

I. Court Watch NOLA's Mission

Court Watch NOLA (“CWN”) was founded in 2007 by the Business Council of New Orleans; the River Region, Common Good; and Citizens for 1 Greater New Orleans. Court Watch NOLA was started as a grassroots volunteer effort to bring greater transparency and efficiency to our criminal courts. Since then, CWN has recruited, trained, and supported volunteers who report on whether our judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and other public servants are doing their jobs professionally, transparently, and without wasting taxpayer resources.

Originally just 15 volunteers watching 37 cases, in 2014 over 100 volunteers made 960 observations at Orleans Parish Criminal District Court (“CDC”).ⁱ CWN volunteers come from all walks of life, including retirees, professionals with flexible schedules, and criminal justice, law, and legal studies students from Delgado, Loyola, and Tulane, respectively.

CWN is run by a volunteer Board of Directors,ⁱⁱ and CWN’s Executive Director compiles the results of the volunteers’ observations and publishes regular reports. The organization is strictly nonpartisan and does not make candidate endorsements.

Court Watch NOLA’s mission is to promote greater efficiency, transparency, and procedural fairness in Louisiana criminal courts through citizen involvement and courtroom observation.

CWN’s focus on efficiencyⁱⁱⁱ through the reduction of courtroom delays promotes fairness, public safety, and cost-effective provision of public services. The longer a case takes, the more likely that key evidence and witnesses are lost. Fewer delays allow police officers to spend less time in court and more on patrol. Finally, for defendants awaiting trial, justice delayed is justice denied – an unfair and expensive proposition when taxpayers are usually paying for their pretrial incarceration, and indigent defendants cannot pay their bail and remain incarcerated, whether guilty or innocent.

The observations, data, and statistics listed in this Report were collected throughout 2014.^{iv}

II. Trial Date Certainty

CWN examined the CDC’s Trial Date Certainty in detail, specifically how many times a Court has delayed or “continued” a trial date. “Trial Date Certainty” is an efficiency measure endorsed by the National Center for State Courts (“NCSC”) and is defined as “[t]he number of times cases disposed by trial are scheduled for trial.”^v According to the NCSC, “[a] court’s ability to hold trials on the first date they are scheduled to be heard (Trial Date Certainty) is closely associated with timely case disposition.”^{vi}

A lack of Trial Date Certainty inconveniences the victims, witnesses, defendants, police officers, and family members who



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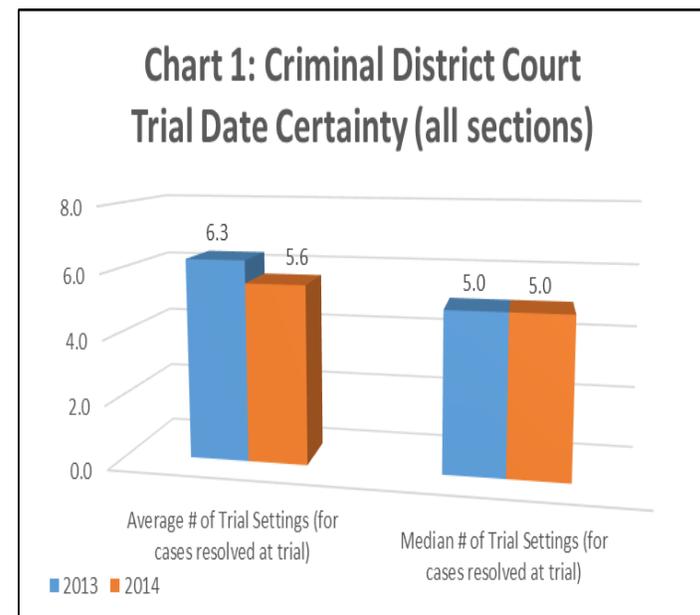


take time away from work and family to attend court – only to have their case delayed yet again – as well as the attorneys and the Court, itself. These delays prevent traumatized victims from gaining closure and prevent victims from start the healing process. It can obstruct indigent defendants, victims, and witnesses

from maintaining hard-sought employment or cause them to pay for childcare they cannot afford. The delays waste taxpayer dollars and people’s time and also risk public trust in the criminal justice system, as frustrated witnesses and victims stop coming to court.

