

KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON
MENTAL HEALTH



Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date, Time	June 2, 2023; 12:15-2:00 PM ET
Meeting Location	Galt House, Waterford Room 140 N Fourth St Louisville, KY 40202
Virtual Option	The meeting was also offered virtually through Zoom, however a recording is not available.

Attendees

Name	Organization
Linda Avery	Circuit Court Clerk Association
Hon. Denise Brown	Family Court Judge
Stephanie Burke	District Judge
Hon. Wes Butler	Kentucky Hospital Association
Hon. Denise Clayton	Kentucky Court of Appeals
Judge J. Foster Cotthoff	District Judge
Stephanie Craycraft	Acting Commissioner of Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities
Jim Daley	Kentucky Jailers Association
Lesa Dennis	Acting Commissioner, Department of Community Based Services
Eric Friedlander	Secretary of Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Nancy Hale	Operation UNITE
Erica Hargis	Division of Probation and Parole
Tanisha A. Hickerson	District Judge
Yvette Hourigan	KYLAP, Kentucky Bar Association
Dr. Lindsey Jasinski	Eastern State Hospital, University of Kentucky
Sarah Johnson	Department of Corrections
Hon. Lisa Jones	Circuit Judge
Hon. Debra Hembree Lambert	Kentucky Supreme Court
Hon. Joe Ross	County Attorney
Hon. William "Bo" Leach	District Judge
Lisa Lee	Department of Medicaid Services
Rabbi Shlomo Litvin	Chabad of the Bluegrass

Amy Luttrell	Good Will
Hon. Cole Adams Maier	Circuit Judge
Judge Kevin Mullins	District Judge
Judge Rebecca Phillips	Circuit Judge
Hon. Damon Preston	Department of Public Advocacy
Koleen Slusher, LCSW	Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Center
Judge John Lindsay Tackett	District Judge
Hon. Larry Thompson	Kentucky Court of Appeals
Judge Marcus Vanover	Family Court
Dr. John J. Wernert	Norton Healthcare
Dr. Marc Woods	Eastern State Hospital, University of Kentucky
Silas Session	Delegate Representative for Whitney P. Allen, Jr., Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs
Byanna Carroll	Delegate Representative for J.D. Chaney, Kentucky League of Cities

Agenda

- I. Registration and Lunch**
- II. Welcome and Summit Debrief**
- III. Committee and Workgroup Updates**
- IV. Review Commission Timeline**
- V. Closing Remarks**
- VI. Adjourn**

Opening Remarks

The Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health (KJCMH) convened at 12:30 p.m. on June 2, 2023, at the Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky, in person and via Zoom. Welcome was offered by Chief Judge Thompson, Kentucky Court of Appeals. Chief Judge Thompson thanked the commission members for being present and noted the time and travel commitment demonstrated.

Deputy Chief Justice Lambert shared her welcome to commission members. She noted feeling amazed by the snapshot sent to her by her staff this morning of those still present and working on action planning during the Mental Health Summit. "It is amazing that so many are willing to be here and continue work on the important work of the commission." She invited commission members to share the highpoints of what was learned from summit. She shared a conversation with Secretary Friedlander, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, regarding them agreeing they want to do another next year since this one went so well.

II. Summit Debrief

A. Judge Jones, chair for Juvenile Justice Workgroup shared her attendance at sessions was primarily relative to issues of juvenile justice. She shared that in sessions she heard multiple times about statistics being high for suicide in youth and how the numbers for KY are representative of those numbers. She also heard about the effect on youth of SB 150, noting how the state has not been able to get survey on youth this year due to SB150 and halted work of the Code Red effort. It is the intention of the workgroup to take on drafting a legislative ask to address this.

B. Silas Session joined the Commission meetings for the first time, representing Commissioner Whitney Allen, Veteran Affairs. Mr. Session shared the feeling that everyone involved in the summit gets an A+ job for efforts and detail to all the problem sets addressed in sessions. He shared that there were some sessions he was unable to attend due to the room being full. This demonstrates the quality of those topics, and he didn't see any session that was disposable. Mr. Session is looking forward to being at future meetings, as well. In response, Deputy Chief Justice Lambert thanked him for his attendance and invited him and other veterans and veteran services providers to join the work of the commission.

C. Judge Mullins, chair for the Treatment and Access Committee, shared how the work of the Commission has been 30 years in the making (since first adult drug treatment court), and that the summit is a historical event. What he heard throughout the summit brings to mind the work of the Strengthening Community Response workgroup, particularly the importance of reaching all 120 counties and so many community partners.

