



# 2016 Annual Report

Cuyahoga County Court Of Common Pleas General Division





Cuyahoga County  
Common Pleas Court  
Annual Report  
**2016**  
Hon. John J. Russo,  
Administrative and Presiding Judge

**Cover Photo Key:**

**Top Row:** Kathleen A. Sutula, Timothy P. McCormick, Joseph D. Russo, Carolyn B. Friedland, Michael K. Astrab, John P. O'Donnell

**Second Row:** Peter J. Corrigan, David T. Matia, Joan C. Synenberg, Dick Ambrose, Robert C. McClelland, Cassandra Collier-Williams, Michael E. Jackson, Matthew McMonagle, John D. Sutula

**Third Row:** Brendan J. Sheehan, Michael P. Donnelly, Deena R. Calabrese, Shannon M. Gallagher, Steven E. Gall, Hollie L. Gallagher, Nancy R. McDonnell, Pamela A. Barker, Maureen Clancy, Nancy A. Fuerst, Nancy M. Russo

**Seated:** Daniel Gaul, José Villanueva, Shirley Strickland Saffold, John J. Russo, Stuart A. Friedman, Brian J. Corrigan, Janet R. Burnside

# Judges of the Common Pleas Court General Division – 2016

**Judge Dick Ambrose**  
**Judge Michael K. Astrab**  
**Judge Pamela A. Barker**  
**Judge Janet R. Burnside**  
**Judge Deena R. Calabrese**  
**Judge Maureen E. Clancy**  
**Judge Cassandra Collier-Williams**  
**Judge Brian J. Corrigan**  
**Judge Peter J. Corrigan**  
**Judge Michael P. Donnelly**  
**Judge Carolyn B. Friedland**  
**Judge Stuart A. Friedman**  
**Judge Nancy A. Fuerst**  
**Judge Steven E. Gall**  
**Judge Hollie L. Gallagher**  
**Judge Shannon M. Gallagher**  
**Judge Daniel Gaul**

**Judge Michael E. Jackson**  
**Judge David T. Matia**  
**Judge Robert C. McClelland**  
**Judge Timothy McCormick**  
**Judge Nancy R. McDonnell**  
**Judge Matthew McMonagle**  
**Judge John P. O'Donnell**  
**Judge John J. Russo**  
**Judge Joseph D. Russo**  
**Judge Michael J. Russo**  
**Judge Nancy Margaret Russo**  
**Judge Shirley Strickland Saffold**  
**Judge Brendan J. Sheehan**  
**Judge John D. Sutula**  
**Judge Kathleen Ann Sutula**  
**Judge Joan Synenberg**  
**Judge José A. Villanueva \***

*\* Judge José Villanueva retired 11/30/2016.*

# Greetings

It was an honor to serve as Administrative and Presiding Judge for the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court's General Division for a third year in 2016. In keeping with our mission to provide a forum for the fair, impartial and timely resolution of cases, the Court continues to meet the challenges of the modern judicial system with enthusiasm and dedication.

Among the projects that came to fruition in 2016 was the preparation of a strategic plan for the Court's General Division operations. A \$50,000 grant from the State Justice Institute (SJI) allowed the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to identify organizational and performance opportunities. We expect the report to be available for public review in 2017.

In 2016, the Court also began diversity training for department heads and supervisors. The three days of training were well received, and in 2017 we are expanding by offering diversity training to the more than 500 employees of the Court., which we plan to do annually.

Our specialty dockets continue to draw praise for their work with clients who require more than incarceration or Court supervision. Our new Veterans Treatment Court saw its first graduates in 2016. Our Drug Court reached a milestone of 300 graduates since its inception. We had the first graduates from the partnering Recovery Court, which deals with the dual-diagnosis of addiction and trauma. We also welcomed a new chairperson for the five-judge Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court. You can find more information about our dedicated dockets on page 76.

We strive to continually improve the experience of our jurors. We estimate that more than 25,000 citizens of Cuyahoga County come through the doors of our Jury Assembly Room every year. An exciting new addition was interactive video screens with biographical information about our 34 Judges.

Our work is never done, and we take service to the community very seriously. As you will see in this 2016 Annual Report, our many departments work together to provide access to justice for the people in Cuyahoga County. We know that each case is the most important thing in the lives of the people who are part of it. It's a great responsibility, and one we are honored to carry.

Sincerely,



Administrative and Presiding Judge



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# **Court Administration**

# Court Administration

**Gregory M. Popovich**, Court Administrator

**Andrea Kinast**, Deputy Court Administrator/Director of Court Operations

**Christopher Russ**, Deputy Court Administrator/Director of Human Resources

## Additional Staff:

Director of Fiscal Operations

Community Outreach Coordinator

Administrative Assistant/Payroll Officer

2 Administrative Assistants

The Judges and the Common Pleas Court staff of over 500 are dedicated to providing fair, accessible and efficient justice for all persons. In 2016, to assist the County with its budgetary issues, the Court experienced a reduction in its General Fund budget of about 3.76 million dollars, which represents about 7.6% of its total General Fund budget. Through the efforts of the dedicated Judges and staff, the Court finished the year with a very small surplus (.027% of its total budget) while continuing to provide needed services to the citizens of Cuyahoga County and to litigants. Despite the budget reductions, the Court continued to add and maintain programs in 2016 that will benefit the community and assist with reducing costs to the General Fund for years to come.

Because Cuyahoga County developed a two year budget to assist the County with its financial concerns, the Court made plans throughout 2016 to reduce its General Fund budget again in 2017 by another 3.76 million dollars, or approximately 7.8% of its total General Fund budget. Overall, the Court's General Fund budget over the two year budget cycle will be reduced by about 7.52 million dollars.

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN 2016

Several events in 2016 made it an unforgettable year for the Court. First and foremost, the Opiate epidemic continues to substantially impact the Judges and the operations of the Court. Although courts throughout the State have experienced increases in the numbers of deaths caused by opiate overdoses, Cuyahoga County continued to be one of the hardest hit areas in the State and in the country. In 2016, over 650 deaths in Cuyahoga County in 2016 were attributed to opiate and/or fentanyl overdoses. To put this number in perspective, it has been reported that in 2016, heroin related deaths surpassed homicides and deaths caused by car crashes in Cuyahoga County. In response, the Court committed significant resources to treat the growing number of people addicted to opiates in our community. To meet this need, the Court successfully obtained a number of State and Federal grants and started new treatment programs & drug testing procedures. The Court and the Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services (ADAMHS ) Board of Cuyahoga County once again collaborated on a number of different projects to expand services and treatment options. The Court thanks the ADAMHS Board and the County for its financial assistance, which expanded treatment options for people addicted to drugs or alcohol and/or with a mental health developmental disability.

As the country and the world focused their attention on Cleveland in 2016 for the Republican National Convention (RNC), the Court committed significant time and resources to plan for its success. The RNC was the single largest event the judiciary in Cuyahoga County ever had to prepare for. Staff attended numerous meetings and planning sessions with various local, state and federal authorities to prepare for any possible civil unrest or catastrophic events. The Court is thankful to many for their cooperation and assistance during the entire planning process. The RNC was a success because of the extensive planning and collaboration among many government and private entities.

John J. Russo, Administrative Judge and the President of the National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers (NAPCO), welcomed court leaders from across the country to Cleveland for the first ever NAPCO National Conference. Judges and Court Executive Officers from most states both in and outside the country, ascended upon Cleveland to learn about new and creative programs that courts have implemented, and to hear from various speakers on such topics as leadership and strategic change in court environments. A considerable amount of planning went into making sure court leaders experienced an exceptional conference with nationally recognized speakers and events. The hope was that they would return to their respective jurisdictions with information to improve their courts and with unforgettable positive memories of Cleveland.

### **CASE MANAGEMENT**

A court, in part, measures productivity by comparing the total number of cases filed and/or reactivated with the number of cases disposed of during the calendar year. This case management tool is referred to as the clearance rate. In 2016, a total of 20,340 civil cases were filed / reactivated. A total of 11,112 new criminal arraignments, and 1,474 reactivations, were brought for a total of 32,926 new cases/ reactivations. Calendar year 2016 concluded with 14,357 cases pending.

Of the civil docket, 6,104 newly filed cases were foreclosures, a decrease of nearly 5.5% from 2015. In all, foreclosure cases comprised 35% of all new civil case filings.

Civil case filings, once again, decreased in 2016, but not by as much as in previous years. Courts throughout the State continue to experience a reduction in civil case filings in 2016. It is significant to note that Indictments/Informations actually increased by about 1,100 cases in 2016 in comparison to 2015 levels. This is the first time in ten years that the number of Indictments/Informations filed actually increased in comparison to the previous year's numbers.

Although case filings have decreased throughout the State, legislation requires courts to devote more time and resources to Community Control/Probation cases in order to divert defendants from prison. Courts must also handle more expungements and other matters than in the past.

Productivity and efficiency are only two means for measuring performance of the Court. While gauging productivity and efficiency through empirical measurement is significant, more importantly, the Court must strive for justice in the resolution of each case that affects the rights and obligations of each individual or entity.

### **THE TRIAL COURT**

Jury trials were conducted by the Court's 34 Judges in 266 instances, including 205 criminal cases and 61 civil jury trials, an average of 7.8 per Judge. They also conducted 146 bench trials in 2016. Overall, jury and bench trials were slightly down in 2016 in comparison to 2015. It should be noted that about 300 more cases were mediated in 2016 in comparison to 2015.

### **SPECIALIZED DOCKETS/PROGRAMS**

The Court created the Foreclosure Mediation program in 2009. The program became a model for other courts in the State and the nation. In 2016, the Court continued to allocate resources to the Foreclosure Mediation Program to respond to the large number of foreclosure filings in Cuyahoga County, and to accommodate the needs of the citizens in Cuyahoga County who wish to make every effort to stay in their homes.

Also in 2016, the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court (MHDD) said farewell to its Chair, Judge José A. Villanueva. Judge Villanueva retired after decades of distinguished service to the citizens of Cuyahoga County. He led the MHDD Court initiative for a number of years, and the Court thanks him for his contributions over the years as the Chair of the MHDD Court. Judge Hollie L. Gallagher was named as his successor as Chair of the MHDD Court. In addition, Judge Cassandra Collier-Williams was appointed to the MHDD Court and assigned Judge Jose Villanueva's docket. Joining Judge Gallagher and Judge Collier-Williams on the MHDD Court are Judge Deena R. Calabrese, Judge Michael P. Donnelly and Judge Robert McClelland.

This past year, Drug Court continued under Judge David T. Matia. The number of persons entering Drug Court increased again in 2016, and several graduation ceremonies for successful candidates in Drug Court were held. The Court was awarded a new federal grant that will expand the services offered and the number of people treated. These services will include Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).



A second Drug Court, known as Recovery Court, was created in 2015 with the assistance of a federal grant. Recovery Court is presided over by Judge Joan C. Synenberg. This Court was certified in record time by the Ohio Supreme Court, and it focuses, not only on alcohol and/or drug addiction, but also trauma related mental health issues. Recovery Court fills a critical hole in the justice system as it also focuses on serving the special needs of women. The number of people admitted into Recovery Court increased dramatically in 2016, as the project identified a larger population of people who required the special attention this specialized court docket provided.

Re-Entry Court continued to accept new people in 2016 under the leadership of Judge Nancy Margaret Russo. Re-Entry Court is recognized as an exceptional program because of its high success rate. It is unique in Ohio because candidates are granted Judicial Release to participate. In addition, it provides participants resources upon exiting prison to provide them opportunities to return as productive members of society. One of the major accomplishments for Re-Entry Court in 2016 was the collaboration with the community to offer a Business Summit. The Summit provided local area businesses and employers information and training to encourage them to offer jobs to people with criminal records.

A Veterans Treatment Court was created in 2015 and Judge Michael E. Jackson was appointed to preside over it. This specialized docket will integrate the principles of Drug Court and the MHDD Court to serve military veterans and active duty personnel. Through the efforts of Judge Jackson, the Veterans Court Coordinator, Court staff and the Veteran's Court Advisory Board, Supreme Court certification was obtained in an unprecedented amount of time. The Common Pleas Court obtained a federal grant that will provide funding for the Veterans Treatment Court for the next several years. In 2016, the Court expanded services to a growing number of veterans and collaborated with the County Jail to create a housing unit for veterans.



## **JUDGE NANCY R. McDONNELL COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**



Construction of the 200 bed Judge Nancy R. McDonnell Community-Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) for Cuyahoga County began in 2009 and the facility opened in 2011. The project is supervised by a Facility Governing Board consisting of representatives appointed by the Court and County government. The CBCF provides a sentencing alternative to State prison. These programs provide stable housing, work release, substance abuse and mental health treatment for participants. The average length of stay is 90 days.

Throughout 2016, Judges of the Common Pleas Court referred numerous offenders to the facility. It is expected that sentencing offenders to the facility will reduce recidivism while decreasing the population of persons being sent to State prisons. It is also expected that the facility will assist with decreasing the number of offenders held in County Jail; positively impacting the General Fund into the future.

In 2016, in cooperation with the ADAMHS Board and the CBCF operator, the Court once again committed resources that provided the opportunity for it to refer people with a mental health diagnosis to the CBCF. By adding psychiatrists and the ability for them to provide medication, people referred to the CBCF will be able to be diverted from County Jail and the prison system. It is expected that this environment is much better suited for treating offenders with mental health illnesses while saving taxpayer dollars. Cuyahoga County does not have a CBCF for women. In 2016, the Court continued to commit resources so that females can be sent to Summit County's CBCF and receive needed treatment for addiction and mental health disabilities.

Over the past year, 572 offenders were placed in the CBCF; a decrease from 2015. The numbers dipped slightly in 2016 because the State reduced the funding for the CBCF. A total of 79 female defendants were placed in the Cliff Skeen CBCF in Summit County; an increase over 2015 the figures.

## ENHANCEMENTS TO THE JURY ROOM

The Judges and staff appreciate the sacrifices and dedication of all citizens who serve as jurors in the Common Pleas Court. On behalf of the Court of Common Pleas, thank you to all of jurors who served in 2016.

The Court continues to review processes and to look for ways to make jury service more convenient. In 2016, dedicated Jury Room staff reduced the time jurors served on jury duty by continuing to monitor activity in the courtrooms. In a number of instances, jurors were released after three days of jury service. The efforts of staff also allowed the Court to experience cost savings to the General Fund.

In 2016, the Court obtained a grant from the Ohio Supreme Court that assisted with adding touch screen monitors so that jurors can obtain facts about the downtown Cleveland community and the Common Pleas Court. The monitors also provide jurors information on restaurants near the Justice Center, and other related topics. It is expected that this interactive forum will enhance the jurors' experiences and make their service more convenient. Other minor renovations were also made to improve the jury room in 2016.

A new program for jurors was created in 2014, called "*Justice Fur All*", which provides them an opportunity to visit with animals from the local animal shelter during the warmer months. The program's goals were to entertain jurors as they waited to be called to a courtroom, and to also give animals in the shelter a chance to be adopted. It was expanded in 2016 to include more visits by the animals.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES (EBP) & BEHAVIORAL RESPONSE PROGRAM

A meta-analysis of research findings indicates that some interventions are more effective at reducing recidivism than others. Evidence Based Practices are those interventions. In 2014, the Court continued to move towards full implementation of EBP. Training of Judges and staff continued to facilitate the implementation process.

It is hoped that with the assistance of Evidence Based Practices and the data collected, that the Court will be able to better evaluate Court programs in the future to determine their overall effectiveness on recidivism rates. Based upon research conducted nationally, it is expected that full implementation of Evidence Based Practices will

increase safety in the community and allow the Court to better utilize its limited resources.

In 2014, the Court began working towards an electronic/automatic Behavioral Response Program where persons on Community Control can receive immediate awards or sanctions as a result of their behavior. This project was completed in 2016 without the expenditure of General Fund tax payer dollars. It is expected that it will reduce recidivism and the amount of time a person spends in jail for a probation violation. The Court also anticipates that it will realize efficiencies over the long term due to a reduction in the number of probation violation hearings.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF *CourTools*

The General Division of the Common Pleas Court has been committed to providing transparency into the performance of its operations for a number of years. The Common Pleas Court was the first in the State of Ohio to publish statistics for individual Judges, Magistrates and court system processes.

In 2013, in an effort to further expand transparency into its operations, the Court began implementation of a set of nationally recognized performance measures, called ***CourTools***.

***CourTools*** is a set of ten performance measures that were developed by the National Center for State Courts along with other court leaders and experts. These performance measures provide courts a method to collect and analyze relevant data to evaluate their own performance and compare themselves with other courts. This process provides a framework for the managing of limited resources in a way that monitors key areas of court operations to assist the Court to better serve the public.

In 2013, the Court completed work on the performance measures for *Clearance Rates for Criminal Cases* and *Time to Disposition*. In 2014, the Court completed work on three additional measures: *Age of Active Pending Caseload*, *Trial Date Certainty* and *Effective Use of Jurors*.

In 2016, work continued on the implementation of *CourTools*. The Court surveyed over 1,000 court users in 2016 to work towards completing the performance measure for *Access and Fairness*. This information can now be found on the Court's web page. To update this performance measure, the Court surveyed over 1,700 court users again in 2016 and the results of the survey will be posted in 2017.

The Court also surveyed Court staff in 2016 to work towards completing *CourTools* 9: Court Employee Satisfaction. This data will be presented in 2017. Other *CourTools* were also updated throughout 2016.

As the Court has done in the past with other statistics, information about the ten measures and the relevant reports will be posted on the Court's web page. To our knowledge, this Court is the only one in the State and one of the few in the country to update these measures regularly and to also publish them for the public to review.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY RENOVATIONS**

Security enhancements continued to be made to the Justice Center and Old Courthouse in 2016. The duress alarm system and all duress alarms in the Court's Towers and in relevant areas of the Old Courthouse were updated with the latest technology. The exterior Justice Center Complex Security enhancements were put on hold in 2016 by the County due to other downtown construction projects and the Republican National Convention. However, preparations were made by the County to move forward with the project in 2017 (i.e. laying wire and running conduit where needed). When finished, these security improvements will re-direct public parking and make entrance access for visitors, deliveries and parking garage access safer.

### **TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES**

The Court began work on updating the technology in the Probation Department. Probationers will soon be able to automatically check in at the Probation Department, or at a kiosk, and report by way of a biometric scan of their fingerprints. Lower risk individuals will be able to report to their Probation Officer and pay court ordered financial obligations by coming to a kiosk in the community and answering a few questions. It is expected that these new services for low risk offenders will enable them to report at times convenient to them so that they do not have to take time off from work and risk losing their jobs. Offenders will also realize cost savings as they can avoid the high cost of downtown parking or the need to take a bus to the courthouse. These upgrades came at no cost to Cuyahoga County's General Fund tax dollars, as the Court was successful in obtaining grant monies from the State of Ohio.

Over a decade ago, the Court was one of the first in the State and one of the few in the country to utilize video-conferencing technology to hold court proceedings with prisons and other agencies to avoid transporting people to and from the courthouse. Judges, lawyers working for the Court and other Court staff found video-conferencing technology a convenient method to obtain required continuing legal education (CLE) hours and other professional and training credit.

Also, taxpayers realized a cost savings as Judges and staff reduced the amount of travel to obtain CLE hours or attend other training events. The Court also permits counsel to use the space if an expert witness is not able to travel to Cleveland for a trial. This assists the public with reducing the cost of litigation in appropriate situations. In 2016, all of the video conferencing equipment in the Court's Education Center was updated to provide a high definition signal and better sound quality. This project was completed at no cost to Cuyahoga County's General Fund tax dollars, as the Court successfully obtained a grant to defray some of the cost for the improvements. The remaining total was paid for with Court fees.

In 2016, in response to ever growing security concerns from outside entities, the Court implemented a remote mirrored case management system for operation during a crisis. The Court's web docket is one of the busiest web sites in the County and, probably, in the State of Ohio. Advanced software was purchased to detect and quickly respond to unauthorized mining and attacks on the Court's web docket.

### **CMBA GREEN CERTIFICATION**

The Court is proud to announce that it was once again Green Certified by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) in 2016. This award was created by the CMBA to promote environmentally responsible programs ("green practices") for adoption by law firms, small law offices/solo practitioners and the CMBA itself. The certification is valid through 2018.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH & COLLABORATING WITH THE BAR ASSOCIATION

Community outreach has continued to be a focus for the Court in 2016. *Court in the Classroom* was first staged in 2014. Actual court cases (e.g. probation violations, plea changes, sentencing) are held in front of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and then followed-up with explanations and a review of the Court. Students can then ask questions of the Judge, attorneys, bailiffs, sheriff's deputies and court reporters. In 2016, *Court in the Classroom* expanded to include more school districts throughout Cuyahoga County, and it continues to generate interest from other districts as well.

In 2016, the Court continued projects under the Community Outreach umbrella: a monthly internal newsletter titled *From The Bench*; *Memorial Mondays* during the summer in which food trucks visit at lunchtime; *Justice For All* in which the Cleveland Animal Protective League brings dogs and cats available for adoption; increased communication with local media; news releases about Court happenings; connecting with other Court Public Information Officers around the nation through the Conference of Court Public Information Officers (CCPIO).

Judges and staff volunteered to be presenters at a number of Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) and Ohio Judicial College courses in 2016.

Court Administration again hosted a segment of the New Lawyer Bootcamp program sponsored by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. New lawyers received valuable information and tips about practicing in the Court, received a tour of the Court's various departments and obtained their Court ID. Court Administration assisted again with the Supreme Court's Attorney Mentoring program in 2016. Judge Brendan J. Sheehan is a member of the Supreme Court's Mentoring Committee and chairs the program in Cleveland. This program links experienced attorneys with new attorneys, and the Court partners with the Bar Association to hold a reception for the mentors and young attorneys. Information is provided about the Court and a tour of Court facilities are also provided at the event.

One of the most important events that the Court collaborates with the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association is the Louis Stokes Scholars Program. The goal of the program is to encourage college students who are graduates of the Cleveland and East Cleveland school districts to consider a career in law by engaging them in paid summer legal internships at law firms, courts and legal non-profits. In addition to their work assignments, interns participated in field trips and programs to increase their understanding of the legal system, improve their writing skills and engage them in networking opportunities. In 2016, the Court once again provided several interns with a mentor, and designed a program internally to introduce the students to various aspects of the judiciary and the justice system. The program is named after Louis Stokes, who was a former Congressman, Cleveland Metropolitan School District graduate, civil rights advocate and distinguished attorney.

These are just a few of the various programs the Court and its Judges and staff participate in each year. Judges and staff commit hundreds of hours of their time presenting for the Ohio Supreme Court's Judicial College, the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and a number of other organizations to educate lawyers and the public on legal topics and the judiciary.



