



TEXAS INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION

January 10, 2020

CHAIR:
The Honorable Sharon Keller
Presiding Judge
Court of Criminal Appeals

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:
Honorable Sharon Keller
Honorable Nathan Hecht
Honorable John Whitmire
Honorable Brandon Creighton
Honorable Nicole Collier
Honorable Andrew Murr
Honorable Sherry Radack
Honorable Vivian Torres

MEMBERS APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR:
Mr. Alex Bunin
Honorable Richard Evans
Mr. Gonzalo Rios
Honorable Missy Medary
Honorable Valerie Covey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
Geoffrey Burkhart

The Honorable Jay Knight
Liberty County Judge
1923 Sam Houston St.
Liberty, TX 77575

Re: Texas Indigent Defense Commission – Close-out of Monitoring
Review

Dear Judge Knight:

Last January, the Texas Indigent Defense Commission (TIDC) issued a follow-up monitoring review of Liberty County's indigent defense practices. The review included one finding and recommendation, dealing with monthly reports to the Office of Court Administration (specifically, the number of counsel requests at the Article 15.17 hearing).

Since TIDC issued the review, the City of Cleveland has included the number of counsel requests in their monthly reports to the Office of Court Administration (see the enclosed summary). Based on these monthly reports, TIDC now closes the limited scope policy monitoring review of Liberty County.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact me at (512) 936-7560.

Sincerely,

Joel Lieurance
Senior Policy Monitor

cc: The Honorable Mark Morefield, Local Administrative District Judge
The Honorable Tommy Chambers, Local Administrative Statutory
County Judge
Ms. Mary Ann Harrison, City of Cleveland Municipal Clerk

(enclosure)

Since October 2018, the City of Cleveland has recorded requests for counsel in every month of the fiscal year.

Table: Municipal Reports of Magistrate Warning Activity by the City of Cleveland to the Office of Court Administration

City of Cleveland	Misd. Requests	Misd. Warnings	% Misd. Requests	Felony Requests	Felony Warnings	% Felony Requests
Oct-18	0	11	0.0%	0	8	0.0%
Nov-18	14	18	77.8%	5	5	100.0%
Dec-18	12	14	85.7%	1	1	100.0%
Jan-19	13	15	86.7%	7	10	70.0%
Feb-19	5	6	83.3%	9	11	81.8%
Mar-19	5	5	100.0%	0	0	n/a
Apr-19	17	19	89.5%	3	5	60.0%
May-19	15	18	83.3%	5	7	71.4%
Jun-19	10	12	83.3%	4	5	80.0%
Jul-19	7	9	77.8%	12	13	92.3%
Aug-19	24	26	92.3%	14	15	93.3%
Sep-19	11	13	84.6%	4	4	100.0%
Total Fiscal Year	133	166	80.1%	64	84	76.2%