



Family Violence Coordinating Council

March 10, 2016 Minutes
Hennepin County Government Center
C1291 Executive Conference Room
Full Council Meeting 12:15 – 1:30 PM

Fourth Judicial District Family Violence Coordinating Council Serving Hennepin County

Present: Present: Karen Adamson, Stephanie Avalon, Angie (DAP), Vernona Boswell, Joan Blace, Katie Brey, Shiloh, Bute, Judge Elizabeth Cutter, Abbie Diehl, Melissa Fraser, Liza Garcia, Judge Holton Dimick, Judith Hawley, Michelle Jacobson, Tawnie Langenfeld, Brenda Langfellow, Angela Lewis-Dnello, Pamela Maldonado, Lisa McNaughton, Aaron Milgrom, Lidia Morales, Rachel Ratner, Lori Schwartz, Christy Snow-Kaster, Jennifer Taylor, Margaret Thunder-Solorzano, Amy Walsh-Kern, Michael Weinstein, Sandra White, Referee Angela Willms.

1. **Welcome** – Judge Holton Dimick and Judge Cutter, Co-Chairs
2. **February 11, 2016 minutes** – Minutes approved.
3. **HotSpot project update** – Michelle Jacobson, Minneapolis City Attorney, presented on the Minneapolis HotSpot project. See attachment for more information. Michelle welcomed members to contact her about presenting to their organizations or if their organization would like to be included on the resource brochure that they pass out.
4. **FCEP update** – Tawnie Langenfeld, FCEP Project Coordinator presented an updated on the Family Court Enhancement Project (FCEP).

Family Court started a child related domestic abuse calendar in January. CLMS has partnered with the FCEP to provide resources to petitioners before and during domestic abuse hearings. As of last week, CMLS has assisted 64 clients on the child related domestic abuse calendar.

Upcoming FCEP initiatives include working with the court on how to best utilize guardians ad litem at domestic abuse hearings. In addition, Tawnie is working with DAP and the East Side Neighborhood on wait times for respondents to get into programming. The current 2 month wait conflicts with orders directing respondent's to return to court within 90 days.

Training continues to be an FCEP focus. Judge Anne McKeig, Liz Richards and Lolita Ulloa are conducting workshops for advocates to help them understand family law relief outside of the domestic abuse act. The first session was attended by over 20

advocates. Additional sessions are planned for March 25 (family law statutes) and April 15 (overlap between criminal and family). Within the next two months there will be a judicial listening session at Little Earth.

Recent trainings include “Bridging the Gap Across Divisions”. Feedback on gaps will be discussed at separate sessions for Criminal, Juvenile and Family Court. The Family Court session will be held on September 9th.

Loretta Frederick from BWJP did two trainings for practitioners including family law attorneys, mediators, and mental health providers on how to use the interview guide. Further training will be held with the larger groups of practitioners for more widespread use of the interview guides among practitioners.

5. **C11 Construction project overview** –Lidia Morales, Criminal Court Operations Manager, presented information about District Court’s construction project on C11. This project includes remodeling the administrative staff area, the sheriff’s holding area and both courtrooms. Construction starts on April 1 and it will take approximately six months to complete. During the construction period, administrative staff will be located in C1453. A criminal staff person will be located at the Civil Filing Counter on C3 to answer customer questions and accept filings from law enforcement. Calendars normally heard on C11 have been reassigned as follows:
 - a. **C1156** - Calendars normally heard in C1156 (assigning judge and Minneapolis pre-trials) will be heard in the courtrooms of the judges assigned to those calendars.
 - b. **C1159** – Morning Domestic Sentencings and Pretrial calendars normally heard in C1159 will be heard in the courtrooms of the judges assigned to those calendars. Afternoon Domestic Arraignment calendars on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be heard in courtroom C857. Tuesday afternoon Domestic Arraignment calendars will be heard in the courtroom of the judge assigned to the calendar.

If you have questions, please contact Lidia at Lidia.Morales@courts.state.mn.us or 612.596.1208.

6. **FVCC Committee Reports** – Committee Chairs

Criminal – Michelle Jacobson presented. The committee did not meet in February but does meet next Monday. Members continue to work on planning a CLE on stalking. Rachel with Sojourner has agreed to assist member working on the children’s book, designed as a workbook for younger children going to court.

Juvenile – Lori Schwartz presented. The committee hosted Michelle Jacobson, who presented on the Minneapolis HotSpot project.

Advocates – Stephanie Avalon presented. Last month Christy Snow Kaster presented an update and overview of the services CMLS provides to litigants at the Family Court child related domestic abuse calendar.

Civil – Christy Snow Kaster presented. A round table between the bench and advocates will happen on April 1 in room C1291 from 12:15PM – 1:30 PM. The focus will be the child focused protection order calendar. Committee members are coordinating topic questions that center on participants perspective on how things are going on the new calendar. Flyers have been sent to FVCC members, who should feel free to share. In addition, the committee is investigating hosting a training on the differences between emergency relief available through a non-domestic abuse action versus relief available through a domestic abuse action.

7. Announcements / Open Forum - All

- **April 14 FVCC meeting room change** – The next meeting will be held in room A2350.
- **March 4 “Bridging the Gap” training update** – Training at Ridgedale Library was well attended and the 50+ participants were very engaged. The theme concentrated on how domestic abuse is handled across divisions. Formal follow up dates with individual divisions will be out soon. All sessions will be held in the HCGC auditorium on the A-level. Please contact Michelle Jacobson if you have suggestions.

Future Agenda Items

New child related domestic abuse calendar – April 14, 2016

Minneapolis Police Department DV update – April 14, 2016

Domestic Fatality Review Board – May 12, 2016

Finalize Annual FVCC report – May 12, 2016

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Use this link to access our Google Calendar of events.

<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=fvccalendar%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>