



JUDGES

RAYMOND S. STEIB, JR., DIVISION A  
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JUNE B. DARENSBURG, DIVISION C  
SCOTT U. SCHLEGEL, DIVISION D  
JOHN J. MOLAISSON, JR., DIVISION E  
MICHAEL P. MENTZ, DIVISION F  
E. ADRIAN ADAMS, DIVISION G  
GLENN B. ANSARDI, DIVISION H  
NANCY A. MILLER, DIVISION I  
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DONALD A. ROWAN, JR., DIVISION L  
HENRY G. SULLIVAN, JR., DIVISION M  
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DANYELLE M. TAYLOR, DIVISION O  
LEE V. FAULKNER, JR., DIVISION P

## OFFICE OF DISTRICT JUDGES

24<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
JEFFERSON PARISH COURTHOUSE  
GRETN, LOUISIANA

May 4, 2018

### Smart On Crime Initiative – 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, there were 4,650,900 adults, or 1 in 53 adults, under community supervision at the end of 2015 with approximately 650,000 individuals returning to our communities each year. Unfortunately, 67.8% of released prisoners in 2005 from 30 states were arrested for a new crime within 3 years and 76.6% were arrested within 5 years. In Louisiana, there were approximately 70,000 individuals under community supervision and 36,000 incarcerated in the Department of Corrections (DOC) at the end of 2015 with revocations from community supervision making up 59% of all new annual admissions to the DOC and 43% of the total prison population.

In recognition of these significant societal challenges, President Donald J. Trump proclaimed the month of April 2018, Second Chance Month. April 9, 2018 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Second Chance Act of 2007 signed into law by President George W. Bush. Governor John Bel Edwards also signed the most comprehensive criminal justice reform in Louisiana history last year after the Louisiana Legislature passed a bipartisan package of bills that received support from a diverse coalition of business, faith, and other community leaders.

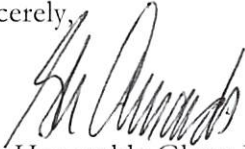
The Judges of the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court also recognize the significant challenges within the criminal justice system and have been working for years with our criminal justice partners to protect the community by implementing programs designed to rehabilitate those under community supervision and give them a second chance and real opportunity to succeed. If we do nothing and keep the status quo, there will be new victims, the ugly cycle of recidivism will continue, and our budgets will soar out of control. We must reimagine the criminal justice system.

To this end, the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court has adopted the “Smart on Crime Initiative,” which is a formalization of the criminal justice model that we have been working on for years. We will continue to build, reimagine and strengthen every program and procedure, beginning from arrest through completion. We will also continue to layer various technologies throughout the criminal justice system and even reconsider building designs that take into account our unique workflow to help with our goals of improving public safety, becoming more efficient and drastically reducing recidivism rates.

Smart on Crime Initiative  
May 4, 2018  
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If you would like more specific details on this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact Judge Scott Schlegel at 504-364-3876.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn B. Ansardi".

The Honorable Glenn B. Ansardi  
Chief Judge

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott U. Schlegel".

The Honorable Scott U. Schlegel  
Smart Supervision Judge

Office of the Governor  
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR



P.O. Box 94004  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9004  
(225) 342-7015  
GOV.LA.GOV

July 19, 2018

The Honorable Scott U. Schlegel  
24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court  
200 Derbigny, Suite 5400  
Gretna, Louisiana 70053

Dear Judge Schlegel:

As Governor of the great state of Louisiana, I fully support the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court's (JDC) "Smart on Crime Initiative." Your dedication in implementing effective technological communication tools as part of this initiative is a testament to your passion and determination in ensuring the successful reentry of persons formerly incarcerated back into society. As you know, two of the primary goals of our 2017 justice reinvestment efforts focused on: (1) strengthening community supervision; and (2) improving the process for responding to violations of probation and parole conditions with swift, certain, and proportional sanctions.

The Justice Reinvestment Task Force found that these two critical components were necessary contributors to effectively reduce our state's recidivism rates. We support the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court's innovative technology developments, which we consider to be a major part of fulfilling the Task Force's goals.

Thank you for having the vision to bring a modern component to our decades old approach to criminal justice. I look forward to the state's continued partnership with the judicial branch as we make progress in reducing recidivism, supporting victims of crimes, and strengthening overall public safety.

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Bel Edwards".

John Bel Edwards  
Governor



CHIEF JUSTICE  
BERNETTE JOSHUA JOHNSON  
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATOR  
SANDRA A. VUJNOVICH

# Supreme Court

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
400 ROYAL STREET  
SUITE 1190  
New Orleans  
70130-8101

TELEPHONE (504) 310-2550  
FAX: (504) 310-2587

June 15, 2018

Honorable Scott U. Schlegel  
24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court  
200 Derbigny, Suite 5400  
Gretna, Louisiana 70053

Dear Judge Schlegel:

On behalf of the Justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court, thank you for visiting with us recently to discuss the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court's "Smart on Crime Initiative." We agree with the judges of the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court that the criminal justice system should be reimagined to better protect our communities and give those who have been provided a second chance a real opportunity to succeed. We also agree that the use of new and existing technologies present opportunities for creative uses throughout the criminal justice system to help with our goals of improving public safety, becoming more efficient and drastically reducing recidivism rates.

We are impressed with your and your colleagues' commitment to do things "smarter from arrest through the completion of the case" aided by developing technologies, and we commend your innovative spirit and approach. We support the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court's Smart on Crime initiatives that are designed to better protect our communities and rehabilitate those incarcerated or under community supervision. We look forward to hearing of your progress as these initiatives proceed and technologies are developed.

Again, thank you for your dedication to finding creative solutions to the challenges we face within our criminal justice system.

Yours very truly,

  
Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson

BJJ/lmr  
S./LAVERNE/BJJ/LETTERS/SCHLEGEL.DOCX

cc: Justices  
Judges, 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court