

**Incarceration Prevention Reduction Task Force  
Legal & Justice System Committee Meeting**

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., November 13, 2018

Whatcom County Courthouse Conference Room 514, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham WA

**AGENDA**

*If you plan to bring handouts to this meeting, bring at least 15 for committee members and the file*

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Requested Action</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Packet Page(s)</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b> • September 11, 2018 Meeting Summary Review	Review	N/A	1 - 2
<b>2. Review work plan and prioritize next steps</b>	Review and decision	N/A	3
<b>3. Other Business</b>			
<b>4. Public Comment</b>			
<b>5. Adjourn</b>			

**UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

IPR TASK FORCE various Mondays 9-11 a.m. Courthouse Conf. Rooms 513/514 311 Grand Ave., Bellingham	COMMITTEES				
	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH various Mondays 2:30-3:30 Health Department Creekside Conf. Room 509 Girard, B'ham	LEGAL & JUSTICE SYS. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 11:30 am-1:30 pm Courthouse 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Rm 514 311 Grand Ave., Bham	CRISIS RECOVERY FACILITY 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 9:30-11:00 a.m. Courthouse 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor 513, 311 Grand Avenue, B'ham	INDEX 1st Thursdays 1:30-3:00 p.m. Courthouse Conf. Rooms 513/514 311 Grand Ave., Bellingham	STEERING As needed 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Room 513 311 Grand Ave., Bham
November 26 December 17	November 26 December 17	December 11	November & December cancelled	December 6	November 15 9:30-11:00 am Room 513

**The most up-to-date meeting schedule can be found online at:**

<http://wa-whatcomcounty.civicplus.com/calendar.aspx?CID=40>,

**Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force**  
**Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee**  
**DRAFT Meeting Summary for September 11, 2018**

---

**1. Call To Order**

Committee Chair Stephen Gockley called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. in the Whatcom County Courthouse Conference Room 514, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham.

Members Present: Jill Bernstein, Deborra Garrett, Stephen Gockley, Raylene King, Dave McEachran, Lisa McShane, Darlene Peterson, Peter Ruffatto, Jeff Parks (proxy for Bill Elfo)

Members Absent: Angela Anderson, Bill Elfo, Deborah Hawley, Moonwater

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Todd Donovan, Chris Furman, Dave Graham, Dan Hammill, Raquel Montoya-Lewis, Soshana Paige

Review July 10, 2018 Meeting Summary

There were no changes.

**2. Presentation on Drug Court Best Practices**

Gockley reported on recent efforts regarding drug court best practices.

Greg Winter, Opportunity Council and Task Force Member, reported on the status of designated housing for drug court participants.

Raquel Montoya-Lewis, Superior Court Judge, reported on the drug court team's training with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP).

Dr. Shannon Carey, NADCP, gave a presentation (on file) and answered questions:

- Promising practices include team engagement, including treatment and law enforcement
- The benefits of full team participation
- The positive influence from interactions with and a stable presence of the judges
- Defining risk in terms of how likely a person is to reoffend or engage in poor behavior
- Risk factors and the importance of not mixing people with different risk levels
- Treatment courts that allow non-drug charges
- Keeping the caseload small to preserve best practices
- Keep the time between arrest and program entry short
- The success of treatment that allows email communication between sessions
- Gender specific services
- Exceptions in the Code of Judicial Conduct regarding ex parte communication
- Wraparound services as part of the drug court program versus community programs
- Outcomes research on wraparound services
- Trauma training for drug court staff
- Including transportation as a wraparound service

***Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force***  
***Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee***  
**DRAFT Meeting Summary for September 11, 2018**

---

- Drug court staff training frequency
- Minimum length of drug court and reinforcing that recovery is lifelong and doesn't end with the end of drug court
- Other wraparound services that include work, school, sober living, and support system
- The frequency of drug testing
- Incentives and sanctions for behavior modification
- Keeping data on results and outcomes

The committee members, presenter, and attendees discussed:

- The different types of drug court screening eligibility, including legal screening, high risk/high need screening, and clinical needs assessment
- Best practices regarding 18-24 year old offenders in terms of brain development in which modalities focus on learning over punishment
- Timing of sanctions, the perception of individualized sanctions versus what is considered fair among all drug court participants, and transparent explanations during drug court
- The next steps for NADCP review of the Whatcom County Drug Court

**3. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**4. Next Steps: Ideas & Further Information**

This item was not discussed.

**5. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**6. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

## Legal & Justice System Subcommittee Work Plan Items:

Implement policies and procedures that will reduce number of bench warrants issued for FTAs

- Increase opportunities for people to resolve outstanding warrants
- Courthouse jail alternatives screening kiosk, including better transportation and other resources for court clients
- Conversations from the City of Bellingham and the small Cities about their practices.
  
- Develop mechanisms to prevent jail admissions for violations of probation/parole
- Review probation violations
- Use electronic home monitoring (EHM) to facilitate improvements throughout Whatcom County criminal justice system, including: post-trial, use of private EHM providers, used to reduce bench warrants

Expand book-and-release practices, including at municipal police stations

- Pre-arrest Diversion

Facilitate opportunities for individuals to pay off fines assoc. with moving violations

- Review strategies for reducing fines/interest
- Licensing Review

Consider restorative practices and their role in preventing incarceration

- Create some space on an upcoming Task Force agenda for an introductory presentation on RJ
- Research, map, and organize existing programs elsewhere (i.e. do a scan of where and how has RJ been applied)
- Committee to discuss and explore what may be of interest to pursue locally
- Bring to the Task Force a summary of research and recommended steps
- Concurrently, keep a pulse on other emerging local interests in RJ practices (e.g the DV Commission)

Reentry Support

- Community Resource handout for defendants: collect list of resources from Health Department and/or IPRTF Behavioral Health Committee
- Community Resource handout for defendants: Identify resource categories (housing, job seeking, healthcare, etc.) and other resources in the community that exist but are not included in the list from Behavioral Health
- Community Resource handout: Identify who the handout will go to and when
- Community Resource handout: format and design the handout
- Connections to Community Services: See above, community resource handout
- Ease of entry for behavioral health services
- Review information from Christopher Poulos at IPRTF April 2018 meeting and determine if the LJS Committee wants to move forward with any of his proposed reentry programs

Other:

- Get updated statistics
- Better use of jail alternatives/Division Street Resources
- Defense counsel to help defendants who plea to jail alternatives complete their paperwork
- Support Sheriff's request for more staffing to do this work: Review additional services requests for 2019-2020 Biennium
- Support Sheriff's request for more staffing to do this work: Draft a letter of support to the County Executive and County Council of the Sheriff's additional services requests