

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY AND DATA SHARING

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p>STANDARDIZING SENTENCING ORDERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Staff at the Department of Correction spend valuable time trying to interpret sentencing orders that are inconsistently filled out and may include difficult-to-read handwritten notes. The goal is to have easily understandable sentencing orders that do not require interpretation, with information that is easy to calculate properly. • Objective: The Courts will produce and send standardized electronic orders and related sentencing documents to the DOC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Configure hardware / software to facilitate capture and automatic transmission of the standard order and related sentencing forms from the courts to Department of Correction • Create detailed logging to ensure proper transmission and error handling • Implement court process changes • Developed solution for related sentencing documents • Testing solution
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (December 2018) Implement the solution • (Jan 2019) Compare staff time hours pre- and post-implementation • (Jan 2019) Determine if there are fewer mistakes in determining release dates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource constraints due to staffing changes at the Judicial Information Center

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY AND DATA SHARING

1

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p>CRIMINAL AND CIVIL E-FILING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue: Information sharing is not as easy or as timely as desired. Court information is still largely paper driven.• Objective: Implement an integrated statewide management approach. Criminal and civil e-filing in one case management system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (On-going) Contract to develop system• (Jun 2018) Engage external consultants to help assess options• (Sept 2018) Select a consultant to evaluate the Courts options and assist in selecting the best solution• (Sept 2018) Compile and organize all previously captured requirements and identify any gaps
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revise approach• Complete Phase I (civil)• Implement Phase II (criminal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of comprehensive project funding, requiring a slower implementation process• Complexities of new systems/integration• Personnel turnover

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY AND DATA SHARING

3

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">CONSIDER TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE COSTS, SUCH AS COSTS FOR TRANSPORTING INMATES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Some criminal justice activities, such as the transport of inmates from the Department of Correction for court hearings, are costly. Technology could potentially reduce the number of transports. • Objective: Expand the use of videophones or other technology to reduce the need to transport inmates to save money, and promote public safety. 	
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize a meeting of the Criminal Justice Focus Group to discuss opportunities in detail • Consider if legislation or resources would be needed for proposal • (TBD – need legislation and resources) Implementation of technology to promote safety and savings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change management amongst the courts and other agencies

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY AND DATA SHARING

1

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p>ELIMINATE WASTEFUL PROCESSES LIKE THE MANUAL PAYMENT OF BAIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue: When modern processes and technology aren't pursued, wasteful or unnecessary processes continue.• Objective: Use technology and modernized processes to enable bail bond agents to pay the courts via more efficient methods of payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying and comparing vendors• Standardizing processes to allow centralization and conformance with off-the-shelf solutions
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (Oct 2018) Contract with a vendor for processing of payments• (Oct 2018) Communications to affected populations• (Dec 2018) Implement electronic payment of bail	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cross-court procedural changes• Lack of IT staff and competing project priorities including legislative changes with specific timelines

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY AND DATA SHARING

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF DATA MANAGEMENT AND STATISTICAL RESEARCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: The Statistical Analysis Center and DELJIS are both chronically understaffed. They are a much-needed resource for the entire criminal justice system that cannot meet the demands • Objective: Other criminal justice agencies should promote resources in the budget process that would have an overall positive effect on the system. CJC is interested in expanding the role of SAC to research best practices, provide further analysis and recommendations based on the data and their research of other jurisdictions. 	
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Nov 2018+) Support SAC and DELJIS during budget hearings and Clearinghouse meetings • (Nov 2018+) Support CJC's efforts to expand the scope of SAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing the perception that any new personnel is unnecessary or wasteful of tax dollars. There are cases in which additional personnel can increase efficiencies, save money, and improve performance in the long run.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

