



**DALLAS COUNTY**  
*Pretrial Services*

**2021**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**

*Dallas County, TX*

# Contents

- OUR MISSION ..... 1
- PRETRIAL AND COVID-19 ..... 2
- OUR LEADERSHIP ..... 3
- PRETRIAL SERVICES UNITS ..... 4
- GENERAL PRETRIAL RELEASE SUMMARY ..... 8
- ALCOHOL MONITORING UNIT SUMMARY ..... 9
- SMART JUSTICE UNIT SUMMARY ..... 13
- INTAKE ASSESMENT ..... 17
- ELECTRONIC MONITORING UNIT SUMMARY ..... 18
- BUDGET ..... 21

## Our Mission

The mission of the Dallas County Pretrial Services is to enhance public safety by providing supervision for individuals released on bond to ensure court appearance and successful compliance with conditions of bond.

## Pretrial and Covid-19

In 2021, COVID-19 was still an issue that impacted the departmental operations for Pretrial Services. Pretrial Services continued to use telecommuting to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Supervision officers were placed on a rotating schedule to telecommute on certain days and report to the office in-person for assigned duty days. An attempt was made in August 2021 to bring supervision staff back to the office fully. However, it was during this time that the COVID-19 Delta Variant struck which resulted in a return to the rotating telecommuting schedule for the remainder of the year.

In 2021, personal protective equipment (PPE) was readily available. Pretrial Services made sure all staff had access to plenty of masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes. The use of masks was mandatory for all visitors and staff was required to wear a mask when stepping outside their cubicle/office.

## Leadership

Dallas County Pretrial Services is a division of Dallas County Community Supervision and Corrections (Adult Probation) under the leadership of Director, Duane Steele.



**Duane Steele, Director**

Duane Steele graduated from Wiley College in Marshall, TX with a Bachelor of Science in Education. He has over 35 years of Criminal Justice experience. He began his career as a Juvenile Detention Officer in Tarrant County. After moving to Dallas County, he continued to work as a Detention Officer and gradually advanced to a Field Probation Officer, Court Liaison Officer and Department Floater with Dallas County's Juvenile Probation Department. Continuing his work with youth, from 2007 to 2010 Duane served as Court Manager of Dallas County's specialized Truancy Courts. In 2010 he was assigned as Coordinator of Dallas County's Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB), and is currently Deputy Director of Pretrial Services. Duane is a member of the Texas Urban Counties Criminal Justice Planners, North Central Texas Council of Governments' (Criminal Justice Policy Development Committee), and the Texas Association of Pretrial Services (TAPS).



**Jeff Segura, Manager**

Jeff Segura graduated from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, TX, with a Bachelor of Arts in History. Prior to joining Dallas County, Jeff was a Religion and Social Studies teacher for 6th through 8th graders at Santa Clara of Assisi Catholic Academy. In 2001, he began his career with Dallas County as a field officer for the Juvenile Department. During the five years Jeff worked as a field officer, he took on a high risk case load in the Project Spotlight program and specialized as a sex offender officer. In 2006, he left Dallas County to join a private company which aided counties across the country with obtaining federal reimbursement for Title IV-E programs. In 2009, he returned to the Dallas County as a field officer in the Juvenile Department until joining the Dallas County Pretrial Services in 2013. In Pretrial Services, Jeff worked as an Electronic Monitoring Officer and once again specialized in supervising sex offenders. In 2016, Jeff was promoted to the Criminal Justice Advisory Board Program Manager where he worked with the Chiefs of Police and other Community Organizations to help solve problems in the Dallas area related to law enforcement. In 2018, Jeff was promoted to Dallas County Pretrial Services Manager, where he continues to serve today.

## Our Staff

Miguel Canales, *Program Manager of Supervision Units*

Tomasa Ortiz, *Training/Assessment Manager*

April Craig, *Pretrial Services Supervisor ~ Smart Justice/General*

Julian Lapeyre, *Pretrial Services Supervisor ~ ELM/AMU*

James Stewart, *Pretrial Services Supervisor ~ Intake*

Patrick Bailey, *Pretrial Services Supervisor ~ Intake*

Akua Cosby, *Trainer II*

Miriam Villarreal, *Administrative Coordinator*

## Pretrial Services consists of five (5) units:

### *General Pretrial Release*

In 2021, the General Pretrial Release Unit initially consisted of 5 Pretrial Officers. However, with fewer defendants released on a low cost county bond and the need to aid the Electronic Monitoring Unit, three were transferred. This brought the total number of Electronic Monitoring officers to 14 but brought down the General Pretrial officers to 2. The two officers still supervised defendants who receive a Pretrial Services Bond until disposition of their case or court ordered release as well as cases order to General Pretrial by the court. The General Pretrial Officers monitor compliance with conditions of bond and inform defendants of their next court date.

In 2021, a total of 47 defendants were released from jail on a Pretrial Release bond. An additional 58 defendants were court ordered to be supervised by this unit. The total number of defendants that were either court ordered or released via delegated authority was 105 unique defendants. Of those cases released from jail on Pretrial Release Bonds, 37 were accused only of misdemeanor offenses and 24 were accused of felony (or combination of felony and misdemeanor) offenses.

### *Alcohol Monitoring Unit*

In 2021, the Alcohol Monitoring Unit consisted of 6 Pretrial Technicians. The AMU Pretrial Technicians supervise defendants released on bond with a court-ordered requirement to have an alcohol-monitoring device as a condition of release. The alcohol monitoring devices include Interlock, Scram, Scram Remote Breath (portable), and BART (portable). Defendants pay a \$10 supervision fee, per the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 17.441, Section (d). The Alcohol Monitoring Unit continues to supervise these defendants until disposition of the case or until the court releases the order.

