

ADVANCING PRETRIAL JUSTICE: LEGISLATIVE UPDATES & DATA INNOVATIONS



TEXAS OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF PRETRIAL SERVICES CONFERENCE
MAY 14, 2025

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



89TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION STATISTICS

House		Senate	
House Bills	5,644	Senate Bills	3,072
House Concurrent Resolutions	142	Senate Concurrent Resolutions	50
House Joint Resolutions	208	Senate Joint Resolutions	86
Total: 9,202			

Sent to Governor: 134

LBB FN Requests: 2,120



June 2, 2025



SB 9 / HB 75



- Specifically, the bill requires hearing officers to make oral or written findings of fact and conclusions of law, on the record, within 24 hours of issuing a "no probable cause" finding.
- The bill mandates that the presiding judge, rather than a criminal law hearing officer, be the proper authority for setting the initial bond for:
 - a defendant that is on parole at the time he/she is charged with a new offense;
 - a defendant who has been previously convicted of two or more felony offenses;
 - a defendant charged with violent felony offenses such as murder, capital murder, aggravated sexual assault, aggravated kidnapping, or aggravated assault; and
 - a defendant charged with a felony and is also detained with a concurrent immigration hold.



SB 9 / HB 75



- The bill also amends the list of offenses that a defendant may not be released on a personal bond, adding:
 - unlawful possession of a firearm;
 - violation of a family violence protective order;
 - terroristic threat; and
 - murder as a result of manufacturing or delivery of fentanyl.
- The bill adjusts the reporting requirement for "charitable bail organization" to be sent to the Office of Court Administration and increases transparency by requiring additional data submissions.



SB 9 / HB 75



- The bill clarifies that a magistrate is not authorized to adjust the amount or conditions of a bond set by the judge of a district court.
- The bill establishes that a bond for a jailable felony offense may not be set until the defendant has gone before a hearing officer or judge.



SB 9 / HB 75



- OCA to provide access to the attorney to access a bail form in the PSRS.
- Allows a magistrate to order, prepare, or consider a public safety report in setting bail for a defendant who is not in custody at the time the report is ordered, prepared, or considered.
- Requires the PSRS to be configured to allow a county to integrate with the jail records management system and CMS used by the county.
- Authorizes grants to reimburse counties for costs related to integration.
- If a defendant is charged with committing an offense punishable as a felony while released on bail for another pending offense punishable as a felony and the subsequent offense was committed in a different county than the previous offense, electronic notice of the charge must be given to the individual designated to receive electronic notices for the county in which the previous offense was committed.



SJR 1 / HJR 16



If approved by the Texas voters, would amend Article I, Section 11 of the state Constitution to require the denial of bail for an illegal alien who is accused of a felony offense upon finding of probable cause.

The judge or magistrate setting bail must determine that probable cause exists to believe that the person engaged in the conduct constituting the offense.



SJR 5 / HJR 15



If approved, would amend Article I, Section 11, of the state constitution to expand the options available to officials setting bail to include the option to deny bail under certain extraordinary circumstances.

Specifically, the joint resolution would give magistrates the ability to deny bail to individuals accused of committing: (1) a sexual offense punishable as a felony of the first degree; (2) a violent offense as defined by the Texas Constitution; or (3) continuous trafficking of persons.

A judge or magistrate who denies bail would be required to issue a written order laying out their findings of fact and explaining why the denial of bail is necessary.



SB 2146 / HB 5354



The bill directs prosecuting attorneys across the state to report information on:

- the categories and numbers of each criminal offense prosecuted;
- the number of personnel employed by the prosecuting attorney;
- the number of defendants released due to missed indictment deadlines;
- and the number of new offense notifications submitted for individuals out on bond.



GOVERNOR'S ROUNDTABLE

Gov. Abbott held a roundtable and press conference on May 7, 2025.

Emphasized the need to reform Texas' deadly and broken bail system. He urged the Texas Legislature to support legislation for a constitutional amendment to:

- Require judges to automatically deny bail for violent crimes, including murder, rape, and human trafficking, unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the defendant will appear in court and not endanger the community.
- Require judges who release violent criminals on easy bail to explain their decisions to the public in writing.
- Allow prosecutors to have the right to appeal a judge's questionable bond decisions.



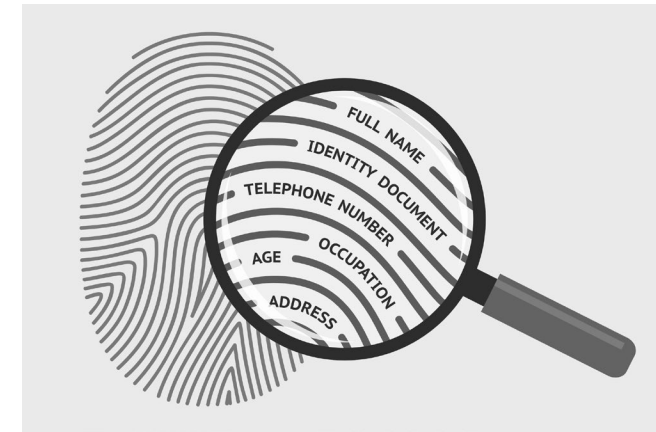
SB 1749 / HB 5080



The bill extends privacy protections of personal identifying information to:

- Current or former county or district clerks and their respective employees;
- Current or former courthouse employees;
- Current or former employees of OCA.

Prevents public release of: residential address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, SSN, family members. Protections information in election registration and DPS.



SB 2458 / HB 5081



The seeks to address this gap by preventing the personal identifying information of state judicial branch officers and court support personnel from being sold, licensed, traded, transferred, or purchased by data brokers. The bill additionally extends these protections to the family members of these individuals and provides a framework for removing sensitive information.

The bill prohibits a person from publicly posting or displaying on a publicly accessible website.



PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT SYSTEM





Texas Bail Proceedings and Public Safety Report System

Home **Bail Forms** Offenses Bail Bonds Summary Bail Form... CARD

1,740,921
Bail Forms

2,259,638
Offenses

Bail Form Completion Date

4/1/2021



5/9/2025



Bail Form Type

- ☒ Total
☐ Original
☐ Modified

HELP

Top 10 of Completed Bail Forms

Bexar	167,130
Dallas	163,718
Tarrant	145,853
Harris	135,257
Travis	85,605
El Paso	71,803
Denton	50,567
Nueces	42,254
Collin	42,047
Hidalgo	41,814

County

Search

- ☒ Select all
- ☐ Anderson
 - ☐ Andrews
 - ☐ Angelina
 - ☐ Aransas
 - ☐ Archer
 - ☐ Armstrong
 - ☐ Atascosa
 - ☐ Austin
 - ☐ Bailey
 - ☐ Bandera
 - ☐ Bastrop
 - ☐ Baylor
 - ☐ Bee
 - ☐ Bell
 - ☐ Bexar
 - ☐ Blanco
 - ☐ Borden
 - ☐ Bosque
 - ☐ Bowie
 - ☐ Brazoria
 - ☐ Brazos
 - ☐ Brewster
 - ☐ Briscoe
 - ☐ Brooks
 - ☐ Brown
 - ☐ Burleson

Completed Bail Forms by Location

Magistrate Court	536,447
Justice of the Peace	304,061
Municipal	282,100
County	243,238
Sheriff	230,705
District	118,054
Law Enforcement	12,948
Pretrial	8,436
Criminal District Court	3,138
Police Department	1,792
Municipal Police Department	1
Pretrial Services	1

Completed Bail Forms

Year 2022 2023 2024 2025

42,653	40,778	46,634	45,536	47,866	45,162	45,090	52,077	45,908	45,364	40,774	39,637
42,887	43,770	46,608	45,774	52,029	50,899	52,216	52,022	50,925	50,940	45,960	43,612
45,978	43,704	52,296	51,315	46,749	47,513	49,157	49,980	48,459	48,262	42,519	44,424
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December

A close-up photograph of a person's hands typing on a silver laptop keyboard. The person is wearing a blue and white striped shirt. The background is blurred, showing more of the laptop and the person's arm.

SYSTEM USERS

7,174 Active Users

**243 Counties with
Completed Bail Forms**

**The 11 counties with
no bail forms are
small counties likely
sharing a jail with a
neighboring county.**

Is it time to update your TLETS & CJIS?

Criminal Justice Practitioner (CJP) Certification & TLETS Mobile Access Certification need to be renewed every two years. Renewal is online and available through:

<https://txletstraining.dps.texas.gov/nextest/>

Criminal Justice Information (CJIS) Security Awareness Training

Training is now required annually.

<https://www.cjisonline.com>



RECENT ENHANCEMENTS

- ❖ New Summary Text Appears on PSR PDF
- ❖ Offense Counts No Longer Required
- ❖ “CHRI Not Found” Search Status
- ❖ Ability to Designate Mandatory Release Under 1'
- ❖ Ability to Change/Update Cause Numbers
- ❖ Bail Form Modified Indicator
- ❖ Query Builder Reports
- ❖ API



New PSR Summary Text

The top of the Public Safety Report PDF now includes the following text:

This is a summary of the defendant's Texas criminal history information as required by CCP 17.021(b)(5). The defendant's full criminal history, including any out-of-state history, is available electronically within the online version of the PSRS.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, magna massa dui, enim viverra ante eget nec. Volutpat officia dui semper nunc, aliquet tincidunt tempus in, id id lorem sit. In neque pede est sed libero. Suscipit in maecenas luctus, porttitor ipsum hendrerit vehicula primis, tristique sed non vestibulum rutrum et. Cum amet vestibulum, magna ipsum montes a mauris sunt.

Dolor ligula nonummy amet inceptos vehicula, erat suspendisse ligula dui ut commodo, quam eleifend lobortis molestie et, in quis tortor dignissim. Donec ante at urna, enim nulla tempor tortor ut, fringilla viverra vitae lacinia pede tristique, lacus bibendum sit nunc, erat curabitur nonummy nullam. Imperdiet ut, donec et velit vestibulum adipiscing, aenean mi. Vel libero velit ac, faucibus pharetra. Convallis non consectetur scelerisque vitae nec amet. Vel amet aliquam ligula proin leo, dui cras suscipit ullamcorper est. Natoque cras. Erat sem mattis nullam neque nunc aliquet, risus pede. Placerat iaculis in unde.

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OFFENSE COUNTS NO LONGER REQUIRED

When adding an offense to an arrest, the “Counts” field is no longer required.

Add Offense

Offense Date *

02/01/2025

MM/DD/YYYY

Statute *

22.01(a)(1) ASSAULT CAUSES BODILY INJ

Qualifier

Count(s)

Cause/Case #

CR-95485

Level/Degree

Misdemeanor A

CANCEL

ADD

“CHRI NOT FOUND” SEARCH STATUS

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT BAIL FORM

SID

 OR

FBI #

CLEAR

RETRIEVE CRIMINAL HISTORY

Status
Not Started

Status Date
Not Applicable

[Advanced Search](#)

Criminal History

☒ Unable to find a SID or FBI# for this defendant

Enter a SID or FBI # then click the RETRIEVE CRIMINAL HISTORY button above to retrieve it.
If you don't know the defendant's SID or FBI #, use the [Advanced Search](#) to find it.

PENDING BAIL FORMS		MAGISTRATION COMPLETE					
ADD ARREST							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Defendant	Date of Birth	Arrest Date/Time	Cause/Case #	Time Since Arrest	Criminal History Search Status	Entered On Date/Time
<input type="checkbox"/>	FRAZIER, JOSHUA	03/10/2003	02/07/2025 02:00	None	20 hours and 27 minutes	CHRI Not Found	02/07/2025 22:24

QUERY BUILDER REPORTS

The query tool generates lists of records matching certain filter criteria, allowing you to drill down to find the exact data you need. Create queries, organize them into folders, and share them with other team members.

You can find a link to the training video on the PSRS website.

