

July 2018

# Castle Rock Municipal Court Monthly Report

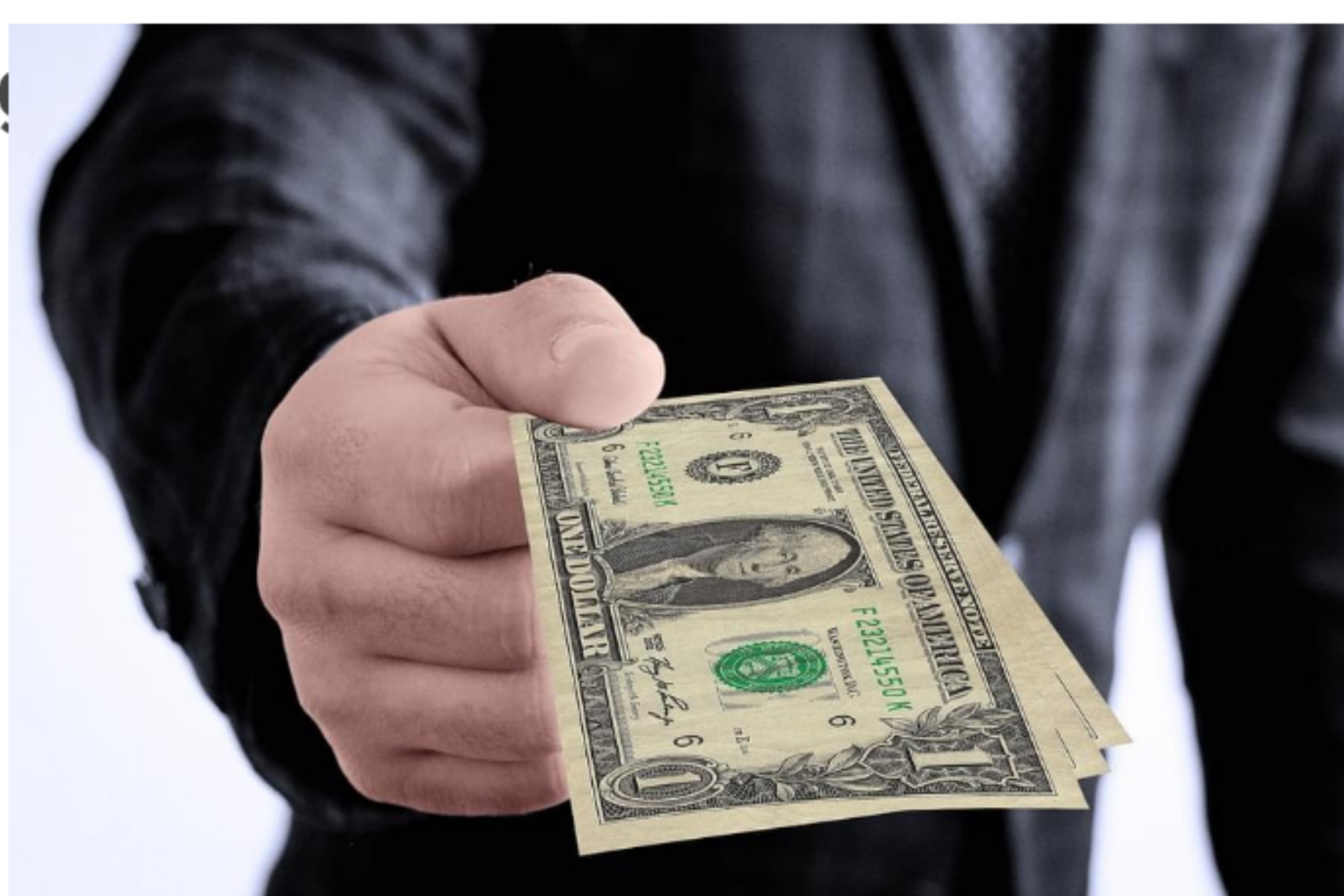


## Paying It Forward

In Court, we get to see people at both their best and, sometimes, at their worst. We had a busy arraignment session July 11, and we had two completely separate circumstances where someone paid it forward. In the first situation, a single mom was standing before the Judge due to an accident she had caused. She recounted that day and told the Judge, and the rest of the courtroom, about the extremely catastrophic situation she was currently in and how the accident exacerbated the situation. The entire courtroom seemed to be moved by her story. While she was waiting to request an extension of payment, a gentleman silently came up to the front counter, asked for the Court Administrator and proceeded to pay the fines, costs, and restitution on her behalf. He refused any acknowledgment, and stated, "I am from Texas, and that is how we do it."

Later that day, we had a parent at the front counter with his teenage son checking out from court. The young lady checking out at the window next to them was setting up a payment plan with the court clerk because she was on disability. The father of the teenage boy happened to overhear this, and he handed the Court Clerk his credit card and asked to pay for all of the young lady's fines and costs. This dad was unaware of the first scenario earlier that afternoon.

We have amazingly  
community.