There was a monthly average of 1,553 cases under active supervision by the Alcohol Monitoring Unit in 2021. The highest number of cases supervised within a month was observed in November with a total of 1,667 defendants supervised. February had the least number of cases supervised within a month with a total of 1,425. Throughout 2021, the AMU unit verified alcohol monitor installations and monitored the maintenance of the alcohol monitoring devices ordered. This unit received 1,557 new clients, verified 1,056 installations, and submitted 3,720 non-compliance violations to the courts.

In 2021, there were 1,309 cases closed out in the Alcohol Monitoring Unit. When cases were closed out, they were classified as either successful or unsuccessful, depending on whether the defendant successfully complied with court conditions until their case was closed out. Of those close outs, 1,091, or over 83%, were successful. The unit collected a total of \$163,542.80 in supervision fees.

### *Smart Justice Unit*

In 2021, the Smart Justice Unit consisted of 10 Pretrial Officers, with one dedicated to support SB292 supervising Outpatient Competency Restoration (OCR) cases. The Smart Justice Unit serves defendants who might benefit from being connected with mental health services upon release from jail. Smart Justice Officers assist with gathering information on these defendants for the Courts. The information is presented to the Court for a judicial decision to be made about their release. Defendants who are approved for release on a Mental Health Personal Recognizance (MHPR) Bond are monitored by a Smart Justice Officer for compliance with mental health treatment and medications. Smart Justice officers also provide case management to help defendants successfully comply with conditions of bond.



In 2021, there were a total of 18,109 inmates with a mental health flag who were screened by this unit. Not all defendants were interviewed due to competency concerns, declining mental health assessment, refusing to participate, or being released prior to interview. In 2021, after screening, and mental health assessment (conducted by licensed clinicians), a total of 514 defendants were presented to the court for a judicial decision about their release.

Of those presented, 113 defendants were denied a MHPR Bond and 15 others released on a different type of bond. A total of 386 defendants, or just over 75%, were granted a MHPR Bond in 2021. They consisted of 160 misdemeanor offense bonds and 369 felony bonds. The unit supervised defendants based on level of supervision ordered by the Judge. In 2021, a total of 240 defendants were released on Level 1 supervision, while 96 defendants were released on Level 2 supervision, and 46 defendants on Level 3 supervision. Only 4 defendants were released on Level 4 supervision. Judges can tweak as necessary, but in general, the Supervision Levels are as follows:

### *Supervision Levels*

- **Level 1** - Report by phone twice per month, unless compliance or equipment issues arise.
- **Level 2** - Report by phone once per month and in person once per month, unless compliance or equipment issues arise.
- **Level 3** - Report by phone once per month and in person every other week, unless compliance or equipment issues arise.
- **Level 4** - Report in person every week.

There were 338 Smart Justice cases closed out in 2021. Of those close outs, 124 were successful and 214 were unsuccessful. (Successful completion generally means removed from the program without an insufficient bond being ordered and unsuccessful completion includes defendants whose bond was held insufficient, who are accused of new offenses, or who absconded). The highest success rate of 48% was observed in the month of December. The month of September had the lowest success rate of 23%.

### *Intake Assessment*

The Intake Assessment Unit continued to use Dallas County's TechShare Program for the completion of the Financial Affidavit as well as the Noble Platform for the risk assessment, the Public Safety Assessment (PSA). As in the previous year, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Intake Assessment unit continued to report in-person to the jail and operate on a 24/7 schedule.

In 2021, the Intake Assessment Unit created a 'follow-up queue' within the TechShare Program for inmates to be identified as not having been interviewed by Pretrial Services during the normal jail intake process. This is due to inmates being unable to complete the interview upon being booked into the jail because of combative behavior and/or being under the influence of drugs/alcohol. The follow-up queue allowed the Intake Assessment Unit to attempt an interview at a different time when the inmate may be in a more cooperative state.

## *Electronic Monitoring*

The Electronic Monitoring (ELM) had the largest growth of all Pretrial Services Units in 2021. 2021 started with 11 ELM officers but three were allocated from General Pretrial making the total 14 by the end of 2021. The ELM unit supervises defendants on full schedule accountability. Full schedule accountability includes requiring the defendant to remain on House Arrest with only work or school release. This is the highest-level supervision (Level 4 – see chart above) that Dallas County Pretrial Services offers and is often used to supervise high profile cases, sexual offense cases, and violent offense cases including murder.

In January 2021, ELM ended the month supervising 765 defendants and at the end of December 2021, ELM was supervising 829 defendants. The number of defendants being supervised by ELM in 2021 has continued to grow.

The ELM Unit opened a total of 1,844 new cases in both the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) and Bond, which can include surety or personal recognizance. Most of these cases (1,654), were Bond cases (mainly felony), while the rest (190) were ASP, or misdemeanor offenders serving a jail sentence on house arrest (mainly DWI).

ELM closed out 1,777 cases, 1,133 of them deemed “successful,” meaning that the unit was able to successfully supervise those cases to the final outcome of their disposition and/or the ELM restriction was removed by the assigned Judge.

In an effort to provide continued safety to the community, ELM has implemented a 24/7 warrant process with the help of the Jail Intake Unit. If a defendant absconds while on monitor, the ELM Supervisor prepares the paper work and forwards it to the Jail Intake Unit to get a warrant signed by the on-duty judge.

