

MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY BASED PROSECUTION

Problem Solving Through Collaboration For Community Safety



CPU Definition and Principles

DEFINITION

Community Prosecution is a philosophy that encourages government agencies, community based organizations, private businesses, and neighborhood residents to work collaboratively to create safer neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life.

4 CORE PRINCIPLES

- Recognize the Community's Role in Public Safety
- Engage in Problem Solving
 - Place-based
 - Person-based
 - Collective Efficacy
- Establish and Maintain Partnerships
- Evaluate the Outcomes of Activities

- **Target Team/Neighborhood Safety Team (NST)**
 - District Captain and Community Prosecutor manage the NST activities
 - Neighborhood Safety Coordinator acts as the administrative coordinator for the NST
 - CPU line level representatives
 - Regular and structured meetings (i.e., generally consistent set of agenda items discussed on a weekly or bi-weekly basis; min. monthly)
 - Strategically address problematic people and places
 - Action requires attention of two or more agencies

NSTs



Difference between a DISTRICT Attorney and a CITY Attorney

DISTRICT ATTORNEY	CITY ATTORNEY
Employed by the State	Employed by the City
CRIMINAL lawsuits on behalf of the State	CIVIL lawsuits (including municipal citations) on behalf of the City
Behaviors (tenants)	Properties (owners)

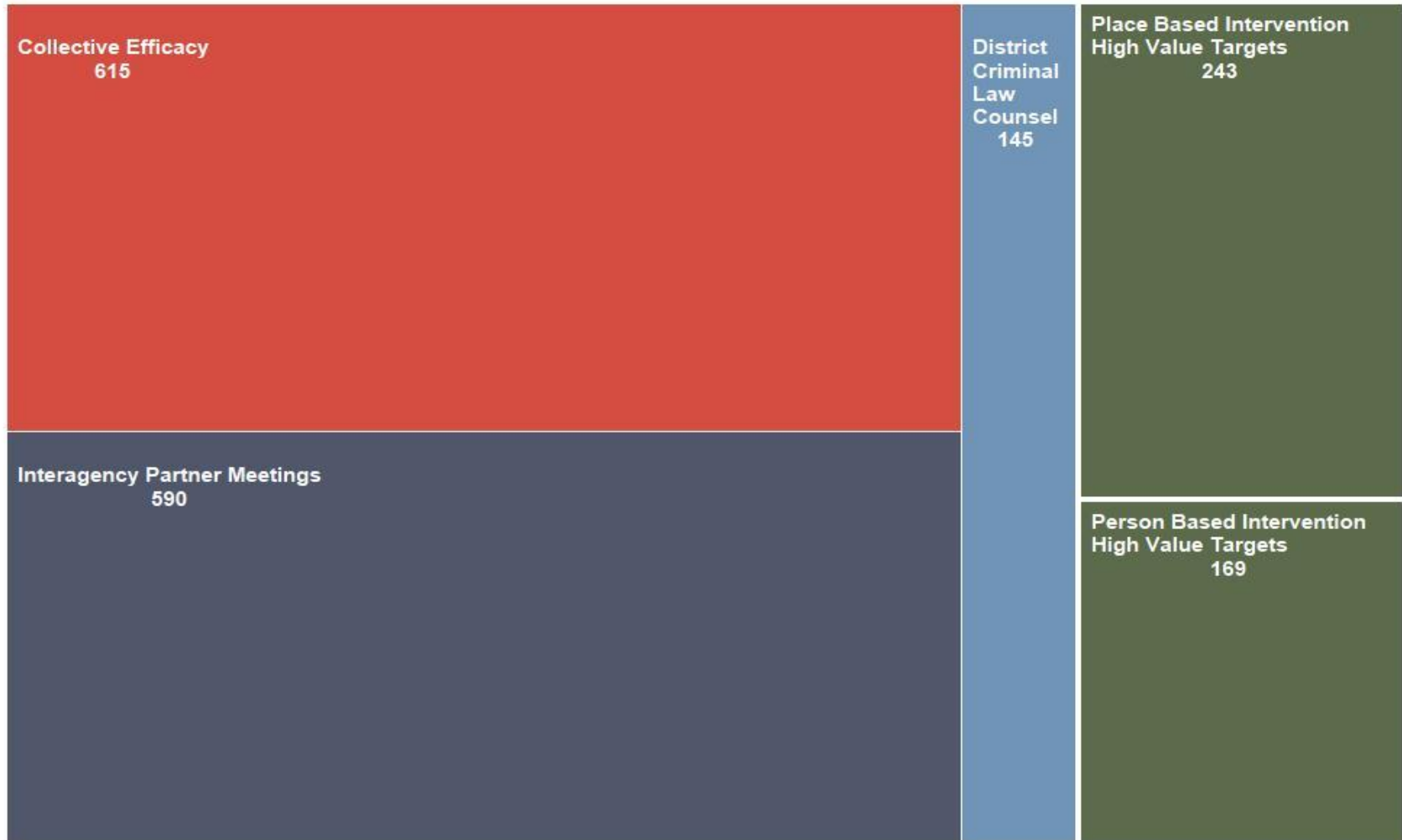
Similarities between the District and City Attorneys.....

