

CJCC Pretrial Services Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2005

LLRC Room B

Ann Arbor, MI

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mike Gatti, Charlie Pope, Alan Israel, Sheila Blakney, Renee Wilson, Julie Chaffee, Gary Greenfield, J Cedric Simpson, Scott Patton

Meeting called to order at 12:32 p.m. by Charlie Pope who chaired the meeting until J Cedric Simpson's arrival soon thereafter.

I. Approval of Agenda

Julie Chaffee introduced Renee Wilson as new Deputy Director of Community Corrections, including experience in pretrial.

II. Approval of Minutes

Sheila Blakney moved, Julie Chaffee seconded, and members approved the previous minutes approved with one amendment.

II. Public Defender at Arraignments

Sheila Blakney noted that while this is desirable, it can not be achieved with the current staffing level. Charlie Pope would welcome it, especially on the weekends, as the arraignments tend to be felonies and new domestic violence cases. He noted another logistical issue of the building being opened during the weekend. Sheila Blakney offered that grants may be available at some point. The purpose is to give the defendant a voice during the bond setting and this may result in an increase in release bonds. Charlie Pope noted that this would be something that the committee should monitor throughout the establishment and continuation of Pretrial Services program. Sheila Blakney noted that in appropriate cases, it may be possible to communicate defendant's position in writing.

For people who appear before magistrate indicating that they want their own attorney, then contact the Public Defender's office later, the process works well to become appointed. Charlie Pope and Mike Gatti will speak to other magistrates to improve court appointed attorneys for unemployed or marginally employed individuals. Sheila Blakney will also contact inmate services to have the court appointed forms available at the jail. She also stressed the importance of getting a reference phone number for court appointed cases. Julie Chaffee offered that funneling information into a single source could also improve the process. Several other potential process improvements were also identified and will be explored.

III. Jail Data

Scott Patton passed out a snapshot analysis supplied by the Sheriff's Office. It covered data related to the total in custody population as of June 14, 2005.

Adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

IV. Next Steps

A. Duplication of efforts on data systems