

From: [Kowalski, Christine](#)
To: [Deschamps, Dusty](#); [Vannatta, Shane](#); [Marks, Jason](#); [Leslie Halligan](#); [McLaughlin, Beth](#); [Lapke, Jake](#)
Cc: [Larson, John](#); [Baumgartner, Kristin](#); [Lauren Sandau](#); [Justin Ekwall](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] DS
Date: Friday, October 25, 2024 2:01:13 PM

Good Afternoon Judges,

Please see the email below regarding the one person that is showing up to Drug Court in person, [REDACTED]. His participation is voluntary. He turned 18, I believe in August. This is the concerns I have about the Drug Court program continuing without the representation of the County Attorney and the OPD. [REDACTED] has been in the program since April 18, 2023. With regards to his UA testing while in the program, he has had 69-POS, 0- Neg, Lots of No Shows, 3-Excused, and 8- Unable to Provide. This information was provided to me from Compliance monitoring, specifically Joe Sickels. There were so many no shows Joe did not want to count them.

The information below is very concerning given the length of time that [REDACTED] has been in the program, his lack of willingness to show any ability to be sober, kids stating he is selling drugs, and he is now 18+ years old. When there was still a team to discuss this youth, the team repeatedly brought up concerns of his commitment to the program and his max benefit of the program, but it seemed to go on deaf ears to the Judge. The Judge repeatedly continued to want [REDACTED] in the program. The Judge also said that [REDACTED] had told him the truth about an incident and said that Megan Benson and Lauren Sandau had not been truthful to him because [REDACTED] had reported to the Judge a different story of what happened regarding a meeting that was held with the youth in Drug Court.

I have serious concerns about [REDACTED] being around [REDACTED], the new youth, that Judge Larson ordered into Drug Court yesterday despite the youth saying he did not want to participate in the program. As well as [REDACTED] being around [REDACTED]. The youth that Judge Larson took Jurisdiction from Youth Court on Wednesday because he said that Youth Court cannot appropriately supervise the youth. Judge Larson said he may also be placed in Drug Court. I am gravely concerned about these youth being exposed to [REDACTED] and not having any adult supervision, such as the County Attorney, OPD or Youth Court to ensure that these youth are safe from exposure to adults like [REDACTED] who seem to have no investment into getting clean and are allegedly selling drugs and being trespassed off school campuses due to these concerns.

The kids are my #1 priority and I am worry they are not safe being exposed to this environment and being forced to do so by the Court is unsettling.

Thanks,

Christine Kowalski
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Missoula Youth Court