



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Agenda Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Jorge L. Barón, Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Vice-Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Teresa Mosqueda

Lead Staff: Leah Krekel-Zoppi (206-477-0892)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

9:30 AM

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

Hybrid Meetings: Attend King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: The Law and Justice Committee values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. **In person:** You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. **By email:** You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to kcccomitt@kingcounty.gov. If your email is received before 11:30 a.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. **Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer:** You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/join> and entering the Webinar ID number below.

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p>	
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You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea at (206) 477-9259 or email Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov by 8:00 a.m. no fewer than three business days prior to the meeting.

CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:

Webinar ID: 889 0017 7467

By computer using the Zoom application at <https://zoom.us/join> and the webinar ID above.

Via phone by calling 1-253-215-8782 and entering the webinar ID above.

HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY: There are three ways to watch or listen to the meeting:

- 1) Stream online via this link www.kingcounty.gov/kctv or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV on Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD) and Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone - see "Connecting to the Webinar" above.

To help us manage the meeting, please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

3. Approval of Minutes p. 4

January 22, 2025 meeting minutes

4. Public Comment



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TTY Number - TTY 711.
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Briefing



- 5. [Briefing No. 2025-B0025](#) (no materials)
Update on Detention Facility Distributed Antenna System and Emergency Proclamation
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget

- 6. [Briefing No. 2025-B0024](#) p. 8
Superior Court Update on Civil Cases
The Honorable Ketu Shah, Presiding Judge, Superior Court

- 7. [Briefing No. 2025-B0034](#) (no materials)
Civil Legal System Partners
Amarinthia Torres, Co-Executive Director (Policy), Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence
Laurel Redden, Director of Communications and Policy, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center
Jerry Kröon, Executive Director, Eastside Legal Assistance Program
Vivian Lee, Legal Director, Eastside Legal Assistance Program

Other Business

Adjournment

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516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Jorge L. Barón, Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Vice-Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn

Lead Staff: Wendy Soo Hoo (206-477-0890)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

1:00 PM

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Hybrid meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Barón called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 4 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski and Dunn

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Dembowski moved approval of the minutes of the August 28, 2024 meeting. Seeing no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. **Public Comment**

The following individuals were present to provide public comment:
Alex Tsimmerman
Joe Kunzler

Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0293](#)

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the second of two reports on progress toward addressing the legal system backlog that resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic, in response to the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 19546, Section 17, Proviso P4.

Erica Newman, Council staff, briefed the committee. Leesa Manion, King County Prosecutor, Matthew Sanders, Interim Director, Department of Public Defense, Judge Ketu Shah, Presiding Judge, King County Superior Court, Judge Corinna Harn, King County District Court, and David Baker, Director of Data and Analytics, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, also addressed the committee and answered questions from the members.

Councilmember Dembowski moved Amendment 1. The amendment was adopted.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Substitute Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski and Dunn

6. [Proposed Motion No. 2024-0284](#)

A MOTION acknowledging receipt of the proviso report on a crisis response program plan required by the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 19546, Section 21, as amended by Ordinance 19633, Section 17, Proviso P1.

Nick Bowman, Council staff, briefed the committee. Geoffrey Thomas, Chief of Staff, King County Sheriff's Office, Cheol Kang, Chief of Community Programs and Services Division, King County Sheriff's Office, Susie Kroll, Program Manager, Therapeutic Response Unit, King County Sheriff's Office, also addressed the committee via a video and PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this Motion be Recommended Do Pass Consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski and Dunn

7. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2025-0016](#)

AN ORDINANCE related to the repeal of RCW 10.70.140; and amending Ordinance 17706, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.15.020.

Melissa Bailey, Council staff, briefed the committee. Steve Larsen, Deputy Director, Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, also addressed the committee.

A motion was made by Councilmember Dembowski that this Ordinance be Recommended Do Pass. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Balducci, Barón and Dembowski

Excused: 1 - Dunn

Briefing

8. [Briefing No. 2025-B0009](#)

2025 Law and Justice Committee Look Ahead

Wendy Soo Hoo, Council staff, briefed the committee.

This matter was Presented

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature



King County

Law and Justice Committee

March 5, 2025

**Agenda Item No. 5
Briefing No. 2025-B0025**

**Update on Detention Facility Distributed
Antenna System and Emergency**

There are no materials for this item.

Superior Court 2025



King County
Superior Court



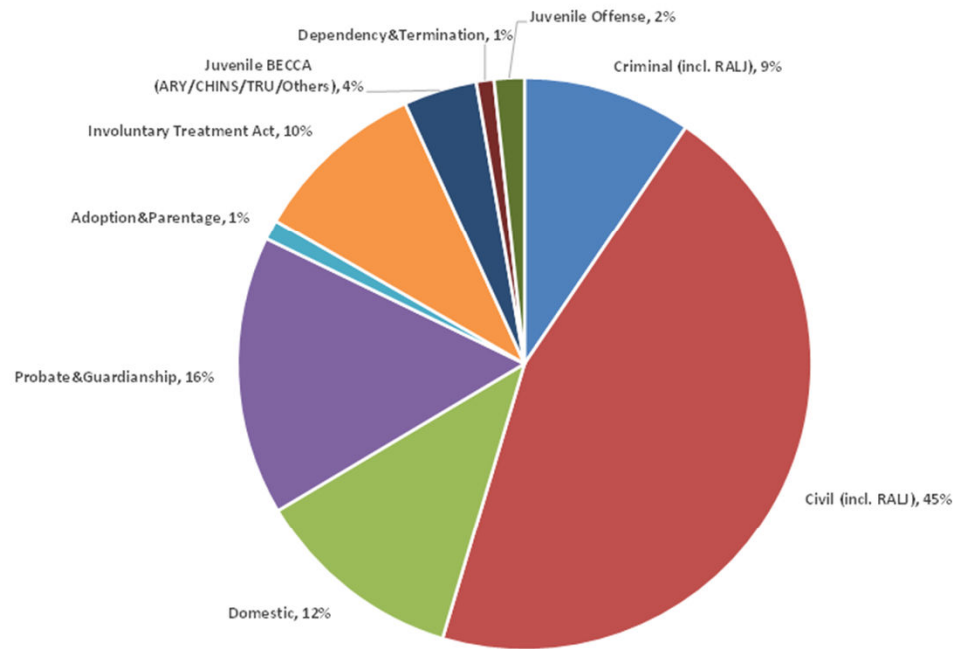
What We Do

- Civil = 40%
- Probate/Guardianship = 17%
- Family Law = 13%
- ITA = 11%
- Criminal = 10%
- Juvenile = 1.5%
- Dependency = 1%