# SUMMARY FOR THE COURT January - December 2016

|   | A                 | B                 | C           | D                    | E            | F                     | G                  | H           | I        | T     | V              |   |   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|-------|----------------|---|---|
|   | Professional Tort | Product Liability | Other Torts | Workers Compensation | Foreclosures | Administrative Appeal | Complex Litigation | Other Civil | Criminal | Total | Visiting Judge |   |   |
| Pending beginning of period                       | 1                 | 305               | 22          | 2680                 | 957          | 4234                  | 112                | 27          | 2804     | 3362  | 14503          | 2 | 1 |
| New cases filed                                   | 2                 | 297               | 17          | 3575                 | 1213         | 6104                  | 134                | X           | 5875     | 11112 | 28327          | 0 | 2 |
| Cases transferred in, reactivated or redesignated | 3                 | 56                | 3           | 426                  | 238          | 1996                  | 16                 | 3           | 387      | 1474  | 4599           | 1 | 3 |
| <b>TOTAL (Add lines 1-3)</b>                      | 4                 | 658               | 42          | 6681                 | 2408         | 12334                 | 262                | 30          | 9066     | 15948 | 47429          | 3 | 4 |

## TERMINATIONS BY:

|  | A  | B   | C  | D    | E    | F    | G   | H  | I    | T     | V     |   |    |
|--|----|-----|----|------|------|------|-----|----|------|-------|-------|---|----|
| Jury Trial   | 5  | 9   | 0  | 30   | 6    | 0    | 1   | 0  | 15   | 205   | 266   | 0 | 5  |
| Court Trial  | 6  | 0   | 0  | 3    | 2    | 0    | 0   | 0  | 22   | 119   | 146   | 0 | 6  |
| Settled or dismissed prior to trial  | 7  | 0   | 0  | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0  | 4    | 0     | 5     | 0 | 7  |
| Dismissal  | 8  | 250 | 17 | 2685 | 1040 | 460  | 55  | 20 | 2419 | 904   | 7850  | 1 | 8  |
| Dismissal for lack of speedy trial (criminal) or want of prosecution (civil) | 9  | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0 | 9  |
| Magistrate   | 10 | 1   | 0  | 0    | 0    | 6320 | 0   | 2  | 22   | X     | 6345  | 0 | 10 |
| Diversion or arbitration   | 11 | 0   | 0  | 34   | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0  | 14   | 927   | 975   | 0 | 11 |
| Guilty or no contest plea to original charge (criminal); Default (civil)     | 12 | 2   | 0  | 354  | 0    | 4    | 0   | 0  | 1875 | 1269  | 3504  | 0 | 12 |
| Guilty or no contest plea to reduced charge                                  | 13 | X   | X  | X    | X    | X    | X   | X  | X    | 7303  | 7303  | 0 | 13 |
| Unavailability of party for trial or sentencing                              | 14 | 0   | 0  | 1    | 0    | 1220 | 0   | 0  | 1    | 770   | 1992  | 0 | 14 |
| Transfer to another judge or court   | 15 | 57  | 6  | 415  | 280  | 603  | 11  | 0  | 436  | 398   | 2206  | 0 | 15 |
| Referral to private judge  | 16 | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0  | 0    | X     | 0     | 0 | 16 |
| Bankruptcy stay or interlocutory appeal                                      | 17 | 4   | 0  | 53   | 7    | 21   | 1   | 1  | 135  | 8     | 230   | 0 | 17 |
| Other terminations   | 18 | 34  | 3  | 423  | 142  | 4    | 81  | 1  | 1446 | 116   | 2250  | 2 | 18 |
| <b>TOTAL (Add lines 5-18)</b>  | 19 | 357 | 26 | 3999 | 1477 | 8632 | 149 | 24 | 6389 | 12019 | 33072 | 3 | 19 |
| Pending end of period (Subtract line 19 from line 4)                         | 20 | 301 | 16 | 2682 | 931  | 3702 | 113 | 6  | 2677 | 3929  | 14357 | 0 | 20 |
|  |    | 24  | 24 | 24   | 12   | 12   | 9   | 36 | 24   | 6     | X     | X |    |
| Cases pending beyond time guideline  | 21 | 28  | 1  | 49   | 51   | 525  | 34  | 3  | 75   | 564   | 1330  | 0 | 21 |
| Number of months oldest case is beyond time guideline                        | 22 | 50  | 3  | 132  | 52   | 154  | 31  | 33 | 159  | 514   | X     | 0 | 22 |
| Cases submitted awaiting sentencing or judgement beyond time guideline       | 23 | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0  | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0 | 23 |

# Common Pleas Court Fiscal Report

**Colleen Brown**, Director of Fiscal Operations

The 2016 actual General Fund Expenses at **\$48,793,494** represent funding for the **Judicial Administration, Magistrates, Court Services, and Probation/Psychiatric Clinic Budgets**. The General Fund for Cuyahoga County supports the majority of the Court's operations. The Court is constitutionally entitled to reasonable allocation for its operations. The 2016 General Fund expenditures listed by individual budget are as follows:

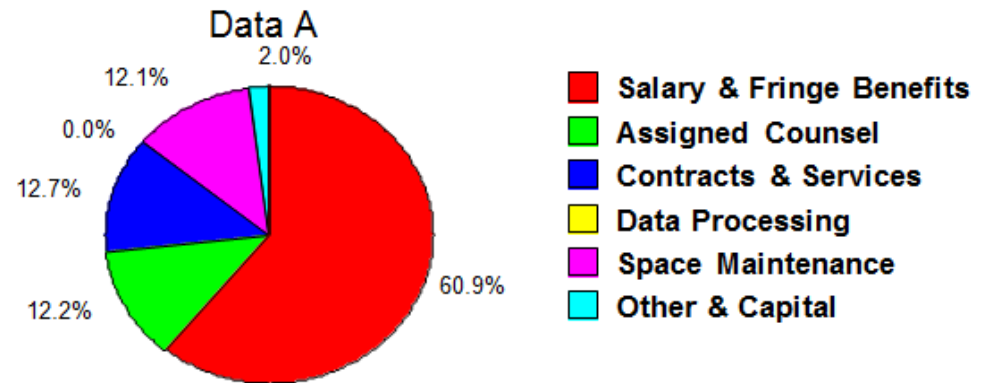
**Judicial Administration Budget \$25,559,970:** This included funding for the following departments: *Judicial, Administration, Bailiffs, Jury Bailiffs, Jury Commission, Judicial Staff Attorneys and Judges' Secretaries.*

**Magistrates Budget \$1,333,928:** This included funding for the following departments: *Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)/Mediation and Foreclosure.*

**Court Services Budget \$8,143,298:** This included funding for the following departments: *Central Scheduling, Court Systems, Data Entry, Court Reporters, Criminal Records and Information Systems.*

**Probation/Psychiatric Budget \$13,756,298:** This included funding for the following departments: *Probation and the Court Psychiatric Clinic.*

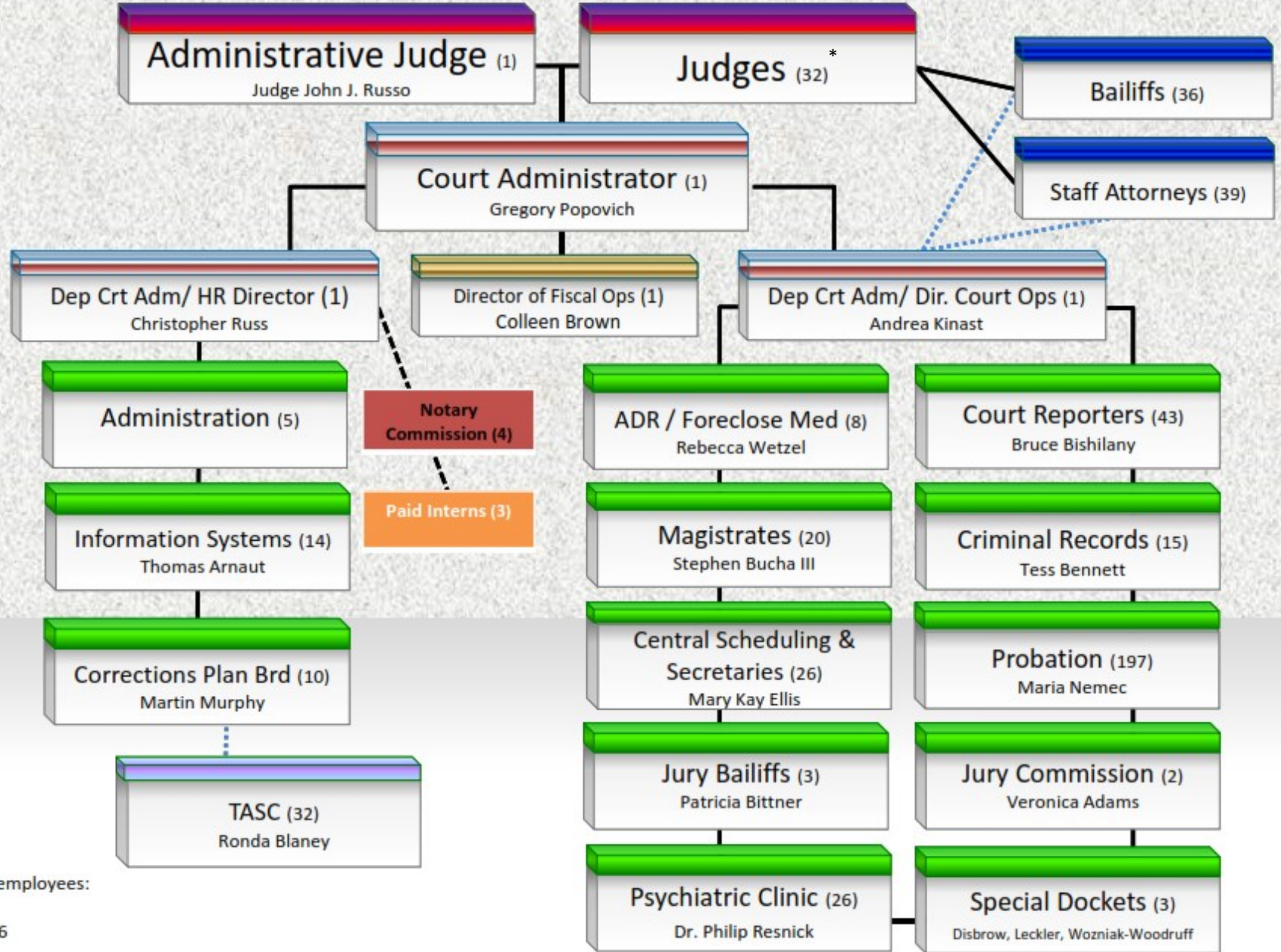
## COMMON PLEAS COURT 2016 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| Salary/Fringe Benefits | 29,738,193 |
| Assigned Counsel       | 5,946,502  |
| Contracts & Services   | 6,204,318  |
| Data Processing        | 1,650      |
| Space Maintenance      | 5,926,279  |
| Other & Capital        | 976,552    |

The pie chart above summarizes the Court's General Fund Expenditures for 2016. This analysis is comprised of actual expenses from the Judicial Administration, Magistrates, Court Services and Probation / Psychiatric Clinic Budgets. The largest expense category is Salary and Fringe Benefits, representing compensation to approximately 516 full and part-time staff, inclusive of 34 elected judges. There was a 15% increase over the prior year due to the cost of Fringe Benefits. The second largest expense category, Contracts and Services, has increased by 32% since 2015, due to the addition of the case management system contract. In 2016, the total number of arraigned indigent defendants was 8,538. Of that total, 2,995 were then assigned to the Public Defender's Office at the time of arraignment. The Assigned Counsel expense listed above is not adjusted for the reimbursement by the State to the General Fund for these costs, estimated at 48% of the total expenditure.

# CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT – GENERAL DIVISION



Total paid employees:  
519  
12/30/2016

\* Judge José Villanueva retired 11/30/2016. His replacement did not start until 1/3/2017.



**Alternative  
Dispute  
Resolution**



# Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

**Rebecca B. Wetzel**, Administrator    **John Minter**, Foreclosure Mediation Program Director/  
Mediator

**Matthew Mennes**, Court Mediator

Additional Staff: 1 Foreclosure Mediator / 4 Administrative Assistants

The ADR Department is located on the fourth floor of the Justice Center across from the Cafeteria. The Foreclosure Mediation Program is located on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Justice Center. ADR provides five methods of alternative dispute resolution for the Court: arbitration, civil mediation, mediation after arbitration, business mediation and foreclosure mediation. The total referrals to all ADR programs for 2016 were 3,096.

## ARBITRATION

The original method of ADR is arbitration. Cases involving claims that are \$50,000 or less per claimant are amenable to arbitration. Judges refer cases to the ADR Department where a panel of three arbitrators is assigned. The chairperson of the panel notifies all concerned of the hearing date, which is to take place within 90 days of the date of referral. The ADR Department receives and files the Report and Awards from the arbitrators. If no appeal is taken from the award within 30 days, the department prepares a final judgment entry reflecting the arbitration award.

| <b>MANDATORY ARBITRATION STATISTICS for 2016</b> |      |                            |
|--|------|----------------------------|
|  | 2016 | Since Inception (May 1970) |
| Total Cases Referred                             | 176  | 79,674                     |
| Arbitration Referral Vacated                     | 17   | 3,577                      |
| Net Total Arbitration Referrals                  | 159  | 75,457                     |
| Report & Awards Filed                            | 113  | 53,097                     |
| Total Appeal de Novo Filed                       | 39   | 15,280                     |

| <b>Final Entries</b>                     |      |                            |
|--|------|----------------------------|
|  | 2016 | Since Inception (May 1970) |
| Arbitration Cases Settled via Mediation  | 1    | N/A                        |
| Arbitration Cases Settled (no fees paid) | 60   | 2,277                      |
| Awards Reduced To Judgement              | 61   | N/A                        |
| Bankruptcy                               | 0    | N/A                        |
| Appeals Disposed                         | 1    | 12,803                     |
| Total Final Entries                      | 123  |                            |

| <b>PERCENTAGES 2016 (Based on 159 net referrals)</b> |     |
|--|-----|
| Arbitration Cases Resolved via Mediation             | 1%  |
| Arbitration Cases Settled before Hearing             | 38% |
| Arbitration Cases Appealed                           | 25% |
| Arbitration Awards Appealed                          | 35% |
| Arbitration Awards Reduced to Judgment               | 54% |
| Arbitration Appeals Resolved via Settlement          | 78% |
| Arbitration Appeals Resolved via Jury Trial          | 15% |

## MEDIATION

Mediation is the most widely used method of ADR in the Court. It is a non-binding process where a mediator assists the parties in negotiating the resolution of contested issues to a settlement. As an impartial participant, the mediator does not advocate for a particular outcome, but does challenge the parties to view the issues from different perspectives and focus on their interests, instead of their initial positions, to see if they can reach an agreement. The Court's Civil ADR programs, which do not include foreclosure mediation, saw an increase in referrals for the fourth year in a row, with the greatest increase in civil mediations.

Civil mediation cases are chosen from arbitration cases or referred directly by the Judges. In addition, the department began mediating arbitration appeals in 1998. In 2016, the department expanded its Settlement Day event by hosting a Settlement Week during the week of October 17<sup>th</sup> to coincide with the American Bar Association Settlement Week. The mediators conducted a mediation skills CLE program for the volunteer mediators on Monday and held specialized settlement days on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: one dedicated to workers' compensation cases, one for civil cases and a bank servicer day for foreclosure mediation. The largest event was Wednesday, when 13 volunteer mediators mediated 49 cases and achieved a 50% settlement ratio.

| <b>Statistics and Analysis for 2016</b> |       |
|---|-------|
| Total Cases Referred to Court Mediation | 1,148 |
| Total Cases Mediated                    | 853   |
| Total Cases Settled by Mediation        | 425   |
| Percentage of Settlements               | 50%   |
| Total Appeals Mediated                  | 1     |
| Appeals Settled in Mediation            | 1     |
| Percentage of Mediated Appeals Settled  | 100%  |

## BUSINESS MEDIATION

Business mediations are conducted pursuant to Local Rule 21.2. Judges may refer any business case to the ADR Department for mediation. The department notifies the parties of the referral and provides them with three names of mediators from the List of Eligible Mediators. The parties rank their choice and return the ranking sheet to the Department. The ADR Administrator then designates the mediator and notifies the parties. The Business Mediator must conduct the mediation within 30 days of being designated and file a report within 10 days of the hearing.

| <b>Statistics &amp; Analysis for 2016</b>  |     |
|--|-----|
| Total Cases Referred to Business Mediation | 29  |
| Total Completed Mediations                 | 23  |
| Total Settlements                          | 13  |
| Percentage of Settlements                  | 57% |



## FORECLOSURE MEDIATION

The Foreclosure Mediation Program began on June 25, 2008, and continues to provide services to Cuyahoga County both through its daily activities and special outreach events. Any party to a foreclosure action may request mediation and any Foreclosure Magistrate may directly refer a foreclosure case to the program. A referral to mediation stays all discovery and motion practice until the mediation is concluded. The mediators screen the request forms, notify the parties when a case has been accepted and schedule both a pre-mediation conference and a full mediation hearing. After the pre-mediation conference, the parties typically have 14 days to submit the documentation necessary to carry out the foreclosure mediation process. If the parties do not submit the necessary documents, sanctions may be imposed, including returning the file to the active foreclosure docket or dismissing the foreclosure action without prejudice. All parties and their counsel are required to appear at the face-to-face mediation hearing. This includes a representative from the investor/servicer. Due to the loss mitigation guidelines followed by many investors/servicers and the need for significant financial information from the property owners, multiple additional mediation contacts are typically required after the first face-to-face hearing in order to thoroughly review all loss mitigation options. These follow-up contacts also are face-to-face and by telephone.

| Statistics & Analysis for 2016                     |       |
|--|-------|
| Total Cases Referred                               | 1426  |
| Cases Available for Hearing<br>Total Hearings Held | 3,828 |
| Pre-Mediation Hearings Held                        | 1,242 |
| Full Mediation Hearings Held                       | 847   |
| Cases Settled                                      | 660   |
| Settlement Ratio                                   | 78%   |

The total number of cases referred to the Foreclosure Mediation Program and the percentage of referrals as compared to overall foreclosure filings remained consistent in 2016 when compared to 2015. In addition, due to the decrease in mediators from three full-time mediators in 2015 to two by the end of 2016, each mediator's number of hearings increased. The average age of a foreclosure mediation case in 2016 was 117 days, which is consistent with the Program's stated goal of 120 days. Finally, while having cases settle is only part of the benefit of a foreclosure mediation program, the program maintained a strong 78% settlement rate.

The Foreclosure Mediation Program saw some significant staffing changes in 2016. At the beginning of 2016, the Foreclosure Mediation Program had three full time mediators. Civil mediators Rebecca Wetzel and Matt Mennes each conducted foreclosure mediation hearings one day a week. Mediator Michael Schmitz left in October 2016 to take a job as an Administrative Judge and, due to the increase of civil mediation cases, Ms. Wetzel and Mr. Mennes reduced their foreclosure case load. The Foreclosure Mediation Program now consists of two full time mediators and mediator John Minter continues to serve as the acting director. Mr. Minter also mediates civil hearings one day a month and on an as-needed basis as his foreclosure mediation hearing schedule allows. While the staff for the ADR Department has been reduced over the last several years, the need for the department's services has not.

With a focus on providing a fair and impartial process for banks/servicers and homeowners, the program continued to work on improving its process. During 2016, the program expanded its "Servicer Day" program. The Servicer Day format has mediation hearings involving the same servicer scheduled on the same day. This format creates many benefits and specifically benefits the servicers by making it more cost efficient to send representatives to Cuyahoga County, while benefiting the homeowners by providing incentive for their loan servicer to complete a thorough loss mitigation review in a timely manner. During 2015, there were servicer days for five different banks/servicers. The number of servicer days increased to seven in 2016 and it is anticipated that there will be seven banks participating in 2017. There are also several processes and procedures that take place during the year to help ensure the mediators continue to refine their mediation skills and improve their foreclosure and loss mitigation knowledge.

Also in 2016, the Foreclosure Mediation program started a peer review process where the mediators observed each other mediate and then provided critical feedback.

Continuing its dedication to community education, the program requested and was granted a proclamation by the County Executive declaring September 2016 as **Save Our Homes** month. During September, mediators conducted evening outreach events in some of the County's hardest hit neighborhoods, in communities such as Garfield Heights and South Euclid, and gave Lunch & Learn presentations in multiple Cuyahoga County buildings. John Minter appeared on local radio broadcasts in an effort to promote mediation as a successful tool for resolving foreclosures in the County. While the need for foreclosure education is still necessary, the format and procedure for reaching out to the public will likely change in 2017 as the interest in foreclosure-only events has decreased.

## SUMMARY

Alternative Dispute Resolution processes remain an effective and efficient way to resolve legal disputes. This conclusion is supported by the ADR Department's referral and settlement rates. Cuyahoga County residents are fortunate to have multiple ADR options, which provide them an opportunity to take control of their cases' outcomes and promote fuller and longer lasting resolutions.



**EXPUNGEMENT DAY**  
ELIGIBILITY CLINIC

Free legal advice and assistance from local attorneys. Limited number of spots available. Free of charge. Limited to individuals with no prior criminal record. Free of charge. Limited to individuals with no prior criminal record.

Logos: Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, East Cleveland, Westlake, etc.

Can I unlock my life?  
Expungements: How Do They Work?

Wednesday, May 1, 8:30PM

Free of charge. Limited to individuals with no prior criminal record.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

Cleveland School Of The Arts

Shaw High School East Cleveland

Westlake High School

**FEBRUARY 1 - 28**

JUSTICE CENTER FIRST FLOOR

Presented by the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

CP.CUYAHOGACOUNTY.US

**VICTIM OF BAD BEHAVIOR? WHERE TO GO FOR HELP**

BY THE PEOPLE:

- \* Landlord/Tenant Grievances
- \* Issues With Previous Relationships
- \* Employment Disputes
- \* Family Disagreements
- \* Unpleasant Neighbors

Talk to us about what your legal options may be. What is the difference between a personal and legal disagreement? Do you need the police? Should you call a lawyer? Should you go to court?

**WHEN:**  
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 16, 2016  
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

**WHERE:**  
PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
2592 West 14th Street  
Cleveland, OH 44113

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL DARREN TOMS @ 216-443-8635**

Thursday, February 12, 2015

CUYAHOGA COUNTY'S JUDICIAL PARTNERS

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: HOW CASES ARE HANDLED IN OUR COUNTY'S LEGAL SYSTEM

A conversation with citizens on how domestic violence cases move from initial complaint to potential prosecution.

No cost to attend and there is free parking at the Huntington Garage.

Cuyahoga County Justice Center, 1300 Central St.  
The Public Defender, 2000 Cleveland Ave.  
Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office, 2000 Cleveland Ave.  
Call Warren Toms at 216-443-8635 for more information.

Forum from 5:30pm to 7:00pm.  
Free advice & expert consultation from 7:00pm until 8:00pm.



**Central  
Scheduling/  
Criminal  
Records**

# Central Scheduling

**Mary Kay Ellis**, Supervisor

**Kathleen Dunham**, Assistant Supervisor

The Central Scheduling Office is located on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor of the Justice Center Court Tower. This department consists of 22 employees who assist the Judges in docket management, record keeping, scheduling of cases and the preparation of criminal and civil journal entries.

## **COURTROOM ASSISTANTS**

The Courtroom Assistants are responsible for scheduling criminal and civil hearings, distributing various Court pleadings and forms to the appropriate departments and helping their Judges prepare their annual inventory of pending civil and criminal cases. Courtroom Assistants create criminal and civil journal entries for their Judges, Bailiffs and Staff Attorneys. They also continue to be an integral part of the courtroom team while assisting other staff with their duties.

Courtroom Assistants are often called upon to substitute in the absence of the court Bailiff. In these instances, the Courtroom Assistant is required to fulfill all the duties of the regular Bailiff, as well as keep abreast of their own duties until the Bailiff's return. Also, because a Courtroom Assistant may be asked to assist in a courtroom to which they are not regularly assigned, they must be well versed in all facets of courtroom operation in order to adequately assist the Judge or Bailiff to whom they have been temporarily assigned.

## **RECEPTIONISTS**

Our Receptionists are multi-functional employees. In addition to helping the general public and attorneys with specific questions relating to criminal and civil cases in person and via telephone, they also assist in the preparation of assigned counsel fee bills.

## **ASSIGNED COUNSEL VOUCHERS**

Our Assigned Counsel Coordinator is responsible for preparing assigned counsel vouchers for fee bills. These vouchers are forwarded to the Fiscal Office for payment to the attorneys assigned by the Court to represent indigent defendants. In 2016, 9,139 vouchers were prepared, examined for errors and submitted for distribution of funds. This figure represents a slight decrease from previous years.

## **JAIL POPULATION CONTROL**

The Jail Population Liaison is responsible for working with the Judges, Bailiffs, Probation Department and Sheriff's Department in helping to maintain the appropriate number of prisoners held in the Cuyahoga County Jail, as required by State law. This is done by reviewing each Judge's docket, checking the list of inmates incarcerated more than 45 days and expediting the completion of sentencing journal entries.

At the beginning of 2016, the Cuyahoga County Jail population was 1,350 inmates; the ending population was 1,426 inmates. These numbers fluctuate on a regular basis.

- 1 Supervisor**
- 1 Assistant Supervisor**
- 12 Courtroom Assistants**
- 1 Re-Entry Program Administrative Assistant**
- 1 Drug Court Assistant**
- 2 Visiting Judge Bailiffs**
- 1 Jail Population Control Liaison**
- 2 Receptionists**

## JUDICIAL SECRETARIES

The Judicial Secretary department of the Court includes the supervisor, 1 assistant supervisor and 8 secretaries serving the 34 sitting Judges, as well as the visiting judges, judicial staff attorneys and other Court personnel. Their responsibilities include: transcribing from Dictaphone, typing various documents, including criminal and civil jury instructions, verdict forms, jury interrogatories, journal entries, opinions, various reports, speeches, letters and any other documents required by the judges.

Each secretary is assigned to four judges, with the exception of two secretaries assigned to five judges. The department works as a unit, filling in for each other during absences, as well as helping each other with heavy workloads.

The secretaries also attend periodic training classes to upgrade their skills in the use of new software to continue with the installation of new programs.

## VISITING JUDGE PROGRAM

The Visiting Judge program is managed by the Supervisor of Central Scheduling and consists of 9 retired Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges and 3 retired out-of-county Judges called in for special cases. The supervisor of Central Scheduling maintains records and prepares monthly and annual reports on this program for submission to the Administrative Judge and Court Administrator. In 2016, along with the specialized Asbestosis/Workers' Compensation and Asbestos dockets, the Visiting Judge program disposed of 58 civil cases. Of those, 20 cases were disposed of by settlement, which results in a 34.4% settlement rate for this year. In addition, out-of-town Judges were also appointed by the Ohio Supreme Court to handle a few criminal cases. Overall, four criminal cases were disposed of in 2016. Collectively, the Judges were in trial a total of 122 days.

We welcomed several new out-of-county retired Judges assigned to special cases this year. Their service was most appreciated and we look forward to their continuing presence.

The Asbestosis/Workers' Compensation Docket disposed of a total of 23 cases through a combination of trials, settlements, voluntary dismissals and summary judgments. This is an increase over the previous year. (For more on the Asbestos Docket, please see page 77)

The specialized Asbestos docket is presided over by Visiting Judge Harry A. Hanna. At the beginning of 2016, the pending case load was 1,701; the total pending cases at the end of 2016 numbered 1,307. Judge Hanna disposed of 454 cases in 2016. Since January 2014, the Asbestos docket has been reduced by 4,063 cases.

The Specialized Commercial docket was presided over by Visiting Judge Richard J. McMonagle. During 2016, his caseload was reduced from 75 cases to 25. Those 25 cases have been transferred to the Administrative Judge for further proceedings.

| <b>JUDGE</b>              | <b>CIVIL CASES<br/>DISPOSED</b> | <b>CRIMINAL<br/>CASES<br/>DISPOSED</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Corrigan, Michael</b>  | <b>10</b>                       | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Cosgrove, Patricia</b> | <b>6</b>                        | <b>3</b>                               |
| <b>Coyne, William</b>     | <b>8</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Dartt, Denise</b>      | <b>1</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Gibson, Joseph</b>     | <b>3</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Greene, Lillian</b>    | <b>3</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Griffin, Burt</b>      | <b>4</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Hanna, Harry</b>       | <b>4</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>McMonagle, R.J.</b>    | <b>14</b>                       | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Pokorny, Thomas</b>    | <b>3</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |
| <b>Reinbold, Richard</b>  | <b>1</b>                        | <b>1</b>                               |
| <b>Suster, Ronald</b>     | <b>1</b>                        | <b>0</b>                               |



# Criminal Records

**Gwendolyn Bennett**, Bond Commissioner

Bond Commissioner

Assistant Bond Commissioner

Office Manager

Arraignment Room Clerk

Administrative Aide

2 Grand Jury Clerks

4 Office Assistants

5 Bail Investigators

*(8 of the above employees are also TAC Computer Operators\*)*

The Criminal Records Department located on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the Justice Center is primarily responsible for bond investigations, Grand Jury staffing, Arraignment Room proceedings and defendant criminal history maintenance.

