



Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Evidence-Based Decision Making Case-Processing Workgroup
Thursday, April 7, 2016

Team Members Present:

District Attorney Sue Opper	Attorney Katie Bricco	Clerk of Circuit Court Kathy Madden
Commissioner Robert Dehring	Judge Ralph Ramirez	District Court Administrator Michael Neimon

Also Present:

Corina VanDuser	Rebecca Luczaj	Amy Rendell
-----------------	----------------	-------------

Team Members Absent:

Attorney Dan Fay

Opper called the meeting to order at 7:34 AM

Approve Minutes from February 25 & March 24, 2016

Motion: Madden moved, Neimon second, to approve the minutes of February 25 & March 24, 2016. March 17, 2016 minutes will be approved at the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Plan for Public Defender Screening Pilot Starting April 11

The group discussed the pilot plan in detail. In an effort to get counsel involved as early as possible in the case, those defendants without representation at the 8am court calendar on Mondays and Tuesdays will be sent immediately to the Public Defender's Office to be screened for eligibility for a public defender. The defendant will then be asked to come back to court at 10 am with the paperwork either approving or denying their eligibility for a public defender. If ineligible for a public defender, the court commissioner will then make a determination about whether the defendant is eligible for a court-appointed attorney. If the defendant meets the guidelines, and court commissioner can appoint an attorney on the spot. This could potentially save up to 30 days on the length of the case and avoid a set of court appearances. This will also force the defendant to go to the Public Defender's Office right away. Neimon suggested the use of technology, such as an automated system that calls/texts the defendant to remind them they need to obtain an attorney. The problem with this is determining what the consequences would be if they do not get the attorney by the set date. Dehring, Neimon, and Opper will work together to draft a description of the pilot program in writing that can be communicated to system partners who will be involved.

Discuss & Consider Recommended Workgroup Change Strategy to Present to EBDM Policy Team on 4/13

Luczaj discussed and distributed the document titled "Recommended Workgroup Change Strategy." This document is to be presented to the EBDM Policy Team on April 13, 2016. Members discussed the "Current Practice" section of the template, which will then be followed by the "Recommended Change Strategy." Opper recapped some of the current practices and current problems in case processing. The primary case processing delay discussed was the time it takes for defendants to get an attorney. Ramirez and other members agreed that the workgroup has honed in on the problem of getting people an attorney, but need to start focusing on some of the other issues that may be causing delays in case processing. The attorney issue is very prominent and an easier issue to solve, which is why it has been focused on first. The objectives discussed by the workgroup include having defendants represented by counsel, eliminating

unnecessary delay in case processing, and providing efficiency to all parties involved. After members reviewed a statistics handout, Neimon and Bricco made suggestions for the need to retrieve more data and find out what other jurisdictions do. Luczaj suggested requesting a case flow analysis from the National Center for State Courts, which could be included in one of the recommended change strategies. Neimon is going to begin drafting the workgroup's recommended change strategies and work with Opper and Luczaj to finalize the document prior to Wednesday's Policy Team meeting.

Discuss Next Steps & Set Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting date is set for Thursday, April 14, 2016 @ 7:30 a.m.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 AM.