



SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

MORROW & UMATILLA COUNTY CIRCUIT COURTS

216 SE 4th STREET

PENDLETON, OR 97801

541-278-0341

Email: 6th.district@ojd.state.or.us

HON. DANIEL J. HILL
Presiding Judge

IRMA SOLIS
Trial Court Administrator

February 24, 2025

The Honorable Chair Floyd Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher,
and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee

RE: Senate Bill 95 -- Addition of a 6th Judge to the 6th Judicial District

Dear Chair Prozanski and Committee Members:

As the Presiding Judge of the 6th Judicial District Circuit Courts for Umatilla and Morrow Counties, I am submitting this letter in strong support of our critical need for a new judicial position for the judicial district. Our judges provide judicial services in both Umatilla and Morrow Counties, within three facilities: Pendleton, Hermiston, for Umatilla County, and Heppner for Morrow County.

We have challenges not unlike other judicial districts, including insufficient judicial resources and inadequate numbers of attorneys, defense and prosecution alike, resulting in a rolling problem of unrepresented persons in criminal court; an ever increasing mental health challenge, with commitments and a centralized Aid & Assist docket, along with insufficient resources at the Oregon State Hospital to address our secured commitments insufficient local treatment resources; insufficient jail space, which commonly is managing many out of area defendants in our court system; insufficient courthouses and courtrooms, and insufficient numbers of staff to manage the workload.

Our challenges have led to overburdened dockets, with judges struggling to timely hear all of the cases seeking hearings or trial, and timely prepare the written decisions critical for, among other case types, family matters. Overburdened dockets also cause stacking, particularly in criminal court, with setting upwards of 10 cases for trial each start day, along with stacking multiple courtrooms against the availability of one judge.

Our last judge was added in 2004 concurrently with the addition of the Stafford Hansell Government Center in Hermiston adding a fifth courtroom. We had a .50 FTE Limited Duration (LD) pro-tem from 2000-2003 handling post-conviction relief, habeas corpus, small claims, traffic, landlord-tenant, among other matters. That position went away with budget cuts, and we recovered at that time with the new position in 2005. Since that time, we have from time to time had an additional Limited Duration grant-funded treatment court judge and have sometimes been able to

add some general jurisdiction time from vacancy savings to increase our judicial resources. The pro-tem position has been invaluable for us to maximize usage of the courtrooms when otherwise available and manage the PCR-Habeas Administrative docket.

Our caseloads have also been increasing. Overall filings in 2023 grew 33.5%, led by a 27% increase in civil filings, 24% increase in misdemeanors, 63% increase in violations, and 35% increase in civil commitments. Many of those increases continued I 2024 – civil commitments rose another 39%, violations another 29%, and landlord-tenant up 20%. Since the last judge was added, our caseload has persistently increased causing lag times in processing both civil and criminal cases.

To try to address the caseload and develop efficiencies and try to reduce stress on the judges and staff in balancing the caseload, we have developed a hybrid central docketing management system that works with the courtrooms to centrally assign cases and set hearings in some case types. For that, we have established template court hearing sessions, which I am attaching here for your general information. Unless a hearing is resolved for some reason, you won't see much 'white space' contained in our dockets. We also developed a centralized Aid and Assist criminal docket to manage the regular flow of cases arising with Aid & Assist problems in a much better, but time consuming, coordinated way with our provider, Community Counseling Solutions. We continue to provide drug treatment court to help address the drug epidemic we are all facing.

We have sought to squeeze the most out of our judges and staff time but fall short in addressing everything in the way we need to. Only with adding judicial resources can we hope to address the ever increasing civil and criminal dockets in a way that properly addresses the needs of our public, the parties and the legal system. We need those resources to address prompt attention to the myriad of cases, some arising at any time day or night.

Our ask is that you support the addition of a sixth judge in the Sixth Judicial District. The adverse impact to not increasing our judicial capacity will risk us reaching a breaking point due to our current over-paced operations, excessive criminal case stacking, and lingering times for civil court proceedings. We will eventually need to curtail and push out non-priority cases to address the priority cases, causing significant delays for disposition of those cases.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request, this critical need, on behalf of the citizens of Morrow and Umatilla Counties.

