



DALLAS COUNTY | *Pretrial Services*



2019 ANNUAL REPORT
Dallas County, Texas

Contents

- Our Mission** 1
- Our Leadership** 2
- Pretrial Services Units** 3
- General Pretrial Release Summary** 7
- Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary** 8
- Smart Justice Unit Summary** 12
- Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary** 16
- Budget** 19

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.

Our Leadership

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



Duane Steele, *Deputy Director*

Duane Steele graduated from Wiley College in Marshall, TX with a BS in Education. He has over 30 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

Rebekah Truxal, *Program Manager - ELM/ASP/AMU*

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*

Miriam Villarreal, *Administrative Coordinator*

Pretrial Services consists of five (5) units:

General Pretrial Release

Pretrial Officers in this unit review an overnight report daily consisting of individuals booked into the Dallas County Jail. Based on the inmate's current offense and criminal history, Pretrial Services interviews qualified inmates within the jail and presents information on those inmates to Magistrate Judges to consider at the initial bail setting. For those released on a Pretrial Release Bond, Pretrial Officers monitor compliance and provide case management to help defendants make all scheduled court appearances and successfully comply with conditions of bond. These statistics do not include those who receive a Personal Bond as Pretrial Services does not supervise these individuals unless expressly ordered to do so by the court.

In 2019, the General Pretrial Release Unit consisted of 5 Pretrial Officers. The General Pretrial Release Unit supervises defendants who receive a Pretrial Services Bond until disposition of their case or court ordered release. In 2019, a total of 370 defendants were released from jail on a Pretrial Release Bond. An additional 41 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 411 unique defendants. Of those cases under the unit's supervision, 248 were accused only of misdemeanor offenses and 224 were accused of felony (or combination of felony and misdemeanor) offenses.

Alcohol Monitoring Unit

The 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, as allowed by 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.

In 2019, the Alcohol Monitoring Unit consisted of 6 Pretrial Technicians. There was a monthly average of 1,380 under active supervision by the Alcohol Monitoring Unit in 2019. The highest number of cases supervised within a month was observed in August with a total of 1409 defendants supervised. January had the least number of cases supervised within a month with a total of 1302. Throughout 2019, the unit verified alcohol monitor installations and monitored the maintenance of the alcohol monitoring devices ordered. We also conducted 1,418 orientations, verified 1,324 installations, and submitted 3,370 non-compliance violations to the courts.

In 2019, there were 1,444 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, 1,354, or over 93%, were successful. The unit collected a total of \$141,102.00 in supervision fees.

Smart Justice Unit

The Smart Justice Unit serves defendants who could benefit from being connected with mental health services upon release from jail. Pretrial 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 the Pretrial 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 2019, the Smart Justice Unit consisted of 10 Pretrial Officers, with one dedicated to support SB292, supervising Outpatient Competency Restoration (OCR) cases. In 2019, there were a total of 16,473 inmates with a mental health flag that 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 2019, after screening and mental health assessments were conducted by licensed clinicians, a total of 596 defendants were presented to the court for a judicial decision about their release.

Of those presented, 85 defendants were denied a MHPR Bond and 3 others released on a different type of bond. There were a total of 508 defendants, or just over 85% that were granted a MHPR Bond in 2019. This consisted of 226 defendants accused of only misdemeanor offenses and 481 defendants accused of felony, or a combination of misdemeanor and felony, offenses. The unit supervised defendants based on the level of supervision ordered by the judge. In 2019, a total of 72 defendants were released on Level 1 supervision, while 295 defendants on Level 2 supervision, and 138 defendants on Level 3 supervision. Only 3 defendants were released on Level 4 supervision.

There were 520 cases closed out in 2019. Of those close outs, 172 were successful and 342 were unsuccessful. There were 6 close outs deemed as Other. The highest success rate of 38% was observed in the month of May. The month of November had the lowest success rate of 25%.

Intake Assessment

In February 2018, Pretrial Services began the implementation of the Intake Assessment Unit. This unit is charged with gathering information during Intake Process to assess financial status and risk. In January 2019, the Intake Assessment Unit was fully staffed and administering the financial affidavit and risk assessment to all defendants booked in the Dallas County Jail on a 24/7 schedule. Initially, Pretrial Services administered the Ohio Risk Assessment-Pretrial Assessment Tool (ORAS-PAT). Then, in January 2020 Pretrial Services began administering the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) instead. The risk assessment and financial affidavit are provided to the Magistrate before the initial bail setting. On average, 180 risk assessment and financial affidavits are completed on a daily basis.

Electronic Monitoring

The Electronic Monitoring Unit (ELM) 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 Dallas County Pretrial Services offers and is often used to supervise high profile cases, sexual offense cases, and violent offense cases including murder.

