Policy Monitor Report – Review of Dallas County Indigent Defense Systems

Initial Report Issued: January 23, 2008

Follow-up Report Issued: August 3, 2009

Second Follow-up Report Issued: November 18, 2011

Third Follow-up Report Issued: September 11, 2013

Fourth Follow-up Report Issued: March 10, 2017

August 2019 Board Meeting – Dallas Monitoring Report Closed: August 29, 2019

Summary of Findings

Category	Court Level	Summary of Issue
Magistrate Warning Practices	Felony and Misdemeanor	Municipalities conducting their own magistrate warnings did not send requests for counsel to Dallas County. **(Issue identified in 2009 and resolved in 2013).**
Determinations of Indigence	Felony	Defendants who qualified as indigent and who made bail were required to re-qualify as indigent at the initial appearance. **(Issue identified in 20011 and resolved in 2013).**
Determinations of Indigence	Misdemeanor	Defendants who qualified as indigent and who made bail were required to re-qualify as indigent at the initial appearance. **(Issue identified in 2011 and resolved in 2013).**
Determination of Indigence	Misdemeanor	Counsel was automatically replaced at the initial appearance for defendants who were appointed counsel while in jail, but who later made bail. **(Issue identified in 2011 and resolved in 2013).**
Timely Appointment of Counsel	Felony	Felony requests for counsel were not ruled upon in a timely manner. **(Issue identified in 2007 and resolved in 2011).**
Timely Appointment of Counsel	Misdemeanor	Misdemeanor requests for counsel were not ruled upon in a timely manner. **(Issue identified in 2007 and resolved in 2011).**
Attorney Selection Process	Felony	Felony appointments of counsel were not distributed in an even manner. **(Issue identified in 2007 and resolved in 2011).**
Attorney Selection Process	Misdemeanor	Misdemeanor appointments of counsel were not distributed in an even manner. **(Issue identified in 2007 and resolved in 2019).**
Attorney Selection Process	Juvenile	Juvenile appointments of counsel were not distributed in an even manner. **(Issue identified in 2009 and resolved in 2013).**