

MCILS

**March 12, 2019
Commissioner's Meeting
Packet**

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

MARCH 12, 2019

COMMISSION MEETING

**JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ROOM, ROOM 438, STATEHOUSE, AUGUSTA
AGENDA**

- 1) Approval of February 11, 2019, Commission Meeting Minutes
- 2) Operations Reports
- 3) Fee Schedule Rule Discussion
- 4) Budget Update
- 5) Letter to Government Oversight Committee
- 6) Sixth Amendment Center Study
- 7) Training Update
- 8) Public Comment
- 9) Set Date, Time and Location of Next Regular Meeting of the Commission
- 10) Executive Session, if needed (Closed to Public)

(1.)

**February 11, 2019
Commission Meeting
Minutes**

**Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services – Commissioners Meeting
February 11, 2019**

Minutes

Commissioners Present: Steven Carey, Carlann Welch

MCILS Staff Present: Ellie Maciag, John Pelletier

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome/Action Item/Responsible Party
Approval of the January 15, 2019 Commission Meeting Minutes	No discussion of meeting minutes.	Chair Carey moved for approval, Commissioner Welch seconded. All voted in favor. Approved.
Operations Reports Review	<u>January 2019 Operations Report:</u> 2,369 new cases were opened in the DefenderData system in January. This was a 361 case increase over December. The number of submitted vouchers in January was 3,181, an increase of 563 vouchers over December, totaling \$1,683,890, an increase of \$236,000 over December. The average price per voucher was \$522.90, down \$15.27 per voucher from December. Appeal and Post-Conviction Review cases had the highest average vouchers. There were 12 vouchers exceeding \$5,000 paid in January. 125 authorizations to expend funds were issued in January, and we paid \$114,672 for experts and investigators, etc. This amount reflects some carryover from the previous month. The monthly transfer from the Judicial Branch for counsel fees for January, which reflects December's collections, totaled \$90,705, up approximately \$20,000 from December. No written complaints were received in January.	
Fee Schedule Rule Discussion	The Commissioners continued their discussion of potential changes to the fee schedule rule and reviewed the revised draft amendment proposed by Chair Carey. Commissioner Welch suggested lowering the fee cap amount for class B and C crimes to bring it in line with what has been proposed for other case categories (cap amount at the 90 th percentile). Chair Carey and Commissioner Welch agreed on a	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome/Action Item/Responsible Party
	25% over the cap threshold that would trigger the need for an attorney to seek pre-approval from Commission staff. Chair Carey will incorporate agreed upon changes to his draft and circulate to the Commissioners before the next meeting.	
Budget Update	Director Pelletier gave an update on the status of the biennial budget request. Commission funding will be included in the general fund; the revenue account will be restored; the collection allotment is increased to \$1.1 million; and the financial screener reclass is funded. However, only \$15.5 million and not the required \$18.3 million in All Other was included in the Governor's Budget. Director Pelletier had a meeting with the Governor's deputy counsel and relayed the Commission's budgetary needs, but has not received a response yet about the reason for the funding decrease.	
Sixth Amendment Center Study	Director Pelletier gave a brief update on the Sixth Amendment Center study. Central office staff met with Nancy Bennett in Augusta to discuss the day-to-day operations of the Commission.	
Public Comment	<p><u>Tina Nadeau, Esq.</u>: Attorney Nadeau noted that 2,400 cases were opened in January but only 125 requests for funds were submitted. She thought that number seemed low and suggested that it was something that the Commission should pay attention to. She was not sure all rostered attorneys were aware of the PI procedure and suggested the topic be discussed at future trainings. Attorney Nadeau outlined upcoming MACDL trainings and suggested coordinating with the Commission on a fall training focusing on trial skills.</p> <p><u>Robert Ruffner, Esq.</u>: Attorney Ruffner stated that the Commission has never asked for additional positions except for financial screeners. He suggested that by not asking for additional positions, the Commission has opened itself up for criticism and renewed his call for the Commission to request additional staff. Attorney Ruffner asked what the purpose of the fee structure was and suggested the Commission's answer would go to the core purpose and inform a lot Commission</p>	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome/Action Item/Responsible Party
	decisions. He suggested that the current fee structure was left over from the Judicial Branch and was for a financial purpose only. He cautioned about attorney and Commission liability if pre-approval for additional work on a case is denied.	
Executive Session	None	
Adjournment of meeting	The Commission voted to adjourn with the next meeting to be on March 12, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.	Chair Carey moved to adjourn. Commissioner Welch seconded. All present in favor.

(2.)

Operations Reports

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

TO: MCILS COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JOHN D. PELLETIER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 2019 OPERATIONS REPORTS
DATE: MARCH 5, 2019

Attached you will find the February, 2019, Operations Reports for your review and our discussion at the Commission meeting on March 12, 2019. A summary of the operations reports follows:

- 2,064 new cases were opened in the DefenderData system in February. This was a 305 case increase from January.
- The number of vouchers submitted electronically in February was 2,571, a decrease of 610 vouchers from January, totaling \$1,324,434.27, a decrease of \$359,000 from January. In February, we paid 2,446 electronic vouchers totaling \$1,272,526.02, representing a decrease of 440 vouchers and \$237,000 compared to January.
- There were no paper vouchers submitted and paid in February.
- The average price per voucher in February was \$520.25, down \$2.65 per voucher from January.
- Appeal and Post-Conviction Review cases had the highest average vouchers in February. There were 11 vouchers exceeding \$5,000 paid in February. See attached addendum for details.
- The contract amount paid for representation in Somerset County in February was \$22,687.50.
- In February, we issued 126 authorizations to expend funds: 75 for private investigators, 42 for experts, and 9 for miscellaneous services such as interpreters and transcriptionists. In February, we paid \$108,583.73 for experts and investigators, etc. In February, two requests for funds were modified. See attached addendum for details.
- We received one complaint about an attorney in February. An employee of an agency that works with inmates and is present in the jail during in-custody lawyer of the day sessions complained about inappropriate conduct by a lawyer acting as lawyer of the day. This information first came to light through emails, but we later received a written summary of the conduct complained about. The lawyer has been asked to respond to the written complaint and the matter will be

investigated. Pending investigation, the lawyer is removed from the relevant LOD roster.

- Co-counsel was authorized in three cases in February. Two cases involved charges of Murder. A third case involved a felony domestic violence charge, and co-counsel was authorized on the condition that the less experienced attorney would be paid for only one-half of that attorney's time.

In our All Other Account, the total expenses for the month of February were \$1,411,849.66. Of that amount, approximately \$8,000 was devoted to the Commission's operating expenses.

In the Personal Services Account, we had \$54,894.29 in expenses for the month of February.

In the Revenue Account, the transfer for February, reflecting January's collections, totaled \$101,822.48, an increase of approximately \$11,000 from the previous month.

During February, we had no receipts or expenditures in our training account.

VOUCHERS EXCEEDING \$5,000 PAID FEBRUARY 2019

	Voucher Total	Case total
Interim voucher in a Murder case submitted after a mistrial was declared on the second day of testimony.	\$12,049	\$34,303 (interim voucher of \$9,600 paid to this attorney; \$12,654 paid to co-counsel from a different firm for trial voucher and three prior interim vouchers.)
Voucher in a post-conviction review case involving a conviction in a triple murder case. Huge trial file including 111 discs of electronic discovery. Client housed in New Hampshire. Case prepared for hearing, but court dismissed after ruling that the defense theory was not legally viable. Ruling is being appealed.	\$10,357	\$10,357
Voucher after pleas of guilty in cases involving Domestic Violence Assault, Failure to Register as a Sex Offender and Probation Revocation. Client had mental health issues and, together with family, flooded counsel with contacts and requests. Client agreed to mental health evaluations only to refuse to see the evaluator. Client had a pending appeal from a post-conviction review on the charge underlying the probation revocation (represented by separate counsel). Client repeatedly changed mind on instant case due to focus on PCR appeal. Client filed numerous pro se pleadings and asked counsel to withdraw, which was denied.	\$8,246	\$8,246
Voucher after a 4-day trial on charges of Gross Sexual Assault, Aggravated Sex Trafficking, and Aggravated Assault. Client found not guilty on all counts.	\$7,832	\$20,220 (prior counsel paid \$12,388 after taking the case to trial only for a mistrial to be declared; client then discharged prior counsel)
Voucher on an Unlawful Sexual Contact case. Extensive audio-visual and DHHS discovery. Voucher also covered work on an associated Probation Revocation.	\$7,770	\$9,903 (counsel previously paid \$2,133 for an interim voucher submitted when client failed to appear in March, 2017)

Voucher after a 3-day trial in an Aggravated Sex Trafficking case. Defendant found not guilty.	\$6,644	\$6,644
Interim voucher in a Murder case submitted after a mistrial was declared on the second day of testimony.	\$6,442	\$34,303 (counsel paid \$6,212 on three previously submitted interim vouchers; co-counsel from different firm paid \$21,649 on voucher for this mistrial and a previous interim voucher)
Voucher in a post-conviction review of a Murder conviction. Petition denied after two days of hearing and the submission of written final arguments.	\$6,094	\$6,094
Voucher on an appeal from the denial of a post-conviction review petition. Client and family flooded counsel with communications and requests. Client filed numerous pro se pleadings.	\$5,760	\$5,760
Voucher after a plea of guilty to one count of Gross Sexual Assault. Five GSA counts dismissed. Voluminous discovery and DHHS records.	\$5,226	\$5,226
Voucher after two day trial on a charge of Reckless Conduct with a Dangerous Weapon. Defendant found guilty.	\$5,022	\$5,022

FUNDS REQUESTS DENIED/MODIFIED FEBRUARY 2019

- Two requests for funds were modified to authorize a reduced amount after the lawyer was instructed to obtain the expert's agreement to accept a lesser hourly rate than initially indicated.