Sincerely



Daniel J. Hill, Circuit Court Judge

Daniel J. Hill, Presiding Judge
Sixth Judicial District

Attachments:

- Central Docket Management – Courtroom Templates (DRAFT Form)
- Legislative Case Count Narrative with Charts

COURTROOM 1 - CONCEPT DOCKET

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY				
8:00 AM									
8:15 AM	MISC/NO SET	MISC	MISC	MISC	CATCH ALL OUT-OF-CUSTODY COP (4) *COUNTY ORDINANCE 815-1015A (3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH) - QUANTITATIVE				
8:30 AM	ARRAIGNMENTS VIOLATIONS - CDM (PV/SC) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	RO OBJECTIONS, NOT ASSIGNED TO CC2 OR CC4/MENTAL COMMIT - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	RO OBJECTIONS, NOT ASSIGNED TO CC2 OR CC4/MENTAL COMMIT - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	RO OBJECTIONS, NOT ASSIGNED TO CC2 OR CC4/MENTAL COMMIT - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	CATCH ALL OUT-OF-CUSTODY COP (4) *COUNTY ORDINANCE 815-1015A (3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH) - QUANTITATIVE				
8:45 AM									
9:00 AM									
9:15 AM									
9:30 AM									
9:45 AM	ARRAIGNMENTS MISDEMEANORS - CDM - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	RO OBJECTIONS, NOT ASSIGNED TO CC2 OR CC4/MENTAL COMMIT - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	FED/SCs - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	FED/SCs - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	CATCH ALL OUT-OF-CUSTODY COP (4) *COUNTY ORDINANCE 815-1015A (3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH) - QUANTITATIVE				
10:00 AM									
10:15 AM								BREAK	
10:30 AM									CATCH ALL OUT-OF-CUSTODY COP (4) *SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT 1030A-12P (3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH) - QUANTITATIVE
10:45 AM	ARRAIGNMENTS FELONY - CDM - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>								
11:00 AM		EMERGENT MATTERS (RO - IA) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>							
11:15 AM									
11:30 AM									
11:45 AM									
12:00 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH				
12:15 PM									
12:30 PM									
12:45 PM									
1:00 PM									
1:15 PM	DELINQUENCY I/C - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DELINQUENCY I/C - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DELINQUENCY I/C - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DELINQUENCY I/C - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DELINQUENCY I/C - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>				
1:30 PM	MENTAL COMMIT/RO OBJECTION - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	TRAFFIC/VIOLATION ARRAIGNMENTS (INTERPRETED) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DELINQUENCY OUT OF CUSTODY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	MENTAL COMMIT/RO OBJECTION - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	MENTAL COMMIT/RO OBJECTION - <i>DURATIONAL</i>				
1:45 PM									
2:00 PM		TRAFFIC/VIOLATION TRIAL SESSION 1 (INTERPRETED) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>							
2:15 PM									
2:30 PM	EMERGENT MATTERS (RO - IA) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	TRAFFIC/VIOLATION TRIAL SESSION 2 - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	EMERGENT MATTERS (RO - IA) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	EMERGENT MATTERS (RO - IA) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	EMERGENT MATTERS (RO - IA) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>				
2:45 PM									
3:00 PM	IN-CUSTODY ARR - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	TRAFFIC/VIOLATION TRIAL SESSION 3 - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	IN-CUSTODY ARR - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	RO OBJECTIONS OR FED - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	RO OBJECTIONS OR FED - <i>DURATIONAL</i>				
3:15 PM									
3:30 PM									
3:45 PM									
4:00 PM		TRAFFIC/VIOLATION TRIAL SESSION 4 - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>							
4:15 PM									
4:30 PM									