\* TAC Computers provide public safety software for law enforcement agencies.

**Greg Burger**, Asst. Bond Commissioner

## GRAND JURY

In January, May and September prospective jurors' names are drawn for service on a Grand Jury. There are three Grand Juries per term, and each Grand Juror serves two days a week for four months. The Grand Jury Bailiff is the liaison between the Prosecutor, the Grand Jurors, and Grand Jury witnesses.

## BOND INVESTIGATION

The Bond Investigators monitor the Sheriff Department's daily booking list for incoming inmates who have not yet been indicted and/or arraigned and need to have their bond continued, set, or lowered. The investigators interview the defendants, verify accuracy of information obtained from the interview, run an extensive criminal background check and review the felony charges filed against the defendant. A risk assessment is then completed, and then a recommendation for a reasonable bond is presented to the Arraignment Judge. Bond Investigators will also provide information to the courtrooms where there has been a motion for bond reduction. **In 2016, the department's Bond Investigators conducted 6,400 bail investigations.**

## ARRAIGNMENTS

The Arraignment Clerks assemble and summarize the criminal history of each defendant scheduled for arraignment, along with determining if the case needs to be assigned randomly or to a specific trial Judge based on local rules. During the arraignment hearing, the Bond Commissioner presents these materials, along with a bond recommendation, to the Arraignment Room Judge so that a defendant may be properly arraigned. The Judge proceeds with the arraignment, which includes the setting of the bond, instructions on any conditions of a bond, assignment of the Trial Judge and appointment of an attorney, if the defendant needs one to be appointed. The Arraignment Judge also issues *caus* for defendants who fail to appear at the scheduled arraignment.

At the conclusion of the arraignments, the staff updates the case files, notifies the attorneys appointed to represent indigent defendants, and forwards the files to the Trial Judge assigned.

**During 2016, there were 15,277 scheduled arraignments.**

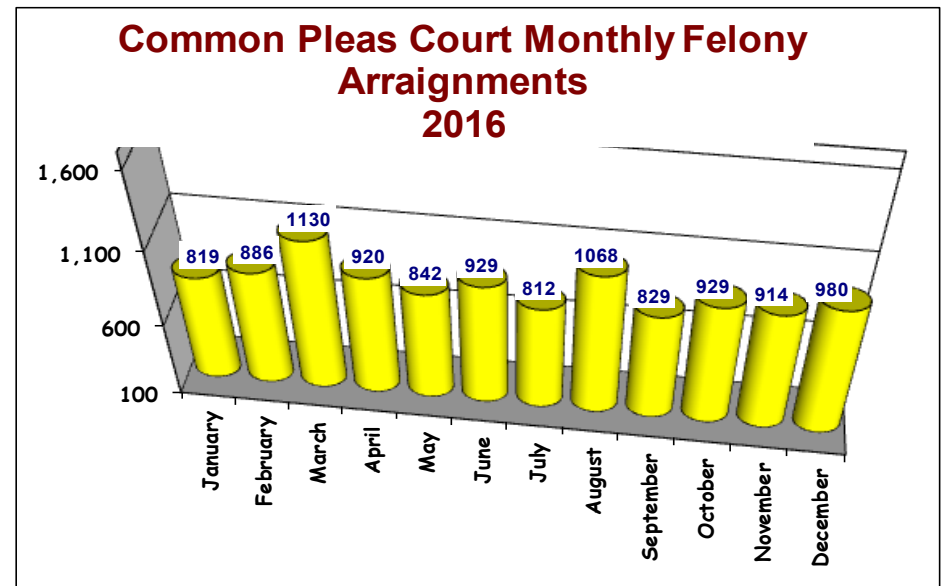
In addition, the staff maintains detailed statistics on the defendants who are scheduled for, and appear at, arraignment, capiases issued and assignments to private counsel and the Public Defender.

### FIRST APPEARANCE DOCKET

In 2016, all defendants bound over to Common Pleas Court from Municipal Courts were referred for a First Appearance in Common Pleas Court. The main purpose of the First Appearance is to assign indigent defendants with defense council at the early stage of the felony process. At this appearance, a bond is set and the case is referred for a Case Management Conference or presentation to the Grand Jury. **The total number of First Appearances held in 2016 was 2,916.**

The department supports these Court appearances through bond investigation, preparation of defendant criminal history, coordination of scheduling with the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff's Department, assistance in the Court proceedings, and notification of appointed attorneys.

The staff of the Criminal Records Department works closely with other departments, most specifically with the Sheriff's, Clerk's and Prosecutor's Offices, to ensure correct identification of defendants, timely scheduling of arraignments and accurate indictment information for the arraignment process. The Bond Commissioner and staff are often assigned special projects at the request of various Judicial Committees.



# ARRAIGNMENT DATA

\* Capias as % of Scheduled Bails 34.6%

| <b>2016</b>                  | <b>JAN</b> | <b>FEB</b> | <b>MARCH</b> | <b>APRIL</b> | <b>MAY</b> | <b>JUNE</b> | <b>JULY</b> | <b>AUG</b> | <b>SEPT</b> | <b>OCT</b> | <b>NOV</b> | <b>DEC</b> | <b>YTD TOTAL</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Female Jails</b>          | 35         | 43         | 60           | 52           | 35         | 56          | 50          | 68         | 67          | 43         | 57         | 33         | 599              |
| <b>Male Jails</b>            | 428        | 443        | 573          | 521          | 454        | 515         | 409         | 581        | 433         | 447        | 446        | 482        | 5732             |
| <b>Total Scheduled Jails</b> | 463        | 486        | 633          | 573          | 489        | 571         | 459         | 649        | 500         | 490        | 503        | 515        | 6331             |
| <b>Total Scheduled</b>       | 606        | 764        | 1039         | 676          | 655        | 749         | 637         | 795        | 624         | 785        | 780        | 836        | 8946             |
| <b>Total Scheduled</b>       | 1069       | 1250       | 1672         | 1249         | 1144       | 1320        | 1096        | 1444       | 1124        | 1275       | 1283       | 1351       | 15277            |
| <b>Jails Arraigned</b>       | 434        | 446        | 559          | 527          | 432        | 514         | 428         | 583        | 478         | 464        | 480        | 497        | 5842             |
| <b>Bails Arraigned</b>       | 385        | 440        | 571          | 393          | 410        | 415         | 384         | 485        | 351         | 465        | 434        | 483        | 5216             |
| <b>Total Arraigned</b>       | 819        | 886        | 1130         | 920          | 842        | 929         | 812         | 1068       | 829         | 929        | 914        | 980        | 11058            |
| <b>Total Cont.</b>           | 76         | 91         | 137          | 98           | 86         | 106         | 72          | 113        | 88          | 88         | 86         | 86         | 1127             |

\*  
\*  
\*

**Capias Suburb/Other**

|                        | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | YTD TOTAL | As % of total capias |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>Straight Capias</b> | 40  | 95  | 134 | 77  | 63  | 120  | 66   | 80  | 66  | 103 | 91  | 92  | 1027      | 33.2%                |
| <b>OCR</b>             | 30  | 55  | 71  | 35  | 31  | 36   | 33   | 43  | 22  | 27  | 54  | 36  | 473       | 15.3%                |
| <b>BFC C/S/P</b>       | 19  | 18  | 24  | 13  | 28  | 19   | 41   | 39  | 17  | 23  | 21  | 29  | 291       | 9.4%                 |
| <b>TOTAL OTHER</b>     | 89  | 168 | 229 | 125 | 122 | 175  | 140  | 162 | 105 | 153 | 166 | 157 | 1791      | 57.9%                |

**Capias Cleveland**

|                        |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |     |     |     |      |       |
|------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|
| <b>Straight Capias</b> | 54 | 66  | 117 | 63  | 62 | 55  | 42 | 63  | 69  | 67  | 75  | 84  | 817  | 26.4% |
| <b>OCR</b>             | 17 | 30  | 25  | 33  | 16 | 30  | 24 | 24  | 13  | 19  | 29  | 23  | 283  | 9.2%  |
| <b>BFC C/S/P</b>       | 14 | 9   | 34  | 10  | 16 | 25  | 6  | 14  | 20  | 19  | 13  | 21  | 201  | 6.5%  |
| <b>TOTAL CLEVELAND</b> | 85 | 105 | 176 | 106 | 94 | 110 | 72 | 101 | 102 | 105 | 117 | 128 | 1301 | 42.1% |

|                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |        |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|
| <b>CAPIAS TOTAL</b> | 174 | 273 | 405 | 231 | 216 | 285 | 212 | 263 | 207 | 258 | 283 | 285 | 3092 | 100.0% |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|

**Total Cap**

|                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| <b>TOTAL SCHEDULED</b> | 1069 | 1250 | 1672 | 1249 | 1144 | 1320 | 1096 | 1444 | 1124 | 1275 | 1283 | 1351 | 15277 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|





# Magistrates Department

## Stephen M. Bucha III, Chief Magistrate

### Additional Staff:

Office Manager

10 Magistrates

2 Receptionists

6 Magistrate's Clerical Assistants

All cases concerning foreclosure, quiet title and partition are adjudicated by the Court's twelve Magistrates. The Magistrates also serve as backups to the Judges and Administrative Judge for ex-parte hearings in Civil Stalking Protection Order cases. The Magistrates involvement begins upon referral of a case, shortly after filing, and continues through trial or other disposition. Also, they are responsible for post-judgment proceedings in the cases assigned to them. Unlike most civil cases, foreclosures involve complicated post-judgment matters such as sheriff's sale confirmations, distribution of Sheriff's sale proceeds, supplemental judgments, approval of appraisers' fees and other matters. **In 2016, 6,166 of the Court's 17,215 civil cases were referred to the Magistrates' Department.** Thus, the Magistrates were responsible for over 35% of the Court's civil cases.

The department serves the people of Cuyahoga County by taking part in educational forums around the county and by fielding thousands of phone calls and in-person visits by self-represented litigants. It continually educates and informs academics, municipalities, the bar and the general public, including those facing foreclosure, about real estate law and procedure. Also, the department continues to work with the Court's Mediation Department to ensure that homeowners have an opportunity to explore ways to save their home or to make a smooth transition to other living arrangements. Various Magistrates' Department personnel serve on the Court's Access to Justice Committee, which seeks to improve access to the Court for non-represented litigants, and the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's Foreclosure Subcommittee, which looks to improve foreclosure procedure.

## Kevin C. Augustyn, Assistant Chief Magistrate

In addition, the Magistrates serve the legal community by preparing and circulating a weekly case update newsletter to lawyers and magistrates throughout the state.

Members of the department serve on the Ohio Supreme Court Judicial College planning committee, and have appeared as speakers in numerous Judicial College seminars and other continuing legal education courses. The department assists a committee that is redrafting and improving the Court's local rules. The Magistrates make themselves available on a rotating basis to answer lawyers' general questions concerning foreclosure law and procedure.

They also serve the judges by adjudicating most of the Court's often complicated and emotionally fraught foreclosure, partition and quiet title cases. **The Magistrates disposed of 6,933 cases in 2016, issuing 4,387 decrees of foreclosure, and made 37,811 recommended rulings on motions for summary judgment, procedural motions, motions to distribute funds and confirmations of Sheriff's sales.** A significant number of these proposed rulings require extensive research and detailed written opinions. The Magistrates are available to the Judges for consultations on matters related to foreclosure and real estate law in general. This impressive record of service shows that the Magistrates have done their part to achieve the Court's mission.

Traditionally, most of the cases adjudicated by the Magistrates were disposed by default. Since 2010, however, with the lenders' missteps making national news and the development of a dedicated foreclosure defense bar, the number of contested cases is on the rise. This trend continued in 2016, with approximately 300% more contested cases managed by the department in 2016 than in 2010.

From its peak staffing levels in 2010, the department has been downsized by 25%. Despite the reduction in case filings & staff and the increase in the labor intensive contested cases, the Magistrates were productive in 2016, disposing of nearly 500 more cases than were newly referred and reinstated to the department. The department uses the resources allotted to it very efficiently.

In order to place these statistics in proper context, we have provided a 26-year summary of the Magistrates' Department statistics.

| Year | Referrals <sup>1</sup> | % Change from Previous Year | Reinstates <sup>2</sup> | % Change from Previous Year | Referrals & Reinstates Combined | % Change From Previous Year | Supplementals <sup>3</sup> | % Change From Previous Year | Decrees <sup>4</sup> | % Change from Previous Year | Dispositions <sup>5</sup> | % Change from Previous Year | Net Case Gain/Loss <sup>6</sup> |
|------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1990 | 4796                   | n/a                         | 45                      | n/a                         | 4841                            | n/a                         | 1564                       | n/a                         | 2854                 | n/a                         | 4512                      | n/a                         | 329                             |
| 1991 | 4247                   | -11.4%                      | 66                      | 46.7%                       | 4133                            | -14.6%                      | 1320                       | -15.6%                      | 3678                 | 28.9%                       | 4535                      | 0.5%                        | -402                            |
| 1992 | 3895                   | -8.2%                       | 60                      | -9.1%                       | 3955                            | -4.3%                       | 1430                       | 8.3%                        | 3060                 | -16.8%                      | 3933                      | -13.3%                      | 22                              |
| 1993 | 3564                   | -8.4%                       | 39                      | -35.0%                      | 3603                            | -8.9%                       | 1821                       | 27.3%                       | 2875                 | -6.0%                       | 3656                      | -7.0%                       | -53                             |
| 1994 | 3366                   | -5.6%                       | 77                      | 97.4%                       | 3443                            | -4.4%                       | 2569                       | 41.1%                       | 2463                 | -14.3%                      | 4271                      | 16.8%                       | -828                            |
| 1995 | 2582                   | -23.3%                      | 230                     | 198.7%                      | 2812                            | -18.3%                      | 4611                       | 79.4%                       | 2199                 | -10.7%                      | 3974                      | -7.0%                       | -1162                           |
| 1996 | 4065                   | 57.4%                       | 245                     | 6.5%                        | 4310                            | 53.3%                       | 4364                       | -5.3%                       | 2174                 | -1.1%                       | 3960                      | -0.3%                       | 350                             |
| 1997 | 3867                   | -4.9%                       | 411                     | 67.8%                       | 4278                            | -0.7%                       | 5121                       | 17.3%                       | 2608                 | 20.0%                       | 4597                      | 16.0%                       | -319                            |
| 1998 | 5133                   | 32.7%                       | 538                     | 30.9%                       | 5671                            | 32.6%                       | 6431                       | 25.6%                       | 3043                 | 16.7%                       | 5583                      | 21.4%                       | 88                              |
| 1999 | 5446                   | 6.1%                        | 628                     | 16.7%                       | 6074                            | 7.1%                        | 7097                       | 10.4%                       | 2823                 | -7.2%                       | 5795                      | 3.7%                        | 279                             |
| 2000 | 5915                   | 8.6%                        | 835                     | 32.9%                       | 6750                            | 11.1%                       | 10083                      | 42.1%                       | 3073                 | 8.8%                        | 6265                      | 8.1%                        | 485                             |
| 2001 | 7161                   | 21.1%                       | 928                     | 11.1%                       | 8089                            | 19.8%                       | 17438                      | 72.9%                       | 3048                 | -0.8%                       | 6843                      | 9.2%                        | 1246                            |
| 2002 | 9609                   | 34.2%                       | 1101                    | 18.6%                       | 10710                           | 32.4%                       | 19753                      | 13.3%                       | 3261                 | 7.0%                        | 7315                      | 6.5%                        | 3395                            |
| 2003 | 8724                   | -9.2%                       | 1421                    | 29.1%                       | 10145                           | -5.3%                       | 26591                      | 34.6%                       | 3510                 | 7.6%                        | 8544                      | 16.8%                       | 1601                            |
| 2004 | 9739                   | 11.6%                       | 1470                    | 3.4%                        | 11209                           | 10.4%                       | 29539                      | 11.1%                       | 4988                 | 42.1%                       | 10394                     | 21.6%                       | 815                             |
| 2005 | 11075                  | 13.7%                       | 1634                    | 11.2%                       | 12709                           | 13.4%                       | 33100                      | 12.1%                       | 5515                 | 10.6%                       | 11852                     | 14.0%                       | 857                             |
| 2006 | 13276                  | 19.9%                       | 1584                    | -3.1%                       | 14872                           | 17.0%                       | 67972                      | 105.4%                      | 10412                | 88.8%                       | 16351                     | 38.0%                       | -1479                           |
| 2007 | 13968                  | 5.2%                        | 1356                    | -14.4%                      | 15324                           | 3.0%                        | 77592                      | 14.2%                       | 11378                | 9.3%                        | 18041                     | 10.3%                       | -2717                           |
| 2008 | 13742                  | -1.6%                       | 1241                    | -8.5%                       | 14983                           | -2.2%                       | 64506                      | -16.8%                      | 9698                 | -14.8%                      | 15950                     | -11.6%                      | -2208                           |
| 2009 | 13417                  | -2.3%                       | 936                     | -24.6%                      | 14353                           | -4.2%                       | 57016                      | -11.6%                      | 6908                 | -28.8%                      | 13210                     | -17.2%                      | 1143                            |
| 2010 | 12050                  | -10.2%                      | 849                     | -9.3%                       | 12899                           | -10.1%                      | 66644                      | 16.8%                       | 7781                 | 12.6%                       | 14219                     | 7.6%                        | -1320                           |
| 2011 | 10434                  | -13.4%                      | 752                     | -11.4%                      | 11186                           | -13.3%                      | 60771                      | -8.8%                       | 5707                 | -26.7%                      | 12996                     | -8.6%                       | -1810                           |
| 2012 | 10280                  | -1.5%                       | 744                     | -1.1%                       | 11024                           | -1.5%                       | 62311                      | -8.8%                       | 6260                 | 9.7%                        | 11168                     | -14.1%                      | -144                            |
| 2013 | 8941                   | -13.0%                      | 607                     | -18.4%                      | 9548                            | -13.4%                      | 58720                      | -5.8%                       | 6149                 | -1.7%                       | 11144                     | -0.2%                       | -1596                           |
| 2014 | 7076                   | -20.1%                      | 515                     | -15.2%                      | 7591                            | -20.5%                      | 46367                      | -21.0%                      | 5653                 | -8.1%                       | 9428                      | -15.4%                      | -1837                           |
| 2015 | 6529                   | -7.7%                       | 348                     | -32.4%                      | 6877                            | -9.4%                       | 38734                      | -16.5%                      | 4664                 | -17.5%                      | 7386                      | -21.7%                      | -509                            |
| 2016 | 6166                   | -5.6%                       | 315                     | -9.5%                       | 6481                            | -5.8%                       | 37811                      | -2.4%                       | 4387                 | -5.9%                       | 6933                      | -6.1%                       | -452                            |

<sup>(1)</sup>This column represents all cases referred to the Magistrates, which includes all of the Court's foreclosure, quiet title and partition cases. Foreclosures represent 95%+ of all cases referred to the Magistrates' Department.

<sup>(2)</sup>This column represents all cases reinstated after a final judgment has been entered or from bankruptcy stays, contract stays, and the Court of Appeals.

<sup>(3)</sup>In the years 1990 through 1992, this column represents all proposed rulings by the Magistrates' Department on motions to distribute funds generated by Sheriff's sales. After 1992, this column represents all proposed rulings by the Magistrates' Department on miscellaneous motions and all Magistrate's orders.

<sup>(4)</sup> This column represents all decrees of foreclosure, decrees for quiet title and decrees of partition entered by the Magistrates.

<sup>(5)</sup> This column represents all cases disposed by the Magistrates Department, including disposition by decree, dismissal, vacated reference, real estate tax contract stays and bankruptcy stays.

<sup>(6)</sup> This column is the difference between Referrals and Reinstates Combined and Dispositions.





**Information  
Systems/  
Court  
Systems**



# Information Systems

**Thomas P. Arnaut**, Director of Information Systems/Court Systems

## Total Staff:

Assistant Director  
Systems Analyst  
Network Manager  
Network Engineer  
Network Administrator  
Court Technology Specialist  
Probation Information  
Systems Specialist  
Office Manager  
Project Manager  
2 Office Assistants

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

The Information Systems Department is responsible for designing, implementing, and maintaining all of the network systems and software applications used throughout the Court. There are approximately 650 workstations, 28 network servers and five local area networks, all connected through the County Wide Area Network. Applications range from the primary case management system running on AIX, web applications running on Windows IIS and file and print services running on Windows Server 2008 and Windows Server 2012. The Information Systems Department also supports the interaction of the Court with other County and municipal agencies where information sharing is required.

In 2016, the Information Systems Department continued developing and implementing new features in the various systems used by the Court, as well as adding features to the Court's primary case management system. It continues to analyze and evaluate opportunities to increase efficiencies through the use of technology. In 2016, the Court upgraded its video technologies to accommodate an increase in the use of video conferencing and distance learning events between both Court and partner agencies. Video conferencing, which includes witness and expert testimony, and distance learning classes combined made up 86 specific events that the Information Systems Department helped to facilitate. With the addition of aiding in internal and external department trainings and increasing technology needs at a variety of Court meetings, the Information Systems Department helped to facilitate over 300 events in 2016.

The Information Systems Department will continue to work diligently on upgrading and enhancing the systems used by the Court, the legal community and the public so that they may have reliable, accurate access to the information that they require.

## **COURT SYSTEMS**

The primary function of the Court Systems Department is to create criminal journal entries and prepare them for signature by the Judges. A form is provided to the Court Systems Department by the Judges, which contains the information to be included in the journal entry. Using this form, the Court Systems Department will create a completed journal entry. The entry will be reviewed for accuracy, then delivered to the Judges for signature. In 2016, the Court Systems Department prepared 19,374 journal entries.



**Judicial Staff  
Attorneys/  
Court Reporters/  
Jury Commissioners**

# Judicial Staff Attorneys

33 Judicial Staff Attorneys    2 Job-share Staff Attorneys  
1 Staff Attorney for the Asbestos Docket

Judicial staff attorneys assist the judges in the management of their civil and criminal dockets. The duties of the position include reviewing and researching legal questions, formulating recommendations on the disposition of motions, assisting in drafting opinions and orders, conducting case management conferences and other pre-trials at the request of the judge and answering inquiries from members of the bar and the public.

The Judicial Staff Attorney department continued to evolve in 2016. During the calendar year, three new staff attorneys joined the department. It is encouraging to note that the individuals who left our department found positions with prestigious law firms in the city or with other governmental agencies. The experience gained by our staff attorneys is valuable to both public and private sector employers because they receive valuable training, learn the workings of the court system, and develop expertise in the latest litigation areas.

In order to fulfill the mission of the Court to provide a forum for the fair, impartial and timely resolution of civil and criminal cases, the staff attorneys kept abreast of Ohio law by attending regular *Lunch & Learn* sessions.

Topics presented by Judges and respected members of the bar ranged from class actions to employment law to final appealable orders to name a few.

The department remains committed to our community by serving as teachers in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's award-winning 3Rs program. Other members of the department were active with the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Still others volunteered their time with the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association by serving as speakers, writing articles for the Bar Journal, and taking on leadership roles within the Association. Whether fulfilling the Court's mission or serving the community, the Judicial Staff Attorneys worked diligently as public servants.



# Court Reporters

**Bruce J. Bishilany**, Chief Court Reporter **Robert P. Lloyd**, Assistant Chief Court Reporter  
**Nancy A. Nunes**, Assistant Chief Court Reporter

In 2016, over 28,400 job cards were filed representing court reporter attendance at trials, pleas, sentencings, motions, hearings and other related matters in both civil and criminal cases. In addition, the Court Reporters Department reported over 11,058 arraignments and diversions and a similar number of cases in Grand Jury. On average, each member of the department stenographically reported over 1,230 cases.

Court Reporters serve the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the Justice Center, Visiting Judges sitting by assignment in the Lakeside Courthouse, the Arraignment Room and all Grand Jury proceedings. As guardians of the record, the members of the Court Reporters Department make a verbatim record of the proceedings for later use by the Judges, attorneys, litigants, Court of Appeals or any interested party. All assignments are coordinated through the Chief Court Reporter.

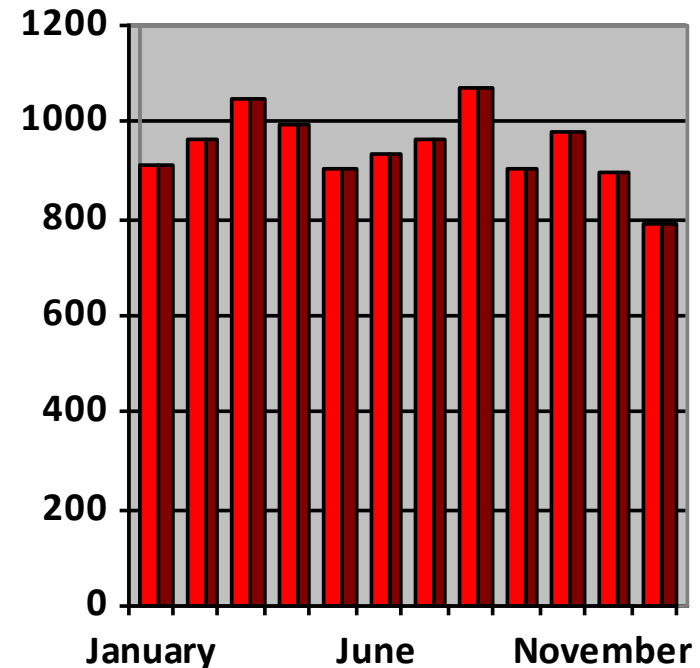
Realtime reporting, the instantaneous translation from the Court Reporter's steno machine to a viewing device, should be coordinated with the Chief Court Reporter. The Court Reporters Department regularly provides Realtime reporting throughout the year for hearing impaired jurors and hearing impaired attorneys, so they are able to participate fully in the judicial process and for the County to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The department has now upgraded reporters' computer software, stenographic writers and computers in order to provide Realtime to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in all trials.

