

# Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Evidence-Based Decision Making Victim Rights Workgroup Minutes Monday, October 9, 2017

#### **Team Members Present:**

Jen DunnMarla BellJay LaufenbergKathy MaddenKelsey LoshawMonica Paz

**Team Members Absent:** 

Hon. Michael Aprahamian Carla Fries

**Also Present:** 

Rebecca Luczaj Janelle McClain Mimi Carter

Dunn called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Dunn reported that state legislators are continuing to draft restitution legislation to improve 2015 WI Act 355 because of the memo with recommended changes that the workgroup provided to the state.

## Approve Minutes from September 18, 2017 Meeting

Motion: Madden moved, Laufenberg second, to approve the minutes from September 18, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Madden commented that the Clerk's office is unable to obtain the amount of restitution that was converted to civil judgments.

#### **Review Restitution Specialist Survey Data**

Dunn commented that a survey regarding the newly created Restitution Specialist position had been recently distributed to stakeholders, such as Victim Witness Specialists, prosecuting attorneys, and this workgroup. Loshaw will share the survey with State Public Defender attorneys. The responses they have received thus far (28 of 50) have been very positive.

### **Review and Discuss Progress of Restitution Affidavit Pilot**

Dunn reported that Aprahamian indicated the affidavit was fine as-is, so the pilot has begun in Branch 9; however, they have not had a restitution case to put it into practice yet. She added that one of the benefits of Fries' position is that, because she proactively addresses restitution with victims, we may not get many chances to utilize the affidavit. Madden recommended piloting the affidavit in Ramirez's branch as well. Paz will add this as a topic on the agenda for the Criminal/Traffic judges' meeting in December.

Aprahamian has requested that affidavits be submitted to the court two weeks prior to the restitution hearing to allow for proper notification to all interested parties. Dunn recommended discussing the procedural details of the affidavit pilot at a future meeting when Aprahamian is present.

Loshaw suggested tracking the original restitution request submitted versus what is actually ordered by the court, as any significant discrepancies would be problematic.

### **Review and Update Workgroup Work Plan**

Bell distributed and reviewed a document titled "Waukesha County EBDM Victim Rights Workgroup: Work Plan to Achieve Harm Reduction Goals."

The group discussed their progress on all of the outcomes and activities identified and revised completion dates. All but Outcome 3, which has not yet been started, are ongoing, and the group has made significant progress in meeting its objectives.

# **Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

The group will discuss formalizing procedures for the restitution pilot.

# **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.