Query Editor								
Data Sources								
Magistrations								
Magistration Bails								
+ Add a Related Data Source								
Parameters								
	And/Or	Column	Operator	Value				
<input type="checkbox"/>		Magistration Date	>=	01/01/2022				
<input type="checkbox"/>	AND	Magistration Date	<=	12/31/2022				
<input type="checkbox"/>	AND	Location	Contains	Phoenix District Court				
<input type="checkbox"/>	OR	Location	Contains	Scottsdale District Court				
<input type="checkbox"/>	AND	Bail Type	=	Personal				
<input type="checkbox"/>	OR	Bail Type	=	Cash/Surety				
+ Add New Row								
					Magistration Date	Location	Bail Type	Bail Amount
					04/06/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Personal	\$2,500.00
					04/11/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Personal	\$1,500.00
					04/26/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Personal	\$2,000.00
					04/26/2022	Arizona > Phoenix > Phoenix District Court	Personal	\$1,000.00
					04/30/2022	Arizona > Phoenix > Phoenix District Court	Cash/Surety	\$3,500.00
					05/02/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Cash/Surety	\$250.00
					05/22/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Cash/Surety	\$2,000.00
					05/22/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Personal	\$1,000.00
					05/25/2022	Arizona > Phoenix > Phoenix District Court	Cash/Surety	\$1,000.00
					05/31/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Personal	\$200.00
					05/31/2022	Arizona > Scottsdale > Scottsdale District Court	Personal	\$300.00



TRAINING REMINDERS



DPS REQUIRED TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS

Criminal Justice Practitioner (CJP) Certification

Any individual who accesses either hard or electronic copies that contain criminal history record information (ex. The PSR and CHRI from TCIC/NCIC) must obtain and maintain a CJP certification through the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS).

Please note that a TLETS user id will be assigned to you so you can complete the CJP certification. This TLETS user id will not provide access to TCIC/NCIC, it is solely for the purpose of completing your CJP certification.

Criminal Justice Information (CJIS) Security Awareness Training

Any PSRS users with access to Criminal Justice Information (CJI) through TLETS must take the CJIS Security Awareness Training. Training shall be taken within six months and biennially thereafter and is provided through DPS. The training through CJIS Online is web based and self-paced.



DPS REQUIRED TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS

TLETS Mobile Access Certification

Any users who will require access to query criminal history record information (ex. The PSR and CHRI from TCIC/NCIC) must obtain and maintain a TLETS Mobile Access certification through the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS).

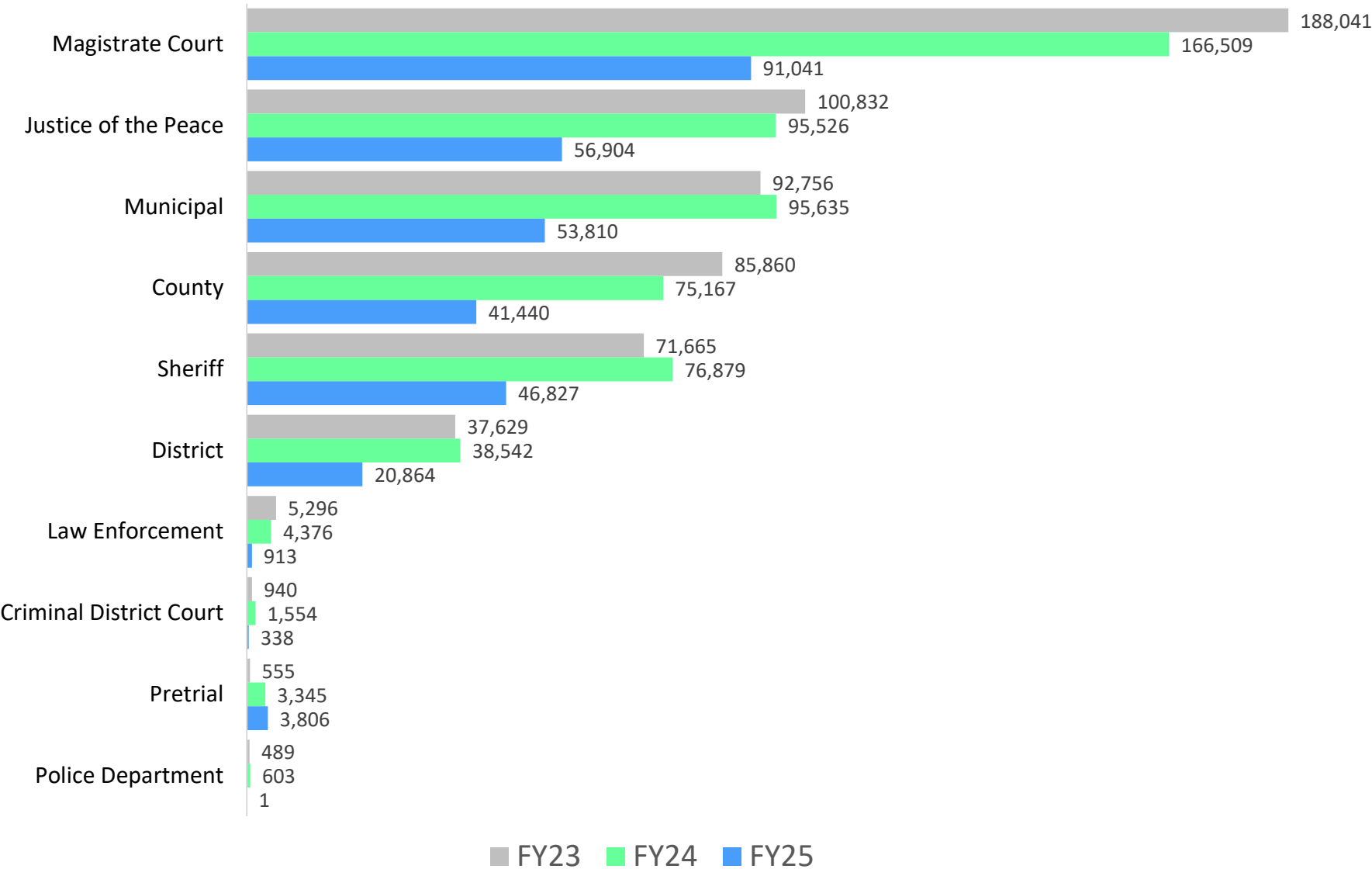
Users initiating queries for criminal history information from the PSRS must have a unique TLETS ID and complete the 8-hour training to obtain the certification. DPS provides the training at no cost, both virtually and in person.