CWN therefore measured Trial Date Certainty across all sections of CDC for 2013 and 2014, using the NCSC’s methodology. This measure includes all jury trials held in CDC and all violent felony bench trials (hereinafter referred to as “cases disposed of at trial,” or “DOAT cases”).^{vii}

Chart 1 shows that the *median* number of trial settings in cases disposed of at trial was 5.0 in both 2013 and 2014 – meaning that lawyers, witnesses, family, and the Court had to prepare for trial five times before the typical case was actually resolved. However, the *average* number of trial settings in these cases dropped from 6.3 to 5.6 between 2013 and 2014. This suggests that while the Court handled DOAT cases at the same pace over the past two years, it was successful in 2014 in clearing out many of the older cases that had been continued several times.^{viii}



Two older cases resolved in 2014, for example, had trial dates continued 18 times before they were finally closed.^{ix}

“It was a frustrating morning for the Judge, and there were 3 delays. The last one over an hour (maybe more than that because I left). The Judge had 3 hearings scheduled with police officers waiting to testify. Reasons for delays: 1) defendant enroute; 2) witness had said he would be here but wasn't; 3) detective in other courtroom.” – Court Watcher’s comment early December 2014

CWN’s analysis shows that trial date continuances are more frequent in jury trials than in bench trials, since the former are often more complex and require jurors to be available. Trial date continuances are also more frequent in cases with multiple defendants (and thus more lawyers), as schedule coordination becomes more difficult, and in murders and other complex and more serious cases.

While the Court’s ability to resolve older cases that have already been continued many times is promising, there is significant room for improvement. The NCSC’s example Trial Date Certainty performance goal, for example, is that “90 percent of the cases disposed by trial actually [go] to trial on the first or second scheduled trial date.”^x In 2014, by contrast, only 21 cases – or 23% – of the 91 DOAT cases that CWN analyzed were resolved on the first or second trial setting. CWN encourages the CDC to set its own Trial Date Certainty goal, monitor its progress, and work to improve on its performance on this crucial efficiency metric.

III. Top Continuance Reasons

CWN tracks not only the rate of trial date continuances, but also the top observed reasons for continuances of a criminal case in general, so that those actors in the criminal court responsible for unnecessary delays prioritize the reduction of such delays. Because all courtroom actors, including judges, prosecutors, private criminal defense attorneys, public defenders and corrections (Orleans Parish Sheriff Office) personnel, contribute to these delays, and because they are so prevalent in some courtrooms, CWN continues to describe CDC as having a “culture of continuances,” and urges all of these parties to focus on reducing unnecessary delays.

“The judge and his clerk were both apologetic specifically to me for making me wait while they were in drug court downstairs. They said if they'd realized I was there they'd have put a note on the door explaining that they'd be late. Seems like they should leave that note on the door even if a court watcher isn't coming!” – Court Watcher’s comment early December 2014

Chart 2 lists the most frequently observed reasons for which all matters (not just trial dates) were continued in 2014, ranked from most to least frequent.^{xi} The top reasons for the second half of 2014 are discussed below.

Chart 2: Most Frequently Observed Reasons for Continuances	
First Half of 2014	Second Half of 2014
1. Trial in Progress	1. Defense attorney unprepared or unavailable
2. Defense attorney unprepared or unavailable	2. Defendant in custody, not produced
3. Defendant released, did not appear	3. Defendant released, did not appear
4. Defendant in custody, not produced	4. State owes discovery to defense
5. State owes discovery to defense	5. State witness unavailable (usually NOPD)
6. State witness unavailable (usually NOPD)	6. New defense counsel
7. New defense counsel	7. Trial in Progress
8. Defense owes discovery to State	8. Defense owes discovery to State
9. Defense witness unavailable	9. Prosecutor unprepared or unavailable
10. Unscheduled courtroom closure	10. Defense witness unavailable

The most commonly observed reason for a continuance was a defense attorney being unprepared or unavailable when his or her client’s case was called. The stated reasons range from the personal, such as attorney illness, to the organizational, such as

“The private attorney had six cases on the docket and did not show up. The Judge's staff called him several times. He was "allegedly" – the Judge's word – in trial in traffic court. Judge observed that Traffic Court trials are "rare." Judge told there would be no re-sets. Judge announced at 11:15 that the attorney called to say on the way, and "we will give him until 11:30," no show by 11:30, so ADA and Judge re-set the case.” – Court Watcher’s comment late December 2014

public defenders being assigned to courtroom “clusters” requiring that the public defender to attend four hearings in four different courtrooms at the same time, to the inexcusable, such as private attorneys scheduling multiple trials, all set to proceed on the same day.^{xii}

