



**FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT  
COLUMBUS, OHIO  
ONE HUNDRED [and] Third  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2018**

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Letter from Clerk Lori M. Tyack

Welcome to the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Court and Clerk's Office. As your Clerk, my commitment is to strategically improve daily operations, effectively collect debt owed the court, and vigilantly monitor applicable legislative changes. My office works daily with other agencies of the criminal justice system and the community to ensure access to justice and to promote public trust and confidence. This report reflects the dedication and commitment to service demonstrated by the staff of the Clerk's Office and the Court.

New case filings for 2018 totaled 182,716 compared to 180,299 in 2017 for an increase of 1.34%. Costs, fines, and fees collected equaled \$41.6M compared to \$40.3M in 2017 for an increase of 3.22%. The total amount referred to collections was \$4.7M, a decrease of 14.5% over 2017. Overall collection of court-ordered fines and costs through the efforts of four collection agencies increased by 3.76%. The collection of court-ordered bond forfeiture judgments increased approximately 22.7% from 2017 to 2018.

Changes in state laws, local court rules, and new social initiatives continued to affect processes and procedures in the Clerk's Office through the end of 2018. A few highlights include:

**House Bill 33 – LEADS printout may be provided to a defendant in a traffic or criminal case upon request.**

**Marcy's Law – implemented changes regarding new victims' rights laws. Ensured BCI Reporting compliance per Governor's Executive Order 2018-11K and participated in the 2018 Ohio Supreme Court NICS Survey.**

**House Bill 49 - Participated in a six-month pilot program authorizing the Ohio Attorney General to contract with a private vendor to notify background check companies of a case expungement or sealing of record. Of the 1,710 applications filed, 303 applicants participated in the program.**

**HB 66 – Allowed defendants with multiple convictions to file an application for record sealing.**

**Ohio Pooled Collateral System – a new requirement mandated by the Ohio State Treasurer to pool collateral to manage and protect public funds.**

**Partnered with the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation to sponsor a Driver's License Clinic. The Clinic was held at the Franklin County Court Complex. Program involved multiple agencies assisting 150+ participants with driver's license suspension and reinstatement issues.**



## Letter from Clerk Lori M. Tyack

**Participated in Six (6) Eviction Workshops sponsored by Columbus City Council. Worked with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles to determine and implement changes needed for improvement of the Certificate of Judgments issued by the Court.**

**Contracted with a new payment vendor, E-Pay Plus, to accept filing fees for electronically filed documents.**

**Ohio Community Supervision Service Project – Collaborated with Court Probation and Step Mobile to integrate data for a new statewide probation system.**

**Public Performance Partners, Inc. – Recommendations Bail Practices Review – Provided statistical data**

**In May, the Clerk's Office created an automated telephone message process using our current telephone system, to remind individuals of their scheduled arraignment hearing. More than 50,000 phone calls were made during a seven month period. In 80% of the successful calls, a message was played for a live person or left on an answering machine. Only 8.7% of those contacted failed to appear in court and an arrest warrant was issued. Of those without contact numbers, 12.6% failed to appear and a warrant was issued. This data suggests that by making contact at least one time prior to the hearing, results in a 31% decrease of defendants who fail to appear. We plan to continue this effort to reduce the number of arrest warrants being issued for failure to appear.**

**As in years past, the Clerk's Office has continued to partner with Ohio's colleges to provide internships and volunteer opportunities offering real-time experience to individuals entering the workforce. Participating colleges included Columbus State (Paralegal Program), Urbana University, John Carroll University, Ohio University, and Otterbein University.**

**The City of Columbus contracted with Plante & Moran, PLLC to perform our annual audit. A sampling of accounting/financial transactions, file integrity, checks and balances of duties performed and personnel records including time sheets were inspected. The Clerk's Office incurred zero infractions.**

**Thank you for taking the time to read our 2018 Annual Report.**

## OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT

The Clerk's Office is entrusted with the responsibility of processing and archiving all Court records in accordance with file retention requirements established by the Supreme Court of Ohio. Additionally, the Clerk's Office calculates and fully details all financial transactions involving the Court. The Clerk's Office compiles and publishes an *Annual Report* each year that details the various categories of Court case filings and all financial transactions connected with all Court cases and statistically reports all relevant data regarding the same.



**Lori M. Tyack, Clerk**

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Franklin County Municipal Clerk of Court's Office is to accurately maintain and safeguard court records, collect and disburse public funds while promoting equal access, fairness, and transparency.

### VISION STATEMENT

To provide access to justice through competent customer service, communication, and community outreach.

## **HISTORY OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT**

**In 1916, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio created the Columbus Municipal Court. Prior to this time, the court operated under the Justice of the Peace System. On July 5, 1955, the Columbus Municipal Court was given countywide jurisdiction and, in 1968, the State Legislature changed the name of the court to the Franklin County Municipal Court.**

**The court has two (2) judicial divisions. The General Division operates with fourteen (14) judges, and six (6) magistrates. The Environmental Division, which began operations in 1992, has one (1) judge. In addition to performing all of the duties within the general division, the Environmental Division also has exclusive jurisdiction over criminal and civil actions to enforce building, housing, health, or safety codes applicable to premises intended for use as a place of human habitation. The Clerk of Court, serving both divisions, has a myriad of both financial and case management duties, as prescribed by law. The terms for the judges and the clerk are for a period of six (6) years.**

**The Court's administrative functions are overseen by Court Administration. Among these services are the Office of the Jury Commissioner, the Office of the Assignment Commissioner, Probation Services, the Small Claims Division, the Court Reporters, Court Security, the Service Bailiffs, the Courtroom Bailiffs, the Language Interpretation program, the Vehicle Immobilization Program, Legal Research, the Appointed Counsel/Volunteer Coordinator's Office, and Specialized Dockets.**

**In 1979, the court moved from its facilities in City Hall to the Franklin County Municipal Court building, located at 375 South High Street. Currently, the court has two (2) traffic-arraignment courtrooms, two (2) criminal-arraignment courtrooms, two (2) record hearing courtrooms, one duty courtroom and sixteen (16) jury courtrooms in the General Division. The Environmental Division operates with one (1) courtroom for its arraignment sessions, as well as its record and jury trials.**

**The Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk's Office is divided into several divisions. The divisions occupying the first four floors of the Municipal Court Building are: Clerk Administration, Accounting/Finance, Audit and Internal Controls, Civil, Collections, Criminal/Traffic, and the Traffic Violations Bureau/Communications. The Office of Information Services is located of the 16th floor.**

## FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

The Franklin County Municipal Court has jurisdiction over traffic citations, criminal misdemeanor charges and civil case filings regarding disputes that range up to an amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00), as well as actions regarding building, health, housing or safety codes.

The Franklin County Municipal Court has county and city jurisdiction (reaching into Delaware and Fairfield County) and is divided into two (2) Divisions. The General Division is served by fourteen (14) Municipal Judges and the Environmental Division is served by one (1) Municipal Judge. Seven (7) Magistrates also serve the Franklin County Municipal Court. Judges serve for a term of six (6) years.

### 2018 Administrative and Presiding Judge

Honorable Mark A. Hummer

### General Division Judges

Honorable James E. Green  
 Honorable H. William Pollitt, Jr.  
 Honorable Ted Barrows  
 Honorable Paul M. Herbert  
 Honorable Amy Salerno  
 Honorable Andrea Peoples  
 Honorable David B. Tyack

Honorable James P. O'Grady  
 Honorable Cindi Morehart  
 Honorable Cynthia L. Ebner  
 Honorable Eileen Y. Paley  
 Honorable Jodi L. Thomas  
 Honorable Jarrod Skinner

### Environmental Division Judge

Honorable Daniel R. Hawkins

### 2018 Administrative Magistrate

Honorable David S. Jump

### Magistrates

Honorable Denise Waddy  
 Honorable Antonio Paat  
 Honorable Kirk Lindsey

Honorable Danielle Sparks  
 Honorable Ben Hoelzel  
 Honorable Gene Edwards

### Clerk of Court

Honorable Lori M. Tyack

### Court Administrator

Emily Shaw

# FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK OF COURT MANAGEMENT STAFF 12.31.2018

<b>Lori M. Tyack</b>	<b>Clerk of Court</b>
<b>Obie Lucas</b>	<b>Chief Deputy Clerk</b>
<b>Marilynn Stephens</b>	<b>Executive Director, Public Relations</b>
<b>Jamie Bryan</b>	<b>Director, Human Resources</b>
<b>Roxanne Kelley</b>	<b>Director, Human Resources 07.23.18</b>
<b>Michelle LaMarr</b>	<b>Administrator, Payroll and Benefits</b>
<b>Crystal Ross</b>	<b>Executive Director, Fiscal Administration</b>
<b>Ken Euman</b>	<b>Assistant Fiscal Administrator, Procurement</b>
<b>Susan Johnson</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>
<b>Jessica Clinger</b>	<b>Director, Civil Division</b>
<b>Mike Cherry</b>	<b>Director, Collections Program</b>
<b>Rhonda Ferguson</b>	<b>Director, Accounting/Finance Division; Treasurer</b>
<b>Heather Kean Ogle</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Accounting/Finance Division</b>
<b>LeeAnne Sheppard</b>	<b>Director, Audit and Internal Controls</b>
<b>Vickie Spivey</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Audit and Internal Controls</b>
<b>Ahmed Kasheer</b>	<b>Director, Office of Information Services</b>
<b>James Brad Laver</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Office of Information Services</b>
<b>Matt Pendy</b>	<b>Director, Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Laura Ricker</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Criminal/Traffic &amp; Courtroom Services Group</b>
<b>Sancha Young</b>	<b>Director, Traffic Violations Bureau/Communications</b>
<b>Debra Jones</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Traffic Violations Bureau</b>
<b>Lynda Clark</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Civil Division</b>
<b>Cynthia Kiener</b>	<b>Supervisor, Civil Division</b>
<b>James "Pete" Brim</b>	<b>Supervisor, Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Jerome Kemp</b>	<b>Supervisor, Criminal/Traffic Division, Telephones</b>
<b>Jessica Steenburgh</b>	<b>Supervisor, Criminal/Traffic Division, File Room</b>
<b>Mike Pizzurro</b>	<b>Supervisor, 2nd Shift Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Robyn Johnson</b>	<b>Supervisor, 3rd Shift Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Jeff Dever</b>	<b>Supervisor, Accounting/Finance Division, Civil</b>
<b>Kaleb Perry</b>	<b>Supervisor, Accounting/Finance Division, Criminal/Traffic</b>

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## MUNICIPAL CLERK OF COURT

### CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

#### Administrative Division

Executive Director, Public Relations

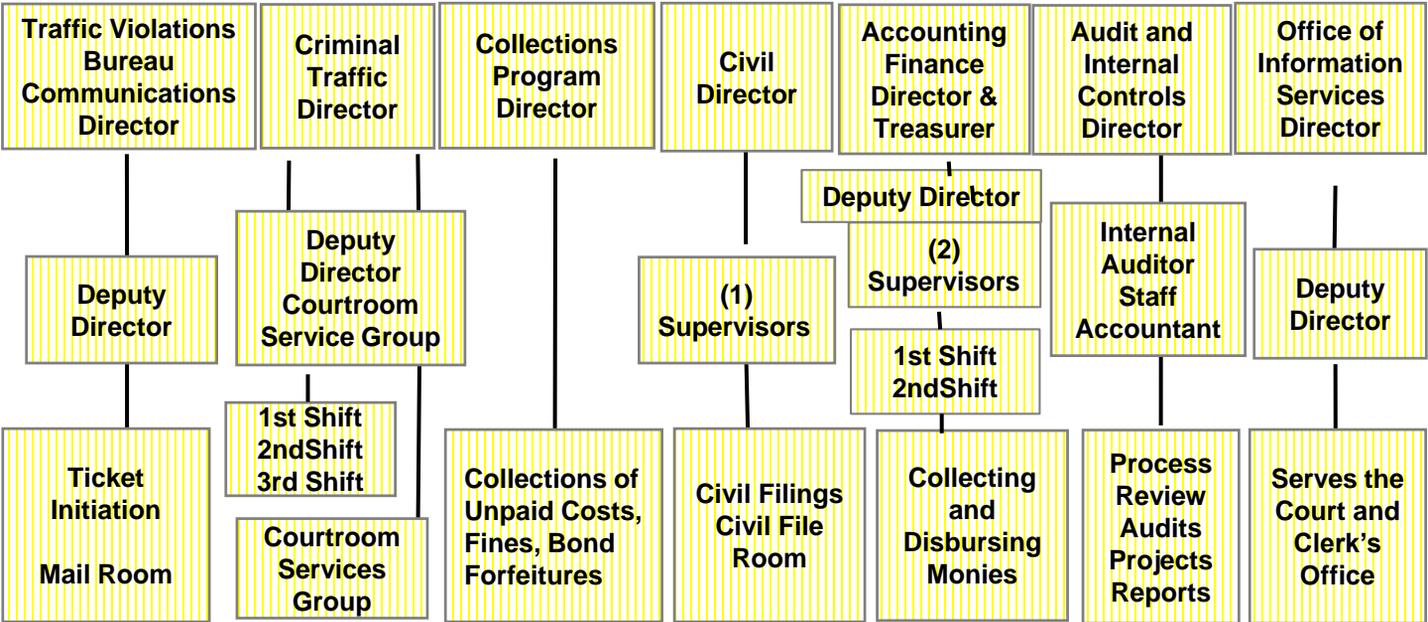
Executive Director, Fiscal Administration

Director, Human Resources

Administrator, Payroll & Benefits

Administrator, Procurement

Administrative Assistant



## Funding of the Franklin County Clerk's Office

### Municipal Court Clerk's Office 2018 General Fund

<b>Personnel Services</b>	<b>\$11,455,058</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>	<b>138,978</b>
<b>Services for Operations and Maintenance</b>	<b><u>806,038</u></b>
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>\$12,400,074</b>

### Municipal Court Clerk's Office 2018 Special Revenue Fund

<b>Personnel Services</b>	<b>\$ 306,428</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>	<b>91,000</b>
<b>Services for Operations and Maintenance</b>	<b>678,226</b>
<b>Debt Principal Payments</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Interest on City Debt</b>	<b><u>1,000</u></b>
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>\$ 1,116,655</b>

## **Clerk Administration Division**

**The Administrative Division of the Clerk's Office is comprised of the Office of the Clerk, Chief Deputy Clerk, Executive Director Public Relations, Executive Director Fiscal Administration, Director Human Resources, Administrator Payroll & Benefits, Administrator Procurement, and Administrative Assistant. This Division oversees the day to day operations of the Clerk's Office and is governed by directives as set forth in the Annual Budget and the Ohio Revised Code. Additionally, all new programs, contracts, projects, and grants are established and implemented within the Division. It conducts all public relations and internal communications for the Clerk's Office. Accomplishments for the Administration Division in 2018 include the following:**

- **Directed & guided projects, initiatives and process changes for the entire office**
- **Facilitated and/or participated in the following:**
  - **Courthouse to the Community**
  - **Drivers' License Reinstatement Clinic**
  - **Initiated court date robo-call reminders, and also identified text reminder application to reduce failures to appear in court**
  - **Environmental Court Open House**
  - **City Council Eviction Workshops**
- **Managed (6) six separate budgets totaling more than \$14.6M**
- **Prepared and processed Ordinances totaling \$781,290.00 – for approval by Columbus City Council**
- **Processed over 288 vendor contracts for materials, supplies, and services**

# Office of Information Services

## IT Mission Statement

The Office of Information Services provides services related to information technology to the Franklin County Municipal Court and Clerk's Office staff. This Division's responsibilities include: Maintaining a stable electronic work environment, collaborating with other staff to use information technology to better serve the Franklin County Municipal Court, identifying emerging technologies for the Court's investment in technology, and providing training to staff on the proper use of software programs and equipment. Accomplishments for OIS in 2018 are as follows:

- Upgraded to new computer cloning software to improve performance and hardware/software compatibility
- Implemented auto dialer notifications for arraignment appearances using existing interactive client system
- Upgraded Linux Server infrastructure
- Improved search accuracy for CPD warrant verification service for arrest warrants
- Provided IT assistance for the 2018 Driver's License Reinstatement Clinic
- Upgraded Pix Firewall
- Completed Phase 1 domain migration. Windows Server 2008 to Windows Server 2012 Datacenter
- Collaborated on long-term projects with the following:
  - Ohio Department of Public Safety
  - Equivant/CourtView
  - State of Ohio
  - City of Columbus
  - Franklin County
  - Ohio Central School System
  - Ohio Bureau of Identification
  - Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles
  - Public Performance Partners, Inc.

## **Audit and Internal Controls Division**

**The Audit and Internal Controls Division is responsible for minimizing erroneous data through a system of real time process assurance and monitoring, audit reporting and quality management. The objective is to achieve operational effectiveness and efficiency, assure reliable and accurate financial reporting in compliance with state and local laws, regulations and policies.**

**The main purpose of the division is to help direct and protect resources of the office while improving internal processes and services that the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk's Office provides to its customer base, the Court, law enforcement, all external partners and most importantly, the public. Accomplishments for Audit and Internal Controls for 2018 are as follows:**

- **Financial Analyst balanced four deposit accounts by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month as mandated by the Ohio Revised Code**
- **Audited case file sequencing for Criminal/Traffic and Environmental case types for Supreme Court and External Audit purposes**
- **Implemented the correction of address formatting for Civil case mailings, achieving USPS compliancy guidelines**
- **Directed annual external audit, 8<sup>th</sup> year, zero infractions**
- **Monitored pooled collateral insurance between our financial institution and the Ohio Pooled Collateral System. This is the first year for this requirement**
- **Audited, maintained, and submitted Supreme Court Report statistics for administrative cases. This includes all case types**
- **E-Filing- Five Point card processing ready to use  
Filing of Expungement cases nearing start date  
Criminal/Traffic added additional subsequent filing dockets  
Assisted Civil Division in preparation for E-Filing of Eviction cases**

## Civil Division

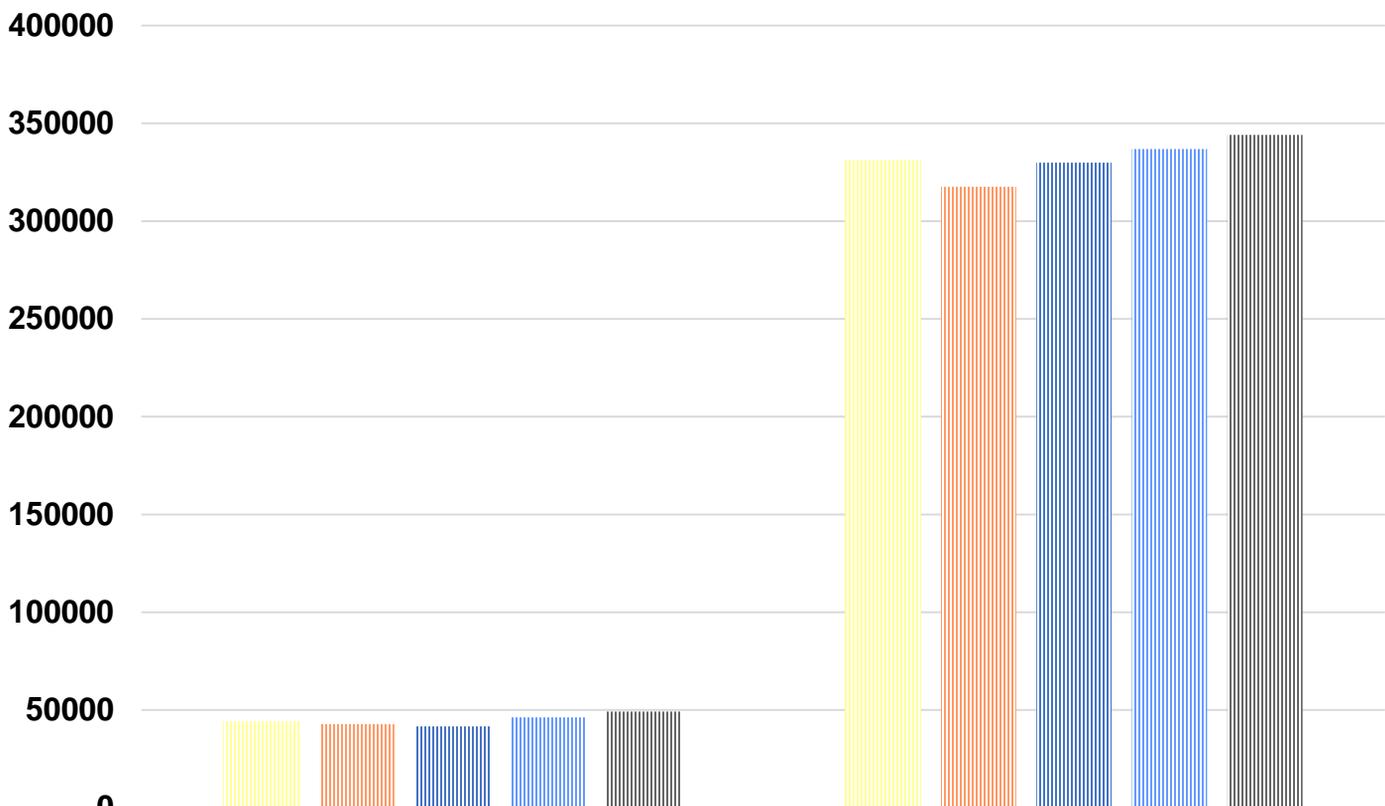
The Civil Division is responsible for accepting, filing, issuing service, docketing, processing, and maintaining records for Civil cases. Civil cases include: contract disputes, personal injury, property damage, evictions, small claims, certificates of judgment, cognovits, declaratory judgments, and housing/safety code issues. The Civil Division also processes applications for driving privileges. Accomplishments for the Civil Division in 2018 are as follows:

- Continued the e-filing pilot for the filing of new small claims, contract and environmental complaints, and subsequent filings by the City of Columbus Division of Income Tax and Zone Initiative
- Implemented new subsequent filing options for the e-filing pilot for the City of Columbus Division of Income Tax and Zone Initiative
- Worked with the Legal Research department of the Municipal Court to implement changes from the Ohio Supreme Court regarding attorney's filing notice of limited appearance of counsel on civil cases. Implemented new docket codes to facilitate these new filing procedures
- Incorporated the Self Help Resource Center website and interpreter information onto the Civil summons
- Transitioned Civil file folders to a style with bar codes to accommodate request from the Magistrate's Office
- Developed and implemented a referral card used to direct customers to the Franklin County Self Help Resource Center while providing the Center's staff with critical case information
- Updated docket codes for Revivor Judgments to reflect new practices of the Franklin County Duty Room
- Worked with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles to determine changes needed to improve the Certificate of Judgments issued to their office from the Civil Division
- Participated in Six (6) Eviction Workshops sponsored by the Columbus City Council providing eviction and procedural information

## Civil Division

- Participated in the Driver’s License Reinstatement Clinic in October in cooperation with the Clerk’s Office, Court, Columbus Legal Aid, and Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation
- Participated in new Eviction Internal Working Group within the Franklin County Municipal Court
- Partnered with Columbus State Paralegal Program to provide internships and volunteer opportunities

### Civil Cases & Ancillary Proceedings



	New Case Filings	Ancillary Proceedings
2014	44257	330988
2015	42774	317628
2016	41626	329934
2017	46244	336876
2018	49201	344119

2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

<b>New Civil Case Filings</b>	<b>1st Qtr.</b>	<b>2nd Qtr.</b>	<b>3rd Qtr.</b>	<b>4th Qtr.</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Personal Injury/Property Damage</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>728</b>
<b>Contracts, Notes and Accounts</b>	<b>5,611</b>	<b>5,399</b>	<b>5,574</b>	<b>5,802</b>	<b>22,386</b>
<b>Forcible Entry &amp; Detainer (Evictions)</b>	<b>4,173</b>	<b>4,464</b>	<b>4,837</b>	<b>4,223</b>	<b>17,697</b>
<b>Small Claims</b>	<b>1,498</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>5,704</b>
<b>Other Civil</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>986</b>
<b>BMV Petition</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>936</b>
<b>Certificate of Judgment</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Declaratory Judgment</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Civil Environmental</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>717</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,269</b>	<b>12,189</b>	<b>12,690</b>	<b>12,053</b>	<b>49,201</b>

