



DATE: June 11, 2026

TO: Leslie Dippel

FROM: Dr. Reyda Taylor, IJPA

RE: May 2026 Monthly Narrative Report

This report documents the activities agreed upon under the terms of the ACLU and Travis County settlement, dated 12/19/25. This report covers the period from 5/1/26 to 5/31/26.

A) CAFA Magistration Shifts:

There are 3 shifts during which Travis County staff judges: a morning to early afternoon shift (A Shift), an afternoon to early evening shift (B Shift), and an overnight shift (C Shift). CAFA is staffed during A and B Shift only. In May, it appears that there were 8 C Shifts that included magistrations.

Shift Type	Shift Date	Time	Magistrate	Appointed Counsel Present (Y/N)
A	5/1/2026	6:50 AM - 12:43 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/1/2026	2:24 PM - 7:16 PM	Moore	Yes
A	5/2/2026	12:00 AM - 1:32 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/2/2026	1:56 PM - 10:39 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/3/2026	6:32 AM - 12:21 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/3/2026	2:44 PM - 10:10 PM	Moore	Yes
A	5/4/2026	12:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Moore	Yes
B	5/4/2026	3:03 PM - 9:57 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
A	5/5/2026	6:41 AM - 12:00 PM	Moore	Yes
B	5/5/2026	2:05 PM - 9:20 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/6/2026	6:35 AM - 12:42 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/6/2026	3:15 PM - 9:46 PM	Taylor	Yes
C	5/6/2026	10:00 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/7/2026	6:42 AM - 1:46 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/7/2026	2:37 PM - 9:10 PM	Taylor	Yes

A	5/8/2026	6:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Sigman	Yes
B	5/8/2026	2:16 PM - 10:04 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/9/2026	6:35 AM - 1:48 PM	R. Ortega	Yes
B	5/9/2026	2:45 PM - 10:30 PM	Mulcahy	Yes
A	5/10/2026	6:24 AM - 12:28 PM	Sigman	Yes
B	5/10/2026	2:18 PM - 9:10 PM	Mulcahy	Yes
A	5/11/2026	6:55 AM - 12:54 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/11/2026	2:34 PM - 7:49 PM	Moore	Yes
A	5/12/2026	12:00 AM - 12:43 PM	Taylor	Yes
B	5/12/2026	12:00 AM - 9:14 PM	Moore	Yes
C	5/12/2026	10:00 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/13/2026	6:29 AM - 12:50 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/13/2026	2:07 PM - 9:05 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/14/2026	6:42 AM - 2:14 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/14/2026	6:39 PM - 10:10 PM	Moore	Yes
C	5/14/2026	10:00 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/15/2026	7:20 AM - 12:44 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/15/2026	12:00 AM - 8:36 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/16/2026	7:21 AM - 1:04 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/16/2026	2:10 PM - 9:00 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/17/2026	6:38 AM - 12:42 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/17/2026	2:10 PM - 9:15 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/18/2026	7:27 AM - 12:30 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/18/2026	2:00 PM - 9:15 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/19/2026	6:39 AM - 12:48 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/19/2026	2:49 PM - 9:49 PM	Moore	Yes
A	5/20/2026	7:03 AM - 1:35 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/20/2026	3:11 PM - 9:06 PM	Moore	Yes
A	5/21/2026	6:58 AM - 1:39 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/21/2026	3:05 PM - 10:20 PM	Moore	Yes
C	5/21/2026	10:30 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/22/2026	6:14 AM - 1:29 PM	Taylor	Yes
B	5/22/2026	2:32 PM - 9:00 PM	Moore	Yes
C	5/22/2026	10:30 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/23/2026	6:27 AM - 1:02 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/23/2026	2:23 PM - 9:15 PM	Taylor	Yes
A	5/24/2026	6:33 AM - 11:50 AM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/24/2026	2:25 PM - 9:13 PM	Taylor	Yes

A	5/25/2026	6:57 AM - 12:45 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/25/2026	2:18 PM - 10:55 PM	Taylor	Yes
C	5/25/2026	10:30 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/26/2026	12:00 AM - 1:30 PM	J. Ortega	Yes
B	5/26/2026	2:14 PM - 9:46 PM	Mulcahy	Yes
A	5/27/2026	6:02 AM - 12:42 PM	Taylor	Yes
B	5/27/2026	2:45 PM - 9:40 PM	Sigman	Yes
A	5/28/2026	6:19 AM - 1:30 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/28/2026	2:36 PM - 10:31 PM	Sigman	Yes
A	5/29/2026	6:21 AM - 1:25 PM	Howard	Yes
B	5/29/2026	2:22 PM - 10:30 PM	Sigman	Yes
C	5/29/2026	10:30 PM - 10:59 PM	Alvarez	No
A	5/30/2026	6:32 AM - 1:14 PM	Mulcahy	Yes
B	5/30/2026	2:02 PM - 9:04 PM	Taylor	Yes
C	5/30/2026	10:30 PM - 10:59 PM	Howard	No
A	5/31/2026	6:58 AM - 12:45 PM	Mulcahy	Yes
B	5/31/2026	2:05 PM - 8:57 PM	Taylor	Yes

(B) Narrative:

Counsel from the Office of First Defense (OFD), Public Defender Office (PDO), and Capital Area Private Defender Service (CAPDS) were appointed sufficiently in advance of magistration proceedings to allow for adequate representation. Defense attorneys were provided with private rooms for interviews with their clients, ensuring the opportunity for in-person, confidential attorney-client consultation prior to magistration. If an arrestee could not be transported to a private interview room (due to physical or mental health needs, or other extenuating circumstances), counsel conducted interviews at the arrestee's cell door (cell-side). When that was necessary, procedures were followed to provide private consultation even if conducted cell-side.

