

Meeting March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 3. BFD Report (5 min)

Department

Type

Recommended Action

4. Howard Center Report (15 min)

Subject 4.1. Howard Center Report

Meeting March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 4. Howard Center Report (15 min)

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

5. State's Attorney Data w/ Sarah George (30 min)

Subject 5.1. Sarah George - Data, including Accountability Court Results

Meeting March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 5. State's Attorney Data w/ Sarah George (30 min)

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

6. BPD Report (10 min)

Subject 6.1. BPD High Level Report, March 11th Update

Meeting March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT

Category 6. BPD Report (10 min)

Department Police Department

Type

Recommended Action

7. Public Forum (Time Certain: 6:30 PM)

Subject	7.1. Verbal Comments
Meeting	March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT
Category	7. Public Forum (Time Certain: 6:30 PM)
Department	
Type	

8. Adjournment

Subject	8.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting	March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT
Category	8. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	
Recommended Action	

9. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Subject	9.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.
Meeting	March 26, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, March 26, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at Contois Auditorium, 2nd Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, VT
Category	9. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
Department	Council and Board
Type	

Public Safety Committee
Thursday, January 29, 2026
Remote via Zoom/In-Person in Queen City Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, Burlington,
Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Melo Grant (Chair), Mark Barlow, Buddy Singh

Staff Present: Hayley McClenahan (Assistant City Attorney), Troy Ruggles (BFD Deputy Chief of Operations) Marsha McCombie (Battalion Chief of EMS), Kyle Blake (BFD Captain), Shawn Burke (BPD Chief), Jeff Nicholson (Data Analyst)

Public Present:

Meeting called to order at 5:33 PM by Councilor Grant.

1. Adopt the Agenda
1.01 Adopt the Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Singh
Final Resolution: Motion Passes
Yes: Unanimous

2. Adopt Minutes
2.01 Motion to Adopt Draft Minutes from November 20, 2025

Motion to Adopt Draft Minutes from November 20, 2025.

Motion by Councilor Barlow, Seconded by Councilor Singh
Final Resolution: Motion Passes
Yes: Unanimous

3. Public Forum
3.01 Verbal Comments

No speakers present. Public forum closed at 5:35 PM.

4. Chiefs' Reports
4.01 BPD

Chief Burke presented to the Committee on the latest incident and department data. No action was taken.

4.01.01 Policy re: ICE

No action was taken.

4.02 BFD – Guest Marsha McCombie Battalion Chief of EMS

Deputy Chief Ruggles shared the 2025 End-of-Year report with the Committee. Battalion Chief McCombie presented on EMS utilization trends. No action was taken.

5. State’s Attorney Data

5.01 State’s Attorney Data

Councilor Grant noted State’s Attorney Sarah George is confirmed to attend the Committee’s February meeting and reviewed the most recent data from SA George. No action was taken.

6. Revisit 2020 Resolution

6.01 REIB Work

Councilor Grant discussed the possibility of a future joint meeting between REIB Committee, Police Commission, and Public Safety Committee to review the resolution. No action was taken.

6.02 Joint Meeting w/ Police Commission

No action was taken.

7. Trusted Community Voices Feedback

7.01 Trusted Community Voices Feedback

Councilor Grant reviewed Trusted Community Voices’ presentation at a recent REIB Committee meeting. No action was taken.

8. Other Committee Business

8.01 Other Business

No action was taken.

9. Next Meeting

9.01 Next Meeting

The next meeting dates were set for February 26 and March 26.

10. Adjournment

10.01 Motion to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned with no objection at 7:43 PM.



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

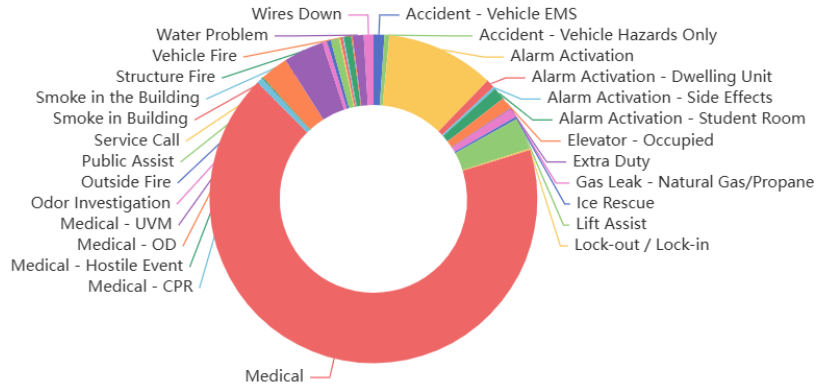
136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
 Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

Chief's Report to the Public Safety Committee: February Data Points March 26, 2026

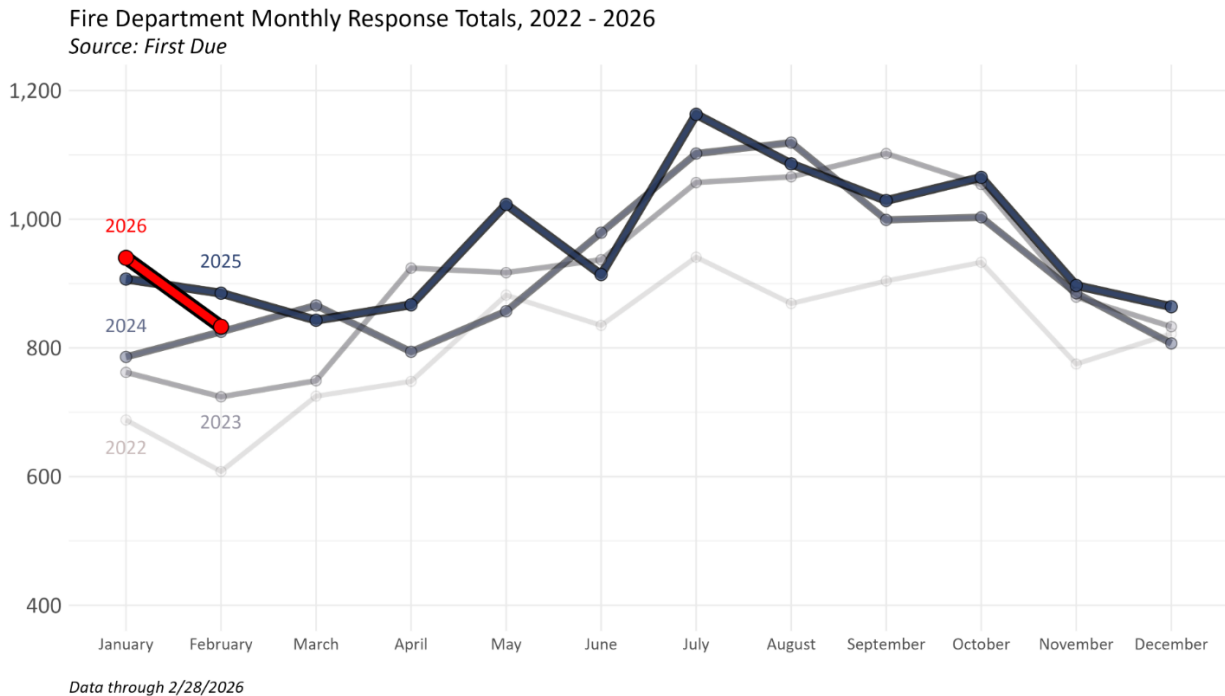
Call Volume & Activity Summary:

Total Incidents for the month of February: **833**
 Total Incidents: (As of 3/1/26) **1779**

- Fire Incidents: **121**
- EMS: **632**
- Hazmat: **7**
- Technical Rescue: **12**
- Significant Incidents:
 1. 2/1 - 1st Alarm Fire 309 S. Willard
 2. 2/6 – Ice Rescue off Leddy Park Rd



During the same period in **2025** we responded to **887** incidents, a **6%** decrease from last year.



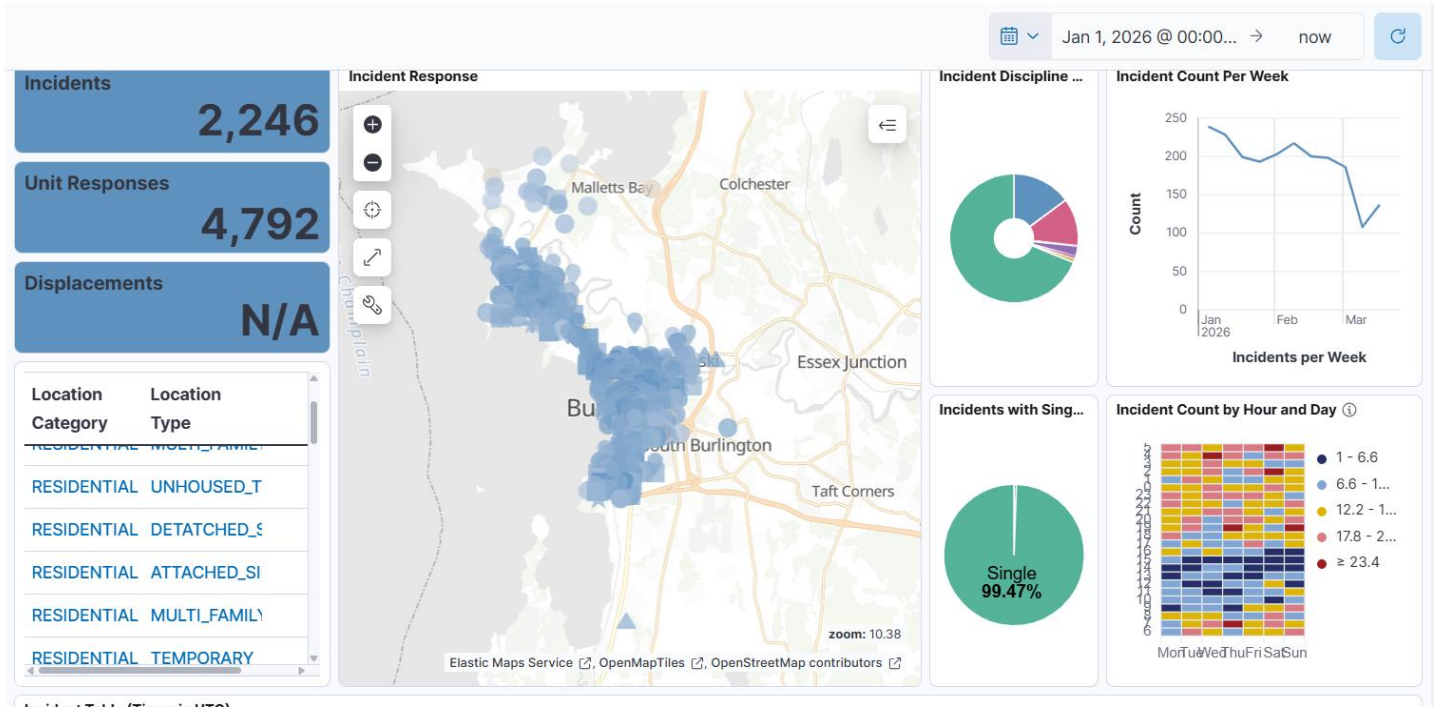


BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

Department Insights





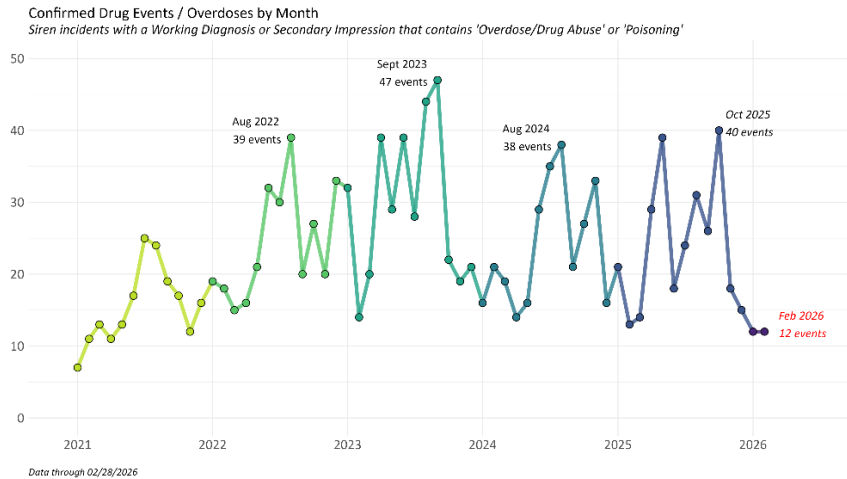
BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