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 2 - CONCEPT DOCKET (JUVENILE WK)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
8:30 AM	DOM REL STATUS CHECK/MO HRG- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	RO OBJECTIONS/DEPEND ENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DEPENDENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG or DOM REL TRIAL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	HEARINGS REFEREE WORKING OUT OF CC2 - TREATMENT COURT STAFFING FOLLOWED BY TREATMENT COURT
8:45 AM					
9:00 AM	RO OBJ/MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	DEPENDENCY TR- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DEPENDENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>		
9:15 AM					
9:30 AM			DEPENDENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>		
9:45 AM		DEPENDENCY TR- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			
10:00 AM			JURISDICTION - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>		
10:15 AM					
10:30 AM		DEPENDENCY TR- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM			JURISDICTION - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>		
11:15 AM		LEAVE EMPTY FOR AM CASES RUNNING LONG			
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
1:30 PM	RO OBJ/MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	RO OBJ/MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i> ***** I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO KEEP THIS FOR JUST DEPENDENCY BUT IT LOOKS LIKE CC4 SOMETIMES USES IT FOR DOM REL CASES	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG OR DOM REL TRIAL CONT- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG OR DOM REL TRIAL CONT- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 2 - CONCEPT DOCKET (CIVIL WK)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE
8:30 AM	MO HRG - DURATIONAL	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL - QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL - QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL - QUANTITATIVE	HEARINGS REFEREE WORKING OUT OF CC2 - TREATMENT COURT STAFFING FOLLOWED BY TREATMENT COURT
8:45 AM					
9:00 AM					
9:15 AM					
9:30 AM					
9:45 AM					
10:00 AM					
10:15 AM					
10:30 AM					
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM					
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:30 PM					
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE
1:30 PM	1/2 DAY MO HRG -	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL CONT-QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL CONT-QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL CONT-QUANTITATIVE	30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM					1 HR MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					TRUANCY
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 3 - CONCEPT DOCKET

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	C/R - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOC VIDEO (1) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOC VIDEO (1) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	COP (2) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	PV HGS (2) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
8:30 AM					
8:45 AM					
9:00 AM	1-DAY TRIAL	PRETRIALS (15) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	1-DAY OR 2-DAY TRIAL	DAY 2 OF 2-DAY TRIAL OR 1-DAY TRIAL	PV HGS (3) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
9:15 AM					
9:30 AM					
9:45 AM					
10:00 AM		<i>BREAK</i>			<i>BREAK</i>
10:15 AM		TRIAL READINESS (10) <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			COP (2) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
10:30 AM					
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM		COP (2) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			COP (2) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:30 PM					
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	VVUCJ - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	IC (ALT MONTHS) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	VVUCJ - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	IC (ALT MONTHS) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	IC (ALT MONTHS) - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
1:30 PM					
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:15 PM	1-DAY TRIAL CONTINUED	<i>BREAK</i>	TRIAL CONTINUED	TRIAL CONTINUED	<i>BREAK</i>
2:30 PM		MOTIONS/JURY INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S TRIALS - <i>DURATIONAL</i>			MOTIONS (UP TO 2 HOURS) - <i>DURATIONAL</i>
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM					
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 4 - CONCEPT DOCKET (JUVENILE WK)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	JA CONF CALL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
8:30 AM	DOM REL STATUS CHECK/MO HRG- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	RO OBJECTIONS/DEPEND ENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DEPENDENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG or DOM REL TRIAL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG or DOM REL TRIAL - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
8:45 AM					
9:00 AM	RO OBJ/MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	DEPENDENCY TR- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DEPENDENCY - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>		
9:15 AM					
9:30 AM					
9:45 AM		DEPENDENCY TR- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			
10:00 AM					
10:15 AM					
10:30 AM		DEPENDENCY TR- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM		JURISDICTION - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>			
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM		LEAVE EMPTY FOR AM CASES RUNNING LONG			
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	DOM REL STATUS CHECK- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
1:30 PM	RO OBJ/MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	RO OBJ/MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i>	MO HRG/DEPENDENCY - <i>DURATIONAL</i> ***** I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO KEEP THIS FOR JUST DEPENDENCY BUT IT LOOKS LIKE CC4 SOMETIMES USES IT FOR DOM REL CASES	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG OR DOM REL TRIAL CONT- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	ALL DAY DEPENDENCY HRG OR DOM REL TRIAL CONT- <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>	SHELTER HRG - <i>QUANTITATIVE</i>
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 4 - CONCEPT DOCKET (CIVIL WK)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE	JA CONF CALL - QUANTITATIVE
8:30 AM	MO HRG - DURATIONAL	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL - QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL - QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL - QUANTITATIVE	1 HR MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
8:45 AM					
9:00 AM					
9:15 AM					
9:30 AM					1 HR MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
9:45 AM					
10:00 AM					
10:15 AM					
10:30 AM					1 HR MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM					
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE	STATUS CHECK - QUANTITATIVE
1:30 PM	1/2 DAY MO HRG -	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL CONT-QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL CONT-QUANTITATIVE	CIVIL/DOM REL TRIAL CONT-QUANTITATIVE	30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM					30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM					1 HR MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM		TRUANCY			
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					30 MIN MO HRG - QUANTITATIVE
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 5 - CONCEPT DOCKET

