

Sex Offender Civil Commitment Advisory Task Force
Thursday, August 21, 2013
6:00 – 9:00 PM
Room 5 State Office Building

Agenda:

1. Welcome/housekeeping items
2. Updates from Task Force Chair and Vice Chair
3. Update regarding RFP (Request for Proposals) recently issued by DHS
4. Update on upcoming MSOP presentation on treatment and reintegration programming
5. Task Force discussion of possible changes in current commitment and reduction in custody standards and procedures
6. Public Comments

Task Force Attendance:

Hon. Eric J. Magnuson (Chair)
Hon. James M. Rosenbaum (Vice Chair)
Sen. Warren Limmer
Comm. Tom Roy (ex officio)
Dean Eric Janus
Donna Dunn
Dr. Michael Thompson (ex officio)
Gerald T. Kaplan
Rep. Jim Abeler
Fred Friedman (ex-officio)

Hon. Paul Nelson
Ryan Magnus
Hon. Kathleen Gearin
Sen. Tony Lourey
County Atty. Mark Ostrem
Hon. Joanne Smith (ex-officio)
Rep. Tina Liebling
Comm. Nancy Schouweiler
Roberta Opheim

Meeting Minutes:

(This document is a general summary of the Task Force meeting and is not intended to be a detailed transcription.)

Meeting Began: 6:05 PM

Welcome/Housekeeping Items/Updates from Task Force Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Eric Magnuson welcomed the members, addressed housekeeping items and made some announcements. He mentioned the *Karsjens* suit, talked about the focus of the Task Force, and stressed that he makes no comment on individual cases, despite requests from the media.

Update regarding RFP (Request for Proposals) recently issued by DHS, and update on upcoming MSOP presentation on treatment and reintegration programming

Robin Benson of DHS presented information to the Task Force about these two items and answered questions from Sen. Limmer, Chair Magnuson, Roberta Opheim, Judge Gearin, Comm. Roy and Dean Janus.

Task Force discussion of possible changes in current commitment and reduction in custody standards and procedures

Chair Magnuson convened the discussion; Task Force members participating in this discussion included Roberta Opheim, Judge Rosenbaum, Ryan Magnus, Judge Nelson, Dr. Thompson, Dean Janus, Judge Gearin, Judge Smith, Gerald Kaplan, Rep. Liebling, Comm. Roy, Rep. Abeler, Fred Friedman, County Atty. Ostrem, Sen. Limmer.

Chair Magnuson discussed the potential set of recommendations the Task Force could issue this fall. He again asked Task Force members to send in their suggestions to be compiled.

Public Comment:

- Dennis Pearson said that this was a watershed moment for the Task Force.
- Pearl Nelson spoke of her son Kevin, who served 21 months in prison and now has been in MSOP for 8 years.
- Thomas Koepke said the client he is mentoring completed phase I & II and is waiting to move to phase III. He said MSOP is a good program, just doesn't have an exit plan. He said he attended the "responder's conference" and they're open to new innovative ideas.
- William Seablom said he was director of the Human Sexuality Program at the University of Minnesota and said he would make material available to the Task Force; he said the two best treatment programs are missing here.
- Tammy Annen spoke about process, and asked if an email is sent to the Task Force website, where does it go?
- Alice Richter said the Task Force should not kick the can down the road, because those who are civilly committed would have no hope.
- Russ Lovaasen said that the progress made by the Task Force was too slow and that the situation was not OK.

The next meeting is scheduled for:

September 26

Meeting Concluded: 8:55 PM