



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

Cuyahoga County Common
Pleas Court - General Division

www.cp.cuyahogacounty.us



Mission

01

02

The mission of the Court is to provide a forum for the fair, impartial and timely resolution of civil and criminal cases.



Back row: Judge John J. Russo, Judge Steven E. Gall, Judge John P. O'Donnell,
Judge William F.B. Vodrey, Judge Peter J. Corrigan, Judge John D. Sutula

Fourth row: Judge Kelly A. Gallagher, Judge Wanda Jones, Judge Mark R. Majer,
Judge Michael P. Shaughnessy, Judge William T. McGinty, Judge Andrew J. Santoli,
Judge Cassandra Collier-Williams

Third Row: Judge Michael J. Russo, Judge Deena R. Calabrese, Judge Shannon M. Gallagher,
Judge Sherrie M. Miday, Judge Richard A. Bell, Judge Kenneth R. Callahan

Second row: Judge Joan C. Synenberg, Judge Maureen Clancy, Judge Hollie L. Gallagher,
Judge Ashley Kilbane, Judge Emily Hagan, Judge Deborah M. Turner, Judge Kathleen A. Sutula

Front Row: Judge Timothy P. McCormick, Judge David T. Matia,
Judge Shirley Strickland Saffold, Administrative Judge Brendan J. Sheehan,
Judge Brian Corrigan, Judge Nancy A. Fuerst, Judge Nancy Margaret Russo

(Not pictured: Judge Daniel Gaul)



In 2022, we began to embrace the post-COVID era with hopes for brighter days and renewed hope. We, the Judges of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, extend our greetings to each and every one of you. What you are looking at is a snapshot of our Court in 2022, and an analysis of the hard work each department brings to the justice system.

The challenges of COVID-19 tested our resilience, strength, and compassion. Together we endured, made changes, and learned from the shared experiences of a pandemic. Throughout this unexpected journey, our justice system partner, our healthcare advisors, and our staff displayed the truest spirit of community. As Administrative and Presiding Judge, I could not be more proud of our Bench and staff.

As we emerged from the shadow of this global crisis, we reflect on lessons learned and the bonds strengthened. Let us carry forward the values of empathy, unity, and cooperation that sustained us during these trying times.

As a judge, I am filled with hope for a future where justice, fairness, and equality will continue to guide our society. Let us remember those we lost during the pandemic, and honor their memory by building a brighter future. Together, we can ensure that our communities are stronger, our institutions are more resilient, and our commitment to justice is unwavering.

As we move forward, we do so with a renewed sense of purpose and a commitment to upholding the principles of fairness and equality that lie at the heart of our judicial system.

With heartfelt optimism and warm regards,

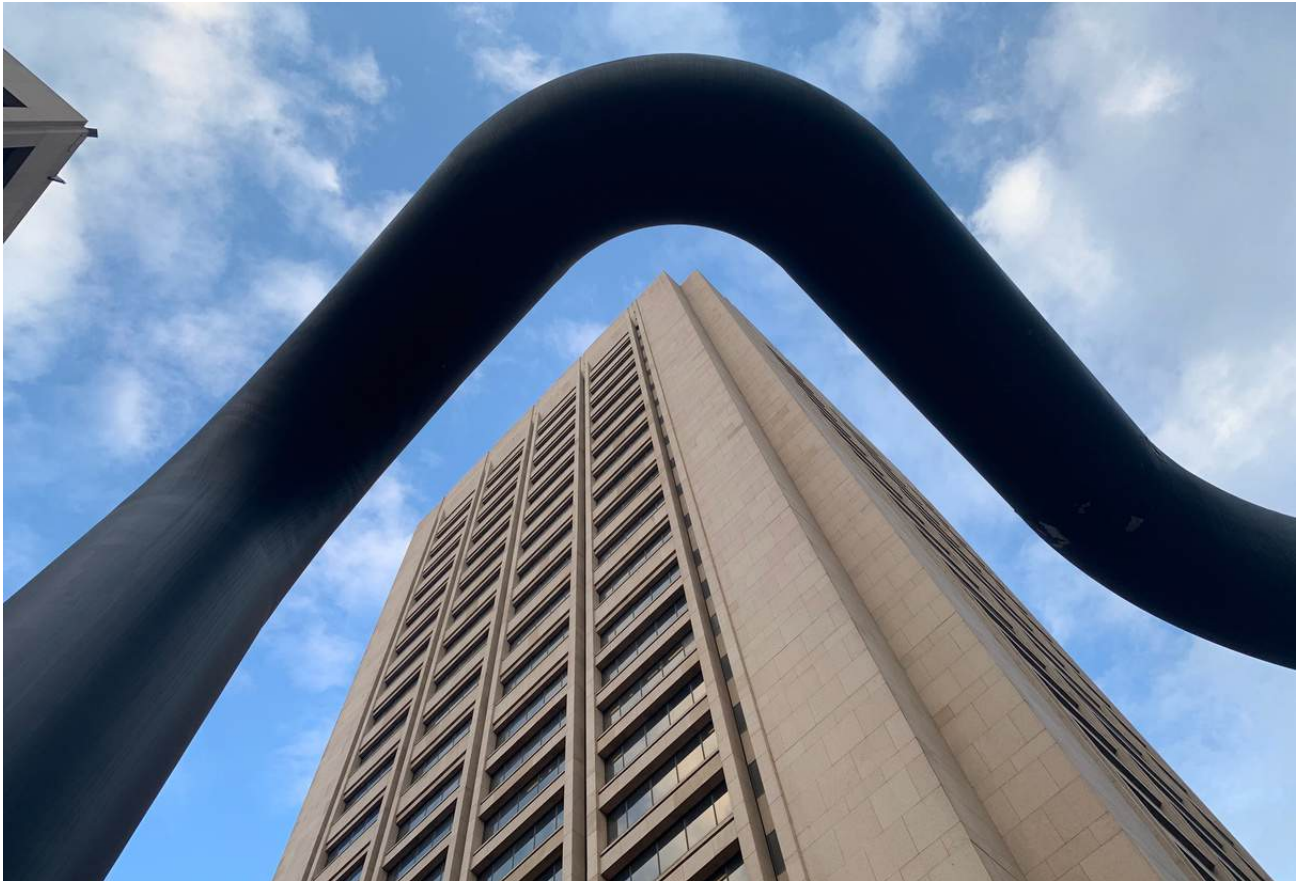
Brundan J. Sheehan

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*GREGORY M. POPOVICH,
COURT ADMINISTRATOR*

COURT ADMINISTRATION



ANDREA R. KINAST
Deputy Court Administrator
Director of Court Operations

CHRISTOPHER J. RUSS
Deputy Court Administrator
Director of Human Resources

Administration Staff

Court Administrator

**Deputy Court Administrator/Court
Operations**

**Deputy Court Administrator/Director
of Human Resources**

Director of Fiscal Operations

**Community Outreach
Coordinator/Public Information Officer**

Director of Training & Development

**Administrative Assistant/
Payroll Officer**

Administrative Assistant (2)

The thirty-four (34) Judges and almost 450 staff of the Common Pleas Court are dedicated to providing fair, accessible and efficient justice for all persons. The year 2022 again offered challenges as the world was starting to emerge from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a Court, we are accustomed to thousands of people coming through our doors weekly. Through the efforts of the Court's dedicated Judges and staff, in order to maintain safe and efficient operations and to meet its constitutional obligations, the Court made additional changes in 2022 that will impact us and the citizens of Cuyahoga County for years to come.

THANK YOU JUDGES AND STAFF

Our Court is proud of the fact that, although operations were still somewhat curtailed early on for 2022, our doors never closed during the pandemic. We always had staff on hand to answer phones or questions from people who came to the courthouse. The Court staff who worked remotely during a good part of the pandemic returned to the office to serve the citizens of Cuyahoga County.

After more than 10 years as the Court's Deputy Court Administrator/Director of Human resources, the Court said goodbye to Chris Russ. Chris was an integral part of the Court Administration team and we thank him for his dedication to the Court, its Judges and staff and the residents of Cuyahoga County. Chris will be missed by all and we wish him a very happy and healthy retirement.

LINGERING IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020, swift action was taken by the Court to protect the public and staff. The Court worked with County Administration, the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, defense attorneys, and the Sheriff's Department/Jail Management corrections staff to quickly reduce the population of the Cuyahoga County Jail so that medical teams could be prepared to treat and minimize COVID-19 outbreaks and to make every effort to protect people working and housed in the County Jail. As the world was emerging from the pandemic, the Court still was experiencing its impact on its operations and its dockets. The Court, through the leadership of Administrative Judge Brendan J. Sheehan, and the actions of the Judges of the Common Pleas Court and other Justice System stakeholders, continued efforts to maintain a jail population substantially below historical levels and began to work on its backlog of cases due to the pandemic.

2022 PROJECTS

Significant time and resources continued to be expended on a number of projects in 2022. Although much planning has been completed, vendors selected and orders placed, a number of projects have been unfortunately delayed due to the supply line issues caused by the pandemic. Below is a sampling of some of these projects.

The Court continued to work on updating its furniture and infrastructure in 2022. Over the last several years, the Court has worked to replace furniture that was original from when the Justice Center opened in the 1970's. Part of that effort is a commitment to replace all cloth fabric furniture in the courthouse with fabric options that can be easily cleaned, disinfected and not be a vehicle that could hold dirt and insects. To date, the Court has replaced all of its office furniture, jury deliberation room chairs and jury box chairs. All of these projects were funded without the expenditure of additional Cuyahoga County tax payer monies and did not negatively impact the County's General Fund.

In 2022, planning began on the largest project to date, the replacement and updating of the public seating in all courtrooms. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued and a successful bidder was selected. After extensive preparation, the almost fifty (50) year old public seating in the courtrooms was scheduled to be replaced with solid wood benches that could be easily maintained and includes a protective treatment that will withstand the application of harsh disinfectants in the future.

The Court also planned to replace the decades old single railing that separates the gallery from the courtroom well (i.e. attorney tables, Judge's bench and jury box, etc.) with a solid wood wall. This addition provides a more modern look for the courtrooms and enhances the safety for the Judge, attorneys and litigants.

Installation of the courtroom public seating in all thirty-four (34) courtrooms and the addition of the solid wood wall in all of the courtrooms should be completed in 2023 without the expenditure of Cuyahoga County tax payer monies and without any negative impact on the County's General Fund.

The General Division of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court has a very long, rich history. In 2022, the Court began working on the first of several projects that will share this rich history with those who work in the courthouse and the people who visit the building each day. This initial project includes the installation of an electronic wall that will provide historical information about the Court's Administrative Judges over the years and what historically occurred during the tenure of each of Judges. The wall also includes a summary of some of their major accomplishments during their terms as Administrative Judge. Work on this project should be completed in 2023.

The Court started the process of updating the audio equipment in all thirty-four courtrooms. The current analogue equipment and systems were installed in the 1990's and have reached their useful life. The addition of digital equipment and new speakers will greatly improve the sound quality in all of the courtrooms. Project planning, selection of a vendor and the ordering of the new equipment was completed in 2022.

The Court started the process of upgrading the technology in the Grand Jury courtrooms in 2022. The project will include the addition of larger monitors, new audio equipment that includes new speakers and microphones, and the addition of a Crestron integrated system. The addition of the new system and equipment will greatly improve the quality of the video and sound quality in the courtrooms. Project planning, selection of a vendor and the ordering of the new equipment was completed in 2022. This project should be completed in 2023 without the expenditure of Cuyahoga County tax payer monies and without any negative impact on the County's General Fund.

In 2022, without expending monies out of the General Fund or relying on Cuyahoga County tax payer monies, the Court began or completed a number of other technology and infrastructure upgrades that will assist the Court in meeting current and future needs. For example, upgrades were made to the data server room, Arraignment Room, Juror Assembly Room, and to security systems and equipment. Also, large electronic portable signage was purchased for use throughout the Justice Center. The new signage provides the opportunity to better inform Judges, staff and visitors in the courthouse as to events and other important matters in the building.

Those wishing to post bond for a loved one now have an easier option for payment through the Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts Office. Administrative Judge Brendan J. Sheehan requested that the Clerk of Courts look at options for the remote posting of bonds. With the support of the Court, the Clerk of Courts implemented a process where bond payments, for the first time, can be made online with a credit card through the Clerk of Courts website. The goal is to make the bond posting process more accessible and to further accelerate criminal justice reform in Cuyahoga County. The Court would like to extend its thanks to the Clerk of Courts for taking on this project and successfully offering it to the public we serve.

