

**MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
**MINNESOTA JUDICIAL CENTER**  
25 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

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**DATE:** February 15, 2024

**TO:** Representative Jamie Becker-Finn, Chair, House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee  
Representative Peggy Scott, Lead, House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee  
Representative Kelly Moller, Chair, House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee  
Representative Paul Novotny, Lead, House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee  
Representative Frank Hornstein, Chair, House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee  
Representative John Petersburg, Lead, House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee  
Senator Ron Latz, Chair, Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee  
Senator Warren Limmer, Lead, Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee  
Senator Scott Dibble, Chair, Senate Transportation Committee  
Senator John Jasinski, Lead, Senate Transportation Committee

**C.C.** Legislative Reference Library  
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**RE:** Minn. Stat. § 171.325, subdivision 2  
Report to Legislature by the State Court Administrator

Minn. Stat. 2021, section 171.325, subdivision 2 mandates that the State Court Administrator report annually by February 15, to chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over public safety and transportation, on charges and convictions for violations of Minn.Stat. section 171.24, subdivisions 1 and 2 (driving after suspension and driving after revocation) and specified fine revenue.

Specifically the statute provides that at a minimum, the report must include:

- (1) for each of the previous eight calendar years, the number of charges under section 171.24, subdivisions 1 and 2 (driving after suspension and driving after revocation), broken down by the charges for each subdivision and indicating whether the court appointed the public defender to represent the defendant;

- (2) for each of the previous eight calendar years, the number of convictions under section 171.24, subdivisions 1 and 2, (driving after suspension and driving after revocation), broken down by the convictions for each subdivision and indicating whether the court appointed the public defender to represent the defendant; and
- (3) for the past calendar year, for all charges on violations related to the operation of a motor vehicle and included on the uniform fine schedule authorized under section 609.101, subdivision 4, the percentage of fines, broken down by whether the court appointed the public defender to represent the defendant, that:
  - (i) were paid in full by the due date on the citation;
  - (ii) were paid in full through a payment plan;
  - (iii) accrued late charges;
  - (iv) were sent to court collections; and
  - (v) were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection.

This report is filed in compliance with the statute.

**Table 1**

**Charges Filed Under Minn. Stat. section 171.24, subdivisions 1; Driving After Suspension  
Charges Filed Under Minn. Stat. section 171.24, subdivisions 2; Driving After Revocation  
2016 – 2023**

| <b>Number of Charges Filed per year</b>  | <b>2016</b>   | <b>2017</b>   | <b>2018</b>   | <b>2019</b>   | <b>2020</b>   | <b>2021</b>   | <b>2022</b>   | <b>2023</b>   | <b>Total</b>   |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>171.24.1 Driving After Suspension</b> | <b>28,301</b> | <b>26,756</b> | <b>24,321</b> | <b>22,768</b> | <b>16,569</b> | <b>17,197</b> | <b>15,191</b> | <b>11,745</b> | <b>162,848</b> |
| Public Defender Appointed                | 2,647         | 2,434         | 2,051         | 1,812         | 1,245         | 1,095         | 841           | 500           | 12,625         |
| Public Defender Not Appointed            | 25,654        | 24,322        | 22,270        | 20,956        | 15,324        | 16,102        | 14,350        | 11,245        | 150,223        |
|  |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| <b>171.24.2 Driving After Revocation</b> | <b>50,323</b> | <b>52,414</b> | <b>51,450</b> | <b>50,813</b> | <b>43,002</b> | <b>42,170</b> | <b>40,455</b> | <b>40,757</b> | <b>371,384</b> |
| Public Defender Appointed                | 6,515         | 6,853         | 6,366         | 5,818         | 4,690         | 4,422         | 3,677         | 2,903         | 41,244         |
| Public Defender Not Appointed            | 43,808        | 45,561        | 45,084        | 44,995        | 38,312        | 37,748        | 36,778        | 37,854        | 330,140        |
|  |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                       | <b>78,624</b> | <b>79,170</b> | <b>75,771</b> | <b>73,581</b> | <b>59,571</b> | <b>59,367</b> | <b>55,646</b> | <b>52,502</b> | <b>534,232</b> |

