

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

February 11, 2026

The Judicial Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in the Study Session room at City Hall, 20 East Main Street, on February 11, 2026, at 7:49 a.m.

BOARD PRESENT

Theo McCalvin, Chairperson
Kelley Durham, Vice Chair
Keith Berkshire
Kent Cattani
Sonia Martinez
Joshua Rogers

BOARD ABSENT

Kelli Flinchbaugh

STAFF PRESENT

Lisa Anderson
Kristin Hooker
Britanee Hudson
Kelly Whittemore

1. Meeting called to order and roll call.

Chairperson McCalvin called the meeting to order at 7:49 a.m. and conducted a roll call.

Chairperson McCalvin excused Boardmember Flinchbaugh from the entire meeting.

2. Approve minutes from the October 22, 2025, Judicial Advisory Board meeting.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Durham, seconded by Boardmember Martinez, that the October 22, 2025, Judicial Advisory Board meeting minutes be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – McCalvin–Durham–Berkshire–Cattani–Martinez–Rogers

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Flinchbaugh

Chairperson McCalvin declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

4. Hear a presentation and discuss the State of the Court by Presiding Magistrate Stephen Umpleby and/or Court Administrator Shawn Haught.

Court Administrator Shawn Haught displayed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the State of the Court. **(See Attachment 1)**

Mr. Haught shared the top three priorities for the Mesa Municipal Court. He presented an overview of Community Court, highlighting the number of program graduates and provided a

comparison of recent recidivism rates to those of previous years. He addressed the Domestic Violence (DV) Court, noting that although current national statistics were difficult to obtain, the most reliable data was included. He emphasized that the re-offense rate for DV Court over the past three years was 7.7%, which is significantly lower than the national average of 30%, emphasizing the program's success. He concluded with an update on the Veterans Court, noting a slight increase in participation and a recidivism rate of 1.92%, both which were recognized as positive successes. (See Pages 2 through 7 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Boardmember Cattani on whether the recidivism rate included offenses outside of Mesa, Mr. Haught confirmed the rates apply only to re-offenses occurring within Mesa.

Mr. Haught reported that 96% of civil traffic cases are resolved within 90 days and 90% of misdemeanors are concluded within 180 days, which exceeds the state average, adding that there is still room for improvement. He stated that 100% of ex-parte hearings are held within 24 hours and that 91% of DUI cases are resolved within 180 days. (See Pages 8 through 12 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Haught described the virtual court, which has been operating at CoreCivic since December 2024 due to the Police Headquarters remodel, and reported that an additional virtual court is now available at the Northeast facility. (See Page 14 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Haught mentioned that the current Case Management System is outdated, slow, and inefficient. He said staff are working with a vendor to get the system updated within the next two years. He reported that Division 203 was previously used only for arraignments and will become fully operational within the next few months.

Chairperson McCalvin thanked staff for the presentation.

5. Convene an executive session.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Durham, seconded by Boardmember Cattani, that the Board enter into an executive session at 8:02 a.m.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – McCalvin–Durham–Berkshire–Cattani–Martinez–Rogers

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Flinchbaugh

Chairperson McCalvin declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- a. Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion or resignation of a public officer, appointee, or employee of the City. (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1))
 - i. Review and discuss applications and background materials for the reappointments of:
 1. Presiding Magistrate Stephen Umpleby
 2. Magistrate Alicia Lawler
 3. Magistrate David Allen
 - ii. Review and consider applications for appointment of a City Magistrate.

1. Board to identify top candidates to interview
2. Finalize and assign interview questions and reference checks for selected candidates

(At 9:07 a.m. the executive session adjourned, and the Board reconvened their regular meeting.)

6. Review and discuss items related to the reappointments of Presiding Magistrate Stephen Umpleby, Magistrate Alicia Lawler, and Magistrate David Allen whose terms expire June 30, 2026.

There was no further discussion.

