

# INDIANA LAW

## LOCAL OR REGIONAL JUSTICE REINVESTMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (JRAC)

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### **IC 33-38-9.5-4 Establishment of local or regional advisory council**

(a) A local justice reinvestment advisory council is established in each county in Indiana. The local advisory council of two (2) or more counties may vote to consolidate into a regional advisory council. Membership of a regional advisory council must consist of the members listed in this subsection, which can be filled by a representative from any of the participating counties. A local advisory council consists of at least the following members:

- (1) In counties with a chief public defender, the county chief public defender or the county chief public defender's designee. In counties without a chief public defender, a public defender who practices public defense within the county appointed by the local public defense board. If there is no local public defense board, then a public defender who practices public defense within the county appointed by the circuit court judge.
- (2) The elected prosecuting attorney or the elected prosecuting attorney's designee.
- (3) In counties with a local community mental health center, the director of the center or the director's designee.
- (4) The county sheriff or the county sheriff's designee.
- (5) In counties with a community corrections program, the director of the county's community corrections program or the director's designee.
- (6) The chief probation officer or the chief probation officer's designee.
- (7) The president of the county executive (as defined in [IC 36-1-2-5](#)) or the president's designee.
- (8) The president of the county fiscal body (as defined in [IC 36-1-2-6](#)) or the president's designee.
- (9) A circuit or superior court judge exercising criminal jurisdiction in the county, selected as follows:
  - (A) If only one (1) circuit or superior judge exercises criminal jurisdiction in the county, that judge serves as a member of the council.
  - (B) If more than one (1) circuit or superior court judge exercises criminal jurisdiction in the county, the judge selected by a majority of the circuit and superior court judges exercising criminal jurisdiction in the county shall select a judge exercising criminal jurisdiction to serve as a member of the council.
  - (C) If the judges exercising criminal jurisdiction in the county are unable to select a judge to serve as a member under clause (B), the chief justice of Indiana shall appoint a judge exercising criminal jurisdiction in the county as a member of the council.

(b) The members of a local or regional advisory council shall annually elect one (1) member as chair and one (1) member as vice chair.

(c) A local or regional advisory council shall meet at least quarterly.

(d) The community corrections advisory board may vote to serve as the local or regional advisory council described in this section. Meeting agendas may include business related to both community correction advisory board and local or regional advisory council duties.

*As added by P.L.30-2021, SEC.3.*

### **IC 33-38-9.5-5 Purpose of local or regional advisory council**

A local or regional advisory council shall promote:

- (1) the use of evidence based practices; and
- (2) the best practices of community based alternatives and recidivism reduction programs, including:
  - (A) probation services;
  - (B) problem solving courts;
  - (C) mental health and addiction treatment and recovery services;
  - (D) pretrial services;
  - (E) community corrections;
  - (F) evidence based recidivism reduction programs for currently incarcerated persons;
  - (G) other rehabilitation alternatives; and
  - (H) the incorporation of evidence based decision making into decisions concerning jail overcrowding.

*As added by P.L.30-2021, SEC.4.*

### **IC 33-38-9.5-6 Duties of local or regional advisory council**

A local or regional advisory council shall do the following:

- (1) Review, evaluate, and make recommendations for local:
  - (A) criminal justice systems and corrections programs;
  - (B) pretrial services;
  - (C) behavioral health treatment and recovery services;
  - (D) community corrections; and
  - (E) county jail and probation services.
- (2) Promote state and local collaboration between the advisory council and the local or regional advisory council.
- (3) Review and evaluate local jail overcrowding and recommend a range of possible overcrowding solutions.
- (4) Compile reports regarding local criminal sentencing as directed by the advisory council.
- (5) Establish committees to inform the work of the local or regional advisory council.
- (6) Communicate with the advisory council in order to establish and implement best practices and to ensure consistent collection and reporting of data as requested by the advisory council.
- (7) Prepare and submit an annual report to the advisory council not later than March 31 of each year.

*As added by P.L.30-2021, SEC.5.*