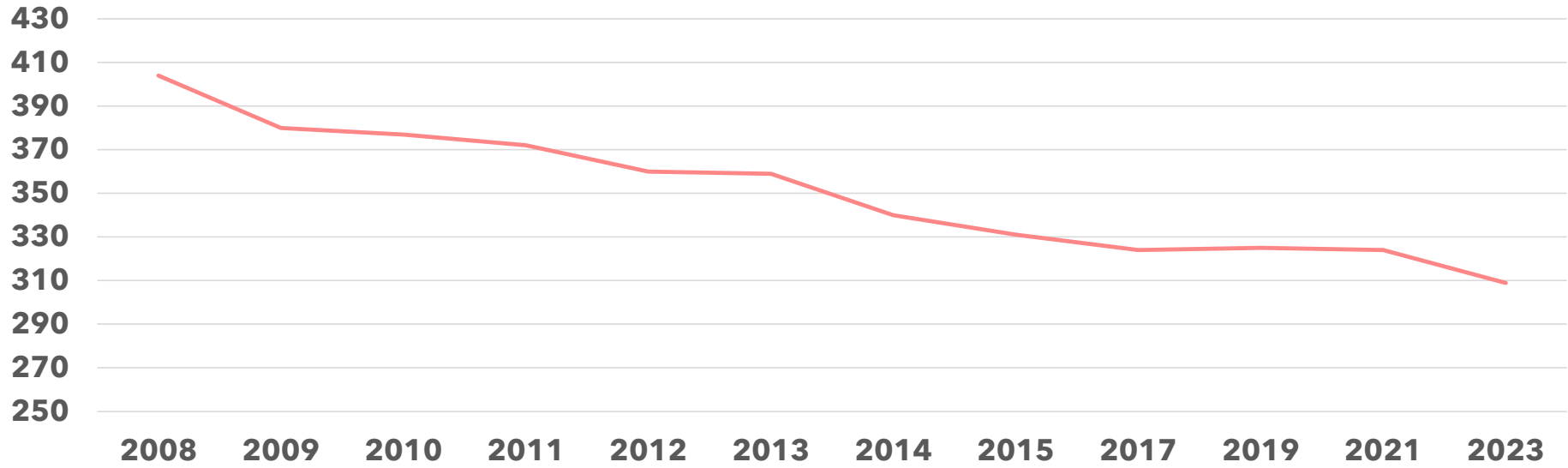


Total Filings

Chart 2: KCSC 2024 Filings by Category (excluding Matters Filed with Clerk)



CX FTEs



Statutory Workload

General fund/CX budget = \$2.2 Billion

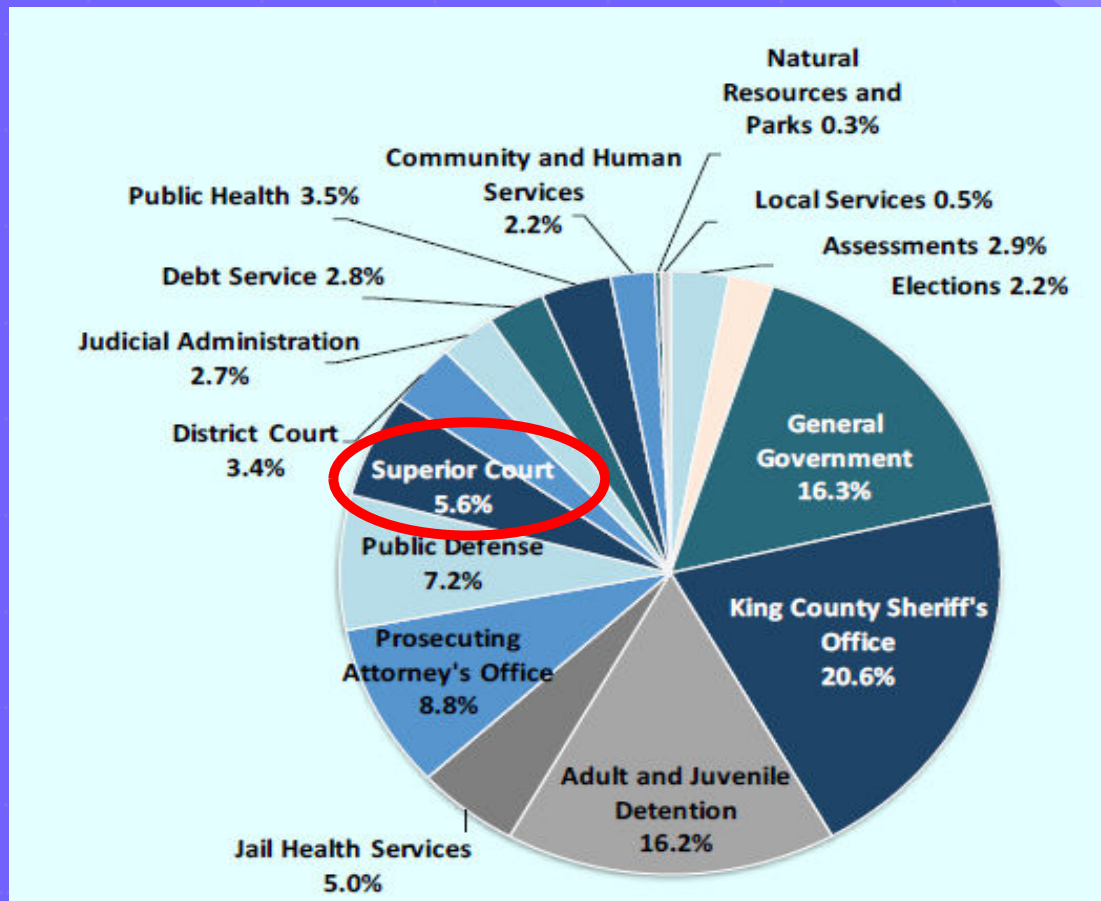


Chart 5: General Civil Cases Filed (excl. RAJ and Matters Filed with Clerk)