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 2022, 12,7799 criminal cases were filed/reactivated. The Court's Criminal Case Clearance rate was 102%.The Court had an increase of 401 cases filed during the year while still working through a backlog of cases from the previous year. In 2022, a total of 16,857 civil cases were filed / reactivated, an increase of 260 cases from 2021. A total of 10,721 new criminal arraignments, 235 more than 2021 (and 2,078 reactivations), were held. In total, 29,656 new cases/reactivations were filed in 2022. This was an increase of about 661 cases in comparison to 2021. Calendar year 2022 concluded with 15,335 cases pending.

Of the civil docket 4,141 (new filings) cases were foreclosures, an increase of nearly 3% from 2021. The Court is still working through a backlog of foreclosure cases due mostly to the federal moratorium on foreclosure filings that was imposed in response to the pandemic. In all, foreclosure cases comprised 27% of all new civil case filings. New civil case filings increased in 2022 by 1.6%.

Additionally, legislation (Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison or T-CAP became mandatory in 2018 and limits on probation violations were imposed) requires courts throughout the State to devote more time and resources to Community Control/Probation cases in order to divert more defendants from prison. Courts must also handle more expungements and other miscellaneous matters than in the past.Also, specialized dockets, needed to address drug addiction, mental health issues, human trafficking, challenges faced by veterans, gun violence, the re-entry of defendants into the community from prison and the handling of commercial matters, are vital to serving the needs of persons appearing before the Court. Although very important, these dockets do place additional responsibilities on Judges and staff not readily identified in court and case statistics. Additionally, they add additional stress on limited resources.

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

In 2022, the Court's 34 Judges conducted jury trials in 220 instances, including 180 criminal cases and 40 civil jury trials. The Judges conducted 190 bench trials in 2022. Overall, jury and bench trials were up in 2022 (410) in comparison to 2021 (258).

*COLLEEN BROWN,
DIRECTOR OF FISCAL
OPERATIONS*

FISCAL REPORT



The 2022 actual General Fund expenditures of \$54,467,589 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 2022 General Fund expenditures listed by individual budget are as follows:

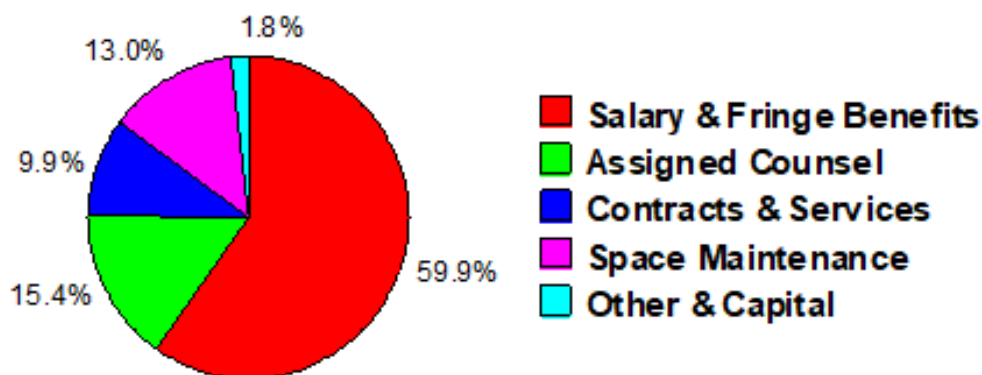
Judicial Administration Budget \$29,741,382 - This included funding for the following departments: Judicial, Administration, Bailiffs, Jury Bailiffs, Jury Commission, Judicial Staff Attorneys, and Judges' Secretaries.

Magistrates Budget \$1,845,036 - This included funding for the following departments: **Dispute Resolution and Magistrates.**

Court Services Budget \$8,045,861 - This included funding for the following departments: Central Scheduling, Court Systems, Data Entry, Court Reporters, Criminal Records, and Information Systems.

Probation/Psychiatric Budget \$14,835,310 - This included funding for the following departments: Probation and the Court Psychiatric Clinic.

COMMON PLEAS COURT 2022 - GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



Salary & Fringe Benefits	\$32,613,198	59.9%
Assigned Counsel	\$8,407,806	15.4%
Contracts & Services	\$5,377,400	9.9%
Space Maintenance	\$7,104,150	13.0%
Other & Capital	\$965,035	1.8%
TOTAL	\$54,467,589	100%

The Pie Chart above summarizes the Court's General Fund Expenditures for 2022. This analysis is comprised of actual expenses from the Judicial Administration, Magistrates, Court Services, and Probation / Psychiatric Clinic budgets. Salary and Fringe Benefits is the largest expense category representing compensation to approximately 448 full and part-time staff, inclusive of 34 elected judges.

The second largest category, Assigned Counsel, includes costs for this Court's appointed legal representation for indigent defendants in criminal cases and has increased by 76.3% over 2021. In 2022, the total number of arraigned indigent defendants was 8,576; of that total, 3,198 were then assigned to the Public Defender's Office at the time of arraignment. The Assigned Counsel expense listed above is not adjusted for reimbursement by the State of Ohio to the General Fund for these costs, estimated at 100% for the first four months of 2022. The rate decreased from 100% to 90% during 2022.

*THOMAS ARNAUT,
DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION
SYSTEMS*

INFORMATION SYSTEMS



Staff

Assistant Director
Systems Analyst
Network Manager
Network Engineer
Network Administrator
Network Technicians (2)

Court Technology Specialist
Probation Information Systems Specialist
Office Manager
Office Assistants (2)
Project Manager
Programmers (2)

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, laptops and tablets, 48 network servers, 12 local area networks, all connected through the county's wide area network. Applications range from the Court's primary case management system, web applications, web sites, as well as file and print services. The Information Systems Department also supports the interaction of the Court with other County and Municipal agencies where information sharing is required.

The Information Systems Department continues to work diligently enhancing technology 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.

NETWORK & COMPUTER SERVICES

The Court's server infrastructure consists of two physical servers and 38 virtual servers. The data capacity of the storage array for the virtual environment remains at 61 terabytes. We currently are allocating 8.7 terabytes, which is utilizing 14.3% of that capacity.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT AND TRAINING

The Court's Computer Help Desk staff cleared thousands of computer and printer related support requests in 2021.

Application troubleshooting and technology training continued in support of court operations and procedures, whether staff is working onsite or from home. Support and training of new judges, bailiffs, staff attorneys and staff is ongoing (Court's case management system, Windows, Office applications, Zoom, Teams video and audio connections, wherever court staff are working).

The court continues to develop a continuous learning culture within the organization that supports modern flexible work environments:

- Technology training resources offered in-person and online
- Online instructional content, courses and videos are available on the Court's Learning Center

COURT SYSTEMS

The primary function of the Court Systems department is to create criminal journal entries, review them for accuracy, and prepare them for signature by the Judges. Court Systems also provides training and assistance to Judges and staff who choose to enter journal entries themselves.

The Court Systems area created 6,447 journal entries out of the 29,645 total for the Common Pleas Court in 2021.

INNOVATION & SOLUTIONS

Court's Reminder Texting Service: The integrated texting service for the Court provides timely updates, Court dates, trial reminders, and notifications to those affiliated with each case. Information is texted to parties' cellphones who have agreed and approved of the optional service.

Common Pleas Court Website and Intranet: Information Systems continues to support the public and staff with current and relevant information. Working alongside Community Relations, we continue to provide support updates and new website features that enable timely public and staff communications.

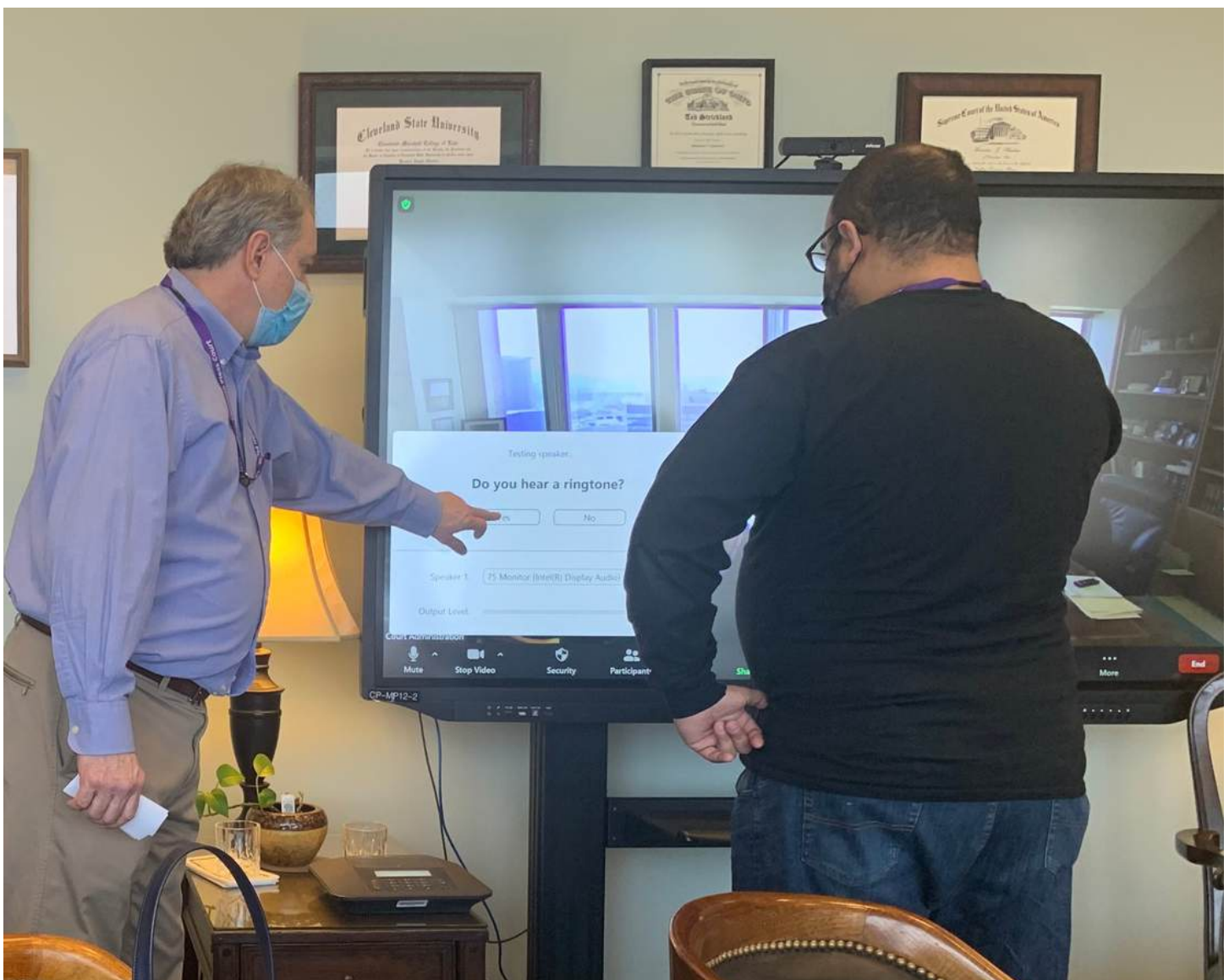
Court Staff Learning Center: Technical training and documents provide support to Court staff. The Court's Learning Center internal website helps keep staff on track with new technology, software applications, continuing legal education, and compliance courses. The system provides remote access to training materials, and the learning experience.

Document Scanning and Archiving: Information Systems continues to work with Court departments to improve their document accessibility and archival procedures. We analyze and assist departments in improving their archival processes. We assist in planning digital document scanning, proper network storage, and microfilming records.

Courtroom Visual Displays: Whether Court proceedings are online, in the courtroom or both, large 86" portable displays provide easier viewing of digital evidence and online video testimony. Additional audio systems provide improved audio and sound during video calls assist and support proper distancing protocols when needed.

Language interpretation: Headsets provided for language interpretations during hearings deployed to interpreters in courtrooms. Headsets allow the interpreter to have some distance between parties during a courtroom hearing. This improves communication and allows for efficient hand-offs between interpreters when multiple translators are needed.

Auxiliary Sound Systems: When needed, additional portable audio speakers are setup to reinforce and enhance existing courtroom audio. A variety of flexible technology solutions continue to support the varied requirements of each courtroom and trial. These audio systems support safe distancing and the CDC guidelines for in-person interactions at the Court.



*MARIA NEMEC,
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER*

ADULT PROBATION



TAMMY SHERMAN
Deputy Chief
Probation Officer

RHYS TUCKER
Deputy Chief
Probation Officer

THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT SHALL 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, VICTIMS, PROBATIONERS AND DEFENDANTS.

