

MINUTES

Justice Coalition – April 13, 2023

Present In-Person: Judge Baker, Judge Zell, Jeanne Dodge, Stan Potocki, Jessica Hilgers, Shaun Przybylski, Mike Lukas, Zach Bishop, Kate Mueller, Jamie Kiener, Destiny Lloyd, Tammy Shoemaker, Ben Beaudoin, Andrew Rockman, Mike Wiza, Al Haga, Cass Cousins, John Pavelski, Andrea Starr

Present Virtually: Mike Rottier, Jennifer Jossie, Jessica Poetsch, Kasie Borchardt

Judge Baker called the Justice Coalition meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. in Conference Rooms 1&2, Portage County Annex. Due to a jury trial in Branch III, Judge Baker was unable to chair the meeting. Judge Zell facilitated the meeting in her absence.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the November 10, 2022 Meeting

Judge Zell asked for edits or corrections to the November 10, 2022 minutes. Approval of the minutes by consensus.

2. Discussion/Possible Action: - Request for Special Meeting Attendance; - Approval of Attendance of Special Meetings; - Special Meeting Attendance Report

No special meeting attendance requests or sheets were submitted for action.

3. Recommendations from the OWI 2nd Work Group – A. Starr

Additional Referrals to Pretrial Supervision Program

1. 2nd OWI's with high BAC from the PBT (.15 or higher)
2. 2nd OWI's or higher with possession or consumption of a controlled substance

Re-Referrals to the Post Trial Supervision Program

In review of WI State Statute 346.65 (2) (bm) (cm) (dm), individuals are only allowed to participate in the Post Supervision program once.

A point of emphasis will be not allowing individuals into the Pretrial Supervision Program and Post Trial Supervision Program if they have successfully completed the Post Trial Supervision Program in the past.

- At the Initial Appearance, the Judge will order Report to Justice Programs and comply with the requirements for assessment and reporting.
- Courts will be notified by JusticePoint staff if an individual has participated in Pretrial Supervision and Post Trial Supervision in the past.
- If an individual successfully completed Post Trial Supervision in the past, the individual will be placed into the Day Report Program. The Courts will be notified.
- If an individual was referred to the Pretrial Supervision Program and was unsuccessful in completing the program, the individual is eligible to participate in the Pretrial Supervision Program again. The Courts will be notified.

The Justice Coalition Committee approved the above changes by consensus. Changes to the program are effective immediately.

4. ARPA Funds for Pretrial Services – A. Starr

The funds have been approved for the Equivant/Northpointe Pretrial Implementation system. This is the first phase of the implementation of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA). A meeting has been scheduled with Equivant/Northpointe in the next two weeks to get the implementation process started. Starr has also been meeting with JusticePoint on how the PSA would look in Portage County.

Starr has met with LaCrosse County to discuss how they run their pretrial program as they assess all individuals that go through their criminal justice program from misdemeanor charges to in-custody individuals.

Starr will have a PSA packet put together for the next Justice Coalition Executive Committee meeting to outline what Starr would recommend for pretrial assessments, including the PSA and the process of how individuals will be assessed and the reports that would be generated to the Courts.

5. Treatment Court Update – A. Starr

A .3 LTE has been hired as a Certified Peer Support Specialist through JusticePoint. This position will start May 1st. This individual can transport participants, attend support meetings with the participants, and can work non-traditional hours.

Currently, Treatment Court has 11 active participants and one inactive. In 2023, three individuals have been found ineligible for the following reasons:

1. Not a Portage County Resident;
2. Client was found eligible, but the Judge did not sentence the individual to Treatment Court;
3. Prior violent offense.

A graduation will take place April 25th.

Jamie Kiener and Starr have been facilitating treatment groups since July 2022. A treatment provider has been found to start facilitating groups starting May 29th.

6. Addition of Clerk of Courts to Justice Coalition Executive Committee – A. Starr

At the Justice Coalition Executive Committee, Judge Baker recommended that the Clerk of Court be added to the Justice Coalition Charter as a member of the Justice Coalition Executive Committee. All members of the Justice Coalition Executive Committee approved the addition.

Judge Zell added that due to the changes to the criminal justice processes, primarily court processes, it is necessary to have input from the Clerk of Courts.

The Justice Coalition Committee approved the addition of the Clerk of Court to the Charter by consensus.

7. 2022 Annual Report – A. Starr

Starr highlighted some of the research listed in the report and reviewed the statistics of the programs in 2022.

8. Potential Changes to Intake Procedure – Judge Zell

Judge Zell indicated that there have been changes made to the intake procedure. The 1:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. initial appearances are moving off the Monday calendar and are being moved to Tuesday – Friday. Each day at 1:00 p.m., Court will occur for new arrests from the day before and a new time slot will open at 1:15 p.m. Tuesday – Friday for two initial appearances to be heard on each day. This will allow for eight cases to be moved off the Monday calendar. It is hoped that moving some cases off the Monday calendar will alleviate Court going past 4:30 p.m.

The pretrial process is still being addressed.

9. Department Updates

a. District Attorney's Office: There is a vacancy for the Diversion Coordinator. An offer has been made and it is hoped that position will be filled in the next few weeks. A Diversion Specialist has been hired that will work with the TAD only cases.

b. Clerk of Courts: Not present.

c. Sheriff's Office: Sergeant Morgan will be training the Courthouse staff on security issues. The Sheriff's Office is contracting out Chapter 51 transports so there will be individuals that are not in uniform entering the courthouse/courtrooms with people that are in restraints.

d. Public Defenders Office: Not present.

e. Department of Corrections: No updates.

10. Topics to be Considered for Future Meetings

None given.

With no further business to come before the Coalition, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Starr
Justice Programs Director/Recording Secretary