- Work in collaboration with neighbors, community organizations (i.e., SOC, Benedict Center, Inner Beauty, Sojourner Truth, etc.), Safe and Sound, MPD, City Officials and others to make neighborhoods safer through deterring and decreasing crime and blight.
- Creative problem solving for problem properties (and the people who own and/or live in them) (i.e., CPTED, call-ins, 80-10, etc).
- Work in collaboration with each other when both criminal and civil issues arise.
- A deep and passionate commitment to the residents of the City of Milwaukee!

CPU Role of the City Attorney

- Serve as MPD Districts' civil law counsel for licensing issues (revocation, nonrenewal, suspension), municipal citations, nuisance litigation, Nuisance Designations and After-Set Designations.
- Represent MPD in appeals of nuisance designations based on MCO 80-10
- Problem-solving in collaboration with MPD and DNS related to problem properties (vacant properties, mismanaged properties, delinquent tax properties, properties with criminal or building code-based nuisance issues).

Overall CPU Activity: 2018 to 9-30-2019



- Collective Efficacy
- Interagency Partner Meetings
- High Value Targets
- District Criminal Law Counsel

Source: Community Prosecution Unit
Activity Database. Extracted
10/21/2019

MPD District #1

CPU 2019 Notable Accomplishments

Place Based Initiatives

- ▣ **I-794 freeway in the area bordered by North 6th St., Clybourn Ave., St. Paul Ave., and 8th St. (tent encampment)**
- ▣ Milwaukee Police Department documented more than 70 calls for service in 2019 that were within a 400' buffer of the encampment
 - CPU met with residents and business owners in the area regarding the optics of the tents, the unsanitary conditions, aggressive panhandling, disorderly behavior in public locations (Intermodal, Milwaukee Public Market, restaurants in the Third Ward, Central Library and other neighboring businesses), the public urination observed by citizens by those occupying the underpass of the I-794 freeway, drug and alcohol use, litter, and safety issues..
 - CPU, City, County and State collaboration lead to the implementation of a long-term sustainable plan to assist the homeless with housing resources, such as shelter and/or permanent housing.
 - CPU reviewed numerous police referrals for violent conduct that occurred at the tent encampment, and has current law enforcement matters pending and/or under investigation.
 - CPU has met with numerous community advocacy groups to provide a context of the importance of collaboration and an alignment of Housing First principles to encourage homeless to move inside.
 - CPU met with neighborhood associations, business improvement districts, citizens and companies to educate citizens on the best practices of helping the homeless, i.e. not dropping of food items, tents, blankets, and furniture at the encampment (creating more garbage and dissuading folks from seeking shelter and/or housing), but rather contributing to Housing First or organizations that assist with rental application fees, security deposits, housing kits, funding for an Endowment which would provide for a homeless outreach professional and other services needed, such as case management.
 - CPU focused on prolific bike thieves and chronic nuisance individuals in the downtown business area (E. and W. Wisconsin Avenue) and collaborated with both Marquette University and UW-Milwaukee police departments as the same prolific offenders transverse both campuses and the downtown area.
 - CPU conducts knock and talks with DNS to proactively engage UW-M students with respecting quality of life issues and being good neighbors. CPU also meets with problem landlords to discuss nuisance abatement.

Presentations and Community Education

- CPU responds to weekly requests for crime trends, personal, work and home environment safety trainings at businesses, faith based organizations, and neighborhood association meetings.

