

# 55th District Court Annual Report

# 2015



State of Michigan  
Ingham County  
Mason, MI

*55<sup>th</sup> District Court is committed to delivering justice in a professional, efficient, and caring manner.*

- We value the Court's role in enhancing public safety.
- We value improving the lives of others.
- We value a citizen's right to be heard.
- We value the role of the Court as a community leader, working in partnership with others.
- We value the pursuit of quality improvement.
- We value court staff as individuals and are dedicated to their personal and professional development.
- We value the promotion of a positive work environment.
- We value the utilization of technology and other resources to improve efficiency and accessibility of court services.
- We value the safety of our employees and all users of the court.

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*55th Judicial District Court*

## Honorable Thomas P. Boyd



The Honorable Thomas P. Boyd was born and raised in Kalamazoo, MI. He graduated from James Madison College at Michigan State University in 1985 and Wayne State University Law School in 1990. After being admitted to the bar, he was engaged in the private practice of law, working with no-fault traffic crash issues and general litigation. He was appointed Assistant Attorney General in 1995 by Attorney General Frank Kelley. His responsibilities within the Department of Attorney General included criminal, civil, administrative and legislative law.

Judge Thomas P. Boyd was appointed to the bench on June 29, 2005, to fill the vacancy created upon the retirement of the Honorable Pamela McCabe. Judge Boyd was elected in 2006 to serve the remainder of Judge McCabe's term. He was reelected in 2008 and 2014 for six-year terms. His current term expires December 31, 2020.

Judge Boyd leads the 55<sup>th</sup> District Court Mental Health Court (MHC) team. MHC is an incentive-based motivational program founded on Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) principles designed to engage participants in treatment with the goals of improving their lives and reducing recidivism. The MHC team includes representatives of the following: 55<sup>th</sup> District Court, Community Mental Health – Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties, Ingham County Sheriff Gene Wriggelsworth, Ingham County Health Department, criminal defense, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness – Lansing. MHC is very much a team endeavor Each team member contributes to the benefit of every participant.

Judge Boyd established and presides over our Domestic Violence (DV) Court. A local administrative order requires all DV cases be assigned to Judge Boyd. The DV Court provides the extra attention that each of these important cases require. The DV Court works closely with EVE, Inc., and other community groups to provide as much protection as possible for women and children who find themselves in violent situations.

Judge Boyd actively works to improve the law, the legal system and the administration of justice. In 2014, Judge Boyd was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC). As an appointee, Judge Boyd represents the Michigan District Judges Association (MDJA). His term on the MIDC expires in 2018. Judge Boyd is active in the MDJA where he currently serves as President-Elect.

*55th District Court Judges*

## Honorable Donald L. Allen, Jr.



The Honorable Donald L. Allen, Jr., was appointed judge of the 55th District Court by Governor Jennifer Granholm on December 22, 2008. He was elected to the bench in 2010. His current term will expire on December 31, 2016. Judge Allen was appointed chief judge of the court by the Michigan Supreme Court on January 1, 2016.

The Honorable Donald L. Allen, Jr., is a 1983 graduate of Wayne State University Law School and spent most of his professional career as an assistant attorney general in the Michigan Department of Attorney General. He served at the Department of Attorney General from February 1988 through September 2005. In September 2005, he was appointed deputy legal counsel to Governor Granholm. On June 5, 2006, Judge Allen was appointed by Governor Granholm to serve as director of the Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP). Judge Allen served in that position until his appointment to the 55th District Court Bench.

Judge Allen is the presiding judge of Sobriety Court. Sobriety Court focuses on the rehabilitation of repeat offense substance abusers. Sobriety Court has changed hundreds of lives, saved tax dollars, and has been recognized for excellence.

### Professional/Community Service:

- Okemos-Ingham Families Against Narcotics, President and Co-Founder
- Mason Prescription Drug Task Force, Co-Founder
- American Bar Association Commission on Lawyers Assistance Programs, Diversity Committee Chair
- Michigan Bar Association, Fellow
- Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program, Special Advisor
- Mason Promise Scholarship, Board Member
- Ingham Opioid Work Group
- Holt -South Lansing Rotary Club
- Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity
- Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity

### Awards/Recognitions:

- Lansing Black Lawyer's Association, Outstanding Barrister Award (2009)
- Central Michigan Heritage Enterprise, Citizen of the Year Award (2011)
- Turning Point, Kevin D. Bibbs Citizenship Award (2013)
- Community Mental Health Authority, Distinguished Service Award (2015)
- Michigan Public Health, Jean Chabut Health Policy Champion (2016)

*55th District Court Judges*

## Mark E. Blumer

Magistrate



Magistrate Mark Blumer was born and raised in southeastern Michigan. He graduated from Michigan State University with a degree from the first residential college at MSU—Justin Morrill College—in 1971. He then graduated from the University of Detroit College of Law in 1974. Mr. Blumer worked as the chairman of the Oakland County branch of the Secretary of State License Appeal Board for most of 1975 and then transferred to the Michigan Attorney General’s staff in January, 1976. For most of the next 30 years Mr. Blumer was assigned to the Criminal Prosecution Division where he was the First Assistant and principal trial attorney. He handled cases in about half of Michigan’s 83 counties including several that attracted national attention.

Mr. Blumer retired from his state position in 2005 and was hired as the chief assistant prosecutor in Jackson County in 2005. He remained at that position for the next eight and one-half years where he was the chief of legal affairs for that office. During that time he continued to trial numerous felony cases. Mr. Blumer retired from Jackson in late 2013 and was hired on 10/14/13 to serve as the magistrate for the 55<sup>th</sup> District Court.

During his career, Mr. Blumer has taught numerous times for the National Association of District Attorneys and for the Prosecuting Attorneys’ Association of Michigan. He has also lectured at the FBI National Academy, the Rocky Mountain Homicide Investigators Association and the Ohio District Attorneys’ Association and he has been a visiting professor of criminal law at the Thomas M. Cooley School of Law.

*55th District Court Magistrate*

## COURT ADMINISTRATION



*Seated left to right - Kathy Fajardo & Pam Pfeifer  
Standing - Michael J. Dillon*

Michael J. Dillon, Court Administrator  
Kathy Fajardo, Administrative Services Coordinator  
Pam Pfeifer, Court Services Supervisor

Michigan Court Rule 8.110 sets forth that the chief judge of a court is the director of the administration of the court. Also, within the court rule, the chief judge can delegate administrative duties to a trial court administrator. The court's administrative staff is responsible for managing the administrative and business operations of the court.



*Court Administration*

## JUDICIAL SUPPORT SERVICES



*Left to right - Donovan Motley, Marty Waugh, Elaine Stocking, Dave Biergans, Jared Knudsen*

Donovan Motley - Court Officer (Judge Allen)  
Marty Waugh - Judicial Assistant (Judge Allen)  
Elaine Stocking - Judicial Assistant (Judge Boyd)  
Dave Biergans - Ingham County Sheriff Deputy - Judge Boyd Court Officer)  
Jared Knudsen—Part-time Court Officer

*Not pictured*

Deputy Tom Beeson— Ingham County Sheriff Deputy - Judge Boyd Court Officer)

Judicial support personnel serve as personal staff of the judge. The Judicial Assistant is responsible for maintaining the record for the court, managing the court docket, and providing secretarial services for a judge.

The court officer is responsible for the security of the court and maintaining decorum within the courtroom.

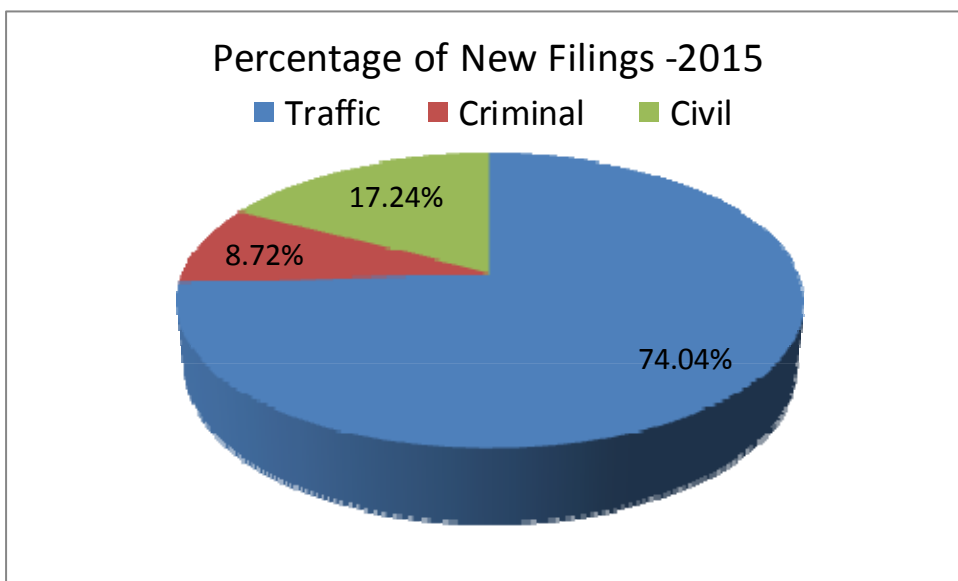
*Judicial Support Services*



## NEW CASE FILINGS

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>Filings</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>Filings</u>	<u>15-14</u> <u>Diff</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Diff</u>
Felony	611	515	-96	-15.7%
Misdemeanor	1,427	1,289	-138	-9.7%
Drunk Driving	489	352	-137	-28.0%
Traffic **	16,527	17,689	1,162	7.0%
Civil Infraction - Non Traffic	382	386	4	1.0%
General Civil	2,072	2,051	-21	-1.0%
Small Claims	586	587	1	0.2%
Summary Proceedings	1,691	1,621	-70	-4.1%
Parking	<u>210</u>	<u>221</u>	11	5.2%
Totals	23,995	24,711	716	3.0%

