

**Fourth Judicial District
Family Violence Coordinating Council
Serving Hennepin County**

Present: Lila Bolke, Jackie Braun-Lewis, Deborah Eckberg, Det. Erica Coy, Tara Ferguson Lopez, Amirthini Keefe, Holly Knight, Jacob Kraus, Siri Lokensgard, Lisa McNaughton, Penny McTigue, Aaron Milgrom, Melynda Nelson, John Phung, Jessica Rahier, Rachel Ratner, Jennifer Saunders, Grace Spearman, Elsa Swenson, Kari Torborg, Maggie Vickerman, Kate Wilson

1. Welcome

Committee Co-Chair Referee Holly Knight welcomed the group.

2. Approve January Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved as submitted.

3. Update on Advocate/Judicial Officer Listening Sessions – Lila Bolke and Referee Knight, Co-Chair

There are three listening sessions taking place as a collaborative effort between advocates and judicial officers to openly address issues and concerns related to work in the family violence field. The first session was held two weeks ago, the second is scheduled for tomorrow and a third will take place next week.

The first session was a success; it was well attended by advocates from a wide range of organizations, including shelter workers and outreach organizations. Several pragmatic issues were brought up and can be addressed immediately.

Moving forward, input from all three listening sessions will be compiled and presented to the Fourth District Bench. The feedback will also be incorporated into a mandatory judicial officer training planned for March.

4. Finalize 2022 Strategic Plan – Referee Knight, Co-Chair

The full Council discussed final suggestions and amendments to the 2022 FVCC Strategic Plan. Before the final draft is approved next month, suggestions from Council members that will be taken into account include what the Council is doing to address the intersection of race and its work, and how to better recognize and understand trauma responses.

5. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- a. **Juvenile Committee:** Jacob Kraus reported the Juvenile Committee meets next on March 8 and will address the possible social worker strike that was resolved without disruption to services, and judicial officer moves resulting in case transitions.
- b. **Criminal Committee:** Jennifer Saunders reported the Criminal Committee meets next week and will address training ideas for 2022. This year the committee also plans to update the Quick Reference Guide that it maintains with system partners, reporting it needs much updating to contacts lists.
- c. **Advocate Committee:** Rachel Ratner and Elsa Swenson reported the Advocate Committee met in January and discussed hosting a listening session with the Criminal

Court Bench. They also discussed the prospect of starting a work group focused on HROs, similar to the work being done by the Civil Committee's OFP work group.

- d. **Civil Committee:** Referee Knight reported that the Civil Committee's focus remains on judicial officer training and the OFP work group. Their March meeting will focus on compiling input from the advocate/judicial officer listening sessions and identifying next steps.

6. Open Forum – All

No updates were shared.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Future Meetings and Presentations
March 10 – Family Violence Coordinating Council

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[http://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts/Hennepin/Family-Violence-Coordinating-Council-\(FVCC\).aspx](http://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts/Hennepin/Family-Violence-Coordinating-Council-(FVCC).aspx)

Use this link to access our Google Calendar of events:

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