



# MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda  
Item No. XI.F.  
6/14/2016

## The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Judiciary Committee

Resolution establishing policy goals for the Oklahoma City Municipal Court.  
Judiciary Committee

### Background

The Presiding Judge is authorized by ordinance (Oklahoma City Municipal Code, 2010, Chapter 33, Section 25) to assign cases among the Judges as deemed best, assign duties to Special Judges, promulgate uniform court rules of procedures, recommend Special Judge appointments to Council and perform such other acts as required to execute the ordinances and resolutions of the City, the Charter, and the statutes of the state.

Presiding Judge Philippa C. James, in the exercise of her administrative duties, has endeavored to implement procedures to ensure the efficient and effective administration of justice in the Oklahoma City Municipal Court. She is continuing to work on procedures that will ensure due process for those in indigency, reduce pre-trial detention periods, and divert those in warrant status for non-violent crimes to court rather than jail when possible.

To develop and implement the foregoing procedures, Judge James requested action plans to be drafted. To that end, workshops were held involving the Municipal Judges, the Municipal Prosecutors, Municipal Court Public Defender, the Court Administrator and her staff, the City Auditor, and Oklahoma City Police personnel.

A presentation was made to the Judiciary Committee regarding the action plans and implementation schedules. The Judiciary Committee has expressed its support of the overall goals intended to be reached by the proposed actions plans and recommends that Council express its support of the policy goals for the Municipal Court through the adoption of the proposed Resolution.

Review

Municipal Courts

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.

Attachment