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	VVUCJ - QUANTITIVE	VVUCJ - QUANTITIVE	VVUCJ - QUANTITIVE	VVDOC - QUANTITIVE	VVUCJ - QUANTITIVE
8:30 AM	CITE AND RELEASE - QUANTITIVE	2-DAY TRIAL OR 3 TO 4-DAY TRIAL (ALL DAY) - QUANTITIVE	DAY 2 OF TRIAL	DAY 3 OF TRIAL OR 2-DAY TRIAL	DAY 2 OF 2-DAY OR DAY 4 OF 3 TO 4-DAY TRIAL
8:45 AM			IF NO TRIAL ALL DAY MOTION HEARINGS - QUANTITIVE	(IF NO TRIAL - COP @ 9AM AND 10 AM) - QUANTITIVE	
9:00 AM	HGTR (OUT OF CUSTODY) - QUANTITIVE	IF NO TRIAL - COP/DIVERSION - QUANTITIVE			IF NO TRIAL ALL DAY MOTION HEARING - QUANTITIVE
9:15 AM			(STAFF BREAK AT 10)	(STAFF BREAK AT 10)	
9:30 AM	COP (2) - QUANTITIVE				(STAFF BREAK AT 10)
9:45 AM					
10:00 AM	STAFF BREAK	STAFF BREAK			
10:15 AM	BENCH PV/SC A/D - QUANTITIVE	IF NO TRIAL - COP/DIVERSION - QUANTITIVE			
10:30 AM					
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM	COP - QUANTITIVE				
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM					
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	HGSE/HGPT - QUANTITIVE	IF NO TRIAL - MOTION HEARING (UP TO 2 HOURS) OR TRIAL CONTINUES UNTIL 5PM - QUANTITIVE	TRIAL CONTINUES	TRIAL CONTINUATION UNTIL 5PM	VVUCJ (ICS ALT MOS) - QUANTITIVE
1:30 PM				(IF NO TRIAL COP)	
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM	PV/SC HEARINGS - QUANTITIVE				DO NOT SET UNLESS PERMISSION HAS BEEN OBTAINED
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM	VVUCJ	VVUCJ (WHEN UP FOR IN-CUSTODY ROTATION, IN-CUSTODY SESSION AT 3:00 PM WITH VVUCJ TO FOLLOW AT 3:15 PM - QUANTITIVE	VVUCJ	VVUCJ (WHEN UP FOR IN-CUSTODY ROTATION, IN-CUSTODY SESSION AT 3:00 PM WITH VVUCJ TO FOLLOW AT 3:15 PM	
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