ELM had a productive year in 2019 with 8 ELM Officers supervising all cases assigned to the Unit. ELM started to see a large surge mid-way through the year of new cases, which slightly tapered off in September, however, new case assignments started to rise in October, November, and December, and have surged into 2020 with the same amount of Officers supervising these cases. This trend of surging numbers is also true with the number of Violations sent to the Court (770).

The ELM Unit opened a total of 788 new cases, both Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) and Bond which can

include a surety or personal recognizance, in 2019. Most of these cases, 674 of them, were Bond cases (mainly Felony), while the rest (114) were ASP, or low-level misdemeanor offenders serving a jail sentence on house arrest (mainly DWI).

ELM closed out 723 cases, 483 of them being deemed “successful,” meaning that the unit was able to successfully supervise those cases to the final outcome of their disposition and/or they were removed and remained on Bond by the request of the assigned Judge.

While supervising 956 cases that had been released from the Dallas County Jail, ELM saved the County \$4,478, 539.34 in jail bed money in 2019.

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 (ELM)** - Report in person every week.

Guidelines and Criteria for a Pretrial Release Bond

Pretrial Services assists in reducing the population of the county jail by supervising qualified defendants who are released on personal bond while pending disposition of their case. In considering an individual for release, the agency is concerned with two primary factors: 1) whether the defendant will appear for all scheduled court settings and 2) whether the defendant poses a serious threat to the safety of the community if released on bond.

Minimum Requirements

- Must be a resident of Dallas County or one of the six contiguous counties
- Must be in jail on a Dallas County offense
- Must provide positive identification
- Must not be on parole or probation
- Must be willing to appear in court for all scheduled court appearances until the case is disposed
- Defendants who have first degree felonies or who have a history of bond forfeitures may be excluded from consideration unless ordered by a judge.

CUMULATIVE DATA

January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

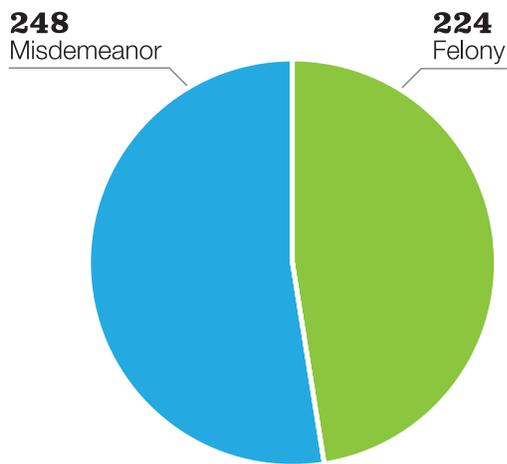
General Pretrial Release Summary

2019 at a Glance:

**Total Misdemeanor/Felony:
472**

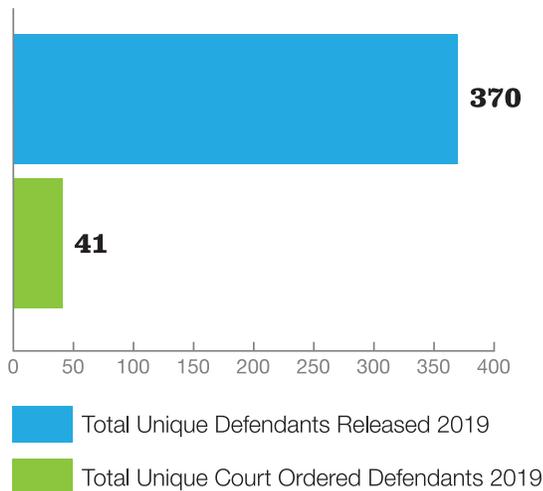
**Total Court Ordered Cases/
Unique Defendants:
411**

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



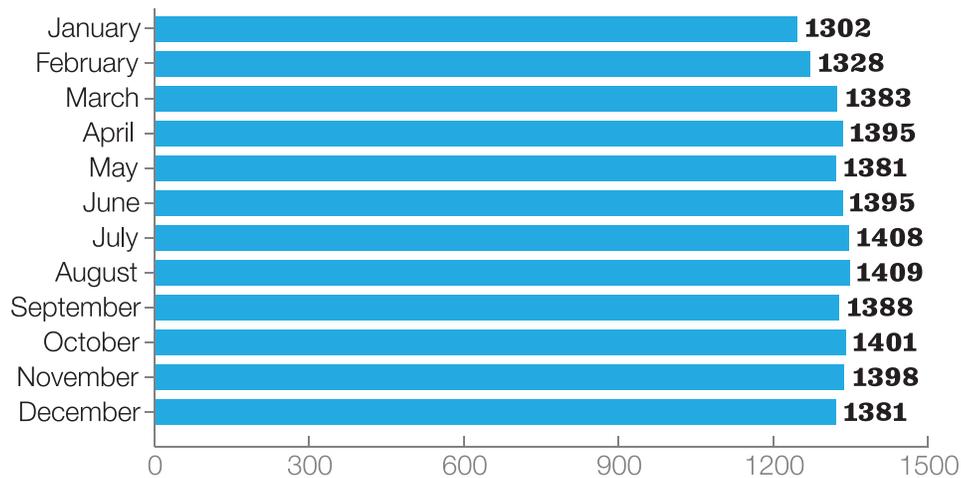
Breakdown of Court Ordered vs Unique Defendants displays the two different kind of defendants that General Pretrial supervises. Court Ordered cases are defendants that the court directly ordered to Pretrial Supervision who may not meet General Pretrial Criteria but the court believes should be supervised.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

Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary

2019 at a Glance:

Monthly Average:	1,380	Total Violations:	3,370
Total New Cases:	1,501	Successful Close Outs:	1,354
Total Orientations:	1,418	Unsuccessful Close Outs:	90
Total Installs:	1,324	Supervision Fees Collected:	\$141,102.00

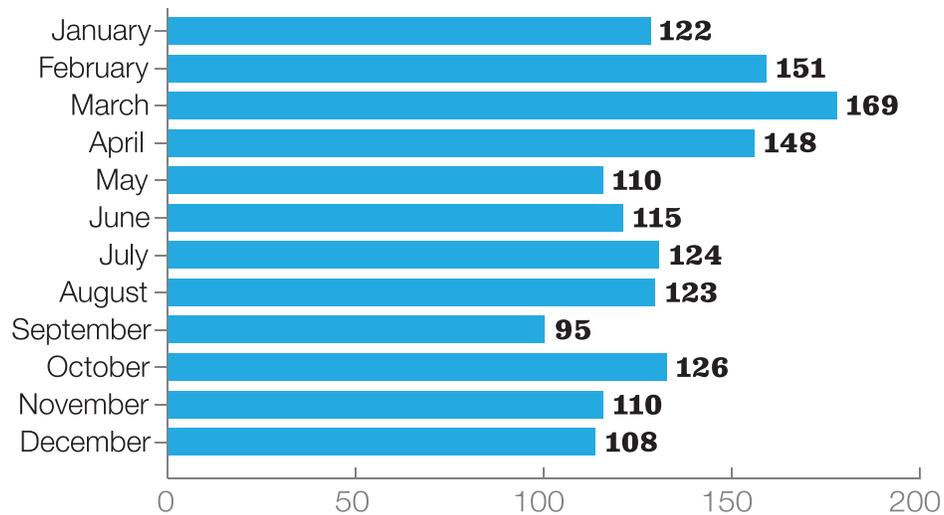
Total Supervised by Month



The total number supervised by Alcohol Monitoring at the end of each month for 2019.

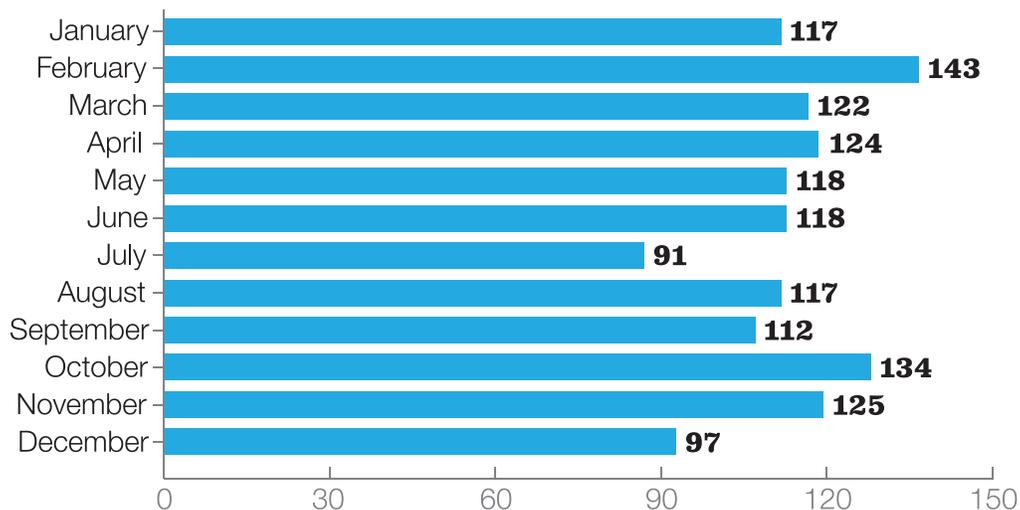
Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary *continued*

Total New Cases by Month



Displays how many new cases were added for each month of 2019.

