



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (CJCC)

Meeting Minutes

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

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

Members Present: Joseph Chiarelli, Chairman, Winnebago County; Jessica Maveus, Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office; 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; Dan Magers, Chief Information Officer, Winnebago County; 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; Patrick Thompson, County Administrator, Winnebago County Administration; Emily Behnke, Deputy Court Administrator, 17th Judicial Circuit; Emily Armendariz, Deputy Court Administrator, 17th Judicial Circuit; Jared Johannsen, Juvenile Justice Coordinator, Juvenile Probation; Eileen Stewart, Corrections Administration, Winnebago County Sheriff's Department; Sana Siddiqui, Behavioral Health Coordinator, Winnebago County Sheriff's Department; Megan Johnson, Site Mental Health Manager, Freedom Behavioral Health; Christi Wilson, Discharge Planner, Freedom Behavioral Health; Tricia Corrigan, Director of Clinical Activities, UIC; Anita Bramble, Peer Recovery Specialist, UIC; Ash Hernandez, Winnebago County Jail, 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 September 10, 2025. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The minutes from September 10, 2025, were approved.

III. Introductions/Welcome

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

IV. Program

a. Recognition of Service Awards – Winnebago County Criminal Justice Mental Health Stakeholders



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Chief Judge Lowry delivered a brief speech emphasizing the importance of personally recognizing those receiving the Service Awards. He announced each recipient, acknowledged their contributions, and called each one forward to accept their Service Award. Chief Judge Lowry and Tom Jakeway presented the awards, and photographs were taken. The Service Award recipients were applauded for their efforts.

- 1) Emily Behnke, Deputy Court Administrator, Problem Solving Courts
- 2) Sgt. Eileen Stewart, Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, Corrections Administration
- 3) Christi Wilson, Discharge Planner, Freedom Behavioral Health
- 4) Anita Bramble, Peer Recovery Specialist, UIC
- 5) Tricia Corrigan, Family Nurse Practitioner, Director of Clinical Activities, UIC
- 6) Megan Johnson, Site Mental Health Manager, Freedom Behavioral Health
- 7) Emily Armendariz, Wellness Court Liaison
- 8) Sana Siddiqui, Behavioral Health Coordinator, Winnebago County

b. Redeploy Illinois, "Decreased Incarceration. Positive Outcomes. Return on Investment.":

Jared Johannsen, Juvenile Justice Coordinator, provided background details on Redeploy Illinois. Jared Johannsen shared statistics about youth enrolled in the program, ongoing successes, and how the program functions. Judge Donna Honzel emphasized the importance of Redeploy Illinois and its accomplishments in the program. Judge Donna Honzel stated that the team is doing a great job and that the overall outlook is positive, citing the probation department, court services, and Redeploy Illinois.

c. Victory Outreach - Faith-Based Re-entry: Rev. William Turner

Reverend Turner gave an overview of Victory Outreach Ministries and its programs focused on helping men and women recover from addiction, including information on the Victory Recovery Homes. The local church provides follow-up support after a resident's stay and encourages their active involvement in the church, creating a lifetime of service to others. Victory Outreach Ministries operates in 40 countries. A discussion followed.

d. Loyola Proposal - DV Cases Data Analysis Discussion: All

David Olson from Loyola University presented a proposal to support the CJCC, focusing on how domestic violence cases progress through the court system, their characteristics, and their dispositions. The proposal also includes examining recidivism by reviewing new arrests, local court records involving Rockford Police arrests, or filings in Winnebago County. Regarding data, information is already available for evaluation under the Pretrial Fairness Act, which provides data on all cases filed and their movement through the system for evaluating that act, but not specifically for domestic violence cases. More information is needed on probation and shared details. David Olson called for any questions. Chief Judge Lowry suggested focusing on recidivism metrics and other studies, including PAIP, that measure positive outcomes. A discussion followed. Chief Judge Lowry asked that a written commentary be emailed or a letter be sent before the 1st Quarter meeting in March.



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Judge Lowry requested a meeting be scheduled on December 30, 2025, at 12:30 pm to review the available risk assessment data. Information from the meeting will be emailed to Judge Lowry and forwarded to Marlana Dokken.

- e. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair (two-year term) WCCJCC Bylaws Article IV., Section C. The bylaws state that the term of office for the Chair and Vice-Chair begins on January 1. Judge Lowry is completing his second term of office on December 31, 2025. Judge Lowry called for interested candidates. Presiding Judge Maher expressed interest in being nominated for the Chair position, and Chairman Joseph Chiarelli indicated interest in the nomination for the Vice-Chair role.
- Motion: Chief Judge Lowry motioned for the nomination of Chief Judge Maher to be selected as Chair of the Winnebago County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council beginning January 1, 2026, for a 2-year term, and that Chairman Joseph Chiarelli be chosen as the Vice Chair.
- Second: The motion was seconded. A discussion took place.
- Vote: The motion to approve the nomination of Chief Judge Maher as Chair and Chairman Joseph Chiarelli as Vice Chair of the Winnebago County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council beginning January 1, 2026, was unanimously approved by a voice vote.
- f. Chairman's Service Excellence Award: presented by Winnebago County Chairman Joe Chiarelli Marlana Dokken acknowledged Chief Judge Lowry for his service to Winnebago County and introduced Chairman Chiarelli to present the Chairman's Service Excellence Award. Chairman Chiarelli shared his thoughts on Chief Judge Lowry, thanking him for his eighteen years of service as the 17th Judicial Circuit Court Judge. Chief Judge Lowry expressed his gratitude to everyone for the award and their appreciation.

V. New Business/Member Updates

Chief Judge Lowry called for any new business or updates.

VI. Adjournment

- a. Next meeting date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026.

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