

Minutes

Council on the Collateral Consequences of a Criminal Record

Research and Logistics Subcommittee

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

10-11:30am

CCSU Downtown Campus (ITBD Building)

1. Welcome and Introduction

- a. The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:06am. Members in person and participating via conference call introduced themselves.

2. Research and Logistics Subcommittee structure, organization and approach

- a. The subcommittee is currently comprised of roughly 15 people. There is room for more additions (1 or 2) so recommendations from other members are welcome. Given the limitations on time and staffing, the Chair indicated the need for members be efficient and resourceful.
- b. We will try to have four meetings prior to the February report date. Members will be able to call in via conference call
- c. A handout of PA 19-142 AAC Council on the Collateral Consequences of a Criminal Record was provided. Members discussed the purview of the Research Committee relative to the Council's charge of studying "discrimination face by people in Connecticut living with a criminal record," and developing "recommendations for legislation to reduce or eliminate discrimination based on a person's criminal history."

3. Overview of proposed Subcommittee goals (per attached Handout Oct 2019")

Per the handout, the Chair presented the following as a potential framework for accomplishing the subcommittee's goals:

- a. Utilize existing and ongoing research to define the impact of collateral consequences of a criminal conviction on residents in the State of Connecticut.
 - i. Guiding document: National Inventory of Collateral Consequences
- b. Determine the efficacy of collateral consequences relative to the goals of the justice system: deterrence, punishment, rehabilitation and incapacitation.
 - i. Guiding Document: June 2019 US Commission on Human Rights Report and Recommendations on Collateral Consequences
 1. Andrew reached out to the lead researcher of the report to see if they'd be willing to present on their research and potentially collaborate w/the Council
- c. Catalogue existing state and local legislative and administrative efforts to impact this issue.

- i. Many state organizations (like the Sentencing Commission) have already developed resources studying and proposing possible solutions. These should be catalogued for review, and possible consideration within our recommendations.
 - d. Work with the Housing and Employment Subcommittees to provide a collaborative system of defining relative scopes and goals, as well as reporting back to the full Council.
 - i. At this point, unless asked otherwise, we will not address research relating to Housing and Employment. Per the NICC document, there are over 500 statutorily based Collateral Consequences outlined by Connecticut State Law. This does not include consequences determined by municipal/ local governments. Housing and Employment are determined to be the most substantial categories of Collateral Consequences. Our role is to determine what significant CCs are left out of the conversation.

Next steps: Mr. Clark will present on a proposed scope and framework for the Research Committee to be considered for consensus at the next meeting.

4. Discussion

- a. *NICC database:* Mr. Patrick great presented on an excel spreadsheet he developed utilizing the NICC database that outlines and categorizes the 559 collateral consequences in CT. Some of the things he noted about the CCs were that many of the consequences provided by NICCC were unduplicated, meaning that 559 is an underestimate. Durations of the CCs can vary (5-6 years, end of the parole period, indefinite). It would be valuable to research how and why these durations were established. Is there any uniformity among similar states? It would be a good idea to compare and contrast states with a similar government and population (e.g. Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts). Mr. LaPenna mentioned that he and a researcher have been exploring Ohio's work on collateral consequences.

Next steps: Mr. Patrick will present on an updated document at the next meeting. Mr. LaPenna will present on the work in Ohio.

- b. *US Commission on Human Rights report:* Per one of the report's recommendations, the members discussed:

- i. Expungement as a consideration for address collateral consequences.

Next steps: Ms. Corbett and Ms. Diaz will present on this topic next meeting.

- ii. Voting rights as a specific and unique form of collateral consequence that should be considered.

Next steps: Ms. Russell will present on this next meeting.

- iii. The role of collateral consequences per the goal of the justice system – ie. Punishment/retribution vs. rehabilitation/restorative justice.

Next steps: This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

5. Collaboration with the Housing and Employment Subcommittees

- a. One of the issues discussed was original research from the Council. Mr. Clark mentioned that the CT Reentry Collaborative is working w/DOC to develop a survey for inmates in CT DOC facilities that seeks to gain a better understanding of the reentry process for returning citizens. He mentioned that they have incorporated some questions about collateral consequences into the survey. This could also be utilized in the community with recent returning citizens as well.

Next steps: Mr. Clark will share the draft survey with members for their input and inquired if any would like to participate in the visits to the facilities.

6. Next steps – deliverables and timeline

- a. Members discussed the meeting schedule listed on the agenda (see below). It was agreed that the proposed dates and times work for all those in attendance but may be subject to change depending on absent members' availability. Next meeting is October 30, 10am.

7. Adjourn

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 11:08am.

Proposed next meeting dates: (All times 10am. Location IMRP conference room New Britain)

Wednesday, October 30

Wednesday, November 20

Wednesday, December 11

Wednesday, January 15