Person Based Initiatives – the below referenced list is just a few of the prolific D. #1 offenders that have been convicted and/or currently being prosecuted

- Mario Binns (chronic nuisance individual in the Brady Street area and east side) – convicted of 9 counts of Bail Jumping and Retail Theft from Walgreens and 7-Eleven stores;
- Steven Connelly – (5 hour stand-off with the police, resulting in street and building closures) convicted of Failure to Comply with Officer's Attempt to Take Person Into Custody, 2 counts of Disorderly Conduct, Theft and Attempt to Operate a Vehicle without Owner's Consent – sentencing pending;
- Victor Robinson (prolific burglar) – convicted of Burglary – sentencing pending;
- Damon Simpson – convicted and sentenced for Disorderly Conduct and 2 counts of Bail Jumping;
- Lawrence Richard – convicted of Burglary as a Habitual Criminal – sentencing pending;
- Darnell Hudson – Burglary, pending Jury Trial.

MPD District #2/#6

CPU 2018/19 Notable Accomplishments

Place Based Initiatives

- **Multi-Unit Apartment Building-1607 S. 8th Street**
 - CPU received multiple complaints regarding trespassing, drug use and loitering inside common area of building.
 - Arrest was made of subject who was continuing to enter building to use drugs, though she did not live at location. Offender was charged with drug possession. CP able to request no contact order with apartment building and geographical restrictions for area. CP has not received reports of offender being back in apartment building.
 - CPU team met with building management to discuss how non-residents are entering building, tips on target hardening and security measures that could be utilized by the security they employ.
 - CPU has seen a decrease in the number of calls for service at the location and no calls regarding drug use in basement.
- **McDonald's - 2520 W. National Avenue**
 - Designated a nuisance property by CAO due to the many calls for prostitution, drugs, panhandling, etc.
 - Meeting with McDonald's Corporate was held to discuss the issues at the location.
 - Community Prosecutor, Assistant City Attorney and CPU officers conducted CPTED)site survey at the location. CPU recommendations were implemented (extra security, limit Wi-Fi access, change in location to UBER eats register, monitor bathroom access) thus resulting in a drastic decrease in the number of calls for service.

Person Based Initiatives

- **Michael Banks**
 - Offender participated in a string of garage burglaries in D#6. CP was able to issue 6 felony counts and 2 misdemeanors against offender with the assistance of a specialty unit in the district as well as helpful video surveillance obtained from residents in the area.
- **Lee Brown & Jesse Voit**
 - Offenders participated in multiple business burglaries, trailer thefts, bank robberies, fleeings, recklessly endangering safety, etc. in both Districts #2 and #6. CP was able to charge actors, respectively, with 11 and 8 counts. Sentencing has not concluded for all cases but both have received substantial prison time for the cases that have resolved.
- **Andre Dyson**
 - Offender part of a crew committing violent robberies in D#2. With the assistance of the Robbery Task Force, CP was able to issues multiple counts of robbery against the defendant. Co-actors could not be charged as they were involved in a fleeing shortly after one of the robbery incidents that resulted in their death. Offender received a substantial prison sentence.
- **Jose Navarro**
 - Offender participated in a spree of business burglaries along the Cesar E. Chavez Dr. corridor. CP worked with the Special Investigations unit in D#2 to issue multiple Burglary charges against the defendant. Defendant was ultimately found guilty at trial and sentenced to years in prison.

MPD District #3- Near West Side CPU 2018/19 Notable Accomplishments

Place Based Initiatives

- ▣ **Multi Use Apartment Building- 3210 W. Wells**
 - Apartment building in the Concordia Neighborhood that experienced chronic complaints of drug dealing, shootings, and nuisance activity.
 - CPU met with residents in neighborhood & the management team at the building to increase security measures.
 - CPU collaboration lead to arrest and prosecution of gun offender utilizing hallways to deal drugs.
 - Property was purchased by the Potawatomi Business Group and ultimately demolished.
- ▣ **Hometown Gas Station- 200 N. 35th Street & Walgreens- 3522 W. Wisconsin Ave.**
 - Owners/managers and neighborhood residents noted problems with aggressive panhandling, nuisance behavior, disorderly behavior, and drug use in the parking lots despite efforts by staff and security to deal with these issues. One business obtained injunction on three repeat offenders.
 - CPU collaboration lead to arrest, prosecution and conviction of individuals for violating the injunctions on numerous occasions. Management is in regular contact with the Community Prosecutor and beat patrol officers assigned to this area regarding any issues.
- ▣ **Traffic Improvement Project- 27th and Wells St.**
 - Per MPD data, the Near West Side has experienced 1032 traffic crashes in the past year. That number includes 805 property damage only (PDO) crashes and 227 personal injury (PI) crashes. .
 - CPU and the Near West Side Partners (NWSP) have focused on the intersection of 27th and Wells, which alone had 14 crashes.
 - The key issues for this area includes: the speed of vehicles, vehicles passing in the parking lane, and pedestrian crossing.

