

**Report of the Director of the Administrative Office
of the United States Courts
on Applications for Delayed-Notice Search Warrants and Extensions**

The USA Patriot Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 requires the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO) to transmit to Congress annually a full and complete report summarizing information reported by judges to the AO on delayed-notice search warrants. The report is to include the number of applications for warrants and extensions of warrants authorizing delayed notice and the number of such warrants and extensions granted or denied during the preceding fiscal year. The requirement to report this information to Congress began with the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007.

This report covers applications for delayed-notice search warrants and extensions between October 1, 2013, and September 30, 2014.

Reporting Requirements of the Statute

Any federal or state judge who issues or denies a federal warrant authorizing delayed notice, or an extension of such a warrant, is required to file a report on the warrant with the AO (18 U.S.C. § 3103a(d)(1)). This report is to be furnished not later than 30 days after the expiration of the warrant's notice period (including any extensions to the notice period) or 30 days after the denial of the warrant or the request for extension. The report must include the offense specified in the warrant or application, the period of delay authorized, the number and duration of any extensions, and the action taken on the application.

The AO is required to report annually to Congress on the information submitted by judges for the preceding fiscal year. This report must include the number of applications for delayed-notice search warrants and extensions and the number of warrants and extensions granted or denied (18 U.S.C. § 3103a(d)(2)).

Summary and Analysis of Reports for Fiscal Year 2014

Summary data on applications for delayed-notice search warrants and extensions for fiscal year 2014 are shown in Table 1. A total of 7,627 warrant requests and 5,243 requests for extensions were reported for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014. Forty-three of the applications reported were denied, 64 of the applications were granted as modified, and the rest were granted as requested.

Judges in 91 federal judicial districts reported actions on applications for delayed-notice search warrants or extensions. The highest numbers of applications were reported by judges in the District of Kansas (909), the Southern District of California (739), the Eastern District of Michigan (617), the Southern District of Texas (595), and the Western District of Texas (571); applications in these five districts accounted for over a quarter of all applications reported. Of the 12,870 applications reported by all districts, 12,406 (96 percent) were reported by federal

magistrate judges, and 458 were reported by federal district judges. Six applications were reported by state judges.

The periods of delay specified ranged from 1 day to 999 days. The most frequently reported period of delay was 90 days, specified in 5,849 (46 percent) of the applications that were granted. (See Graph 1.) Requests for extensions to a delay numbered from 1 to 28, with second extensions being the most frequently requested in 2014. (See Graph 2.)

Offenses

Table 2 presents the types of offenses specified in delayed-notice search warrant and extension requests reported in 2014. Drug offenses were specified in 83 percent of applications reported, followed by fraud (5 percent), sex offenses (2 percent), and extortion/racketeering (2 percent).

