



Prepared for Bernalillo County Health by the Institute for Social Research

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Quick Monthly Figures for January to June, 2018						
	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18
Bookings with any Felony PV	194	199	207	191	202	201
Percent bookings with any Felony PV	8.5%	9.2%	8.7%	8.8%	9.3%	9.8%
Bookings with Felony PV, Highest Charge	120	108	119	101	109	124
Percent bookings with Felony PV, Highest Charge	5.3%	5.0%	5.0%	4.7%	5.0%	6.0%
Total Monthly PV Hearings ¹	231	230	235	196	269	175
Average Daily Hearings	20	22	21	19	20	19
Length of Stay (LOS), Felony PV Highest Charge	47	54	47	40	49	47
Percent of Hearings Reset, Cancelled, Vacated ²	38.5%	36.5%	28.5%	38.3%	32.0%	32.6%
Percent of Hearings Resolved ²	47.2%	42.6%	51.5%	51.5%	61.0%	54.9%

Felony probation violators comprise a large portion of the population of the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC). On a given day, approximately 1 in 4 inmates in custody has a felony probation violation (PV) as his or her highest charge and approximately 1 in 3 has a felony PV in conjunction with one or more new charges¹.

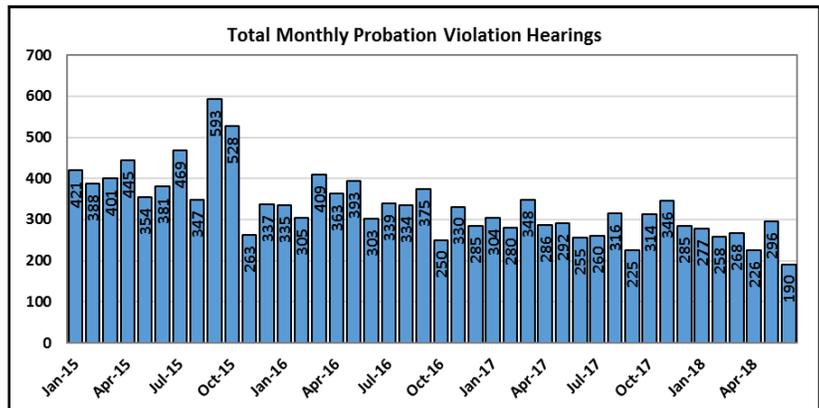
Several initiatives have been implemented that have impacted the case processing time and length of stay (LOS) for probation violators. To track the progress of these initiatives and the outcomes of PV hearings, data collection for the probation violation program has been on-going since June of 2014 with the addition of rocket docket hearings in December of 2015.

Case processing times were improved when, starting March 24, 2014, the scheduling of PV hearings was changed from 30 days from the filing of the motion to revoke probation to 20 days from arrest. This coincides with the large dip in the MDC population beginning in April and May of 2014.

In April of 2014, shortly after the implementation of court initiatives, the median number of days from arrest to disposition was 21 days. Earlier samples of PV cases came from various sources (DA re-openings, probation, and court) showed that the median number of days from arrest to disposition was between 30 and 33 days depending on the sample.

Monthly Probation Violation Hearings

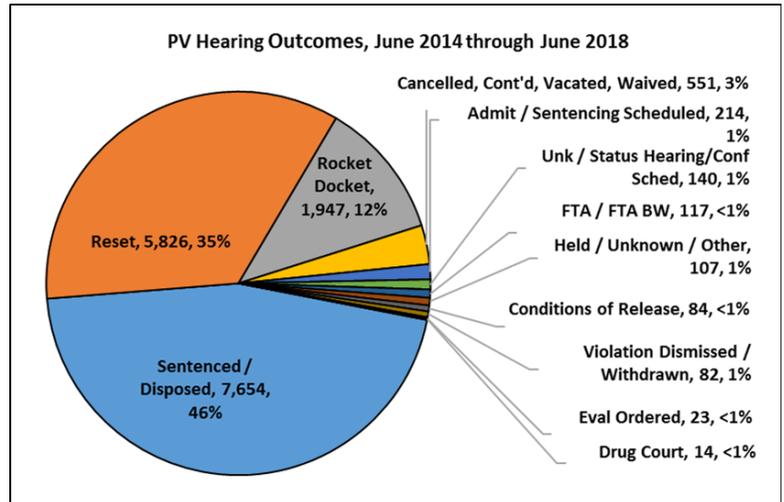
- During the data collection period, the number of probation violation hearings per month peaked at 593 in September of 2015.
- By year, the average monthly hearings have decreased annually. In 2016, the average monthly hearings decreased to 335 per month and in 2017 there were 293 hearings per month. During the first half of 2018, there have been an average of 253 hearings a month, 13.7% less than 2017 and 24.5% less than 2016.
- In June of 2018 there were 190 regular PV hearings.



