

First Judicial District

Testimony

Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget

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

Date: May 5, 2015

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



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Honorable Matthew D. Carrafiello, Administrative Judge of Orphans' Court
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The Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Testimony for the FJD

My name is Kevin M. Dougherty, and I am privileged to address you today as the Chair of the First Judicial District's Administrative Governing Board and Administrative Judge of the Court of Common Pleas Trial Division. My colleagues, Sheila Woods-Skipper, Court of Common Pleas President Judge and Joseph H. Evers, FJD Court Administrator, are also present with other members of Court leadership 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 our innovative specialty courts and progressive diversion programs; our convenient on-line court access; and by implementing best practices in family and youth services. These case management 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 are a fiscally responsible partner in government, how we achieve efficiencies within our justice system, and how we provide extraordinary services that benefit our city's children.

The Fiscal Year 2016 FJD budget of \$168 million dollars consists of \$110.3 million for the General Fund and \$58.3 million for Grants Revenue and is awaiting your approval. In large measure, this \$168 million is paid for by the court system itself. In fact, the FJD generates \$51.0 million dollars that is credited to the general fund from filing fees, fines and costs (\$35.8 million) and, reimbursements (\$15.9 million). In addition, the FJD saves the City and its agencies nearly \$5.5 million annually by waiving filing fees in the Court of Common Pleas and Municipal Court as well as \$3.1 million law library fees. As a consequence, of the total \$168 million budget request, the FJD is in reality only seeking \$49.8 million.

Table 1: FJD General Fund Budget and Revenue Contributions:

FY15 FJD General Fund Budget	\$110,255,300
FJD Reimbursements & Grant in Aid from other Governments.....	(\$15,939,000)
Filing Fees, Fines and Costs	(\$35,825,000)
Jenkins Law Library Fee Collected and Paid on City's Behalf.....	(\$3,133,599)
Waived Fees for City Agencies.....	(\$5,540,294)
Total Revenue that Offsets General Fund Budget.....	(\$60,437,893)
Net Cost to Fund FJD Courts	\$49,817,407

As a fiscally responsible partner in government:

Since FY12, our annual overtime expense remains one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of our Class 100 budget and the FJD overall filled positions level has declined by 9%.

For FY16, we did not request any additional funds in our budget and this budget-neutral request can create budget-savings.

In addition to our testimony here today, we propose expanding our Electronic Monitoring program to include GPS Monitoring as an alternative to pre-trial incarceration. GPS monitoring is a more versatile and less costly alternative to pre-trial incarceration. The proposal is included in our testimony and if this Council body favorably receives expanding our electronic monitoring program to include GPS, the reduced prison costs will pay for GPS enhancements and create long-term savings.

Creating efficiencies within the Criminal Justice System:

Separate sections of our testimony outline cost-saving initiatives and efficiencies that our programs provide to our justice partners, our constituents and the taxpayers of Philadelphia. Here are some examples of how we are cost-efficient, accessible and performance minded.

The use of video conferencing has proven to be an effective cost and time saving measure within the FJD. Video conferencing has reduced the need to transport prisoners in a large number of criminal cases; made it easier for victims and child witnesses to testify; and it has addressed and improved some of our court security concerns. During calendar year 2014, the criminal courts conducted 5,503 video conferences savings the city an estimated \$403,000 in prisoner transportation costs alone.

Our Interactive Voice Response and Robo-calls systems notify defendants of upcoming court dates and accept payments. In an effort to reduce the failure to appear rates in criminal cases, defendants receive automated reminder calls 48 hours prior to their next scheduled court date. In traffic citation cases, defendants use interactive voice technology to obtain information about court proceedings and make payment arrangements via telephone. Our Domestic Relations Branch uses automated text messaging to alert noncustodial parents that child support payments are due.

Electronic filing and document management has virtually replaced the paper file in the courtroom: 95% of adult criminal and 100% of civil courtrooms are paperless. E-filed documents and scanned pleadings are electronically transmitted to our courtrooms saving time and resources.