SIMPLIFY AND MAKE STATUTES MORE COHERENT

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">CRIMINAL CODE REFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Delaware’s criminal code is full of redundancies, inconsistencies and disproportionality. These issues have evolved over the two generations since Delaware adopted a criminal code based on best practices. • Objective: Support the General Assembly’s Criminal Justice Improvement Committee to restore the Code to a clear readable and proportional code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (On-going) Meet with stakeholders and important partners to address concerns and request support • (Completed Nov 2017) Receive comments on Code from DOJ • Finalize Conforming Amendments and circulate for review • (Jan 2018) Drafting group responds to DOJ comments and revises bill • (March 2018) Completion of Final Report of working group to the CJIC and Judiciary Committees • (March 2018) Converted final text of Improved Code into bill format • (March 2018) Completed final text of the Conforming Amendments bill • (March 2018) Completed supporting materials • (May 2018) Final bills completed and filed for the 149th General Assembly • (June 2018) Strategic decision made not to work the bills • (July 2018) Letter sent to state agencies requesting their review of and comments on the bills • (Sept and Oct 2018) Met with state agencies to review their comments on the bills and make edits based on them. • (Nov 2018) Finalizing draft bills. • (Dec 2018) Working group meets to approve final drafts of bills.
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Jan 2019) Introduce bill for the 150th General Assembly • (March 2019) Passage of legislation • (Aug 2019) Update information systems to embody improved code • (Aug 2019) Provide training in new code for police, prosecutors, defense, and develop curriculum for future police academies • (Aug 2019) Prepare model jury instructions • (Aug 2019) Update SENTAC guidelines and develop legislation to give them required weight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcoming hesitation to make comprehensive change • Passage of legislation

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

SIMPLIFY AND MAKE STATUTES MORE COHERENT

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">MODERNIZE THE PRETRIAL SYSTEM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: The goal is to only detain those who threaten public safety and to apply other strategies for low risk offenders. While high risk offenders need to be detained for public safety, low risk offenders are often further destabilized by unnecessary detention, as even a short-term detention can mean the loss of employment or housing, or cause other family issues. • Objective: Use best practices to determine more objectively persons at risk to reoffend or fail to appear in court with possibility of detention or release with supervision, and presumptive release for low risk persons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Completed Dec 2017) Determine path forward on assessment tool • (Completed Dec 2017) Draft of a constitutional amendment authorizing preventative detention • (Completed April 2018) Draft amendments to HB 204 providing for preventative detention. • (May 2018) Converted final text of bills into legislative format • (May 2018) Final bills completed and filed in 149th General Assembly • (June 2018) SB 221 Constitutional Amendment bill fails to garner necessary votes for passage; SB 222 never brought forward for a vote • (August 2018) Testing of DELPAT for inclusion of a violent crime risk factor • (Sept 2018) DELPAT with violence risk factor receives final approval • (Sept 2018) Drafting court rules and administrative directives for pretrial modernization • (Oct 2018) Train judicial officers in new pretrial procedures including risk assessment instrument. • (Nov 2018) Finalize and get approval for court rules governing bail reform. • (Nov 2018) Continue to train judicial officers and court personnel in new pretrial procedures.
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Fall 2018) Finalize implementing the administrative and court rules • (Jan 2019) Introduction and adoption of the first leg of the constitutional amendment for preventative detention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passage of legislation • Change management within the Courts

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GIVE OFFENDERS A BETTER CHANCE TO SUCCEED

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p>REDUCE DEBT BURDEN ON EX-OFFENDERS</p> <p>Issue: When ex-offenders are released from prison, the challenges of reentry (finding housing, finding stable employment, supporting children) can be even more difficult due to debt burden from the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Objective: Allow offenders to work off debt burden in prison by offering a minimum wage credit for prison work programs. This will help the ex-offender focus on other important social obligations once released from prison, rather than having outstanding capiases for failure to pay. Credits could also be applied to other positive efforts, such as education or job training programs, substance abuse programs, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (On-going) Discuss issues and challenges of implementation • Draft legislation • Work with DOC, DOJ and DOF to determine tax implications of plan, and how to resolve those issues so there is not undue burden placed on DOC
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Jan 2019) Find sponsors of legislation • Plan needed changes or updates to technology which would allow DOC and the Court to communicate and apply credits in an automated way • Passage of legislation • Implementation of program • Preliminary evaluation of program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication issues between DOC and the Courts so that the credit information can be automatically sent to the Courts

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GIVE OFFENDERS A BETTER CHANCE TO SUCCEED