\*\* includes traffic misdemeanors and civil infractions



*Caseload - New Filings*

## NEW CASE FILINGS—REGION II

### TOTAL NEW FILINGS - REGION II COMPARISONS

Court	2014 Filings	2015 Filings	Judges	Cases Per Judge	% Change 15-14
<b>14-B Washtenaw Co. (Ypsilanti Twp)</b>	13,551	13,604	1	13,604	0.39%
55th Ingham Co.	23,995	24,711	2	12,356	2.98%
<b>67-1 Genesee Co. (Flushing)</b>	13,006	12,209	1	12,209	-6.13%
71A Lapeer Co.	13,139	11,728	1	11,728	-10.74%
<b>14-A Washtenaw Co.</b>	31,929	35,159	3	11,720	10.12%
2A Lenawee Co.	19,916	21,371	2	10,686	7.31%
1st Monroe Co.	32,698	31,240	3	10,413	-4.46%
<b>67-3 Genesee Co. (Mt. Morris)</b>	11,880	9,626	1	9,626	-18.97%
12th Jackson Co.	36,054	35,387	4	8,847	-1.85%
72nd St. Clair Co.	27,663	26,519	3	8,840	-4.14%
<b>67-2 Genesee Co. (Davison &amp; Burton)</b>	18,521	17,550	2	8,775	-5.24%
53rd Livingston Co.	24,148	26,198	3	8,733	8.49%
<b>54B Ingham Co (East Lansing) **</b>	18,728	15,956	2	7,978	-14.80%
<b>54A Ingham Co. (Lansing) ***</b>	26,844	31,730	4	7,933	18.20%
<b>67-4 Genesee Co. (Fenton &amp; Grand Blanc)</b>	17,262	15,851	2	7,926	-8.17%
2B Hillsdale Co.	6,591	7,573	1	7,573	14.90%
<b>15th Washtenaw Co. (City of Ann Arbor)</b>	20,837	19,230	3	6,410	-7.71%
<b>67-5 Genesee Co. (City of Flint)</b>	27,959	22,180	5	4,436	-20.67%
66th Shiawassee Co.	9,540	8,585	2	4,293	-10.01%

\*\* 2015 filings does not include 50,065 parking violations

\*\*\* 2015 filings do not include 4,681 parking violations



Region 2 - New Case Filings

# CLEARANCE RATES

## 2015 CLEARANCE RATES

	New	Reopened	Total Filings	Dispositions	Clearance Rate
<b><u>CRIMINAL</u></b>					
Felony	515	341	856	867	101.29%
Misdemeanor	1289	892	2181	2205	101.10%
Drunk Driving	<u>352</u>	<u>157</u>	509	<u>530</u>	<u>104.13%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2156</b>	<b>1390</b>	<b>3546</b>	<b>3602</b>	<b>101.58%</b>
<b><u>TRAFFIC</u></b>					
Traffic Misdemeanor	1817	621	2438	2514	103.12%
Traffic Civil Infraction	15872	141	16013	16159	100.91%
Nontraffic Civil Infraction	386	16	402	425	105.72%
Parking	221	3	224	224	100.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18296</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>19077</b>	<b>19322</b>	<b>101.28%</b>
<b><u>CIVIL</u></b>					
General Civil	2051	28	2079	2087	100.38%
Landlord Ten/Summ Pro	1621	7	1628	1625	99.82%
Small Claims (SC)	<u>587</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>591</u>	<u>618</u>	<u>104.57%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4259</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4298</b>	<b>4330</b>	<b>100.74%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24711</b>	<b>2210</b>	<b>26921</b>	<b>27254</b>	<b>101.24%</b>

**Clearance Rate:** Dispositions/Total New and Reopened Cas-

*Clearance Rates*



## BEGINNING/ENDING PENDING

### BEGINNING & ENDING PENDING - 2015

	Total Filings	Dispositions	Begin Pending	Ending Pending	Overall Change
<b><u>CRIMINAL</u></b>					
Felony	856	867	34	23	-32.35%
Misdemeanor	2181	2205	161	137	-14.91%
Drunk Driving	509	<u>530</u>	<u>58</u>	37	-36.21%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3546</b>	<b>3602</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>-22.13%</b>
<b><u>TRAFFIC</u></b>					
Traffic Misdemeanor	2438	2514	416	340	-18.27%
Traffic Civil Infraction	16013	16159	838	692	-17.42%
Nontraffic Civil Infraction	402	425	46	23	-50.00%
Parking	224	224	6	6	0.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>19077</b>	<b>19322</b>	<b>1306</b>	<b>1061</b>	<b>-18.76%</b>
<b><u>CIVIL</u></b>					
General Civil	2079	2087	541	533	-1.48%
Landlord Tenant/Summ	1628	1625	197	200	1.52%
Small Claims	<u>591</u>	<u>618</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>-20.45%</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4298</b>	<b>4330</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>-3.68%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>26921</b>	<b>27254</b>	<b>2429</b>	<b>2096</b>	<b>-13.71%</b>

**Change:** (Ending Pending - Beginning Pending)/Beginning Pending

*Beginning/Ending Pending*



## CIVIL DEPARTMENT



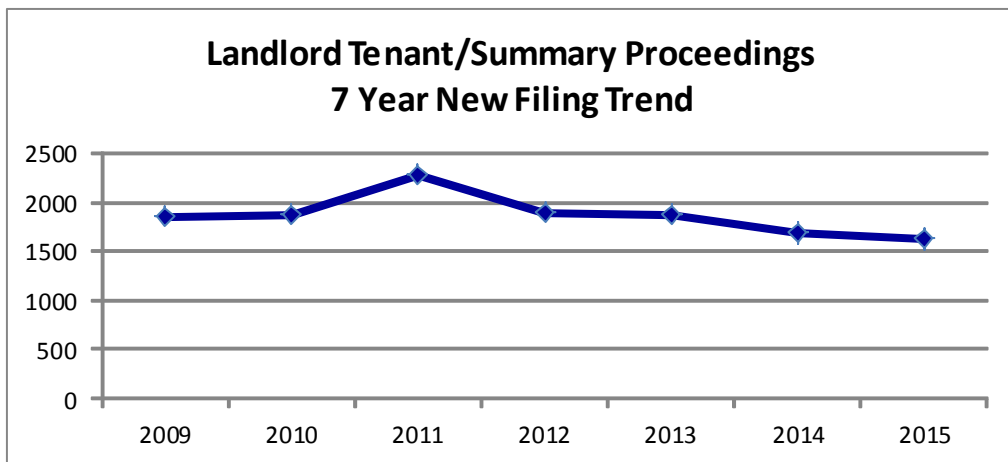
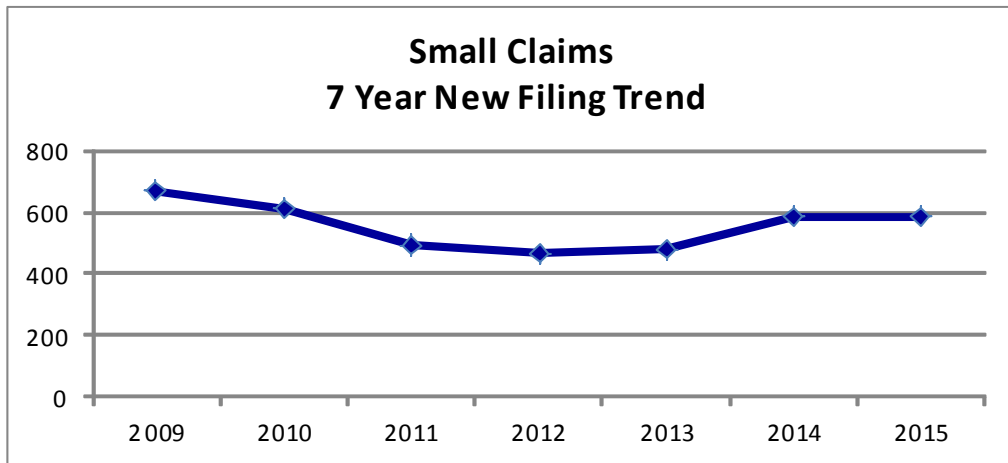
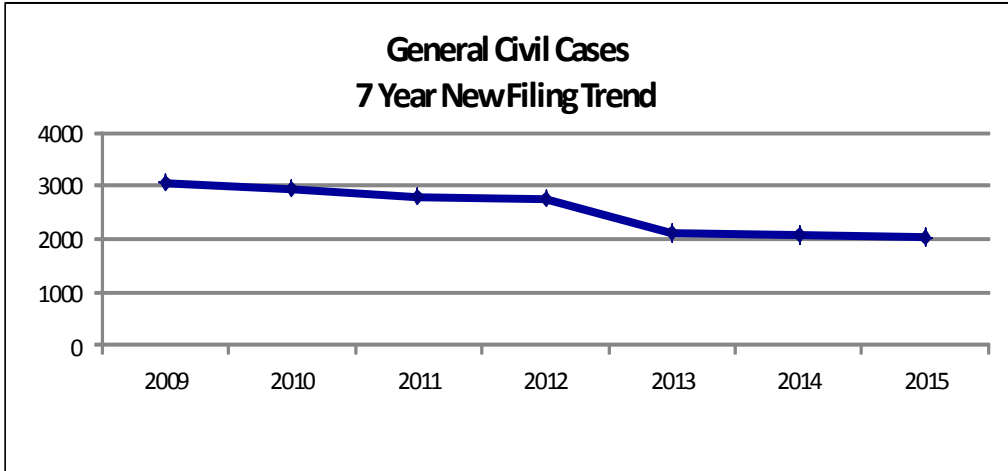
*Seated - Pam Pfeifer  
Standing left to right - Renee Smith & Teresa Ballance*

In 2015 the civil department processed 4,259 new civil cases (2.1% decrease - 2104). These filings include general civil, landlord-tenant and small claims cases. Many of these filing consist of foreclosed properties and credit card debt. The civil department processed 5,761 garnishment requests (6.6% increase - 2014). In addition the department processed 634 writs for evictions/seizures (1.9% increase -2014) and 880 marriages (10% increase -2014).

