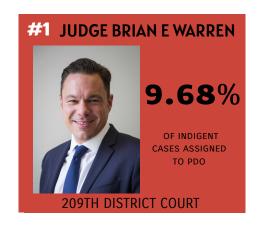
## INDIGENT COUNSEL IN THE HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS

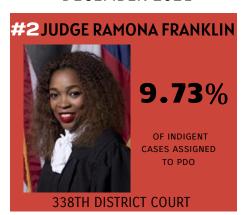
A REPORT BROUGHT TO YOU BY RESTORING JUSTICE AND THE TEXAS CENTER FOR JUSTICE AND EQUITY

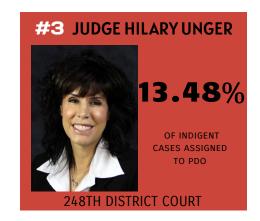
THIS REPORT USES DATA FROM HARRIS COUNTY'S NEW INDIGENT DEFENSE DASHBOARD TO SHOW HOW FREQUENTLY EACH OF THE DISTRICT COURT JUDGES UTILIZES THE HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, WHICH IS CAPABLE OF RECEIVING UP TO 20% OF ALL DISTRICT COURT INDIGENT APPOINTMENTS.

## DISTRICT COURTS BY LOWEST PUBLIC DEFENDER APPOINTMENT RATE

DECEMBER 2021







<u>RANK</u>	<u>COURT</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	% OF INDIGENT CASES ASSIGNED TO PDO
4.	182ND	DANILO LACAYO	15.19%
5.	RIC	BROCK THOMAS	16.59%
6.	351sT	NATALIA "NATA" CORNELIO	16.67%
7.	232ND	JOSH HILL	16.97%
8.	179тн	ANA MARTINEZ	17.50%
9.	177тн	ROBERT JOHNSON	17.57%
10.	263RD	AMY MARTIN	17.88%
11.	183RD	CHUCK SILVERMAN	18.11%
12.	174тн	HAZEL B. JONES	18.18%
13.	262ND	LORI CHAMBERS GRAY	18.24%
14.	228тн	FRANK AGUILAR	18.97%
15.	185тн	JASON LUONG	19.46%
16.	482ND	MARITZA ANTU	19.57%
17.	184тн	ABIGAIL ANASTASIO	20.16%
18.	230тн	CHRIS MORTON	23.08%
19.	339тн	TE'IVA J. BELL	23.81%
20.	208тн	GREG GLASS	24.26%
21.	337тн	COLLEEN GAIDO	25.31%
22.	180тн	DASEAN JONES	25.40%
23.	176тн	NIKITA V. HARMON	26.40%
24.	178тн	KELLI JOHNSON	27.39%

TOTAL PDO APPOINTMENT RATE

19.14%

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.