

## Performance Measures

### Office of Public Defender

#### Central Management

##### Continuing Legal Education Attendance

The Office of Public Defender sponsors a continuing legal education (CLE) program for its legal staff. CLE attendance is a proxy indicator of quality delivery of legal services. Although continuing education is offered through the Rhode Island Bar Association and other organizations, the coursework is not specifically related to the criminal defense function. For that reason, the agency provides CLE courses tailored to the needs of its staff. The figures below represent the average percent of the ten-hour CLE requirement fulfilled with Public Defender-sponsored courses.

	<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>			
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>Target</b>	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
<b>Actual</b>	83%	83%	77%	--	--

##### Misdemeanor Caseloads

Attorney caseload is a surrogate indicator of the quality of indigent legal representation provided. The American Bar Association (ABA) endorsed national caseload standards call for an attorney to handle no more than 400 misdemeanors per year, or 100 cases per quarter, which shall serve as the agency quarterly target. The figures below represent the average number of misdemeanor cases assigned annually to each attorney.

	<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>			
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>Target</b>	400	400	400	400	400
<b>Actual</b>	947	890	705	--	--

##### Timeliness of Legal Visits of Incarcerated Youth

Regular communication is essential to the attorney-client relationship. Not only do youth need to understand the nature of their case and the processes of the juvenile justice system, but they must be in a position to ask questions of counsel in a proper calm setting. Counsel must anticipate that a juvenile client, due to his/her developmental immaturity, may require more frequent and face-to-face contact, especially when recently incarcerated. For those reasons the Public Defender has determined that all recently incarcerated juveniles should have a face-to-face meeting with legal counsel within 72 hours of detention. The figures below represent the percent of incarcerated juveniles that receive a face-to-face meeting with legal counsel within 72 hours of detention.

	<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>			
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>Target</b>	80%	80%	80%	80%	85%
<b>Actual</b>	87.88%	91.43%	91.30%	--	--