

**Court of Common Pleas
County of Summit**

JOHN R. ADAMS
JUDGE

Akron, Ohio
44308
PHONE 330 / 643-2230

KENNETH P. MASICH
BAILIFF

April 15, 2002

Mr. Alan Kalmanoff
Executive Director
Institute for Law and Policy Planning
2613 Hillegass Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94705

Re: ILPP Report
Summit County, Ohio

Dear Mr. Kalmanoff:

I am writing in response to your request for a letter of reference/recommendation regarding the work ILPP performed in Summit County, Ohio.

At the outset, I believe your report has provided the basis for a much needed reform of the criminal justice system in Summit County.

While the report itself was roundly criticized by those with a vested, financial interest in maintaining status quo, in fact many of your recommendations have provided the impetus for the beginnings of meaningful reform of the Summit County Justice System.

By way of example consistent with some of your recommendations:

1. The County has created a Criminal Justice Advisory Board to serve as a neutral planning entity for the Criminal Justice System.
2. The Court has hired a new Director of Offender Services. As recommended by you, his task is to oversee the Court's program for offenders such as a pre-trial release, basic probation, intensive probation and community corrections programs.

Additionally, his task is to revitalize the probation department.

3. The County is considering relocating the Sheriff's Department to a location adjacent to the jail.

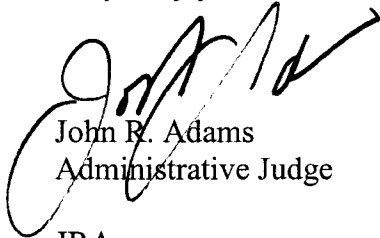
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4. I am chairing a committee reviewing the costs of providing defense counsel to indigent defendants, including the possibility of creating a Public Defender's Office.
5. A new Drug Court Program at the felony level has been created.
6. The Court is in the process of reasserting control of the Community Based Corrections program as required by Ohio law.

In summary, while I do not agree with all of the conclusions and recommendations set forth in your report, overall your report has provided an excellent roadmap for meaningful reform of the criminal justice system here in Summit County. I would be willing to recommend ILPP to your prospective clients.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,



John R. Adams
Administrative Judge

JRA:eg