COURTROOM 5 - CONCEPT DOCKET (AID & ASSIST WK)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:15 AM	VVUCJ	VVUCJ	VVUCJ	VVDOC	VVUCJ
8:30 AM	CITE AND RELEASE		2-DAY OR 3-DAY TRIAL IF NO TRIAL ALL DAY MOTION HEARINGS (STAFF BREAK AT 10)	DAY 2 OF TRIAL (IF NO TRIAL - COP @ 9AM AND 10 AM) (STAFF BREAK AT 10)	DAY 3 OF TRIAL (IF NO TRIAL - COP @ 9AM AND 10 AM) (STAFF BREAK AT 10)
8:45 AM					
9:00 AM	HGTR (OUT OF CUSTODY)	COP/DIVERSION			
9:15 AM					
9:30 AM	COP (2)				
9:45 AM		AID AND ASSIST			
10:00 AM	STAFF BREAK				
10:15 AM	BENCH PV/SC A/D				
10:30 AM					
10:45 AM					
11:00 AM	COP				
11:15 AM					
11:30 AM					
11:45 AM					
12:00 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:15 PM					
12:30 PM					
12:45 PM					
1:00 PM					
1:15 PM	HGSE/HGPT	HGSE/HGPT (FORMER AID AND ASSIST)	TRIAL CONTINUED	TRIAL CONTINUED	VVUCJ (ICS ALT MOS)
1:30 PM					
1:45 PM					
2:00 PM	PV/SC HEARINGS (LAST MONDAY OF MONTH SPANISH AND ONE SESSION FOR SPECIAL DIALECTS)	COP/DIVERSION			DO NOT SET UNLESS PERMISSION HAS BEEN OBTAINED
2:15 PM					
2:30 PM					
2:45 PM					
3:00 PM	VVUCJ	VVUCJ (WHEN UP FOR IN-CUSTODY ROTATION, IN- CUSTODY SESSION AT 3:00 PM WITH VVUCJ TO FOLLOW AT 3:15 PM	VVUCJ	VVUCJ (WHEN UP FOR IN-CUSTODY ROTATION, IN- CUSTODY SESSION AT 3:00 PM WITH VVUCJ TO FOLLOW AT 3:15 PM	
3:15 PM					
3:30 PM					
3:45 PM					
4:00 PM					
4:15 PM					
4:30 PM					

