



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (CJCC)

Meeting Minutes

County Administration Building 404 Elm Street, Room 303
Rockford, IL 61101

Wednesday, September 10, 2025
3:00 – 5:00 pm

Members Present: Joseph Chiarelli, Chairman, Winnebago County; J. Hanley, State's Attorney, Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office; Tom Jakeway, Trial Court Administrator, 17th Judicial Circuit; Debbie Jarvis, Director of Court Services, Winnebago County Court Services; John Lowry, Chief Judge, 17th Judicial Circuit Court; Brendan Maher, Presiding Judge, Criminal Division, 17th Judicial Circuit; Thomas McNamara, Mayor, City of Rockford; Nick Zimmerman, Public Defender, Winnebago County Public Defender's Office.

Others Present: Jennifer Cacciapaglia, Director, City of Rockford Mayor's TF DV/HT; Marlana Dokken, Director, Office of CJ Initiatives, Winnebago County Administration; David Olson, Professor, Loyola University Chicago; Ash Hernandez, Winnebago County Jail; Rob Simmons, ASA, Winnebago County Juvenile Division; Donna Honzel, Judge, Winnebago County Juvenile Division.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chief Judge John Lowry, with a quorum present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Chief Judge Lowry called for a motion to approve the minutes of June 11, 2025. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The minutes from June 11, 2025, were approved.

III. Introductions/Welcome

Chief Judge Lowry gave formal introductions and warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting, then discussed the agenda items.

IV. Program

1. Recognition of Service Awards -

a) Hon. Donna Honzel – Presented by Chief Judge John S. Lowry

Chief Judge Lowry praised the qualities of the Honorable Judge Honzel and presented her with the Service Award. Judge Honzel expressed her thoughts on the positive influence of her court and her team.



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b) Assistant State's Attorney Rob Simmons – Presented by State's Attorney J. Hanley

State's Attorney J. Hanley shared his thoughts on Assistant State's Attorney Rob Simmons' attributes, presented him with the Service Award, and thanked him for his service. Rob Simmons expressed his gratitude and acknowledged his team's efforts and work. Rob discussed the Deferred Prosecution program in partnership with the Youth Service Network.

c) Assistant Public Defender Shauna Gustafson - Presented by Public Defender Nick Zimmerman

State's Attorney J. Hanley provided a brief overview of Shauna Gustafson's work as the Assistant Public Defender. Shauna was unable to attend today's meeting, and the Service Award will be presented by Nick Zimmerman, Public Defender, at a private ceremony at a later date. Nick reported that Shauna is the Supervisor of Juvenile Courts for his office and shared a letter he wrote nominating Shauna to receive an award from the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, and Shauna subsequently received the award.

2. Juvenile Delinquency Case Statistics – Tom Jakeway, Trial Court Administrator

Tom Jakeway delivered a presentation on the measurement of juvenile delinquency court performance. Tom explained the framework and categories used for assessing the measurement. The juvenile delinquency court has been operating efficiently for several years, and statistics were reviewed. Procedural satisfaction and fairness were reviewed locally and nationally. The technology now available helps people understand the processes. Surveys are also provided to the public to gather feedback. A discussion followed.

3. Lookback at Pre-Trial Fairness Act – David Olson, PhD, Loyola University Chicago

Dave Olson reviewed the quarterly update trends handout provided before today's meeting, titled "Examining Trends in Crime, Arrests, and Justice System Activities in Winnebago County." Dave reported that a data dashboard will be published online with this information and updated quarterly. Dave shared statistics and additional information on the Pre-Trial Fairness Act. A discussion followed.

V. New Business/Member Updates

Chief Judge Lowry called for any new business or updates.

VI. Adjournment

The next meeting date is Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

Chief Judge Lowry called for a motion to adjourn the CJCC meeting. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy K. Bleile
Executive Assistant