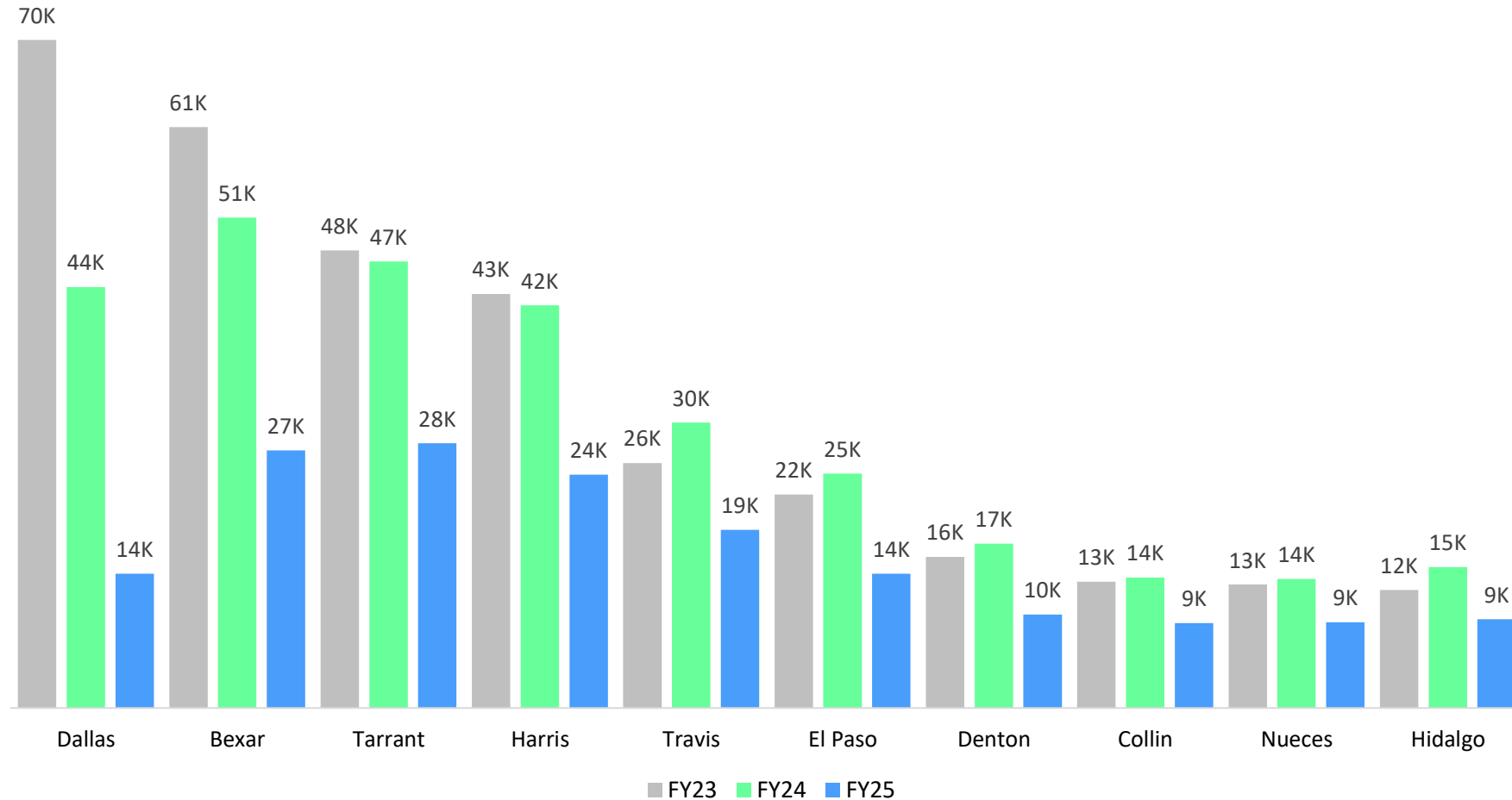
BAIL FORM COMPARISON



BAIL FORMS BY LOCATIONS



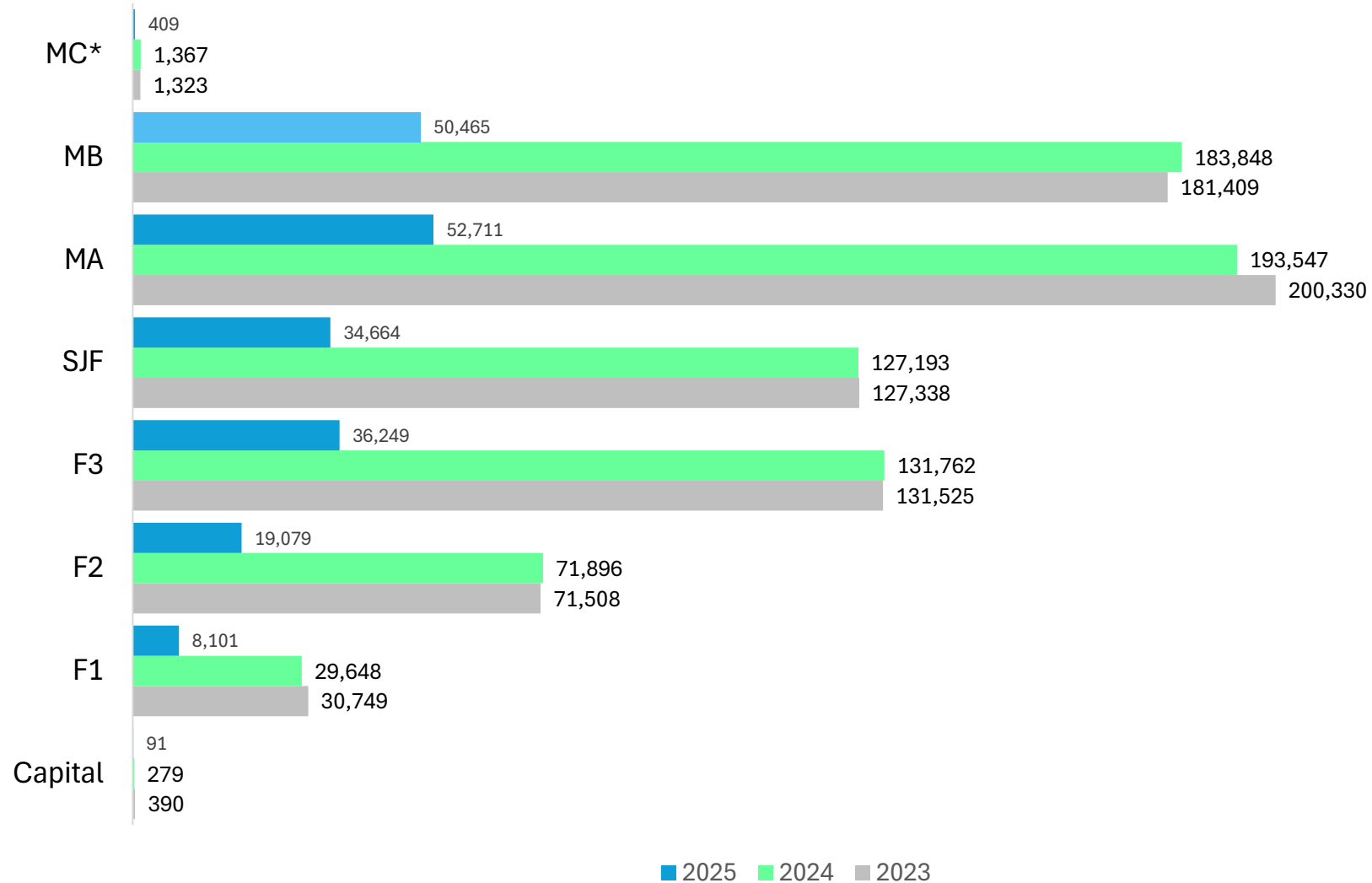
TOP TEN COUNTIES COMPLETING BAIL FORMS



** Harris County is required by a consent decree resulting from the O'Donnell et al. v. Harris County et al. class action lawsuit, to follow a local rule that ensures that people charged with most misdemeanor offenses are released