Person Based Initiatives

- ▣ **William Parrett**
 - Offender was engaged in aggressive panhandling/ disorderly behavior at Walgreens at 3522 W. Wisconsin and panhandling in medians of freeway off ramps next to Hometown Gas Station at 200 N. 35th Street.. Walgreens obtained an injunction against him.
 - Beat Patrol officers arrested offender for violating injunction, Community Prosecutor charged offender and convicted offender with multiple offenses.
 - Parrett was subsequently arrested for returning to Walgreens in violation of injunction. Community Prosecutor communicated with Department of Corrections Agent regarding repeat behavior. Defendant revoked and now serving a jail sentence.
- ▣ **Ronald Fillyaw**
 - Area Beat Patrol Officers arrest offender for engaging in sale of drugs and possession of firearm in troubled apartment complex 3210 W Wells Street (above).
 - Community Prosecutor issued charges and the matter is pending trial.
 - Fillyaw banned from apartment complex. After defendant went into custody, drug complaints reduced in building.

MPD DISTRICT #3

CPU 2019 NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Planned and Organized D3 Offender Call-In

- **District Three Captain, Community Prosecutors, DOC Agents, an AUSA, and community partners worked in coordination to plan and host a call in event for select District Three high risk offenders.**
 - The event was held in District Three at the Ambassador Inn. Attendees were selected by their high risk agents to attend the event.
 - The Captain of District Three, the D3 Community Prosecutor, the US Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, a DOC agent, and a former offender spoke to the attendees. All speakers stressed the hope that these men would be successful on release and not be prosecuted in the future. They were informed of the increased penalties for repeat gun offenses as added impetus to be successful.
 - To close the event offenders were able to meet with community service providers to learn about different programs that could further assist them in being successful on supervision and overall in the community. They also spoke with the ADAs and DOC agents to provide feedback on what other services they thought would be beneficial at future events.
 - A second call-in event is currently scheduled and will have additional service providers in attendance.



Participated in the SOUL (Surviving, Overcoming, Uplifting, with Love) Event

- **District Three DV officer and the assigned DV advocate worked to organize an event for women currently experiencing domestic violence.**
 - Captain Norman identified the serious issue of repeat DV incidents in District Three and expressed the hope of having CPU team members come up with an alternative plan to address. CPU Officer Jones came up with the SOUL event.
 - The event was held in the community at a local coffee shop. A small number of women were invited to attend. At the event CPU officers, Sojourner Family Peace Center Staff including D3's DV advocate, a victim witness coordinator from the DA's office, and the community prosecutor were present.
 - The community prosecutor spoke with attendees about the legal process from the 911 call through to case closure. The community prosecutor spoke about the many possible outcomes of a case and the many tools that are available to help throughout the process whether a case is charged or not.

In District Three

- **Standard Community Prosecutor Duties**
 - Coordinated the bi-monthly target team meetings that include representatives of several agencies including: district officers and Captain Norman, DNS Inspectors, an Assistant City Attorney, DOC Agents, a Safe & Sound NSC, a DV advocate, a crisis advocate, and community prosecutors. At these meetings the team discusses current issues for the district and brainstorms ways to address issues in the community.
 - Attended monthly Crime & Safety meetings. Was present for the meetings and spent time after the meetings discussing issues with attendees and working to follow up on any concerns that were presented.
 - Reviewed cases and warrants at the district. Discussed cases and legal issues with district officers. Followed up on cases and concerns of citizens and officers. Focused on problem places and people in D3.
 - **Of Note: Charged a defendant who went on a property damage spree, slashing tires and breaking windows on several vehicles. Her behavior effected residents, visitors, and businesses in D3. She was also on supervision at the time due to other incidents that occurred in D3.**
 - Participated in landlord call in meetings to address problem locations in D3.
 - **Of Note: D3, D5, and D7 coordinated a landlord meeting with an owner whose properties were having issues in all three districts. This team approach brought together three community prosecution units to specifically address dangerous situations that were leading to criminal and nuisance activity throughout the city.**
 - Accompanied officers to community events and meetings. Attended as an in person representative of the District Attorney's office to provide a personal contact regarding prosecutorial and criminal matters. Discussed the role of the community prosecutor and handed out contact information so people could follow up with any questions or concerns.



