PARTICIPANTS' RIGHTS IN HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS

Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training

September 14, 2017





Carrie Garrow
Charlene Jackson
Tribal Law & Policy Institute



SOVEREIGNTY

- Indian Nations are sovereign nations outside U.S.
 Constitution
- Prior to colonization Indian Nations exercised full criminal jurisdiction
- Indian Nations are governed by tribal constitutions, codes, case law, customs and traditions
- U.S. interference in Indian nations' criminal jurisdiction
 - Federal jurisdiction
 - State jurisdiction
 - Non-Indians
 - Limitations on sentencing





INDIAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACT (ICRA)

- Prohibition against unreasonable search and seizures
- Right again self-incrimination
- Right to an attorney
- Right to liberty
- TLOA issues sentenced to up to three years
 - Right to effective counsel
 - Indigent right to counsel
 - Judges training requirement
 - Maintain a record of the proceeding





ENTRY INTO HEALING TO WELLNESS COURT

- Do I have a right to enter into HWC?
- Should I enter a plea prior to entering into HWC?
- Do I have a right to talk to my attorney prior to entry into HWC?
- What am I consenting to?
- Court capacity: what if the Wellness Court does not have enough spots?





SANCTIONS

- Right to a hearing for sanctions
 - If there is *potentially* a loss of liberty due process rights attach.
 - Good Rule of Thumb: If sanction will amount to loss of liberty – due process rights attach.
- What process is owed?
- Will sanctions be greater than no Wellness Court participation?
- The importance of feeling due process



MORE ON JAIL



- Be cautious about using jail as a sanction in a pre-plea situations.
- What about contempt?
 - Direct contempt Conduct must occur in the "immediate view and presence of judge" and actually disrupt court for immediate sanction
 - Indirect contempt Hearing required



ASIDE FROM JAIL/DETENTION

- Intermediate sanctions do not implicate the same due process concerns but some type of hearing is necessary.

 (State v. Rogers, Idaho, 2007)
- Defendant who voluntarily agreed to drug court cannot opt-out to avoid jailbased drug treatment.

(Walker v. Lamberti, Florida, 2010)



"TIME SERVED"

- Argument: Time served as a sanction should be credited towards un-imposed jail sentence in underlying criminal matter.
- Held: No consensus
 - Denial Waived credit when signed participation agreement – if it's specific
 - Credit for time served waiting to be admitted and/or following termination but denied credit for time served as participant
 - Credit granted
 - Credit not granted when serving for contempt of court



OTHER LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

Arrests while in Wellness Court

 Restitution, Wellness Court fees, and other financial obligations

 Reunification and other dependency case outcomes



TERMINATION

 Termination ≅ Probation Revocation – same rules apply.

(People v. Anderson, Illinois, 2005, State v. Cassill-Skilton, Washington, 2004, Hagar v. State, Oklahoma, 1999, In re Miguel, Arizona, 2003, State v. Rogers, Idaho 2007)

- •What about right to counsel?
 - Not required for US Constitution, may be required by state law
 - Tribal? Not required by ICRA, may be required by tribal constitution or law



CAN I WAIVE A TERMINATION HEARING?

 Cannot prospectively waive due process right.

(State v. LaPlaca, New Hampshire 2011, Staley v. State, Florida, 2003)

•Failure to provide pre-termination hearing was a violation of due process when removal from Drug Court would result in imposition of suspended sentence.

(Gross v. Maine, 2013).

•Under Tribal law?



THE BASICS OF TERMINATION

- Generally notice, hearing, a fair procedure
 - All required by ICRA

 Create an adequate record of termination hearings

Think – Due Process



THE BASICS OF TERMINATION

- •What does this mean for you?
 - •Need a separate judge? Not necessarily
 - Creating a record is good process





SIDE BAR: RIGHTS IN THE CIVIL CONTEXT

Termination of Parental Rights and Other Legal Considerations in Family Healing to Wellness Court

RIGHT TO COUNSEL IN FAMILY COURT

- No right to counsel (under U.S. Constitution) in child protective proceedings, including termination of parental rights cases, except on a case-by-case basis.
 - Lassiter v. Dep't of Soc. Servs., 452 U.S. 18 (1981)
 - Consider representation of children
- Still, most state courts provide counsel for indigent parents in termination of parental rights proceedings
- Counsel for other stages of the case is far more spotty



VISITATION AND REMOVALS

- How linked should supervised visitation and length of visitation be with compliance of treatment plan?
 - Child safety and best interest vs. sanction for non-compliance
- Should the removal of a child from the home and/or visitation be separately litigated, or waived as part of Wellness Court?