STAFF

Supervisors (19)
 Probation Officers
 (136)
 Training Specialist
 Executive Secretary
 Clerical Supervisor
 Clerical and Support
 Staff (10)
 Admin Assistants (3)
 Fiscal Supervisor
 Administrative Asst.
 Lab Manager
 Sr. Lab Technologist
 Lab Technologist
 Lab Assistants (5)
 Lab Admin Aide
 Cashiers (3)

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
- Provide individualized direction, client-centered goal coordination, effective use of community-based resources, and the swift and consistent administration of prescribed incentives and sanctions
- Provide assistance to victims, including collection of restitution
- Manage offender risk by enforcing Court orders and affording opportunities for change
- Maintain a trained staff that is knowledgeable regarding 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 make positive changes in behavior 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

Pre-Sentence/Post-Sentence Reports

3,577 completed

- Thorough investigation of current offense
- Criminal history check
- Risk assessment using the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS)
- Victim comments and restitution information
- Summary of defendant’s pertinent history (e.g., social, educational, employment, health, etc.)
- Supervision placement recommendations based on risk and special population considerations
- 21 days to complete a Bail PSI, 14 days to complete a Jail PSI

Expungements

1,481 completed

- Criminal history check
- Current residency information
- Compliance with original conditions including financial obligations
- Termination dates of any supervision or confinement provided when available
- Summary report of eligibility information for sealing of criminal records is provided

Certificate of Qualification for Employment

31 completed

- ORC 2953.25: for persons subject to collateral sanctions. The CQE will allow persons living in the community who have a previous felony or misdemeanor conviction to apply to the Court to lift the collateral sanction that bars consideration for employment in a particular field
- Automatically upon conviction for a felony, misdemeanor, or other offense, even if not included in the sentence
- Probation staff person researches and delivers thorough investigation report to the court
- Summary of Petitioner’s rationale for CQE request

PRETRIAL SERVICES

COURT SUPERVISED RELEASE (CSR) PROGRAM

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

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

Court Supervised Release	
Individuals released from jail under CSR as a condition of bond (with or without GPS monitoring)	2,393
Individuals under CSR as of December 31, 2022	853

PRETRIAL DIVERSION PROGRAM

The Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office implemented the Pretrial Diversion Program in conjunction with the Court of Common Pleas in March 1993. The program, pursuant to Revised Code 2935.36, accepts persons charged with non-violent and non-drug related crimes who have no previous felony convictions or patterns of adult or juvenile criminal behavior. Successful applicants must enter into a plea agreement held in abeyance pending successful completion of the Program, and the maximum allowable restitution amount was \$7,500.00. The Pretrial Unit provides services to the County Prosecutor's Pretrial Diversion Program. Services currently consist of:

1) Extensive criminal record checks on both welfare and non-welfare felony diversion candidates. 2) Conducting investigations including interviews, determining restitution amounts, and evaluations of eligibility. 3) Supervision of all diversion cases (supervision activities include urinalysis, community work service, restitution, court costs, supervision fees, etc.)

In 2022, 309 defendants were placed into Diversion; 217 individuals were in Diversion as of December 31, 2022.

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (EIP)

The Early Intervention Program (EIP) targets first-time offenders with a pending felony drug charge and provides them with appropriate drug treatment services within 45 days of arrest, with the goal of early intervention and treatment for those offenders who are in need of substance abuse and/or mental health services. Offenders are placed on Court Supervised Release (CSR) as a condition of bond and are screened for substance abuse issues. At arraignment, CSR makes a recommendation to the Court for continued CSR/EIP participation for offenders in compliance with program conditions and requests that the judge allow the offender to participate in the program. Offenders must enter a guilty/no contest plea with the court in order to participate.

Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) provides substance use assessments for all defendants participating in EIP. Participants may also be referred for drug and alcohol treatment and case management services. To complete the program successfully, offenders must successfully complete at least six months of project supervision, be drug free for at least 90 days, and satisfy other court ordered requirements.

In 2022, five offenders were placed into EIP; three individuals were in EIP as of December 31, 2022.

INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF CONVICTION

This specialized program is designed to meet the unique needs of probationers with minimal prior criminal histories who have significant substance abuse and/or mental health problems that contributed to the underlying offense for which they are charged. Probationers who file a motion for Intervention in Lieu of Conviction, prior to entering guilty pleas, are required to complete a thorough substance abuse and/or mental health evaluation at an accredited community-based treatment facility and receive a recommendation for the program by their assessing counselor. The Court will refer potential offenders to the Court Psychiatric Clinic, or accredited drug/ alcohol treatment agency, for eligibility assessment. The Clinic advises the Court of their recommendations, and the Court makes final determination for program participation.

Upon successful completion of the Intervention in Lieu of Conviction program, which requires a minimum of one (1) year of supervision, the indictment is dismissed, and all records of the offense can be later sealed, if deemed appropriate by the Court.

The offender's defense attorney may request the Court to consider the offender for referral to the Intervention in Lieu of Conviction program (O.R.C. 2951.041), if an offender alleges that, at the time of committing the criminal offense with which the offender is charged, the offender had a mental illness, was a person with an intellectual disability, and that the mental illness, status as a person with an intellectual disability was a factor leading to that offense. Eligibility is based on the criteria outlined in the ORC 2951.04.1. Acceptance into this program requires that the offender enter a guilty plea to the pending charge; however, further criminal proceedings are stayed pending successful completion of the program.

In 2022, there were 375 referrals to the ILC program.

MISDEMEANOR ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PROGRAM/JAIL REDUCTION (MASP)

MASP provides a community-based alternative to incarceration. The program began as an informal agreement with Garfield Heights Municipal Court in 1997 to identify, recommend, and provide limited community-based sanctions (e.g. electronic monitoring), supervision, and substance abuse and mental health treatment to eligible misdemeanor offenders sentenced by a suburban municipal court to the County Jail for more than 30 days. In 2000, the program became eligible to all 12 suburban municipal courts in Cuyahoga County with the assistance of Ohio Community Corrections Act (CCA) funding.

The MASP Investigation Officer receives referrals from the municipal courts for possible inclusion in this program. Investigation includes a comprehensive criminal history check, offender interview, social situation verification, assessment and supervision needs, Pretrial risk assessment, and any collateral information that is made available by the referring court. The MASP Investigation Officer coordinates with local service providers for assessment and treatment referral for substance abuse and mental health needs. Upon release from jail, the MASP Supervision Officer in the Common Pleas Court's Pretrial Services Unit provides supervision and urinalysis testing in the community.

In 2022, there were 39 clients placed into the MASP program.

SUPERVISION

Probation supervision is risk based. Offenders receive a supervision response that is appropriate for their risk level, targeting higher risk offenders for programming. Evidence-based practices are utilized to change offender behavior. Officers utilize a Behavioral Response System (BRP) matrix to respond to both pro-social and non-compliant behavior.

OHIO RISK ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (ORAS)

The Probation Department utilizes the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS). The University of Cincinnati developed the ORAS as a statewide system to assess the risk and needs of Ohio offenders that was predictive of recidivism at multiple points in the criminal justice system. All cases referred for Pre-Sentence Investigation have an ORAS assessment completed.

As of December 31, 2022, 4,863 defendants on probation had an ORAS Risk Score.

Extreme High	High	Moderate	Low Moderate	Low	Total
11	1,391	2,003	341	1,107	4,863
2.02%	25.34%	36.48%	6.21%	18.52%	88.57%

END OF YEAR 2022 STATISTICS

Defendants on probation as of December 31, 2022: 5,490

Defendants on probation as of December 31, 2021: 5,144

Defendants on probation as of December 31, 2020: 5,282

Defendants on probation as of December 31, 2019: 6,549

Highest-level conviction is a felony: 4,172 (76%)

Highest-level conviction is a misdemeanor: 1,318 (24%)

DEFENDANTS SENTENCED TO PROBATION/COMMUNITY CONTROL BY SUPERVISION GROUP

Bottle	Total	Percent
Regular Supervision	880	16.03%
Group D	630	11.48%
Group C	603	10.98%
Domestic Violence Unit	432	7.87%
Mental health Unit	421	7.67%
Intervention in Lieu of Conviction	375	6.83%
Group A	326	5.94%
Group B	299	5.45%
Traditional Probation – Westside	295	5.37%
CBCF	247	4.50%
Developmental Disabilities Unit	187	3.41%
Electronic Monitoring GPS	132	2.4%
Sex Offender Unit	115	2.09%
Intensive Supervision for Misdemeanor	89	1.32%
Moderate Risk - Intensive Supervision	65	1.18%
Veterans Court	55	< 1%
Drug Court MAT TRK 1 DIV	54	< 1%
Recovery Court TRK 1 DIV	37	< 1%
Criminal Non-Support	36	< 1%
Interstate Compact – Courtesy Supervision	31	< 1%
Employment	30	< 1%
Drug Court MAT TRK 2 NON_DIV	28	< 1%
Gun Violence Intervention	26	< 1%
Recovery Court TRK 2 NON-DIV	22	< 1%
Drug Court Track 1 (Diversion)	20	< 1%
Re-Entry Court	16	< 1%
DRUG COURT MAT TRK 2 NON-DIV	22	< 1%
Drug Court Track 2 (Non-Diversion)	15	< 1%
High Risk Domestic Violence	13	< 1%
Extreme High Risk	11	< 1%
GRAND TOTAL	5,490	100.00%

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SUPERVISION CASES

Defendant Age	Total	Percent
Between 18 and 22	497	9.05%
Between 23 and 27	955	17.40%
Between 28 and 32	1,099	20.02%
Between 33 and 37	912	16.61%
Between 38 and 42	656	11.94%
Between 43 and 46	393	7.16%
Between 47 and 51	328	5.98%
Between 52 and 56	288	5.24%
Between 57 and older	361	6.57%
Under 18	1	0.02%
Total:	5,490	100.00%

Race	Female	Male	Total
Asian	1	11	12
Black	730	3,121	3,850
Hispanic	25	112	137
Other	22	84	106
White	367	1,017	1,385
	1,145	4,345	5,490

MILITARY HISTORY

At year-end 2022, there were 169 active defendants with military experience.

Military Branch	Total
Air Force	16
Army	72
Coast Guard	4
Marines	29
National Guard	13
Navy	31
TOTAL	165

LOW RISK SUPERVISION

Low Risk (Group A) 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 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.

LOW MODERATE RISK SUPERVISION

Low-Moderate Risk (Group B) 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.

MODERATE RISK SUPERVISION

Offenders in this group report once a month or as specified via court order for 18 months. Officers are expected to be competent in utilizing and administering an ORAS assessment and must be familiar with offender criminogenic needs and corresponding Evidence Based programming. In addition, officers are trained in Case Planning, Motivational Interviewing, and the Stages of Change.

In 2013, the Department implemented a Moderate Risk ISP Unit. This position allows for an intensive supervision response for Moderate Risk Offenders who, because of their risk level, are not appropriate for intensive supervision of a High-Risk Unit. This officer meets with offenders more frequently and creates a Case Plan with the Offender that includes more programming dosage to attend to the Offender's increased level of needs.

HIGH RISK SUPERVISION PROBATION

The High-Risk Probation (Group D) program's purpose is to divert eligible felony offenders from incarceration in Ohio prisons by providing a more intense degree of supervision within the community. High Risk is 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, all designed for the most effective habilitation of the offender.

EXTREMELY HIGH RISK SUPERVISION

Extremely High Risk (Group E) Offenders in this group report for up to five years. Extremely High-Risk supervision involves intensive supervision, surveillance, and drug and alcohol testing, while programming is contraindicated. Supervision consists of: Weekly Office Contacts; Weekly Urinalysis Testing; Weekly Field Visits with Instant Drug and/or Alcohol Testing; and Twice Weekly Collateral Contacts.

The officer in this position works with the County Sheriff's Department and county provider agencies in the close monitoring of these offenders. This officer employs non-traditional surveillance hours, including working evenings and weekends, for the most effective supervision.

TRADITIONAL SUPERVISION

Offenders sentenced to a higher 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.

OTHER SUPERVISION OPTIONS

MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY (MHDD) PROGRAM

The Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Unit assists persons 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 assists severely mentally ill and/or developmentally disabled offenders to receive behavioral health services for their disability, address criminogenic risks, reintegrate into the community, and successfully complete probation. Probation staff are trained in assisting MHDD offenders to face their most common barriers in the community and provide supervision and enforcement of the conditions of community control sanctions while supporting compliance with psychiatric treatment recommendations. The incorporation of judicial and clinical staffing has also aided in facilitating cooperation among the offenders within the MHDD Unit. The MHDD Unit is currently staffed by 12 specially trained officers and two supervisors. The MHDD Unit allocates seven officers to supervise clients with severe mental illness and four officers to supervise clients with developmental disabilities. The average caseload of the twelve post-conviction officers is 41 offenders with a recommended duration of two years of community control sanctions.

