

Strategic Justice Partnership Court Procedure

Overview

The Strategic Justice Partnership (SJP) is a program designed for individuals charged or convicted of livability offenses in Minneapolis. It aims to deter and reduce recidivism by addressing the underlying issues that contribute to the criminal behavior. Ron Cunningham will be the dedicated probation officer for clients who are placed on active supervised probation and a Hennepin County Social worker will work with clients who are not on active probation. A Hennepin County Public Defender will attend the weekly meetings to stay updated on the progress of clients and to provide input.

Eligibility:

In order to be eligible for SJP the individual must meet the following criteria:

1. The individual must be charged with or convicted of at least one misdemeanor that occurred in Downtown Minneapolis.
2. If the individual is a predatory offender, he or she is not eligible.
3. If the individual has an open domestic assault case, he or she is not eligible.
4. The individual must be willing to work with either a social worker or a probation officer depending on their needs.
5. The individual must fill out a needs assessment survey.

Procedure:

1. Referrals are welcome by any public defender, private attorney, city employee or member of the public. They must email both kerri.johnson@minneapolismn.gov and Connie.Flattum@minneapolismn.gov
2. Kerri and Connie will determine if the individual qualifies for admission into SJP.
3. Individuals may be handled within the court system or have their cases suspended and handled outside the court system.
4. If the individual is placed on active supervision with Ron Cunningham their case is not eligible for Restorative Court. If the individual is working with a social worker and not on active probation their cases may be placed on the Restorative Court calendar.
5. Individuals may be ordered to meet with their probation officer or social worker on a dedicated time and date on the Restorative calendar or at the social workers office.