



Office of the City Solicitor
Public Safety and Legal Administration
2nd Quarter Report

February 26, 2019
Presented by Raines F. Carter, City Solicitor



Prosecution Update

The Solicitor's Office is charged with the responsibility for determining the legal course of more than 200,000 cases annually. Given the volume of cases, accuracy and efficiency play a significant role in the management of the caseload. Approximately 164,000 traffic citations were filed in 2018 - approximately 14% were eCitations.

Challenge:

- Availability of handwritten citations remains a significant problem in advancing cases for resolution

Next Steps:

- Expand the usage of handheld devices by APD and other agencies
- Update devices to address reported issues by officers
- Review and improve configuration based on officers, solicitor's, and court concerns



DUI Update

Challenge:

On February 18, 2019, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled that a defendant's refusal to submit to a state administered breath test is inadmissible in a criminal trial.

Consequently, the Court's ruling may affect future decisions about whether a defendant's consent was voluntary under the current implied consent law. This is because the current law contains language advising that refusals may be admissible against the defendant at trial. The Solicitor's Office has more than 600 open DUI cases with approximately 33% containing a breath test as evidence. At the end of FY19 Q2, DUI case closures increased 35% over the same period of the previous fiscal year.

Next Steps:

- Increased training of prosecutors, legal support, and law enforcement
- Legislation will need to be drafted to change implied consent warning



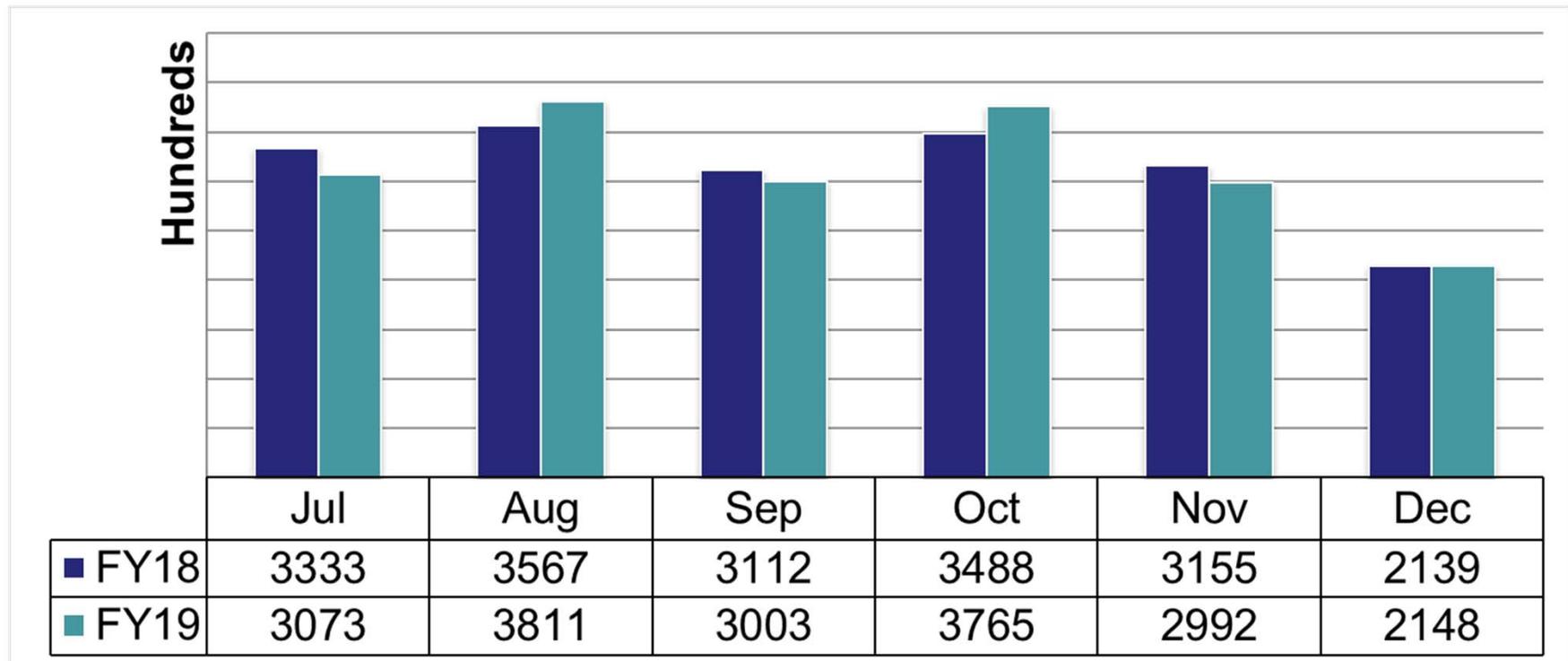
Alternative Prosecution Update

The Office of the City Solicitor utilizes diversion, alternative prosecution and community-based programs to resolve cases efficiently and in a fiscally responsible manner. Alternative prosecution programs relieves the pressure on a high volume court system without adding additional costs to the taxpayers by assessing offenders a fee to defray the cost of administering the program. Roughly 20% of misdemeanor cases are resolved through diversion and alternative prosecution programs.



