



**Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Victims' Rights Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

Team Members Present:

Jen Dunn (Co-Chair)
Kendall Schultz

Marla Bell (Co-Chair)
Eryn Menden

Elizabeth Lucas
Daniel Rieck

Team Members Absent:

Monica Paz

Hon. Jack Melvin

Also Present:

Rebecca Luczaj

Laura Flood (Proxy for Paz)

Dunn called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

Approve Minutes from August 1, 2023 Meeting

Motion: Bell moved, second by Dunn, to approve the CJCC Victims' Rights Committee minutes from August 1, 2023. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Schultz arrived 12:17 p.m.

Review and Discuss Committee Goals for 2024

Attendees discussed the 2024 goals of restitution (focusing on collection) and improving coordination between courts and the Victim Witness Assistance division.

Restitution is to be collected prior to money going towards any court costs or fines. Flood will investigate whether online CCAP payments are following that process and will report out at the next meeting. Menden added that if someone is on probation, the Department of Corrections collects restitution, so in that case, a person could pay court costs/fines separately from restitution.

The Victim Witness Assistance division continues to ~~work to improve~~ maintain communication to ~~create~~ promote consistency within the courts. Menden stated that victims should be notified that at bond hearings, everything is able to be discussed. Dunn added that privacy does not mean anonymity.

Attendees continue to express an interest in holding a roundtable for stakeholders for a victims' rights refresher.

Discuss No Contact Orders – Victims' Request to be Heard

Dunn distributed and reviewed a document titled, "Victim Request to be Heard, Article I, § 9m(2)(i), Wisconsin Constitution."

The District Attorney's Office created the form for the victim to fill out, and then the form is forwarded to the court and the case is added to the calendar right away; however, some court officials are requiring a motion first.

After some discussion, attendees decided to leave the current process in place at this time.

Discuss CR-296 (Request for Remedy on Victim Rights Violation) Form

Dunn distributed and reviewed a document titled, "Request for Remedy on Victim Rights Violation."

Victims are finding this form on their own and filing it with the court if they feel their rights are being violated. Dunn stated that typically, the form is not used, as parties try to remedy the situation first.

This form has been filed twice recently, so Dunn wanted to notify the courts that they may be seeing more of these.

Review and Discuss WI Crime Victims' Rights Board (CVRB) Report on Restitution

Luczaj distributed a document titled, "Report of the Wisconsin Crime Victims Rights Board; July 2023."

Members are requested to read through the document prior to the next meeting for discussion at that time.

Announcements

Lucas had several announcements. She reported that, as of January 1, the Department of Corrections (DOC) will no longer be conducting victim notification for Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGI) cases. The Department of Human Services (DHS) will be handling this.

Act 31 was enacted in August with three changes:

1. Included an expanded definition of a victim;
2. Asking DOC Parole Commission to send notice of parole hearings at least 90 days prior, as opposed to 3 weeks as it was prior;
3. Requires DOC Parole Commission to upload statistics on their website

Lucas also stated that DOC is crafting a response to the WI Crime Victims Rights Board report on restitution. Another update is that offenders with two or more separate cases will now be required to have lifetime GPS/sex offender registry.

Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Review CVRB Restitution Report
- Review Stats on Restitution Hearings Increasing
- Follow-up on Restitution/Fees Collected from CCAP (Is Restitution Prioritized?)

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Motion: Bell moved, second by Dunn, to adjourn the meeting at 1:22 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Were Approved February 5, 2024.