

First Judicial District

Testimony

Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget

Presented to: Philadelphia City Council – Committee of the Whole
Honorable Darrell L. Clarke, Council President

Date: May 4, 2016

On behalf of: The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas
Philadelphia Municipal Court



By: Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper, President Judge Court of Common Pleas, and
Chair, Administrative Governing Board
Honorable Jacqueline F. Allen, Administrative Judge, Trial Division
Honorable, Margaret T. Murphy Administrative Judge of Family Court
Honorable Matthew D. Carrafiello, Administrative Judge of Orphans' Court
Honorable Marsha H. Neifield, President Judge of Municipal Court
Honorable Gary S. Glazer, Administrative Judge of Traffic Division
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The Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Testimony of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania

My name is, Sheila Woods-Skipper and I am privileged to address you today as the Chair of the First Judicial District's Administrative Governing Board and President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. I am here representing my colleagues on the Administrative Governing Board, Honorable Marsha H. Neifield, President Judge Municipal Court; Honorable Jacqueline F. Allen, Administrative Judge Trial Division; Honorable Matthew D. Carrafiello, Administrative Judge Orphans' Court; Honorable Gary S. Glazer, Administrative Judge Traffic Division; and Honorable Margaret T. Murphy, Administrative Judge Family Court. Also, in attendance is Kevin Cross, Deputy Court Administrator, Financial Services to answer questions from members of City Council about the FJD Budget Request.

The mission of our courts is to adjudicate cases according to their jurisdiction and ensure fair, timely and accessible justice to the citizens and litigants in the City and County of Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Court System enables every litigant to receive their day in court whether through innovative specialty courts and progressive diversion programs; convenient on-line court access; multifaceted re-entry programs and by implementing best practices in family and youth services. These proactive initiatives, coupled with our high level of judicial commitment and productivity, enable the Court to meet many societal needs and enhance the lives of all citizens of Philadelphia.

Today, I will outline how the Philadelphia Judiciary contributes to its budget, how we remain a fiscally responsible partner in government, implement new initiatives while not seeking additional funds in our budget, create efficiencies within our justice system, and provide accessible services to our citizens and those in need.

The Fiscal Year 2017 FJD budget of \$158 million dollars consists of \$110.3 million for the General Fund and \$47.6 million for Grants Revenue and is awaiting your approval. In large measure, this \$158 million budget request is paid for by the court system itself. In fact, the FJD generates \$50.0 million dollars that is credited to the general fund from filing fees, fines and costs (\$34.7 million) and, reimbursements (\$15.3 million). In addition, the FJD saves the City and its agencies nearly \$3.2 million annually by waiving filing fees in the Court of Common Pleas and Municipal Court as well as \$3.7 million law library fees. As a consequence, of the total \$158 million budget request, the FJD is in reality only seeking \$53.9 million.

Table 1: FJD General Fund Budget and Revenue Contributions:

FY17 FJD General Fund Budget	\$110,303,140
FJD Reimbursements & Grant in Aid from other Governments	(\$15,294,000)
Filing Fees, Fines and Costs	(\$34,717,890)
Jenkins Law Library Fee Collected and Paid on City's Behalf.....	(\$3,170,282)
Waived Fees for City Agencies.....	(\$3,224,936)
Total Revenue that Offsets General Fund Budget.....	(\$56,407,108)
Net Cost to Fund FJD Courts.....	\$53,896,032

Based on the revenue we generate and fees waived to our partner agencies, the Philadelphia Judiciary's budget is less than 1.5% of the City's overall General Fund budget.

As a fiscally responsible partner in government:

Since 2012, the FJD has reduced its filled position level by 100 employees and our overtime expense remains one-tenth of one-percent of our Class 100 budget.

For two consecutive years, we have not requested any additional funds in our budget and this budget-neutral request can generate budget savings while we implement new programs and initiatives.

Savings to Other Agencies

The FJD has remained a cooperative and responsible partner in government by creating, collaborating and implementing programs that streamline case processing and reducing costs to other agencies. We have evaluated some of our criminal court programs to identify savings to other criminal justice agencies in the following areas: reduced or eliminated incarceration days; reductions in prisoner transportation; lab fees for drug testing, and reduced or eliminated police officer appearances.

Creating access and accessibility to the Philadelphia Justice System:

Web-based job application – the FJD has developed an on-line application system where residents and interested job-seekers can apply for posted positions utilizing our on-line job application accessible via our website. Job applications can be completed without coming to our Human Resources office, saving the time and expense of travel to center city.

Electronic filings and payments – Our courts are fully accessible via the internet for on-line case status, jury duty status, and payment of fines and fees. In 2015, over 700,000 documents were transmitted electronically or e-filed by our litigants in Civil, Criminal and Orphans' Court cases, and can occur at any hour or day of the week. Two million dollars was paid on-line for bail and fines, and another 200,000 individuals used our interactive voice response system to access the status of Traffic Division cases. Currently, over two million (2,000,000) case filings are stored electronically, and the paper file has been eliminated in the majority of our courtrooms.

New Initiatives:

Internet access in our Courthouses – our Family Court and Criminal Court locations are Wi-Fi enabled for the public and our litigants to access the internet to assist in presenting their case.

FJD Elder Care Resource Center – is being implemented to facilitate access to the Philadelphia court system by providing a comprehensive location to address the need for services by our aging population. Located in City Hall, the center is in response to the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Elder Task Force and will coordinate access to FJD services, courts and offices by providing: 1) equipment for support hearing, assistance to those with vision and mobility disabilities, interpreter services to overcome language barriers; 2) a listing of referral agencies for in-home services, legal services and other community based resources; and, 3) sponsor educational seminars to educate and safeguard seniors from exploitation, physical and financial abuse and mental health issues. Lastly, this center will be staffed by dedicated employees and volunteers from various agencies who focus on elder services.