7. Announce candidates selected for City Magistrate interviews.

Chairperson McCalvin announced, in alphabetical order, the candidates selected to be interviewed for the City Magistrate vacancy, along with the designated alternate, as follows:

- Kevin Breger
- Jacob Brown
- Joshua Olson
- Dane Paulsen
- Alexia Sedillo
- Joan Sinclair
- Laura Frye (Alternate)

It was moved by Boardmember Berkshire, seconded by Boardmember Rogers, to approve the selected candidates to be invited for interviews at the March 18, 2026 Judicial Advisory Board meeting for the City Magistrate vacancy.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – McCalvin–Durham–Berkshire–Cattani–Martinez–Rogers
NAYS – None
ABSENT – Flinchbaugh

Chairperson McCalvin declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

Next meeting:

**March 18, 2026, 7:45 a.m. - City Hall
Study Session Room
20 E. Main Street**

9. Adjourn.

Without objection, the Judicial Advisory Board adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Judicial Advisory Board meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on 11th day of February 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



THEO MCCALVIN, CHAIRPERSON

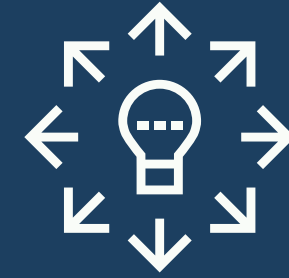
vw/la

2026 STATE OF THE COURT

Stephen S. Umpleby
Presiding Magistrate

MUNICIPAL COUR

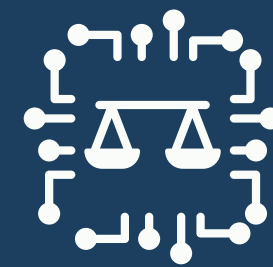
Priorities



Expand Specialty Courts



Increase access to justice



Explore innovative approaches to justice



Expand Specialty Courts

Community Court

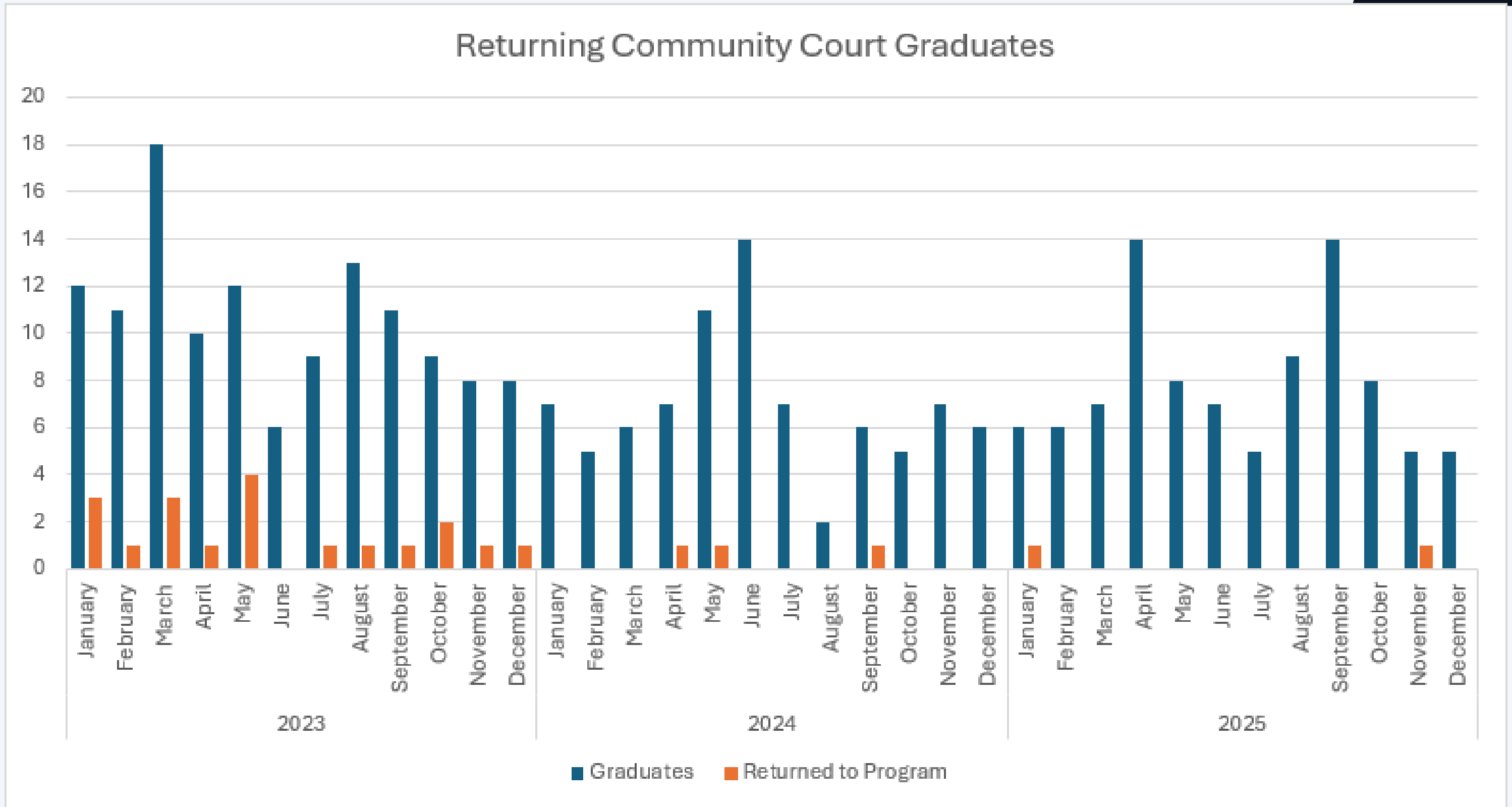
Recidivism Rates 2023 to 2025

Year	# of Graduates
2023	127
2024	83
2025	94
Grand Total	304

Year	# of Graduates Re-REFERRED
2023	19
2024	4
2025	2
Grand Total	25

Year	Recidivism Rate
2023	15%
2024	5%
2025	2%

Returning Community Court Graduates



DV Statistics

32% re-arrested for violent offense before completing probation supervision

Olson and Stalans (2001)

20 - 33% domestic violence offenders recidivate (*many within 6 months of initial assault*)

Hanson, Helmus & Bourgon (2007)
Hendricks, Werner, Shipway & Turinetti (2006)
Ventura & Davis (2004)

