

## **Pre-implementation 120-day Collection Rate Review Rusk County**

The Office of Court Administration has completed a Pre-Implementation Collection Rate (PICR) Review of Rusk County's Court Collection Programs. The objective of this review was to determine the 120-day collection rate of court costs, fees, and fines pursuant to Article 103.0033(f) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The review covers the County's Fiscal Year 2011 (January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011).

Please note: the PICR Review is not an audit and does not measure compliance with program requirements. The purpose of the review is to determine your 120-day collection rate prior to the implementation of your Court Collection Improvement Programs and is for informational purposes only.

As a result of the review, the following information was determined:

|                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| 120-day Collection Rate     | 65.44% |
| Collections - first 30 days | 59.54% |
| Collections - days 31 - 60  | 4.11%  |
| Collections - days 61 – 90  | 1.08%  |
| Collections - days 91 – 120 | .70%   |

In addition, through the course of the review, the following information was obtained:

|                                                            |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Percentage of jail time credit                             | 8.72%  |
| Total percentage of court costs, fees, and fines satisfied | 74.15% |
| Percentage of people that paid immediately                 | 42.48% |

## **OBJECTIVE, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY**

### **Objective**

The PICR Review is conducted to determine the County Collection Programs' 120-day collection rate on court costs, fees, and fines assessed on persons who have been convicted of crimes within the courts served by the programs.

The PICR Review is performed for informational purposes only, and the scope of work performed does not constitute an audit under Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards. Further, the PICR Review does not measure compliance, and has no effect on the compliance requirements of Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 103.0033(j).

### **Scope**

The scope of the review involves cases that were adjudicated in the County's Courts during the county's fiscal year 2011 (January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011).

### **Methodology**

1. Obtained cases with convictions or deferrals for the review period. The County Court, District Court, and Justices of the Peace provided lists of 8,865 cases that met this description.
2. Calculated the sample size needed to produce a statistically valid, random sample at a 90% Confidence Rate with 10% Margin of Error. The calculation applied to a population of 8,865 records resulted in a sample size of 210 records (30 cases for each court and Justice of the Peace).
3. Examined the 210 sampled cases to determine the assessment date of each case, and reviewed collections and credits information during the first 120 days after the assessment date. In addition, a determination was made as to whether the defendant paid the total amount assessed immediately upon its becoming due.
4. Calculated an overall pre-implementation collection rate pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 103.0033(f). The rate was calculated by dividing the total dollar amount collected in the first 120 days for the sampled cases by the total amount assessed for the sampled cases.
5. Calculated collection rates at 30-day intervals by dividing the total dollar amount collected during each interval for the sampled cases by the total amount assessed for the sampled cases.
6. Calculated rates for jail time credits, community service credits, and indigency waivers by dividing the total dollar amount for each type of credit for the sampled cases by the total amount assessed for the sampled cases.

7. Calculated the percentage of defendants who pay their total assessment of court costs, fees, and fines immediately by dividing the count of these defendants by the total number of cases in the sample.

**Team Members**

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