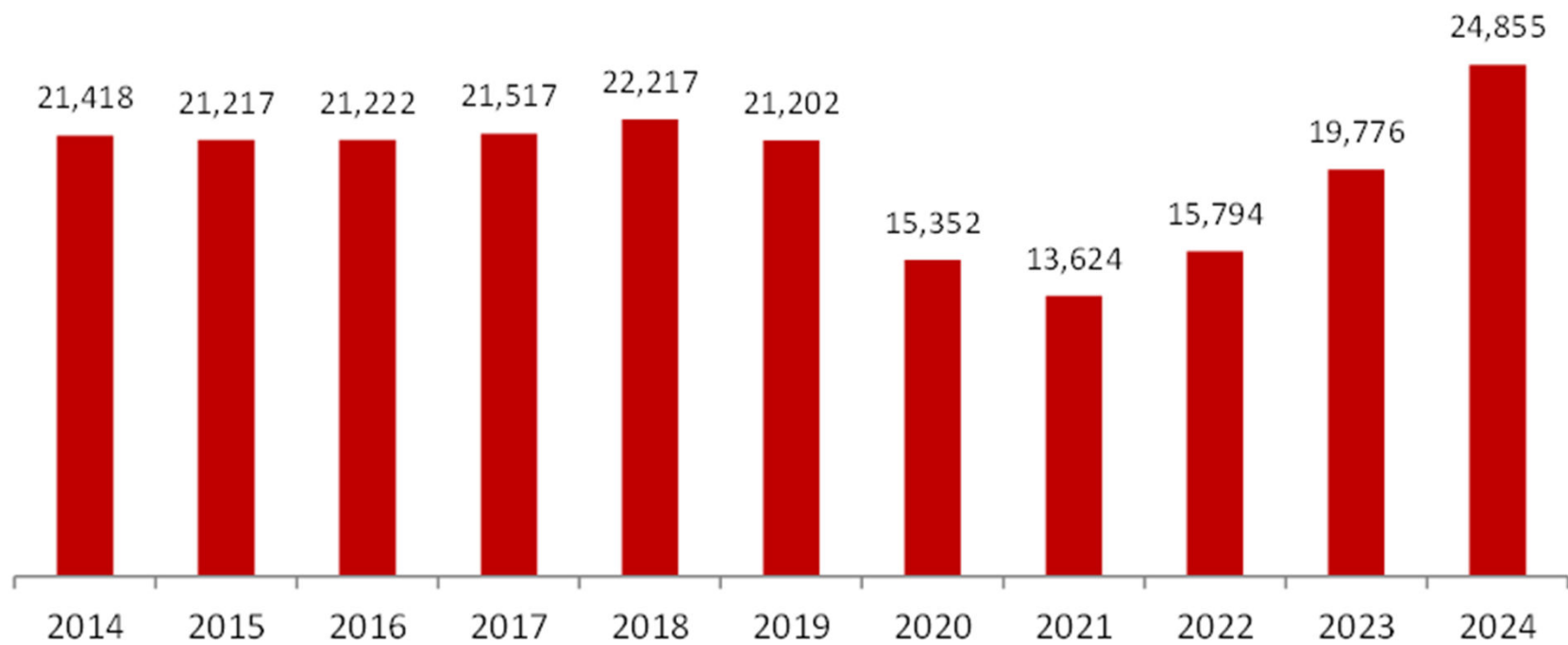
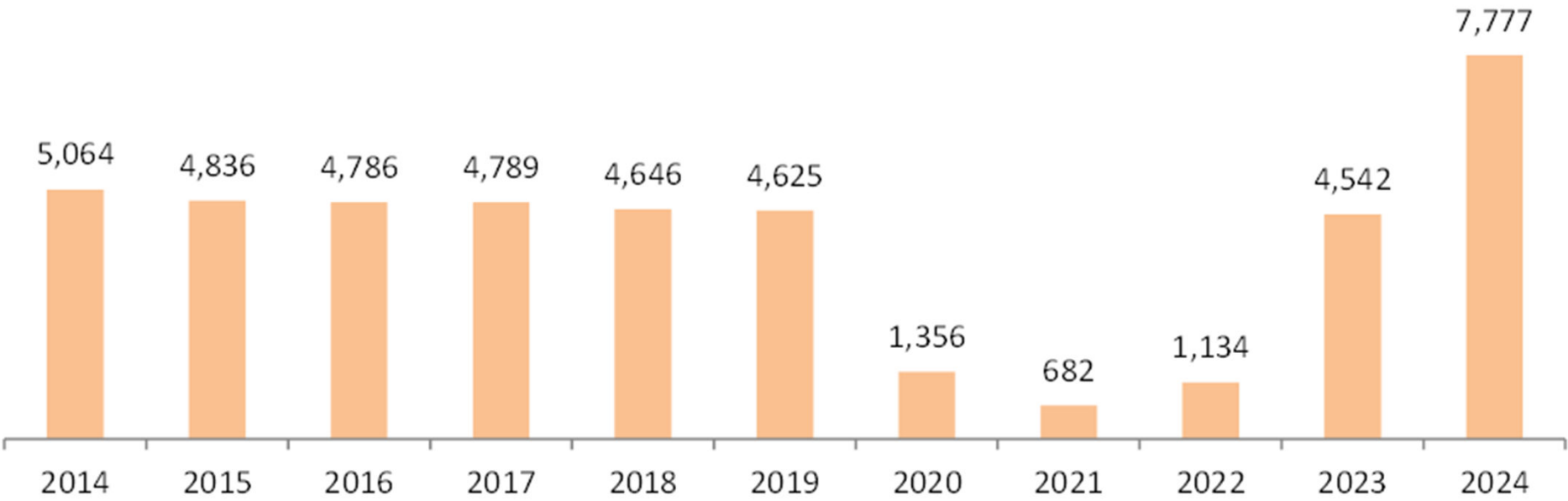
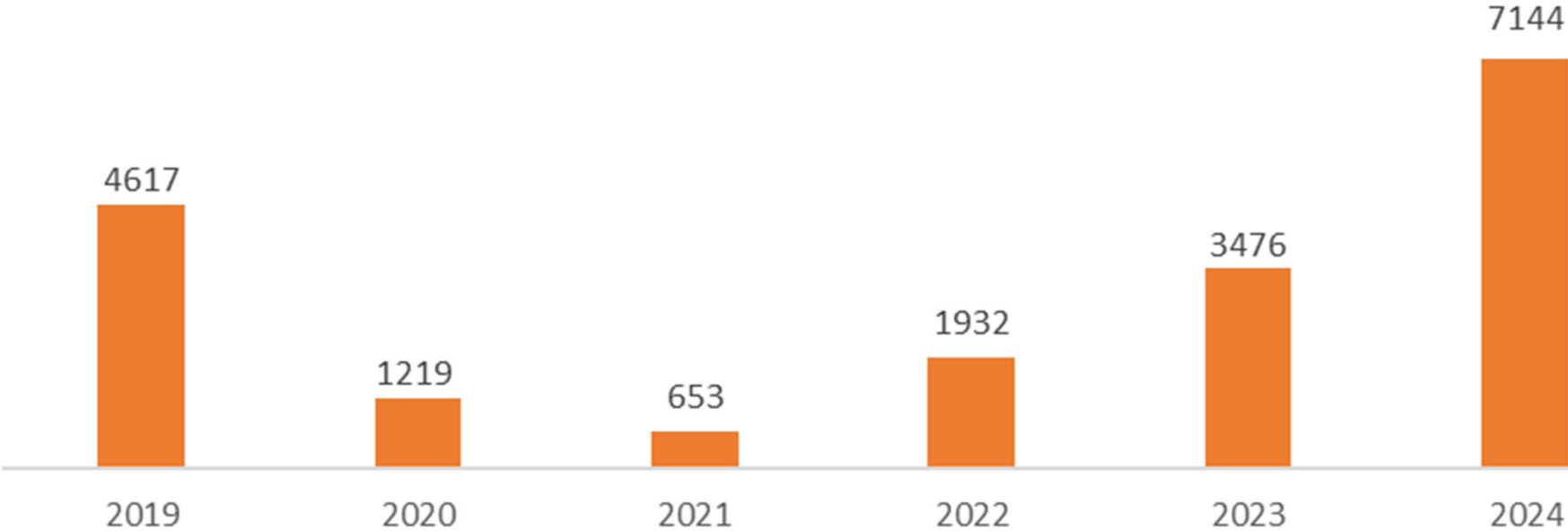