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

Activity Report by Case Type

2/28/2019

DefenderData Case Type	Feb-19						Fiscal Year 2019			
	New Cases	Vouchers Submitted	Submitted Amount	Vouchers Paid	Approved Amount	Average Amount	Cases Opened	Vouchers Paid	Amount Paid	Average Amount
Appeal	10	22	\$ 24,768.43	25	\$ 31,104.07	\$ 1,244.16	100	161	\$ 242,680.17	\$ 1,507.33
Child Protection Petition	236	406	\$ 228,224.68	401	\$ 229,447.58	\$ 572.19	1,682	3,134	\$ 1,881,744.07	\$ 600.43
Drug Court	0	4	\$ 3,552.00	4	\$ 3,396.00	\$ 849.00	4	43	\$ 41,336.00	\$ 961.30
Emancipation	6	4	\$ 3,258.00	4	\$ 2,452.52	\$ 613.13	59	48	\$ 15,633.83	\$ 325.70
Felony	449	514	\$ 449,302.93	491	\$ 423,608.80	\$ 862.75	4,064	4,405	\$ 3,750,802.63	\$ 851.49
Involuntary Civil Commitment	88	85	\$ 21,265.55	76	\$ 16,829.48	\$ 221.44	683	651	\$ 144,683.19	\$ 222.25
Juvenile	75	102	\$ 46,606.09	90	\$ 37,329.10	\$ 414.77	564	630	\$ 301,044.28	\$ 477.85
Lawyer of the Day - Custody	212	213	\$ 48,789.59	198	\$ 44,661.93	\$ 225.57	1,816	1,697	\$ 411,138.29	\$ 242.27
Lawyer of the Day - Juvenile	25	27	\$ 5,687.20	35	\$ 6,578.40	\$ 187.95	276	262	\$ 52,210.32	\$ 199.28
Lawyer of the Day - Walk-in	112	122	\$ 27,530.12	116	\$ 26,498.36	\$ 228.43	1,024	884	\$ 210,652.35	\$ 238.29
Misdemeanor	644	644	\$ 255,659.95	613	\$ 251,287.19	\$ 409.93	5,831	5,871	\$ 2,325,850.68	\$ 396.16
Petition, Modified Release Treatment	1	2	\$ 990.00	2	\$ 858.14	\$ 429.07	4	31	\$ 17,342.04	\$ 559.42
Petition, Release or Discharge	0	1	\$ 492.95	1	\$ 492.95	\$ 492.95	1	7	\$ 3,798.39	\$ 542.63
Petition, Termination of Parental Rights	25	43	\$ 40,086.45	36	\$ 32,044.40	\$ 890.12	155	373	\$ 311,987.01	\$ 836.43
Post Conviction Review	5	10	\$ 8,995.52	9	\$ 11,740.58	\$ 1,304.51	72	72	\$ 134,368.46	\$ 1,866.23
Probate	2	3	\$ 2,904.00	2	\$ 2,586.00	\$ 1,293.00	25	12	\$ 11,690.20	\$ 974.18
Probation Violation	142	156	\$ 63,143.54	154	\$ 65,434.64	\$ 424.90	1,338	1,390	\$ 545,613.63	\$ 392.53
Represent Witness on 5th Amendment	2	3	\$ 618.00	1	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	20	21	\$ 7,715.76	\$ 367.42
Resource Counsel Criminal	0	5	\$ 1,152.00	6	\$ 1,314.00	\$ 219.00	12	30	\$ 4,764.00	\$ 158.80
Resource Counsel Juvenile	1	0		0			6	2	\$ 108.00	\$ 54.00
Resource Counsel Protective Custody	0	2	\$ 360.00	2	\$ 360.00	\$ 180.00	9	14	\$ 1,962.00	\$ 140.14
Review of Child Protection Order	29	202	\$ 90,795.27	179	\$ 84,099.88	\$ 469.83	454	1,364	\$ 687,676.46	\$ 504.16
Revocation of Administrative Release	0	1	\$ 252.00	1	\$ 252.00	\$ 252.00	8	12	\$ 3,926.76	\$ 327.23
DefenderData Sub-Total	2,064	2,571	\$ 1,324,434.27	2,446	\$ 1,272,526.02	\$ 520.25	18,207	21,114	\$ 11,108,728.52	\$ 526.13
Paper Voucher Sub-Total		0		0	\$ -	#DIV/0!		0		#DIV/0!
TOTAL	2,064	2,571	\$1,324,434.27	2,446	\$1,272,526.02	\$ 520.25	18,207	21,114	\$ 11,108,728.52	\$ 526.13

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES
FY19 FUND ACCOUNTING
AS OF 02/28/2019

Account 014 95F Z258 01 (All Other)	Mo.	Q1	Mo.	Q2	Mo.	Q3	Mo.	Q4	FY19 Total
FY19 Professional Services Allotment		\$ 4,455,000.00		\$ 4,347,001.00		\$ 4,595,478.00		\$ 4,795,226.00	
FY19 General Operations Allotment		\$ 45,000.00		\$ 45,000.00		\$ 45,000.00		\$ 45,000.00	
Budget Order Adjustment		\$ (310,496.00)		\$ 310,496.00		\$ -		\$ -	
Legislative Amendment (revenue & conference)		\$ 198,374.00		\$ 198,374.00		\$ 198,374.00		\$ 198,375.00	
Total Budget Allotments		\$ 4,387,878.00		\$ 4,900,871.00		\$ 4,838,852.00		\$ 5,038,601.00	\$ 19,166,202.00
Total Expenses	1	\$ (882,611.39)	4	\$ (1,766,940.01)	7	\$ (1,672,817.43)	10	\$ -	
	2	\$ (1,830,038.43)	5	\$ (1,150,745.03)	8	\$ (1,411,849.66)	11	\$ -	
	3	\$ (1,406,760.51)	6	\$ (2,024,450.12)	9	\$ -	12	\$ -	
Encumbrances (Somerset PDP & Justice Works)		\$ (255,467.50)		\$ 84,597.50		\$ 56,260.00		\$ -	\$ (114,610.00)
Encumbrances (B Taylor, business cards)		\$ (13,000.00)		\$ 8,666.66		\$ 4,333.33		\$ -	\$ (0.01)
Encumbrances (B Taylor)				\$ (52,000.00)		\$ 4,333.33		\$ -	\$ (47,666.67)
Encumbrances (Videographer)						\$ (4,800.00)		\$ -	\$ (4,800.00)
TOTAL REMAINING		\$ 0.17		\$ 0.00		\$ 1,814,311.57		\$ 5,038,601.00	\$ 6,852,912.74

Q3 Month 8	
INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES	
Counsel Payments	\$ (1,272,526.02)
Somerset County	\$ (22,687.50)
Somerset County Discovery	\$ -
Subpoena Witness Fees	\$ -
Private Investigators	\$ (32,271.61)
Mental Health Expert	\$ (43,742.54)
Transcripts	\$ (12,071.44)
Other Expert	\$ (17,163.13)
Lodging for Trial	\$ -
Process Servers	\$ (286.53)
Interpreters	\$ (2,319.56)
Misc Prof Fees & Serv	\$ (728.92)
SUB-TOTAL ILS	\$ (1,403,797.25)
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Training Videographer	\$ -
DefenderData	\$ (5,895.00)
Service Center	\$ -
Mileage/Tolls/Parking	\$ (1,193.42)
Mailing/Postage/Freight	\$ (12.27)
West Publishing Corp	\$ (185.13)
Annual Parking Fees	\$ (540.00)
Office Supplies/Equip.	\$ (101.68)
Cellular Phones	\$ (124.91)
OIT/TELCO	\$ -
Office Equipment Rental	\$ -
Printing & Binding	\$ -
Barbara Taylor monthly fees	\$ -
SUB-TOTAL OE	\$ (8,052.41)
TOTAL	\$ (1,411,849.66)

INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES	
Q3 Allotment	\$ 4,838,852.00
Q3 Encumbrances for Somerset PDP & Justice Works contracts	\$ 56,260.00
Barbara Taylor Contract	\$ 8,666.66
Videographer Contract	\$ (4,800.00)
Q3 Expenses to date	\$ (3,084,667.09)
Remaining Q3 Allotment	\$ 1,814,311.57

Non-Counsel Indigent Legal Services	
Monthly Total	\$ (108,583.73)
Total Q1	\$ (260,358.16)
Total Q2	\$ (250,267.57)
Total Q3	\$ (223,255.81)
Total Q4	\$ -
Fiscal Year Total	\$ (733,881.54)

Conference Account Transactions	
Training Videographer	\$ -
Training Meals	\$ -
Printing/Binding	\$ -
Overseers of the Bar CLE fee	\$ -
Collected Registration Fees	\$ -
Current Month Total	\$ -

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

FY19 FUND ACCOUNTING

As of 02/28/19

Account 014 95F 2258 01 (Revenue)	Mo.	Q1	Mo.	Q2	Mo.	Q3	Mo.	Q4	FY19 Total
Total Budget Allotments		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,125.00	\$ 736,497.00
Financial Order Adjustment	1	\$ -	4	\$ -	7	\$ -	10	\$ -	
Financial Order Adjustment	2	\$ -	5	\$ -	8	\$ -	11		
Budget Order Adjustment	3	\$ -	6	\$ -	9	\$ -	12	\$ -	
Budget Order Adjustment		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	12	\$ -	\$ -
Total Budget Allotments		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,125.00	\$ 736,497.00
Cash Carryover from Prior Quarter		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
Collected Revenue from JB	1	\$ 83,016.89	4	\$ 82,863.81	7	\$ 90,705.92	10	\$ -	
Promissory Note Payments		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
Collected Revenue from JB	2	\$ -	5	\$ 116,115.85	8	\$ 101,822.48	11	\$ -	
Court Ordered Counsel Fee		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
Collected Revenue from JB (late transfer)		\$ 89,153.94		\$ -	9	\$ -		\$ -	
Collected Revenue from JB	3	\$ 86,999.14	6	\$ 70,129.23	9	\$ -	12	\$ -	
Returned Checks-stopped payments		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
TOTAL CASH PLUS REVENUE COLLECTED		\$ 259,169.97		\$ 269,108.89		\$ 192,528.40		\$ -	\$ 720,807.26
Counsel Payments	1	\$ -	4	\$ -	7	\$ -	10	\$ -	
Other Expenses		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	***	\$ -	
Counsel Payments	2	\$ -	5	\$ -	8	\$ -	11	\$ -	
Other Expenses		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	
Counsel Payments	3	\$ -	6	\$ -	9	\$ -	12	\$ -	
Other Expenses	*	\$ -	**	\$ -	***	\$ -		\$ -	
REMAINING ALLOTMENT		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,124.00		\$ 184,125.00	\$ 736,497.00
Overpayment Reimbursements	1		4	\$ (1,694.84)	7	\$ -	10	\$ -	
	2	\$ (2,905.00)	5	\$ (69.00)	8	\$ (224.00)	11	\$ -	
	3	\$ (560.00)	6	\$ (618.00)	9	\$ -	12	\$ -	
REMAINING CASH Year to Date		\$ 255,704.97		\$ 266,727.05		\$ 192,304.40		\$ -	\$ 714,736.42

Q3 Month 8	
DEFENDER DATA COUNSEL PAYMENTS	
	\$ -
SUB-TOTAL (LS)	\$ -
OVERPAYMENT REIMBURSEMENTS	\$ (224.00)
Paper Voucher	\$ -
Somerset County CDs	\$ -
Private Investigators	\$ -
Mental Health Expert	\$ -
Transcripts	\$ -
Other Expert	\$ -
StaCap Expense	\$ -
SUB-TOTAL OE	\$ (224.00)
TOTAL	\$ (224.00)

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES
FY19 FUND ACCOUNTING
AS OF 02/28/2019

Account 014 95F 2258 01 (Personal Services)	Mo.	Q1	Mo.	Q2	Mo.	Q3	Mo.	Q4	FY19 Total
FY19 Allotment	\$	197,081.00	\$	223,111.00	\$	197,084.00	\$	215,289.00	\$ -
Financial Order Adjustments	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Financial Order Adjustments	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Budget Order Adjustments			\$	-	\$	-			
Total Budget Allotments	\$	197,081.00	\$	223,111.00	\$	197,084.00	\$	215,289.00	\$ 832,565.00
Total Expenses	1 \$	(55,638.04)	4 \$	(78,750.49)	7 \$	(56,280.97)	10 \$	-	
	2 \$	(56,106.91)	5 \$	(55,548.91)	8 \$	(54,894.29)	11 \$	-	
	3 \$	(55,392.68)	6 \$	(55,885.11)	9 \$	-	12 \$	-	
TOTAL REMAINING	\$	29,943.37	\$	32,926.49	\$	85,908.74	\$	215,289.00	\$ 364,067.60

Q3 Month 8	
Per Diem Payments	\$ (165.00)
Salary	\$ (26,013.71)
Vacation Pay	\$ (1,180.73)
Holiday Pay	\$ (1,624.44)
Sick Pay	\$ (1,310.13)
Standard Overtime	\$ (63.32)
Health Insurance	\$ (9,287.14)
Dental Insurance	\$ (223.22)
Employer Retiree Health	\$ (3,567.22)
Employer Retirement	\$ (2,089.92)
Employer Group Life	\$ (266.00)
Employer Medicare	\$ (432.62)
Retiree Unfunded Liability	\$ (6,374.36)
July & August Per Diem	\$ -
Perm Part Time Full Ben	\$ (2,296.48)
TOTAL	\$ (54,894.29)