D. Judge Tackett emphasized that 1,100 of our fellow Kentuckians are here learning and how amazing that is. He echoed that there were so many sessions he missed and wanted to hear since he was presenting or attending other sessions. Judge Tackett asked about where to find other sessions and how to find ways to get this information back to home communities. Shawna Mitchell, KJCMH Project Director, responded with how voice recordings were collected and the plan to overlay with PowerPoints as much as possible. Once completed, this will be posted on the KCOJ YouTube.

E. Commissioner Lisa Lee shared that her take away was that we have a very overwhelming and daunting task ahead but also the reassurance that we can look at short-term tasks and wins. In response to Judge Tackett's request, she offered to bring her presentation from the summit to other partners and agencies as requested. She noted that the Department of Medicaid Services also plans to look at the idea of creating community workers connected to the court system or perhaps bringing training to clerks regarding Medicaid.

F. Judge Burke reiterated the short-term win having 1100 people present and the consistent message in sessions that jailing the mentally ill is not the best practice.

III. Committee and Workgroup Updates

- A. Judge Cotthoff, Chair of the Civil and Family Justice Committee, reported in and completed the report for the Guardianship and Commitment Workgroup whose chair was unable to attend.
- a. Civil and Family Justice Committee
 - i. Lean on Me KY presentation to Guardianship and Commitment workgroup and was very informative. The chair of this workgroup was unable to attend today.
 - b. Guardianship and Commitment Workgroup
 - i. The workgroup has split into subgroups to allow for members to participate in conversations and work specific to guardianship or commitment. Members also have the option of participating on both.
 - c. Dependency, Neglect, and Abuse Workgroup (Hon. Marcus Vanover)
 - i. This workgroup has created 3 priority areas being: enhancing collaborations, best practices, understanding roles of partners. The next meeting is June 26, 2023, to set legislative priorities. He shared that the work on upstream will fall to Dependency, Neglect, and Abuse workgroup with KCOJ support, as recommended by the National Center. That next planning meeting is June 13, 2023. He noted the Statewide community mapping is scheduled for August and they are anticipating 70-100 attendees. The workgroup has identified the 5th Judicial District and 45th Judicial District for pilot sites.
 - d. Domestic Violence Workgroup (Hon. Denise Brown)
 - i. The priorities for this workgroup will be to gather and share information for third party entities to foster understanding of how trauma manifests in all parties, create and share court tools, reduce gaps and redundancy in services, and clarify professional goals particularly around diagnostics. Their next meeting is June 16, 2023.

IV. Review of Commission Timeline: Chief Judge Thompson

A. The final strategic plan was shared and approved. Each workgroup is asked to send legislative recommendations to committee chairs as soon as possible, so the chairs submit these in July to the executive committee to begin drafting a legislative package. The hope is to release the Annual Report during the September meeting for review. A draft of the legislative package will also be shared if available.

B. The next Commission meeting will be September 7, 2023, with lunch beginning at 12:00 pm and the meeting at 1:00 pm ET. The meeting will be in person at the Administrative Offices of the Courts in Frankfort, KY as well as offered virtually through zoom.

C. Chief Judge Thompson closed by sharing an experience from the summit where he was turned away from a session due to the room being full. He noted how he is amazed by the attendance and believes this is the most impressive conference he has attended in 28 years as a judge. He stated that our next need is to get community buy-in, and he is confident it will happen. He reiterated that these issues affect all of us and our families, friends, and communities.

v. Closing Remarks from Deputy Chief Justice Lambert

Each member of the Commission will be getting an email (inspired by Secretary Friedlander) asking to help draft a statement to release identifying a declaration from the commission and summit work and its plans to do more. The email will also include the final copy of the SIM report.

Contact information: JCMH@kycourts.net.

Webpage: [Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health – Kentucky Court of Justice \(kycourts.gov\)](http://kycourts.gov)

The commission adjourned at 1:45 PM ET.

Additional Information

Noncommission Members and Public in attendance:

Name	Organization
Courtney Maynard	Operation UNITE

KJCMH Support Staff in attendance:

Name	Department
Jacindia Rowe	Kentucky Supreme Court
Jason McGinnis	Administrative Office of the Courts
Rachel Bingham	Office of Statewide Programs
Shawna Mitchell	Judicial Commission on Mental Health
Ian Shepard	Office of Statewide Programs
Nathan Goins	Family and Juvenile Services
Katie Shepherd	Supreme Court
Johnny Martinez	Information and Technology Services
Jim Hannah	Information and Technology Services
Jennifer Van Ort-Hazzard	Judicial Commission on Mental Health
Seth Stevens	Judicial Commission on Mental Health