Civil Ancillary Proceedings	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
<b>Certified Mail Service Issued</b>	14,918	15,941	15,633	14,539	61,031
<b>Ordinary Mail Service Issued</b>	8,710	8,582	9,257	8,645	35,194
<b>Bailiff Service Issued</b>	6,785	6,858	6,893	6,133	26,669
<b>Process Server Service Issued</b>	335	247	367	383	1,332
<b>Sheriff Service Issued</b>	6	6	7	9	28
<b>Service by Publication Issued</b>	18	18	23	5	64
<b>Registered Mail</b>	10	10	4	2	26
<b>Express Mail</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Garnishments Issued</b>	4,032	3,912	4,041	3,375	15,360
<b>Garnishments Released</b>	642	928	773	758	3,101
<b>Writs of Restitution Issued</b>	2,309	2,257	2,572	2,168	9,306
<b>Requests for Set Outs Processed</b>	1,479	1,437	1,702	1,449	6,067
<b>Writs of Replevin Issued</b>	13	9	8	6	36
<b>Writs of Execution Issued</b>	9	7	5	5	26
<b>Judgments Certified to the BMV</b>	19	5	16	4	44
<b>Certificates of Judgment Issued</b>	1,515	2,093	1,868	1,649	7,125
<b>Transfers to Common Pleas Court</b>	5	10	17	3	35
<b>Civil Appeals Processed</b>	6	12	1	8	27
<b>Court order issued by ordinary mail</b>	14,176	14,796	15,083	13,685	57,740
<b>Notice of Failed Service Issued</b>	4,871	4,808	5,003	4,472	19,154
<b>Exemplified Copies</b>	31	19	25	13	88
<b>Revivors of Judgment</b>	259	222	371	369	1,221
<b>Judgment Debtors</b>	237	148	93	92	570
<b>Civil Capias Warrants</b>	18	19	19	6	62
<b>Motion and Order for Show Cause</b>	16	21	27	15	79
<b>Motion for Contempt Orders</b>	21	25	17	18	81
<b>Mail Payments Processed</b>	24,555	24,984	24,798	25,316	99,653
<b>Total</b>	<b>84,995</b>	<b>87,374</b>	<b>88,623</b>	<b>83,127</b>	<b>344,119</b>

## Collection Division

The Collection Division oversees and coordinates the collection of debts owed to the Court, with the primary objective of seeking monies due to the City of Columbus taxpayers. The Collection Division operated in conjunction with Four (4) outside agencies in 2018. Additionally, the Collection Division is responsible for securing surety bond agent registration, monitoring compliance of State and Local Statutes, and processing monthly billing statements. Accomplishments for Collections in 2018 are as follows:

- Collected \$1,251,678.84
- Continued generating past due notices in-house for payable tickets
- Generate notices when a partial payment is received on a payable ticket and refer to collection
- Bond money forfeited by the Court for 2018 - \$96,528.00
- Total of Bond Forfeiture Judgments paid for 2018 - \$22,781.30
- Managed billings and compliance for eighteen (18) active bond companies and over ninety (90) surety agents

AGENCIES	TOTAL AMOUNT SENT 2018	TOTAL COLLECTED 2018	COMMISSION PAID 2018
LINEBARGER	\$ 1,128,513.00	\$ 303,726.01	\$ 70,803.94
APELLES	\$ 1,173,463.00	\$ 312,172.58	\$ 72,031.08
CAPITAL RECOVERY Bond Forfeitures	\$ 271,229.50	\$ 13,074.75	\$ 2,884.39
CAPITAL RECOVERY Enforcement Cases	\$ 1,132,615.00	\$ 335,245.98	\$ 77,124.08
SCHUERGER LAW OFFICES	\$ 1,060,495.00	\$ 287,459.52	\$ 66,437.57
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 4,766,315.00</b>	<b>\$1,251,678.84</b>	<b>\$ 289,281.06</b>

## **Criminal/Traffic Division**

**The Criminal Traffic Division processes and maintains Criminal, Traffic, and Environmental cases. The Criminal/Traffic Division provides a multitude of services to the general public, law enforcement, and the Court. This Division plays an integral role in the promotion of public safety by providing support Twenty-four (24) hours per day to law enforcement agencies throughout the County. The Criminal/Traffic Division is also responsible for collection and disbursement of bail/bond monies for defendants who are in custody. This process includes providing documentation to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office so that defendants may be released from custody. The Criminal/Traffic Division is responsible for electronically reporting several types of Traffic violations to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The Division also processes applications for the expungement of case records as well as maintaining and securing records which have been ordered by the Court to be sealed. Other examples of service include administering oaths, accepting criminal and traffic charges, filing motions, filing search warrants, providing information about court cases, dispositions, future court dates, as well as assisting in the courtroom. Accomplishments for Criminal/Traffic in 2018 are as follows:**

- Collaborated with the Columbus Division of Police and Columbus City Prosecutor's Office to create a plan for defendants who are medically refused by the jail**
- Implemented a new process for Arraignment Court (4C) docket cases to identify defendants who have been charged with felony drug cases and require Court-ordered DNA swabs be taken by law enforcement**
- Continued work with Columbus City Prosecutor's Office to identify older cases to be considered for dismissal**
- Participated in a pilot created by House Bill 49, passed in 2017, authorizing the Ohio Attorney General to contract with a private vendor to notify online 600 background check companies once Courts have approved an application for expungement or sealing of record**

## **Criminal/Traffic Division**

- **Contacted and engaged the Ohio Bureau of Identification to confirm electronic reporting requirements were met per the Governor's Executive Order 2018-11K to all Ohio Courts and the 2018 NICS Survey**
- **Provided excellent opportunities for college internships during summer/winter breaks**
- **Sent Deputy Clerks to external office and Ohio Supreme Court training programs**
- **Participated in Clerk's Office-sponsored high school tours of the Court and Jail**
- **Attended and served at the Columbus City Council's sponsored Courthouse to the Community Event in three locations**
- **Amended process to conform to new expungement law changes allowing defendants to file one application for multiple convictions**
- **Modified case add on process to extend time period allowing walk-in defendants to be included in daily traffic court dockets**
- **Collaborated with Environmental Court Judge Dan Hawkins to modify the add on procedure to allow defendants up to 48 hours (in advance) to be added to his future case docket**
- **Identified and pulled case files of defendants who pre-registered for the Driver's License Clinic held in October. Provided information to participants and assisted with the Clinic**
- **Teamed up with the Franklin County Municipal Court Self Help Resource Center to assist with training**

### Criminal Cases 2018

Type A-Felony	6,409
Type B-Criminal	19,806
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,215</b>

### Traffic Cases 2018

Type C-OVI	6,281
Type D-All Other	95,328
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,609</b>

### Five Year Comparative Review of Cases Filed

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Environmental	4,061	4,814	4,504	4,579	3,865
Criminal	32,854	29,962	28,807	26,914	26,215
Traffic	107,602	99,776	101,151	102,255	101,609
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,517</b>	<b>134,552</b>	<b>134,462</b>	<b>133,748</b>	<b>131,689</b>

### Five Year Comparative Review of Charges Filed

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Environmental	7,052	8,545	7,424	7,759	6,742
Criminal	42,806	40,488	40,939	36,299	36,416
Traffic	161,212	148,006	141,625	151,200	153,616
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,070</b>	<b>197,039</b>	<b>189,988</b>	<b>195,258</b>	<b>196,774</b>

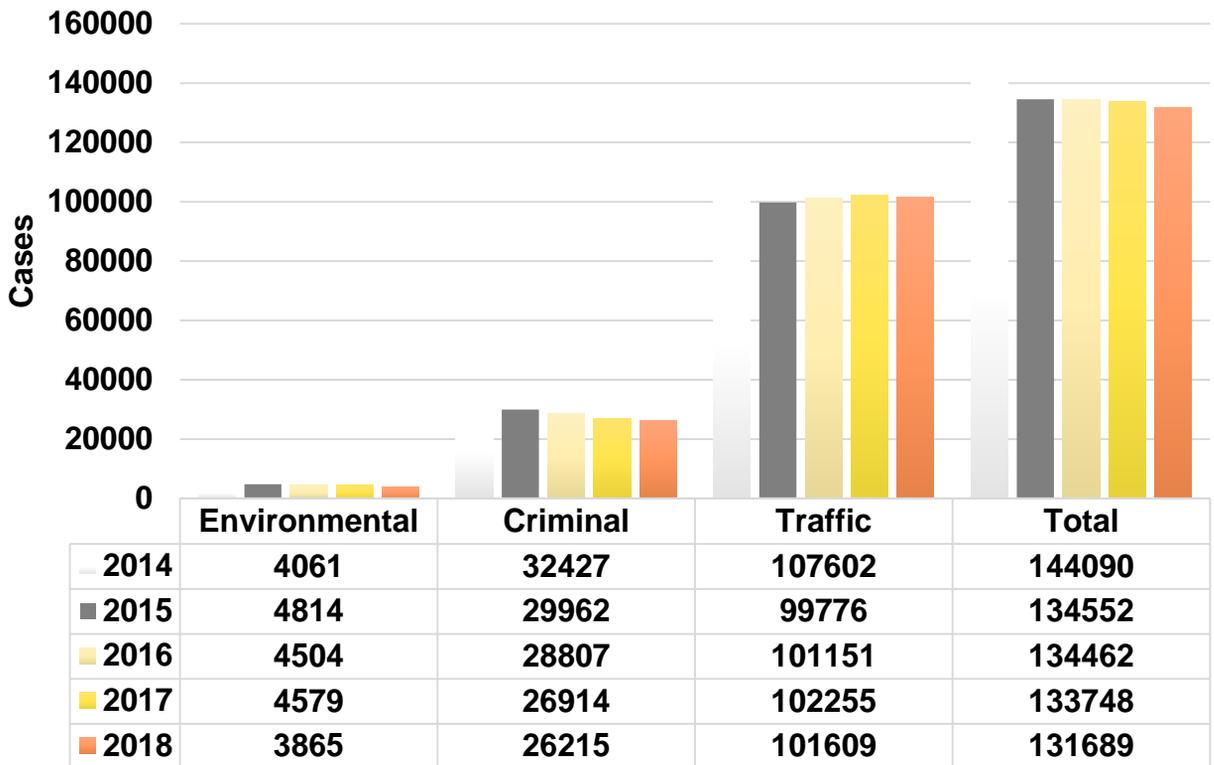
## **COURTROOM SERVICES GROUP**

**The Courtroom Services Group (CSG) is a select group of highly skilled Deputy Clerks in the Criminal/Traffic Division responsible for the daily processing and updating of all cases on the Criminal/Traffic dockets. A CSG Deputy Clerk is assigned to each of the Fifteen (15) judges as well as the traffic arraignment courtrooms (1A and 1B). On a daily basis, CSG Deputy Clerks docket subpoenas and motions, process unpaid fines and costs, enter sentencing information, issue/recall warrants, process continuances, enter limited driving privileges, add Temporary Protection Orders, and update bond information along with all other entries in CourtView. Additionally, CSG Deputy Clerks are responsible for routing files to the Assignment Office, Probation Department, Accounting/Finance Department, Expungement Department, Prosecutor's Office, Collections Department, and to the Vehicle Immobilization Coordinator. They also time stamp, docket, and route Statement of Violations filed by the Probation Department. In addition, CSG Deputy Clerks run and process case management reports.**

**Each CSG member acts as a liaison between Court personnel and the Clerk's Office. After court, CSG Deputy Clerks provide assistance to other divisions of the Clerks' Office. In 2018, the Courtroom Service Group accomplished the following:**

- In anticipation for the new Franklin County Sheriff's Office jail application, CSG attended training and began using the new system**
- Participated in the Driver's License Reinstatement Clinic in October and provided valuable feedback in preparation for the upcoming program in April 2019**
- Developed a new back- up BMV Clerk**
- Participated in the Environmental Court Open House**
- Worked together as a team and helped one another during difficult staffing situations**

## Environmental/Criminal/Traffic Case Filed



## Expungements & Sealing of Cases in 2018

<b>Number of Applications Received For Expungement Proceedings</b>	<b>1,849</b>
<b>Number of Cases That Were Ordered Expunged By The Court</b>	<b>1,743</b>
<b>Number of Applications Denied For Expungement</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>Number of Expungement Applications Withdrawn</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Number of Cases Expunged By Order Of The Common Pleas Court</b>	<b>241</b>

## Environmental Division

The Environmental Division of the Court began operations in 1992. This Division has exclusive jurisdiction over criminal and civil actions to enforce building, housing, health, or safety codes applicable to premises intended for the use as a place of human habitation.



<b>Environmental Cases 2018</b>	
<b>Type A-Felony</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Type B-Criminal</b>	<b>2,790</b>
<b>Type C-OVI</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Type D-All Other</b>	<b>1,055</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,865</b>

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CHARGES FILED IN 2018</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>DOG VIOLATIONS</b>			
<b>DOG REGISTRATION</b>		<b>1,992</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>DOG CONFINEMENT</b>		<b>715</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CONFINED VICIOUS / DANGEROUS DOG</b>		<b>558</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>VICIOUS DOG INSURANCE</b>			
<b>RABIES QUARANTINE / VACCINATE</b>		<b>950</b>	
<b>ABANDONING/ NEGLECT/ CRUELTY TO ANIMALS</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>DISPLAY DOG TAG</b>			
<b>DOG RUNNING AT LARGE</b>	<b>6</b>		
<b>PROHIBITIONS CONCERNING ANIMALS / ANIMAL VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>8</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>4505</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>CODE VIOLATIONS/PERMITS</b>			
<b>BUILDING CODE</b>	<b>27</b>		<b>20</b>
<b>HOUSING CODE</b>	<b>102</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>ZONING CODE</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>NUISANCE ABATEMENT CODE</b>	<b>22</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>FIRE CODE</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>HEALTH CODE</b>	<b>39</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33</b>

<b>NATURAL RESOURCES / WILDLIFE</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>WILDLIFE VIOLATION</b>		<b>26</b>	
<b>NO HUNTING LICENSE</b>			
<b>NO FISHING LICENSE</b>		<b>14</b>	
<b>UNLAWFUL SPITTING</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>POLLUTING WATERS/AIR POLLUTION</b>		<b>3</b>	
<b>PARK RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FAILURE TO HAVE LICENSE</b>			
<b>NO MASSAGE LICENSE</b>			
<b>NO PEDDLERS LICENSE</b>	<b>3</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FIRE VIOLATIONS</b>			
<b>ARSON</b>			
<b>OPEN BURNING/DUMPING</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>FIREWORKS</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

	CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE	OHIO REVISED CODE	OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES
<b>FIRE VIOLATIONS</b>			
ARSON			
OPEN BURNING/DUMPING		2	
FIREWORKS			
TOTAL	0	2	0
<b>COMMERCIAL TRUCKING OFFENSES</b>			
LOAD DRIPPING / DROPPING / UNSECURE	25	137	1
EXCEEDING MAXIMUM		368	
WIDTH / HEIGHT / AND WEIGHT	3	40	
MAXIMUM WHEEL LOAD		231	
WHEEL PROTECTORS / SAFETY EQUIPMENT		73	
COMMERCIAL LICENSE / ENDORSEMENT OFFENSES	6	259	
TRANSPORT HAZARD WASTE / MATERIAL	478	4	
TOWING VIOLATIONS / RESTRICTIONS	3	4	
TOTAL	515	1116	1
<b>OTHER</b>			
LOUD SOUND	32		
DISTURBING THE QUIET / NOISE PROHIBITIONS	7		
GRAFFITI	1		
LITTERING / WASTE / RUBBISH/ GARBAGE DISPOSAL	57	82	4
TOTAL	97	82	4

<b>CRIMINAL CHARGES FILED IN 2018</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>MURDER/ASSAULT</b>			
<b>AGGRAVATED MURDER</b>		<b>8</b>	
<b>MURDER</b>		<b>58</b>	
<b>INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER RESULT OF FELONY</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>VEHICULAR MANSLAUGHTER</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>VEHICULAR HOMICIDE</b>		<b>3</b>	
<b>VEHICLE ASSAULT</b>		<b>7</b>	
<b>FELONIOUS ASSAULT</b>		<b>414</b>	
<b>ASSAULT, NEGLIGENT ASSAULT, &amp; AGGRAVATED ASSAULT</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>3926</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>MENACING AND AGGRAVATED MENACING</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>1130</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MENACING BY STALKING</b>		<b>27</b>	
<b>FELONY MENACING BY STALKING</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>5581</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>KIDNAPPING &amp; ENTICEMENT</b>			
<b>KIDNAPPING</b>		<b>97</b>	
<b>ABDUCTION</b>		<b>38</b>	
<b>UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>SEX OFFENSES</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>RAPE</b>		<b>55</b>	
<b>RAPE &lt; UNDER 13 YEARS OLD</b>		<b>31</b>	
<b>GROSS SEXUAL IMPOSITION</b>		<b>7</b>	
<b>GROSS SEXUAL IMPOSITION &lt; 13 YEARS OLD</b>		<b>36</b>	
<b>SEXUAL IMPOSITION</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>SEXUAL BATTERY</b>		<b>9</b>	
<b>IMPORTUNING / FELONY IMPORTUNING</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>VOYEURISM</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>PUBLIC INDECENCY</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SOLICITATION / PROCURING</b>			
<b>COMPELL / PROMOTE PROSTITUTION</b>		<b>1</b>	
<b>PROSTITUTION</b>		<b>36</b>	
<b>LOITERING FOR PROSTITUTION / SOLICITING</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>EXPOSING OTHERS-CONTAGION</b>		<b>1</b>	
<b>PANDERING / DISSEMINATING / DISPLAYING HARMFUL MATTER TO / OF JUV</b>		<b>39</b>	
<b>SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESS VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>36</b>	
<b>FAILURE TO REGISTER AS SEX OFFENDER</b>		<b>35</b>	
<b>FAILURE TO CHANGE OR RE-VERIFY ADDRESS AS SEX OFFENDER</b>		<b>146</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>11</b>

<b>ARSON, VANDALISM &amp; CRIMINAL MISCHIEF</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>ARSON</b>		<b>35</b>	
<b>ARSON OFFENDER REGISTRATION</b>		<b>17</b>	
<b>CRIMINAL MISCHIEF / VANDALISM</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>CRIMINAL DAMAGE &amp; ENDANGERMENT</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>DRUG ABUSE</b>			
<b>TRAFFICKING IN / DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS</b>		<b>163</b>	
<b>FELONY DRUG ABUSE</b>		<b>462</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MISDEMEANOR DRUG ABUSE</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>POSSESSION OF DRUGS / CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4,183</b>	
<b>PERMITTING DRUG ABUSE</b>		<b>6</b>	
<b>DRUG PARAPHERNALIA / INSTRUMENTS</b>		<b>1511</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>DECEPTION TO OBTAIN DANGEROUS DRUGS</b>		<b>4</b>	
<b>ILLEGAL DRUG DOCUMENTS</b>		<b>6</b>	
<b>MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS</b>		<b>13</b>	
<b>POSSESS / SELL FAKE COUNTERFEIT DRUGS</b>		<b>440</b>	
<b>CORRUPTING ANOTHER WITH DRUGS</b>		<b>8</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6802</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>ROBBERY, BURGLARY &amp; TRESPASSING</b>			
<b>AGGRAVATED ROBBERY</b>		<b>162</b>	
<b>ROBBERY</b>		<b>134</b>	
<b>AGGRAVATED BURGLARY</b>		<b>97</b>	
<b>BURGLARY</b>		<b>238</b>	
<b>BREAKING &amp; ENTERING</b>		<b>145</b>	
<b>SAFECRACKING / TAMPERING VENDING MACHINE / ATM</b>		<b>4</b>	
<b>CRIMINAL TRESPASSING</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>1462</b>	<b>35</b>

	CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE	OHIO REVISED CODE	OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES
<b>WEAPONS</b>			
CCW	1	206	1
IMPROPER HANDLING OF FIREARM / DISCHARGING	45	402	6
WEAPONS UNDER DISABILITY	5	269	
WEAPON USE WHILE INTOXICATED	2	20	1
DEFACED / ALTERED WEAPON / FIREARM		1	
FAIL TO INFORM OFFICER (CCW / FIREARM)		17	
POSSESSION OF CRIMINAL TOOLS	1	107	7
POSSESSION / ILLEGAL CONVEY / UNSECURED OF DANGEROUS ORDINANCE OR DEADLY WEAPON		13	
ATTEMPT / FELONY			
COMPLICITY	7	178	10
TOTAL	61	1213	25
<b>THEFT &amp; FRAUD</b>			
GRAND / FELONY THEFT		40	
THEFT / PETTY THEFT / THEFT BY DECEPTION	967	3,346	278
EXTORTION / THREAT OF FORCE		2	
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES	3	55	6
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY	2	3	1
FORGERY & UTTERING		306	
PASSING BAD CHECKS		40	
RSP	68	770	7
MISUSE / THEFT OF CREDIT CARD MIS.		9	
MISUSE OF CREDIT CARD FELONY		5	
TELECOMMUNICATION FRAUD		2	
CRIMINAL SIMULATION		12	1
TAKING IDENTITY OF ANOTHER / IDENTITY FRAUD		96	
TRAFFICKING IN / ILLEGAL USE OF FOOD STAMPS		1	
MEDICAID FRAUD		9	
TOTAL	1040	4696	293

	CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE	OHIO REVISED CODE	OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES
<b>OFFENSES AGAINST PEACE OFFICERS</b>			
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	631	437	28
RESISTING ARREST	151	229	4
CERTAIN ACTS PROHIBITED / FALSE ID	282	214	
FAILURE TO COMPLY	22		1
MISCONDUCT AT EMERGENCY	12	3	1
IMPROPER USE OF 911	25	2	2
RIOT / ENTICING VIOLENCE / INDUCING PANIC / FALSE ALARMS	3	58	7
OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE / OFFICIAL BUSINESS / SEARCH	251	465	25
FALSE INFORMATION TO MISLEAD / FALSE REPORT / FALSE ALLEGATION / FALSIFICATION / FAIL TO REPORT	2	390	17
IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER		9	
ASSAULT ON POLICE OFFICER		45	
HARASSMENT BY INMATE		19	
FLEEING AND ELUDING	1	184	1
ESCAPE		38	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1380</b>	<b>2093</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY</b>			
ENDANGERING CHILDREN / CHILD ABUSE	1	368	28
ENDANGERING CHILDREN /OVI		76	
INTERFERING WITH CUSTODY		25	4
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (FELONY)		8	
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	44	4,370	
FELONY VIOLATION PROTECTION ORDER		12	
VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDER	1	712	
NONSUPPORT OF DEPENDENTS			
CONTRIBUTE, INFLUENCE WITH MINOR	3	14	9
ABUSE OF CORPSE		4	
PATIENT NEGLECT	1	7	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5596</b>	<b>41</b>

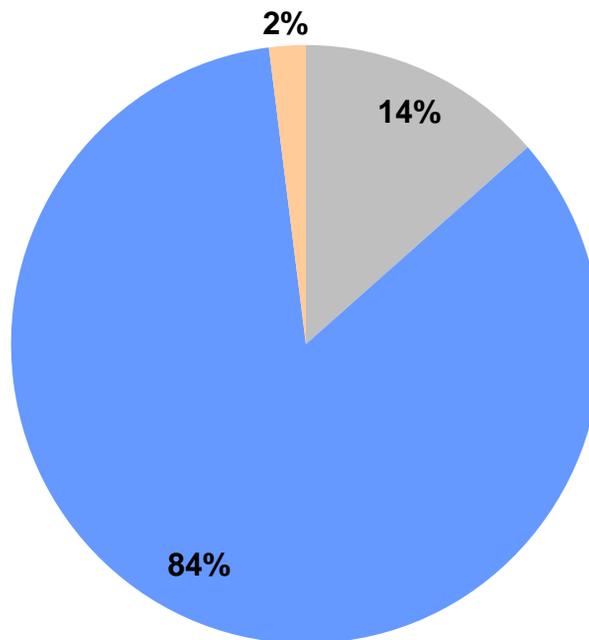
<b>OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>CONTEMPT OF COURT</b>		<b>4</b>	
<b>WITNESS INTIMIDATION / RETALIATION</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>TAMPERING WITH EVIDENCE / RECORDS</b>		<b>136</b>	
<b>ILLEGAL CONVEYANCE</b>		<b>65</b>	
<b>DISRUPT PUBLIC SERVICES / MISCONDUCT</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>WORKERS COMPENSATION VIOLATION</b>		<b>24</b>	
<b>ETHICS / DERELICTION VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>6</b>	
<b>TAX FORMS / MISC TAX VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ALCOHOL OFFENSES</b>			
<b>PROHIBITED ALCOHOL UNDER 21 YEARS OLD / MINOR PURCHASE / POSSESSION / SALES TO</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>130</b>	
<b>UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION</b>		<b>423</b>	
<b>OPEN CONTAINER</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CONSUMPTION / OPEN CONTAINER IN PUBLIC PLACE</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CONSUMPTION / OPEN CONTAINER IN MOTOR VEHICLE</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>KEEPER OF PLACE</b>	<b>5</b>		
<b>LIQUOR PROHIBITIONS / PERMIT VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>28</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>GAMBLING</b>			
<b>GAMBLING/GAMING</b>		<b>12</b>	
<b>CASINO RELATED OFFENSES / LOTTERY VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>28</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>MISC CRIMINAL VIOLATION</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE</b>		<b>148</b>	
<b>HOLD FOREIGN JURISDICTION</b>		<b>467</b>	
<b>PEACE WARRANT</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>CIVIL CAPIAS</b>		<b>20</b>	
<b>ETHNIC INTIMIDATION</b>	<b>7</b>		
<b>TOBACCO VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>BUSINESS / VENDOR LICENSE / REGISTRATION</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>AGGRESSIVE PANHANDLING / STREET BEGGERS</b>	<b>3</b>		
<b>PEDESTRIAN OFFENSES</b>			
<b>PUBLIC URINATION / DEFECATION / SPITTING</b>	<b>33</b>		
<b>TELEPHONE / TELECOMMUNICATIONS HARRASSMENT</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE DEALER / TITTLE VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>5</b>	
<b>FIREWORKS VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>1</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>OVI &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>			
<b>OVI (FELONY)</b>		<b>116</b>	
<b>HIT SKIP / FAIL TO STOP (FELONY)</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>0</b>