Orphans' Court jurisdiction includes guardianships of minors and incapacitated persons and their estates, decedents' estates, marriage licenses, and powers of attorney. The Court has responded to the city's increasing aging population by providing a guardian investigator to review, monitor, and audit guardian reports and filings. Also, development and implementation of a statewide uniform Orphans' Court case management system will enhance caseflow processing and reporting.

Traffic Division of the Philadelphia Municipal Court implemented a Compliance Program which enlists the support of every employee to monitor the integrity and professionalism of the court's operations. The program also specifies the standards of conduct by which employees are governed, and procedures for reporting and the role of the compliance officer who is charged with administering the program.

Video Camera Installation at the Juanita Kidd-Stout Center for Criminal Justice – will promote the cause of justice, deter intimidation and foster a safe and secure environment for our victims of crime, witnesses and litigants. Partial grant funding will allow 153 cameras to be installed in hallways and common areas of the Stout Center.

Electronic Evidence Presentment – courtrooms in the Stout Center for Criminal Justice are being equipped with wireless receivers and monitors permitting video, pictures, documents and any other electronic media that can be stored on a mobile device to be transmitted to the monitor. This technology will be available to all courtroom litigants including the District Attorney's office, the Public Defender's office and private counsel and can be presented from a laptop, tablet, or mobile phone. Grant funds have been secured for this project and will be fully installed and functional before FY17.

MacArthur Grant Award

The grant to Philadelphia from this prestigious foundation is the result of unparalleled collaboration between the city's criminal justice partners and this Council resulting in \$3.5 million awarded to address much needed criminal justice reforms. The initiatives in this grant will substantially alter the city's prison population, create alternatives to cash bail, establish and enhance diversion and early-intervention programs and address racial and ethnic disparities throughout the justice system.

Philadelphia Municipal Court Diversion Initiatives

The Municipal Court numerous diversion courts are outlined in the Specialty Courts and Initiatives section of our testimony and these and other positive reforms have resulted in over 6,700 cases diverted from standard calendaring listings resulting in cost savings associated with formal trial, court related overtime and lengthy prison stays for nonviolent offenders.

Re-entry Programs

Re-entry programs provide a vital step-down transition from incarceration to assimilation into the community and are proven to reduce the rate of recidivism and improve offender outcomes by providing placement assistance, education, and training. Re-entry programs can be diversionary (pre-trial) or parole-based (post-trial) and these programs are coordinated by President Judge Marsha Neifield of the Municipal Court, Administrative Judge Jacqueline Allen of the Trial Division and

myself in conjunction with both District Attorney's office and the Defender's Association. A summary of these programs is included as an attachment to this testimony.

Philadelphia Family Court Initiatives

The Philadelphia Family Court engages in many programs and initiatives for children, youths and families. The Family Court Juvenile Branch strives to protect the community from delinquency, impose accountability for offenses committed and restoration to the victim. For matters involving dependency, the Family Court creates and maintains best practices to ensure the safety and stability of the city's children and families. The Domestic Relations Branch has jurisdiction over paternity establishment; child and spousal support order establishment; custody; divorce and domestic violence matters. Some of the programs in the Family Court involving children and youth are a Summer Jobs Program, a Sports in Juvenile Justice Program, a Back to School Drive, and Evening Reporting Centers.

Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program

The Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program is a highly-acclaimed, innovative and successful program that allows homeowners to stave-off mortgage foreclosure through conciliation conferences. These conferences are court-initiated, conducted with housing counselors, representatives from Philadelphia Legal Assistance, the SeniorLAW Center and Philadelphia VIP with assistance from federal and state programs helping homeowners achieve a settlement with their mortgage lender. The Court issues a case management order preventing an initial default judgment and schedules a mandatory conciliation conference within 90 days. No default judgment can be entered until the conciliation process is complete.

Since the beginning of the program in 2008, over 28,000 mortgage foreclosure conciliation conferences have been held and when a permanent agreement is reached, 85% of those homeowners remained in their homes one year later. Over the years, the program has been adjusted and modified to accommodate the ever changing needs of the community and the litigants. The Court welcomes cooperation from City Council in keeping us informed of community and constituent concerns to allow this effective and meaningful program to continue.

Lastly, In addition to providing the delivery of fair, timely and accessible justice to Philadelphians, the FJD should be recognized for its contribution to offsetting its costs and generating revenue for other city agencies. An investment into our courts, judiciary and staff creates returns that positively impact our justice partners, other city agencies, and our citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony today. On behalf of the Philadelphia Judiciary, Administrative Governing Board, and the employees of the FJD, we respectfully seek City Council's consideration and approval of our FY17 General Fund budget request and Grants Revenue budget request. I will take your questions at this time.

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
BUDGET SUMMARY AND OTHER BUDGET DRIVERS

Financial Summary by Class - General Fund

	Fiscal 2015	Fiscal 2016	Fiscal 2016	Fiscal 2017	Difference
	Actual Obligations	Original Appropriations	Estimated Obligations	Proposed Appropriations	FY17-FY16
Class 100 - Employee Compensation	\$98,382,318	\$97,266,858	\$97,266,858	\$97,254,698	(\$12,160)
Class 200 - Purchase of Services	\$17,054,327	\$10,656,574	\$10,656,574	\$10,656,574	\$0
Class 300 - Materials and Supplies	\$1,869,944	\$1,870,944	\$1,870,944	\$1,870,944	\$0
Class 400 - Equipment	\$520,924	\$520,924	\$520,924	\$520,924	\$0
Class 500 - Contributions	\$149,032	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Class 700 - Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Class 800 - Payment to Other Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Class 900 - Advances/Misc. Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$117,976,545	\$110,315,300	\$110,315,300	\$110,303,140	(\$12,160)

Contracts Summary (as of December 2015)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16*
Total amount of contracts	\$6,313,226	\$6,328,348	\$6,154,947	\$6,250,603	\$8,207,310	\$5,108,575
Total amount to M/W/DBE	\$3,068,943	\$2,895,610	\$3,149,245	\$3,061,432	\$3,674,673	\$2,580,296
Participation Rate	49%	46%	51%	49%	45%	51%

