



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

Present: Jackie Braun-Lewis, Katie Brey, Dr. Deborah Eckberg, Referee Mike Furnstahl, Grace Henderson, Elizabeth Hogan, Amirthini Keefe, Jacob Kraus, Tara Lopez Ferguson, Lisa McNaughton, Penny McTigue, Adam Miller, Katie Miller, Hon. Kathryn Quaintance, Cecilia Rude, Melanie Sanchez, Jennifer Saunders, Elsa Swenson, Kari Torborg, Annie Van Avery, Sonya Voss, Michael Weinstein, Kate Wilson

- 1. Welcome** Co-Chairs Referee Furnstahl and Judge Kathryn Quaintance welcomed the group.
- 2. Approve October Minutes** Minutes approved as submitted.
- 3. Minneapolis PD Procedural Justice Unit Overview – Cecilia Rude**
Cecilia Rude and Katie Miller presented on behalf of the Community Navigator program for the Minneapolis Police Department Procedural Unit.

The Procedural Unit operates on the premise of procedural justice, which speaks to the importance of fairness and respect at the forefront of police procedures. The core values of procedural justice include voice, neutrality, respect, and trustworthiness. The Procedural Unit's belief is that when police offers give citizens a voice (listen), they are objective and respectful, and police officers are able to gain trust of the citizenry. In turn, citizens begin to view police as legitimate and trustworthy.

An element of the Procedural Unit are Community Navigators, established in October 2018. Community Navigators exist to help bridge connections and strengthen communication between the police department and the community. There are six navigators:

Native American Community – Deanna Beaulieu
African American Community – Bo Powell
LatinX Community – Cecilia Robbins
LGTBQIA+ Community – Katie Miller
East African/Somali Community – Mohamed A. Mohamed
Intimate Partner/Domestic Violence Survivors – Cecilia Rude

Cecilia and Katie each spoke to their experiences as a Navigator within the Police Procedural Unit.

4. Strategic Planning for 2020 – All

Council members spent time in breakout groups reviewing and discussing strategic plan initiatives for 2020.

5. Open Forum/Announcements – All

- Committee reports were shared via a handout (attached).

Upcoming Agendas

December 10 – Justice for Families program overview and update

Upcoming Events

December 3 – Juvenile Family Violence Domestic (JFVD): A Pre-Charge Diversion Tool

Use this link to find us on the web:

[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.

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

**Family Violence Coordinating Council
Committee Reports
November 14, 2019**

Advocate Committee – Rachel Ratner, chair

The Advocates Subcommittee of the FVCC met in October, with great attendance and representation from five different community agencies.

1. Advocates discussed how the changes in the procedures regarding filing of Harassment Restraining Orders have resulted in a diminishment of information and protection for Petitioners. Petitioners wait for several days to be notified by mail if their Emergency Order was granted, Advocates cannot do much to help. We hope to talk to someone in Civil Filing or Court Administration about alternatives to the current information system.

2. Continued problems with OFP's and HRO's not getting served in a timely manner both within and outside of Hennepin County. Another attempt will be made to meet with a contact from the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office to understand their process of serving Orders.

3. Concern about the sometimes too-short scheduling of OFP hearings, sometimes within 4-5 days, which is often not enough time to have the Respondent served, or the Petitioner to seek out an attorney.

4. Plans are in the works to set up a presentation from the MN Office of Justice Programs' Crime Victim's Justice Unit.

Next Meeting: TBD

Civil Committee – Michael Weinstein, chair

The Civil Committee met on 9/26:

- New Gal Coordinator, Melany Sanchez introduced. She is replacing Jennifer Taylor.
- The Committee discussed issues with motion to modify not being filed: solutions and follow up explored
- Guide and File Training discussed and launched in October.
- The committee interested in engaging someone from the Sherriff's Department to attend Civil Committee.
- Michael Weinstein was elected chair, replacing Jennifer Taylor, who resigned.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 21, 2019 from 12:15-1:30 PM
Location: Family Justice Center
110 South 4th Street, Minneapolis.
Courtroom 534.

Juvenile Committee – Lisa McNaughton, chair

The subcommittee met on October 8, 2019. On December 3, 2019, there will be a CLE presentation on the “Juvenile Family Violence Domestic (JFVD): A Pre-Charge Diversion Tool”. This presentation will be made by Maximillia Utley, a Senior Assistant Hennepin County Attorney and Jen Gustafson from Headway. The next meeting of the subcommittee will be in December.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 from 12:15-1:30 PM
Location: Juvenile Justice Center
590 Park Av., Minneapolis.
Lower Level Guardian Ad Litem Office conference room

Criminal Committee Meeting – Jennifer Saunders, chair

Present: Jennifer Saunders (MCAO); Jay Hester and Mel Nelson (DOCCR); Beth Hogan (HCPD); Elizabeth Montgomery (Advocates for Human Rights); Ann Kaul (Bloomington CAO); Sonya Voss (Cornerstone); Carrie Crockford and Aaron Milgrom (private practitioners); Deb Eckberg (Metro State) by phone

The Criminal Committee met on Monday, October 21, 2019. Report on Fall CLE on 10/4 on the topic of mass shootings from Dr. James Densley from Metro State. Excellent feedback from attendees who reached out and good survey results. It was excellent material and a dynamic speaker. 68 people signed up and it seems that most of them actually came.

Criminal Committee Membership: We have had good membership and attendance this year, which is one of our 2019 goals. We discussed inviting members from a very similar committee called the DV Community Partners Committee to join us as we seem to have a lot of similar goals and topics; it was a committee formed of partners on various grants in the city and kept meeting to discuss system issues on DV in the criminal justice system. It was agreed this was a good plan.

After our detailed presentation at the last meeting on the information flow into and out of MNCIS, we realized that although there is not any modification we can do to that system, we may be able to help communication flow by creating a good flow chart and contact list for various points of a case in the criminal justice system. We will work on that process as a team and present it to the counsel when it is completed.

Jennifer reached out to Judge Meyer about the possibility of adding the DV PT calendar back to Mondays since judge was sending all the trials out before 9:30 am and her response was that the trial court judges are keeping more of the cases to resolve or triage than they were earlier this year so the trial calendars on Mondays are again running long

Next meeting: Monday, December 16, 2019 at 1:30 PM
Location: Minneapolis City Attorney’s Office
Alfton Conference Room, Room 200
350 South 5th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415