## Summary of Cases

	City of Columbus Ordinance	Ohio Revised Code	Other Municipal Ordinance
Environmental	928	5,758	56
Criminal	4,922	30,683	811
Total	5850	36441	867

## Charges By Ordinance & Ohio Revised Code



- City of Columbus Ordinance
- Ohio Revised Code
- Other Municipal Ordinance

## **Traffic Violations Bureau/Communications Department**

**The Traffic Violations Bureau manages all tickets and complaints issued by twenty-one (21) Municipal Law Enforcement agencies and eight (8) Townships within Franklin County which includes: Columbus Division of Police, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Franklin County Sheriff, Ohio State University Police, and Port Columbus Police. Our office has jurisdiction in three (3) counties: Franklin, Delaware and Fairfield.**

**Within the Traffic Violations Bureau, is the Communications Department. The function of the Communications Department is to further promote ongoing communications and the delivery of excellent public service to the general public, law enforcement agencies, attorneys, court personnel, other courts, and governmental agencies.**

**The responsibilities of The Traffic Violations Bureau and Communications Department include the following:**

- **Initiating payable and mandatory offenses; this includes traffic, criminal, and environmental cases**
- **Scanning all original tickets, complaints, confidential identifiers, and affidavits of support**
- **Sending out notices for new court dates on traffic, criminal, and environmental cases**
- **Sending out summons by certified mail for traffic, criminal, and environmental cases**
- **Referring cases to the Prosecutor for determination**
- **Housing all empty traffic files for use**
- **Housing all payable traffic cases with future court dates**
- **Opening, logging and processing mail for all divisions**
- **Processing payments to ensure accuracy prior to being receipted**
- **Referring cases to the Duty Judge/Assigned Judge for payment determinations**

- **Sending out letters for notice of balance due and invalid car insurance for traffic, criminal, and or environmental cases**
- **Processing cases transferred from Mayor's Courts, which may include bond money and slated defendants**
- **Assisting the public, employers, City, County, and State Agencies by providing case dispositions pertaining to public record requests**
- **Assisting defendants effectively, through telephone communications, with questions regarding their cases and payments**
- **Preparing the daily traffic arraignment court docket sheets**
- **Entering Identification Tracking Numbers (ITN's) into CourtView**
- **Tracking file sequence control**

**In 2018, the Traffic Violations Bureau accomplished the following:**

- **Continued effective communication with Police Agencies, Prosecutors, Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Court, Mayor Court Clerks, and Courtroom Clerks to ensure quality work**
- **Participated in Supreme Court Training Classes to gain additional knowledge of professionalism and customer service to successfully attain our mission statement**
- **Took part in office community outreach programs**
- **Continued with the new hire training schedule for Deputy Clerks to ensure they have knowledge of their respective department and also other departments within the office**
- **Cross-trained staff to ensure all daily responsibilities were met**
- **Prepared all mail logs to be imaged by the Imaging Department for easy access, when needed**
- **Scanned all paperwork from Mayor's Court Transfer cases**



## CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED 2018

ACDA	5,496	FAILURE TO CONTROL	2,852
APPROACH SAFETY VEH W/LTS DISPLAYED	75	FAILURE TO DISPLAY	12
BACKING FROM ALLEY, PRIV DR OR BLDG	36	FAILURE TO DISPLAY HEADLIGHTS	261
BACKING ON A FREEWAY	11	FAILURE TO DISPLAY-TWO PLATES	197
BACKING WITHOUT SAFETY	293	FAILURE TO REGISTER	6
BICYCLE BELL REQ	1	FAILURE TO REINSTATE LICENSE	1,542
BICYCLE BRAKE REQ	20	FAILURE TO SIGNAL	1,733
BICYCLE LAMPS/REFLECT REQ AT NIGHT	67	FAILURE TO STOP ACCIDENT	591
BICYCLE OPERATE W/OUT SAFETY PROH	12	FAILURE TO STOP SCHOOL BUS	51
BICYCLE RIDE ON RT SIDE OF RDWY	7	FAILURE TO YIELD FROM PRIVATE DR	559
BICYCLE RIDE ON SIDEWALK PROH	53	FAILURE TO YIELD FUNERAL PROCESSION	2
BICYCLE SIGNAL DEVICE	18	FAILURE TO YIELD PUBLIC SAFETY VEH	73
BLUE LIGHT PROHIBITED	39	FAILURE TO YIELD TO BLIND	1
BRAKE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS	9	FALSE INFO TO ISSUING OFFICER	22
BUMPER EQUIPMENTS	1	FLASHING LIGHTS PROH	3
CERTAIN ACTS PROH-FALSE DISPLAY	3	FLSHING RED SIGNAL	5
CERTAIN ACTS PROH-FALSE STATEMENTS	1	FLASHING RED/BLUE LIGHTS PROH	2
CERTAIN ACTS PROH-FICT ID	23	FLASHING TRAFFIC SIGNAL	6
CHANGE COURSE W/O SAFETY	314	FLEEING	47
CHANGE LANES W/O SAFETY-BICYCLE	1	FOCUS AND AIM OF HEADLIGHTS	1
CHANGING LANES W/O SAFETY	1,461	FOLLOWING EMERGENCY VEHICLE	2
COUNTERFEIT PLATES	7	FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY	114
CYCLE-HELMET/GLASSES	1	FREEWAY USE PROHIBITED	28
DRIVE ON CLOSED HIGHWAY	46	FTS-MARKED SCHOOL CROSSING	1



## CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED 2018

DRIVE ON CURB/SIDEWALK	47	FTY RIGHT ON RED	7
DRIVE OUTSIDE LICENSE RESTRICTION	46	FTY STOP SIGN-BICYCLE	4
DRIVE THROUGH SAFETY ZONE	4	FTY "T" INTERSECTION	10
DRIVING LEFT OF CENTER PROH	33	HAND/ARM SIGNALS	3
DRIVING MV IN BIKE LANE	6	HANG ON/RIDE OUTSIDE OF VEHICLE	17
DRIVING ON RIGHT SIDE	224	HAZARDOUS OR NO PASS ZONE	82
DRIVING UNDER FRA SUSPENSION	2,641	HIT SKIP-PERS/PROPTY	2
DRIVING UNDER OVI SUSPENSION	273	HIT SKIP-PUB STREET	121
DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION	4,980	HORN/SIREN/ALARM SIGNAL	1
DRIVING UNSAFE VEHICLE	70	IMPROPER LEFT TURN	151
DRIVING WITHIN LANES	129	IMPROPER PASSING	85
DUTIES/NON WRKING SIGNALS	1	IMPROPER RIGHT TURN	1,390
ELUDE/FLEE OFFICER	3	IMPROPER TURN	11
EMERG VEH-FAIL TO SLOW DOWN	1	INSTALL OF PROH WINDOW TINT	5
EXPIRED TAGS	248	INTERSECT W/NON WRKING TCD	15
FAIL TO REGISTER	4	LANE CONTROL SIGNALS	5
FAIL TO YIELD TO PED IN CRSWLK/SDWLK	59	LET UNLICENSED DRIVER DRIVE	3
FAIL/KEEP TO RIGHT	1	LICENSE PLATE VIOLATION	2
FAILURE TO COMPLY W/OFFICER	6	LIGHTS REQ ON PRKD/STPD VEH	3
MANNER OF SIGNAL	2	PED USE OF SHOULDER REQ	53
MANNER OF SIGNAL-BICYCLE	1	PED USE OF SIDEWALK REQ	317



## CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED 2018

MAX NUMBERS OF HEADLIGHTS	2	PEDESTRIAN CONTROL SIGNAL	5
MIRROR-UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW	6	PEDESTRIAN CROSS W/O SAFETY	32
MOTORVEHICLE/CYCLE NOISE	8	PEDESTRIAN CROSSING PROH	9
MUFFLER, EXCESSIVE GAS OR SMOKE	28	PEDESTRIAN ON THE FREEWAY	153
NO MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT	33	PEDESTRIAN OUTSIDE BRIDGE/TUNNEL	1
NO OPERATORS LICENSE	4,330	PEDESTRIAN OUTSIDE CROSSWALK	12
NO OPERATORS LICENSE EXP < 6 MONTHS	208	PEDESTRIAN TO FACE TRAFFIC	12
NO OPERATORS LICENSE VALID OPS	48	POSTER/SIGN WINDOW	2
NON-TRANS MAT ON WINDOW PROH	4	PROH NUMBER OF HEADLIGHTS	80
OBSCURED LIGHTS	4	PROH PASSING/CROSSWALK	1
OBSCURED WINDSHIELD PROH	5	PROH START/BACKING	11
OBSTRUCTED VIEW-DRIVER	5	PROH USE OF A MOBILE COMM DEV	632
OBSTRUCTED VIEW-PASSENGER	1	PROHIBITED LEFT OF CENTER	15
OBSTRUCTING INTERSECTION/RR XING	31	PROHIBITED RIGHT TURN	50
ONE WAY BICYCLE	3	PROHIBITED TURN	43
ONE WAY HIGHWAY/ROTARY	340	REAR LICENSE PLATE LIGHT	5
OPEN CONTAINER	2	REAR VIEW MIRROR, CLEAR VIEW	26
OPEN DOOR IN TRAFFIC	12	RED LIGHT/FLAG REQ ON EXTENDED LOAD	2
OPEN DOOR W/OUT SAFETY	1	RED REFLECTORS REQ ON MV/TRAILER	8
OPERATE W/FOREIGN TAG	4	REFLECTORIZED MAT ON WINDOW PROH	4
OPERATE W/TAG FROM PREV OWNER	14	REGISTRATION VIOLATION	20
OPERATION W/PROH WINDOW TINT	674	REPEAT OFFENDER SUSPENSION	50
ORDER OF OFFICER-PED	29	REQ: DISTR OF HEADLIGHT BEAMS	33
OTHER LIGHTS-INTNSTY AND DIRECTION	1	RESISTING TRAFFIC ENF OFFICIAL	2
OVERTAKING PASS TO RIGHT/LEFT	10	RIDING BICYCLE/MC ABREAST	11
PARK BICYCLE/MOBILITY DEVICE SDWLK	2	RIDING BICYCLE/MC RESTR	3



## CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED 2018

OVERTAKING PASS TO RIGHT/LEFT	10	RIDING BICYCLE/MC ABREAST	11
PARK BICYCLE/MOBILITY DEVICE SDWLK	2	RIDING BICYCLE/MC RESTR	3
PARK OBSTRUCTING GARAGE/DRIVEWAY	1	RIGHT OF WAY AT INTERSECTION	47
PARK OBSTRUCTING ROADWAY	1	RIGHT OF WAY/STOP/YIELD	44
PARK-OBSTRUCTING STREET/CROSSWALK	1	RIGHT OF WAY TURNING LEFT	1,535
PARK ON SIDEWALK	1	RIGHT OF WAY-PEDESTRIAN	3
PARK-FAILURE TO REGISTER	1	ROMV	205
PARK-RIGHT OF WAY	1	SAFETY LIGHTING ON COMM VEH REQ	1
PARKING VIOLATION	2	SIDE COWL,FENDER,BACK-UP LGHT RESTR	3
PASSING LEFT OF CENTER	12	SIDEWALK/CLOSED ALLEY REST	2
PASSING ON THE LEFT	64	SIGNAL TERMS/LIGHTS	57
PASSING ON THE RIGHT	37	SIGNAL/STOPPING	1
PED DIAGONAL CROSSING PROH/RESTR	27	SKATE,COASTER,TOY IN RDWAY PROH	2
PED SOLICIT RIDE PROH	182	SLOW SPEED	569
PED UNDER INFLUENCE PROH	14	SOLICIT RIDE/RIDE OUTSIDE VEHICLE	11
PED USE OF CROSSWLK REQ	164	SPEED	14,783
SPEED SCHOOL ZONE < 35 MPH	1,283		
SPEED SCHOOL ZONE > 35 MPH	118		
SPEED-UNREASONABLE CONDITIONS	3		
SQUEALING TIRES	54		
STOP LIGHTS REQUIRED	97		
STOP SIDEWALK AREA	110		
STOP SIGN	1,896		
STREET RACING	3		
TAG VIOLATIONS	2,309		
TAIL/LICENSE PLATE LIGHT REQ	371		



## CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED 2018

TAMPER W/TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	1		
TEMP PERMIT W/O LICENSED DRIVER	11		
TEMP PLATE-DISPLAY	9		
TEMPORARY PERMIT/MC VIOLATION	5		
TEMPORARY PERMIT VIOLATION	479		
TIRE PROTRUSIONS PROHIBITED	1		
TITLE VIOLATION	9		
TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	4,417		
TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE-PEDESTRIAN	58		
TURN INTO PRIV DR, ALLEY OR BLDG	12		
TURN ON RED	97		
TURN/FROM ONE WAY ST	15		
TURN/STOP SIGNALS	55		
TURNING AT INTERSECTIONS	2,688		
TWO LIGHTS REQUIRED	229		
U TURN	443		
UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS/SIGNALS	1		
UNNECESSARY HORN	25		
USE FICTITIOUS PLATES	76		
USE OF HEADPHONES	27		
USE TAG TO ANOTHER VEHICLE	431		
VALID OPS/EXP OPS	2		
WINDSHIELD REQUIRED	1		
WINDSHIELD WIPER REQUIRED	1		
WRONG SIDE-DIVIDED ROAD	95		
WRONGFUL ENTRUSTMENT	53		
YIELD SIGN	39		



## STATE OF OHIO TRAFFIC CHARGES FILED 2018

ACDA	1,485	FAILURE TO SIGNAL	1,166
APPLY REGISTRATION	239	FAILURE TO STOP/YIELD AT STOP SIGN	484
APPR STATIONARY PUB SAFETY VEH	643	FAILURE TO STOP-ACCIDENT	134
BICYCLE BELL REQUIRED	1	FAILURE TO TRANSFER REGISTRATION	36
BICYCLE LAMPS/REFLECT REQ AT NIGHT	6	FAILURE TO YIELD AT YIELD SIGN	42
BMV 12 POINT SUSPENSION	219	FAILURE TO YIELD FROM PRIVATE DR	130
BRAKE EQUIPMENT FOR VEHICLES	4	FAILURE TO YIELD-FUNERAL PROCESSION	1
CERTAIN ACTS PROH-FICT ID	6	FALSE INFO TO ISSUING OFFICER	13
CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM	514	FALSE STATEMENTS	15
CONSUMPTION IN MV	2	FLASHING TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS	1
DECAL REQUIREMENTS	1	FOCUS AND AIM OF HEADLIGHTS	3
DIS OF PLACARD ISSUE TO MANF/DEAL/DIST	11	FOLLOWING TOO CLOSE	262
DISPLAY OF DRIVERS LICENSE	66	FORFEITURE VIOL OF IMMOB ORDER	1
DRAG RACING/STREET RACING	10	FTY PUB SAFETY VEH	61
DRIVE IN MARKED THIRD LANE	5	FURNISH FALSE INFO TO AVOID CITATION	31
DRIVE ON CURB/SIDEWALK	5	HANDICAPPED PARKING	26
DRIVE OVER UNPROTECTED FIRE HOSE	1,485	HIT SKIP-PUB STREET	65
DRIVE U/SUSP OR VIOL OF LIC RESTR	3,811	ILLEGAL DEALER TAG	1
DRIVE U/SUSP-FTA/PAY CHILD SUPPORT	1,136	IMPROPER BUMPER	2
DRIVING IN MARKED LANES	2,664	IMPROPER PASSING	89
DRIVING LEFT OF CENTER PROH	51	INSTALL/SALE SAFETYBELT	1
DRIVING LETR OF CENTER/SUFF DISTANCE	55	INSUFFICIENT SPACE AT RR CROSSING	1
DRIVING ON CLOSED ROADWAY	46	ISSUANCE OF REGIST/LICENSE PLATES	2
DRIVING ON RAILROAD TRACKS	1	MALFUNCTIONING TRAFF CNTRL SIGNAL	5
DRIVING THROUGH SAFETY ZONE	55	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF HEADLIGHTS	4
DRIVING U/FRA SUSP OR CANCELLATION	3,932	MC-IMPROPER SITTING/NUM PASSENGER	11
DRIVING U/NON PAYMENT JUDGMENT	74	MC-TEMP PERMIT VIOLATION	8



## STATE OF OHIO TRAFFIC CHARGES FILED 2018

DRIVING U/OVI SUSPENSION	539	MC TEMP PERMIT VIOL W/O HELMET	4
DRIVING UNSAFE VEHICLE	174	MISUSE OF NON COMM MV	10
EMERG VEH TO PROCEED W/CAUTION	1	MUFFLER,EXCESSIVE GAS OR SMOKE	137
EQUIPMENT TURN SIGNAL/MC	2	NO MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT	27
FAIL TO SLOW DOWN AT RR CROSSING	2	NONRESIDENT VIOLATOR COMPACT	3
FAIL TO STOP-SCHOOL BUS	33	NON TRANSPARENT MAT ON WNDW PROH	2
FAIL TO YIELD-PED IN CROSSWLK/SIDEWLK	9	NOT MORE THAN ONE SPTLT/THREE AUX	2
FAILURE TO COMPLY	17	OBSTRUCT INTERSECTION/RR CROSSING	11
FAILURE TO CONTROL	1,045	OBSTRUCTED VIEW-DRIVER	1
FAILURE TO DISPLAY	27	OCCUPYING SPACE ON FREEWAY-PED	12
FAILURE TO DISPLAY HEADLIGHTS	417	ONE WAY HIGHWAY/ROTARY	83
FAILURE TO DISPLAY TWO PLATES	15	OPEN CONTAINER	64
FAILURE TO OBEY OFFICIAL SIGNS	49	OPER ALLOW PERSON TO RIDE/HANG	3
FAILURE TO REGISTER-EXPIRED TAGS	2,443	OPER MV BEAR INVAL LIC PLATE/ID MARK	540
FAILURE TO REINSTATE LICENSE	1,335	OPER MV W/O PROOF OF INSURANCE	12
FAILURE TO REINSTATE LIC-PRIMA FACIE	11	OPER MV W/PREV OWNER PLATES	24



## STATE OF OHIO TRAFFIC CHARGES FILED 2018

OPERATE MV W/O VAL LIC EXP < 6 MTHS	94	RIGHT HALF OF RDWY EXCEPTIONS	262
OPERATE MV W/O VALID LICENSE	5,372	RIGHT OF WAY-INTERSECTIONS	367
OPERATORS LICENSE REQ- SNWMBLE/MC	1	RULES FOR PASSING LEFT CENTERLINE	30
PARKING NEAR CURB	8	RULES FOR PASSING ON THE RIGHT	38
PARKING VIOLATION-PRIVATE RULES	3	SAFETY GLASS	13
PARKING WRONG DIRECTION	28	SAFETY LIGHTING ON COMM VEH REQ	2
PASS IN MARKED HAZARDOUS ZONES	65	SEAT SAFETY BELT/ANCHORAGE UNIT REQ	2
PASS ON LEFT SIDE OF STREET CAR	2	SEATBELT-ALLOW PASSENGER	114
PASS ON THE RT-CARS IN OPPTS DIR	7	SEATBELT-OPERATOR	14,189
PATHS EXCLUSIVELY FOR BICYCLES	1	SEATBELT-PASSENGER	318
PASS	2		2
PEDESTRIAN CONTROL SIGNAL	1	SIDE COWL.FENDER,BACK UP LGHT RESTR	54
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING PROHIBITED	12	SLOW MOV VEH-RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY	24
PEDESTRIAN ON SIDEWALK RIGHT OF WAY	2	SLOW SPEED	100
PEDESTRIAN OUTSIDE CRSWLK TO YIELD	22	SLOW VEH HEADLIGHT REQ	3
PEDESTRIAN SUDDEN CROSS W/O SAFETY	1	SPEED	19,538
PEDESTRIAN UNDER INFLUENCE PROH	2	SPEED LIMITS PRIVATE RDWYS/DRWYS	2



## STATE OF OHIO TRAFFIC CHARGES FILED 2018

PEDESTRIAN WALKING ALONG HIGHWAY	7	SPEED-SCHOOL ZONE	61
PEDESTRIAN WALKING IN ROADWAY	37	SPEED-SCHOOL ZONE OVER 20 MPH	235
PERMIT OPER BY UNLIC DR-SURRENDER	2	STARTING AND BACKING VEHICLES	104
PERMIT OPERATION W/O VALID LICENSE	13	STOP LIGHTS REQ	128
PERMITTING MINOR TO DRIVE	5	STOP-SIDEWALK AREA	9
PROH AGAINST DRIVE UPON LEFT SIDE	33	STOP SIGN ON PRIVATE RD/DRVWY	2
PROH AGAINST PARKING ON HIGHWAY	36	STOPPING AFTER ACCIDENT INVOL INJURY	8
PROH AGAINST RESIST/INTRFER W/OFFICIAL	3	SURRENDER FOREIGN DRIVERS LICENSE	6
PROH OPERATION OF MV-TEMP HIGH WTR	9	SUSP OF LIC-FTA/PAY FINE/DENY VEH REG	195
PROH SNOWMOBILE/MC OFF HIGHWAY	3	SUSPENSION UPON DRUG OFFENSE CONV	4
PROH SOLICIT EMP BUSINESS/CONTRIB	90	TAG VIOLATION	1,967
PROH SOLICIT RIDE OUTSIDE SAFETY ZONE	44	TAIL/LICENSE PLATE LIGHT REQ	405
PROH/SLOW MOVING VEHICLE	1	TEMPORARY PERMIT VIOLATION	212
PROHIBITED NUMBER OF HEADLIGHTS	316	TEMPORARY PERMIT/MC VIOLATION	9
REAR VIEW MIRROR, CLEAR VIEW	20	TEMPORARY PLATE REGISTRATION	4
RECKLESS OPERATION	297	TEXTING WHILE DRIVING	98
RECKLESS OPERATION-OFF ST/HIGHWAY	20	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	1,350
RED LIGHT/FLAG REQ ON EXTND LOAD	4	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE-PEDESTRIAN	5
RED REFLECTORS REQ ON MV	6	TRAFFIC SIGNAL LIGHTS	212
REG OF VEH/ENGINE NOISE	1	TRAFFIC SIGNALS-RED LIGHT	497
REG W/IN THIRTY DAYS OF RESIDENCY	1	TURNING AT INTERSECTIONS	389
REQ: DISTRIBUTION OF HEADLIGHT BEAMS	148	TURNING IN ROADWAY	105



