

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 2026010

RE: AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION NO. 61 OF 1993, CREATING A
DUTCHESS COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

Legislators ALEXANDER, DRAGO, VALDÉS SMITH, ATKINS, MUNN, ARNOFF, JOHNSON, KAUL, KEARNEY, LAWLER, REDL, RHODES, SHAH and WINSBY offer the following and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council (CJC) was created by Resolution No. 61 of 1993, which resolution established membership of the committee, as well as the procedures and duties of the committee, and

WHEREAS, this Legislature amended the membership of the CJC in Resolution No. 29 of 1998 by adding two legislators as voting members to the CJC, as well as in Resolution 111 of 2010, and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Mental Health now desires to amend the CJC membership and committee structure to remain representative, functional, and aligned with current county operations and priorities, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee membership shall be amended by:

- Updating Commissioner of Mental Hygiene to Commissioner of Mental Health,
- Updating Executive Director of Youth Bureau to Commissioner of Community and Family Services,
- Removing Commissioner of Planning and Development and Commissioner of Social Services (as this role is now represented under Commissioner of Community and Family Services)
- Adding Community Liaison as a voting member, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the composition of the Executive Committee of the CJC will consist of the following, all of whom shall have one vote each:

- Chairperson, appointed by the County Executive
- Vice Chairperson, appointed by the current Executive Committee Members
- The County Executive or designee
- The Chairperson of the Legislature or designee
- The Sheriff or designee
- The District Attorney or designee
- The Public Defender or designee
- The Director of Probation or designee
- The Commissioner of Mental health or designee
- The Commissioner of Community and Family Services or designee
- The Jail Administrator or designee
- Chairs/Co-Chairs of the standing CJC sub-committees
- A Community Liaison, and be it further

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, that the full CJC membership structure shall be amended as follows:

- Adding Community Liaison as a voting member
- Removing former member Commissioner of Planning and Development and Commissioner of Social Services (now represented under the Commissioner of Community and Family Services)
- Clarification that Chairs/Co-Chairs of standing CJC sub-committees remain voting members *only for active committees*.
- Clarification that members of the public are welcome to attend the Full Criminal Justice Council, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the composition of the full CJC membership structure shall be amended as follows:

- Chairperson, appointed by the County Executive
- Vice Chairperson, appointed by the Executive Committee
- The County Executive or designee
- Chairperson of the Legislature or designee
- The Sheriff or designee
- The District Attorney or designee
- The Public Defender or designee
- The Director of Probation or designee
- Commissioner of Mental Health or designee
- Commissioner of Community & Family Services or designee
- The Jail Administrator or designee
- Chairs/Co-chairs of standing CJC subcommittees (active committees only)
- Community Liaison (voting member)
- Chairs/Co-chairs of the standing CJC sub-committees
- Two members from each caucus of the DC Legislature, appointed by the Chair of the Legislature to a two-year term with said terms to be concurrent with their legislative term
- One Family Court Judge and one County Court Judge, each jointly appointed by the Chair of the Legislature and the County Executive to two-year terms
- One city Court Judge from either of the two cities jointly appointed by the chair of the legislature and the County Executive to a two-year term
- One local judge from either the village court or local town courts appointed by the President of the Dutchess County Magistrates Association, to a two-year term
- Three citizen representatives appointed by the Chair of the Legislature to two-year terms
- Six at large citizen members shall be a cross-section of the community to take into consideration the not-for profit, minority, business, clergy and other community groups as well as geographic balance at least one of whom shall be an ex-offender and one of whom shall be a former victim, and be it further

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, that Resolution Nos. 61 of 1993, 29 of 1998 and 111 of 2010 shall otherwise remain in full force and effect.

CA-003-26
CRC/rjw
G-1370
01/02/2026
Fiscal Impact: None.

APPROVED
Susan Serino
SUSAN J. SERINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Date *Jan. 22, 2026*

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 20 day of January 2026, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 21st day of January 2026.



