

## Criminal Legal System Round Table Zoom Meeting Minutes, 9/1/21, 12-1pm

Attending: Marcia Owen, Jatoia Potts, Andrea Hudson, Dwayne Campbell, James Dukes, Leslie Nydick, Marion Bailey, and local defense attorneys Libria Stephens, and Jessica Fludd  
Mike Sistrum prepared the minutes.

Marcia and Muffin reviewed their efforts to contact Durham magistrates to attend a RT. We will devote part of our next meeting on 9/6 to coming up with questions for the magistrate attendee. *[Since the meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup>, we learned that Durham's Chief Magistrate, Shelby Elaine Evans, will be able to join us on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.]*

Marcia informed us of the agenda for the next Task Force meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>, including the prompts for each RT to report on to the full Task Force. We began to discuss the first prompt.

What has been the greatest successes so far for our RT?

- Having Muffin and Jatoia help us with our intercept mapping from first arrest through first appearance. That revealed several areas for potential improvement, especially at the magistrate level. It has guided our research requests and subsequent RT meetings.
- Our RT with Christie Long, Pretrial Services Manager. That also revealed areas for improvement and future inquiry. See the previous meeting minutes and Zoom recording for 8/18 for more.
- Our intention to include crime victims and their advocates in our RT process. We will plan a Listening Session with Marion Bailey's vigil team.
- Our intention to include defense attorneys in our RT process. In addition to Leslie Nydick, we were joined by two other local defense attorneys at this RT. They will continue to join us.

In discussing the need to include crime victims in the Criminal Legal System more throughout the process from arrest through court, Marcia noted that should include the majority of gun cases and homicides where there are no arrests or charges.

The defense attorneys also urged us to study the family court system and Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Court for areas for improvement, especially to provide more legal counsel for participants in civil cases where there are not currently court appointed counsel or Guardian Ad Litem for juveniles.

- We will consider who to invite from Family Court and ABND Court to a future RT and what research requests we'll have regarding the two courts.
- We will explore what opportunities there currently are and can be for arbitration before Family Court hearings begin. Such as a judicial settlement conference. One of the defense attorneys informed us that some years ago the state had provided funding by judicial district, including Durham's, for this, but it was never implemented.
- We will plan to have a Listening Session to include children and families who have been through Family Court and ANDC. Not those who are currently involved.

We agreed before our RT meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> to each come up with some questions for Magistrate Evans and also to review the other prompts for the Task Force meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>.