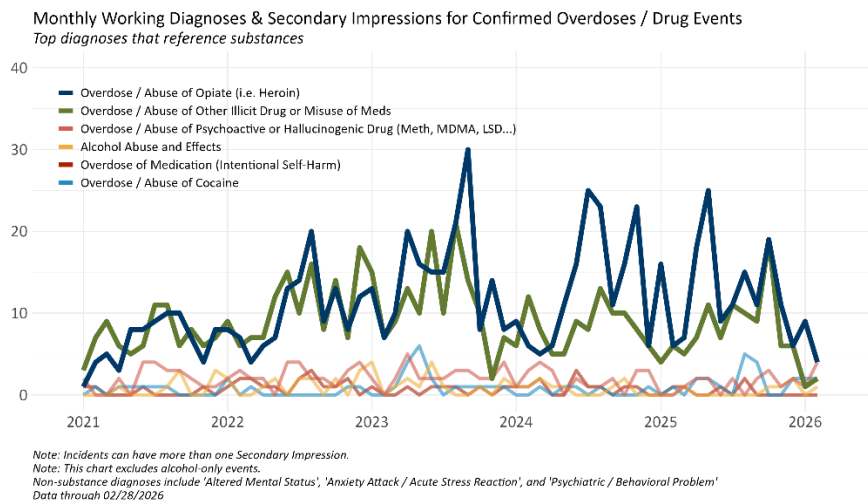
Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

EMS Data:

The data show a steady rise in confirmed drug overdose incidents from 2021 through a peak period in 2023, followed by a general decline with continued volatility. Monthly events increased from single digits/low teens in 2021 to consistent highs in the 30–40 range by 2023, with a peak of 47 incidents in September 2023. Activity remained elevated but began to moderate through 2024, with another spike in mid-2024 (38 events in August). In 2025, the pattern became more erratic, including a high of 40 events in October, before dropping sharply into early 2026, where February shows 12 incidents. Overall, the trend suggests a surge through 2023, stabilization in 2024, and a potential downward shift entering 2026, though with ongoing fluctuations.



This chart shows monthly trends (2021–early 2026) in confirmed overdose and drug-related EMS incidents, broken down by substance type. Opiates (e.g., heroin) consistently account for the highest volume and show periodic spikes, including several significant surges in 2023–2025. “Other illicit drugs/misuse of medications” is the second most common category, also fluctuating but at lower levels. All other categories—psychoactive drugs, alcohol-related effects, intentional medication overdoses, and cocaine—occur at relatively low and consistent levels with occasional small spikes. Overall, the data highlights that opioid-related incidents remain the dominant of overdose calls.

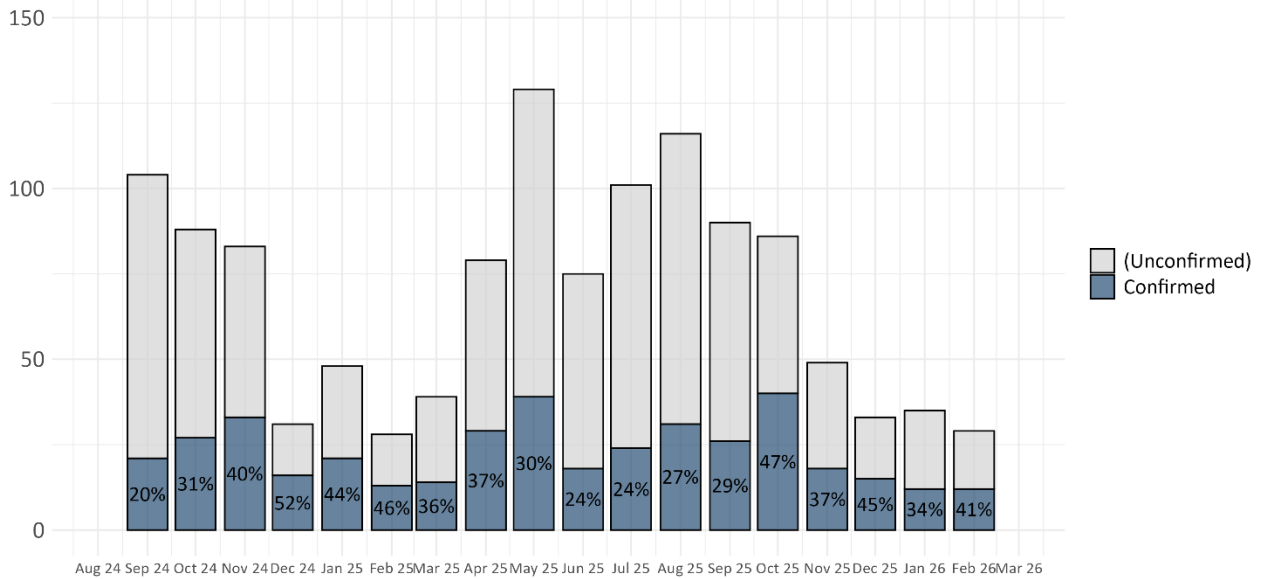




BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
 Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

BFD Events Dispatched as Overdoses
 Confirmed on scene vs. not confirmed on scene



Confirmation obtained via responder diagnosis in Siren
 Data through 2/28/26

This chart shows the number of BFD calls that were dispatched as overdoses each month, compared to how many were actually confirmed as overdoses once crews arrived on scene. While the total number of overdose-dispatched calls rises and falls over time, only a portion of those calls are ultimately confirmed by responders. In most months, confirmed overdoses make up roughly 20–40% of the total, with some variation

CRT Data for February 2026:

