

Court Service Unit

History

The 14th District Court Service Unit (CSU) is a State Agency under the Department of Juvenile Justice. Prior to becoming a State Agency in 1989, the CSU was a locally managed Department of the County of Henrico. The first Director of Court Services was Bud Hare who served between 1967 and 1970 before becoming the Director of Court Services for the City of Richmond. From 1970 through 1979 Agnes White served as Director of Court Services. During Ms. White's tenure the Agency moved in 1976 from 22nd and Main Street in the City of Richmond to its current location on Dixon Powers Drive. Also, during Ms. White's tenure five programs were developed:

- Court Alternative Program, a program used to divert youth from further involvement in the court system through group meetings,
- Community Service Program, a program to allow youth to pay back the community for their actions,
- Court Explorer Post 900 for youth, a program that provided outward bound types of experiences for youth,
- A Volunteer Program, and
- Cottage One at St. Josephs Villa, an alternative living situation for youth.

Following Ms. White's tenure John Willis became the Director of Court Services in 1980 during which time the Henrico Juvenile Detention Home was completed. Mr. Willis was followed by David Jones in 1991, Kay Frye in 2001, Sean Milner in October of 2011, Angela Valentine, Acting Director in April of 2013 and the current Director, Kathleen Egan Jones in March of 2014. The CSU has moved over the years from a staff of fewer than 5 personnel to the current staffing level of 37 employees to include probation officers, support staff, supervisors, and the director.

The Court Service Unit currently provides the following services to the citizens of the County of Henrico:

- Intake services
- Probation services
- Parole services
- Investigative services to the Court
- Diversion programs through the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act, a county agency funding through local and state funding. Restorative Justice Services are also available to youth who are diverted at the intake level.
- Substance Abuse education is available to both youth on supervision and parole and is provided by Henrico Mental Health.

- The Court Service Unit is integrating risk based supervision and evidence based practices to their work with youth and families on probation and parole.