

# Harris County Indigent Appointments Report 2020

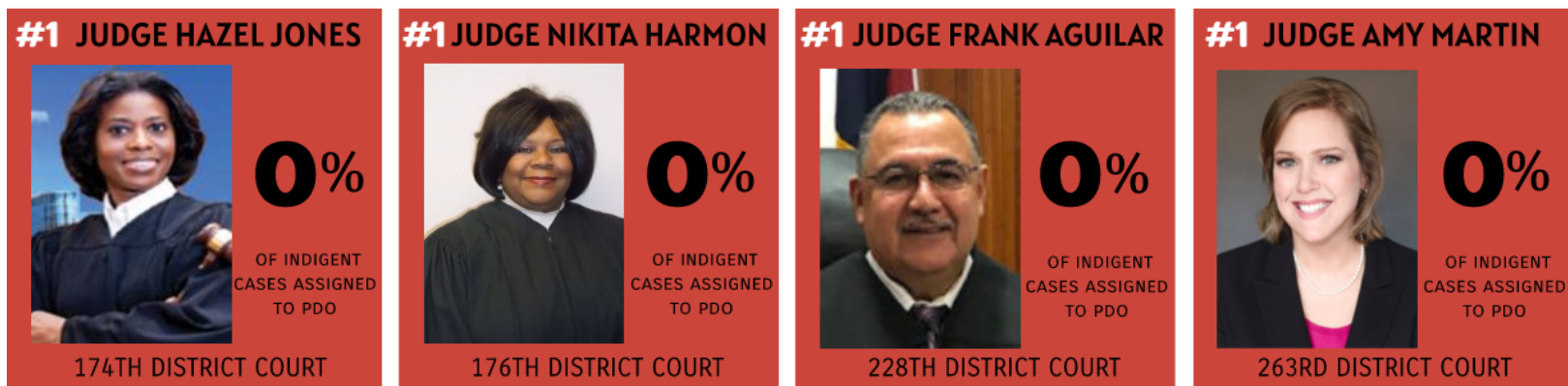
# INDIGENT COUNSEL IN THE HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS

A REPORT BROUGHT TO YOU BY RESTORING JUSTICE AND THE TEXAS CRIMINAL JUSTICE COALITION

THIS REPORT USES DATA FROM HARRIS COUNTY'S NEW INDIGENT DEFENSE DASHBOARD TO SHOW HOW FREQUENTLY EACH OF THE DISTRICT COURT JUDGES UTILIZES THE HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, WHICH IS CAPABLE OF RECEIVING UP TO 20% OF ALL DISTRICT COURT INDIGENT APPOINTMENTS.

## DISTRICT COURTS BY LOWEST PUBLIC DEFENDER APPOINTMENT RATE

SEPTEMBER 2020



<u>RANK</u>	<u>COURT</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	<u>% OF INDIGENT CASES ASSIGNED TO PDO</u>
2.	177TH	ROBERT JOHNSON	0.64%
3	179TH	RANDY ROLL	1.16%
4.	351ST	GEORGE POWELL	1.89%
5.	262ND	LORI CHAMBERS GRAY	1.90%
6.	RIC	BROCK THOMAS	2.45%
7.	180TH	DASEAN JONES	2.92%
8.	230TH	CHRIS MORTON	4.38%
9.	338TH	RAMONA FRANKLIN	5.65%
10.	178TH	KELLI JOHNSON	5.95%
11.	208TH	GREG GLASS	7.48%
12.	232ND	JOSH HILL	8.72%
13.	209TH	BRIAN WARREN	10.61%
14.	248TH	HILARY UNGER	10.65%
15.	184TH	ABIGAIL ANASTASIO	12.95%
16.	339TH	JESSE MCCLURE	13.02%
17.	183RD	CHUCK SILVERMAN	15.09%
18.	185TH	JASON LUONG	18.54%
19.	182ND	DANILO LACAYO	24.02%
20.	337TH	HERB RITCHIE	33.54%

The 6th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution requires the appointment of an attorney for anyone facing criminal charges that is unable to afford their own. In Harris County, the judges of the district courts select attorneys for any indigent defendant facing charges in their court.

Despite the establishment of the Harris County Public Defender's Office in 2011, many of Harris County's elected district court judges fail to appoint the Public Defender's Office to capacity, opting to appoint private attorneys to represent indigent defendants instead.

Recent research conducted in Harris County shows that private attorneys receiving appointments are less effective than the Harris County Public Defender's Office in addition to frequently donating to judicial re-election campaigns and exceeding the Texas Indigent Defense Commission's maximum recommended caseload limits.