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

The pandemic and consequent social distancing measures continued to affect the program's ability to conduct in-person Court and Clinical staffings in 2022. The program has implemented a blended approach utilizing both live and virtual meetings in order to maximize connectedness while ensuring safety.

Contracted service providers include the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Recovery Resources, selected in cooperation with the ADAMHS Board, which co-funds the program, to provide mental health counseling, psychiatric services, medication management, and support services.

Officers have working relationships with Community Assessment Treatment Services, Cleveland Clinic-Lutheran Hospital, The MetroHealth System, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Cleveland Police CIT officers, Mobile Crisis, Oriana House, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Empowering Integrated Care Solutions, and other treatment providers and community support networks.

In 2022, there were approximately 602 offenders sentenced to active post-conviction supervision by the MHDD Unit. This includes those whose highest level of conviction was a felony as well as those who plead down 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 is comprised of three specially trained probation officers and a treatment component. An average sex offender caseload size is 65 offenders per officer. Psych & Psych provides group and individual counseling for sex offenders, including the developmentally disabled population. Court general funds and CCA grant dollars provided 115 sex offender assessments and treatment services for offenders deemed eligible. An integral part of the program is polygraph testing, used for verification of client progress and compliance.

40 offenders submitted to a polygraph examination in calendar year 2022.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

The Domestic Violence Unit is comprised of specialized/trained officers and a supervisor. The unit provides intensive supervision for offenders convicted of a domestic violence offense or an offense whose elements included domestic violence behavior. Length of supervision 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 and 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 Domestic Intervention and Education Treatment (DIET) program offered by Cleveland Municipal Court. The DV officers and DIET 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.

The DV Unit is a partner in the Cuyahoga County Domestic Violence High Risk Team (HRT). A DV Unit supervisor and two members of the DV Unit attend team meetings once a month to staff high-risk cases. Team members come from various agencies throughout the county, and cases focus on Districts 1-5 from the Cleveland Police.

In 2021, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court completed its first year of the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court (HRDVC) after receiving a \$1 million, three-year grant in 2020 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The High-Risk Domestic Violence Docket accepts dangerous, felony-level cases of intimate partner violence as indicated by the presence of High-Risk lethality factors, such as the use of strangulation or a firearm in the offense. Justice System partners, such as the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, Public Defender and Witness/Victim Services, work collaboratively with the Court to reduce risk of further injury to victims. A docket coordinator assists the HRDV Judge Sherrie Miday in the operations of the High-Risk DV Court. From the Cuyahoga County Adult Probation Department, a specially trained pre-trial officer and post sentence probation officer utilize the Domestic Violence Risk and Needs Assessment (DVRNA) as well as the ORAS to supervise the defendants utilizing evidence-based practices. Defendants complete a cognitive-behavioral program specifically for domestic violence offenders. Regular team staffing and compliance hearings are held to gather input from the DV Court Team of probation officers, an assistant prosecutor, defense counsel, an advocate, and domestic violence program facilitators to assist the Judge in closely monitoring cases.

In 2022, 18 new individuals were accepted into the docket. Of those sentenced in 2022, 26 were granted community control, and 12 were sentenced to prison. Three cases were dismissed, and one was transferred to the MHDD docket. Twelve cases were terminated at a community control violation hearing and were sentenced to a term of incarceration.

NON-SUPPORT SPECIALIZED CASELOAD

The Non-Support Specialized Caseload provides an additional option in the continuum of sanctions for offenders under supervision for Felony Non-Support. 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. It recognizes 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.

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 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 incidences of incarceration.

The program collaborates with various community social support agencies that focus on barriers to success. They ensure offenders pay child support and receive services to address their specific needs. They also encourage responsible parenthood, while promoting public safety.

The offender population 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 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. For offenders who do not generally require intensive supervision and programming, there is also a Basic Non-Support caseload. However, moderate or high-risk offenders supervised on the Basic Non-Support Unit may be referred for NS programming if needed.

In 2022, there were 19 offenders sentenced to the Specialized Non-Support caseload and 20 offenders to the regular Non-Support caseload. Records from CSEA indicate that in 2022, CNS collected \$1,109,018.26 in child support payments. This is an increase in annual collections by \$121,432.72 as compared to 2021.

GPS MONITORING

The GPS Monitoring Program is designed to keep offenders in the community and out of jail, while restricting their movements to approved locations and keeping distance from the victim's residences. In 2014, the Court, in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department, implemented active GPS monitoring in an effort to more closely monitor and respond to offenders' non-compliance in the community and to increase the Court's use of GPS Monitoring as an alternative to incarceration.

The Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas determines who is eligible for Electronic Monitoring. The Court places offenders on GPS Monitoring either as a condition of bond or as a condition of community control sanctions.

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department provides the GPS monitoring equipment and monitoring surveillance in collaboration with Cuyahoga County Adult Probation Department. The GPS is a stand-alone unit in the Sheriff's Department, with 12 deputies and two sergeants divided into four shifts with continuous operation. The Adult Probation Department operates as a specialized unit and consists of a supervisor, four pretrial officers, three supervision officers, two case management officers, and a jail installer. The GPS unit count averages 600 people at any given time, with the maximum being 625.

In 2022, approximately 2,082 offenders were monitored by GPS. Of all the defendants monitored in 2022, 5.3% (110) absconded from GPS monitoring.

Offenders are charged \$3.20 per day for GPS Monitoring. In 2022, there was a total of \$89,772.39 collected in GPS fees.

ALCOHOL MONITORING

The Alcohol Monitoring Program is designed to prohibit offenders from consuming alcohol. The Court determines who is eligible for Alcohol Monitoring. The Court places offenders on Alcohol Monitoring as a condition of bond or as a condition of community control sanctions.

The Cuyahoga County Adult Probation Department provides the alcohol monitoring equipment as well as monitoring services. The Alcohol Monitoring unit is comprised of the same staff as the GPS unit.

In 2022, approximately 219 offenders were ordered on Alcohol Monitoring, 22% (48) as a condition of bond and 171 (78%) as a condition of community control.

Offenders are charged \$3.20 per day for Alcohol Monitoring. In 2022, there was a total of \$17,048.00 collected in Alcohol Monitoring fees.

WORK RELEASE

Individuals in the Work Release Program are granted release from a facility only for verified purposes (e.g., work, education, vocational training, and substance abuse treatment). Individuals can be placed in the Work Release Program at the time of sentencing or during a Probation Violation/Community Control Violation Hearing. CCA funding provides the WR/EM Unit with a supervisor and 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 The Salvation Army.

VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The Violence Intervention Program (VIP) is a pilot initiative implemented in August 2018. It utilizes the Drug Court Model and is presided over by Judge Brendan Sheehan. The program aims to reduce the incidence of violence and the potential of death by firearm by targeting felony offenders arrested in possession of a gun. It will do so by increasing the vocational and employment opportunities for VIP clients through customized interventions that utilize neighborhood outreach experts coupled with wraparound services including substance, mental health, education, and work. The strategy is to engage VIP clients in alternative types of intervention programming, It exposes them to opportunities and the potential for a lifestyle they did not think was possible.

VIP is a voluntary, court-supervised, comprehensive collaborative effort that targets felony offenders who are arrested in possession of a firearm and are in need of intervention-based wraparound services that include regular court appearances in front of a Judge, a specialized VIP Probation Officer, mentors, and vocational and employment opportunities. A panel of the partners screens applicants for eligibility.

Clients are required to participate in the VIP for a minimum of 12 months and submit to individualized, frequent, random, and observed drug testing protocols as directed by the VIP Court Judge. A VIP Treatment Team, which includes service providers, attorneys, and the Probation Department provides ongoing, timely, and accurate information and feedback addressing a VIP client's overall performance. The VIP Judge, in consultation with the VIP Treatment Team, ultimately determines a VIP client's advancement and graduation from the VIP.

Mentors from Peacemakers of Cleveland work with VIP clients as "violence interrupters" and outreach specialists to provide crisis intervention, interrupt violence, and diffuse incidents of possible retaliation. They provide alternative lifestyle options and programming designed to expose them to pro-social activities, job and vocational skill building, life skills, and relationship building. OhioMeansJobs | Cleveland-Cuyahoga County provide resources and information that assist VIP clients in moving toward financial independence through employment. Its programs and services include education, job training, and job search assistance.

Metro Hospital provides screening and trauma services for the project as well as behavioral health counseling and ancillary services, such as bus passes and cell phones.

In 2022, 26 clients were placed on the VIP docket.

COGNITIVE SKILLS PROGRAMMING

COGNITIVE SKILLS PROGRAMMING (SCOPE) utilizes the "Thinking for a Change" (T4C) curriculum. The program integrates cognitive restructuring, social skills, and problem solving. It teaches offenders an introspective process for reexamining their ways of thinking and their feelings, beliefs, and attitudes. Social skills training is provided as an alternative to antisocial behaviors. Problem solving becomes the central approach. Offenders learn how to work through difficult situations without engaging in criminal behavior.

The program has gender specific programming to address the unique needs, issues, and learning styles of women.

According to Oriana House, the Thinking for a Change program received 583 referrals for 486 individuals. Of the 486 individuals referred, 346 (71%) attended, exceeding the goal of 300. There was only a 2% decrease in the number of referrals from FY 2021 to FY 2022. However, there was a 15% decrease in the number who actually attended the program (a decrease from 83% of referrals in SFY 2021 to 71% in SYF 2022).

DOMESTIC INTERVENTION, EDUCATION, and TRAINING (DIET)

The Cleveland Municipal Court provides domestic violence education for offenders charged with misdemeanor and/or felony domestic violence offenses in Cleveland Municipal Court, Common Pleas Court, and/or the suburban municipal courts. The Community Corrections Act grant from ODRC funds the DIET program through an annual contract with the Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board.

The DIET Program offers a Support Group comprised of successful graduates who 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 establishing healthy relationships. Group members receive incentives, such as note pads or coffee mugs, to encourage participation.

In 2021, the DIET program transitioned from the Duluth Model to the Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions for Interpersonal Violence (CBI). Cleveland Municipal Court facilitators, along with select staff from the County Probation Department DV Unit were trained by the University of Cincinnati in the curriculum. Low-risk offenders are required to complete eight, two-hour sessions. Moderate risk requires 26, two-hour sessions. High risk requires 30, two-hour sessions. Participants in all groups are required to role-play what they have learned and model the behavior.

In 2022, Common Pleas Court Adult Probation referred 439 offenders to the program. DIET reported 177 successful completions, 195 unsuccessful completions and six administrative discharges.

COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The primary community-based correctional facility utilized by contract is The McDonnell Center. The McDonnell Center provides comprehensive programming to address offender criminogenic needs, such as chemical dependency, education, employment, cognitive behavior therapy, and family relationships. The program progressively integrates higher risk offenders back into the community while reducing prison overcrowding and recidivism. Eligibility requirements were revised in 2015 to allow moderate risk offenders.

Most offenders sentenced to the CBCF are concurrently supervised by the CBCF supervision officers or officers from specialized units. The CBCF Supervision Officers have work stations at the McDonnell Center and an office at the Justice Center. 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 plan and Community Control expectations once they are 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 staff engage in many collaborative efforts, including cross-trainings and joint Probation and Judicial Orientations for newly admitted residents.

In 2022, Common Pleas Court referred 406 male offenders to the McDonnell Center, and 317 of those offenders were admitted. Common Pleas Court referred 82 female offenders to the Cliff Skeen CBCF in Summit County, and 55 were admitted.

The court does place offenders in other state-funded CBCF facilities, dependent on various factors, including, but not limited to, offense types, failure at the local CBCF, and female specific CBCF programming.

CBCF placements were made at the following out of Cuyahoga County CBCFs:

Summit County CBCF - Oriana for females (55 admissions)

Northwest (Bowling Green-Males) (18 admissions)

Lorain/Medina CBCF - Males (24 male admissions, 1 female)

Lucas County CBCF – Males (1 admission)

RESTITUTION

The Restitution Unit of the Adult Probation Department had a very successful year in 2022. Some of the accomplishments were posting the Unclaimed Funds Report in early January 2022 for crime victims to review for potential payments, the passing of the 2020 State Financial Audit with no audit findings or items discussed in an Audit Management letter, and continuity of services being provided in spite of the Court's COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

TOTAL 2022 FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS			
	FY 2021	FYI 2022	\$Increase or Decrease
Restitution Payments	1,923,115.33	1,355,001.49	568,111.34
GPS Monitoring Fees	97,879.62	89,772.39	8,107.23
Alcohol Monitoring Fees	13,636.00	17,048.00	3,412
Probation Supervision Fees	420,095.95	453,532.89	33,436.94
Total	\$2,455,403.87	\$1,915,354.77	\$540,049.10

In addition, Home Detention, Alcohol Monitoring, and Probation Supervision Fees total payments will oscillate every year due to the timing of payments by probationers, especially those who are pre-trial clients.