## TOTAL STAFF

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Chief Court Reporter              | Administrative Assistant |
| 2 Assistant Chief Court Reporters | 39 Court Reporters       |

## Average Calls Per Month

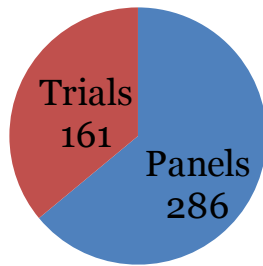


# Jury Bailiff/Jury Commission

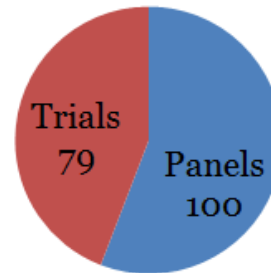
Patricia I. Bittner & Veronica L. Adams, Co-Directors Jury Bailiff

2 Jury Bailiffs      Assistant Jury Commissioner

## Juror Utilization Criminal 2016



## Juror Utilization Civil 2016



CAPITAL CASE JURY TRIAL - 1

NUMBER OF JUROR DAYS OVER 5 - 1,026

NUMBER OF JURORS - 13,496

TOTAL NUMBER OF JUROR DAYS - 42,513

### JURY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2016

|               | JAN  | FEB  | MAR  | APR  | MAY  | JUN  | JUL  | AUG  | SEP  | OCT  | NOV  | DEC  | TOTAL         |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------|
| <b>Drawn</b>  | 2700 | 3275 | 3350 | 3100 | 3100 | 2350 | 1700 | 3600 | 3200 | 3025 | 2800 | 1350 | <b>33,550</b> |
| <b>Report</b> | 1035 | 1095 | 1077 | 1172 | 1339 | 1093 | 638  | 1398 | 1250 | 1303 | 1326 | 770  | <b>13,496</b> |

PETIT JURORS DRAWN      **33,550**

GRAND JURORS DRAWN      **1,575**

SPECIAL JURORS DRAWN      **0**

The overall goal of the Jury Commission is to reduce the cost of jurors and gain more effective utilization of jurors.

In comparison to 2015, there was an increase of 851 in jurors that were called in, and a decrease in the number of juror days.

The total number of jurors who spent more than the 5 day minimum decreased slightly from 1,209 to 1,026.

However, there was an increase by 240 of the number jurors who reported in.

The goal for 2017 is to try and utilize the Monday/Wednesday jurors in a way that, if possible, their service will end in five days or less.

# Jury Bailiff/Jury Commission Cleveland Municipal Court

In 2013, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court was given the responsibility of overseeing and managing the Cleveland Municipal Court Jurors.


## JUROR UTILIZATION - CITY 2016

|               | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | TOTAL     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| <b>Panels</b> | 5   | 2   | 3   | 5   | 1   | 8   | 1   | 3   | 2   | 0   | 9   | 4   | <b>43</b> |
| <b>Trials</b> | 0   | 0   | 2   | 2   | 0   | 3   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 3   | 0   | <b>10</b> |

|               | JAN   | FEB   | MAR   | APR   | MAY   | JUN   | JUL   | AUG   | SEP   | OCT   | NOV   | DEC   | TOTAL         |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| <b>Drawn</b>  | 2,000 | 2,500 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 2,000 | 1,500 | 2,500 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 1,850 | 1,500 | <b>24,850</b> |
| <b>Report</b> | 51    | 18    | 16    | 51    | 0     | 68    | 0     | 22    | 29    | 0     | 117   | 25    | <b>397</b>    |

**Total Jury Fees (Cleveland): \$12,176.00**



A black rectangular sign with white text is positioned in the center of the frame. The sign is mounted on a dark stand. The background consists of vertical wood paneling and several green upholstered chairs with wooden frames. The text on the sign is in a bold, serif font.

**JURY IN  
DELIBERATION  
DO NOT  
DISTURB**

The image shows a wall with a complex, abstract pattern. The pattern consists of numerous thin, diagonal lines in various colors (red, blue, green, yellow, black) scattered across a light-colored, textured background. A large, light-colored (off-white or light beige) silhouette of a person's head and shoulders is positioned on the right side of the wall, facing left. The silhouette is solid and appears to be a cutout or a large sticker. The overall aesthetic is modern and artistic.

**Court  
Psychiatric  
Clinic**

# Court Psychiatric Clinic

**Phillip J. Resnick, M.D.,** Director    **George W. Schmedlen, Ph.D., J.D.,** Associate Director

## Total Staff:

Director (12 hrs/week)

Associate Director

Chief of Psychology

3 Full-time Psychologists

Chief Social Worker

2 Full-time Social Workers

11 Part-time Psychiatrists (4 hrs/wk)

Part-time Psychologist (4 hrs/wk)

Part-time Neuropsychologist (4 hrs/wk)

Office Manager

Assistant Office Manager

Office Assistant

3 Transcriptionists

## COURT CLINIC REFERRALS

During calendar year 2016, the Court Psychiatric Clinic received 3,063 referrals. This number represents a 5% increase in referrals over the 2,920 received in 2015.

## CLINICAL STAFF COMPOSITION

All clinical staff provide direct evaluation services. Due to Dr. George Schmedlen being on extended medical leave, Dr. Michael Aronoff, Chief of Psychology, served as the Associate Director in 2016. Dr. Thomas Swales was hired to fill the Neuropsychologist position vacated by Dr. Galit Askenazi.

## SECRETARIAL STAFF

The secretarial staff worked diligently in 2016 to prepare clinical reports in a timely manner. With the departures of two staff members, a new Office Manager and Office Assistant were hired. Based on the successful pilot program of 2013, three transcriptionists continued to work from home. Also, they continued working with a third-party typing service, Premier Office Technology, who was used on an as-needed basis to prepare overflow and "rush" reports that were unable to be completed by the three transcriptionists. The Office Manager, Assistant Office Manager and Office Assistant demonstrated continued excellence in their office reception, answering telephone calls, processing referrals, sending out requests for and distributing medical records, preparing dictations for transcription and compiling case-specific information from the Prosecutor's File for examiners' perusals.

The Court Psychiatric Clinic continues to schedule appointments using an electronic calendar, developed by the Information Services Department (ISD). This has proved to be a significant time-saver and helped streamline the overall referral and scheduling process. ISD also helped refine the process of entering data for statistical forms mandated by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

## **SENATE BILL 285/122 "SECOND OPINION" EVALUATIONS**

For the 20<sup>th</sup> year, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services funded the Court Psychiatric Clinic to perform Senate Bill 285/122 "Second Opinion" evaluations. Professional staff traveled to Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare (Northfield, Ohio) to examine forensic patients who have been adjudicated Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity or Incompetent to Stand Trial-Unrestorable and have been recommended by their Treatment Team for "Movement to Non-Secured Status". The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services funds the Court Psychiatric Clinic in the amount of \$122,000/year to perform these evaluations. The funds are administered through the Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board. In 2016, Court Psychiatric Clinic staff completed 19 Senate Bill 285/122 "Second Opinion" evaluations, an increase of 12% from the previous year.

## **COMPETENCY AND SANITY EVALUATIONS**

Also in 2016, competency and sanity evaluations constituted 37% of the total referrals to the Court Psychiatric Clinic. Competency evaluation referrals totaled 707 for the year, representing an increase of 10% from 2015. Sanity evaluation referrals for 2016 totaled 417. This represents a decrease of 7% from 2015.

The decrease in sanity evaluation referrals is attributed in part to a screening process implemented by Chief Social Worker Michael Caso. When a sanity evaluation referral is received, he contacts the defense attorney to ensure the request was intended. These efforts have reduced the number of inappropriate referrals, which allows clinical staff to spend more time on complex cases where the issue of Sanity at the Time of the Act is most relevant.

## **INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF CONVICTION EVALUATIONS**

Referrals for Intervention in Lieu of Conviction reports totaled 633, equivalent to the 634 received in 2015. The Social Work staff completed the vast majority of these reports, which, in addition to substance use, now require that mental illness and/or intellectual disability be considered in the evaluation.

## **HOUSE BILL 180 (SEXUAL PREDATOR) AND SEXUAL OFFENDER EVALUATIONS**

The Court Psychiatric Clinic received 56 referrals for House Bill 180-Sexual Predator Evaluations, a 44% increase from 2015.

Sexual offender evaluations often require administration of the Abel Assessment for Sexual Interest, scoring of the Static-99R (an actuarial risk instrument), in addition to a thorough clinical interview and occasional staff testimony at court hearings. Sexual offender evaluations continue to be the most labor-intensive examinations performed at the Court Psychiatric Clinic.

## **MITIGATION OF PENALTY AND PROBATION EVALUATIONS**

The Court Psychiatric Clinic received 1,120 referrals for Mitigation of Penalty reports. This represents a 14% increase from 2015.

The Clinic also received 84 referrals for probation reports, a decrease of 24% from 2015. This may be due to Court Psychiatric Clinic staff actively reviewing each probation referral to determine whether a present diagnosis by a treatment provider is sufficient to answer the referral question. The Court Psychiatric Clinic has encouraged Probation Officers to obtain contemporary medical records from a probationer's mental health providers prior to referring for an evaluation. If the records document the presence of a psychotic mental illness or an I.Q. below 75, this information is sufficient for transfer of the individual to the Mental Health/Developmental Disability programs and eliminates duplication of services.

## **COURT PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC TRAINING FUNCTIONS**

The Court Psychiatric Clinic maintained its affiliation with the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Two groups of Forensic Psychiatry Fellows, three Fellows each, pursuing fellowship training under the supervision of Clinic Director Phillip Resnick, M.D., rotated through the Court Psychiatric Clinic during calendar year 2016.

The Clinic also maintained its association with the Mandel School of Applied Social Science (MSASS) at Case Western Reserve University; allowing, during the academic year, a Social Work student to be placed at the Clinic for 24 hours per week. Furthermore, a Psychology graduate student from Cleveland State University is currently completing a year-long field placement.

The Court Psychiatric Clinic continued its mission to provide education and training experiences to numerous undergraduate behavioral science students, law students, advanced medical students, psychiatry residents and a number of mental health professionals.

It also sponsored lunchtime seminars open to Clinic staff, Judges, Probation Officers, mental health professionals and attorneys from the community. The seminars included topics such as: “Five Landmark Cases that Shaped the Practice of Psychiatry”, “Mass Murder and Mental Illness: Smoking Gun or Smoke in Mirrors?”, “Black and Blue or Black and White? The Battered Woman Syndrome as a Legal Defense”, “Identifying Diagnostic Clues: Role Playing the Sick, the Stoned, and the Storyteller”.

**RESEARCH ENDEAVORS**

Drs. Julian Dooley and Michael Aronoff have embarked on archival research projects involving sexual offenders. With the assistance of graduate students Samantha Scott and Kelsey Pritchard from Cleveland State University, two posters summarizing the research were presented at the Association of Ohio Forensic Psychiatric Center Directors annual conference in June 2016. The posters were titled "Sex Offender and Victim Relationships: The Interplay of Offender Mental Health and Victim Age" and "Sex Offender Risk Assessments: Current Assessment Approaches and the Development of Best Practice Guidelines".

**THE ASSOCIATION OF OHIO FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC CENTER DIRECTORS**

In 2016, Chief of Psychology Michael Aronoff, Psy.D. and Julian Dooley, Ph.D. were active in the Association of Ohio Forensic Psychiatric Center Directors. They regularly attended monthly meetings in Columbus, explored the possibility of developing collaborative research projects, and helped plan a successful two-day continuing education workshop in Columbus, attended by staff of community forensic psychiatric centers from throughout the state.

**CONSUMER SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS**

The Court Psychiatric Clinic was rated favorably by Judges in the 2016 survey. Based upon the 9 parameters assessed in the questionnaire, their mean scores, on a scale of 1-5, were 4.00-4.85.

**THE COURT PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC REMAINS FOCUSED ON ITS CORE MISSION**

During 2016, the Court Psychiatric Clinic continued to focus its resources on discharging its primary mission to prepare thorough, timely and useful clinical assessments of defendants referred by the Common Pleas Court and Probation Department.

**NUMBER OF REFERRALS (01/01/16 to 12/31/16)**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Competency to Stand Trial-2945.371 (A)      | 707          |
| Sanity at the Time of the Act-2945.371(A)   | 417          |
| Mitigation of Penalty-2947.06 (B)           | 1120         |
| Civil Commitment-2945.40 & 5122.01          | 4            |
| Movement to Non-Secured Status – S.B. 285   | 19           |
| House Bill 180                              | 56           |
| Intervention in Lieu of Conviction-2945.041 | 633          |
| Reports for Probation-2951.03               | 84           |
| Miscellaneous                               | 23           |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>3,063</b> |

**COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF REFERRALS 2015-2016**

|   | 2015         | 2016         | % Change, +/- |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Competency to Stand Trial-2945.371 (A)      | 644          | 707          | +9.8%         |
| Sanity at the Time of the Act-2945.371 (A)  | 450          | 417          | -7.3%         |
| Mitigation of Penalty-2947.06 (B)           | 984          | 1120         | +13.8%        |
| Civil Commitment-2945.40 & 5122.01          | 12           | 4            | -66.7%        |
| Movement to Non-Secured Status-S.B. 285     | 17           | 19           | +11.8%        |
| House Bill 180                              | 39           | 56           | +43.6%        |
| Intervention in Lieu of Conviction-2945.041 | 634          | 633          | 0%            |
| Reports for Probation-2951.03               | 111          | 84           | -24.3%        |
| Miscellaneous                               | 29           | 23           | -20.7%        |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>2,920</b> | <b>3,063</b> | <b>+4.9%</b>  |

# Adult Probation



# Adult Probation Department

**Maria Nemec**, Chief Probation Officer

**Stephania Pryor**, Deputy Chief Probation Officer **James Starks**, Deputy Chief Probation Officer

## 2016 STAFF

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Chief Probation Officer         | 1   |
| Deputy Chief Probation Officers | 2   |
| Supervisors                     | 18  |
| Probation Officers              | 142 |
| Drug Court Coordinator          | 1   |
| MHDD Court Coordinator          | 1   |
| Reentry Court Coordinator       | 1   |
| Veterans Court Coordinator      | 1   |
| Training Specialist             | 1   |
| Clerical Supervisor             | 1   |
| Fiscal Supervisor               | 1   |
| Clerical & Support Staff        | 13  |
| Executive Secretary             | 1   |
| Administrative Assistant        | 3   |
| Lab Manager                     | 1   |
| Senior Lab Technologist         | 1   |
| Lab Technologists               | 1   |
| Lab Assistants                  | 6   |
| Lab Administrative Assistant    | 1   |
| Cashier Bookkeepers             | 3   |
| TOTAL                           | 200 |

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Cuyahoga County Probation Department, in providing community corrections services, assists the Court of Common Pleas in the protection of the community and the administration of justice.*

Toward this end, we:

- \* Complete thorough and accurate investigations
- \* Monitor offenders and enforce compliance with Court orders
- \* Provide assistance to victims including collection of restitution
- \* Provide opportunities to change for offenders under our supervision
- \* Maintain a trained staff knowledgeable in evidence-based practices
- \* Communicate with law enforcement, correctional and other community agencies in Cuyahoga County

## CORE VALUES OF THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

- \* Promote public safety
- \* Implement evidence-based practices
- \* Belief that people in our charge can change for the better and that we can be instrumental in providing opportunities and resources to direct that change.
- \* Belief that everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect.

The Cuyahoga County Probation Department shall promote public safety and establish effective alternatives to incarceration. To encourage positive change in the lives of offenders, the Cuyahoga County Probation Department shall provide evidence based practices to the Court, community, victim, probationers and defendants.

## INVESTIGATION

| Investigation Type |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Pre-Sentence       | 5,626        |
| Expungement        | 1,318        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>6,944</b> |

Presentence Investigations are completed within 28 days for bail cases and 21 days for jail cases.

## SUPERVISION

In 2016, there were 3.7% fewer defendants on supervision at the end of the year as compared to 2015.

### End of the Year Statistics

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Defendants on probation as of December 31, 2016 | <b>7,075</b><br><b>100.00%</b> |
| Defendants on probation as of December 31, 2015 | 7,156                          |
| Highest level conviction is a felony            | 6,181<br>88.39%                |
| Highest level conviction is a misdemeanor       | 894<br>11.61%                  |

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SUPERVISION CASES

| Defendant Age        | Total        | Percent      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Between 18 and 22    | 831          | 12%          |              |
| Between 23 and 27    | 1475         | 21%          |              |
| Between 28 and 32    | 1123         | 17%          |              |
| Between 33 and 37    | 1017         | 14%          |              |
| Between 38 and 42    | 743          | 11%          |              |
| Between 43 and 46    | 489          | 7%           |              |
| Between 47 and 51    | 491          | 7%           |              |
| Between 52 and 56    | 392          | 5.5%         |              |
| Between 57 and older | 414          | 5.5%         |              |
| Under 18             | 0            | 0%           |              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>7,075</b> |              |              |
| Race                 | Female       | Male         | Total        |
| Asian                | 2            | 5            | 7            |
| Black                | 717          | 3,603        | 4,320        |
| Hispanic             | 35           | 163          | 198          |
| Other                | 15           | 83           | 98           |
| White                | 726          | 1,726        | 2,452        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>1,495</b> | <b>5,580</b> | <b>7,075</b> |



## PROBATIONERS WITH MILITARY HISTORY

In 2016, there were 259 active defendants with 264 records of military experience. Forty-nine of the defendants are currently participating in Veterans Treatment Court. The average age is 48, and ten of the 259 are women.

| Military Branch |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Air Force       | 31         |
| Army            | 121        |
| Coast Guard     | 2          |
| Marines         | 45         |
| National Guard  | 7          |
| Navy            | 57         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>263</b> |

## OHIO RISK ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (ORAS)

The Ohio Risk Assessment System, ORAS, is integrated throughout the Department. All cases referred for Pre-Sentence Investigation have an ORAS assessment completed. Seventy-six percent (5,412) of the 7,075 defendants on probation as of December 31, 2016, have an ORAS Risk Score.

| Extreme High | High  | Moderate | Low Moderate | Low | Total |
|--------------|-------|----------|--------------|-----|-------|
| 137          | 1,953 | 2,156    | 291          | 875 | 5,412 |
| 2.5%         | 36%   | 40%      | 5%           | 16% | 100%  |

## DEFENDANTS SENTENCED TO PROBATION/COMMUNITY CONTROL BY SUPERVISION GROUP

|  |              |             |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| Low Risk   | 293          | 4%          |
| Low Moderate Risk                                | 240          | 3%          |
| Low / Low Mod - Traditional Probation - Westside | 259          | 4%          |
| Moderate Risk - Evidence Based                   | 912          | 13%         |
| Moderate Risk - Regular Probation                | 845          | 12%         |
| Moderate Risk - Intensive Supervision            | 116          | 2%          |
| High Risk  | 932          | 13%         |
| High Risk – Post CBCF                            | 125          | 2%          |
| Extreme High Risk                                | 51           | 1%          |
| Intensive Supervision for Misdemeanor            | 59           | 1%          |
| Mental Health Unit                               | 431          | 6%          |
| Developmental Disabilities Unit                  | 221          | 3%          |
| Domestic Violence Unit                           | 617          | 9%          |
| Sex Offender Unit                                | 217          | 3%          |
| Criminal Non Support                             | 390          | 6%          |
| Criminal Non Support – Intensive Supervision     | 38           | 1%          |
| Drug Court Track 1 (Diversion)                   | 117          | 2%          |
| Drug Court Track 2 (Non Diversion)               | 43           | 1%          |
| Intervention in Lieu of Conviction               | 477          | 7%          |
| Veterans Treatment Court                         | 61           | 1%          |
| Re-Entry Court                                   | 26           | <0%         |
| Electronic Monitoring GPS                        | 305          | 4%          |
| Work Release                                     | 13           | <0%         |
| Day Programming                                  | 126          | 2%          |
| CBCF Supervision Component                       | 120          | 2%          |
| Interstate Compact – Courtesy Supervision        | 37           | 1%          |
| Other / Capias                                   | 4            | <0%         |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                               | <b>7,075</b> | <b>100%</b> |

**PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT COURT SUPERVISED RELEASE (CSR) PROGRAM**

Court Supervised Release, CSR, involves supervision of defendants charged with felonies, who prior to disposition, are released into the community under supervision with a personal or financial bond.

The following represents defendants released under CSR as well as defendants receiving additional or specialized pretrial supervision services including: The Domestic Violence Program, Early Intervention Program, Greater Cleveland Drug Court candidates, and Mental Health/Developmental Disability offenders.

Bond investigation responsibilities, formerly provided by the Probation Department's Pretrial Unit, were assumed by the Bond Commissioner's Office in mid-2015.

| Bond Supervision  | 2015  | 2016  | Percent Change |
|---|-------|-------|----------------|
| Individuals released from jail under CSR as a condition of bond | 1,887 | 1,994 | 5.6%           |
| Individuals under CSR as of December 31                         | 547   | 521   | -4.8%          |

**DIVERSION PROGRAM**

The Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office began the Pretrial Diversion Program in conjunction with the Court of Common Pleas in March 1993. The program was established pursuant to Revised Code 2935.36. It is designed for persons charged with non-violent and non-drug related crimes that have no previous felony convictions or patterns of adult or juvenile criminal behavior. The Pretrial Unit provides services to the County Prosecutor's Pretrial Diversion Program. Services currently consist of:

- Completing extensive criminal record checks on both welfare and non-welfare felony diversion candidates.
- Conducting investigations including interviews, determining restitution amounts and evaluations of eligibility.
- Supervision of all diversion cases (supervision activities include urinalysis, community work service, restitution, court costs, supervision fees, etc.)

In 2015, the Court approved a new agreement for the establishment of a Diversion Program. The most significant changes within this agreement were that the successful applicant must enter into a plea agreement, which is held in abeyance pending successful completion of the Program, and the maximum allowable restitution amount was increased to \$7,500.00. In 2016, 334 defendants were placed into Diversion with a daily average of 361 active defendants.



**MISDEMEANOR ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING/  
JAIL REDUCTION**

To provide a community-based alternative to incarceration, the Misdemeanor Alternative Sentencing Program, MASP, began, in 1997, as an informal agreement with Garfield Heights Municipal Court to identify, recommend and provide limited community-based sanctions (e.g., electronic monitoring), supervision, and substance abuse & mental health treatment to eligible misdemeanant offenders. These offenders were sentenced by a suburban municipal court to the County Jail for more than 30 days. By 2000, with the assistance of Ohio Community Corrections Act, CCA, funding, the program was made available to all 12 suburban municipal courts in Cuyahoga County.

The MASP Investigation Officer, who coordinates the program, conducts daily screening of misdemeanants sentenced to the County Jail. Investigation includes a comprehensive criminal history, offender interview, verification of social situation, assessment of supervision needs, Ohio Risk Assessment System-Community Screening Tool, ORAS-CST, risk assessment and written recommendation to the municipal court-referring Judge. The MASP Investigation Officer coordinates with local service providers for assessment and treatment referral for substance abuse and mental health needs. Upon completion of treatment, the MASP Supervision Officer in the Common Pleas Court’s Pretrial Services Unit provides supervision and urinalysis testing in the community.

| <b>Misdemeanor Alternative Sentencing Program</b>                  | <b>2015</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>% Change</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Defendants sentenced to County Jail from suburban municipal courts | 2,047       | 2,059       | 1%              |
| Total defendants released from County Jail                         | 273         | 247         | -10%            |
| Defendants admitted to treatment and supervised by MASP Officer    | 239         | 218         | -9%             |
| Number of jail days saved  | 26,316      | 29,668      | 13%             |
| Financial savings (based on per diem rate of \$81.00/day)          | \$2,249,775 | \$2,610,784 | 16%             |

NOTE: Number released who did not show up for treatment and supervision was 34 (12%) in 2015 and 29 (13%) in 2016. Those individuals were remanded back to County Jail.

**DOMESTIC INTERVENTION, EDUCATION and TRAINING (D.I.E.T.)**

In September 2006, the Cleveland Municipal Court commenced the Domestic Intervention, Education and Training, or D.I.E.T., program to provide domestic violence education for offenders charged with misdemeanor and felony domestic violence offenses in Cleveland Municipal Court, Common Pleas Court or the suburban municipal courts. The program is 16 weeks long and is held at two different locations: the Justice Center and at the Cleveland Probation Department’s West Office. The D.I.E.T. program fills a void left when the Batterers’ Intervention Project (BIP) closed in June of 2006. This program is funded with Community Corrections Act dollars through a yearly contract with the Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board.

In August 2009, the D.I.E.T. Program commenced an innovative new component, the D.I.E.T. Support Group. The Support Group is an assembly of successful graduates that meet on the third Monday of each month. A facilitator monitors the group, but primary direction of the meeting comes from the graduates. Issues discussed include successful implementation of safety plans and what constitutes a healthy relationship. Incentives such as note pads or coffee mugs are given to group members to encourage participation. In 2016, there were 555 referrals to the D.I.E.T. Program.



# PROBATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMMING

## **HIGH RISK SUPERVISION PROBATION**

The High Risk Supervision Probation program is designed to divert eligible felony offenders assessed as High Risk from incarceration in Ohio's prisons by providing a more intense or heightened degree of supervision within the community. High Risk is designed as a two-year program with frequent offender contact, intense case planning, close attention to offender criminogenic needs and appropriate program referrals and varying urinalysis schedules, and designed for the most effective habilitation of the offender. The program is staffed by 21 Officers and 3 Supervisors. Average caseload size is approximately 50 defendants per Officer. At the close of 2016, there were 1,057 defendants being supervised in the High Risk program.