Staffed 8 days for the month of February

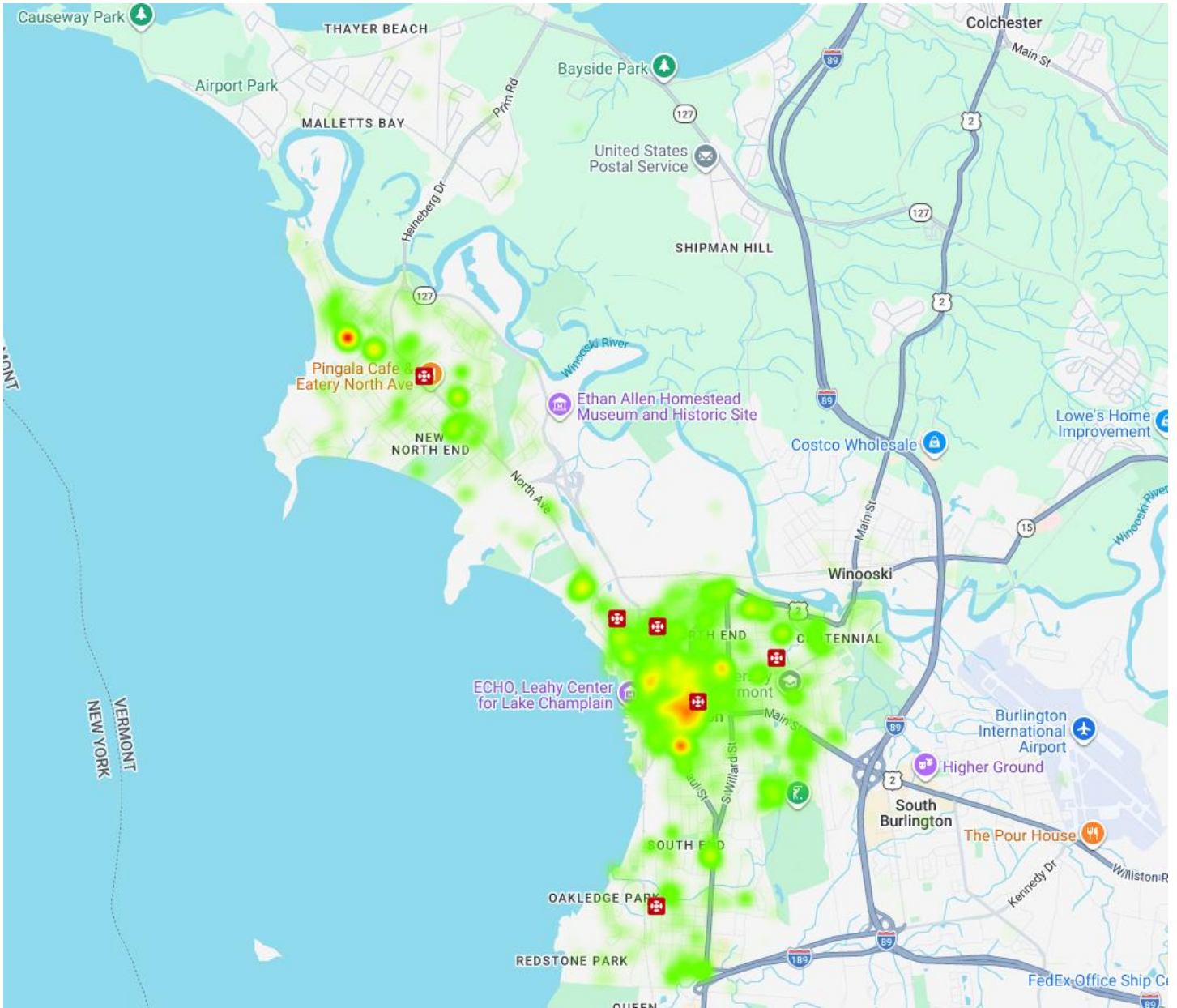
Total Contacts	Narcan Kits	Wound Care Kits	Comfort Care Kit	Referrals
12	0	0	0	0



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387





BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
 Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

Personnel & Staffing

-Lt. Phil Luedee of Engine Co. 3 retired after 25 years of service to the city on 2/11/26. We wish him the best of luck in retirement.

-Ryan Fitzpatrick was promoted to Lieutenant and will serve as a cover officer on B-Shift.

Total Department Staff: Uniformed Members **89** / Authorized **95**

- Minimum Daily Staffing: **22**
- Vacancies: **6**
- Injuries/LOA/FMLA: **8**
- Staff Training Hours: **956**
- Company Level Inspections: **1**
- Preplans Completed: **54**

Overtime Type	2025 Hours	2026 Hours	% + -
Minimum Staffing	1002.5	1105	+10.2%
Mandatory	105.5	183	+73.4%
CRT	211	212	+4%
Emergency	0	0	-
Extra Duty Events	30	14.5	-51.6%





BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

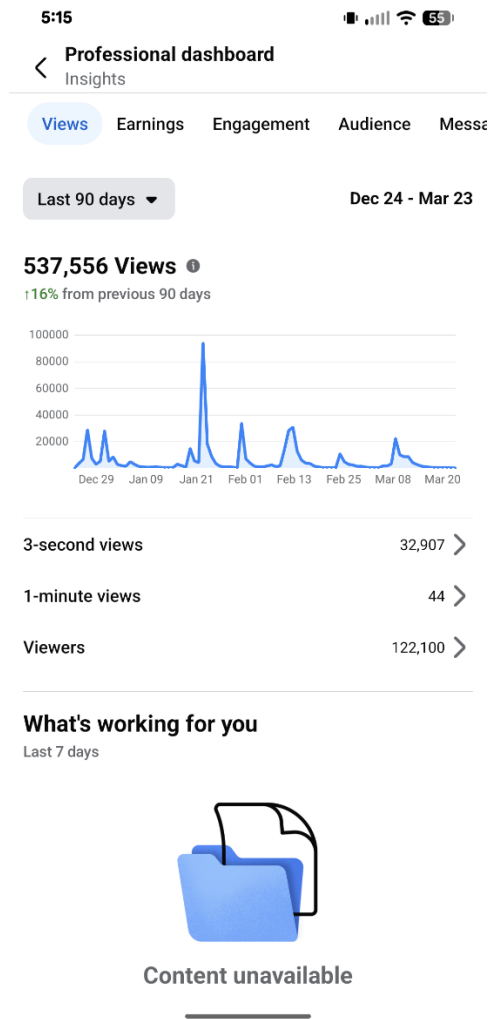
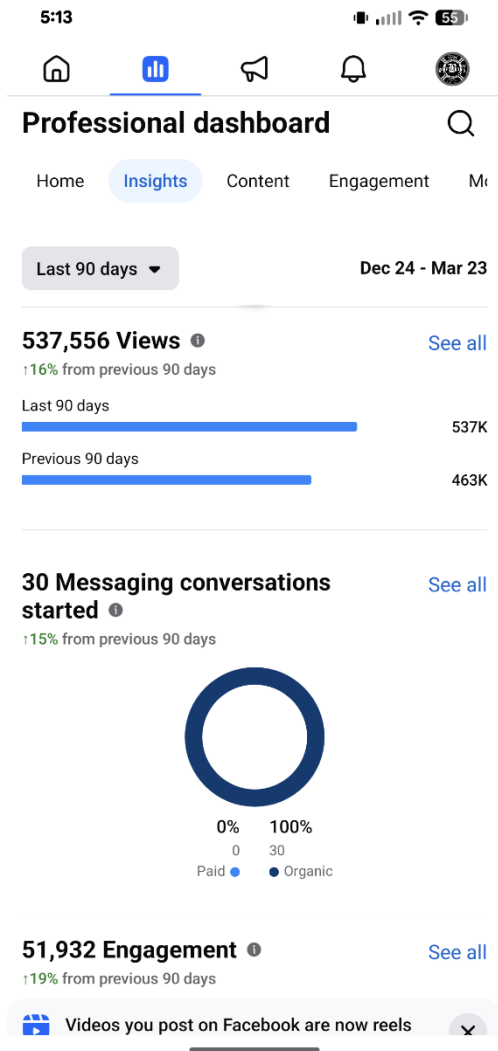
136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401
Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

