

CCJJ COMMISSION MINUTES – PENDING APPROVAL

Committee	Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
Date Time Location	Monday, January 26th, 2026 12 PM – 2 PM Hybrid Zoom Virtual meeting – CCJJ Large Conference
Members Present	<p><u>In-Person Attendance</u>: Michael Dreschel (for Ron Gordon), Spencer Turley (for Jared Garcia), Commissioner Beau Mason, Stewart Young, Chief Craig Black, Sheriff Chad Jensen, Blake Hills, Pam Vickrey, Daniel Meza (for JJOC), Richard Mauro, Ryan Robinson, Mark Moffat, Tom Ross, April Graham</p> <p><u>Virtual Attendance</u>: Liliana Olvera-Arbon (for Chief Sol Oberg), Eric Tadehara (for Tracey Gruber)</p>
Staff & Visitors	<p><u>Staff</u>: Danica Bodley, Elizabeth Klc, Dan Strong,</p> <p><u>Visitors</u>: Brett Robinson, Steve Burton, Carl Hollan, Erin Jemison, Albert Cramer (virtual), Felix Espinoza (virtual), Tyler Kotter (virtual), Brittany Karzen</p>
Agenda Item	Welcome and Approval of Meeting Minutes – Sheriff Chad Jensen, Commission Chair
Notes	<p>Sheriff Chad Jensen brings the commission meeting into session.</p> <p>The commission reviewed the previous meeting minutes from January 20th, 2026.</p> <p>Motion: Stewart Young motions for the commission to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Beau Mason seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Agenda Item	2026 Legislative Session Bill Review and Vote
Notes	<p>The Commission reviewed the Consent List for week 2 of the 2026 Legislative Session.</p> <p>Motion: Stewart Young motions for the commission to adopt the positions of the consent list for week two. Richard Mauro seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><i>Liliana Olvera-Arbon (for Chief Sol Oberg) has joined the meeting</i></p> <p>The commission reviewed numerous bills, assigning positions based on their potential impact on the criminal justice system, data integrity, and agency operations.</p> <p><u>HCR002 Concurrent Resolution Authorizing Adult Sentencing and Supervision Length Guidelines and Juvenile Disposition Guidelines</u></p> <p><i>This resolution authorizes the adult sentencing and supervision length guidelines and the juvenile disposition guidelines.</i></p> <p>The bill authorizing the 2026 sentencing guidelines was moved back to the House Judiciary Committee. There are concerns that if new guidelines are not adopted, the 2025 guidelines will remain in effect, leaving new offenses passed in the current session uncategorized and causing system-wide challenges.</p> <p>Motion: No formal motion was made. The Commission <u>remains at a hold</u> for further discussion and action on HCR002.</p> <p><u>HB0274 Sentencing Commission Amendments</u></p> <p><i>Removes all defense attorneys, adds 4 prosecutors and 2 sheriffs from the Sentencing Commission.</i></p>

	<p>This remains on "Hold" pending discussions with Speaker Schultz regarding the makeup of the commission. There is interest from various groups (including Sheriffs and Chiefs) to ensure their representation is balanced.</p> <p>Motion: No formal motion was made. The Commission <u>remains at a hold</u> for further discussion and action on HB274.</p> <p><i>(Commissioner Beau Mason has left the meeting) Tyler Kotter will act as designee for Commissioner Beau Mason.</i></p> <p><u>HB0048 Criminal and Juvenile Justice Changes</u></p> <p><i>Amends adult recidivism standard metric to include arrests; defines juvenile recidivism, school based referrals/offense similar to Rep. Peck's bill; removes the prohibition on placing a minor in an adult correctional facility as an alternative to detention; Allows district court to commit to UDC rather than secure care if</i></p> <p><i>(a) the minor is convicted of aggravated murder under Section 76-5-202;</i></p> <p><i>(b) the minor was 17 years old at the time that the aggravated murder occurred; and</i></p> <p><i>(c) the minor is 18 years old or older at the time of sentencing;</i></p> <p><i>and allows prosecution to file a motion with the BOPP regarding the provisional housing of a minor in a secure care facility for offenses outlined above.</i></p> <p>A central point of contention involved HB0048, which proposes allowing district courts to commit minors convicted of aggravated murder to adult Department of Corrections (UDC) facilities rather than juvenile secure care.</p> <p>Law enforcement and certain legislative sponsors argue that public perception of safety is critical. There is a concern that housing 17-year-olds who commit murder in juvenile facilities—perceived by some as "playgrounds"—undermines the seriousness of the crime. Advocates for the change suggest that judges should have the discretion to move dangerous offenders to adult facilities to ensure community confidence.</p> <p>Juvenile Justice Services (JJS) and defense representatives argue that moving minors to adult prisons removes access to essential education and increases the likelihood of recidivism due to "prison contagion." They noted that JJS currently has the discretion to move difficult offenders to adult facilities if they cannot be managed; mandating this through the courts would create a "backlog" and turn placement into a plea-bargaining chip.</p> <p>The commission noted that placing 17-year-olds in adult jails could risk federal funding, as federal guidelines require juveniles to be kept out of sight and sound of adult inmates—a capability many adult facilities lack.</p> <p>The commission discussed proposed changes to the adult recidivism standard metric (found in HB0048 and HB0188), which aims to include arrests rather than just convictions.</p>
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Currently, Utah measures recidivism based on new convictions resulting in a return to prison within three years. Including "arrests" would deviate from national standards and could be subject to manipulation (e.g., changes in law enforcement citation practices vs. physical arrests).