* as of December 2015

Staff Demographics (as of January 2016)

<i>Full-Time Staff</i>				<i>Executive Staff</i>			
Male		Female		Male		Female	
	African-American		African-American		African-American		African-American
<i>Total</i>	219		522	<i>Total</i>	5		3
<i>% of Total</i>	9.6%		23.0%	<i>% of Total</i>	11.4%		6.8%
<i>Average Salary</i>	46,171.21		45,842.80	<i>Average Salary</i>	94,992.60		92,570.00
<i>Median Salary</i>	45,665.00		43,407.00	<i>Median Salary</i>	95,210.00		91,804.00
	White		White		White		White
<i>Total</i>	591		786	<i>Total</i>	19		14
<i>% of Total</i>	26.0%		34.6%	<i>% of Total</i>	43.2%		31.8%
<i>Average Salary</i>	49,685.01		46,283.41	<i>Average Salary</i>	96,129.84		95,329.21
<i>Median Salary</i>	47,682.00		43,407.00	<i>Median Salary</i>	95,847.00		96,835.00
	Hispanic		Hispanic		Hispanic		Hispanic
<i>Total</i>	33		65	<i>Total</i>	1		
<i>% of Total</i>	1.5%		2.9%	<i>% of Total</i>	2.3%		0.0%
<i>Average Salary</i>	46,556.58		47,447.06	<i>Average Salary</i>	104,575.00		
<i>Median Salary</i>	44,664.00		47,387.00	<i>Median Salary</i>	104,575.00		
	Asian		Asian		Asian		Asian
<i>Total</i>	6		14	<i>Total</i>	1		
<i>% of Total</i>	0.3%		0.6%	<i>% of Total</i>	2.3%		0.0%
<i>Average Salary</i>	45,059.67		48,548.71	<i>Average Salary</i>	96,872.00		
<i>Median Salary</i>	44,136.00		49,848.50	<i>Median Salary</i>	96,872.00		
	Other		Other		Other		Other
<i>Total</i>	17		20	<i>Total</i>	1		
<i>% of Total</i>	0.7%		0.9%	<i>% of Total</i>	2.3%		0.0%
<i>Average Salary</i>	49,861.53		48,382.50	<i>Average Salary</i>	72,875.00		
<i>Median Salary</i>	50,510.00		44,519.50	<i>Median Salary</i>	72,875.00		
	Male		Female		Male		Female
<i>Total</i>	866		1,407	<i>Total</i>	27		17
<i>% of Total</i>	38.1%		61.9%	<i>% of Total</i>	61.4%		38.6%
<i>Average Salary</i>	48,648.62		46,226.08	<i>Average Salary</i>	93,167.17		92,281.78
<i>Median Salary</i>	47,483.00		43,496.00	<i>Median Salary</i>	95,210.00		93,507.00

Staff Demographics Summary (as of January 2016)

	Total	Minority	White	Female
Full-Time Staff	2,273	896	1,377	1,407
Executive Staff	44	11	33	17
Average Salary - Full-Time Staff	\$47,149	\$46,236	\$47,720	\$46,226
Average Salary - Executive Staff	\$95,183	\$93,363	\$95,790	\$94,842
Median Salary - Full-Time Staff	\$44,862	\$44,363	\$46,041	\$43,496
Median Salary - Executive Staff	\$95,310	\$95,210	\$95,847	\$95,210

Creating efficiencies within the Criminal Justice System:

The FJD has remained a cooperative and responsible partner in government by creating, collaborating and implementing programs that streamline case processing. We have evaluated some of our criminal court programs to identify savings to other criminal justice agencies by reducing or eliminating the following: incarceration days; prisoner transportation; lab fees for drug testing, and police officer appearances.

- **Stout Center Video Conferencing**

Savings: \$1,084,181

The use of video conferencing reduces the need to transport prisoners in a large number of criminal cases makes it easier for victims and child witnesses to testify; and it addresses and improves some of our court security concerns. During calendar year 2015, the criminal courts conducted 7,265 video conferences saving the city in police overtime, and prisoner and transportation costs.

- **Video Crash Court**

Savings: \$815,071

In addition to the use of video conferencing, the Video Crash Court expedited adjudications of 360 cases from formal case processing. The collective benefits of this program generates savings by canceling subpoenas for police officer appearances, accelerating prisoner release, lessening prisoner- transportation, and lifting VOP's.

- **Early Resolution Initiative**

Savings: \$744,584

Furthermore in 2015, an additional 630 cases were adjudicated through the early resolution initiative. Many cases that would have previously been scheduled to Video Crash Court are now scheduled more quickly to the early resolution list.

- **Electronic Monitoring**

Savings: \$3,496,555

The Electronic Monitoring Unit supervises pre-trial and post-trial adult defendants ordered by the judiciary to Electronic Monitoring. The monthly electronic monitoring inventories average around 700 defendants on active monitoring. This program generates savings in incarceration costs.

- **Juvenile Delinquent GPS Monitoring**

Savings: \$2,617,210

Additionally for juveniles adjudicated as delinquent, the use of GPS Monitoring as an alternative to placement and detention saves in juvenile justice service costs.

- **Substituted Judge Program**

Savings: \$7,142,717

With the Substituted Judge program whenever a Common Pleas VOP hearing needs to be scheduled for a Judge who does not preside in the CJC anymore that case is scheduled before a substituted Judge. Utilizing one room streamlines the process for the Sheriff when a defendant is brought down but also has allowed the use of video for the vast majority of these hearings. Currently over 90% of these custody VOP hearings are heard via video since this room is equipped with video technology.

- **Accelerated Misdemeanor Program**

Savings: \$391,227

Accelerated Misdemeanor Program targets eligible misdemeanor-violators for post arraignment diversion and early resolution of their cases with offers for community service and court costs. In 2015, approximately 4,880 listed cases were removed from the standard criminal calendar resulting in savings from reduced police overtime. Also, a total of 19,564 community service hours were completed.