Investing in Our Children

Here are just a few of our many programs and initiatives that aid and support the children of Philadelphia:

- **Sports for Juvenile Justice**

In 2014, approximately 290 court-involved youth participated in the Sports for Juvenile Justice (SJJ) program established through the combined effort of the University of Pennsylvania, The

Palmer Group, the US Attorney's Office, Philadelphia Juvenile Probation Department, the Department of Human Services, and several sports programs interested in serving this youth population.

The sports providers in 2014 were: First Tee Golf, Legacy Tennis, Katie at the Bat, Village of Champions, Philadelphia City Rowing, SquashSmarts, Zhang Sah, and the Youth Starz Basketball League. Also, SJJ sponsored the Philadelphia Providers' Basketball League this season, with over 130 system-involved youth playing on organized basketball teams in the community.

- **Summer Jobs for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System**

Through a collaborative endeavor with the Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN), Juvenile Probation held a series of Summer Employment Enrollment Sessions during June of 2014. WorkReady Philadelphia is a system of programs dedicated to building the region's future workforce. By assisting youth in the WorkReady application process, and finding a suitable work site, the Juvenile Probation Department and PYN were able to secure 134 summer jobs for youth in the juvenile justice system.

- **School Justice and Diversion Grant Program**

Our Family Court in coordination with the Mayor's Office of Grants, the Philadelphia Police Department, the School District of Philadelphia, and the Department of Human Services have a grant funded program entitled the "School Justice Collaboration Program: Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court". The program aims to stem unnecessary referral of children to the juvenile justice system by reducing in the number of arrests for low-level misdemeanor delinquent acts of children on school premises. The program has diverted of 264 students since May 2014 through intervention, conflict resolution and mediation services.

Also, a program recently introduced in the Civil Commerce Court has successfully brought substantial revenue to the City. In the fall of 2013, the court began hearing the City's Petitions to Appoint a Receiver or Sequestrator to manage abandoned commercial properties against which tax liens have been filed, and making it possible to collect rents and pay delinquent tax debts. In the first eighteen months, the City obtained over \$13.8 million dollars in back taxes. Approximately half of this money goes into the general fund and the other half goes to the Philadelphia School District to help alleviate its funding shortfall. The long-term benefits of this flow of income into our school system – and the benefits to the children of our city – are incalculable.

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 budget 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 FY16 General Fund budget request and Grants Revenue budget request. We will take your questions at this time.

The Conversion and Expansion of Pretrial Services' Electronic Monitoring (EM)
Unit First Judicial District of Pennsylvania
Financial Analysis for Budget Hearings 2015

SUMMARY

Request Amount: \$ 1,170,671

175 Wireless ankle monitors
175 GPS ankle monitors
Server upgrade
8 additional Pretrial Services personnel

Potential Savings/Return on Investment: at least \$592,550 per year

NARRATIVE

Introduction

The First Judicial District strives to work collaboratively with the justice partners to reduce the City's prison population. In doing so, the FJD proposes an expansion of the Pretrial Services' Electronic Monitoring (EM) unit to create more opportunities for supervised release in lieu of pretrial detention. The proposal involves altering practice to facilitate the prompt installation of EM units on pretrial defendants to reduce prison stays. The expansion, coupled with the changes in policy and practice, will undoubtedly reduce the City's prison population. Despite the additional work and expenditures incurred by the FJD, this initiative is a worthy investment for the City of Philadelphia; **within two years, the expansion will pay for itself as a result of savings from the costs of incarceration and transportation of pretrial defendants.**

Current Practice

The Electronic Monitoring (EM) Unit has 638 ankle bracelets, 568 of which are actively deployed on pre- and post-trial defendants. The ankle bracelets are analog-based and require a landline telephone for installation. Many pretrial defendants do not have pre-existing landlines. Current policy dictates that all EM installations occur directly from custody, which results in a defendant's detention being extended for at least two days during the acquisition of a landline. The length of time on EM varies per person. Last year (2014), the EM Unit monitored 1,198 people on house arrest. At this time, Pretrial Services wishes to update EM technology by acquiring units driven by modern technology, in addition to expanding the capacity of the EM unit to monitor more pretrial defendants.

