

Passport Agency Pilot Project -

This item had been tabled due to a legal concern over whether or not District Court could do this. Judge Cayce spoke to Tom Kuffel who says there is no statute specifying whether or not we can do this, so it is Tom's opinion we can do so if we choose. Judge Cayce stated there is still some question regarding the revenue coming to the Court, and we will need to work out an agreement with the County. It was suggested an agreement be reached before we expend clerk time in setting up this project.

The judges expressed their support of the project but recommended Judge Cayce discuss it first with Executive Sims before we announce implementation. There was agreement the pilot should start in Shoreline and Federal Way divisions. Trish announced that the City of Seattle has already implemented passport acceptance agencies in some community centers around town.

Judge Nault moved to adopt the proposed Passport Agency Pilot Project, and although not contingent upon getting the money back, the Court should continue looking into an agreement whereby District Court will be credited with the revenue. Judge Wacker 2nd and the motion carried.

ITEM #8: BENCH WARRANT FLAGGING SYSTEM

Judge Cayce advised this is actually a Seattle Division issue. The Executive Committee requested it be taken off the agenda as it was the general feeling Seattle can work on this issue internally.

ITEM #1: PRESIDING JUDGE REPORT continued Feasibility Study of Pre-Trial Misdemeanant on Supervised Release -

Judge Cayce had previously expressed interest in the feasibility of placing pre trial misdemeanants on the Supervised Release program. He reported that the Department of Adult Detention has now performed a study on a group comprised of pre trial misdemeanants from second appearance calendars who did not enter a plea and therefore, would be scheduled for trial. The results of this study, however, show the numbers do not support pursuing this idea any further as less than 5% of the defendants studied met the Supervised Release criteria.

Variations in Competency Evaluation Charges -

Judge Cayce advised it has come to his attention there is quite a variation in the dollar amount charged by evaluators for mental health evaluations. It appears the evaluators are charging whatever they see is listed as the maximum in the Order. The divisions should be aware of this and it was felt that the charges should be consistent. **The judges agreed, and it was the consensus that the Court issue a policy stating competency evaluations are limited to a \$350 maximum unless special circumstances warrant a higher amount.** Judge Cayce will issue an administrative order, and a memo will be sent out to the divisions. It was also recommended the administrators watch for double-billings by evaluators as they have a tendency not to submit their charges in a timely manner.