SEARCH AND SEIZURE



- Post plea and on probation
 - Typically upheld

- Pre plea and not on probation
 - Split in jurisdictions as to whether these are upheld



LIMITATIONS / PROHIBITIONS ON PLACES AND HOUSING

- Court has discretion and must be exercised in a reasonable manner
 - Cannot be overly broad when viewed in light of desired goals
 - •Is restriction related to nature of offense or rehabilitation of probationer?



OTHER RESTRICTIONS ON PARTICIPANT'S FAMILY

- For juveniles
 - What if parents have drugs and/or alcohol in the home?
 - What if participant is truant?
- For adults
 - What if children reside in the home?
 - Can community supervision search a nonparticipant's room during a home visit?



DRUG TESTING



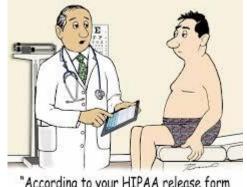
 Must be related to Probationer's rehabilitation, protection of the public, or assuring appearance in Court

• When can a participant dispute a drug test result?





HIPAA



"According to your HIPAA release form I can't share anything with you."

- Drug Court may not be a covered entity but providers are
- Rule/Order allows for transmission of information in court proceedings. (45 CFR 164.512 (a) and (e)
- Consent forms include notice of release of information as part of participation. (45 CFR 164.508(b)(4)
- Consent must be revocable.



FEDERAL CONFIDENTIALITY

- General Rule: Patient Identifying Information cannot be disclosed
- Consent requirements must be met
- Right to revoke:
 - Criminal: No revocation
 - Juvenile & Family: May revoke



CONFIDENTIALITY AND COURT

- Closed proceedings
 - 42 CFR 2.35 and the need for open courtrooms required denial of motion to close proceedings.

(Florida v. Noelle Bush, Florida, 2002)

- Staffing
 - Based upon uniqueness of Drug Court, Adult Drug Court staff meetings are not subject to open courts provision of Washington Constitution.

(State v. Sykes, Washington 2014)



CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROVIDERS

- Reluctant to Share Information
- What do you need to know?
 - Appropriateness for Program
 - Moderate to Severe Substance Use Disorder
 - Co-Occurring Disorders
 - Treatment Recommendations
 - Progress in Treatment
 - Changes in Treatment recommendations
 - No need for details



CONFIDENTIALITY AND THEIR ATTORNEY

- Participant retains an attorneyclient privilege relationship with their defense counselor.
 - ... So long as communications are made in private.



SOCIAL MEDIA

- Participant's availability or use of social media
- Admissibility issues
- Reliability issues
- Authentication issues
 - Messages should be authenticated on a case-by-case basis
 - State v. Fleck, 23 A.3d 818 (Conn. App. Ct. 2011)





ACCESS TO SERVICES

- Who pays for treatment and services while in Wellness Court? Who pays after graduation?
- What if some participants receive housing/transportation subsidies, and others do not?
- What if a participant wants to see a different provider?
- Can arrestee access services without participating in Wellness Court?



YOUR ISSUES?









TRIBAL LAW AND POLICY INSTITUTE RESOURCES

- www.WellnessCourts.org
- Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Publication Series
 - Tribal 10 Key Components
 - Preliminary Overview
 - Judicial Bench Book
 - Program Development
- Webinars
- Training Calendar
- On- and Off-Site Technical Assistance





TRIBAL LAW AND POLICY INSTITUTE



8235 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste. 211 West Hollywood, CA 90046

wellness@tlpi.org www.home.tlpi.org www.WellnessCourts.org