Second, in-custody defendants are often not brought to court, whether due to the District Attorney’s office failing to request their transport or failure of the custodial authority (such as the

Sheriff's Office or state Department of Corrections) to produce requested inmates. The third most commonly observed reason for a continuance was defendants who have been released or posted bond fail to show up in court. Fourth, prosecutors sometimes fail to provide discovery, such as police reports, tapes of jailhouse phone calls, or body camera footage, to the defense sufficiently in advance of trial.

CWN also observed a recent jump in the number of cases continued due to police officers being unavailable to testify. And when an officer does show up, it may become apparent that he or she may not be the officer best able to testify about the crime, causing further delays or sub-optimal evidence for the State. These trends may be caused by the NOPD's ongoing manpower shortage, as officers may prioritize patrol or investigative duties over courtroom testimony.

Other frequently observed reasons for continuances include: new defense attorneys requesting time to prepare; defense failures to provide discovery to the state; prosecutors' unavailability or unpreparedness; and, unavailability of defense witnesses (sometimes also police officers). Continuances due to a trial being in progress were more common in the first half of 2014 than the second half, perhaps due to 2014's lower jury trial rate.^{xiii} Though unscheduled courtroom closures were eleventh on this list, that ranking grossly undercounts the number of hearings actually continued for this reason. After all, when court is closed, an observer cannot get into the courtroom to count how many hearings were on the docket that day and had to be continued.^{xiv}

IV. Time on the Bench

Court Watch NOLA, on behalf of all courtroom users, including attorneys, law enforcement, and the public, has been recording

“NOPD sat for hours and never testified before I left. Judge arrived at 9:53 and took a while before taking the bench. Courtroom was packed with people waiting. Sitting outside the courtroom waiting for it to open, I had a long talk with a woman who was missing her second day of work. All she had to do was make a payment of assessed damages. She was told to come yesterday (Monday), but when she spoke with the deputy and others in the section that day, no one knew anything about it. So she's back again today.” – Court Watcher's comment late October 2014

what time each Judge takes the bench for several years. Courtrooms with regular, substantial delays are wasting the time of the witnesses, defendants, and family members who often must take time off from work to go to court. For victims, witnesses, defendants, and family members who are often indigent and in low paying jobs, delays in court mean more economic hardship.

Every day, each section issues subpoenas to witnesses, attorneys and defendants, ordering them to appear at a particular date and time for the next hearing in their case, and each Judge can choose the court start time listed on his or her section's subpoena. Subpoena recipients are then legally obligated to be present in court at the Court start time. Most sections have a subpoena start time of 9:00 a.m. **Chart 3** reflects the median delay (in minutes) between each section's subpoena start time and the time that Court Watch NOLA volunteers observed the Judge in that section take the bench during the first and second halves of 2014.^{xv}

Roughly half of all sections had an observed median start time within fifteen minutes of when they are scheduled to start. CWN also tracks the number and length of any delays that occur once each section begins court. Sections A, B, E, F, H, and L had average in-court delays of less than 30 minutes.

Delays become costly, as public servants, including prosecutors, public defenders, deputies, court staff, and law enforcement have salaries funded by taxpayers. Some sections also lock the public out until court starts, forcing visitors to wait in hallways with insufficient seating and no climate control. Defendants unable to pay for bail or bond continue to be incarcerated, even if they are innocent, while waiting through continuance after continuance. According to the American Bar Association, “[a] judge should be evaluated on his or her ... [p]unctuality and preparation for court.”^{xvi}

V. Attorney Efficiency & Preparedness

In addition to the objective efficiency data presented above, CWN volunteers were also asked to subjectively rate the efficiency and preparedness of the prosecutors and defense attorneys they observed on a scale of 1-5, with one signifying that the practice at issue “never” happened, three signifying that it “occasionally” happened, and five signifying that it “always” happened.