- **Mental Health Court**

Savings: \$50,900

Mental Health Court is a re-entry program that provides intensive wrap-around treatment and individualized probation supervision. The Court aims to reduce the recidivism rate by facilitating the re-entry of offenders with mental illness from incarceration into supervised community treatment settings. This program saves in reducing prison costs.

Performance Measures, Outcomes, Caseload Statistics, and Achievements

- **In the Family Court Division**

At the end of 2015, 2,496 juveniles were under the supervision of the Probation Department, and including office, home and community site visits, juvenile probation officers completed more than 47,400 contacts with youth and their families.

282 youth earned their high school diploma and 47 youth received their GED certificate while in placement care in the 2014-15 school year.

508 youth participated at the Student Transition Center which provides timely school assignments to youth after being discharged from a treatment or rehabilitation facility.

Over 15,000 hours of youth Community Service was completed in 2015. This calculates into \$107,750 in services for neighborhoods and citizens in Philadelphia using the current minimum wage scale.

Combined collections for restitution to juvenile victims and court fees totaled \$284,498.

The utilization of GPS Monitoring, as an alternative to placement and detention saved City of Philadelphia taxpayers \$2,617,210 in juvenile justice services.

- **Dependency Court**

3,889 dependency cases were filed in 2015. Or a 13% increase from 2014.

Dependent adjudications increased an additional 17% when compared to 2014.

2,278 Dependent adjudicated cases were closed, and terminated from court supervision. A 22% increase from 2014.

Family reunification is the preferred permanency option for children in the dependency system and in 2015, family reunifications increased by 113% (239), compared to 2014 (112).

Adoptions increased by 23% in 2015, permanent homes were found for 518 children.

Of the children under the court supervision at the end of 2015, 50% remained at home or were in kinship care, 34% were in foster care, 11% were in congregate care, and the remainder either in a detention center or hospital, according to case reports.

- **Domestic Relations**

There were more than 79,000 total filings in the Domestic Relations Branch (19,598 custody, 36,584 support, 10,101 domestic violence and 13,211 divorce) and more than 85,000 interim and final orders entered (26,431 custody; 27,901 support; 28,102 domestic violence; and 3,036 divorce).

In 2015, the Child Support Program exceeded the 80% threshold in all federal performance areas: Paternity Establishment, Support Order Establishment, Current Collections and Arrears Collections, and was instrumental in ensuring that the state of Pennsylvania remained the most efficient and effective Child Support Enforcement program in the country.

Total Child Support Collections \$153,081,105, and established an 80% performance measure for payments and establishing court orders.

- **Criminal Trial Division**

- **Adult Probationers**

Total number of offenders supervised by APPD on 12/31/2015: 44,722.

The number of drug tests administered to probation clients totaled 75,225.

- **Pre-trial Services / Electronic Monitoring Unit**

At the end of 2015, there were 669 clients on active electronic monitoring and the total number monitored was 1,641. The Unit installed 1,641 electronic monitoring devices and visited 12,387 clients on electronic monitoring.

- **Civil and Criminal Clearance Rates**

- The Clearance Rate is the standard performance measure for the management of caseloads. A clearance rate of over 100% means a court is disposing more cases than it receives in new filings.

Common Pleas Criminal Trial Division

Case Type	Homicide	Felony Majors Program	Felony List	Total
			Program	
New Cases	191	3,775	9,214	13,180
Disposed Cases	252	4,426	9,923	14,601
Clearance Rate	132%	117%	108%	111%

Common Pleas Civil Trial Division

Cases	2015	2014	2013	2012
New Cases	35,888	35,739	35,147	36,227
Disposed Cases	37,576	37,314	41,150	41,431
Clearance Rate	105%	104%	117%	114%

- During CY 2015, the Civil Trial Division continues to report that 90% of all civil cases were disposed or otherwise resolved within the case processing time standards established by the American Bar Association.
- In the fall of 2013, the Civil Commerce Court Program began conducting hearings on Petitions to Appoint Sequestrators for commercial properties where tax liens have been filed. This Sequestration Project provides a means for the City to collect overdue taxes quickly. In the 2.5 years of the Commerce Program's Sequestration Project, the City obtained over \$35 million dollars in back taxes from the property owners and entities. Approximately half of this money goes to the Philadelphia School District to help alleviate its funding shortfall.
- The number of civil documents (pleadings, petitions and motions) accepted electronically in 2015 were 492,611 of which 58,072 were filed during non-traditional business hours (after 5:00pm and before 9:00am).

Residential Mortgage Foreclosures		
Filings and Dispositions		
Year	Filed	Disposed
2008	6,151	7,508
2009	8,381	11,501
2010	7,654	6,904
2011	4,638	6,031
2012	6,290	8,028
2013	6,145	6,641
2014	5,345	6,374
2015	5,178	6,075
TOTAL *	49,782	59,062 *
* Includes cases reopened from a prior period		

• **Municipal Court Criminal Division**

- 6,709 MC cases were diverted in 2015 as an alternative to formal prosecution and incarceration.
- 89% of DUI Treatment Court participants have successfully completed the program. To date, only 54 of the 368 graduates (15%) have been rearrested and 30 have been convicted on new criminal charges (8%).
- There are 2,736 successful graduates of the Drug Treatment Program; of those, 91% were not convicted of a new crime within one year of graduation and 84% remained arrest free within one year of graduation.

Cases	Felony Held for Court	Misdemeanors	Total
New Cases	20,157	19,342	39,499
Disposed Cases	20,951	22,194	43,145
Clearance Rate	104%	115%	109%

- The felony dismissal rate has decreased by 58% from 2007 and the misdemeanor dismissal rate decreased by 64%.