Community Engagement

- 2/9 Ladder Co. 4 Station Tour



Social Media:





Street Outreach FY26 Q2 Report

Program Description

The Outreach Program is a collaboration between Howard Center, City of Burlington, Burlington Police Department, Vermont Department of Mental Health, and the University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCC) to support vulnerable individuals in the community. The program offers responsive community-based support to individuals who are struggling with mental health, substance use, housing and other unmet social service needs. The teams can be dispatched by police and accept referrals from service providers, municipal employees, family members and community members.

Community Partners

City of Burlington, Burlington Police Department, Fletcher Free Library, Vermont Department of Mental Health, University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCC).

Key Performance Indicators

- Calls for Service
- Police Diverted
- Follow up
- Engagement

Report Summary

Key metrics and findings:

Services per individual: On average, the team provided more than two services to each person they served (622 services/251 individuals served = 2.5 services per individual). This suggests a pattern of repeated engagement with clients over the quarter.

Reach: The team engaged with 251 individuals, which serves as a baseline figure for the program's overall reach within the community during this quarter.



Service distribution by type:

In-person: 445 services, or about 72% of the total, were provided face-to-face.

Direct communication: 79 services, or roughly 12.7% of the total, involved direct communication with clients (e.g., phone calls).

Collaboration/Consultation: 94 services, accounting for approximately 15.1% of the total, involved working with other providers or coordinating care for a client.

Police Initiated: 138 services, or about 22.2% of the total, were in response to a police request or referral.

Co-responses: 67 of the services provided, or about 10% were calls for service that police officers and community outreach responded to together.

Police Diverted: 75 services, or 12% of the total calls for service were dispatched directly to the outreach team.

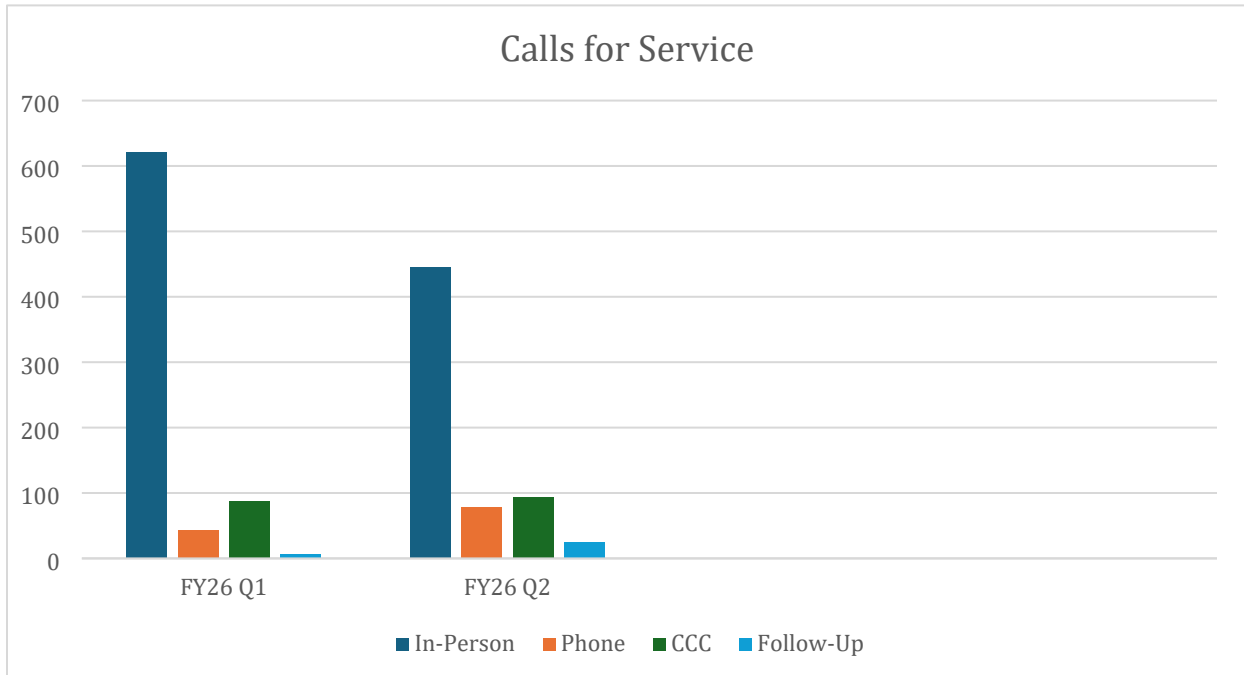
Potential conclusions and interpretation Balanced approach:

The team uses a mix of direct, face-to-face interaction, and coordination-focused services. The high number of in-person services indicates that direct client engagement remains a core component of their strategy.

Emphasis on face-to-face: The number of in person services is a high proportion of the total. This suggests the team is actively working to be responsive and engage clients where they are to provide holistic support, which is a common and effective community outreach strategy.

High engagement rate: Since individuals received an average of more than two services, the program appears to have a strong retention rate. This could suggest that the services provided are beneficial and that individuals are engaging for additional support.