Table 1. Delayed-notice warrant and extension requests - fiscal year 2014

	Total requests	Average delay (in days)	Warrant requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied	Extension requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied
ALL CIRCUITS	12,870	65	7,627	7,563	38	26	5,243	5,200	26	17
DC CIRCUIT	31	32	31	29	1	1	0	0	0	0
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	31	32	31	29	1	1	0	0	0	0
FIRST CIRCUIT	569	47	389	366	22	1	180	172	1	7
MAINE	21	43	14	13	0	1	7	7	0	0
MASSACHUSETTS	286	52	182	182	0	0	104	101	0	3
NEW HAMPSHIRE	76	62	17	17	0	0	59	55	0	4
RHODE ISLAND	13	69	5	5	0	0	8	8	0	0
PUERTO RICO	173	31	171	149	22	0	2	1	1	0
SECOND CIRCUIT	694	55	611	607	3	1	83	81	2	0
CONNECTICUT	9	83	1	1	0	0	8	8	0	0
NEW YORK (NORTHERN)	4	45	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
NEW YORK (EASTERN)	65	46	52	51	1	0	13	12	1	0
NEW YORK (SOUTHERN)	556	55	516	514	1	1	40	39	1	0
NEW YORK (WESTERN)	46	71	27	27	0	0	19	19	0	0
VERMONT	14	51	11	11	0	0	3	3	0	0
THIRD CIRCUIT	459	56	330	330	0	0	129	129	0	0
DELAWARE	6	50	4	4	0	0	2	2	0	0
NEW JERSEY	87	74	42	42	0	0	45	45	0	0
PENNSYLVANIA (EASTERN)	22	63	12	12	0	0	10	10	0	0
PENNSYLVANIA (MIDDLE)	131	30	130	130	0	0	1	1	0	0
PENNSYLVANIA (WESTERN)	213	64	142	142	0	0	71	71	0	0
VIRGIN ISLANDS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOURTH CIRCUIT	864	46	703	703	0	0	161	161	0	0
MARYLAND	493	45	449	449	0	0	44	44	0	0
NORTH CAROLINA (EASTERN)	21	54	19	19	0	0	2	2	0	0
NORTH CAROLINA (MIDDLE)	14	38	11	11	0	0	3	3	0	0
NORTH CAROLINA (WESTERN)	163	37	109	109	0	0	54	54	0	0
SOUTH CAROLINA	79	59	53	53	0	0	26	26	0	0
VIRGINIA (EASTERN)	44	62	23	23	0	0	21	21	0	0
VIRGINIA (WESTERN)	40	43	33	33	0	0	7	7	0	0

	Total requests	Average delay (in days)	Warrant requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied	Extension requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied
WEST VIRGINIA (NORTHERN)	3	50	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0
WEST VIRGINIA (SOUTHERN)	7	43	5	5	0	0	2	2	0	0
FIFTH CIRCUIT	1,671	68	1,117	1,103	7	7	554	550	2	2
LOUISIANA (EASTERN)	84	30	84	84	0	0	0	0	0	0
LOUISIANA (MIDDLE)	21	49	11	9	0	2	10	8	0	2
LOUISIANA (WESTERN)	84	69	40	40	0	0	44	44	0	0
MISSISSIPPI (NORTHERN)	15	54	7	7	0	0	8	8	0	0
MISSISSIPPI (SOUTHERN)	18	37	15	14	1	0	3	3	0	0
TEXAS (NORTHERN)	258	56	211	210	1	0	47	47	0	0
TEXAS (EASTERN)	25	57	14	14	0	0	11	11	0	0
TEXAS (SOUTHERN)	595	94	387	380	4	3	208	206	2	0
TEXAS (WESTERN)	571	55	348	345	1	2	223	223	0	0
SIXTH CIRCUIT	2,006	64	968	966	1	1	1,038	1,033	4	1
KENTUCKY (EASTERN)	32	34	26	25	0	1	6	2	4	0
KENTUCKY (WESTERN)	222	68	68	68	0	0	154	153	0	1
MICHIGAN (EASTERN)	617	74	208	208	0	0	409	409	0	0
MICHIGAN (WESTERN)	41	72	21	21	0	0	20	20	0	0
OHIO (NORTHERN)	439	73	177	176	1	0	262	262	0	0
OHIO (SOUTHERN)	465	47	329	329	0	0	136	136	0	0
TENNESSEE (EASTERN)	86	48	68	68	0	0	18	18	0	0
TENNESSEE (MIDDLE)	78	52	52	52	0	0	26	26	0	0
TENNESSEE (WESTERN)	26	48	19	19	0	0	7	7	0	0
SEVENTH CIRCUIT	601	66	401	401	0	0	200	199	0	1
ILLINOIS (NORTHERN)	205	75	151	151	0	0	54	54	0	0
ILLINOIS (CENTRAL)	23	56	12	12	0	0	11	11	0	0
ILLINOIS (SOUTHERN)	132	79	37	37	0	0	95	95	0	0
INDIANA (NORTHERN)	36	43	33	33	0	0	3	3	0	0
INDIANA (SOUTHERN)	88	51	77	77	0	0	11	10	0	1
WISCONSIN (EASTERN)	106	55	91	91	0	0	15	15	0	0
WISCONSIN (WESTERN)	11	90	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	0
EIGHTH CIRCUIT	983	71	559	558	0	1	424	421	0	3
ARKANSAS (EASTERN)	49	52	36	36	0	0	13	13	0	0
ARKANSAS (WESTERN)	19	49	13	13	0	0	6	6	0	0
IOWA (NORTHERN)	24	142	18	18	0	0	6	6	0	0