The court is proud of its Eviction Diversion Program, which began in 2013. This program provides low-and moderate- income families and individuals with eviction prevention assistance. There are many community partners involved in this program such as Volunteers of America and the Michigan Department of Human Services. Tenants have the opportunity to speak with eviction diversion specialists before their hearing. Lawyers and law students from the MSU Law Clinic and Legal Services of South Central Michigan are also on the site to provide tenants advice and guide them through what, to many, can be viewed a complicated process. The goal of the program is to reach settlement agreements which prevent entries of judgments and allow time to resolve issues in an effort to avoid evictions.

*Civil Department*

# CIVIL DEPARTMENT



*Civil Cases - New Filing Trends*

## CIVIL DEPARTMENT

### DISPOSITIONAL INFORMATION

DISPOSITION	General Civil	Small Claims	Landlord/Tenant
Jury Verdict	0	0	0
Bench Verdict	6	42	7
Uncontested/Default/Settled	1,252	272	749
Transferred	8	26	2
Dismissed by Party	359	116	652
Dismissed by Court	433	157	211
Inactive	12	3	1
Other Disposition	17	2	5
Case Type Changed	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,087</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>1,891</b>
New Filings	2,051	587	1,621
Reopened	28	4	7
Total Cases	2,079	591	1,628
<b>Less Dispositions</b>	<b>2,087</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>1,625</b>
Clearance Rate	100.38%	104.57%	99.82%

*Civil Case Dispositions*

Clearance rate above 100% indicates a reduction in backlog  
 Clearance rate at 100% indicates no change in backlog  
 Clearance rate below 100% indicates an increase in backlog

# CIVIL DEPARTMENT

## CIVIL CASES

General Civil (GC)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 273 days	2023	97.2	90%
Disposed within 455 days	2061	99.5	98%
Landlord/Tenant Summary Proceedings (LT)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 126 days	1544	95.4	95%
Disposed after 126 days	68		
Land Contract Summary Proceedings (SP)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 126 days	6	54.5	95%
Disposed after 126 days	5		
Small Claims (SC)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 126 days	460	73.2	95%
Disposed after 126 days	155		
General Civil Miscellaneous (GZ)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 273 days	8	100.0	90%
Disposed after 455 days	8	100.0	98%

*Time Guidelines*





## CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT



*Front row left to right - Irene Bost, Joan Nelson & Katie O'Shesky  
Back row left to right - Cindy Smith, Erin Jackson, Pam Pfeifer & Barb Pasch*

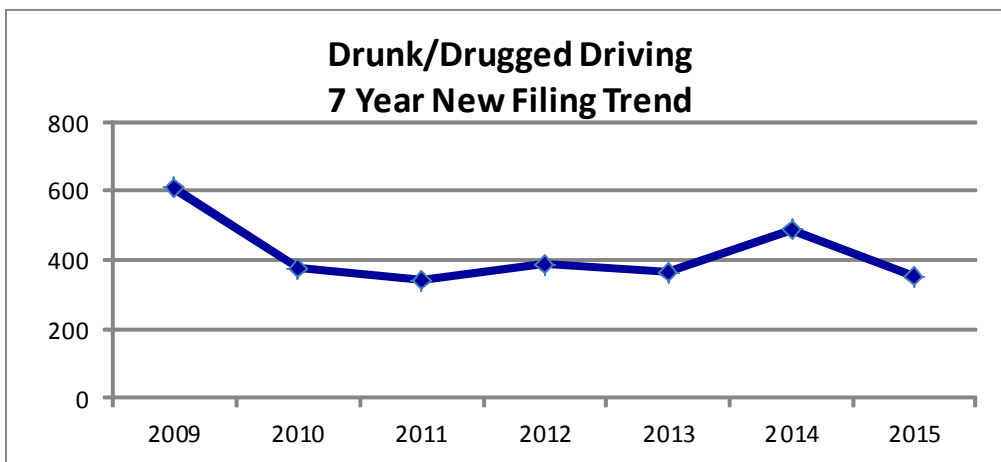
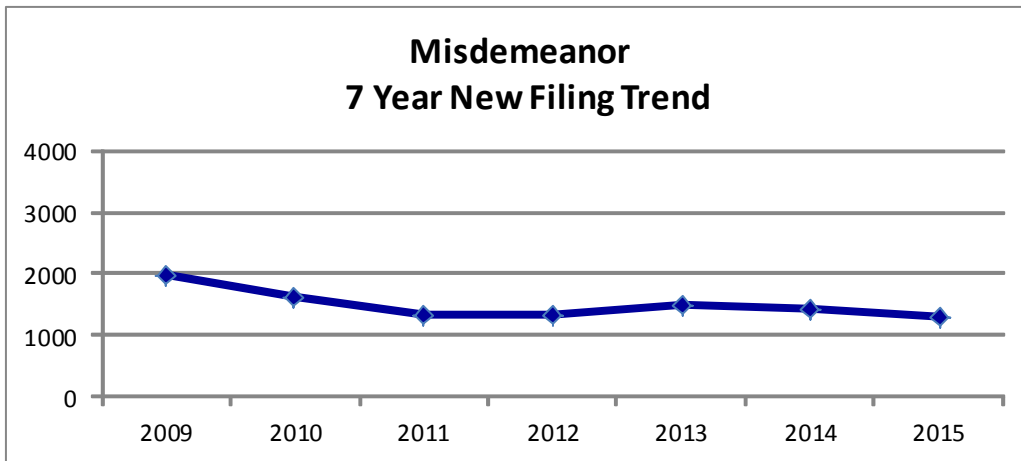
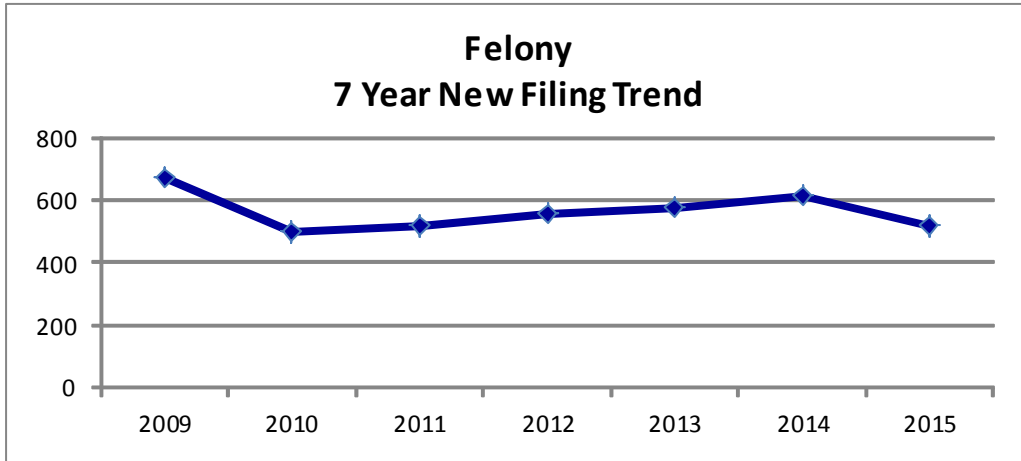
The Criminal Division processes all criminal misdemeanors, including drug and drunk driving cases. In addition, the division processes felony cases up through the preliminary examination stage. In 2015 the criminal division processed 2,156 new criminal cases (16.4% decrease - 2014). The following new cases were filed: 515 felonies, 1289 misdemeanors and 352 drunk/drugged driving cases.

The Traffic division is responsible for processing traffic misdemeanors and all civil infractions, traffic and non traffic. In addition, the division processes parking violations, conservation violations, motor carrier violations and animal control violations. In 2015 the Traffic Division processed 18,296 new cases (6.9% increase -2014). The following new case were filed: 1,817 traffic misdemeanors, 15,872 traffic civil infractions, 386 nontraffic misdemeanors, and 221 parking violations.

