



CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Clark County, Nevada

Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2021 – Webex Meeting, 1400 hours

Attendees:

Belinda Harris, Judge - NLVJC
Christopher Lalli, Assistant District Attorney
Damon Harris, Financial Officer – Clark County
Darin Imlay, Public Defender-Clark County
Jeff Wells, ACA – Clark County
Jessica Gurley, Court Administrator, LVJC
John Piro, Chief Public Defender – Clark County

Melisa De La Garza, Judge, LVJC
Melissa Saragosa, Chief Judge - LVJC
Ryan Toone, Judge - Mesquite
Sam Bateman, Judge - Henderson JC
Sandra Molina, DTSC - CCDC
Steven Wolfson – District Attorney
Tierra Jones, Judge - LVDC

Agenda

Attendance of the voting members was taken.

Update on Subcommittees

- Enhanced Services for Justice Involved Individuals with Behavioral Health and Homelessness Issues Subcommittee
 - No updates were available.

- Battery Domestic Violence Subcommittee
 - This subcommittee has not met since June.

- Racial Justice Subcommittee
 - No updates were available.

- Pretrial Subcommittee
 - There have been a couple of subcommittee meetings. Relationships are being established and pretrial processes being discussed. A flowchart is being created to assist the outlying jurisdictions in establishing their processes to comply with AB424.
 - Discussions have been held with Justice Management Institute's Tom Eberly, who specializes in pretrial services. He has made some recommendations that will be considered.
 - There will be consideration given to using some of the McArthur Grant to study and enhance Pretrial Services throughout the county.
 - There is grant money available (\$300,000 per year for two years and could be granted for up to four years for a total of \$1,200,000) that will be used in an efficient and effective way to benefit the most agencies. The money may be used as seed money for new projects or enhance current projects.

Topics

- Update on Jury Trials/backlog
 - District Court has concluded 12 jury trials.
 - A modified version of the Overflow Program, which allows cases that are ready to be sent to central calendar call to be tried, is being used.
 - A question was asked about how many cases are pending. It is a large, unknown number that changes daily. Some cases are being resolved, settlement conferences are being held and cases are moving along.
- Discussion on placing defendants on calendar after honorable discharge from Probation/specialty courts
 - Darin Imlay asks that when people are either sent to Specialty Court as a term of their probation or are honorably discharged from probation, will Probation notify the client of the future court date? The goal is fewer missed court dates.
 - There was discussion about the possibility of allowing attorneys to enter a plea on a client's behalf (with or without the client present) to a reduced charge at the end of specialty court. There are questions about the legality of such a system and a discussion of processes that may benefit clients.
- Discussion of AB424
 - Christopher Lalli listed obstacles to implementing AB424. A couple of those are the expansion of pretrial to the outlying courts and some significant IT and infrastructure projects that need to be completed.
 - A meeting among the outlying courts was held, and the following topics were discussed:
 - Adding employees designated for pretrial services.
 - Logistics of opening each individual court on weekends.

- Justice partners to include the District Attorney, Public Defenders and detention facilities will be notified when decisions are made by the outlying courts.
- There was discussion about the process Las Vegas Justice Court is currently working through to add staff.
- McArthur Grant Update
 - Funds from the grant will fund a CJCC Coordinator position.
 - Although the McArthur Foundation has offered a grant, it has not gone through the approval process by the Board of County Commissioners and has not been officially accepted.
 - Jeff Wells says the most recent documentation he has seen shows the grant is a 3-year phase out at \$840,000.

New Business

- There is no new business.

****Next meeting will be held on October 28, 2021 at 1400 hours.****

Meeting adjourned @ 1443 hours.