



**State of Delaware Executive Department  
Office of Management and Budget**

April 3, 2009

To: SENTAC, and Sentencing Research and Evaluation Committee

From: Philisa J. Weidlein-Crist  
John P. O'Connell Jr.

Subject: Superior Court Detention Case Status of Long Term Detainees: 1st Quarter 2009,  
March 31, 2009

This is an updated quarterly report that provides an overview of Superior Court detention population cases for defendants detained longer than 120 days in a Level V Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) secure facility or the Delaware Psychiatric Center. Although the detainees may have more than one case for which he/she is being held, only the case with the highest charge for which an individual is being held is reported. This report also gives the statewide and county breakdowns for the Superior Court detainee population in a secure DOC facility 121-days or more for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009, and a historical look of these populations since the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2006.

There are numerous reasons why an offender with a Superior Court case may be detained in a secure facility for 120 days or more. Superior Court detainees with no specific case complications are found in the category of "active" detention cases. These "active" cases are following normal court processes and have not been sentenced as of the end of the quarter. The second group of detainee cases, "other non-sentenced detention cases," are those consisting of persons with cases involving psychological issues, and those defendants found guilty but awaiting sentencing. Murder 1<sup>st</sup> degree cases are also in this "other non-sentenced" category. These cases are not held to the same time processing standards as "active cases."

The statewide Superior Court detention population summary, found in Table 1, shows a population of 262 individuals that have been detained longer than 120 days. Of these 262 individuals, 145 cases are pending disposition without exceptional circumstances. Fifty-two are guilty but awaiting sentencing, 53 are Murder 1<sup>st</sup> cases, and the remaining 12 cases are waiting on some type of psychological evaluation. Three of the 12 individuals are being held at the Delaware Psychiatric Center.

From the second, third and fourth tables, we can see the detailed breakout by county. New Castle County has the largest percent of the statewide Superior Court detention population (69.1 percent). The remaining 30 percent of Superior Court cases are split between Kent County (17.6 percent) and Sussex County (13.4 percent).



**Budget Development, Planning and Administration  
Statistical Analysis Center**

410 Federal Street • Suite 6 • Dover, DE 19901  
Phone: (302) 739-4626 • Fax: (302) 739-4630 • [www.omb.delaware.gov](http://www.omb.delaware.gov)

The final table displays the Superior Court detention population by quarter since September 30, 2006. The total 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2009 Superior Court detention population has decreased by 56 individuals, with a 39 person decrease in active cases, and a 17 person increase in the non-sentenced detention category. Fourth Quarter 2008 marks the highest population in all categories since this report's inception in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2006. First Quarter of 2009 marks the largest decrease in total Superior Court detainees of all quarters but is still slightly higher than the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2008.

**Table 1**

<b>Summary Of DOC Detainees Statewide Superior Court Cases 1st Quarter 2009 Snapshot</b>						
<b>Detention Length of Stay as of 3/31/2009</b>						
<b>Case Type</b>	<b>121-150 days</b>	<b>151-180 days</b>	<b>181-270 days</b>	<b>271-360 days</b>	<b>&gt;360 days</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total Active Cases</b>						
<b>Felony A or Felony B</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Other Cases</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Total Active Cases</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>						
<b>Murder 1st</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Cases Involving Psych</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Guilty Awaiting Sentencing Cases</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Total Active and Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>						
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>65</u></b>	<b><u>52</u></b>	<b><u>80</u></b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>37</u></b>	<b><u>262</u></b>

Table 2

Summary Of DOC Detainees With New Castle County Superior Court Cases 1st Quarter 2009 Snapshot						
Detention Length of Stay as of 3/31/2009						
Case Type	121-150 days	151-180 days	181-270 days	271-360 days	>360 days	Total
<b>Total Active Cases</b>						
Felony A or Felony B	22	22	25	5	4	78
Other Cases	11	2	4	0	0	17
<b>Total Active Cases</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>						
Murder 1st	1	6	10	9	12	38
Cases Involving Psych	0	1	2	1	3	7
Guilty Awaiting Sentencing Cases	6	3	17	10	5	41
<b>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Total Active and Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>						
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>181</b>