Dispositional information - see page 13

*Criminal/Traffic Department*

# CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT



*Criminal Cases - New Filing Trends*

## CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

### CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONAL INFORMATION

DISPOSITION	Felony/Ext	Misdemeanor	Drunk Driving
Jury Verdict	0	4	4
Bench Verdict	21	4	1
Guilty Plea/Admission/Waive	197	679	329
Bindover/Transferred	255	0	47
Dismissed by Party	75	572	35
Dismissed by Court	6	18	4
Inactive/Bench Warrant	312	928	109
Other Disposition	0	0	0
Case Type Changed	1	0	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>530</b>
New Filings	515	1,289	352
Reopened	341	892	157
Total Cases	856	2,516	509
<b>Less Dispositions</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>2,181</b>	<b>530</b>
Clearance Rate	101.3%	101.1%	104.1%

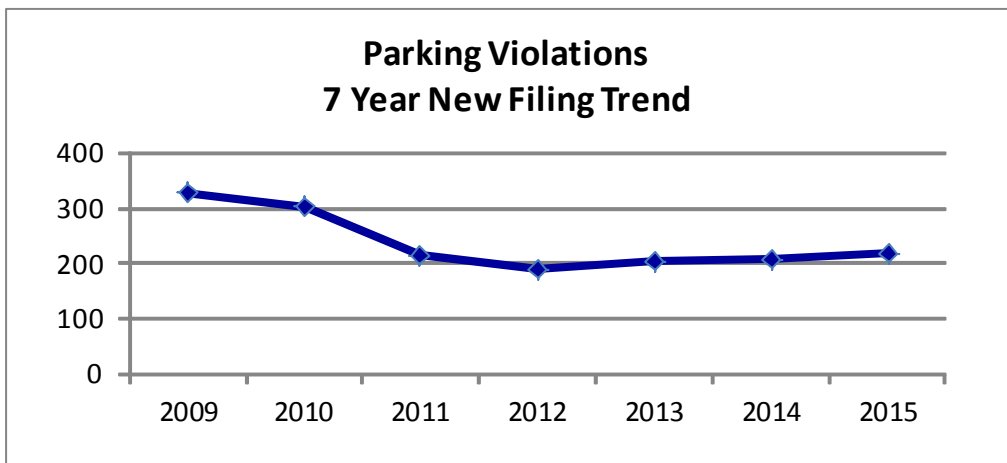
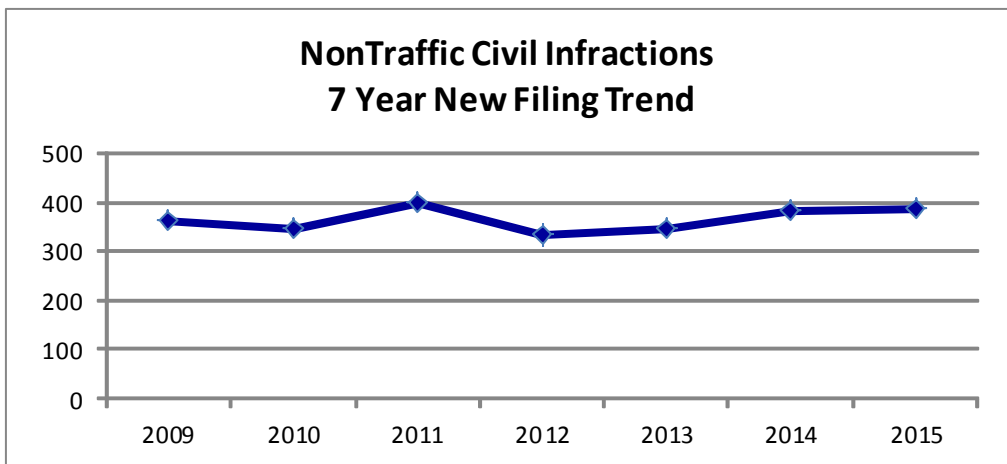
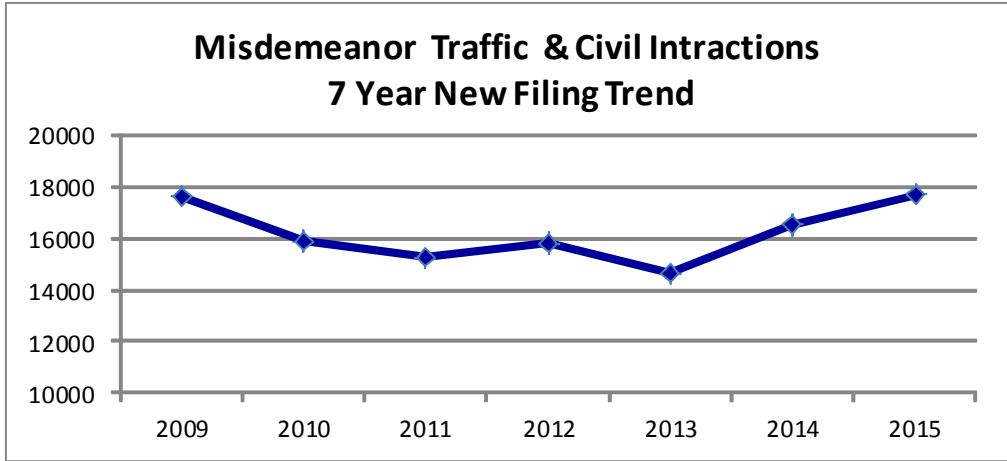
*Criminal Case Dispositions*

*Clearance rate above 100% indicates a reduction in backlog*

*Clearance rate at 100% indicates no change in backlog*

*Clearance rate below 100% indicates an increase in backlog*

# CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT



*Traffic Cases - New Filing Trends*

# CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

## TRAFFIC DISPOSITIONAL INFORMATION

DISPOSITION	Civ Infraction/ Misdemeanor	Nontraffic Civ Infraction	Parking
Jury Verdict	0	0	0
Bench Verdict	724	29	11
Guilty Plea/Admission/Waive	12,783	172	117
Bindover/Transferred	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	1,224	111	12
Dismissed by Court	231	5	12
Default	2,972	108	72
Inactive/Bench Warrant	733	0	0
Case Type Changed	6	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18,673</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>224</b>
New Filings	17,689	386	221
Reopened	762	16	3
Total Cases	18,451	402	224
<b>Less Dispositions</b>	<b>18,673</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>224</b>
Clearance Rate	101.2%	105.7%	100.0%

*Traffic Case Dispositions*

Clearance rate above 100% indicates a reduction in backlog  
 Clearance rate at 100% indicates no change in backlog  
 Clearance rate below 100% indicates an increase in backlog

# CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

## FELONY CASES

<u>Extradition/Detainer (EX)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 14 days of arraignment	21	95.5	60%
Disposed within 28 days of arraignment	21	95.5	75%

<u>Felony Criminal (FY)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 14 days of arraignment	162	50.3	60%
Disposed within 28 days of arraignment	270	84.1	

<u>Felony Drunk Driving (FD)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 14 days of arraignment	29	60.4	60%
Disposed within 28 days of arraignment	39	81.3	

<u>Felony Traffic (FT)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 14 days of arraignment	5	31.3	60%
Disposed within 28 days of arraignment	12	75.0	75%

*Time Guidelines*



# CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

## MISDEMEANOR CASES

Ordinance Misdemeanor Drunk Driving (OD)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 63 days	425	89.1	85%
Disposed within 126 days	463	97.5	95%

Ordinance Misdemeanor Criminal (OM)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 63 days	456	88.4	85%
Disposed within 126 days	503	97.9	95%

Ordinance Misdemeanor Traffic (OT)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 63 days	628	97.4	85%
Disposed within 126 days	641	99.7	95%

Statute Misdemeanor Drunk Driving (SD)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 63 days	187	75.4	85%
Disposed within 126 days	238	96.7	95%

Statute Misdemeanor Criminal (SM)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 63 days	669	82.2	85%
Disposed within 126 days	768	95.5	95%

Statute Misdemeanor Traffic (ST)	Disposed	Rate	Time Guidelines
Disposed within 63 days	1,120	98.3	85%
Disposed within 126 days	1,136	99.8	95%

*Time Guidelines*



# CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

## CIVIL INFRACTIONS

<u>Ordinance Civil Infraction Traffic (OI)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 35 days	5,153	90.2	90%
Disposed within 84 days	5,560	97.7	98%

<u>Ordinance Parking (OK)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 35 days	83	91.2	90%
Disposed within 84 days	86	95.6	98%

<u>Ordinance Civil Infraction Non-Traffic (ON)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 35 days	188	66.0	90%
Disposed within 84 days	236	84.0	98%

<u>Statute Civil Infraction Traffic (SI)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 35 days	9,582	90.4	90%
Disposed within 84 days	10,238	97.0	98%

<u>Statute Parking (SK)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 35 days	126	94.4	90%
Disposed within 84 days	134	100.0	98%

<u>Statute Civil Infraction Non-Traffic (SN)</u>	<u>Disposed</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Time Guidelines</u>
Disposed within 35 days	138	90.2	90%
Disposed within 84 days	150	98.7	98%

*Time Guidelines*



## PROBATION DEPARTMENT



Seated left to right - Linda Burkholder, Jesse Besonen, Emily Fabry, & Da'Neese Wells  
Standing left to right - Lindsay Kruger, Amy Iseler, Eva Higgins, & Alan Spencer

Jesse Besonen, Probation Officer—Sobriety Court  
Linda Burkholder, Probation Officer  
Emily Fabry, Probation Officer  
Eva Higgins, Probation Officer—Sobriety Court (*retired*)  
Amy Iseler, Probation Officer/Assessment Specialist (*resigned*)  
Lindsay Kruger, Probation Officer  
Alan Spencer, Probation Officer—Mental Health Court  
Matthew Weiland, Assessment Specialist/Probation Officer - Sobriety Court  
Da'Neese Wells, Chief Probation Officer

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*Probation Department*

# PROBATION DEPARTMENT

## Sobriety Court

The 55th District Court Sobriety Court targets repeat drunk/drugged driving offenders. On occasion, the program will accept non-target population offenders if they are dependent on alcohol and/or other drugs, traditional approaches to rehabilitation have failed, and it appears they will benefit from the program. Throughout the program participants receive incentives and sanctions relative to their behaviors. The Honorable Donald Allen, Jr. presides over Sobriety Court. Da'Neese Wells, Chief Probation Officer, serves as Sobriety Court Coordinator and probation Officers Jesse Besonen and Mathew Weiland are assigned to Sobriety Court. Besides court personnel, a team of professionals with diverse backgrounds makeup the Sobriety Court team. The team meets weekly to discuss each case.