Conversion

The EM Unit's ankle bracelets are based on outdated technology that will soon be irrelevant. The units are analog and only function using a landline telephone. Given the impending extinction of landlines, a viable alternative to analog bracelets is necessary. Wireless and GPS units are created with contemporary technology that is far superior to the analog bracelets. Neither wireless nor GPS require a landline and would result in an expedited release procedure reducing the number of days, and perhaps overall necessity for any temporary stay in prison. Not only will converting to wireless and GPS allow enhanced monitoring capabilities as a result of modern technology, but prompt installations will further reduce custodial days.

Expansion

Pretrial Services aims to expand the Electronic Monitoring Unit by placing a larger number of pretrial defendants on house arrest. Aside from alleviating the jail overcrowding issue in Philadelphia, the increased reliance on EM as a pretrial release mechanism translates to a substantial return-on-investment for the City of Philadelphia. The current number of pretrial people on EM is 280. A cursory review of all arraignment data from the month of March 2015 revealed a potential group of 350 individuals that were viable candidates for release on EM. This group was comprised of defendants that were given cash bail of \$50,000 or less and were charged with nonviolent crimes that did not involve firearms. If the EM unit were to expand by 350 units, it would result in a potential annual savings of at least \$592,550 for the City of Philadelphia.

FINANCIAL DETAIL FOR REQUEST

Potential savings estimates were generated using the following statistical parameters:

350 EM candidates (nonviolent, non-firearm charges, cash bail of \$50,000 or less)

\$105 daily cost for incarceration

\$40 roundtrip cost between prison and Stout Center for Criminal Justice

Minimum pretrial stay of 14 days for any custody defendant (some may be released earlier, and some detained longer)

2 days for arrangement of landline so that defendant can be released on analog EM

Savings for City of Philadelphia Based on Reduced Incarceration	Amount	Formula
Immediate EM Release from Court		
<i>Elimination of 2-day incarceration stay</i>	\$64,050	350 * \$210 (two days incarceration cost)
<i>Elimination of transportation to prison and to house</i>	\$14,000	350 * \$40 (roundtrip cost to SCCJ)
Release Prior to First Listing Pending Review		
<i>Cost savings of average 14-day stay for 350 people</i>	\$514,500	350 * 14 days * \$105/day incarceration cost
TOTAL POTENTIAL SAVINGS	\$592,550	

Breakdown of Expenses Related to the Conversion and Expansion of EM Unit			
Expense	Cost	#	Total Expense
Hardware			\$927,575
<i>Server Upgrade</i>	\$100,000	1	\$100,000
<i>Wireless Units (includes annual fee)</i>	\$2,354	175	\$411,950
<i>GPS Unit (includes annual fee)</i>	\$2,375	175	\$415,625
Staff			\$243,096
<i>Pretrial Officers in Conditional Release Unit</i>	\$30,387	8	\$243,096
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$1,170,671

Pretrial Officers in Conditional Release Unit - Once the EM Monitoring Unit informs the Pretrial Officers of violations, they conduct investigations (e.g., house visits, calls to defendant, etc.) to determine why alerts occurred and whether or not an arrest needs to be made.

Savings Initiatives

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 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.

- **Electronic Monitoring** **Savings: \$2,194,135**

The current Electronic Monitoring Unit supervises pre-trial and post-trial defendants ordered by the judiciary to Electronic Monitoring. During 2014, the Unit monitored daily inventories averaging between 600-650 defendants on active monitoring. This program has generated \$2,194,135 in savings by eliminating or reducing incarceration costs.

- **Juvenile Delinquent GPS Monitoring** **Savings: \$7,200,028**

The utilization of GPS Monitoring, as an alternative to placement and detention saved \$7,200,028 in juvenile justice services.

