

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-251

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF A SARASOTA COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE
COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the coordination of all aspects of the criminal justice system in Sarasota County, Florida is essential to the community; and

WHEREAS, for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Sarasota County, the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) desires that a commission be established with a purpose to examine, evaluate, and coordinate all aspects of the criminal justice system in Sarasota County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article V of the Florida Constitution and Florida statutes, counties are required to provide certain facilities and to fund certain expenses necessary for the operation of the criminal justice system, comprised of the county and circuit courts, state attorney’s office, public defender’s office, sheriff, and court-related functions of the clerk of court; and

WHEREAS, the chief judge of the judicial circuit, in conjunction with the state attorney and the public defender on matters that impact their offices, is responsible under Article V of the Florida State Constitution to identify all local requirements of the court system within the county and to identify the reasonable and necessary salaries, costs, and expenses to meet those local requirements; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the community that members of the Sarasota County criminal justice system work collaboratively with the Board to maximize the efficiencies of the criminal justice system and to more effectively allocate available funding.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA** in public meeting assembled:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND DUTIES

- A. The Sarasota County Criminal Justice Commission (hereafter called the “Commission”) is hereby established and shall have the following responsibilities and powers:
 - (1) Recommend priorities and desired outcomes for the county’s criminal justice system.

- (2) Coordinate the collection and management of all data and information related to the criminal justice system.
 - (3) Review and evaluate existing services and programs within the criminal justice system.
 - (4) Identify and prioritize needs and gaps in the criminal justice system and periodically make recommendations to the Board on improvements needed.
 - (5) Implement and provide oversight of the requirements specified in Article V of the Florida State Constitution.
 - (6) Coordinate with the efforts of the Public Safety Coordinating Council.
 - (7) Provide recommendations to the Board on the utilization of the Byrne, LLEBG and other Federal and State grant funds available to the county for the criminal justice system.
 - (8) Make recommendations to the Board regarding legislation, ordinances, and comprehensive plans dealing with programs and services in the criminal justice system.
- B. The Health and Human Services Business Center shall provide the necessary staff resources to support the Commission in fulfilling its mission.
- C. Nothing herein shall be interpreted in any way inconsistent with the powers and duties afforded by law to any Constitutional Officer. The Commission shall have no authority to interfere with, or impose upon, any duties, rights, or obligations upon a Constitutional Officer's discretionary or lawful and independent exercise of his/her Office.

SECTION 2. COMPOSITION

The Commission shall be comprised of the following ten members:

- A. Chief Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit;
- B. A member of the Sarasota County Commission;
- C. Sarasota County Sheriff;
- D. State Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit;
- E. Public Defender of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit;
- F. Clerk of the Circuit Court for Sarasota County;
- G. Court Administrator for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit;
- H. A Sarasota County Deputy County Administrator;
- I. Executive Director of the Sarasota County Health and Human Services Business Center,
and
- J. Department of Corrections Sarasota Circuit Administrator.

SECTION 3. RULES OF PROCEDURE

- A. The Commission shall comply with all applicable requirements of Florida's Sunshine Law, Public Records laws and the Code of Ethics for public representatives. The Commission may adopt additional procedures of operation provided there is no conflict with Florida State law, County Ordinances, or this Resolution. In the absence of bylaws, Roberts Rules of Order will be the standard utilized.
- B. The Commission shall meet at such times and places as the Chair or his/her designee deems appropriate in order to fulfill the mission and duties of the Commission. The Chair or his/her designee shall conduct the meetings.
- C. The agenda for each meeting shall be prepared and distributed by the Chair of the Commission or his/her designee to the Commission members in advance of the scheduled meeting.
- D. A simple majority of the Commission members shall constitute a quorum.
- E. Commission members who are unable to attend a scheduled meeting may send a designee with a proxy.
- F. All meetings of the Commission shall be open to the public and a notice of said meetings shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in accordance with Florida Statutes.
- G. All meetings of the Commission shall be recorded on audiocassette with typed summary minutes prepared and filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Board Records Division. The Health and Human Services Business Center shall keep copies of the minutes and the audiocassettes on hand for a period of three years.
- H. In the event the Commission finds it necessary to appoint committees, those committees shall act as fact finding bodies only, with their sole purpose to report research issues and/or to report factual findings to the Commission.
- I. The Commission shall not incur any expense or obligation to be paid by Sarasota County Government without prior authorization by the Board.

SECTION 4. OFFICERS

- A. The Chief Judge shall serve as the Chair of the Commission.
- B. The Commission shall annually select a Vice-Chair from among its members. Additional officers may be selected by the Commission as it deems necessary.

SECTION 5. REPEAL

This Resolution repeals and replaces Resolution No. 2004-083.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

SECTION 7. SUNSET PROVISION

This Resolution shall expire and be of no further force and effect as of April 27, 2014. Consequently, this Commission will cease to exist after this Sunset date unless re-approved by the Board.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, THIS 9th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2004.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

KAREN E. RUSHING, Clerk of Circuit
Court and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board
of County Commissioners of Sarasota
County, Florida

By: _____
Chairman

By: _____
Deputy Clerk