The court intervenes in these cases as early as possible. In fact, initial eligibility screening typically occurs at arraignment. All potential Sobriety Court participants complete a full biopsychosocial substance abuse assessment prior to sentencing and are referred to appropriate substance abuse treatment as soon as possible. Potential participants are assigned to a pretrial supervision officer. The pretrial supervision officer monitors the defendant's compliance with bond conditions and makes a recommendation to the court regarding the defendant's eligibility for the program.

### 2015 Program Highlights

- Supervision of 183 Participants in 2015
- 71 participants successfully completed the program and graduated in 2015
- Decreased jail utilization - 1,460 jail bed days saved in 2015 *(estimated)*

### RECIDIVISM RATES

81% of 55th District Court Sobriety Court graduates had not been re-arrested, compared to a national average of 75%  
*(source: National Drug Court Institute, 2010)*

93% of 55th District Court Sobriety Court graduates had not been convicted of new alcohol or drug related offenses  
*(source: 55th District Court Recidivism Study, 2011)*

Specialty Courts

## PROBATION DEPARTMENT

### Mental Health Court

The 55th District Court Mental Health Court targets individuals charged with a criminal offense who are seriously mentally ill and but are not violent offenders (as defined by 2013 PA 274). The court will also accept participants who do not meet the target population but demonstrate a need for the program, if participation in the program is found to be in the interest of justice. A goal of the court reach as many individuals in need as possible. Hence, the court does not restrict the identification process to specific mechanisms and will accept any referral for screening. The Honorable Thomas P. Boyd presides over Mental Health Court. Da'Neese Wells, Chief Probation Officer, serves as the Mental Health Court Coordinator and probation Officer Alan Spencer is assigned to Mental Health Court. Besides court personnel, a team of professionals with diverse backgrounds makeup the Mental Health Court team. The team meets weekly to discuss each case.

The Court attempts to identify potential participants as soon as possible. Pre-screening for legal criteria is conducted by the arraigning official. If deemed legally eligible to a participate in the program, the defendant is referred to the Mental Health Court probation officer to continue the screening process. The probation officer will also make referrals to supportive services, if deemed necessary. The case is then forwarded to CMHA-CEI for clinical eligibility determination, a full bio-psycho-social assessment is provided to the court within ten days.

Generally, traditional probation program focus on the utilization traditional sanctions such as additional fines, community service, or incarceration. The philosophy of Mental Health Court is different. The court's focus is on positive reinforcement. The court utilizes incentives in an attempt to avoid the negative reinforcement of traditional sanctions. Whenever possible, participants are recognized and rewarded for compliance and positive performance while on probation. The probation officer and client services specialist have the discretion throughout program participation to reward individually-defined signs of success including, but not limited to, documentation of sustained sobriety, positive life choices, or particularly significant journaling efforts. The court utilizes sanctions, particularly jail, only when necessary to maintain program integrity, or if a participant is a danger to self or others.

The Court supervised a total of 97 participants in 2015, and celebrated the graduation of 22 participants.

*Specialty Courts*

# PROBATION DEPARTMENT

## Snapshot - Active Supervision

CATEGORY OF OFFENSES	ACTIVE SUPERVISION	PERCENT of CASELOAD
Drunk Driving	196	32.24%
Controlled Substances	98	16.12%
Assault	69	11.35%
Stalking	8	1.32%
Theft	138	22.70%
Alcohol—MIP	14	2.30%
Public Welfare & Safety	27	4.44%
Vehicle Offenses	13	2.14%
Obstructing Justice	17	2.80%
Property Offenses	13	2.14%
Weapons	4	0.66%
Children Offenses	3	0.49%
Animal Offenses	3	0.49%
Sexual Related Offenses	3	0.49%
Telecommunications	2	0.33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>608</b>	

*The figures above reflect the number of defendants being actively supervised by a probation officer on 12/31/2015. These figures do not include defendants who have absconded from probation and a warrant has been issued for their arrest.*

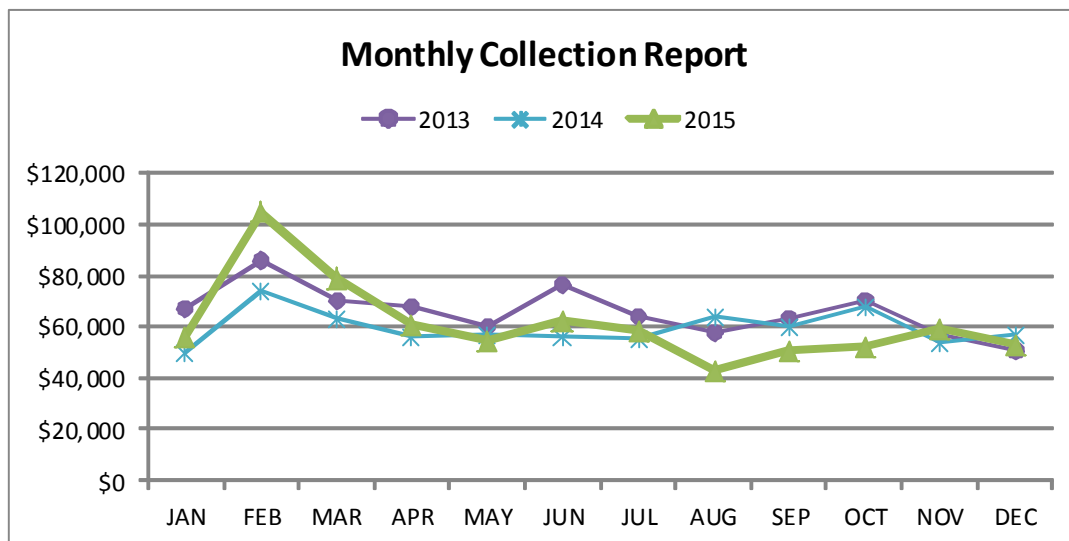
*Probation Statistics*

# COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

## Collection of Revenue as a Result of Collection Activity

MONTH	2013	2014	2015
JAN	\$66,898	\$50,251	\$55,983
FEB	\$85,496	\$74,026	\$104,414
MAR	\$70,527	\$63,319	\$78,784
APR	\$67,971	\$56,245	\$60,856
MAY	\$59,862	\$56,978	\$54,512
JUN	\$76,380	\$56,168	\$62,562
JUL	\$63,921	\$55,295	\$58,258
AUG	\$58,172	\$63,686	\$42,825
SEP	\$63,434	\$60,125	\$50,985
OCT	\$70,533	\$68,174	\$51,959
NOV	\$56,890	\$54,160	\$59,166
DEC	<u>\$50,781</u>	<u>\$56,748</u>	<u>\$53,017</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$790,866</b>	<b>\$715,174</b>	<b>\$735,336</b>

*Collections Report*



# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Financial Report General Fund Revenue - Budget

REVENUE	BUDGET	RECEIVED	% BUD
<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN</b>			
State Judges Supplement	\$91,448	\$91,448	100.00%
Drunk/Drugged Driving Asst.	\$26,000	\$35,184	134.80%
Juror Reimbursement	<u>\$6,500</u>	<u>\$4,880</u>	<u>75.08%</u>
	<b>\$123,948</b>	<b>\$131,513</b>	<b>106.10%</b>
<b>CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC</b>			
Court Costs	\$1,115,000	\$1,031,059	92.47%
Ordinance Fines & Costs	\$15,000	\$13,247	88.31%
No Proof of Insurance Fee	\$25,000	\$33,924	135.70%
Bond Forfeitures	\$25,000	\$22,300	89.20%
Crime Victim Rights Fee	<u>\$310,000</u>	<u>\$301,288</u>	<u>97.19%</u>
	<b>\$1,490,000</b>	<b>\$1,401,817</b>	<b>94.08%</b>
<b>COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY</b>			
Attorney Reimbursement	<b>\$90,000</b>	<b>\$68,845</b>	<b>76.49%</b>
<b>PROBATION</b>			
Probation Oversight	\$30,000	\$13,311	44.37%
Screening & Assessment Fee	\$2,000	\$1,612	80.58%
Presentence Fee	<u>\$210,000</u>	<u>\$180,376</u>	<u>85.89%</u>
	<b>\$242,000</b>	<b>\$195,299</b>	<b>80.70%</b>
<b>CIVIL</b>			
Civil Fees	<b>\$214,800</b>	<b>\$200,571</b>	<b>93.38%</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Miscellaneous Fees	<b>\$3,250</b>	<b>\$3,312</b>	<b>101.91%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,163,998</b>	<b>\$2,001,356</b>	<b>92.48%</b>

Revenue - Budget

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Financial Report General Fund Revenue - Comparison