Pretrial Intervention

Participation Performance Measures for FY 18-FY19 Q2

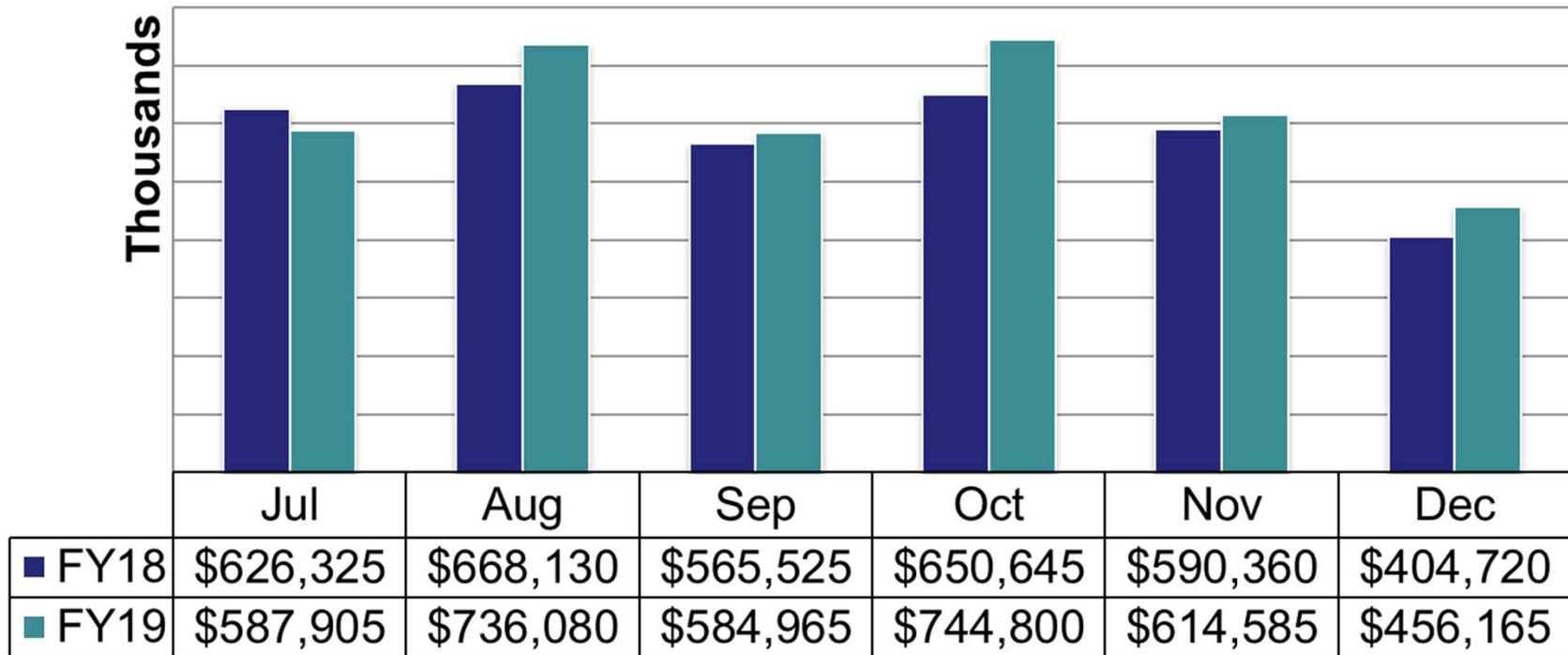


- Trends shows the program is performing as anticipated.



Pretrial Intervention

Fee Assessment Performance Measures for FY 18-FY19 Q2



- Trend shows the program is performing as anticipated.



Community Prosecution Update

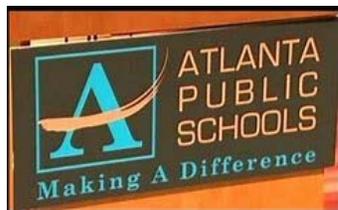
The Office of the City Solicitor will initiate a new program beginning March 11, 2019 in conjunction with the Department of Corrections to allow pre-trial diversion participants to perform community service hours in the Fight Against Blight initiative. We will coordinate with council districts to assist with projects to benefit our communities.

Community Prosecution Outreach Partners

Working Together For a Safer City



City of Atlanta
Office of Housing and
Community Development



City of Atlanta
Department of Public Works



City of Atlanta
Mayor's Office of
Constituent Services