# Data Sharing Task Force Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

#### Minutes

December 7, 2016, 9:30 AM – 11:30 PM 700 Kipling, 3rd Floor E.D.O. Conference Room

## **ATTENDEES:**

# **CHAIR**

Jeanne Smith, Division of Criminal Justice

## **TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Meg Williams, Juvenile Parole Scott Turner, Attorney General's Office

## **ABSENT**

Kris Nash, Division of Probation Service Maureen Cain, Defense Attorney Lang Sias, House Representative

# **G**UESTS

Meghan Dollar, Colorado Municipal League Peggy Heil, Division of Criminal Justice

# **STAFF**

Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant Kim English, Division of Criminal Justice Christine Adams, Division of Criminal Justice

# Issue/Topic:

#### Welcome

#### Discussion:

Ms. Smith began the meeting by discussing how the group needs more people from the municipalities in the room. She stated that people have been reluctant to join the conversation without knowing what they are committing to. Mr. Stroker noted that he and Ms. Smith had discussed the best way to engage people from the municipalities and how to get them excited to participate. He suggested sending a survey to municipalities regarding the data they have, the systems they use and whether or not they would be interested in pursuing a data sharing initiative.

Issue	

### Survey Idea

#### Action

#### **Discussion:**

Mr. Stroker said that his hope is that today the group could spend the meeting discussing what could be asked on the survey and who it should be distributed to.

Ms. Dollar stated that she has access to municipal court administrators and judges via listservs, and she could distribute the survey to them.

Ms. Williams added that a survey may show us who has a computer system vs paper files or simple spread sheets. Ms. English noted that a simple question about interest in data sharing (interested, not interested, interested but no resources) may answer this question to some degree.

## Issue/Topic:

## **Survey Components**

## Action

DCJ staff will draft a survey within next few weeks.

- TF will edit via email.
- Megan will distribute to municipal contacts.

Ms. Dollar will contact Adams County.

#### Discussion:

Mr. Stroker stated that the main questions should be directed to determine what type of system the court currently uses and what gaps exist.

Ms. Heil said that the nice thing about the Adams County project is that it is programmed as open source so it is not proprietary. Ms. Dollar said she would contact colleagues in Adams County and obtain information about how they became engaged in the process.

Ms. Smith was interested in business practice questions → do you find that you have to contact other cities/agencies to do your job? If so, who do you have to contact?

Mr. Stroker stated that surveys should be short and sent to the most appropriate person.

Ms. Smith stated that one of the best components of the Adams County system is that people from different agencies (i.e., different systems) can access

information they need without going to different systems to access it (nor do they have to call people from other agencies). Each agency continues to "own" their data and control access.

- Ms. Williams stated that it is important that we do not create a new system to enter data into and that we have to worry about who has access to what data.
- It was asked if Adams County conducted a survey to determine what should be included. If so, maybe it could be used as a sample.

Ms. Williams suggested that it may be good to ask Debbie Allen (Adams County Planner) what information, in hindsight, she would like to have had or what she was surprised her members wanted to be included in the system.

Ms. Dollar stated that court administrators have discussed data sharing before and nothing came of it so they are weary of the topic. She feels that this group needs to show that something will come from their interest.

- Benefits of giving and receiving data should be laid out and the necessary resources should be explained.

Ms. English asked who has the authority to decide that data can be shared. Ms. Dollar stated that it would probably be the city council and/or city attorney.

- Ms. Smith suggested we ask if they would be willing to be a part of an effort to explore data sharing rather than committing to actual data sharing since they may not have this authority anyway.
- Ms. Dollar noted that most decisions will be made based on financial capability.

Mr. Stroker summarized by saying that we have one county (Adams) that has a sophisticated response to the cross-system data sharing issue but we need to know what the gap is regarding the rest of the state as well as which counties are interested in moving forward before deciding next steps.

- The group may want to propose a statewide initiative but that cannot happen before we know the gaps yet.
- Ms. Dollar noted that many smaller courts will be "courts not of record" anyway so they should be taken out of the equation as would the counties that only use paper.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

**Next Meeting: February 1** 

\*\*\*Note: During legislative session Mark Radtke, CML Researcher, may attend for Ms. Dollar.