- **Stout Center Video Program** **Savings: \$1,440,538**

Video connectivity has been established between thirteen (13) SMART Courtrooms and all other county and state Prison System institutions. This program continues to expand the number of cases that are disposed via videoconferencing. For 2014, there were 5,503 cases disposed via videoconferencing resulting in savings of \$1,440,538 in police overtime, prison cost and transportation cost.

- **Mental Health Court** **Savings: \$190,890**

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 saved \$190,890 in reduced prison costs.

- **Substituted Judge Program** **Savings: \$4,226,600**

With the Substituted Judge program whenever a Common Pleas VOP needs to be scheduled for a Judge who does not reside in the CJC anymore that case is scheduled before a substituted Judge. If there are no objections to reassigning the case, the substituted Judge can receive and expedite the listing. 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.

- **Video Crash Court** **Savings \$944,826**

The Video Crash Court created expedited adjudications of 396 cases removed from formal case processing. The collective benefits of this program generated \$944,826 in savings by canceling subpoenas for police officer appearances, accelerated prisoner release, less prisoner-transportation, and lifting VOP's.

- **Accelerated Misdemeanor Program**

Savings \$207,731

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 2014, approximately 2,899 listed cases were removed from the standard criminal calendar resulting in \$207,731 in savings from police overtime.

Specialty Courts and Programs:

Municipal Court – Criminal

- **Veterans Court**, in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, Defender Association and veterans' agencies, the Court continued its successful problem solving endeavor to divert cases involving veterans. The program assists justice-involved veterans struggling with mental health, substance abuse, or other re-integration issues by providing veterans 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 savings \$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 DUI 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.

- **Accelerated Misdemeanor Program** diverts eligible defendants from standard trials to expedited adjudications; attorneys for the District Attorney and Defender Association assigned to AMP review the facts of the case and recommend a proper resolution.
- **Emergency Protection from Abuse** unit operates during non-traditional hours, holidays and weekends, for emergency petitions only; 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 25,000 conciliation conferences have been conducted between lender and homeowner, with sustainable resolution reached in 35% of the 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 \$13.8 million in back taxes of which half support the Philadelphia School District.

Family Court

Juvenile Branch

- **Project START Truancy** Philadelphia's response to truancy is a collaborative effort between the City, the Court, and School District of Philadelphia, and the 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** A commitment to service is one of the core elements of the Juvenile Probation Department. The Juvenile Probation Department always welcomes the opportunity to connect with youth in their communities in a meaningful way. In 2014, the Juvenile Probation Department sponsored two events that made a tremendous impact for our youth – the Back to School Supplies Drive and the Fall Classic “All Stars Game”.
- **Juvenile Treatment Court (JTC)** celebrated its 10th year anniversary in 2014 and continues to provide positive support to our juveniles who are experiencing problems with drug and alcohol dependency. There were positive outcomes for 122 juveniles as a result of their participation in Juvenile Treatment Court. The JTC program had a 70% positive outcome for juveniles in 2014, as compared to a 63% positive outcome in 2013.

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
 - To improve treatment outcomes through interagency collaboration.
- **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 2014, 425 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.

Domestic Relations

- **Child Support Lien Network (CSLN)** is a consortium of 33 state child support enforcement agencies that developed a data match process to obtain insurance award settlement information from insurance companies. CSLN matches delinquent obligor data received from the member states with the insurance claims database and provides matched information to the appropriate member state. Since joining CSLN, Philadelphia County has collected over \$14.6 million from over 11,000 matches maintaining a 32:1 cost-benefit ratio.
- **New Employment Opportunities for Noncustodial Parents (NEON)** is a partnership between the state Department of Human Services (DHS), Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE), Educational Data Systems, Incorporated (EDSI), and the Domestic Relations offices of Philadelphia, Allegheny and Delaware County. The Domestic Relations offices refer child support obligors to EDSI for job training and job search. Three-quarters of the obligors find employment with an hourly wage in excess of \$9.00 and one-third obtain medical coverage.

Performance Measures, Caseload Statistics and Achievements

- **In the Family Court Division**

- **Juvenile Branch**

At the end of 2014, 2,939 juveniles were under the supervision of the Probation Department resulting in 25,209 field contacts by juvenile probation officers.

