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Louisville Jefferson Metro
Government
Judicial Directives Audit



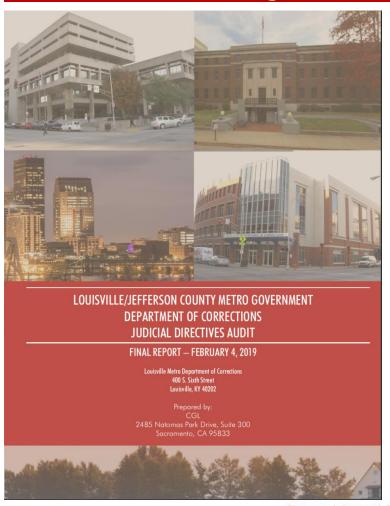


Initial Project Goals

- Audit Judicial Order Process Metro Council wanted objective assessment of current judicial order process.
- Wanted to answer questions:
 - Is there a standardized method for communicating court orders?
 - Are court orders processed quickly and accurately?
 - Do a significant number of court orders lack clarity and require extra clarification?
 - Does the system have errors that negatively impacts individuals in the criminal justice system?



Project Completion



- October 4, 2018: Presentation of Findings to Budget Committee
- December 19, 2018: Revised Draft Report
- February, 2019: Final Draft Submitted



magnitude of Court Order

Syctom

of Court Orders

Court	Annual *	Daily*	Perce nt
Total	142,038	546	
Corrective	6,071	23	4.3%

^{*}Annual totals are extrapolated from 4 weeks of actual data

- Massive number of court order received: Nearly 550 court orders received every work day (142,000 per year)
- 4.3% require clarification before can be implemented: (Approximately 23)

Comparison to Other Counties

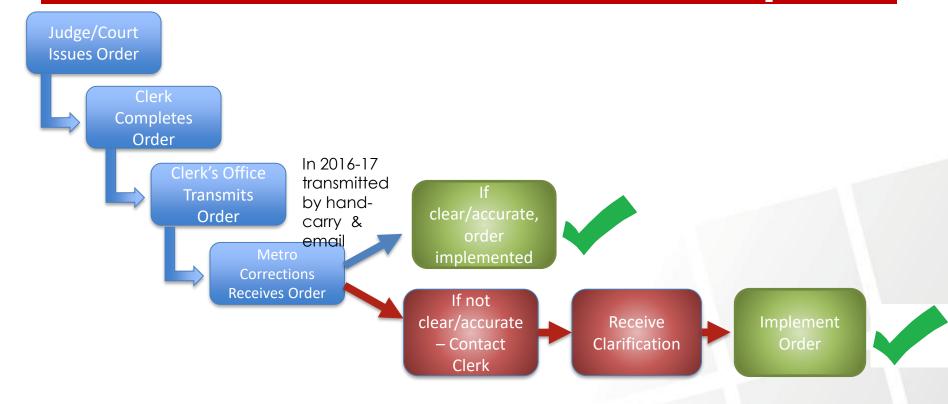
of Court Filings

County	2017 District and Circuit Court Filings
Jefferson	132,643
Fayette	53,355
Kenton	25,923
Warren	21,859
Boone	18,531
Pulaski	10,835

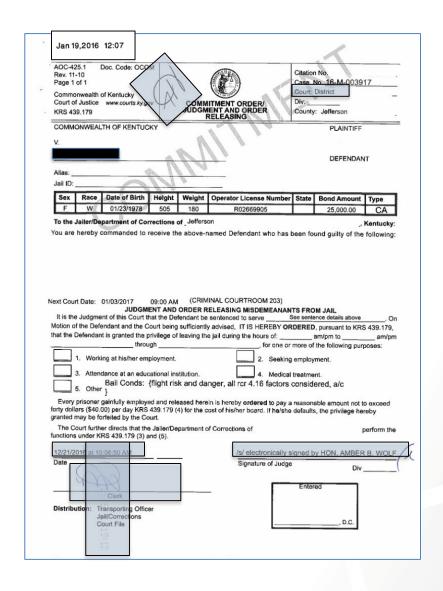
- Jefferson County's court filings more than twice that of the next busiest court system (Fayette County)
- All other court systems are much smaller than Jefferson County's