- **Municipal Court Civil Division**

Cases	Code Enforcement	Landlord /Tenant	Other	Total
New Cases	39,346	24,391	22,230	85,967
Disposed Cases	44,734	28,892	25,668	99,294
Clearance Rate	114%	118%	115%	116%

- **Municipal Court Traffic Division**

- 126,147 motor vehicle citations were issued in 2015.
- Traffic Division adjudications totaled 131,350 of which 70% were by trial and 50% of the remaining pleaded guilty.
- 55,872 installment payment plan hearings were conducted to arrange payment of citation fees.
- 12,011 Impoundment hearings for confiscated vehicles.
- 2,200 warrant hearings were conducted.
- Traffic Court collected \$22 million which is approx. four (4) times its budget.

Specialty Courts and Alternatives to Incarceration

The courts and divisions of the FJD administer numerous programs that provide diversion services and specialty courts as an alternative to incarceration

Municipal Court – Criminal

- **Veterans Court**, is a program that assists justice-involved veterans struggling with mental health, substance abuse, or other re-integration issues with immediate access to representatives from the Veterans Administration (VA) to determine benefits eligibility and to perform an assessment to determine the appropriate level of care.
- **Project DAWN streamlines prostitution cases to centralize treatment, housing and ancillary** services for women in custody on detainers or open prostitution cases. Project Dawn strives to provide holistic and evidence based treatment options to its participants, supporting them through their recovery journeys by addressing mental health, substance abuse and significant trauma histories.
- **The Choice is Yours (TCY)**, an innovative alternative-to-incarceration program that diverts non-violent felony drug offenders away from prison and toward positive social services and support. TCY strives to reduce recidivism rates and address the problem of prison overcrowding without compromising public safety. The program was recently recognized in the media as saving \$40,000 per person annually in incarceration costs, having a zero recidivism rate and for being a partnership among the Municipal Court, the DA's office, the Public Defender's office and JEVS Human Services.
- **Bench Warrants Court** provides swift and certain justice to address repeated failures to appear, which undermine public trust and confidence in the criminal justice system. Adjudications range from the removal of the warrant, a contempt charge and sanction, bail

modifications, and, in certain misdemeanor cases, the immediate disposition of the underlying case.

- **Video Crash Court** expedites adjudications for custody defendants through use of expanded video technology with the prison to expedite release based on Commonwealth offers agreed to by defendants and their counsel.
- **Drug Treatment Court** is a program dedicated to the treatment and punishment of individuals with multiple Drug offenses who have no related history of violent crime or other legal complications.
- **DUI Treatment Court** is dedicated to the treatment and punishment of individuals with multiple DUI offenses who have no related history of violent crime or other legal complications. The program promotes public safety, holds offenders accountable for their actions, and helps offenders to be sober, responsible and productive members of the community.
- **Summary Diversion Program** addresses quality of life issues for the citizenry of Philadelphia in an attempt to dissuade future criminal behavior.
- **The Accelerated Misdemeanor Program (AMP)**. AMP is an alternative to traditional prosecution methods that diverts offenders with low level misdemeanor arrests. The cases are heard and disposed expeditiously with sentencing options of community service to be completed in the neighborhood where the crime occurred. To assist with this task, the court has partnered with over 100 non-profit organizations within the City including the Department of Recreation. In 2015, 4,880 misdemeanor cases were diverted to AMP. Of those diverted, 3,020 accepted and 2,545 successfully completed. A total of 19,564 community service hours were completed.
- **Emergency Protection from Abuse** unit operates during non-traditional hours, holidays and weekends, for emergency petitions only; the unit is staffed by law-trained masters who, in accordance with the Protection from Abuse Act, conduct *ex-parte* hearings and review facts to determine if a petition should be granted.
- **Domestic Batterers Intervention Program**, a formalized Domestic Violence Court, is a collaborative, two-tiered domestic violence program to address anger management, underlying substance abuse and mental health related issues.

Trial Division – Criminal

- **Mental Health Court** aims to reduce the jail population and criminal justice costs by balancing justice, treatment, and public safety by providing an alternative to incarceration for offenders with mental illness and co-occurring disorders by preparing individuals for re-entry into more effective treatment modalities in supervised community settings.

Trial Division – Civil

- **Civil Case Management Programs** include the following programs: Complex Litigation (Pharmaceutical, Asbestos and Medical Devices), Day Forward Major Jury, Major Non-Jury, Compulsory Arbitration, Arbitration Appeals, Motions Program, Class Actions, Governmental and Administrative Agency Appeals, Civil Forfeiture, Code Enforcement, Rent Lease and Ejectment, Landlord/Tenant Appellate Mediation and Discovery, as well as the Civil Case Management and Dispute Resolution Centers.

- **Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program**, since the inception of the program, over 28,000 conciliation conferences have been conducted between lender and homeowner, with sustainable resolution reached in 35% of these matters.
- **Commerce Court** is a specialized court focused on resolving commercial disputes brought by local, national and international companies that do business in Philadelphia and thereby making Philadelphia more business friendly. Here the City's Sequestration program has collected \$35.0 million in back taxes of which half support the Philadelphia School District.