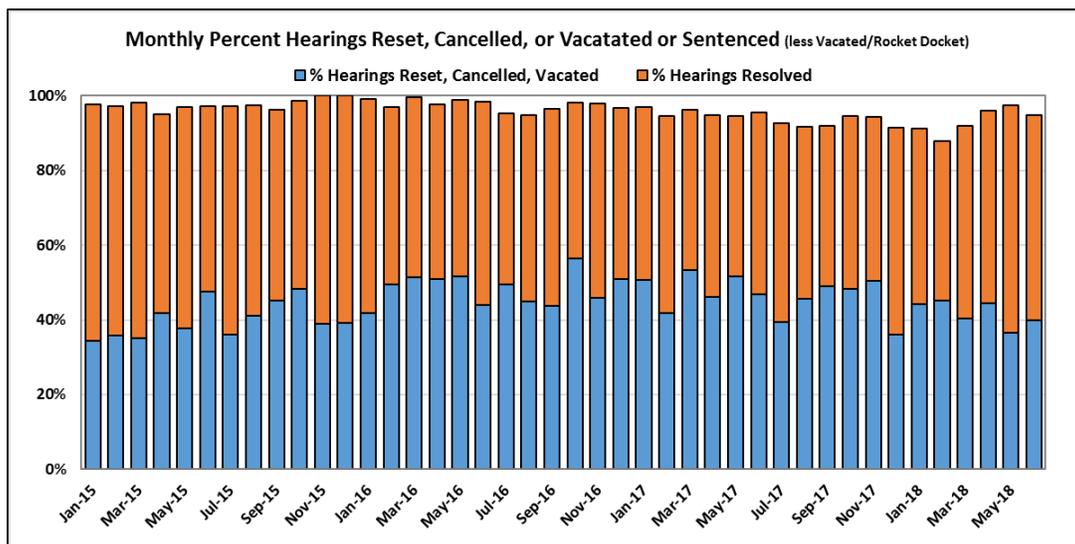
Case Outcomes

Between June 2014 and June 2018 there were approximately 16,759 hearings scheduled (not including status conferences, rocket dockets and afternoon dockets, and sentencing hearings). Cases vacated or cancelled for the rocket docket are included in monthly hearing counts and total outcome results as they take room on the regular docket. The number of hearings in a month that are vacated for the rocket docket varied a great deal, from as few as 5 to as many as 86.

- Since June of 2014, approximately 46% of regular PV hearings (7,654) resulted in a sentence or disposition.
- Approximately 35% of hearings (5,826) were reset.
- Hearings vacated for the rocket docket accounted for approximately 12% (1,947 hearings).



