



**Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Victims' Rights Committee Minutes
Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

Team Members Present:

Jen Dunn (Co-Chair)	Marla Bell (Co-Chair)	Hon. Brad Schimel
Elizabeth Lucas		

Team Members Excused:

Kendall Schultz	Eryn Menden	Monica Paz
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Also Present:

Rebecca Luczaj	Daniel Rieck	Alex Klosterman
Cassie Miller (proxy for Menden)		

Dunn called the meeting to order at 12:18 p.m.

Approve Minutes from November 15, 2021 Meeting

Motion: Bell moved, second by Dunn, to approve the CJCC Victims' Rights Committee minutes from November 15, 2021. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Discuss and Consider Committee Membership Change

Motion: Bell moved, second by Dunn, to add Court Commissioner Daniel Rieck to the CJCC Victims' Rights Committee. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Discuss Judicial Inquires About Victims at Hearings ~AND~ Follow-Up on Use of Protective vs. No-Contact Orders

Dunn stated that the Victim Witness Assistance division requests that victims are not inquired about at the hearings. This includes, but is not limited to, asking if the victim is present, if the victim has been contacted, and asking about the victim's feelings on any aspect of the court case.

A brief letter will be filed to notify the court if the victim wishes to be heard about modifying or dropping a no-contact order. The letter will not contain details as to why the victim is requesting this to occur.

Schimel arrived at 12:33 p.m.

Follow-Up on Discussion Regarding Restitution Affidavit and Sealing Restitution

Victims Witness staff will no longer be requesting that victims fill out the affidavit, as the original intent to not have the victim attend the hearing, has not been accommodated. The affidavit seems to have caused confusion regarding what should be occurring.

Schimel will discuss this issue with Paz and take it back to the C/T Judges for consideration.

This topic will be discussed again at the next committee meeting.

Continue to Discuss Revising Information for Victims on How to Receive Restitution Once Ordered

This topic will be tabled and off the agenda until the restitution issue is resolved.

Follow-Up on Consistent Use of Zoom for Court Appearances

This topic has been tabled until a future meeting.

Announcements

Lucas announced that on April 13 and 14, the DOJ and Marsy's Law for Wisconsin will be putting on a free, virtual WI Crime Victims' Rights Conference. Both days will be half days and there will be three tracks directed toward: courts, attorneys/judges, and those who work with victims and survivors. For more information, visit equalrightsforwi.com/conference.

Dunn reported that she has completed the annual report on the work of Pepper, the Victim Assistance Comfort Dog, who worked with 110 victims in 2021.

Judge Melvin is the new presiding judge in the Criminal/Traffic Division.

Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- There were no additional agenda items discussed for the next meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Motion: Bell moved, second by Schimel, to adjourn the meeting at 1:09 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.