Table 3

Summary Of DOC Detainees With Kent Superior Court Cases 1st Quarter 2009 Snapshot						
Detention Length of Stay as of 3/31/2009						
Case Type	121- 150 days	151- 180 days	181-270 days	271- 360 days	>360 days	Total
<b>Total Active Cases</b>						
Felony A or Felony B	6	6	8	0	1	21
Other Cases	3	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Total Active Cases</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>						
Murder 1st	2	1	6	0	4	13
Cases Involving Psych	0	0	1	0	0	1
Guilty Awaiting Sentencing Cases	0	0	3	0	5	8
<b>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Total Active and Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</b>						
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>46</b>

**Table 4**

<b>Summary Of DOC Detainees With Sussex County Superior Court Cases 1st Quarter 2009 Snapshot</b>						
<b>Detention Length of Stay as of 3/31/2009</b>						
<b>Case Type</b>	<b>121-150 days</b>	<b>151-180 days</b>	<b>181-270 days</b>	<b>271-360 days</b>	<b>&gt;360 days</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><i>Total Active Cases</i></b>						
<b>Felony A or Felony B</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Other Cases</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b><i>Total Active Cases</i></b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>
<b><i>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</i></b>						
<b>Murder 1st</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Cases Involving Psych</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Guilty Awaiting Sentencing Cases</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Total Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</i></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>
<b><i>Total Active and Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</i></b>						
<b><i>Grand Total</i></b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>35</b>

Table 5

## Statewide Quarterly Change in Superior Court Detention Population

<i>Active Cases</i>						
	121-150 days	151-180 days	181-270 days	271-360 days	>360 days	<i>Total</i>
3rd Quarter 2006 (9/30/06)	68	41	21	10	3	<b>143</b>
4th Quarter 2006 (12/31/06)	62	42	40	7	6	<b>157</b>
1st Quarter 2007 (3/31/07)	62	34	38	6	3	<b>143</b>
2nd Quarter 2007 (6/30/07)	66	37	44	14	2	<b>163</b>
3rd Quarter 2007 (9/30/07)	63	37	35	11	10	<b>156</b>
4th Quarter 2007 (12/31/07)	63	50	50	7	8	<b>178</b>
1st Quarter 2008 (3/31/08)	56	40	31	4	1	<b>132</b>
2nd Quarter 2008 (6/30/08)	60	29	18	5	2	<b>114</b>
3rd Quarter 2008 (9/30/08)	47	47	42	6	6	<b>148</b>
4th Quarter 2008 (12/31/08)	78	36	48	16	6	<b>184</b>
1st Quarter 2009 (3/31/09)	56	40	39	5	5	<b>145</b>
<i>Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</i>						
3rd Quarter 2006 (9/30/06)	24	17	35	13	21	<b>110</b>
4th Quarter 2006 (12/31/06)	8	12	50	16	23	<b>109</b>
1st Quarter 2007 (3/31/07)	10	7	23	17	30	<b>87</b>
2nd Quarter 2007 (6/30/07)	11	17	42	16	29	<b>115</b>
3rd Quarter 2007 (9/30/07)	8	7	43	25	33	<b>116</b>
4th Quarter 2007 (12/31/07)	15	10	27	24	37	<b>113</b>
1st Quarter 2008 (3/31/08)	7	12	48	19	40	<b>126</b>
2nd Quarter 2008 (6/30/08)	5	18	41	29	38	<b>131</b>
3rd Quarter 2008 (9/30/08)	14	12	47	16	38	<b>127</b>
4th Quarter 2008 (12/31/08)	16	14	47	26	31	<b>134</b>
1st Quarter 2009 (3/31/09)	9	12	41	23	32	<b>117</b>
<i>Total Active and Non-Sentenced Detention Cases</i>						
3rd Quarter 2006 (9/30/06)	92	58	56	23	24	<b>253</b>
4th Quarter 2006 (12/31/06)	70	54	90	23	29	<b>266</b>
1st Quarter 2007 (3/31/07)	72	41	61	23	33	<b>230</b>
2nd Quarter 2007 (6/30/07)	77	54	86	30	31	<b>278</b>
3rd Quarter 2007 (9/30/07)	71	44	78	36	43	<b>272</b>
4th Quarter 2007 (12/31/07)	78	60	77	31	45	<b>291</b>
1st Quarter 2008 (3/31/08)	63	52	79	23	41	<b>258</b>
2nd Quarter 2008 (6/30/08)	65	47	59	34	40	<b>245</b>
3rd Quarter 2008 (9/30/08)	61	59	89	22	44	<b>275</b>
4th Quarter 2008 (12/31/08)	94	50	95	42	37	<b>318</b>
1st Quarter 2009 (3/31/09)	65	52	80	28	37	<b>262</b>