

McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2017

Judge Kevin Fitzgerald thanked everyone for attending.

1. ISU Stevenson Center Data Report

Dr. Frank Beck outlined the current status of his research. The data set has expanded to the years 2002-2017. He discussed the following trends:

- There has been a marked decrease in criminal misdemeanor bookings over the past eight (8) years (since 2008). The number of bookings in other case types is mixed.
- The average length of stay (LOS) for misdemeanors has remained relatively stable over time.
- There has been a large change in jail usage for misdemeanor cases, with CM cases comprising only about 40% of the total bed days used in comparison to 2008. The jail usage of CM cases generally determines if the jail is overcrowded – a decrease in CM bookings or jail usage results in less jail overcrowding. Felony and DUI jail bookings and jail bed usage has remained relatively constant.

Dr. Beck has conducted additional analysis on the issue of time in custody in hourly increments. The analysis follows the discussion of “3 days matter” from the July 2017 meeting – a person who remains in custody for 3 or more days suffers more negative outcomes in housing, employment and other facets of life. The analysis is broken down into time periods of less than 24 hours; 24-72 hours; and greater than 72 hours. His findings:

- The number of person held on CM cases for 72+ hours has decreased by approximately 28% (18.3% to 13%) from 2012 – 2016.
- Some of the uptick from 2015-2016 in percentage of person held longer than 72 hours may be due to the introduction of the public safety services assessment (PSA) which required an assessment of all CM cases prior to a bond hearing. The result is more FTA and ancillary information is now available to the judge.
- There have not been similar increases or decreases in the CF or DT case categories

The Stevenson Center will be pursuing additional analysis of mentally disabled persons in the jail (for a Bureau of Justice Assistance grant); return to case processing time analysis; investigate if length of stay for various offenses has changed over time; and further analyze the effect of the PSA.

2. Veterans Court

Cassy Taylor, Director of Court Services, discussed the development of this specialty court. The latest meeting was held on October 10, with all 5 counties represented. They are reviewing policies and procedures for the court, the mission statement and a memorandum of understanding between counties. The development is on-track for submission of certification documents by the end of the year. At this point, there will be three tracks – low, moderate and high risk, with services geared toward each. There was a short discussion on some of the related issues.

3. Remodeling of the McLean County Jail

Eric Schmidt gave a brief overview – the project is moving along ahead of schedule. There remain some phases of outside construction and concrete work, then work moves to the interior of the new spaces. Work will continue over the winter, with the end construction date of October 2018 still anticipated.

4. E-filing Update

William Scanlon, Trial Court Administrator, gave the update:

- The Circuit Clerk is on track to begin accepting e-filing in all civil case types on January 1, 2018. He has opened voluntary e-filing to any attorney office in any case category except Law (L).
- There is a software upgrade necessary to attach documents to case files within the CMS. The Clerk's office is testing this software currently.
- There are concerns about managing the flow of self-represented litigants (persons filing pro se). An education component is necessary to allow them to e-file, and not all forms and processes are in place. The Administrative Office of Illinois Courts is working on the guiding filing process with the state software vendor (Tyler Technologies), but they will not meet the January 1 deadline.
- Criminal case filing (felony, misdemeanor, DUI and traffic) will likely begin to be e-filed in 2018, and is likely to be mandatory by 2019.

5. Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

Bill Wasson, County Administrator, stated that the County and BHCC is work with the corporation for supportive housing with assistance of the McLean County Information Technologies office to provide technical assistance and information to the University of Chicago for data analysis on those who are mentally ill in McLean County. McLean County was selected to be the recipient of a training grant and community presentation on the data analysis. Members were advised that the training and technical assistance meeting will occur during the morning of November 15-16, and to please block time on their calendars. A meeting announcement will go out separately.

The analysis is to work toward a data-driven system for service providers.

6. 2018 meeting schedule

The 2018 CJCC meetings were set from 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. on the following dates:

January 10
April 11
July 11
October 10

Other

There was questions regarding the September meeting minutes regarding the division of offenses into two domestic violence categories – DV 1 is defined as those offenses directly related to domestic

violence (e.g. domestic battery; violation of an order of protection). DV 2 is defined as those offenses associated to those cases but not directly involving the offense. There was discussion on how those offenses have been changed over time and that impact on the data. Assistant States Attorney Mary Koll provided the list of offenses to the Stevenson Center.

Cassy Taylor announced that the annual Illinois Association of Problem Solving Courts conference will be held on October 12-13 in Normal, IL. There will be 500 specialty courts professionals in attendance with a focus on veteran's courts.

Meeting adjourned: 12:47 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 12:00 noon**