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

Activity Report by Court

2/28/2019

Court	Feb-19						Fiscal Year 2019			
	New Cases	Vouchers Submitted	Submitted Amount	Vouchers Paid	Approved Amount	Average Amount	Cases Opened	Vouchers Paid	Amount Paid	Average Amount
ALFSC	3	3	\$ 2,340.00	3	\$ 1,908.00	\$ 636.00	34	55	\$ 55,794.44	\$ 1,014.44
AUBSC	1	1	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00	\$ 330.00	12	19	\$ 16,905.84	\$ 889.78
AUGDC	31	56	\$ 36,254.20	45	\$ 22,610.52	\$ 502.46	295	438	\$ 216,851.04	\$ 495.09
AUGSC	12	10	\$ 4,656.95	10	\$ 6,415.09	\$ 641.51	65	113	\$ 63,051.91	\$ 557.98
BANDC	75	90	\$ 30,787.76	95	\$ 30,963.40	\$ 325.93	563	767	\$ 262,003.50	\$ 341.60
BANSC	2	0		0			4	8	\$ 20,184.50	\$ 2,523.06
BATSC	0	0		0			2	0		
BELDC	10	33	\$ 21,380.44	30	\$ 22,132.14	\$ 737.74	70	199	\$ 148,033.43	\$ 743.89
BELSC	1	0		0			3	4	\$ 1,941.36	\$ 485.34
BIDDC	53	97	\$ 46,476.87	89	\$ 44,553.71	\$ 500.60	463	653	\$ 335,280.72	\$ 513.45
BRIDC	12	24	\$ 13,320.11	30	\$ 14,645.65	\$ 488.19	117	148	\$ 76,138.03	\$ 514.45
CALDC	6	10	\$ 5,049.68	10	\$ 5,165.52	\$ 516.55	36	71	\$ 42,539.68	\$ 599.15
CARDC	15	10	\$ 5,604.00	12	\$ 6,286.35	\$ 523.86	90	120	\$ 55,432.94	\$ 461.94
CARSC	2	1	\$ 636.00	0			5	11	\$ 6,654.19	\$ 604.93
DOVDC	8	9	\$ 2,157.68	4	\$ 2,598.00	\$ 649.50	41	95	\$ 32,380.40	\$ 340.85
DOVSC	0	0		0			0	1	\$ 162.00	\$ 162.00
ELLDC	22	40	\$ 30,936.88	34	\$ 26,136.49	\$ 768.72	120	209	\$ 146,050.79	\$ 698.81
ELLSC	0	0		0			3	2	\$ 3,135.00	\$ 1,567.50
FARDC	20	25	\$ 12,959.27	22	\$ 11,014.36	\$ 500.65	118	167	\$ 120,068.70	\$ 718.97
FARSC	0	0		0			1	4	\$ 932.34	\$ 233.09
FORDC	3	8	\$ 3,611.84	10	\$ 6,012.77	\$ 601.28	43	64	\$ 41,148.23	\$ 642.94
HOUDC	22	25	\$ 10,742.93	22	\$ 9,115.46	\$ 414.34	145	183	\$ 81,239.48	\$ 443.93
HOUSC	0	0		1	\$ 6,094.30	\$ 6,094.30	0	3	\$ 7,961.58	\$ 2,653.86
LEWDC	82	140	\$ 51,525.92	120	\$ 49,331.28	\$ 411.09	586	875	\$ 405,690.52	\$ 463.65
LINDC	14	8	\$ 4,018.08	13	\$ 6,554.72	\$ 504.21	71	107	\$ 39,946.86	\$ 373.34
MACDC	4	10	\$ 3,924.00	10	\$ 4,212.00	\$ 421.20	75	134	\$ 47,536.04	\$ 354.75
MACSC	0	1	\$ 282.00	0			2	6	\$ 1,236.00	\$ 206.00
MADDC	2	1	\$ 401.36	1	\$ 401.36	\$ 401.36	12	11	\$ 3,484.20	\$ 316.75
MILDC	3	3	\$ 1,605.40	3	\$ 1,383.68	\$ 461.23	33	31	\$ 11,644.24	\$ 375.62
NEWDC	17	18	\$ 5,240.68	15	\$ 5,670.52	\$ 378.03	101	171	\$ 67,539.59	\$ 394.97
PORDC	78	129	\$ 63,483.04	102	\$ 46,021.68	\$ 451.19	627	837	\$ 434,514.63	\$ 519.13
PORSC	0	1	\$ 582.00	0			9	7	\$ 9,861.20	\$ 1,408.74
PREDC	14	27	\$ 11,066.46	30	\$ 13,757.61	\$ 458.59	119	191	\$ 86,734.21	\$ 454.11
RODC	17	25	\$ 12,758.43	16	\$ 8,103.14	\$ 506.45	165	223	\$ 110,307.10	\$ 494.65
ROSC	1	2	\$ 345.57	2	\$ 552.76	\$ 276.38	11	15	\$ 2,982.42	\$ 198.83
RUMDC	3	14	\$ 5,908.88	12	\$ 8,225.84	\$ 685.49	59	84	\$ 49,622.03	\$ 590.74
SKODC	23	36	\$ 14,460.97	38	\$ 16,583.97	\$ 436.42	193	354	\$ 204,623.05	\$ 578.03
SKOSC	0	0		0			0	1	\$ 486.00	\$ 486.00
SODC	7	10	\$ 6,753.73	9	\$ 7,394.84	\$ 821.65	52	80	\$ 42,933.04	\$ 536.66
SQUSC	0	0		0			0	7	\$ 8,708.65	\$ 1,244.09
SPRDC	40	49	\$ 23,694.85	53	\$ 25,239.97	\$ 476.23	337	476	\$ 265,043.56	\$ 556.81
Law Ct	6	18	\$ 22,122.18	22	\$ 29,039.82	\$ 1,319.99	76	123	\$ 203,337.09	\$ 1,653.15
YORCD	194	226	\$ 154,463.78	215	\$ 152,705.20	\$ 710.26	1,823	1,841	\$ 1,288,674.50	\$ 699.99
AROCD	96	122	\$ 53,288.22	118	\$ 61,530.11	\$ 521.44	988	909	\$ 501,027.87	\$ 551.19
ANDCD	117	145	\$ 83,673.13	131	\$ 77,041.10	\$ 588.10	1,201	1,300	\$ 627,159.19	\$ 482.43
KENCD	151	181	\$ 79,107.92	168	\$ 74,546.66	\$ 443.73	1,292	1,306	\$ 554,039.96	\$ 424.23
PENCD	190	206	\$ 93,609.19	182	\$ 86,276.00	\$ 474.04	1,801	1,828	\$ 885,542.45	\$ 484.43
SAGCD	29	31	\$ 13,741.94	33	\$ 16,473.58	\$ 499.20	246	265	\$ 169,142.60	\$ 638.27
WALCD	29	22	\$ 12,227.34	25	\$ 12,919.59	\$ 516.78	272	270	\$ 136,851.32	\$ 506.86
PISCD	14	13	\$ 3,028.64	14	\$ 2,658.00	\$ 189.86	117	106	\$ 26,142.63	\$ 246.63
HANCD	58	45	\$ 19,830.50	44	\$ 19,856.00	\$ 451.27	561	563	\$ 280,135.46	\$ 497.58
FRACD	34	49	\$ 22,090.75	44	\$ 17,235.14	\$ 391.71	286	381	\$ 166,859.10	\$ 437.95
WASCD	37	35	\$ 8,793.42	42	\$ 12,536.22	\$ 298.48	363	399	\$ 169,207.10	\$ 424.08
CUMCD	294	326	\$ 198,272.31	315	\$ 185,837.54	\$ 589.96	2,790	2,767	\$ 1,566,392.50	\$ 566.10
KNOCD	41	42	\$ 23,852.12	39	\$ 18,461.12	\$ 473.36	414	408	\$ 204,557.92	\$ 501.37
SOMCD	2	3	\$ 2,370.66	2	\$ 906.66	\$ 453.33	15	13	\$ 22,671.33	\$ 1,743.95
OXFCD	79	65	\$ 38,059.89	73	\$ 28,830.20	\$ 394.93	549	632	\$ 267,615.49	\$ 423.44
LINCD	25	24	\$ 13,037.98	31	\$ 21,237.79	\$ 685.09	214	279	\$ 139,949.87	\$ 501.61
WATDC	23	55	\$ 24,305.45	55	\$ 22,435.64	\$ 407.92	202	412	\$ 188,121.04	\$ 456.60
WESDC	29	20	\$ 8,029.68	22	\$ 5,238.12	\$ 238.10	185	194	\$ 66,823.22	\$ 344.45
WISDC	8	14	\$ 10,205.91	13	\$ 9,133.20	\$ 702.55	61	88	\$ 65,210.12	\$ 741.02
WISSC	0	1	\$ 230.08	0			0	3	\$ 8,334.22	\$ 2,778.07
YORDC	5	12	\$ 6,797.20	16	\$ 8,213.20	\$ 513.33	69	83	\$ 44,150.10	\$ 531.93
TOTAL	2,064	2,571	\$ 1,324,434.27	2,446	\$ 1,272,526.02	\$ 520.25	18,207	21,114	\$ 11,108,728.52	\$ 526.13

