

2020 Criminal Law Committee Report

As with most committees, we did not meet during 2020 due to the pandemic. The pandemic has caused a serious backlog on the trial list. With the cooperation of the District Attorney's office, hopefully we can reduce the number of cases that are jury trials.

Many of us have become quite adapt at hearings via zoom. This may be the standard for quite some time into the future.

The District Attorney has implemented the Felony Diversion Program. The program enables a Defendant to have the felony charges dismissed if he or she successfully completes the program. Several of the candidates are on the verge of successfully completing the program and a number are pending approval. Only one person has been removed from the program. As this program didn't get off the ground until last summer, I anticipate there will be more opportunities for defendants in the future,

I want to thank Judge Lovecchio for the monthly case law updates.

Hopefully 2021 will be a much smoother year!

Robert A. Hoffa, Chairman