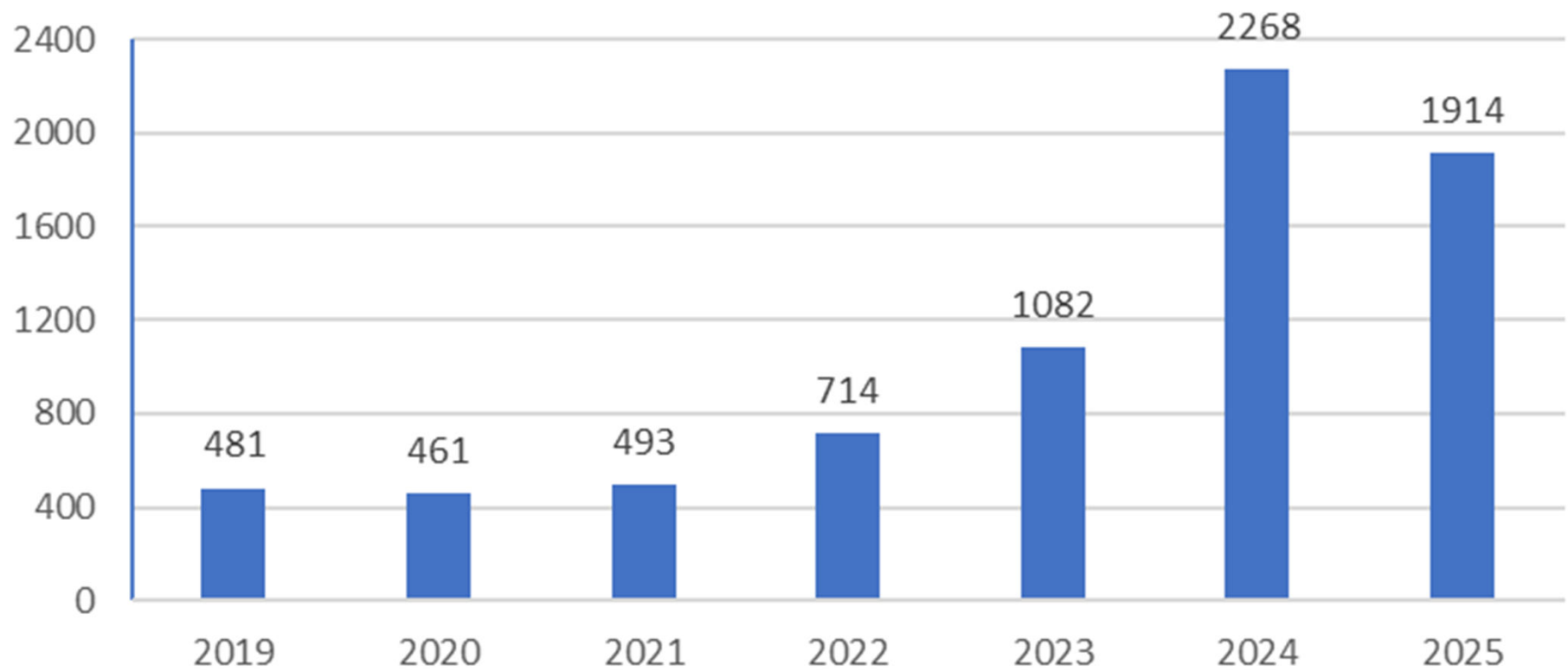
Chart 5F: Unlawful Detainer Cases Filed



KCSC : Annual Unlawful Detainer Case Dispositions
(2019 - 2024)



