

OKLAHOMA COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE

ADVISORY COUNCIL



Oklahoma County Criminal
Justice Advisory Council
Quarterly Report to Interlocal
Partners for the Third Quarter
of FY 2018-2019

April 2019

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Frances Kersey, Secretary, City Clerk for Oklahoma City

Michael Nordin, General Counsel, McAfee & Taft

Background:

In response to the growing concerns about chronic overcrowding in Oklahoma County's jail facility, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber announced the creation of a special task force to evaluate Oklahoma County's criminal justice system in December 2015. With collaboration and input from a diverse group of community members, the Chamber contracted with the Vera Institute of Justice to complete an initial analysis and make recommendations for reform of the Oklahoma County criminal justice system. Vera released their recommendations in December 2016. As a central recommendation of the report, an inter-local agreement between Oklahoma County, the City of Oklahoma City, the City of Edmond, and the City of Midwest City created the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC) in November 2017. The Advisory Council continued to evolve with the hiring of a full-time Executive Director in February 2018 to provide support to the CJAC's efforts. The creation of this permanent oversight body is key to implementing the proposed criminal justice reforms which can be summarized in these six key recommendations:

1. Create oversight and accountability mechanisms for the local justice system.
2. Reduce jail admissions for municipal violations and low-level misdemeanors.
3. Create a fair and efficient pretrial release process that safely reduces unnecessary pretrial incarceration.
4. Identify and address district court case processing delays that increase jail admissions and length of stay.
5. Expand meaningful diversion program options, focusing on those with mental illness and substance abuse disorders.
6. Reduce the impact of justice system fines and fees as a driver of jail growth and recidivism.

Although each of the six recommendations carry numerous challenges and barriers to improvement, the good news is that because of the cooperative effort of the Advisory Council's stakeholders, progress continues to be made on each of the six recommendations.



Third Quarter Highlight:

During the third quarter, three CJAC agencies took critical steps toward upgrading their IT/data systems. The Oklahoma City Police Department started their IT transition to a new Records Management System. The OK County District Attorney's Office and Public Defender's Office worked collaboratively to complete a public bidding process to move forward with an IT system upgrade. The OK County Sheriff's Office started their IT system upgrade process by putting the finishing touches on a Request for Proposal that should be released to the public soon. The Vera Institute's December 2016 report noted on p. 10, "Data available for this assessment was severely limited because of current data collection practices and a lack of capacity for data extraction and data sharing." Although the progress of each of these three agencies does not solve the county-wide problem, the IT upgrades each of these agencies are making enhances the ability to improve our county justice system and better serve our neighbors.

Personnel changes continue to impact the Advisory Council as two members announced their retirement: OKC Police Chief Bill Citty and Midwest City City Manager Guy Henson. Additionally, former OKC Police Chief and current Assistant City Manager M.T. Berry also announced his retirement. The contributions of Messrs. Henson, Citty and

