



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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August 26, 2019

Secretary John Tilley
Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
125 Holmes Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: PAC Criminal Rocket Dockets in Kentucky: Final Report FY19

Dear Secretary Tilley:

Please find attached the Prosecutors Advisory Council's Final Report for Fiscal Year 2019 to the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet regarding the Prosecutors Advisory Council Rocket Docket programs in Kentucky. Data was reported through May 31, 2019. The report was approved at the August 21, 2019 PAC meeting. The approved report is enclosed.

As a result of the \$2.25 million from the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and \$1.2 million from the Unified Prosecutorial System Commonwealth's and County Attorney general fund appropriation, a total of 41 circuits were funded for Rocket Docket Programs in Fiscal Year 2019. The total savings since inception of the initiative in July of 2015 is now nearly \$100 million in savings (approximately \$90 million when the investment in staffing is factored in) from inception in July 2015 through May 31, 2019. This program continues to consistently meet the goals originally stated in the 2015 Rocket Docket Initiative. Notable highlights from the Fiscal Year 2019 report are detailed below.

- The Rocket Docket Initiative has saved more than an estimated \$46.5 million in local jail costs in fiscal year 2019 (June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019) on top of the estimated \$51 million reported savings since fiscal year 2016.
- More than 21,950 cases have been completed with an additional ~2,000 pending through the Rocket Docket as of May 31, 2019.
- More than 13,000 cases resulted in defendants being referred to some form of drug treatment through the Rocket Docket Initiative.

In 2019, as a result of the newly created web-based data collection tool, additional data is being collected that relates to drug testing at the KSP lab and Alternatives to Incarceration. Information on those statistics is included in the enclosed report. The web-based tool also allows for more “real time” reporting which may have contributed to the much higher caseload statistics for the reporting cycle. This program continues to be successful and have a positive impact on the criminal justice system in the Commonwealth. Therefore, the Prosecutors Advisory Council is focused on getting the Rocket Docket Program in every circuit in the state.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at: 502-696-5607.

Sincerely –

Gina Carey, Budget Advisor
Unified Prosecutorial System/Prosecutors Advisory Council

Cc: Van Ingram, Executive Director ODCP
Prosecutors Advisory Council