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

15,362 hours of youth Community Service completed in 2014. This calculates into \$111,375 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 \$318,553.

The utilization of GPS Monitoring, as an alternative to placement and detention saved City of Philadelphia taxpayers \$7,200,028 in juvenile justice services.

- **Domestic Relations**

In 2014, the Domestic Relations Division 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.

Established Paternity for 82,255 children, and established a 97% performance measure.

Total Child Support Collections \$156,222,222, 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 12/31/2014: 44,202

The number of drug tests administered to probation clients totaled 73,617

- **Video Conferencing**

Number of Video Hearings (State and County) 5,503

Total transportation costs savings to the Sherriff \$403,095

- Pre-trial Services / Warrant Unit

At the end of 2014, there were 568 clients on active electronic monitoring and the total number monitored was 1,198.

The Unit arrested 1,269 individuals on Traffic Court Warrants clearing 10,221 outstanding traffic citations.

Also, there were 5,975 individuals arrested by the Warrant Unit on Criminal Bench and/or Probation warrants resulting in the clearance of approximately 8,800 FJD warrants.

In addition to the criminal matters, the Unit arrested 179 individuals on Domestic Relation warrants and 504 individuals surrendered to Domestic Relations due to Warrant Unit intervention.

- **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.

Case Type	Homicide	Felony Majors Program	Felony List Program	Total
New Cases	175	4,216	10,081	14,472
Disposed Cases	303	4,584	10,549	15,436
Clearance Rate	173%	109%	105%	107%

CP Civil	
Cases	Civil Case Inventory
New Cases	35,739
Disposed Cases	37,314
Clearance Rate	104%

- During CY 2014 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.
- The number of civil documents (pleadings, petitions and motions) accepted electronically in 2014 were 482,367 of which 55,180 were filed during non-traditional business hours (after 5:00 pm and before 9:00am).

Cases	Mortgage Foreclosure
New Cases	5,345
Disposed Cases	6,374
Clearance Rate	119%

- **Municipal Court Criminal Division**

- 7,869 MC cases were diverted in 2014 as an alternative to formal prosecution and incarceration.
- 90% of DUI Treatment Court participants have successfully completed the program. To date, only 37 of the 329 graduates (11%) have been rearrested and 21 have been convicted on new criminal charges (6%).
- 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	<u>Total</u>
New Cases	21,215	21,800	43,015
Disposed Cases	22,924	24,864	47,788
Clearance Rate	108%	114%	111%

- The felony dismissal rate has decreased by 58% from 2007 and the misdemeanor dismissal rate decreased by 70%.

- **Municipal Court Civil Division**

Cases	Civil Case Inventory
New Cases	97,698
Disposed Cases	105,924
Clearance Rate	108%

- Included in this cases are City Code Enforcement cases filed by 14 City agencies. During 2014, there were 49,978 cases filed and 50,995 disposed resulting in a clearance rate of 102%, and generating \$14.3 million in revenue to the City for judgments satisfied.

- **Municipal Court Traffic Division**

- 134,770 motor vehicle citations were issued in 2014.
- Traffic Division adjudications totaled 148,192 of which 81% were by trial and 84% not done where either found guilty or pleaded guilty.
- 59,935 installment payment plan hearings were conducted to arrange payment of citation fees.
- 19,534 Impoundment hearings for confiscated vehicles.
- 2,622 warrant hearings were conducted.
- Traffic Court collected \$24 million which is approx 5 times its budget.

- **Use of Interpreters in FJD Courtrooms**
 - In 2014, the FJD utilized language and sign interpreters in 58 languages in 33 courtrooms, hearings, and related matters.
 - Our top five languages are the following: Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Sign, and Russian and account for 60% of our usage and 70% of our costs.
- **Collection of Criminal Case Fines and Costs**
 - In 2014, over \$25.3 million was collected in court-ordered fines and costs for disbursement to the appropriate parties and agencies. Additionally \$1.4 million in restitution was collected and disbursed to victims of crime.

