

**McLean County  
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
Executive Committee**

**August 10, 2016**

Present: Chief Judge Kevin Fitzgerald, Judge Robert Freitag, Sheriff Jon Sandage, Jennifer Patton, Adam Ghrist, Jason Chambers, Bill Wasson, Hannah Eisner, Lori McCormick, Greg Allen and William Scanlon

ISU Stevenson Center: Dr. Frank Beck

The Executive Committee gave a thank you and a heartfelt goodbye to Lori McCormick who will be retiring following 35 years of service on September 30, 2016.

**ISU Stevenson Center Report**

Dr. Frank Beck distributed a summary of the January – June data:

- Overall the total number of bookings (in comparison to the same time period from 2007-2015) has declined. The number of bookings (2104) is the lowest in 9 years. There are some explanations for the decline – there are fewer Class 4 felonies charged, they are now being charged as misdemeanors.
- There is little to no change to average length of stay.
- The decline in bookings has produced a decline in the use of the jail. Only 36,364 total beds were used through June 30, 2016. This is the lowest number in the past 9 years. Those beds used by felony cases (pre-trial and sentenced) is approximately 85% of the capacity of the jail. This is a slight decrease over the past few months.

Dr. Beck has worked with Greg Allen, Jamie Kessinger and the remainder of the jail staff to resolve any problems with the calculation of jail beds used and the jail count made internally (daily population report).

The Stevenson Center has hired a new person to work as the fellow on this research. Dr. Beck is continuing work on case processing time, analysis of jail use by charge severity, mental illness and disability, drug offense and violent offense categories. He is trying to work out some crime mapping through the incident report address. A data sharing agreement between ISU and McLean County is now in place.

There was a short discussion of the need to further define the classification of the defendant for housing and treatment purposes. The analysis can determine the classification at booking and if that changes over time, and how housing and treatment are effected by the classification.

On August 1, 2016, the State of Illinois decriminalized the possession of 10 grams of marijuana and related paraphernalia offenses. Many of these defendants are already being charged with ordinance violations and would not show up in the data. Those charged with misdemeanors will now be business offenses. There may be a slight impact on the jail population.

### **Pre-Trial Services Assessment Pilot**

The AOIC will be conducting an audit of the PSA pilot on August 31-September 1. There are nine factors to the assessment and scoring methodology. The AOIC will audit the scoring of files and outcomes. One of the proposals following the last audit was to make an adjustment to the scoring matrix to reduce the number of low-level supervision cases.

Court Services can offer a refresher to any office/department regarding the project, the scoring methodology and supervision elements.

The Problem Solving Courts review will be held from August 31-September 2 as well. The AOIC/NCSC will conduct interviews with all stakeholders and some clientele.

### **Other**

There was a site visit to several new jails in Georgia by an 8-person group from McLean County to make recommendations regarding the remodeling project. The planning process is largely complete, but departments are encouraged to set meetings with Farnsworth Group to understand the design process and construction schedule.

Judge Freitag will be reviewing the issue of DUI Review hearings with the State's Attorney, Public Defender, Court Services and the presiding judge.

Pastor Rayford has retired and moved to Georgia. Executive Committee members were asked to please consider who would replace him as a clergy representative on the CJCC. Please forward any names to Judge Robert Freitag by August 24.

Judge Fitzgerald stated that Cassy Taylor will be replacing Lori McCormick as Court Services Director. Ms. Taylor is currently the Specialty Courts Coordinator in McLean County, and has previously served as juvenile probation officer, program coordinator and Director of the Ford County Court Services Office. She holds a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Cincinnati. Ms. Taylor will begin in the Director position on October 1, 2016.

Meeting adjourned: 8:41 a.m.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7:45 a.m.**