Court Order Process Map









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JEF-056-16 Rev. 07-99 Page 1 of 1
County Jefferson Count of Justice
WHY COURTS AND CUSTODY
87 ORDER OF 13-5-52
Jefferson Circlest Court / Division #
Jefferson County Department of Corrections / Jaffer of ###################################
You are hereby commanded to release: Defendent
Ales
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Charges All Charge all Charges
Witness my hand as Clerk of said Court this 12 day of 16Hbu 211
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ww.courts.ky.gov RS 421.600690	9	ORDER FOR APPEARANCE OF PRISONER		ANCE	County Jefferson	
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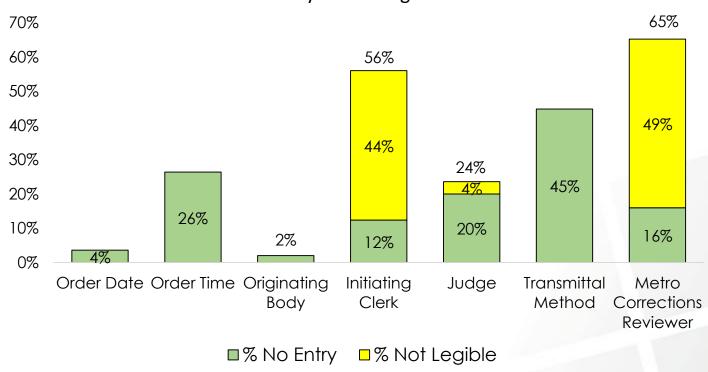
Court Orders

Order	Initiat	ion and				Me	etro Correct	ions Rec	eipt/Imr	olementatio
									1 / 1	
						Metro		Received by	Received by	
	Time of	Originating	Initiating Clerk	Transmittal	Order Signature -	Corrections	Metro Corrections	Email - Date	Email - Time	Receiving/Reviewing
Date of Order	Order	Body	Name	Method	Judge	Receipt Date	Receipt Time	Printed	Printed	Staff Name
1/25/16	2:50 PM	District Court	Not Legible		Katie King					
2/19/16	11:28 AM	District Court	Not Legible	Email	Katie King			2/19/16	4:14 PM	Not Legible
2/19/16	11:28 AM	District Court	Not Legible		Katie King					
2/1/16	9:00 AM	District Court	Not Legible		Katie King					
1/22/16	9:30 AM	District Court	Not Legible		David Bowles					
2/19/16	11:29 AM	District Court	Not Legible	Email	Katie King			2/29/16	4:14 PM	Not Legible
2/1/16	1:59 PM	District Court	Not Legible		Katie King					Not Legible
1/22/16	9:30 AM	District Court	Not Legible		David Bowles					Not Legible
4/15/16	None Noted	Circuit Court	Not Legible		J. Mcdonald					Not Legible
2/26/16	None Noted	Circuit Court	Not Legible	Email				2/26/16	11:57 AM	Not Legible
2/3/16	2:13 PM	District Court	Not Legible		Katie King					"AW"
2/2/16	1:16 PM	District Court								Not Legible
1/29/16	11:01 AM	District Court	"NH"	Hand Delivered	David Holton	1/28/16	11:19 AM			Not Legible
2/3/16	2:14 PM	District Court	Not Legible		Katie King					Not Legible
2/2/16	1:07 PM	District Court								Not Legible
1/29/16	11:02 AM	District Court	"NH"	Hand Delivered	David Holton	1/29/16	11:19 AM			Not Legible
		Pretrial		Email	Sean Delahanty			1/29/16	7:23 AM	M Mitchell
2/3/16	2:14 PM	District Court		Hand Delivered	Katie King	2/3/16	2:47 PM			Not Legible
2/2/16	1:16 PM	District Court		Email				2/2/16	13:25	Not Legible
1/29/16	11:02 AM	District Court	"NH"	Hand Delivered	David Holton	1/29/16	11:19 AM			Not Legible
1/8/16	12:22 PM	District Court			Eric Haner					
1/8/16	12:23 PM	District Court			Eric Haner					Not Legible
1/8/16	12:21 PM	District Court			Eric Haner					, in the second
1/29/16	9:13 AM	Pretrial	Brian Donnelly	Email	Rebecca Ward			1/29/16	9:51 AM	M. Mitchell
3/11/16	4:22 PM	District Court	A. Krocer	Email	Jennifer Wilcox			3/11/16	5:32 PM	Not Legible
3/4/16		District Court		Hand Delivered	Jennifer Wilcox	3/4/16	4:14 PM			"DH"
3/2/16	6:29 PM	District Court	Mark Smith							Anna Wheeler