KCSC : Monthly Average Unlawful Detainer Case Pending (2019 - Jan 2025)



Dispositions by Month Jan 2024 - Jan 2025

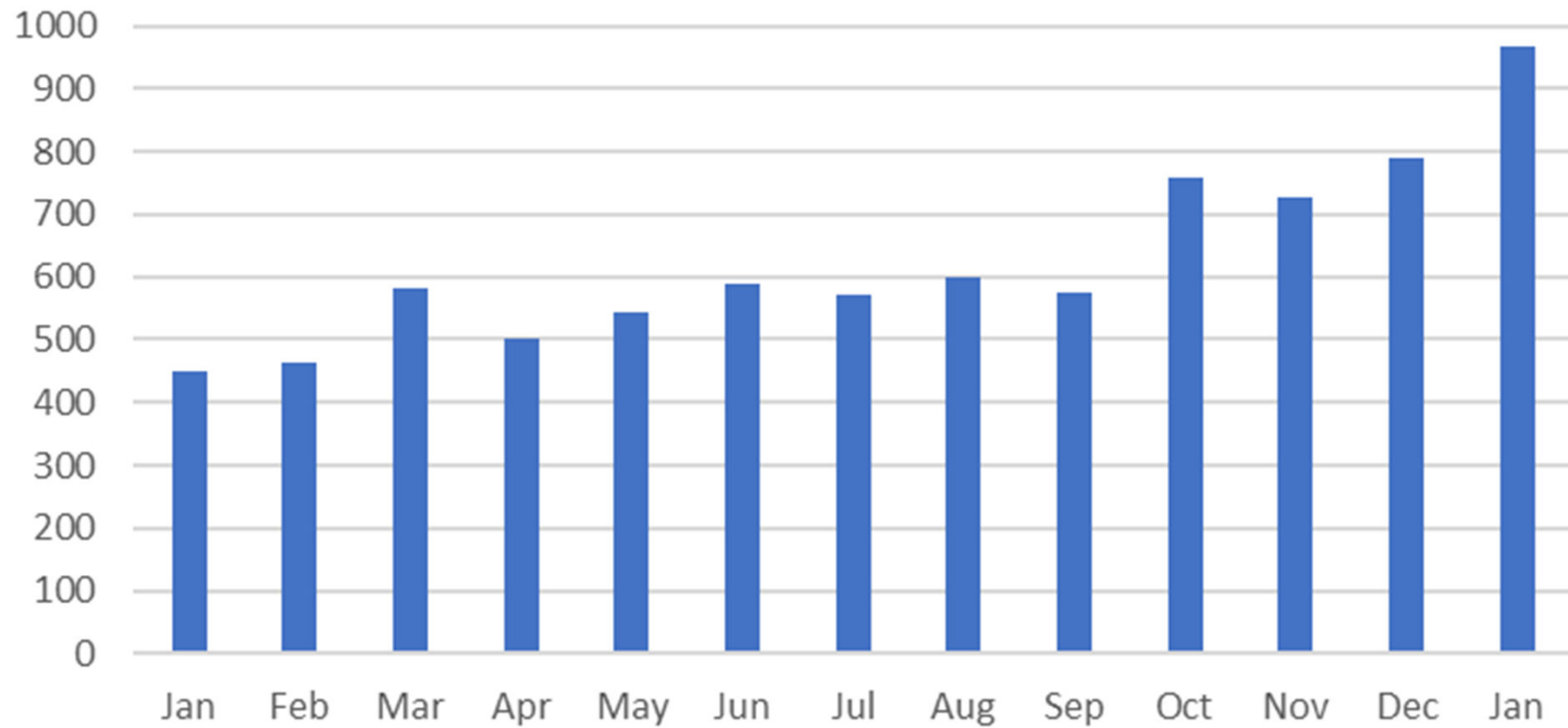
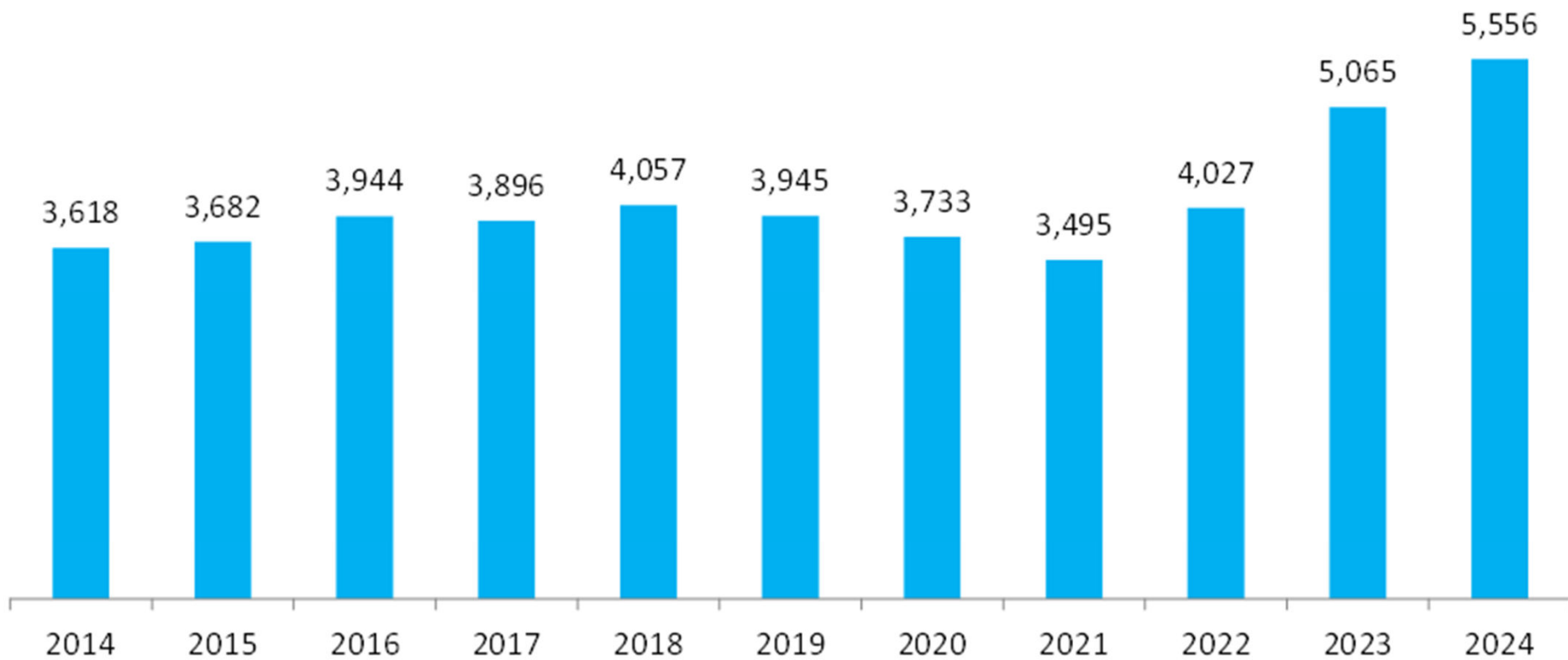


