ON AN AVERAGE NIGHT LAST WEEK, 4,118 PEOPLE WERE LOCKED IN A CAGE AT THE HARRIS COUNTY JAIL BECAUSE THEY COULDN’T AFFORD MONEY BAIL, EVEN THOUGH IT IS ILLEGAL TO JAIL PEOPLE SOLELY BECAUSE THEY ARE POOR. THIS REPORT USES JAIL POPULATION DATA PROVIDED BY HARRIS COUNTY TO COMPARE THE PRETRIAL DETENTION NUMBERS OF HARRIS COUNTY’S FELONY JUDGES.

DISTRICT COURTS BY HIGHEST PRETRIAL DETENTION POPULATION
AUGUST 2, 2020 - AUGUST 8, 2020*

1. JUDGE RAMONA FRANKLIN
239 PEOPLE DETAINED PER NIGHT BASED ON INABILITY TO PAY
338TH DISTRICT COURT

2. JUDGE NIKITA HARMON
227 PEOPLE DETAINED PER NIGHT BASED ON INABILITY TO PAY
176TH DISTRICT COURT

3. JUDGE GEORGE POWELL
220 PEOPLE DETAINED PER NIGHT BASED ON INABILITY TO PAY
351ST DISTRICT COURT

Harris County taxpayers spent over $2.1 MILLION on illegal pretrial detention this week. That's over 150% of the $1.3 million Harris County taxpayers spend every week on public health services, the public library, and pollution control COMBINED.