## **MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY (MHDD) PROGRAM**

This program serves to assist persons who are clinically diagnosed with severe mental illnesses with a psychotic component or those with developmental disabilities, whose conditions may be aided by medications, case management and supervision in the community. The program provides Judges with an alternative to prison commitment. The MHDD Unit is designed to help the severely mentally ill and/or developmentally disabled offender successfully complete probation, receive behavioral health services for their disability and assist them in making necessary adjustments for the community setting. Probation staff, trained in assisting MHDD offenders facing their most common barriers in the community, provides supervision and enforcement of the conditions of Community Control Sanctions and psychiatric treatment recommendations. The incorporation of Judicial and Clinical staffing have also aided in facilitating cooperation among the offenders within the MHDD Unit.

The program is staffed by 13 specially trained Officers and two Supervisors. Presently, the average caseload size in MHDD Probation is 48 offenders with a recommended duration of two years of Community Control Sanctions.

The MHDD Probation Unit continued its collaboration of clinical staffing with Officers and community behavioral health agencies to ensure therapeutic approaches to the offenders' community control experiences. Officers work closely with several community agency providers through bi-weekly or monthly clinical staffing with forensic case managers, licensed social workers and licensed counselors from Recovery Resources, Murtis H. Taylor, FrontLine Service, Connections, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, CCBDD and Matt Talbot Inn residential treatment.

Contracted service providers include the CCBDD and Recovery Resources, selected in cooperation with the ADAMHS Board, to provide mental health counseling, psychiatric services, medication management and support services. Approximately, 34 % of offenders supervised in the MHDD program are assessed with developmental disabilities.

Officers continued to have working relationship with St. Vincent Charity Hospital – Psychiatric Emergency Room, Veteran's Administration, Cleveland Police CIT officers, Mobile Crisis, Oriana House, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities and other treatment providers and community support networks.

In 2016, the Cuyahoga County Probation Department received a three-year grant from the United States Department of Justice to fund a Crisis Intervention/Behavioral Health Specialist. The Department anticipates this full-time position will assist in moving the department toward the goal of considering non-jail/community-based responses for crisis and mental health stabilization to reduce utilization of and dependence on the County Jail for such situations when appropriate. The position will be housed in the MHDD Unit, but will assist officers throughout the Probation Department.

At the close of 2016, there were approximately 652 offenders under active supervision by the MHDD Unit including those whose highest level of conviction was a felony (approximately 70%), as well as those who pled from a felony charge at indictment to a misdemeanor conviction.

## **SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM**

The Adult Sex Offender Program is designed to provide assessment, intensive probation supervision and treatment to sex offenders who have been convicted of a sex offense or an offense whose elements include a sex offending behavior. The program includes an intensive supervision component consisting of three specially trained Probation Officers and a treatment component. In 2016, the Sex Offender Program again contracted with Psych & Psych to provide group and individual counseling for sex offenders, including the developmentally disabled population. Most of the sessions are conducted at the Justice Center for convenience purposes. In 2016, Court general funds and CCA grant dollars provided for 79 sex offender assessments and for 75 offenders to receive treatment services.

Another integral part of the program is verification of client progress and compliance through polygraph testing. In 2016, 25 offenders submitted to a polygraph examination. Average caseload size is approximately 70 offenders per Officer, including felony and misdemeanor cases (not entered into CCIS). At the close of 2016, there were 208 defendants on supervision by the Sex Offender Unit.

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

The Domestic Violence (DV) Unit is comprised of 7 specially trained Officers and a Supervisor. The unit is designed to provide intensive supervision for offenders who have been convicted of a domestic violence offense or an offense whose elements included domestic violence behavior. Length of supervision in the DV Unit is generally two years. The two year supervision term allows time for DV officers to establish and maintain contact with the victim, enforce any no contact orders and refer & follow-up on the defendant's DV programming. Officers engage in comprehensive case planning and refer defendants to programs and treatment as indicated in their ORAS assessments and based on their criminogenic needs.

The majority of the defendants in the DV Unit attend the D.I.E.T. program offered by Cleveland Municipal Court. The DV Officers and D.I.E.T. staff regularly communicate and collaborate on defendant treatment progress and needs. Several officers in the DV Unit also participate on various DV committees to maintain a presence in the community. In 2016, the DV Unit also began participating in the Cuyahoga County Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Team.

Two Officers from the DV Unit attend team meetings twice a month to staff high risk cases. Team members come from various agencies throughout the county, and cases are focused on Districts 1 and 5 from the Cleveland Police.

At year's end, there were 617 defendants being supervised by the Domestic Violence Unit, including those with a felony conviction, approximately 65%, as well as those who pled from a felony charge at indictment to a misdemeanor conviction. Average caseload size, including felony and misdemeanor cases, is approximately 85 defendants per Officer.

## **NON-SUPPORT SPECIALIZED CASELOAD**

In 2011, the Non-Support Specialized, NS, caseload was established to provide an additional option in the continuum of sanctions for offenders under supervision for Felony Non-Support. The creation of the Non-Support Specialized caseload is intended to reduce the need for incarceration in state prisons or the local jail by providing an effective sentencing alternative, recognizing the importance of expanding the continuum of sanctions for individuals with non-support offenses to decrease prison commitments for technical violations and avoid interruption in offender employment and subsequent ability to pay child support.

Cuyahoga County clients represent 16% of Ohio's child support business. The Non-Support Specialized Program seeks to empower parents so they can successfully remove barriers to the payment of child support, and promotes ways to rehabilitate non-support offenders without the cost of incarceration. The program works to provide the appropriate external controls along with the Non-Support Education programming, supervision approaches and interventions necessary to instill the internal motivation and skills necessary for offenders to become productive, law-abiding citizens, thereby reducing recidivism and decreasing the incidence of incarceration.

The program collaborates with various community social support agencies that focus on barriers to success, and ensure offenders pay child support and receive services to address their specific needs to encourage responsible parenthood, while promoting public safety. It also work with criminal justice stakeholders to implement diversion activities, decrease the employment barrier of a felony conviction, potentially reduce the number of Felony Non-Support cases, increase collections of child support for families and reduce the number of offenders sentenced to prison for failure to pay child support.

The offender population served includes individuals with criminal non-support charges under the supervision of the Adult Probation Department. A portion of this offender population may also include individuals required to pay child support whose cases have not been referred for prosecution but who may benefit from the education component to strengthen their understanding of their responsibilities and increase the likelihood of compliance with child support orders. Risk level will generally be between Moderate to High Risk. There is also a Basic Non-Support caseload for offenders who do not generally require more intensive supervision and programming. However, Moderate or High Risk offenders supervised on the Basic NS Unit can be referred for NS programming if needed.

At the close of 2016, 38 defendants were under the supervision on the Specialized Non-Support Caseload and 390 defendants were supervised on the regular Non-Support Caseload. Offenders under supervision in this program paid \$3,242,775 in child support through Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) in 2016.

#### **ELECTRONIC HOME DETENTION – GPS / ALCOHOL MONITORING**

Electronic Home Detention – GPS Monitoring, Alcohol Monitoring and Work Release are programs provided to the Court as an alternative to incarceration that allows offenders to remain in the community in a less restrictive setting, while taking into account public safety. In addition to receiving needed services, offenders can continue to contribute to the welfare of not only themselves, but their families whether financially or emotionally. The program also serves as a sanction to address non-compliant behavior and offenders found to be in violation of their Community Control Sanctions. Offenders placed into the program(s) are ordered by the Court and, with the exception to Work Release, must have an approved verified residence.

Electronic Home Detention – GPS Monitoring is a program of confinement that restricts offenders to an approved residence except for authorized absences such as work, education, substance abuse treatment, etc. This program works to closely monitor and respond to offenders' non-compliance in the community, and to increase the Judges' use of Home Detention as an alternative to incarceration. The Court, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department, implemented active GPS monitoring in 2014.

In 2016, a total of 1,151 offenders (new installs) were monitored on GPS and/or Alcohol Monitoring; 528 (46%) Court Supervised Release and 623 (54%) as a condition of probation supervision. Of the total amount of offenders monitored in 2016, 85% successfully completed the program, while 15% were taken into custody by the Sheriff's Electronic Monitoring Unit, EM, for non-compliance of the program.

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department provides the monitoring equipment and monitoring surveillance in collaboration with the Probation Department. To defray the cost for indigent offenders and for other program costs, offenders are charged \$8 per day for GPS Monitoring and \$10 per day for Alcohol Monitoring. A total of \$53,293 was collected from electronic monitoring participants.

#### **WORK RELEASE**

Individuals in the Work Release Program, WR, are granted release from the facility only for verified purposes: work, education, vocational training, and substance abuse treatment. Individuals can be placed in the WR Program at the time of sentencing or at the time of a Probation Violation/Community Control Violation Hearing. Community Corrections Act, CCA, funding provides the WR/EM Unit with three full-time supervision Officers including a Lead Officer who assists with administrative oversight of the program. Offenders sentenced to Work Release are placed in state-funded beds at Salvation Army's Harbor Light Complex. In 2016, 52 offenders were placed in the WR Program.

#### **COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTION FACILITY**

The Judge Nancy R. McDonnell Community Based Correctional Facility, CBCF, provides comprehensive programming to address offender criminogenic needs such as chemical dependency, education, employment, cognitive behavior therapy and family relationships. The program is designed to progressively integrate Higher Risk offenders back into the community, while, at the same time, reducing prison overcrowding and recidivism. In 2015, eligibility requirements were modified to allow Moderate Risk offenders.

In 2016, 572 male offenders were placed in the Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF and 79 female defendants were placed in the Cliff Skeen CBCF in Summit County. On any given day, there are approximately 169 males and 27 females serving a CBCF sentence.

Most offenders sentenced to the CBCF are concurrently supervised by one of two CBCF Supervision Officers or Officers from specialized units. The CBCF Supervision Officers are stationed at the facility. Officers work closely with the CBCF case workers to assist offenders in reaching their programming goals. This partnership is pivotal in making sure offenders remain compliant with discharge plans and Community Control expectations once released back into the community. The assigned Supervision Officer engages the offender during the final stage of the CBCF Program in an effort to assist in the transition to Community Control Supervision. Upon successful completion of the CBCF program, supervision is either maintained by the CBCF officers or officers in specialized units to address offense-specific (e.g., domestic violence) or behavioral health needs (e.g., mental health). In addition to these designated positions, the Probation Department and CBCF staffs engage in many collaborative efforts including cross-trainings and joint Probation and Judicial orientations for newly admitted residents.

#### **APPREHENSION UNIT**

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department Warrant Unit arrests individuals with outstanding warrants in Cuyahoga County. Personnel assigned to the Warrant Unit execute and service felony and civil arrest warrants, bench warrants, temporary protection orders, out of state prisoner extraditions and the apprehension of wanted fugitives throughout the jurisdiction of the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office. In addition, the Warrant Unit assists the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and Cuyahoga County Adult Probation Department in the service of warrants issued for individuals under jurisdiction of programs within the Probation Department.

The Warrant Unit worked more than 1,700 warrants in 2016 and cleared 834. Of these, the Cuyahoga County Adult Probation Department submitted the names of 344 offenders for apprehension, down from 373 in 2015. Programs funded by the CCA submitted 272 requests for arrest, and regular supervision programs submitted 72 requests. The total number of arrests for CCA generated *capias* and Probation warrants were 239, representing an 87.8% arrest rate. The total number of arrests for regular supervision *capias* and Probation warrants were 60, representing an 83.3% arrest rate.

Warrant Unit Deputies are routinely dispatched to treatment facilities to apprehend noncompliant probationers. Of the 344 names submitted by Cuyahoga County Probation Staff to the Sheriff's Department Warrant Unit for apprehension, 104 were for apprehension at The Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF and 67 were for apprehension at Community Assessment Treatment Services, CATS.

#### **COGNITIVE SKILLS PROGRAMMING**

SCOPE is a cognitive skills development program utilizing the "Thinking for a Change" (T4C) curriculum. The program integrates cognitive restructuring, social skills and problem solving, teaching offenders an introspective process for examining their ways of thinking and their feelings, beliefs and attitudes. A social skills training is provided as an alternative to antisocial behaviors. The program integrates the skills offenders have learned into steps for problem solving. Problem solving becomes the central approach. Offenders learn what enables them to work through difficult situations without engaging in criminal behavior. SCOPE provides one more tool to assist in the supervision of Moderate to High Risk offender in the community, and also serves as a community based behavior change response for technical violators. In early June 2013, a female SCOPE group began, which allowed the program to address the unique needs, issues and learning styles of women. In 2016, 420 individuals were placed in SCOPE programming.

#### **INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF CONVICTION**

The Intervention in Lieu of Conviction Program, ILC, is comprised of four Officers and a Supervisor. Defendants are typically seen at least once a month and the average caseload size is 110. Officers need to be current with chemical dependency treatment resources and have a good understanding of the nature of addiction, the recovery process and a current knowledge of drugs of abuse is essential. The expectation is to become familiar with defendant's Criminogenic Needs and corresponding Evidence Based Programming. Officers use defendant office contacts to address and monitor compliance with programming outlined in the Supervision Plan, as well as changes in employment, financial conditions and any contact with law enforcement. At the close of 2016, there were 477 defendants being supervised in the ILC Program.

## **LOW RISK SUPERVISION**

Low Risk Supervision, or Group A, currently has one Officer supervising approximately 300 defendants. Defendants in this group report every six months for one year. Research on the Risk Principle dictates that it is best to provide minimal, if any, supervision for the offenders who are assessed as Low Risk to recidivate. The research has found that intensive treatment and intervention for Low Risk offenders can actually increase their risk of recidivism. Office contacts are utilized to support and affirm pro-social sentiment and behavior and/or to constructively redirect any anti-social sentiment or behavior. In addition, the officer verifies addresses, employment, financial conditions and if there has been any contact with law enforcement. At the close of 2016, there were 295 defendants being supervised on the Low Risk caseload.

## **LOW MODERATE RISK SUPERVISION**

Low-Moderate Risk Supervision, or Group B, currently has two Officers supervising approximately 300 defendants. Defendants in this group report every three months for one year. Individuals in the Low-Moderate Risk category are supervised at a non-intensive level. Office contacts are used to support and affirm pro-social sentiment and behavior, and redirect any anti-social sentiment and behavior while utilizing motivational interviewing techniques when appropriate. Officers respond to defendant or Court requests for programming, and monitor defendant group activities. At the close of 2016, 240 defendants were being supervised on the Low Moderate Risk caseloads.

## **MODERATE RISK SUPERVISION**

Moderate Risk Supervision, or Group C, is comprised of seventeen Officers and two Supervisors. Defendants in this group report once a month or as specified, via Court order, for eighteen months. Officers are expected to be competent in utilizing and administering an ORAS assessment, and must be familiar with defendant criminogenic needs and corresponding Evidence Based Programming, EBP. In addition, they are skilled in Supervision Planning, Motivational Interviewing and the Stages of Change. Office contacts are used to monitor strict adherence to general and specific conditions of Community Control by addressing an offender's pro-social sentiment and behavior, and to constructively redirect any anti-social sentiment & behavior while monitoring

progress in the required programming outlined in the Supervision Plan. In 2013, the department implemented a Moderate Risk ISP position. This allows for an intensive supervision response for Moderate Risk defendants who, because of their risk level, are not appropriate for intensive supervision of a High Risk Unit. This Officer meets with defendants more frequently and creates a more comprehensive supervision plan with the defendant, which includes more programming dosage to attend to the defendant's increased level of needs. At the close of 2016, 1,757 defendants were being supervised by the Moderate Risk Unit.

## **EXTREMELY HIGH RISK SUPERVISION**

Extremely High Risk Supervision, or Group E, currently consists of one Officer with a caseload of approximately 40 defendants. Defendants in this group report for up to five years. The goal of supervising the Extremely High Risk offender is to promote public safety. Research tells us that utilizing external controls and structure are what effectively works best. Intensive supervision, surveillance, drug and alcohol testing are a necessity while programming is contraindicated. Supervision of the Extremely High Risk offender consists of:

Weekly Office Contacts

Weekly Urinalysis Testing

Weekly Field Visits with Instant Drug and/or Alcohol Testing

Twice Weekly Collateral Contacts

The Officer in this position works closely with the County Sheriff's Department and county provider agencies in the close monitoring of these offenders. They also employ non-traditional surveillance hours, including working evenings and weekends for the most effective supervision. At the close of 2016, 40 defendants were being supervised by the Extremely High Risk Officer.

## **TRADITIONAL SUPERVISION**

Offenders who are sentenced to a high level of supervision than their risk score warrants are supervised by the Traditional Supervision caseload. The Low to Low Moderate Risk level offenders are supervised according to the frequency that the journal entry dictates.



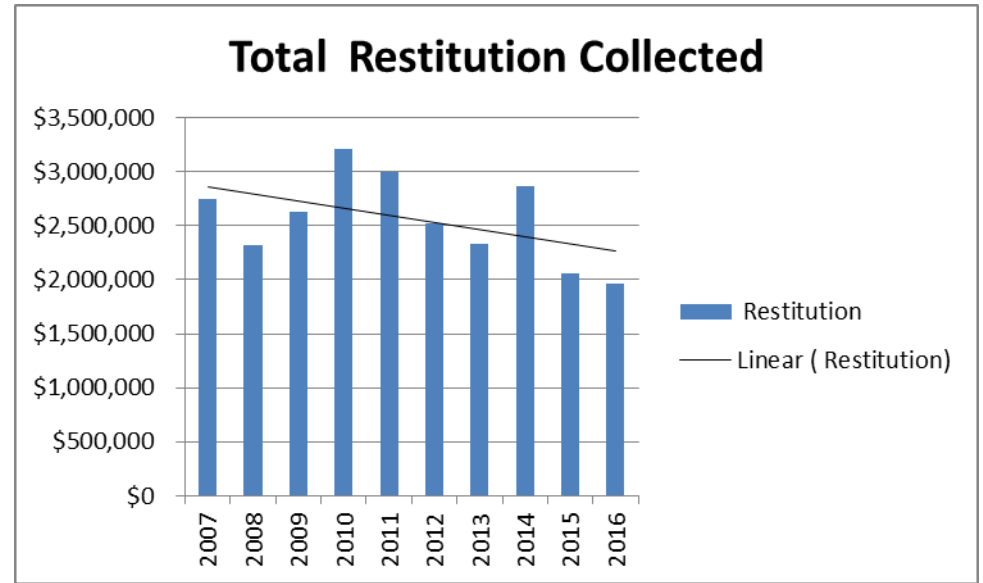
## RESTITUTION UNIT

The Restitution Unit of the Adult Probation Department had a very successful year in 2016. Some of the accomplishments were posting the Unclaimed Funds Report in early January 2016 for crime victims to review for potential payments, the passing of the 2015 State Financial Audit with no findings, implementation of a new credit card system to facilitate the process of adding on-line payments, developing both a new system for tracking bus tickets and a new system for monitoring the Probation Lab accounts receivables.

### TOTAL 2016 FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS

|                            | <b>FY 2015</b>     | <b>FY 2016</b>     | <b>\$ Increase<br/>or<br/>Decrease</b> | <b>%<br/>Increase<br/>or<br/>Decrease</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| Restitution Payments       | \$2,063,574        | \$1,964,120        | (\$99,453)                             | -4.8%                                     |
| Home Detention Fees        | 67,602             | 53,292             | (\$14,309)                             | -21.2%                                    |
| Probation Supervision Fees | 546,928            | 473,200            | (\$73,728)                             | -13.5%                                    |
| Court Cost                 | 2,065              | 4,146              | \$2,080)                               | 100.8%                                    |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>\$2,680,169</b> | <b>\$2,494,760</b> | <b>(\$185,409)</b>                     |   |

The spike in restitution in 2014, as well as the subsequent decrease in 2015 and 2016, can be attributed to seven payments in 2014 for six cases that were \$82,000 or higher for a total of \$885,000. While there are normal fluctuations for restitution payments each year, the overall trend is a decline from 2007. The 100% increase in Court Cost is due to the increase of probationers including their Court Cost payments with their restitution payments.



In 2016, the Restitution Unit received payments by credit cards of \$491,587.21, a decrease of 10.8% over the 2015 credit card payments of \$550,857.33.

## STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

CCA funding reimburses salary and a portion of fringe benefit costs for the Probation Department's Training Specialist. The Staff Development and Training program's most important objective is to provide training and enhance professional standards for probation staff in Ohio CCA-funded programs, striving to meet all CCA program standards regarding training. Additionally, it provides this service for non-CCA funded staff to insure compliance with the mandated training requirements of H.B. 86. Staff consistently meets grant and legislative requirements for training hours with innovative training events, utilizing in-house facilities and offering a variety of pertinent topics. In keeping with the Cuyahoga County Probation Department's mission to establish effective alternatives to incarceration and provide Evidence-Based services for the Court and community, an EBP workgroup was formed and has developed a Vision Statement, a Mission Statement, a set of Core Values and seven general goals. The Training Specialist has created an EBP curriculum for staff skill development, a comprehensive Safety Training Program that began in 2014 and a Technology Training curriculum. A significant number of line staff and supervisors volunteer to implement many of the components of the Training Program.

The Probation Department implemented the Behavior Management System in November 2014. The development and implementation of the Cognitive Behavioral System was mandated by the H.B. 86 in order to decrease the number of probationers being sentenced to prison on a violation of Community Control Supervision. Automation of this system was achieved in 2016.

Approximately 60% of the training hours were provided by the line staff and supervisors. All Probation Officers and Supervisors met the State H.B. 86 training standard of 20 hours per year. All CCA Probation Officers and Supervisors met the State CCA training standard of 24 hours per year related to EBP and service delivery.

A total of 9716.5 person hours of training were provided during 2016. The cost for training in 2016 was \$19,676.94.

## PROBATION DEPARTMENT ANNUAL TRAINING REPORT STAFF TRAINING HOURS OBTAINED - 2016

| <b>Evidence Based Practices</b>      | <b>2016</b>     |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Risk Assessment                      | 102             |
| Needs Assessment                     | 603.75          |
| Case Planning                        | 661.75          |
| Stages of Change                     | 26              |
| Motivational Interviewing            | 185             |
| Responsivity Issues                  | 1,078.25        |
| Supervision Strategies & Programming | 1008            |
| Professional Alliance                | 303.50          |
| Criminal Thinking Process            | 149             |
| General EBP                          | 6               |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                      | <b>4,123.25</b> |
|                                      |                 |
| <b>Correctional Practices</b>        |                 |
| Ethics                               | 12              |
| Legal Updates                        | 87.75           |
| Recordkeeping/Documentation          | 196.50          |
| Management/Supervisor                | 202             |
| New Hire Orientation                 | 855.50          |
| Safety                               | 1,877.50        |
| Cross Training                       | 6.5             |
| Meetings                             | 1,587.75        |
| Outside Conferences                  | 767.75          |
| Subtotal                             | 5,593.25        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>9,176.50</b> |

## COMMON PLEAS COURT - PROBATION DEPARTMENT LABORATORY 2016

The Probation Department Laboratory performs drug of abuse testing on urine specimens using enzyme immunoassay (EIA) and cloned enzyme donor immunoassay (CEDIA) manufactured by Microgenics Inc. The Laboratory has a contract with Thermo-Fisher Scientific to provide reagents, instrumentation, a water system and the computer interface system. LabDaq software is used in conjunction with the instrument results to produce test reports, bar code labels, statistical reports and export results into the justice system database.

The Adult Probation Laboratory is funded by the Court of Common Pleas. The Lab does contract with some outside agencies for drug testing. It currently has 10 employees, and is open from 7:30 a.m. - 6:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. on Friday.

## LABORATORY STATISTICS: NUMBER OF URINE SPECIMENS AND TESTS PERFORMED 2002-2016

| Year              | Total Specimens | Change  | Drug Tests           | Change  |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| 2016              | 92,813          | 1.5%    | 610,993              | 4.4%    |
| 2015              | 89,237          | 1.5%    | 570,113 <sup>3</sup> | (10.3%) |
| 2014              | 87,898          | (2.2%)  | 635,346 <sup>2</sup> | 38.2%   |
| 2013 <sup>1</sup> | 89,947          | (3.0%)  | 459,530 <sup>2</sup> | 17.2%   |
| 2012              | 92,730          | 2.3%    | 392,139              | (7.1%)  |
| 2011              | 90,612          | (9.3%)  | 422,219              | (1.3%)  |
| 2010              | 99,877          | 5.9%    | 427,943              | 21.9%** |
| 2009              | 94,289          | (8.6%)  | 351,168              | (10.0%) |
| 2008              | 103,133         | (16.0%) | 390,929              | (6.9%)  |
| 2007              | 123,338         | 1.0%    | 419,792              | 1.1%    |
| 2006              | 122,214         | (<1.0%) | 415,137              | (3.7%)  |
| 2005              | 121,837         | (5.0%)  | 431,178              | (7.0%)  |
| 2004              | 128,304         | 6.3%    | 463,424              | 5.2%    |
| 2003              | 120,686         | (0.6%)  | 440,591              | (4.7%)  |
| 2002              | 121,409         | 7.6%    | 462,886              | 10.0%   |

- 1- Does not include creatinine test for 2014 = 87,898
- 2- Increase in 2013 due to addition of 6-acetylmorphine test added to all specimens with opiate requested.
- 3- Increase in 2014 due to addition of oxycodone test added to all specimens with opiate requested.
- 4- Decrease in number of tests due to change in testing protocol. Positive tests no longer repeated on all positive specimens in order to improve efficiency and lower test cost. This change is in accord with current laboratory practices.

The Laboratory does not perform confirmation testing by gas chromatography/mass spectroscopy GC/MS in-house, performing only testing for forensic purposes, and as such, is exempt from CLIA regulations.



