

# Swift, Certain, and Fair Luisa Swan, B.S.



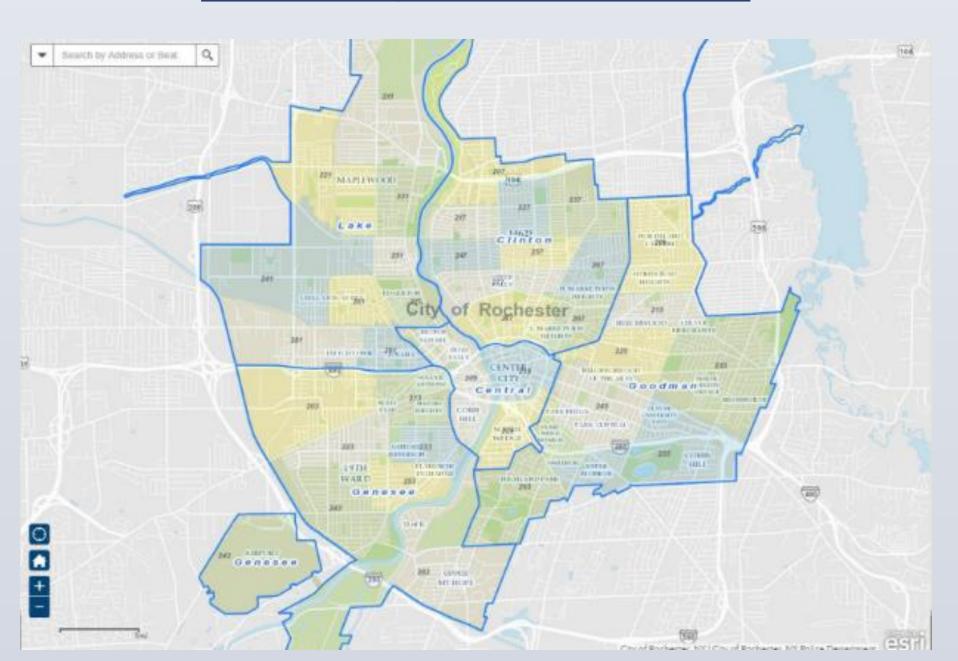
Center for Public Safety Initiatives, Rochester Institute of Technology

## Introduction

Swift, Certain, and Fair is a collaborative initiative supported by the NYS Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Program. It is a collaboration with probation that focuses on violent gun offenders.

- **Swift:** immediate sanction upon detection of a violation
- Certain: behavioral contract -> consistency and predictability
- Fair: perception of legitimacy

# The City of Rochester



# **Objectives**

The goal of Swift, Certain, & Fair is to reduce gun violence-related crime and victimization in the City of Rochester.

Target Population/Selection Criteria:

- 16-24 years old
- Pending gun-related felony charge (CPW2)
- No involvement in an on-going dispute
- No pending charges that involve harm to another
- Lower to minimum threat to the community
- Previous non-compliance history
- Gang-involved and/or gang-associated

# **Partnerships**

The Swift, Certain, & Fair program is unique in that it involves a strong line of communication and partnership with surrounding agencies.

### The partners include:

- A gun court judge
- Assistant District Attorney
- Defense Attorney
- Public Defenders
- Probation
- Crime Analysis Center
- Research Partner

#### Methods **Screening Stage Implementation Stage Preparation Stage** Discharged from SC&F **Participants Remain** due to violation in SC&F (n=2) (n=15) **Participants Placed** Buy-in into SC&F **Program Design** (n=18) **Candidates Currently Primary Screening** Discharged from SC&F **Pending Offer** due to successful **Candidates Accepted** (n=204) (n=16) completion SC&F Offer (n=1) (n=18) Monthly Case **Eligible Candidates Review Meeting** Offered SC&F **Secondary Screening** (n=22) **Candidates Rejected Different Sentences** SC&F Offer Imposed (n=4)**Ineligible Candidates** (n=174)