## STATE OF OHIO TRAFFIC CHARGES FILED 2018

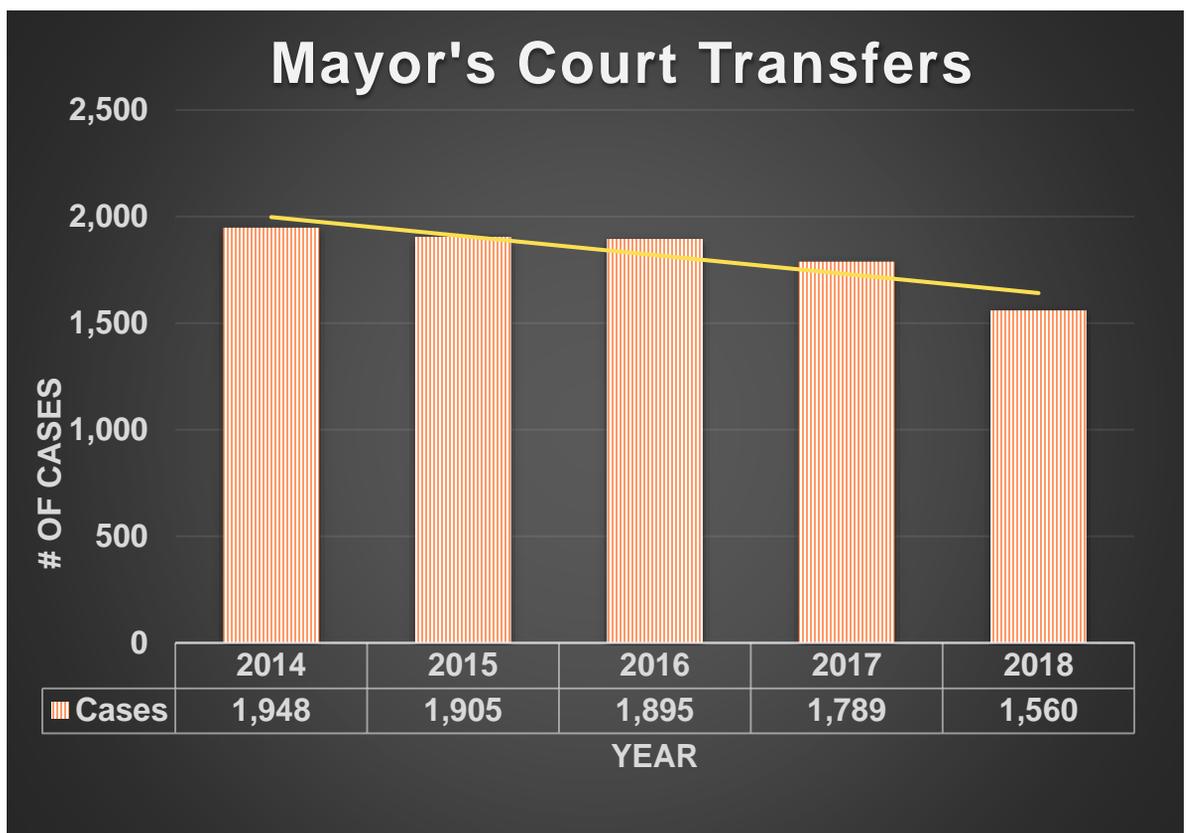
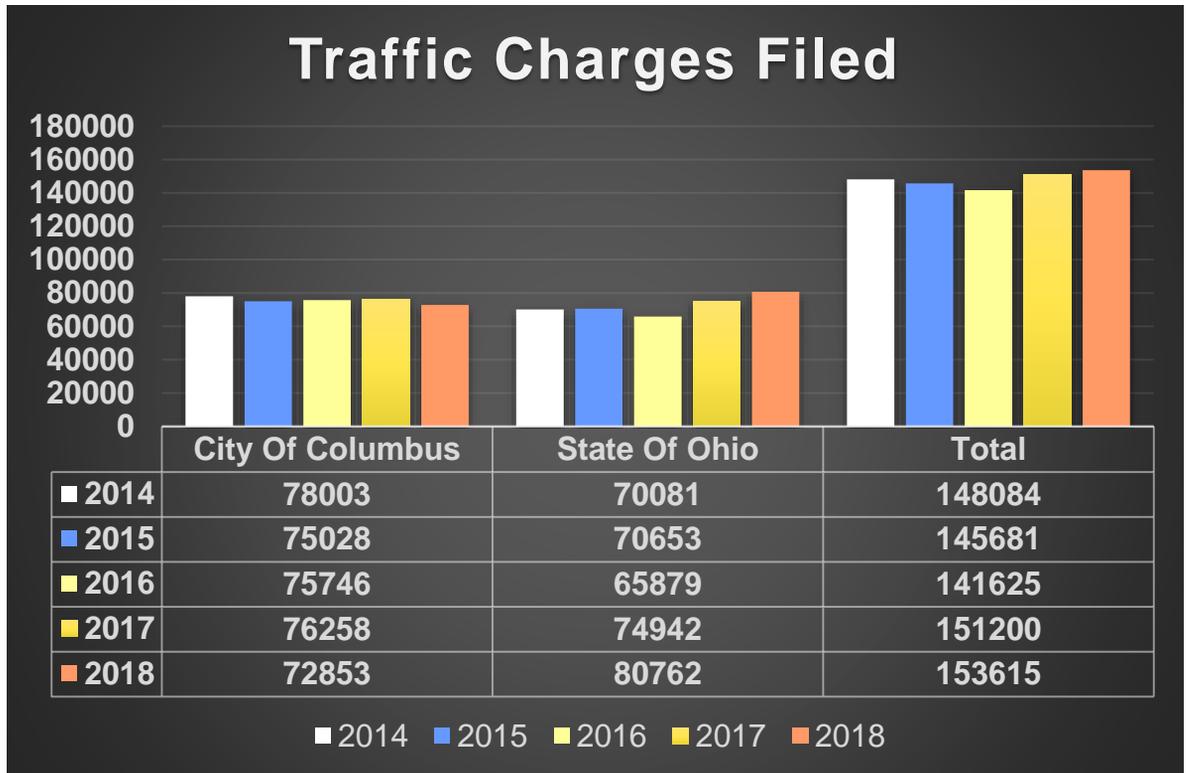
<b>TWO HEADLIGHTS DISPLAYED</b>	252		
<b>UNATTENDED MV</b>	6		
<b>UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS AND SIGNALS</b>	3		
<b>USE OF HEADPHONES</b>	34		
<b>VEHICLE CROSSING RAILROAD</b>	1		
<b>VEHICLE EQUIPPED W/TURN SIGNALS</b>	5		
<b>VEHICLE STANDING OR PARKING VIOL</b>	256		
<b>VIOLATION RAILROAD CROSSING</b>	3		
<b>WINDOW TINT RESTRICTIONS</b>	169		
<b>WINDSHIELD REQUIRED</b>	19		
<b>WINDSHIELD WIPER REQ</b>	1		
<b>WRONG SIDE-DIVIDED ROAD</b>	104		
<b>WRONGFUL ENTRUSTMENT OF MV</b>	36		
<b>WRONGFUL ENTRUSTMENT-NOT VALID</b>	22		
<b>WRONGFUL ENTRUSTMENT-SUSPENSION</b>	4		

## MAYOR'S COURTS TRANSFERS 2018

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
BEXLEY	14
CANAL WINCHESTER	27
DELAWARE	1
DUBLIN	128
GAHANNA	58
GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS	26
GROVE CITY	534
GROVEPORT	7
HILLIARD	140
MARBLE CLIFF	15
MINERVA PARK	17
NEW ALBANY	50
OBETZ	10
REYNOLDSBURG	72
UPPER ARLINGTON	69
VALLEYVIEW	12
WESTERVILLE	62
WHITEHALL	210
WORTHINGTON	55

**TOTAL CASES FILED:**

**1,507**



## **Accounting/Finance Division**

The Accounting/Finance Division oversees the collection of and accounting for all fines, court costs, fees, bail, garnishments, and judgments issued by the Court. The Division oversees the disbursement of collected funds to the appropriate parties, and releases funds in satisfactions, judgments, attachments, garnishments, and executions. The Accounting Division also has three internal payment programs in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code and Local Court Rules. The programs are as follows:

### **Time Payment Program**

This program under authorization by the sentencing Judge allows a defendant to make monthly payments on court fines and costs up to twelve months or until balance is paid in full.

Total number of sign-ups in 2018: 1,958

Total cases on program paid in full in 2018: 864

### **Rent Escrow Program**

This program allows tenants with complaints regarding their residential housing conditions to deposit rent due into an escrow account until the matter has been resolved.

Cases filed in 2018: 256

### **Trusteeship Program**

This program allows a debtor to deposit a portion of the personal earnings with the Clerk of Courts to avoid legal proceedings by creditors. The funds collected are disbursed to creditors equally until all debt is paid in full.

Cases filed in 2018: 10

### **EPAY Online Payment Service**

This is an online payment convenience that is offered by the Clerks Office for payments of payable citations, and also payment of fines and costs incurred once adjudicated.

Total cases paid in 2018 : 47,589

Amount collected in 2018: \$8,512,624.79

## **Accounting/Finance Division**

### **Restitution Program**

**This program was implemented February 1, 2015. It is under the authorization of the sentencing Judge and allows the defendant to make monthly payments for the set restitution amount. The Clerk's Office ensures the payments are then forwarded to the victim. No extra fees are charged by the Clerk's Office for this process.**

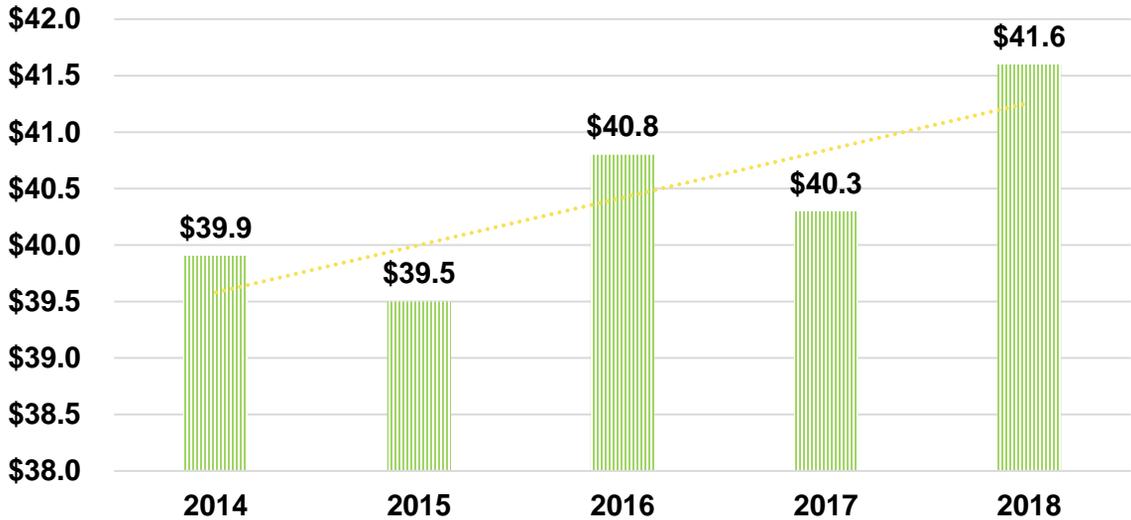
- **New payment sign-ups in 2018: 646**
- **Payments forwarded to victims in 2018: 2,234 Totaling: \$381,283.19**
- **Cases with restitution paid in full in 2018: 471**

**The Accounting/Finance Division is responsible for preparing a monthly general accounting for all funds received and disbursed by the Clerk's Office. These records are audited annually by a licensed certified public accounting firm and approved by the State Auditor's Office. Accomplishments for Accounting/Finance in 2018 are as follows:**

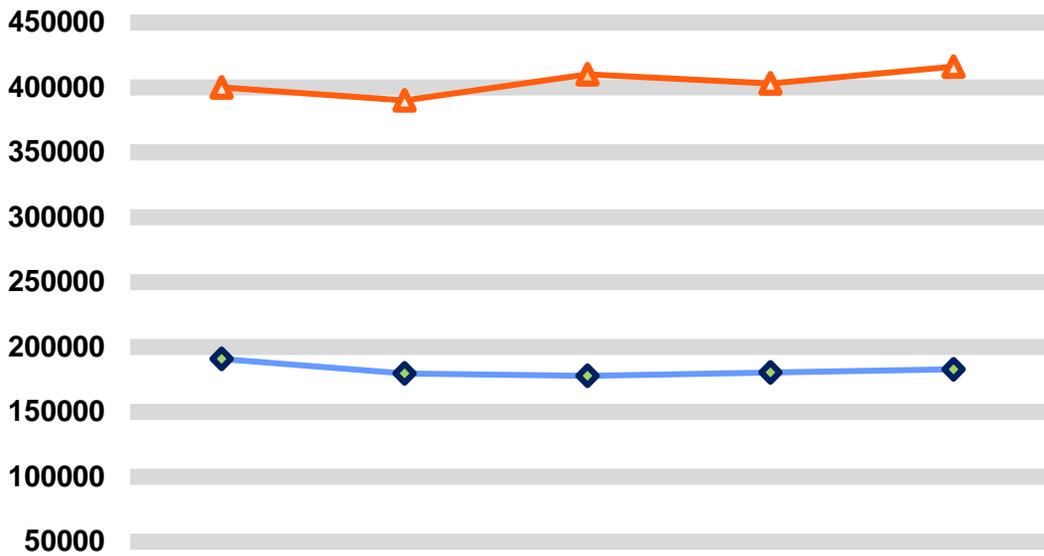
- **Implemented a process for pre-paid credit cards for the October Driver's License Clinic**
- **Created a new procedure for expungement payment to Higbee & Associates for the notification to private background check databases. (ref: HB 49)**
- **Participated on the Armored Car Evaluation**
- **Implemented the new Distracted Driving Fine. (ref: HB 95)**
- **Revised the Cost Schedule to include a new Supervised Community Service Fee**
- **Collaborated in the E-Filing process for Civil cases and Criminal Expungement cases**
- **Confirmed a partial payment procedure for Criminal cases**

## Funds Received (Millions)

Civil, Rent Escrow, Trusteeship, Criminal/Traffic



### Case & Revenue Comparison



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
◆ Cases	190765	179559	177744	180299	182716
▲ Revenue	400000	390000	410000	403000	416000

Revenue Listed in Millions

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**2018 Franklin County Municipal Court  
Financial Statements**

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**Financial Statements**

**Balance Sheet**

For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<b>Assets</b>				
Cash Civil				\$760,321.36
Cash Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund				\$1,670,421.45
Cash Rent Escrow Fund				\$202,741.48
Cash Trusteeship Fund				\$5,452.69
<b>Total Assets</b>				<b>\$2,638,936.98</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Due to Payee Civil Fund				\$760,321.36
Due to Payee Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund				\$1,670,421.45
Due to Payee Rest Escrow Fund				\$202,741.48
Due to Payee Trusteeship Fund				\$5,452.69
<b>Total Liabilities</b>				<b>\$2,638,936.98</b>

**Statement of Receipts & Disbursements**

For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<b>Receipts</b>				
Receipts Civil Fund				\$21,285,518.35
Receipts Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund				\$19,821,702.46
Receipts Rent Escrow Fund				\$478,249.84
Receipts Trusteeship Fund				\$95,215.49
<b>Total Receipts</b>				<b>\$41,680,686.14</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Disbursements Civil Fund				\$21,567,898.10
Disbursements Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund				\$19,773,463.90
Disbursements Rent Escrow Fund				\$455,256.46
Disbursements Trusteeship Fund				\$94,344.03
<b>Total Disbursements</b>				<b>\$41,890,962.49</b>

## Statement of Civil Fund Receipts

For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<b>City of Columbus</b>				
Administrative 1% Legal Aid Fees				\$11,429.16
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person CV OCA 226005				\$46,488.00
Civil Contempt Fines				\$5,080.00
Civil Court Costs				\$4,914,839.23
Civil Environmental Fines				\$7,899.44
Civil Home Incarceration Program Fee				\$0.00
Civil Home Incarceration Equipment Cost				\$0.00
Civil Security Facilities Fees				\$468,421.93
Civil Specialty Docket Programs				\$139,786.00
Copier Debit Cards				\$0.00
Municipal Clerk Computer Fees				\$469,342.88
Municipal Court Computer Fees				\$140,799.57
Jury Deposit Payment				\$0.00
Return Check Fees				\$799.48
Small Claims Dispute Resolution Sub-Fund				\$9,375.00
<b>Total City of Columbus</b>				<b>\$6,214,260.69</b>
<b>State of Ohio</b>				
State Legal Aid Fees				\$1,131,449.18
<b>Daily Reporter</b>				
Publication Fees				\$418,122.07
<b>Other Entities</b>				
Civil Bond Deposits				\$59,064.68
Civil Deposits				\$20,472.53
Civil Judgment Deposits				\$13,383,035.42
Civil Jury Deposits				\$25,580.00
Civil Jury Deposits Applied				\$0.00
Civil Overpayment Deposits				\$30,318.66
Civil Sheriff Deposits				\$1,470.00
Civil Towing Deposits				\$0.00
Civil Witness Deposits				\$1,745.12
Environmental Appraisal				\$0.00
Environmental Injunctive				\$0.00
Environmental Mortgage				\$0.00
Environmental Sheriff				\$0.00
<b>Total Other Entities</b>				<b>\$13,521,686.41</b>
<b>Total Civil Fund Receipts</b>				<b>\$21,285,518.35</b>

Statement of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts			
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018			
<b>City of Columbus</b>			
Appearance Bond Costs			\$94,852.70
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person TR OCA 226105			\$86,098.24
City Jury Fees			\$4,323.24
Collection Account 14450			\$221,559.00
Columbus City Code Fines			\$2,862,318.62
Columbus Health Department Fines			\$0.00
Court Costs			\$3,990,490.26
CR/TR Clerk Computerization Fund			\$880,299.64
CR/TR Collection Fee			\$289,330.58
CR/TR Court Computerization Fund			\$264,003.79
CR/TR Environmental Fines			\$61,498.00
CR/TR Probation Scram			\$0.00
CR/TR Probation Services			\$404,895.29
CR/TR Security Facilities Fee			\$870,813.48
CR/TR Specialty Docket Program			\$259,205.52
Criminal Diversion Fee			\$50.00
DUI Education Fund			\$2,062.00
ENV Community Service Fee			\$4,624.00
ENV Probation Services			\$17,705.22
Home Incarceration Equipment Cost			\$6,220.00
Home Incarceration Program			\$5,343.00
Indigent DR ALC Fund DUS			\$0.00
Immobilizing/Disabling Devices Fine			\$65,347.60
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund DUI			\$161,803.10
Local Expungements City Share			\$3,760.00
Local Witness Fees			\$29,660.27
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines 14050			\$636,242.16
Prosecutor's Check Resolution Program			\$8,122.50
Returned Check Fees			\$1,225.00
Workers Comp Fee			\$7,191.00
<b>Total City of Columbus</b>			<b>\$11,239,044.21</b>
<b>State of Ohio</b>			
Bail Surcharge-Indigent Defense Support			\$159,972.00
Child Restraint Law State Share			\$6,036.40
Drug Law Enforcement Fund			\$252,752.49
Indigent Defense Support Fund			\$2,198,235.76
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund			\$33.00
Justice Program Services Fund			\$7,407.38
Local Expungements State Share			\$5,640.00
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines State Share			\$722,489.06
Public Defender-Indigent Defense Support Fund			\$2,457.10
State Expungements State Share			\$15,870.00
State Highway Safety Fund			\$739.50
State Liquor Fines State Share			\$17,473.50
State Seatbelt Fines			\$690.00
Trauma and EMT Fund			\$357,503.08
Victims of Crime			\$739,789.03

Statement of Criminal Traffic Fund Receipts Continued				
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018				
<u>State of Ohio-BMV</u>				
BMV License Suspension/Reinstatement Fee				\$195.00
BMV Warrant Block Reinstatement Fee				\$75.00
<u>State of Ohio-DUI</u>				
Ohio Highway Patrol DUI Education Fund				\$6,897.50
<u>State of Ohio-ODNR</u>				
State Watercraft Fund				\$0.00
State Wildlife Fund				\$1,420.00
Total State of Ohio				\$4,495,675.80
<u>Franklin County</u>				
	State Traffic	Other State	Other State	
	4511 & 4513	Traffic Violations	Violations	
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$1,091.00	\$1,131.00
Capitla Area Humane Society	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$486.00	\$486.00
Columbus Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus Regulation Division	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus State University	\$420.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$420.00
County Road & Bridge Fund	\$160,206.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$160,206.50
Department of Animal Control	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$81,498.55	\$81,498.55
Franklin County Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,970.00	\$5,970.00
Municipal Police	\$153,166.80	\$48,656.21	\$107,502.03	\$309,325.04
Ohio Dept of Agriculture	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$219.00	\$219.00
Ohio Department of Natural Resouces	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43.00	\$43.00
Ohio Department of Public Safety	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$2,220.00	\$2,320.00
Ohio Department of Taxation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,837.00	\$3,837.00
Ohio Ethics Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Ohio Highway Patrol	\$160,036.91	\$162.50	\$353.70	\$160,553.11
Ohio State Agencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,522.00	\$7,522.00
Ohio State University	\$13,270.00	\$1,675.00	\$6,292.00	\$21,237.00
Otterbein College PD	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Port Columbus Airport	\$15,410.00	\$3,554.00	\$300.00	\$19,264.00
	\$502,510.21	\$54,287.71	\$217,484.28	
Indigent Application Fee				\$79,054.25
Law Library Resources Fund				\$159,839.00
State Expungements-County Share				\$10,580.00
State Jury Fees				\$6,915.36
State Liquor Fines-County Share				\$17,473.50
State Witness Fees				\$15,708.62

## Statement Of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts Continued

For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

	State Traffic	Other State	Other State	
	4511 & 4513	Traffic Violations	Violations	
<b>Townships County Share</b>				
Blendon	\$16,176.00	\$4,489.00	\$716.50	\$21,381.50
Clinton	\$21,317.00	\$6,088.46	\$1,117.50	\$28,522.96
Franklin	\$7,146.28	\$4,602.50	\$547.50	\$12,296.28
Madison	\$17,902.00	\$2,717.25	\$621.00	\$21,240.25
Mifflin	\$9,488.50	\$4,131.25	\$274.00	\$13,893.75
Perry	\$24,507.75	\$11,192.60	\$239.00	\$35,939.35
Sharon	\$6,564.00	\$1,212.50	\$200.00	\$7,976.50
	\$103,101.53	\$34,433.56	\$3,715.50	
<b>Total Township County Share</b>				\$141,250.59
	State Traffic	Other State	Other State	
	4511 & 4513	Traffic Violations	Violations	
<b>Franklin County Sheriff</b>				
Sheriff Blendon	\$48,029.00	\$1,750.00	\$4,186.50	\$53,965.50
Sheriff Brown	\$4,663.00	\$429.00	\$0.00	\$5,092.00
Sheriff Clinton	\$1,509.00	\$0.00	\$1,235.00	\$2,744.00
Sheriff Franklin	\$9,618.00	\$0.00	\$7,657.85	\$17,275.85
Sheriff Hamilton	\$200.00	\$25,785.12	\$325.01	\$26,310.13
Sheriff Jackson	\$40,401.43	\$3,737.00	\$813.00	\$44,951.43
Sheriff Jefferson	\$31,027.00	\$0.00	\$135.00	\$31,162.00
Sheriff Madison	\$12,887.00	\$0.00	\$2,450.00	\$15,337.00
Sheriff Mifflin	\$31,140.75	\$750.00	\$2,781.00	\$34,671.75
Sheriff Non-Township	\$48,165.00	\$41,475.00	\$5,702.00	\$95,342.00
Sheriff Norwich	\$2,102.50	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$2,407.50
Sheriff Perry	\$470.00	\$0.00	\$195.00	\$665.00
Sheriff Plain	\$15,145.00	\$1,034.50	\$70.00	\$16,249.50
Sheriff Pleasant	\$5,390.00	\$515.00	\$0.00	\$5,905.00
Sheriff Prairie	\$15,614.50	\$7,211.50	\$182.50	\$23,008.50
Sheriff Sharon	\$3,450.00	\$0.00	\$735.00	\$4,185.00
Sheriff Truro	\$8,458.00	\$4,083.50	\$100.00	\$12,641.50
Sheriff Washington	\$1,137.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,137.50
	\$279,407.68	\$87,075.62	\$26,567.86	
<b>Total Franklin County Sheriff</b>				\$393,051.16
<b>Total Franklin County Receipts</b>				\$1,598,154.68