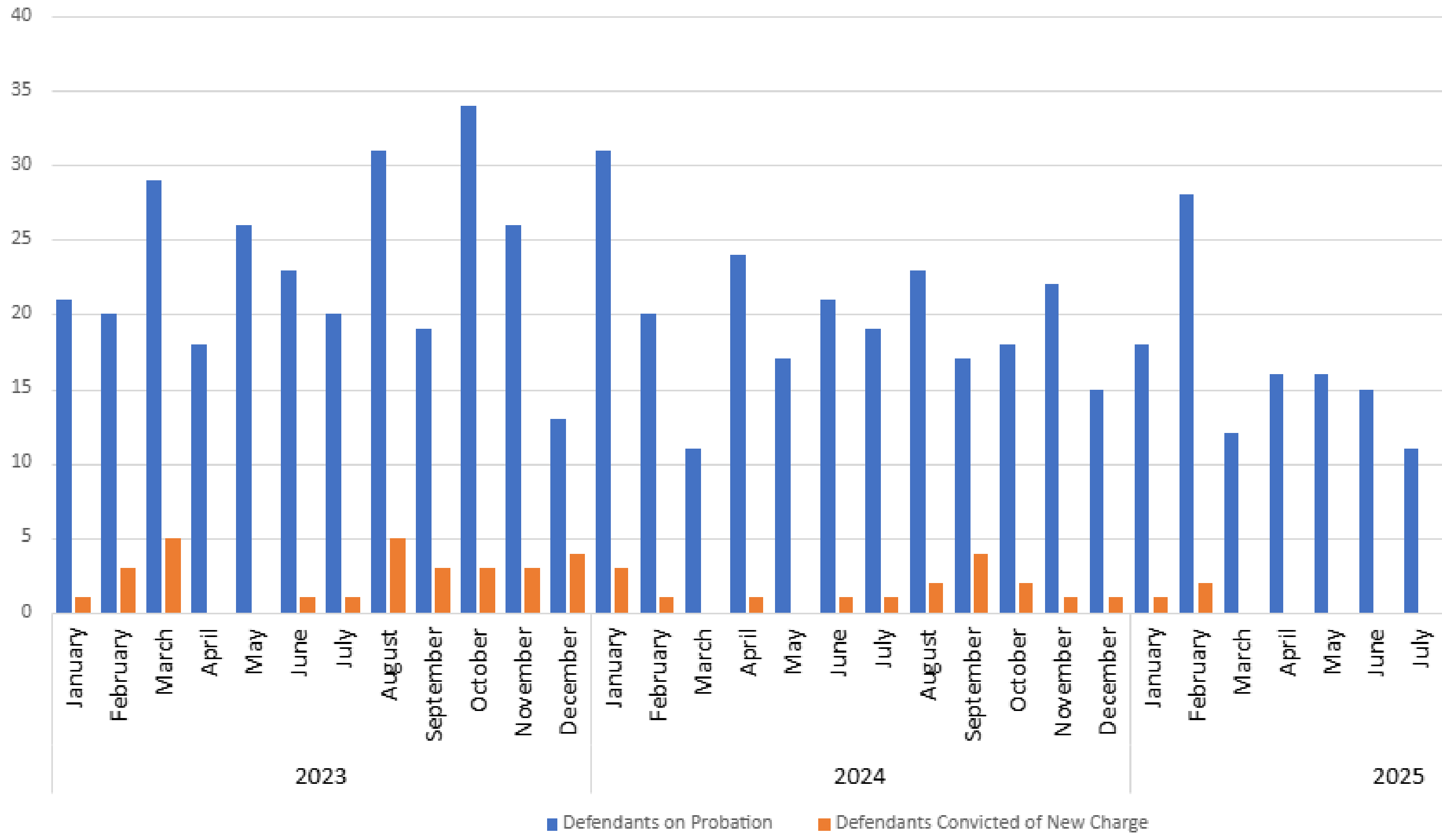
est. 40 - 80% repeat violence (when victims are followed longitudinally)

Garner, Fagan & Maxwell (1995)
Shepard (1992)



DV Court

DV Court Reoffense



7.7% re-offense rate



National Re-Offense Rate: 30%

Veteran's Treatment Court

Row Labels	Count of Grads
2024	76
2025	80
Grand Total	156

- + Peer Navigator
- + Participants
- ↓ Recidivism

Recidivism defined as a Vet Court grad who received a new criminal case in Mesa in the last 2 years: $3/156 = 1.92\%$