## URINE DRUG SCREENS

| Urine Drug Screens                         | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total Subjects                             | 26,564 | 26,947 | 26,768 | 23,845 | 17,514 | 16,893 |
| **Total Specimens                          | 90,612 | 92,730 | 89,947 | 87,898 | 89,237 | 92,813 |
| Specimens Positive for One or More Drugs   | 14,756 | 15,071 | 16,340 | 15,844 | 16,847 | 17,727 |
| % Specimens Positive for One or More Drugs | 16.4%  | 16.3%  | 17.5%  | 18.0%  | 18.9%  | 19%    |

| Percent Positive by Drug  | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Cocaine                   | 4.2%  | 2.9%  | 3.7%  | 3.1%  | 3.1%  | 3.0%  |
| Marijuana                 | 11.2% | 9.7%  | 12.7% | 10.8% | 10.6% | 11.0% |
| Opiates                   | 4.3%  | 3.6%  | 4.5%  | 3.8%  | 3.5%  | 2.0%  |
| Phencyclidine (PCP)       | 1.1%  | 0.8%  | 0.9%  | 0.7%  | 0.8%  | 1.6%  |
| Amphetamines              | 1.5%  | 1.0%  | 1.3%  | 2.1%  | 1.2%  | 1.0%  |
| 6-Acetylmorphine (Heroin) | 0.7%  | 0.6%  | 0.9%  | 0.8%  | 0.7%  | 0.5%  |
| Oxycodone                 | ***** | ***** | 1.3%  | 1.4%  | 1.4%  | 1.0%  |
| ETG - alcohol             | ***** | ***** | ***** | 20.0% | 16.6% | 8.3%  |
| Fentanyl                  | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** | 1.0%  |

Specimens are tested for 2 to 9 drugs and may be positive for more than one drug. In addition, validity testing is performed on each specimen by measuring the creatinine level. Testing for oxycodone

## HAIR TESTING

Hair specimens are sent to Omega Laboratories Inc. The majority of these tests are for Domestic Relations Court where hair generally provides a longer detection window of use over urine tests. Some specimens may be positive for more than one drug.

| Hair Testing            | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Specimens               | 139  | 110  | 155  | 118  | 124  | 121  |
| Negative                | 111  | 93   | 128  | 94   | 98   | 93   |
| Quantity Not Sufficient | 2    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 2    | 6    |
| Positive                | 26   | 16   | 27   | 24   | 31   | 22   |
| Cocaine                 | 11   | 7    | 11   | 11   | 12   | 24   |
| Marijuana               | 13   | 7    | 11   | 9    | 15   | 10   |
| Amphetamines            | -    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 2    | 3    |
| MDMA (Ecstasy)          | 0    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Methamphetamine         | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 2    | 0    |
| Morphine                | 2    | 3    | 1    | 2    | 0    | 1    |
| Codeine                 | 3    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 0    | 1    |
| 6-AM**                  | 2    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 1    |
| Phencyclidine           | -    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |

## ORAL FLUID TESTING

Oral fluids are routinely tested in the laboratory from individuals who are unable to produce urine specimens due to medical conditions (i.e. renal dialysis) and those who continue to submit dilute urine specimens. Approximately 3% of all urine specimens are considered dilute and unacceptable due to a low creatinine concentration of less than 20 mg/dl. The following drugs are reported: cocaine, opiates, marijuana and phencyclidine (PCP). Confirmation testing is not performed on oral fluid specimens.

\*\* 2012 to present: Changed from 6 tests to 4 tests per specimen.

| ORAL FLUID TESTING    | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| Specimens             | 412   | 548   | 800   | 598  | 541  | 707  |
| Positive Specimens    | 35    | 38    | 57    | 26   | 23   | 39   |
| % Positive Specimens  | 8.5%  | 6.9%  | 7.1%  | 4.3% | 4.3% | 5.5% |
| **Tests (4/ specimen) | 2,472 | 2,288 | 4,800 | 2392 | 2164 | 2828 |

*No tests were sent for GC/MS confirmation.*

## URINE DIP TESTING

The Laboratory utilizes Reditest, an on-site device for drug screens to be used when routine instrument testing is unavailable. Tests reported are: cocaine, opiates, marijuana, PCP and amphetamines. Dilute specimens cannot be identified with this device as it does not test for creatinine.

## REFERENCE LABORATORY TESTING

The Probation Laboratory utilizes Redwood Toxicology Laboratories and Metro Health Toxicology Laboratory for confirmatory and dilute urine testing.

Some of the tests performed by MetroHealth consist of several drugs or metabolites (analytes). Specimens are tested for opiates include codeine, morphine, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, 6-AM and oxycodone. Amphetamine is tested for amphetamine, methamphetamine, MDA, MDMA and MDEA. Each component is a separate test. The change in computer software by 2015 now allows for each component to be identified. Thus, opiates are now tallied as 6 tests instead of 1, as had been done in 2013-2014.

\*\*\* Data not available due to new computer system recently installed at MetroHealth.

|                         | 2013  | 2013     | 2014  | 2014     | 2015  | 2015     | 2016  | 2016     |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
|                         | METRO | RED-WOOD | METRO | RED-WOOD | METRO | RED-WOOD | METRO | RED-WOOD |
| <b>Total Tests</b>      | 1,755 | 2,375    | 1,526 | 1,113    | 6,901 | 754      | 7,174 | 962      |
| <b>Positive Tests</b>   | 354   | 569      | ***   | 630      | 935   | 215      | 832   | 252      |
| <b>% Positive Tests</b> | 20.2% | 24.0%    | ***   | 57%      | 13.5% | 28.5%    | 11.6% | 26.1%    |



# **Corrections Planning Board**

# Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board

**Hon. John J. Russo**, Chair    **Martin P. Murphy**, Corrections Planning Board Administrator

**Stephania Pryor**, Program Director - 407 Prison Diversion Program

**James Starks**, Program Director - 408 Jail Diversion Program

## Total Staff:

Board Administrator  
2 Substance Abuse Case Managers  
2 Program Directors  
Training Specialist  
Fiscal Officer  
Office Assistant  
Research Planner  
Office Assistant - Records  
Grants Coordinator

*Located in the Marion Building  
1276 West Third Street, Suite 409,  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113*

## Mission Statement

*Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board exists to create an environment to improve the coordination of community corrections at all levels of the criminal justice system.*

Toward this end, the Corrections Planning Board members and staff will work to:

- \* Provide effective alternatives to incarceration
- \* Enhance public safety and protection of victims
- \* Seek and secure funding and resources
- \* Develop and maintain partnerships with stakeholders

The Corrections Planning Board (CPB) administers Community Corrections Act (CCA) grant funds from the State of Ohio's Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) for community jail and prison diversion programs. The Chair of the Board is the Presiding Judge of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. Cuyahoga County established its Corrections Planning Board in 1984, and currently has 18 members. Most of the Board's local community sanction programs are administered through the Court's Adult Probation Department.

State funding supports programming designed to divert eligible criminal offenders from the Cuyahoga County Jail and/or the state prison system, while maintaining public safety. During 2016, the Board administered CCA grants of \$5,680,508 to fund and staff local community corrections programs. In addition to annual CCA funds, the State provided \$1,541,575 in Probation Improvement grant funding as part of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative and \$3,663,332 for the Smart Ohio Incentive Funding Option #3: Targeted Diversion Model. In relation to the rest of the State, Cuyahoga County has reduced the number of prison commitments from 20% of all ODRC commitments in 2010 to just 13% in 2016. Based on the Bureau of Community Sanctions' 2016 Annual Report, Cuyahoga County contributes approximately 15% of the statewide total of prison diversions and 17% of the statewide total of jail diversions. In 2016, there were 5,728 criminal defendants/offenders diverted into local community sanction alternatives; a 23% increase over 2015 diversion numbers.

The Cuyahoga County CCA programs through the Corrections Planning Board have been the recipients of numerous awards to recognize their contributions to community corrections. The Probation Department Management has been recognized for their willingness to assist other Ohio counties with criminal justice initiatives. CCA Project Directors and Board Administrator actively participate in the CCA Directors Organization and as Board of Trustees/Executive Board Members of the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections.

The Board funds several of the projects jointly with other Cuyahoga County agencies such as the ADAMHS Board and the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

This allows all concerned agencies to maximize the resources available to the community. In addition, the Board participates in the planning and coordination of a number of collaborative projects (e.g., Mental Health Advisory Committee, Criminal Justice/Behavioral Health Leadership Committee, Office of Re-Entry Leadership Coalition, Community Based Correctional Facility, and the Cuyahoga County Drug Court). The Corrections Planning Board also provides fiscal and administrative oversight, as needed, for various grants on behalf of the Common Pleas Court and the Adult Probation Department separate from CCA (e.g., 2 SAMHSA/BJA Drug Court grants, Office of Re-Entry grant for Re-Entry Court and several state and federally-funded TASC grants). Effective November 8, 2010, the Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) agency was transferred from the County Department of Justice Affairs to the Common Pleas Court Corrections Planning Board.





# 2016 Corrections Planning Board Roster of Members

**Hon. John J. Russo**, Chair (Presiding Judge, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court)

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Hon. Dick Ambrose</b><br/><i>Judge, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court</i></p>  | <p><b>Russell R. Brown III</b><br/><i>Court Administrator<br/>Cleveland Municipal Court</i></p>   | <p><b>Dean J4nkins</b><br/><i>Chief Probation Officer<br/>City of Cleveland</i></p>   |
| <p><b>William Denihan</b><br/><i>Chief Executive Officer, Alcohol, Drug Addiction &amp; Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County</i></p> | <p><b>Armond Budish</b><br/><i>Cuyahoga County Executive</i></p>                                  | <p><b>Arthur B. Hill</b><br/><i>Director, Salvation Army Harbor Light Complex</i></p> |
| <p><b>Maria Nemec</b><br/><i>Chief Probation Officer<br/>Cuyahoga County Adult Probation</i></p>  | <p><b>Vacant</b><br/><i>Crime Victim Representative</i></p>                                       | <p><b>Kenneth Mills</b><br/><i>Director, Cuyahoga County Corrections Center</i></p>   |
| <p><b>Timothy McGinty</b><br/><i>Cuyahoga County Prosecutor</i></p>   | <p><b>Illya McGee</b><br/><i>Vice President - Correctional Programs, Oriana House, Inc.</i></p>   | <p><b>Calvin D. Williams</b><br/><i>Chief of Police, City of Cleveland</i></p>        |
| <p><b>Hon. K.J. Montgomery</b><br/><i>Judge, Shaker Heights Municipal Court</i></p>   | <p><b>Gregory Popovich</b><br/><i>Court Administrator, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court</i></p> | <p><b>Clifford Pinkney</b><br/><i>Cuyahoga County Sheriff</i></p>                     |
| <p><b>Kelly Petty</b><br/><i>Superintendent and CEO, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities</i></p>                                | <p><b>Robert L. Tobik, Esq.</b><br/><i>Cuyahoga County Chief Public Defender</i></p>              | <p><b>Christopher P. Viland</b><br/><i>Chief of Police, City of Solon</i></p>         |

#### 407 INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAMS

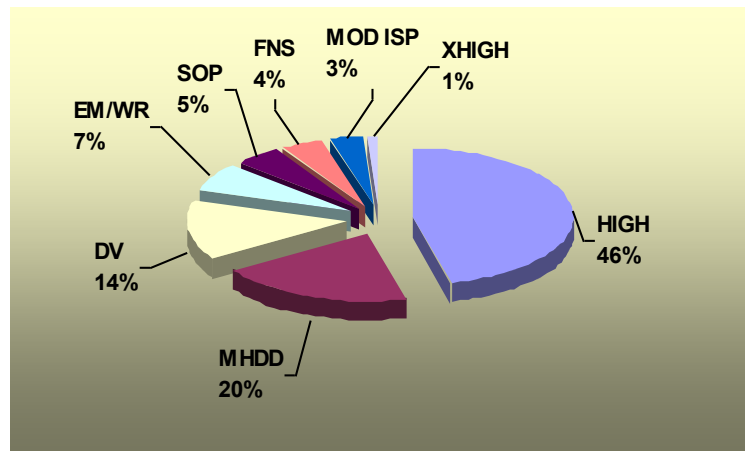
(For program descriptions and 2016 figures, please see the Probation Department Report)

The 407 Intensive Supervision Program, ISP, strives to divert offenders from prison by providing intensive supervision in the community as an alternative to incarceration. ISP includes various high risk units, specialized units and programming and services, including cognitive skills development programming, Apprehension Unit services, the Staff Training and Development Project, Substance Abuse Case Management and drug testing.

#### FELONY DIVERSIONS ACHIEVED IN 2016:

- 896 High Risk/Intensive Supervision Probation (ISP)
- 387 Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD)
- 274 Domestic Violence (DV) Unit
- 93 Sex Offender Program (SOP)
- 129 Electronic Monitoring/Work Release (EM/WR)
- 80 Felony Non Support (FNS)
- 65 Moderate ISP
- 24 Extreme High Risk Supervision

**1,948 TOTAL** (7% increase over the 2015 diversion number)



#### 408 JAIL REDUCTION PROGRAMS

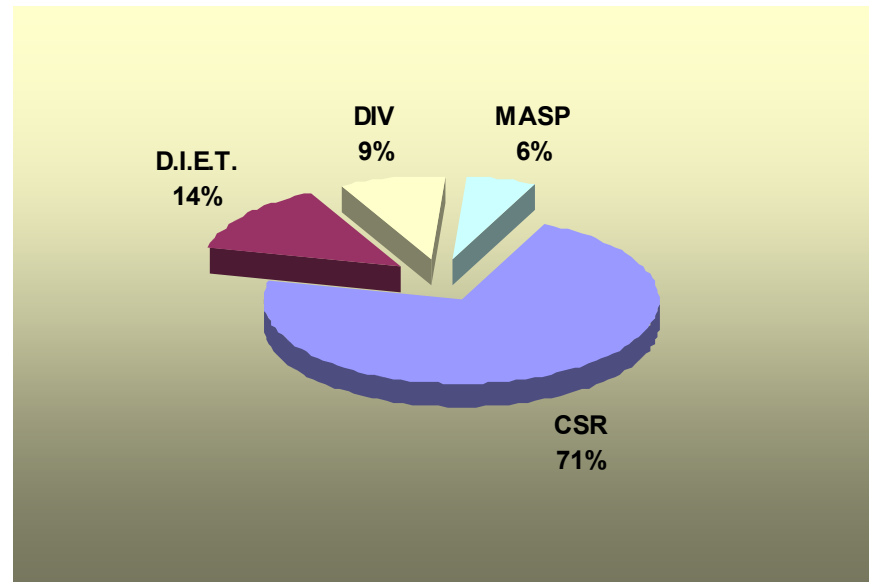
(For program descriptions and 2016 figures, please see Probation Department Report)

The Jail Population Reduction project began as a Community Corrections Act project in 1994. The project's overall goal is to reduce jail overcrowding by reducing unnecessary pretrial detention & case processing delay, and better utilization of limited local jail space for appropriate offenders. First, through a number of collaborative criminal justice initiatives and activities in Cuyahoga County, case processing procedures are examined to identify and resolve difficulties and delays. Second, the project gears its activities to developing and operating community control programs described below to reduce commitments and the average length of stay in local jails. The project offers several programs and 408 treatment coordination.

#### JAIL DIVERSIONS ACHIEVED IN 2016:

- 2,719 Court Supervised Release (CSR)
- 217 Misdemeanor Alternative Sentencing (MASP)
- 513 Domestic Intervention Education and Training (D.I.E.T.)
- 331 Prosecutorial Diversion

**3,780 TOTAL** (34% increase over the 2015 diversion number)



## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM**

The Substance Abuse program targets offenders with drug and alcohol problems. Various activities are utilized as a coordinated system process to deal with substance abusing offenders, including centralized case management for referring and managing offenders placed in various residential substance abuse treatment programs.

With CCA funding, the Adult Probation Department continues to provide centralized case management, staffed by a Centralized Case Manager and an Administrative Aide, for assessment and treatment referrals. One Case Manager coordinates all offender referrals for substance abuse assessment and treatment services, and manages offenders throughout treatment. Defendants and probationers are selected to participate in the program based on an evaluation of Bail Bond Investigation reports, Pre-sentence Investigation reports, Risk/Needs Assessment, and Alcohol and Drug Assessment. They may be referred as a condition of probation. Drug dependent persons requesting Intervention in Lieu of Conviction under O.R.C. 2951.041 may also be referred for treatment.

The Corrections Planning Board also manages treatment contracts not funded by CCA dollars: Common Pleas Court treatment contract, the Halfway House Initiative and the ADAMHS Board Jail Reduction contracts. As of 2005, the local ADAMHS Board and the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners had dedicated funding for jail reduction efforts. Prior to the availability of these dollars the average length of stay in jail for offenders waiting admission to treatment was approximately 45 days. The continuing opiate/heroin epidemic in the community continues to strain treatment resources. In 2016, length of time spent waiting for treatment placement ranged from the previous average of 14 days to as long as 30 days, as demand for residential treatment increases. The most difficult clients to place continue to be those dually diagnosed with a mental illness, which complicates treatment, or those with a prior sex offense or arson conviction. To assist with placement of these offenders, through collaboration with the ADAMHS Board, limited access to psychotropic medication is available from Central Pharmacy for offenders waiting in jail for treatment placement.

In 2016, 842 offenders were placed into residential drug/alcohol treatment programs through the Probation Department Centralized Case Management program as described below.

The Common Pleas Court continued to fund contracted treatment beds placing 253 offenders at the following agencies:

Catholic Charities - Matt Talbot Inn & Matt Talbot for Women (83 offenders)

Community Assessment and Treatment (CATS) (16 offenders)

ORCA House (54 offenders)

The County-funded Halfway House Initiative provided placement for 108 offenders at the following agencies:

Community Assessment Treatment Services

Oriana House

Salvation Army – Harbor Light

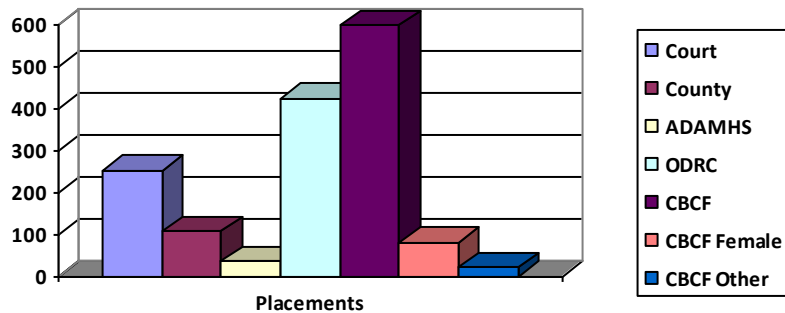
Using ADAMHS Board-funded Indigent Beds, Smart Ohio funding, Medicaid, VA and other sources, an additional 37 offenders were placed in residential treatment at the following agencies:

Catholic Charities, Community Assessment Treatment Services, ORCA, Hitchcock House, HUMADAOP/CASA ALMA, Y-Haven, Stella Maris, Veterans' Administration (VA)

In addition to above funding streams, the Centralized Case Management Program utilized funding made available by the ODRC dollars funded 422 halfway house placements for offenders receiving inpatient substance abuse treatment services. In addition, 36 offenders were referred to the CBCF placements at Northwest Community Corrections Center, Lorain/Medina in 2016; twenty-two were found eligible and placed at Northwest. Some offenders referred were found ineligible (e.g., history of violence, medical or mental health issues that preclude participation in programming).

On February 1, 2011, the Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF opened in Cuyahoga County. In 2016, 597 male offenders were placed in the Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF and 82 female defendants were placed in the Cliff Skeen CBCF in Summit County.

Centralized Case Management also coordinates Court ordered placements with non-contracted providers: Ed Keating Center, Jean Marie's House, Edna House, City Mission/Laura's Home, The Lantern and Glenbeigh).



To comply with Court orders, the Centralized Case Manager refers offenders to TASC for substance use disorder assessments, case management and referral to treatment (includes re-referrals). In 2016, referrals for assessment included:

Post Sentence/Jail Reduction  
1,328 referred 1,044 (79%) completed

Pre-Sentence Investigation  
439 referred 359 (82%) completed

Intervention in Lieu of Conviction  
342 referred 249 (73%) completed

Day Programming  
340 referred 188 (55%) completed

Total: 2,449 referred 1,840 (75%) completed

*Please note: Most incomplete assessments are due to offender failure to report.*

Effective November 8, 2010, the TASC division was transferred from the BOCC Department of Justice Affairs to the Common Pleas Court Corrections Planning Board (*See TASC Section of the Annual Report for 2016 figures*).

## 408 TREATMENT PLACEMENT COORDINATOR

The 408 Treatment Coordinator receives referrals for treatment for defendants identified and assessed during pretrial incarceration in the jail or during pretrial supervision and determined to have mental health and/or substance abuse issues by any of the Pretrial Services programs, including CSR, Bond Investigation, EIP, Diversion and the MASP. In 2016, the Treatment Coordinator used various funding sources to place 292 defendants into residential treatment, a 4% increase over 2015 placement numbers.

The 408 Treatment Coordinator also serves as the point person for identification, eligibility determination and placement for the Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities Court (MHDD) docket, and coordinates with the Forensic Mental Health Liaisons and the Jail Mental Health Intake Specialist to place defendants identified with substance abuse and/or mental health issues. The Coordinator works with Judges, attorneys, public defenders, defendant family members, municipal courts, community agencies and the Sheriff's Department in placing individuals in the appropriate substance abuse and mental health settings.

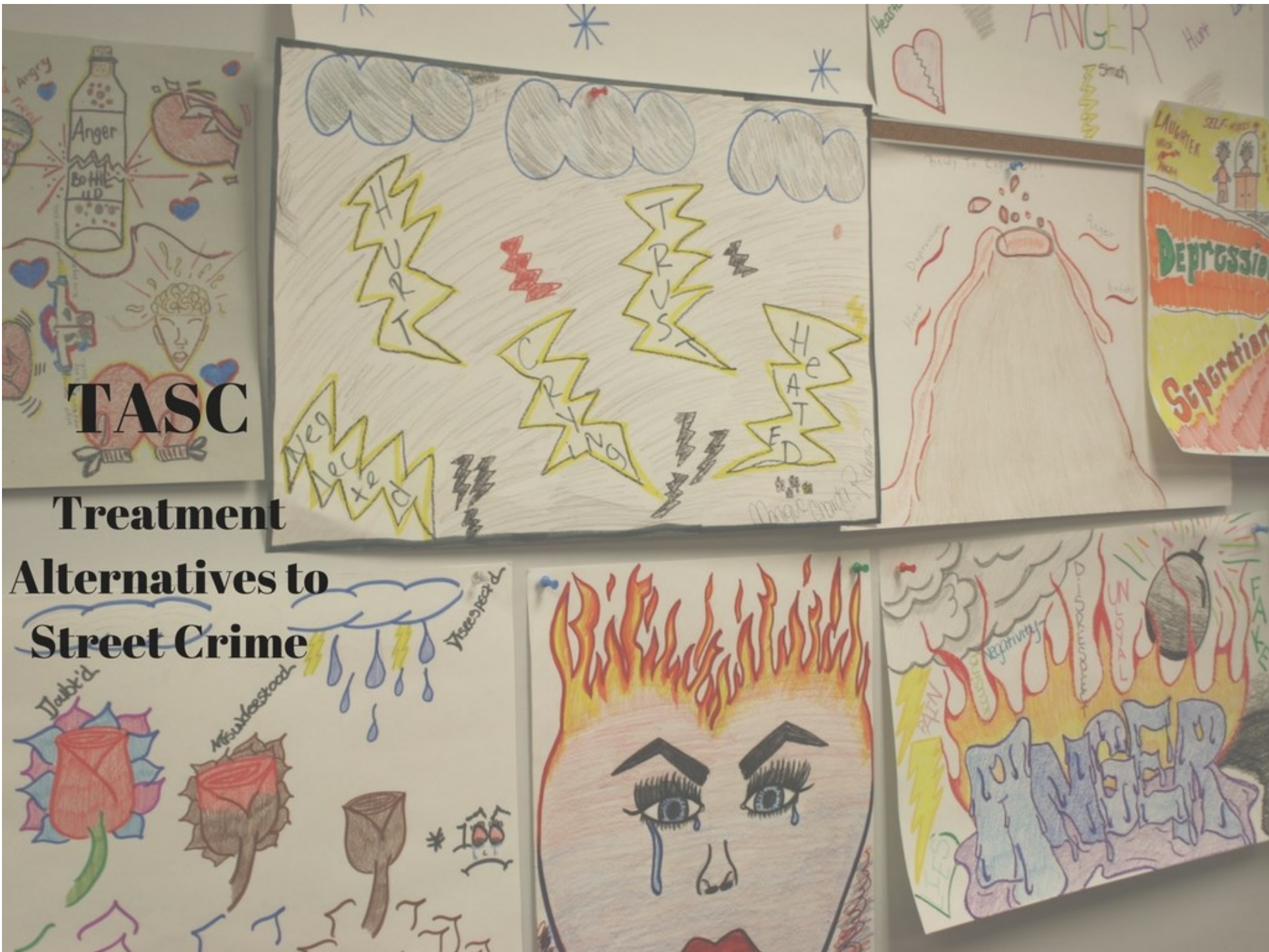
The Coordinator also coordinates weekly staffing with the Mental Health Judges, community agencies, MHDD supervision officers, forensic liaisons and attorneys and assisted in the development of a female CBCF pilot with the ADAMHS Board.

## DRUG TESTING LABORATORY

To provide drug testing for CCA and other probation programs, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Drug Testing Laboratory operates under Court funding. A small portion of Community Corrections funding is allotted for reagents and drug testing fees. A five-year contract, July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017, for instrumentation and reagents was awarded to ThermoFisher Scientific, Inc. (formerly Microgenics).

