

**LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
December 21, 2009**

The Law and Justice Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, December 21, 2009 @ 6:30p.m. in the DeKalb County Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Marlene Allen called the meeting to order. Those present were Riley Oncken, Michael Stuckert and Anita Turner. Mr. Chambliss and Mr. Tyson were absent. A quorum was present. Ms. Margi Gilmour, Marilyn Stromborg, Jill Olson and Sheriff Scott were also present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Oncken, seconded by Mr. Stuckert, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from November 2009.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Mr. Oncken, seconded by Ms. Turner, and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda

CASA UPDATE – MS. JILL OLSON

Ms. Jill Olson, Executive Director of DeKalb County CASA, briefly updated the committee on her department. She said that last year they served 146 kids and by 12/16/09 they have already served 176 kids. They have 16 new advocates this year and they were all sworn-n with assigned cases. Right now the advocate's caseload is at capacity.

They are holding their own with their funding and they are very grateful for the funding that the County has provided for them, said Ms. Olson. They don't rely heavily on grant monies. They do get a lot of their money from fundraising, of which, they have seen a drop in funds this year, and she feels it is because of the economy.

DRUG COURT UPDATE – MS. MARILYN STROMBORG

Ms. Marilyn Stromborg, DeKalb County's Drug Court Administrator, briefly updated the committee on her department and the drug court program. She said that they have held 3 graduations in 2009 with 15 people graduating. There were 10 men and 5 women, all full or part-time employed and on an average they spent 26 months in drug court.

There have been six people dismissed from drug court. The Judge and the Drug Court staff emphasize that alcohol is a drug and that as addicts they can not drink. Most of the dismissals from drug court have been fueled by alcohol.

Drug Court has collected fees in the months of August, September and October 2009 totaling \$40,182.40. They will have 2 graduations in total for 2010 with the next graduation scheduled for May 2010.

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S REPORT

Ms. Regina Harris, the DeKalb County Public Defender, was not present.

COURT SERVICES REPORTS – MS. MARGI GILMOUR

Ms. Gilmour, Director of the DeKalb County Court Services Department, said that in the Adult Report that there were 16 new cases filed in November 2009. She also mentioned that the Community Restitution Services hours ordered last month were 8,145 hours and the hours completed were 5,439.

Ms. Gilmour then reported that under the Juvenile Court Services Report there were 4 detentions for the month of November with 2 being for the first time, 1 for the 3rd time and 1 for the 6th time.

Ms. Gilmour also said that her department has met with a couple for the the Safehouse and she hopes that they will work out. Once a family has been chosen, Court Services will hold an Open House and invite the entire county board to attend.

JAIL REPORT

Sheriff Scott briefly covered the Jail Report for November 2009. Sheriff Scott said that there were 128 inmates housed in the Jail for the month of November. He feels that at the end of December they will be slightly under their budget for out-of-county transports. They have budgeted \$600,000 for this expense in next year's budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Oncken, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Allen, Chairman

MA:mcs