promptly after arrest on a personal bond without having seen a judge. Therefore, there are defendants in Harris County who will not have a bail form completed after their arrest since a judge is required by law to review the Public Safety Report and certify the bail form.*



OFFENSE LEVEL BY YEAR

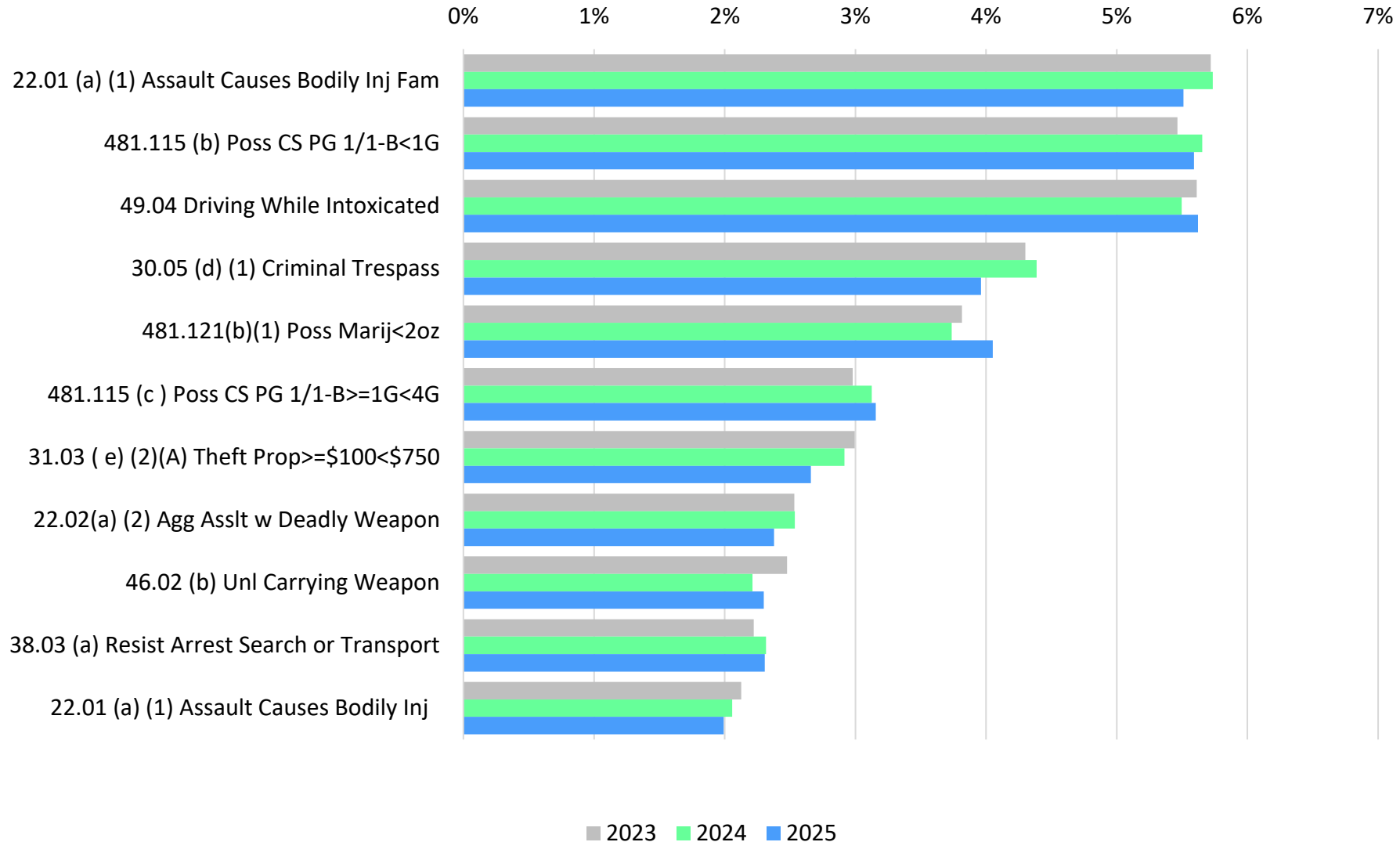


*Class C misdemeanors are not required to be entered in the PSRS.



