



Justice System Reform Governing Board

Minutes from September 21, 2009
9:00 am

1) Call to Order

Commissioner Hagan, welcomed the members, and asked the board to support The Hon. Nancy O'Donnell (Common Pleas Court in her recuperation from surgery.

2) Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from the JSR Governing Board meeting held on June, 2009 were approved.

3) Discussion of Agenda Items

- **JSR Initiative**

- Prosecutor Bill Mason noted that with the hope of completing all current Pilots the Initiative will continue to make progress toward our goals.
- Mr. Mason moved to approve a resolution creating an oversight and strategic panel as recommended by the Agency Council, to provide guidance, and research best practices in the Reform going forward. Chief Michael McGrath seconded, and the motion was approved.

- **Central Booking Workgroup**

- Ken Kochevar (Sheriff's Office) reported that there has been a population "spike" in the jail and that it might be desirable to ask Judges to control the number of prisoners they assign. He said the EDC program will not have a significant effect on the jail populations until more of the Cleveland districts are brought on board.
- Several members suggested that collecting more and different kinds of data might allow the Sheriff to analyze his space and other needs better.

- **Drug Court**

- Hon. Judge David Matia (Common Pleas Court) said there are about 30 defendants in the program now. And that he was focusing on the Court's intake practices as a result of comparing the practices in drug courts statewide.
- Judge Matia said the Court had received a pair of grants, and was working to track the operations of the court so as to be able to identify the programmatic and fiscal benefits of the program.
- Jim Mc Cafferty (county Administrator) reiterated his offer to split the money saved through the new sheriff's shuttle and other reforms with the Drug Court as they became available.

- **Case Processing Workgroup**

- Greg Popovich (Common Pleas Court) reported that the workgroup was discussing the idea of expanding hours, and had received federal stimulus funds to implement handling the influx from the Early Disposition program.
- Jerome Dowling (Prosecutor's Office) said we are working to develop a set of data we would like to collect so that we can develop a "dashboard" -style collection and distribution system.



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- **Reentry (HHS)**
 - Maria Nemeec (Corrections Planning Board) reported the the program had already saved the equivalent of 1,674 prison days and about \$1.14 million in prison board expenses. The program is continuing to work on building educational opportunities for participants.
- **Early Disposition**
 - Jerome Dowling (Prosecutor's Office) reported that the length of the jail stay for pilot cases is half that of regular cases, and that he would like to expand the early disposition system to include one third of all cases. He said hours of operation for the EDC staff would be expanded if necessary to accommodate the influx of cases when the rest of the Cleveland districts come on board.
 - Sheriff Robert Reid said the department has bought shuttles and brought on personnel so that prisoners can be picked up and brought downtown, speeding up the transportation component.
- **Standards Workgroup**
 - Michael O'Malley (Prosecutor's Office) reported that the work group is at a crossroads isn developing electronic standardized case management tools. Ties could be made into the clerk's offices, and probation, police reporting systems and the defense bar, depending on how much funding might be available to do so.
- **VAWA**
 - Martha Newman (Justice Affairs reported that the County received \$522,000 in federal stimulus funding to do programming around violence against women. The money will be split into six subgrants to vendors for serv ices.
- **CBCF**
 - The second bid package for construction will be accepted and groundbreaking for the facility is expected in the first part of December.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is December 16, 2009 in the training room of the Justice Center.