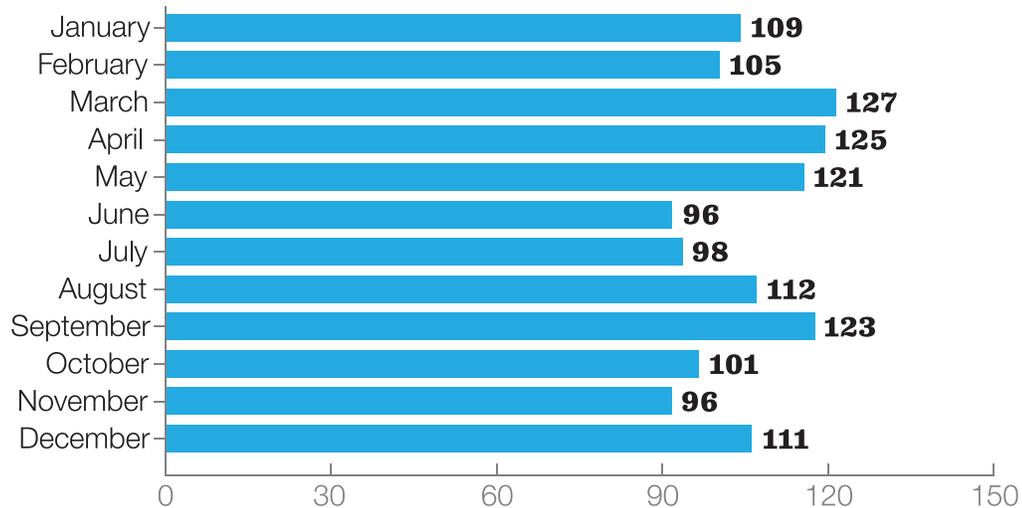
Total Count of Orientations Completed by Month



Displays how many unique orientations were given each month for new defendants. This number may differ from Total New Cases by Month because defendants sometimes miss orientation and are re-scheduled or miss orientation and the court is informed which may result in an insufficient bond.

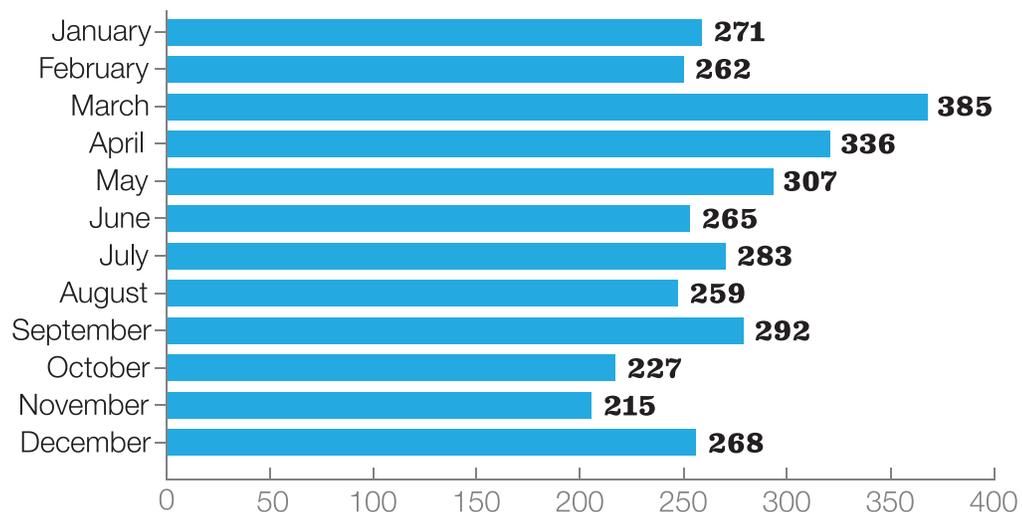
Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary *continued*

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.

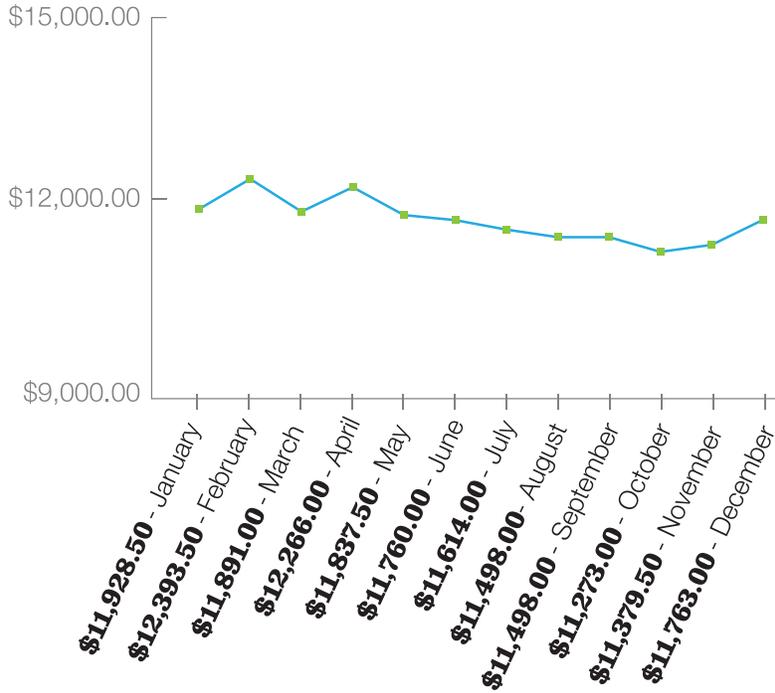
Total Violations Submitted by Month



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.

