

RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Evidence-Based Decision Making  
Ad Hoc Committee  
INITIATED BY



Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen  
DRAFTED BY

Public Safety & Justice Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

January 2, 2019  
DATE DRAFTED

**AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PRETRIAL AND CRIMINOGENIC RISK ASSESSMENT AND SUPERVISION SERVICES**

1 **WHEREAS**, Rock County has been engaged with the Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM)  
2 Initiative in partnership with the National Institute of Corrections and the State of Wisconsin since 2015  
3 to establish and test the application of evidence-based practices to criminal justice decisions; and,  
4  
5 **WHEREAS**, using a collaborative process, following research and using data, Rock County identified six  
6 change targets to improve the justice system and is in the process of implementing said change targets;  
7 and,  
8  
9 **WHEREAS**, Rock County identified pretrial and risk assessments as a top priority through this process  
10 and has been working toward establishing a pretrial assessment and monitoring system for individuals  
11 going through the justice system in Rock County; and,  
12  
13 **WHEREAS**, in December 2017, Rock County began the formal Request for Qualifications (RFQ)  
14 process for a third-party vendor to conduct pretrial and long-term criminogenic risk assessments, as well  
15 as monitor a pretrial supervision program in accordance with best and evidence-based practices in the  
16 field; and,  
17  
18 **WHEREAS**, through this RFQ process, Justice Point scored the highest amongst the four proposals for  
19 the contract and demonstrated expertise and experience in Pretrial and other Risk Assessment and Pretrial  
20 Supervision services; and  
21  
22 **WHEREAS**, the Evidence-Based Decision Making Ad Hoc Committee has recommended the County  
23 enter into a contract for said services with Justice Point; and,  
24  
25 **WHEREAS**, in the 2019 budget, the County Board approved funds to be used for EBDM initiatives.  
26  
27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled  
28 this 10th day of January, 2019, does hereby authorize a contract with Justice Point to provide  
29 Pretrial and Criminogenic Risk Assessment and Supervision Services in the amount of \$65,468 for a  
30 four-month pilot, and an annual contract based on the results of the pilot not to exceed \$461,000 in 2019.

19-1A-165

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Mary Beaver  
Mary Beaver, Chair

Philip Owens  
Philip Owens, Vice-Chair

Terry Fell  
Terry Fell

Kara Hawes  
Kara Hawes

Brian Knudson  
Brian Knudson

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FISCAL NOTE:

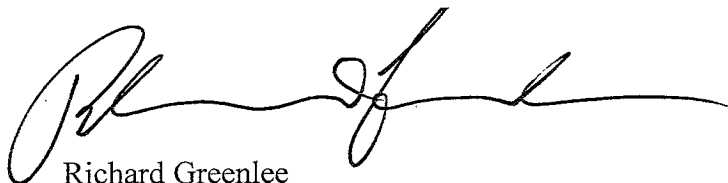
The 2019 budget includes \$481,000 for the EBDM initiative.



Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

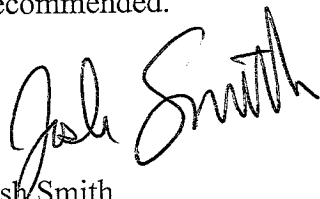
The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats. Professional services are not subject to bidding requirements of sec. 59.52(29), Wis. Stats.



Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Josh Smith  
County Administrator

## Executive Summary

### **AWARDING CONTRACT FOR PRETRIAL AND CRIMINOGENIC RISK ASSESSMENT AND SUPERVISION SERVICES**

Beginning December 2017, Rock County sought proposals from qualified individuals/firms to operate pretrial and assessment services. Rock County has been working with the State of Wisconsin and the National Institute of Corrections as an Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) Initiative local site. Through a deliberative, collaborative process, using data and research to help guide decision-making, the County decided to enhance various areas of its criminal justice system. Through this process the County decided to establish a pretrial and assessment service program to individuals going through the criminal justice system. The Request for Qualifications asked for a proposal addressing providing pretrial and other criminogenic assessment services, as well as pretrial supervision services. A panel of seven justice system stakeholders evaluated proposals from four vendors and determined Justice Point to be the most qualified proposer. The EBDM Ad Hoc Committee supports the recommendation to contract with Justice Point for these services.

The decision to release or detain a defendant during the pretrial phase of a criminal case has both short- and long-term consequences for defendants, the justice system, and the general public. Pretrial seeks to achieve three underlying goals: (1) maximize the release of pretrial defendants (recognizing the presumption of innocence and the harmful effects of pretrial detention); (2) maximize public safety; and (3) maximize court appearance. According to the research, making pretrial release and detention decisions without actuarial assessment guidance can have harmful effects on both defendants and the general public. Releasing extremely high risk defendants without assessment or matched supervision can be a threat to public safety. At the same time, recent research has also demonstrated that detaining low and moderate risk defendants in jail for even short periods of time (i.e., 2–3 days) can increase their risk for misconduct both short- and long-term. Pretrial risk assessment results will be used to guide release decisions and level of supervision necessary to ensure offender does not recidivate and attends all court appearances during the pendency of the case. A monitoring system to ensure compliance with release conditions will also be established.

Long-term criminogenic risk screens and assessments will also be conducted. Research shows recidivism is more likely reduced when the justice system focuses on criminogenic needs, uses a cognitive behavioral approach, reserves more intensive services for higher risk offenders, and uses aftercare services. In order to use effective/appropriate risk-reduction interventions, risk and needs will be determined through validated risk screening and assessment tools. They will be used to determine preliminary eligibility for the County's various alternative justice programs (i.e., Diversion, Enhanced Deferred Prosecution, Drug Court, OWI Court, and Veterans Court) and to assist justice system stakeholders as individuals go through the justice system.

The contract will start with a data collection and evaluation period, during which it will be determined proper staffing levels and resources to fully implement these services in Rock County. As a part of the 2019 budget, the County Board of Supervisors approved funding for EBDM projects.

ROCK COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
FINANCE DIRECTOR

PURCHASING DIVISION



**PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM**

PROPOSAL NUMBER 2018-10  
 PROPOSAL NAME PRETRIAL & ASSESSMENT SERVICES  
 PROPOSAL DUE DATE JANUARY 25, 2018 – 12:00 NOON  
 DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

	JUSTICE POINT MILWAUKEE WI	WISCONSIN COMMUNITY SERVICES MILWAUKEE WI	ROCK VALLEY JANESVILLE WI	ATTIC MADISON WI
RATER 1	87	70	65	27
RATER 2	80	65	60	35
RATER 3	86	81	56	17
RATER 4	79	77	63	45
RATER 5	81	80	71	40
RATER 6	85	73	45	33
TOTAL	498	446	360	197

Request for Proposals was advertised in the Janesville Gazette and on the Internet.

Proposals were evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Agency Experience - Maximum Points 25
- Proposed Program - Maximum Points 25
- Staff Skills/Qualifications - Maximum Points 15
- Implementation Plan - Maximum Points 10
- Cost - Maximum Points 25

PREPARED BY: JODI MILLIS, PURCHASING MANAGER

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION: Justice Point

SIGNATURE John Smith

DATE 1/2/19

GOVERNING COMMITTEE APPROVAL:

CHAIR Man Beaman

VOTE 50

DATE 1/2/19