

Mark Goldman & Associates

JUSTICE FACILITY PLANNERS

Winnebago County, Illinois

Jail and Justice System Study, Operational and Architectural Programming, Design and Design Review

Project Description:

After several lawsuits stemming from severe crowding and two failed bond referendums for a new jail, the National Institute of Corrections, and later Winnebago County, hired Mark Goldman & Associates (MGA) to assess the existing system and facilities, and to propose and plan substantive improvements. In addition to the antiquated and poorly designed jail, the study included the Sheriff's Department, Courts, Circuit Court Clerk, Probation/Court Services, State's Attorney, and Public Defender.

Later, the County hired Mark Goldman & Associates a third time as part of the design team, for programming and designing a new 1,100 bed Jail and Justice Center.

Services Delivered:

- Evaluating existing jail facilities – which had almost 3 times the number of inmates that they were designed for;
- Studying and recommending changes to alternatives to incarceration. (This sparked the creation of Day Reporting and a court reminder system);
- Projecting staff levels along with bed and space needs for 15 years in 5-year increments;
- Exploring and analyzing options for meeting space needs, involving the use of existing buildings, new buildings, and sites;
- Developing an operational and architectural program;
- Conducting detailed design reviews;
- Providing guidance to the County in obtaining community-wide support for an ultimate approval of a referendum for a new facility and alternatives to incarceration.



Winnebago County Existing Justice Buildings



Rendering for New Criminal Justice Center