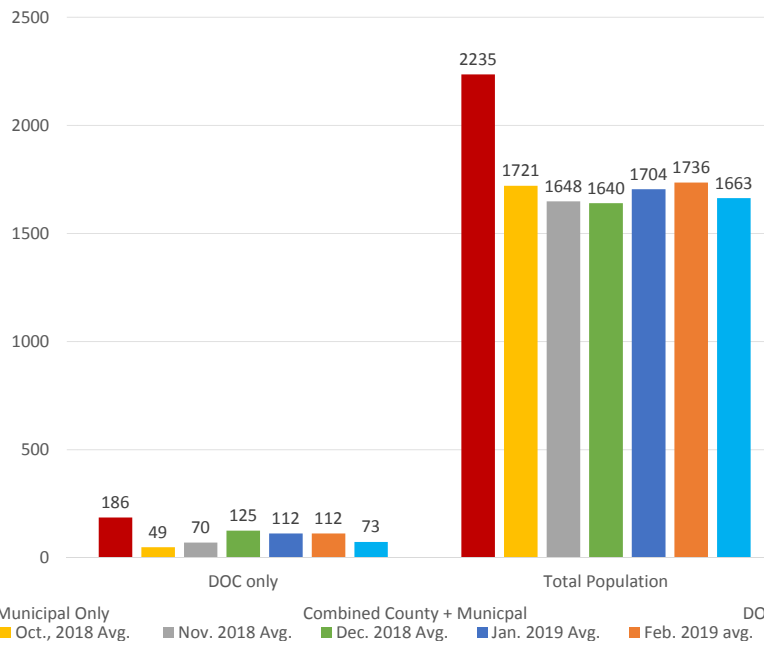
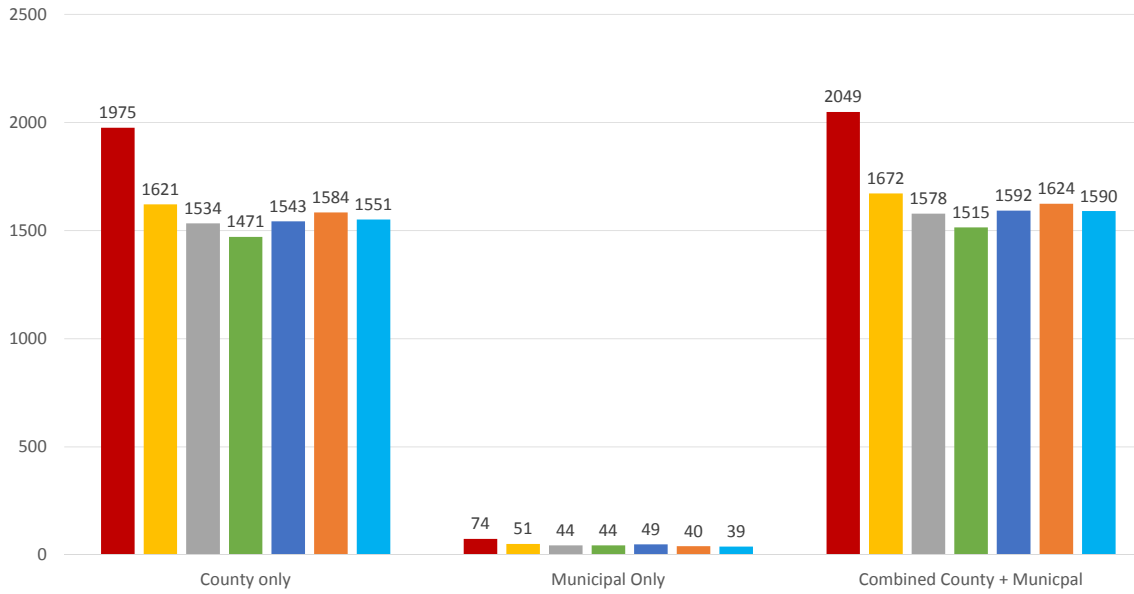
Berry simply cannot be overstated. Their insight and hard work can be seen all over the progress being made in our county toward more fair and effective justice. *The Advisory Council expresses its deepest appreciation for their important service.*

The retirement of these three key leaders for county justice reform coupled with the change of three others discussed in the second quarter Report, (County Commissioner Vaughn, OKC City Manager Couch, Judge Henderson) marks a significant change of personnel, since all six served during the Taskforce efforts that eventually created the CJAC.

Third Quarter Statistics:

