

McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
April 13, 2016 Meeting

Chief Judge Kevin Fitzgerald welcomed the group and new members introduced themselves. Kristin Manzi is now the representative for Labyrinth Outreach Services to the CJCC.

1. ISU Stevenson Center Report

- A. Dr. Frank Beck gave an overview of the McLean County Jail Usage in the first quarter, with comparison to 2007-2015. There are a reduced number of felony bookings overall, with the greatest decrease in Class 3 and Class 4 – this is a 10-year low in those numbers.

The review of the jail bed usage shows fewer beds are being occupied by Class 4 felony cases, and fewer non-felony cases are in the jail. Again, the total bed days used for the 1st quarter of 2016 are less than any other comparable quarter over the last 10 years. It is unclear if this decrease in total bed days is a continuing trend from 2011-2015, or if it is a direct result of the introduction of the Pre-Trial Services Assessment (PSA) pilot initiated on January 11, 2016. As the PSA pilot is evaluated, the programs effect on the jail population will become clearer.

- B. Derek Conley discussed his analysis of case processing time – he has ultimately concluded that the criminal division is not meeting the case processing standards set forth in 2011. His conclusions:

- The 180 day disposition standard for all felony cases is 97% are to be disposed (that is – sentenced). The actual rate for CF cases in McLean County ranges from 52% - 61%.
- All CF cases are to be disposed of in 360 days (standard). The actual range is 27 days to a maximum of 658 days.

There was discussion regarding the impact of cases which are associated with each other, and in which the disposition of the lesser charge is substantially delayed due to the other case(s). The ISU Stevenson Center refers to this situation as “tied cases”, the Court would generally use the term “consolidated” or “related”. The impact of tied cases lessens as the difference in the severity of the charges between the two cases is lessened. Thus, a Class 3 tied to a Class 1 would be less delayed in disposition than a Class 4 case tied to a Class X case. At least 15% of lesser CF cases (Class 3 and 4) are tied to a higher felony case.

There was discussion about how the American Bar Association and National Center of State Courts arrived at their disposition standards. Mr. Scanlon agreed to provide some research on this issue and report to the Council.

Additionally, the Illinois law on the processing of DUI cases negates the ability of the Court or any party to move a case to disposition as quickly as contemplated under the standard. That standard has to be rewritten to conform to the current state of the law.

Mr. Scanlon stated that the time to disposition is only the initial aspect of this analysis. A second part will be the number of court appearances within a case, what is being accomplished at each hearing, and

if the overall number of appearances is appropriate or necessary to the processing of the case. In the instance that there are appearances which do not have substantially move a case toward disposition (or at least the opportunity to move it forward) should be reconsidered.

The CJCC Executive Committee will be revisiting the case disposition standards, and it will be a part of a larger discussion with the Criminal Division of the Court.

2. Pre-Trial Services Assessment Pilot

Lori McCormick gave an overview of the status of the PSA pilot. There has been the first formal review of the first 60 days, and McLean County is excelling at most of the measures. In the last 90 days there have been:

- 547 Pre-Trial Services Assessments conducted
- 137 Bond Reports produced
- 102 persons placed on pre-trial supervision
- 2 persons failed to appear, both were CM cases where the defendant lived out-of-state

These numbers are approximately three times the rate in previous years.

Chief Judge Fitzgerald attended a Judicial Education Conference session on pre-trial in the previous week. The IL Supreme Court is committed to moving to a risk-based assessment system, and this process will become mandatory across Illinois in the coming years.

3. AOIC Measures for Justice Program

William Scanlon (Trial Court Administrator) reported on the Measures for Justice program. McLean County and 5-6 other counties have been selected to participate. There are 75 measures or data points that the AOIC will try to collect, and this effort will involve local law enforcement agencies, the State's Attorney's office, Public Defender's office, Court Services (including the pre-trial unit) and Court. There will be a webinar on the data points in late April. Further updates will be available by July.

4. Adult Detention Facility Remodeling

Bill Wasson, County Administrator, reported that preliminary design meetings for the project commenced on March 30 with several representatives of the Jail and Sheriff's Office. Meetings will be scheduled to discuss aspects of the specialty courts and provision of mental health services within the facility.

The County is also participating in meetings on provision of mental health services with several state and federal agencies. This work is being done in conjunction with the Circuit Court, State's Attorney and Court Services. Much of the discussion has centered on identification of the best solutions for service provision. Mental health case diversion is being promoted as a leading solution.

Other

Jason Chambers, State's Attorney, provided insight to the group on the increasing number of post-conviction motions filed and their impact on attorney caseloads. Their office is attempting to collect

some historical data on the increase in cases, the number filed and the stage at which the conviction is dismissed (if applicable).

Meeting adjourned: 12:50 p.m.

Next CJCC Meeting: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 12:00 noon