Calls for service:	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total # of Services	758	622			
Total # of Clients with Services	273	251			
# of In-Person Services	621	445			
# of Clients with In-Person Services	230	199			
# of Services that were Communication with Clients	44	79			
# of Clients with Services that were Communication	31	49			
# of Comm/Consult/Collaboration Services	87	94			
# of Clients with Comm/Consult/Collaboration Services	66	68			
Total # of Follow-Up Services	6	25			
Total # of Clients with Follow-Up Services	6	25			

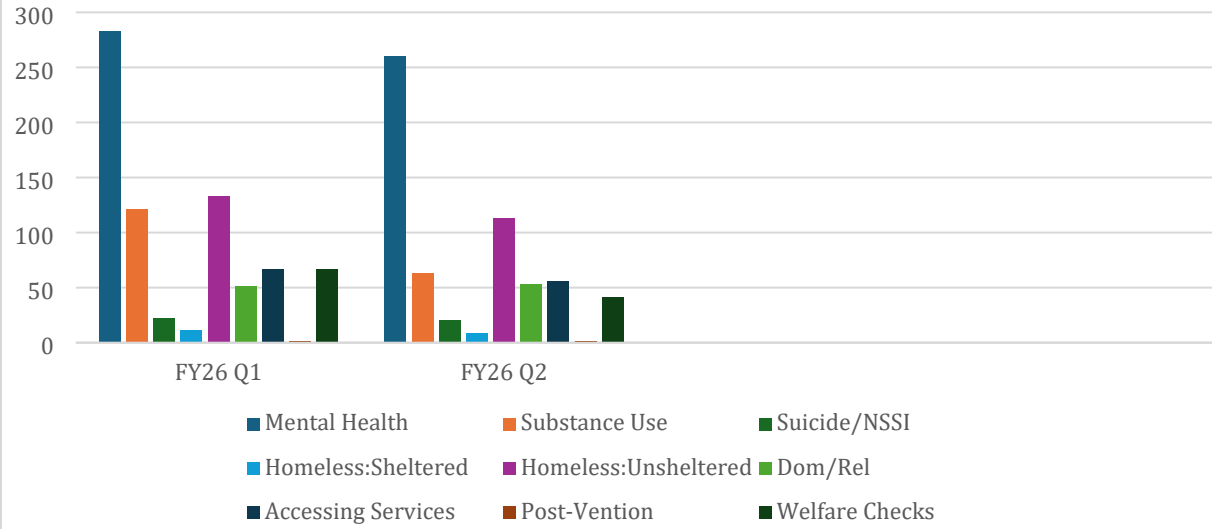


Call for service initiated by:	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Individual/Client	191	140			
Family Member	21	21			
Municipal Employee	29	21			
Police	160	138			
Community Member	113	59			
FCCC	12	14			
Outreach Staff	168	152			
Service provider Total	64	75			
Service Provider: UVMHC/Affiliate	7	5			
Service Provider: Howard Center (not FCCC)	20	21			
Other	36	49			

Police:	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Involved Co-Response	76	67			
Divert - PD Dispatched to Outreach Team	92	75			



Calls for Service
by Primary Concern



Calls for service with primary concern related to:	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Mental health	283	260			
# of clients	128	126			
Substance use	121	63			
# of clients	66	35			
Suicide or non-suicidal self-injury	22	20			
# of clients	17	17			
Housing/homelessness	146	125			
# of clients	77	60			
Housing/homelessness: Sheltered	11	9			
# of clients	11	9			
Housing/homelessness: Unsheltered	133	113			
# of clients	65	50			
Domestic /relational conflict	51	53			
# of clients	37	39			
Accessing Services	67	56			
# of clients	42	34			
Post-Vention	1	1			
# of clients	1	1			
Welfare Check	67	41			
# of clients	46	34			



Outcomes:

Disposition:	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Completed	615	517			
Referral	19	39			
Inconclusive	95	49			

ED Visit:	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Medical Care	7	4			
Psychiatric Care	8	7			
Both	12	6			
Total	27	17			

Status Update: February 6, 2026

Community Accountability Court

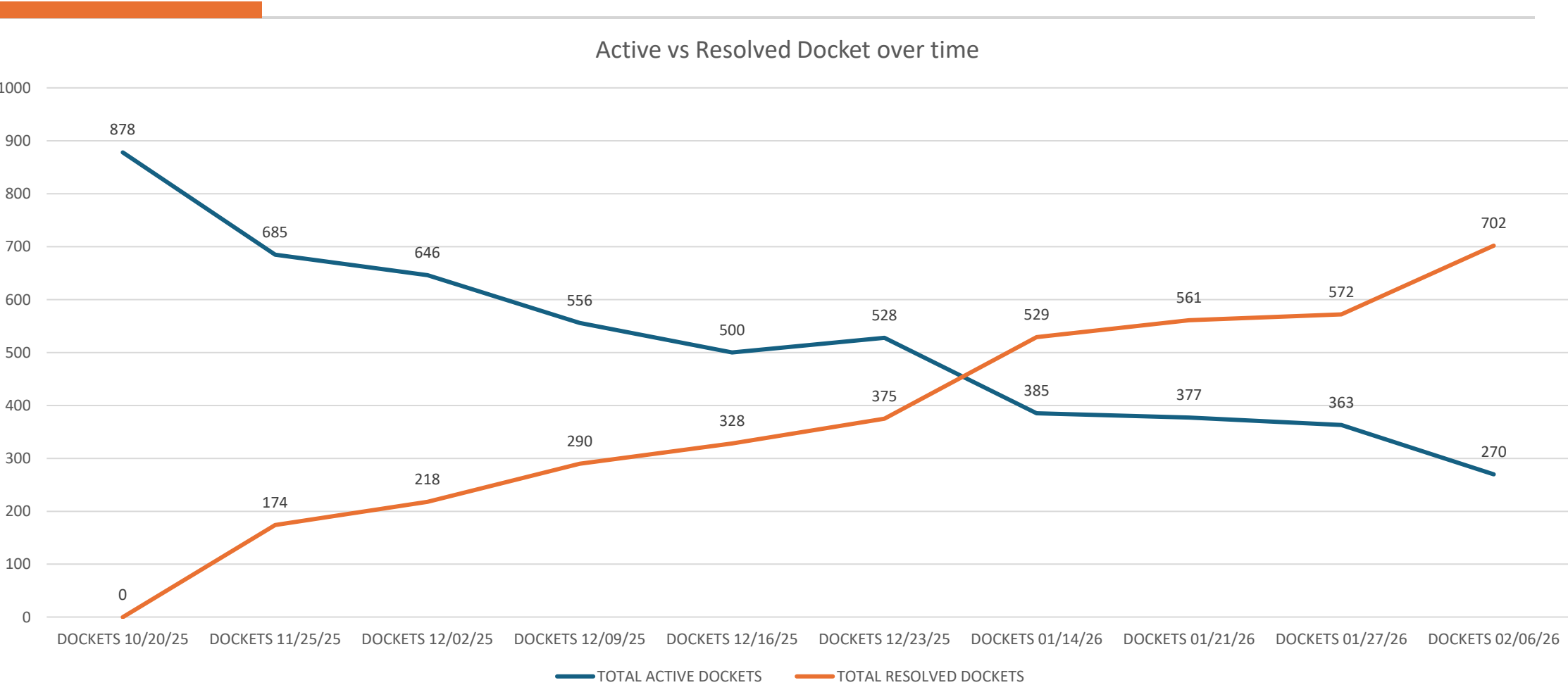


Active and Resolved Dockets

'Resolved' column represents individuals incarcerated, placed on probation, ruled incompetent to stand trial, released on order of non-hospitalization, assigned to treatment court, assigned to ACS, deceased, or having their case dismissed.