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

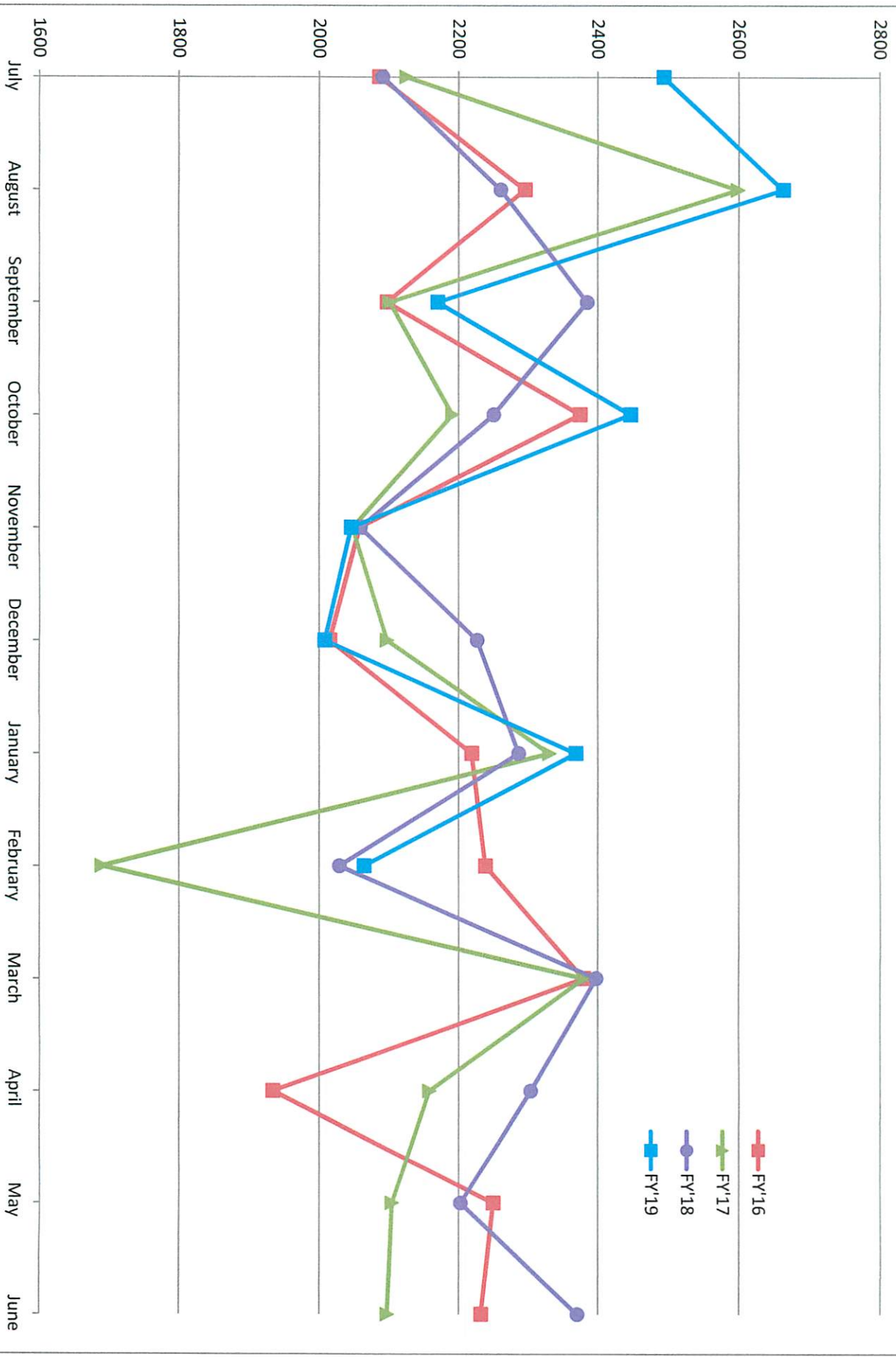
Number of Attorneys Rostered by Court

02/28/2019

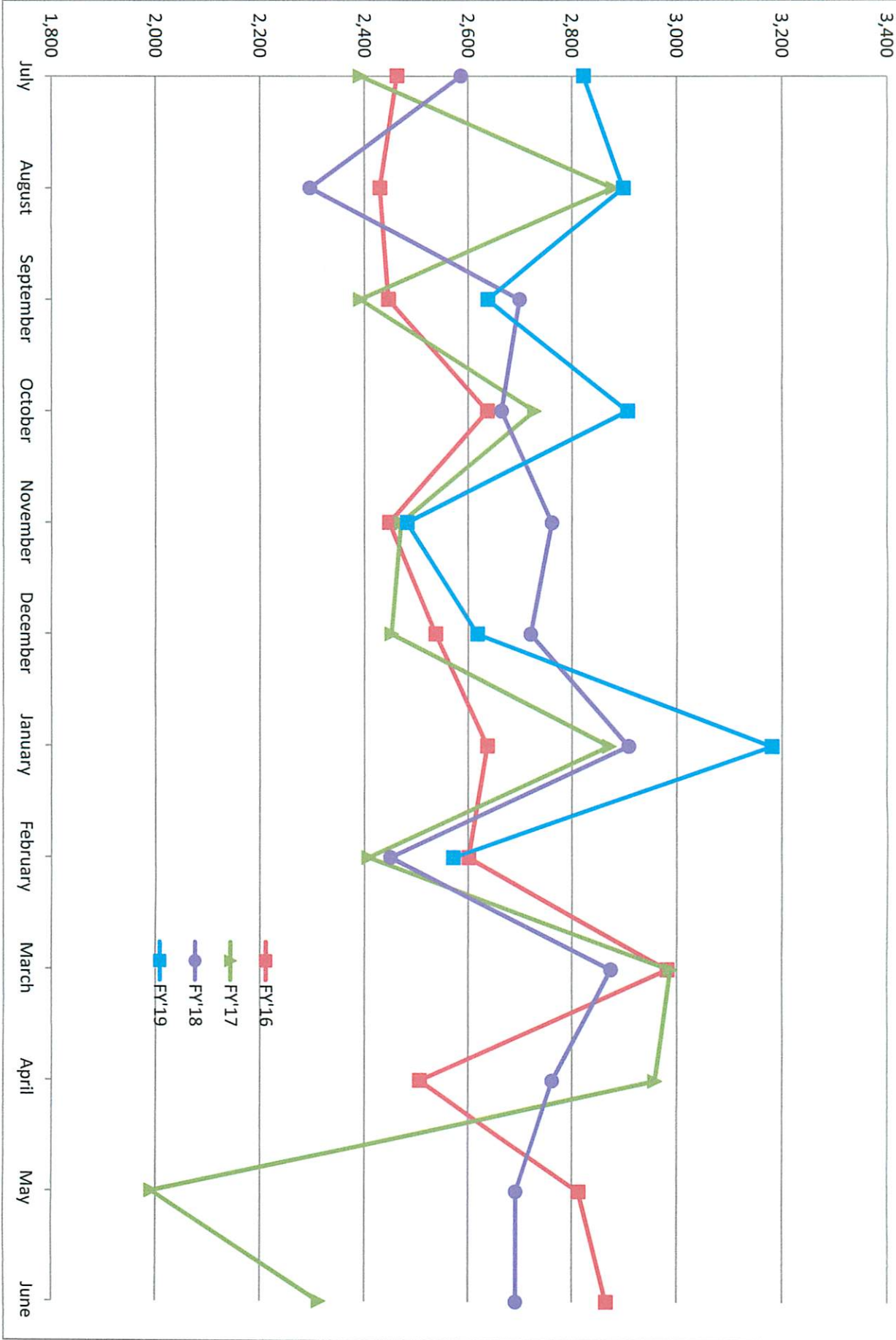
Court	Rostered Attorneys
Augusta District Court	89
Bangor District Court	45
Belfast District Court	42
Biddeford District Court	133
Bridgton District Court	84
Calais District Court	11
Caribou District Court	19
Dover-Foxcroft District Court	23
Ellsworth District Court	33
Farmington District Court	34
Fort Kent District Court	12
Houlton District Court	16
Lewiston District Court	122
Lincoln District Court	22
Machias District Court	16
Madawaska District Court	13
Millinocket District Court	17
Newport District Court	31
Portland District Court	156
Presque Isle District Court	16
Rockland District Court	36
Rumford District Court	25
Skowhegan District Court	24

Court	Rostered Attorneys
South Paris District Court	52
Springvale District Court	117
Unified Criminal Docket Alfred	115
Unified Criminal Docket Aroostook	23
Unified Criminal Docket Auburn	101
Unified Criminal Docket Augusta	81
Unified Criminal Docket Bangor	49
Unified Criminal Docket Bath	86
Unified Criminal Docket Belfast	42
Unified Criminal Docket Dover Foxcroft	21
Unified Criminal Docket Ellsworth	37
Unified Criminal Docket Farmington	36
Unified Criminal Docket Machias	17
Unified Criminal Docket Portland	148
Unified Criminal Docket Rockland	32
Unified Criminal Docket Skowhegan	17
Unified Criminal Docket South Paris	42
Unified Criminal Docket Wiscasset	49
Waterville District Court	44
West Bath District Court	103
Wiscasset District Court	55
York District Court	99