Updated 12.12.2024

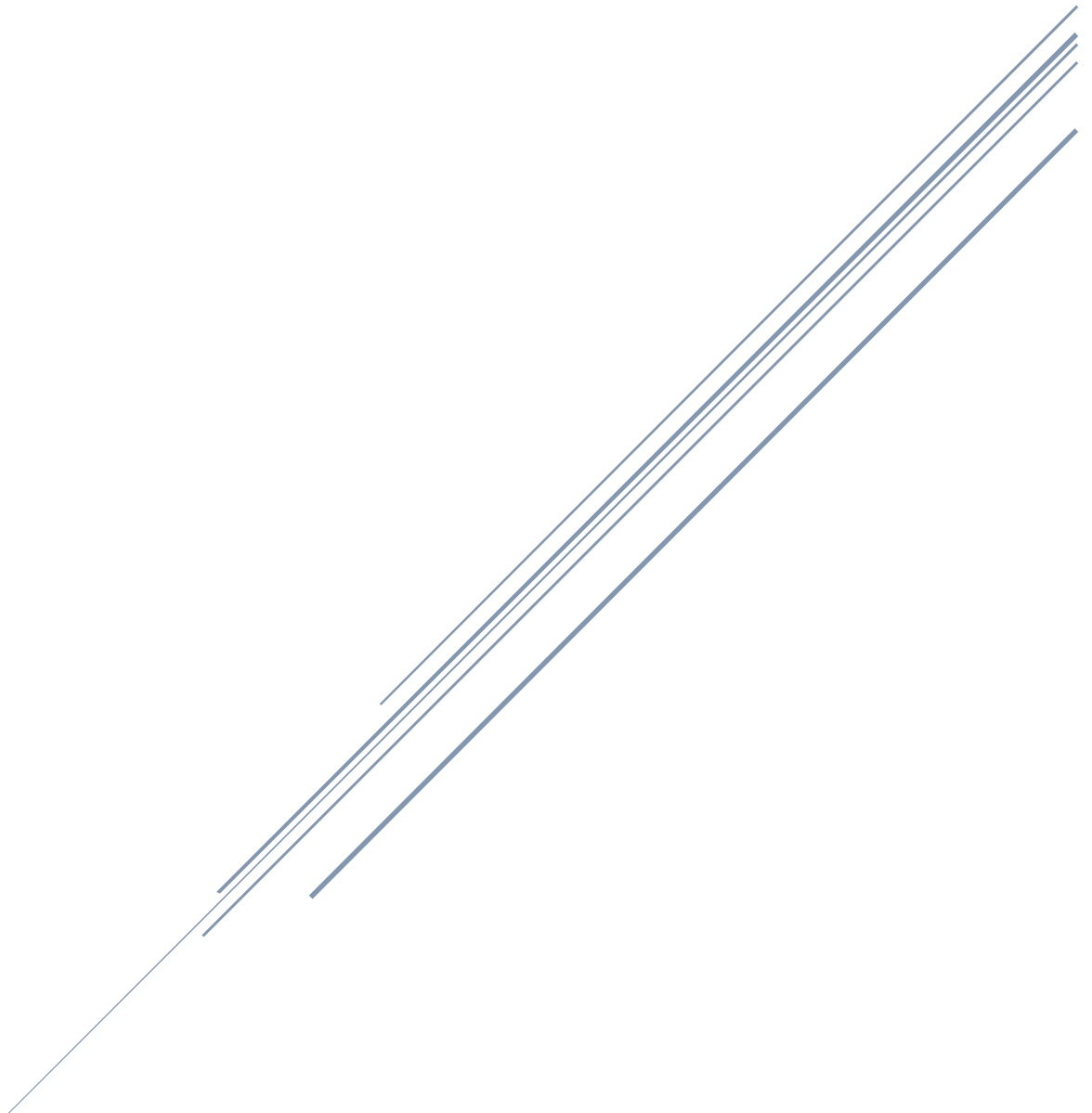
REFEREE - CONCEPT DOCKET

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		
8:00 AM							
8:15 AM	PCR/HABEAS TRIALS 4+ HOURS - <i>COURTROOM TBD</i> IF NO PCR/HABEAS TRIAL: QUEUE WORK AND STANDBY FOR COURTROOM COVERAGE AS NEEDED	PCR/HABEAS TRIALS 4+ HOURS - <i>COURTROOM TBD</i> IF NO PCR/HABEAS TRIAL: QUEUE WORK AND STANDBY FOR COURTROOM COVERAGE AS NEEDED	WK 1 - CC1 HEARING CC1'S SET DOCKET	WK 1 - CC1 PCR/HABEAS (NOT TRIALS)	TREATMENT COURT STAFFING		
8:30 AM							
8:45 AM						WK 2 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING	WK 2 - HEPPNER
9:00 AM							WK 3 - CC2 OR CC4 PCR/HABEAS (NOT TRIALS)
9:15 AM						WK 3 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING	WK 4 - PCR/HABEAS (NOT TRIALS)
9:30 AM							WK 4 - HEPPNER
9:45 AM							
10:00 AM						WK 4 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING	WK 5 - HEPPNER
10:15 AM							
10:30 AM			WK 5 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING				
10:45 AM							
11:00 AM							
11:15 AM							
11:30 AM							
11:45 AM							
12:00 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH		
12:15 PM							
12:30 PM							
12:45 PM							
1:00 PM							
1:15 PM	PCR/HABEAS TRIALS 4+ HOURS - <i>COURTROOM TBD</i>	PCR/HABEAS TRIALS 4+ HOURS - <i>COURTROOM TBD</i>	WK 1 - CC1 HEARING CC1'S SET DOCKET	COURTROOM'S SET DOCKET (WHERE EVER RJ IS SITTING)	STANDBY TO COVER IN COURTROOM AS NEEDED - IF NOTHING ON DOCKET, OPINION WRITING TIME		
1:30 PM	IF NO PCR/HABEAS TRIAL: QUEUE WORK AND STANDBY FOR COURTROOM COVERAGE AS NEEDED	IF NO PCR/HABEAS TRIAL: QUEUE WORK AND STANDBY FOR COURTROOM COVERAGE AS NEEDED	WK 2 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING				
1:45 PM							
2:00 PM						WK 3 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING	
2:15 PM							
2:30 PM							
2:45 PM							WK 4 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING
3:00 PM							
3:15 PM							WK 5 - STANDBY FOR COVERAGE OR OPINION/MOTION WRITING
3:30 PM							
3:45 PM							
4:00 PM							
4:15 PM							
4:30 PM							