Court Orders

Percent No Entry or Not Legible Information





Transmittal Time

 Data limitation impact ability to reach any sound conclusions.

	Hand Carry	Email
Average (Median)	33 minutes	44 minutes



Finding #1: Ability to Audit System

- Existing court order system cannot be effectively audited for accuracy or timeliness.
- Because the system is a paper system, it lacks automated tracking information such as:
 - When court orders are transmitted from Clerk.
 - When court orders reviewed by Metro Corrections.
 - When court orders are implemented.
- Additionally, because is a paper system, is subject to inconsistencies, incompleteness and lack of audit trail.



System Characteristics

- This paper system has been in place for decades.
- System leadership is aware of its limitations and have taken significant efforts to improve it:
 - Standardizing court order forms
 - Introducing automation
 - Development of consistent terms with shared meaning used in court orders
 - Developing email system to eliminate hand-carrying
 - Ongoing development of SharePoint court order repository.
- As long as it is a paper system, then issues will remain.



Implications of Existing System

- Subject to inconsistencies and inaccuracies
- Has financial implications for Jefferson County:
 - More labor intensive to operate and manage system
 - Potential litigation resulting from errors
- Does not provide a straightforward way to evaluate system effectiveness or investigate individual incidents.
- Opens the system to a potential for manipulation



Recommendation

Develop an integrated criminal justice information system between the Courts, Clerk's Office and Corrections.

- This system can be a single integrate system, or interfaces between existing systems that can communicate with each other in real time.
- System will automatically create an audit trail that allows Metro Government to easily investigate and identify where problems may exist.
- Will improve accuracy and clarity through standardization
- Will eliminate complicated tracking system, improve efficiency and reduce staff workload.

Cost of Integrated System

- Single Integrated System is expensive: Can cost up to \$15 million depending on what it replaces (case management, jail, etc.)
- Developing Interface: \$350,000 at minimum to develop an interface for automating court order system.



Interim Recommendations

In the interim, must continue to improve the existing system.

- Establish a working Solutions Group between Courts, Clerk's Office and Corrections.
 - Should consist of mid-level representative staff (jail, clerk's office, AOC, pretrial, Public Defender, representatives of both the Circuit, District, and Specialty Courts).
 - Should meet on a regular basis to resolve any court order concerns (implementation, transmittal, accuracy, etc.) and develop ways to improve the accuracy speed and efficiency of the communication system between the three organizations.



Liaison Recommendations

Develop a "liaison" position within both Metro Corrections and the Courts to resolve immediate issues that arise regarding court orders.



Staff Turnover

- Staff turnover is a significant and growing issue in system.
 - Average tenure of entry level position in LMDC Corrections Records Office is 221 days (7 months)
 - Turnover Rates:
 - Corrections Technician 100% (salary ~\$12/hr.)
 - Senior Corrections Technician 44% (salary -\$13.50/hr.)
- Clerks Office reported turnover rate of 40%
- Competition for good-paying jobs is increasing in area

Recommendation: Increase salary level for these important positions.

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Other

- Continue implementation of SharePoint site as repository for court orders.
- Continue effort by Metro Corrections to automate court order processes into existing information system



Amendment

 Metro Corrections salary cost of correctives (23 per work day). Approx. \$84,000/year. Occupies 1.72 staff in Metro Corrections.