While supervising 1,844 cases that had been released from Dallas County Jail, ELM saved the County \$18,089,215.54 in jail bed money in 2021. This continues to grow from last year’s amount of \$11,108,322.64.



## Cumulative Data

*January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021*

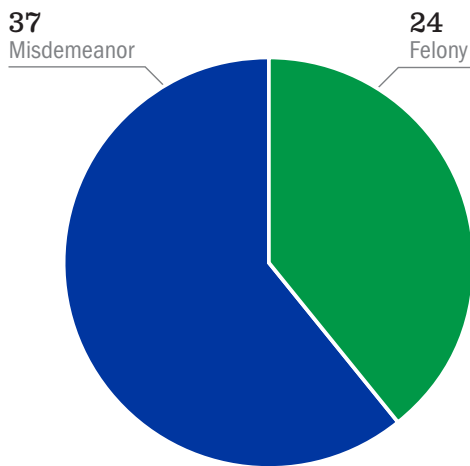
# General Pretrial Release Summary

## 2021 at a GLANCE:

Total Misdemeanor/Felony Bonds:  
**61**

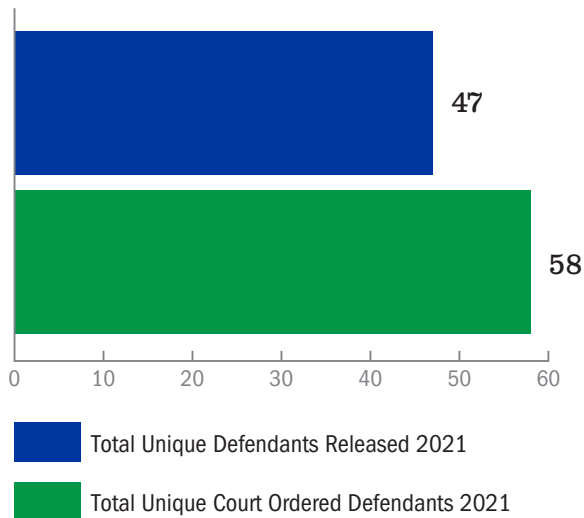
Total Court Ordered Cases /  
+ Unique Defendants:  
**105**

### Misdemeanor/Felony Breakout



The number of cases of misdemeanor charges vs felony charges. General Pretrial supervises defendants with misdemeanor and felony pending cases.

### Court Ordered vs. Unique Defendants



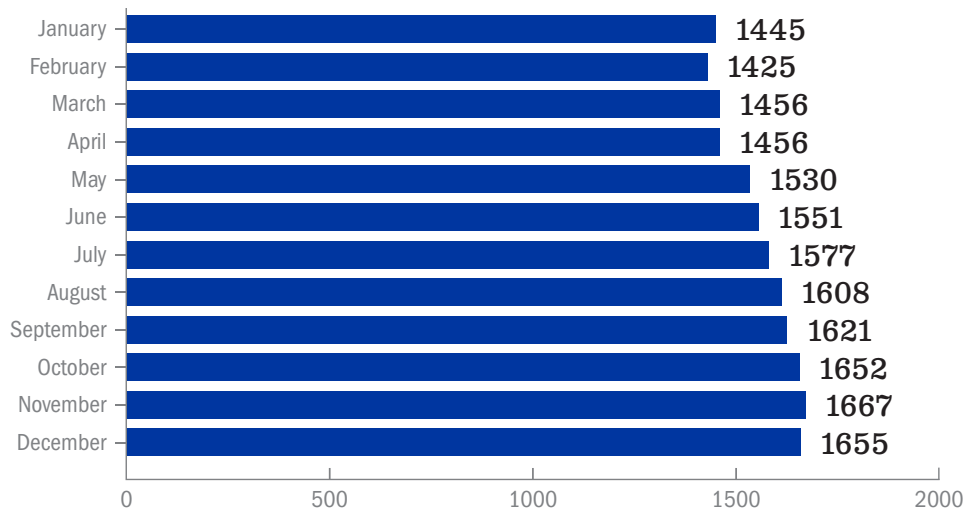
Breakdown of Court Ordered vs Unique Defendants displays the two different kind of defendants that General Pretrial supervises. Court Ordered cases are defendants that the court directly ordered to Pretrial Supervision who may not meet General Pretrial Criteria but the court believes should be supervised. Unique Defendants are the cases that General Pretrial releases using the Delegated Authority Criteria for a Low Cost County Bond.

# Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary

## 2021 at a GLANCE:

Monthly Average:	Successful Close Outs:
<b>1,553</b>	<b>1,091</b>
Total New Cases:	Unsuccessful Close Outs:
<b>1,557</b>	<b>218</b>
Total Installs:	Supervision Fees Collected:
<b>1,056</b>	<b>\$163,542.80</b>
Total Violations:	
<b>3,720</b>	

