



## Orange County Domestic Violence Commission | Meeting Notes

August 7, 2020 | 4:30 p.m.

### Committee Chairs

- Honorable Alice Blackwell, Ninth Judicial Circuit Judge, Co-Chair
- Dick Batchelor, President, Dick Batchelor Management Group, Inc., Co-Chair

### Members in Attendance:

- Lisa Alexander , Founder, Stand Up Survivor Inc.
- Jay Corzine, Ph.D., Graduate Director & Professor, University of Central Florida
- Lui Damiani, Executive Director, Victim Service Center of Central Florida, Inc.
- Gerry Glynn , Chief Legal Officer, Embrace Families
- Jana Jasinski, Ph.D., Pegasus Professor of Sociology, Vice Provost for Faculty Excellence, University of Central Florida
- Honorable Robert Wesley , Public Defender, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida represented by Attorney Lydia LaBar
- Honorable Alicia Latimore, Circuit Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida
- Marie Martinez, CEO/Executive Director, The Howard Phillips Center for Children & Families - Orlando Health
- Diana Mejia, Founder & President, Nuevo Sendero, Inc.
- John Mina, Orange County Sherriff, Orange County Sheriff's Office represented by Captain Mary Huggins
- Honorable Donald Myers, Chief Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida
- Tekoa Pouerie, Director of Center Advancement, Pace Center for Girls
- Louis Quinones, Chief of Corrections, Orange County Corrections Department
- Honorable Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Courts represented by Attorney Roberta Walton
- Orlando Rolon, City of Orlando Chief of Police, Orlando Police Department represented by Deputy Chief Jose Velez
- Michelle Sperzel, Chief Executive Officer, Harbor House of Central Florida
- Sharron Washington, Regional Director, Florida Department of Children and Families
- Heather Wilkie, Executive Director, Zebra Coalition

### Guests in Attendance:

Honorable Carly Wish, Circuit Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida



## **Welcome, Pledge and Introductions**

Mayor Demings welcomed everyone and thanked the Commission members for their service on the Domestic Violence Commission during the pandemic and thanked Judge Blackwell and Dick Batchelor for their work and leadership. Judge Blackwell thanked Mayor Demings for his comments and convened the meeting. Judge Blackwell led the Pledge of Allegiance; the Commission members identified themselves as being present when called upon by Judge Blackwell.

## **Public Comment:**

No public comments were received.

## **Legislative Update:**

Kelley Teague, Director of Legislative Affairs, gave an update on the recent legislation. Senate Bill 1540 and House Bill 1243 were introduced but were not heard in committee. Senate Bill 1082 passed and became effective July 1, 2020.

## **Domestic Violence Statistics**

Captain Mary Huggins from the Orange County Sheriff's Department and Deputy Chief Jose Velez gave an update on the domestic violence statistics. Both departments saw a decrease in reports during the stay-at-home order during the pandemic. Judge Latimore said that civil injunctions went down during the lockdown and now seeing a large increase in petitions filed.

## **COVID-19 Update**

Kent Donahue gave an update on COVID-19. Mr. Donahue said to take precaution against the virus, it is important to do the following: Wear a mask, practice social distancing, washing hands, clean and disinfecting, and avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. [Floridahealthcovid19.gov](https://www.floridahealthcovid19.gov) has a dashboard with information and data.

## **Future Planning**

Judge Blackwell asked the chairs of the subcommittees to begin getting their committee members to a point where they start making recommendations. The next meeting is September 8, 2020 from 1:30 – 2:30. Judge Blackwell would like to issue a report to the Mayor and County Commission in October since October is the observance month for domestic violence awareness. Judge Blackwell thanked everyone for their leadership and commitment.

The meeting concluded at 5:40 p.m.