Chart 3: Median Time Elapsed Between Court Subpoena Start Time and Time Judge First Takes the Bench (in Minutes)

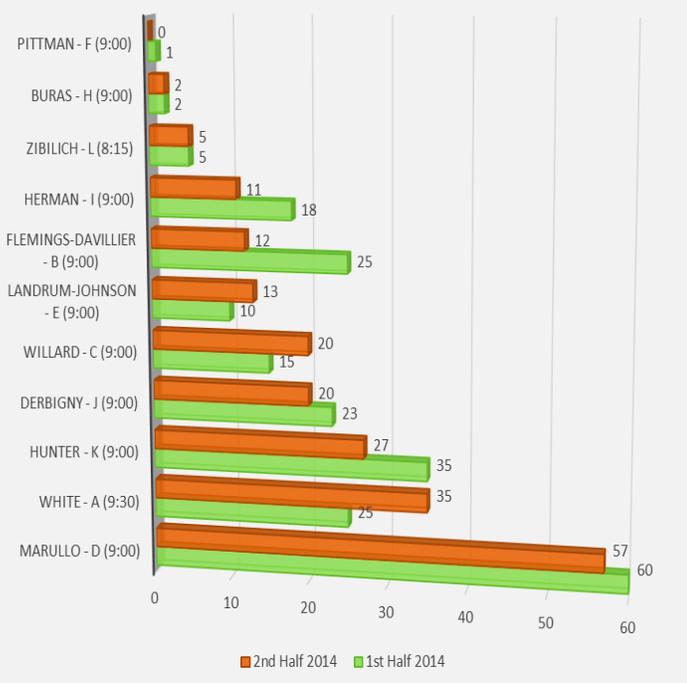


Chart 4: State vs. Defense Attorney Efficiency (avg.)

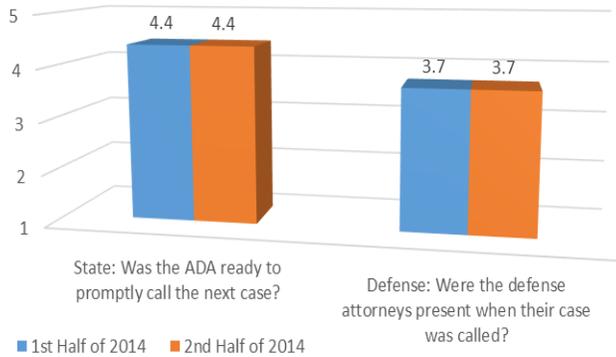
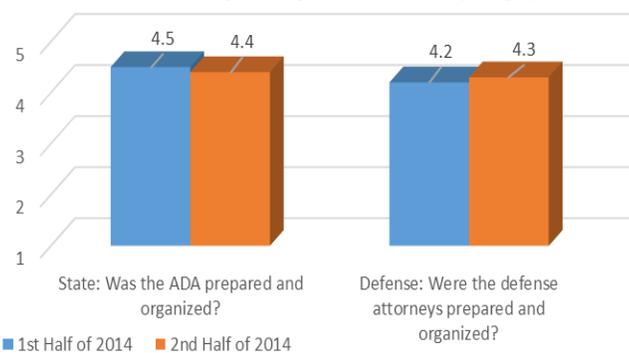


Chart 5: State vs. Defense Attorney Preparedness (avg.)



In the efficiency category, for example, CWN volunteers gave prosecutors an average score of 4.4 out of 5.0 for being ready to promptly call the next case, the same as they did in 2013, while giving defense attorneys a 3.7 for being present when their client's case was called.^{xvii} Likewise, and continuing a years-long trend, when asked whether attorneys were prepared and organized, CWN volunteers gave prosecutors slightly higher marks – 4.5 and 4.4 in the first and second halves of 2014, respectively – than defense attorneys, who averaged 4.2 and 4.3.^{xviii}

“Also, I thought it was ridiculous that the DA’s office switched attorneys on a case, lost the discovery so it couldn’t turn it over. They got a continuance because of failure to provide discovery. The case was supposed to take place in late November and it was continued until 4/7/2015. That is completely ridiculous that [a] presumed innocent until proven guilty man must stay in jail until April because the state can’t find files due to switching attorneys.” – Court Watcher’s comment early November 2014

VI. Impact of Delays: Greater Courtroom Efficiency Could Reduce New Orleans’ Jail Population by Up to 239 Inmates

While CWN is encouraged by the Court’s progress in resolving older cases and, for most courtrooms, starting Court on time, CDC not only can, but *must* pick up the pace of its efficiency gains. The Court’s “culture of continuances” is a critical and under-discussed part of the solution to reducing our city’s jail size without endangering public safety.

