

County of Onondaga Office of Diversity and Inclusion Onondaga County Justice Center Oversight Committee

Monica Williams

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Montanette Rocker DEPUTY CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER

January 8, 2025 Meeting minutes **DRAFT** Onondaga County/Syracuse Justice Center Oversight Committee

Committee members present in-person: JoAnne Spoto Decker, John Falge, Nicole Godfrey, Vice Chair Jeff Marier and Chair Marissa Mims.

Absent: Cassandra Jones-Ingram (excused) and Tricia Wittkowski (excused)

Community present: No one present from the community.

County staff present: Deputy Chief Diversity Officer Montanette Rocker and Chief Diversity Officer Monica Williams. HRS Anthony Heard Sr. was absent.

Opening: Meeting began at 5:38 p.m.

Chair's report: None

Agendas: Approved September 2024 and January 2025 meeting agendas. Approved 5-0.

Minutes: Approved August and September 2024 meeting minutes

Deputy Chief Diversity Officer report:

*Montanette met with CE's Office to fill vacancies on the JCOC and HRC

*JCOC will add food tampering to complaint category. There were 8 complaints from detainees within the week. Other complaints: low-caloric food intake and poor quality food. Mold in showers and cold temps in the cells are other complaints.

*CFG is the new medical vendor at the Justice Center and also the Jamesville Penitentiary.

Human Rights Specialist report:

- Population: 375 total detainees; 19 were female detainees.
- Zero cases of Flu or COVID
- Eight complaints documented this week.



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Discussion:

- JoAnne and Tricia both had the opportunity to review the complaints from the Justice Center Jail detainees and both Tricia and JoAnne have ideas for recommendations. Montanette gave an update on the kinds of training that deputies are required to do. Montanette provided a list of OCSO inservice, academy and mandated training within the Sheriff's Office. Wittkowski also wanted to know if the sheriff's department keep track of their training and if so how does admin do this. Montanette spoke with the OCSO about how it keeps track of training. The Sheriff's Office keeps track of its annual and biannual training through a system known as PowerDMS.
- Committee members will prepare recommendations on the importance of following OCSO Policy regarding SERT (Sheriff's Emergency Response Team) moves, Grievances, and Staff Bias and Harassment. There were also a few questions that Committee Members asked: 1. What are the prescribed prayer times for Muslim detainees? Is there a limit to the length of time that Muslim detainees can pray? 2. Can deputies be rotated or permanently placed on certain pods so as to be separated from detainees where bias might exist? 3. Will body cameras be implemented on all the pods?

Entered into executive session at 5:49 p.m. Approved 5-0 **Exited executive session at 6:48 p.m.** Approved 5-0

Meeting ended at 6:48 p.m. Minutes submitted by Jeffrey Marier on February 19, 2025.