

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Competency Court

Program Performance & Return on Investment

150+

Individuals Diverted

\$9.6M

Estimated Cost Savings

196

Returned to Competency

78%

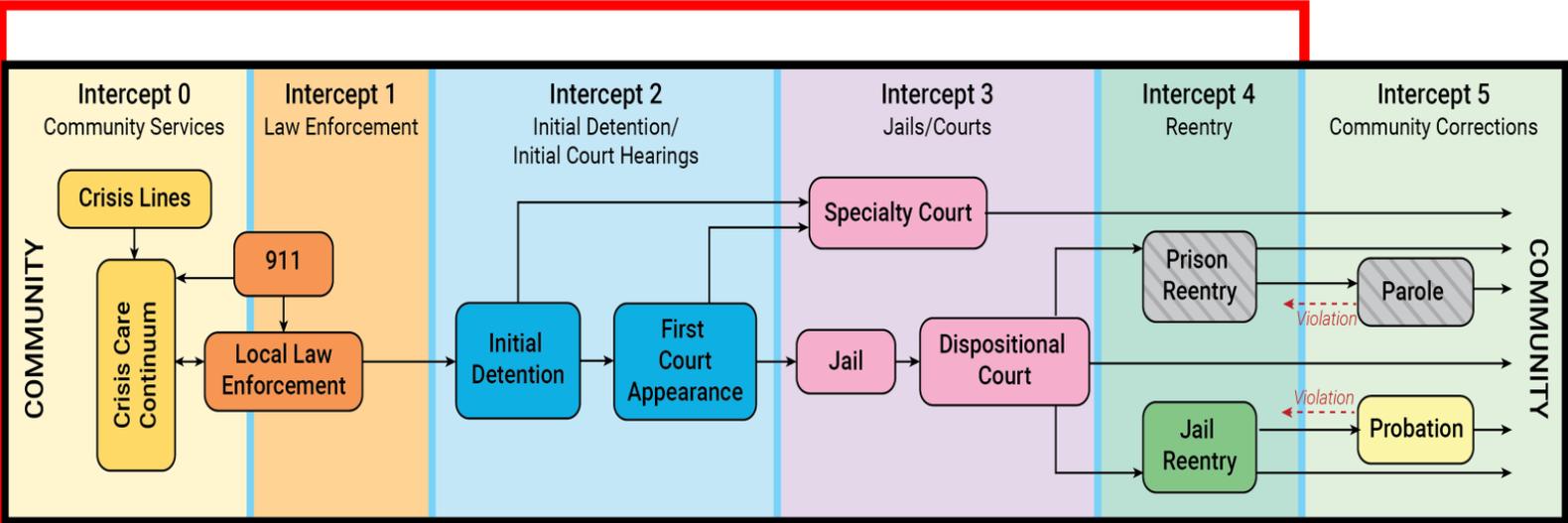
Faster Evaluations

CHIEF JUDGE EGAN WALKER

Second Judicial District Court



Sequential Intercept Model



THE COMPETENCY CRISIS: What Was Happening Before 2023

68 days

Average wait for evaluations

From court order to completed psychiatric evaluation — defendants languished in jail for over 2 months with no movement on their case.

141 days

Average wait for transport to Lake's Crossing

After being found incompetent, defendants waited nearly 5 months in the Washoe County Jail before transport to restoration treatment.

\$500/day

Average daily jail cost for incompetent defendants

With behavioral health needs unaddressed in custody, county costs mounted.

The System Was Broken

- Defendants with serious mental illness languished in jail — receiving little treatment — at times longer than their eventual sentences
- No formal diversion pathway existed — incompetent defendants had nowhere else to go
- The cycle repeated: release without treatment → re-arrest → re-evaluation → repeat

SJDC Competency Court Goals



1

Standardize the criminal justice system's competency process in a fiscally responsible manner.

2

Provide **timely access to competency restoration, mental health, and rehabilitation resources**, as appropriate.

3

Advance community safety and reduce recidivism by improving overall outcomes.

4

Develop partnerships with stakeholders to **assist with identifying and providing treatment** for individuals who may qualify for alternatives to prosecution.

5

Promote transparency, efficiency, and improved communication between all stakeholders by holding regularly scheduled staffings, hearings, and stakeholder meetings.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: ALTERNATIVE TO PROSECUTION PROGRAM (DIVERSION)

How We Calculate Savings

Cost Item	Daily Rate
Jail (Incompetent — BH Services)- Average wait time in 2025 was 96 days for transport to Lake's Crossing	\$500 / day (avg.)
Lake's Crossing (Restoration)- it takes on average 90 days to restore someone to competency	\$630 / day

2023–2024

\$2,900,000

2025

\$6,700,800

TOTAL ESTIMATED SAVINGS

~\$9,600,000

BEYOND DOLLARS: Public Safety & Human Outcomes When Housing is Provided

93%

Reduction in Arrest Rate

Before housing: 1.78 arrests/year
After housing: 0.12 arrests/year
(NNAMHS diverted participants)

35%

Reduction in Psychiatric Hospitalizations

*Among diverted
individuals
receiving housing &
services*

40%

Reduction in Arrests

*For individuals in
transitional housing
programs*

\$95

Per Day NNAMHS Housing Cost

*vs. \$500/day jail
(80% cheaper)*

NNAMHS HOUSING PROGRAM DATA (Source: NNAMHS)

24

Clients Housed
(2025)

\$34,586

Avg. Annual Cost
Per Person

\$94.75/day — vs. \$500/day in jail

\$830K

Total Committed
for 24 Clients

Full wraparound services included

\$3.5 million

Projected Annual
Savings (24 Clients)

2026: A NEW CHAPTER — Jail-Based Restoration

Effective January 1, 2026 — Nevada law(AB 467) now permits competency restoration in jail settings, eliminating mandatory transport to Lake's Crossing.

BEFORE (2022–2025)

- 141-day average wait for transport to Lake's Crossing (2022)
- 96-day average wait in 2025
- \$500/day jail cost while waiting

AFTER (Jan 2026 →)

- Same-day admission for all restoration orders in January
- 0 days waiting — from 96 to zero
- Restoration begins immediately

Competency Court Works Together.

WASHOE COUNTY	COURTS	CITY OF RENO/SPARKS	STATE OF NEVADA
<p>Sheriff's Office MOST Team Detention Services THRIVE</p> <p>Public Defender's Office</p> <p>Alternate Public Defender's Office</p> <p>District Attorney's Office</p> <p>Housing & Homeless Services</p> <p>Public Guardian</p>	<p>SJDC and Pretrial Services</p> <p>Reno Justice Court</p> <p>Sparks Justice Court</p> <p>Reno Municipal Court</p>	<p>Reno Police Department</p> <p>Sparks Police Department</p>	<p>Div. of Public & Behavioral Health Lake's Crossing Northern NV Adult Mental Health Dini-Townsend Hospital</p> <p>Div. Aging and Disability Services</p> <p>Attorney General's Office</p> <p>Veterans Affairs</p>

THE BOTTOM LINE

Competency Court Works.

\$9.6M

in estimated cost savings since program inception in 2023

78%

faster evaluation turnaround

150

individuals connected to treatment who would otherwise have remained in jail

0 days

wait time for restoration under new 2026 Nevada law