



2024 QUARTER 4 / ANNUAL | CIRCUIT COURT

SELECTED PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Category	4 th Quarter	Year-to-Date
Use of State Certified Interpreters - Benchmark is 70%	87%	82%
Number of languages requested	3	14
Total hours interpretation YTD	41.82	239.41
Cost for Interpreters:	\$8,949.86	\$53,333.94
Number of case appearances via remote (<i>Does not include hybrid hearings</i>)	1,730	5,365
Number of cases opened	4,942	19,634
Number of felony cases opened	308	1,303
Number of jury trials held	1	16
Number of jury trial days	1	31
Number of court trials held	35	136

SUMMARY OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Mandated services
 - Court-Appointed Attorneys
 - Appointment of Guardians Ad Litem
 - Interpreter Program
 - Transcription Services
 - Court-ordered Medical Evaluations - process claims
- Treatment Court
 - Judge Hoffer preparing to take over Branch 5 Treatment Court
- Reporting - County
 - Quarterly Report for Administration
 - Quarterly Report for Judiciary & Law Enforcement Committee
 - Year-End Fiscal Projection Reports for Finance
- Reporting - State
 - CS-147 Annual Circuit Court Revenue and Expenditure Circuit Court Uniform Chart of Accounts

Our Core Behaviors:

Proactive Ownership | Infinite Possibilities | Customer First | Stronger Together | Ardent Learners | Unwavering Respect

- CS-148 Quarterly Report for Interpreter Payment Request
- Staffing
 - Fully staffed. All Court Officials have own Judicial Assistant, with the exception of Branches 5 and 6 (share one JA)
- Judicial Assistant Manager, Angela Marinello, has formally taken over Court budget and invoice processing.
- *Except for judicial assistant, mandated services are administered by Clerk of Courts/Probate. All previous 2024 reports were completed by the Clerk of Circuit Court.*

ISSUES ON THE HORIZON AND SIGNIFICANT TRENDS

- The bailiffs were approved to get an additional gun safe, but security in general continues to be a great concern.
- State public defender appointments continue to be an issue statewide.
- Cost for interpreters continues to increase above what was budgeted. The Courts have made some adjustments to “Interpreter Day” scheduling to make better use of interpreter time.
- TRY Mediation Director, Todd Johnson, and Mediator, John Hertz, resigned. Former Court Commissioner Nathan Novak filling in as Interim Director effective 02/10/25.
- Although we continue to work with Rusk County on criminal cases, we are drawing to an end. There are about 25 cases remaining, 4 of which are currently set for trial.
- Appointment of Branch 2 Judge Doug Hoffer goes through July 31, 2025. Election in April 2025 will determine the judgeship for the following 6 years.
- All court reporters positions have been filled.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES (GREEN / AMBER / RED)

- Committees
 - Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC)
 - Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM)
 - Security & Facilities Committee
 - Adult Treatment Court Committee
 - Juvenile Justice Collaborating Council Committee
 - Criminal Court Review Committee
 - Courts Stakeholders Committee

GOALS FOR NEXT QUARTER

- Continue to work with Rusk County to close remaining cases
- Continue to schedule only state certified interpreters and maximize use of interpreter time
- Continue to work on transition to Presiding Judge Emily Long and the Judicial Assistant Manager taking over the Circuit Court budget for 2025
- Continue reviewing and creating procedures to assist with work efficiency and future succession planning

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