## Staying on the Right Path

Drug testing is one of the best ways for our defendants to be held accountable during their process through Teen Court or Municipal Court. In Teen Court, we've had multiple defendants who have said random drug testing has been the most beneficial sentencing option for them because:

*"It helped me focus on school and family."*

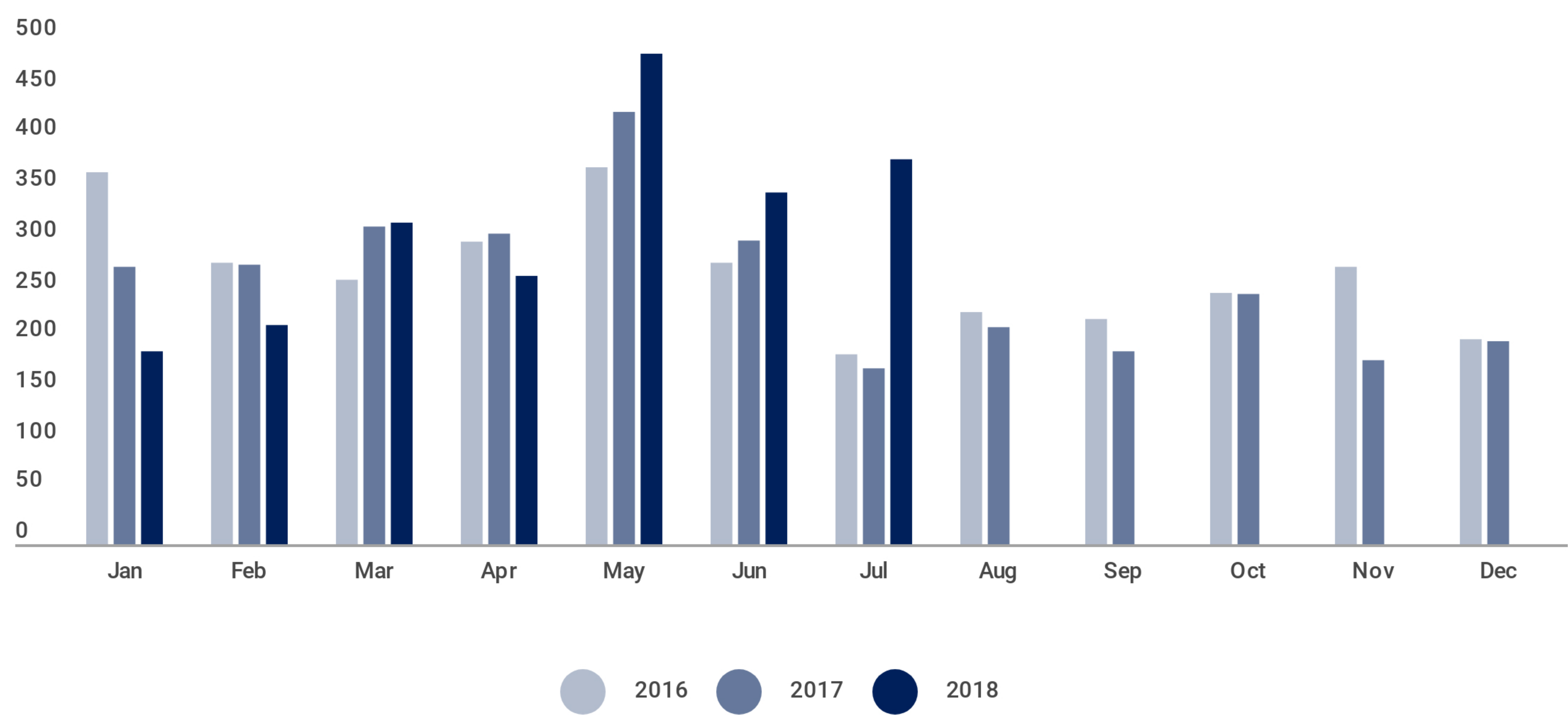
*"It helped me make sure to stay on the right path".*

*"It helped me stay clean, and now I see why drug use at my age is bad and wrong."*

We have had an increase in the amount of defendants required to drug test in the past couple of years. Because of this increase and our need to be quick in our monitoring and changing of testing frequency, we have decided to switch over to a convenient online system through Cordant Health Solutions' online drug testing portal, called Sentry. We will continue to use a local company to take the drug test samples and submit them to Cordant Health Solutions. However, now we have the ability to have "real-time" access through the Sentry online portal to see whether a defendant called in to find out if they need to test that day, as well as to get accurate and timely drug test results. Our hope is to be more efficient, organized, and prompt when there is an issue with a defendant not calling in, or receiving a positive test result. We are looking forward to how we can better serve our community, and keep it safe, by ensuring our drug testing is efficient and effective. Through drug testing, we can guarantee more of our young people will be able to "focus" on what's important, "stay clean," and "stay on the right path."



Total cases filed in Castle Rock Municipal Court: 2016-2018



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2016	370	280	263	301	375	280	189	231	224	250	276	204	3,243
2017	276	278	316	309	430	302	175	216	192	249	183	202	3,128
2018	192	218	320	267	488	350	383						

Total cases filed in Castle Rock Municipal Court by type: July 2017 vs. July 2018

