



STATE OF MINNESOTA

# Violent Crime Coordinating Council

c/o Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 2300  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1515  
Voice: 651-230-3358 – [vccc.minn@state.mn.us](mailto:vccc.minn@state.mn.us)  
*Ramsey County Undersheriff Mike Martin, Chair*  
*Renville County Sheriff Scott Hable, Vice-Chair*

---

## **MINUTES of Violent Crime Coordinating Council Meeting – Wednesday, February 14, 2024**

Hybrid meeting held at BCA and virtual via WebEx.

*VCCC members and representatives: Hao Nguyen, Emily Olson, David Hester, John Gross, Dennis Jahnke, Mark Koderick, Rick Palaia, Josh Lego, Shane Baker, David Voigt, Mike Martin and Scott Mueller.*

OJP staff, speakers and partners: Aaron Krenz, Katie Knutson, Chris Elvrum, Ken Sass, Kristin Lail, and Allison Hostrawser.

Chair Mike Martin called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed members and partners. Motion by Jeff Stiff, second by Scott Mueller to approve minutes from the 12/13/23 meeting. The motion passed.

Motion by Aaron Krenz, second by David Voigt to approve the 2/14/24 agenda. The motion passed.

### **Minnesota Cannabis Update**

Katie Knutson from the Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management and Chris Elvrum from the Minnesota Department of Health Medical Cannabis Program presented on plans for implementation of the statewide cannabis sales, regulation and enforcement.

### **Statewide Coordinator Update**

Statewide Gang and Drug Coordinator Ken Sass reported on attendance at the National Narcotics Officers Association in Washington DC and meetings with the Minnesota Congressional delegation. He also provided a brief overview of 2023 VCET stats noting over 1 million fentanyl pills were seized last year. Plans are underway for the annual commander training at Camp Ripley in March.

### **VCET Grant Update**

Grant Administrator Kristin Lail reported that all VCET grants were fully executed with a shift to three different agencies receiving federal Justice Assistance Grant funding so additional federal Performance Measurement reporting will be required.

### **Partner Updates**

Mike Martin noted that the Midwest Gang Investigators Association was reformulating with monthly meetings. There are 220 gang investigators that are currently members.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 followed by lunch for those attending in person.

**NEXT MEETING:** 11:00 – noon on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension with lunch following.