driving criminal justice costs and to determine more effective strategies to deploy criminal justice resources.
  - (e) Provide recommendations to the Governor regarding stable and adequate funding sources for the criminal justice system and identify programs or areas where greater cost-effectiveness could be achieved.
  - (f) Promote the evaluation of new and current criminal justice policies after implementation. Considerations include impact of current law on public safety, policies or programs' effect on crime reduction, recidivism, prison and jail populations, and overall criminal justice costs.
  - (g) Engage in other activities consistent with the responsibilities of the Council.
  - (h) Identify areas in which improved collaboration and coordination of activities and programs would increase the effectiveness and/or efficiency of services by eliminating duplication, filling service gaps, and improving the quality of services provided across the criminal justice system.
  - (i) Provide continuity while distinguishing responsibility for program provision and results.
  - (j) Provide strategic planning and guidance for the management of federal block grant or federal formula grant funds.
  - (k) Periodically submit reports to the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for dissemination to the judicial branch, any relevant state agencies as identified by the Council, and to the Chief Clerk of each house of the Legislature for distribution to the Legislature that provide information on the progress of the Council's work.
  - (l) The co-chairs may create subcommittees as they deem necessary and engage other stakeholders and members of the public to participate in subcommittee activities. Each executive branch agency with membership on the Council shall, upon the request of the Council, designate agency staff to provide assistance to the Council.
6. All Executive branch agencies are directed to aid the Council to the greatest extent possible. At the request of the Council, the Department of Corrections, the Parole Commission, the Department of Health Services, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Workforce Development, the Department of Justice, the Department of Transportation, the State Prosecutors Office, and the Department of Administration shall provide the Council with information and data needed by the Council to perform its duties under this Order.
7. Through the cooperation and collaboration of agencies enumerated in Section 6, the Council shall develop, analyze, and make recommendations to implement a reporting system to track key criminal justice indicators, trends, and outcomes related to policies designed to do the following:


- (a) Reduce prison, jail, and detention populations;
  - (b) Improve rehabilitative efforts;
  - (c) Reduce recidivism; and
  - (d) Enhance re-entry strategies for offenders released from prison or jail, while acting consistent with public safety and holding offenders accountable.
8. The reporting system shall, to the extent practicable, track and report:
- (a) The rate of violent crime as reported by law enforcement in either Uniform Crime reports or incident based reporting;
  - (b) The aggregate average daily populations of county jails and prisons;
  - (c) The aggregate number of felony criminal cases filed in circuit courts;
  - (d) The number of offenders sentenced to prison by the circuit courts;
  - (e) The number of prison admissions on account of revocation of parole and extended supervision;
  - (f) The number of prison admissions on account of probation revocation;
  - (g) The number of releases on parole or extended supervision;
  - (h) The number of offenders placed on probation by the courts; and
  - (i) The number of offenders discharged from probation, parole, and extended supervision.
9. The Council shall cooperate and collaborate with the judicial branch. At the request of the Council, the Office of the Director of State Courts shall provide, to the extent the Director of State Courts determines practicable, information and data that is needed by the Council to perform its duties under this Order.
10. The Department of Justice will provide staff support for the Council. The expenses of the members of the Council will be paid by the Department of Justice.
11. This Executive Order supersedes and replaces Executive Order #65 governing the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this eighteenth day of November in the year two thousand fifteen.

  
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 SCOTT WALKER  
 Governor

By the Governor:

  
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 DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
 Secretary of State