

In the Courtroom of Judge Bruce Fox: A Documented Pattern of Problematic Dispositions, 2020–2026

Problematic Dispositions are those non-merits resolutions where the underlying charges against a defendant remain unresolved, thereby freeing the defendant from physical custody and further criminal prosecution for those charges. In the courtroom of Judge Bruce Fox 22 cases were adjudicated at a 55% problematic rate, resulting in 12 problematic cases that included 6 dismissed as incompetent, 1 dismissed for failure to prosecute, 2 State notices of dismissal (nolle prosequi), and 3 deferred dismissals.

2020–2021: Early Signals of Recurring Dismissal

No problematic dispositions were found for this courtroom in 2020 or 2021.

2022–2023: Peak Volume and Same-Day Clusters

No problematic dispositions were found for this courtroom in 2022.

In January 2023, Judge Bruce Fox dismissed for failure to prosecute the Bribery of a Witness case against Manuel Palmier Barros, who had 6 prior cases. Palmier Barros faced new charges of Violation of Restraining Order Prohibiting Domestic Violence in August 2023.

In May 2023, Judge Bruce Fox granted deferred dismissal in the Trafficking Controlled Substances (Distribution)(Narcotic or Meth)(1st Offense) case against Tyler Hammond, who had 24 prior cases. Hammond faced new charges of Possession of a Controlled Substance (Felony) in June 2023.

In September 2023, the prosecutor filed a notice of dismissal (nolle prosequi) in the Possession of a Controlled Substance (Felony) case against Dana Delouth, assigned to Judge Bruce Fox at the time, who had 26 prior cases. Delouth faced new charges of Battery (household member) in January 2024.

2024–2026: Continued High-Prior Dismissals and Reoffending

No problematic dispositions were found for this courtroom in 2024.

In April 2025, the prosecutor filed a notice of dismissal (*nolle prosequi*) in the Possession of a Controlled Substance (Felony) case against Isaiah Herrera, assigned to Judge Bruce Fox at the time, who had 20 prior cases. Herrera faced new charges of Possession of a Controlled Substance – Felony in May 2025.

In January 2026, Judge Bruce Fox dismissed as incompetent the Competency Raised case against Appolonia Gonzales, who had 47 prior cases. Gonzales faced new charges of Battery in January 2026.

On April 20, 2026, Judge Bruce Fox granted deferred dismissal in two Competency Raised cases against Marcos Montoya on the same day, with Montoya having 70 prior cases. Montoya faced new charges of Criminal Trespass in May 2026.

On May 22, 2026, Judge Bruce Fox dismissed as incompetent five Competency Raised cases against Michael Casey on the same day, with Casey having 39 to 43 prior cases.

The pattern of problematic dispositions in the courtroom of Judge Bruce Fox includes 6 incompetent findings, 1 dismissal for failure to prosecute, 2 State notices of dismissal (*nolle prosequi*), and 3 deferred dismissals. High-prior individuals in these records include Marcos Montoya (70 priors), Appolonia Gonzales (47 priors), and Michael Casey (priors reaching 43). The same-day cluster of five incompetent findings against Michael Casey on May 22, 2026, is the largest single-day cluster in these records.

Summary of Featured Examples

Period	Offender	Key Charge(s)	Disposition by Judge Fox	Priors	Notable Subsequent Charge(s)
2023	Manuel Palmier Barros	Bribery of a Witness	Dismissed by Judge Fox for failure to prosecute	6	Violation of Restraining Order Prohibiting Domestic Violence [Aug 2023]
2023	Tyler Hammond	Trafficking Controlled Substances (Distribution) (Narcotic or Meth)(1st Offense)	Deferred dismissal by Judge Fox	24	Possession of a Controlled Substance (Felony) [Jun 2023]
2023	Dana Delouth	Possession of a Controlled Substance (Felony)	Notice of dismissal (nolle prosequi)	26	Battery (household member) [Jan 2024]
2025	Isaiah Herrera	Possession of a Controlled Substance (Felony)	Notice of dismissal (nolle prosequi)	20	Possession of a Controlled Substance – Felony [May 2025]
2026	Appolonia Gonzales	Competency Raised	Dismissed by Judge Fox as incompetent	47	Battery [Jan 2026]
2026 (Apr 20)	Marcos Montoya	Competency Raised x2 [same-day]	Deferred dismissal by Judge Fox	70	Criminal Trespass [May 2026]
2026 (May 22)	Michael Casey	Competency Raised x5 [same-day]	Dismissed by Judge Fox as incompetent	39–43	[No subsequent listed]