Increase Access to Justice

Civil Traffic

Total Filings 14,784

Goal

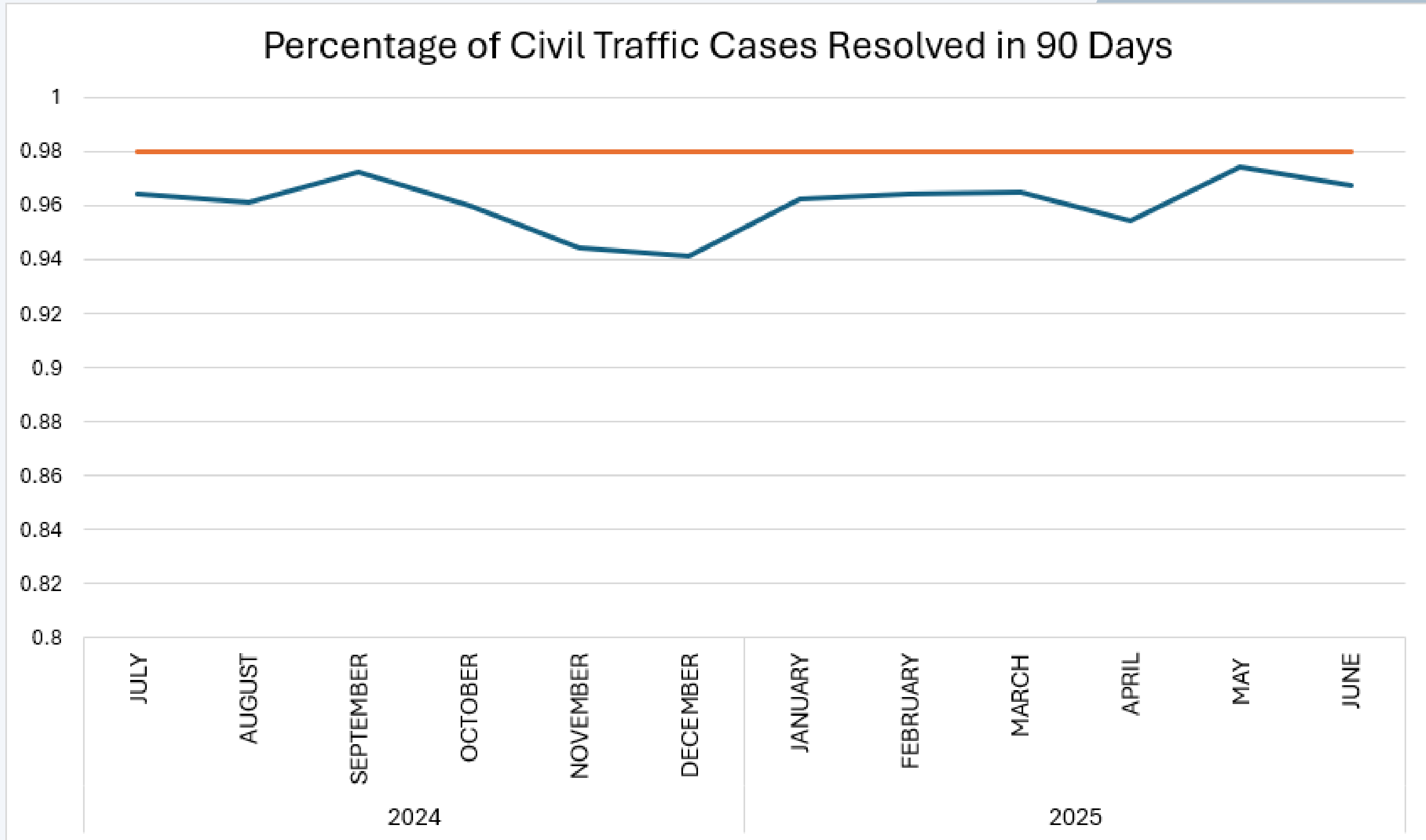
96%

Mesa

96%

State

92%



Misdemeanors

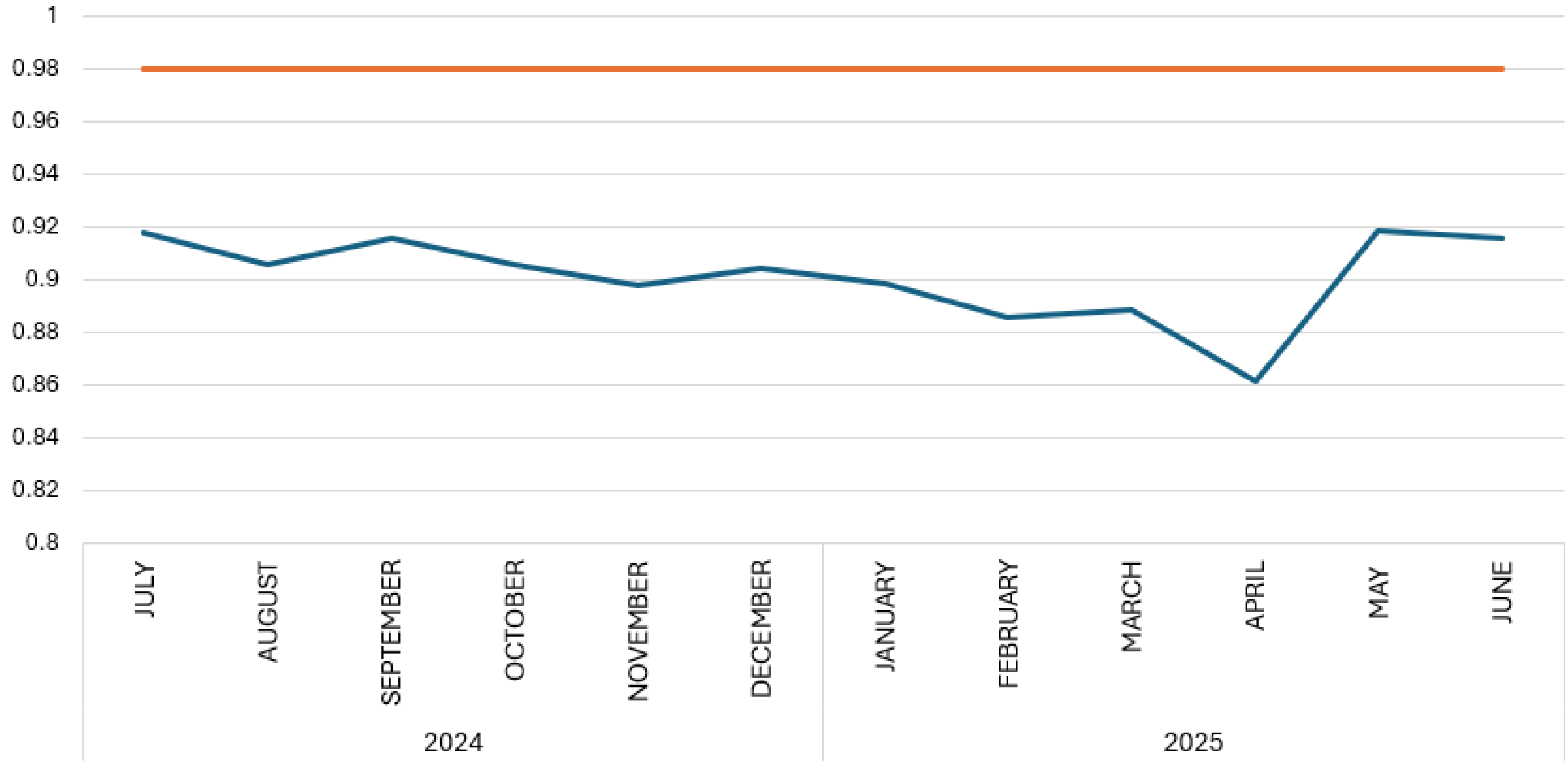
Total Filings 10,947