FJD Program Initiatives

- **Criminal Trial Division**
 - **Robo-Call Court Date Notification.** In hopes to decrease the FTA rate and in cooperation with Municipal Court, a new automated system to notify all defendants of upcoming criminal cases has been implemented in 2013. Automated calls are made to defendants' phones 48 hours before their next court date; the calls include notifications of trial, preliminary hearing, status or post trial hearings. Not yet implemented but in the works are email and text message notifications.
 - **The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania Mental Health Court (FJDMHC).** This program provides 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. The FJDMHC is a re-entry program that provides a unique multidisciplinary collaborative approach, which combines intensive wrap-around treatment and individualized probation supervision. Over the last 5½ years, the number of cases processed in the MHC has increased from 320 cases in 2009 to 4,704 cases in 2014. The program maintains a comprehensive and strict supervision plan for all participants to ensure public safety, which require longer probation sentences and stringent program sanctions.
 - **Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant.** In September, Adult Probation and Parole Department was awarded a competitive, three-year Bureau of Justice Assistance grant to improve supervision techniques in our department. This project involves a partnership between APPD and two major research universities – George Mason and Temple. The goals and objectives of this proposal are devoted to identifying and addressing the criminogenic needs of offenders through effective case plans and managing compliance.
 - **Soaring 2 Pilot Program.** Five probation officers participated in the piloting of SOARING 2, an e-learning system developed by the ACE! Center at George Mason University. All officers in the department will be trained in the system.
 - **Motivational Interviewing.** A team of APPD staff were trained by Bucks County Adult probation on this evidenced-based practice. Using this training along with the NCIS

model, our staff created a motivational interviewing curriculum that was given to our last new class of officers. Using this model, the entire department will be trained in 2014.

- **Civil Trial Division**

- **Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program.** Since the beginning of the Trial Division - Civil Mortgage Foreclosure Program, over 25,000 mortgage foreclosure reconciliation conferences have been conducted. Of that number approximately seventy percent (70%) of homeowners have come through the conference program with various resolutions. According to an independent study conducted by The Reinvestment Fund thirty-five percent (35%) of participating homeowners reach sustainable resolutions. Of the thirty percent 30% that do not appear, data suggests that the properties at issue are ineligible for the program because the home is not vacant or not owner-occupied.
- **Office Of Judicial Records.** The criminal E-Filing pilot program was launched in May 2013 and 48,891 electronic filings have been transmitted to the court, serving individual attorneys, litigants, the Defender's Association, and the District Attorney's Office. Also, 20% of these filings occur during non-business hours making our court accessible to our constituents on their time.
- **Criminal Document Management System** has 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 Domestic Relations**

- **Coordinated Job Training and Re-entry.** Expanded the job training and placement services to include custodial parents. Entered into an agreement the Mayor's Office for Reintegration of Ex-Offenders (R.I.S.E.) to provide job training and placement services for ex-offenders and Correctional Institution Fairton to provide reintegration services for soon to be released inmates.
- **Embracing Low-Cost High-Impact Technology: Text Messaging.** Text messages are sent to defendants who have not made a payment in the current year. Text messages and letters are sent to defendants who have made at least one payment in the current year, but have not made a payment in the last 60 days.

Text messages are sent to defendants with outstanding bench warrants requesting they surrender or contact the Bench Warrant Unit to resolve the open warrant and possibly obtain a lump sum payment, new employment information or have the defendant file a petition to modify the support order.

- **Document Management System.** In 2013, DR staff, working in conjunction with FJD programming staff, began the monumental task of designing and implementing a document management system. The objective of the system is to create digital images of all DR case files and eliminate the dependency on paper files.
- **Child Support Lien Network Life Insurance and Annuity Matches.** The Child Support Lien Network (CSLN) is a consortium of 33 state child support enforcement agencies, including Pennsylvania that uses a data match process to obtain insurance award settlement information from insurance companies.

