



FY 2015 Performance Accountability Report Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure

INTRODUCTION

The Performance Accountability Report (PAR) measures each agency's performance for the fiscal year against the agency's performance plan and includes major accomplishments, updates on initiatives' progress and key performance indicators (KPIs).

MISSION

The mission of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure (CJDT) is to maintain public confidence in an independent, impartial, fair, and qualified judiciary, and to enforce the high standards of conduct judges must adhere to both on and off the bench.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

The services provided by the Tenure Commission are as follows: reviewing complaints concerning the misconduct of judges and conducting misconduct investigations when warranted; conducting fitness and qualification reviews of retiring and senior judges; conducting performance evaluations of associate judges eligible for reappointment; and processing the involuntary retirement of judges for health reasons.

OVERVIEW – AGENCY PERFORMANCE

The following section provides a summary of CJDT performance in FY 2015 by listing CJDT's top three accomplishments, and a summary of its progress achieving its initiatives and progress on key performance indicators.

TOP THREE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The top three accomplishments of CJDT in FY 2015 are as follows:

- ✓ Phase II of the Commission's electronic scanning and storage project was completed and 25 boxes of paper judicial files were sent to the Federal Records Retention Center.
- ✓ The Commission's complaint form and complaint acknowledgement and disposition letters were translated into five languages.
- ✓ Judges of the District of Columbia Courts were able for the first time to complete and save their Annual Financial Report forms electronically due to completion of a Commission project with the assistance of OCTO.

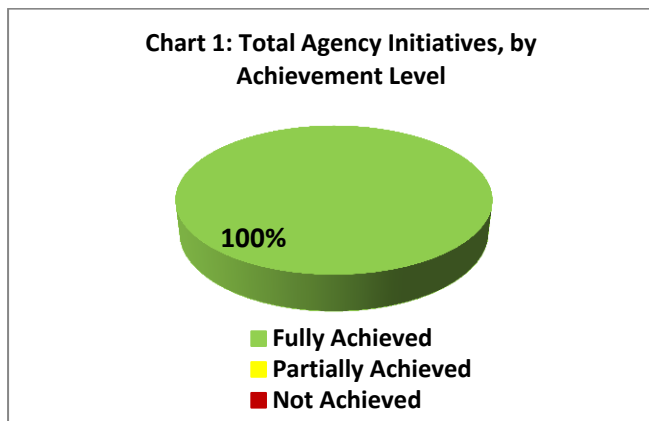
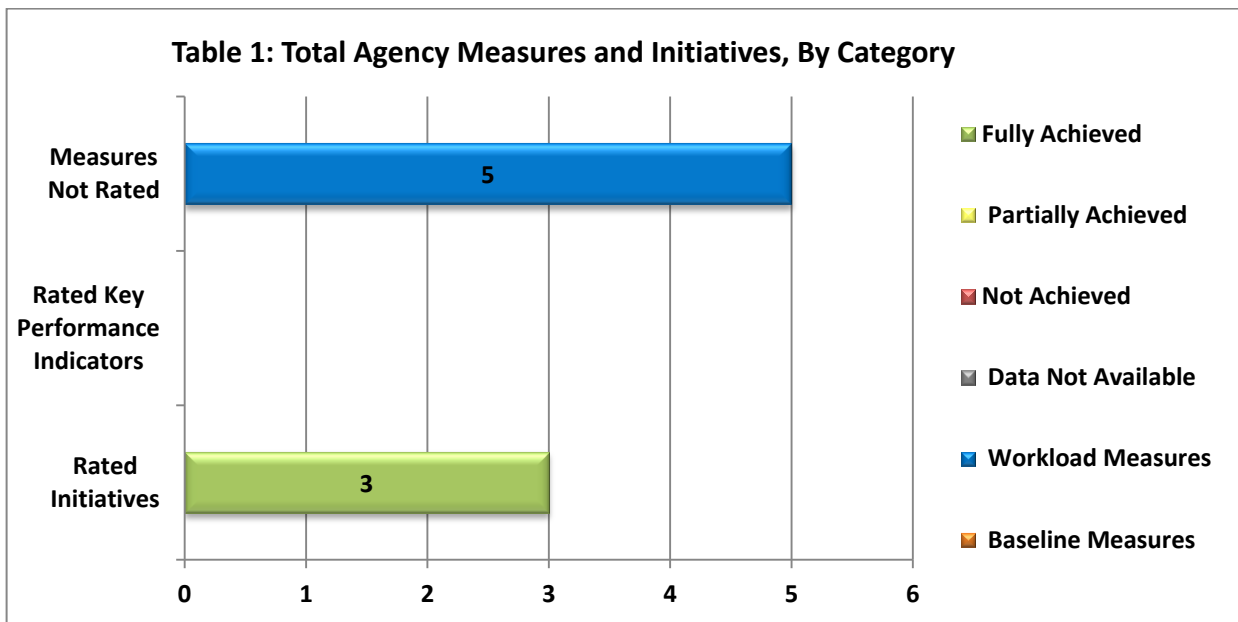
SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TOWARD COMPLETING FY 2015 INITIATIVES AND PROGRESS ON KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Commission accomplished its FY 2015 initiatives by reviewing and acting on 79 judicial misconduct complaints, of which 30 required investigations which were conducted efficiently and expeditiously. In addition the Commission completed reappointment evaluations of 5 Superior Court Associate Judges, and



completed performance and fitness reviews of 14 Senior Judges from both Courts. The reappointment evaluations and performance and fitness reviews were completed within the statutorily mandated time and review periods.