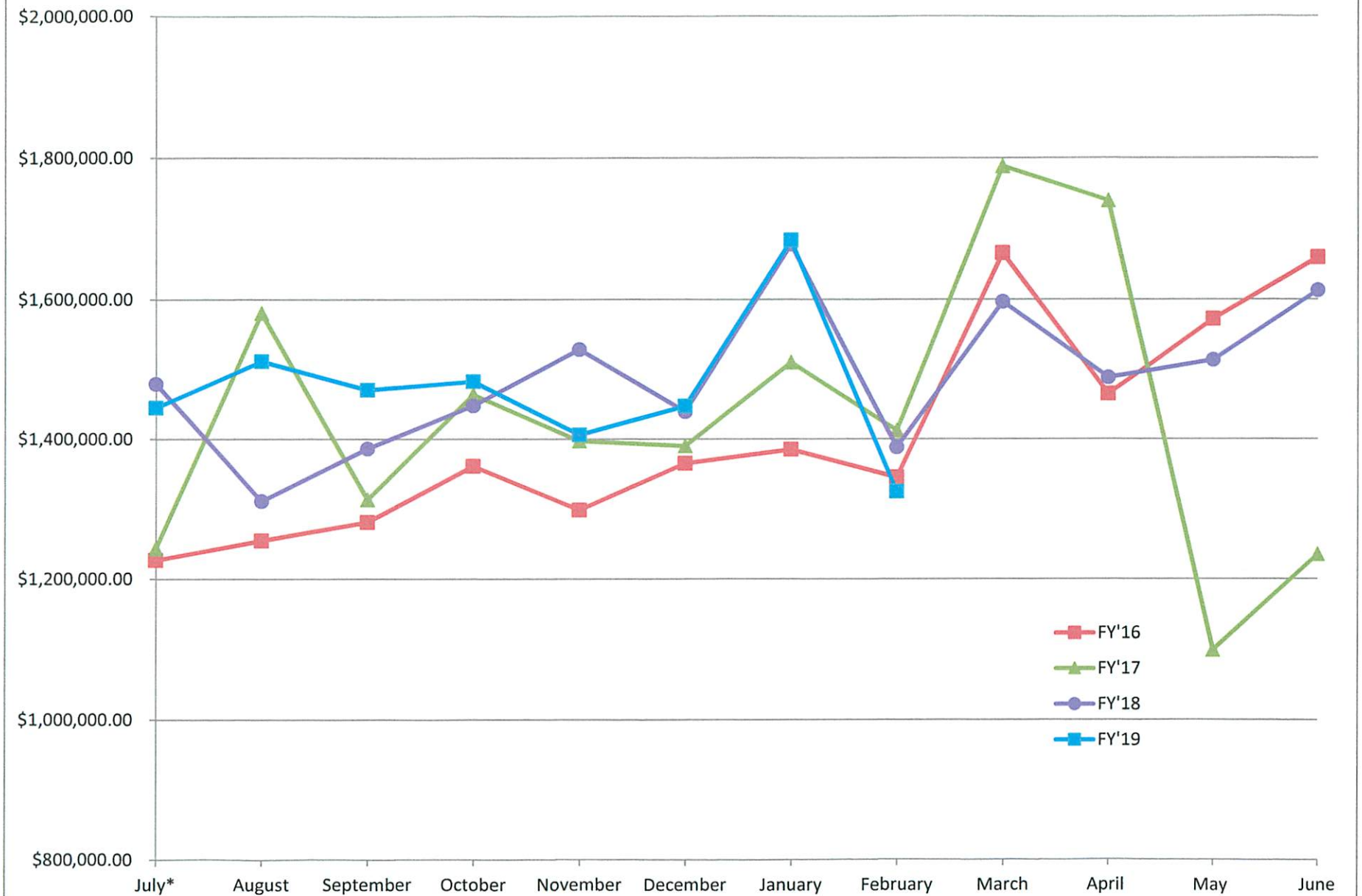
NEW CASES



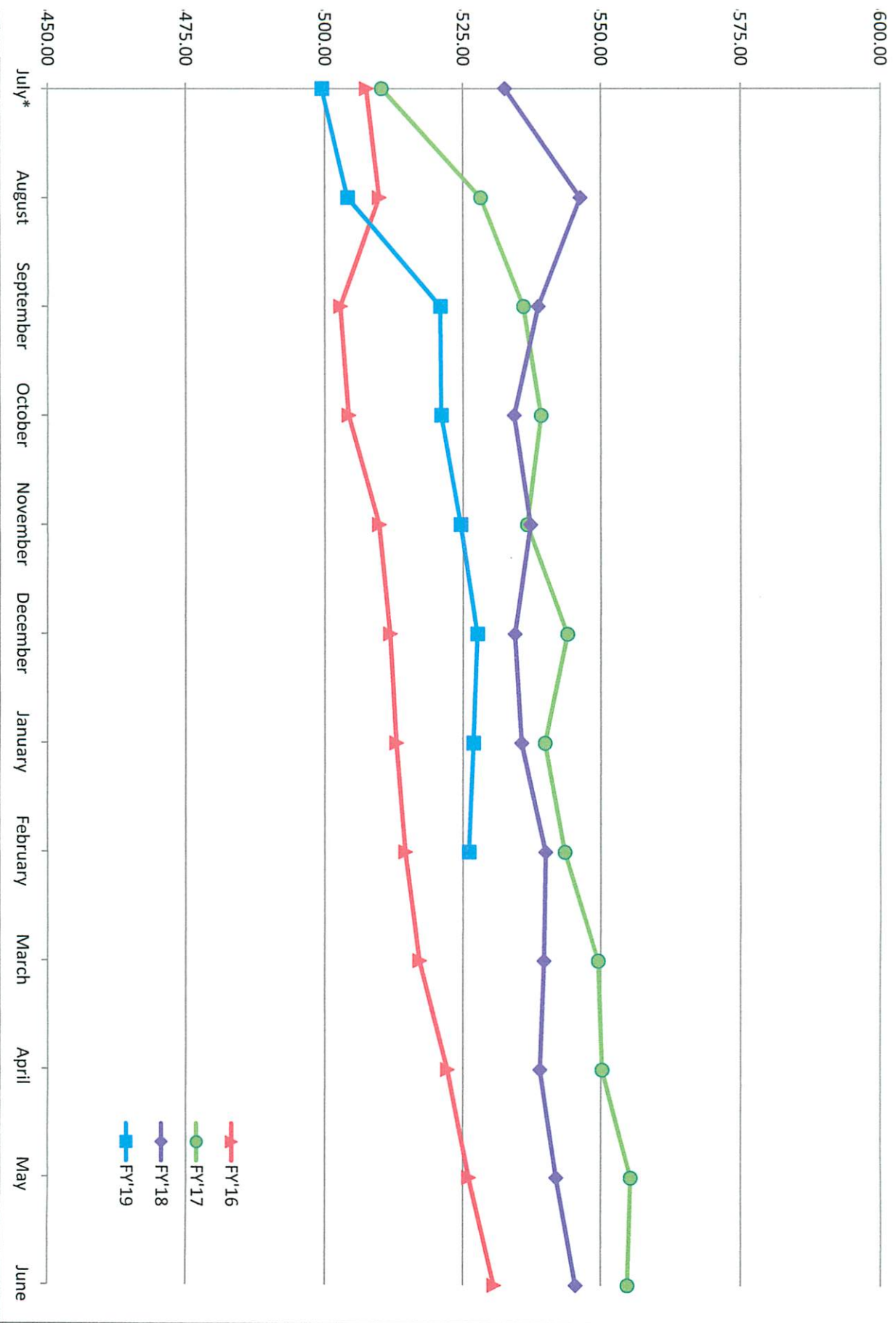
Submitted Vouchers



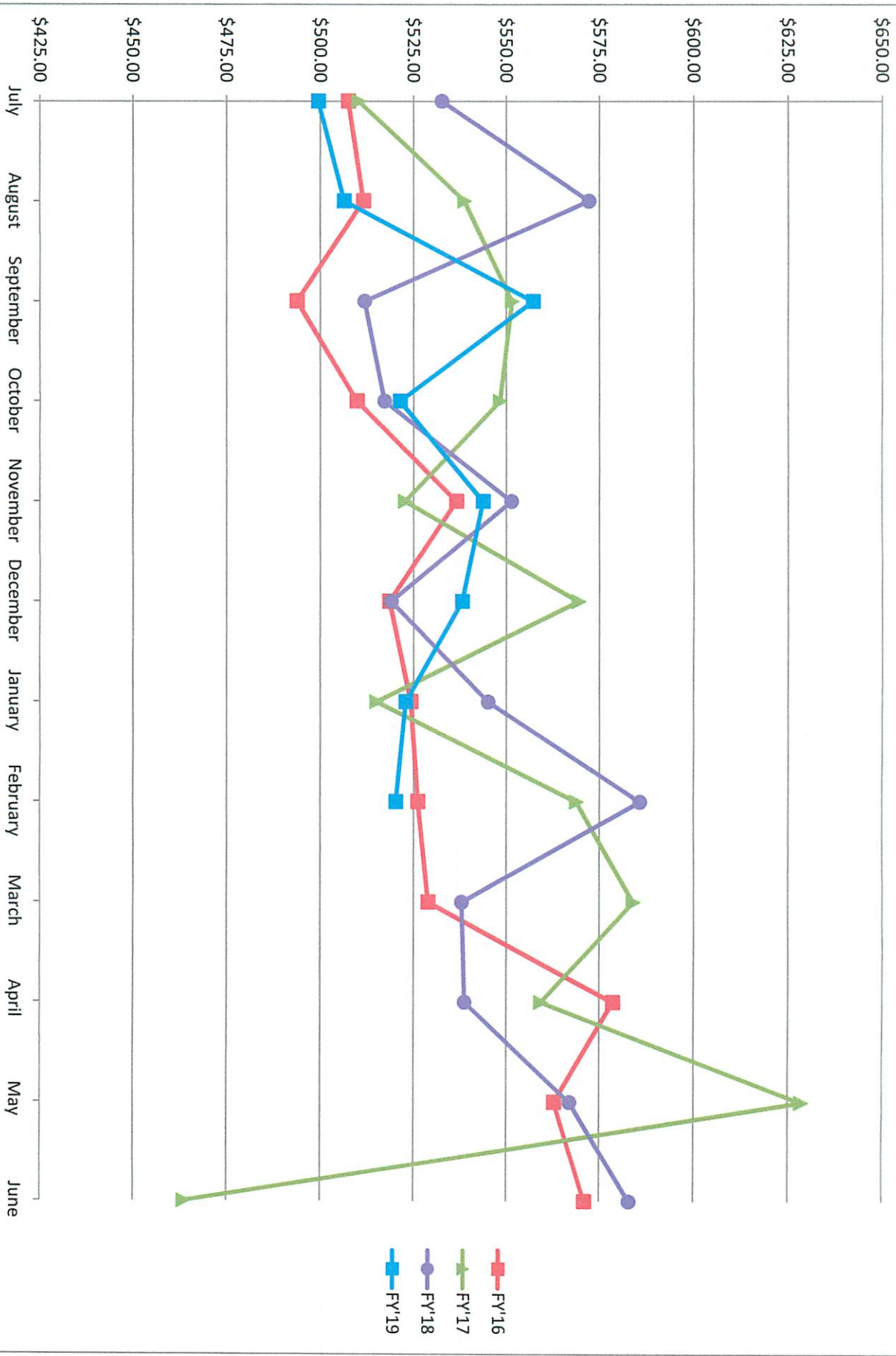
Submitted Voucher Amount



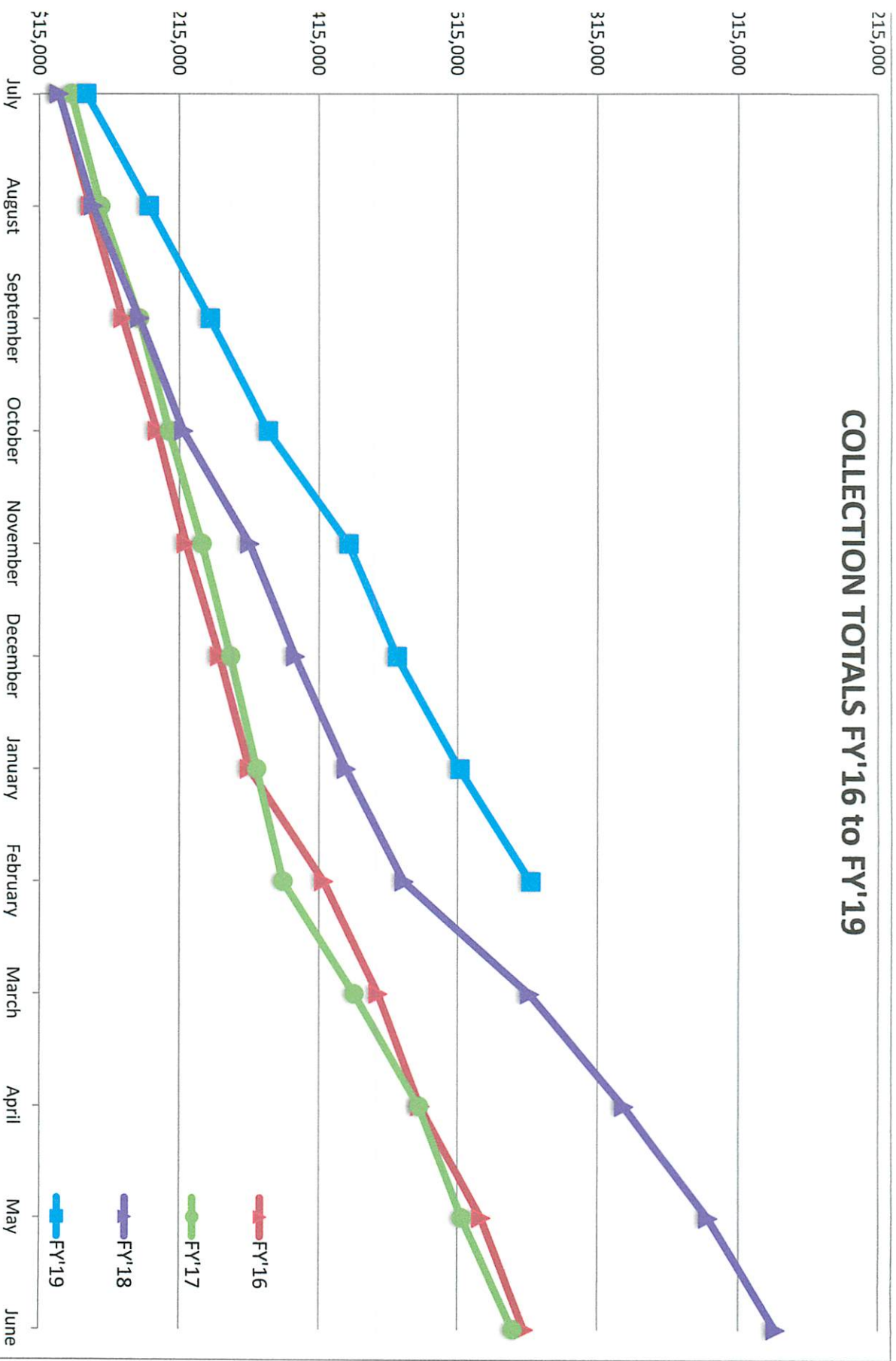
Average Voucher Price Fiscal Year to Date



Monthly Price Per Voucher



COLLECTION TOTALS FY'16 to FY'19



(3.)

Fee Schedule Rule Discussion

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

TO: MCILS COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JOHN D. PELLETIER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CC: ELLIE MACIAG, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: FEE SCHEDULE RULE
DATE: MARCH 7, 2019

At its last meeting, the Commission continued its discussion of potential amendments to the fee schedule rule, focusing on the process for approving vouchers that exceed the cap. Chair Carey said that he would provide an updated draft of the rule before the next meeting.

(4.)

Budget Update

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

TO: MCILS COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JOHN D. PELLETIER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CC: ELLIE MACIAG, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: BUDGET UPDATE
DATE: MARCH 7, 2019

As discussed at the last meeting, the Governor's proposed budget contained substantially less in the All Other Line than was requested by the Commission. The Executive Director is scheduled to meet on Friday, March 8, 2019, with the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to discuss the Commission's budget needs. An update will be provided at the meeting.

(5.)

**Letter to Government
Oversight Committee**

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

TO: MCILS COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JOHN D. PELLETIER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CC: ELLIE MACIAG, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: LETTER TO GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
DATE: MARCH 7, 2019

Senator Lisa Keim sent a letter to the Legislature's Government Oversight Committee asking the Committee to authorize the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to investigate Commission practices. A copy of the letter is attached.

The Commission sent a letter to the Committee responding to the assertions in Senator Keim's letter, a copy of which is also attached. The issue has appeared on the Agenda for the Committee's meeting on March 8, 2019. The Executive Director will attend the Committee meeting and provide an update at the Commission's upcoming meeting.

129th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 18

Senator Lisa Keim
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1505
Lisa.Keim@legislature.maine.gov

Judiciary Committee
Government Oversight Committee

February 21, 2019

Government Oversight Committee
82 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Dear Senator Chenette, Representative Mastraccio and GOC colleagues,

I am submitting this letter to request that the Government Oversight Committee take action to direct the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to conduct a rapid review of the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services (MCILS) and the Indigent Legal Services program in the State.

