

Via Zoom. 12-1:15pm

Attend: Marcia Owen, Andrea Hudson, Jatoia Potts, Mike Sstrom, Rose Werth, and Kelly Andrews

We reviewed and finalized the [A/N/D Court Plan](#) document.

We began to discuss how to follow up on our examination of the Office of Pretrial Services/Pretrial supervision from our initial meeting with Christie Long. We focused on how to develop a proposal for having staff on-hand at the jail to offer counsel, guidance, and advocacy for people and their families when first arrested and brought to the jail. Muffin said she had discussed this idea with the CJRC years ago. They were receptive, but it didn't come to fruition. There are no existing advocacy groups in Durham doing this kind of work who could perform this function. Mike will reach out to Christie Long and Roshanna Parker about follow up discussion with them about developing this proposal. We agreed the CJRC should create a new full-time position to oversee this service. (Our Task Force proposal could be to create such a position and then suggest potential ways that staff person could then create and implement the program later. We would not have to get into specifics on that.) We would want to engage the Sheriff's Office/jail command staff on the logistics of setting it up in the jail and get their initial "buy in" to the idea, while leaving the details to be worked out later between the CJRC and the jail staff.

We also discussed how to proceed with our examination of the Magistrate Court.

- In particular, if and how there could be someone/s on-hand at the Magistrate's Appearance to offer advise and counsel and advocate for the arrested person. That could be the same set or different set of persons as above. We realize the MA is not the same as a trial or court appearance, so there is no legal counsel expected or provided. The arresting law enforcement officer, however, is present and able to stand their case. Currently, attorneys are only present at the MA if the family of an arrested person can afford to hire them and contact them on such short notice. Muffin mentioned that she is sometimes able to be in the MC with arrested individuals and is able to speak to the Magistrate. Rose said that there are some models of similar programs to look at, especially Charleston, SC. She will get back to us on those.
- The MA is also where initial bail/bond is set,, so we will want to involve Magistrate Evans in our further examination of bail/bonds.
- We also returned to the topic of potential training for Magistrate judges. Racial equity training and trauma training for the Magistrates and court staff. There are models of such training programs to adapt. Mike also suggested the value of Magistrates receiving regular statistical reports on the jail population (nature of charges, length of stay, bail amounts, etc...) so each Magistrate can see the larger context beyond the individuals they see. Duke researchers, the CJRC, the District Court, and/or the jail staff could work together to provide these regular updates to the Magistrates and the public. We will need to also engage Chief District Court Judge Evans and Chief Superior Court Judge

Hudson on this topic, since both are involved in the appointment and administration of the Magistrates.

Muffin suggested an idea for a proposal we can develop for a weekly meeting of jail staff, DA's office, and Public Defenders' office staff on the jail population and court appearances

We will meet again on Wednesday, April 6th.