Commission members suggested maintaining the current primary metric for national comparison while potentially adding separate reporting requirements for arrests and all convictions to provide a more comprehensive, albeit secondary, data set. Adding reporting requirements for arrests involves significant data collection hurdles. While CCJJ has connected 81% of state data through the HB403 project, expanding this to include all misdemeanor arrests would require additional full-time employees (FTEs) and funding.

Motion: Chief Craig Black motions for the commission to continue to place a hold on House Bill 48 for further discussion and action. Mark Moffat seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Beau Mason has rejoined the meeting (Tyler Kotter no longer acts as designee).

HB0072 Criminal Use of Cryptocurrency Amendments

The bill requires local LEAs to report cryptocurrency investigation data to CCJJ (Line 268), also requires at least one officer in each agency to be trained every three years on cryptocurrency investigations, requires prosecuting agencies to certify one prosecutor to certify a cryptocurrency experts

The commission remains at "Support in Concept" due to concerns regarding the onerous nature of mandatory training for every small law enforcement agency in the state. Coordination with other cryptocurrency-related bills (such as Rep. Brammer's) is ongoing.

Motion: No formal motion was made. The Commission remains at support in concept for further discussion and action on HB72.

HB0110 Board of Pardons and Parole Amendments

Requires the board, if considering whether to parole an offender who has previously been paroled and had the offender's parole terminated due to a new criminal offense, to consider the facts and circumstances of the new criminal offense in determining whether the offender should be paroled again; prohibits the board, when determining whether parole should be granted or terminated for an offender, from considering prison capacity, bed availability, or institutional population levels; prohibits the board from paroling an offender who has not completed any ordered treatment or programing while incarcerated; allows the board to only consider a pardon for an offender who has committed an offense that requires the offender to register on the Sex, Kidnap, and Child Abuse Offender Registry; prohibits the board from re-paroling an offender who has been charged with committing a violent felony during the offender's previous parole; prohibits an offender from taking possession of a written statement, or a copy of the written statement, from a victim of the offender's offense that is written to the board; adds to the requirements for the board to meet before the board may parole an offender before the offender's minimum term of imprisonment has been met; and provides that an offender is required to have an adequate opportunity to view and examine a

victim's written statement to the board in a location determined by the board but requires the board to ensure that the offender cannot reproduce the victim's statement in any manner.

A hold was maintained while BOPP and UDC officials meet with the sponsor to address mandatory evaluation provisions that could impact board discretion.

Motion: No formal motion was made. The Commission remains at a hold for further discussion and action on HB110.

SB0072 Obscene Animal Abuse Amendments

Prohibits distributing images of animal sexual abuse and "animal crushing." 3rd Degree Felony for Adults, Class A for 16 and 17 year olds, Class B for individuals under 16 years old.

Motion: Mark Moffat motions for the commission to support Senate Bill 72. Chief Craig Black seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

April Graham has left the meeting.

HB0136 Enforcement Activities Amendments

Elevates to class B if person was previously convicted for driving without a license. Requires "quick fingerprinting"

This bill authorizes "quick fingerprinting" (Quick Print) for drivers without licenses. The scan hits the Western Identification Network (WIN) to check for criminal records or warrants. It does not create a permanent record and is deleted after the interaction.

Discussion highlighted that 50% of serious crashes in certain areas (e.g., West Valley) involve unlicensed drivers. The bill also elevates driving without a license from an infraction to a Class C misdemeanor to generate local revenue and allow for vehicle impoundment.