Updated 12.12.2024

6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT CASE FILINGS

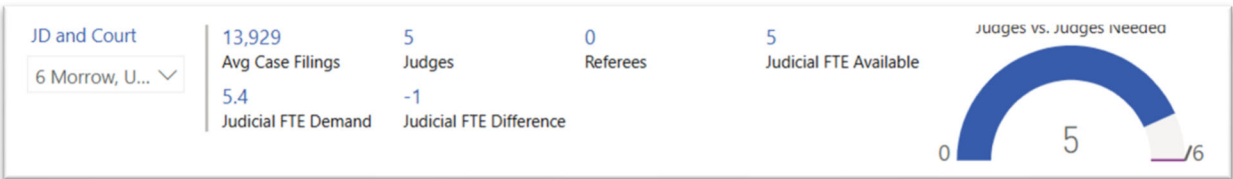
Judicial Workload vs. Judicial Resources



Prepared by: Irma Solis

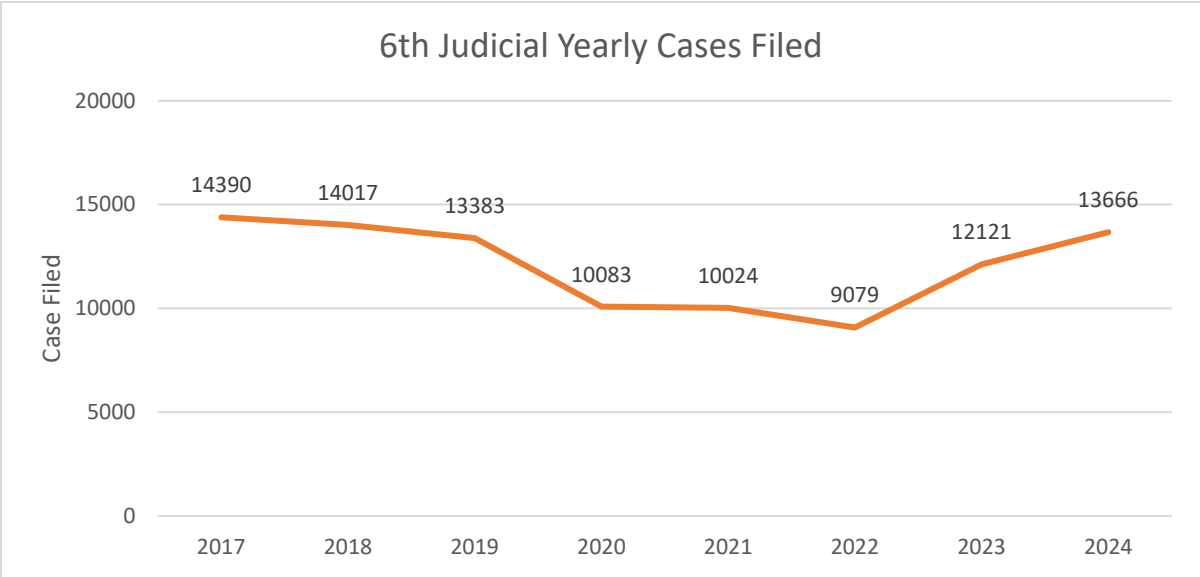
Honorable Judge Daniel J. Hill,

The following is to report to your what our district has experience regarding our caseload. As you are aware, we have seen an increase in our cases in the last two years (2023 and 2024). To give context to the numbers I will present, it is important to understand that utilizing previous caseload study data, our district qualifies for 6 judicial officers. This data is being updated with a new study to true up case weights, but updated data is not yet available. For purposes of a baseline, it is important to share the image below which is data I believe to have been collected in reflecting that at 13,929 average case filings we were at that point in time in need of 6 judicial officers.