MOST REPORTED OFFENSES

AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL OFFENSES BY YEAR



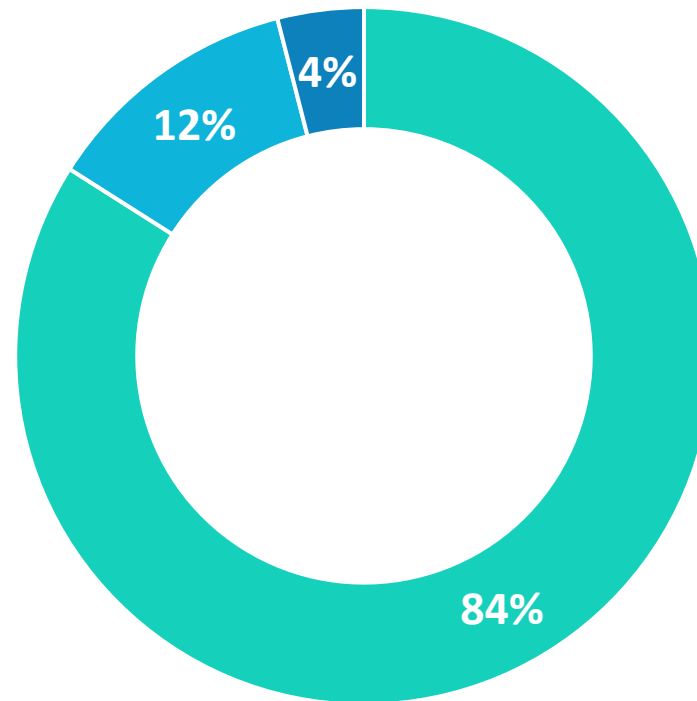
BAIL DECISIONS



BAIL TYPES 2023-2025*

The percentage distribution of bail types has remained the same for calendar years 2023-2025*.

2025* is Year to Date data.

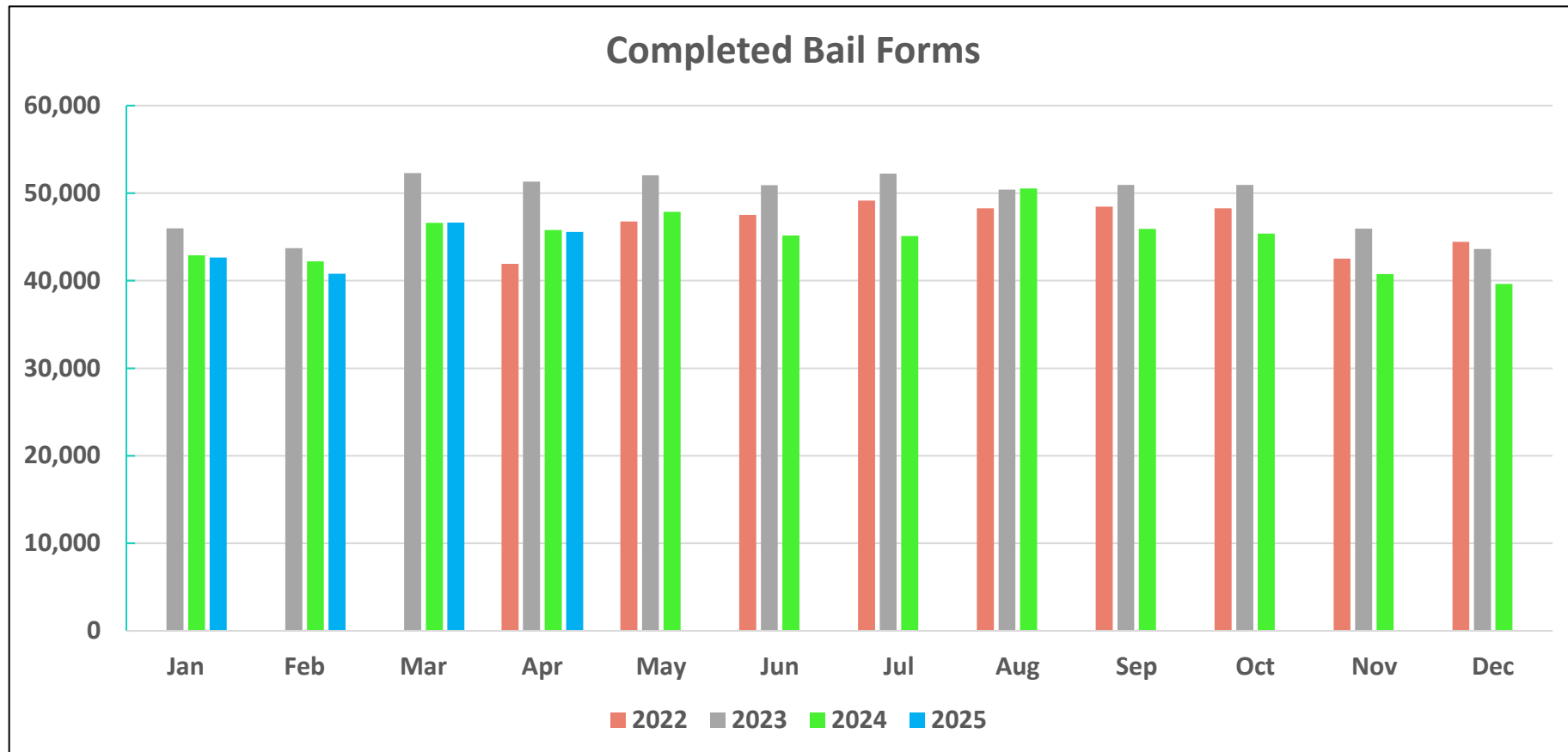


■ Cash/Surety ■ Personal ■ Bail Denied



COMPLETED BAIL FORMS

Since April 1, 2022, every month has had over 40,000 completed bail forms with an average of 46,513. The highest months with over 50,000 bail forms have been March, April and May of 2023.

