

Law and Justice Backlog Metrics

Budget Note

(X) Law and Justice Backlog: The Superior Court, District Court, the Office of Public Defense and the Prosecuting Attorney have presented to Council estimates of their budgetary needs to reduce the law and justice backlog created by COVID-19. Prior to allocating funds for 2023, Council wishes to understand the progress each office/court has made to reduce the case backlog. Council requests that the Superior Court, District Court, the Office of Public Defense and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office work collaboratively to complete the following, finding alignment where reasonable:

- By March 31, 2022, present to council, at least two meaningful success metrics that will, over time, measure the departments/courts progress at reducing the backlog.
- Upon Council approval of proposed metrics, include performance against those defined metrics at the annual department/court budget presentation in the fall of 2022.

Summary of proposed metrics by department

Prosecuting Attorney's Office (see pages 2-3):

- Count of referrals in the Criminal Division broken down by the following types: Felony, Misdemeanor (DCU) and Juvenile

Superior Court (see pages 3-8):

- Case Age (defined as amount of time from filing to resolution). The intent is to demonstrate the year-over-year change in that metric.
- Monthly average Case Resolutions by two types: Criminal and Domestic. Additionally, the resolutions will be broken down by type of resolution: criminal pleas; criminal dismissals; criminal other; domestic uncontested; domestic settlements; domestic defaults/summary judgements; domestic dismissals.

District Court (9-12):

- Comparison of Criminal Filing Rates to Disposition Rates
- Case Age (defined as amount of time from filing to disposition)

Office of Public Defense:

- OPD intends to use the Superior Court and District Court data as an indicator of backlog reduction progress.
- Note – the Superior Court and District Court data is not broken down by cases assigned to OPD versus other defense counsel.