

PROGRAM NAME: Teen Court & Neighborhood Accountability Boards
DEPARTMENT NAME: Court Administration, 4th Judicial Circuit, FL

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Type of Allocation: City Directs Delivery

Program Strategy: Juvenile Prevention & Intervention Services

Program Summary:

Duval County Teen Court and Neighborhood Accountability Boards are the two designated programs designed to provide consequences and services for juvenile civil citations in Duval County. Teen Court is a diversion program designed for misdemeanor offenders between the ages of 10-17. The juvenile defendants come before a jury of their peers who decides the consequences (under the supervision of adult court staff). Teen Court added Neighborhood Accountability Boards (NAB) as an additional strategy to address juvenile crime in Duval County's highest crime zip codes. It offers assistance to elderly guardians who have difficulty commuting to the Duval County Courthouse and provides victim awareness to the juvenile offender. Additionally, it serves as a way to give various community members a voice in regard to unacceptable /unlawful behaviors occurring in their community. These community members assign consequences and services to the juvenile offender.

Program Overall Status:

Month	Teen Court	NAB	TOTAL
January 2014	17	12	29
February 2014	29	6	35
March 2014	17	9	26
April 2014	23	7	30
May 2014	21	9	30
June 2014	22	3	25
July 2014	24	8	32
August 2014	10	2	12
September 2014	23	4	27
October 2014	35	4	39
YTD	221	64	285

Month of: October, 2014

of Cases open for the month: 39

of Cases open YTD (Jan – Present): 285

Program Update:

The numbers for October 2014 are 39 which are up from 27 in September 2014. Most of these cases have come from JSO patrol officers as many school resource officers are utilizing an At-Large diversion option. The numbers overall have increased significantly as we see a trend towards multiple co-defendants for petty theft and trespassing. The number of referrals from the Beaches law enforcement agencies were down but are expected to rise as each agency has been invited to attend the NAB sessions. This increased presence by law enforcement at the NABs has produced an increase in the number of referrals from the Beaches agencies within the past two weeks.

Neighborhood Accountability Boards start at 2:30 p.m. Current locations include:

- 1 Northside/Ribault initiated October 2012 (1st and 3rd Thursday)**
- 2 Westside initiated April 2013 (1st and 3rd Tuesdays).**
- 3 Beaches/Mayport initiated February 2014 (2nd and 4th Thursday)**

In regards to the Neighborhood Accountability Boards specifically, there have been **123** cases accepted as of October 31, 2014. Of these, **73** completed successfully, **7** cases were unsuccessful, **11** cases did not qualify (determined to have a disqualifying offense after the referral had been made) and **32** cases remain open.

Referrals

	<u>Open</u>	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Disqualified</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ribault	15	41	5	7	67
Westside	6	23	2	4	36
Beaches	11	9	0	0	<u>20</u>
				TOTAL	123

Ethnicity

	<u>Black</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ribault	64	3	0	0	67
Westside	25	9	1	1	36
Beaches	4	13	0	3	<u>20</u>
				TOTAL	123

Gender

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>		<u>Total</u>
Ribault	39	28		67
Westside	18	18		36
Beaches	12	8		<u>20</u>
			TOTAL	123

Successes:

- 1) A Civil Citation implementation video was completed this month. There is a plan to put a copy in the hands of all law enforcement officers and City of Jacksonville officials to demonstrate the ease and effectiveness of the use of this process. Past video dissemination resulted in increased awareness and subsequent referrals.
- 2) New community service partners added this period include: Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center, the Arc, American Cancer Society and the Grand Park Community Center.
- 3) The Edward Waters College student affairs department was added as a partner to make Civil Citation referrals for life skills training, community service and educational exploration opportunities for juvenile participants and their family members.

Challenges:

- 1) Dealing with youth who present with a criminal charge but have several co-occurring mental health factors has caused cases to remain open longer as we attempt to locate community resources available to address those issues long term.
- 2) Addressing issues related to other family members (i.e. food, housing and job referrals for parents) in addition to the juvenile offender is taking additional time not allotted for with our Jacksonville Journey funded part-time employees. There has been a spike in the number of homeless juvenile offenders in the past quarter.
- 3) Obtaining funding needed to provide mental health counseling to the youth who fall outside of the catchment area of the Full Service Schools, which is currently the service providing partner organization for the NABs.
- 4) Providing ongoing training to JSO administration will be essential as ranking officers are lost due to attrition and promotion. With each loss comes loss of institutional knowledge and subsequent synergy in regards to the Civil Citation movement.