

**McLean County
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
October 6, 2011**

Chief Judge Elizabeth Robb welcomed those in attendance and led introductions.

The 2012 CJCC Council meeting dates were set:

Thursday, January 5
Thursday, April 5
Thursday, July 12
Thursday, October 4

All meeting will begin at 1:00 pm.

ISU Stevenson Center Data Presentation

Dr. Frank Beck gave the presentation regarding length of stay and time to disposition. The data shows:

- The median length of time for case processing between Arraignment and Sentencing stays consistent across class of offense.
- There is little difference in case processing time when sorted by race or ethnicity. African-American defendants are more likely to have their case disposed earlier because of two factors; they are more likely to be incarcerated during the case processing; and case processing is shorter for those who are incarcerated. The question as to why African-Americans are more likely to be incarcerated is still under study.
- The median length of time to process cases from 2007-2010 has decreased (in some cases over 80 days less). The most likely point in the case to expect this decrease in time is between the last trial setting and the sentencing.
- The analysis of length of stay finds that it has remained roughly the same since 2007 regardless of case type.
- The reduction in bed days has been driven by the reduction in the number of persons arrested on warrants.
- When dividing offenses by race, the findings show that African-Americans spend more time in jail than Hispanics, and both are incarcerated longer than whites.

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee - minutes from the August and September meetings have been circulated. Alyssa Curran has been meeting with the Executive Committee and is working on

some of the statistical reports to develop trend lines and make more detailed findings. The next Executive Committee meeting will be November 9.

- Specialty Courts - the new Chair is Michael Donovan (Deputy Director, Court Services)
- Juvenile Justice - the report for the committee was circulated to all CJCC members. They will be focusing on their summer jobs proposals in the next few months. There were no questions regarding the report.
- Case Disposition - William Yoder gave a brief report. He will be setting a meeting to discuss goal setting and prioritizing tasks for the committee.

Legislative Update

Kim Campbell circulated a legislative update to all members. There were no questions regarding the report.

Circuit Court update

- The Circuit Court has approved an Administrative Order imposing geographic limits (usually the adjacent counties) for misdemeanor, traffic, ordinance violation and civil cases.
- The Family and Civil Divisions have held warrant calendars (the process of reviewing all cases where a warrant has been issued more than 6 months old) and have recalled a number of older warrants.

Summit of Hope

Chris Bailey (Deputy Director, Court Services) gave an overview of the event to be held on November 16 - it is organized by the IDOC Parole Division in cooperation with the County Probation office. There have been four held in the state so far. The Summit provides connections between those on probation/parole and service providers, community groups, and faith based organizations to provide health care services, education opportunities, mock job interviews and community services. The goal is to reduce recidivism by providing support services and employment opportunities.

The November 16 Summit will be held at Grace Church, 1311 Hovey Avenue, Normal, IL from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, and over 31 agencies will be participating.

Persons who wish to volunteer or need further information can go to www.summitofhope.org

Drug Court Evaluation

Mark Godley, Chestnut Health Systems, gave a presentation on the McLean County Drug Court evaluation. He began by asking what are the principles of an effective drug court, is drug court effective on reducing recidivism and what are the factors for successful completion. A summary of his findings:

- An effective drug court features the role of the judge in supporting the recovery efforts, drug court staff have to be supportive and consistent in their dealings with the clientele, and the longer time a defendant remains in treatment the more positive the outcome. A year or more in treatment is optimal for reducing recidivism.
- Participation in drug court lowers and/or delays recidivism, and recidivism is lower than those in regular probation. Completion of drug court almost eliminates recidivism. Even those who do not complete drug court have lesser amounts of recidivism than probationers.
- The McLean County Drug Court graduates 42% of participants (about average with rest of nation), and the following predictors improve the chances of graduation - age, employment and sex (older females are the most likely to graduate).

He made some recommendations to help improve Drug Court:

- Collect more information at the intake / initial phase to determine if the defendant has risk factors for non-completion.
- Conserve resources by offering low intensity supervision to lower risk participants.

Mr. Godley made some recommendations regarding further analysis of the data, and some additional data collection points which may be of value to the program. There were few questions regarding his conclusions.

Other

Chief Judge Elizabeth Robb announced that the McLean County Drug and Recover Courts have received a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the amount of \$1.2 million (\$400,000 over three years) to expand services in both programs.

Lori McCormick reported that the McLean County Board has approved the Illinois Adult Redeploy Initiative Grant. This program is designed to reduce the number of commitments from McLean County to the Illinois Department of Corrections and offer community-based services to the target population.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 1:00 pm**
McLean County Government Center RM 400
115 E. Washington
Bloomington, IL