

**AGENDA**  
**Law and Justice Council**  
**Wednesday, October 8, 2025 – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Benton County Justice Center**

This Council meets about, and takes action on, issues pertaining to local criminal justice matters. This includes but is not limited to: Issues regarding jail management and DOC coordination, local crime trends and availability of criminal justice resources, sharing of information, personnel and infrastructure to reduce duplication of efforts and facilitate policing and supervision efforts to reduce recidivism and enhance responses to offender violations.

Theresa Richardson – Richland Mayor  
Mike Clark – Benton County Interim Sheriff  
Rob Guerrero - Benton County Corrections Chief  
Tiffany Runge – Superior Court Administrator  
Cameron Fordmeier – Citizen Member  
James Fry - West Richland Police Chief  
Martin Pilcher – City of Richland Police Chief  
Chuck Torelli – City of Kennewick Council Member  
Michael Alvarez – Benton County Commissioner  
Chris Guerrero – City of Kennewick Police Chief  
Eric Eisinger – Benton County Prosecutor  
Brian Ace – Citizen Member  
Fred Brink – West Richland Mayor Pro-Tem  
Keith Johnson – Office of Public Defense Manager  
Laurencio Sanguino – City Attorney, Kennewick  
Diana Ruff – Superior Court Judge  
John Trumbo – City of Kennewick Council Member  
Andrew Clark – Benton County Prosecuting Attorney  
Gordon Thomasson – Juvenile Court Administrator  
Josie Delvin – Benton County Clerk

Meeting called to order by Chief Chris Guerrero at 12:00pm

**Introductions**

- Around the Room Introductions

**Approval of Minutes (Action)**

- Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes brought forward by Diana Ruff. Eric Eisinger seconded, motion unanimously passes.

**New Business**

- Chief Guerrero brought up that we need a new Co-Chair. Interim Sheriff Clark was selected as the next Co-Chair. Chief Guerrero makes a motion to approve the co-chair, Diana Ruff and Gordon Thomasson second, motion passes

## **Old Business**

- **Justice System Flow Chart Discussion**

Prosecutor Eric Eisinger introduced the flow chart with the updated jail added, all boxes still in green, other documents handed out, juvenile detention process, Benton franklin juvenile offender referral chart, adult jail process

Chief Rob Guerrero discussed the flow charts for the adult jail and the juvenile detention process, kept it high level

Chief Chris Guerrero posed the question of what decision making the jail has in the process

Chief R. Guerrero stated that courts set all the decisions. Jail is not involved in the decision-making process, however juvenile detention is a bit different, set by point system with evaluation and screening when they are brought in

Brian Ace spoke about looking at it from a community lens, as it creates an amazing picture to identify how complex the system is

Chief Chris Guerrero states next step should be to have each group look at their section of the chart and identify bottle necks

Clerk Josie Delvin identified that some areas cannot be fixed because its outside of our control

Judge Diana Ruff agrees that there will be things that we can't change due to funding

Chief Chris Guerrero states that often knowing these things can still be an area we look at to see if there are other avenues outside of funding such as grants

Prosecutor Eric Eisinger asked to discuss the juvenile flow chart

Gordon Thomasson stated that the flow charts are fairly similar to the criminal justice flow chart, there are other programs not listed such as training programs, drug treatment programs

Prosecutor Eric Eisinger suggests adding the programs to the flow chart

Commissioner Alvarez asks a question about the flow of juvenile, where it can go to adult court and to ensure they are linked

Interim Sheriff Clark will send flow chart and send KPD the LE chart

Chief Chris Guerrero stated to do both, seeking input from group and LE will finalize chart. He also discussed the pre-arrest diversion program/plan. Hoping this will help once the recovery center opens

Mayor Theresa Richardson asked the opening date of the recovery center

Cameron Fordmeier stated April 2026

Judge Diana Ruff stated adding toxicology lab and evidence collection

Interim Sheriff Clark stated we are adding that on the LE chart

Chief Chris Guerrero stated this will be helpful to give to state reps and legislatures

Commissioner Alvarez stated this information will be very helpful for those discussions

Brian Ace mentions maybe a disclaimer box

John Trumbo mentions we need to keep in mind who the audience is

Prosecutor Eric Eisinger agrees disclaimer box is helpful

## **Other Business**

- **Regional Updates**

Commissioner Alvarez discussed food trucks not being licensed and how they can be fairly aggressive, he spoke to Benton franklin health district stated people are getting sick and will see if they can give a presentation

Chief Chris Guerrero asked if any issue, no issues, Alvarez will schedule

Chief Pilcher thanked the group for all efforts with Ironman

Fred Brink spoke about the role of WA association of WA cities legislature just sent priorities list, very relevant was enhancing. indigent defense

OPD will be relocating for 4-5 months due to remodel and expansion

## **Public Comment**

No public in attendance

Meeting adjourned 12:35