[Signature]
JULIE SHIROISHI, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

Roll Call Sheets

District	Last Name	YES	NO
District 16 - Fishkill and Beacon	Valdés Smith	☒	
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins		
District 20 - Red Hook, Tivoli, and Rhinebeck	Munn		
District 3 - LaGrange	Polasek		
District 12 - East Fishkill	Metzger		
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Redl		
District 2 - LaGrange, Pleasant Valley & Town of Poughkeepsie	Arnoff		
District 4 - Hyde Park and Town of Poughkeepsie	Lawler		
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Shah		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Kaul		
District 7 - Hyde Park and Pleasant Valley	Darrow		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli		
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson		
District 11 - Clinton, Pleasant Valley, and Rhinebeck	Kearney		
District 13 - East Fishkill and Wappinger	Giles		
District 14 - Wappinger and Town of Poughkeepsie	Winsby		
District 15 - Wappinger	Faust		
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul		
District 18 - City of Beacon and Fishkill	Rhodes		
District 19 - North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan & Red Hook	Drago		
District 21 - East Fishkill	Caswell		
District 22 - Beekman and Union Vale	Tresca		
District 23 - Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Rolison		
District 24 - Dover and Pawling	House		
District 25 - Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley & Millbrook	Alexander		
Present: <u>23</u>	Resolution: _____	Total : <u>23</u>	<u>6</u>
Absent: <u>2</u>	Motion: <u>Polasek</u>	Yes	No
Vacant: <u>0</u>	<u>Kaul 2nd</u>	Abstentions: _____	

2026010 AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION NO. 61 OF 1993, CREATING A DUTCHESS COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

January 20, 2026

SUE SERINO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



JEAN-MARIE NIEBUHR, LCSW-R
COMMISSIONER

DUTCHESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

TO: Sue Serino, County Executive

FROM: Jean-Marie Niebuhr, LCSW-R, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health

DATE: December 3, 2025

RE: 2026 Resolution Request- Updates to the Criminal Justice Council

The Dutchess County Department of Mental Health is requesting approval of updates to the bylaws and membership structure of the Criminal Justice Council (CJC). The CJC plays a central role in coordinating Dutchess County's criminal justice strategy, bringing system partners together to monitor trends, advance reforms, and support public safety, equity, and effective service delivery. As the system continues to evolve, it is essential that the CJC's structure and membership remain current and accurately reflect the agencies, roles, and community perspectives engaged in this work.

The CJC Executive Committee recently completed a review of the Council's membership and committee structure. Several updates were approved to ensure that the CJC remains representative, functional, and aligned with current county operations and priorities. These updates now require formal adoption through a resolution by the County Executive and Legislature to finalize the revised composition.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

☒ NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

APPROPRIATION RESOLUTIONS

(To be completed by requesting department)

Total Current Year Cost \$ 0

Total Current Year Revenue \$ 0
and Source

Source of County Funds *(check one)*: ☐ Existing Appropriations, ☐ Contingency,
☐ Transfer of Existing Appropriations, ☐ Additional Appropriations, ☐ Other *(explain)*.

Identify Line Items(s):

Related Expenses: Amount \$ 0

Nature/Reason:

Anticipated Savings to County: _____

Net County Cost (this year): _____
Over Five Years: _____

Additional Comments/Explanation:

Prepared by: Jean-Marie Niebuhr

Prepared On: 12/4/2025

The Criminal Justice Council (CJC) plays a critical role in shaping Dutchess County's criminal justice strategy, aligning system partners, monitoring trends, and advancing reforms that promote public safety, equity, and effective service delivery. As the system evolves, it is essential that the structure and membership of the CJC remain current and accurately reflect the agencies, roles, and community voices that contribute to this work.

The CJC Executive Committee recently completed a review of the Council's membership and committee structure. Several updates were approved to ensure that the CJC remains representative, functional, and aligned with current organizational structures within the County. These changes now require a formal resolution by the County Executive and Legislature to amend the bylaws and finalize the updated composition.