Chart 5G: All Civil Protection Petition Cases Filed

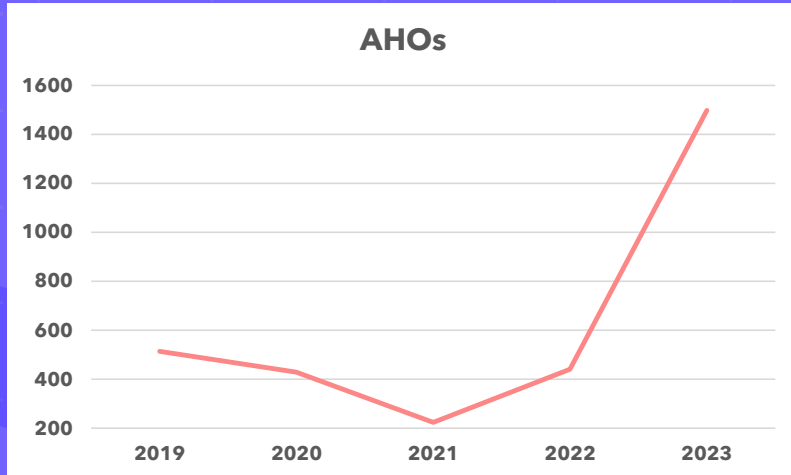


Annual Protection Cases Filed (2019-2024) by Petition Type

Petition Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Domestic Violence Protection	2,887	2,809	2,818	3,029	2,972	2,960
Unlawful Harassment Protection	514	429	223	441	1,497	1,937
Stalking Protection	179	189	163	216	150	202
Sexual Assault Protection	125	82	95	114	177	216
Vulnerable Adult Protection	174	141	127	134	148	154
Extreme Risk Protection Order	60	77	69	91	118	87
Extreme Risk Protection Under 18	7	3	1	2	3	0
Annual Total	3,946	3,730	3,496	4,027	5,065	5,556
Monthly Average	329	311	291	336	422	463

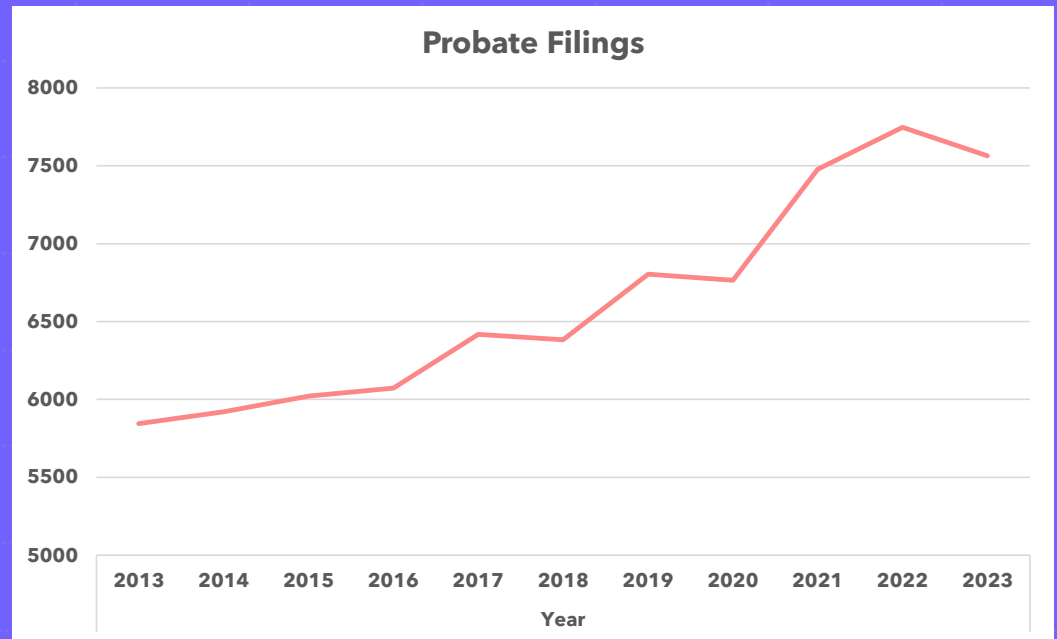
Civil Trends Cont'd

- Civil Protection Orders have increased
- New law change and loss of State funding
- Almost 200% increase in AHOs since 2019



