

**McLean County
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

April 4, 2019 meeting

Chief Judge Mark Fellheimer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that he has received feedback on the meeting time and the Executive Committee is looking at alternatives.

ISU Stevenson Center Report

Jail Usage

Bookings and total bed days by charge

The total number of bookings for 2018 were 3,506. This is the lowest number of bookings recorded, 2002-2018. The highest was 5,215 in 2008. The number of bookings in 2017 was 3,875.

The average bed days for misdemeanors in 2018 was 4. This is half the recorded average of 8 bed days in 2008.

The total bed days used in 2018 was 64,859. This is the lowest number of bed days recorded, 2002-2018. The highest was 98,669 in 2008. The number of bed days used in 2017 was 79,787.

Yearly Reports

The number of bookings for felonies in 2018 is the lowest in 17 years at 1,767 bookings.

The number of bookings for misdemeanors in 2018 is also low at 1,739, 2002-2018.

The total number of bed days used for felonies in 2018 is 56,169. This is the lowest since 2004.

The total bed days for misdemeanors in 2018 is 8,690. This is the lowest in 17 years.

The percent of total bed days used by misdemeanants decreased. The decrease is not associated with a commensurate increase in total bed days for class 3 or class 4 felonies.

Recidivism

The following recidivism data are an update from the July 2017 report. It includes data through December 31st 2018.

Overall recidivism from offenders has decreased slightly from the last report. The total recidivism rate decreased from 21.9% to 21.4%.

The total recidivism rate measures offenders convicted of misdemeanor or felony charges during the specified time frame, and if they end up being convicted on another misdemeanor or felony charge within 2 years of the previous disposition, during probation, or within 2 years of the previous probationary period.

The following sub-sections describe the distribution of cases to offenders, when charges were filed in relationship to their disposition and when recidivism happened in relationship to probation. These explanations and percentages of the types of recidivism were measured from January 2002 to December 31st 2018.

The Basics

The percent of total offenders with only one felony or misdemeanor charge is 67% of the 12,989 offenders. These 12,989 offenders comprise 38% of the total cases from January 1st 2002-December 31st 2018.

The repeat offenders charged with a felony or misdemeanor charge comprise 62% of the total cases from January 1st 2002-December 31st 2018 (20,779 cases). This averages to 3.1 cases for the offenders who had multiple cases during the examined time frame.

Charges Filed in Relationship to Disposition; Pre and Post-Disposition of Previous Case

Charges can be filed on a new case before a disposition is reached in a previous case; 862 offenders were in this category. 5,666 offenders had charges filed after a disposition was reached in their previous case. It is possible for an offender to have more than two cases in either of these instances.

The sum of the pre and post disposition offenders corresponds with the total offenders with multiple cases (6,529 at 33% of the total offenders convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor).

I. Recidivism within 2 years of Previous Disposition

For those who did not receive probation, recidivism is counted when the 2nd guilty disposition is within 2 years of the previous guilty disposition. This is the case with 1,172 offenders.

II. In-Program Recidivism (2nd disposition during probation)

In-program recidivism is calculated when a guilty disposition from a subsequent case occurs during probation from a previous case. This calculation does not distinguish when the charges for the 2nd case are filed (before or after the guilty disposition from the previous case).

2,055 offenders are noted as having recidivated during probation.

Illinois Recidivism within 2 years post-program

Post-program recidivism is calculated when there is a 2nd guilty disposition within 2 years of the probationary period for the previous case. Similarly, as with in-program recidivism, this is counted regardless of when charges are filed for the 2nd case. 967 offenders are noted as having recidivated within two years of probation from a previous charge.

Total Recidivism Rate

The total recidivism rate is the sum of recidivism within two years of previous disposition, in-program recidivism and recidivism within two years post-program. Of the 19,518 convicted on felony or misdemeanor charges, 21.4% recidivate. Looking at the 33,768 total cases, 27.2% of them are due to persons on one of these paths to recidivism. The revised recidivism rate is calculated from 1/1/2002 - 12/31/2018.

The McLean County jail is experiencing continued reduction in bed days; those convicted are committing new offenses at a lesser rate than previous years and more serious cases are being held in the jail. These were the three goals originally set by the CJCC in their 2011-2012 review. The group discussed some of the possible reasons for some of the reductions. Judge Eves stated that the presence of pre-trial services at the bond court proceedings have assisted those judges in making better decisions on bond and release conditions.

McLean County Jail Remodel

The female prisoners have been moved to the new facility and the jail medical and kitchen are moving soon. Completion of the remodel of the existing space in the Law & Justice Center is on target for mid-June.

Future Issues

Judge Fellheimer and Judge Costigan led discussion on pivoting to new problems and issues for analysis. The original intent and genesis of the CJCC was to focus on jail usage and the cost of over-population. The group is going to continue to analyze that issue and keep the jail population under review, but the group is now in the position to pivot to new areas of concern. This is the initial steps in that process and all offices within the CJCC need to be engaged in the process of determining what will be analyzed. Some of the issues will need coordination - such as any focus on youth violence will be done in conjunction with the Juvenile Justice Council.

Bill Wasson concurs that the CJCC has to remain vigilant regarding the jail population, but there are issues which can be engaged.

The Executive Committee has had a preliminary meeting with local law enforcement agencies and are trying to find areas of common concern where the CJCC can provide assistance.

This will continue to be on the agenda for further discussion.

SAMSHA Competency Review meeting

Mr. Scanlon outlined a request from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health to have three pilot counties engage in a review of the process each court goes through for cases where the defendant has to be returned to mental competency to stand trial or where a defendant has plead guilty by reason of insanity. There will be a 2-day review meeting on April 30-May 1 for McLean County officials to participate. This is being done to review the funding for the state facilities, how patients are classified and prioritized within this system and other issues.

Amendment of CJCC Bylaws - revising membership

The Behavioral Health Coordinating Council has added a member of the CJCC, and this proposal is to add a voting and a non-voting member from the BHCC to the CJCC. Following discussion, the matter was approved by voice vote.

Criminal and Traffic Assessment Act (CTAA)

Judge Fellheimer gave an overview of the implementation of the CTAA on July 1, 2019. Civil fee assessments are changing and all traffic and criminal cases will have an assessment based on 14 new fee schedules. Some of the issues involving application of portions of the Act are still under review by the Conference of Chief Judges and AOIC.

Other

There have been preliminary meetings regarding a new case management system. Those meetings have involved most justice system offices and will continue on a monthly basis.

The Council recognized the 34 years of service of Bill Wasson and thanked him for his service to the CJCC and McLean County.

Meeting adjourned: 8:42 a.m.

Next meeting: **Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 12:00 noon.**