AC TOTAL DOCKET DATA			
DATE	TOTAL ACTIVE DOCKETS	TOTAL RESOLVED DOCKETS	TOTAL DOCKETS
DOCKETS 10/20/25	878	0	878
DOCKETS 11/25/25	685	174	859
DOCKETS 12/02/25	646	218	864
DOCKETS 12/09/25	556	290	846
DOCKETS 12/16/25	500	328	828
DOCKETS 12/23/25	528	375	903
DOCKETS 01/14/26	385	529	914
DOCKETS 01/21/26	377	561	930
DOCKETS 01/27/26	363	572	935
DOCKETS 02/06/26	270	702	972

Docket Progression

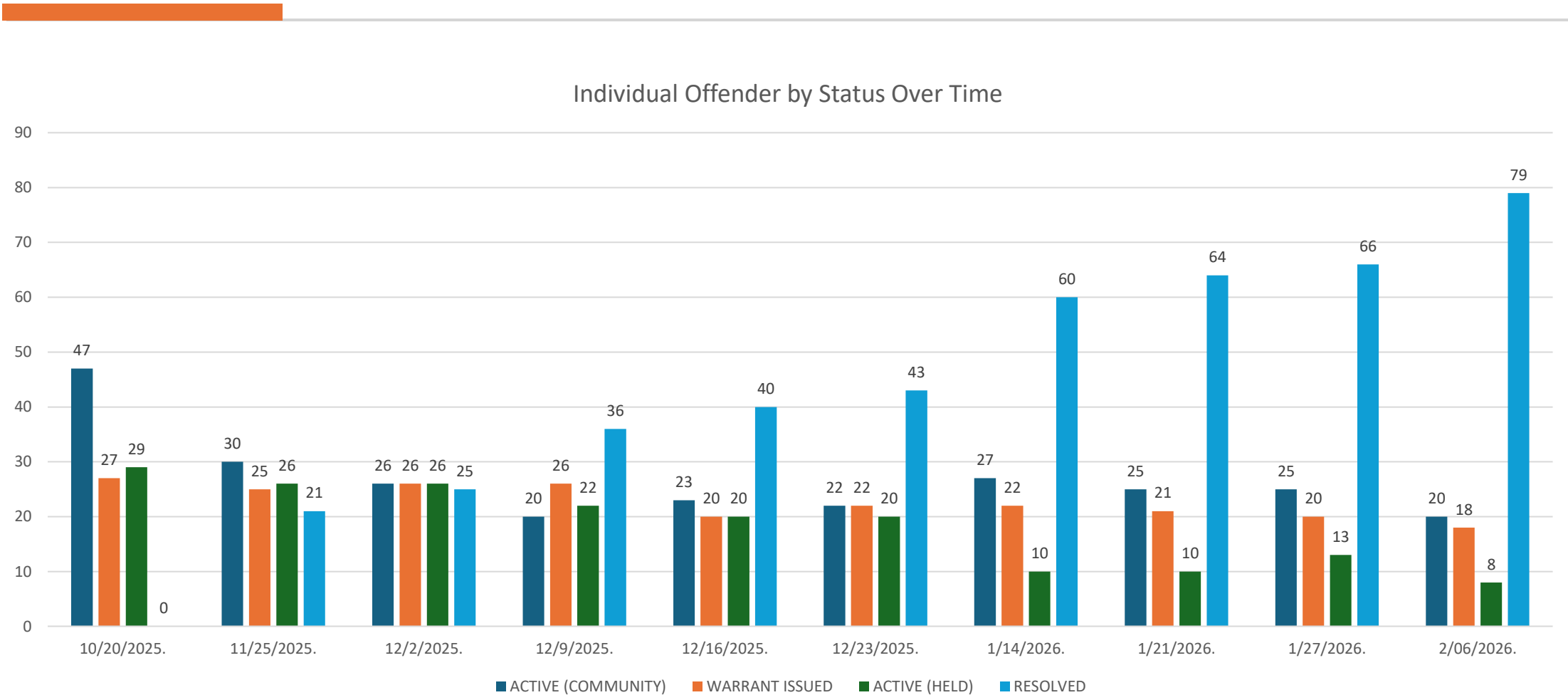


NOTE: Data from 12/24–01/06 was not captured. However, using the average rate of change from the prior six weeks (72.5 dockets resolved per week), the 01/14 data aligns closely with the model. This suggests the two-week gap likely followed a normal pattern of change.

Status Progress on Involved Individuals

AC BASIC OFFENDER PROGRESSION DATA										
OFFENDER STATUS	10/20/2025.	11/25/2025.	12/2/2025.	12/9/2025.	12/16/2025.	12/23/2025.	1/14/2026.	1/21/2026.	1/27/2026.	2/06/2026.
ACTIVE (COMMUNITY)	47	30	26	20	23	22	27	25	25	20
WARRANT ISSUED	27	25	26	26	20	22	22	21	20	18
ACTIVE (HELD)	29	26	26	22	20	20	10	10	13	8
RESOLVED	0	21	25	36	40	43	60	64	66	79
TOTAL	103	102	103	104	103	107	119	120	124	125