MCILS is an independent commission whose purpose is to provide efficient, high-quality representation to indigent citizens who are entitled to counsel at state expense under the 6th Amendment of the United States Constitution. The Commission uses assigned private attorneys and contract counsel to provide representation to criminal defendants, juvenile defendants, parents in child protective cases, and people facing involuntary commitment to a psychiatric hospital who are indigent.

Substantial evidence indicates that MCILS is not fulfilling its duty as outlined by Maine law which states that:

“the commission shall work to ensure the delivery of indigent legal services by qualified and competent counsel in a manner that is fair and consistent throughout the State and to ensure adequate funding of a statewide system of indigent legal services, which must be provided and managed in a fiscally responsible manner, free from undue political interference and conflicts of interest. 4 M.R.S.A. §§ 1801.”

The necessity for integrity in the defense of the indigent cannot be overstated. Our system of justice, quite literally, depends on all who are criminally accused having a robust defense. Moreover, if a questionable or fraudulent system is in place, creating uncertainty about the integrity of justice, then we have also lost justice. A strong society is built on faith in a fair and impartial judicial system, one that is blind to social and economic status.

Reliable information has come to light, from multiple sources, prompting serious concern that Maine’s indigent defendants and Maine’s taxpayers are being ill-served by MCILS due to a systemic lack of accountability and oversight; a failure to use basic accounting methods and the

commission's legal duty to scrutinize the quality of representation, the veracity of vouchers, or indigency determinations.

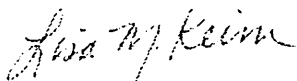
The potential for harm to the public is significant in terms of the following assertions:

- the inefficient management of public funds;
- falsification of attorney vouchers, the most blatant evidence of which can be found on Maine's Open Checkbook where in 2018, twenty-five MCILS rostered attorneys were paid more than the highest possible MCILS income of \$124,800 (based on \$60hr/40hrs/wk, 52wks/yr), with MCILS highest 2018 rostered attorney being paid ~\$275k. An unrealistically low estimate is that there have been at least 35,000 more attorney hours billed over the past 5 years than what is possible to have been billed;
- representation allocated to those who may have the financial means to pay for legal service (or a portion), thereby depleting resources through mismanagement;
- given the lack of oversight, the potential that those deserving and entitled to representation not receiving the constitutionally guaranteed right to attorney;
- negligence in oversight of quality of representation by not utilizing the basic measure of jail visits, client contact, motions filed, or trial and plea rates to judge competency;
- lack of oversight in managing the state contract, in regard to attorney hours spent per case and failure to recognize and remedy an obvious conflict of interest within this contractual agreement.