The average daily population of Orleans Parish Prison (“OPP”) has been under 2,000 in 2015, with 42% of inmates being felony pretrial detainees.^{xix} To reduce costs (the City is responsible for pretrial detention costs, totaling \$67.55 per inmate per day in 2014)^{xx} and bring New Orleans closer to national norms (New Orleans’ per capita jail population is over double the national average),^{xxi} the City is trying to reduce this population so that all inmates can eventually fit into the Sheriff’s new 1,438 bed facility.

Reducing courthouse delays impacts these efforts because the City is only responsible for *pretrial* detention costs (defendants who have not been able to post bail or bond) – once a case is resolved, defendants found not guilty are released, and those found guilty and sentenced to prison are transferred to state custody. Therefore, the faster CDC can resolve the felony cases of pretrial detainees, the fewer jail beds are needed, and the more money the City can save in jail operating and construction costs.

“There were a number of delays because the state was "at a standstill." This happened because they were waiting for a defendant in custody to be transported, and because some of the state and/or defense attorneys were in trial elsewhere. This caused a good amount of down time and seemed rather inefficient. However, I thought the Judge handled this as efficiently as possible by hearing as many of the cases in which the defendants were present first. This kept people who were scheduled to appear from having to wait for a longer amount of time.” – Court watcher’s comment late October 2014

According to the Metropolitan Crime Commission, an average of 30.5% of all cases in CDC were open for more than a year in 2013.^{xxii} The American Bar Association (“ABA”) standard is for 98% of felony cases to be resolved within one year, meaning that roughly 30% of all CDC cases are “backlogged.”^{xxiii}

Using this data, CWN estimates that New Orleans’ local jail population could be reduced by 239 inmates if CDC cleared its backlog of cases and met the one-year ABA standard.^{xxiv} While this backlog could not be cleared immediately, the City’s decision to keep older OPP facilities open temporarily provides the Court with some time to reach this goal. And while extraordinary cases may still take longer than a year to reach disposition, according to the ABA, only 2% of all felony cases merit this extra time.

Such a courthouse efficiency campaign is not unprecedented. In fact, the central tenet of New York City Mayor Bill DeBlasio’s

campaign to reduce the size of Riker’s Island by 25% over ten years is to increase courtroom efficiency.^{xxv}

Any court reform campaign will require the buy-in of all who contribute to the Court’s “culture of continuances,” including the Judges, court staff, Clerk of Court, Sheriff, District Attorney, Chief Public Defender, and private criminal defense attorneys. But the payoff for taxpayers who save money, incarcerated defendants who benefit from smaller, newer and safer jail facilities, and for defendants who get their day in court sooner, is significant.

VII. Recommendations

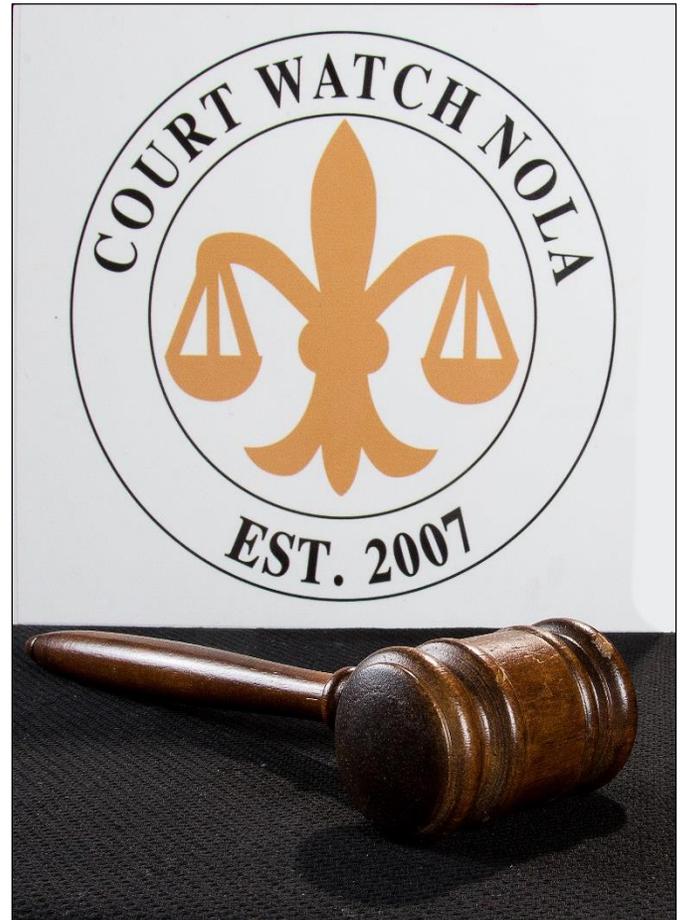
“As usual, [this] Judge was proactive about moving the docket along, calling out defendants’ names to ensure they were present and phoning those who weren’t. She tries to quickly hear cases involving law enforcement ...” – Court Watcher’s comment early December 2014