The Court continues to provide an online payment system. **In 2022, the Restitution Unit received payments made by credit cards totaling \$926,722.02.**



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 ensure compliance with the mandated training requirements of HB 86. Our 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.

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.

In 2022, the Line Staff and Supervisors provided approximately 77% of the training hours in 2022. This percentage is an increase of 12.5% from 2021 due to returning to in-person learning. All Probation Officers and Supervisors met the State HB 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 evidence-based practices and service delivery.

During 2022, the total number of training hours provided was 9617.25. The cost for training in 2022 was \$7,585.75.



Evidence-Based Practices	2022 Training Hours
Risk Assessment	303.00
Needs Assessment	581.50
Case Planning	601.50
Criminal Thinking Scales	261.75
Motivational Interviewing	142
Responsivity Issues	155
Supervision Strategies & Programming	250.50
Stages of Change	143.25
Principles	242
Ethics	0
General EBP	2515
Subtotal	5195.50
Correctional Practices	2022 Training Hours
CCH Training	24.45
Cross Training	58.0
Diversity	382.75
Laboratory Training	1.0
Special Docket: Drug Court, Domestic Violence, Veteran's Court	222.75
Management/Supervisor	112.25
Meetings	600
New Hire Orientation	1598
Outside Conferences	222.50
Policy & Procedure	0
Recordkeeping/Documentation	22
Safety	473
Webinar Training/Learning Center online courses	705
Subtotal	4421.75
TOTAL	9617.25

COMMON PLEAS COURT - PROBATION DEPARTMENT LABORATORY 2022

The Probation Department Laboratory performs drug 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 to produce test reports, bar code labels, statistical reports, and export results into the justice system database.

A combination of funding from the Community Corrections Act grants, the Court of Common Pleas, and user fees paid by other agencies using the laboratory sustain the Adult Probation Laboratory. Outside agencies contracting for laboratory services include CATS (Community Assessment Treatment Services), Cleveland Municipal Court, Euclid Municipal Court, Garfield Heights, Cleveland Heights Municipal Court Probation Departments, Early Intervention Program, Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC), and the Domestic Relations Division of the Court of Common Pleas.

The laboratory has 10 employees and is open from 8:00am – 5:45pm, Monday - Thursday.

NUMBER OF URINE SPECIMENS AND TESTS PERFORMED 2009 – 2022

Year	Total Specimens	Change	Drug Tests	Change
2022	80,525	21.6%	758,567	14.1%
2021	66,217	31.7%	664,838	37.7%
2020	50,263	(-45.37%)	482,592	(-41.16)
2019	92,000	(-9.6%)	820,202	(-2.8%)
2018	101,805	(3.4%)	844,012	2.4%
2017	105,471	8.7%	820,351	7.4%
2016	92,813	1.5%	610,993	4.4%
2015	89,237	1.5%	570,113 ³	(10.3%)
2014	87,898	(2.2%)	635,346 ²	38.2%
2013 ¹	89,947	(3.0%)	459,530 ²	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%)

Does not include creatinine test for 2019 = 92,000
 Does not include creatinine test for 2020 = 50,263
 Does Not include creatinine test for 2021 = 66,217

The Probation Department Laboratory subscribed to proficiency testing from the American Association of Bioanalysts and scored 100 percent (%) in testing accuracy in 2022. The Laboratory is not eligible to participate in any other inspection or certification programs because confirmation testing by gas chromatography/mass spectroscopy (GC/MS) is not performed in-house. Since the Laboratory only performs testing for forensic purposes, it is exempt from CLIA regulations.

Specimens are tested for two to 10 drugs and may be positive for more than one drug. In addition, validity testing is performed on each specimen by measuring the creatinine level. The laboratory added fentanyl to its testing menu July 1, 2016. The laboratory added benzodiazepine testing December, 2019.

URINE DRUG SCREENS

Urine Drug Screens	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Subjects	17,514	16,893	15,980	15,236	14,858	10,578	10,646	11,903
Total Specimens **	89,237	92,813	105,471	101,805	92,000	50,263	66,217	80,525
Specimens Positive for One or More Drugs	16,847	18,262	21,828	19,320	20,768	11,195	17,050	20,422
% Specimens Positive for One or More Drugs	18.9%	19%	20.6%	18.9% ³	22.5%	22.2%	23.0%	21.3%

Percent Positive by Drug	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cocaine	3.1%	3.0%	3.9%	3.2%	3.75%	2.6%	2.6%	2.7%
Marijuana	10.6%	1.0%	11.6%	10.6%	14.0%	13.3%	17.0%	20.3%
Opiates	3.5%	2.0%	1.6%	0.9%	1%	.5%	0.3%	0.5%
Phencyclidine (PCP)	0.8%	2.5%	1.1%	0.8%	0.95%	1.3%	1.3%	1.1%
Amphetamines	1.2%	1.0%	1.2%	1.5%	2.0%	2.0%	1.75	2.6%
6-Acetylmorphine (heroin)	0.7%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.5%	0.25%	0.5%
Oxycodone	1.4%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.95%	.33%	0.65	0.25%
ETG - alcohol		8.3%	7.5%	7.7%	7.4%	7.7%	7.7%	8.3%
Fentanyl		1.0%	1.3%	0.9%	0.95%	1.7%	0.6%	0.8%
Benzodiazepine					2.0%	2.6%	1%	2.0%

HAIR TESTING

Hair specimens are sent to Omega Laboratories Inc., an accredited reference laboratory (CAP - College of America Pathologists Laboratory Accreditation Program). 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. (* 6-acetylmorphine (6-AM) Heroin metabolite)

Hair Testing	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Specimens	124	121	117	131	115	63	44	59
Negative	98	93	80	94	81	48	31	40
Quantity Not Sufficient	2	6	1	5	1	2	0	2
Positive	31	22	36	32		13	13	17
Cocaine	12	24	51	25	4	21	3	3
Marijuana	15	10	18	15	13	7	9	11
Amphetamines	2	3	9	12	0	2	1	2
MDMA (Ecstasy)	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Methamphetamine	2	0	3	2	1	1	0	1
Morphine	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
Codeine	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6-AM*	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
Phencyclidine	0	0	0	0	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 procedure currently being used is an on-site immunoassay device BioTech and is the only FDA approved oral fluid device in the United States. The following drugs are reported: Amphetamine, Cocaine, Marijuana, opiates, oxycodone and PCP.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Specimens	837	632	792	302	301	422	479
Positive Specimens	67	35	48	19	19	21	38
% Positive Specimens	8.0%	5.6%	6.0%	6.2%	6.3%	5%	7.9%
**Tests (6/specimen)	3348	2528	3163	1208	1204	2498	2842

URINE DIP TESTING

The laboratory utilizes Reditest, an on-site device for preliminary 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, nor does it test for ETG and Fentanyl. Test results are presumptive only, and all specimens are retested when the instrument is available.

REFERENCE LABORATORY TESTING

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

Total tests: The tests performed by MetroHealth consist of cocaine confirmation, opiate confirmation, amphetamine confirmation, THC confirmation and PCP confirmation specimens 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.

Testing sent to Redwood Toxicology consist of all 29 panel fentanyl confirmations, ETG confirmation, K2, and Kratom testing.

	2018	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021	/2022
	METRO	RED WOOD	METRO	RED WOOD	METRO	RED WOOD	METRO	RED WOOD	REDWOOD
Total Tests	8181	1044	7412	1297	1655	718	1464	1566	3363
Positive Tests	1441	365	2898	513	777	482	798	870	2249
% Positive Tests	17.6%	34.9%	39%	39.5%	46.9%	67.1%	54.5%	55.5%	33.9%



2022

CRIMINAL RECORDS



**Gwendolyn Bennett,
Bond Commissioner**

The Criminal Records Department is primarily responsible for bond investigations, Arraignment Room proceedings, and defendant criminal history maintenance.

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 a recommendation for a reasonable bond is presented to the Arraignment Judge. Bond investigators also provide information to the courtrooms where there has been a motion for bond reduction.

The department's bond investigators conducted 5,633 bail investigations during 2022.

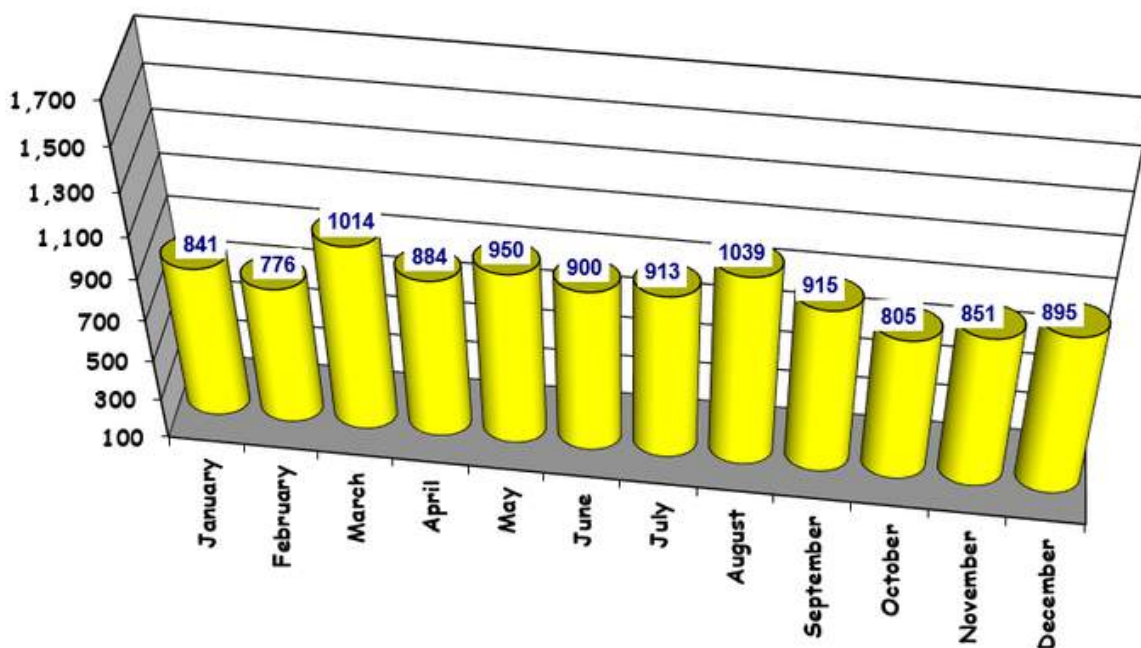
ARRAIGNMENTS

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 referred 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. 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 to have one be appointed. The Arraignment Judge may also issue *capias* for defendants who fail to appear at the scheduled arraignment. At the conclusion of the arraignments, the staff updates the case files and forwards the files to the trial judge assigned. E-mails are automatically sent to the attorneys appointed to represent indigent defendants.

During 2022, there were 17,834 scheduled arraignments.

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.

Common Pleas Court Monthly Felony Arraignments 2022



FIRST APPEARANCE DOCKET

In 2022, jail 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 counsel at the early stage of the felony process. At this appearance, a bond is set or continued, and the case is referred for presentation to the Grand Jury.

1,849 First Appearances were held in 2022.

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, including with the Sheriff's, Clerk's, and Prosecutor's Offices to assure 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.

2022 YEAR to DATE ARRAIGNMENT STATS

YTD Monthly 2022	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD TOTAL	
Total Scheduled Bails	1008	973	1135	1028	1003	1009	980	1222	1035	877	981	1047	12298	
Total Scheduled Jails	409	410	510	453	499	497	475	480	461	427	431	484	5536	
Total Scheduled	1417	1383	1645	1481	1502	1506	1455	1702	1496	1304	1412	1531	17834	17834
Bails Arraigned	461	399	554	470	494	441	463	597	488	416	441	459	5683	
Jails Arraigned	380	377	460	414	456	459	450	442	427	389	410	436	5100	
Total Arraigned	841	776	1014	884	950	900	913	1039	915	805	851	895	10783	10783
Total Capias	338	312	340	361	373	323	350	424	402	253	326	316	4118	
Total Cont.	238	295	291	236	179	283	192	239	179	246	235	320	2933	
Retained Atty.	192	144	237	198	174	185	184	226	173	164	182	148	2207	
Assigned Atty.	649	632	777	686	776	715	729	813	742	641	669	747	8576	10783
PD Assigned	276	240	280	251	261	242	259	294	308	215	263	309	3198	
TOTAL SCHEDULED	1417	1383	1645	1481	1502	1506	1455	1702	1496	1304	1412	1531	17834	17834
MONTHLY YEAR to DATE		2800	4445	5926	7428	8934	10389	12091	13587	14891	16303	17834		
Capias % of Scheduled bails	33.5%													
									% ASSIGNED TO PD			37.3%		

2022

JURY COMMISSION



LaToya Cook, Patricia I. Bitner
Jury Co-Commissioners

(Temporary Location Check-In, Global Center)

The Jury Commission's goal remains to reduce the cost of jurors and gain more effective utilization of jurors.

