



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (CJCC)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Virtual

- I. **Members Present:** Gary Caruana, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office; Joe Chiarelli, Winnebago County; Rick Ciganek, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office (proxy); J Hanley, Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office; Tom Jakeway, 17th Circuit Court; Debbie Jarvis, 17th Circuit Court; John Lowry, 17th Circuit Court; Joseph McGraw, 17th Circuit Court; Thomas McNamara, City of Rockford; Scott Paccagnini, U.S. Attorney's Office; Carla Redd, Rockford Police Department; Bob Redmond, Winnebago County Jail; Nick Zimmerman, Winnebago County Public Defender's Office.

Others Present: Aaron Booker, Winnebago County Board; Burt Gerl, Winnebago County Board; Jennifer Cacciapaglia, City of Rockford; Ron DeWald, U.S. Department of Justice, Northern District of Illinois, Lorraine Dixon, 17th Circuit Court; Jodi GeRue, Pre-Trial Services; Calvin Hunter, IL State Crime Lab; John Lausch, U.S. Department of Justice, Northern District of Illinois; Kali Thomas, U.S. Department of Justice, Northern District of Illinois; Pat Thompson, Winnebago County; Marlana Dokken, Winnebago County; Dave Olson, Loyola University.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Chief Judge John Lowry with a quorum present.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Tom McNamara motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Joseph Chiarelli seconded the motion. Voice vote unanimously approved.

III. **Introductions**

IV. **Program**

- a. Chief Judge Lowry introduced John Lausch, United States Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice, Northern District of Illinois. The Northern District of Illinois has roughly 150 Assistant U.S. Attorneys. Most of the Assistant U.S. Attorneys are in Chicago and 10 are located at the branch office in Rockford. Of the 10 Assistant U.S. Attorneys in Rockford, 7 focus primarily on criminal issues. Of the Assistant U.S. Attorneys in Chicago, roughly 30 focus on civil matters and approximately 110 focus on criminal. Approximately 20 Assistant U.S. Attorneys are in the violent crime section and 20 are in the narcotics and money laundering section. The overall strategy on violent crime is under Project Safe Neighborhoods which fosters trust and legitimacy in the community, supports community based organizations that prevent violent crimes, sets focused



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and strategic enforcement initiatives and then measures the results. The Department of Justice and the State's Attorney's Office sets focused and strategic enforcement priorities. On the enforcement side, the U.S. Attorney's Office focuses on organizational cases against groups of individuals working in concert to commit crimes such as narcotics trafficking organizations, robbery crews and straight street gangs. They also investigate prosecuting individuals who are believed to be drivers of violence in particular neighborhoods through drug trafficking and firearms. The firearms initiatives look at individuals legally possessing, using or transferring firearms.

- b. Chief Judge Lowry introduced Kellen Hunter, Acting Director, Illinois State Police Crime Lab. Currently there are 6 crime labs and an additional one that hasn't opened yet. The labs are located in Chicago, Rockford, Joliet, the Metro East Laboratory, Morton and Springfield. The lab in Decatur hasn't opened yet. There is a firearms section, latent prints, bio DNA and offer toxicology, trace chemistry, foot wear and tire tracks. Toxicology, trace, foot wear and tire tracks get shipped to the Forensics Science Center in Chicago to be processed and returned to the Rockford laboratory. As far as how the current back log is as of the beginning of this month, the DNA backlog is down 17%, sexual assault cases are less than 160 days and homicides are less than 6 months old. There aren't any cases in the State that are over 10 months old. The goal for the end of this year is to not have any cases over 9 months. In Rockford there aren't any cases that are over 8 months. Firearm backlogs are down 35%. The statistics dashboard is updated monthly and it is available on the State Police website.

V. Reports

- a. Loyola University – Dave Olson has been continuing to work on research in trying to support the work of the County by looking at the potential impact of the Pretrial Fairness Act that will abolish cash bail. He thanked Austin from the County IT Department, the Sheriff and his staff. At this point, Mr. Olson has every admission of the jail case filings, failure to appear and case disposition, and risk assessment for everybody processed through the system since 2018. Austin provided through the end of last month. All data has been received and analyzing has begun. The first thing they are trying to look at is of the people going through the jail or bond court, what percent will not be detainable under the new law. The way they are looking at it from this point is what percent are detainable or not detainable under the public safety consideration. What they are finding is about one-third of everybody entering the system is charged with an offense for which they have to be detained. About 70% of the people admitted to the jail under the law that takes effect January 1st will no longer be eligible for pretrial detention. Consistent with what they found when they looked at other data sources is the largest share of people charged with detainable crimes are people charged with domestic battery offenses. They are going to try to come up with what the ultimate impact of these changes will be on the jail population and potentially the population under pretrial supervision. The next phase is to continue to drill down this data and provide the Court with some estimates of what they might see in the courtroom on a typical week.



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The hope is to understand and develop some good ways to measure this and ideally come up with some kind of a dashboard.

- b. Chief Judge's Report – In May, Winnebago County received 3 separate grants from the Mental Health Board. The recipients were the Detention Center, Juvenile Justice Council and the RIC. Statistics show that 75 to 80% of kids involved in juvenile delinquency have some form of mental illness. Many of them have PTSD and ADHD disorders. The Juvenile Justice Council is now off the ground and is in the formation stage. Youth Organizations, Mental Health and Education Committees are scheduled for July. Once those are put together, a plan will be put together.
- c. The Chief Judge and Tom Jakeway are working with work groups regarding the Pretrial Fairness Act. They get up to date information and participate in bi-weekly meetings. They are on the Notice to Appear stage and then Detention.
- d. The plan of using ARP funds by having the Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts and Family Courts located in the PSB has momentum now.
- e. Nick Zimmerman reported that the biggest challenge right now for the Public Defender's Office is the PFA body worn cameras and staffing.
- f. Debbie Jarvis of Court Services indicated that 5 grants have been received in the last year. Two for Detention, 2 for the RIC and one for Juvenile Probation. They continue to look for every funding source available to expand programming to meet the needs of the community.
- g. Jennifer Cacciapaglia indicated they have applied for federal grants focused around juvenile prevention. Additionally, listening sessions held at the Boys and Girls Club, youth reported they did not feel safe. Also, under prosecution, the City of Rockford Police Department has completed a review of policies and procedures around the investigation response to domestic and sexual violence.
- h. Mayor McNamara reported that the City approved 6 different youth prevention and intervention initiatives from the west side of Rockford to the southeast side of Rockford.

VI. **Other Matters**

- a. 2023 Symposium – Marlana Dokken indicated that the topic will be Behavioral Health. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Douglas Marlowe on Risk, Needs and Responsivity. Marlana hopes to get a speaker focusing on vicarious trauma. One of the Judge's will give a presentation that he does at the State level. The target population will be those involved in the Criminal Justice System, Law Enforcement Officers and community service providers. Also, the PSN forums that are with the U.S. Attorney's Office are starting at the end of the month. The speakers are lined up. Community service providers will be available after the meeting.

VII. **Adjournment**