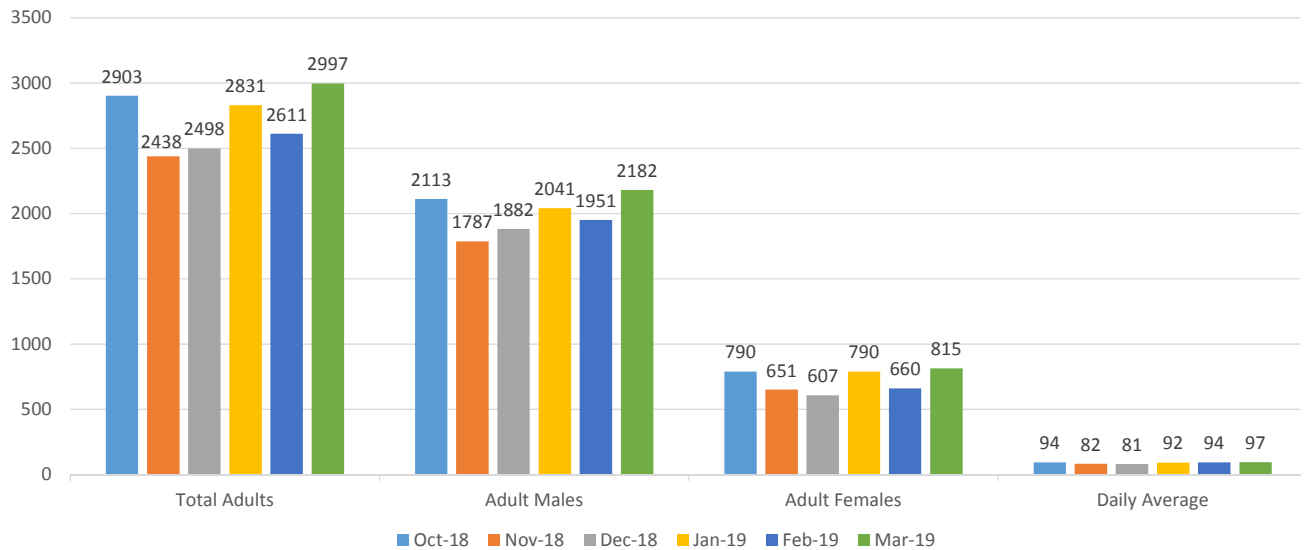
The downward trend for jail population in the first and second quarters stayed steady in the third quarter. Data now being tabulated as monthly averages, shows daily jail populations averaging below 1750 in January and February and reaching a 3Q low of 1663 for the March average. The FY18-19 three quarters combined appear to have set a new "normal" for incarceration in Oklahoma County, far below historical numbers. As we celebrate the remarkable progress and the possible establishment of this new "normal," the looming question for this CJAC, county/city officials and community leaders to answer is, "How much more can be done to safely reduce the jail population?"

Oklahoma County Jail Totals

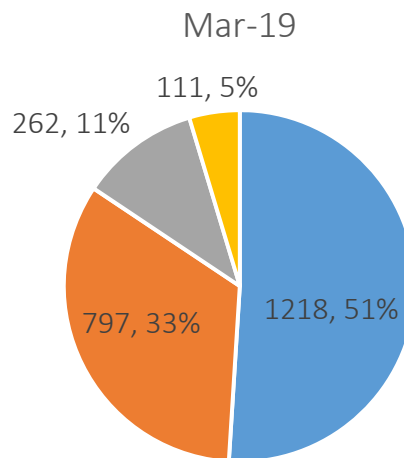
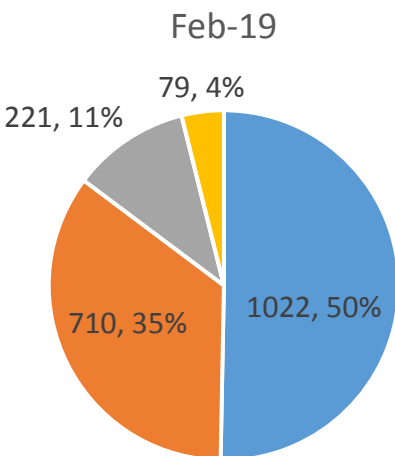
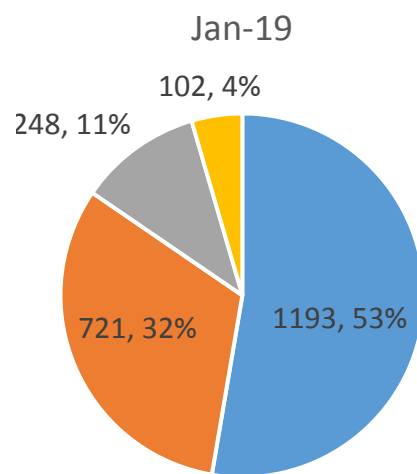
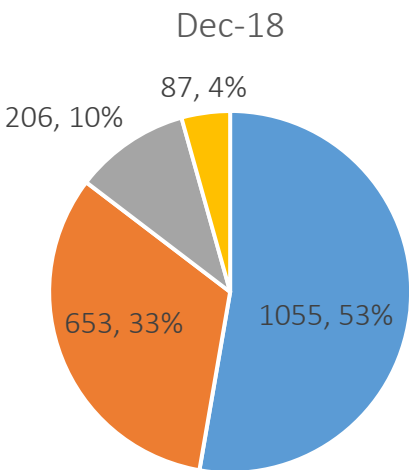
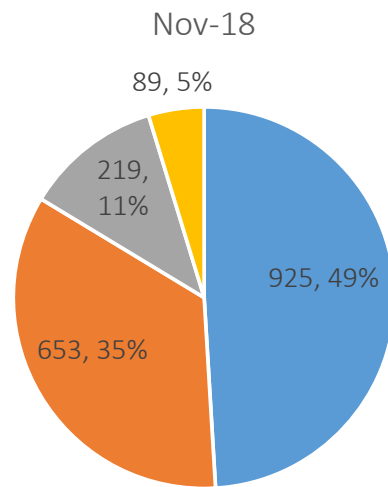
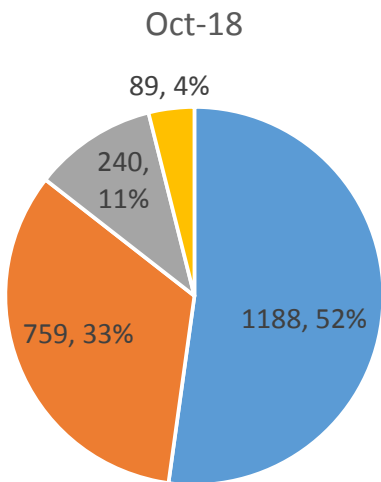


