

COURT SECURITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Ensuring Secure, Open, Publicly Accessible Courts

Committee Charge: AO 2015-104

- (a) develop and conduct a survey of court security measures in Arizona,
- (b) develop recommendations on standards for courthouse and courtroom security,
- (c) develop recommendations on security officer training, and
- (d) submit a final report summarizing the Committee's work and recommendations by September 30, 2016

Committee Membership & NCSC Services

Membership:

Judges, court administrators, and deputy clerks from
metropolitan and rural courts

limited jurisdiction, superior, and juvenile courts

Sheriffs, court security officers, and security directors and managers

Representative of the State Bar of Arizona

NCSC consultants Timothy Fautsko, Steven Berson, & Kent Kelley

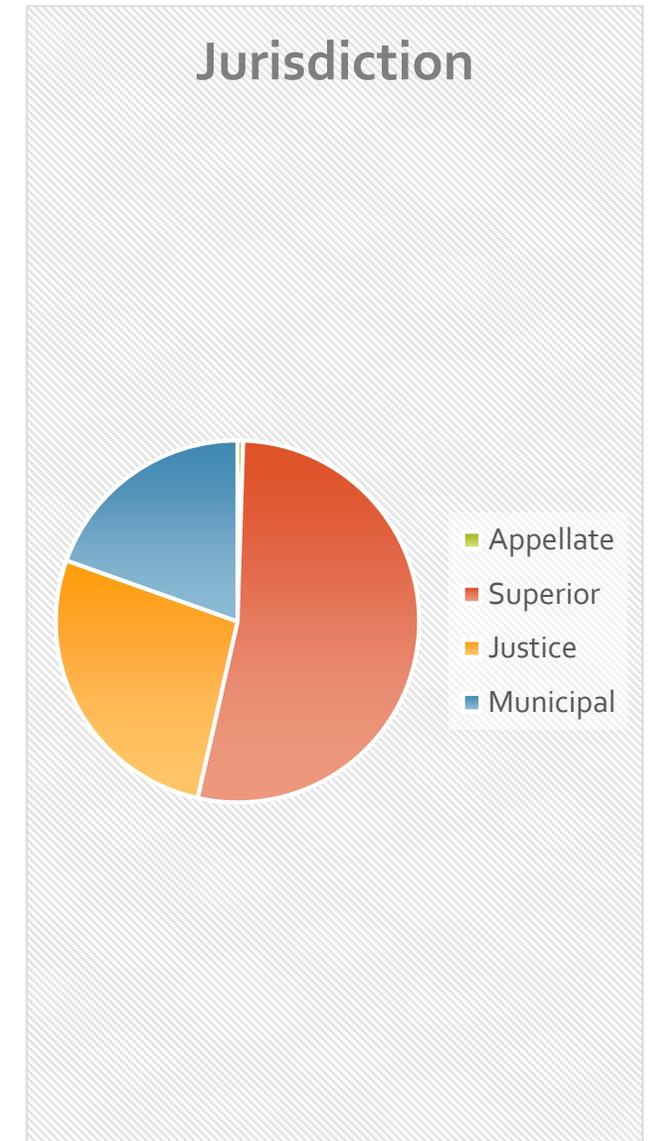
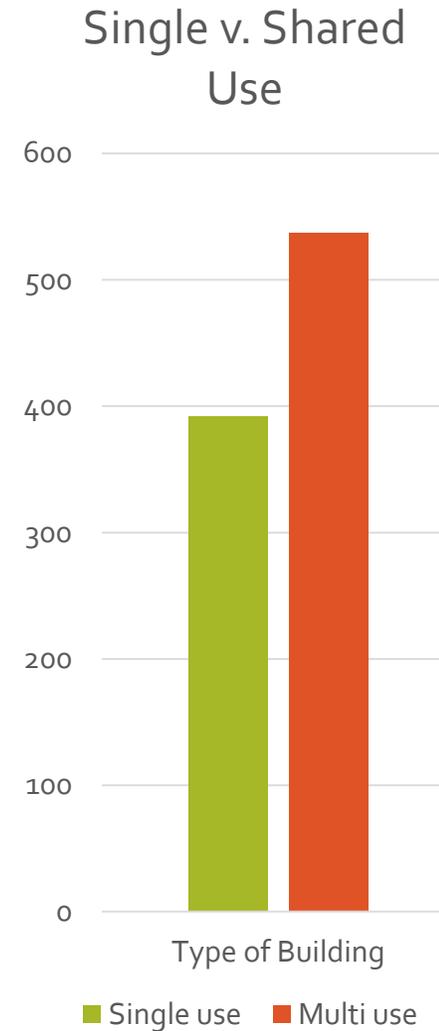
Regular guest from AOC Education Services Division

