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| **DIDS Attorney Observation Report** | | **Reviewer** | Derrick Lopez |
| Date | April 30, 2025 | County | Douglas |
| Court | East Fork Justice Court | Judge | Laurie Trotter |
| Defense Attorney | Brian Filter | Prosecutor(s) | Chelsea Mazza  Deputy District Attorney |
| Attorney Present | In Person / Virtual / w/Client | Number of Clients | 8 |
| Defendants Present | In Person / Virtual / Off-Site | Custodial Status | IC / OOC / Blend |
| Number of Clients  In custody | 0 | Number of Clients Out-of-Custody | 8 |
| Cases Continued  In Custody | 0 | Cases Continued  Out-of-Custody | 0 |
| Hearing Types | Status, Order to Show Cause, Violation of Release Conditions, Sentencing hearings | | |
| **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?**  Brian appeared prepared for court. | | | |
| **How knowledgeable was the Attorney about their cases?**  Brian appeared to be knowledgeable about his cases. | | | |
| **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 / N/A |
| 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 / N/A |
| 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:**  Brian had 8 clients on calendar today:   1. First client: Status hearing. The client is out-of-custody and present in person. Brian informed the court that the State has not made a settlement offer yet. Brian requested a 3-4 week continuance to pursue a settlement in this case. Brian also requested that his client be permitted to attend the next hearing by Zoom. The court continued the Status hearing to 5/21/2025 at 2:00 p.m. 2. Second client: Status hearing and hearing on alleged violation of conditions of release. The client is out-of-custody and present in person. Brian explained to the court that the client failed to appear at the last hearing because he was in jail somewhere else at the time of the hearing. The court did not find the client in contempt for the failure to appear. Brian further explained that the parties need additional time to try and resolve the underlying case and that the client needs to obtain a Substance Use Evaluation as part of a potential settlement of the case. The court continued the Status hearing to 5/28/2025 at 2:00 p.m. Brian also informed the court that the parties had reached an agreement regarding the client’s alleged violation of the terms of his release by consuming alcohol. In exchange for the client’s admission to consuming alcohol in violation of the terms of his release, the State will recommend a consequence of 2 days jail with credit for 2 days time served. The client admitted the violation. The court followed the State’s recommendation and imposed 2 days jail with credit for 2 days time served for the alcohol violation. 3. Third client: Status and Order to Show Cause hearing. The client is out-of-custody and present by Zoom.   The Order to Show Cause hearing: The client had failed to appear for the last 2 court hearings. Brian explained to the court that during the first missed court hearing the client had been on Zoom but was traveling and lost signal prior to his case being called. Brian explained that during the second missed court hearing the client was on Zoom but went to the restroom and was in the restroom when his case was called. The court did not find the client in contempt. However, the court admonished the client that it is his responsibility to attend the court hearings and if he is to do so by Zoom it is his responsibility to make sure that his signal is good and he is present when his case is called.  The Status hearing: Brian informed the court that the parties had reached a settlement. The client will plead guilty to No Insurance and No Valid Driver’s License. The parties will jointly recommend that the client be fined $70 for the No Insurance and $238 for the No Valid Driver’s License and that the fines run consecutively. The client pled guilty to No Insurance and No Valid Driver’s License. Following the court canvass, the court accepted the guilty pleas. The court followed the joint sentencing recommendation. The court further ordered that the fines ($740 + $138 = $878) are due by 8/15/2025. The court set a Review hearing for 8/15/2025 at 9:00 a.m.   1. Fourth client: Status hearing. The client is-out-of-custody and present in person. Pursuant to negotiations, the client will plead guilty to DUI-1st. The State will dismiss the remaining count. The parties will jointly recommend the following sentence:  * 62 days jail, with 60 of those days suspended for 1 year on conditions:   (1) not possess or consume controlled substance, alcohol, or marijuana,  (2) submit to search, seizure, and testing for the presence of controlled substances, alcohol, and/or marijuana;  (3) violate no laws, and  (4) complete all other sentence requirements.  [Note: The parties are not recommending supervision by the Department of Alternative Sentencing.]   * Pay fines, fees, and assessments totaling $900. * Complete a DUI school. * Attend a Victim Impact Panel. * Install an interlock device in any vehicle the client drives for a period of 185 days. * Obtain a Substance Use Evaluation and follow any and all treatment recommendations.   **Remarks/Recommendations/Notes (continued from previous page):**  The client pled guilty to DUI-1st Offence. Following the court canvass, the court accepted the guilty plea. The State dismissed count 2. Sentencing is scheduled for 5/28/2025 at 2:00 p.m. The client is ordered to obtain a Substance Use Evaluation prior to the sentencing date.   1. Fifth client: Sentencing hearing. The client is out-of-custody and present in person. The client was previously found guilty of DUI-2nd at trial. The client needs to obtain a Substance Use Evaluation prior to sentencing. The client has not obtained it yet. Brian requested a continuance to enable the client to get the Substance Use Evaluation. Brian told the court that he did not make the requirement of the Substance Use Evaluation clear to his client. So, Brian said that the client’s failure to obtain the evaluation is partly Brian’s fault. The court continued the Sentencing hearing to 5/28/2025 at 2:00 p.m. 2. Sixth client: Status hearing. The client is out-of-custody and present in person. Brian informed the court that the parties reached a settlement agreement. The negotiations required that the client obtain a Substance Use Evaluation and provide a copy of the police report to the evaluator to use when conducting the evaluation. The client obtained a Substance Use Evaluation but had not provided a copy of the police report to the evaluator. Brian requested a continuance to enable the client to return to the evaluator, provide the evaluator with a copy of the police report and see if that changes the evaluation or recommendation. Also, the State needs additional time to obtain a restitution amount. The court continued the hearing to 5/28/2025 at 2:00 p.m. 3. Seventh client: Status hearing. The client is-out-of-custody and not present. Brian requested that the court issue an Order to Show Cause rather than issue a bench warrant. The State requested that the court issue a bench warrant. The court issued a bench warrant in the amount of $5,000 cash or bond. Extradition was limited to the 5 Northern Nevada Counties (Washoe, Carson City, Douglas, Lyon, and Churchill). 4. Eighth client: Status hearing. The client is out-of-custody and present in person. Brian informed the court that the client intends to accept the State’s settlement offer. However, the client, through no fault of his own, has not been taking his mental health medications. Brian requested a continuance so that the client can be back on his medications before formally accepting the offer and entering a guilty plea. The State did not object to a continuance. The court continued the hearing to 5/28/2025 at 2:00 p.m. | | | |