

August 1, 1968

Calendar Control Project

The Calendar Control Project began in the Bronx Criminal Court July 1st. The project is designed to locate cases on the calendar which are not ready for disposition and to grant adjournments over the telephone in advance of the calendar date; all parties are then excused from appearing.

In nearly four weeks of operation, approximately 85 cases have been adjourned through the Project, with the number of cases increasing from 10 during the first week to more than 30 during the fourth week.

Although the Calendar Control Project actively solicits cases only in Part 1A, some cases in other parts have also been adjourned.

Sentencing Project

The Sentencing Project began in Part 1A of the Bronx Criminal Court July 10. It provides short-form pre-sentence reports to the court on defendants convicted of misdemeanors (except for vehicle and traffic law offenses or "regulatory" offenses such as the ABC law, the Health code and the Labor law). Staff members describe the Project to defendants and interview only those who agree to participate. Each defendant is encouraged to discuss the matter with his counsel.

The short-form pre-sentence report, which includes data about the defendant's employment, family ties, prior criminal record, and the circumstances of the present offense, is verified by the project staff.

A scoring table based on the sentences other judges have given defendants with similar history and characteristics has been constructed.

When the short form pre-sentence report is given to the court, copies are also given to the defense counsel, the Office of Probation and the District Attorney.

In the first 2 1/2 weeks 37 defendants were interviewed. Of these, 27 cases were adjourned for periods ranging from two to six weeks, and sentence was passed in 10 cases.

The following table indicates the Project recommendations and the sentence received in the 10 cases.

<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Actual Sentence</u>
1 unconditional discharge	1 conditional discharge
4 probation	(3 probation (1 conditional discharge
5 no recommendation	5 prison sentences

Central Pre-Arrestment Facility

A Central Pre-Arrestment Facility is being developed by Vera, the Police Department, Department of Correction and the District Attorney's Office. The facility will be located in the Criminal Court Building at 100 Centre Street.

Defendants will be booked at precinct station houses and then brought to the facility to be fingerprinted, photographed, interviewed by Probation Department ROR investigators, and lodged with the Department of Correction. While the defendant's records are processed, he will be available for interviews by his attorney or Legal Aid lawyer. During the processing period, the arresting officer will have an opportunity to have his complaint drawn.

At present, fingerprint searches are done under the supervision of local precinct detective squads. The transfer of this function to the Central Pre-Arrestment Facility will reduce the workload of the detectives, thus giving them more time for investigations.

Legal Intern Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Under the auspices of the Legal Intern Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, four projects are operating in the City this summer which provide summer employment for law students in agencies active in the administration of justice.

Eight law students are participating in the C.A.L.S. South Brooklyn Project. Initially they are given intensive instruction in dealing with welfare, housing, consumer fraud and marital problems. This is followed by weekly seminars devoted to further instruction and discussion of specific problem areas. The objective of this project is to formulate a program for incorporation into law school curricula and to further expand legal participating in the welfare field.

The District Attorney Project provides summer experience for 10 to 20 participating law students and a number of auditing volunteers. Assistant District Attorneys from the New York County District Attorney's Office serve as instructors in the program. Students are engaged through the facilities of the Police Academy in a comprehensive study of the arrest process.

The Urban Corps Project is an interagency program concerned with the legal problems of narcotics addiction. Fifteen to twenty law students from the Urban Corps are working with the following agencies: District Attorney's Office, C.A.L.S., Legal Aid Society, Department of Correction, Department of Probation, New York City Courts, Human Resources Administration, and Narcotics Control Commission. Weekly discussion meetings center on the basic problems of addiction, federal law, pharmacology and special problems in New York.

Forty nine law students are participating in the Legal Aid Project, which began with a two-day workshop in June at the Fordham Law School. Participating students meet in small seminar groups to discuss practical aspects of representation and specific problems in the field.

Police-Community Career Development Program

On July 9, Mayor Lindsay visited Voorhees Technical Institute, where he met with trainees in the Police-Community Career Development Program. With the Mayor were Mr. Mito Brisco, Vice President of Standard Oil Company (N.J.), Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary, Human Resources Administrator Mitchell I. Ginsberg, and Mr. Saul Wallen, President of the New York Urban Coalition.

The Mayor and his guests toured the facilities with the President of Voorhees, Edwin H. Miner. They visited the automotive laboratory and computer center and then joined trainees in a classroom to discuss the program. Representatives from the Police Department units where trainees receive on-the-job instruction were also on hand for the discussion.

Manhattan Bowery Project

Plans are proceeding for the establishment of a clinic on the first floor of the Men's Shelter at 8 East Third Street (see Vera Report, Vol. 3, N. 4). St. Vincent's Hospital has submitted a proposed contract to the New York Department of Social Services for funding of the clinic.

Manhattan Court Employment Project

Through the cooperation of the Courts and the Mayor's Office, additional space on the 14th floor of the Criminal Court Building has been made available to the Court Employment Project. The space turned over to the Project makes it possible to bring the two service components of the project -- Counseling and Career Development -- together in one area.

Staff

Mrs. Patricia Bartels joined the staff July 22 as Editorial Associate.