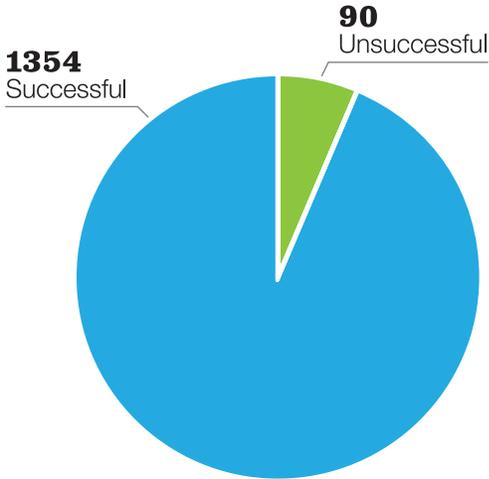
Alcohol Monitoring Unit Summary *continued*

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).

Successful/Unsuccessful Close Outs



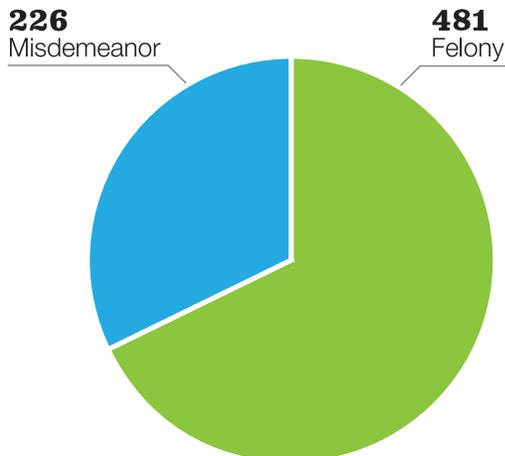
Displays for calendar year 2019 how many were successfully released from the Alcohol Monitoring Unit and how many were not successful. Successful generally mean being removed without an insufficient bond being ordered.

Smart Justice Unit Summary

2019 at a Glance:

Total Initial MH: 16,473	Total Level 1: 72
Total Eligible: 2,228	Total Level 2: 295
Total Presented: 596	Total Level 3: 138
Total Denied: 85	Total Level 4: 3
Total Other: 3	Total Successful: 172
Total Granted: 508	Total Unsuccessful: 342
Total Misdemeanor: 226	Total Other: 6
Total Felony: 481	

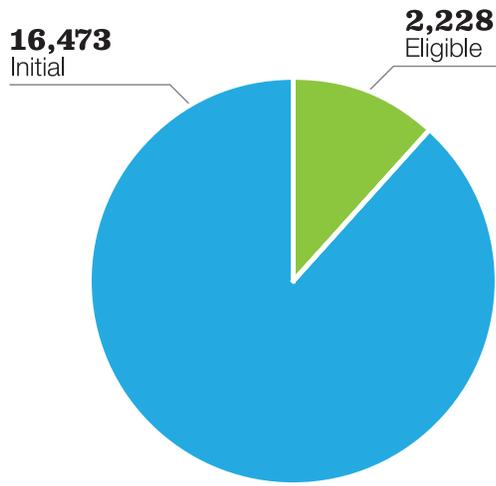
Total Misdemeanor/Felony Cases



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

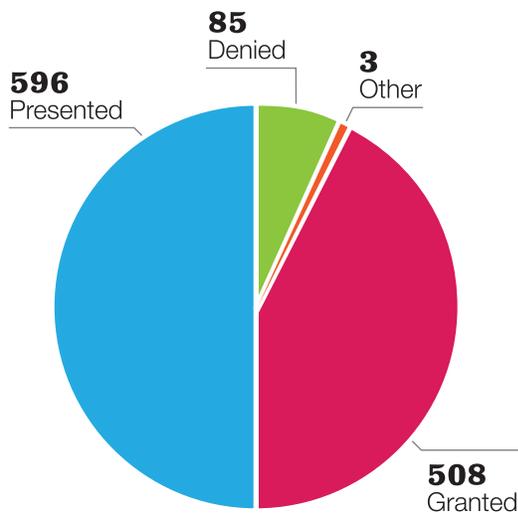
Smart Justice Unit Summary *continued*

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.