REVENUE	2014	2015	15-14 % DIFF
<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN</b>			
State Judges Supplement	\$91,448	\$91,448	0.00%
Drunk/Drugged Driving Asst.	\$27,729	\$35,184	30.41%
Juror Reimbursement	<u>\$5,984</u>	<u>\$4,880</u>	<b>-18.44%</b>
	<b>\$125,161</b>	<b>\$131,513</b>	<b>5.91%</b>
<b>CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC</b>			
Court Costs	\$987,084	\$1,031,059	4.46%
Crime Victim Rights Fee	\$280,958	\$13,247	<b>-3.23%</b>
No Proof of Insurance Fee	\$31,365	\$33,924	8.16%
Bond Forfeitures	\$9,575	\$22,300	132.90%
Ordinance Fines and Costs	<u>\$280,958</u>	<u>\$301,288</u>	<u>7.24%</u>
	<b>\$1,322,670</b>	<b>\$1,401,817</b>	<b>5.98%</b>
<b>COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY</b>			
Attorney Reimbursement	<b>\$96,629</b>	<b>\$68,845</b>	<b>-28.75%</b>
<b>PROBATION</b>			
Probation Oversight	\$209,927	\$180,376	<b>-14.08%</b>
Screening & Assessment Fee	\$32,349	\$13,311	<b>-58.85%</b>
Presentence Fee	<u>\$2,895</u>	<u>\$1,612</u>	<b>-44.34%</b>
	<b>\$245,171</b>	<b>\$195,299</b>	<b>-20.34%</b>
<b>CIVIL</b>			
Civil Fees	<b>\$199,854</b>	<b>\$200,571</b>	<b>0.36%</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Miscellaneous Fees	<b>\$2,797</b>	<b>\$3,312</b>	<b>18.41%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,992,282</b>	<b>\$2,002,404</b>	<b>0.51%</b>

Revenue - Comparison

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Financial Report Expense - Budget

EXPENSES	BUDGET	EXPENDED	15-14 DIFF	15-14 % EXP
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>				
	\$1,749,014	\$1,742,084	\$6,930	99.60%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by court)</i>				
	\$225,640	\$209,788	\$15,852	92.97%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by other departments)</i>				
	\$203,890	\$163,962	\$39,928	80.42%
<b>TRANSFERS OUT/LIBRARY</b>	\$5,236	\$2,238	\$2,998	42.74%
<b>TRIAL EXPENSES</b> <i>(constitutional expenses related to trial)</i>				
Ct Appointed Attorney Ex-	\$121,000	\$158,313	(\$37,313)	130.84%
Jury Expense	\$12,000	\$9,359	\$2,641	77.99%
Interpreter Expense	<u>\$6,000</u>	<u>\$5,331</u>	<u>\$669</u>	<u>88.85%</u>
	<b>\$139,000</b>	<b>\$173,003</b>	<b>(\$34,003)</b>	<b>124.46%</b>
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT COURT EXP</b>	<b>\$2,322,780</b>	<b>\$2,291,075</b>	<b>\$31,705</b>	<b>98.64%</b>

Expense - Budget



# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Financial Report Expense - Comparison

EXPENSES	2014	2015	15-14 DIFF	15-14 % DIFF
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>				
	\$1,585,830	\$1,742,084	\$156,254	9.85%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by court)</i>				
	\$201,424	\$209,788	\$8,364	4.15%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by other departments)</i>				
	\$165,525	\$163,962	(\$1,563)	-0.94%
<b>TRANSFERS OUT/LIBRARY</b>	\$1,778	\$2,238	\$460	25.87%
<b>TRIAL EXPENSES</b> <i>(constitutional expenses related to trial)</i>				
Ct Appointed Attorney Ex- pense	\$170,232	\$158,313	(\$11,919)	-7.00%
Jury Expense	\$14,231	\$9,359	(\$4,872)	-34.24%
Interpreter Expense	<u>\$6,586</u>	<u>\$5,331</u>	(\$1,255)	-19.06%
	<b>\$191,049</b>	<b>\$173,003</b>	<b>(\$18,046)</b>	<b>-9.45%</b>
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT COURT EXP</b>	<b>\$2,145,606</b>	<b>\$2,291,075</b>	<b>\$145,469</b>	<b>6.78%</b>

Expense-Comparison

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Financial Report Sobriety Court

EXPENSES	BUDGET	EXPENDED	DIFF	% EXP
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>	\$168,525	\$167,104	\$1,421	99.16%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by court)</i>	\$104,263	\$78,942	\$25,321	75.71%
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT COURT EXP</b>	<b>\$272,788</b>	<b>\$246,046</b>	<b>\$26,742</b>	<b>90.20%</b>

EXPENSES	2014	2015	15-14 DIFF	% DIFF
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>	\$176,239	\$167,104	(\$9,135)	-5.18%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by court)</i>	\$90,992	\$78,942	(\$12,050)	-13.24%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by other departments)</i>	\$384	\$0	(\$384)	-100.00%
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT COURT EXP</b>	<b>\$267,615</b>	<b>\$246,046</b>	<b>(\$21,569)</b>	<b>-8.06%</b>

REVENUE	
SCAO Grant	\$125,090
Sobriety Court Fees	\$45,934
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$171,024</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$267,615</b>
<b>COST TO COUNTY</b>	<b>\$142,525</b>

Expense - Budget Comparison

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Financial Report Mental Health Court

EXPENSES	BUDGET	EXPENDED	DIFF	% EXP
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>				
	\$118,031	\$117,498	\$533	99.55%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by court)</i>				
	\$215,226	\$220,380	(\$5,154)	102.39%
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT COURT EXP</b>	<b>\$333,257</b>	<b>\$337,878</b>	<b>(\$4,621)</b>	<b>101.39%</b>

EXPENSES	2014	2015	15-14 DIFF	% DIFF
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>				
	\$99,767	\$117,498	\$17,731	17.77%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by court)</i>				
	\$188,072	\$220,380	\$32,308	17.18%
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(controlled by other departments)</i>				
	\$185	\$0	(\$185)	-100.00%
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT COURT EXP</b>	<b>\$288,024</b>	<b>\$337,878</b>	<b>\$49,854</b>	<b>17.31%</b>

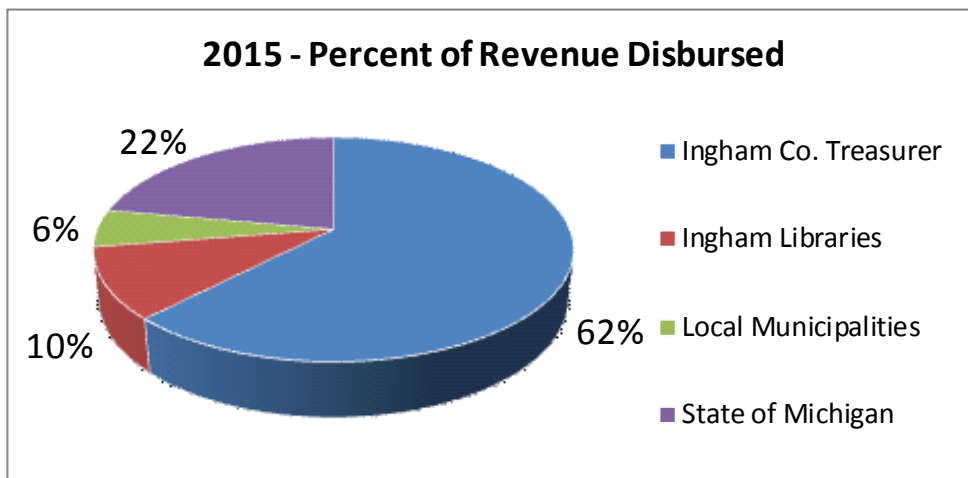
REVENUE - GRANT MONEY	\$299,352
EXPENSES	\$337,878
<b>COST TO COUNTY</b>	<b>\$38,526</b>

Expense - Budget Comparison

## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Financial Report Disbursement of Revenue Collected by the Court

AGENCY	2014	2015	15-14 DIFF
Ingham County Treasurer	\$2,017,310	\$2,045,195	\$27,885
Ingham Libraries	\$286,011	\$336,233	\$50,222
Local Municipalities	\$199,217	\$178,533	-\$20,634
State of Michigan	\$833,834	\$726,532	-\$106,763
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,335,834</b>	<b>\$3,286,544</b>	<b>-\$49,290</b>



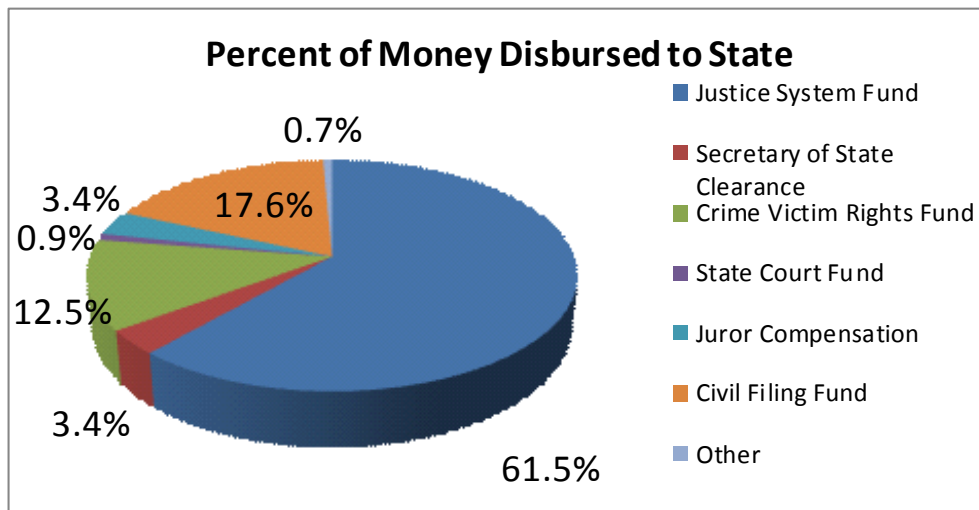
*Disbursement of Revenue*

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2014 Financial Report Disbursement of Revenue to the State of Michigan