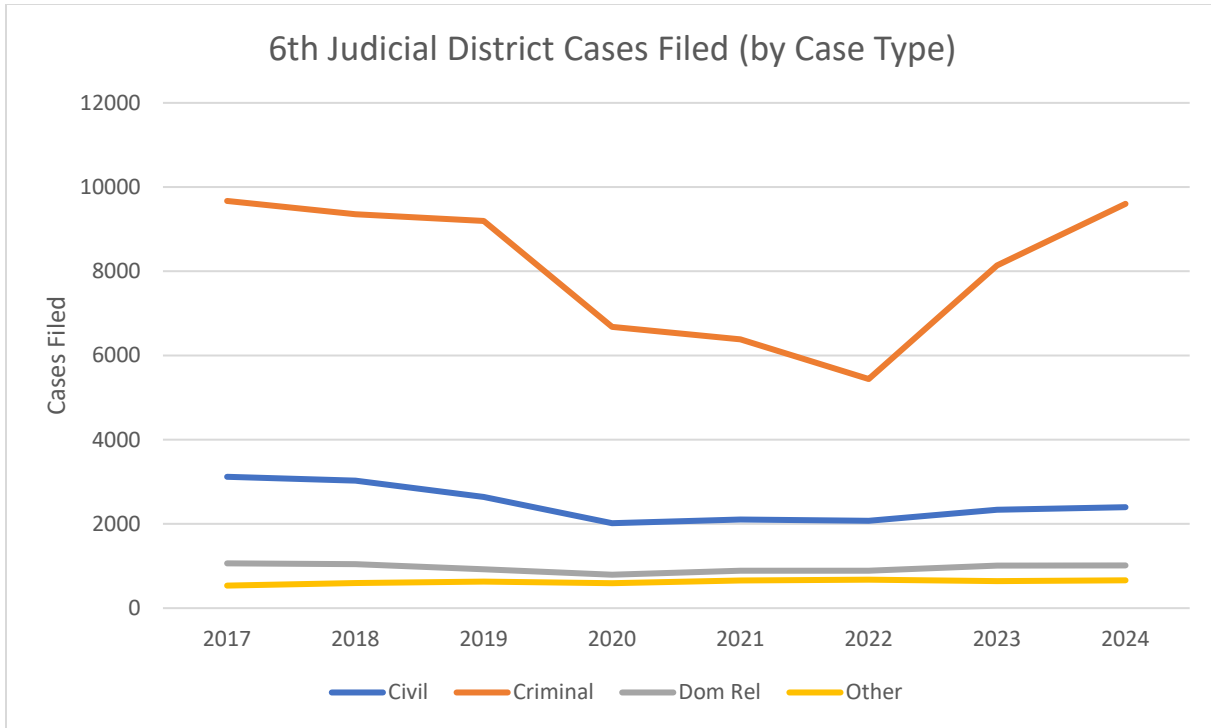


The district closed 2023 with 12,121 cases which was an increase of 33.5% from 2022. We saw another 12.7% increase in 2024, closing the year with 13,666 cases, with no indication that 2025 will yield a reduced caseload. The highest increase in caseloads have been in our criminal dockets, with increases of 49.5% and 18.0% in 2023 and 2024 respectively. Our district’s population has outgrown the court’s ability to timely address court matters with the current judicial resource allocation. The current allocation of judicial resources creates a backlog of cases that are clogging up courtrooms and overburdening the dockets even at the current level of cases. With any amount of continued growth in our local population, our dockets will not be able to maintain the added cases and would resort to further prioritization of case management, which is a disservice to our strategic campaign and the public.

The chart below reflects a yearly look back of how many total cases were filed in our district:



The chart below reflects a yearly look back at case filings by year for each case type:



It is my opinion that the data above supports that with the existing caseload we are at a point where we need a 6th judge just to address the current caseload. However, our population continues to grow, and our caseload continues to increase. This growth and the fact that elected and appointed judges regularly attend conferences and other events for CLE credits, as well as need to take time off for personal and sometimes illness (which is not planned), this creates an average of approximately 1 month that each judge is away, which results in courtrooms being empty unless able to cover with a Sr. Judge. We must acknowledge that our Sr. Judge resources are dwindling down as many are completing their Plan B service. Our district needs a full-time Circuit Court Pro Tem Judge (hearings referee) to mitigate our need to have upwards of 6 months of at least one empty courtroom while cases wait for the next available date and may be displaced if a priority case becomes an issue. A pro tem judge is not required to attend the same conferences our elected and appointed officials are, so our pro tem judge will be able to cover absences, often those that are last-minute and unexpected, so we on court operations seamlessly.

I bring this to you for your consideration as you prepare your testimony. This district and our community members need more judicial resources by way of a 6th judgeship and a permanently funded full-time pro tem judge.

Irma Solis,
Trial Court Administrator
Irma Solis

Trial Court Administrator

Sixth Judicial District