

MINUTES

CRIMINAL & JUVENILE JUSTICE INFORMATION AND BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2025
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
BCA

Attendees

Advisory Group Members:	Organization
Bartell, Diane	BCA
Beaumaster, Paul	Minnesota County Attorneys Association
Bigham, Karla	Minnesota Association of Counties
Bodie, Marv	Minnesota Association of Counties
Carson, Barbara	Public Member
Densley, James	Public Member
Evjen, Jesse	Minnesota Sheriff's Association
Gronvall, Tamar	Department of Administration
Henderson, Pancho	MNIT
Hibbs, Brian	Minnesota Association of County Community Corrections— Ramsey County
Jaszewski, Karen Kampa	Judicial Branch
Knaak, Fritz	League of MN Cities
Mastin, Mike	Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association
Nolting, Katie	League of MN Cities
Pavlov-Shapiro, Anya	Minnesota Attorney General
Ramlo, Jon	Association of Minnesota Counties
Reitz, Nate	MN Sentencing Guidelines Commission
Siolka, Lindsay	Board of Public Defense
Westcott, Evonn	Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers
Clawson, Amanda	BCA
Evans, Drew	BCA
Gotz, Dana	BCA
Jegeno, Kinini	BCA
Miller, Tom	BCA
Mitchell, Darren	BCA
Sanchez, Angie	BCA

Welcome and Introductory Items

Advisory Group Chair Paul Beaumaster called the meeting to order. Roundtable introductions were made. Beaumaster made a motion to approve last meeting's minutes; the minutes were unanimously approved. Beaumaster made a motion to approve this meeting's agenda; the agenda was unanimously approved.

BCA Superintendent Update

Superintendent Evans provided updates on policies previously discussed with the Advisory Group, including the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle law to include use during police pursuits, and banning child-like sex dolls and AI-generated Child Sexual Abuse Material. Evans' update stated that both policies are likely to not move forward; however, the latter may potentially get a green light with some revisions.

Evans updated the Group on bodycam footage requests. He reinforced that all bodycam-worn and other video footage is not physically able to be posted publicly within 30 days of Use of Force incidents on the BCA website due to the volume of video and the time it takes to review and redact. BCA is requesting the authority to limit the scope of the extraneous video that is required to be posted within 30 days to include only the specific event while not changing data classification.

In addition to the above proposals previously discussed with the Advisory Group, Evans updated the Group on his ask for legislative funding to develop a more robust, real-time, Minnesota-specific Missing Persons database to include trends and categories helpful to Minnesota law enforcement. He also mentioned the new BCA Financial Crimes and Fraud Section to include the transfer of the previous Commerce Fraud Bureau to the BCA through a Governor's Executive Order and subsequent Dept. of Administration Reorganization Order effective February 7, 2025. The BCA is asking for 3 FTEs in the Governor's budget for forensic accounting and prosecutorial support.

Evans stated that he continues to advocate for dedicated program administration support for the Advisory Group. However, the state is in an atypical financial position, facing a significant budget shortfall. The BCA will cut back on employees but this will likely manifest in not hiring new staff as positions become open. That said, the BCA is ending this fiscal year with a \$1M renovation to fit more people into the same space.

Finally, the CALEA accreditation is ongoing. The process has pointed out what the BCA is doing well, as well as places for improvements.

Violent Crime Study Discussion

Advisory Group member James Densley presented the findings of his co-researched study regarding the homicide surge in 2020. The study, "Murder in a time of crisis: a qualitative exploration of the 2020 homicide spike through offender interviews," investigated how the COVID-19 pandemic and the civil unrest following George Floyd's murder influenced the 2020 homicide surge, focusing on individuals already at high risk for violence. The full report can be found at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0735648X.2024.2426502>.

Forensic Lab tour

Assistant Lab Director Staci Bennett provided the Advisory Group with a tour of the BCA's forensic laboratory, including showcasing the biology sections, drug testing and the weapons library.

Clean Slate Expungement Update

Tom Miller with BCA's MNJIS division provided an update on Clean Slate automated expungements. The process went live on April 21 (not the January 1, 2025 statutory effective date). As noted, the process to begin sending notifications to the Judicial Branch (the Judicial Branch has 60 days to object before automated sealing) will begin slowly with the goal of increasing the volume as manual review of the records ensures accuracy of the data. There are approximately 2 million historical records that were eligible as of January 1. Challenges include low-quality criminal justice data, integrating two criminal justice systems, the complexity of the law and missing data in general. Currently the BCA has marked 10,000+ cases for sealing since April 21.

Violent Crime Dashboard Overview and Demo

BCA Data Architect Darren Mitchell and Business Intelligence Analyst Kinini Jegeno presented a demo of the BCA's Violent Crime Dashboard, a tool that is coming soon to the BCA public website. The Dashboard is compiled of Minnesota law enforcement data reported to the FBI and can be viewed by weapon type; victim and/or offender demographics; violent crimes by month, day and/or hour; geographic data or any combination of the above statistics. The Dashboard is expected to be a helpful tool for general public as well as law enforcement entities.

Next Meeting:

August 14, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
BCA

The meeting adjourned.