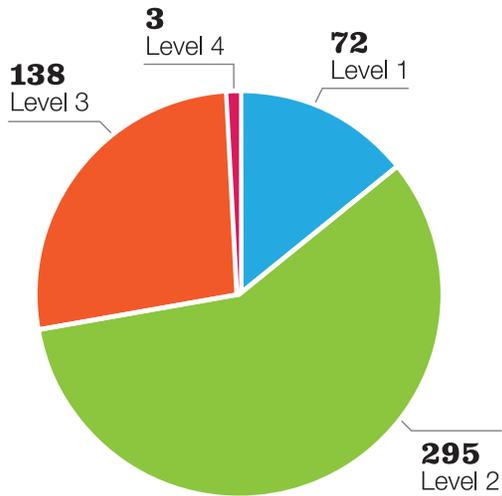
Total Cases Presented/Denied/Granted & Other



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*

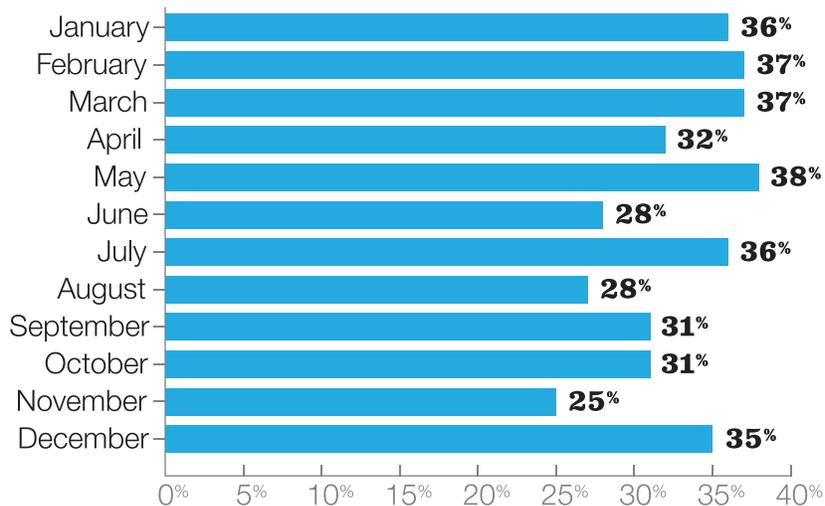


A breakdown of the four levels of supervision done by the Smart Justice Unit.

- 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 (ELM) - Report in person every week.

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

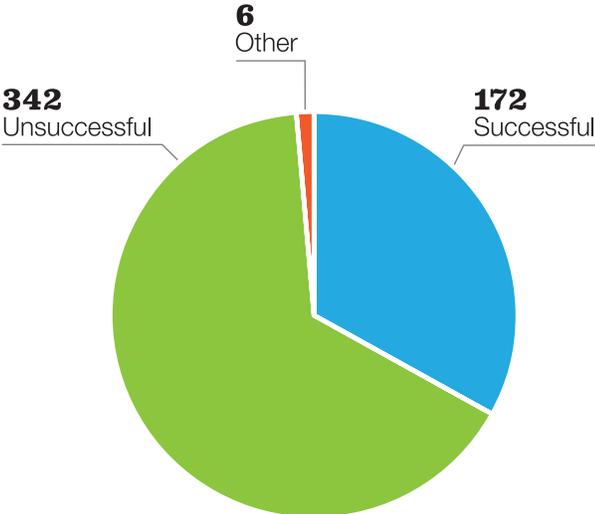
Total Success Rate by Month



The success rate as an average for all nine (9) officers during the months of calendar year 2019.

Smart Justice Unit Summary *continued*

Total Successful/Unsuccessful Close Outs



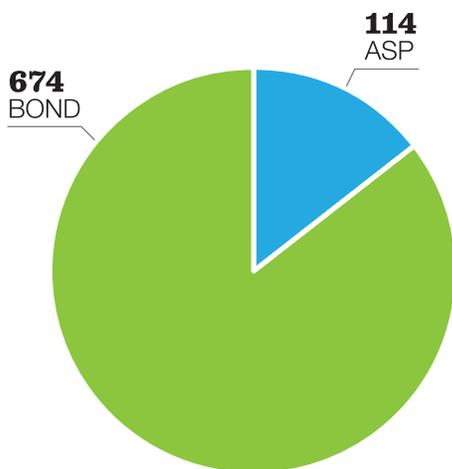
Displays the number of defendants that successfully completed the programs vs unsuccessfully. Successful completion generally means being removed without an insufficient bond being ordered. Unsuccessful would be defendants whose bond were held insufficient for technical violations, new offenses, or absconded.

Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary

2019 at a Glance:

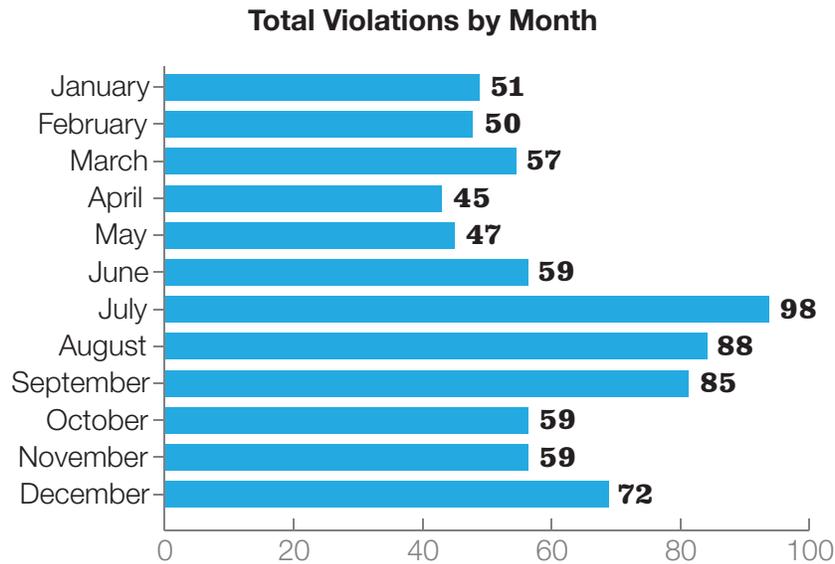
Total New Cases (ASP/BOND):	Total Violations:
788	770
Total Successful Close Outs:	Total Orientations:
483	788
Total Unsuccessful Close Outs:	Jail Bed Days Saved:
240	\$4,478,539.34

Total New Cases (ASP/Bond)

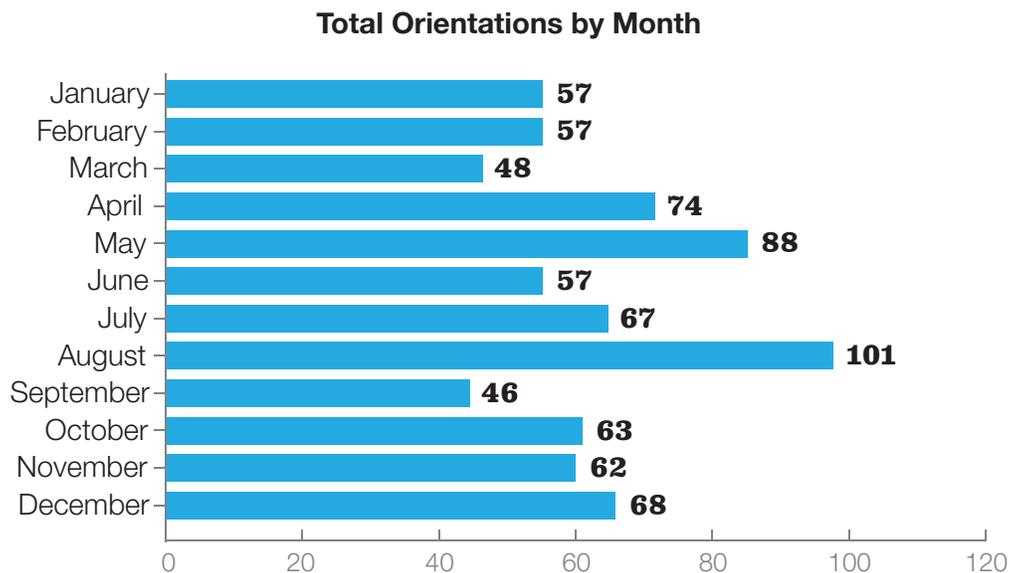


The total number of cases that were supervised on bond and the total number supervised on the Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP) a post adjudication program.

Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary *continued*



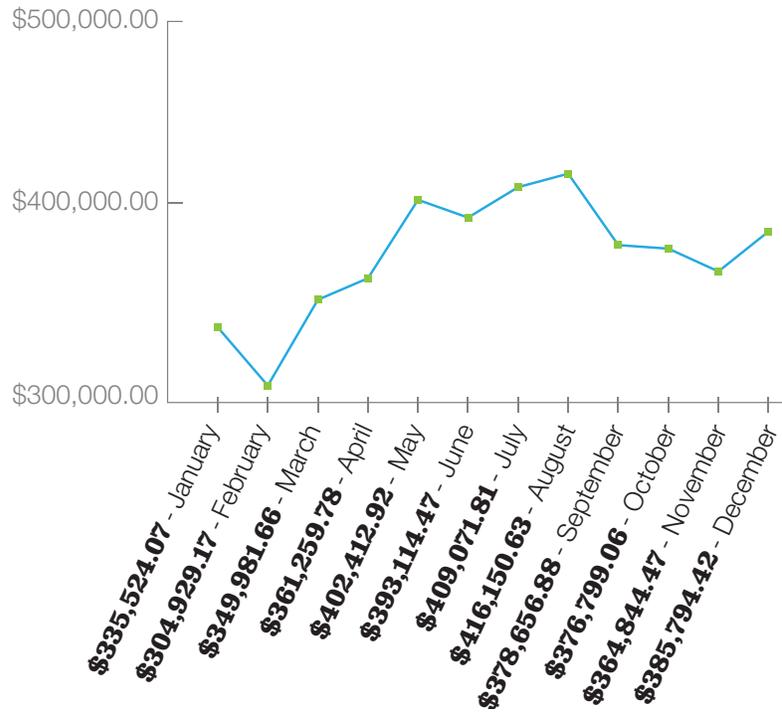
Displays how many violations were submitted to the court. A defendant may have multiple violation in one month. A violation may result in an insufficient bond.