Based on the data, observations, and judicial best practices in this and previous Reports, and in order to make Orleans Parish Criminal District Court more efficient, CWN recommends that:

- 1) CDC enact and enforce a court-wide continuance policy, such as the NCSC Model Continuance Policy,^{xxvi} and that prosecutors and defense attorneys agree to abide by its terms;
- 2) Judges consistently require that attorneys adhere to specific Louisiana law provisions, La. Code Crim. Proc. arts. 707-15) regarding trial date continuances;
- 3) The Court obtain funding for the NCSC to perform a case flow management study (as other Louisiana courts have already done), with the goal of reducing case backlogs and streamlining court calendaring;
- 4) Court begin promptly each day in each courtroom at the subpoena start time;
- 5) The Clerk of Criminal District Court’s office obtain funding to computerize and modernize its operations, which remain technologically challenged; and,
- 6) Courts should provide substitute *ad hoc* Judges and/or better advanced public notice when a courtroom will be closed, as much as practicable.

See CWN’s 2013 and First Half of 2014 Reports for more details on these and other recommendations, which are CWN’s alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of CWN’s volunteers, directors, officers, and/or contributors.

Court Watch NOLA thanks its 2014 volunteers^{xxvii} and donors,^{xxviii} who were generous with their time and resources, and without whom this Report would not have been possible. To support and learn more about CWN, visit www.courtwatchnola.org.



ⁱ Because CWN volunteers are not attorneys, and because they are not able to observe all aspects of a case's development, they do not have access to as much information about the court system and individual cases as attorneys or Judges might. Unless otherwise noted, all statistics, data, and observations included in this Report were collected between January 1 and December 31 of 2014, and may be subject to some small degree of human error. All percentages have been rounded, such that totals may not always add up to exactly 100%.

In addition to the objective data they collect, CWN volunteers also make more subjective observations regarding the Judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and law enforcement officers who are present for or testify at hearings and trials. These more subjective observations include ratings and narrative observations. For the ratings, volunteers were often asked to rate these parties on a scale of 1-5, with one signifying that the practice at issue "never" happened during the observation period, three signifying that it "occasionally" happened, and five signifying that it "always" happened. When describing an average of these ratings, this Report may round to the nearest whole number, such that a 4.4 is described as a 4.0 - *i.e.* that the rated behavior "usually" happens. Some of the narrative observations or commentary were also edited for grammar, spelling and/or length, but not for substance. The volunteers' ratings and observations, meanwhile, are snapshots of one volunteer's personal opinion regarding one particular day in court, and do not represent the position or opinion of Court Watch NOLA, its officers, or its directors.

ⁱⁱ As of the publication of this Report, CWN's Directors include: Elizabeth Wheeler, Chair; Matthew Guy, Vice Chair; Troy Remy, Secretary; Ellen Yellin, Treasurer; W. Anderson Baker, III; Theron Batie; Matthew Clark; A. Kirk Gasperecz; Eric Holtzman; Andrew Jacques; Corey Kiper; Hope Goldman Meyer; Megan Kiefer; and Zachary Rosenberg. CWN's Advisory Board includes: Janet Ahern, Andrea Bland, Bob Brown, Rafael Goyeneche, Lisa Jordan, Patti Lapeyre, Jim Letten, Matt Wisdom, and the Hon. Calvin Johnson.

ⁱⁱⁱ While this Report focuses on courtroom efficiency, see CWN's most recent and upcoming reports for more on the importance of procedural fairness in our criminal justice system.