Individual Offender Progression

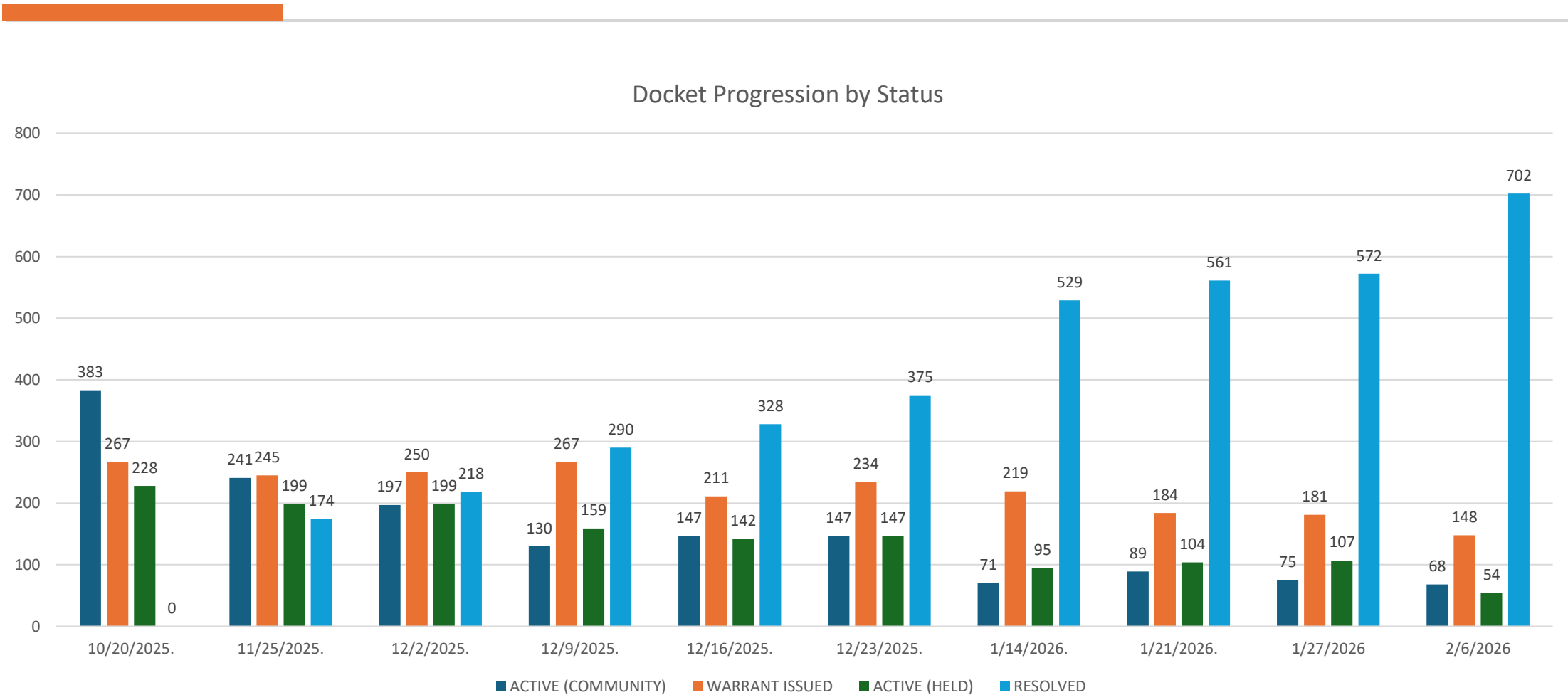


Status Progress on Individual Dockets

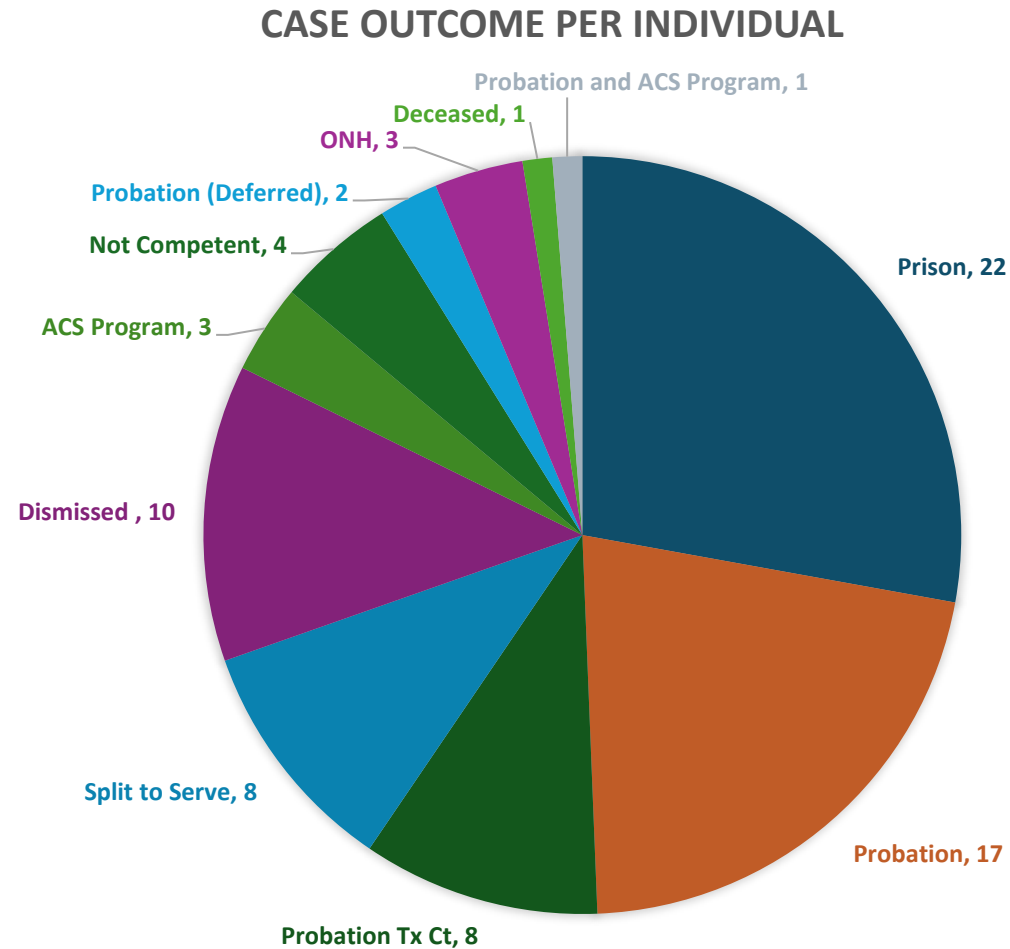
AC BASIC DOCKET PROGRESSION DATA

OFFENDER STATUS	10/20/2025.	11/25/2025.	12/2/2025.	12/9/2025.	12/16/2025.	12/23/2025.	1/14/2026.	1/21/2026.	1/27/2026	2/6/2026
ACTIVE (COMMUNITY)	383	241	197	130	147	147	71	89	75	68
WARRANT ISSUED	267	245	250	267	211	234	219	184	181	148
ACTIVE (HELD)	228	199	199	159	142	147	95	104	107	54
RESOLVED	0	174	218	290	328	375	529	561	572	702
TOTAL	878	859	864	846	828	903	914	930	935	972

Individual Docket Progression



Case Outcome Assignments



Outcome Assignment by Docket

