

HANDOUTS

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes 09/18/12
- Justice Reinvestment Initiative Strategy Template

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:43 AM

Welcome

Tom Eberly (Criminal Justice Services) opened the meeting. Members approved the September minutes by consensus.

Mecklenburg County Justice Reinvestment

Richard Stroker (Center for Effective Public Policy) recounted for members the various stages of the JRI effort which have taken place to date. Using the JRI Strategy Template, Mr. Stroker outlined five issue areas (Low-level Offenses, Pretrial Population, Recidivism, Homeless/Mental Illness, and Citizen-Initiated Complaints) in which the criminal justice can improve its effectiveness and gain efficiencies. With each issue, a list of strategies proposed by the JRI workgroup was presented and discussed.

An extended discussion regarding strategies for reducing the occurrence of the violation Driving While License Revoked took place. Concerns were raised about how the strategies might impact efforts to collect child support or conflict with offenders accepting responsibility for their actions. Responding to these concerns Mr. Stroker and Kevin Tully (Public Defender) offered that helping citizens to reinstate their license was consistent with each of those goals: Offenders who are eligible would be required to fulfill all of their obligations in order to obtain their licenses; offenders who were able to provide their own transportation would be more likely to gain or maintain employment, increasing the means to provide child support.

Mr. Stroker concluded his discussion by surveying the members' support for continued exploration of the five issue areas and received no objection. Data collection will continue and, in the near future, members will be asked to sign a memorandum of agreement indicating they support moving forward with addressing the issues and strategies as identified. With this agreement in place, a letter of interest will be submitted to the Justice Department requesting federal funds to assist implementation of the strategies.

Arrest Processing / NCAWARE

Adrienne Trent (BSSA-IT) updated members regarding progress in implementing the Arrest Processing/NCAWARE project. The go-live date is October 31. User acceptance testing is underway; training of magistrates and clerks will take place this week; training of arrest processing staff will occur on October 20.

Members discussed data entry responsibilities in the case of warrants. Mr. Eberly stated he would place discussion of post-implementation progress on the next CJAG agenda.

Open Discussion

Joan Kennedy (Child Support Enforcement) discussed the importance of her agency having access to CJLEADS and questioned when access might be considered. Mr. Eberly stated he would learn the answer.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:46 AM