

**McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
October 14, 2015 Meeting**

Chief Judge Kevin Fitzgerald called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees and guests.

**ISU Stevenson Center Data Report**

Dr. Frank Beck gave the report regarding the work on jail population trends:

- The EJS data provided to the Stevenson Center and the Jail Population reports now have a correlation of 0.9977.
- He reviewed the number of bookings, the average length of stay and total bed days used from 2007-2014. The number of bookings is increasing in certain felony categories, fewer minor or non-criminal charges. The same is true with length of stay. The total bed days for the jail is increasing over the 2009-2013 average.
- Dr. Beck sees the same patterns in the 2015 data (first 2 quarters of the year). The total number of bed days is down since 2008, and number of bookings is down.
- A summary of the percentage of bed days used by felony cases was reviewed. The percentage of total bed days used by CF cases has been increasing over time – currently 88% of all bed days are used by CF cases.

Attorney Scott Kording asked what caused the peak of cases, jail usage and out-of-county housing expenditures in 2008? Various people responded that there are multiple factors responsible for both the peak of usage, and the subsequent decline. Most would point to the decline being a focus by all criminal justice agencies on the problem and cost of prisoner housing, not a specific policy decision.

**Pre-Trial Services Assessment (AOIC pilot)**

Lori McCormick, Director of Court Services, provided a status report on the pilot project with the Arnold Foundation and the Administrative office of Illinois Courts on a new pre-trial assessment tool. The AOIC intends to initiate pre-trial programs in all counties in the state.

Sharjeel Rizvi, Pre-Trial Services Coordinator, gave a review of the history of the program. The pre-trial program began in 2008, and those engaging in services have a low failure to appear rate and a low failure rate. The new pre-trial risk assessment (PSA) gauges nine (9) factors which correlate to success and/or failure within the program.

The new PSA is based on the State of Kentucky program where 190,000 cases were reviewed. The research on this assessment tool has proven that the individual interview is not a valid component for measuring risk. The Arnold Foundation has funded this effort, and has reviewed the current system, and their goal is an assessment of all persons in custody within 24 hours.

Both Ms. McCormick and Mr. Rizvi were clear, the pre-trial assessment will not reduce or impede the discretion of judges, but the judges will be offered training on the tool and assessment procedure.

Dennis McGuire, Assistant Director, spoke of the efforts to get EJS data for the assessment tool.

### **New Legislation**

Mr. Scanlon gave a brief overview of the Illinois Heroin Crisis Act (PA 99-480). The act makes changes to the eligibility criteria for drug courts. The Act also limits the ability of the State's Attorney to veto the addition of persons to a drug court. The Drug Court team is reviewing the Act, and its potential impact on the specialty court.

### **SFY 2016 Budget and City of Bloomington/Town of Normal Sales Tax Increase**

Bill Wasson, County Administrator, indicated that the County Board will be moving forward with the expansion and remodeling of the McLean County Adult Detention Facility. The Public Building Commission will be issuing an RFP for architectural services for the design of the facility.

Both the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal approved a 1% sales tax, and have resolved to provide a portion of the increase for the support of mental health services within the County. Additional monies may be available for a new case management system.

Mr. Wasson reminded the group:

- 21% of the population of jail has mental health needs
- 27% of defendants will exhibit violent behavior within 4 months of discharge
- 40% of the population of the County with mental health needs will be incarcerated or arrested sometime during their life.

### **Committee Reports**

None

There was a brief discussion about the Community Relations Committee. The Executive Committee will review the membership and may reconstitute the committee.

### **2016 Meeting Schedule (all at 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.)**

January 13  
April 13  
July 13  
October 12

Meeting adjourned: 12:46 p.m.

**Next CJCC Council Meeting: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 12:00 noon**