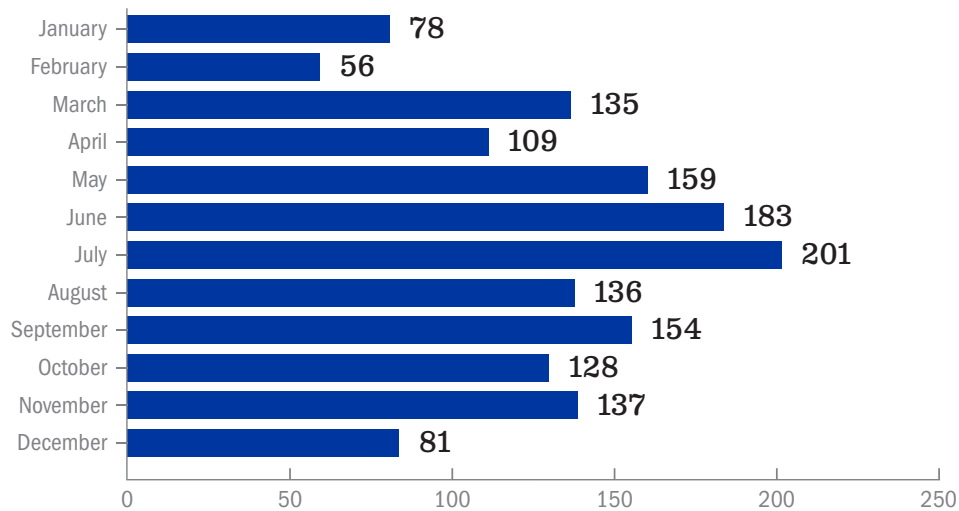
Total Supervised by Month



The total number supervised by Alcohol Monitoring at the end of each month for 2021.

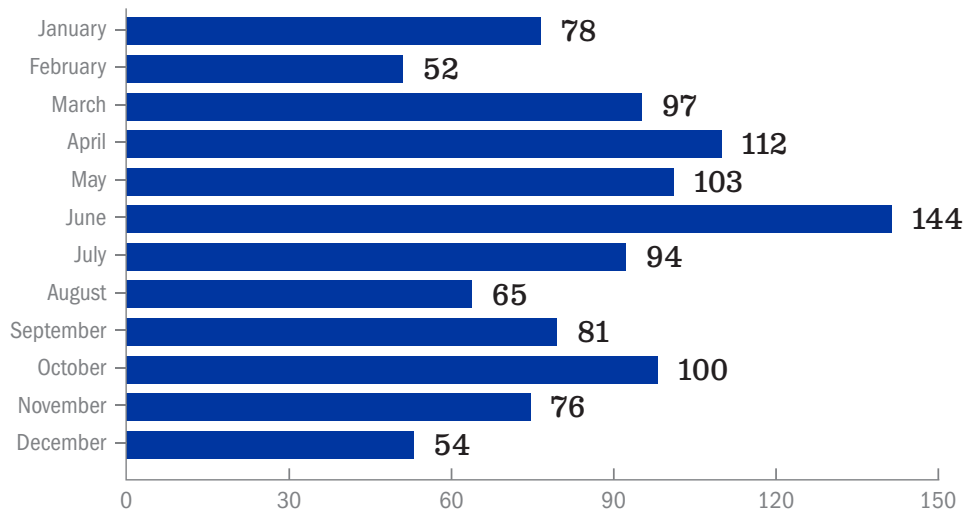
## Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary, *continued*

Total New Cases by Month



Displays how many new cases were added for each month of 2021.

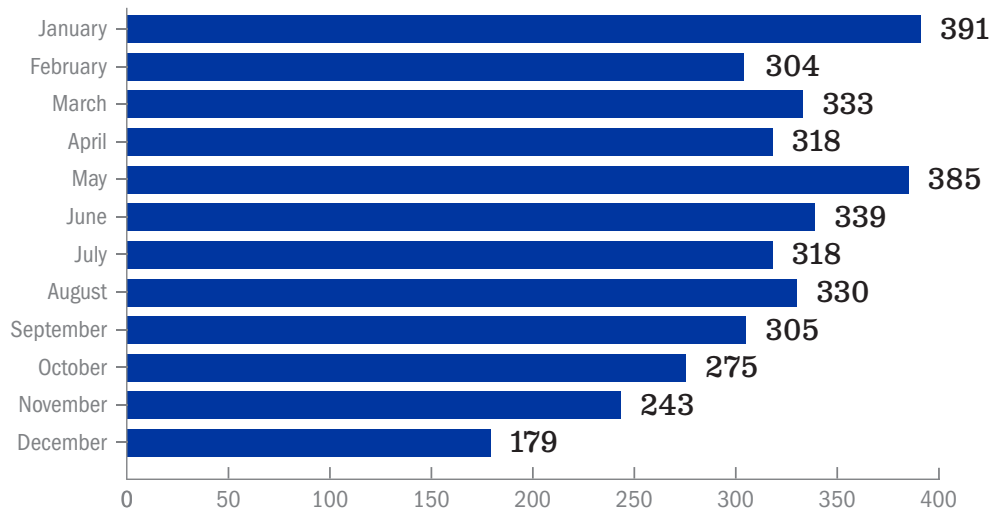
Total Verified Installations by Month



Displays how many installations of alcohol monitoring equipment verified and completed through approved vendors. Equipment can include in home devices, ignition devices, and hand held equipment.

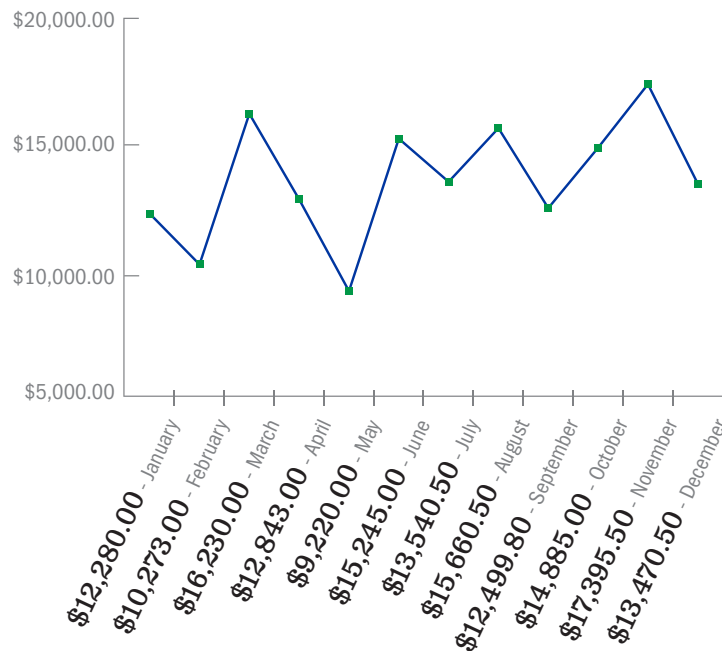
## Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary, *continued*