Family Court Juvenile Branch

- **Truancy** is a collaborative effort between the City, Court, School District of Philadelphia, and DHS to prevent, address and reduce chronic truancy and increase school attendance. The Court's role in this partnership is to order appropriate social and educational services to help the family combat the barriers that led them to chronic truancy.
- **Community Outreach Efforts** – the Juvenile Probation Department sponsored events that made a tremendous impact for our youth – the Back to School Supplies Drive, Sports for Juvenile Justice and Evening Reporting Center.
- **Juvenile Human Trafficking Court – Working to Restore Adolescents Power (WRAP)**
This is a pilot program in juvenile court, aimed at helping children with delinquency and/or dependency matters who have been identified by various criminal justice partners as being a victim of commercial sexual exploitation/human trafficking. This collaborative problem solving court is designed to address the specialized needs of trafficked children in an individualized trauma informed manner. In 2015, there were approximately thirty (30) cases in WRAP court, presided over by the Honorable Lori A. Dumas. The program was recognized by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and in Legal Intelligencer article, "Phila. Family Court Offers Hope for Young Victims of Trafficking".
- **Juvenile Treatment Court** provides positive support to our juveniles who are experiencing problems with drug and alcohol dependency. The goals of the program are the following: to reduce the use of drugs, to reduce criminal behavior, to increase the completion rate of outpatient substance abuse treatment programs, and to improve treatment outcomes through interagency collaboration. Of the 58 juveniles that entered the program in 2015, 47 are still active participants, five (5) graduated successfully and four (4) juveniles were unsuccessfully discharged, due to a new offense. Two (2) juveniles voluntarily withdrew from the program.
- **Shared Case Responsibility and Crossover Court** is the practice of sharing the responsibility for care of and services to youth who are involved in both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Since 2011, Juvenile Probation Officers and Social Workers assigned to a child have taken part in joint assessment meetings to develop a coordinated single plan. During 2015, 254 joint assessment meetings were conducted that allowed all parties to participate in planning for the needs of youth and their families with multiple system involvement.

Program Initiatives and Accomplishments

- **Wi-Fi access to the internet-** the Stout Center for Criminal Justice consists of 66 courtrooms, 60 judicial chambers, and supporting administrative and processing areas, and more than 60,000 criminal cases are heard annually. Wi-Fi accessibility enables one of the country's largest criminal court systems to move closer to our goal of becoming 100% paperless. Litigants and judges and courtroom staff are able to retrieve court documents

electronically and interact seamlessly with the court's new electronic evidence presentment technology, eliminating the need for large paper files.

- **Criminal Trial Division**

- **Soaring 2 Observations** – Adult Probation PPD supervisors completed approximately 1,300 observations of probation officer and offender meetings. The supervisors have assessed and provided feedback on the officers' use of motivational interviewing and needs assessment identification techniques, which they learned from George Mason University's (GMU) SOARING 2 curriculum.
- **Needs Assessment & Case Plan** – In partnership with experts at GMU, APPD developed, tested, and refined a needs assessment tool and complementary case plan to guide its supervision plans for high risk, moderate risk and specialized offender caseloads.
- **Presentation to Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Leadership** – In November, APPD leadership and its implementation partners from GMU traveled to Washington, D.C. to provide the BJA Director and other administrators with an update on the progress made in implementing the Department's Fiscal Year 2013 Smart Supervision Grant.
- **Office of Judicial Records.** In 2015, the criminal E-Filing program accepted 36,240 electronic filings transmitted to the court, serving individual attorneys, litigants, the Defender's Association, and the District Attorney's Office. Also, 20% of these filings occurred during non-business hours making our court accessible and convenient.
- **Criminal Document Management System** has a total of 850,217 documents stored and virtually replaced the hard copy file in the courtroom. In sixty out of our sixty-three adult courtrooms scanned pleadings and e-filed documents are electronically transmitted to the courtroom and have replaced the paper file.

- **Family Court**

- **Summer Jobs Program with Philadelphia Youth Network** – In July of 2015, Juvenile Probation hosted a series of Summer Employment Enrollment Sessions. By assisting youth with the Work Ready application process, and finding a suitable work site, the Probation Department and Philadelphia Youth Network were able to secure 478 summer jobs for juvenile justice involved youth.
- **Sports for Juvenile Justice Program** – this unique sports program was created for youth under court supervision to engage in non-traditional sports as a way to foster social skills through team work, build self-esteem and accomplish goals never known to them. In recognition of the program's hard work, President Barack Obama met with one of the participants as part of his My Brother's Keeper's Initiative. In the current 2015-16 fiscal year the program enlisted 200 court involved youth in the following sports and activities: Legacy Tennis, Mid-Atlantic Youth Anglers (fishing), MVP360 (fitness and self-defense), Team Up Philly, Philadelphia City Rowing, and Village Champions (flag football).
- **Alternative to Secure Detention** – Evening Reporting Centers (ERC's) are community-based alternative to detention programs. The ERC's engage youth in strength-based programming to promote court appearances and reduce the likelihood of re-arrests, while allowing the youth to remain at home and continue to attend their neighborhood school. In 2015, there were 205 youth serviced at two gender-specific locations, and only seven (7) were re-arrested while under supervision. The program reported a 92.20% overall success rate.

- **Family Court Domestic Relations**

- **New Employment Opportunities for Noncustodial Parents (NEON)** is a partnership that awards Philadelphia 500 job training and job placement slots annually. Since 2004, 5,948 unemployed obligors have been enrolled in the NEON program. 84% of the obligors who complete the program find jobs with an average hourly wage of \$10.32, and 48% of those jobs provide medical coverage. Since 2004, obligors who have completed the NEON program have paid more than \$27,000,000 in child support.

- **Municipal Court**

- **Consumer Credit Conciliation Pilot Program** – this pilot program was created with the goal to assist those being sued for outstanding credit card debt by providing access to volunteer lawyers. A defendant/debtor is given information on financial counseling and other resources and receives assistance in obtaining a satisfactory resolution of the case at a settlement conference. Both the plaintiff/creditor and defendant/debtor agree to participate in good faith to resolve the debt. Should the parties be unable or unwilling to settle the case, the case is transferred to a Municipal Court Judge for trial. The goal is to reduce the number of default judgments entered in debt collection cases, as well as educate debtors/defendants concerning their rights and responsibilities and ensure that creditors have adequate documentation to prove their case.
- **SER (Sexual Education Responsibility) Class** Recognizing the need for sound strategies to address sexual exploitation by criminal offenders, the Court, the District Attorney's Office and the Defender Association partnered to diminish the demand for prostitution within Philadelphia; to provide high quality, professional clinical intervention; and to provide accurate information to individuals regarding the impact on the sex worker, the community and on the individual soliciting sex.
- **Emergency Protection from Abuse Unit** operates during non-traditional hours for emergency petitions only. The unit is staffed by law-trained masters who, in accordance with the Protection from Abuse Act, conduct ex-parte hearings and review facts to determine if a petition should be granted. The unit approved 2,243 petitions in calendar year 2014 and provided referrals for victim services and emergency referral sites throughout Philadelphia to several thousand non-qualifying petitioners. The EPFA unit is available to petitioners when many other service agencies are closed. Funding cuts threaten the continued operation of this critical service in Municipal Court.