**Table 2**

**Convictions Under Minn. Stat. section 171.24, subdivisions 1; Driving After Suspension  
Convictions Under Minn. Stat. section 171.24, subdivisions 2; Driving After Revocation  
2016 – 2023**

| <b>Number of Charges<br/>Convicted per year</b> | <b>2016</b>   | <b>2017</b>   | <b>2018</b>   | <b>2019</b>   | <b>2020</b>   | <b>2021</b>   | <b>2022</b>   | <b>2023</b>   | <b>Total</b>   |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>171.24.1 Driving<br/>After Suspension</b>    | <b>19,688</b> | <b>18,370</b> | <b>17,341</b> | <b>15,922</b> | <b>11,230</b> | <b>16,565</b> | <b>13,867</b> | <b>11,583</b> | <b>124,566</b> |
| Public Defender<br>Appointed                    | 959           | 874           | 758           | 506           | 228           | 257           | 315           | 230           | 4,127          |
| Public Defender<br>Not Appointed                | 18,729        | 17,496        | 16,583        | 15,416        | 11,002        | 16,308        | 13,552        | 11,353        | 120,439        |
|   |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| <b>171.24.2 Driving<br/>After Revocation</b>    | <b>29,529</b> | <b>28,408</b> | <b>28,106</b> | <b>27,446</b> | <b>16,823</b> | <b>34,447</b> | <b>28,302</b> | <b>29,410</b> | <b>222,471</b> |
| Public Defender<br>Appointed                    | 2,120         | 2,139         | 2,060         | 1,563         | 717           | 1001          | 1,040         | 1,007         | 11,647         |
| Public Defender<br>Not Appointed                | 27,409        | 26,269        | 26,046        | 25,883        | 16,106        | 33,446        | 27,262        | 28,403        | 210,824        |
|   |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                              | <b>49,217</b> | <b>46,778</b> | <b>45,447</b> | <b>43,368</b> | <b>28,053</b> | <b>51,012</b> | <b>42,169</b> | <b>40,993</b> | <b>347,037</b> |

The conviction may not occur in the same year in which the charge is filed. Convictions do not include charges with no disposition or a current disposition of acquittal, continuance for dismissal, dismissed, diversion, stay of adjudication.

**For calendar year 2023, charges on violations related to the operation of a motor vehicle and included on the uniform fine schedule authorized under section 609.101, subdivision 4, the percentage of fines, broken down by whether the court appointed the public defender to represent the defendant, that:**

- (3)(i): were paid in full by the due date on the citation**
- (3)(ii): were paid in full through a payment plan**
- (3)(iii): accrued late charges**
- (3)(iv): were sent to court collections**
- (3)(v): were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection.**

Court collections is referring the case to the Department of Revenue, therefore this report does not contain data related to item (3)(iv). All cases sent for collection are represented in Table (3)(v).

General Information Related to Tables 3(i), 3(ii), 3(iii), 3(v):

“Payable Citations Certifiable to the Department of Public Safety” refers to payable citations with charges that must be reported to the Department of Public Safety upon conviction under Minn. Stat. 171.16 subd. 1.

Net Fine Assessments are for the fine portion only and equal total assessments less any credits.

The payment information in Tables 3(i) and 3(ii) do not account for all fine payments received. Payments can also be received by an extended due date, after the due date but prior to the referral to the Department of Revenue for payments, or through partial payments.

Data is as of January 12, 2024. Cases filed in calendar year 2023 are included. Net fine assessments, payments, late fees, and referrals to collections are as of January 12, 2024.

**Table 3(i): Were paid in full by the due date on the citation**

The due date is 30 days after the case filing date. Cases filed after December 13, 2023 were not yet due when the data were compiled.

| <b>Table 3(i)(a). Cases where the court appointed the public defender</b>                                      |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court appointed the public defender | 418                    | 604                      | \$78,693                    |                      |
| Of those, citations paid in full by the due date on the citation   | 6                      | 8                        |                             | \$1,005              |
| Percent paid in full by the due date on the citation   | 1.4%                   | 1.3%                     |                             | 1.3%                 |

| <b>Table 3(i)(b). Cases where the court did not appoint the public defender</b>                                      |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court did not appoint the public defender | 264,929                | 305,050                  | \$28,133,660                |                      |
| Of those, citations paid in full by the due date on the citation   | 130,848                | 139,617                  |                             | \$8,932,453          |
| Percent paid in full by the due date on the citation   | 49.4%                  | 45.8%                    |                             | 31.8%                |

As shown in Table 3(i)(a), 1.4% of cases (6/418) where the court appointed the public defender to represent the defendant were paid in full by the due date on the citation. Of the total fine amount assessed on cases with a public defender appointment, 1.3% (\$1,005/\$78,693) was paid in full by the due date on the citation.

As shown in Table 3(i)(b), 49.4% of cases (130,848/264,929) of cases without a public defender appointment were paid in full by the due date on the citation. Of the total fine amount assessed on cases without a public defender appointment, 31.8% (\$8,932,453/\$28,133,660) was paid in full by the due date on the citation.