Total Violations Submitted by Month



Displays how many violations submitted to the court. A defendant may have multiple violations in one month. A violation may result in an insufficient bond.

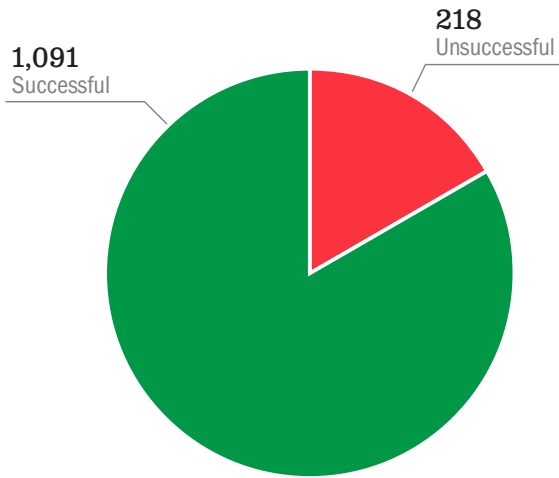
Total Supervision Fees Collected by Month



Total amount of money that was collected by the Pretrial Department in supervision fees. A fee of \$10 a month is required on the Alcohol Monitoring Unit, as allowed by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 17.441, Section (d).

## Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary, *continued*

Successful/Unsuccessful Close Outs



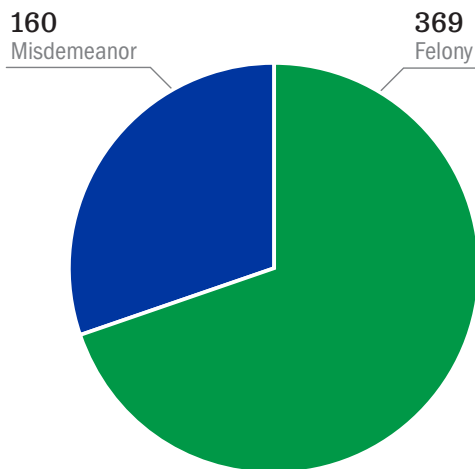
Displays for calendar year 2021 how many were successfully released from the Alcohol Monitoring Unit and how many were not successful. Successful generally means that the ELM was removed without an insufficient bond being ordered.

# Smart Justice Unit Summary

## 2021 at a GLANCE:

Total Initial MH: <b>18,109</b>	Total Felony: <b>369</b>
Total Eligible: <b>2,079</b>	Total Level 1: <b>240</b>
Total Presented: <b>514</b>	Total Level 2: <b>96</b>
Total Denied: <b>113</b>	Total Level 3: <b>46</b>
Total Other: <b>15</b>	Total Level 4: <b>4</b>
Total Granted: <b>386</b>	Total Successful: <b>124</b>
Total Misdemeanor: <b>160</b>	Total Unsuccessful: <b>214</b>

Total Misdemeanor/Felony Cases

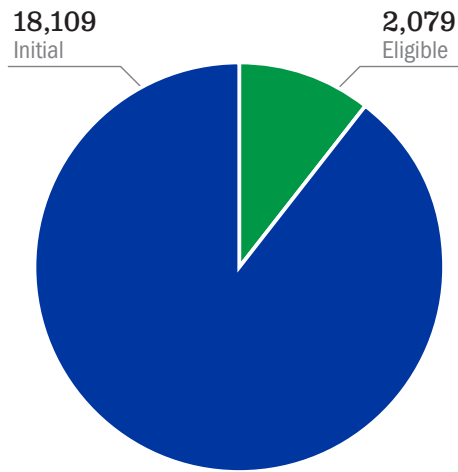


The number of cases of misdemeanor charges vs felony charges. Smart Justice supervises defendants with misdemeanor and felony pending cases.



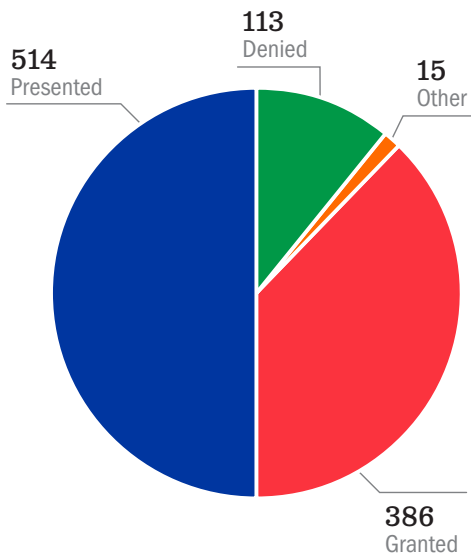
## Smart Justice Unit Summary, *continued*

Total Initial MH#/Eligible Cases



The number of total cases that came into the jail who hit a flag for past mental health services and of that number how many were potentially eligible for a mental health bond.