Court Security Survey

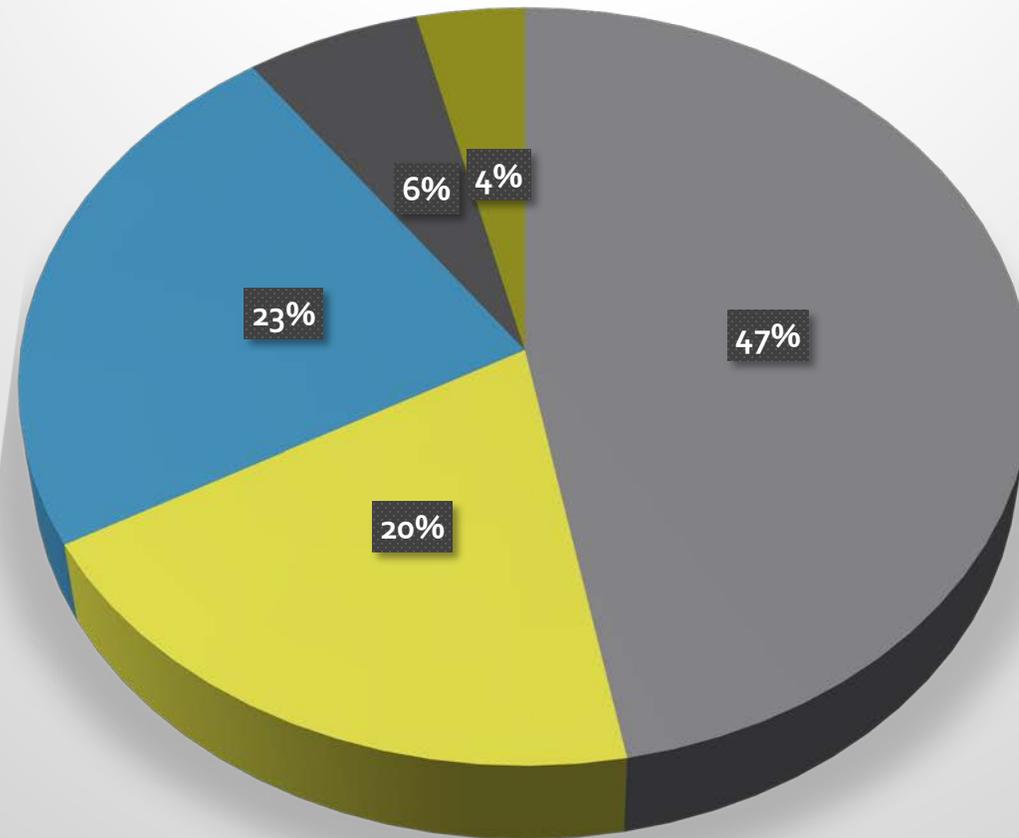
929 partial responses and 830 completed surveys

Judges and other judicial officers, clerks of court and staff, court administrators, chief probation officers