■ Feb. 1, 2017
 ■ Oct., 2018 Avg.
 ■ Nov. 2018 Avg.
 ■ Dec. 2018 Avg.
 ■ Jan. 2019 Avg.
 ■ Feb. 2019 avg.
 ■ March 2019 avg.

Inmates Booked in Jail

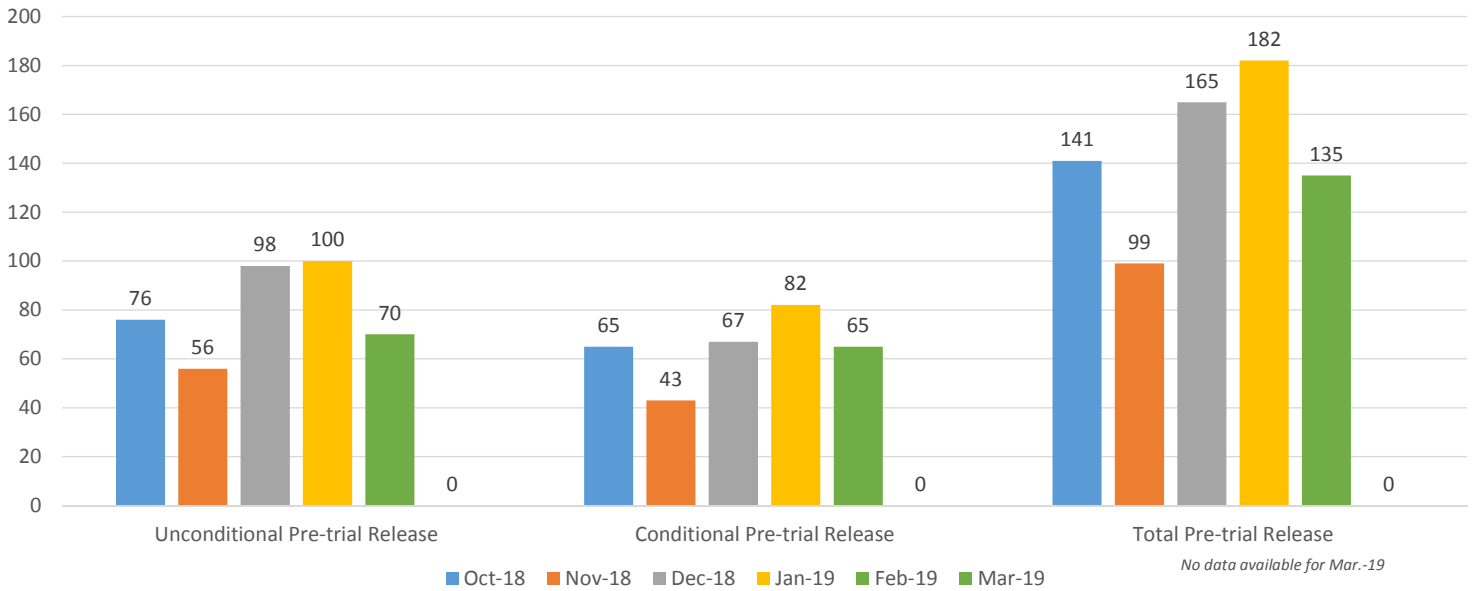


Inmates Booked in Jail by Race

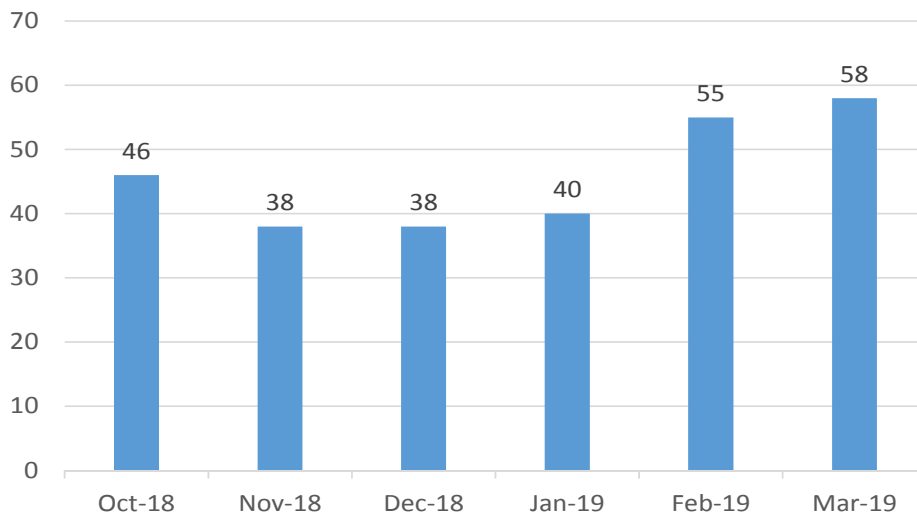


■ White
 ■ African American
 ■ Hispanic
 ■ Native American

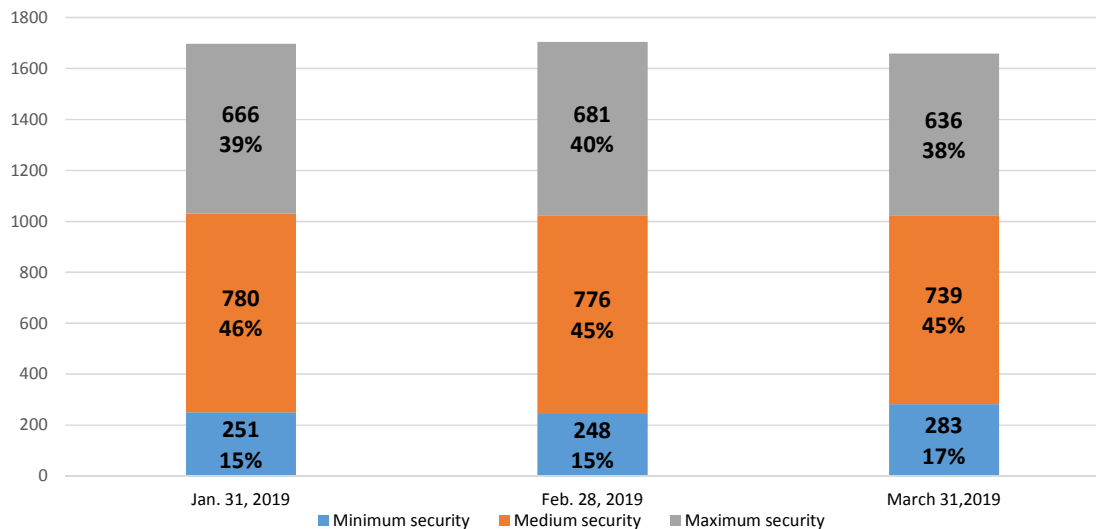
Pre-trial Release Statistics



Northcare Pre-trial Services



Jail Classification Levels



Third Quarter Activity:

The Advisory Council's structure includes four subcommittees tasked with parsing through the six recommendations and taking on the work of investigating, analyzing, proposing and implementing specific policy and procedure reforms in a collaborative effort with system and community stakeholders. The subcommittees continue to serve as workhorses that are meeting regularly to discuss and act on necessary system changes. The four subcommittees report back to the full Advisory Council the progress being made, while also seeking input from the Advisory Council on next steps to take on current paths or direction toward new paths to explore.