Summary of Recommended Changes

1. Executive Committee Membership Updates

To align with current County departments and strengthen community representation, the Executive Committee recommends:

- **Title Updates**
 - Change *Commissioner of Mental Hygiene* → **Commissioner of Mental Health**
 - Change *Executive Director of Youth Bureau* → **Commissioner of Community & Family Services**
- **Removals**
 - **Commissioner of Planning and Development**
 - **Commissioner of Social Services**
(This role is now represented under the Commissioner of Community & Family Services)
- **Additions**
 - **Community Liaison** (voting member) – newly created position approved by the Executive Committee
- **Clarification**
 - Chairs/Co-chairs of *active standing committees only* remain voting members.

2. Updated Full Executive Committee List

1. Chairperson, appointed by the County Executive
2. Vice Chairperson, appointed by the current Executive Committee Members
3. The County Executive or designee
4. The Chairperson of the Legislature or designee
5. The Sheriff or designee
6. The District Attorney or designee
7. The Public Defender or designee
8. The Director of Probation or designee

9. The Commissioner of Mental Health or designee
10. The Commissioner of Community and Family Services or designee
11. The Jail Administrator or designee
12. Chairs/Co-chairs of the standing CJC sub-committees
13. A Community Liaison

3. Full Council Membership Updates

To maintain consistency between the Executive Committee and the full CJC structure, the following changes are recommended:

- **Add**
 - **Community Liaison** (voting member)
- **Remove**
 - Former Member: **Commissioner of Planning and Development**
 - Former Member: **Commissioner of Social Services**
(Now represented under the Commissioner of Community & Family Services)
- **Additional Clarification**
 - Chairs/Co-chairs of standing CJC subcommittees remain voting members *only for active committees*.
 - Members of the public are welcome to attend the Full criminal justice council

4. Updated Full Council List

1. Chairperson, appointed by the County Executive
2. Vice Chairperson, appointed by the Executive Committee
3. The County Executive or designee
4. Chairperson of the Legislature or designee
5. The Sheriff or designee
6. The District Attorney or designee
7. The Public Defender or designee
8. The Director of Probation or designee
9. Commissioner of Mental Health or designee
10. Commissioner of Community & Family Services or designee
11. The Jail Administrator or designee
12. Chairs/Co-chairs of standing CJC subcommittees (active committees only)
13. Community Liaison (voting member)
14. Chairs/Co-chairs of the standing CJC sub-committees
15. Two members from each caucus of the DC Legislature, appointed by the Chair of the Legislature to a two-year term with said terms to be concurrent with their legislative term
16. One Family Court Judge and one County Court Judge, each jointly appointed by the Chair of the Legislature and the County Executive to two-year terms
17. One city Court Judge from either of the two cities jointly appointed by the chair of the legislature and the County Executive to a two-year term

18. One local judge from either the village court or local town courts appointed by the President of the Dutchess County Magistrates Association, to a two-year term
 19. Three citizen representatives appointed by the Chair of the Legislature to two-year terms
 20. Six at large citizen members shall be a cross-section of the community to take into consideration the not-for profit, minority, business, clergy and other community groups as well as geographic balance at least one of whom shall be an ex-offender and one of whom shall be a former victim.
-

Rationale for These Updates

- **Reflects current County departmental structures**, eliminating outdated titles and duplicative representation.
- **Strengthens community representation**, adding perspectives from lived experience and a formally designated Community Liaison.
- **Streamlines the CJC's operational structure**, ensuring voting authority aligns with active committees.
- **Improves clarity and transparency** in leadership roles and membership expectations.
- **Supports the CJC's mission** by ensuring that membership aligns with best practices in criminal justice reform and collaborative governance.

I respectfully request that the County Executive's Office advance this resolution so the Council can proceed with the updated structure.