Every county provided sufficient responses for data to be representative



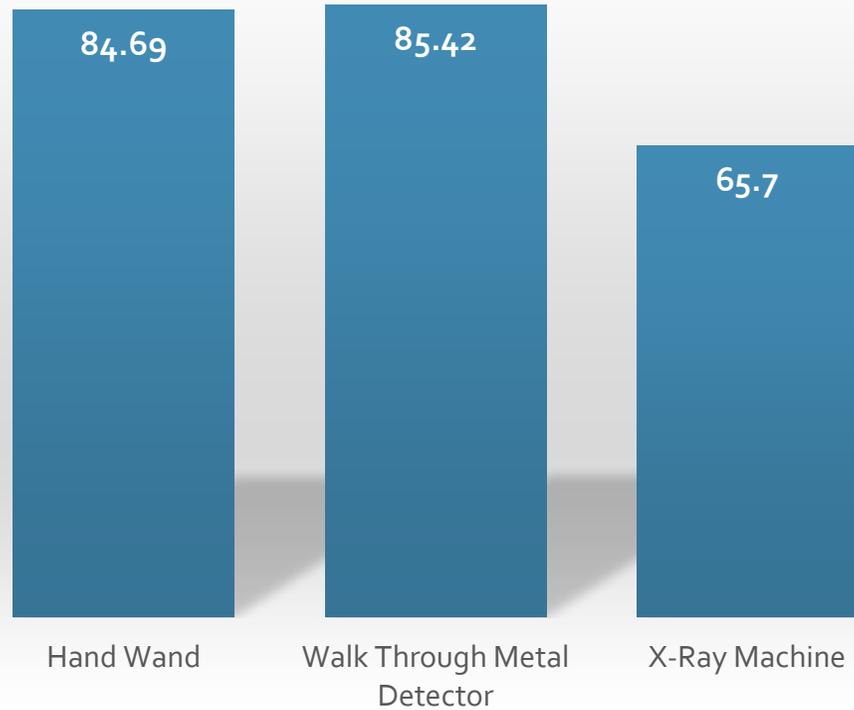
Who Provides Security



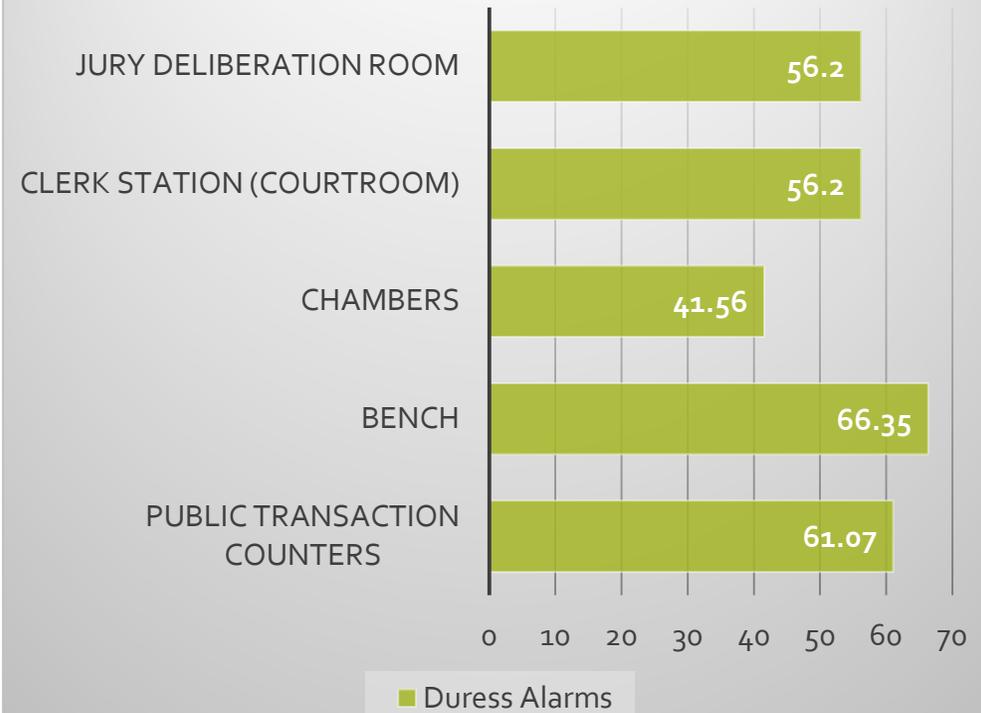
- Court-employed security
- Law Enforcement
- Private Security
- No security
- unknown

