

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

- 1. Welcome** – Judge Cutter and Judge Holton Dimick chaired the meeting.
- 2. June 11, 2015 Minutes** – Approved.
- 3. Domestic Violence Court Overview** –
 - Judge Cutter and Michelle Jacobson gave an overview of changes to the Domestic Violence Court, which is moving from the Public Safety Facility to the 11th floor in the C Tower in the Hennepin County Government Center.
 - Domestic Violence Court started in 2001 and reflects an effort to have a more dedicated and smaller bench focused on these cases. The specialized court has helped improve the time to outcome and the outcomes through creative sentencing. The focus is less on convictions, and more on providing assistance to perpetrators to modify their behaviors long term. There is a strong stance on revocations for not complying with program.
 - A survey showed that more time and more room was needed for DV pre-trials and sentencings. The 11th floor in the Government Center is being remodeled and will be a good location as there isn't enough room at the PSF.
 - The Calendar will begin at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm and should be more productive.
 - There will be rooms to meet with clients and an in custody area.
 - Domestic Violence Steering Committee—in the last year the committee has expanded and now includes representatives from Family and Juvenile Courts. The discussion has been that different approaches needed for different offenders. The steering committee continues to look at next steps, using risk assessments, etc., in an effort to continue to improve the court.
- 4. Continue the discussion on new legislative proposals for next session** – All
 - a. Judge Cutter discussed the proposed legislation to add a domestic violence indicator to cases with intimate partner violence and require a PSI. There was widespread support when presented as legislation last year. Any feedback is welcome. Discussion about whether FVCC would support legislation that is consistent with the goals of the committee. City of Minneapolis and MCBW are supporters. Proposed language attached to the agenda for today's meeting.
 - b. Change 518B to remove the automatic hearing requirement for an extension of an order for protection for orders that do not request relief that would otherwise require a hearing. Cheryl brought to MCBW and they should be adding to their legislative proposals for next session. Proposed language available?
 - c. Require law enforcement to not ask for a court order when enforcing never married mothers rights to retrieve their children from an un-adjudicated parent. Discussion that this is a training issue for law enforcement rather than a law or legislative issue.

- d. Re-look at 518.179 factors for custody in relationship to all felony level DA crimes including strangulation. Christy Snow-Kaster discussed that strangulation and the felony DA crimes are not listed to trigger the burden request. Proposed language available?
- e. FVCC should have our legislative proposals finalized and ready by August meeting. Discussion about the FVCC role being to support legislation being proposed by other entities. If possible, get proposed language in advance of the August next meeting so that the group can review it.

5. FVCC Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- a. The Advocate Committee met and had a discussion about how advocates can interact with WATCH.
- b. The Civil Committee met and also held a well-attended Brown Bag on June 26. Representatives from 9 agencies gave an overview of their services. A chart is being created to categorize what services are offered by each agency for use by the court and GALs. Another Brown Bag is planned on 9/25, which will be a Order for Protection Calendar Roundtable discussion with Advocates and Judicial Officers.
- c. Criminal committee meeting next week.
- d. Juvenile Committee is in the middle of planning the Resource Fair which will be held on 10/28, on the Public Service Level of the Government Center. There will also be music and coffee. The committee just started a project to put together a resource guide for families that are experiencing adolescent batterers.

6. Announcements / Open Forum

- a. Feb 25 and 26, 2016 Cornerstone will be having its biannual conference –16 workshops and opening and keynote speakers. A save the date notice will be coming out later in the year.
- b. Please contribute suggestions for speakers to Cheryl Kolb-Untinen. Anyone with expertise in domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking.

Future Agenda Items

3 legislative proposals on August agenda, proposed language 1 week in advance.
Family Court Enhancement Project Update – August 13, 2015
Infant Court – November 12, 2015 (Judge Brasel)

Future Events

FVCC Civil Committee—Friday, September 25, 2015
FVCC Resource Fair – Wednesday October 28, 2015 (HCGC – PSL)