REVENUE CATEGORY	15-14		
	2014	2015	DIFF
Justice System Fund	\$493,700	\$446,627	(\$47,073)
Secretary of State Clearance	\$26,803	\$24,654	(\$2,149)
Crime Victim Rights Fund	\$112,380	\$91,135	(\$21,245)
State Court Fund	\$10,130	\$6,720	(\$3,410)
Juror Compensation	\$27,381	\$24,862	(\$2,519)
Civil Filing Fund	\$161,004	\$127,556	(\$33,448)
Other	\$2,436	\$4,978	\$2,542
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$833,834</b>	<b>\$726,532</b>	<b>(\$107,303)</b>

*Disbursement To State*

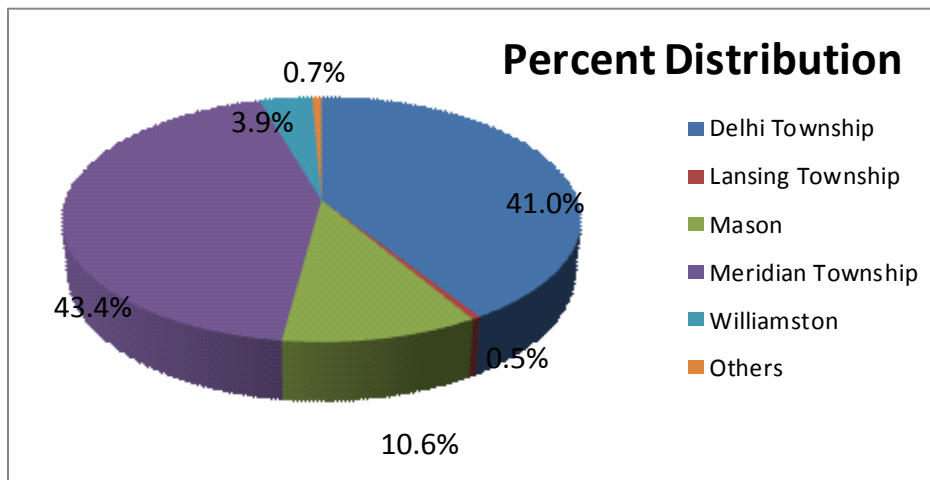


## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Financial Report Disbursement of Revenue to Municipalities From Fines & Costs Assessed

AGENCY	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Diff</u>
Alaiedon Township	\$8	\$0	(\$8)
Delhi Township	\$47,639	\$48,822	\$1,183
Lansing Township	\$2,084	\$561	(\$1,523)
Leslie	\$46	\$183	\$137
Mason	\$11,479	\$12,626	\$1,148
Meridian Township	\$58,774	\$51,655	(\$7,120)
Stockbridge Twp	\$188	\$394	\$206
Onondaga Twp	\$0	\$99	\$99
Stockbridge Vill	\$207	\$207	\$0
Webberville	\$147	\$9	(\$138)
Williamston	<u>\$6,496</u>	<u>\$4,586</u>	(\$1,910)
	\$127,068	\$119,143	(\$7,926)

*Disbursement To Municipalities*



## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Financial Report Disbursement of Revenue to Agencies From Cost Recovery Assessments

AGENCY	2014	2015	DIFF
Delhi Prosecuting Attorney	\$1,997	\$2,399	\$402
East Lansing Police Dept.	\$161	\$100	(\$61)
Ingham Co. Sheriff's Office	\$29,832	\$26,354	(\$3,478)
Ingham Co. Prosecutor's Office	\$16,594	\$15,140	(\$1,454)
Lansing TWP Attorney's Office	\$0	\$315	\$315
Lansing TWP Police Dept.	\$4,658	\$4,944	\$286
Mason City Attorney's Office	\$520	\$977	\$457
Mason Police Dept.	\$1,821	\$2,575	\$754
Meridian TWP Prosecutor	\$3,223	\$1,711	(\$1,512)
Meridian TWP Police Dept.	\$10,919	\$9,509	(\$1,410)
Michigan State Police	\$0	\$200	\$200
MSU Campus Police Dept.	\$1,145	\$811	(\$334)
Stockbridge Police Dept.	\$250	\$200	(\$50)
Williamston Police Dept.	\$1,028	\$413	(\$615)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$72,148</b>	<b>\$65,648</b>	<b>(\$6,500)</b>

*Cost recovery is allowable by statute for specified offenses.*

*Disbursement To Municipalities*

## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

#### EXPAND ROLE AS AN INTEGRATED MEMBER OF THE INGHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY

WAS THE GOAL MET? [XXX] Yes [ ] No [ ] Outside of Control

##### OBJECTIVES:

- Utilize at least one probation intern during 2015.  
The department utilized two probation interns.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [XXX] Yes [ ] No [ ] Outside of Control

- Utilize at least three law students as legal interns (preferably one per semester).  
Three law students completed internships.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [XXX] Yes [ ] No [ ] Outside of Control

- Hold four Court to Schools programs at high schools within the court's jurisdiction.  
Court to schools was conducted at the following high schools: Holt H.S., Mason H.S., Okemos H.S., and Williamston H.S.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [XXX] Yes [ ] No [ ] Outside of Control

- Promote community awareness of specialty courts.  
The court utilized the media, through press releases and media events to promote specialty courts. A specialty court presentation was given the Law & Courts Committee of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [XXX] Yes [ ] No [ ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*



## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

#### CONTINUE TO ENHANCE COURT SECURITY MEASURES

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

#### OBJECTIVES

- Conduct court security meetings every other month or as needed.  
The Security Committee met 5 times during the year.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [     ] Yes [ XXX ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Complete video surveillance project.  
Video surveillance project was completed in December.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Continue to meet with Ingham County Sheriff Office to discuss an alternative weapons screening station/plan.  
The administration of the court continued the conversation with the Ingham County Sheriff department regarding the contracting of deputies to staff the public entrance. Continue to meet with Ingham County Sheriff Office to discuss an alternative weapons screening station/plan.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

### EXPAND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

#### OBJECTIVES:

- Continue to explore other use of technology where applicable.  
The administration court moved forward with the concept of providing online resolution to traffic matters. The administration of the court continued the testing of electronic fax software.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Execute Project Service Agreement with JIS for MiCourt case management software and provide progress reports to the Administrative Team.  
MiCourt Project Service Agreement was executed during 2015.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Develop a plan for phasing out faxed documents.  
The court is continuing to move forward with an e-warrants system. T  
The backup plan includes the scanning and emailing of a search warrant or the issuance of the search warrant in person at the residence of the judge or magistrate.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Hold semi-annual meetings with Director of Innovation/Technology department to discuss current projects, technological trends and available resources.  
The administration the court met with the Innovation/Technology Department in March and September.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

#### PROMOTE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF EMPLOYEES

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

##### OBJECTIVES:

- Continue with cross-training plan for new employees and existing employees where applicable.  
Newest employee was cross-trained in the traffic, criminal, and probation divisions.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- 90% of employees to attend a minimum of 8 hours of training/personnel development.  
100% of employees received a minimum of 5 hours of training. Administrative personnel and probation personnel participated in several hours of training. The court did not meet the target of 90% of employees attending 8 hours of training.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [     ] Yes [ XXX ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Conduct annual in-service training program.  
In-service training program (Understanding Work Culture) was conducted in December.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

### MAXIMIZE EFFECTIVE USE OF PROBATION PROGRAMS

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

#### OBJECTIVES:

- Conduct and review bi-annual audit of probation caseload.  
*Audits were conducted.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Monthly monitoring of probation caseload  
*Due to workload and time constraints formal monitoring was not conducted each month.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [     ] Yes [ XXX ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Conduct review of probation resources to determine realistic caseload numbers.  
*Caseload reduction plan developed and implemented.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Secure funding for Sobriety Court and Mental Health Court in FY 2014/2015  
*Sobriety Court received \$135,000 in grant funding from the State Court Administrative Office. Mental Health Court received \$364,650 in grant funding from the State Court Administrative Office.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

#### IMPROVE INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

##### OBJECTIVES:

- Conduct voluntary staff meetings in January, March, May, July, September, & November.  
*Staff meetings were conducted on the scheduled months.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Publish monthly newsletter, "The Informant," in February, April, June, August, October, & December.  
*Due to lack of reader support, the newsletter was discontinued early in 2015.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [     ] Yes [ XXX ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Provide a minimum of one presentation and/or update on court activity to the Law and Courts Committee.  
*Mental Health Court presentation was made to the Law & Courts Committee.*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Commission Focus Group to examine ways to improve internal communications.  
*Focus Group continues to examine means for more effective communications*

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

#### CONTINUE INDIGENT DEFENSE REFORM PROGRAM

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

#### OBJECTIVES:.

- Request funding during the 2016 budget process to continue the First Appearance Project in 2016.  
The Court received an additional \$65,000 in funding from the County to have attorneys represent defendants at arraignment.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Hold meetings to review the current project and make logistical changes to develop a more efficient system.  
Various meetings were held with the court appointed attorneys who were appointed to represent defendants at arraignment.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

## OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### 2015 Strategic Planning Goals

#### EXAMINE MEANS TO IMPROVE THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES

WAS THE GOAL MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

#### OBJECTIVES:

- Conduct a systematic review of waiting time to determine cause(s) and explore possible changes to reduce waiting time.  
MSU College of Law students conducted a Kaizen event to examine the self-represented litigant in Landlord/Tenant cases. A part of the study examined time spent waiting. The conducted a public satisfaction survey in November - questions included time spent waiting for services.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [ XXX ] Yes [     ] No [     ] Outside of Control

- Determine the feasibility of a public address system to allow clerical staff to notify a litigant or a member of the public that the clerk needs to address the individual.  
Issue to be addressed early in 2016.