In comparison to 2021, there was an increase in the number of jurors who were called in and an increase in the number of juror days. The number of jurors who spent more than the five-day minimum also increased. Our goal is to try and utilize the Monday/Wednesday jurors in a way that, if possible, we can keep them within their five-day term to remain within our budget.

The Jury Commission continued to utilize the Global Center in 2022 for all new jurors due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

JUROR UTILIZATION - CRIMINAL 2022

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Panels	0	18	37	41	39	25	25	34	29	29	37	6	320
Trials	0	11	20	21	23	14	13	19	17	12	17	1	168

JUROR UTILIZATION - CIVIL 2022

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Panels	0	0	5	5	9	7	5	11	7	5	6	3	63
Trials	0	0	4	4	8	6	4	9	6	4	5	2	52

CAPITAL CASE JURY TRIAL - 1;

NUMBER OF JURORS - 16,969;

NUMBER OF JUROR DAYS OVER 5 - 828;

TOTAL NUMBER OF JUROR DAYS - 37,742;

In January, May, and September prospective 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, Christine Jackson, is the liaison between the Prosecutor, the Grand Jurors, and Grand Jury witnesses.

JURY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2022

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Drawn	5750	5100	4800	5400	6900	5100	5700	6600	4800	6800	4500	3003	64453
Report	0	1210	1616	1626	1851	1380	1424	2147	1587	1667	1678	783	16969

PETIT JURORS DRAWN 64453

GRAND JURORS DRAWN 4050

SPECIAL JURORS DRAWN 0

TOTAL 68503

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

JUROR UTILIZATION – CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT 2022

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Panels	0	7	4	3	2	2	0	0	3	0	1	3	25
Trials	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	7

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Drawn	1500	1200	1200	1500	2000	1600	1600	2000	1600	2000	1400	1041	18641
Report	0	98	42	20	28	29	0	0	41	0	26	46	330

Total Jury Fees (Cleveland): \$10,827.00

2022

DISPUTE RESOLUTION



Rebecca Wetzler, Administrator

The Dispute Resolution Department provides multiple methods of dispute resolution for the Court: civil mediation, arbitration, and business mediation. In 2022, the department experimented with hosting an entire Settlement Week in December. The parties and department found it to be beneficial and educational. We anticipate building on the experience and making it even more productive. The department saw a return to the popularity of in-person mediations, while still offering virtual hearings via Zoom, if necessary. The mediators continued the outreach to the community that they have done over the years. Some of the events include being guest speakers at the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and Case Western Reserve University School of Law, as well as CLE conferences.

MEDIATION

Mediation is the most widely used method of dispute resolution in the court. It is a non-binding process in which a mediator assists the parties in negotiating their case's contested issues with the goal of helping them reach an agreement. As an impartial participant, the mediator does not advocate for a particular outcome. The mediator does challenge the parties to view the issues from different perspectives and focus on their interests, instead of their initial positions. The court mediators are adept at mediating any type of civil matters and the department currently utilizes the services of two independent contractor mediators to mediate worker's compensation cases.

CIVIL MEDIATION

Civil mediation cases are referred directly by the Judges. In 2022, we saw the settlement ratio continue to bounce back a bit from its low point in 2020. As trial dates have become more certain and more in person hearings take place, it is anticipated the ratio will continue to increase.

Statistics & Analysis for 2022

Total Cases Referred to Court Mediation	2,460
Total Cases Mediated	1,355
Total Cases Settled by Mediation	745
Percentage of Settlements	55%

BUSINESS MEDIATION

Business mediations are conducted pursuant to Local Rule 21.2. Judges may refer any business case to the department for mediation. The department notifies the parties of the referral and provides them with three names from the list of eligible mediators. The parties rank their choice and return the ranking sheet to the department. The Dispute Resolution 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.

Statistics & Analysis for 2022

Total Cases Referred to Business Mediation	16
Total Completed Mediations	8
Total Settlements	3
Percentage of Settlements	38%

ARBITRATION

The original method of dispute resolution is arbitration. In August 2021, the local rule for arbitration changed its “address” from Local Rule 29 to Local Rule 21.1. In addition, the monetary limit increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000, and the arbitrator fees increased as well. Judges refer cases to the department, and 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 department receives and files the Report and Awards from the arbitrators, and if no appeal is taken from the award within 30 days, the department prepares a final judgment entry reflecting the arbitration award.

MANDATORY ARBITRATION STATISTICS FOR 2022

Total Cases Referred	49
Arbitration Referral Vacated	5
Net Total Arbitration Referrals	44
Report & Awards Filed	33
Total Appeal de Novo Filed	11

FINAL ENTRIES

	2022
Arbitration Cases Settled (no fees paid)	22
Awards Reduced to Judgment	17
Bankruptcy	0
TOTAL FINAL ENTRIES	39

PERCENTAGES 2022 (Based on 44 net referrals)

Arbitration Cases Settled before Hearing	50%
Arbitration Cases Appealed	25%
Arbitration Awards Appealed	33%
Arbitration Awards Reduced to Judgment	51%

SUMMARY

Dispute resolution remains an effective and efficient way to resolve legal disputes. This conclusion is supported by the department’s referral and settlement rates. Cuyahoga County residents are fortunate to have multiple dispute resolution options, which provide them an opportunity to take control of their cases’ outcomes and promotes fuller and longer lasting resolutions.

2022

MAGISTRATES



**Stephen M. Bucha III,
Chief Magistrate**

(Magistrates Office, Courthouse Square)

The Court's mission is to provide a forum for the fair, impartial and timely resolution of cases. The Magistrates Department, under Chief Magistrate Stephen M. Bucha III and Assistant Chief Magistrate Kevin C. Augustyn, works hard to achieve this mission.

The magistrates' diverse case load entails adjudicating most of the Court's often complicated and emotionally fraught foreclosure, partition, and quiet title cases. Additionally, most of the Judges refer civil stalking protection order cases to the magistrates. The magistrates serve as the primary backup to all Judges who do not automatically refer such cases. Some Judges refer other types of civil matters, such as preliminary injunction hearings or administrative appeals, to the magistrates. The magistrates are also available to the Judges for consultations on matters related to foreclosure and real estate law in general. This work requires intensive docket management, extensive research, and detailed written opinions. Overall, the magistrates were referred 31.9% of the Court's civil cases (4,901 of 15,347) and were responsible for 32.4% of the Court's civil dispositions (6,025 of 18,600) in 2022.

The magistrates' involvement begins upon referral of a case, shortly after filing, and continues through trial or other disposition. The magistrates are also 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 2022, case referrals to the department increased 2.7% and the adjudication of cases by the department increased by 17.7% compared to 2021. Moreover, the magistrates are adjudicating an ever-increasing number and percentage of the court's civil stalking protection order cases. The magistrates held a total of 1,584 hearings in civil stalking protection order cases, a huge increase of 82.7% compared to 2021, after a 67.4% increase in similar hearings between 2020 and 2021. The magistrates held at least one hearing in nearly all of such cases filed with the Court in 2022. This rate was 96.8% in 2021, 77.3% in 2020, and 35.5% in 2019.

In addition to adjudicating cases, the Magistrates Department serves the people of Cuyahoga County and the legal community in myriad ways. Magistrates take part in educational forums around the county and field thousands of phone calls and in-person visits by self-represented litigants. The department continually educates and informs academics, municipalities, the bar, and the general public, including those facing foreclosure, about real estate law and procedure. The department assists homeowners in exploring ways to save their home or to make a smooth transition to other living arrangements. 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. Others serve on the Ohio Supreme Court Judicial College planning committee, have contributed to Ohio Supreme Court Judicial College curriculum project, and have appeared as speakers in numerous Judicial College seminars and other continuing legal education courses. The department assists committees that are redrafting and improving the court's local rules and revising the Court's employee handbook. The magistrates make themselves available on a rotating basis to answer lawyers' general questions concerning foreclosure law and procedure.

This impressive record of service shows that the magistrates and staff have done their part to achieve the Court's mission.

For the most recent year that budget information is available (2020), the magistrates assisted the Judges in disposing of 32.4% of the court's civil dispositions.

In order to place the statistics reported herein in proper context, below is a 32 year summary of the Magistrates Department's statistics and a four year summary of civil stalking protection order statistics.

Year	Referrals ¹	% Change from Previous Year	Reinstates ²	% Change from Previous Year	Referrals & Reinstates Combined	% Change From Previous Year	Supplementals ³	% Change From Previous Year	Decrees ⁴	% Change from Previous Year	Dispositions ⁵	% Change from Previous Year	Net Case Gain/Loss ⁶
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%	-826
1995	2582	-23.3%	230	196.7%	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	5315	8.6%	835	32.9%	6150	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%	4388	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%	657
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%	-1610
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	-5.3%	6933	-6.1%	-452
2017	5211	-15.5%	301	-4.5%	5512	-15.0%	31426	-16.3%	3947	-10.0%	6316	-8.3%	-804
2018	5754	10.4%	245	-18.6%	5999	8.9%	28482	-9.4%	3613	-8.5%	5926	-16.3%	173
2019	5927	3%	183	-25.30%	6110	1.9%	27693	2.80%	3862	6.90%	5998	1.20%	112
2020	4252	-28.3%	101	-44.8%	4353	-28.8%	19937	-28%	2603	-32.6%	3916	-34.7%	437
2021	4774	12.30%	32	-0.90%	4866	11.8%	25,061	25.70%	3303	26.90%	4880	24.60%	-14
2022	4901	2.70%	119	29.40%	5020	3.2%	28404	13.30%	3889	17.70%	6025	23.50%	-1,005

(1) This column represents all cases referred to the Magistrates which includes all of the Court's Foreclosure, Quiet Title and Partition cases, and some of the Court's Civil Stalking Protection Orders. Foreclosures represent 90%± of all cases referred to the Magistrate's Department.

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

(3) 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 magistrates orders.

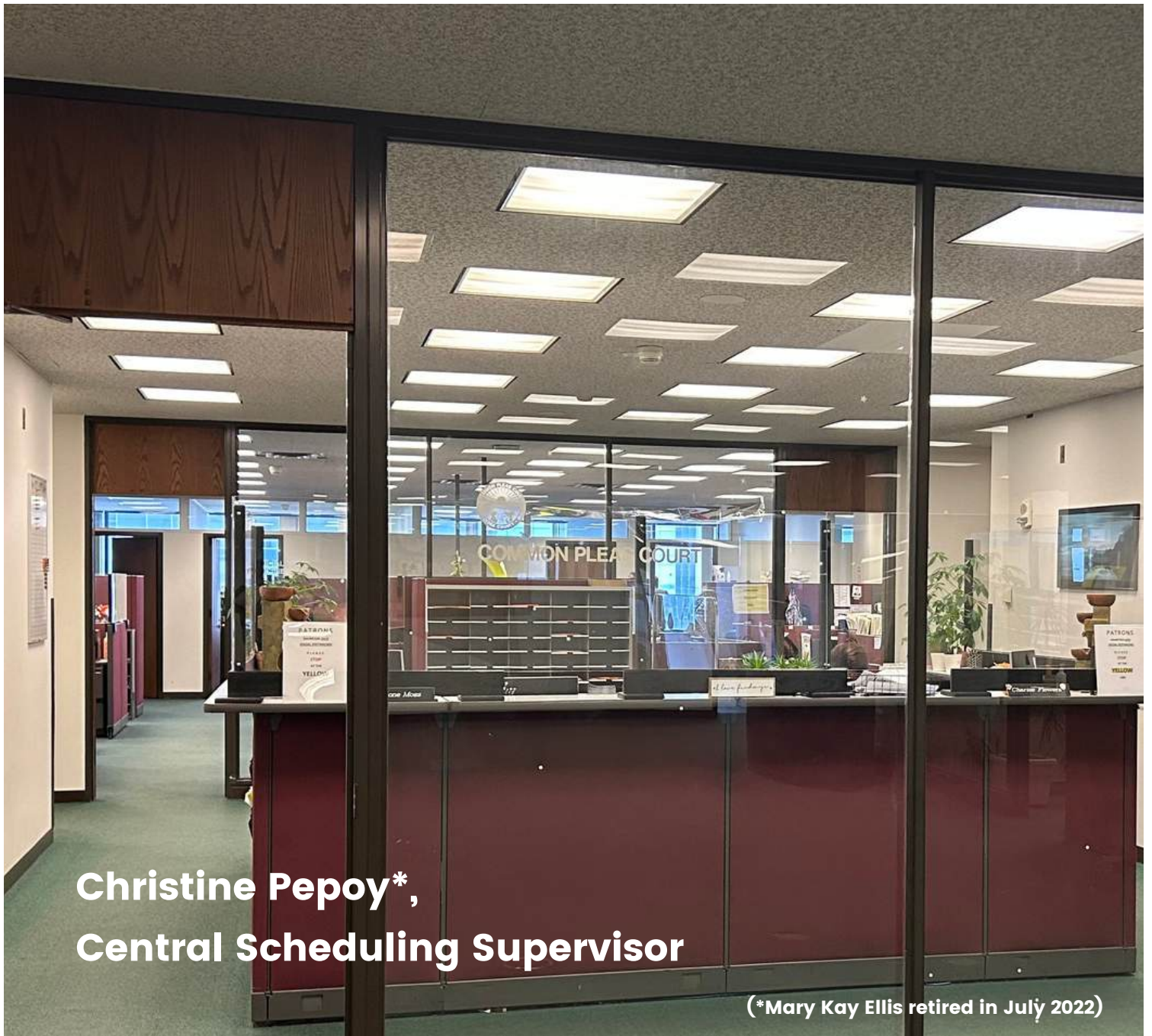
(4) This column represents all decrees of foreclosure, decrees for quiet title, and decrees of partition entered by the Magistrates.

