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## YOUR OPINIONS

### Judges scapegoat trial chief

Re: "Public defender office leader jailed: Judge says more attorneys needed to cover juvenile cases," Page 1, Jan. 10.

The incarceration of the New Orleans public defender trial chief by a juvenile court judge is another sad indicator of the dysfunction within the Louisiana justice system.

We, along with the judge and the public defender trial chief, share the fundamental belief

that trials cannot proceed without adequate representation. That means building a public defender office with the staff to provide quality representation for each and every one of its clients.

**Richard C. Goemann**

Director

Defender Legal Services

National Legal Aid

& Defender Association

Washington, D.C.