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">DEVELOP A WILMINGTON COMMUNITY COURT</p> <p>Issue: Low level offenders are often penalized with fees that they cannot pay, or with short-term incarceration for petty crimes. This can lead to issuance of <i>capias</i> and, in turn, further involvement in the criminal justice system. Short term incarceration can further destabilize low level offenders due to job loss and family issues. Incarceration and fees do not help the offender resolve whatever issues have led them to these violations and offenses.</p> <p>Objective: The Community Court is a type of problem-solving court that addresses low-level crimes, public safety and quality of life issues at the neighborhood level. The focus of community courts is not isolated to a particular problem like the Drug Court or Mental Health Court, but rather to address multiple needs of a particular geographic area. Community court programs are focused on improving outcomes for the offender and reducing recidivism by addressing factors such as substance use, mental health and unemployment that are generally linked to criminal behavior.¹ The Community Court provides accountability to offenders by ensuring they give back to their communities through various community service initiatives. The Community Court is planned to have a rotating calendar by Wilmington neighborhood; the neighborhoods can discuss the current interests and concerns that affect their community. The Community Court will welcome providers, neighborhood associations, and others vital to community empowerment and improvement. Community Court can provide more convenient hours for truancy and problem-solving courts, making it possible for more to comply without missing school or work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designation of Internal Community Court Planning Committee (Dec 2017); first meeting completed February 18, 2018 • Create and announce a Community Court Steering Committee (Dec 2017) • (March 2018) Prepare community outreach agreements • (April 2018) Planning and steering committees meet. • Develop proposal for PSC calendar. • (May 2018) Explore funding possibilities with the Center for Court Innovation • (May 2018) Established partnership with DOL • (June 2018) Applied for grant and awaiting approval • (June 2018) Create MOU's with necessary partners • (July 2018) Engage treatment partners, education and job training partner, housing partners, financial literacy partners, veterans' partners, medical partners • (August 2018) Host Community Resource Fair to promote Resource Center and connect service providers with community members • (Sept 2018) Develop initial proposal for Community resource center, including: available services, referral system, inclusions of problem solving courts, specialized programs • (Sept 2018) Develop job position and post job for Community Court Coordinator • (Nov 2018) Hire Community Court Coordinator position.
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Dec 2018) Finalize policies • (Dec 2018) Engage community • (Dec 2018) Community outreach to determine community's quality of life needs and criminal justice challenges • (Dec 2018) Finalize Community Court forms • (Dec 2018) Develop necessary legislative changes for alternative sentencing • (Dec 2018) Identify program objectives and performance measures • (Dec 2018) Secure funding for continued operation of Community Courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complexity of coordinating multicourt initiative that is the first of its kind in the state

¹ Kilmer, B., Sussell, J. (2014). *Does San Francisco's Community Justice Center Reduce Criminal Recidivism?* San Francisco, CA: RAND Corporation.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GIVE OFFENDERS A BETTER CHANCE TO SUCCEED

2

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">MORE COMMUNITY-BASED DRUG TREATMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Due to a lack of affordable and effective community-based substance abuse treatment, long-term incarceration is often necessary to gain access to such treatment. • Initiative: Look at the availability and affordability of substance abuse treatment resources throughout the state, and determine where additional resources may be necessary. Substance abuse treatment should include a holistic approach, providing vocational skills for clientele. 	
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research best practices and discuss/document current resources • Involve and partner with local non-profits and for-profit agencies • Determine a possibly phased approach to adding resources, including mental health, substance abuse and vocational resources, among others • Research needed funds and resources to make treatment available to the most people • Implement first phase of plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GIVE OFFENDERS A BETTER CHANCE TO SUCCEED