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

(6) This column is the difference between Referrals and Reinstates Combined and Dispositions.

2022

COURT SERVICES



**Christine Pepoy*,
Central Scheduling Supervisor**

(*Mary Kay Ellis retired in July 2022)

The Central Scheduling Office is located on the 11th floor of the Justice Center Courts Tower. This department of 16 employees assists the Judges in docket management, record keeping, scheduling of cases, and the preparation of criminal and civil journal entries.

COURTROOM ASSISTANTS

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 are able to create criminal as well as civil journal entries for their Judges, bailiffs and staff attorneys, and they continue to be an integral part of the courtroom team while helping to relieve the load from other staff.

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 court bailiff as well as keep abreast of their own duties until the bailiff's return. 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

Receptionists are multi-functional employees. In addition to assisting 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

The 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 who were assigned by the Court to represent indigent defendants. **In 2022, 7,043 vouchers were prepared, examined for errors, and submitted for distribution of funds.** This figure represents a decrease from previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in reduced court activity.

JUDICIAL SECRETARIES

The Secretarial Department of the Court serves the 34 sitting judges as well as the visiting judges, judicial staff attorneys, and other Court personnel. Their responsibilities include transcribing from Dictaphone. Those who take dictation may be called upon to do so, but it is no longer a requirement. They are also responsible for typing various documents that include criminal and civil jury instructions, verdict forms, jury interrogatories, journal entries, opinions, various reports, speeches, letters, and any other documents required by the Judges.

This Department consists of eight secretaries, each 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 assist with the installation of new programs.

VISITING JUDGE PROGRAM

The Visiting Judge Program is managed by the Supervisor of Central Scheduling and consists of four retired Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges and retired out-of-county Judges who are 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 2022, in addition to the specialized Asbestosis/Workers' Compensation and Asbestos dockets, the Visiting Judge Program disposed of 27 civil cases. Of those, nine cases were disposed of by settlement, which results in a 33.3% 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. In 2022, eight criminal cases were disposed. Collectively, the Judges were in trial a total of 60 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.

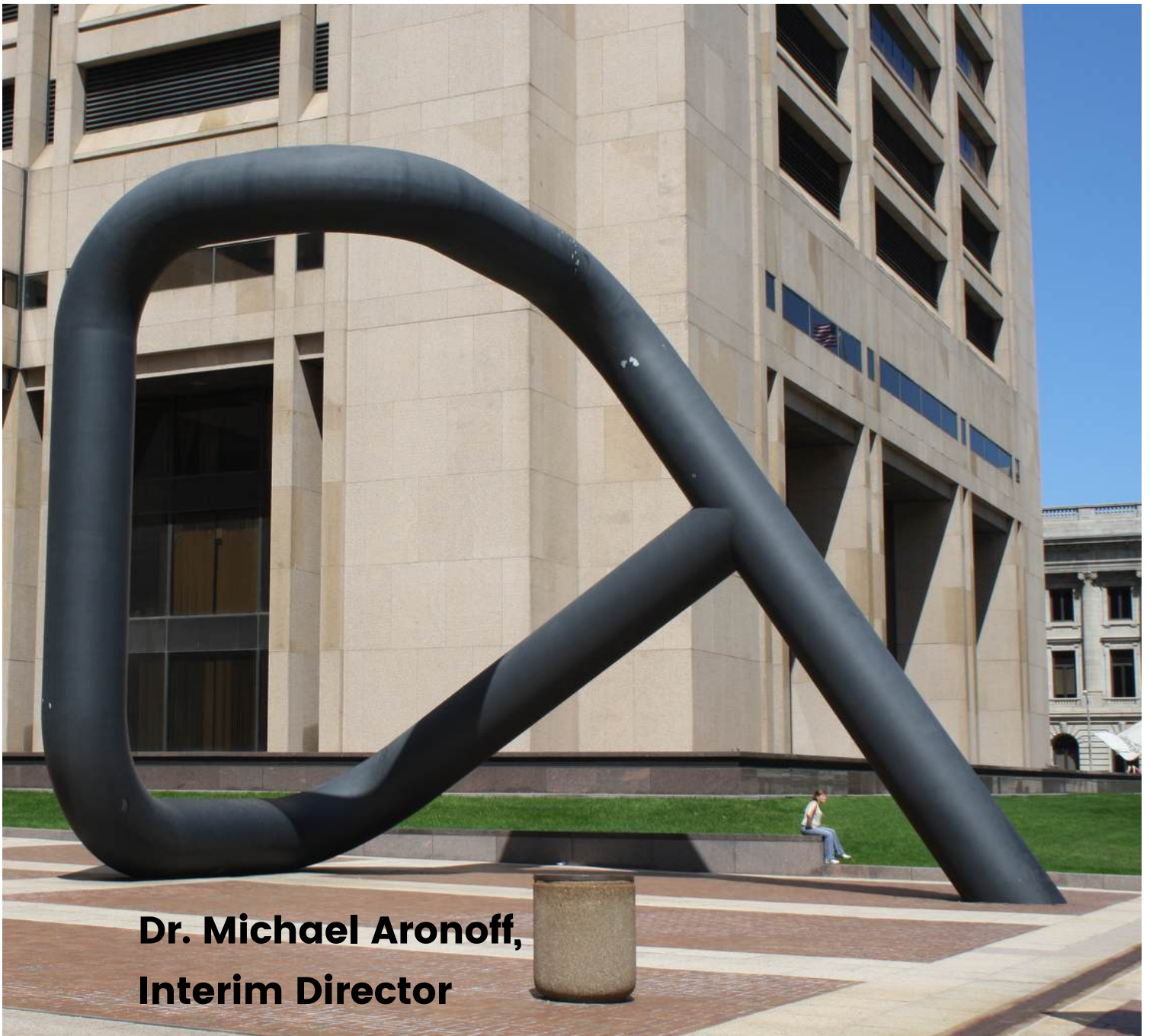
JUDGE	CIVIL CASES DISPOSED	CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED
Burnside, Janet	3	0
Cosgrove, Patricia	0	1
Haas, John	3	4
Hanna, Harry	1	0
Kelsey, Reeve	2	2
McGinty, Timothy	9	0
McMonagle, R.J.	8	0
Yost, Gary	1	1

ASBESTOS/WORKERS' COMP ASBESTOS DOCKET

The specialized Asbestos docket and Workers' Compensation Asbestos docket are presided over by Visiting Judge Harry A. Hanna. At the beginning of 2022, the pending case load was 441 and the total pending cases at the end of 2022 was 389. There were 32 new cases filed in 2022. Judge Hanna disposed of 84 cases in 2022. Since January 2014, the Asbestos Docket has been reduced by 4,775 cases.

2022

PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC



**Dr. Michael Aronoff,
Interim Director**

COURT CLINIC REFERRALS

During 2022, the Court Psychiatric Clinic received 1,932 referrals. This represents a 12% increase in referrals over the 1,722 received in 2021. This may be suggestive of a gradual return to pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels.

CLINICAL STAFF

Dr. Michael Aronoff continued serving as Interim Director/Chief of Psychology of the Court Psychiatric Clinic in 2022. Two employees of the Court Psychiatric Clinic retired in 2022. Michael Caso, LISW, retired after 26 years of service as Chief Social Worker. Annmarie O'Neil retired after 10 years of service as a Transcriptionist. Both of them will be greatly missed.

In September 2022, the Court Psychiatric Clinic hired full-time psychologist Dr. Dylan Songer. His clinical work is supervised by Dr. Jacqueline Heath as he completes the process of obtaining his psychology licensure.

All clinical staff (psychiatrist/psychologist/neuropsychologist/social worker) provide direct evaluation services.

SUPPORT STAFF

The support staff worked diligently in 2022 to facilitate completion of clinical reports in a timely manner. Three transcriptionists (Latanya Aikens, Annmarie O'Neil, Portia Pettus) continued to work from home, typing dictation from examiners. Molly Kelly (Office Manager), Margaret Goggin (Assistant Office Manager), and Misty Spriggs (Office Assistant) demonstrated continued excellence in their office reception, answering telephone calls, processing and scheduling 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' review.

The Court Psychiatric Clinic processes referrals and schedules appointments using an electronic calendar developed by the Information Services Department (ISD). This has proven to be a significant time-saver and helped streamline the overall referral and scheduling process. Office Manager Molly Kelly has continued to work with Paul Ley, Assistant Director/Senior Analyst, to enhance and improve the system. This has resulted in more complete case management with respect to notifying defendants of their upcoming appointments (thereby reducing "no shows"), monitoring and assigning transcription services, and timely completion and submission of reports. Support staff also worked with ISD to further refine the process of entering data for statistical forms mandated by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The Clinic was fortunate to have a summer student intern in 2022, who assisted with entering this data.

SENATE BILL 285/122 "SECOND OPINION" EVALUATIONS

For the 26th year, Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services provided funding to the Court Psychiatric Clinic to conduct Senate Bill 285/122 "Second Opinion" evaluations. Clinical staff conduct these evaluations at Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare (Northfield, Ohio) and the Warrensville Developmental Center (Highland Hills, Ohio) on defendants 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." In 2022, Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services provided the Court Psychiatric Clinic with \$172,000 to conduct these evaluations. The funds are administered through the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County. In 2022, Court Psychiatric Clinic staff completed 12 Senate Bill 285/122 "Second Opinion" Evaluations, which is equivalent to the number of referrals received the previous year.

COMPETENCY AND SANITY EVALUATIONS

In 2022, competency and sanity evaluations constituted 36% of the total referrals to the Court Psychiatric Clinic. Competency Evaluation referrals totaled 537 for the year, representing an increase of 16% from 2021. Sanity Evaluation referrals for 2022 totaled 156. This represents a slight decrease of 2% from 2021.

INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF CONVICTION EVALUATIONS

Referrals for Intervention in Lieu of Conviction Evaluations totaled 408, a 30% increase from the 315 received in 2021. The Social Work staff completed the majority of these reports, which in addition to substance use, require the examiner to consider factors, such as mental illness, intellectual disability, and human trafficking/prostitution victimization in the evaluation.

HOUSE BILL 180 (SEXUAL PREDATOR) AND SEXUAL OFFENDER EVALUATIONS

The Court Psychiatric Clinic received 14 referrals for House Bill 180 and Sexual Offender Evaluations, a 40% increase from 2021. Sexual offender evaluations often involve 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 testimony at court hearings. Sexual offender evaluations continue to be one of the most labor-intensive examinations performed at the Court Psychiatric Clinic.

CIVIL COMMITMENT EVALUATIONS

The Court Psychiatric Clinic received 10 referrals for Civil Commitment Evaluations in 2022, which represents a 150% increase from the four referrals received in 2021.

MITIGATION OF PENALTY/MENTAL HEALTH COURT ELIGIBILITY AND PROBATION EVALUATIONS

The Court Psychiatric Clinic received 748 referrals for Mitigation of Penalty/Mental Health Court Eligibility Evaluations. This represents a 4% increase from 2021. We also received 47 referrals for Probation Evaluations, an increase of 15% from 2021.

COURT PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC TRAINING FUNCTIONS

The Court Psychiatric Clinic maintains its affiliation with the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Two groups of Forensic Psychiatry Fellows (three in each cohort), pursuing fellowship training under the supervision of Susan Hatters-Friedman, M.D., rotated through the Court Psychiatric Clinic during the academic years of 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

We also maintain our association with the Mandel School of Applied Social Science (MSASS) at Case Western Reserve University. A Social Work student was placed at the Court Psychiatric Clinic (24 hours/week) during the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years. These students are supervised by David Menke, LISW.