Sufficient time was allowed for defense counsel to review case filings, consult with clients, and contact family members and service providers.

Probable cause affidavits, pretrial services reports, and criminal history reports for the limited issues relevant to magistration were provided for defense counsel. This information was provided through a variety of sources, including the Travis County Sheriff's Office, Travis County Clerk's Office, and Travis County Pretrial Services.

No material issues arose or were reported with providing documentation to counsel, attorney/client consultation, in-person magistration, or public access to magistration. The CAFA page on the Travis County website now includes Guidelines for Conducting Magistration with Counsel at First Appearance. <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/courts/criminal/cafa>

C) Program Changes: There are no plans to increase the number of counseled magistration shifts for the next calendar month.

D) Line by Line Data: There were 3288 arrests that resulted in individuals being booked into Travis County jail in May 2026. Of those arrests, 2505 appeared to meet criteria for the arrestee to be eligible to participate in Travis County CAFA magistration. Of these 2505 arrests, no arrested individuals were identified in the data as having been eligible for magistration but not magistrated. There were 8 magistrations conducted during C Shift when CAFA counsel is not available. Those C Shifts where magistrations took place are reflected in the table in Section A above.

May 2026 Magistrations:

CAFA Magistrated Magistrated through CAFA.	2505
Magistrated outside of CAFA Magistrated outside of CAFA Shifts	8
Eligible but not Magistrated Identified in Data as Eligible for CAFA Magistration but not magistrated	0

May 2026 Bookings without Magistrations and Reason for Ineligibility:¹

Waived Warnings With advice of an attorney, the arrestee chose not to go through the magistration process.	37
Magistrated with Other Agency Had been arrested and magistrated in another agency's jurisdiction before transfer to Travis County custody for the same charges	29
Prior Magistration Had already received magistration on the same charges but were brought back into custody (e.g. violations of conditions of bond or other reasons).	10
Warrant Withdrawn The basis for arrest was withdrawn and individual released prior to magistration.	0
Rejected Prior to Magistration Judge, DA, or CA. sent case back for review or was rejected prior	121

to magistration.	
Arresting Agency Dropped Charge(s) Arresting agency notified TCSO prior to magistration of dropping the accused's offenses, resulting in release.	6
Misd. C Only Charge Level Not eligible for CAFA magistration per agreement	235
Charge(s) Added after 48 Hours Additional charges from pre-existing warrants issued by other agencies or courts were added after the original arrest and magistrated at a later date.	2
Multiple Exclusions Individuals meeting more than one of the above exclusion criteria.	33
Other / Various Hold Status These charges did not meet the criteria outlined in the agreement for magistration under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 15.17 because the individuals were not in a status requiring a magistrate appearance.	310

Public vs Non-Public View Magistrations:

Of the 2505 arrestees eligible and magistrated through CAFA, there were 210 magistrations conducted outside of public view, either in proximity to an arrestee's cell or at a hospital. These individual magistrations were identified as meeting exception criteria for safety or medical reasons. To protect identities and sensitive information, we are reporting the non-public view number and reasons in aggregate only. Reasons vary from refusal by a person, behaviors by the individual that create concern for their safety or the safety of others, medical reasons that led to safety concerns for themselves or others, medical conditions that prohibit their safe transportation for hearing, as well as mental health related observations or designations that create a safety or privacy concern. There were also 19 individual cell-side magistrations for which documentation establishing the specific cause was not immediately accessible through data sources. To help ensure the quality of documentation, the Travis County team continues working to build out a new system to help document reasons for cell-side magistrations, as well as provide additional reminders and training for staff related to existing documentation processes. Additionally, we are still working through a process to develop shared definitions and categories to further define the safety and medical reasons for exception. Below are the numbers for reasons that an arrestee was not magistrated in public.

Reason for Non-Public Magistration	Arrestee Count
Behavior/Refusal	58

A person has refused to come to the public magistration court or their behavior has indicated such.	
Hospital The magistration was conducted at a hospital or medical facility.	7
Medical Reasons The person could not be transported to the magistration court due to medical conditions or circumstances.	17
Medical/Safety The person was housed in a medical or safety protocol unit, but the precise reason was unclear, and the assumption is medical or safety reasons.	33
MH/ Arrestee Safety The person was observed or displayed mental health related behaviors or concerns and transportation or public viewing would be a risk to that person or to others present.	76
Undocumented Documentation was not immediately accessible through data sources.	19

The attached spreadsheet includes line by line data for all the individual arrests in June booked into Travis County jail that resulted in a CAFA magistration in Travis County courts, organized by day of arrest. For reporting purposes, the dates used may include typographical errors in the booking data.