



DALLAS COUNTY
COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT NO. 6
Angela M. King, JUDGE

May 4, 2017

Honorable Clay Jenkins
Dallas County
411 Elm Street, 2nd Floor
Dallas, Texas 75202

Re: FY17 TIDC-Follow-up Monitoring Review – Response from the County Criminal Courts and County Criminal Courts of Appeals

Dear Judge Jenkins:

The Dallas County Criminal Courts and the County Criminal Courts of Appeals will Address the recommendation of the TIDC's 2017 Report as follows.

TIDC Recommendation: The misdemeanor courts will continue to examine their methods of appointing counsel, in particular, with regard to non-Spanish speaking attorneys. The Dallas County Criminal Courts and Criminal Courts of Appeals showed the top 10% of court appointed attorneys received 4.4 times their representative share. The recommended threshold by the Commission is 3.0 of the top 10% of appointed attorneys.

County Criminal Courts and County Criminal Courts of Appeals response and actions are as follows:

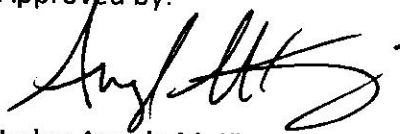
1. **Will review the process of court appointments**
 - There is a procedure of appointing the same attorneys to felony and misdemeanor cases for the same defendant. This accounts for an increase of assignments to attorneys.
2. **Will conduct and maintain an up-to-date attorney wheel list**
 - This will insure that the attorney wheel list has only the most current active attorneys on the list.
3. **Will Review the Summary Attorney Appointment Management Report for updates and changes to reflect accurate attorney assignment data**

- Establish direct communication with the Dallas County IT department regarding data issues and updates.
- 4. Review and unify the payment per case process with the courts
 - This will insure that cases are paid uniformly among courts.
- 5. The courts will continue to enforce the use of the automatic appointment wheel for case assignments. Understanding the need for fair and neutral appointments

Prepared by:

Patricia Johnson
County Criminal Courts Manager

Approved by:


Judge Angela M. King
Local Administrative County Judge