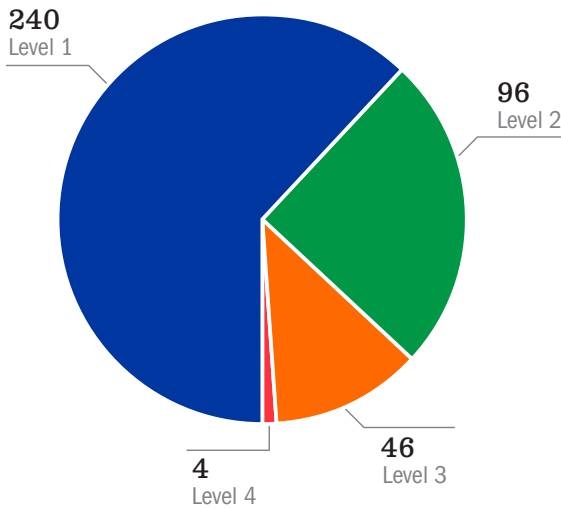
Total Cases Presented/Denied/Granted & Other



The total number of defendants whom after screening for Smart Justice Criteria presented to the court and the outcomes.

## Smart Justice Unit Summary, *continued*

Total Supervision Levels\*

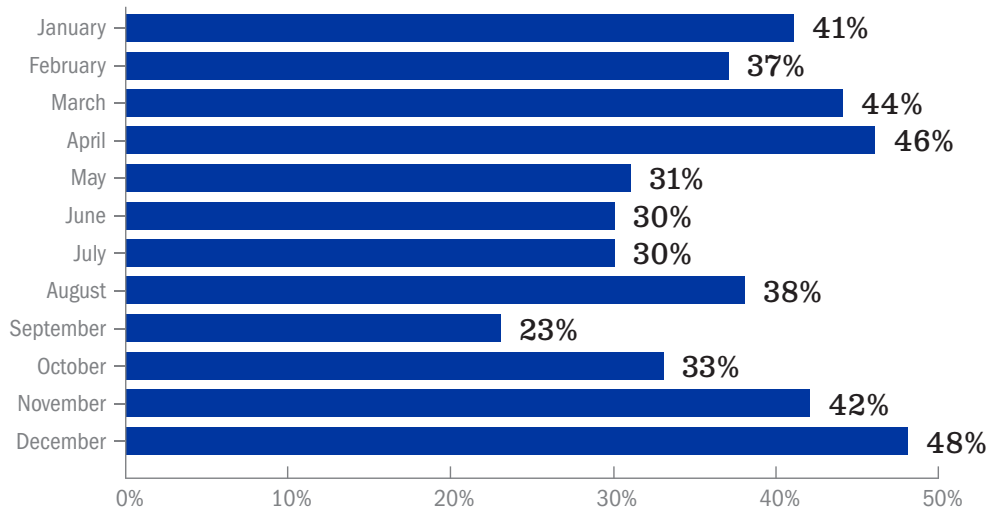


A breakdown of the four levels of supervision done by the Smart Justice Unit.

- **Level 1** - Report by phone twice per month, unless compliance issues arise.
- **Level 2** - Report by phone once per month and in person once per month, unless compliance issues arise.
- **Level 3** - Report by phone once per month and in person every other week, unless compliance issues arise.
- **Level 4** - Report in person every week.

\* Total number of levels approved, does not account for discharged/closed out files.

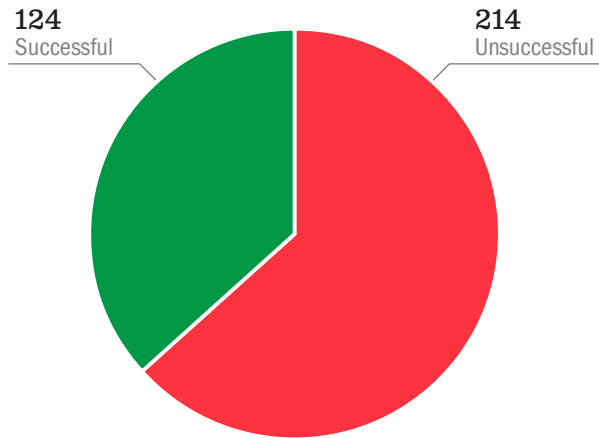
Total Success Rate by Month



The success rate as an average for all nine (9) officers during the months of calendar year 2021.