	Total requests	Average delay (in days)	Warrant requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied	Extension requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied
IOWA (SOUTHERN)	78	48	56	56	0	0	22	22	0	0
MINNESOTA	241	61	129	129	0	0	112	112	0	0
MISSOURI (EASTERN)	151	93	62	62	0	0	89	86	0	3
MISSOURI (WESTERN)	250	53	130	129	0	1	120	120	0	0
NEBRASKA	121	45	69	69	0	0	52	52	0	0
NORTH DAKOTA	27	351	26	26	0	0	1	1	0	0
SOUTH DAKOTA	23	81	20	20	0	0	3	3	0	0
NINTH CIRCUIT	2,451	73	1,328	1,312	4	12	1,123	1,112	10	1
ALASKA	40	52	29	26	0	3	11	10	1	0
ARIZONA	419	73	184	184	0	0	235	235	0	0
CALIFORNIA (NORTHERN)	146	62	74	74	0	0	72	71	1	0
CALIFORNIA (EASTERN)	180	46	146	146	0	0	34	34	0	0
CALIFORNIA (CENTRAL)	327	65	214	207	1	6	113	113	0	0
CALIFORNIA (SOUTHERN)	739	88	262	256	3	3	477	468	8	1
HAWAII	29	87	25	25	0	0	4	4	0	0
IDAHO	7	64	5	5	0	0	2	2	0	0
MONTANA	24	58	21	21	0	0	3	3	0	0
NEVADA	65	68	40	40	0	0	25	25	0	0
OREGON	14	47	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
WASHINGTON (EASTERN)	122	86	78	78	0	0	44	44	0	0
WASHINGTON (WESTERN)	174	70	122	122	0	0	52	52	0	0
GUAM	165	55	114	114	0	0	51	51	0	0
NORTHERN MARIANAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TENTH CIRCUIT	1,660	70	723	721	0	2	937	937	0	0
COLORADO	542	57	311	311	0	0	231	231	0	0
KANSAS	909	80	255	253	0	2	654	654	0	0
NEW MEXICO	167	60	120	120	0	0	47	47	0	0
OKLAHOMA (NORTHERN)	13	47	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
OKLAHOMA (EASTERN)	17	65	13	13	0	0	4	4	0	0
OKLAHOMA (WESTERN)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
UTAH	1	30	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
WYOMING	11	91	10	10	0	0	1	1	0	0

