

Portage County, (Stevens Point) Wisconsin

Justice System Needs Assessment Study and Plan

Project Description:

In 2005, Portage County hired MGA to conduct a complete justice system needs analysis and develop a long-term justice system plan. The scope included the City of Stevens Point Police Department and Sheriff's Department offices, Courts, Jail, Juvenile Detention Facility, community-based non-custody alternatives to incarceration, Public Defender, District Attorney, and Probation. MGA managed a team of consultants that consisted of an architecture & engineering firm and two criminologists.

Services Delivered:

- Profiling juvenile and adult inmates and projecting bed needs by category for 30 years in five-year increments.
- Evaluating the inmate population and non-custody alternatives to divert greater numbers of people who pose little risk to safety and security from incarceration and placing them, instead, in less costly and more effective programs such as day reporting and drug court.
- Developing staff and space projections for all justice departments.
- Evaluating the Police and Sheriff's Departments, the Jail, Courthouse and space used by all other justice departments.
- Formulating recommendations the best use of existing buildings to help control costs while meeting locational and operational requirements.
- Finding economical ways to improve building security in the Courthouse and between the Jail and the Courthouse until a new justice center is completed.
- Developing site criteria; studying and comparing urban and remote site locations for a new comprehensive adult and juvenile Justice Center.
- Studying and creating a plan to co-locate the Stevens Point Police Department and the Portage County Sheriff's Department to make both departments more effective, to improve teamwork between the two departments, and to share resources including:
 - 911/ Dispatch
 - Training
 - Staff Exercise
 - Reception
 - Meeting Space
 - Public Information

Sentence Status of Portage County Inmates 7/13/05

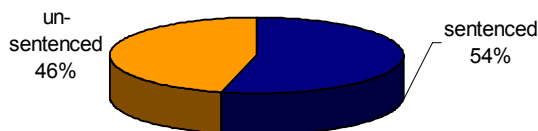


Chart from Adult Inmate Profile



Exterior of Existing Courthouse