

# Office of the Public Defender

## Performance Indicators - June 2011

	Frequency	Desired Trend	Prior Month	Current Month	% Change	12 Month Average
<b>Providing Appropriate Effective Legal Counsel</b>						
<b>Trial Services to Indigents</b>						
The Trial Division of the Office of the Public Defender (OPD) provides effective representation to indigent adult defendants charged with indictable offenses in the Criminal Division of Superior Court and indigent juveniles charged with delinquency in the Family Division of Superior Court. Pursuant to a 1990 Report of the Special Committee to assess Criminal Division needs, known as the "Pashman/Belsole" (P/B) report, the criminal justice system in New Jersey adheres to the P/B court staffing formula of requiring the OPD to assign 2 attorneys, 1 investigator and 1.25 clerical to each Superior Court judge statewide to insure a viable criminal justice system in New Jersey.						
Number of Superior Court Judges	Monthly	Varies	136	136	0.0%	136
Number of Public Defender Attorneys	Monthly	Increase	252	250	-0.8%	220
Number of Public Defender Investigators	Monthly	Increase	82	81	-1.2%	73
Number of Public Defender Clericals	Monthly	Increase	130	128	-1.5%	140
Adult Criminal cases - Opened	Monthly	Varies	5,058	5,392	6.6%	4,932
Adult Criminal cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	3,385	2,843	-16.0%	3,179
Juvenile Delinquency cases - Opened	Monthly	Varies	1,084	1,091	0.6%	1,085
Juvenile Delinquency cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	667	464	-30.4%	694
<b>Adult Average Attorney Caseload ( includes per diem attorneys)</b>	Monthly	Decrease	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Juvenile Average Attorney Caseload ( includes per diem attorneys)</b>	Monthly	Decrease	NA	NA	NA	NA

<b>Appellate Services to Indigents</b>						
The Appellate Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation to indigent defendants on direct appeal of a criminal conviction or sentence in the Appellate Division of Superior Court.						
Notices of New Appeals Filed *	Monthly	Varies	87	144	65.5%	139
Number of Excessive Sentence Program Dispositions	Monthly	Varies	69	56	-18.8%	58
Number of Briefs filed	Monthly	Increase	72	95	31.9%	75
Number of Dismissals / Administrative Closings	Monthly	Varies	109	71	-34.9%	54
Petitions for Certification to Supreme Court	Monthly	Varies	44	43	-2.3%	48
Post Conviction Relief cases - Open	Monthly	Varies	64	73	14.1%	66
Post Conviction Relief cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	74	88	18.9%	57
* - The number of notices of New Appeals Filed do not reflect those New Appeals waiting to be filed due to a clerical shortage.						

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<b>Office of Parental Representation</b>						
The Parental Representation Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation to indigent parents charged with Civil Abuse and Neglect Complaints (Title 9 proceedings).						
Indigent Parent cases - Opened	Monthly	Varies	475	610	28.4%	476
Indigent Parent cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	446	380	-14.8%	290
The Parental Representation Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation to indigent parents in Termination of Parental Rights (Title 30 proceedings).						
Indigent Parent cases - Opened	Monthly	Varies	90	103	14.4%	98
Indigent Parent cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	96	92	-4.2%	48
<b>Combined Attorney Caseload ( includes per diem attorneys)</b>						
	Monthly	Decrease	57	60	5.3%	59

<b>Office of Law Guardian</b>						
The Law Guardian Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation to all children who are the subject of Civil Child Abuse and Neglect Complaints (Title 9 proceedings).						
Children cases - Opened	Monthly	Varies	491	744	51.5%	548
Children cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	433	669	54.5%	579
The Law Guardian Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation to all children in termination of parental rights proceeding (Title 30 proceedings).						
Children cases - Opened	Monthly	Varies	95	74	-22.1%	98
Children cases - Closed	Monthly	Increase	134	122	-9.0%	218
<b>Combined Attorney Caseload ( includes per diem attorneys)</b>						
	Monthly	Decrease	109	112	2.8%	113

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<b>Mental Health Screening Services</b>						
The Mental Health Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation for those diagnosed with a mental illness in initial commitment, periodic review and placement hearings at federal, state, county, general and psychiatric hospitals						
Number of persons with mental illness represented at commitment proceedings	Monthly	Varies	763	771	1.0%	755
Number of persons with mental illness represented during placement hearings	Monthly	Varies	305	316	3.6%	331
Number of persons represented at voluntary commitment hearings	Monthly	Varies	64	75	17.2%	78
Number of persons represented for other types of activities	Monthly	Varies	94	74	-21.3%	96
The Mental Health Division of the Office of the Public Defender provides effective legal representation for the involuntary commitment of sexually violent offenders						
Number of persons represented at involuntary commitment hearings	Monthly	Varies	474	475	0.2%	457
<b>Providing Mediation Services</b>						
<b>Office of Dispute Settlement</b>						
The Dispute Settlement Division of the Office of the Public Defender (OPD) provides effective mediation and conciliation services for those seeking dispute resolution						
# of Foreclosure Mediation cases	Monthly	Varies	120	122	1.7%	116
# of Court Mediation cases	Monthly	Varies	9	9	0.0%	8
# of Underground Utility Act Arbitration cases	Monthly	Varies	22	22	0.0%	21
# of Residential Warranty Arbitrations cases	Monthly	Varies	6	6	0.0%	6
# of New Home Warranty Arbitrations cases	Monthly	Varies	10	8	-20.0%	12
# of 2-10 Warranty Arbitration cases	Monthly	Varies	4	3	-25.0%	3