

## Creating A Criminal Justice Council

The Government Efficiency and Reform Committee (Chairman Noonan and Legislators Busick, Harris, Maloney, Lomita, R.S. Parete and Shapiro) and The Criminal Justice / Public Safety / STOP DWI Committee (Chairman Meyer and Legislators Aiello, DePew, Every, Dart, Feldmann and Hyatt) and Legislators Alfonso, Bartels, Berardi, Cummings, Donaldson, Felicello, Gerentine, Hathaway, Kraft, Loughran, McAfee, R.A. Parete, Provenzano, Roberti, Rodriguez, Stock, Stoeckeler, Tipp and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, the Jail Utilization Study of December 1991 advised Ulster County to establish a Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee as a formal deliberative body to review practices, propose solutions, and support needed changes to the Criminal Justice System, and

WHEREAS, the Technical Assistance Report #98-J1116 of May 1998 recommended that a Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee consisting of all the directors/administrators and juvenile justice agencies be formed, and

WHEREAS, this Committee should meet monthly to review problems and concerns of an inter-agency nature, to review data concerning operational issues and advise the Legislature regarding the need for their attention and action, and

WHEREAS, the Technical Assistance Report #98-J1116 of May 1998 recommended that a Citizen Advisory Group should be appointed to review the nature, scope, and critical issues associated with Criminal Justice administration, including juvenile matters, and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters Mid-Hudson Region, having studied the Ulster County Criminal Justice System since 1999, independently and without foreknowledge of the aforementioned studies, reached the same conclusions as the above, and recommended to the Legislature's Criminal Justice Committee the following recommendations:

- The formation of an inter-agency council that would oversee the Criminal Justice processes that cross agency lines.
- The development of a method to determine the costs and effectiveness of each agency and their programs.
- The development of a database that would serve to provide each agency with the ability to share pertinent information with each other about their cases.

, and

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WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Ulster County Legislators to have a full understanding of the effectiveness and costs of the Criminal Justice programs they fund, and

WHEREAS, the Government Efficiency and Reform Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice/Public Safety/STOP DWI Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature create a Criminal Justice Council under the auspices of the present Criminal Justice/Public Safety/Stop DWI Committee, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this said Council be comprised of decision makers from Alternative Sentencing, Sheriff, Jail, Community Corrections, Court Clerk, District Attorney, Mental Health, Probation, Public Defender, Social Services, Youth Bureau, Ulster County Magistrate Association, Ulster County Bar Association, Drug Court and seven members of the community who are not currently employed by Ulster County or any of its contract agencies, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this said Council should meet monthly to review problems and concerns of an inter-agency nature, to review data concerning operational issues, and advise the Legislature through the Criminal Justice/Public Safety/Stop DWI Committee regarding the need for their attention and action, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this said Council be charged with assessing the costs and effectiveness of all involved agencies, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this said Council investigate the funding and feasibility of creating and implementing a database to be employed by Ulster County's Criminal Justice System to share pertinent Criminal Justice information between agencies, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this said Council will continue to seek and explore methods to improve all aspects of Ulster County's Criminal Justice System,

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and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31                      NOES: 0  
(Absent: Legislators Alfonso and Hyatt)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:  
NONE

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