

# Washington County Rapid Fit to Proceed Program

The Washington County Rapid Fitness to Proceed Program is a team of people working to increase the efficiency of the fitness to proceed process. Our goal is to shorten the amount of time defendants are at the jail pending fitness to proceed determinations. The program was created through the collaboration of the following Washington County stakeholders: the DA's Office, Sheriff's Office, the defense bar, mental health services and the Circuit Court.

## Goals & Methods

### Goals:

- ◆ Speed up the fitness to proceed process
- ◆ Speed up resolution of criminal cases
- ◆ Decrease the amount of time defendants spend in custody while waiting for an evaluation

### Methods:

- ◆ Privatize evaluations with evaluators trusted by defense and state
- ◆ Certified forensic evaluators trusted by the defense and the state; defense-privileged evaluations disclosed only if defense intends to use evaluation in court; rapid turnaround time from date of referral to written evaluation

## Median Timelines

Court-ordered .365 evaluation timeline from date of order: 62 days

Rapid evaluation timeline from date of referral: 16 days

## Evaluators

### NW Forensic Institute

- ◆ Dr. Michelle Guyton
- ◆ Dr. Alex Millkey
- ◆ Dr. Lynette Hamilton
- ◆ Dr. Amala Shetty
- ◆ Dr. Jennifer Johnson
- ◆ Dr. Danielle Therson
- ◆ Dr. Ashley Estoup

### Lithia Forensics

- ◆ Dr. Lauren Best
- ◆ Dr. Drew Orf
- ◆ Dr. Kimberly Rideout

## Referral Process

Please fill out this [Rapid Fitness to Proceed Referral Form](#) and submit to [Joel\\_Petersen@washingtoncountyor.gov](mailto:Joel_Petersen@washingtoncountyor.gov)

## Selection Priority

Priority will be given to defendants charged with non-violent crimes, defendants charged with misdemeanors, and defendants who have been in custody for the longest period of time. All involved team members must support referral for it to be accepted.

