**Municipal Court**

The Milwaukee Municipal Court is seen on July 18, 2023. The nonprofit JusticePoint, Inc., runs the city’s Court Alternatives Program, which offers low-income residents who struggle to pay civil fines options for avoiding jail. Two Municipal Court judges sought to cancel JusticePoint’s city contract but provided little public explanation as to why. On Nov. 6 Judge Joseph Donald of the Wisconsin Court of Appeals issued an order requiring the city to continue paying JusticePoint for its services during its appeal of a lower court’s dismissal of its lawsuit against the city. (Jonmaesha Beltran / Wisconsin Watch)

**JusticePoint**

The offices of JusticePoint, Inc., are shown on the second floor of the Milwaukee Municipal Court building on July 18, 2023. The nonprofit provides assessments, screenings and referrals to treatment or community service for people who struggle to pay civil fines — allowing them to avoid jail. (Jonmaesha Beltran / Wisconsin Watch)

**Courthouse**

The Milwaukee County Courthouse is seen on Nov. 8, 2023, in Milwaukee. Circuit Court Judge J.D. Watts in October dismissed JusticePoint’s lawsuit that aimed to prevent the city of Milwaukee from canceling its contract to provide incarceration alternatives services. But a Wisconsin Court of Appeals order allowed the contract to continue during JusticePoint’s appeal. (Jonmaesha Betran / Wisconsin Watch)

**Watts**

The chambers of Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge J.D. Watts are seen on Nov. 8, 2023, in Milwaukee. Watts dismissed a JusticePoint lawsuit challenging the city of Milwaukee’s cancellation of its contract. Watts wrote that JusticePoint lacked protection from the Wisconsin Fair Dealership law. But an appeals court ruling allows JusticePoint to continue incarceration alternatives services while it appeals. (Jonmaesha Betran / Wisconsin Watch)

**Eckhart.jpg**

Sue Eckhart is the Municipal Court Alternatives director for the nonprofit JusticePoint, Inc., which offers low-income residents who struggle to pay civil fines options for avoiding jail. Services include referring residents to community service or mental health treatment. Eckhart is shown on July 13, 2023. (Jonmaesha Beltran / Wisconsin Watch)

**Jeff\_Mandell**

Jeff Mandell is representing JusticePoint, Inc., in a lawsuit against the city of Milwaukee. JusticePoint aims to prevent the city from canceling its contract for providing assessments, screenings and referrals to treatment or community service for people who struggle to pay civil fines. Mandell is shown here during an Aug. 4, 2023, episode of PBS Wisconsin’s “Here & Now.” (Courtesy of PBS Wisconsin)