



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 6, 2018

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Criminal Justice Reform Unit Review of Pima County Adult Detention Complex High Volume Users**

During the time-period of June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2018 we tracked the arrest and re-arrest rates of individuals in the Pima County Adult Detention Complex (PCADC). There is a significant number of individuals who are multiple, repeat users of the system. We have classified these users into four groups:

1. **Super Users** – There were 18 individuals booked twenty or more times during June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2018. In fact, one individual was booked 41 times. Also of those 18 individuals listed as Super Users, one has passed away and one is currently in a residential treatment facility after a car accident.
2. **High Users** – There are 119 individuals booked and confined to the PCADC ten or more times, but fewer than 20 times during the time-period studied;
3. **Moderate Users** – There are 11,989 individuals who were booked in the PCADC more than once, but fewer than ten times; and
4. **Single Arrests** – 24,041 individuals were booked into the PCADC one time during the time-period studied.

These Super and High Users are also individuals who have significant correlation with mental health disorders and substance abuse, hence the need to increase mental health and substance abuse interventions through the regional behavioral health authority and other providers in these areas.

The Criminal Justice Reform Unit created a Jail Super Users Group bringing together members from the County Attorney's Office, Pima County Behavioral Health, Public Fiduciary, Public Defense Services, Pima County Superior Court, Adult Probation, Pima County Sheriff's Department (PCSD), the PCSD Mental Health Support Team, Tucson Police Department (TPD), TPD Mental Health Support Team, Tucson Fire Department and TFD's

The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **Criminal Justice Reform Unit Review of Pima County Adult Detention Complex High Volume Users**

July 6, 2018

Page 2

Tucson Collaborative Community (TC3) Team, City of Tucson Prosecutors and Public Defenders, and Judge Susan Shetter, City Court Mental Health Bench.

The following service providers also have attended meetings: ConnectionsAZ, Community Bridges, Inc., AHCCCS, Pima Community Access Program and Cenpatico. The Jail Super Users Group also consulted with Dr. Margie Balfour of Tucson's Crisis Response Center. To date, we have held two Jail Super Users Group meetings on March 23, 2018 and June 12, 2018.

We undertook a very close examination of these 18 individuals and found the majority of the Super Users were charged with relatively low-level nonviolent crimes:

Charges	Number of Arrests
Trespassing	147
Shoplifting	42
Disorderly Conduct	26

This review of the Super Users also revealed that these individuals were typically homeless and resistant to programs and specialized treatment, offending over and over again because they preferred jail to the alternative. A conservative estimate of the cost to house these Super Users for 1,000 jail days was \$125,000.

Representatives from the County prosecutors and defenders met together to discuss solutions. These attorneys were familiar with the majority of these repeat offenders, who met and pledged to put together a very small group of attorneys from their offices who will become familiar with the User groups and provide consistent contacts representing the Jail Super Users.

Ms. Kate Lawson from the PCAO agreed to identify one or more local SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) representatives who can work with the attorneys to assist these Jail Super Users with applications for federal benefits. Ms. Lawson agreed to provide training to the attorneys in the Public Defender's office on best practices for interacting with and helping clients who suffer from the sorts of conditions that this population experiences.

County and City prosecutors agreed to communicate with representatives of the TPD and the PCSD regarding Jail Super Users who might be deflected to providers for nonviolent, non-dangerous charges, in lieu of arrest and booking into the PCADC.

The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **Criminal Justice Reform Unit Review of Pima County Adult Detention Complex High Volume Users**

July 6, 2018

Page 3

Some members of the Super Users Group felt that assisting the next level – the High Users - would be more useful and find a greater return on investment. As a result, at the June 12, 2018 meeting the group decided to include the 119 High Users in our efforts. Here is a breakdown of charges against the 119 High Users:

Charges	Number of Arrests
Criminal Trespass	327
Failure to Appear	248
Drug Charges	182
Shoplifting	110

Additionally, a second smaller group was selected to make up a Jail Super User Task Force. It was felt that a smaller group could have more effective discussions, leading to well thought out recommendations to bring to the larger group. The first Task Force meeting was held June 25, 2018 and the second is scheduled for July 23, 2018. Our next larger group meeting will be held in September. Suggestions from the June 25, 2018 Task Force meeting included, flagging the names of the Super and High Users for the TPD and PCSD Mental Health Support Teams, who can then divert the person to the correct agency, i.e. mental health or substance abuse treatment, and the creation of Multiple Disciplinary Task Force made up of trusted individuals who can convince these Users that stable housing and consistent treatment is the way to go instead of Jail or area emergency rooms.

The undeniable conclusion is that Jail is not an effective sanction or resolution for this population. The fervent hope is if these individuals can be successfully diverted from jail, in the long run the jail population will decrease (a MacArthur/Safety + Justice Challenge goal) and they can therefore experience better lives.

CHH/anc

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Wendy Petersen, Assistant County Administrator for Justice and Law
Jail Super Users Groups