- **Municipal Court Traffic Division**

- **Compliance Program** – this program enlists the support of every employee of the Traffic Division to monitor the integrity and professionalism of the court's operations. The program also specifies the standards of conduct by which the employees are governed, the procedures for reporting, and the role of the Compliance Officer who is charged with administering the program.
- **The Re-Entry Program** – the Court continued to work with United States Magistrate Judge Timothy Rice on the Re-Entry Program which assists federal probationers in their transition back into society after release from incarceration. The recurring issues confronting those ex-offenders, such as license restoration, are being addressed through an internship program with Magistrate Judge Rice's team, which includes law students from

Villanova University, Drexel University, Rutgers University, the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University, who are being supervised and mentored by attorneys from several law firms in the City of Philadelphia.

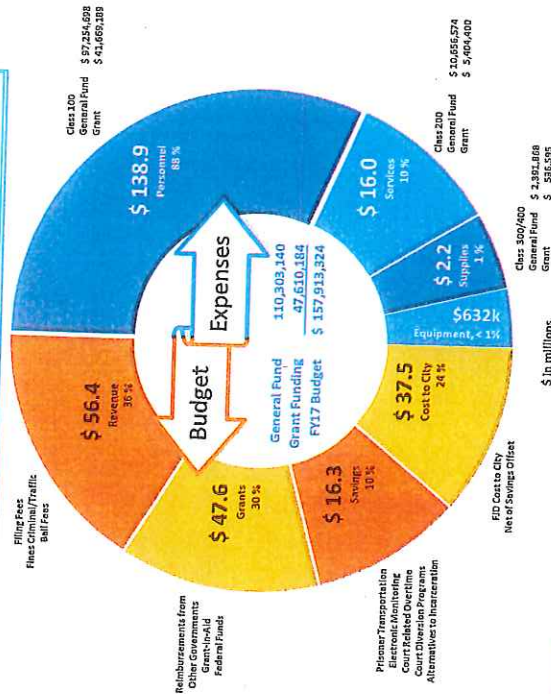
- **Customer Service and Sensitivity Training** was provided to the employees in the areas of Change Management and Conflict Resolution, both of which provided a foundation of knowledge and skills to assist the employees in their migration through the reform process.
- **“Use Your Refund Wisely”** – In 2015, the court identified a population of defendants whose accounts were in default by \$25.00 or more for outstanding fines and costs and a one-time notice was mailed to those entities. The response was significant; 5,370 individuals either satisfied their debt in its entirety or established a monthly payment agreement. The revenue generated as a result of those notices was \$463,651.15.
- **Interactive Voice Response System** – through the court's Interactive Voice Response system ("IVR"), \$723,924 was paid by defendants who were attempting to satisfy their total debt or comply with their monthly payment obligation. Also, approximately 201,563 individuals contacted the Call Center via the call-forwarding feature of the IVR which became fully operational in February, 2015.

Court of Common Pleas Office of the Presiding Judge
Court of Common Pleas Family Division
Philadelphia Municipal Court

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT PHILADELPHIA COURTS

Court of Common Pleas Trial Division
Court of Common Pleas Criminal Court
Philadelphia Municipal Court Traffic Division

Budget Highlights

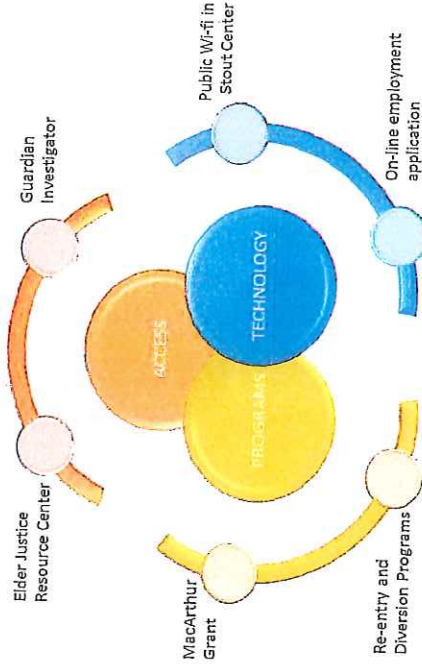


Fiscal Responsibility

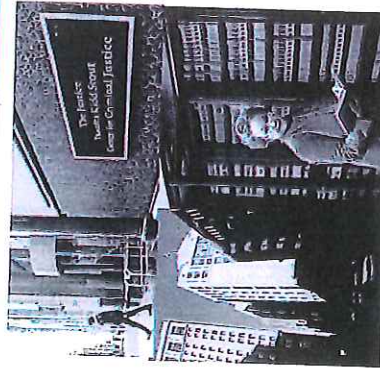
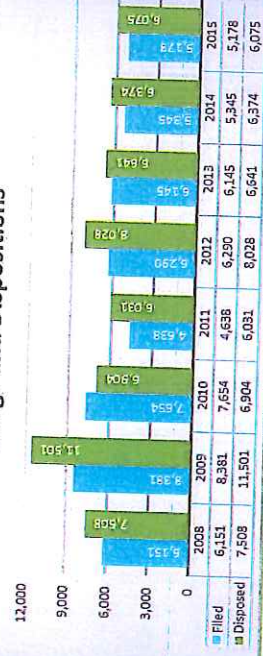
- ✓ Overtime costs are less than 0.1 % of the FJD Personnel Budget
- ✓ No requested funding increase for two consecutive years
- ✓ FJD amounts to 0.8 % of City's overall General Fund Budget net of revenue offsets
- ✓ Position level reduction of 100 employees since 2012

The mission of the courts of the
First Judicial District of Pennsylvania,
(the Philadelphia Courts) is to adjudicate cases
according to their jurisdiction and
ensure fair, timely and accessible justice
to the citizens and litigants in
the City and County of Philadelphia.