^{iv} Section G data reflect Judge Julian Parker (Jan.-July) and the *ad hoc* Judges who then took over (Aug.-Dec.), but not newly elected Judge Byron Williams. Judge Williams joined the Criminal District Court in early 2015.

^v NCSC CourTools Trial Date Certainty at 1, *available at* http://www.CourTools.org/~media/Microsites/Files/CourTools/CourTools_Trial_measure5_Trial_Date_Certainty.ashx.

^{vi} NCSC CourTools Trial Date Certainty at 1.

^{vii} To identify which cases were disposed of at trial in 2013 and 2014, CWN requested and CDC provided a list of all jury trials held during those years. CDC told CWN that it does not track this information for bench trials. Since CWN independently tracks the outcomes of most violent felony cases, when possible, CWN added cases that were disposed of by bench trial to this list. Nevertheless, it is likely that non-violent felony bench trials are underrepresented in this number.

Because the NCSC methodology specifies the inclusion of cases "disposed of at trial" without requiring that a verdict be reached, CWN included in its data cases in which trial began but that subsequently closed via a plea deal. The 2013 Trial Date Certainty case list therefore includes 89 cases in which a verdict was reached and 21 cases in which a guilty plea was entered after trial had begun. The 2014 Trial Date Certainty case list includes 72 cases in which a verdict was reached and 19 cases in which the defendant pled guilty after trial began.

^{viii} CWN has confirmed this trend using additional information it tracks. For example, while the number of new felony cases in CDC has dropped since 2011 (7,035 cases were filed in CDC in 2011 (according to the La. Supreme Court), whereas only 4,330 were allotted in 2014 (according to allotment sheets provided by the Clerk of Criminal Court)), the number of violent felony cases tracked by CWN that are closed each year remains roughly the same, suggesting that the Court is working through some of its backlog.

^{ix} Case numbers 488-466 and 491-258.

^x NCSC CourTools Trial Date Certainty at 2.

^{xi} Because many continuances are only discussed by the judge and attorneys at sidebar – that is, off the record and out of the hearing of the public – or never mentioned in open court at all, there are many cases for which Court Watch NOLA's volunteers were not able to determine the reason for the continuance.

^{xii} For 2013, CWN determined that although public defenders handle more cases, the private criminal defense bar is disproportionately responsible for defense continuances. *See* CWN 2013 Report at 20-21.

^{xiii} The number of jury trials in CDC dropped from 122 in 2013 to 85 in 2014 (data provided by CDC).

^{xiv} Court Watch NOLA confirms that any section to which its volunteers are sent to observe cases has court cases scheduled for the assigned day, yet our volunteers – as well as witnesses, families, and the public at large – frequently arrive to closed doors. An unknown number - but certainly hundreds - of cases were continued as a result of these closures, meaning that the courtroom closure category is likely underrepresented as a reason for continuances on this chart. While some of these closures may be unavoidable due to last-minute illnesses or family emergencies, the Court should provide substitute *ad hoc* Judges and/or better public notice when a courtroom will be closed, and this is known in advance.

^{xv} Court Watch NOLA emphasizes that its volunteers record the time the Judge takes the bench and not the time the Judge may arrive in court. Chief Judge Willard, in particular, has additional administrative duties to which he must attend. Each section's subpoena start time, listed next to the Judge's name, was provided by the Judicial Administrator's office in February of 2014. Section sample sizes (Section: 1st Half/2nd Half): A: 28/31; B: 36/37; C: 26/33; D: 24/18; E: 25/33; F: 28/21; G: 21; H: 29/32; I: 31/31; J: 31/29; K: 20/27; L: 22/27. Second half data for Section G was not included, since the *ad hoc* Judges presiding there started court at various times.

^{xvi} Am. Bar Ass'n, *Black Letter Guidelines on Judicial Accountability* at 5-5.1 (Feb. 2005).

^{xvii} 2014 attorney efficiency sample sizes: 433 (first half state), 447 (second half state), 430 (first half defense), 447 (second half defense).

^{xviii} 2014 attorney preparedness sample sizes: 438 (first half state), 450 (second half state), 426 (first half defense), 445 (second half defense).

^{xix} City of New Orleans, Apr. 21, 2015 presentation to the Jail Population Management Subcommittee Meeting of the Sanford "Sandy" Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council at 10.