THIRD QUARTER ACTIVITY LEGEND

- Solution in place—Monitoring Implementation
- Solution identified—Implementation in progress
- Exploring solutions
- Identifying barriers
- No action this quarter

Pretrial Subcommittee:

This subcommittee's focus is reducing jail admissions and length of stay, keeping low-level offenders out of the jail and creating a fairer, more efficient pretrial process.

- Eliminate bond stacking
- Increase Utilization of NorthCare Day Reporting Services for Pretrial Release
- Expansion of municipal Cite and Release procedures to include state misdemeanors
- Diversion of public intoxication and "Failure to Leave" arrests to public inebriate alternative or other alternatives
- Review reclassification of discretionary charges for Pretrial Release eligibility
- Redirect "High Utilizers" with severe mental health needs into diversion alternatives
- Review of 10-day release rule

- Expedite jail release process by sending release notices from the judges to the jail electronically
- Creating a specific court docket for Misdemeanor cases to improve time to case resolution
- Review jail "Minimum Security" classification system
- Transition to Ohio Risk Assessment System-Pretrial Assessment Tool for pretrial release bond screenings

Case Processing Subcommittee:

This subcommittee is tasked with tackling the challenge of reducing case processing delays, decreasing the total time to case resolution and increasing efficiency in court operations and docket management.

- Increase access for defendants to complete NorthCare "Offender Screenings"
- Decrease booking time by eliminating delay with AFIS processing
- Expedite jail booking process
- Increase length and quantity of free phone calls during booking process
- Expedite notice to appropriate judge when a bond is "surrendered"
- Explore creation of magistrate judge position at jail to expedite case processing
- Work with local law enforcement community to bring evidence to DA's office more quickly
- Reduce time for defendants to enter Diversion Courts by creating new status notifications to judges
- Create uniform system for defendant "walk-throughs" for Sheriff's Office, attorneys and bondsmen to follow

Data Subcommittee:

This subcommittee's focus is to gain a better understanding of issues preventing effective data collection and sharing within the criminal justice system, improve capacity of all criminal justice system agencies for collecting and sharing data and begin implementation of projects to allow collection of system-wide data with online access available to the Advisory Council and system stakeholders.

- ☑ Explore interoperability of data systems throughout county criminal justice system
- ☑ Upgrade IT infrastructure throughout county justice system, including the OKC Police Department, OK County DA's Office and Public Defender's Office
- ☑ Upgrade IT infrastructure for OK County Sheriff's Office
- ☑ Complete data mapping of county criminal justice system data input points
- ☑ Exchange data electronically from municipal police departments to county jail at booking stage
- ☑ Exchange data electronically from the DA's office to Court Clerk's office at charging stage
- ☑ Consolidate CPC case codes into Misdemeanor and Felony case codes
- ☑ Determine data elements each agency should regularly report for ongoing data analysis
- ☑ Establish county criminal justice system online dashboard
- ☑ Research electronic court notification system to reduce FTAs (Failure to Appear)

Facilities Subcommittee:

This subcommittee's focus is to identify and pursue opportunities for additional space or facility modifications to expand and reconfigure jail operations, adopt measures to increase efficient use of resources and begin a long-term planning process regarding the viability of the current jail and the potential need for a new facility.

- ☑ Create a "Basic Elements" list of important features for a future OK County Detention Facility
- ☑ Activate the County's "Owner's Representative" to renew the process of imagining future facility solutions
- ☑ Explore feasibility of creating Direct Supervision pod(s) for low-risk offenders
- ☑ Explore potential jail-related uses for the OKC Fleet Services building
- ☑ Review information from new jail medical provider regarding expanded programming and operations including focus on mental health, substance abuse and coordinating post-release community care
- ☑ Assess the current and future needs for jail administration
- ☑ Include service providers in discussions related to a future facility
- ☑ Identify jail population that would be good fit for new in-custody programs

Conclusion:

This third quarter report to the Interlocal Partners of the Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council demonstrates continued progress in encouraging directions. Will the fourth quarter cap off an historic year of progress?