Testimony Highlights



Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Filings and Dispositions



In May 2012, City Council renames
Criminal Justice Center to
The Justice Juanita Kidd Stout
Center for Criminal Justice

Juvenile Branch strives to protect the community from delinquency, impose accountability for offenses committed and restoration to the victim.

- Completed 15,000 hours of community service;
- Provided \$117,000 in restitution to victim of juvenile crime;
- 282 youths earned a high school degree and 47 a GED certificate

Dependency Court utilizes best practices to ensure the safety and stability of the city's children and families.

- Conducted 42,892 dependency hearings, a 27% increase from 2013;
- In 2015, Goal of Family Reunifications increased by 113%

Domestic Relations Branch: establishes paternity; collects child and spousal support; presides over custody; divorce and domestic violence matters

- Paternity established in 97% of child support cases filed;
- Total child support collections: \$153 million dollars;
- Over 26,000 custody orders established or modified

Pre-Trial Diversion Programs

Accelerated Misdemeanor Program-Tier I (AMP I)

Accelerated Misdemeanor Program-Tier II (AMP II)

Accelerated Rehabilitation Disposition (ARD)

Domestic Violence Diversion

Drug Treatment Court

IP/DUI Treatment Court

Intermediate Punishment (IP- County & State)

Mental Health Court

Mental Health Court- Competency

Project Dawn Court

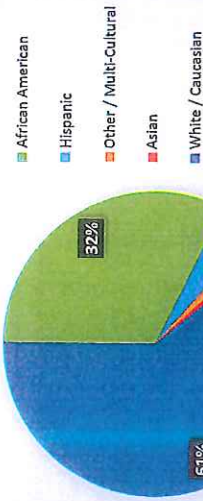
Summary Diversion Program

The Choice is Yours (TCY)

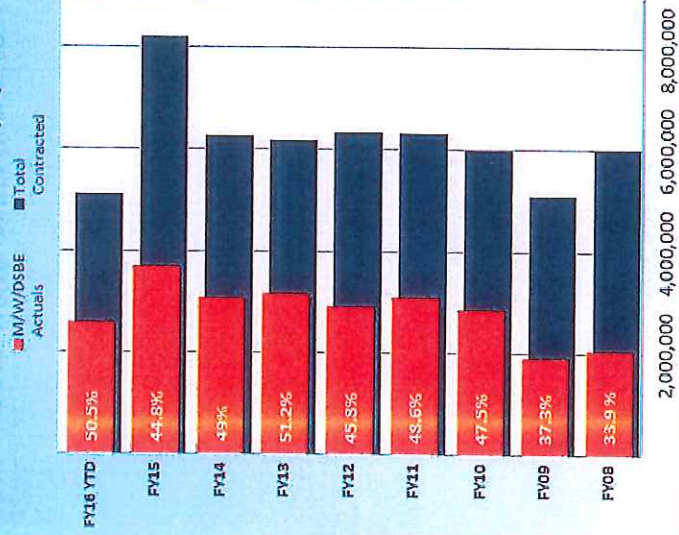
Veteran's Court

Future Forward

FID Employee Demographics



FID Contracted Services: M/W/DSBE



Post Trial Re-Entry Programs

University of Pennsylvania's Goldring

Re-Entry Initiative (GRI)

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's

Roots2Reentry Job Training and

Placement Program

New Leash on Life:

Dog Training and Scholarship Program

Forensic Intensive Recovery (FIR)

Second Chance Act- Program

full as of 12/1/15- Future TBD

Winning Ideas Nurturing Growth & Success (WINGS)

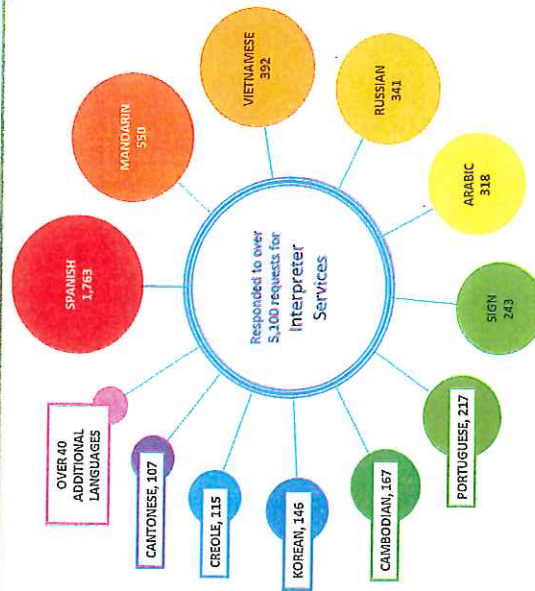
Mentors Empowering Now to

Overcome Recidivism (MENTOR)

Job, Training, Employment- Education (JTEE)

State Parole Re-Entry Court

Accelerated Work Release



FID Outputs by the Numbers • 7,265 video hearings; transportation cost savings \$651,615 • 44,722 offenders under supervision by Adult Probation • 75,225 drug tests administered to probation clients • **Sequestration program** resulting in \$55 million in total bail taxes • empowered 68,199 jurors participating in 1,516 jury trials and attained 107% juror utilization rate • 10,101 protection from abuse petitions filed • 1,772 cases resolved through Municipal Court dispute resolution mediation • **Language and sign interpreter services utilized in 52 languages** and over 5,100 requests for interpreting services • 12,011 vehicle impoundment hearings • \$ 2,617,210 savings for Juvenile Probation GPS Monitoring Program • 131,350 vehicle citations adjudicated • answered 202,000 telephone requests to the Traffic Division IVR Call Center