*(Please see Probation Department Report for 2016 figures).*





**TASC**

**Treatment  
Alternatives to  
Street Crime**

# TASC: Treatment Alternative To Street Crime

**Martin P. Murphy, LISW-S, Corrections Planning Board Administrator**

**Ronda Blaney, MS, LSW, ICDC-CS, TASC Manager**

## Total Staff:

Manager

Clinical Services Manager

3 Clinical Coordinators

Fiscal Officer

2 Program Officers

21 Assessment Specialists

2 Administrative Assistants

Medicaid Navigator

Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime, TASC, is a nationally recognized program model designed to break the addiction-crime cycle of recidivism by supporting criminal justice involved individuals in their efforts to become healthy, sober, self-sufficient and law abiding citizens. TASC seeks to link drug-involved offenders to therapeutic interventions of drug treatment programs. Cases are managed by assisting the offender through the criminal justice process and into drug treatment, simultaneously providing monitoring services as an adjunct to criminal justice supervision.

TASC's comprehensive case management services create a unique interface among the criminal justice system, the treatment service system and the offender, thus allowing for effective and efficient outcomes. TASC programs also work to establish treatment accountability by ensuring that offenders receive the appropriate type and level of treatment, are attending treatment sessions regularly, are progressing in treatment and that treatment agencies are providing effective treatment services.

The mission of Cuyahoga County TASC is to provide an objective and effective bridge between the treatment community and the criminal justice system. In working towards this mission, TASC participates in the justice system processing as early as possible, providing substance abusing criminal defendants the help and guidance they need to achieve abstinence, recovery and a crime-free life.

Cuyahoga County TASC is Ohio Mental Health Addiction Services certified to provide non-intensive outpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment and mental health services. Additionally, TASC acquired Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities certification in 2013 and was successfully renewed in 2016.

TASC serves non-violent, substance abusing, adult offenders referred by the criminal justice system on both the misdemeanor and felony levels. Referrals are generated from Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and Cleveland Municipal Court. TASC provides assessment, case management, intensive outpatient treatment, coordination of referrals to community treatment providers and drug testing. TASC Assessment Specialists are licensed by the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board and/or the Ohio Chemical Dependency Board.

TASC also began the process of adopting a new Electronic Health Records and training each Clinical Staff member on the recently mandated American Society of Addiction Medicine Criteria.

## **ASSESSMENT**

TASC assessments may be conducted at any of the following stages in the criminal justice continuum: Diversion, Pre-Trial, Pre-Sentence and Post Sentence. Assessors meet individually with clients in the TASC office or in the County jail to conduct the interviews. The assessor determines whether a substance use disorder exists by using DSM 5 criteria, and then recommends the appropriate treatment based on the diagnosis. The current assessment tool used by TASC is the “Solutions for Ohio’s Quality Improvement and Compliance – Cuyahoga County”, SOQIC-C. The SOQIC is the preferred tool amongst the agencies within Cuyahoga County who receive funding through the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County.

## **CASE MANAGEMENT**

TASC Case Managers develop individualized case plans to assist clients in meeting treatment recommendations as identified in the substance abuse assessment. The TASC Case Manager links clients to treatment facilities, and assists in removing any barriers that might interfere with the individual successfully completing treatment.

## **MEDICAID NAVIGATOR**

The TASC Medicaid Navigator meets with clients, as they are admitted, to determine Medicaid eligibility during the enrollment process. The Navigator also assists with food stamp and emergency services applications on behalf of eligible clients.

## **INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT**

TASC provides two Intensive Outpatient Treatment programs. Our MATRIX Model Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program is recognized by Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration as a best practice model for intensive outpatient treatment.



This group consists of individual and group therapy with men, and focuses on Early Recovery Skills, Relapse Prevention Skills, Family Education and The Twelve Steps. The MATRIX IOP Treatment group meets three days a week for three hours each day for eight weeks, which is then followed by four weeks of Aftercare.

Our second program, the Women’s Trauma, Recovery and Empowerment Model Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program, TREM, combines the TREM Model and a Trauma-Informed Addictions Treatment Model. Both models are recognized as being evidence based, and were developed by Dr. Maxine Harris and other clinicians at Community Connections in Washington, D.C.

The TREM is an evidence based program designed to help members develop and strengthen the skills necessary to cope with the impact of traumatic experience. It utilizes psychoeducational and cognitive-behavioral techniques in an actively supportive group context.

The Trauma Informed Alcohol and Drug Treatment Model are also focused on Early Recovery and Relapse Prevention Skills, as well as The Twelve Steps. However, it also builds on key principles of safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration and empowerment, while at the same time taking care not to inadvertently re-traumatize the clients.

Eligible group members are Court referred female clients who have been assessed as having a substance use disorder, meet the criteria for Intensive Outpatient Treatment and have experienced past or present trauma.

## **SPECIALIZED DOCKETS**

TASC provides both assessment and case management services for four existing Specialty Dockets: Drug Court, Recovery Court, Veteran’s Treatment Court and the Greater Cleveland Drug Court.

In addition to staffing each court with an Assessor and Case Manager, TASC assists in providing fiscal and grant oversight for the projects, tracking the various funding streams which support the staffing and treatment components of Drug Court. In addition, it traces provision of client incentives, such as gift cards and bus tickets.



## TASC REFERRALS RECEIVED 2014-2016

| Referral Source   | 2014               | 2015               | 2016               |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|   | Referrals Received | Referrals Received | Referrals Received |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>PRETRIAL                           | 356                | 316                | 209                |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATION          | 331                | 353                | 426                |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>PROBATION                          | 1,517              | 1,550              | 1,572              |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>DRUG COURT                         | 123                | 99                 | 101                |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>RECOVERY COURT                     | 5                  | 77                 | 53                 |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>VETERANS TREATMENT COURT           | ---                | ---                | 33                 |
| <i>Common Pleas Court</i><br>INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF CONVICTION | 247                | 338                | 340                |
| <i>Subtotal</i>   | 2,579              | 2,733              | 2,734              |
| <i>Cleveland Municipal Court</i><br>PROBATION                   | 406                | 252                | 240                |
| <i>Cleveland Municipal Court</i><br>DRUG COURT                  | 65                 | 55                 | 42                 |
| <i>Subtotal</i>   | 471                | 307                | 282                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | 3,420              | 3,050              | 3,016              |



**Specialty  
Dockets**

# Cuyahoga County Asbestos Docket

**Hon. Harry A. Hanna**, Visiting Judge

**Margaret G. Wallison**, Bailiff

## CASE MANAGEMENT

Since 1999, the Court has implemented an electronic docket system, Lexis Nexis File and Serve (formerly called CLAD) to manage the Asbestos Docket.

The specialized Asbestos/Beryllium Dockets is presided over by Visiting Judge Harry A. Hanna. With the Visiting Judge overseeing this docket, for efficiency purposes, the Court has implemented a three-tiered approach to scheduling trials. During the pretrial period, groups are assigned to a specific courtroom only for supervision purposes. In these cases, if a motion is filed or if a problem arises, the parties are first directed to that courtroom in order to schedule a hearing. If the assigned Judge is unavailable, the Judge on the docket is consulted and the cases are then tried on the scheduled trial date by the Visiting Judge.

Since January, 2014 the Asbestos Docket has been reduced by 4,063 Cases.

| 2016                                   | PENDING BEGINNING | NEW CASES | DISMISSALS | PENDING END | PARTIALS     |
|--|-------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| JANUARY                                | 1,701             | 8         | 1          | 1,708       | 17           |
| FEBRUARY                               | 1,708             | 3         | 7          | 1,704       | 38           |
| MARCH                                  | 1,704             | 3         | 1          | 1,706       | 24           |
| APRIL                                  | 1,706             | 1         | 20         | 1,687       | 17           |
| MAY                                    | 1,687             | 4         | 2          | 1,689       | 23           |
| JUNE                                   | 1,689             | 7         | 37         | 1,659       | 25           |
| JULY                                   | 1,659             | 11        | 122        | 1,548       | 37           |
| AUGUST                                 | 1,548             | 7         | 156        | 1,399       | 41           |
| SEPTEMBER                              | 1,399             | 6         | 37         | 1,368       | 12           |
| OCTOBER                                | 1,367             | 3         | 8          | 1,362       | 19           |
| NOVEMBER                               | 1,362             | 4         | 51         | 1,315       | 32           |
| DECEMBER                               | 1,315             | 3         | 11         | 1,307       | 17           |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                          |                   | <b>60</b> | <b>454</b> |             | <b>302</b>   |
| <b>2016 SUMMARY -- ASBESTOS DOCKET</b> |                   |           |            |             |              |
|  |                   |           |            |             | <b>1,701</b> |
|  |                   |           |            |             | 60           |
|  |                   |           |            |             | <b>454</b>   |
|  |                   |           |            |             | 302          |
|  |                   |           |            |             | <b>1,307</b> |

# Cuyahoga County Re-Entry Court

**Hon. Nancy Margaret Russo,**  
Re-Entry Court Judge

**Deena Lucci,**  
Bailiff

**Chyvonne Kimbrough,**  
Re-Entry Court Probation Officer

**Brooke N. Hadjuk,**  
Administrative Assistant

The Cuyahoga County Re-Entry Court, implemented in January 2007, is a specialized docket presided over by Judge Nancy Margaret Russo. Re-Entry Court was established to address the needs of offenders transitioning from prison back to the community. The primary goal of Re-Entry Court is to reduce recommitments to prison, thereby improving public safety, while reducing recidivism.

Re-Entry Court provides intensive programming and supervision to eligible and accepted offenders. Re-Entry Court has specific criteria for eligibility, and participation/acceptance is determined by the Re-Entry Court Judge. Transfers to the Re-Entry Court are made by the sentencing Judge.

Each participant in the program has their individual needs addressed, such as education, employment, housing, substance abuse and mental health treatment. Every month, Re-Entry Court has a guest speaker who comes to Re-Entry group to address different issues or concerns the participants may be having, or to help the participants find avenues to obtain employment or participate in other community events to aid in the success of the Re-Entry population.

Re-Entry Court uses the power of judicial authority and sanctions, including a return to prison, to aggressively monitor released offenders and to increase public safety. The program links offenders to agencies and community organizations that provide needed services.

In 2016, 1,587 inmates in 28 institutions were involved with Re-Entry Court: 1,389 men and 198 women.

Re-Entry Court partnered with others to present the inaugural Northeast Ohio Business Summit on Friday, April 15, 2016, at the Cleveland Convention Center. The Summit's goal is to encourage and facilitate collaboration and cooperation between local government and the private sector, in order to encourage the employment of returning citizens. The Summit partners believe that meaningful employment is critical to the stabilization of neighborhoods, and recognizes that employers have concerns and questions about employing returning citizens.

*“Our goal is to provide each participant the best opportunities for success upon release.”*

- Judge Nancy Margaret Russo

# Cuyahoga County Drug/Recovery Court Program

**Hon. David T. Matia,**

Drug Court Judge

**Hon. Joan Synenberg,**

Recovery Court Judge

**Molly Christofferson-Leckler, Coordinator**

Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court implemented its County Drug Court in May 2009. The mission of the County Drug Court Program is to reduce recidivism among drug-dependent offenders by providing enhanced treatment services. The majority of participants in the County's Drug Court Program are opiate dependent. Opiate dependency, largely due to the abuse of prescription drugs, currently is a major public health crisis in Ohio.

In January of 2015, the Common Pleas Court expanded the existing Drug Court Program to add a second track that not only deals with alcohol and/or drug addiction, but trauma related mental health issues. This docket is overseen by the Honorable Joan Synenberg, who brings her expertise from five years as a Mental Health Court Judge. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) and Bureau of Justice Assistance awarded the Common Pleas Court with a three-year expansion grant that allocates funding for additional staff and treatment services to assist those suffering from co-occurring disorders.

In 2016, 225 defendants were screened for Drug Court and Recovery Court eligibility. Of those, 57 were formally placed into Drug Court and 63 in Recovery Court totaling 120 participants. Also, 55 participants graduated from the Drug Court Programs.



*Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor addresses Drug Court graduation on February 18, 2016.*



## HIGHLIGHTS

On May 4, 2016, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas was awarded the Court Innovation Grant in the amount of \$75,000 on behalf of the Supreme Court of Ohio to target Fentanyl use among Drug Court participants. This grant assists the Cuyahoga County Probation Laboratory in the collection and testing of drug screens by all Drug Court and Recovery Court participants. The purpose of this project is gather data on current Fentanyl use.

Recovery Resources awarded Judge David T. Matia the Recovery Resources Collins Exemplar Award for his continued support to prevention, education and treatment of drugs and alcohol. The entire Drug Court team attended the Recovery Resources annual awards luncheon on May 12, 2016, along with his family.

On Friday, September 30, 2016, Project 180 held an event at the Lakewood Park Solstice steps to honor all those lost to the opioid epidemic and provide hope to those that still suffer.

This event marked the end of SAMHSA National Recovery Month. More than 500 people showed to hear local speakers and release sky lanterns into the night. Project 180 was created by Drug Court alumni who wanted to continue their sobriety and give back to the community by providing fellowship and hope to those in recovery.



*Project 180 supporters on the Solstice Steps in Lakewood Park on September 30, 2016. At the end of the ceremony, a rainbow appeared in the sky. One of the balloons released that night was found on Pelee Island in Ontario the next month!*

Judge David T. Matia was the recipient of the C.J. McLin Award at the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC) October 2016 annual conference for his ongoing improvements of community corrections in the State of Ohio.

The Cuyahoga County Drug Court Program was awarded a 3-year grant by SAMHSA in October of 2016. This project will treat an additional 45 clients per year. The target population focuses on drug court participants that are diagnosed with opioid disorders by using mediation assisted treatment.

This grant will add an additional weekly status review hearing and staff to manage this docket, which will be overseen by Judge Matia.

## **DRUG COURT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- \* A current charge of a felony drug (non-trafficking) offense of the third, fourth or fifth degree and eligible for probation/ community control.
- \* No criminal history of sexually oriented or violent behavior, three or fewer prior non-violent felony convictions and no prior drug trafficking convictions.
- \* A diagnosis of substance abuse or dependency (probation violation referrals must have diagnosis of dependence) with medium to medium-high risk scores.



On November 10, 2016, Judge David T. Matia and Judge Joan Synenberg were honored by the U.S. Department of Justice for their work on programs that deal with Northeast Ohio's opioid epidemic. They are also part of the U.S. Attorney's Heroin and Opioid Task Force that brought the expansion of Narcan to the community. In addition, this group provides education to local schools and doctors in Northeast Ohio who are affected by the opioid epidemic.

# Cuyahoga County Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court

**Hon. José A. Villanueva, Chair \***

**Hon. Michael P. Donnelly**

**Hon. Deena R. Calabrese**

**Hon. Hollie L. Gallagher, Chair \***

**Hon. Robert McClelland**

**Hon. Cassandra Collier-Williams**

**Meghan Patton, Docket Coordinator**

*"The mission of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court is to promote early identification of defendants with severe mental health and/or developmental disabilities in order to promote coordination and cooperation among law enforcement, jails, community treatment providers, attorneys and the courts for defendants during the legal process and achieve outcomes that both protect society and support the mental health care and disability needs of the defendant."*

The Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) Court was established on June 9, 2003, as a response to the increasing number of offenders with serious mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities entering the criminal justice system. The MHDD Court was created through amendments to local rules 30, 30.1 and 33.

The Court was established with the intent to operate with a high level of collaboration among court personnel, criminal justice entities and community partners. From arrest to disposition and community control, many dedicated services have been developed for offenders who suffer from mental health illness and/or developmental disabilities.

The MHDD Court is funded by the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court and supported by local, state and federal funding entities. Contracted service providers include the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Recovery Resources, selected in cooperation with the

Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board, which co-funds the program, to provide mental health counseling, psychiatric services, medication management and support services to offenders on MHDD probation.

Acceptance to the Cuyahoga County MHDD Court is diagnosis-driven. Therefore, eligible offenders come to the system with all offense types and offense levels. This distinguishes our Court from virtually all other such dockets in the State of Ohio.

Offenders qualify by meeting either of the following criteria per the clinical diagnosis of a mental health professional: a) suffer from a severe mental illness with psychosis such as schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, major depressive disorder with psychotic feature and bipolar disorder with psychotic features and/or b) suffer from a developmental disability with an IQ of 75 or below, have adaptive skills deficit based on a diagnostic report or have been found eligible for services through the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (e.g., Autism Spectrum Disorder).

Cuyahoga County is one of the only felony level courts in the State of Ohio that includes developmental/intellectual disabilities as part of its criteria eligibility and not as a secondary diagnosis. This feature also distinguishes the Court on the national level.

The jurists who served the MHDD Court in 2016 were Judge José A. Villanueva, Judge Hollie L. Gallagher, Judge Michael P. Donnelly, Judge Robert C. McClelland, Judge Deena R. Calabrese and Judge Cassandra Collier-Williams.

Following the retirement of Judge Villanueva, Honorable Hollie L. Gallagher was appointed as the new Chairperson of the MHDD Court by the Administrative Judge in June of 2016. Judge Gallagher was previously a Co-Chair with Judge Villanueva. Additionally, Honorable Cassandra Collier-Williams was appointed to the MHDD Court and assumed the MHDD docket of Judge Villanueva.

The five judges oversee the MHDD Court on a voluntary basis while also carrying non-MHDD criminal and civil cases on their dockets. In 2016, approximately 45% of the MHDD Judges' criminal dockets were identified as MHDD offenders.

## **MHDD COURT COORDINATOR**

The MHDD Court Coordinator position was established in 2014 to oversee the operations of the Court under the direction of the MHDD Judges and Court Administration. The MHDD Coordinator interacts with various personnel within the court system and also with external partners and providers on an ongoing sustained basis. Throughout the year, the MHDD Judges and the Coordinator continued to identify ongoing needs, while incorporating innovative solutions and strategic planning to strengthen operations and ensure continued efforts towards the Court's common mission.

## **PRETRIAL TREATMENT/MHDD PROBATION COORDINATOR**

The Pretrial Treatment/MHDD Probation Coordinator serves as the clinical point person for identification, eligibility determination and placement for MHDD Court dockets in 2016. This position plays a critical role in the management of the mental health "flagging" of offenders within the Court's information system. To indicate the presence of eligible mental health or developmental disability issues, the Court's information system flags an individual's case as "MH". This allows for more expedient identification and linkage to services in the event an individual cycles through the system in subsequent cases. Approximately 1,000 cases are reviewed per year. During 2016, 605 new individuals were identified in this manner, and since 2005, the cases of 5,706 individuals have been flagged as eligible for the MHDD Court.

## **PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT**

The Pretrial Services Unit of the Adult Probation Department provides MHDD Court eligibility determination and referral recommendations. In addition, pretrial services provide two specially trained MHDD officers who supervise MHDD offenders while on bond.

## **ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT MHDD SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION UNIT**

MHDD offenders sentenced to community control (probation) through the Probation Department are provided with specialized MHDD supervision. This MHDD Probation Unit is staffed by 13 specially trained officers and two supervisors. Presently, the average caseload size is 48 offenders per MHDD probation officer. Offenders are assigned to community control supervision for a recommended duration of two years of community control sanctions.

In 2016, 353 offenders were assigned to supervision in the MHDD Probation Unit by Common Pleas Court Judges. Of that total, 237 offenders were placed in the MHDD Probation unit by MHDD Court Judges. Thus, 67% of all MHDD offenders placed on community control in 2016 were diverted at arraignment or transferred to the MHDD Court. At years end, the MHDD Probation Unit was supervising approximately 652 offenders on community control sanctions.

Approximately 34% of offenders supervised in the MHDD Unit are assessed with developmental disabilities.





In May of 2016, after several years of distinguished and committed service, the Honorable José A. Villanueva resigned as Chairperson of the MHDD Court docket as he readied himself for retirement. Judge Villanueva was appointed to the Common Pleas Court by Governor Richard F. Celeste in 1979, began serving on the MHDD Court in 2004 and appointed as Chair in 2010. His dedication and compassion to the MHDD offenders has been much appreciated.



Throughout 2016, 467 offenders completed/terminated from community control sanctions. Of that total, 318 defendants were completed/terminated directly from the MHDD Court. Approximately 62% of defendants within the MHDD Court were terminated successfully.

#### **MHDD TREATMENT TEAM STAFFING HEARINGS**

One of the most unique features of the MHDD Court is the incorporation of judicial treatment team staffing hearings. Staffing hearings are consistent with a philosophy of providing team commitment and therapeutic approaches for each offender while using evidence-based practices. This also engages the judge more centrally as a problem solver and collaborator in the therapeutic process.

Each MHDD Judge schedules staffing hearings twice per month in close collaboration with MHDD Probation Officers. Community behavioral health partners from several agencies, assigned counsel, community jail liaisons, attorneys and social workers from the Public Defender's Office are also typically present at the team meetings. Additionally, in 2016, the County Jail's Mental Health Intake Specialist joined the staffing team to provide essential information on MHDD inmates' behaviors and medication compliance while incarcerated. This addition further strengthens the relationship between the Court and the County Jail, while encouraging increased collaboration.

The MHDD Court and the treatment team established a variety of court hearings that may be requested by officers at the staffing hearings. In 2016, the MHDD Judges adopted a standard practice of having an offender return to court 30 days after sentencing, if not placed into a residential facility such as CBCF or inpatient treatment as a means of reviewing the offender's progress in the community to date. This hearing is called a 30 day review. Pre-release CBCF/residential treatment hearings may be held after the offender completes a program. Probation Officers may also place an offender on staffing if they are alleged to be in violation of their court-ordered conditions, have ongoing compliance issues, are requesting a case review with the team or requesting a successful termination.

Research has suggested that people suffering from mental illnesses are more likely than others under community supervision to have their community sentences revoked nationwide. This has an enormous effect on their involvement in the criminal justice system and has vast implications for public safety, health and tax dollar spending. The MHDD Court employs several sound interventions to assist the MHDD offenders in successfully complying with their community control conditions through the treatment team staffing. Although MHDD offenders may have a higher amount of minor technical violations, the MHDD Court consistently works with the offenders in order to assist them through medication compliance, substance abuse treatment, lack of housing, securing entitlements, benefits and employment when public safety is not in jeopardy.

Throughout this process, the Court and treatment team also acknowledge successes achieved by offenders and the team. The paramount concerns are ensuring community safety and effective supervision of offenders in the community. In 2016, 102 judicial treatment team staffing took place among the 5 MHDD Judges and approximately 891 hearings were conducted. It should be noted, offenders may attend multiple hearings throughout the year depending on their compliance while on community control sanctions.

| <b>Statistics and Analysis for 2016</b>     |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Total Staffing Hearings held in 2016</b> | <b>891</b> |
| 30 Day Review Hearings                      | 107        |
| Case Review Hearings                        | 58         |
| CBCF Pre-Release Hearings                   | 28         |
| Release Plan Hearings                       | 14         |
| Compliance Hearings                         | 133        |
| Violation Hearings                          | 462        |
| Early Termination Hearings                  | 15         |
| Terminations                                | 64         |
| Other                                       | 10         |

### **MHDD CLINICAL TEAM MEETINGS**

Another unique attribute of the MHDD Probation Unit is the collaboration officers and community behavioral health agencies undertake to ensure therapeutic approaches during an offender’s community control experience. Officers work closely with several community behavioral health providers through on-going communication and monthly clinical staff treatment meetings attended by forensic case managers, licensed social workers and licensed counselors. Recovery Resources, Murtis H. Taylor, FrontLine Service Inc., The Centers for Families and Children, Connections, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) and Matt Talbot for Recovering Men are among the primary providers of community behavioral health services.

This interaction provides all parties with relevant information regarding an offender’s progress, along with an opportunity to address linkage or mental health issues, community safety concerns, housing resources, substance abuse issues, benefit reinstatement plans, employment assistance, financial planning, familial and peer association assistance and criminal thinking concerns. During 2016, 66 clinical staff treatment meetings were held between the MHDD Unit and the community behavioral health agencies.

Officers also maintain a working relationship with St. Vincent Charity Hospital – Psychiatric Emergency Room, Veterans’ Administration, Cleveland Police CIT officers, Mobile Crisis, and other treatment providers.

### **TRAINING AND PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES**

The MHDD Court has continued its commitment of strengthening its professional training and partnership efforts throughout 2016. The MHDD Court Coordinator created several educational training opportunities for the MHDD Judges, MHDD Probation Officers and team members to further expand their knowledge and increase skill levels.

### **MHDD JUDGES TRAINING AND PARTNERSHIPS**

The MHDD Court partnered with the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities to present a two-part series, Effective Communication Skills for the Developmental Disabilities Population and Sexual Offense Guidelines and the Role Developmental Disabilities Factors Play into those Acts for the MHDD Judges and team members.

The MHDD Judges took part in trainings presented by the Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board on the topics of Group Home Placement presented by Adult Behavioral Health Specialist, Michelle A. Myers and Pharmacology Management presented by Nurse Practitioner Marilyn A. Culley.

MHDD Judges also attended a presentation and tour at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center in May 2016, where they viewed the psychiatric emergency department and Rosary Hall treatment program. Throughout this event, the MHDD Judges discussed continued partnership opportunities with St. Vincent’s leadership team.

In addition, Judges also attended a tour and presentation offered by Recovery Resources in the late spring of 2016. As the newest appointed MHDD Judge, the Honorable Cassandra Collier-Williams attended a four day seminar at the National Judicial College on the topic of Advanced Issues in Cases Involving Co-Occurring Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders in Reno, Nevada in April of 2016 to assist with her transition to the MHDD Court.

The MHDD Court also partnered with the Cuyahoga County Jail and Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections medical teams to create a fluid process of providing immediate physical and mental health jail and court medical records for an offender being sentenced to prison once a release of information is generated. This collaboration has assisted prison medical staff to provide consistent and swift care to MHDD offenders entering their system.

### **MHDD PROBATION OFFICERS' TRAININGS**

The MHDD Probation Officers experienced a variety of new trainings this year to expand their knowledge and understanding of resources in the community for the MHDD offenders. They visited and toured the facilities of The Life Exchange Center located at 13407 Kinsman Road in Cleveland, Ohio, and also the Magnolia Clubhouse located at 11101 Magnolia Drive Cleveland, Ohio 44106. Both of these opportunities were created for the Officers to understand the different resources that may benefit the MHDD offenders in their daily lives.

