

**Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force**  
**Legal Systems Ad Hoc Committee**  
**Meeting Summary, January 04, 2016**  
 Bellingham Municipal Court, Fireplace Room, 2014 C Street,  
 Bellingham WA  
 9:00 – 11:00am

**Attendance**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Bernstein, Jill	Citizen Representative
Elfo, Bill	Whatcom County Sheriff
Garrett, Deborra	Whatcom County Superior Court
Gockley, Stephen	WAHA
Hammill, Daniel	City of Bellingham, City Council
Huffman, Matt (proxy for M. Knapp)	Small Cities Caucus
Heydrich, Fred - Chair	Whatcom County Superior Court
McEachran, Dave	Whatcom County Prosecutor's Office
Moonwater	Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center
Morgan, Irene	Restorative Community Coalition
Parks, Jeff (proxy for Sheriff Elfo)	Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
Peterson, Darlene	City of Bellingham, Municipal Court
Ruffatto, Peter	City of Bellingham, Mayor's office
Walker, Kathy (proxy for Dave McEachran)	Whatcom County Prosecutor's Office
<b>Guests</b>	
Adrian, Randy	WCSO, Jail Alternatives
Erickson, Caleb	WCSO, Jail Alternatives
<b>Staff</b>	
Wight, Dean	WAHA Lead Facilitator
Smith, Veronica	WAHA

**Meeting Summary**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Alfred Heydrich called the meeting to order, and introduced Dean Wight as WAHA's Lead Facilitator . Jill Bernstein introduced Randy Adrian and Caleb Erickson to the group.

**2. Jail Alternatives Program Review**

Eligibility for Jail Alternatives Program was reviewed by the guest speakers. The current census is at 85% of capacity; key points from program review include:

- Current system assigns "points" to previous history and behaviors, ranks and generates a list.
- That list is cross-referenced with medical eligibility to determine possible transfers
- This process is a daily (M-F) process.
- There are not enough qualified people to be there
- Facility has dorms
- There is a population of people waiting to serve time in one of the available programs, generally because there is an unresolved issue that they need to address prior to entering a program.

Extensive Q & A about fees for programs, and minimum security nature of the facility

**Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force**  
Legal Systems Ad Hoc Committee  
Meeting Summary, January 04, 2016  
Bellingham Municipal Court, Fireplace Room, 2014 C Street,  
Bellingham WA  
9:00 – 11:00am

Electronic Monitoring (EHD and EHM) were discussed, as were risk factors associated with these programs.

What can we do better?

- Expand scope and put pre-trial people into the program
- Earlier adjudication
- Consider adding staff to increase monitoring program capacity
- Address treatment need as a part of monitoring support
- Improve communications between departments and jurisdictions
- Implement technology solutions to increase efficiency
- Help clients follow through with their obligations
- Consider on-site substance use disorder assessments

**3. Refine Brainstorming Session Material**

See attached Excel file. (Note: Ideas submitted to the full Task Force have been added to this document as well, and are noted as such)

**4. Statement of Work (deferred)**

**5. Next Steps**

- Committee will meet January 25, 2016 from 9 – 11am, at the Bellingham Municipal Court, Fireplace Room, 2014 C Street, Bellingham WA
- WAHA Staff will provide a draft of the Phase One Report for review prior to the next meeting of this Committee
- Meeting of the Task Force is February 01, 2016 from 9 – 11am, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham WA Rooms 513/514.