



**MISSISSIPPI JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

WWW.MSJAC.ORG

Alfred Martin, Ph.D., Chairman

Jaqueline Dedeaux, Vice Chair

Katrina Phillips, Secretary

2025 – 4th QUARTER MINUTES

DATE: Friday, October 10, 2025

LOCATION: Home2Suites, Flowood, MS

Meeting Called to Order: 10:02 a.m. by Chairman Dr. Alfred Martin

ROLL CALL: Quorum established with 11 present, 7 excused, 1 guest

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the 3rd Quarter meeting were distributed. The motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Willie Blackmon and seconded by Jara Miller. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEMS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Dr. Martin thanked everyone for attending the working retreat. He stated that 2026 would be a busy yet great year for the State Advisory Group and that today's meeting we would be voting on the items addressed during the working retreat.

Bylaws Changes: The first action item from the retreat was to approve the bylaws changes. Katrina presented several changes, including merging the Annual Report Committee and Public Relations Committee, changing the meeting date from the first Thursday to the first Friday of each quarter, and adding representatives from law enforcement and sheriff associations to the board. The group also discussed adding language about tribal representatives and defining "active" members as those attending at least 75% of meetings. Motion to approve was made and carried.

Juvenile Justice Symposium: The committee approved an MOU with FTC to host the 2026 Juvenile Justice Symposium, with a budget of up to \$50,000 allocated for speaker fees, travel, and State Advisory Group expenses. Dr. Martin explained that these expenses would be paid directly to DPS rather than through a third party, aiming to save money and streamline the process. Eric Williams asked about the \$50,000 figure, and Dr. Martina clarified that the exact amount would depend on regulations and speaker requirements, with final approval from DPS.

Grants: The committee discussed the allocation and expenditure of grant funds, prioritizing the use of 2022 money before turning to 2023 funds. There is \$78,000 remaining from 2022 and \$336,000 available for 2023. They agreed to increase funding for current grantees and allocate \$50,000 for a symposium, with plans to spend 2022 funds by September 30, 2026. The committee also decided to wait until next year to determine how to spend 2024 funds and to keep funds from different years separate.



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R/ED: Dr. Robertson announced that we received recommendations from OJJDP to change our action plan. The committee authorized the red/ethnic disparity committee to identify a researcher for their action plan and to determine whether additional funding is needed for training or research.

2026 Travel and Meeting Policies: The meeting discussed travel policies for 2026, noting that travel requests must be submitted 60 days in advance for state trips and 90 days for out-of-state trips. Tawni Basden informed the group that \$18,400 from the 2022 SAG allocation was still available and could be used for the Alabama Juvenile Justice Conference on December 5th at Perdido Beach; however, per-person funding would be limited to approximately \$1,000.

Important Dates for 2026:

- 1st Quarter - January 9, 2026
- 2nd Quarter – April 10, 2026
- 3rd Quarter – August 5, 2026 before the Symposium
- Symposium Dates – August 5 – 7, 2026
- 4th Quarter – October 9, 2026
- Retreat – Tentative October 7 – 9, 2026

Dr. Martin requested location suggestions for the first two meetings and mentioned plans to invite lawmakers or judicial figures to expand their network.

The committee will review grant applications, with each member responsible for visiting at least one grantee site.

Dr. Martin expressed gratitude for the committee's efforts and hard work this past year in helping us get through some difficult times.

Adjourned: 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Katrina Phillips

Katrina Phillips
MSJJAC Secretary