

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CJCC SEEKS SEVEN COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. Interested in helping to improve the local criminal justice system? The Charleston County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) is seeking seven volunteers to serve as community representatives for the 2021- 2023 odd-year term opening listed below. The CJCC is a collaboration of elected and senior officials, law enforcement leaders, judicial and court leadership, behavioral health professionals, victim and legal advocates, and community leaders working in service of the Charleston community.

“Community engagement is critical to the CJCC’s mission and we look forward to bringing additional community representatives onboard as we continue pursuing an increasingly effective, just and equitable local justice system,” stated Stan Gragg, CJCC Chairman and Deputy Chief, Mount Pleasant Police Department.

### **The current openings for Charleston County residents include:**

- **Local faith community**
- **Local nonprofit community**
- **Local healthcare community**
- **Local business community**
- **Local defense bar**
- **Local crime survivor community**
- **Previously incarcerated community (24 hours or more in the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center)**

The new representatives will join five representatives currently serving (2020-2022) from the:

- **Local civil rights community**
- **Local Hispanic community**
- **Local graduate program community in related fields of study**
- **Local community-at-large**
- **One designated liaison from any other entity deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee**

Community representatives gather and share community input, and voice the diverse needs and concerns of Charleston County residents within the CJCC’s decision-making process. “Being part of the CJCC gave me the opportunity to serve my community and better understand the criminal justice system challenges we face. If you want to help improve our local criminal justice system, this is where it is happening. The members are welcoming and the data guided process is refreshing. I recommend anyone passionate about this to get involved,” said David Phillips, community representative.

Interested community members are asked to please visit the CJCC website ([cjcc.charlestoncounty.org](http://cjcc.charlestoncounty.org)) for the community representative application and frequently asked

questions. Applicants from various geographic areas within Charleston County and diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Applications can be submitted via email to [cjcc@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:cjcc@charlestoncounty.org) or by mail to CJCC, 3831 Leeds Avenue, North Charleston, SC 29405. Completed applications are due no later than Tuesday, December 8, 2020. Announcements will be made after the New Year.

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### ***About the CJCC***

*The CJCC is a collaboration of elected and senior officials, law enforcement leaders, judicial and court leadership, behavioral health professionals, victim and legal advocates, and various community leaders working in service of the Charleston community. The mission of the CJCC is to assist in making sustainable, data-driven improvements to Charleston County's criminal justice system and thereby improve public safety and community well-being. The CJCC is currently funded by a Safety + Justice Challenge grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. For more information, visit [www.cjcc.charlestoncounty.org](http://www.cjcc.charlestoncounty.org).*

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