# Results

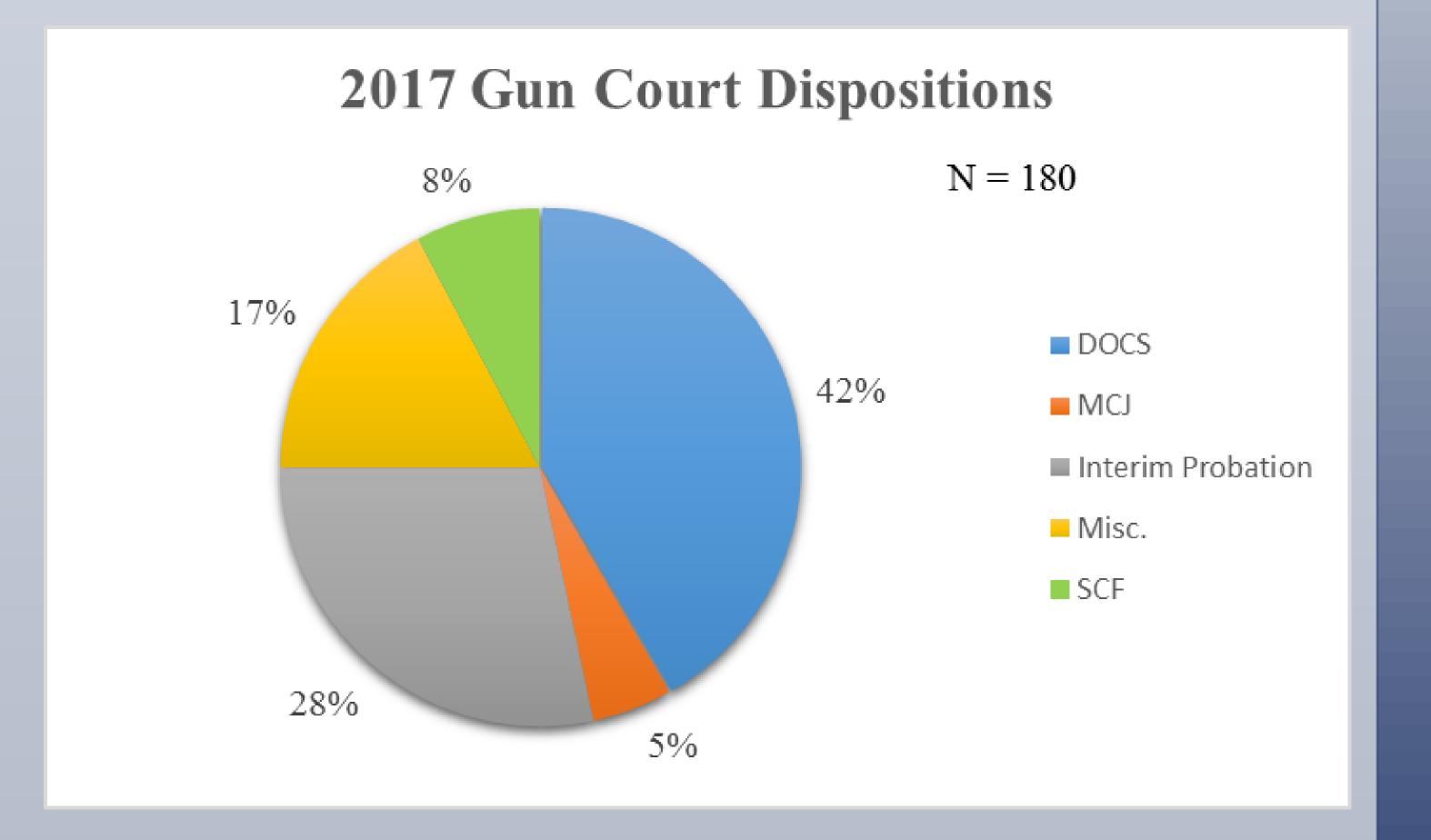
In 2017, of the people charged with a gun offense, 8% were either newly enrolled into Swift, Certain and Fair or were previous participants in the program. Today, the number of people involved in the program ranges from 18 to 20 people.

#### **Demographics:**

- Young adult males (16 to 24 years old)
- Primarily African American and Hispanic.

#### **Gun Courts:**

 This chart contains data from two different judges within the gun court; however, all the Swift, Certain, and Fair cases are through Judge Moran.



## Conclusions

- 1. As of right now, none of the participants in the Swift, Certain, and Fair program have violated their probation on another gun charge.
- 2. Two participants have successfully completed the program.
- 3. Participant thoughts on the program so far:
  - "It is a second chance."
  - Dislike: GPS monitoring

## Limitations

- 1. Data collection and input around:
  - Gun court
  - ADA
  - Probation
- 2. Large Caseloads
- 3. Communication
- 4. Swiftness & Certainty

## **Future Implications**

At the end of this evaluation, there will be a few things completed:

- 1. An implementation guideline
- 2. Screening Guidelines
- 3. An overall evaluation of the program
  - Focus Groups/ Matching
  - SCF vs. Non-SCF case outcomes
  - Race differences in sentencing
  - Perceptions from participants Recidivism
- 4. Potential replication in another GIVE jurisdiction

# Acknowledgments

**Monroe County Probation Department Monroe County Judicial System Monroe County Crime Analysis Center** 

# **CPSI Contact Information**

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