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## DISTRICT COURTS BY LOWEST PUBLIC DEFENDER APPOINTMENT RATE

OCTOBER 2020

### #1 JUDGE NIKITA HARMON



**2.86%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

176TH DISTRICT COURT

### #2 JUDGE RANDY ROLL



**3.23%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

179TH DISTRICT COURT

### #3 JUDGE FRANK AGUILAR



**4.17%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

228TH DISTRICT COURT

<u>RANK</u>	<u>COURT</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	<u>% OF INDIGENT CASES ASSIGNED TO PDO</u>
4.	351ST	GEORGE POWELL	4.22%
5.	180TH	DASEAN JONES	5.37%
6.	230TH	CHRIS MORTON	7.19%
7.	177TH	ROBERT JOHNSON	7.19%
8.	174TH	HAZEL JONES	9.09%
9.	RIC	BROCK THOMAS	11.54%
10.	185TH	JASON LUONG	11.69%
11.	232ND	JOSH HILL	13.46%
12.	184TH	ABIGAIL ANASTASIO	15.56%
13.	339TH	JESSE MCCLURE	19.59%
14.	263RD	AMY MARTIN	19.76%
15.	262ND	LORI CHAMBERS GRAY	20.34%
16.	178TH	KELLI JOHNSON	22.89%
17.	208TH	GREG GLASS	27.13%
18.	338TH	RAMONA FRANKLIN	27.39%
19.	183RD	CHUCK SILVERMAN	32.68%
20.	248TH	HILARY UNGER	34.29%
21.	209TH	BRIAN WARREN	37.66%
22.	337TH	HERB RITCHIE	40.28%
23.	182ND	DANILO LACAYO	41.49%

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## DISTRICT COURTS BY LOWEST PUBLIC DEFENDER APPOINTMENT RATE

NOVEMBER 2020

**#1 JUDGE HAZEL JONES**




**1.30%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

174TH DISTRICT COURT

**#2 JUDGE CHRIS MORTON**




**3.64%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

230TH DISTRICT COURT

**#3 JUDGE DESEAN JONES**



**4.03%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

180TH DISTRICT COURT

<u>RANK</u>	<u>COURT</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	<u>% OF INDIGENT CASES ASSIGNED TO PDO</u>
4.	262ND	LORI CHAMBERS GRAY	4.85%
5.	351ST	GEORGE POWELL	5.13%
6.	179TH	RANDY ROLL	5.62%
7.	177TH	ROBERT JOHNSON	7.04%
8.	176TH	NIKITA V. HARMON	7.96%
9.	185TH	JASON LUONG	8.90%
10.	232ND	JOSH HILL	10.00%
11.	184TH	ABIGAIL ANASTASIO	12.20%
12.	339TH	JESSE MCCLURE	16.28%
13.	263RD	AMY MARTIN	16.36%
14.	RIC	BROCK THOMAS	17.03%
15.	228TH	FRANK AGUILAR	19.65%
16.	183RD	CHUCK SILVERMAN	21.43%
17.	209TH	BRIAN WARREN	23.40%
18.	178TH	KELLI JOHNSON	28.24%
19.	248TH	HILARY UNGER	30.91%
20.	208TH	GREG GLASS	31.71%
21.	338TH	RAMONA FRANKLIN	32.00%
22.	182ND	DANILO LACAYO	40.88%
23.	337TH	HERB RITCHIE	54.69%

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## DISTRICT COURTS BY LOWEST PUBLIC DEFENDER APPOINTMENT RATE DECEMBER 2020

### #1 JUDGE NIKITA V. HARMON



**0%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

176TH DISTRICT COURT

### #1 JUDGE CHRIS MORTON



**0%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

230TH DISTRICT COURT

### #2 JUDGE LORI CHAMBERS GRAY



**3.68%**

OF INDIGENT  
CASES ASSIGNED  
TO PDO

262ND DISTRICT COURT

<u>RANK</u>	<u>COURT</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	<u>% OF INDIGENT CASES ASSIGNED TO PDO</u>
3.	180TH	DASEAN JONES	3.85%
4.	174TH	HAZEL B. JONES	3.85%
5.	351ST	GEORGE POWELL	4.00%
6.	179TH	RANDY ROLL	4.23%
7.	339TH	JESSE MCCLURE	4.90%
8.	263RD	AMY MARTIN	5.56%
9.	184TH	ABIGAIL ANASTASIO	6.38%
10.	232ND	JOSH HILL	7.30%
11.	RIC	BROCK THOMAS	7.79%
12.	185TH	JASON LUONG	7.80%
13.	338TH	RAMONA FRANKLIN	8.70%
14.	177TH	ROBERT JOHNSON	9.04%
15.	228TH	FRANK AGUILAR	9.56%
16.	178TH	KELLI JOHNSON	14.86%
17.	248TH	HILARY UNGER	15.13%
18.	183RD	CHUCK SILVERMAN	15.65%
19.	209TH	BRIAN WARREN	18.79%
20.	208TH	GREG GLASS	20.93%
21.	182ND	DANILO LACAYO	38.24%
22.	337TH	HERB RITCHIE	39.81%

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