Motion: Richard Mauro motions for the commission to support in concept for further discussion and action on House Bill 136. Chief Craig Black seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SB0167 Reintegration for Disciplined Students

This bill includes recommendations from an interim working group with Senator McCay, CCJJ staff, education reps, JJOC members.

- ▶ *modifies grounds for denying open enrollment applications;*
- ▶ *modifies timelines and requirements for transferring student records;*
- ▶ *modifies reintegration plan requirements for students who have committed serious offenses;*
- ▶ *requires local education agencies to digitally maintain and transfer certain student records ""cumulative file"";*
- ▶ *modifies notification requirements when a minor is taken into temporary custody*

Motion: Stewart Young motions for the commission to support in concept for further discussion and action on Senate Bill 167. Tom Ross seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Dreschel (for Ron Gordon) has joined the meeting.

HB0137S1 Violent Crime Clearance Rate Amendments

Creates a grant program to assist a law enforcement agency in solving violent crimes. Grant program will be administered by CCJJ.

► 1st sub appropriates \$250,000

This bill creates a grant program to help agencies solve violent crimes. It is modeled after successful programs in other states where treating every "gun fired" call with the intensity of a homicide investigation significantly increased clearance rates. CCJJ would administer the competitive grant process.

This bill authorizes "quick fingerprinting" (Quick Print) for drivers without licenses. The scan hits the Western Identification Network (WIN) to check for criminal records or warrants. It does not create a permanent record and is deleted after the interaction.

Discussion highlighted that 50% of serious crashes in certain areas (e.g., West Valley) involve unlicensed drivers. The bill also elevates driving without a license from an infraction to a Class C misdemeanor to generate local revenue and allow for vehicle impoundment.

Motion: Chief Craig Black motions for the commission to support House Bill 137 Substitute 1. Mark Moffat seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

HB0188 Juvenile Justice Amendments

Similar to 2025 HB 359. JJOC took a position of Hold due to discussion around: technical changes, school-based offense definition, NJ eligibility, recidivism definition and expungement

Line 352: definition of school based referral also includes recidivism definition

Line 407: adds school-based referral to list AOC data provides to CCJJ, but how school based referral is defined is confusing

Codifies supreme court case TLO for search and seizures in schools, defines juvenile recidivism, school based referrals/offense, adds specific drug-related offenses to NJ ineligibility list, prohibits expungement of a juvenile record if the petitioner has been adjudicated or convicted of certain drug offenses within two years before the petition for expungement is filed.

Motion: Sheriff Chad Jensen motions for the commission to hold on House Bill 188 for further discussion and action. Chief Craig Black seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SB0099S1 Emergency Reporting Offense Amendments

Expands the offense (class B misd.) of emergency reporting abuse to include conduct in which an actor contacts an emergency response service when the actor knows, or reasonably should know, that no actual or perceived emergency exists.

	<p>Expands the offense of emergency reporting abuse (Class B misdemeanor). To address concerns about a "chilling effect," the bill was amended to require that the actor must have been previously warned by a dispatcher or officer that their specific non-emergency reporting is inappropriate before being charged.</p> <p>Motion: Tom Ross motions for the commission to <u>support</u> Senate Bill 99 Substitute 1. Commissioner Beau Mason seconds the motion. The motion passed.</p> <p>Support(s): Eleven (11) Supports; Spencer Turley (for Jared Garcia), Commissioner Beau Mason, Stewart Young, Chief Craig Black, Sheriff Chad Jensen, Blake Hills, Pam Vickrey, Daniel Meza, Liliana Olvera-Arbon (for Chief Sol Oberg), Ryan Robinson, Tom Ross</p> <p>Abstention(s): Three (3) Abstentions; Michael Dreschel (for Ron Gordon), Richard Mauro, Mark Moffat</p> <p><i>Eric Tadehara (for Tracy Gruber) left the meeting before the vote on Senate Bill 99 Substitute 01.</i></p>
Agenda Item	Other Business
Notes	No other business was addressed.
Agenda Item	Public Comment
Notes	Pam Vickrey asks the commission and law enforcement members to review House Bill 188. Chief Pennington had issues with codifying the search and seizure issues.
Agenda Item	Adjourn
Notes	<p>Motion: Tom Ross motions for the commission to adjourn. Mark Moffat seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>The commission adjourns.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2nd, 2026 from Noon-2 PM. Location: <u>Anchor Location</u>: CCJJ Offices Zoom link: meet.google.com/vin-mowx-gkx</p>
DISCLAIMER	Please note that these meeting minutes have been primarily generated or assisted by an artificial intelligence (AI) tool. These notes have been edited by staff to ensure accuracy and completeness.