Table 1 (see below) shows the overall progress the CJDT made on completing its initiatives, and how overall progress is being made on achieving the agency's objectives, as measured by their key performance indicators.



In FY 2015, CJDT fully achieved all of its rated initiatives. **Table 1** provides a breakdown of the total number of performance metrics CJDT uses, including key performance indicators and workload measures, initiatives, and whether or not some of those items were achieved, partially achieved or not achieved. **Chart 1** displays the overall progress CJDT made on completing its initiatives, by level of achievement.

The next sections provide greater detail on the specific metrics and initiatives for CJDT in FY 2015.



PERFORMANCE INITIATIVES – ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Office of the Director

OBJECTIVE: Maintain public confidence in an independent, impartial, fair, and qualified judiciary, and to enforce the high standards of conduct judges must adhere to both on and off the bench.

INITIATIVE 1: Review all judicial misconduct complaints concerning judges of the District of Columbia courts, and conduct misconduct investigations concerning matters within the Commission's jurisdiction.

Description: The Commission reviews all new complaints or matters that have come to its attention at monthly meetings and determines whether the matters are within its jurisdiction. If the Commission determines a matter falls within its jurisdiction an investigation will be conducted. Once the investigation has been completed the Commission will either dismiss the complaint as unfounded, dispose of the matter informally through a conference with the judge, issue a public reprimand or censure, or the Commission may institute formal removal proceedings. The review and disposition of complaints is on-going throughout the fiscal year and has no completion date.

Performance Assessment Key: Fully Achieved

- The Commission reviewed 79 judicial misconduct complaints in FY 2015, and conducted 30 misconduct investigations. The Commission had two matters pending at the end of the fiscal year.

INITIATIVE 2: Conduct performance and fitness reviews of retiring and senior judges eligible for initial appointment and reappointment to senior status.

Description: The Commission solicits comments from the legal community and general public concerning a judge's fitness and qualifications to continue serving as a senior judge. The Commission interviews attorneys and Court personnel who have appeared before or worked with the judge, and the judge must submit a package of materials concerning their judicial and extra-judicial activities and overall health. The Commission has 180 days in which to complete a senior judge performance and fitness review.

Performance Assessment Key: Fully Achieved

- The Commission conducted 13 performance and fitness reviews of Senior Judges eligible for reappointment to senior status, and conducted a performance and fitness review of a Superior Court judge who retired and requested senior status during the fiscal year. The Commission recommended the reappointment of the 13 Senior Judges and recommended that the retiring judge be appointed to an initial term as a Senior Judge. The statute requires that the Commission submit its recommendations to the appropriate Chief Judge of either the Court of Appeals or the Superior Court, and it is the Chief Judge who actually appoints and reappoints the Senior Judges.



INITIATIVE 3: Conduct reappointment evaluations of eligible associate judges.

Description: The Commission solicits comments from the legal community and general public concerning a judge’s fitness and qualifications for reappointment to an additional 15-year term. The Commission interviews attorneys and Court personnel who have appeared before or worked with the judge, and the judge must submit a comprehensive package of materials concerning his or her judicial and extra-judicial activities and overall health. The Commission must complete each reappointment evaluation 60 days prior to the date a judge’s term is due to expire.

Performance Assessment Key: Fully Achieved

- The Commission conducted reappointment evaluations of five Superior Court Associate Judges whose terms expired during the fiscal year or shortly thereafter. The Commission determined that the five judges were well qualified for reappointment to another 15-year term, and their terms were automatically extended. The Commission, by statute, must submit its reappointment evaluation report in writing to the President, 60 days before a judge’s term expires.

INITIATIVE 4: Conduct involuntary retirement proceedings if a judge has a mental or physical disability which is, or is likely to become permanent and which prevents, or seriously interferes with the proper performance of judicial duties.

Subsequent to the completion of an investigation, if the Commission determines a proceeding is warranted, the Commission will initiate formal involuntary retirement proceedings. There is no statutory completion date for involuntary retirement proceedings. The proceedings would be on-going until the Commission files an order of involuntary retirement in the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Performance Assessment Key: Not Needed

- The Commission did not conduct an involuntary retirement proceeding during fiscal year 2015.

WORKLOAD MEASURES – APPENDIX

WORKLOAD MEASURES ●

Measure Name	FY 2013 YE Actual	FY 2014 YE Actual	FY 2015 YE Actual	Budget Program
Involuntary Retirement Number of judges involuntarily retired due to health reasons.	0	0	0	



Number of Judicial Misconduct Complaints Reviewed		63	79	
Number of Judicial Misconduct Investigations Completed		24	30	
Number of Senior Judge Reviews Completed		13	14	
Number of Judicial Reappointment Evaluations Completed		3	5	