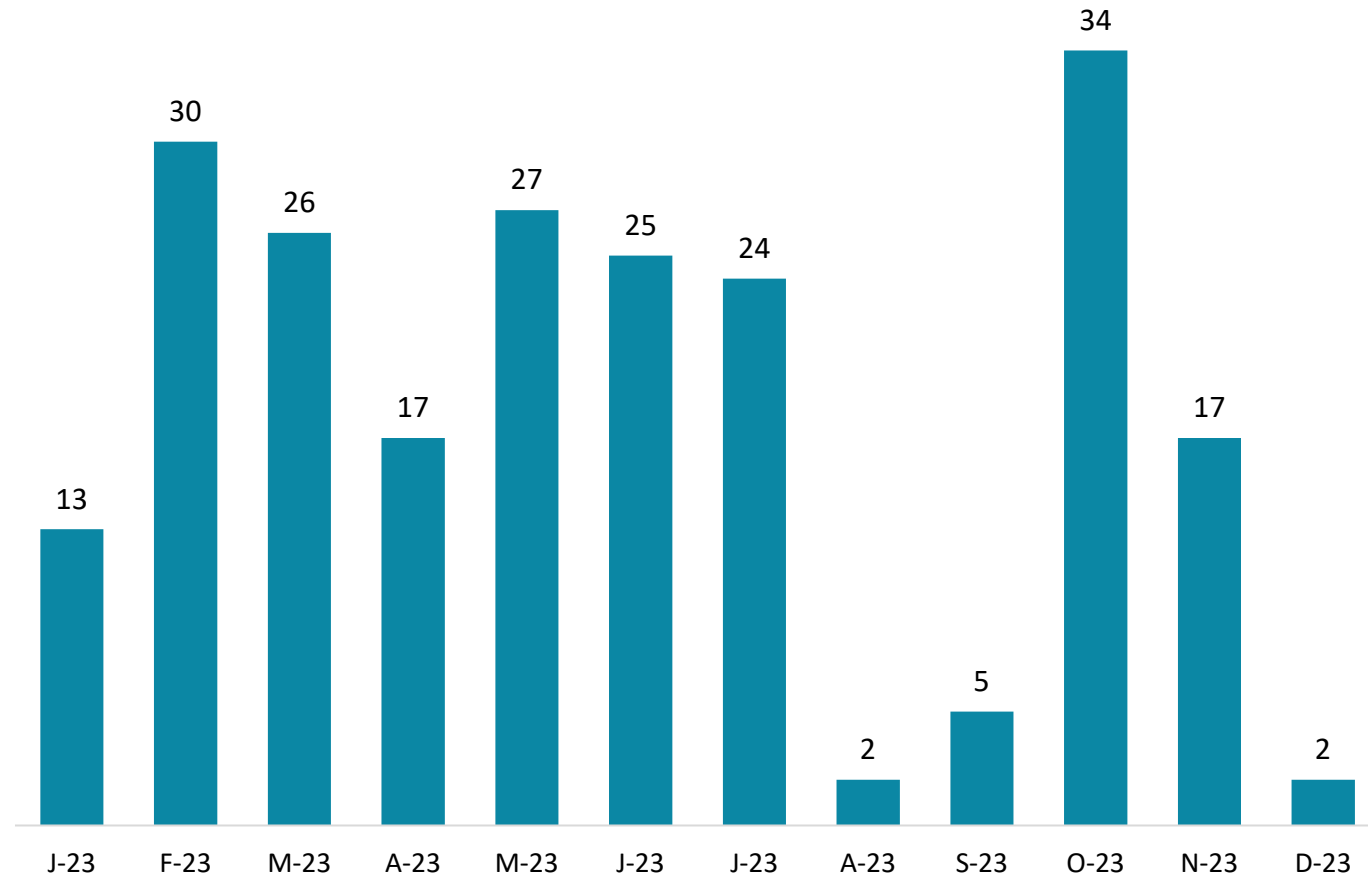


CHARITABLE BAIL ORGANIZATIONS



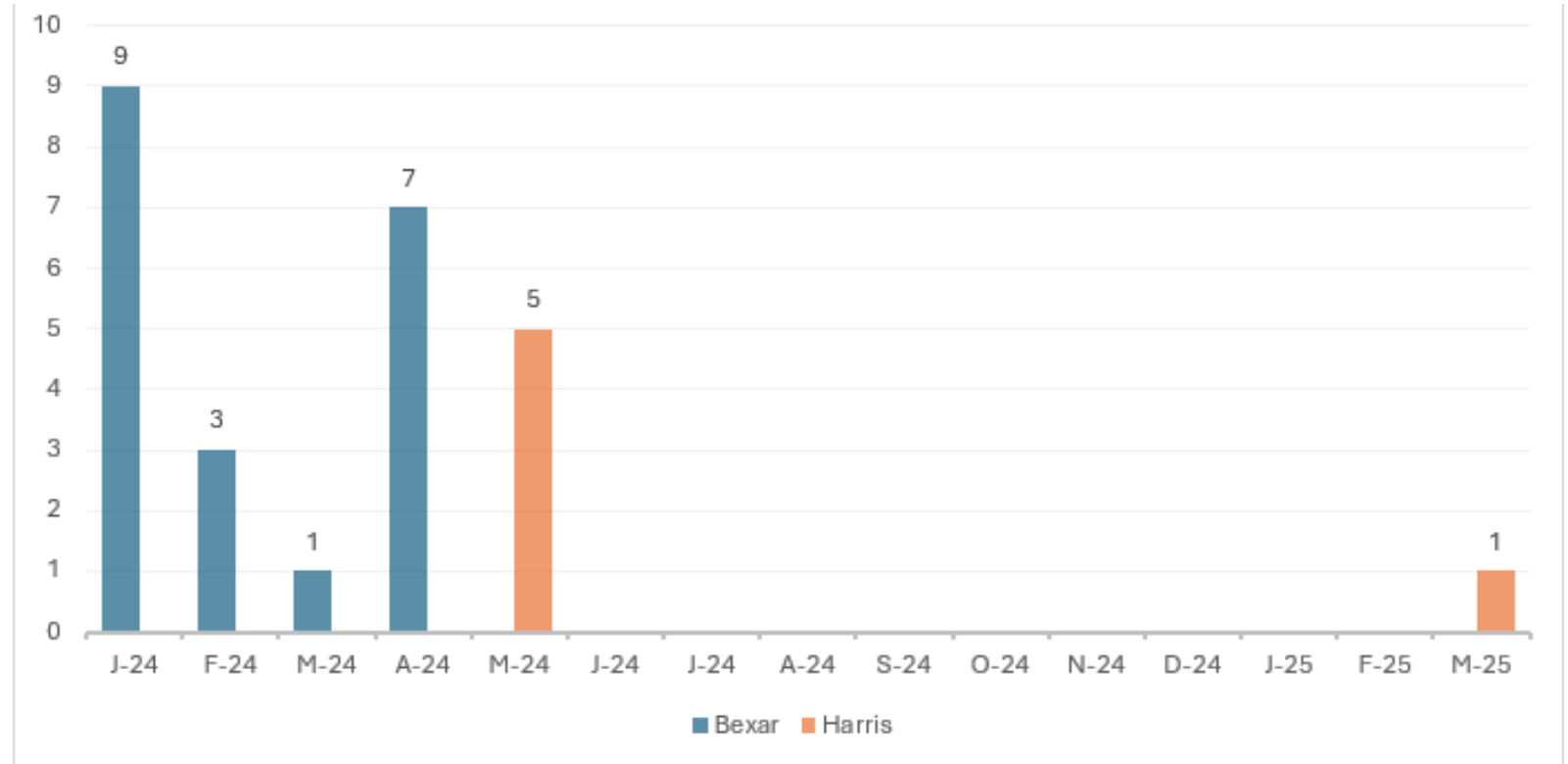
Number of Defendants by County for Whom Bail was Paid by a Charitable Organization - 2023

In 2023, the Texas Organizing Project operated in Bexar, while the Bail Project was in Harris, Hays, and Travis.