## Statement Of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts Continued

For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<u>Municipalities</u>	DUI Education	Fines	Mayors Court	
Bexley	\$300.00	\$632.00	\$0.00	\$932.00
Brice	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,943.00	\$2,093.00
Canal Winchester	\$75.00	\$2,100.00	\$490.00	\$2,665.00
Dublin	\$1,175.00	\$11,326.43	\$4,544.86	\$17,046.29
Gahanna	\$1,456.00	\$5,887.00	\$2,096.00	\$9,439.00
Grandview Heights	\$500.00	\$1,888.00	\$0.00	\$2,388.00
Grove City	\$1,175.00	\$13,200.00	\$2,488.10	\$16,863.10
Groveport	\$250.00	\$266.00	\$0.00	\$516.00
Harrisburg	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hilliard	\$429.00	\$8,949.00	\$2,923.40	\$12,301.40
Minerva Park	\$50.00	\$958.00	\$30.00	\$1,038.00
New Albany	\$375.00	\$4,091.00	\$2,785.00	\$7,251.00
Obetz	\$150.00	\$109.00	\$0.00	\$259.00
Reynoldsburg	\$806.00	\$3,179.00	\$265.00	\$4,250.00
Upper Arlington	\$100.00	\$22,607.50	\$1,471.00	\$24,178.50
Urbancrest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Valleyview	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Westerville	\$469.00	\$14,427.00	\$1,536.02	\$16,432.02
Whitehall	\$768.00	\$4,813.00	\$3,074.00	\$8,655.00
Worthington	\$725.00	\$3,023.00	\$2,204.00	\$5,952.00
	\$8,828.00	\$97,605.93	\$25,850.38	
<b>Total Municipalities</b>				<b>\$132,284.31</b>
<u>Townships</u>	DUI Education	Fines		
Blendon	\$1,043.72	\$21,381.50		\$22,425.22
Clinton	\$425.00	\$28,522.95		\$28,947.95
Franklin	\$50.00	\$12,278.78		\$12,328.78
Hamilton	\$0.00	\$26,310.10		\$26,310.10
Madison	\$350.00	\$21,240.25		\$21,590.25
Mifflin	\$398.00	\$13,893.75		\$14,291.75
Norwich	\$0.00	\$2,407.50		\$2,407.50
Perry	\$300.00	\$35,939.35		\$36,239.35
Prairie	\$0.00	\$23,008.50		\$23,008.50
Sharon	\$200.00	\$7,976.50		\$8,176.50
Washington	\$0.00	\$1,137.50		\$1,137.50
	\$2,766.72	\$194,096.68		
<b>Total Townships</b>				<b>\$196,863.40</b>

## Statement Of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts Continued

For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

<b>Other Entities</b>			
<b>Central Ohio Crime Stoppers</b>			
CR/TR Crime Stoppers Fee			\$5,662.48
<b>Columbus Airport Authority</b>			
Port Columbus PD DUI Education Fund			\$550.00
<b>Columbus &amp; Franklin County Metro Parks</b>			
Metro Parks Police Fines			\$465.00
<b>Columbus Development Center</b>			
Col Develop Center DUI Education Fund			\$0.00
<b>Franklin County Sheriff</b>			
Sheriff DUI Education Fund			\$4,377.00
DUI Offender Housing Fund			\$54,024.10
<b>Ohio Department of Public Safety</b>			
ODPS Drug Law Enforcement Fund			\$112.00
<b>The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy</b>			
State Drug/Pharmacy Fund			\$41,151.10
<b>The Ohio State University</b>			
Ohio State University DUI Education Fund			\$525.00
<b>Overpayments</b>			
Criminal/Traffic Overpayment Deposits			\$36,760.64
Criminal/Traffic Applied Overpayment Deposits			(\$34.50)
<b>Time Payments</b>			
Time Payment Receipts			\$553,876.63
Applied Time Payments			(\$551,860.90)
<b>Restitution</b>			
Restitution Deposit Receipts			\$369,611.45
Applied Distributions			(\$368,884.13)
Restitution Receipts			\$368,884.13
<b>Total Other Entities</b>			<b>\$515,220.00</b>

**Statement of Bail Fund Receipts**  
**For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

<b>Appearance Bonds</b>				
<b>Appearance Bond Receipts</b>				\$987,142.95
<b>Applied Appearance Bonds</b>				(\$160,288.05)
				\$826,854.90
<b>Bond Costs</b>				
<b>Bond Cost Receipts</b>				\$109,682.55
<b>Applied Bond Costs</b>				(\$94,939.70)
				\$14,742.85
<b>Bond Surcharge</b>				
<b>Bond Surcharge Receipts</b>				\$273,675.00
<b>Applied Bond Surcharge</b>				(\$160,660.00)
				\$113,015.00
<b>Cash Bonds</b>				
<b>Cash Bond Receipts</b>				\$559,579.15
<b>Applied Cash Bonds</b>				(\$69,899.84)
				\$489,679.31
<b>Moving Violations</b>				
<b>Moving Violation Receipts</b>				\$49,150.00
<b>Applied Moving Violations</b>				(\$35,440.00)
				\$13,710.00
<b>Non-Moving Violations</b>				
<b>Non-Moving Violation Receipts</b>				\$1,600.00
<b>Applied Non-Moving Violations</b>				(\$1,060.00)
				\$540.00
<b>Public Defender</b>				
<b>Public Defender Receipts</b>				\$235,025.00
<b>Applied Public Defender</b>				(\$125,955.00)
				\$109,070.00
<b>Victims-Of-Crime</b>				
<b>Victims-Of-Crime Receipts</b>				\$133,950.00
<b>Applied Victims-Of-Crime</b>				(\$57,102.00)
				\$76,848.00
<b>Total Bail Fund Receipts</b>				\$1,644,460.06
<b>Total Receipts Crim/Traf/Bail</b>				\$19,821,702.46

**Statement of Rent Escrow Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

<b>Court Costs</b>	<b>\$5,001.85</b>
<b>Return Check Fees</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Deposits</b>	<b>\$473,297.99</b>
<b>Overpayment Deposits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$478,324.84</b>

**Statement of Trusteeship Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

<b>Court Costs</b>	<b>\$498.00</b>
<b>Deposits</b>	<b>\$94,715.49</b>
<b>Applied Deposits</b>	<b>(\$93,846.49)</b>
<b>Disbursement</b>	<b>\$93,846.49</b>
<b>Overpayment Deposits</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>
<b>Applied Overpayment Deposits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Franklin County Municipal Court Financial Report</b>	
<b>Franklin County Municipal Court Financial Report</b>	
<b>Franklin County Municipal Court Financial Report</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$95,215.49</b>

**Statement of Disbursements Treasurer City Of Columbus  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

<b>Civil Fund</b>			
Administrative 1% Legal Aid Fees			\$11,439.97
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person CV OCA 226005			\$46,525.00
Civil Contempt Fines			\$5,080.00
Civil Court Costs			\$4,944,784.58
Civil Environmental Fines			\$7,899.44
Civil Home Incarceration Program Fee			\$0.00
Civil Home Incarceration Equipment Cost			\$0.00
Civil Security Facilities Fees			\$468,817.83
Civil Specialty Docket Programs			\$139,902.00
Copier Debit Cards			\$0.00
Municipal Clerk Computer Fees			\$469,751.88
Municipal Court Computer Fees			\$140,922.57
Jury Deposit Payment			\$0.00
Return Check Fees			\$749.48
Small Claims Dispute Resolution Sub-Fund			\$9,315.00
<b>Total Civil Fund</b>			<b>\$6,245,187.75</b>
<b>Criminal/Traffic Fund</b>			
Appearance Bond Costs			\$96,339.20
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person TR OCA 226105			\$86,544.89
City Jury Fees			\$4,323.24
Collection Account 14450			\$223,894.00
Columbus City Code Fines			\$2,874,418.20
Columbus Health Department			\$0.00
Court Costs			\$4,015,040.54
CR/TR Clerk Computerization Fund			\$884,931.94
CR/TR Collection Fee			\$292,053.12
CR/TR Court Computerization Fund			\$265,390.79
CR/TR Environmental Fines			\$60,625.00
CR/TR Probation Scram			\$0.00
CR/TR Probation Services			\$409,355.62
CR/TR Security Facilities Fee			\$875,313.33
CR/TR Specialty Docket Program			\$260,539.42
Criminal Diversion Fee			\$50.00
DUI Education Fund			\$2,064.00
ENV Community Service Fee			\$4,588.00
ENV Probation Services			\$18,117.62
Home Incarceration Equipment Cost			\$6,495.00
Home Incarceration Program			\$5,581.50
Immobilizing/Disabling Devices Fine			\$66,218.10
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund			\$34.50
Indigent DR ALC Fund DUS			\$0.00
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund DUI			\$162,427.13
Local Expungements City Share			\$3,840.00
Local Witness Fees			\$30,275.51
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines 14050			\$639,770.72
Prosecutor's Check Resolution Program			\$8,140.50
Returned Check Fees			\$1,325.00
Workers Comp Fee			\$7,186.00
<b>Total Criminal Traffic Fund</b>			<b>\$11,304,882.87</b>
<b>Rent Escrow Fund</b>			
Court Costs			\$5,071.33
Returned Check Fees			\$25.00
<b>Trusteeship Fund</b>			
Court Costs			\$498.00
<b>Disbursements Treasurer City Of Columbus</b>			<b>\$17,555,664.95</b>

**Statement Of Disbursements Treasurer State Of Ohio  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

<b>Civil Fund</b>				
State Legal Aid Fees				\$1,132,507.74
<b>Criminal Traffic Fund</b>				
Bail Surcharge-Indigent Defense Support				\$160,740.50
Child Restraint Law State Share				\$6,096.40
Drug Law Enforcement Fund				\$253,827.09
Indigent Defense Support Fund				\$2,208,832.66
Justice Program Services Fund				\$7,438.50
Local Expungements State Share				\$5,760.00
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines State Share				\$726,539.70
Public Defender-Indigent Defense Support Fund				\$2,547.10
State Expungements State Share				\$15,780.00
State Liquor Fines State Share				\$18,524.00
State Highway Safety Fund				\$749.50
State Seatbelt Fines				\$670.00
Trauma and EMT Fund				\$359,902.14
Victims of Crime				\$743,258.03
<b>Total Criminal Traffic Fund</b>				\$4,510,665.62
<b>Total Treasurer State Of Ohio</b>				\$5,643,173.36

**Statement Of Disbursements Franklin County Treasurer  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

<b>CriminalTraffic Fund</b>				
	State Traffic	Other State	Other State	
Agency	4511 & 4513	Traffic Violations	Violations	
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$1,241.00	\$1,281.00
Captial Area Humane Society	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$486.00	\$486.00
Columbus Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus Regulations Division	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus State University	\$563.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$563.00
County Road & Bridge Fund	\$163,211.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$163,211.00
Department of Animal Control	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$81,203.37	\$81,203.37
Franklin County Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,042.00	\$6,042.00
Municipal Police	\$156,257.80	\$49,672.08	\$109,172.03	\$315,101.91
Ohio Department of Natural Resouces	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43.00	\$43.00
Ohio Department of Public Safety	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$2,220.00	\$2,320.00
Ohio Department of Taxation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,037.00	\$4,037.00
Ohio Ethics Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Ohio Highway Patrol	\$160,937.15	\$158.00	\$358.10	\$161,453.25
Ohio State Agencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,522.00	\$10,522.00
Ohio State University	\$12,710.00	\$1,765.00	\$6,317.00	\$20,792.00
Otterbein College PD	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Port Columbus Airport	\$15,661.05	\$3,484.00	\$300.00	\$19,445.05
	\$509,340.00	\$55,219.08	\$222,191.50	
<b>Indigent Application Fee</b>				\$79,396.11
<b>State Expungements-County Share</b>				\$10,520.00
<b>State Jury Fees</b>				\$6,915.36
<b>State Liquor Fines-County Share</b>				\$18,524.00
<b>State Witness Fees</b>				\$15,560.89

**Statement Of Disbursements Franklin County Treasurer Continued**  
**For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

	State Traffic 4511 & 4513	Other State Traffic Violations	Other State Violations	
<b>Townships County Share</b>				
Blendon	\$16,031.00	\$4,511.50	\$716.50	\$21,259.00
Clinton	\$21,159.50	\$5,970.96	\$1,095.00	\$28,225.46
Franklin	\$7,433.78	\$4,705.00	\$547.50	\$12,686.28
Madison	\$17,971.00	\$2,734.75	\$621.00	\$21,326.75
Mifflin	\$9,536.00	\$4,128.75	\$277.00	\$13,941.75
Perry	\$24,730.25	\$11,362.60	\$239.00	\$36,331.85
Sharon	\$6,591.50	\$1,262.50	\$200.00	\$8,054.00
	\$103,453.03	\$34,676.06	\$3,696.00	
<b>Total Township County Share</b>				\$141,825.09
	State Traffic 4511 & 4513	Other State Traffic Violations	Other State Violations	
<b>Franklin County Sheriff</b>				
Sheriff Blendon	\$48,468.00	\$1,750.00	\$4,041.50	\$54,259.50
Sheriff Brown	\$4,718.00	\$309.00	\$0.00	\$5,027.00
Sheriff Clinton	\$1,469.00	\$0.00	\$1,285.00	\$2,754.00
Sheriff Franklin	\$9,718.00	\$0.00	\$7,752.85	\$17,470.85
Sheriff Hamilton	\$200.00	\$25,985.12	\$325.01	\$26,510.13
Sheriff Jackson	\$38,711.43	\$3,447.00	\$213.00	\$42,371.43
Sheriff Jefferson	\$31,107.00	\$0.00	\$135.00	\$31,242.00
Sheriff Madison	\$13,157.00	\$0.00	\$2,450.00	\$15,607.00
Sheriff Mifflin	\$31,475.75	\$795.00	\$2,731.00	\$35,001.75
Sheriff Non-Township	\$46,738.00	\$39,129.00	\$5,952.00	\$91,819.00
Sheriff Norwich	\$2,035.00	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$2,340.00
Sheriff Perry	\$620.00	\$0.00	\$195.00	\$815.00
Sheriff Plain	\$15,570.00	\$989.50	\$70.00	\$16,629.50
Sheriff Pleasant	\$5,650.00	\$515.00	\$0.00	\$6,165.00
Sheriff Prairie	\$15,694.50	\$7,294.00	\$182.50	\$23,171.00
Sheriff Sharon	\$3,495.00	\$0.00	\$835.00	\$4,330.00
Sheriff Truro	\$8,608.00	\$4,083.50	\$100.00	\$12,791.50
Sheriff Washington	\$1,137.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,137.50
	\$278,572.18	\$84,602.12	\$26,267.86	
<b>Total Franklin County Sheriff</b>				\$389,442.16
<b>Total Franklin County Treasurer</b>				\$1,448,934.19

**Statement Of Disbursements Municipalities**  
**For the Year Ending December 31, 2018**

	DUI Education	Fines	Mayors Court	
<b>Criminal Traffic Fund</b>				
Bexley	\$300.00	\$632.00	\$0.00	\$932.00
Brice	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,943.00	\$2,093.00
Canal Winchester	\$75.00	\$2,115.00	\$590.00	\$2,780.00
Dublin	\$1,175.00	\$11,476.90	\$4,544.86	\$17,196.76
Gahanna	\$1,524.00	\$5,852.00	\$2,096.00	\$9,472.00
Grandview Heights	\$500.00	\$2,044.00	\$0.00	\$2,544.00
Grove City	\$1,175.00	\$12,825.00	\$2,478.10	\$16,478.10
Groveport	\$275.00	\$518.00	\$0.00	\$793.00
Hilliard	\$429.00	\$8,604.00	\$2,860.00	\$11,893.00
Minerva Park	\$50.00	\$1,008.00	\$50.00	\$1,108.00
New Albany	\$375.00	\$3,841.00	\$2,591.50	\$6,807.50
Obetz	\$125.00	\$109.00	\$0.00	\$234.00
Reynoldsburg	\$825.00	\$3,304.00	\$265.00	\$4,394.00
Upper Arlington	\$125.00	\$23,421.00	\$1,471.00	\$25,017.00
Valleyview	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Westerville	\$504.00	\$14,272.00	\$1,536.02	\$16,312.02
Whitehall	\$725.00	\$4,778.50	\$3,054.00	\$8,557.50
Worthington	\$702.50	\$3,087.00	\$2,199.00	\$5,988.50
	\$8,909.50	\$98,037.40	\$25,678.48	
<b>Total Municipalities</b>				\$132,625.38

<b>Statement Of Disbursements Townships</b>				
<b>For the Year Ending December 31, 2018</b>				
<b><u>Criminal Traffic Fund</u></b>	<b>DUI Education</b>	<b>Fines</b>		
Blendon	\$1,070.72	\$21,259.00		\$22,329.72
Clinton	\$425.00	\$28,225.45		\$28,650.45
Franklin	\$75.00	\$12,668.78		\$12,743.78
Hamilton	\$0.00	\$26,510.10		\$26,510.10
Madison	\$325.00	\$21,326.75		\$21,651.75
Mifflin	\$398.00	\$13,941.75		\$14,339.75
Norwich	\$0.00	\$2,340.00		\$2,340.00
Perry	\$300.00	\$36,331.85		\$36,631.85
Prairie	\$0.00	\$23,171.00		\$23,171.00
Sharon	\$200.00	\$8,054.00		\$8,254.00
Washington	\$0.00	\$1,137.50		\$1,137.50
	\$2,793.72	\$194,966.18		
<b>Total Townships</b>				<b>\$197,759.90</b>
<b>Statement Of Disbursements Other Entities</b>				
<b>For the Year Ending December 31, 2018</b>				
<b><u>Civil Fund</u></b>				
Daily Reporter				
Publication Fees				\$418,525.07
Other Entities				
Civil Bond Deposits				\$238,571.84
Civil Deposits				\$18,636.80
Civil Judgment Deposits				\$13,447,380.77
Civil Jury Deposits				\$31,500.00
Civil Sheriff Deposits				\$1,026.00
Civil Towing Deposits				\$0.00
Civil Witness Deposits				\$1,630.24
Environmental Appraisal				\$0.00
Environmental Injunctive				\$0.00
Environmental Mortgage				\$0.00
Environmental Sheriff				\$0.00
<b><u>Criminal Traffic Fund</u></b>				
Central Ohio Crime Stoppers				
CR/TR Crime Stoppers Fee				\$5,701.43
Columbus Airport Authority				
Port Columbus PD DUI Education Fund				\$575.00
Columbus & Franklin County Metro Parks				
Metro Parks Police Fines				\$465.00
Columbus Development Center				
Col Develop Center DUI Education Fund				\$0.00
Franklin County Sheriff				
Sheriff DUI Education Fund				\$4,427.00
DUI Offender Housing Fund				\$54,623.09

Statement Of Disbursements Other Entities Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Franklin County Law Library				
Law Library Fund				\$162,843.50
Ohio Department of Agriculture				
Ohio Department of Agriculture				\$219.00
Ohio Department of Public Safety				
ODPS Drug Law Enforcement Fund				\$115.50
The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy				
State Drug/Pharmacy Fund				\$41,473.60
The Ohio State University				
Ohio State University DUI Education Fund				\$525.00
State of Ohio-BMV				
BMV License Suspension/Reinstatement Fee				\$195.00
BMV Warrant Block Reinstatement Fee				\$75.00
State of Ohio-DUI				
Ohio Highway Patrol DUI Education Fund				\$6,919.50
State of Ohio-ODNR				
State Watercraft Fund				\$0.00
State Wildlife Fund				\$1,475.00
<u>Rent Escrow Fund</u>				
Rent Deposit Payments				\$450,235.13
<u>Trusteeship Fund</u>				
Trust Deposit Payments				\$0.00
Trust Disbursements				\$93,846.49
Trust Overpayments				(\$0.46)
<u>Restitution</u>				
Restitution Deposit Checks				\$378,191.37
Total Other Entities				\$15,359,175.87

Statement Of Bail Fund Disbursements  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Appearance Bonds				\$775,562.50
Bond Costs				\$9,304.25
Bond Surcharge				\$99,800.00
Cash Bonds				\$423,331.94
Moving Violations				\$10,400.00
Non-Moving Violations				\$450.00
Public Defender				\$97,920.00
Victims-Of-Crime				\$70,389.00
Total Bail Fund Disbursements				\$1,487,157.69

Statement Of Overpayment Refunds  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Civil Refunds				\$32,931.89
Criminal/Traffic Refunds				\$33,614.26
Rent Escrow Refunds				\$0.00
Trusteeship Refunds				\$0.00
Total Overpayment Refunds				\$66,546.15

Statement Of Unclaimed Funds Disbursements City Of Columbus  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2018

Civil Unclaimed Funds				\$23,407.76
Criminal/Traffic Unclaimed Funds				\$81,534.11
Rent Escrow Unclaimed Funds				\$1,716.80
Trusteeship Unclaimed Funds				\$0.00
Total Unclaimed Funds				\$106,658.67

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### Notes A - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Reporting Entity

The Franklin County Municipal Court (the court) was created and operates under the authority of Section 1901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code. Under the present law, the Court operates with 15 elected Judges and an elected Clerk of Court, each whom serves a six-year term. The court has been granted jurisdictions for the entire area of Franklin County.

For financial reporting purposes, the Court is an agency fund group which consists of the agency fund of the five divisions of the Court: Criminal/Traffic, Bail, Civil, Trusteeship and Rent Escrow.

The operating expenses of the Court are funded by the City of Columbus and Franklin County and are not; therefore, part of the reporting entity.

#### Basis of Accounting

The Court prepares its financial statements on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

### Note B - Civil Fund Receipts

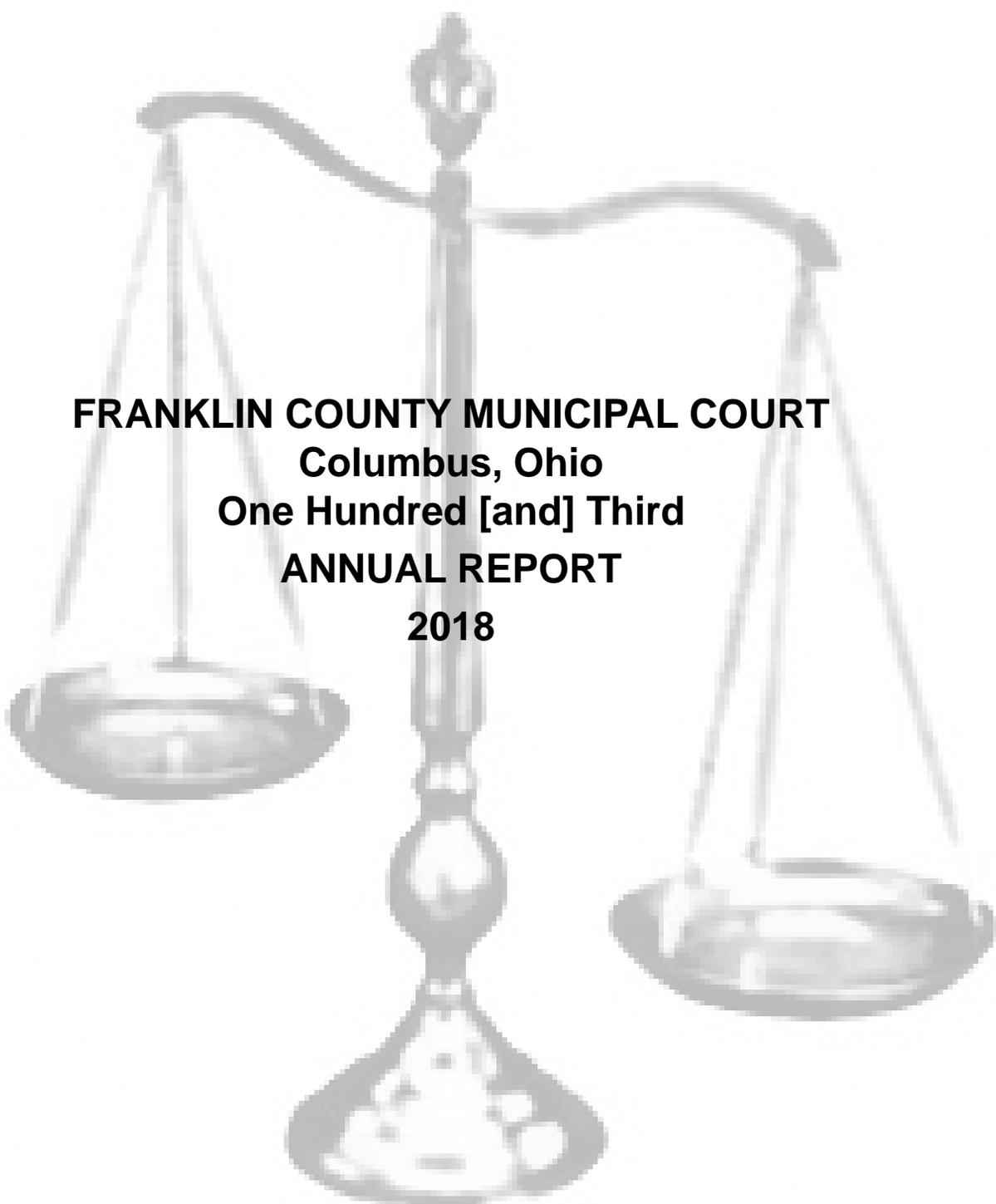
In addition to the Civil Fund total receipts and disbursements, cases are processed for the City of Columbus, State of Ohio and Franklin County agencies with filing fees deferred until a decision is rendered by the court

#### Additional Amount Breakdowns

See statements for summary totals of this information

### Note C - Statement of Disbursements to Municipalities

The DUI Education Fund fine amounts are included in the totals for each municipality and township.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT  
Columbus, Ohio  
One Hundred [and] Third  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2018**



## FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

375 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520

Chambers of  
**Judge Mark A. Hummer**  
Administrative & Presiding Judge  
Telephone: 614/645-8207

March 29, 2019

Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk  
Citizens of Franklin County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with section 1901.14 of the Ohio Revised Code, it is my pleasure to provide you with the 2018 Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Court.