MPD District #4

Notable Accomplishments

Jan. '18 + Nov. '18 – Sept. '19

Place Based Initiative – Aspen Crossing Apartments

- **9001 N. 75th St. & 9217 N. 75th St. (“The Towers”)**
 - Known “hot spot” in D4 – voluminous calls for service for criminal activity, nuisance activity, and quality of life issues
 - CPU implemented monthly meetings with property reps to discuss ongoing issues and abatement strategies, including but not limited to the hiring of a security company, additional surveillance cameras in hallways, locked entry doors, tenants “checked in” upon entry, additional “No Trespassing” signs, RO’s against non-tenant nuisance individuals, police notification for all suspicious/criminal activity, etc.
 - After formal nuisance designation, detailed abatement plan submitted by property management and currently being implemented, monitored during ongoing monthly meetings with CPU
 - Downtick in police calls for service and community complaints
- **Person Based Initiatives Arising from CPU Involvement**
 - State v. Maurice Reed – after discussions with CPU, property management obtained RO against chronic nuisance Bell, who was ultimately charged with VOTRO in one case and VOTRO + Bail Jumping in another case, matters still pending
 - State v. Kentrell Bell – hallway cameras installed after CPU recommendation, which led to surveillance video of a domestic violence incident that would have otherwise gone unknown, Bell charged with Battery and Disorderly conduct, matters still pending
 - State v. Andre Body – known loiterer and nuisance at apartment complex, charged with two counts of Burglary in one case and felony Possession of Cocaine in another case, matters still pending

Place Based Initiative – Kwik Pantry

- **9104 W. Brown Deer Rd.**
 - Known “hot spot” in D4 – voluminous calls for service from store manager detailing drug dealing occurring both within the store and in the parking lot
 - CPU flagged the location during bi-weekly Neighborhood Safety Team Meetings as a property to focus on, ultimately leading to the use of undercover observation and controlled-buys with confidential informants, as well as a “business sweep” with DoR
 - Calls for service for criminal/nuisance issues at the property have ceased
- **Person Based Initiatives Arising from CPU Involvement**
 - State v. Dezmen Veasy – after 5 controlled-buys utilizing a confidential informant, Veasy charged with 7 felony drug-dealing counts related to meth, cocaine, pills, and marijuana. Additionally charged with possession of heroin and pills arising from search warrant of his residence. Matters still pending.
 - State v. Denzel Watkins – after drug-dealing observations by undercover officers, Watkins arrested, charged, and eventually plead guilty to felony dealing of marijuana, and received a probationary sentence
 - State v. Delvon Benson – after drug-dealing observations by undercover officers, Benson arrested and charged, with felony dealing of marijuana, matter is still pending

MPD District #5

CPU 2018/19 Notable Accomplishments

□ **Place Based Initiatives**

□ **After Set Search Warrants**

- Advised MPD as officers developed template search warrant for after set locations based on alcohol and liquor crimes in Ch. 125.
- Multiple SWs have been approved and executed since based on this template.

□ **Keefe Avenue Reckless Driving**

- Collaborated with Incarnation Justice block watch to identify worst areas of reckless driving along Keefe Avenue.
- Worked with MPD to get speed board placed in area identified by block watch.
- Requested new no left turn sign at Keefe & Teutonia after block watch expressed concerns about it missing. Sign was replaced, now in a more visible location.

□ **Panhandling**

- Worked with MPD to identify hot spots for aggressive panhandling and panhandling on medians that presents traffic safety issue.
- Collaborated with DPW to get “no loitering in median” and “keep the change” signs put up in these hot spots.

□ **Person Based Initiatives**

□ **Kristopher Bose/Justin Harris/Kevin Wright/Derrick Smith/Ruben Holland/Andre Walker/Brandon Briggs/Dupri Tolefree/Cleveland Fields/George Brassel**

- Collaborated with businesses along E Capitol Dr and new beat patrol assigned to area by Captain Turcinovic to target chronic thieves as businesses have become frustrated with repeat offenders being given only tickets. All partners take part in East Capitol Drive Safety Network, started by DA's office, Riverworks, Safe & Sound and MPD. All individuals charged with retail theft.