The number of orientations completed on unique defendants each month.

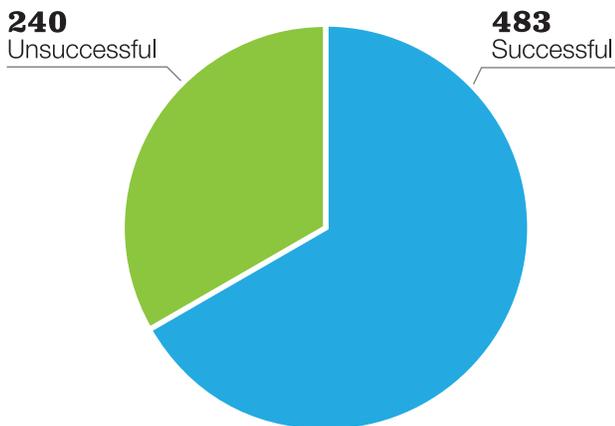
Electronic Monitoring Unit Summary *continued*

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.

Total Successful/Unsuccessful Close Outs



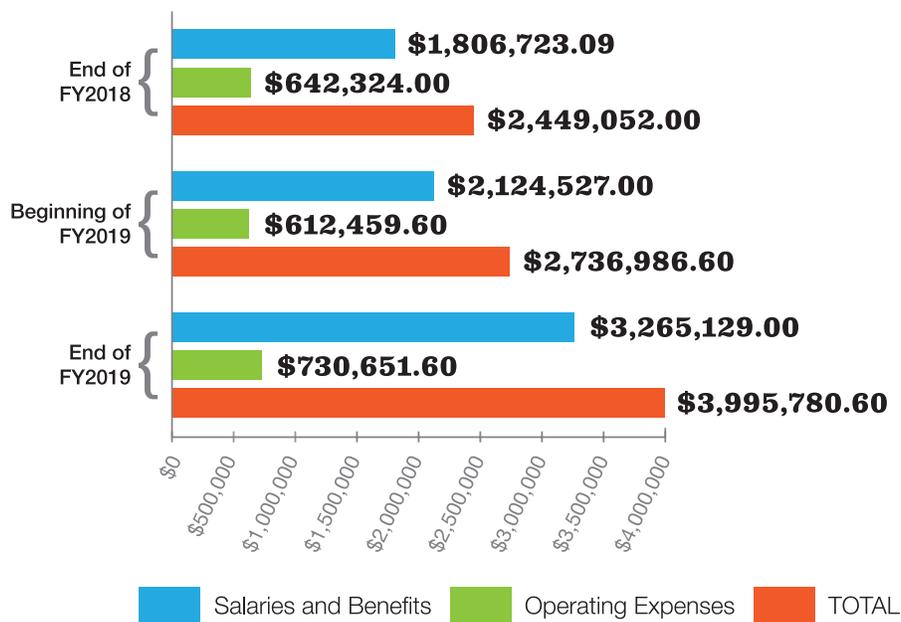
The number of defendants that successfully completed the program vs unsuccessfully completion. Successful completion generally means the case was disposed of in court and unsuccessful would be defendants whose bond were held insufficient for technical violations, new offense, or absconded.

Pretrial Services Budget

2019 at a Glance:

Beginning Salaries & Benefits: \$2,124,527.00	Ending Salaries & Benefits: \$3,265,129.00
Beginning Operating Expenses: \$612,459.60	Ending Operating Expenses: \$730,651.60
Beginning Total Budget: \$2,736,986.60	Ending Total Budget: \$3,995,780.60

Total Budget for Closing FY2019



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. 12 new positions were added during this time.

At the end of Fiscal Year 2018 Pretrial salaries, benefits, and operating expenses were \$2,449,052.00. In the beginning of Fiscal Year 2019 the expected annual budget was \$2,736,986.60. By the end of the Fiscal Year 2019 the total was \$3,995,780.60.



DALLAS COUNTY

Pretrial Services

Frank Crowley Courts Building

1st Floor - Rm A9

133 N. Riverfront Boulevard

Dallas, TX 75207