From all indications, the Franklin County Municipal Court remains the largest and busiest municipal court in Ohio. We continually strive to improve our services to every citizen who appears in this Court and to be wise and efficient stewards of taxpayer resources. We appreciate the financial support that we receive in these difficult economic times and hope that this continued support is a reflection of your trust in the way we conduct our operations and expend taxpayer dollars.

The increasing complexity of the laws and the desire to meet the needs of every citizen who appears in this Court present substantial challenges to our judges and staff. As you will see from the details in the report that follows, our judges and staff remain fully committed to meeting the needs of our citizens and our community. We continually strive to improve our services and fulfill our obligation to fairly interpret the laws of Ohio.

Please feel free to contact me or Court Administrator Emily Shaw at (614) 645-8214 if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Hummer".

Mark A. Hummer  
Administrative and Presiding Judge

Enclosure

**THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT**  
**375 South High Street**  
**Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520**  
**614-645-8214**



**2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Franklin County Municipal Court traces its origin to the creation of the Columbus Municipal Court in 1916. Now, the geographic jurisdiction of the Court is all of Franklin County and those portions of the City of Columbus that extend beyond the boundaries of Franklin County. The Court has 14 judges in the General Division and one judge in the Environmental Division. Judges serve six-year terms, unless appointed or elected to fill a vacancy. Annually, they elect one of their peers to serve as the Administrative and Presiding Judge.

The judges who served the Franklin County Municipal Court during the year 2018 were Judge Mark A. Hummer, Administrative and Presiding Judge, and Judges James Green, H. William Pollitt, Jr., Ted Barrows, Paul M. Herbert, Amy Salerno, Andrea C. Peeples, David B. Tyack, James P. O'Grady, Cindi Morehart, Cynthia L. Ebner, Eileen Paley, Jodi Thomas, Jarrod Skinner and Environmental Court Judge Daniel Hawkins.

Judges preside over civil, criminal, and traffic cases and conduct both jury and court trials. In jury trials, judges interpret the law and the jury determines the facts. Court trials are the most common trials in this Court. In these trials, judges have the dual role of interpreting the law and determining the facts. The judges also conduct criminal arraignments and preliminary hearings on felony cases; set bond on criminal charges; issue search warrants; and impose sentence when a defendant is found guilty of a traffic or criminal charge. The judges hear civil cases with an amount in controversy of \$15,000 or less, and cases that are transferred from the Small Claims Division to the General Division of the Court. Other civil disputes resolved in this Court included evictions, rent escrow proceedings, and proceedings to aid in the collection of judgments.

The Environmental Division has exclusive jurisdiction to enforce local codes and regulations affecting real property, such as fire and building codes. The Environmental Division has injunctive powers, and there is no monetary limit on those cases that fall within the Division's exclusive jurisdiction.

Each week a different judge is assigned to the Duty Session to handle a variety of responsibilities, such as applications from law enforcement officers for search warrants, probable cause hearings, and civil wedding ceremonies.

## **ASSIGNMENT OFFICE**

The Assignment Office is responsible for the assignment of cases to the judiciary, by random or single assignment in accordance with the Ohio Rules of Superintendence and the Franklin County Municipal Court's Local Rules. The office is responsible for the case flow, case management, and support for all assigned judicial cases for all of the Judges of the Court from the time of assignment through termination and any post sentence and termination case management that include but are not limited to: probation hearings, garnishment filings, sealing of record hearings and many others. The Assignment Commissioner manages all cases heard by visiting judges from the time of their appointment by the Supreme Court through the termination of the case(s), and any subsequent post sentence or termination hearings.

Revised Code Section 1901.33(A), authorizes the Municipal Court to appoint an assignment commissioner, deputy commissioners and other court aides who manage the case flow of assigned criminal, traffic and civil cases. The Assignment Office consists of a commissioner, supervisor and six case coordinators, all of whom provide case management and case support, including reviewing case file information against the inputted computer data, scheduling cases to the assigned judge; rescheduling of additional hearings, and reviewing civil motions. Additional assignment staff consists of, one unassigned case coordinator and four full time assignment clerks. Assignment clerks update, research, and prepare case files for the coordinators to schedule the judge's individual dockets.

General duties of the Assignment staff include updating case information, adding attorneys, prosecutors, case pleadings, verify jail status and research for pending and probation cases associated to defendants on criminal, traffic and sealing of records cases within the court's case data management system. This staff also reviews civil case information and sends notice of filing on certain motions. The assignment office reviews and records pleadings, motions, and entries for each assigned civil case and assists in the monitoring of the judge's motion list. All staff will assist the public when needed, by providing directions, case information, scheduling cases, accepting new attorney registration and/or address changes for updating within the court case management system.

The Court has 5 judges who operate 5 different specialized dockets along with their regular case load. These dockets are the CATCH (Changing Actions to Change Habits), MAVS (Military and Veteran's Docket), h.a.r.t. (Helping Achieve Recovery Together), L.I.N.C. (Learning to Identify and Navigate Change), and Recovery Court. All of the case management needs for these cases are the responsibility of the assigned case coordinator.

The Ohio Supreme Court's "Rules of Superintendence for Municipal Courts" require that cases be assigned to judges in a random manner. Random assignment occurs at the time a defendant enters a "not guilty" plea in criminal and traffic cases and upon the filing of a motion or an answer in civil cases. However, in accordance with Local Court Rule 8, there are also certain circumstances that exist when cases may be singly assigned, for example: when a person is charged with a criminal or traffic offense and already has a pending criminal or traffic case, or the person is on probation to this Court, the new charge(s) will be assigned to the judge who presided over the previous case.

The Assignment Office issues civil notices on particular motions filed and objections to magistrates' decisions. The office schedules mediation hearings and hearings before magistrates on assigned judicial cases. For all assigned cases, parties are notified of hearing dates by mailing hearing notices for all initial hearings and when requested, subsequent hearings. For 2018 approximately 112,000 hearings were scheduled and approximately 450,000 notices of hearings were mailed. Of those cases on judicial dockets, 8,028 cases were still pending at the end of 2018.

In 2018 the Assignment Office processed the following new and reactivated cases:

- 2,458 Civil
- 1,075 Environmental Civil
- 19,096 Criminal
- 27,621 Traffic
- 1,500 Environmental Criminal
- 452 Environmental Traffic
- 1,848 Sealing of Record and/or Expungements

Assignment is responsible for the preparation of case management reports for the judiciary, such as the civil motion's list, individual daily court and board-sheets, case and hearing statistics, and the monthly statistical reports that are submitted to the Ohio Supreme Court. For 2018 the General Division has a yearly clearance rate of 100%. The General Division's 5 year average clearance rate is 99.8%. The Environmental Division's clearance rate for 2018 was 94% with a 5 year average of 95%.

## **BAILIFFS**

Bailiffs coordinate activities in the courtrooms, schedule cases, provide docket management, provide information to the public about the status of cases, and act as liaisons between their assigned judge or magistrate and attorneys, court personnel, and the general public. Each judge has an assigned courtroom bailiff, there is an unassigned bailiff who rotates among the judges to provide courtroom coverage when a judge's bailiff is absent, and there is a duty room and arraignment bailiff. Each magistrate also has a bailiff.

## **COURT ADMINISTRATION**

Court Administration oversees the administrative and operational functions of the Court. It carries out the non-judicial policies of the Court. In addition to providing overall support and direction to the Court's 250 employees, some of its specific functions include personnel management, budgeting and fiscal management, purchasing, liaison with other courts and agencies, public information, appointment of counsel, court services, court security, interpreter services, vehicle immobilization, and volunteer services. The Court Administrator is the chief non-judicial officer.

The Court's General Fund Operating budget for 2018 was \$18,865,752 with an additional \$1,409,605 Secure Facilities Fund budget and \$614,645 Computer Fund budget.

### **Breakdown of General Fund Operating Budget 2018**

<b>Personal Services</b>	<b>\$16,916,388</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>	<b>58,200</b>
<b>Services</b>	<b>1,551,164</b>
<b>Other Expenditures</b>	<b>340,000</b>
<b>Total General Fund Expenditures</b>	<b>\$18,865,752</b>

## **COURT REPORTERS**

Court Reporters make a verbatim record of court proceedings, prepare a transcript from the record of court proceedings upon request, and maintain records of exhibits introduced at court proceedings. The Court has an obligation to provide a transcript of all proceedings upon request of a party, and there must be a court record of all pleas and waivers. In 2018 there were 9 full-time court reporters and 4 part-time court reporters and they provided 268 transcript and/or DVD requests.

## **COURT SECURITY**

Court Security was established to maintain a safe environment in the courthouse for elected officials, Court employees, and all others having business in the courthouse. The staff consists of a security director, security supervisor, administrative assistant, control room operator, and 23 security officers on the first shift, plus a control room operator on each of the second and third shifts. In addition, the Court contracts with a private security company that provides evening, weekend, and holiday coverage.

During 2018 approximately 954,854 visitors to the Court were screened at the Court's entry points by security officers. These officers checked 6,822 prohibited items and responded to 395 building incidents. Columbus Police Liaisons made 569 arrests in the building.

## COURT SERVICES

The Court Services Unit helps defendants resolve matters such as extensions of time to pay fines and court costs, delaying the start of court-ordered incarceration, issuance of or change in limited driving privileges, withdrawal of warrant or order-in that has been issued, assistance with impounded vehicle, assistance with Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV) problems, and continuance of a court date.

State law mandates the immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles operated by defendants who are convicted of the following offenses: repeat OVI offenses (operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs) and driving under certain court or BMV related suspensions. Immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles involved in suspension cases related to the Financial Responsibility Act or wrongful entrustment of a vehicle are at the Court's discretion.

This Unit also acts as a liaison and is responsible for the communications to and from the court, law enforcement and defendants to ensure compliance with the court's orders involving the defendant's vehicle.

For 2018 Court Services handled:

- 4,612 people for an average of 18.60 people a day. Of those who came in 1,218 people or 26.4% could not be assisted or were directed to another area.
- 975 people or 21.1% wanted their warrants set aside.
- 412 people or 8.9% wanted to be put on time payments for their fines and costs.
- 98 people or 2.1% wanted to either change their driving privileges or wanted to get driving privileges.
- 337 people or 7.3% wanted their fines and costs changed to community service.
- 1,414 people or 30.7% wanted a continuance for either their court date, driver intervention program, dates sentenced to jail, or fines and costs.
- 158 people or 3.4% came in for miscellaneous matters.
- There were 6,329 OVI cases filed in 2018 an increase of 7% from 2017's 5,976 OVI cases filed.

For 2018 Vehicle Immobilization handled:

- 8,754 Driving Under Suspension cases filed representing an increase of 6.8% from 2017.
- 532 or 6.1% of the Driving Under Suspension cases were related to driving under an OVI suspension. Driving under an OVI suspension requires a 30 day immobilization of the vehicle.
- 649 vehicles were released representing a 10% increase from 2017.
- 388 vehicles were relocated representing a 32% increase from 2017.
- 102 vehicles were immobilized representing an 85% increase from 2017.

- 114 cases were filed where the Prosecutor and Court were seeking forfeiture of the vehicle, an increase of 25% from 2017.
- 20 vehicles were forfeited in 2018 representing a 233% increase from 2017.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION**

In the Environmental Division, which is commonly referred to as “The Environmental Court”, Judge Daniel R. Hawkins successfully integrated a series of unique sentencing strategies to combat vacant and abandoned properties, along with chronically offending landlords in Franklin County. Property owners are ordered to bring their properties into compliance under the supervision of the Court’s chief environmental specialist and the field services staff of the Environmental Division. Penalties range from daily fines, jail time, to more creative options such as sentencing violators to home confinement in one of their own dilapidated properties until they achieve compliance.

Under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Division, nuisance abatement cases filed within the County come before the Environmental Judge. These cases include derelict hotels, liquor establishments in violation of the law, drug houses, and any other properties hosting nuisance activities. The Environmental Division also hears cases involving environmental crimes, violations, and similar matters filed within the County. Some examples of these cases involve animal abuse and neglect, dog fighting, vicious animals, wildlife violations, poaching, littering, dumping, overweight trucks, hazardous waste transportation, unlicensed tire transportation, air pollution, water pollution, hoarding, health, zoning, property maintenance, and park district violations. In 2018, 3,865 criminal cases and 717 civil cases were filed in the Environmental Division.

In 2018, the Environmental Division along with the Court’s Probation Department provided supervision to all non-Code Enforcement related cases that resulted in a probation sentencing. A dedicated probation officer is assigned to supervise these cases with the chief environmental specialist and the Environmental Division’s field services staff providing field investigations and inspections for those cases. The field services team includes two environmental specialists who routinely provide investigations and inspections to ensure compliance with the law, the conditions of probation, and other terms of sentencing.

The environmental specialists were assigned 150 new probation cases to monitor in 2018. Monitoring these cases includes regular investigations and inspections pertaining to housing, zoning, solid waste, environmental crimes, companion animals, and wild animals. In total, the environmental specialists monitor and assist in supervising 252 probation cases. They are solely responsible for supervising all zoning, code enforcement, housing, health, and safety probation cases.

The Environmental Division will continue its education and outreach programs throughout Franklin County. Over the past three years, Judge Hawkins and the Environmental Division staff appeared and presented information at over 70 different community events, reaching thousands of citizens. The Environmental Division also maintains its website – [www.EnvironmentalCourt.us](http://www.EnvironmentalCourt.us) – to provide helpful information to the public and to serve as a resource for area agencies.

After 5 years of presiding over the Environmental Division, Judge Hawkins was elected to the Franklin County Common Pleas Court. In January of 2019, Judge Stephanie Mingo was appointed to the Environmental Division. Judge Mingo will continue the Court's neighborhood and justice focused vision through 2019.

### **Environmental Community Cleanup Crew:**

In June, 2015, the Environmental Division introduced the Community Clean-up Crew – a community service initiative that serves as a sentencing alternative that not only holds individuals accountable for their actions but provides them an opportunity to make our communities a better place to work and live. The community service participants clean-up along our roadways and alleys, at hoarder locations, and work side by side with neighborhood volunteers at community gardens. By assisting in these types of community clean-ups those ordered to this program contribute something that is meaningful, beneficial and constructive – and they will have paid their debt to society by using their own time and talent.

In 2018, the Community Clean-up Crew supervised 646 individuals who provided a combined 14,943 hours of work in the communities of Franklin County. The Community Clean-up Crew removed 107.3 tons of solid waste, 1,601 bags of trash and 36 cubic yards of yard waste. They safely disposed of 288 used needles and recycled 1,638 discarded tires from Columbus and other communities within Franklin County.

A dedicated community service officer was hired to support the program to scout and schedule projects to complete while building community relationships for future endeavors. Moving forward, the Environmental Division looks to expand the program to offer its services to more community partners: area commissions, block watch groups and neighborhood pride organizations. These efforts will allow the program to have regularly occurring clean-ups in areas throughout the City and County. Other services provided include waste removal from City and County owned vacant properties and graffiti clean-ups that helps to assist the City and County in their efforts to provide clean, safe neighborhoods for their residents.

## JURY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

It is the duty of the Jury Commissioner's Office to summon, orient and assign prospective trial jurors to courtrooms when needed. The Jury Commissioner tracks *voir dire* (a preliminary examination of prospective jurors to determine their qualifications and suitability to serve on a jury, in order to ensure the selection of fair and impartial jury) results and trial verdicts, and collects demographic data to ensure the jury venire (those summoned for jury service) is a true sampling of all cognizable groups in Franklin County's qualified population.

Jury service is limited to two weeks, except in those cases for which additional days are required to reach a verdict. In certain instances, jurors will serve for one week only. The Court offers several different reporting times to accommodate juror parking issues and work schedules. Jurors are provided vouchers to the County garages to help defray parking expenses as well as bus passes for the COTA bus line. The number of jurors summoned in 2018 was 4,305. The reporting percentage for 2018 was 78.9% and the overall failure to appear rate was 10.17%. Jurors are paid \$15.00 per day for each day they are in attendance.

## LANGUAGE SERVICES

During 2018, the Court employed two full-time Spanish language interpreters and one full-time Somali, MayMay, and Swahili language interpreter and contracted for one part-time Spanish and one part-time Somali language interpreters. Together they completed an estimated **6,873** requests for service (**5,627** in Spanish and **1,246** in Somali, MayMay and Swahili). The Court has multiple contracts with outside vendors to provide foreign language and ASL interpreters. There were **1,896** requests for interpreters in **38** other languages, **1,793** requests were filled by **onsite interpreters** and there were **103** requests in languages of lesser diffusion like **Kinyarwanda, Krio, Yoruba, Mandinka, Oromo, Soninke, Uzbek, Hebrew, Georgian, Macedonian** and **Zomi** that were covered through remote interpretation. The foreign languages for which interpreters were most requested were **Spanish, Somali, Nepali, Arabic, French, Tigrinya, Mandarin, Amharic**, and **Russian**. Additionally, the Court filled **184** requests for **American Sign Language** and **Certified Deaf** interpretation. The Interpreter Services Program continues to offer a mentoring program and training opportunities for judiciary interpreters to better serve the Court and all parties.

## LEGAL RESEARCH

The Court employs a Legal Research Director who provides legal research, supervises the work of part-time law clerks, and serves as a part-time magistrate. The Director and Law Clerks research and prepare memoranda on issues pending before the Court, maintain research and reference materials, review new case law to ensure the

Court's compliance with the decisions, review pending legislation that may affect the Court, and advise the judges and employees regarding new legal developments and applications of current law to court procedures. The legal research director also serves as a part-time magistrate and liaison to the Court's Self Help Resource Center.

## **MAGISTRATES**

The Court employs five full-time General Division magistrates, and one part-time magistrate who preside over traffic arraignments, landlord-tenant actions, wage garnishments, small claims cases, and other civil matters. The Court also employs one Environmental Division magistrate who presides over criminal and traffic arraignments and hearings, all civil pre-trials and status conferences, other civil hearings and manages the civil docket of the Environmental Division. Judges may also refer specific cases to magistrates to take testimony, make legal rulings, and render decisions that are subject to final approval by the referring judge. Magistrates have the authority in misdemeanor cases to accept guilty and no contest pleas and to impose penalties. Magistrates may hear minor misdemeanor criminal cases or civil cases tried without a jury as well as contested criminal cases and civil jury trials with consent of the parties.

## **DEPARTMENT OF PRETRIAL AND PROBATION SERVICES**

The Department of Pretrial and Probation Services (DOPPS) serves the Franklin County Municipal Court Judges under the immediate direction of the Court Administrator. At ninety five staff, the DOPPS is the largest division of the Court. The vision of the DOPPS is *excellence in rehabilitation through evidence based practices* and the mission is to *promote community safety by reducing recidivism, changing offender behavior, and fostering accountability through effective use of evidence based practices*. The DOPPS follows an evidence-based paradigm that utilizes validated risk assessment tools and a differentiated, risk-based supervision construct. The DOPPS works with those under its supervision to achieve agreed upon goals aimed at reducing risk and gaining compliance with court-ordered conditions. The assessment-driven, supervision goals and requirements can include any of the following: residential programming, cognitive-behavioral based interventions, and behavioral health assessments, educational programs, counseling for mental health and/or substance abuse needs, and random urinalysis.

In 2017, the DOPPS officially transitioned to become an evidence-based organization that embraces practices that are grounded in research. The Court continues to receive consultation and training from the Carey Group to assist with its

evidence-based strategic plan. A few of the strategic plan goals for 2018 were to train supervisors on how to guide and coach staff in delivering evidence-based case management services, training staff in Motivational Interviewing and targeted training for pretrial officers. The DOPPS is committed to transparency and to being a data-driven department and prioritizes data collection and analysis to help inform its practices and training needs and to ensure that we are meeting our goal of risk-reduction and public safety.

The Chief Probation Officer (CPO) is responsible for the overall operation of the DOPPS and is supported by the Deputy Chief Probation Officer and the department's Management Team in facilitation of these efforts. The CPO is also charged with overseeing the DOPPS operating budget. Careful management and utilization of this budget is essential department operations. Probation User Fees provide critical support to many essential DOPPS supervision programs and initiatives. These services include: staff training, contracted programming for indigent Defendants, urinalysis services, defendant bus passes, grant matches, and supervision-related equipment. Defendants paid an average of \$32,100.00 each month in Probation User Fees.

The DOPPS works hard to leverage its resources, and acquire grant funding to support its many programs and initiatives whenever possible. The DOPPS maintained, and in some areas expanded, the external funding streams that support its Pretrial, Victim Assistant, Intake Assessment, Electronic Monitoring, and other community programming partnerships that benefit our clientele. In all, the DOPPS managed over \$2.4 million in grant funding, meeting- or in most cases exceeding- the goals that were outlined in the proposals. The majority of these grants require annual application, which includes the review and updating of project goals and objectives to reflect the ongoing evolution of the department. The DOPPS enjoys a well-established rapport with criminal justice partners across the Franklin County executive landscape which augments these applications and highly collaborative projects.

The department continues to receive national attention for its many achievements. The DOPPS was selected to present at various national conferences including the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) Winter Training Institute that took place in Houston, Texas in January 2018.

In August of 2018, the department instituted new case termination codes to assist with data collection efforts and to better understand our supervision outcomes. The early review of the termination code data reveal that, with regard to technical violations and supervision outcomes, between Aug. and Nov. 2018:

- 15% of defendants completed supervision early with no technical violations or new charges
- 10% of defendants were still able to make it to the finish line even after having incurred a technical violation
- 7% of defendants were sentenced to jail time for a technical violation at a violation hearing
- 3% of defendants had their supervision terminated for a technical violation at a hearing but were not sentenced to jail time
- Additionally, we learned that 74% of the arrests that occurred within the department, were the result of a technical violation

In addition to the department's partnership with Job and Family Services (JFS) that provides for two JFS Benefits Specialists to be located within the DOPPS two days per week to assist with defendant needs, in December of 2018, the department partnered Southeast Healthcare Services' SOAR Program, to provide on-site assistance to defendants with SSI/SSDI needs. Although still new, this partnership has proved extremely beneficial to staff and defendants.

The department was fortunate to receive funding to implement its Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) specific, domestic violence treatment program. This program was developed in partnership with Equitas Health and BRAVO and provides for a culturally competent program and a designated, specially trained officer, to address the intimate partner violence programming needs of the LGBTQ defendants who are supervised by the DOPPS Domestic Violence Unit. Between April and December 2018, the program served 19 LGBTQ defendants.

The DOPPS launched its Behavioral Management System (BMS) on May 1, 2018. The Pilot BMS Workgroup consists of 27 members of which 19 are supervision officers. The pilot workgroup continues to meet regularly and routinely communicates with the Policy Team. It is the department's goal to have full implementation of the BMS System by the fall of 2019.

It is the 2019 goal of the department to launch the Ohio Community Supervision System (OCSS) electronic probation case management system that will assist in streamlining workflow and increase data collection capabilities.

### **Investigation Unit**

The DOPPS also provides investigation services for the Court. The Investigation Unit is staffed by four probation officers and is overseen by one probation officer supervisor. In 2018 the Investigation Unit was assigned 77 presentence investigations and 1,839 sealing of record investigations. It is noted that the Court.

adopted a new method of assigning and preparing sealing of record cases, while simultaneously adjusting to increased eligibility standards and more involved investigations due to recent legislative changes that expanded opportunities for defendants to seal their records. The Investigation Unit continues to incorporate the DOPPS' risk assessment tools into its presentence investigation reports in order to provide the Court with the defendant's assessed risk level and appropriate supervision placement, should the Court place the defendant on community control supervision.

