



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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Judy K. Rupp
State Court Administrator
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February 23, 2024

Honorable Wes Moore
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Honorable Bill Ferguson
President of the Senate
State House, H-107
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker of the House
State House, H-101
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: JRA – Report on the Number of Substance Abuse Assessments Ordered Required by
SB 1005/Ch. 515(15), 2016 (MSAR #10913)

Dear Governor Moore, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

Pursuant to the Justice Reinvestment Act, SB 1005/Ch. 515, 2016, the Judiciary herein submits its report on the number of substance abuse assessments ordered by courts in criminal cases under Maryland Code, Health – General Article § 8-505.

The report covers the period of January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Walter at (410) 260-1725, or via email at jamie.walter@mdcourts.gov.

Sincerely,

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State Court Administrator

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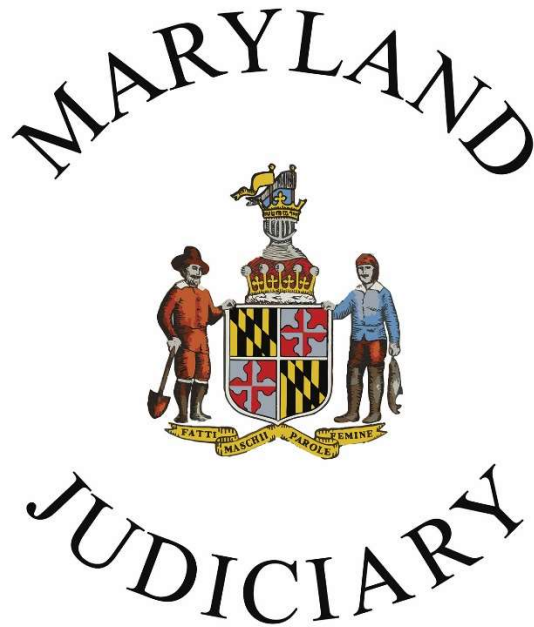
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Hon. Wes Moore
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cc: Honorable Matthew J. Fader, Chief Justice, Supreme Court
Honorable Audrey J.S. Carrión, Chair, Conference of Circuit Judges
Honorable Philip Caroom, Chair, Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board
Honorable John P. Morrissey, Chief Judge, District Court
Eric G. Luedtke, Chief Legislative Officer, Office of the Governor
Dorothy Lennig, Esq., Executive Director, Governor's Office of Crime Prevention,
Youth and Victim Services
Sally McMillan Robb, Chief of Staff, President of the Senate
Jeremy P. Baker, Chief of Staff, Speaker of the House
Kelley O'Connor, Assistant State Court Administrator, Government Relations &
Public Affairs
Sarah Albert, Mandated Reports Specialist

Maryland Judiciary
Calendar Year (CY) 2023
JRA – Number of Substance Abuse
Assessments Ordered



February 2024

**Substance Abuse Disorder Assessments Ordered, HG-8-505
Calendar Year 2023**

Between Circuit and District Court locations, there were 1,165 substance abuse disorder assessments ordered in calendar year 2023. Please see breakdown by county below (Table 1).

Table 1: CY 2032 8-505 Orders

County	Circuit Court	District Court	Total
Allegany	64	34	98
Anne Arundel	112	9	121
Baltimore City	70	12	82
Baltimore County	35	0	35
Calvert	11	0	11
Caroline	6	0	6
Carroll	11	2	13
Cecil	7	3	10
Charles	63	0	63
Dorchester	24	1	25
Frederick	60	7	67
Garrett	28	29	57
Harford	25	3	28
Howard	16	1	17
Kent	3	0	3
Montgomery	118	34	152
Prince George's	161	41	202
Queen Anne's	12	0	12
Saint Mary's	17	1	18
Somerset	19	2	21
Talbot	5	0	5
Washington	45	14	59
Wicomico	44	7	51
Worcester	7	2	9
Grand Total	963	202	1,165

Commentary Regarding Data Findings and Collection of CY 2023 and CY 2022 Data:

As in previous years, CY 2023 8-505 order data collection reflects efforts to increase the accuracy of counting orders through the identification and elimination of multiple evaluation codes used by certain courts. The Maryland Judiciary continues to train and educate clerks about use of these codes, particularly for courts in Maryland Electronic Court (MDEC) counties. Of note, Baltimore City, the final jurisdiction to be converted to MDEC, is scheduled for May 2024.

In comparing CY 2023 (Table 1) and CY 2022 (Table 2) data, orders for evaluation increased by 17% in CY 2023 over CY 2022 in the circuit and District Courts, with the circuit court increasing by 17.3% and the District Court increasing by 14.8%.

Table 2: CY 2022 8-505 Orders

County	Circuit Court	District Court	Total
Allegany	34	25	59
Anne Arundel	100	4	104
Baltimore City	78	13	91
Baltimore County	50	1	51
Calvert	8	0	8
Caroline	7	1	8
Carroll	14	0	14
Cecil	9	0	9
Charles	50	0	50
Dorchester	19	0	19
Frederick	56	6	62
Garrett	7	40	47
Harford	13	4	17
Howard	22	0	22
Kent	5	0	5
Montgomery	66	39	104
Prince George's	119	21	140
Queen Anne's	15	0	15
Saint Mary's	8	0	8
Somerset	21	6	27
Talbot	1	0	1
Washington	55	8	63
Wicomico	46	7	53
Worcester	18	1	19
Grand Total	821	176	997

Please see below for specific notes regarding each case management system.

Circuit Court for Baltimore City – Confirmed that the number provided is the number of orders, not the number of defendants.

Baltimore City District Court (District Court Mainframe) – As referenced in the Judiciary’s previous 8-505 legislative reports, a new code identifying 8-505 orders was implemented in the District Court Mainframe in May of 2017. However, to control for any instances in which the code was not used and to ensure all 8-505 orders were captured, several data queries were run through docket text and comments to get a total number of assessments ordered.

MDEC (Circuit & District Court) – MDEC “Event” report was run for CY 2023 to identify the frequency of codes indicating the court order or receipt of in-patient, out-patient, and in-custody evaluations.