□ **Patrick Brown**

- Offender, known as “Mike on a Bike,” is problem person in Riverwest neighborhood.
- MO is riding bike in neighborhood and harassing and threatening residents.
- Charged with fleeing.
- Sentenced to 12 mos HOC, imposed and stayed for 2 yrs probation with a condition imposing geo restriction prohibiting him from entering the Riverwest neighborhood.

□ **Erick Brown**

- Offender is known drug dealer in D5, area of operation is 27th & Auer (hot spot for loitering, drugs and shootings).
- Charged with POND.

MPD District #7

CPU 2019 Notable Accomplishments

Place Based Initiatives

- **5310 West Center Street**
 - This was a known after set location and a Will Sherard property. We first worked with DNS to try to cease the after set issues. In mid Feb 2019, CPU went out with DNS who wrote special orders regarding a leaking pipe in basement. If not fixed, Sherard was notified that the location would be placarded. The pipes were fixed. D7 CPU team then decided to flyer around the property alerting neighbors of possible after set activity and to stress the importance of calling the police. Finally, D3, D5, and D7 met at D3 with Will Sherard to discuss his problem properties. Sherard eventually signed standing complaint form. Ultimately, all the furniture was moved out of the property and there has not been a call for service since Feb 24. The problem after set is no longer at this location and issues have been resolved.
- **8522 W Congress**
 - This is a multi-unit property. Late shift officers were called there for a sick/injured person. When officers arrived at the location, it appeared as if the multi-unit apartment complex was running as a group home. The late shift officers alerted the CPU team to the property. The property had nurse-like people who assisted the individuals living there. There were several, unrelated, people living in each unit. The property did not have the proper license to run as a group family/assisted living facility. After checking the CFS, we also noticed this property had numerous CFS to this property from the nurses that assisted the individuals living there.
 - The CPU called the landlord in and had a meeting with him to discuss how this property was operating. After the meeting, we scheduled a walk-through inspection with DNS present too. DNS was able to write up formal orders for the landlord. The landlord was also given a timeframe to get the appropriate license. The landlord has since obtained the proper licensing.

Person Based Initiatives

- **EC Banks**
 - This case involves a string of burglaries committed in both Wauwatosa and D7. Mr. Banks was charged in this case with 3 burglaries, one count of Felon in Possession of a Firearm, and one count of Obstructing an Officer. There is an additional burglary that is read-in rather than charged. One of the charged burglaries was committed in District 7 and the other two were committed in Wauwatosa. The read-in burglary was committed in District 7. From the read-in burglary in D7, a gun was taken. This gun was recovered from Mr. Banks' flight path when he was taken into custody right after a Wauwatosa burglary. Mr. Banks was also on federal probation for federal gun charge, so I'm also working with the AUSA on this case.
- **Joshua Wippert**
 - Mr. Wippert was charged with an armed robbery occurring in District 7. He also committed an attempted armed robbery hours later in D7, but we're unable to proceed with charges due to the victim. Months prior to the armed robbery, he also committed an armed robbery in D5 that was ultimately not processed due to lack of victim cooperation. Ms. Wippert has admitted that his heroin usage has caused him to spiral out of control. This case is still ongoing.
- **Braijon Bentley**
 - Ms. Bentley was charged with three counts of burglary from 2017. There was a total of seven burglaries. Six of them were committed in District 7. All burglaries involved stores after hours, so no one was present. Ms. Bentley was 16 years old when the burglaries occurred, and unfortunately didn't get apprehended until she was 18. Her co-actors went through the juvenile system. Ms. Bentley is also transgender and was homeless at the time she committed these offenses, which is part of the reason why she committed these burglaries. Since then and prior to, she has had a clean record so this case will most likely conclude with a DPA.
- **Brandon Walton**
 - Mr. Walton is a contact panhandler at a Citgo gas station in D7. The owner has been dealing with Mr. Walton for some time and the police have responded there numerous times. I issued DC in 19CM1515. Mr. Walton was then referred in two additional times for violating the NCO in 19CM1515. One of those served as a read-in, and the other case was charged in 19CM1988. The case has concluded and it appears that Mr. Walton has stayed away from the gas station.