



Waukesha County  
Criminal Justice Collaborating Council  
Evidence-Based Decision Making Case Processing Workgroup Minutes  
Thursday, November 3, 2016

**Team Members Present:**

District Attorney Sue Opper  
Judge Ralph Ramirez  
Commissioner Robert Dehring

District Court Administrator Michael Neimon  
Attorney Katie Bricco

**Team Members Absent:**

Clerk of Circuit Court Kathy Madden

**Others Present:**

Attorney Chris Ehrfurth  
Janelle McClain

Circuit Court Division Coordinator Amy Rendall

Opper called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m.

**Approve Minutes from October 20, 2016**

Motion: Ramirez moved, Neimon second, to approve the minutes of October 20, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discuss and Consider Workgroup Membership Additions**

Motion: Dehring moved, Ramirez second, to approve the addition of Chris Ehrfurth and Amy Rendall as members of the EBDM Case Processing Workgroup. Motion carried unanimously.

**Continue Discussion/Planning for 12/20 Implementation of Pretrial Conferencing Pilot**

Rendall distributed the court order from Judge Ramirez.

Opper commented that her staff found other categories that could be added as well, such as FI, IID violation, misdemeanor eluding, and huffing. Ramirez commented that they should be added to the list, as well as all traffic/TR cases.

Bricco arrived at 7:48 a.m.

Rendall also distributed a list of the pretrial conference dates with hearing times, court dates, cut off dates for scheduling, and comments.

Opper's staff is concerned that there are going to be unassigned cases initially. They are worried that the defense attorneys are going to try to set the case up for trial so they can talk to someone about the case. Bricco and Ehrfurth will update the attorneys. We will need to make sure that there is not a negative impact in other branches.

The cut-off date for the December court date will be extended for 1 week to allow additional time to schedule cases. Ramirez stated that we should use discretion in adding cases, even if it is past the cut-off date.

### **Update on Public Defender Screening Pilot**

Bricco and Dehring reported no issues or problems occurring.

Rendall stated that the numbers are staying low because defendants are coming in with attorneys.

### **Update & Discussion on 10/31 Meeting with Addiction Resource Council (ARC)**

Opper and Luczaj met with Joe Muchka and one of his staff from ARC, the Delafield Police Chief, and John Kettler from HHS regarding the ARC collaborating with Waukesha County to implement a system like the Greenfield model to help substance abusers get treatment instead of being sent to jail. There would be no cost to Waukesha County; ARC would be funding the process.

Ramirez was concerned the collaboration would be duplicating the statewide Heroin Task Force. Opper will confirm with Judge Domina, but she does not believe that will happen. Since the topic/process is broader than just the court system, this opportunity would be better suited for another EBDM workgroup since Case Processing handles deferring cases.

Bricco suggested including the Day Report Center and Probation as options, and to bring them in for a discussion about it. Ramirez commented that if we work with an organization, we should also consider the Greenfield Police Department, since they are already implementing this idea.

Dehring left at 8:14 a.m.

If necessary, additional people/groups can be added to the workgroup to address this possibility.

### **Discuss Next Steps & Set Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:30 a.m. NIC Consultant, Mimi Carter, will be attending.

Neimon has collected data on video conferencing and would like to explore the option. He is also pushing for a video conferencing system to be set up for the Public Defender's Office as the new courthouse is being built.

Neimon is working on making a room available for the public bar attorneys to put their items in if they are going to be at the courthouse for an extended period of time.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.