



Administrative Office of the Courts

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For Immediate Release

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Judicial Branch to host Court Talks, a community engagement listening session to help justice system improve service in Jefferson County

— Public is invited to attend event May 16, 2019, Spalding University Center, Louisville —



FRANKFORT, Ky., May 1, 2019 — The Kentucky Judicial Branch and the Jefferson County Racial Fairness Commission are pleased to host [Court Talks](#), a community engagement listening session in Jefferson County to educate the public about the different departments and agencies that play a role in the legal and judicial systems.

These include representatives from the Department of Pretrial Services and the Court Designated Worker Program of the Administrative Office of the Courts; Jefferson Circuit Court, Family Court and District Court; Jefferson County Office of Circuit Court Clerk; Office of Jefferson County Attorney; Office of Jefferson Commonwealth’s Attorney; Louisville-Jefferson County Public Defenders Corp.; Louisville Metro Department of Corrections; Kentucky Department of Corrections; Kentucky Division of Probation & Parole; Kentucky Parole Board; and the Legal Aid Society.

The goal of Court Talks is to give the public the chance to provide feedback about their interactions with and feelings about these agencies. After presentations from each of these entities, those in attendance will be able to ask questions.

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The event will be Thursday, May 16, 2019, from 6-8:30 p.m. EDT, Spalding University Center, Spalding University, 824 S. 4th St., Louisville. Please note that the auditorium holds a maximum of 800 people and those who want to attend should arrive in time to secure a seat.

The public will have the opportunity to take an online survey prior to the event (details below). Following the listening session, researchers from the University of Louisville will hold a series of focus groups to better understand the needs and concerns of the community.

“This event will build on the ongoing community conversation started by the Jefferson County Racial Fairness Commission, which was created in 2001,” Chief Justice John D. Minton Jr. said. “Our intention is to make positive changes to the judicial and legal processes based on the outcomes of the survey, the listening session and the focus groups.”

Chief Court of Appeals Judge Denise G. Clayton chairs the Community Engagement Planning Committee. The committee is composed of representatives from the court system’s community partners, including the Mayor’s Office, the Urban League, Louisville Metro Police Department, Metro Corrections, Restorative Justice Louisville, the Louisville Day Reporting Center, the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health & Wellness and the University of Louisville Department of Sociology.

Tell Us What You Think!

The University of Louisville Department of Sociology is conducting research on public perceptions of the justice system in Jefferson County by collecting survey data. The survey is open to anyone who interacts with the Jefferson County judicial and legal systems. The deadline to complete the survey is May 15, 2019. To take this 15-minute survey, click on the appropriate language:

- [Survey in English](#)
- [Survey in Spanish](#)
- [Survey in French](#)

To obtain the survey in Arabic or Somali, contact Ryan D. Schroeder, Ph.D., associate professor of sociology at U of L, at ryan.schroeder@louisville.edu or 502-852-8010.

About the Administrative Office of the Courts

The AOC is the operations arm for the Kentucky Court of Justice and supports the activities of more than 3,400 state court employees and 406 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. As the fiscal agent for the state court system, the AOC also executes the Judicial Branch budget.

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