- **Financial Institution Data Match/FAST Levy.** The Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM) program operates a data match system in which each institution is required to provide identifying information for each noncustodial parent who maintains an account and owes overdue child support. In 2013, a statewide workgroup including staff from Philadelphia redesigned the FIDM process to include automated and manual selection and submission components. The revised FIDM process streamlines FIDM functions and reduces worker intervention with the goal of increasing collections of overdue support.

- **Municipal Court Criminal**

- **Project Dawn Prostitution Initiative.** The “Project Dawn” initiative is for women who are in custody on detainers or open prostitution cases. Municipal Court continues to work with the Commonwealth and Defender Association to streamline prostitution cases to centralize treatment, housing and ancillary services. The project includes a component of therapy for survivors of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Project Dawn operates with the dual goals of decreasing the number of non-violent offenders in Philadelphia county jails and reducing recidivism for this population of women. 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. In 2014, Project Dawn admitted 18 individuals, 36 cases and 47 probation matters.
- **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. All sentence information is entered into a Community Service database to ensure accurate reporting of offender compliance and, courtroom statistics are tracked and entered daily for proper case management.

Approximately 4,800 misdemeanor cases were diverted to AMP in 2014 and 2,899 cases were successfully completed. A total of 23,109 community service hours were completed in the neighborhoods where the crimes originated.

- **The Choice is Yours Alternative to Incarceration.** The Choice is Yours (TCY) is 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. In partnership with Jewish Employment and Vocational Services (JEVS) TCY’s goals are to: (1) reduce the likelihood of recidivism among TCY participants; (2) reduce state and city costs by cutting the number of trials among the TCY target population; (3) reduce costs associated with pre-trial and post-trial incarceration; and (4) provide participants with the skills and training necessary to become productive, employable individuals without the stigma of a criminal conviction.
- **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 with representatives from JJPI to develop a diversion class for defendants who are charged with solicitation. The evaluation and treatment of individuals arrested for solicitation of a prostitute includes participation in a one day, four-hour group therapy experience. The aim of the SER class

is 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
- **Veterans Court.** In conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, Defender Association and veterans' agencies, the Court continued its successful problem solving endeavor to divert cases involving veterans. The program assists justice-involved veterans struggling with mental health, substance abuse or other re-integration issues. The presiding judge of Veterans Court is a Veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Building on the success of established treatment court programs in Philadelphia, the Veterans Court oversees a range of services offered to qualified veterans involved in the criminal justice system. The judicial branch recognizes the tremendous service veterans provided to our country, and believes it is the Court's obligation to provide them with programs and services to overcome challenges that are unique to their experiences. In 2014, 49 individuals successfully graduated Veterans Court.

- **Municipal Court Traffic Division**

- **Reconfiguration Of Courtroom Facilities.** Three courtrooms measuring 1,500 square feet each, which were previously used by our judiciary, were reconfigured to create a General Assembly Room, measuring 4,500 square feet, and encompassing six separate hearing rooms, with seating for 235 individuals, to provide an open environment appropriate for proceedings conducted by hearing officers. The project was completed in approximately two and one half months, with minimum impact on the FJD's budget, as the majority of the work was performed by FJD personnel.
- **Establishing The Role Of The Affiant.** As part of the reform effort and to promote independence between the judiciary/hearing officers and the prosecution, the decision was made after several months of discussion to replace the City of Philadelphia police liaison officers with representatives from the Office of the District Attorney of the City of Philadelphia. Currently, paralegals and assistant district attorneys serve as the affiant pursuant to Local Rule 454(b)(1), which defines the role of the affiant and specifically states that "The law enforcement officer who issued or filed the citation need not appear for the summary trial. The defendant shall be advised of the charges in the citation."
- **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.

