



Providing quality, innovative and cost-effective services that safeguard and enhance well-being

2024 QUARTER 4 | CORPORATION COUNSEL

SELECTED PERFORMANCE MEASURES

		2021	2022	2023	2024
Ch. 51 Mental Commitment Cases (2024 YTD)	Referred and Reviewed:	331	367	341	450
	Committed:	40	28	48	25
Ch. 54 Guardianship Protective Placement Cases (2024 YTD)	Permanent Filed:	77	59	59	50
	Temporary:	43	39	33	37
Ch. 48 Children in Need of Protection or Services Cases (2024 YTD)	Referred and Reviewed:	119	99	106	64
	Filed:	98	81	90	53
Ch. 48 Termination of Parental Rights Cases (2024 YTD)	Referred and Reviewed:	14	19	10	6
	Filed:	24	13	21	6
Ch. 938 Juvenile in Need of Protection	Referred and Reviewed:	114	87	133	100
	Filed:	22	11	32	26
IN REM	Referred:	0	0	48	55
	Filed:	0	0	17	22
	Number of Properties Foreclosed:	0	0	3	11
	Redeemed				9

SUMMARY OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- IN REM – Filed on 22 of the original 55 referred, hearing on 12/20/2024.
 - 9 properties have been redeemed.
 - 11 properties foreclosed on.
 - 2 properties dismissed.
 - Several properties inhabited and will need to be evicted once County takes ownership.
- Created & obtained signed MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding) with community agencies that are provided community funding from Eau Claire County Budget.
- Reviewing HIPAA Policy will meet with DHS to collaborate on updates in 2025.
- Reviewing Emergency Management Plan for Planning and Development.
- Prepared 15 Real Estate Transfer Returns and Buildings, Fixtures and/or Improvements Document(BFI document) for Airport Personal Property changed to Real Property under new law.

Our Core Behaviors:

Proactive Ownership | Infinite Possibilities | Customer First | Stronger Together | Ardent Learners | Unwavering Respect

- Cell Tower lease at Expo Center, relocation required new survey and legal description.
- Presented at Adult Protective Service Conference in October regarding residency issues.
- Presented at Court Commissioner Conference in October on Child Support UIFSA (Uniform Interstate Family Support Act).
- CIT training-Crisis Intervention Team- Provided training to law enforcement on Ch. 51 (mental commitment) process and updates.
- Presented at Memorial High Schol for Junior Achievement on potential careers in government and law.
- Junk property – Special Inspection Warrant on junk property-no county funding for clean-up.
- Developed Military Policy for Eau Claire County under USERRA Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act for Human Resources Committee to adopt- Human Resources committee will review in the future.
- Assisting Finance and Budget Committee with review of finance policies and budget process.
- Reviewing County’s Record Retention schedule in Code.
- Continue to seek solutions through collaboration with district attorney and public defender’s office regarding the issue of public defender’s office unable to appoint in every case type-no resolution to this matter.
- Working with DHS to promote more cost-efficient processes in service of statutory paperwork in juvenile cases.
- Administrative staff cross training.
- Reduction of printing for cases and other office activity for cost savings.

ISSUES ON THE HORIZON AND SIGNIFICANT TRENDS

- Increase in Jury Trial Requests by State Public Defender’s Office, causing request for court appointed attorneys.
- Problem of inability to get a State Public Defender appointed in cases, which is prolonging court process and causing multiple adjournments. Cases having to be dismissed due to no public defender appointed.
- Having to identify ways to perform our statutory duties with less funding due to budget constraints.
- Problems in finding placement for individuals under Ch. 48 (Juvenile) and Ch. 55. (Guardianship/Protective Placement)
- Increase in Chapter 51 cases (Mental Commitments) transferred to WMHI (increased cost).
- Gunderson Lutheran increased their mental health bed from 22 to 26.
- Junk property clean-up: Towns cannot afford to pursue through tax assessment due to cost and Planning & Development not able to fund through their budget.
- New Legislation on taxation of personal property to real property for property tax assessment, affects structures leased on County property. Wis. Stat. §70.17(3).

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES (GREEN / AMBER / RED)

Strategic Priority A: A Healthy, Safe Community-Enhance the health and safety of Eau Claire community members.

Strategic Initiative: Explore and commit to community collaboration to enhance the health and safety of community members.

Action Item: Identify resources for educating the public and making connections with community organizations by collaborating with internal and external committees and providing training.

Status: Green

- EMS Committee
- Drug Endangered Children Committee
- Child Death Review Team
- Juvenile Justice Collaborating Committee

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- Suicide Death Review Team
- Presenter for ECASD Mandatory Reporting
- Quarterly Crisis Meetings
- 980 Committee to locate housing for CH. 980 individuals
- Overdose Death Review Team
- Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
- Court Commissioner Uniform Interstate Family Act Presentation -Child Support Interstate Enforcement and Modification of Interstate Action
- CIT training-Crisis Intervention Team- Provided training to law enforcement on Ch. 51 (mental commitment) process and updates
- Intergovernmental community collaboration to address the homelessness in Eau Claire

Strategic Initiative: Individualize mental health services to vulnerable populations.

Action Item: Resources and collaboration to support Community Health Improvement Plan initiatives for mental health.

Status: Green

- Crisis Urgent Care and Observation Facilities Advisory Committee with Wisconsin Department of Health Services.
- Wisconsin Legislative Council Study Committee on Emergency Detention and Involuntary Commitment of Minors.

Strategic Priority B: Quality and Meaningful Relationships-Grow meaningful relationships internally and externally.

Strategic Initiative: Attend and contribute in external and internal opportunities in the community.

Action Item: Create and develop solutions to issues in our community with internal resources and community organizations.

Status: Green

- Multi-Disciplinary Team.
- Youth Leadership Eau Claire
- Junior Achievement
- Intergovernmental community collaboration to address the homelessness in Eau Claire

Strategic Priority C: Robust Infrastructure

Strategic Initiative: Improve efficiency and performance of County operations through automation and data-driven decision-making.

Action Item: Board education/access of county information resources

Status: Green

- New employee orientation
- New board member orientation
- Budget process and community funding

Action Item: Improve data-driven processes that are measurable, and processes are accessible by the public (improve performance metrics and reporting

- Revised Performance Management Metrics to more accurately reflect our outcomes

GOALS FOR NEXT QUARTER

- Review processes and procedures to identify ways to reduce expenditures within the County.
- Hire and train Asst. Corporation Counsel to replace the position that was vacated in November.

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