



Eighteenth Judicial Circuit

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Judges' Efforts Continue to Reduce Caseload/Jail Population

The judges of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, working in concert with the State Attorney, the Public Defender, and the Sheriffs of Brevard and Seminole counties have implemented case management and early case resolution processes that have dramatically reduced the time it takes to resolve non-violent felony criminal cases.

Changes to pre-trial release screening, earlier judicial oversight, and the use of GPS tracking have led to a reduction in jail populations. This is of particular importance in Brevard County, which is under a Federal Court Consent Decree to reduce jail overcrowding.

The average daily jail population in Brevard County has been reduced by almost 500 inmates – a significant decrease from the average daily jail population of a year ago. (The high was 1,914 in May 2008.)

"Everyone who is part of this collaborative effort can be proud of the marked progress we have made this past year," said Chief Judge Clayton D. Simmons. "These improvements have been implemented during a period of austere budgets and personnel layoffs, attesting to the professionalism and dedication of the agencies involved."

The attached charts demonstrate the reductions in pending caseloads and reductions in jail populations.

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