### **Pretrial Services Program**

The Court continues to embrace the Pretrial services performed by the DOPPS. The Pretrial Services Unit is staffed by seven bail investigation and pretrial supervision officers and one supervisor. Pretrial Services is supported by a grant from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, Bureau of Community Sanctions. In 2018, the Unit incorporated domestic violence cases into its target population and enhanced its release planning for the opiate dependent population. The officers further refined their investigation reports to refer military veterans to the Specialized Docket Staff at initial hearing for early intervention and attention.

The Pretrial Services Program prepares and provides the Court with bail investigation reports that include validated pretrial risk assessment information and release recommendations on eligible defendants who are in custody awaiting initial appearance. These reports contain important information that Judges need to make informed bail decisions; reduce the overall length of stay for pretrial detainees; and to provide appropriate supervision and monitoring of defendants who are released by the Court on pretrial supervision. The bail investigation report helps ensure that those released on pre-trial supervision are engaging in their community-based release plan, making their court appearances, and not engaging in new criminal activity. The Pretrial Services Unit completed 2,624 bail investigations and supervised a total of 1,040 pretrial defendants.

### **Training and Development**

The department's Training and Development Project Manager, is a position that is funded through the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, Bureau of Community Sanctions grant. Some of the goals of this function are to assist the DOPPS in the implementation, and fidelity to, its strategic plan and to assist in the training and development of staff.

The DOPPS is proud to have highly trained and professional staff:

24% of probation officers hold a Master's Degree.

18% of probation officers hold a license in Counseling, Social Work or Chemical Dependency.

- 30% of probation officers are State Certified Trainers for the Supreme Court Judicial College.
- 71% of probation officers are certified in one of either Thinking for a Change, Equip or the Duluth Model of Batterer Intervention.
- Officers each attended an average of 58 training hours, with an average of 29 hours being designated as Changing Offender Behavior.
- The total number of training hours attended by probation officers was 3,319.15;
  - 1,651 were designated as Changing Offender Behavior hours.
  - 2,587.90 hours were conducted in-house.

Additional Training and Development Efforts include:

- The DOPPS continued to enhance its Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Process.
- The DOPPS conducted a CQI process on Assessments, Four-Point Checklist, along with a full, evidence based case file review.
  - This process resulted in a review of 372 cases.
- Officers continued to participate in formal office contact observations from the Carey Group during the year. They were provided feedback and coaching as part of this process.
- Two DOPPS Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) certified trainers, trained a total of 36 employees in the MHFA curriculum. It is the goal of the DOPPS to ensure that each staff person is trained and re-certified, every three years.
- 14 additional officers were trained in the *Thinking for A Change* curriculum. This is in addition to the 12 staff who were previously trained.
- Six groups of *Thinking for a Change* programming were offered for total of 44 weeks of training.
- Targeted booster trainings will continue to be offered to officers in the areas of case planning and cognitive behavioral, office-based interventions, such as skill building/role playing and four point check list.

Training and Development goals for 2019 include continued booster trainings for officers in case planning and cognitive behavioral interventions and the continuation of its robust continuous quality improvement process.

### **Supervision Unit**

By year's end, the DOPPS supervision construct was staffed by 46 post-disposition, supervision officers who report to four probation officer supervisors. Officers assigned to each of these supervision functions receive specialized training specifically related to the risk level and needs of population they oversee.

These evidence-based supervision responses include:

- Risk-Based (Low, Low-Moderate, Moderate and Intensive) Supervision;
- Domestic Violence Supervision;
- Sex Offender Supervision;
- Specialized Mental Health Supervision,
- Specialized Soliciting/Human Trafficking Supervision,
- Electronic Monitoring/Home Confinement,
- Work Release
- Court's specialized docket programs.
- Learning to Identify and Navigate Change (LINK);
- Military and Veteran Service (MAVS);
- Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH);
- Recovery Court; and Helping to Achieve Recovery Together (HART)

DOPPS supervised a total of 12,065 cases, including 6,921 new supervision placements. At years end, a total of 15,248 cases remained assigned to, or on warrant status with, the department.

### **Support Unit**

The DOPPS' Support Unit is essential in assisting with recidivism-reduction efforts by connecting the individuals placed on probation with the appropriate officer who will help address their needs. One way this is achieved is by the Unit's completion of an initial risk screening process on defendants at intake in order to appropriately triage and assign cases based on risk and need.

This twelve-member team works in a fast-paced environment alongside judges, attorneys, law enforcement agents, and the general public. This Unit provides essential support for the many DOPPS operations such as, scanning and imaging, running computerized criminal history reports, and file management. During 2018, the Unit began a new intake assessment process that includes coordinating and assigning cases to the assessment specialists based on a set of defined screening and triage processes. This staff processed an average of 450 intakes, screenings, and case assignments per week.

### **Intake Unit**

The DOPPS' intake assessment project began in May, 2018. The goal of this project is to lessen the amount of time between intake and supervision assignment and reduce the number of defendant transfers between officers by having all assessment information completed prior to case assignment. This project is supported by two separate grants and is in collaboration with Alvis, Inc.

- DOPPS contracts with Alvis to provide three intake assessment specialists.
  - These assessment specialists are housed within the DOPPS,
  - Their main function is to conduct risk assessments on defendants, in order to inform their placement within the evidence based procedures construct.
  - These contracted staff completed a total of 428 assessments in the latter half of 2018,
- DOPPS intake assessment staff completed 356 assessments on defendants who were sentenced to probation and referred from Intake,
- Prior to this new process the average time it took a defendant to go from the initial contact with the department to having their case assigned took between 45 and 75 days.
- Currently, defendants are receiving a much more detailed assessment and the average between their intake and their assessment has been reduced to 19 days.

It is our goal to maintain these positions in order to further develop and expand this function within the department. The impact on staff time, and the direct linkage of defendants to their assigned officers based upon their assessed risk level has improved dramatically through this process.

### **Probation Assisted Victim Empowerment Division**

The DOPPS' Probation Assisted Victim Empowerment Division (PAVED), is partially funded by a grant through the Attorney General's Office. The PAVED Program is staffed with three victim assistants and one victim assistant supervisor.

### **2018 PAVED Accomplishments and Statistics**

- Policy and Procedure Manual was finalized and implemented and included intensive and specialized, victim assistant responses to provide additional outreach to the extremely high risk domestic violence victims that it serves.
- Collaboration with the GPS/EM probation officers to develop and implement a notification protocol to inform victims when GPS violations occur.
  - In addition to being good practice, this response helps the Court be in compliance with Marcy's Law that was enacted in 2018.
  - This notification protocol is initiated anytime an offender removes the GPS tracker, enters an exclusion zone, or allows the GPS tracker's battery to die, including after business hours.

- Partnered with Mount Carmel's Crime and Trauma Program to address vicarious trauma and self-care for the PAVED staff.
- Purchased a computer and monitor using VOCA funds to provide information and resources for victims of crime while they are waiting in the lobby.
- Routine utilization of the Danger Assessment and a Stalking Assessment tool to help victims of domestic violence and stalking understand the risks they face and develop safety plans.
- Continued work with the City Prosecutor's Domestic Violence Prosecutorial team and Victim Advocates to provide a continuity of support for the victims once the offender has been placed on probation.
- Mailed over 1,836 stay away letters and information to victims
- Serviced approximately 1,300 victims of crime.
- Developed an intensive supervision and treatment response for extremely high-risk domestic violence defendants.
  - Partnership with the Columbus Division of Police who assist the designated, extremely high risk domestic violence probation officer in routine community contacts.
  - In addition to the community contacts, the designated probation officer sees these defendant twice weekly in the office.
  - Probation officer works closely with the designated PAVED victim assistant.
  - Defendants are referred to a designated batterer's intervention program that is designed specifically for this population.
  - Since its inception, there have been 51 defendants placed under this level of supervision and 75 joint community field contacts conducted.

### **Community Sanctions Unit**

The department's Community Sanctions Unit (CSU) helps support and manage many critical functions of the department. The Unit was comprised of four full-time officers and one full-time supervisor. One of the functions of the CSU is to monitor defendants who are not placed on community control but who are ordered to complete community service hours in lieu of their fine and court costs or as a condition of a plea agreement. Community Sanctions Officers monitor the cases for compliance with required Court ordered community service hours. Once the completion deadline has passed, the Community Sanctions Officer files a Notice with the Clerk regarding the completion or non-completion of the hours.

Other functions that the CSU perform include the monitoring of “Provided No Convictions” (PNC) cases for new criminal convictions, assisting with the management and supervision of the DOPPS low risk (team supervision) response, and providing oversight to the Court’s Non-Reporting Community Sanction response (NRCS).

### **2018 CSU Statistics**

- 280 cases were monitored by the CSU for community service compliance. This number does not include the volume of cases that were referred to the Unit by a Probation Officer for placement and monitoring of Community Service.
- Community Sanctions Officers began scheduling community service hours on the same day as sentencing, thus removing the need for defendants to return to the department to schedule the community service hours. This practice has been positively received by the Court, defendants and attorneys.
- CSU assumed oversight of the Environmental Court’s Cleanup Crew program. This program offers an additional sentencing alternative for non-violent offenses and provides defendants an opportunity to repay their debt to society by cleaning up local communities and improving the environment.
- The CSU was assigned 1,809 new provided no convictions (PNC) cases
- The CSU continued to monitor 3,006 PNC cases that were carried over from the previous year.
- \$404,570 in restitution was ordered in 628 cases
- \$260,097 was collected and disbursed.
- The remaining cases are still paying, revoked, or on warrant status.
- 1,376 cases were assigned to the NRCS caseload for monitoring of new criminal activity and compliance with Court-ordered conditions.
- The overall volume of cases received by the CSU, with community service hours ordered, increased by 75% during 2018.

### **Community Resources**

The DOPPS has one community resource specialist on staff. This position assists in the management of the Court’s Suzanne Hopper Act or Form 95 Process that identifies offenders with specific mental health diagnoses and convictions and provides notification to law enforcement.

### **Community Resources Essential Tasks and Statistics**

- Prepares and submits weekly reports to the Court on available community resources for placement of defendants into treatment programs.
- Coordinates placements into the DOPPS residential treatment programs
  - 95 placements made to residential treatment

- Participates on planning teams for the department's
  - Halfway house program (HHRP),
  - Day programming response (Comprehensive Community Care or TRI C),
  - Safe Housing Program
  - Courthouse Medically Assisted Treatment program.
- Maintains the data and outcomes for the Court's myriad of community programs.
- Conducted approximately 100 behavioral health and risk assessments both in the community and in the jail.

The DOPPS staffed its full-time special programs coordinator position. This position is responsible for conducting program eligibility screenings, program referrals, program data collection and management, and coordination of the department's community-based programs and initiatives. Approximately 320 screenings were completed by this position at the request of the Court.

### **Medically Assisted Treatment Program (MAT)**

Grant funding was awarded in 2018 for a three-year project that focuses on coordinating justice system Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) services in Franklin County. The grant provides for three new positions – one (MAT coordinator) who will be located at the jail to coordinate jail-based MAT services. This position will report to the Justice Programs Unit at the Office of Homeland Security and Justice Programs. The two other positions (Courthouse MAT project manager and MAT community case manager) will be DOPPS positions and will report to the community resource specialist. These two new DOPPS positions will assume management of the Courthouse MAT program and ensure coordination of community and jail-based MAT services. These positions will be filled in 2019.

### **Electronic Monitoring/Home Confinement**

The department also has an electronic monitoring/home confinement (EMHC) program. The EMHC Program is a cost effective sentencing option that permits a defendant to reside in the community while simultaneously allowing for continuous electronic monitoring of his/her whereabouts. Judges may impose EMHC as a condition of pretrial or post-disposition supervision or as a response to non-compliance/probation violation behavior. The EMHC Program allows defendants the ability to seek or maintain employment, participate in approved programming/treatment and attend to any critical medical needs or conditions.

All of the Franklin County Municipal Court General Division Judges utilized the services of the EMHC Program during 2018. Defendants placed on EMHC were placed on as both a condition of pre-trial release as well as post disposition sentencing. They were placed on for a variety of charges that included but were not limited to: OVI, domestic violence, resisting arrest, theft, menacing by stalking, violation of protection order, possession of drugs and soliciting.

## 2018 EMHC Statistics:

- EMHC Program Officers kept track of the location of 147 defendants as they served 8,261 days on community supervision.
  - 96 of the 147 defendants successfully completed their EMHC condition (65.3%).
  - 41 of the 147 were terminated unsuccessfully (27.9%)
  - 10 of the 147 were still being monitored into 2019.
- The 147 defendants placed on EMHC consisted of 120 men and 27 women.
  - 70 of the 120 men successfully completed (63.3%);
  - 40 of the 120 men were terminated unsuccessfully (33%)
  - 10 of the 120 were still being monitored into 2019.
  - 26 of the 27 women successfully completed (96.2%).
- The defendants sentenced to an EMHC condition served an average of 56.2 days of monitoring.
- Over \$10,000 toward fines, costs, program fees and child support was collected from defendants during their EMHC term.

## Work Release Program (WRP)

The WRP is a jail alternative program that provides residential services to court-ordered individuals. Judges may impose this community response as an alternative to a mandatory jail sentence, as a condition of Pretrial release or Probation supervision or as a response to non-compliance/probation violations. The WRP is designed to help facilitate an individual's successful reentry into the community, by providing monitoring, programming and management of an individual's community access. Individuals will be confined to the WRP facility except for verified employment and/or court-approved programming. Program participants will be randomly tested for drug and/or alcohol use.

The WRP allows the individual to maintain his/her employment and provides an opportunity for the individual to pay toward their court-ordered restitution, fines, costs and child support. Additionally, participants whose assessed risk level and program duration allow, will receive in-house programming and/or skill building interventions targeting their risk and need areas. The officer assigned to the WRP is on call and responds to non-compliance and program violations 24 hours per day.

All Judges of the Franklin County Municipal Court utilized the services of the Work Release Program during 2018. Defendants were placed on for a variety of charges that included but were not limited to: OVI, Domestic Violence, Theft, Drug Abuse, Aggravated Menacing, Disorderly Conduct, Assault, Telephone Harassment and Driving under Suspension.

## **2018 WRP Statistics:**

- 243 defendants were assigned to the Work Release Program.
- All 243 defendants served a total of 5,259 days in work release in lieu of jail time.
- 224 of the 243 defendants successfully completed their Work Release condition (92.1%).
- 19 of the 243 defendants were terminated unsuccessfully (.08%).
- The 243 defendants placed on work release consisted of 200 men and 43 women.
  - 183 of the 200 men successfully completed (92%).
  - 41 of the 43 women successfully completed (95.3%).
- The defendants sentenced to a work release term served an average of 21 days in the facility.
- \$85,907 was paid by defendants during their work release term.
- The WRP saved \$243,677 in jail per diem costs during 2018.

## **Partnership for Advocacy, Care and Treatment (PACT)**

The DOPPS' Partnership for Advocacy, Care and Treatment (PACT) Program continues to be an essential supervision and program response for defendants convicted of Soliciting and who are not participating in the Specialized CATCH Court Docket. The PACT Program provides a community response that incorporates specialized and intensive supervision, along with holistic, comprehensive and coordinated community programming, to assist with the success of this population. The PACT Program is a joint initiative of community partners and provides: individualized and comprehensive bio-psycho-social assessment; specialized case management; alcohol and drug treatment; the option of medication assisted treatment; trauma services; mental health services linkage; and wrap-around services such as, safe housing, transportation, peer mentors, and GED. The PACT program celebrated its second graduation of its participants who successfully completed this intensive, 2-year program. Last year 52 women were referred to the PACT Program.

## **SELF HELP RESOURCE CENTER**

The Franklin County Municipal Court Self Help Resource Center assists pro se litigants with navigating the Court. Created in 2016, the Center's main objectives are to improve the quality of court filings filed by pro se litigants, increase access to the justice system for individuals who cannot afford attorneys, and provide a positive point of contact between the Court and the community. It can assist visitors with civil issues in Municipal Court, but does not give legal advice. The most common issues served at the Center are the sealing of criminal records and landlord/tenant disputes. The Center has continued to grow since moving to the sixth floor of the

Municipal Court in early 2018. Currently, the Center serves an average of 30 visitors per day and has served over 4,500 people in its first year in the new space. The Center is on track to surpass its goal of serving 6,000 visitors in 2019.

## **SERVICE BAILIFFS**

The responsibilities of the Service Bailiff Department are authorized by Chapter 1901 of the Ohio Revised Code. Service Bailiffs assist litigants, attorneys, and the Court by the efficient handling and delivery of court documents to parties and the timely enforcement of both pre-judgment and post-judgment remedies. Responsibilities include service of complaints, summonses, criminal and civil subpoenas, garnishments, juror letters, and probation revocation hearing notices.

Writs of replevin are enforced through seizure of property to be returned to the rightful owners, and writs of execution through levy and sale of personal property for the purpose of satisfying judgments. These writs are enforced and supervised by the deputy bailiff officers. Additionally, deputy bailiff officers supervise the set-out of tenant's property during evictions.

The Service Bailiffs' Department processed or served in excess of 42,500 legal documents in 2018 and supervised 1,434 set-outs. The department currently employs 13 full-time individuals consisting of 1 chief, 1 deputy chief, 10 deputy bailiffs and a deputy bailiff/administrative assistant.

## **SMALL CLAIMS DIVISION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION DEPARTMENT**

The **Small Claims Division** processes Small Claims cases for the Municipal Court and assists individuals and businesses with court forms. Small Claims are claims for money damages up to \$6,000. The Small Claims Court and its processes are governed by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1925.

The Division provides information, forms, instructions, and videos for small claims cases and collections. The Division maintains a user-friendly website that contains all of the information required to initiate and complete a small claims case ([smallclaims.fmcclerk.com](http://smallclaims.fmcclerk.com)).

The Division has six full-time employees who support the Court and its magistrates. Division staff initiate new cases, assign magistrates, process notices and summonses, and answer questions about Small Claims Court and other court services. **Division staff managed 5,704 small claims cases in 2018.**

The Court's **Dispute Resolution Department** coordinates and facilitates mediations for the General and Small Claims Divisions. The Division also maintains an online negotiation and mediation platform to facilitate early case resolution. Parties may participate in mediation either in-person, by telephone, or online. **The Department managed a total of 2,845 mediations in 2018.**

<b>1,205</b>	General Division/Small Claims Cases
<b>253</b>	Rent Escrow Cases
<b>1,387</b>	Pre-Filing/Online/Check and Account Resolution Self-Referrals

In March 2018, the Division presented on its innovations in online dispute resolution (ODR) at the first annual Supreme Court of Ohio Dispute Resolution Conference. Online dispute resolution increases court user perceptions of fairness and justice. In 2018, 90.6% of the Division's ODR participants surveyed felt that they were treated with respect and had an opportunity to be heard during their online mediation. Similarly, 94.9% of participants surveyed preferred resolving their dispute online than by coming to court.

The Small Claims Division and Dispute Resolution Department continue to work with the community to enhance access to court information, services, and justice. The department represented the Franklin County Municipal Court at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Online Dispute Resolution Workshop in Osaka, Japan and presented practical and institutional perspectives on how ODR can enhance court services.

## **SPECIALIZED DOCKET DIVISION**

### **VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS**

The vision of the Specialized Docket Division is to enhance public safety, rebuild lives, and reduce recidivism through the use of restorative justice programs. We champion innovation, prioritize diversity, strive to contribute to the national conversation, and work to advance the mission of Specialized Dockets and restorative justice wherever possible.

The mission of the Specialized Docket Division is to return contributing members to society by implementing best and promising restorative practices. We provide quality programming to high risk/high need participants to link them with individualized treatment, reduce barriers to success, hold participants accountable for the impact of their behaviors, and encourage independent recovery. We value community and stakeholder investment and involve them through education, engagement, and support.

## OVERVIEW

The Specialized Docket Division serves the Judges of the Franklin County Municipal Court and is under the direct supervision of the Court Administrator. The specialized docket division manager is responsible for the overall operation, supervision, and certification, and is charged with ensuring funding and overseeing the operating budget. She works closely with the Specialized Docket Judge's Committee and meets bi-annually with the Specialized Docket Advisory Board to set the goals and direction of the division. The division is staffed by eleven coordinators who are behavioral health specialists. They maintain the day to day operations of the division.

In 2018, a total of 1,602 people were served in programs of the Specialized Docket Division. The division is made up of five certified specialized dockets, two educational programs, and the administrative management of municipal competency hearings and forensic restorations.

Restorative justice is the philosophical foundation of the division. In the context of the municipal court, restorative justice is a process by which offenders take responsibility for their actions, understand the harm they caused, redeem themselves through the process of recovery, become contributing members of their families and the community, increase public safety by ceasing criminal behavior, and reduce the emotional and financial burden on society. This approach considers the impact of the crime on the victim and the community and gives the person who committed the crime the opportunity to repair the damage of their offenses through their actions and meaningful activity.

Learn more about restorative justice at:

[Restorative Justice: Why Do We Need It?](#)

## PROGRAMS

Specialized Dockets are certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio to provide intensive programs, up to two years in duration, to high risk, high need defendants. Admission to a specialized docket requires a referral by a defense attorney, prosecutor, or judge. The defendant must be assessed for eligibility, volunteer, and plead guilty to an active charge to enter the program. Some cases are eligible for sealing and expungement upon successful completion of the program.

The Court established Learning to Identify and Navigate Change (L.I.N.C.) in 2004, adding Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH) and Recovery Court in 2009, Helping Achieve Recovery Together (h.a.r.t.) in 2010, and Military and Veterans Services (MAVS) in 2012. The division also provides two educational programs that are sentencing options: CATCH 101 for victims of human trafficking and Drug Education Program (DEP) for felony drug charges reduced to a misdemeanor. In addition, the division provides administrative coordination for all forensic competency cases.

The specialized dockets, often called treatment courts, are a judicial response based on a treatment team approach. Treatment court is a voluntary program of up to two years. Once a defendant has plead into the docket, the process becomes non-adversarial. The participant is placed on probation for two years which provides the compliance mechanism.

The treatment team consists of the presiding judge, who has final decision-making authority, the coordinators, the designated probation officer, public defender, prosecutor, and representatives of various treatment providers. The treatment teams meet weekly to review new admissions and to review participants' individualized goals and progress. The goal is to build a strong support network, to help participants engage in community treatment, and to find a path to independent recovery. Rewards are frequently used, successes celebrated, and as needed, sanctions, up to and including limited jail, can be imposed. Participants self-determine their progress through program phases as they demonstrate their ability to internalize concepts and apply coping skills in their daily lives.

The Judge presides over weekly Status Review Hearings which provide participant check-ins. A strong sense of community develops among the participants and the Judge initiates a progress check with each participant to ensure they are receiving individualized care and complying with the agreed upon treatment plan. Due consideration is given to a participants capacity, barriers, and life events as they progress through the phases of the program at a self-determined pace that may last up to two years. The emphasis is placed on engagement, open discussion, increasing recovery competency, compliance, building trust, and self-efficacy. The Judge and the treatment team ensure that the participant is supported through their recovery process and that expectations are appropriate to the participants' stage of change.

### **Specialized Docket Certification**

As a home rule state, the Supreme Court of Ohio requires all specialized dockets to become fully certified. There are two stages to the certification process. First, submission of documentation, including the administrative order, the program description, the participation agreement, and the participant handbook. Secondly, Supreme Court staff complete a site visit to observe the treatment team meeting, the Status Review Hearing, and to provide feedback to the presiding judge and the staff. All certification standards and current practice guidelines must be met or exceeded to receive full certification. The final certification is valid for three years.

In 2018, two specialized dockets were recertified. Judge Jodi Thomas received final recertification to preside over h.a.r.t. and Judge Paul Herbert was recertified to preside over CATCH Court.

## 2018 Presiding Judges

Judge	Program	Type	Recertification Date
Judge Ted Barrows	MAVS	Military and Veterans Service Certified Specialized Docket	2020
Judge David Tyack	Recovery Court	Substance Use Certified Specialized Docket	2019
Judge Cindi Morehart	LINC	Mental Health Certified Specialized Docket	2019
Judge Paul Herbert	CATCH	Human Trafficking Certified Specialized Docket	2021
Judge Jodi Thomas	HART	Opiate Certified Specialized Docket	2021
Judge David Tyack	DEP	Drug Educational Program	N/A
Judge Paul Herbert	CATCH 101	Human Trafficking Educational Program	N/A

### Education Programs

#### CATCH 101

CATCH 101 is a 3-day educational program designed as an introduction to human trafficking. It is held once a month. The program includes education, community resources, and an observation of CATCH's status review hearing. The goal is to offer the program to people who have an active charge in the court and when there is concern that the person may have been trafficked.

