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January 16, 2015

Jeff Shorba State Court Administrator Minnesota Judicial Center Suite #135 25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd St. Paul, MN 55155

Elizabeth Lincoln, Director Legislative Reference Library 645 State Office Bldg. 100 Martin Luther King Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Biennial Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Report 2013-2014

Dear Mr. Shorba and Ms. Lincoln:

Enclosed please find Rice County's Biennial Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Report 2013-2014.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jøhn L. Fossum

Rice County Attorney

Enclosure

RICE COUNTY ATTORNEY BIENNIAL ADULT PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION REPORT 2013 and 2014

Purpose of Report

This report is made pursuant to Minnesota Statute §401.065 which requires each county attorney to report biennially to the state court administrator and the legislature on the operation of its mandated pre-trial diversion program.

Pre-Trial Diversion Program

The Rice County Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Program is offered as an alternative to criminal prosecution with the goals of providing responsible alternatives to conviction, reduction of recidivism, restoration of the victim, and reduction of prosecution costs. There are three different programs available in Rice County: Traffic Diversion, Pre-Charge Diversion, and Property Crimes Diversion. The programs are available to first-time offenders who have had criminal charges filed against them or have a request for charges submitted to the Rice County Attorney's Office. The offenders must meet the criteria for diversion established by the Rice County Attorney's Office.

Number of Offenders Participating in the Program during the Reporting Period.

There were 46 participations in Pre-trial Diversion Program in 2013 and 2014. All of the participants successfully completed the program except for 3 individuals.

Number and Characteristics of Offenders Successfully Completing Program during the Reporting Period

The following characteristics have been documented regarding those offenders who successfully completed diversion:

Gender

28 male offenders (65.1 %) 15 female offenders (34.9%)

Age

10 offenders age 18-25 (23.2%) 33 offenders age 26 and older (26.8%)

Offense

- 22 Traffic Diversion (51.2%)
- 1 Pre-charging Diversion (2.3%)
- 20 Property Crimes Diversion (46.5%)
 - Theft related (65%)
 - 3 Issue Dishonored Check (15%)
 - 2 Forgery (10%)
 - 1 Property Damage (5%)
 - Financial Card Fraud (5%)

Number and Characteristics of Offenders Failing Program during the Reporting Period

The following characteristics have been documented regarding those offenders who successfully completed diversion:

Gender

- 1 male offender (33.3 %)
- 2 female offenders (66.7%)

Age

3 offenders age 26 and older (100%)

Offense

- 3 Property Crimes Diversion (100%)
 - 1 Theft related (33.3%)
 - 2 Issue Dishonored Check (66.7%)

Evaluation on Program's Effect on Operation of Rice County Criminal Justice System

The Rice County Pre-Trial Diversion program diverted 31 cases in 2013 and 15 cases in 2014. Of the 46 cases, 43 (93.5%) successfully completed the program. Of the 20 successfully completed Property Crimes Diversion Program, restitution was completely made to the victim. Diversion not only lessens the burden on the current caseload for all those involved in the Rice County criminal justice system, it is a means to restore the victim for monetary loss caused by these crimes.

How many individuals were participating in your Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Program on December 31, 2004 (One-day count) 21

How many individuals entered your Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Program during the calendar years 2013 and 2014? (Biennium total) 46

How many individuals successfully completed your Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Program during the calendar years 2013 and 2014? (Biennium total) 43

How many individuals were terminated from your Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Program as program failures during the calendar years 2013 and 2014? (Biennium total) 3

John/L. Fossum

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