

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION COORDINATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF DISCUSSION HELD ON
April 16, 2019

Present: Judges Brouck Jacobs, Jeff Harris, Kevin Crane, Jodie Asel, Kimberly Shaw, Tracy Gonzalez, Stephanie Morrell, Commissioner Casey Clevenger, and Columbia Municipal Judge Cavanaugh Noce. Also present were Boone County Commissioner Janet Thompson, Boone County Auditor June Pitchford, Boone County Circuit Clerk Christy Blakemore and Unit Manager Sherry Seiling, District Public Defender Sarah Aplin and Deputy District Defender Jeremy Pilkington, Boone County Prosecutor Dan Knight and First Assistant Prosecutor Roger Johnson, Probation and Parole Unit Supervisor Pari Smith, Reality House Operation Director Blair Campmier, Boone County Major Tom Reddin and Detention Director Keith Hoskins, Race Matters, Friends representatives Peggy Placier and Nina Hampton, Court Services Supervisor Brandon Walker, Court Administrator Mary Epping and Deputy Court Administrator Cindy Garrett.

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Judge Kevin Crane called the meeting to order in the Law Library of the Boone County Courthouse at 7:45 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Pari Smith, Unit Supervisor from Probation and Parole, was introduced.

2. Review Minutes of March 19, 2019

No corrections were noted.

3. Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges

Judge Kevin Crane congratulated Judge Kimberly Shaw who was recently elected to serve a two year term on the Board of Directors for the Missouri Association of Probate and Associate Circuit Judges.

4. Bond List

Judge Kevin Crane said for years Bondsman Richard Cloud was sent the bond list from the clerk's office and he would post it at the jail. There were discussions about this process and a new practice has been established for the bond list to be created by a clerk in the judge's office where it then goes directly to the jail. This system also allows for rotating the names on the list.

5. Race Matters, Friends

Peggy Placier provided a handout that gave updates on the local bail fund. She said their phone number was placed on the March 1 bond list and of the numerous phone calls

received they have bailed 7 people from jail that fit their criteria. They have spent approximately \$4,500, ranging in bonds from \$50 to \$1,400. She said their criteria remains at a \$2,000 limit for people who are residents of Boone County with non-violent charges. They are awaiting their first bail refund. Peggy asked if they paid a 10% surety of \$50 whether Race Matters, Friends or the defendant would be responsible for the \$450 balance if the defendant does not show for court. It was agreed the defendant would be responsible for the remaining amount as Race Matters, Friends is not a surety and the cash bond is placed in the defendant's name. Peggy stated they file a bond assignment form with the clerk's office on the cases where they have bonded defendants. Judge Kevin Crane clarified this is a contract between the defendant who was bonded and Race Matters, Friends agreeing that any monies would be assigned back to Race Matters, Friends. Judge Crane said this is an enforceable contract that is entered into and memorialized by the clerk. Nina Hampton said their biggest issue is the assessment of fees for using credit cards to pay bail or adding to an inmate's account, and there is a \$6.00 charge for receiving a collect call from an inmate. Judge Crane asked how they knew the credit card fee was excessive. Race, Matters Friends believes the 7% fee is excessive compared to other vendors. She said they have a credit card and could use it, however due to the additional charges they now need to get money orders or cash, which adds another step to their process. It was discussed that credit cards have been used at the jail for at least 33 years and there has always been a fee associated with the credit card. In 2013 the fee was reduced to 7%, under Judge Gary Oxenhandler's administration with the approval of attorney Rusty Antel. Circuit Clerk Christy Blakemore said there are extra services provided by this credit card vendor including routing the money to the appropriate location, which other credit card vendors were unable to provide. Judge Crane said credit cards are an option as an additional way for the convenience of the accused. Judge Crane said if 7% is in fact too high, we should review and see if it can be lowered. Judge Asel said she understands some credit cards get a 3% fee, however the question is whether there is a company that will provide the same services we are getting from the current vendor, for a lower fee. Christy also said this vendor guarantees the money, in case of someone using a stolen credit card, etc. Keith said the company has a website that allows for people to post the bond over the phone or online, which is especially helpful for people who are posting bonds for friends or family from out of state. Judge Crane said we want to allow defendants to get out of jail sooner rather than later. Race Matters, Friends said in closing they are conscious of their limited funds and that is why they worry about having an extra charge put on a credit card as they want to allow their donations to go as far as possible.

6. Adult Court Services Report

Adult Court Services Supervisor Brandon Walker said bond supervision numbers are trending higher as there were 150 on supervision last week, which is rare and at the top end of where they have been in the past. He also said home detention is trending slightly lower, however their overall numbers are fairly high compared to this time last year.

7. **Other**

None.

8. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at 7:45 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 a.m.

Prepared by: Cindy Garrett
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Deputy Court Administrator

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cc: Meeting Attendees
Presiding Commissioner Atwill
Commissioner Parry