

Canal Township Justice Court (Fernley)
December 10, 2024

Judge: Lori Matheus

Prosecutor: Samantha Edmondo

Summary of Observation Visit

No. of scheduled cases for indigent defendants: 23

No. of cases where defendant is in custody: 2

No. of cases where defendant is out of custody: 21

No. of cases being handled by attorney Stevie DeSomber (Zoom):
13

 In custody: 1

 Out of custody: 12

 Cases continued for in custody: 1

 Cases continued for out of custody: 11

No. of cases being handled by attorney Kale Brock: 10

 In custody: 1

 Out of custody: 9

 Cases continued for in custody: 1

 Cases continued for out of custody: 7

Observation Checklist from Davis Monitor

(1) Did the attorneys have a substantive, confidential meeting with each client before court (If you know or can tell from observation): Yes as to Kale Brock.

(2) Did the attorneys argue for pretrial release/OR, or for reasonable bail: Yes.

(3) Did the court require the defendant(s) to reimburse the entity for representation: No.

(4) Did the attorneys counsel each client to refrain from waiving trial rights until the attorney completed investigation of the case (If you know): Not applicable.

(5) Did the attorneys appear to have counseled clients to refrain from waiving any rights at arraignment: Not applicable.

(6) Did the attorneys appear to know their client's cases and to be prepared: Yes as to Kale Brock.

(7) Did the attorneys appear to adequately advise clients of the consequences of accepting a guilty plea or going to trial, including any collateral consequences: Yes as to Kale Brock.

(8) Do the attorneys appear to have sustainable workloads: Yes as to Kale Brock.

(9) Overall, do the attorneys appear to be providing effective representation of their clients: Yes as to Kale Brock.

Monitor's Request in 12th Report of the Monitor (Page 12)

In the 12th Report of the Monitor, the Monitor indicated on page 12 that it would be helpful to have clear metrics to apply to court observation and issues of remote appearances. The Monitor posed four (4) questions that if answered would be helpful to the Monitor. The following are the questions together with answers to assist the Monitor.

(1) Did the attorneys show up: Yes.

(2) Did the attorneys have their files: Yes as to Kale Brock.

(3) Did the attorneys appear to know information about the clients and there cases in addition to what was presented by the prosecutors: Yes as to Kale Brock.

(4) In any sentencing hearing, did the attorney for the defendant present mitigating information or elaboration on the pre-sentencing report: Not applicable.

Additional Information and/or Comments

Jeremy Rausch from the Patrick Mansfield law office appeared by Zoom to indicate that Stevie DeSomber would be appearing by Zoom to cover Patrick Mansfield's cases. Court started at 10:00 a.m. Ms. DeSomber appeared at 11:00 a.m. All of the cases covered by Ms. DeSomber were continued except for one which was dismissed. Since I am not at every court weekly, I cannot comment if Patrick Mansfield physically appears for court proceedings. All I can say is that I have yet to see Mr. Mansfield appear in person for court on the days I have been there.