## Smart Justice Unit Summary, *continued*

Total Successful/Unsuccessful Close Outs



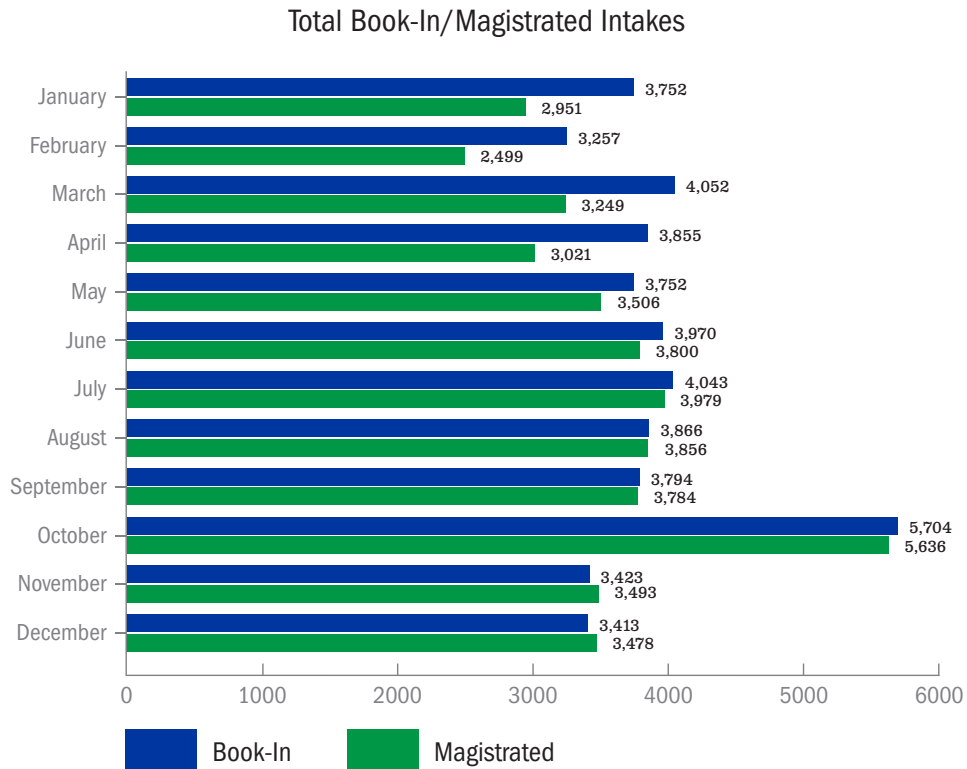
Displays the number of defendants that successfully completed the programs vs unsuccessfully. Successful completion generally means removed from the program without an insufficient bond being ordered and unsuccessful completion includes defendants whose bond was held insufficient, who are accused of new offenses, or who absconded.

# Intake Summary

## 2021 at a GLANCE:

Total Book-ins:  
**46,881**

Total Magistrated:  
**43,252**



The “Book-In” number includes all Defendants who entered the jail. However, not all defendants will see the magistrate. For example, if a defendant is in jail to complete a jail sentence, they will not be magistrated. A financial affidavit and risk assessment are administered for all defendants who will see the magistrate. The chart compares these two categories.

# Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary

## 2021 at a GLANCE:

Total New Cases (ASP/BOND):

**1,844**

Total Violations:

**1,582**

Total Successful Close Outs:

**1,133**

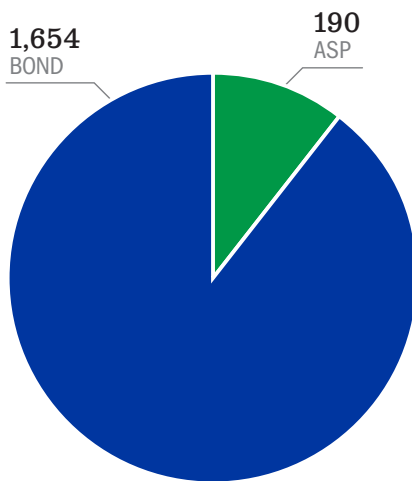
Jail Bed Days Saved:

**\$18,089,215.54**

Total Unsuccessful Close Outs:

**644**

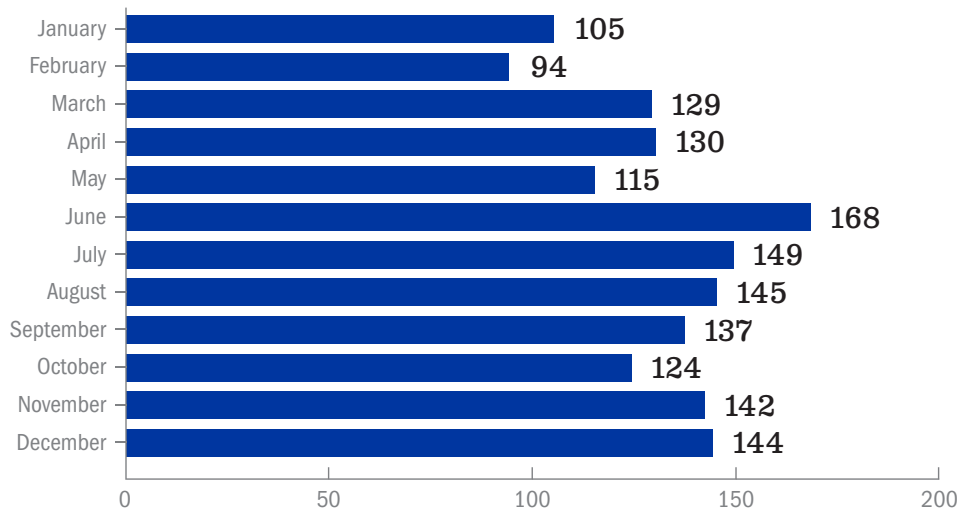
Total New Cases (ASP/Bond)



The total number of cases that were supervised on bond and the total number supervised on the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) a post adjudication program.