They were able to meet with staff members, understand the referral process and witness the clients taking part in a variety of activities.

Additionally, Officers attended Suicide Prevention: Question, Persuade, Refer training through the ADAMHS Board in October of 2016 presented by Jane Granzier, Associate Director of Crisis Services at Frontline Services Inc.

### **ANNUAL MHDD COURT ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION SEMINAR**

The annual MHDD Court Attorney Certification Seminar was held in December 2016 with a variety of presenters and panel discussions. Eighty-seven attorneys were trained, which is a 52% increase from last year. This training provided attorneys with overviews of the MHDD Court history and policy, mental illness and developmental disabilities diagnoses, the role of community jail forensic liaisons, legal and competency issues, effective communication practices with the MHDD population and an overview of the Court Psychiatric Clinic. Attorneys whom apply to be on the MHDD Court's assigned counsel list must attend this training in order to be assigned MHDD Court cases. The goal of the seminar is provide attorneys with guidance and understanding of MHDD offenders' needs and court process. This training is the only certified seminar within the State of Ohio for attorneys representing individuals suffering from severe mental illnesses and developmental disabilities.

### **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

The Court celebrated its inaugural Mental Health Awareness Month in May with an art display provided through Recovery Resources, a behavioral health community agency that assists those struggling from addiction or mental health illnesses through comprehensive continuum of services including prevention, intervention, treatment, recovery and support. Court employees, visitors and the public were able to view the artwork and see that through recovery of addiction and treatment of mental illness combined with the artistic process can bring beautiful ideas to light. An informational table with resources about the MHDD Court, the ADAMHS Board and a variety of other services were available.

### **STEPPING UP INITIATIVE**

During 2016, the MHDD Court partnered with the Cuyahoga County Executive's Office and the ADAMHS Board to join the national Stepping Up Initiative which is a commitment to reducing the number of people with mental illness (including those with co-occurring substance use disorders) in jail. County stakeholders, including Honorable Hollie L. Gallagher, attended the Ohio Stepping Up Summit to learn more about best practices and implementation in order to work together to develop a local action plan. Throughout the remainder of 2016, the stakeholders team worked together to create a strategic planning process that will be implemented throughout the following years.

# Cuyahoga County Veterans Treatment Court

**Hon. Michael E. Jackson**, Judge

**Amanda Wozniak**, Coordinator

**Fabyen Robinson**, Probation Officer



Veterans Treatment Courts integrate the principles of Drug Court and Mental Health Court to serve military veterans and active-duty personnel. These principles promote sobriety, recovery, stability and accountability. This is accomplished through a coordinated response that involves collaboration with the traditional partners found in Drug Courts and Mental Health Courts, as well as the Department of Veterans Affairs Healthcare Networks and Veterans Benefits Administration (VA), Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission, Ohio Department of Veterans Affairs, volunteer veteran mentors and other organizations that support veterans and their families. (See: Office of National Drug Control Policy, 2010).

The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) was dedicated on May 29, 2015, and was certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio on September 23, 2015.

Cuyahoga County has the largest veteran population in the state with 9.7%. As of December 30, 2012, the total veteran population in Ohio was 844,000, with 82,000 veterans in Cuyahoga County.

Based on a recent review for a one year period of the bookings in the Sheriff's Department, 549 veterans were processed into the felony criminal justice system.

Many veterans have serious readjustment issues when they return home from their service, particularly combat veterans.

The most serious of those issues include engaging in high risk conduct, unemployment, post-traumatic stress disorders, traumatic brain injuries, homelessness, drugs and crime. Studies have shown that 18% to 30% of recent veterans need treatment for these issues; Veterans Treatment Courts address these issues. In addition, this Court accepts veterans with any non-service connected needs as identified through thorough clinical assessments and high risk, high need supervisory case management.

All 34 of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges have the discretion to transfer a veteran's case to the Veterans Treatment Court for a program that will last at least 12 months, possibly 18 months. Veterans in the criminal justice system charged with any felony that results in a sentence of probation, formally called Community Control Sanctions, are eligible for our program. Furthermore, veterans

are eligible to participate when released early from prison by the Judge who sentenced the veteran, called Judicial Release.



Veterans are eligible regardless of the type a discharge. Those who do not qualify for VA benefits will receive comparable community services in the same manner as other defendants who are on probation.

Those who will be admitted first in to this program are ones who have a high risk of reoffending in the future and with a high degree of need within the VA system or community.

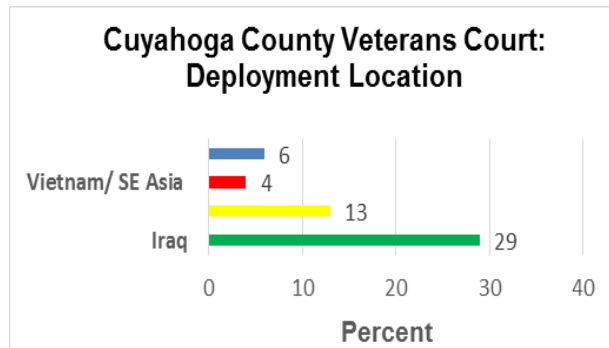
The Cuyahoga County Veterans Treatment Court is divided into four phases. These phases are consistently monitored by the VTC Team, and movements are made only after the specific requirements are completed. The phases are:

- Phase 1: Orientation/Compliance
- Phase 2: Stabilization
- Phase 3: Community Reintegration
- Phase 4: Maintenance/ Growth & Development and Recognition Ceremony

Moreover, a key component of VTC is the mentoring program. Veteran defendants in this program are paired with a veteran who volunteers to provide peer support. This aspect of the program, and the shared military experience, is unique in comparison with other treatment courts, and has proven to be one of the key reasons for the success of the 350 Veterans Treatment Courts across the nation.



VTC Mentor Phil Wiggling received his long-awaited Purple Heart Medal in 2016. Phil was deployed in Vietnam.



## HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

\* Year 1 enrollment was 90% of the target with 55 clients entering into the specialized docket program.

\* 89% of Veterans were Active Duty; 29% were deployed to Iraq/Afghanistan; 13% were deployed to the Persian Gulf; 4% were deployed to Vietnam/ Southeast Asia and 6% were deployed to Korea.

\* The majority of program veterans were in the Active Duty followed by the Reserves or National Guard

\* First VTC Recognition Ceremony was held on September 29, 2016, with six graduates (plus one earlier grad).

\* Overall, each veteran who successfully completed their supervision reported to be substance use free, had not re-entered the criminal justice system, had permanent/stable housing, were engaged in a supportive recovery environment and reported attending an average of eleven 12-step meetings monthly.

\* A community-based service project must be accomplished before successfully completing the VTC program. For example, two art projects can be seen hanging in Judge Jackson's courtroom.

*The mission driving the Veterans Treatment Court is to successfully rehabilitate veterans by diverting them from the traditional criminal justice system and providing them with the unique tools they need to lead a more productive and law-abiding life. At the same time, these veterans are held responsible for their conduct. We seek to accomplish this mission through a shared military experience within our specialized docket, including the use of veterans who volunteer in our community, called mentors.*

## HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONTINUED

\* Through coordinated efforts with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department and Jail Administrator, a Veterans' Pod was established in the local jail.

\* Veteran defendants can remain together and receive services while in jail awaiting their formal plea into the docket, residential treatment placement or serving Court sanction.

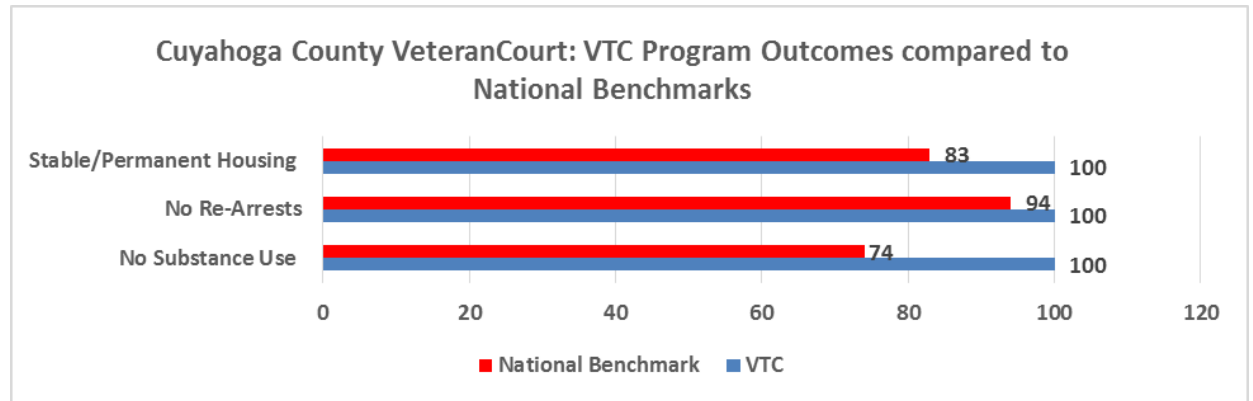
\* This designated pod fosters the ongoing engagement from Court staff and treatment staff along with the veteran defendants so that if they are eligible for VTC, they are motivated, driven and services are available for their usage.

\* The Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist assigned to our VTC implemented Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT), an Evidence Based Outpatient Program for Veterans. MRT is a cognitive behavioral treatment system that leads to enhanced moral reasoning, better decision-making and more appropriate behavior.

\* The VTC welcomed Fabyen Robinson, a United States Marine Corps combat veteran into the position of VTC Probation Officer. Mr. Robinson's previous professional experiences add leadership skills as well as a wealth of case management knowledge.

### Additional VTC Team Staff:

- Francis Arinze, VTC Defense Counsel (*Veteran*)
- John Kirkland & Michael Lisk, VTC Prosecutors (*Veterans*)
- Jon Reiss, Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Veteran Service Commission (*Veteran*)
- Victoria Marion, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist, U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
- Annie Thornton, VTC TASC Clinician/Case Manager



*Note: There are no national benchmarks for Veteran Specific Courts.*



## Honor Roll

25 or more years of  
service with the Court

|                             |                                  |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Bridget Y. Austin</b>    | Administrative Aide I            |
| <b>Teroldlyn D. Barkley</b> | Clerk Typist                     |
| <b>Kathleen A. Barry</b>    | Foreclosure Scheduler            |
| <b>Robert M. Beck III</b>   | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor  |
| <b>John T. Bilinski</b>     | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor  |
| <b>Bruce J. Bishilany</b>   | Chief Court Reporter             |
| <b>Gary A. Bolinger</b>     | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor  |
| <b>Dewey D. Buckner</b>     | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Erika D. Bush</b>        | Office Manager                   |
| <b>Jarvis A. Clark</b>      | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Rachel Colbert</b>       | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Mary J. Cooley</b>       | Assistant Court Reporter         |
| <b>Mary T. Davern</b>       | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor  |
| <b>Michelle L. Davis</b>    | Executive Secretary              |
| <b>Donna M. Dubs</b>        | Clerk Typist                     |
| <b>Edward N. Dutton</b>     | Psychiatrist PT                  |
| <b>Mary Kay Ellis</b>       | Central Scheduling<br>Supervisor |
| <b>Richard N. Hamski</b>    | Assistant Court Reporter         |
| <b>Vermell Y. Harden</b>    | Bailiff                          |
| <b>Mary M. Hayes</b>        | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Eric J. Hess</b>         | Assistant Law Librarian          |
| <b>Bruce E. Hill</b>        | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Michael J. Jenovic</b>   | Assistant Court Reporter         |
| <b>Donna M. Kelleher</b>    | Bailiff - Extra                  |
| <b>Kathleen A. Kilbane</b>  | Assistant Court Reporter         |
| <b>Karl Kimbrough</b>       | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Sheila A. Koran</b>      | Office Manager                   |

|                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Michelle L. Kozak</b>         | Cashier/Bookkeeper                |
| <b>Deborah L. Kracht</b>         | Assistant Court Reporter          |
| <b>Laura M. Martz</b>            | Clerk Typist                      |
| <b>Tracey L. McCorry</b>         | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Denise J. McNea</b>           | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Nancy A. Nunes</b>            | Assistant Chief Court<br>Reporter |
| <b>Floyd B. Oliver</b>           | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Evangelina Orozco</b>         | Bail Investigator                 |
| <b>Patricia A. Parente</b>       | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Janna R. Phillips</b>         | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor   |
| <b>Marguerite A. Phillips</b>    | Assistant Court Reporter          |
| <b>Gregory M. Popovich</b>       | Court Administrator               |
| <b>Stephania A. Pryor</b>        | Deputy Chief Probation<br>Officer |
| <b>Miguel A. Quinones</b>        | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Cheryl A. Russell</b>         | Administrative Aide I             |
| <b>Michael P. Scully</b>         | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Melissa M. Singer</b>         | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor   |
| <b>James E. Starks</b>           | Deputy Chief Probation<br>Officer |
| <b>Brian J. Thelen</b>           | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Armatha A.<br/>Uwagie-Ero</b> | Clerical Supervisor               |
| <b>Suzanne Vadnal</b>            | Assistant Court Reporter          |
| <b>Margaret M. Wagner</b>        | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Cynthia H. Walker</b>         | Social Worker                     |
| <b>Sheila D. Walters</b>         | Assistant Court Reporter          |
| <b>Kimberlee B. Warren</b>       | Probation Officer                 |
| <b>Phillip G. Zeitz</b>          | Probation Info Specialist         |

## Honor Roll

20 to 24 years of service  
with the Court

|                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Veronica L. Adams</b>           | Jury Bailiff Co-Director         |
| <b>Michael H. Aronoff</b>          | Chief Psychologist               |
| <b>Kevin C. Augustyn</b>           | Magistrate Assistant<br>Director |
| <b>Lee A. Bennett</b>              | Administrative Aide II           |
| <b>Michael T. Brady</b>            | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor  |
| <b>Stephen M. Bucha III</b>        | Magistrate Director              |
| <b>Michael A. Cain</b>             | Probation Lead Officer           |
| <b>Michael P. Caso</b>             | Chief Social Worker              |
| <b>Joseph I. Cassidy</b>           | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Laura W. Creed</b>              | Coordinator Legal Support        |
| <b>Mary Alice Donnelly</b>         | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Marlene Ebner</b>               | Assistant Court Reporter         |
| <b>Brian S. Ely</b>                | Substance Abuse Case<br>Manager  |
| <b>Joanne M. Gibbons</b>           | Courtroom Assistant              |
| <b>Andrea M. Gorman</b>            | Training Specialist              |
| <b>Winston L. Grays</b>            | Probation Officer<br>Supervisor  |
| <b>Sertarian B. Hall</b>           | Laboratory Assistant             |
| <b>Lisa M. Hrovat</b>              | Assistant Court Reporter         |
| <b>James M. Jeffers</b>            | Probation Officer                |
| <b>Deborah Kreski-<br/>Bonanno</b> | Assistant Jury Bailiff           |
| <b>Catrina M. Lockhart</b>         | Probation Officer                |

## Honor Roll

20 to 24 years of service  
with the Court

|                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Nicholas P. Marton</b>     | Systems Analyst              |
| <b>Steve E. McGinty</b>       | Probation Officer            |
| <b>Timothy J. McNally</b>     | Probation Officer            |
| <b>Timothy G. Meinke</b>      | Assistant Court Reporter     |
| <b>Monique D. Moore</b>       | Probation Officer            |
| <b>Stephen G. Noffsinger</b>  | Psychiatrist PT              |
| <b>Susan M. Ottogalli</b>     | Assistant Court Reporter     |
| <b>Kerry L. Paul</b>          | Assistant Court Reporter     |
| <b>Mary Rauscher</b>          | Probation Officer            |
| <b>Kellie M. Reeves-Roper</b> | Assistant Court Reporter     |
| <b>Kelli A. Summers</b>       | Probation Officer            |
| <b>Nicole D. Thomas</b>       | Probation Officer            |
| <b>John L. Thomas, Jr.</b>    | Bailiff                      |
| <b>Jeniffer L. Tokar</b>      | Assistant Court Reporter     |
| <b>James M. Toth</b>          | Probation Officer Supervisor |
| <b>Jennifer E. Vargics</b>    | Office Assistant             |
| <b>Lawrence R. Wallace</b>    | Bailiff                      |
| <b>Rebecca B. Wetzel</b>      | Co-ADR Administrator         |

## Honor Roll

10 to 19 years of service  
with the Court

|                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Gerald Abbadini</b>         | Assistant Court Reporter           |
| <b>Jessica Amos</b>            | Bailiff                            |
| <b>Barbara A. Apanites</b>     | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Thomas P. Arnaut</b>        | Director Information Systems       |
| <b>Lisa S. Austin</b>          | Probation Lead Officer             |
| <b>Mary J. Baden</b>           | Assistant Court Reporter           |
| <b>Gail D. Baker</b>           | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate      |
| <b>Kelly Barr</b>              | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Kathleen M. Barrett</b>     | Office Assistant                   |
| <b>Tion Benn</b>               | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Rose M. Bennett</b>         | Bailiff                            |
| <b>Patricia I. Bittner</b>     | Jury Bailiff Co-Director           |
| <b>Maria Grazia Bonezzi</b>    | Foreclosure Scheduler              |
| <b>Christopher R. Bonezzi</b>  | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Ronald P. Borchert</b>      | Bail Investigator                  |
| <b>Stephanie Wherry Branch</b> | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Maureen M. Broestl</b>      | Assistant Chief Judicial Secretary |
| <b>Monica R. Brown</b>         | Clerk Typist                       |
| <b>LaToya D. Brown</b>         | Administrative Assistant           |
| <b>Angie D. Bryant</b>         | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Nicole Byron</b>            | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Weddie D. Carroll</b>       | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Jose B. Casiano</b>         | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Luann Z. Cawley</b>         | Assistant Court Reporter           |
| <b>Diane L. Cieply</b>         | Assistant Court Reporter           |
| <b>John B. Coakley</b>         | Probation Officer                  |
| <b>Angela D. Collins</b>       | Probation Officer                  |

|                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Don D. Crump</b>            | Probation Officer             |
| <b>Angela R. Cudo</b>          | Assistant Court Reporter      |
| <b>Mary Lynn D'Amico</b>       | Clerk Typist                  |
| <b>Kathleen A. DeCrane</b>     | Grand Jury Clerk              |
| <b>Laura A. DePompei</b>       | Courtroom Assistant           |
| <b>Shaunte Dixon</b>           | Probation Officer             |
| <b>Kathleen M. Dugan</b>       | Law Librarian                 |
| <b>Lorianne Dyke</b>           | Judicial Staff Attorney       |
| <b>John T Dyke</b>             | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate |
| <b>Cindy M. Eiben</b>          | Assistant Court Reporter      |
| <b>Vivian E. Eskridge</b>      | Probation Officer             |
| <b>Leila Fahd</b>              | Courtroom Assistant           |
| <b>Omer Farhat</b>             | Probation Officer             |
| <b>Teresa L. Faulhaber</b>     | Assistant Law Librarian       |
| <b>Reynaldo Feliciano</b>      | Probation Officer Supervisor  |
| <b>Charise M. Flowers</b>      | Receptionist                  |
| <b>Anna M. Foley</b>           | Courtroom Assistant           |
| <b>Eileen F. Fox</b>           | Bailiff                       |
| <b>I. Jennifer Franklin</b>    | Psychologist PT               |
| <b>Julie M. Fritz-Marshall</b> | Probation Lead Officer        |
| <b>Keith L. Fromwiller</b>     | Bailiff                       |
| <b>Kevin M. Gallagher</b>      | Probation Lead Officer        |
| <b>Ann Marie Gardner</b>       | Probation Officer Supervisor  |
| <b>Tracey S. Gonzalez</b>      | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate |
| <b>Michelle R. Gordon</b>      | Laboratory Assistant          |
| <b>Kenya R. Gray</b>           | Probation Lead Officer        |
| <b>Erricka L. Grays</b>        | Probation Lead Officer        |



# Honor Roll

## 10 to 19 years of service with the Court

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Cheryl L. Hannan</b>     | Assistant Chief Judicial Staff Attorney |
| <b>Tisha L. Harrell</b>     | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Margaret A. Hastings</b> | Bailiff                                 |
| <b>Lisa A. Heathfield</b>   | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Aileen M. Hernandez</b>  | Psychiatrist PT                         |
| <b>Elizabeth A. Hickey</b>  | Foreclosure Mediator II                 |
| <b>Kevin R. Hippley</b>     | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate           |
| <b>Michelle M. Hoiseth</b>  | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Robert A. Intorcio</b>   | Assistant Court Reporter                |
| <b>Amy R. Jackson</b>       | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate           |
| <b>LaToya M. Jones</b>      | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Kari L. Jones</b>        | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Karen M. Jopek</b>       | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Bill S. Kavourias</b>    | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Colleen A. Kelly</b>     | Administrative Assistant                |
| <b>Andrea R. Kinast</b>     | Dep Ct Administrative/ Court Ops        |
| <b>Sean A. Kincaid</b>      | Probation Officer                       |
| <b>Monica C. Klein</b>      | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate           |
| <b>Gregory L. Koterba</b>   | Assistant Court Reporter                |
| <b>Richard P. Kraft</b>     | Probation Officer Supervisor            |
| <b>Jessica E. Lane</b>      | Clerk Typist                            |
| <b>Molly Leckler</b>        | Coordinator Drug Court                  |
| <b>Paul R. Ley</b>          | Assistant Dir/Sr Analyst                |
| <b>Robert P. Lloyd</b>      | Assistant Chief Court Reporter          |
| <b>Walter J. Luc</b>        | Bail Investigator                       |
| <b>Paul H. Lucas</b>        | Senior Foreclosure Magistrate           |

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Deena M. Lucci</b>           | Bailiff                                   |
| <b>Renee M. Maalouf</b>         | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>Timothy Malik</b>            | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>Sabrina M. McClain</b>       | Judicial Secretary                        |
| <b>Mikel M. McCormick</b>       | Probation Officer Supervisor              |
| <b>Regina M. McFarland-Mohr</b> | Assistant Arraignment Room Coordinator    |
| <b>Kelly M. McTaggart</b>       | Administrative Assistant                  |
| <b>Wendy L. McWilliam</b>       | Probation Officer Supervisor              |
| <b>Althea L. Menough</b>        | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>Marija Mergl</b>             | Judicial Staff Attorney                   |
| <b>Norma J. Meszaros</b>        | Judicial Secretary                        |
| <b>Laura A. Miller</b>          | Bailiff                                   |
| <b>Patricia A. Mingee</b>       | Payroll Officer/ Administrative Assistant |
| <b>Nakia Mitchell</b>           | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>Jennifer K. Moody-Davis</b>  | Substance Abuse Case Manager              |
| <b>Eric D. Moten</b>            | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>Maria Nemeč</b>              | Chief Probation Officer                   |
| <b>Dawn E. Norman</b>           | Foreclosure Scheduler                     |
| <b>Philip M. Novak</b>          | Probation Lead Officer                    |
| <b>Matthew W. O'Brien</b>       | Probation Officer Supervisor              |
| <b>Anita B. Olsafsky</b>        | Laboratory Technologist                   |
| <b>Sarah J. O'Shaughnessy</b>   | Bailiff                                   |
| <b>Cheryl C. Parker</b>         | Probation Officer Supervisor              |
| <b>Kathleen A. Patton</b>       | Cashier/Bookkeeper                        |
| <b>Maureen Povinelli</b>        | Assistant Court Reporter                  |
| <b>Molly W. Rakic</b>           | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>Ellen A. Rassie</b>          | Assistant Court Reporter                  |
| <b>Lauren M. Rivera</b>         | Probation Officer                         |
| <b>James R. Rodio</b>           | Psychiatrist PT                           |
| <b>Loretta Ryland</b>           | Research Planner                          |
| <b>Bradley Schleter</b>         | Probation Lead Officer                    |

|                              |                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>George W. Schmedlen</b>   | Associate Director Psychiatric Clinic |
| <b>Patricia K. Schmitz</b>   | Clerk Typist                          |
| <b>Mary Ellen Schuler</b>    | Assistant Court Reporter              |
| <b>Michele M. Severt</b>     | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Mary Jo Shannon</b>       | Office Assistant                      |
| <b>Lakisha Sharp</b>         | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Patrick M. Shepard</b>    | Probation Officer Supervisor          |
| <b>Tammy L. Sherman</b>      | Probation Officer Supervisor          |
| <b>Mary Pat Smith</b>        | Bailiff                               |
| <b>Sherif Soliman</b>        | Psychiatrist PT                       |
| <b>Patrice P. Stack</b>      | Bailiff - Administrative Judge        |
| <b>Joy Ellen Stankowski</b>  | Psychiatrist PT                       |
| <b>Patricia A. Stawicki</b>  | Bailiff                               |
| <b>Cheryl A. Sunyak</b>      | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Leslie A. Svoboda</b>     | Bailiff                               |
| <b>Rose A. Tepley</b>        | Tech Specialist II                    |
| <b>Pamela Thompson</b>       | Cashier/Bookkeeper                    |
| <b>Shontrell Thompson</b>    | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Minerva Torres</b>        | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Carlos L. Torres</b>      | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Mathew J. Urbancich</b>   | Probation Lead Officer                |
| <b>Marybeth Valukievic</b>   | Office Manager                        |
| <b>Tracy L. Vargo</b>        | Assistant Court Reporter              |
| <b>Ilene E. White</b>        | Assistant Court Reporter              |
| <b>Ritamari White</b>        | Probation Officer                     |
| <b>Thomas A. Wiktorowski</b> | Courtroom Assistant                   |
| <b>Derrick A. Wilson</b>     | Courtroom Assistant                   |
| <b>Latanya R. Wise</b>       | Clerk Typist                          |
| <b>Michael G. Yezbak</b>     | Probation Officer                     |





Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court  
General Division

County of Cuyahoga Justice Center  
1200 Ontario Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113