

An Overview of “First Look” – Informational June 13th, 2018

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PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS



“First Look” - Concept

Alternative/Differential Criminal Justice Case Processing

Collaboration between PAO, PD, the Court, and Pretrial Services

A Separate Pathway for Eligible Low risk/Low-Level Adult Felony Offenses and High risk/low level offenses—Focusing on Class C and some Class B felonies

Benefits to the Entire Justice System

Just and Equitable Resolutions



What's Different?

Traditionally, Low-Level “First Look” Cases are Scheduled with All Other Criminal Cases

Result has been Overcrowded Calendars

Address Each Individual Case by Designated Group of Attorneys

Establishing Non-Traditional Outcomes Based on Each Individual Case

Option to Make Community-Based Resource Referrals in Lieu of Jail

Exploring different opportunities for accountability than just detention time

Creating “buy in” from the offender in being part of the resolution

Coordinating and collaborating with a number of partners in the criminal justice system



Resources


PAO to Dedicate 3 attorneys

- - Looking to expand resources to be involved at the earliest possible moment when the offender comes in to contact with the criminal justice system i.e prior to their initial appearance before the Court

TCPD to Dedicate 3 attorneys

Special Court Calendar – Tuesday 8:30 a.m.

Pretrial Services

- Need Additional Resources to Offer Pre-Trial Diversions
 - Potential TST Funding to Staff Diversion Officer in Pretrial Services
 - Increase the ability to divert individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorders from jail services
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Expected Impacts

Average Superior Court Criminal Filings +/- 2100 Cases

Anticipate 25% – 33 % of All Filings Referred to First Look

- 525 to 700 Cases a Year
- - From November 2017 to May 2017 First Look filed over 420 cases

Just/Fair resolutions in a more timely manner

- Early referrals to therapeutic Courts

Reduction in Congested Non-First Look Criminal Calendars

Increase in Community-Based Services Referrals



Baby Doe- Case Example

20 year old female arrested for possession of methamphetamine

Missed a number of court appearances and was eventually detained in the jail

Standard sentence recommendation of 30 days in-custody, 12 months of supervision with the Department of Corrections to include a substance abuse evaluation and complete any recommended treatment. \$800 in legal financial obligations.

DOC assessed her low risk, no supervision = no treatment

Back in less than two months with a new drug charge

What did we accomplish?

Jane Doe – Case Example

ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY 2ND

- Found in Walmart bathroom, suspected of heroin overdose
- Possession of stolen purse, October 2017
- Criminal history includes juvenile charges and Adult misdemeanors, with 1 felony conviction
- Reported a history of substance use disorder treatment when interviewed by Pretrial Services
- Scores as “High Property” on risk assessment

FIRST LOOK

- Released on Pretrial Services supervision
- Completed inpatient treatment
- No violations while on supervision
- Case amended and plea entered in April 2018
- On her 180th clean and sober day
- No new charges to date

John Doe (No Relation) – Case Example

ARRESTED FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND UNLAWFUL
POSSESSION OF SHORT BARRELED SHOTGUN

- Veteran rated 70% disabled
- Male in his 50's with no criminal history
- Unable to make ends meet on current income, sharing house with individuals using and selling drugs
- Cooperative with law enforcement
- Reports problem with substances to Pretrial Services

FIRST LOOK

- Pretrial Services coordinated referral to substance use disorder assessment and treatment
- Moved into affordable housing with clean and sober support systems, Pretrial Services able to connect with support systems for verification
- Pretrial Services monitoring sobriety

Goals of First Look

To look at each case independently and to proactively assess “what are the goals of this prosecution”

Predicated on accepting responsibility

Develop increased collaboration with current criminal justice partners but also actively exploring non-traditional community partnerships to better effectuate just resolutions

To look beyond what just can be proved and formulate a fair resolution collaboratively with a focus on removing the hurdles that are preventing the offender from being successful

Thoroughly explaining the resolution to the Court, the Defendant, victims if involved and any members of the community in the Courtroom so that everyone walks away with an understanding of how we got to this result and why

First Look is just getting started

- Every case presents an opportunity for a different success story
- Accountability and public safety will always be the primary goal
- Multi-agency collaboration is a necessary piece for next steps in the program
 - Identifying partners
 - - Leveraging resources
 - - Creating new resources
 - - Developing new opportunities for creative resolutions

This is just the beginning.... Stay tuned

QUESTIONS?