2

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">REDUCE RECIDIVISM</p> <p>Issue: About 76% of former prisoners are rearrested for a serious offense within three years of release from a Delaware secure facility, according to the Delaware Statistical Analysis Center’s report “Recidivism in Delaware: An Analysis of Prisoners Released in 2010 through 2012”.</p> <p>Initiative: Delaware’s Strategic Plan for Prisoner Reentry is a collaborative, system-wide effort developed as part of the state’s Recidivism Reduction System Blueprint. This effort reduces recidivism through the use of data-driven and evidence-based practices, resulting in fewer violations and crimes committed by formerly incarcerated persons, fairer approaches, and increased cost effectiveness, and increased public safety in Delaware Communities. Working committees include: Core Team, Evidence-Based Principles Workgroup, Data and Evaluation Workgroup, and Prisoner Reentry Workgroup (including subgroups for Employment, Housing, Education, and Behavioral Health).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Completed) Develop an MOU between Governor’s Office, the National Criminal Justice Reform Project (NCJRP), and Delaware’s Committee on CJ Reform • The NCJRP will perform technical assistance to summarize the goals, objectives, responsibilities, and general activities through December 2017 • The University of Delaware led the evaluation efforts, working closely with SAC, DELJIS, and DOC • A report to the Governor was submitted in December 2017, outlining their preliminary policy recommendations for reducing recidivism, policies to guide the overall Prisoner Reentry Initiative, and recommended steps to implementation. • The Evidence Based Practices workgroup, with DOC, is planning a conference and subsequent series of meetings aimed at supporting evidence based practices. • Housing workgroup is looking at various assessment tools with the objective of not releasing people into homelessness. Discussing quantitative goals. • A Special Project Coordinator has been appointed.
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing with the next phase of implementation. 	

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE
THE MEANS TO PROGRESS**

1

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">EXPANSION OF PROCESS IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Processes should be continuously evaluated, and the state should invest in employees to provide them the skills to do so. • Initiative: Establish a culture of continuous improvement by teaching our employees valuable private sector skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (On-going) Judicial Branch partnership with UD for training • (On-going) Include all agencies within the criminal justice system to participate in training
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE
THE MEANS TO PROGRESS**

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p>PARTNER WITH UNIVERSITIES FOR EXPANDED RESEARCH CAPACITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue: Busy managers often find it difficult to undertake change and conduct the research needed to analyze possible initiatives. • Initiative: Partnering with the University of Delaware to contractually employ graduate-level students who study policy, such as those in Public Administration or Business programs, to provide research that can fuel positive improvements in the criminal justice system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (On-going) Judicial Branch partnership with UD • (On-going) Show other agencies what a small amount of resources can accomplish • New research includes: “Examining the Social Causes of Arrests and Criminal Processing in Delaware” by Ellen Donnelly and Karen F. Parker of the University of Delaware Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, and “Does More Discretion Change Incarceration Sentencing” by Ellen Donnelly and John MacDonald (University of Pennsylvania).
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand program to other interested agencies 	

CRIMINAL JUSTICE THE MEANS TO PROGRESS

Objectives and Achievements	In Progress
<p style="text-align: center;">IMPROVED ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES</p> <p>Issue: There are organizations and programs in various departments that may be a better fit elsewhere. For example, there are numerous advocacy or monitoring agencies within the Judicial Branch and the Department of Safety and Homeland Security which are not necessarily cohesive with their core missions (e.g., Non-Judicial agencies within the Courts, and disability organizations within DSHS).</p> <p>Another example is the DUI Provider Program within the Office of Highway Safety, DSHS, also referred to as the Delaware Evaluation and Referral Program or DERP. OHS has overseen this statutorily-mandated program for approximately 30 years (21 Del. C. § 4177D). At that time, the Department of Safety and Homeland Security was called the Department of Public Safety, which included the DMV. Over time, however, not only have there been structural changes to the department, but the OHS has been having to oversee and sometimes intervene in clinical issues, for which they do not have expertise or education.</p> <p>Initiative: Finding appropriate homes for Non-Judicial agencies, where they can strongly advocate for their clients and their own operations, and in which they are not competing with the Judicial Branch’s core missions. The Judicial Branch has no ability to provide proper oversight of these agencies with the current level of staffing, or without creating additional conflicts.</p> <p>The Delaware Evaluation and Referral Program (DERP) should be relocated. Though at one time it was considered a conflict for DHSS to oversee the program, there is now agreement that no such conflict exists. DHSS also has expertise in these areas, and already oversees most of these treatment agencies currently. This change would improve the implementation and oversight of DUI Treatment and Education Provider contracts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with GEAR partners to determine best homes for the Non-Judicial Agencies, the disability agencies which are currently located in DSHS, and the DERP in OHS • Update history of the agencies, and state comparisons of similar agencies (Judicial Fellows assignment from January through May) • (Oct 2018) Request recommended approaches in the budget process
Next Steps (Future Activities)	Challenges (Issues and Risks effecting your effort)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Dec 2018) Draft legislation and regulatory changes as appropriate, consistent with the recommended approaches • (July 2019) Implement changes in new fiscal year 	