Screening & Duress Alarms

Percentage of Respondents Working in Courts with Screening Devices for Public



Percentage of Respondents Working in Courts with Duress Alarms



The Proposed Security Standards

There are 30 proposed security standards that are grouped into the following categories:

- Governance and Administration
- Entry Screening
- In-custody Defendants
- Facilities, Alarms, and Equipment
- Training

Local & County Security Committees

- Risk assessment
- Policies & Procedures
- Deterrence
- Debriefing of security incidents and threats

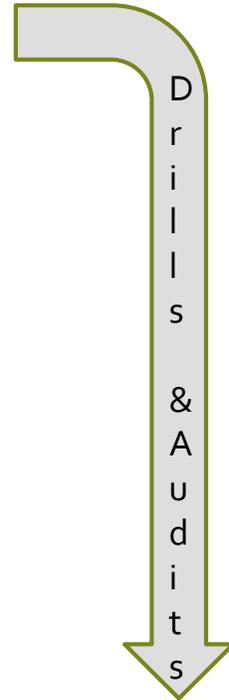
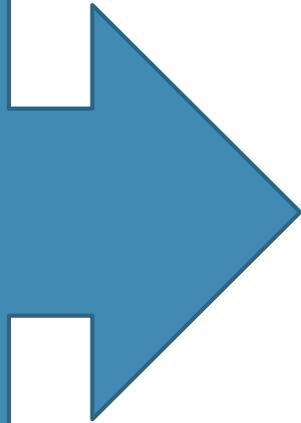
Court Operations

Facilities & Equipment

Training & Communication

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Continuous Improvement Process



Governance & Administration

- Court Security and Emergency preparedness Committees
 - County-wide security committee
 - Court building or court complex committee
- Court Security Manuals
- Court Security Self-Assessments
- Responding to Negative Events
- Incident & Threat Reporting
 - Real-time secure sharing of information about major security incidents
 - Annual reporting of incident and threat data



Entry Screening

- One main entrance for public, unless others are fully staff with full screening for prohibited items
- Prohibited item policy, training on what prohibited items are; how to identify
- All visitors screened with at least a metal detector device
- All court buildings post signage that firearms are prohibited
- Random court employee screening
- Written policies on armed personnel for security purposes
 - Also policies on who can be armed for personal security pursuant to statute and Supreme Court and local court administrative orders



In-custody defendants

- ❑ Separate entrance for in-custody defendants

80.60% of survey respondents work in courts that already meet this standard

- ❑ In-custody persons transported and escorted at all times by trained personnel

Protocols for taking individuals into custody



Facilities, Alarms, & Equipment

- Duress alarms: public counters, bench, chambers, courtroom clerk station
 - Training on use; regular testing
- Locking protocols: courtrooms; jury deliberation rooms; data centers
- Courtroom sweeps: regularly conducted; training
- Public counter barriers
- Bullet resistant material in courtrooms
- Secured access to non-public areas
- Security cameras
- Exterior lighting
- Bollards or landscape to protect critical areas
- Window coverings



Training

- ✓ New Hire and Annual Training on Court Security
 - Judges and judicial officers, all other employees
 - Statewide and Location Specific
- ✓ In-Service Court Security Officer Training and Annual Training
 - Robust training program covering basic security principals, incident & threat reporting, use of force, firearms training, equipment training, screening, critical incidents
- ✓ Private Security meet same standards as court-employed security officers
- ✓ Task specific training:
 - duress alarm testing and responses; courtroom sweeps; identification of and managing prohibited items

Related Recommendations

- 3 year implementation period
- Establish statewide court security fund for one-time outlays for security equipment and security system improvements
- State level AOC staff support for coordination of court security standard implementation, assessments, oversight , and compliance
- Standing Committee on Court Security
- Creation of systems for assessing implementation and compliance
- Creation of court security training programs

Proposed Funding Model

State Funding

- Training

For One Time Outlays to Supplement Local Funding

- Security Equipment
- Security System Improvements

Local Funding

- Security Personnel
- Court Operations
- Facilities

Questions & Comments

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