

DOING JUSTICE

FOR THE PEOPLE OF
FULTON COUNTY



JUSTICE IN FULTON COUNTY

While all justice systems are aimed at enforcing laws and ensuring accountability, at the core, they are about people. Fulton County, Georgia's reforms are aimed at better outcomes. Among them:

- 01** The low-risk accused who, while waiting for trial, can be released to continue working and supporting his family until the timely resolution of his case.
- 02** The victims and community members who feel safe knowing that high-risk accused are held in jail and, if guilty, are brought to justice in a fair, timely manner.
- 03** Attorneys and their clients who benefit from timely, accurate information about—and resolution of—their cases.
- 04** Mental health and homelessness advocates who feel more confident that those suffering from such conditions are treated humanely and directed to resources that can help.
- 05** County taxpayers who value the hallmarks of an efficient, effective system—including fewer low-risk people in jail, more timely resolution of cases and fewer repeat offenders.

▶ FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA'S JUSTICE SYSTEM IS LARGE AND COMPLEX



2,500

average daily population in
Fulton County jails



That translates to

800,000

“jail bed days” every year

▶ THE FULTON COUNTY JUSTICE SYSTEM INTERACTS AND MANAGES ACCROSS



3

layers of
County-specific courts



16

municipal
courts and jails

▶ PLUS OTHER COUNTIES AND THE STATE'S PRISON AND COMMUNITY RE-ENTRY SYSTEM

▶ **AND IT COMES AT A HIGH COST TO TAXPAYERS**



\$240 MILLION
ANNUALLY

That's almost half of the County's annual general fund expenditure

▶ **BUT EVEN AFTER ALL THAT INVESTMENT, QUESTIONS PERSISTED**

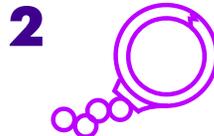
- ? **Are our communities safe**
- ? **Are we doing our best to understand and address underlying causes of crime**
- ? **Is our justice system achieving the right results**
- ? **How can we better serve all citizens—and spend fewer taxpayer dollars doing it?**

▶ **FULTON COUNTY WORKED WITH ACCENTURE TO CREATE A VISION FOR THE JUSTICE SYSTEM—AND A PLAN FOR ACHIEVING IT.**

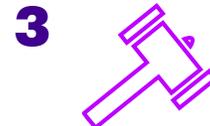
THE COUNTY ARTICULATED SIX OUTCOMES TO HELP KEEP ALL CITIZENS SAFE.



Handle cases in a timely manner



Balance safety, compliance and cost through appropriate detention and release



Enforce laws while reducing the rate of re-offense



Provide humane treatment for the mentally ill

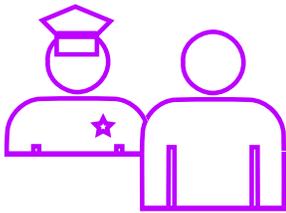


Treat everyone involved in the justice system with fairness and respect



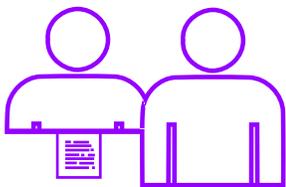
Enhance cost-effectiveness

▶ **TO ACHIEVE THE SIX OUTCOMES, FULTON COUNTY IS PURSUING 14 REFORMS ACROSS FIVE KEY AREAS OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM.**



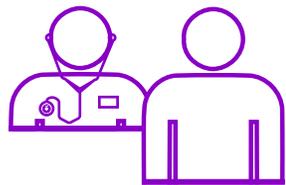
PRE-ARREST

- Expand training and mental health support for front-line public safety personnel
- Explore alternatives to arrests



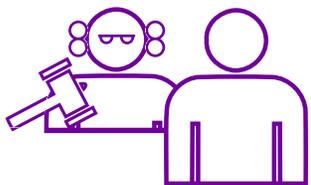
DETENTION DECISION

- Change process for pretrial release
- Deploy resources where needed most
- Use motivational interviewing to improve program success



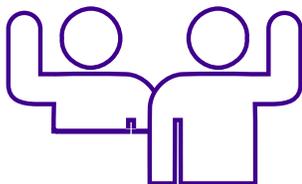
IN THE JAIL

- Improve mental illness screening, assessment and monitoring



IN THE COURTS

- Adopt and report on performance standards
- Improve coordination across courts and programs
- Consolidate court management and administration
- Fine-tune clerking services



COMMUNITY RE-ENTRY

- Improve access to federal benefits for eligible defendants
- Develop formal process for re-entry programs
- Establish written plans for community transition
- Expand coalition of service providers to support community re-entry

▶ **BY POSITIONING ITSELF FOR A MORE INTEGRATED, MORE EFFICIENT JUSTICE SYSTEM, FULTON COUNTY CAN ACHIEVE THE OUTCOMES THAT TRULY MATTER.**

- 01 Deal swiftly and fairly with criminals**
- 02 Handle victims and witnesses with compassion and care**
- 03 Improve how offenders re-integrate into society**
- 04 Serve everyone with improved timeliness and accurate information**



For justice systems everywhere, a focus on serving people, improving processes and increasing cost efficiency will yield better outcomes for all.

CASE CLOSED.

MEET THE EXPERTS



Matthew Burnham

Senior Manager, Strategy - Public Service



Jody Weis

North America Public Safety Lead



CONTACT

FOLLOW US:

@AccenturePubSvc

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

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