Goal
98%

Mesa
90%

State
84%

Percentage of Criminal Cases Resolved in 180 Days



Protective Orders

Total Filings 1,435

Goal

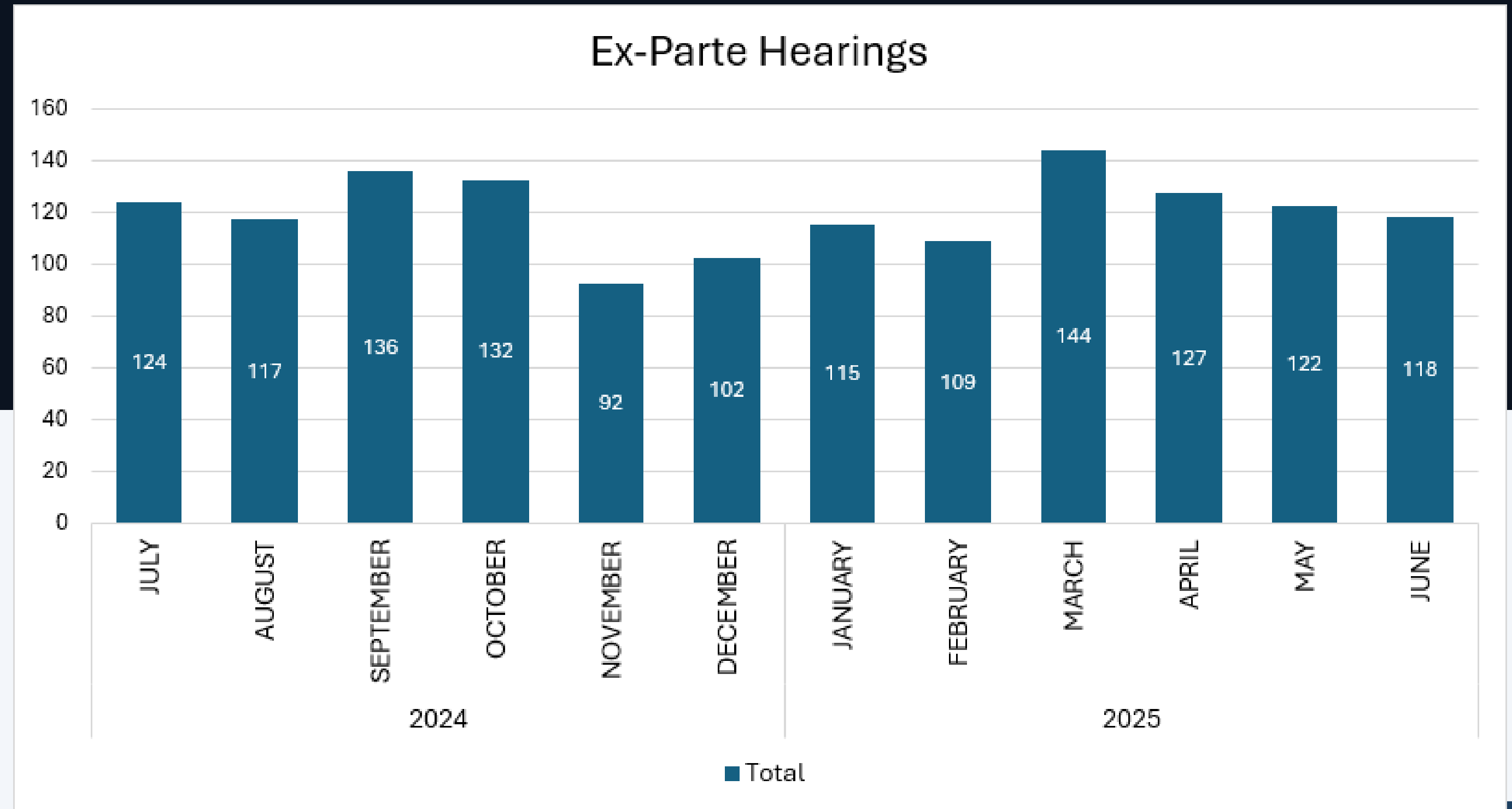
99%

Mesa

100%

State

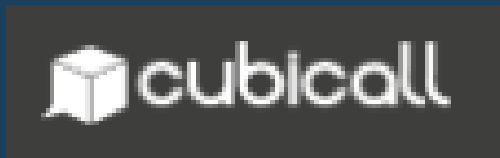
98%





Innovative Approaches to Justice

Virtual Court Success



Looking Ahead



Case Management System

Division 203

Investitures of Judges Amy Haley and Geoffrey Balon
January 23, 2025



Thank You!