^{xx} City of New Orleans, May 8, 2015 Jail Population Management presentation to the New Orleans Crime Coalition.

^{xxi} City of New Orleans, Apr. 21, 2015 presentation to the Jail Population Management Subcommittee Meeting of the Sanford "Sandy" Krasnoff Criminal Justice Council at 3.

^{xxii} Metropolitan Crime Commission, 2013 Orleans Parish Judicial Accountability Report at 2, Ex. 3.

^{xxiii} Metropolitan Crime Commission, 2013 Orleans Parish Judicial Accountability Report at 2; NCSC CourTools Time to Disposition, *available at* http://www.CourTools.org/~media/Microsites/Files/CourTools/CourTools_Trial_measure3_Time_To_Disposition_pdf.ashx.

^{xxiv} Since the City lists OPP's average daily population in 2015 at "under 2,000," CWN used an estimated population of 1900 inmates, 42% of whom (798) are pretrial detainees. If CDC cleared its backlog and met the ABA one-year time to disposition standard in these cases, CWN estimates that the pretrial detainee inmate population could be reduced by up to 239 (30% of 798).

^{xxv} Schwirtz and Winerip, *New York Times*, "New Plan to Shrink Rikers Island Population: Tackle Court Delays" (Apr. 13, 2015), *available at* http://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/14/nyregion/mayor-de-blasios-plan-to-shrink-rikers-population-tackle-court-delays.html?_r=0.

^{xxvi} National Center for State Courts Model Continuance Policy, *available at* <http://cdm16501.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/ctadmin/id/1484>.

^{xxvii} CWN is a volunteer-driven organization, and we thank the following 2014 volunteers for their time, dedication, and ideas: Eva Abbott, Elise Adams, Harriet Aguiar-Netto, Jace Austin, Richard Baker, Hillary Benton, Adriana Bianco, Josh Binder, Glenna Boas, Jason Brod, Kyle Brooman, Shenell Brown, Collin Buisson, Diana Bulot, John Butler, Kate Butler, Harry Cammer, Mary Sue Carter, Aibi Chen, Quinn Chernow, Alexandra Clark, Alexandra Cohen, CeCe Cole, Brent Comardelle, Linda Cooper, Jake Degen, Nicholas DiMaggio, Jennifer Dinwiddie, Victoria Dodge, Chris Esemplare, Max Fargotstein, Michael Finkelstein, Kristyn Francese, Norma Freiberg, Michelle Germain, Evan Golden, Emily Hall, Audrey Hannenberg, John Herrick, Cindy Hoerner, Elise Ingber, Kierra Jackson, Cristin Jacobs, Sharyn Jacobsen, Austa Jensen, Jack Johnson, Ruffin Johnson, Daniela Jones, Nathan Joseph, Claire Kelly, Natalie Kleinman, Adam Koob, Eugene Kordahl, Blake Korman, Linda Kraus, Christina LeMaire, Hayley Moyers, Danielle Myers, Albany Navarre, Shawn O'Brien, Brian Opert, Eric Perlman, John Pettey, Amy Pirtle, Harris Pollans, Christopher Ponoroff, Thomas Pronske, Rebecca Rainey, Cathy Robinson, Hannah Robinson, Jenny Rosen, Karli Rosen, Paul Rosenfeld, Kelley Rowland, Jeremy Rubenstein, Rebecca Rubin, William Ryan, Alissa Sage, Pablo Salazar, Jacqueline Santo, Stephanie Santucci, Justine Schoening, Brian Seng, Elizabeth Siems, Allison Skopec, Stacey Smith, Avery Somers, Morgan Steadley, Cathy Sutton, Olivia Utt, Arturo Uzdavinis, Jacob VanAusdall, Andrew Waters, Gabrielle Weiss, Ann-Marie White, Betsy White, Brock Wimberley, Joshua Winik, Arthur Wisdom, Layne Wyman, and Jacques Zelnik.

^{xxviii} For their financial, technical, and other assistance since Court Watch NOLA's founding in 2007 as well as throughout 2014, Court Watch NOLA would like to thank: the Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region; Citizens For 1 Greater New Orleans; Common Good; the Criminal District Court Judges, staff, and Judicial Administrator's office; Mike Posey Photography & Video; the Orleans Council on Aging R.S.V.P. program; the Orleans Parish Clerk of Court; the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office; and the Carrollton Group.

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