- **Teleprompters in the Lobby of the Building.** The installed three lobby monitors to display public service announcements relative to motor vehicle citations, impounded vehicles, the Rules of Criminal Procedure, and the policies of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania. In 2013, additional videotapes regarding the danger of distracted driving, texting while driving, and aggressive driving were added to the daily menu. These informative videos have assuaged the temperaments of the often disgruntled defendants who have interaction with our Court.
- **Customer Service and Sensitivity Training.** The Court contracted to provide training 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. Positive feedback was received from the employees; palpable changes in their mannerisms, attitude, and conduct have been noted.
- **Interactive Voice Response System.** The Traffic Division is implementing a new Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system to allow a defendant to retrieve information pertaining to their case file or to pay their citation via a telephone call to the Traffic Division. Through interaction with the Court's database, the following information can be captured electronically and retrieved by the defendant: (1) the amount due on the record; (2) the case status; and (3) the payment due date.

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
BUDGET SUMMARY AND OTHER BUDGET DRIVERS

Financial Summary by Class - General Fund

	Fiscal 2014 Actual Obligations	Fiscal 2015 Original Appropriations	Fiscal 2015 Estimated Obligations	Fiscal 2016 Proposed Appropriations	Difference FY16-FY15
Class 100 - Employee Compensation	\$90,888,686	\$93,202,681	\$95,811,285	\$97,206,858	\$1,395,573
Class 200 - Purchase of Services	\$15,796,659	\$10,656,574	\$10,656,574	\$10,656,574	\$0
Class 300 - Materials and Supplies	\$1,620,804	\$1,870,944	\$1,870,944	\$1,870,944	\$0
Class 400 - Equipment	\$270,924	\$520,924	\$520,924	\$520,924	\$0
Class 500 - Contributions	\$0	\$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	\$108,577,073	\$106,251,123	\$108,859,727	\$110,255,300	\$1,395,573

Staff Demographics Summary (as of December 2014)

	Total	Minority	White	Female
Full-Time Staff	2,501	1,027	1,474	1,523
Executive Staff	35	8	27	14
Average Salary - Executive Staff	\$97,820	\$96,780	\$98,411	\$95,758
Median Salary - Executive Staff	\$96,672	\$95,610	\$100,913	\$94,610

Employment Levels (as of December 2014)

	Budgeted	Approved	Filled
Full-Time Positions	#	#	1,820
Part-Time Positions	#	#	#
Executive Positions	#	#	35

Contracts Summary (as of December 2014)

	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15*
Total amount of contracts	\$5,983,208	\$6,313,226	\$6,328,348	\$6,154,947	\$6,250,603	\$5,822,125
Total amount to M/W/DBE	\$2,842,501	\$3,068,943	\$2,895,610	\$3,149,245	\$3,061,432	\$2,446,032
Participation Rate	48%	49%	46%	51%	49%	42%

* as of December 2014

Staff Demographics (as of December 2014)

Full-Time Staff

Executive Staff

		Male	Female		
		African-American	African-American		
Total		262	590	Total	
% of Total		10.5%	23.6%	% of Total	
		White	White		
Total		651	823	Total	
% of Total		26.0%	32.9%	% of Total	
		Hispanic	Hispanic		
Total		42	68	Total	
% of Total		1.7%	2.7%	% of Total	
		Asian	Asian		
Total		7	17	Total	
% of Total		0.3%	0.7%	% of Total	
		Other	Other		
Total		16	25	Total	
% of Total		0.6%	1.0%	% of Total	
		Bi-lingual	Bi-lingual		
Total		0	0	Total	
% of Total		0.0%	0.0%	% of Total	
		Male	Female		
Total		978	1,523	Total	
% of Total		39.1%	60.9%	% of Total	
		Male	Female		
Total		4	2	Total	
% of Total		11.4%	5.7%	% of Total	
		White	White		
Total		15	12	Total	
% of Total		42.9%	34.3%	% of Total	
		Hispanic	Hispanic		
Total		1	0	Total	
% of Total		2.9%	0.0%	% of Total	
		Asian	Asian		
Total		1	0	Total	
% of Total		2.9%	0.0%	% of Total	
		Other	Other		
Total		0	0	Total	
% of Total		0.0%	0.0%	% of Total	
		Bi-lingual	Bi-lingual		
Total		0	0	Total	
% of Total		0.0%	0.0%	% of Total	
		Male	Female		
Total		21	14	Total	
% of Total		60.0%	40.0%	% of Total	

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