An OPEGA review of MCILS would shed light on the concerning administration of the program, its efficiency, and its oversight of the quality and effectiveness of representation, and the screening procedure used to determine eligibility for legal services. The Maine citizens who financially support the system, and more pointedly, those who are entitled to its services, have the right to a system that is properly conducted and in keeping with the intent of the 6th Amendment.

Given the gravity of this ongoing situation as noted in the outlined assertions, that are partial in presentation to protect some identities, and belief in a high duty to safeguard justice, I ask the members of the Government Oversight Committee vote in favor of a rapid review of MCILS. Maine people have a right to know.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Keim
State Senator

Sunshine is the best antiseptic.



MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

John D. Pelletier, Esquire
Executive Director

March 7, 2019

Committee on Government Oversight
C/O Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability
82 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Senator Chenett, Representative Mastraccio:

I am writing to set forth the response of the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services to the letter dated February 21, 2019 submitted by Senator Lisa Keim. The Commission strongly disagrees with Senator Keim's assertions of fraud and mismanagement. I will address each of the Senator's assertions individually.

Falsification of Attorney Vouchers:

Senator Keim points to the sum of approximately \$275,000 being paid to a single attorney in fiscal year 2018 as "blatant evidence" of fraud. Commission investigation, however, has demonstrated that the payment in question covered the work of numerous attorneys, not a single attorney.

The Commission has been investigating amounts paid to various lawyers performing indigent legal services, including the payment amount identified in Senator Keim's letter. In the Commission's attorney billing system, cases that are assigned to an attorney are entered in that attorney's name, the so-called lead attorney. In firms with multiple attorneys, however, attorneys other than the lead attorney may bill time under an individual case. The payment on the case is listed as a payment to the lead attorney.

As part of its investigation, the Commission requested that its billing system vendor provide data on all of the hours billed by individual attorneys for each day during the fiscal year, regardless of who was the "lead" attorney on any individual voucher. That data showed that the lead attorney, who was paid the \$275,000 in question, actually billed the Commission for far fewer hours than reflected by the overall voucher payments.

This finding suggested a different problem with this attorney's law firm. Numerous hours had been billed by other lawyers in the firm working on the lead attorney's cases, raising concerns about the firm's adherence to the principal of vertical representation – the idea that the attorney assigned to a case would perform all or most of the work on a case. This issue has been brought to the attention of the law firm in question. Moreover, the Commission is aware that the issue of multiple attorneys working on cases assigned to a single attorney in this firm has come to the attention of the Sixth Amendment Center. The Commission looks forward to the Sixth Amendment Center's recommendations on the issue of vertical representation and will consider that guidance in determining future steps to ensure vertical representation in Maine's system.

As part of its investigation, the Commission challenged a small number of other attorneys to explain their billing data. One such attorney performed an internal audit of billing and discovered that a division of

labor between the attorney and staff led to double billing in certain circumstances. Based on this internal audit, prompted by the Commission's inquiry, this attorney has identified the extent of the overbilling and has agreed to make substantial reimbursement to the Commission.

Overall, the Commission has investigated, and continues to investigate, attorney billing and has not found evidence demonstrating fraud.

Representation Allocated to People with the Means to Hire Counsel:

In Maine, individual judges, not the Commission, are charged with determining whether a person is indigent and entitled to counsel at State expense. The Commission does employ financial screeners who assist most courts in making the indigency decision by interviewing applicants and making recommendations to the court on whether the person is indigent, and if so, whether the person has the means to reimburse the State for some or all of the cost of representation. If the court orders a person to make reimbursements, the financial screeners track payments and engage in enforcement efforts. This process, together with the statutory process for bail money to be set-off against counsel fees paid, generated more than \$1 million in counsel fee reimbursements in fiscal year 2018.

In addition, the Commission employs a part-time financial screener who investigates financial information submitted to the court. Discrepancies found are reported to the court for reconsideration of the indigency decision. Overall, however, this process has confirmed that the vast majority of people found indigent by the court are deserving of assigned counsel. For example, in 2018, out of 339 cases reviewed, this screener found evidence that should be brought to the courts attention in only 6 cases.

Senator Keim's letter also points to the potential that deserving individuals are being denied assigned counsel. As pointed out above, the courts, not the Commission, are responsible for the indigency decision.

Quality of Representation:

Senator Keim's letter asserts negligence in the Commission's failure to use tools to extract bulk data from its billing system regarding certain items she suggests are indicia of competence in representation. Such data would be very valuable if it was the only means by which to assess what lawyers are doing in the field. At the Commission, however, staff attorneys review a summary of the work performed and the disposition in every single case as part of the voucher review and payment process. As a result, Commission staff are in a position to assess the quality of representation on an ongoing basis. The staff can and do address issues identified in voucher review with individual attorneys, including failure to meet with clients and a perceived lack of pre-trial litigation practice.

That said, as part of the Sixth Amendment Center study, the Commission was asked to extract data on the items listed in Senator Keim's letter for criminal cases in a particular county. This was done and the data was provided to the Sixth Amendment Center. The data did reflect a more global and less granular look at work being performed than does the voucher review process. As such, the data did provide useful insights, and the Commission intends to incorporate this practice into future oversight efforts. This is precisely the type of guidance the Commission is hoping will be provided by the Sixth Amendment Center study, and the Commission is open to any improvements recommended.

Mismanagement of the Somerset County Contract:

As minutes of its meetings reflect, the Commission has wrestled with the status of this contract for a number of years. Note, however, that during that time, many policy-makers have pointed to the Somerset contract as a model that should be expanded statewide. Legislation to do so was introduced, but defeated, in consecutive Legislatures.

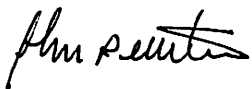
The Somerset contract is the type of flat fee contract that has come into disfavor among the majority of proponents of indigent legal services because the flat fee could incentivize lawyers to limit the hours worked and, thereby, increase the hourly return, an outcome most likely when the contract is awarded to the lowest of many competitive bids. Note, however, that in over twenty years, the Somerset contract has gone out to bid numerous times under both the Judicial Branch and the Commission, but has never attracted more than one bid. Moreover, since the Commission was created, feedback to the Commission regarding the quality of representation provided under the contract, which included input from prosecutors and presiding judges, has always been positive.

Although the cost per case under the contract has remained competitive with the average cost per case for assigned counsel cases, the hourly rate based on the amount of the contract and the hours reported by the contract attorneys has, in more recent years, gone from similar to the rate paid to assigned counsel to a substantially higher rate. The Commission raised this as a concern when the contract was last up for review. Given that the Legislature had recently decided to hire the Sixth Amendment Center to study five counties in Maine, including Somerset, the Commission decided to extend the contract for one year so that it can consider the results of the study in deciding whether, and if so on what terms, to put the contract back out to bid.

Conclusion:

At a legislative hearing in 2018, David Carroll, Executive Director of the Sixth Amendment Center, was asked to describe the essence of effective assistance of counsel. He said, paraphrasing, that lawyers need to have adequate training and experience, and they need to have the time and resources necessary to do the case. The Commission focusses all of its efforts on these goals through the most efficient use of the taxpayer money entrusted to it. We are open and transparent. Should the Committee decide to pursue an investigation, the Commission will fully cooperate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John D. Pelletier".

John D. Pelletier, Esq.
Executive Director

(6.)

Sixth Amendment Center

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

TO: MCILS COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JOHN D. PELLETIER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CC: ELLIE MACIAG, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: SIXTH AMENDMENT CENTER UPDATE
DATE: MARCH 7, 2019

During February, Nancy Bennett from the Sixth Amendment Center requested that the Commission run reports on individual time events for attorneys in Androscoggin County. The time events included items such as Meet with Client at Jail, Prepare Motion to Suppress, Attend Court for Motion Hearing, and Meet with Witness, among others.

The Defenderdata system was able to produce the reports, and they were forwarded to Ms. Bennett at the Sixth Amendment Center.

(7.)

Training Update

MAINE COMMISSION ON INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES

TO: MCILS COMMISSIONERS
FROM: ELLIE MACIAG, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: MCILS TRAINING UPDATE
DATE: MARCH 5, 2019

Gorman Grant Juvenile Training Video Replay – April 5:

Gorman Grant funds still remained after holding all the scheduled video replays, so we will be organizing one final replay of our Juvenile Training with Professors Henning and Hertz at the USM Campus in Portland.

Minimum Standards Training:

May 30 & June 18-19– video replay of Criminal, Child Protection, Emancipation, and Civil Commitment

May 31 – will be doing a half-day live and half-day video replay of the Juvenile training. Having had to cancel the scheduled full day Juvenile training in November 2017 due to low attendance, we have had to refresh the juvenile video in two stages. We recorded the first half of the new training in December 2018.

December – live all-day training in Freeport for Criminal Law. This will be held in conjunction with the Maine State Bar Association's Bridging the Gap program.

Other Planned 2019 trainings:

- Had preliminary discussions with MACDL about working together on a joint CLE in for the Fall.