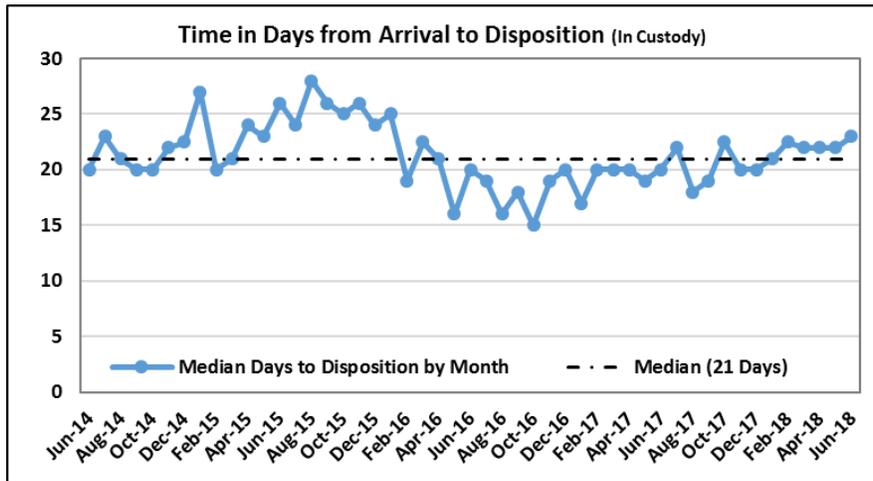
A portion of hearings every month are scheduled on the PV docket and then vacated and heard as part of the PV rocket docket. To better estimate the outcome of cases that remain on the regular PV dockets, the hearings that were vacated for the rocket docket were removed and the outcomes were estimated. The following figures for resolved, reset, and vacated hearings will not include hearings vacated for the rocket docket. This allows more accurate description of the outcomes of hearings that the court has the opportunity to resolve at the scheduled PV hearing.



- The percentage of cases reset, cancelled, or vacated decreased from 47% in June 2017 to 40% in June 2018.
- The drop in reset cases can be the result of a variety of factors, including the increased number of scheduled status hearings and conferences in place of probation violation hearings. The need to hold additional hearings leaves less available room on the docket and reduces the number of resolved cases in a month. Less docket availability can increase time to the initial hearing, time to disposition, and the length of stay.
- From June 2017 to June 2018, the percent of resolved cases increased from 49% to 55%.

Case Processing Times

Several initiatives that were implemented for PV hearings improved case processing time and the length of stay (LOS), both of which are affected by changes in court scheduling procedures. Unique bookings were identified for both first hearings and dispositions in order to better estimate the time from arrival at MDC to the first hearing for those in custody. A new probation violation typically results in a new booking, though in some instances it could be included as a new arrest on the same booking.



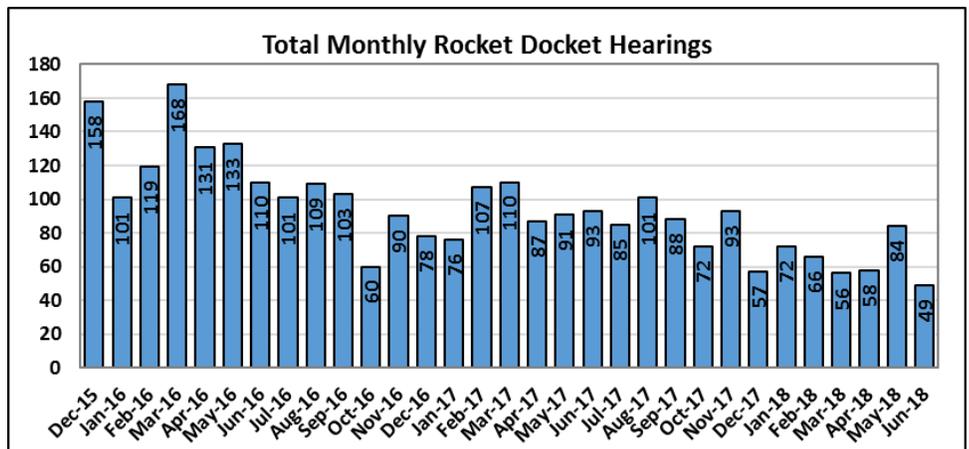
- For the data collection period, the overall median time³ to disposition was 21 days.
- By booking, the median time from arrival to disposition in June 2018 was **23 days**.

Overall, the time from arrival to first hearing and from arrival to disposition has been decreasing. It is hoped that further improvement in the PV program will lead to a continued decrease in case processing times and help reduce the length of stay for felony probation violators.

Rocket Docket

Cases scheduled on the Rocket Docket back through December of 2015 were reviewed to determine the number of monthly hearings, hearing outcomes, and the time from arrival to disposition. This preliminary review of the rocket docket provides a more complete picture of the handling of probation violation cases.