Civil Trends Cont'd

- Probate/Guardianship increase during pandemic



Criminal Trends

- Criminal backlog has reduced thanks to Council Support

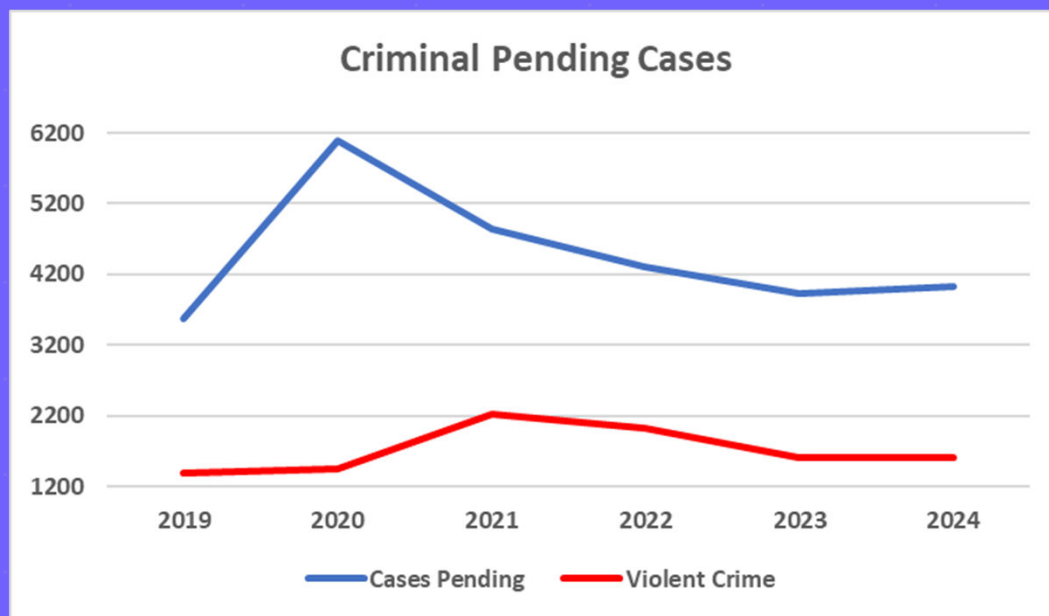
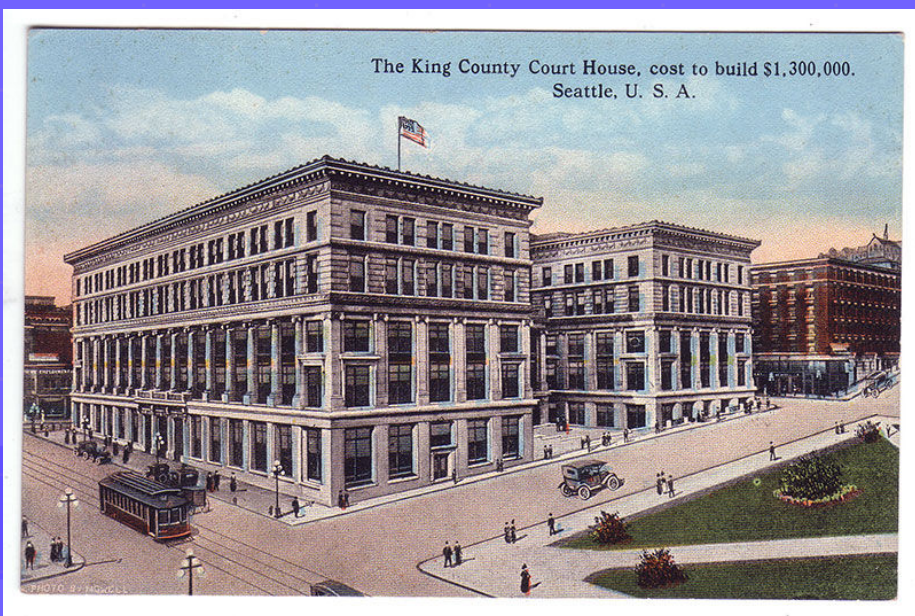
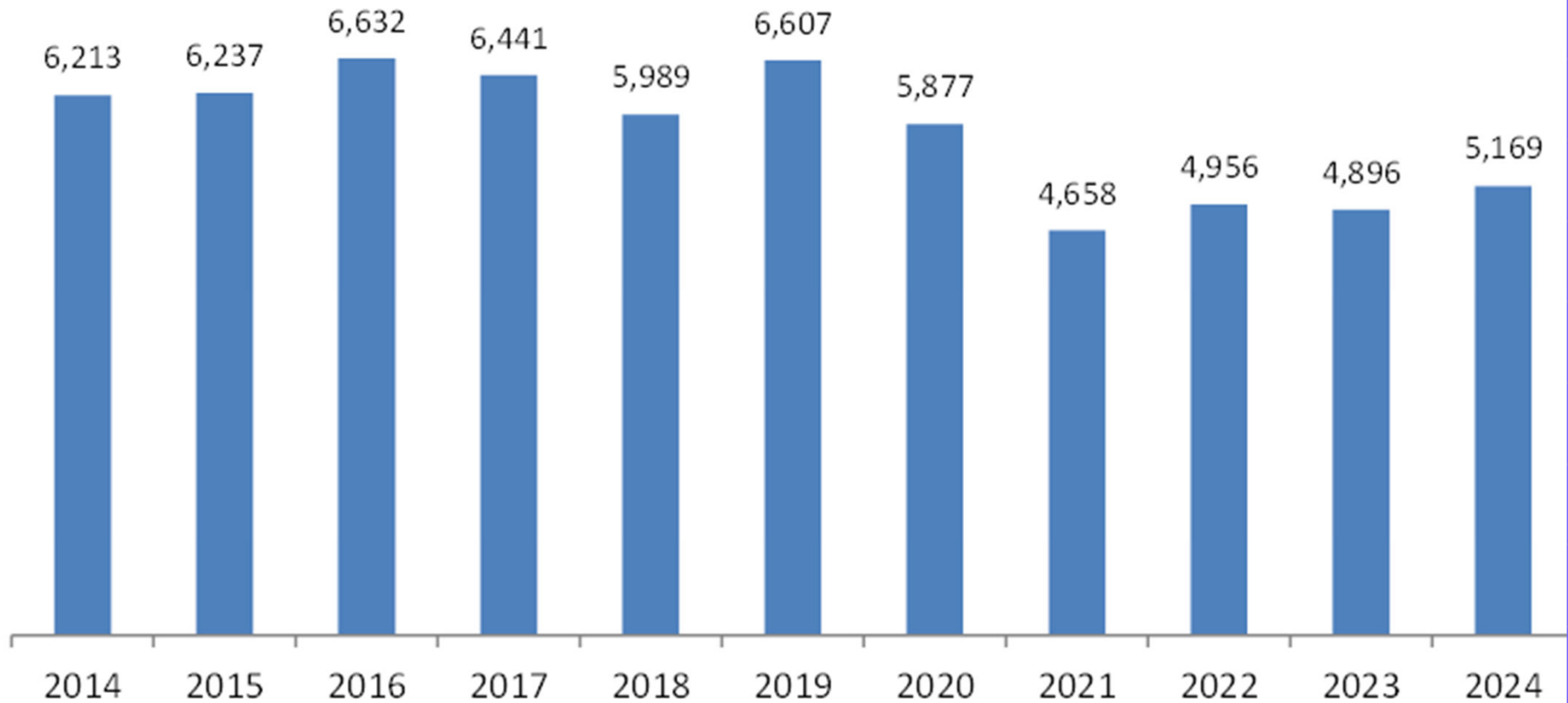
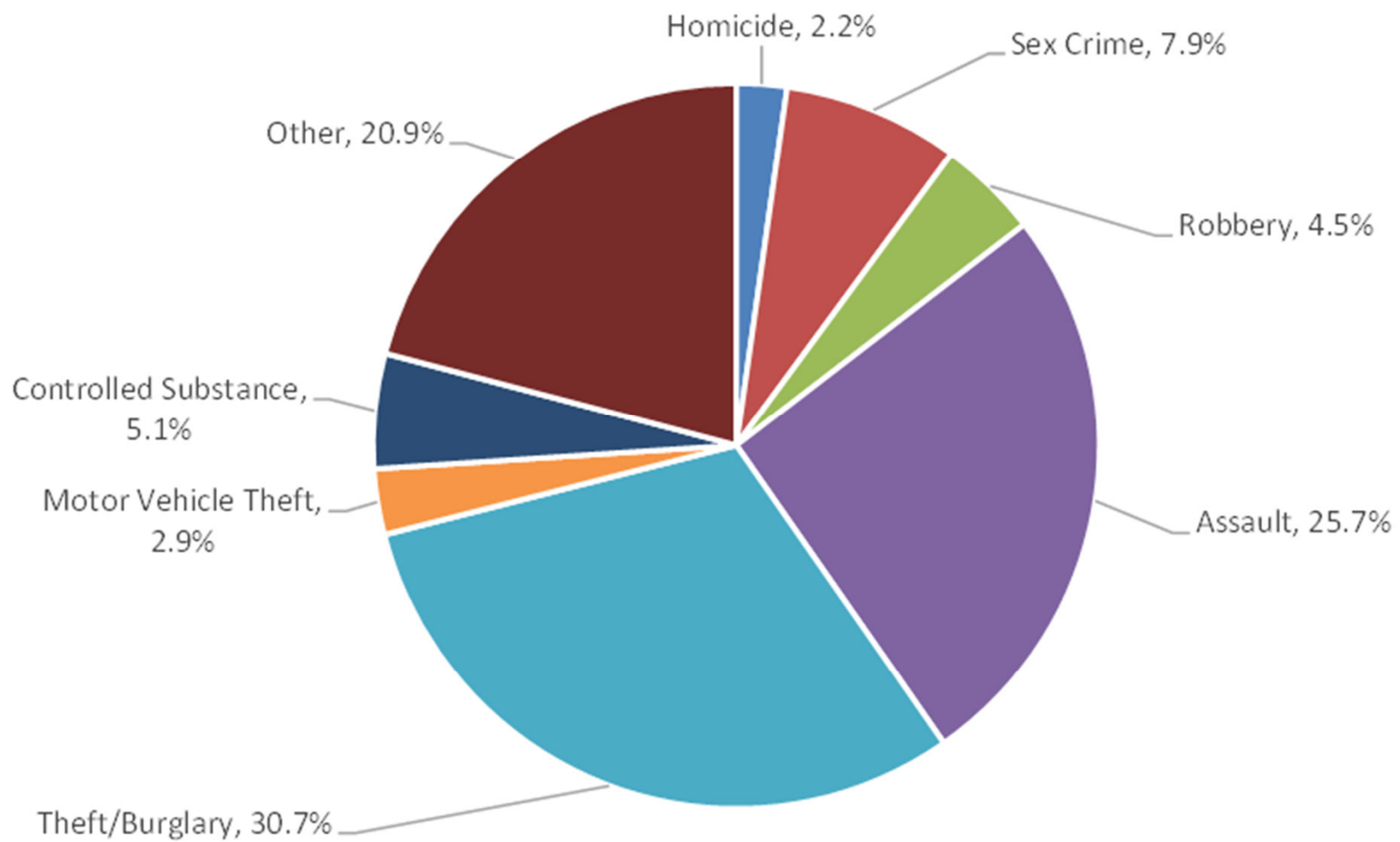


Chart 3: Criminal Cases Filed (excl. RALJ)





Challenges

How do we deliver hybrid services as public expects?

How do we timely address evictions & protection orders?

How do we provide a safe county campus for our staff and jurors to come to work?

How do we become more efficient when cases are more complex?

How do we maintain the Rule of Law?

How do we provide meaningful access to Courts?



King County

Law and Justice Committee

March 5, 2025

**Agenda Item No. 7
Briefing No. 2025-B0034**

Civil Legal System Partners

There are no materials for this item.