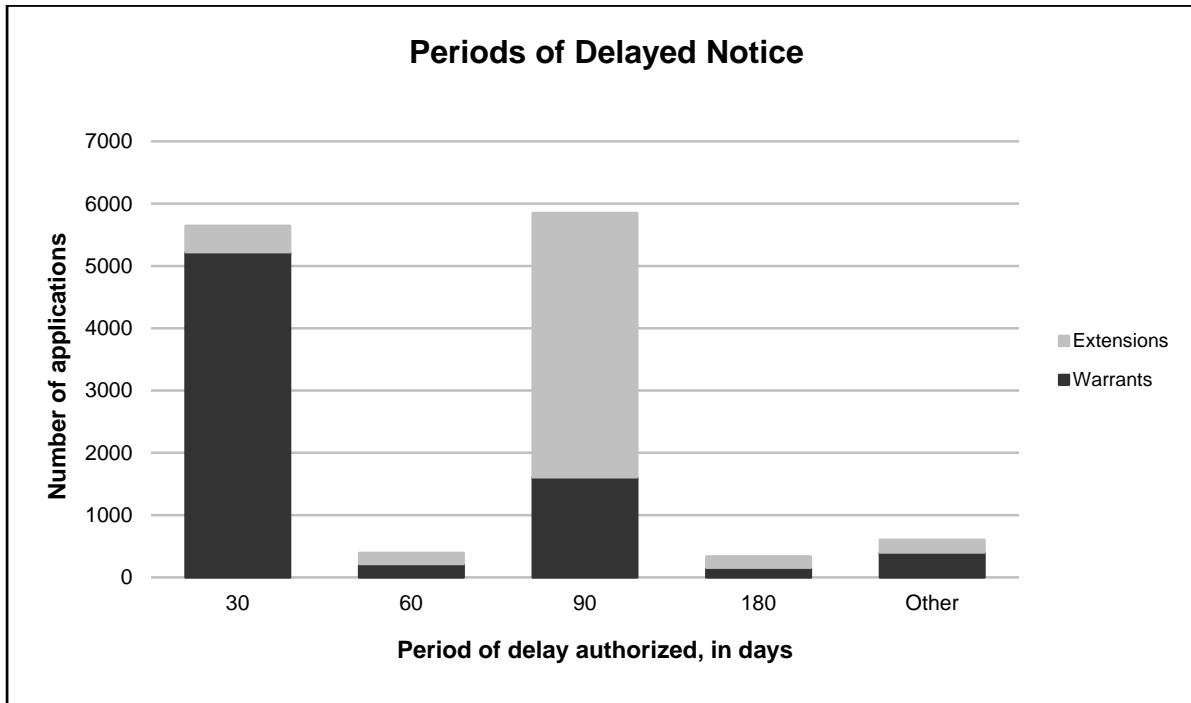
	Total requests	Average delay (in days)	Warrant requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied	Extension requests	Granted	Granted as modified	Denied
ELEVENTH CIRCUIT	881	73	467	467	0	0	414	405	7	2
ALABAMA (NORTHERN)	20	81	5	5	0	0	15	15	0	0
ALABAMA (MIDDLE)	25	30	24	24	0	0	1	1	0	0
ALABAMA (SOUTHERN)	5	31	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
FLORIDA (NORTHERN)	68	73	60	60	0	0	8	8	0	0
FLORIDA (MIDDLE)	97	59	45	45	0	0	52	52	0	0
FLORIDA (SOUTHERN)	302	67	162	162	0	0	140	140	0	0
GEORGIA (NORTHERN)	339	90	148	148	0	0	191	182	7	2
GEORGIA (MIDDLE)	4	51	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0
GEORGIA (SOUTHERN)	21	33	15	15	0	0	6	6	0	0

Table 2. Offenses specified for delayed-notice warrant and extension requests - fiscal year 2014

Offense	Reports		Warrants		Extensions	
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*
Total	12,870	100%	7,627	100%	5,243	100%
Drugs	10,706	83%	5,982	78%	4,724	90%
Fraud	598	5%	408	5%	190	4%
Sex Offenses	303	2%	261	3%	42	-
Extortion / Racketeering	238	2%	146	2%	92	2%
Fugitive / Escape	178	-	172	2%	6	-
Weapons	136	-	117	2%	19	-
Immigration	119	-	77	-	42	-
Theft	116	-	93	-	23	-
Other	87	-	67	-	21	-
Unknown	60	-	47	-	13	-
Robbery	57	-	51	-	6	-
Murder	46	-	41	-	5	-
Terrorism	38	-	28	-	10	-
Smuggling	38	-	19	-	19	-
Gambling	36	-	25	-	11	-
Obstruction	27	-	23	-	4	-
Counterfeit	25	-	20	-	5	-
Tax	24	-	23	-	1	-
Kidnapping	22	-	21	-	0	-
Wildlife	16	-	6	-	10	-

* Percentages not shown where the percentage is less than 2%.

Graph 1. Periods of delayed notice - fiscal year 2014



Graph 2. Numbers of extensions requested - fiscal year 2014