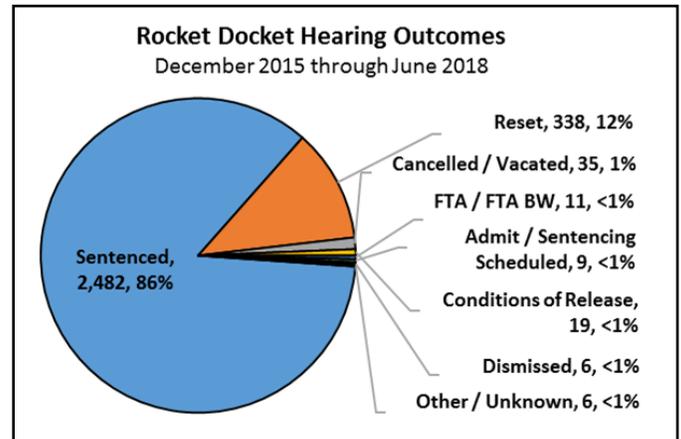
- The average number of monthly hearings have decreased during the data collection period. In 2016, there were an average of 109 hearings per month. In 2017, there were 88 hearings per month. During the first half of 2018 there were an average of 64 hearings a month.



Rocket Docket Case Outcomes

Between December of 2015 and June 2018 there were approximately 2,906 rocket docket hearings scheduled. While the number of rocket docket hearings have decreased, the outcomes of the rocket docket hearings is still being tracked.

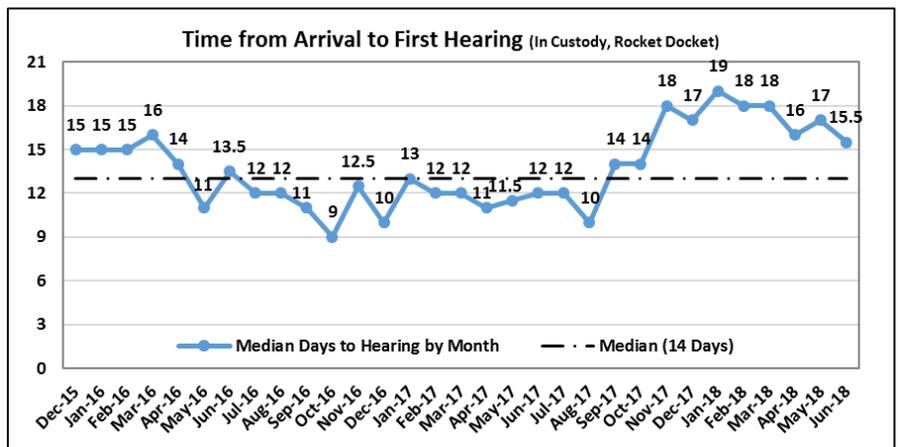
- At 2,153 of these hearings (86%), the outcome at the hearing was a sentencing or disposition.
- An additional 303 hearings (12%) resulted in a reset.
- The remaining hearings resulted in a small number of bench warrants (11), vacated or cancelled hearings (29), dismissals (5), conditions of release (8), an admission with an upcoming sentencing hearing (9), or an unclear outcome (3).



Case Processing Times - Rocket Docket

Similar to how the regular PV hearings were reviewed, unique bookings were identified in order to better estimate the time from arrival at MDC to the disposition for those in custody.

- The median⁶ number of days from arrival to the case disposition (for those in custody) was 14 days from for the data collection period.
- The median time from arrival to the disposition by month increased in the last quarter of 2017 through the first half of 2018. The median days to disposition in 2018 was 18, compared to 13 days from December 2015 through December 2017.



Data collection for Rocket Docket hearings will continue in upcoming months.

NOTES

For further information, contact the Bernalillo County Health and Public Safety Division at 505-468-7008.

1. Percent of population with PV as highest charge and PV on case estimated from population data from June 30, 2017 that will be used in an upcoming snapshot.
2. Percent of cases not including those vacated for the rocket docket.
3. The median value for time from arrival to hearing is used as it avoids skewing of the mean value due to probation violations that occur during incarceration, either in the MDC or on CCP, as well as those for which an individual is not booked into MDC or those transported in for hearings from other facilities.

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