The education component focuses on human trafficking, addictive illness, trauma bonding, and recovery opportunities. Representatives from community partners such as Salvation Army, Amethyst, and law enforcement will present information on current community resources available to defendants including case management and hotline numbers.

Judges and attorneys refer defendants who are not interested in the two year CATCH commitment to CATCH 101. CATCH staff track attendance and report progress back to the referral source.

### **Drug Education Program (DEP)**

DEP is an educational program that provides expedited court arraignments and prosecution, as well as a reduction in jail time. Participants who have 4th and 5th degree felony drug possession charges are identified by the County Prosecutor's Office and referred to the program. The felony charges are reduced to a first degree misdemeanor in exchange for the defendant's guilty plea. The majority of referrals are made by the County Prosecutor; however, admission is also open to defendants charged with misdemeanors. Participation in DEP is ordered at the time of sentencing.

In late 2017, the DEP program was streamlined to reduce barriers to successful completion. Currently, a participant must complete one court facilitated education session and six verified recovery support meetings within a thirty day period. The previous program required three afternoon classes and ten meetings.

The current three-hour educational session is held once a month. The content is practical and intended to motivate change. The curriculum focuses on the disease model of substance use, the recovery model of healing, peer lived experience, and a review of community resources. The revisions to the program have increased participant completion rates significantly.

### **COMPETENCY AND FORENSIC RESTORATION**

The Specialized Docket Division manages all the competency hearings and forensic restorations for the municipal court. The duties include: administrative management of required competency evaluations, probate commitments, forensic restorations and administrative communication with the Judges regarding each case. There has been a dramatic increase in competency management in the last year. The average weekly caseload grew from 61 in 2017 to 85 in 2018.

### **STAFF**

The division is staffed by eleven program coordinators who are highly educated behavioral health specialists with expertise in mental health, substance use disorders, and criminal justice. In 2018, 83% of staff held a Master's Degree, and 83% held a

behavioral health license. In 2018, two staff members obtained independent licensure in behavior health, and one staff member is enrolled in a Master of Social Work program.

The emphasis on licensed behavioral health staff supports in-house clinical services such as diagnostic assessments that establish clinical eligibility, prognosis, individualized treatment and level of care recommendations which makes treatment referral more efficient. Clinicians also build strong treatment team rapport, coordinate seamlessly with treatment providers, enhance participant engagement, support strength based intervention, develop self-efficacy in participants, provide trauma informed interventions, generate individualized program response, encourage stronger use of rewards and celebrations to support progress, facilitate group discussion and strong sense of community within the dockets, and incorporate stages of change in the program structure. This approach has led to increased participant retention and increased successful completion rates.

Training and staff development is a priority. In 2018 the entire division, including the Specialized Docket Judges, attended the two-day Supreme Court of Ohio Specialized Dockets Annual Conference to gain insight and practical knowledge about best practices and innovations. During 2018, staff received a total of 380 hours of training (an average of 35 hours per person) in best practices, therapeutic intervention, program development, and policy strategy. The Judges and staff also provided numerous professional trainings and community presentations to expand the broader knowledge of restorative justice.

## **BEST PRACTICES**

The Specialized Docket Division is committed to the development and implementation of best and promising practices. The division generates programming to fill gaps in service, participates in research and pilot projects, and leads innovation that contributes to the development of the field.

In October 2018, the Supreme Court sponsored a 2-day Specialized Docket Conference to enhance current best practices and implementation of Supreme Court standards. The entire division, all presiding specialized docket judges, and many probation officers, public defenders, prosecutors, and treatment professionals also attended. The event was excellent in both quality and content.

Three MAVS Court staff attended the NADCP Rise conference in Houston, TX. This is the premiere international event for specialized dockets research and practice. The division goal for 2019 is to bring more people to the conference and submit applications to present on the national platform.

## **STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

In 2018 the Specialized Docket Division provided field instruction for a total of 11 students from various disciplines, colleges and universities. This represents a 64% increase in student interns from 2017. The Court placement provides a highly professional, complex environment at the intercept of criminal justice and behavioral health. Student interns represent varied disciplines including: behavioral health, public health, art and design, statistics/data analysis, and other related fields of study.

The student program places an emphasis on diversity and inclusion. The staff of the Specialized Docket Division strongly believes in providing support to students in this challenging internship experience, interactions can move quickly from meeting with a judge to screening an incarcerated defendant. Students are exposed to evidence based practice, program development, grant implementation, data analysis, and policy change. Maintaining a strong student internship program ensures that highly skilled professionals are trained to meet the needs of the community.

## **FACILITY**

The 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Municipal Court Building continues to house the Specialized Docket Division and provide flexible space for status review hearings, education classes, community meetings, and a Medically Assisted Treatment clinic. Final construction to the court rooms is planned for 2019.

The Self Help Resource Center is also located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor and this co-location has enhanced specialized docket alumni access to the self-preparation of civil documents including applications for sealing and expungement.

## **GRANTS**

### **The MacArthur Foundation**

The John D and Catherine T MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge Innovation Fund and the Urban Institute chose Franklin County and the Specialized Docket Division as one of twelve Innovation Sites in a highly competitive grant process. The ACCESS project was awarded \$50,000 to assess specialized docket referral processes and eligibility criteria, provide implicit bias training for treatment teams, and develop recommendations for policy changes.

### **National Center for State Courts Public Engagement Pilot Project**

The National Center for State Courts in conjunction with University of Nebraska Public Policy Center awarded the SDD and the Self Help Resource Center \$30,000 to engage the community in deliberative communication with the goal of decreasing disparity in court programs.

## **Military Transportation**

The MAVS team was awarded a transportation grant from the Ohio Attorney General. The funds provide participants with parking passes, bus passes, gas cards, and BMV registration matching to ensure participants have transportation to appointments and to meet their basic needs.

## **Mental Health Pilot Project**

L.I.N.C. is one of two Ohio mental health specialized dockets participating in the Ohio Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Pilot Project to provide additional recovery supports. The pilot will run through 2019 and program outcome data analysis will determine future project funding for the state.

## **COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS**

### **The Family Program**

In 2018, OhioGuidestone began The Family Program, a pilot project to provide parent mentoring and family counseling to the families of specialized Docket participants. They also provide services such as financial literacy in collaboration with the Onionomics program. In September 2018, OhioGuidestone became an ATP provider of the ADAMH Board of Franklin County and the pilot became a permanently funded program of recovery support services in line with the best practice of providing family support to rebuild families in early recovery.

### **CATCH**

In partnership with the *Ohio Better Birth Outcomes* collaboration, health professionals from Columbus Public Health, Nationwide Children's Hospital, and Ohio Health provided Women's Health Education multiple times during CATCH Court this year, and also began providing a mobile health unit at the courthouse for participants to easily access women's healthcare.

2018 CATCH Alumni, Beth Morrison, is developing her "Legends Rising" program. This program was first brought up at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Leadership Summit at Columbus State Community College where she was awarded the inaugural Spirit of Transformation award. This program provides access to higher education for human trafficking survivors and is in its pilot stage.

The Recovery Council opened the Johnson House in April to provide a healing-centered approach for women with severe trauma backgrounds in addition to their substance use disorders.

In April 2018, a 2012 CATCH Court Graduate, was hired as the CATCH Court Judge's bailiff proving that restorative justice is has real impacts on those who complete the program.

## **MAVS**

In partnership with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, a Sheriff provides therapy dogs during the MAVS status review hearings to support veterans struggling with PTSD, anxiety, and/or depression.

Probation and Pre-trial Services will pilot a program to expand MAVS screenings to include pre-trial cases.

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

- The TEDX Ohio State University event, [Specialized Dockets & Restorative Justice](#) was held on April 19, 2018. The event features:
  - H.A.R.T. [Judge Jodi Thomas](#),
  - H.A.R.T Probation Officer, [Ryan Topping](#),
  - L.I.N.C. graduate [Jill Hillman](#)
  - Raleigh Starnes, a current MAVS participant [Raleigh Starnes - Restorative Justice 4/19/2018](#)
- TedXOhioStateUniversity hosted a community event called "Red Light: Breaking the Cycle of Trafficking." This event features:
  - [CATCH Court Judge Paul Herbert](#),
  - [2012 Graduate & current bailiff Vanessa Perkins](#)
  - [2018 Graduate Beth Morrison with her son Mikhail Moore](#).
- CATCH Court was highlighted in [this documentary](#) produced by the *Center for Court Innovation* as one of several models in the country!
- CATCH Judge, Paul Herbert, was featured and honored in [the short video](#) played at the Global Leadership Summit in August. [Grander Vision: Judge Paul Herbert 8/31/2018](#)
- News Story about the International Film Festival at CCAD featuring, among other films, a documentary about CATCH. CATCH Coordinator Hannah Estabrook is interviewed. It featured several films about human trafficking in Ohio, including *Caught in Columbus*, a 2016 documentary about CATCH Court. [10TV News Story About CATCH Documentary 3/22/2018](#)

- Podcast about CATCH: The Betwixt Podcast featured an interview with CATCH Coordinator Hannah Estabrook about how to treat women who sell sex. [BetWixt Podcast Part 1 Women who Sell Sex: CATCH Court with Hannah Estabrook 6/26/2018](#)
- Article in Columbus Dispatch about a CATCH participant's vision to see a program on the campus of CSCC for survivors of human trafficking. [Columbus Dispatch Article CATCH Court 3/22/2018](#)
- News Story about CATCH Graduation at the Statehouse. [Columbus Dispatch Article: CATCH Graduation: A New Start 9/17/2018](#)
- In August 2018, the Supreme Court filmed a short video of MAVS status review hearing. It will be available on the Supreme Court's website.
- In late 2018, The Supreme Court of Ohio filmed a story on MAVS Court to serve as a training video on their website. The video is currently in production.

## RESEARCH

Schultz, T., Canning, S. S., & Eveleigh, E. (2018). Posttraumatic stress, posttraumatic growth, and religious coping in individuals exiting sex trafficking. *Journal of Human Trafficking*. 1-17. doi:10.1080/23322705.2018.1522924

## 2018 SPECIALIZED DOCKET STATISTICS

Specialized Docket Division Programs	2018 Total Participants Served	2017 Total Participants Served	2016 Total Participants Served	2015 Total Participants Served	*2018 No New Charges	*2017 No New Charges	*2016 No New Charges	*2015 No New Charges
L.I.N.C.- Mental Health	91	107	144	70	99.95%	89%	78%	75%
CATCH- Human Trafficking	94	104	101	36	88%	99%	99.8%	77%
MAVS- Military and Veterans	75	49	109	41	99.95%	86%	99.8%	100%
Recovery Court- Substance Use	101	86	111	54	88%	92%	90%	84%
H.A.R.T.- Opiate Use	72	70	101	66	99.97%	64%	82%	90%
Total Served in Specialized Dockets	433	416	566	267	89%	---	---	
DEP- Drug Education Program	Total Served 292 Successful Completion 170 58%	Total Served 343 Successful Completion 129 38%	Total Served 343 N/A	Total Served 317 N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CATCH 101- Human Trafficking Education	69	107	107	62* *New program in 2015.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Competency Hearings and Forensic Restorations	Hearings 808 Average weekly caseload 85	Hearings 1277 Average weekly caseload 61	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	1602	1105	1023	646	N/A	N/A	-----	-----

\*Percentage of participants, who were discharged (successful, neutral or unsuccessful) in the calendar year and did NOT recidivate (received no new charges) during the time they were enrolled in the specialized docket (up to two years).

In 2018, the Specialized Docket Division served a total of 1,602 people. The Specialized Dockets and educational programs served 794 participants. There were 808 competency hearings in 2018. Of the participants who were discharged between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018, the recidivism rates are significantly below the national average for high risk/high need defendants.

There is a strong correlation between addiction and criminal activity, studies indicate that a practicing addict is likely to commit an estimated 63 crimes per year. For individuals who receive treatment, this decreases to just six crimes per year. Specialized Dockets are a major part of this solution, particularly in providing the supportive structure that participants need to remain engaged in treatment. In a 2014 national survey of drug courts, programs reported average graduation rates of 50-75%, which is more than twice the rate of successful probation completion rates for individuals with severe substance use disorder. “At least nine meta-analyses, systematic reviews, and multisite studies conducted by leading scientific organizations have concluded that adult drug courts significantly reduce criminal recidivism—typically measured by re-arrest rates over at least two years—by an average of approximately 8% to 14%. The best adult drug courts were determined to reduce recidivism by 35% to 80%.” **In 2018, the average recidivism rate in Franklin County across all five dockets was 11%, ranging from .03% to 12%. The national average recidivism rate for drug offenders is 76.9%.**

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Fulkerson, Andrew. (2012). Drug treatment court versus probation: An examination of comparative recidivism rates.. *The Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*. 8. 46-61.

Huddleston, C. W., Marlowe, D. B., & Casebolt, R. (2016). Painting the current picture: A national report card on drug courts and other problem solving court programs in the United States (Vol. 2, No. 1). *Alexandria, VA: National Drug Court Institute*. Retrieved from: <https://www.ndci.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Painting-the-Current-Picture-2016.pdf>

Huddleston, C. W., Marlowe, D. B., & Casebolt, R. (2016). Painting the current picture: A national report card on drug courts and other problem solving court programs in the United States (Vol. 2, No. 1). *Alexandria, VA: National Drug Court Institute*. Retrieved from: <https://www.ndci.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Painting-the-Current-Picture-2016.pdf>

Durose, Matthew R., Alexia D. Cooper, and Howard N. Snyder, Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010, *Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report*, April 2014, NCJ 244205.

## 2018 PROGRESS

- Final construction to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor is approved and scheduled for 2019.
- The Self Help Resource Center and Court MAT program are now located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor and continue to enhance the mission of restorative justice.
- H.A.R.T. and RECOVERY COURT are separated and each has a separate presiding judge.
- The MAVS Court is piloting a military culture specific domestic violence track.
- The SDD staff received Surface Pros. They are integrating the devices into their job tasks.
- A web based case management and data collection system is being developed and implementation is planned for 2019.
- All Specialized Docket Program descriptions have been updated to include current best practices.
- The division was awarded several innovation and pilot grants to expand best practices.
- Media exposure increased and is included in this report for the first time.
- Training and exposure was expanded to a national level.

## 2019 GOALS

In March 2019, the Governor released the Recovery Ohio Advisory Council Initial Report. The document delineates state priorities to address mental health and substance use statewide. The 2019 Specialized Docket Division goals are directly in line with the Advisory Council's recommendations.

1. Identify barriers and make program and policy changes to increase specialized docket access to underserved populations.
2. Provide culturally specific, trauma competent programming and collaborate to ensure culturally specific, trauma competent community treatment options.
3. Develop a technology infrastructure and data linkage strategy for data sharing and analysis.
4. Increase community access through cohesive messaging on multiple platforms including community engagement, technology, media, and print material.
5. Increase the use of intensive peer supports in the Specialized Docket Division.
6. Provide and support participant and family centered engagement.
7. Increase access to Naloxone.
8. Support the path to a career in behavioral health for staff and students through training and education.
9. Increase funding and expansion through grants and matching funds.
10. Explore innovations to the in-patient competency restoration process to emphasize treatment and access to community services.
11. Champion best practices and innovation that contribute to the national conversation.

## **COST SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCY INITIATIVES:**

The Franklin County Municipal Court continually strives to improve its programs and operating procedures to increase efficiency and save valuable public dollars. Over the last several years, the following have been undertaken in pursuit of those objectives.

### **Assignment Office**

- In an effort to reduce the time elapsed between case scheduling and issuance of notices, most case files spend less than 24 hours within the Assignment Office. This helps clerk staff, court staff and others locate files easier. Additionally, this provides ample time for the court's hearing notices to arrive to their destinations prior to the court date.
- Increased communication between the judges, bailiffs and case coordinators has resulted in improved management of the judicial schedules that has created a reduction in rescheduling cases. These efficiencies allow ample time for hearing notices to be received by parties, further reducing continuances, show cause hearings and warrants.
- Continued use of the File Tracker function within the case management system helps track and predict where physical case files may be located reducing the time and effort spent attempting to locate case files.

### **Jury Commissioner**

- Flexible reporting times are offered to assist jurors in dealing with limited parking around the courthouse and as an accommodation for their work schedules. The Court provides vouchers for parking in two local garages as well as passes for COTA.
- The flexible reporting times also allow for a certain percentage of the jurors to report at 1:30 pm instead of 10:30 am. Jurors required to report earlier are those who will be assigned to special jury requests or jury trials that are scheduled to start in the morning. The Court's goal is to have only those jurors report early when needed and only in the amount needed to start the trial. This helps all sectors of private business as well as government to save due to the fact they do not have to cover their employee's absence for a full day.
- The Jury Commission received a grant from the Ohio Supreme Court to enhance the jury system software to allow for online accessibility for those who receive a juror summons. This improvement allows for jurors to complete their juror questionnaires online. Jurors also benefit from a much more efficient daily check-in process.

## Language Services

The Interpreter Services Program (ISP) received a grant from the State Justice Institute that provided technical assistance from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to create a Language Access Services Needs Assessment and Language Access Plan. This effort provided invaluable feedback that is being used to provide improved services to limited English proficient (LEP) individuals and deaf and hard of hearing persons. By implementing the final recommendations from the NCSC, the ISP has improved its programs and operating procedures, and streamlined the requesting and scheduling processes to save valuable public resources and provide the most qualified interpreters. The ISP continues to promote effective communication throughout the courthouse to better assist the prompt and organized scheduling of interpreters, which represents a large part of the ISP's work.

In accordance with the Court's Language Access Plan and the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio, this Court uses certified, provisionally qualified and registered court interpreters and telephonic interpretation. Adhering to these standards ensures that communication between the court and litigants is not hampered due to limited English proficiency. The ISP also offers a mentoring program to encourage area interpreters to shadow the full-time interpreting staff. Several interpreters who took advantage of this hands-on learning opportunity went on to attain their Supreme Court Certification for legal interpreting. During 2018 Ukrainian, Armenian, Bulgarian, and German were several of the additions to the Supreme Court's roster of qualified or certified interpreters.

The ISP's mission is to have interpreters who provide ethical and professional services in a uniform and transparent manner. The ISP routinely monitors the performance of on-site and remote interpreters, for accuracy, completeness, transparency and confidentiality, and abiding by the Code of Professional Conduct for Judiciary Interpreters and Translators. The dedication and professionalism of contracted ASL and foreign language interpreters who serve the bench and all LEP parties on daily basis are essential to our ability to offer all parties access to justice and equal protection under the law.

The Court has on-site staff interpreters who assist Spanish, Somali, MayMay, Italian, French and Swahili speakers in navigating court proceedings. During 2018 there was a 25% increase for requests of service in Spanish and Somali in comparison to 2017. Franklin County has a growing diverse community and with this diversity comes expanding needs to provide court services in multiple languages. The requests for service in Nepali increased 100% between 2016 and 2017. From 2017 to 2018 requests for Nepali interpreters has increased 65%.

The primary languages requested in order of use are Spanish, Somali, Nepali and Arabic. Due to the rise of case filings with parties who speak African languages, the ISP has dedicated efforts to recruit interpreters who speak Kinyarwanda, Luganda, Krio and Yoruba. Sourcing these interpreters make it possible to better serve these parties with on-site interpreters and provides a more effective and efficient means of communication.

For certain languages and dialects where qualified on-site interpreters are not available, the Court continues to rely on telephonic interpretation. There were 103 telephonic interpretation calls to assist with parties who spoke **Hebrew, Uzbek, Georgian, Macedonian, Kinyarwanda, Krio, Yoruba, Mandinka, Oromo, Soninke, and Zomi**. Traffic cases represented approximately 65% of these calls, 25% were calls placed for parties involved in domestic violence cases and 10% were calls in which specific and brief information was needed to be given out to a party.

The ISP continues to translate waivers, forms, signage and informational material for the courtrooms, Self Help Center, Probation and Small Claims Departments. In the criminal arraignment courtroom, a large television display presents a continual reading of the litigant's rights in various languages and LEP parties have offered positive feedback. Use of this technology better assists those with limited English skills and for visual learners to have a better understanding of their rights.

The ISP would like to recognize the continuous support of the Supreme Court of Ohio for providing remote interpreting for languages which are less commonly used and for which in Ohio and neighboring states there are no qualified on-site interpreters. The ISP follows the recommendations of the Supreme Court's "Court Interpreter Bench Notes" while working with remote interpreters and has acquired better equipment through technology grants to better assist the court and parties with these special languages.

The ISP collaborated with the Community and Court Interpreters of Ohio (CCIO) and the Supreme Court of Ohio to present language neutral and language specific trainings for the Judiciary Interpreters of Ohio.

The ISP works with Court staff, the Public Defender and Prosecutor's Offices to gather feedback in order to implement improvements in all areas of interpreting services, from scheduling, to assuring excellent, trustworthy interpreter performance, to the gathering of better statistics.

### **Magistrates Department:**

- The Magistrates Department continues to work with the Franklin County Public Defender, the Columbus City Prosecutor and the Clerk's Office to use the arraignment courtrooms to reduce the number of traffic cases being individually assigned to the judges. Savings are related to taking the time to resolve cases in the arraignment courts instead of referring them through a not-guilty plea to the judges' assigned dockets. The costs saved include overtime for law enforcement officers called for pre-trials or trials.
- Magistrates encourage parties to settle civil disputes as early as possible in order to reduce crowded dockets and relieve stress on the judicial system. The Magistrates Department has developed a long-term relationship with The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and the Capital University Law School to provide day of trial mediation services to litigants in small claims cases. This is in addition to the mediation services available through the Court's Mediation Department.
- The Magistrate's Department provides a wide range of services to parties in eviction cases in order to assist the parties and to reduce the impact the large eviction docket has on the Court. The Magistrate's Department provides space outside the eviction courtroom, including conference rooms, to Community Mediation Services, The Legal Aid Society of Columbus' Tenant Advocacy Project and the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services' PRC Program to assist parties in eviction cases. The magistrates make frequent referrals to these programs and other public programs to help landlords and tenants resolve their disputes. These programs help reduce the costs of eviction, including social costs such as homelessness.

### **Department of Pretrial and Probation Services**

- The department's 2018 goals include: continuation of the development and implementation of the Ohio Community Supervision System (OCSS) electronic probation case management system that will assist in streamlining workflow and increase data collection capabilities; the pilot and implementation of the Court's Behavioral Management System; and implementation of a day programming response, called Comprehensive Community Care or Tri-C. The Tri-C Day Program is a partnership of the Franklin County ADAMH Board, Community for New Direction, Columbus Public Health and the Court. The program will provide comprehensive, cognitively-based programming in targeted communities to help address the challenges defendants face attending assessment-driven programming at various locations throughout the county.

## **Service Bailiffs**

- Bailiwicks (service bailiff territories) are constantly being reevaluated for optimal service in an effort to reduce and minimize mileage expenses, and unnecessary crisscrossing of bailiwicks.
- The department's 2019 goals include the issuance of mobile phones to all service bailiffs. The devices have been loaded with a courier software program that provides improved ability to efficiently manage daily work activity. Bailiffs will be able to communicate with litigants while out in the field via phone and email throughout the course of the business day.

## **Small Claims Division and Dispute Resolution Department**

### **Small Claims Division**

The highest volume filer in the Small Claims Division is the City of Columbus Division of Income Tax. As a result, the Small Claims Division provides voluntary online negotiation for income tax cases in accordance with Revised Code 1925.03. The online platform allows parties to resolve lawsuits without coming to court, thereby saving the parties valuable time and resources. By providing an option for individuals to resolve their case online without coming to court, the Court saves costs associated with personnel, such as magistrates, bailiffs, clerks, and security, and costs associated with facilities and maintenance.

In 2018, 129 tax cases were negotiated online. Of the cases completed online, 75% resulted in either a full dismissal or long-term payment plan through an agreed judgment entry. The online platform increases efficiency as well. **In 2018, tax cases negotiated and resolved online were disposed within an average of 94 days of starting the ODR process.**

### **Dispute Resolution Department**

The Dispute Resolution Department provides the majority of its mediations at no cost to court users. The department has one pre-filing mediation service that is provided at a cost of \$15 per request. The Check and Account Resolution Service (CARS) assists businesses and consumers resolve outstanding accounts outside of court through mediation. **The CARS program contributed \$9,375 to the Court Dispute Resolution Fund in 2018.**