WAS THE OBJECTIVE MET? [     ] Yes [ XXX ] No [     ] Outside of Control

*Strategic Planning*

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2015 PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

In November the court conducted a weeklong public satisfaction survey. The surveys were sent to the State Court Administrative Office for compiling. The results of the survey are listed below:

### 1) I was able to get my court business done in a reasonable amount of time today.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		Court 2015	
5 Strongly Agree	86	57%	87	52%	89	52%
4 Agree	34	23%	49	29%	42	24%
3 Neutral	25	17%	16	10%	24	14%
2 Disagree	5	3%	7	4%	8	5%
1 Strongly Disagree	1	1%	9	5%	9	5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>151</b>		<b>168</b>		<b>172</b>	
Score	4.2		4.2		4.1	
NA - Not Applicable	2		3		4	
No Response	1		1		1	

### 2) I was treated with courtesy and respect.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		Court 2015	
5 Strongly Agree	105	70%	119	72%	107	63%
4 Agree	39	26%	33	20%	54	32%
3 Neutral	5	3%	9	5%	4	2%
2 Disagree	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
1 Strongly Disagree	1	1%	3	2%	5	3%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>151</b>		<b>165</b>		<b>171</b>	
Score	4.6		4.6		4.5	
NA - Not Applicable	1		2		2	
No Response	2		5		4	



# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

Questions 3 and 4 were directed to persons who attended a hearing or trial.

### 3) The way the case was handled was fair

	Court 2013		Court 2014		Court 2015	
5 Strongly Agree	26	52%	53	52%	40	49%
4 Agree	15	30%	28	28%	21	26%
3 Neutral	4	8%	13	13%	17	21%
2 Disagree	2	4%	6	6%	1	1%
1 Strongly Disagree	3	6%	1	1%	3	4%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>50</b>		<b>101</b>		<b>82</b>	
Score		4.2		4.2		4.1
NA - Not Applicable	3		27		42	
No Response	101		44		53	

### 4) The judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		Court 2015	
5 Strongly Agree	26	58%	55	58%	46	59%
4 Agree	13	29%	28	29%	19	24%
3 Neutral	4	9%	10	11%	9	12%
2 Disagree	1	2%	0	0%	2	3%
1 Strongly Disagree	1	2%	2	2%	2	3%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>45</b>		<b>95</b>		<b>78</b>	
Score		4.4		4.4		4.3
NA - Not Applicable	5		30		42	
No Response	104		47		57	

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

Questions 5 and 6 were directed to persons who were a party to the case.

### 5) The outcome in my case was favorable to me.

	Court 2013		Court 2014		Court 2015	
5 Strongly Agree	17	40%	34	37%	29	37%
4 Agree	9	21%	24	26%	16	21%
3 Neutral	11	26%	22	24%	22	28%
2 Disagree	3	7%	7	8%	5	5%
1 Strongly Disagree	3	7%	4	4%	6	6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>91</b>		<b>78</b>	
Score		3.8		3.8		3.7
NA - Not Applicable	6		34		49	
No Response	105		47		50	

### 6) As I leave the court. I understand what happened in my case

	Court 2013		Court 2014		Court 2015	
5 Strongly Agree	23	53%	55	58%	46	53%
4 Agree	14	33%	29	31%	26	30%
3 Neutral	5	12%	7	7%	8	9%
2 Disagree	0	0%	3	3%	2	2%
1 Strongly Disagree	1	2%	1	1%	4	5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>95</b>		<b>86</b>	
Score		4.3		4.4		4.3
NA - Not Applicable	6		29		41	
No Response	105		48		50	

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

Questions 7 - 9 were directed to all respondents.

### 7) What type of case brought you to the courthouse today? (select all that apply)

	Court 2014		Court 2015	
Civil matter	38	22%	26	25%
Criminal/probation	61	35%	64	37%
Drug/sobriety court	19	11%	16	9%
File papers	2	1%	2	1%
Get information	3	2%	3	2%
Landlord/Tenant	<i>DNA</i>	0%	11	6%
Make a payment	9	5%	6	3%
Small claims	4	2%	4	2%
Traffic/Ticket	29	17%	43	25%
Other	15	9%	16	9%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>172</b>		<b>175</b>	
No Response	2		2	

DNA - The court did not include Landlord/Tenant as a category in 2015

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

### 8) Who are you? (select all that apply)

	Court 2014		Court 2015	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Party (Plaintiff/Defendant)	106	62%	109	65%
Agency Worker	3	2%	1	1%
Attorney/prosecutor	24	14%	13	8%
Family/friend of party to case	15	9%	17	10%
Juror	0	0%	0	0%
Witness	1	1%	2	1%
Other	18	10%	27	16%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>172</b>		<b>168</b>	
No Response	5		9	

### 9) What is your gender?

	Court 2014		Court 2015	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Male	108	63%	94	54%
Female	60	35%	78	45%
Other	0	0%	2	1%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>168</b>		<b>174</b>	
No Response	2		3	

# OFFICE of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

### 9) How do you identify yourself? (select all that apply)

	Court 2014		Court 2015	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
American Indian / Alaska Nat.	1	1%	8	5%
Asian	1	1%	4	2%
Multiracial/biracial	2	2%	4	2%
Black/African American	8	8%	29	17%
Hispanic/Latino	7	7%	10	6%
White/Caucasian	85	81%	129	74%
Other	1	1%	6	2%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>105</b>		<b>175</b>	
No Response	67		2	

# COURT DIRECTORY

## JUDGES

Honorable Thomas P. Boyd, Chief Judge - Term Expires 12/31/2020  
Honorable Donald L. Allen, Jr. - Term Expires 12/21/2016

## ADMINISTRATION

Michael J. Dillon, Court Administrator (7.5)  
Kathy Fajardo, Administrative Services Coordinator (40)  
Pamela Pfeifer, Court Services Supervisor (7)  
Jacquelynn Derrig, Collections Officer (1)

## JUDICIAL SUPPORT

Mark Blumer, Magistrate (2.5)  
Elaine Stocking, Judicial Assistant - Judge Boyd (15)  
Marty Waugh, Judicial Assistant - Judge Allen (16)  
Donovan Motley, Court Officer - Judge Allen (1.5)  
Jared Knudsen, P/T Court Officer (1.5)  
Dep. Tom Beeson (contracted ICSO Court Officer—Judge Boyd)  
Dep. Dave Biergans (contracted ICSO Court Officer—Judge Boyd)

## CIVIL DIVISION

Renee Smith, Court Clerk (20.5)  
Teresa Ballance, Court Clerk (25)

## CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION

Criminal Division  
Barb Pasch, Court Clerk (11)  
Irene Bost, Court Clerk (16.5) *retired 12/2015*  
Katherine O'Shesky, Court Clerk (1.5)

*Court Directory*

( ) denotes years of service with the court

# COURT DIRECTORY

## CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION

### Traffic Division

Joan Nelson, Court Clerk (18)

Cindy Smith, Court Clerk (15.5)

Erin Jackson, Court Clerk (5) *(retired 10/2016)*

Maya Hairston-Moore *(hired 10/2015)*

## PROBATION DIVISION

Da'Neese Wells, Chief Probation Officer (12)

Linda Burkholder, Probation Officer (22.5)

Eva Higgins, Probation Officer (12) *Retired 7/2015*

Emily Fabry, Probation Officer (9)

Amy Iseler, Probation Officer/Assessment Specialist (6.5) *(resigned 4/2015)*

Jesse Besonen, Probation Officer (6)

Alan Spencer, Probation Officer (6)

Lindsay Kruger, Probation Officer *(hired 5/2015)*

Matthew Weiland, Probation Officer *(hired 6/2015)*

Rikki Anger, Probation Clerk *(hired 12/2015)*

*Court Directory*

MICHAEL J. DILLON  
COURT ADMINISTRATOR



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
55<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
700 BUHL AVENUE MASON, MICHIGAN 48854  
517-676-8400  
dc.ingham.org

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To all Interested Parties:

The 55<sup>th</sup> District Court plays an integral role in the administration of justice in Ingham County. We at the court promote equality and fairness. We acknowledge that public trust and confidence are important aspects in maintaining the integrity of the judicial system. Hence, we continue to focus on the delivery of professional services to all users of the court.

We recognize that an informed public helps to build public trust and confidence in a public entity. Consequently, this report is an attempt to provide our stakeholders with a summary of district court activity during the year of 2015.

The administration of the court recognizes the hard work exemplified by our employees. Their dedication and effort have contributed significantly to the efficient operation of the 55<sup>th</sup> District Court. The administration of the court would like to express our gratitude to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and Mr. Timothy Dolehanty, County Controller/Administrator, for their continued support of 55<sup>th</sup> District Court operations.

We will continue to strive to be a model district court in the State of Michigan and would like to thank all who have contributed to our success thus far.

Michael J. Dillon  
Court Administrator