



Waukesha County
Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Evidence-Based Decision Making Case Processing Workgroup Minutes
Monday, August 7, 2017

Team Members Present:

Sue Opper

Hon. Ralph Ramirez

Frank McElderry

Sara Scullen

Michael Neimon

Katie Kegel

Team Members Absent:

Chris Ehrfurth

Monica Paz

Kathy Madden

Others Present:

Rebecca Luczaj

Mimi Carter

Janelle McClain

Opper called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

Approve Minutes from July 13, 2017

Motion: Kegel moved, Ramirez second, to approve the minutes of July 13, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Review & Discuss Workgroup's Data/Outcomes "Dashboard"

Luczaj distributed and reviewed a document titled "Case Processing Workgroup Dashboard."

Neimon arrived at 7:40 a.m.

The group agreed to make the following changes to the document:

- Fix the State Public Defender (SPD) graphs to match with the range of the chart.
- Obtain data for "Appearances With/Without Attorneys" from prior to when we started the SPD pilot so we can reasonably compare.
 - Possible project for a court intern
- Obtain Age of Disposition from filing on cases both before April 2016 and after April 2016.
 - Obtain from Neimon
 - Scullen suggested that because addresses may change between case filing and when the defendant appears in court, we might want to start tracking age of disposition from when the defendant is in court for their initial appearance.
- Separate both the "Appearances With/Without Attorneys" and "Defendants Who Went to SPD Office" to show data on Mondays vs Tuesdays.
- Obtain the number of pretrial eligible cases that are still being set for trial.
 - Obtain from Madden/Paz
- Obtain Age of Disposition for cases that were part of the pretrial conferencing pilot.
 - Separate by month and then by judge. Start with January 2017 for Ramirez.
- Obtain the number of pretrial eligible cases that are being set on the pretrial conferencing schedule.
 - Obtain from Madden/Paz
- Obtain data on the number of cases that go to warrant status.
 - Scullen will begin tracking this to obtain baseline information

State Public Defender Screening Update

Opper distributed and reviewed a document titled "State Public Defender Screening Pilot."

Scullen stated that she has been ordering defendants without attorneys to the SPD for screening as a condition of bail.

Kegel stated that the SPD's Office has more Spanish-speaking attorneys on staff now than usual, and may be able to station an attorney at the courthouse on Tuesdays in order to accommodate the large number of Spanish-speaking defendants with initial appearances on those days. However, the group would need to demonstrate this need through data (i.e. show that Monday cases are being resolved faster than Tuesday cases). There has been a noticeable change with fewer people going over to the SPD office on Mondays for screening, and almost no one going over on Tuesdays.

Continue Discussion on Expanding Pretrial Conferencing Pilots

Opper followed-up with Aprahamian who presided over pretrial conferences in July, and he feels it went well. Ramirez has spoken with the other judges regarding the overall goal of the pretrial conferences, and all expressed willingness to try it. Ramirez will speak to Lazar about holding pretrial conferences on November 21, 2017. He will also consider adding 11/28 as an overflow/catch-up day. Already scheduled is:

- Maxwell on August 22
- Dreyfus on September 5
- Ramirez on October 24

Scullen left at 8:12 a.m.

Kegel commented on an unintended consequence of the pretrial conferencing pilot: attorneys/defendants are reluctant to schedule a pretrial conference now because they are booking several months out; it is easier for the case to be resolved in the branch now. In January, after all the judges have experienced presiding over pretrial conferences, the workgroup will review options to handle the growth in the fastest, yet most efficient, manner.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.