**Table 3(ii): were paid in full through a payment plan**

The fine payment total does not include payments on payment plans that were not yet paid in full as of January 12, 2024.

| <b>Table 3(ii)(a). Cases where the court appointed the public defender</b>                                     |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court appointed the public defender | 418                    | 604                      | \$78,693                    |                      |
| Of those, citations paid in full through a payment plan  | 5                      | 8                        |                             | \$495                |
| Percent paid in full through a payment plan  | 1.2%                   | 1.3%                     |                             | 0.6%                 |

| <b>Table 3(ii)(b). Cases where the court did not appoint the public defender</b>                                     |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court did not appoint the public defender | 264,929                | 305,050                  | \$28,133,660                |                      |
| Of those, citations paid in full through a payment plan  | 2,816                  | 3,270                    |                             | \$242,097            |
| Percent paid in full through a payment plan  | 1.1%                   | 1.1%                     |                             | 0.9%                 |

As shown in Table 3(ii)(a), 1.2% of cases (5/418) with a public defender appointed were paid in full through a payment plan. Of the total fine amount assessed on cases with a public defender appointed, 0.6% (\$495/\$78,693) was paid in full through a payment plan.

As shown in Table 3(ii)(b), 1.1% of cases (2,816/\$264,929) without a public defender appointed were paid in full through a payment plan. Of the total fine amount assessed on cases without a public defender, 0.9% (\$242,097/\$28,133,660) was paid in full through a payment plan.

**Table 3(iii): accrued late charges**

Late charges include a First Penalty of \$5, which is added after the due date, and a Second Penalty of \$25, which is added 30 days after the First Penalty. Fine Payments include the fine portion only of the total payments and do not include payments made toward late penalties or other fees.

| <b>Table 3(iii)(a). Cases where the court appointed the public defender</b>                                    |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court appointed the public defender | 418                    | 604                      | \$78,693                    |                      |
| Of those, citations which accrued late charges   | 93                     | 139                      |                             | \$770                |
| Percent which accrued late charges   | 22.2%                  | 23.0%                    |                             | 1.0%                 |

| <b>Table 3(iii)(b). Cases where the court did not appoint the public defender</b>                                    |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court did not appoint the public defender | 264,929                | 305,050                  | \$28,133,660                |                      |
| Of those, citations which accrued late charges   | 100,673                | 125,685                  |                             | \$3,269,870          |
| Percent which accrued late charges   | 38%                    | 41.2%                    |                             | 11.6%                |

As shown in Table 3(iii)(a), 22.2% (93/418) of the cases in which the court appointed the public defender accrued late charges. Fine payments made on these cases represent 1.0% (\$770/\$78,693) of the net fine assessments on citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court appointed the public defender.

As shown in Table 3(iii)(b), 38% (100,673/264,929) of the cases in which the court did not appoint a public defender accrued late charges. Fine payments made on these cases represent 11.6% (\$3,269,870/\$28,133,660) of the net fine assessments on citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court did not appoint the public defender.

**Table 3(v): were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection.**

These tables include the number of cases charged in 2023 with convictions that were referred to DOR for collection as of January 12, 2024. Referral occurred at least 90 days after a missed payment.

| <b>Table 3(v)(a). Cases referred where the court appointed the public defender</b>                             |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court appointed the public defender | 418                    | 604                      | \$78,693                    |                      |
| Of those, citations which were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection                                | 51                     | 80                       |                             | \$467                |
| Percent which were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection  | 12.2%                  | 13.2%                    |                             | 0.6%                 |

| <b>Table 3(v)(b). Cases referred where the court did not appoint the public defender</b>                             |                        |                          |                             |                      |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>Number of Cases</b> | <b>Number of Charges</b> | <b>Net Fine Assessments</b> | <b>Fine Payments</b> |
| Payable citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court did not appoint the public defender | 264,929                | 305,050                  | \$28,133,660                |                      |
| Of those, citations which were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection                                      | 32,238                 | 39,016                   |                             | \$503,379            |
| Percent which were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection  | 12.2%                  | 12.8%                    |                             | 1.8%                 |

As shown in Table 3(v)(a), 12.2% (51/418) of cases where the court appointed the public defender to represent the defendant were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection. Fine payments on the cases sent for collection represent 0.6% (\$467/\$78,693) of the total fine assessments on citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court appointed the public defender.

As shown in Table 3(v)(b), 12.2% (32,328/\$264,929) of cases where the court did not appoint the public defender to represent the defendant were sent to the Department of Revenue for collection. Fine payments on the cases sent for collection represent 1.8% (\$503,379/\$28,133,660) of the total fine assessments on citations certifiable to the Department of Public Safety where the court did not appoint the public defender.