Number of Defendants by County for Whom Bail was Paid by a Charitable Organization

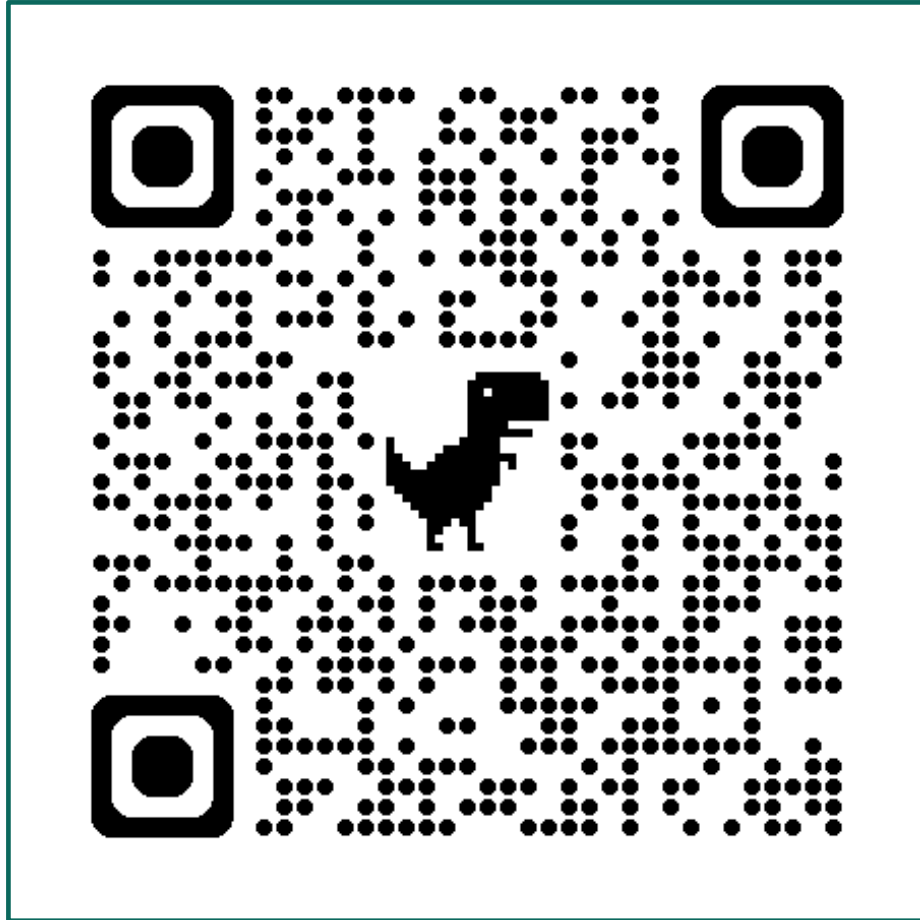
For 2024, Bexar County continued to report the Texas Organizing Project in Bexar County. Harris County reported Grassroots Leadership in March 2024 and March 2025.



OCA PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



STANDARDIZED PROTECTIVE ORDER



SB 48 (88R) required OCA to standardize Protective Orders
Required all applicants and courts to use the forms beginning
June 1, 2024

The forms can be found on the OCA website or using the QR
code and navigating to “Rules & Forms”



COURT TEXT REMINDER PROJECT

The Texas Court Reminder program was enacted in 2021 by the 87th Legislature in HB 4293. It was then funded in the 88th legislative session with \$2.2 million.

The purpose of the program is to reduce costs associated with criminal fail to appear cases, to improve the efficiency of the courts, and to remind defendants of scheduled court appearances via text message and/or email reminders.



COURT STAFFING STUDY



Court Staffing Study

- During the 88th Legislative Session OCA received \$200,000 to conduct a study of the workload for court personnel assigned to the district and statutory county courts.
- Texas A&M Public Policy Research Institute conducting study.
- Collection methodology includes public information requests, interviews, surveys, and Delphi panels.
- Final report published December 2024.



JOB OPENING!

Pretrial Program Manager

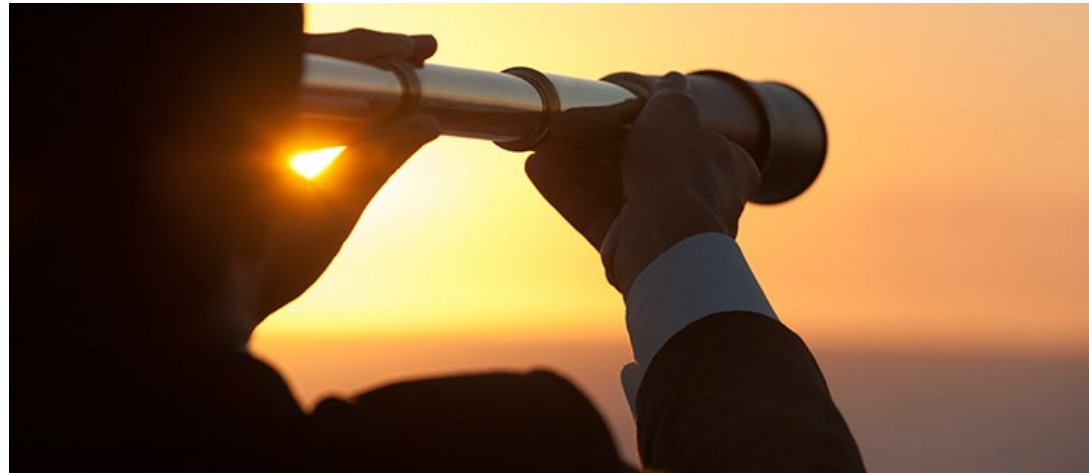
txcourts.gov/oca/careers



Austin American-Statesman
statesman.com



PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT SYSTEM: LOOKING AHEAD





Questions?

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Director of Court Services

Jeffrey.Tsunekawa@txcourts.gov