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| **DIDS Attorney Observation Report** | | **Reviewer** | Derrick Lopez |
| Date | December 2, 2024 | County | Pershing |
| Court | Eleventh Judicial District Court | Judge | Jim Shirley |
| Defense Attorney | Debra Amens | Prosecutor(s) | Paul Yohey  Deputy District Attorney |
| Attorney Present | In Person / Virtual / w/Client | Number of Clients | 1 |
| Defendants Present | In Person / Virtual / Off-Site | Custodial Status | IC / OOC / Blend |
| Number of Clients  In custody | 1 | Number of Clients Out-of-Custody | 0 |
| Cases Continued  In Custody | 0 | Cases Continued  Out-of-Custody | 0 |
| Hearing Types | Arraignment | | |
| **Attorney's Preparedness** | | | |
| Did the Attorney appear for court? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Did the Attorney have the file? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Did the Attorney appear to have had a substantive, confidential meeting with  each client before court? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Did the Attorney appear prepared to handle their clients' cases? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| **How prepared did the Attorney appear?**  Debra appeared to be prepared for court. | | | |
| **How knowledgeable was the Attorney about their cases?**  Debra appeared to be knowledgeable about her case. | | | |
| **The Attorney's courtroom advocacy skills were:**  Good. | | | |
| **How was the Attorney/client communication?**  The attorney-client communication appeared to be good. | | | |
| **Case Stage-Specific Issues** | | | |
| Did the Attorney argue for pretrial release/OR, or for reasonable bail? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Did the Attorney counsel each client to refrain from waiving trial rights until the  attorney completed investigation of the case? | | | Yes / No / Unknown |
| Did the Attorney appear to have counseled clients to refrain from waiving any  rights at arraignment? | | | Yes / No / Unknown |
| Did the Attorney appear to adequately advise clients of the Consequences of  accepting a plea or going to trial, including any collateral consequences? | | | Yes / No / Unknown |
| Did the Attorney present mitigating evidence and provide argument at  sentencing? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Did the Attorney address the Presentence Investigation Report (PSI) and/or  Psychosexual Evaluation/Risk Assessment appropriately? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Did the court require defendant(s) to reimburse the entity for representation? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| **Overall Assessments** | | | |
| Does the Attorney appear to have a sustainable workload? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| Overall, does the Attorney appear to be providing effective representation to  their clients? | | | Yes / No / N/A |
| **Remarks/Recommendations/Notes:**  Debra’s client pled No Contest, pursuant to a Guilty Plea Agreement, to one count of Battery with a Deadly Weapon and one count of Assault with a Deadly Weapon. The agreement includes the charge of Battery with a Deadly Weapon being dismissed at the time the client is sentenced on the ADW charge. The client will be applying for diversion through the mental health court program. If she is accepted into the mental health court program and Judge Shirley grants her the diversion, then the ADW charge will also be dismissed upon successful completion of the diversion (which would include payment of $550 in restitution). If the client is not accepted into the mental health court program, then both sides are free to argue at sentencing on the ADW charge. The BDW charge will be dismissed either way.  Sentencing is set for 2/10/2025. The court ordered that a Presentence Investigation Report be prepared by Parole and Probation.  Debra argued for an O.R. release. The State did not oppose the release. The court released the client on her Own Recognizance with conditions. Debra is to prepare the Order for O.R. Release. | | | |