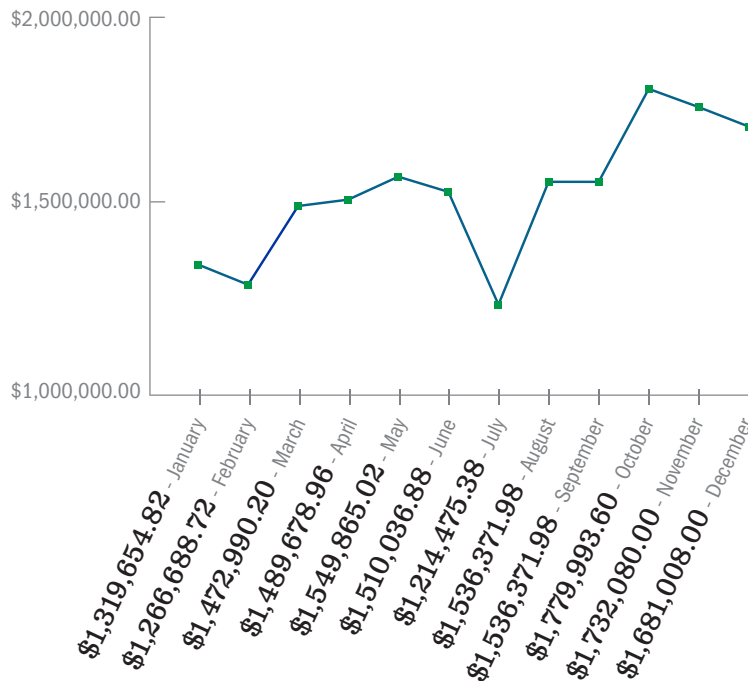
## Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary, *continued*

Total Violations by Month



Displays how many violations were submitted to the court. A defendant may have multiple violation in one month. A violation may result in an insufficient bond.

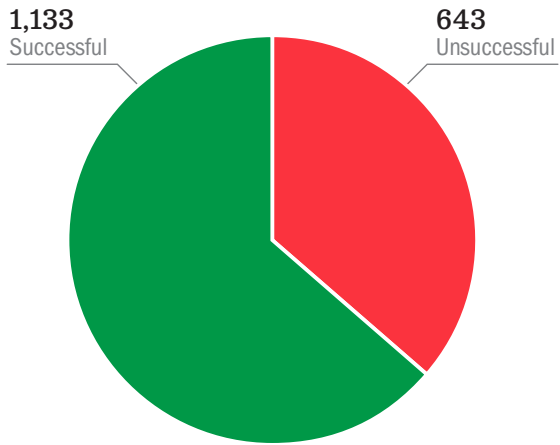
Total Expenses Saved by Month



Displays cost savings to the county in jail bed days using the Electronic Monitoring Program vs the defendant staying in jail.

## Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary, *continued*

Total Successful/Unsuccessful Close Outs



The number of defendants that successfully completed the program vs unsuccessful completion. Successful completion generally means the case was disposed of in court and unsuccessful completion includes defendants whose bond was held insufficient, who are accused of new offenses, or who absconded.

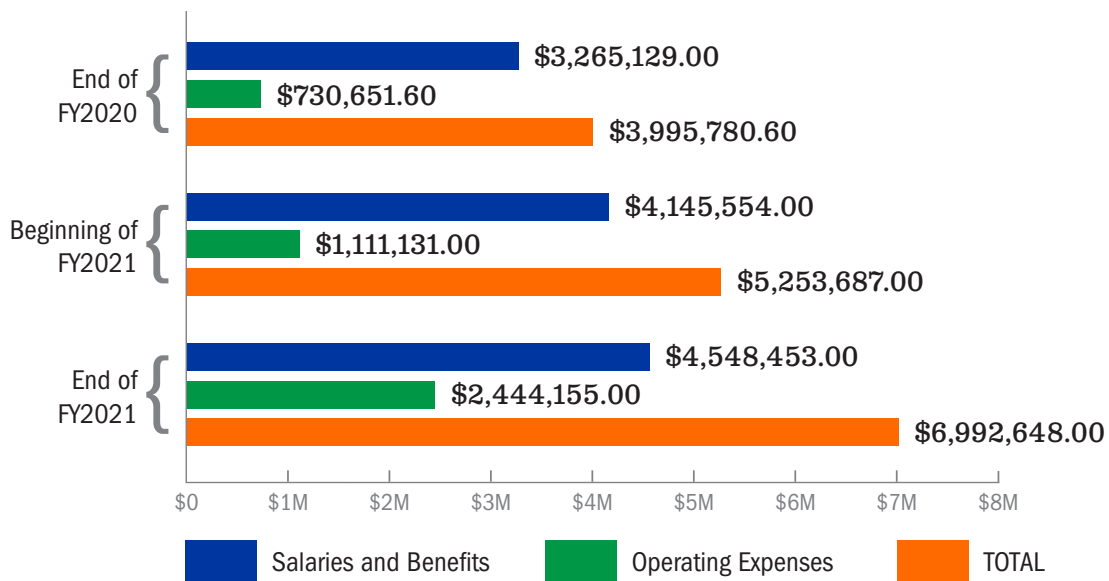


# Pretrial Services Budget

## 2021 at a GLANCE:

Beginning Salaries & Benefits: <b>\$4,145,554.00</b>	Ending Salaries & Benefits: <b>\$4,548,493.00</b>
Beginning Operating Expenses: <b>\$1,111,131.00</b>	Ending Operating Expenses: <b>\$2,444,155.00</b>
Beginning Total Budget: <b>\$5,253,687.00</b>	Ending Total Budget: <b>\$6,992,648.00</b>

Total Budget for Closing FY2021



Dallas County records budget as Fiscal Year and Pretrial Services budget expanded during this time because of new employees added as well as operational expenses added. 3 new positions were added during this time.

At the end of Fiscal Year 2020 Pretrial salaries, benefits, and operating expenses were \$3,995,780.60. In the beginning of Fiscal Year 2021 the expected annual budget was \$5,253,687.00. By the end of the Fiscal Year 2021 the total was \$6,992,648.00.



**DALLAS COUNTY**  
Pretrial Services

Frank Crowley Courts Building  
1st Floor - Rm A9  
133 N. Riverfront Boulevard  
Dallas, TX 75207