Due to the pandemic, in 2022, the Court Psychiatric Clinic was unable to provide other educational seminars and experiences to students/trainees of various disciplines. Nonetheless, it is anticipated these activities will resume once permissible.

AWARDS

Dr. Aronoff was awarded the Franklin A. Polk Public Servants Merit Award by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation in 2022, in recognition of his 26 years of service to the Court of Common Pleas.

THE ASSOCIATION OF OHIO FORENSIC EVALUATION CENTER DIRECTORS

In 2022, Dr. Aronoff was active in the Association of Ohio Forensic Evaluation Center Directors. He attended monthly Zoom meetings and helped plan a virtual presentation which focused on conducting evaluations pursuant to O.R.C. Section 2929.025-Sentencing for Aggravated Murder when Offender had a Serious Mental Illness at the Time of the Offense. This presentation was attended by staff of community forensic psychiatric centers throughout the state.

THE COURT PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC REMAINS FOCUSED ON ITS CORE MISSION

During 2022, the Court Psychiatric Clinic continued to focus its resources on achieving its primary mission to prepare thorough, timely, and useful clinical assessments of defendants referred by the Common Pleas Court and Probation Department.

**COURT PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC (01/01/22 - 12/31/22)
NUMBER OF REFERRALS**

Competence to Stand Trial-2945.371 (A)	537
Sanity at the Time of the Act-2945.371(A)	156
Mitigation of Penalty/Mental Health Court-2947.06(B)	748
Civil Commitment-2945.40 & 5122.01	10
Movement to Non-Secured Status –S.B. 285	12
House Bill 180/Sexual Offender Evaluations	14
Intervention in Lieu of Conviction-2945.041	408
Reports for Probation-2951.03	47
Miscellaneous	0
Total	1,932

**COURT PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC
COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF REFERRALS
2021 & 2022**

	2021	2022	% Change, +/-
Competence to Stand Trial	464	537	+16%
Sanity at the Time of the Act	159	156	-2%
Mitigation of Penalty/Mental Health Court	717	748	+4%
Civil Commitment	4	10	+150%
Movement to Non-Secured Status	12	12	-----
House Bill 180/Sexual Offender Evaluation	10	14	+40%
Intervention in Lieu of Conviction	315	408	+30%
Reports for Probation	41	47	+15%
Miscellaneous	0	0	-----
Total	1,722	1,932	+12%

2022

COURT REPORTERS



COURT REPORTERS

BRUCE J. BISHILANY
CHIEF COURT REPORTER

In 2022, 26,762 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 10,783 arraignments and diversions, and a similar number of cases in Grand Jury. On average each member of the Department stenographically reported over 1,293 cases. Along with Chief Official Court Reporter Bruce J. Bishilany and Assistant Chief Court Reporters Robert P. Lloyd and Kellie Roper, the department consists of 35 Court Reporters.

Court Reporters serve the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the Justice Center, visiting Judges sitting by assignment in the Lakeside Courthouse, Magistrates, 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, the 8th District 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 as well as hearing impaired attorneys so that they are able to participate fully in the judicial process and in order for the County to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Court Reporters Department continues to provide realtime reporting to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas on trials.

Due to a number of court reporter retirements in 2022, and the inability to replace them, the Court Reporters Department is currently handling more matters with less people. The number of cases handled per court reporter has significantly increased. The Court Reporters Department has been innovative over the past year to make certain each courtroom has a court reporter when needed and to minimize any wait time.



2022

CORRECTIONS PLANNING BOARD

Linda Lagunzad, Interim Board Administrator



The Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board strives to develop and support community corrections programming in Cuyahoga County to enhance public safety and the protection of victims.

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

- Provide effective alternatives to incarceration,
- Seek and secure funding and resources,
- Provide oversight of all grant funding, and
- Develop and maintain partnerships with stakeholders.

Cuyahoga County established its Corrections Planning Board (CPB) in 1984. The Corrections Planning Board, comprised of 18 members, administers Community Corrections Act (CCA) grant funds from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for community jail and prison diversion programs. The Board Chair is the Presiding Judge of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. The Court's Adult Probation Department utilizes most of the Court's local community corrections funding.

During FY 2022, the Board administered 407 and 408 CCA grants to fund and staff local community corrections programs. In addition to the annual CCA funds, the State provided the 2022-2023 Justice Reinvestment and Incentive Program (JRIG) grant initiative for the reduction in prison commitment for non-violent F4 and F5 offenders and the 2022-2023 Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison (TCAP) initiative to support efforts to comply with new sentencing regulations for certain F5 offenses. The Corrections Planning Board also oversees a significant amount of funding from other sources, including federal grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and the County Office of Re-Entry.

The 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. Cuyahoga County has reduced the number of prison commitments from 20% of all Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) commitments in SFY 2010 to 13% in SFY 2022. Cuyahoga County, whose population is 10.5% of the State population, historically contributes approximately 17% of the statewide total of non-residential diversions. In CY 2022, local community sanction alternatives resulted in diversion from incarceration for 4,762 criminal offenders, a 46% increase from FY 2021, with a volume back to pre-COVID levels.

The Cuyahoga County CCA programs and the Corrections Planning Board have received numerous awards to recognize their contributions to community corrections. In 2019, both Deputy Chief Probation Officers received the Franklin A. Polk Public Servants Merit Award from the Cleveland Bar Association. The Probation Management Team and Corrections Planning Board Administrator actively participate in the CCA Directors Organization. In addition, the Chief Probation Officer serves on the Board of Trustees/Executive Board Members of the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC).

Several projects are funded jointly with other Cuyahoga County agencies, such as the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board and the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities. These partnerships allow all concerned agencies to maximize the resources available to the community. In addition, the Corrections Planning Board participates in the planning and coordination of several collaborative projects (e.g., the 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 for several state and federally-funded grants

CORRECTIONS PLANNING BOARD ROSTER OF MEMBERS

Honorable Brendan J. Sheehan, Chair

Administrative and Presiding Judge, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

As of January 1, 2022

<p>Hon. Brendan J. Sheehan <i>Judge, Common Pleas Court</i></p>	<p>Russell R. Brown III <i>Court Administrator Cleveland Municipal Court</i></p>	<p>Dean Jenkins <i>Administrator of a CCA- funded program within Cuyahoga County</i></p>
<p>Scott Osiecki <i>Chief Executive Officer, Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County</i></p>	<p>Armond Budish <i>Cuyahoga County Executive</i></p>	<p>Arthur B. Hill <i>Director, Salvation Army Harbor Light Complex</i></p>
<p>Maria Nemec <i>Chief Probation Officer Cuyahoga County Adult Probation</i></p>	<p>Meredith Turner <i>Public Representative</i></p>	<p>Chief Michael Cannon <i>Hunting Valley Police Department</i></p>
<p>Hon. Michael C. O'Malley <i>Cuyahoga County Prosecutor</i></p>	<p>Molly Gauntner <i>Vice President - Correctional Programs, Oriana House, Inc.</i></p>	<p>Calvin D. Williams <i>Chief of Police, City of Cleveland</i></p>
<p>Hon. K.J. Montgomery <i>Judge, Shaker Heights Municipal Court</i></p>	<p>Gregory Popovich <i>Court Administrator, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court</i></p>	<p>David D. Schilling, Jr. <i>Cuyahoga County Sheriff</i></p>
<p>Kelly Petty <i>Superintendent and CEO, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities</i></p>	<p>Cullen Sweeney, Esq. <i>Cuyahoga County Chief Public Defender</i></p>	<p>Christopher P. Viland <i>Representative of the Law Enforcement Community in Cuyahoga County</i></p>
<p>Robert Coury <i>Chief Public Safety and Justice Officer</i></p>		

407 INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAMS

For program descriptions and 2022 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, 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 2022

594	High Risk Supervision
406	Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD)
284	Domestic Violence (DV) Unit
193	CBCF Supervision
99	Electronic Monitoring/Work Release (EM/WR)
96	Sex Offender Program (SOP)
43	Moderate ISP
22	Felony Non-Support (FNS)
10	Recovery Court
2	Extreme <u>High Risk</u> Supervision
1,749	TOTAL Felony Diversions

408 JAIL REDUCTION PROGRAMS

For program descriptions and 2022 figures, please see the Probation Department Report.

The Jail Population Reduction Project began as a Community Corrections Act project in 1994. The project aims to reduce jail overcrowding by reducing unnecessary pretrial detention and case processing delay and better utilizing limited local jail space for appropriate offenders. 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 408 grant provides staff and resources for several programs, including a treatment coordination specialist.

JAIL DIVERSIONS ACHIEVED IN 2021

2,798	Court Supervised Release (CSR)
607	Domestic Intervention Education and Training (DIET)
301	Prosecutorial Diversion
33	Misdemeanor Alternative Sentencing (MASP)
3,013	Total Jail Diversions

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 ensure compliance with the mandated training requirements of HB 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.

The Training Specialist has created an Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) curriculum for staff skill development, a comprehensive Safety Training Program that began in 2014, and a Technology Training curriculum. A total of 60 line staff and supervisors volunteer to implement many of the components of the Training Program.

In 2022, the Probation Department continued to utilize both in-person and web-based learning.

The Line Staff and Supervisors provided approximately 77% of the training hours in 2022. This percentage is an increase of 12.5% from 2021 due to returning to in-person learning. All Probation Officers and Supervisors met the State HB 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 evidence-based practices and service delivery.

During 2022, the total number of training hours provided was 9617.25. The cost for training in 2022 was \$7,585.75.

Please see the Probation Department Report for a description of specific training offered in 2022.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM

The Substance Abuse program targets offenders with drug and alcohol problems. The 407 grant funds the Substance Abuse Case Manager tasked with referring and managing offenders placed in various residential substance abuse treatment programs. The Case Manager coordinates all offender referrals for residential substance abuse assessment and treatment services. The newly created Case Management Specialist assists the Case Manager. Referrals are based on evaluating Bail Bond Investigation reports, Pre-sentence Investigation reports, Risk/Needs Assessments, and Alcohol and Drug Assessments. Referrals can also be a condition of probation. The Case Manager makes treatment referrals when requested for drug-dependent persons requesting Intervention in Lieu of Conviction under O.R.C. 2951.041.

The Corrections Planning Board also manages treatment contracts not funded by CCA dollars: Common Pleas Court treatment contract, the Halfway House Initiative, and the Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board Jail Reduction contracts.

Due to the continuing opiate/heroin epidemic in the community, the time spent waiting for treatment placement in 2022 ranged from the previous average of 14 days to as long as 30 days as demand for residential treatment increased. The most challenging 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 the 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 2022, 666 offenders (a 20% increase from 2021) were placed into residential drug/alcohol treatment programs through the Probation Department/Correction Planning Board's Centralized Case Management program utilizing various funding sources:

- County contract
- ODRC
- Medicaid
- ADAMHS Board
- Other

Placements were made to the following agencies:

- Catholic Charities - Matt Talbot Inn & Matt Talbot for Women
- Community Assessment and Treatment (CATS)
- Salvation Army – Harbor Light Residential Treatment Program
- Salvation Army – Harbor Light HWH Program
- ORCA House
- Oriana House CCTC HWH
- HUMADAOP/Casa Alma
- Hitchcock House Center for Women
- Other Community-Based Correctional Facilities (Northwest, Lorain/Medina, Lucas County)

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

On February 1, 2011, the The McDonnell Center Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) opened in Cuyahoga County. In 2022, the number was very similar to those for CY 2021; 526 CBCF placements, 309 (59%) were from Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. In addition, the department placed 58 female defendants in the Cliff Skeen CBCF in Summit County, a 38% increase compared to 2021 placements.

To comply with court orders, the Centralized Case Manager referred 1,553 offenders to Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) for assessments, case management, and referral to treatment (including re-referrals), a 23% increase compared to 2021. In addition, 184 offenders were referred to TASC for assessments at the PSI stage, a 24% increase compared to referrals made at the PSI stage in 2021.

Effective November 8, 2010, the Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) division transferred from the Board of County Commissioners' Department of Justice Affairs to the Common Pleas Court's Corrections Planning Board. (See TASC Section of the Annual Report for 2022 figures.)

408 TREATMENT COORDINATOR

The 408 Treatment Coordinator receives referrals for treatment for defendants identified and assessed during pretrial incarceration in the jail or pretrial supervision and determined to have mental health and/or substance abuse issues by any of the Pretrial Services programs, including CSR, Bond Investigation, Early Intervention Program (EIP), and Diversion. In 2022, the Treatment Coordinator used various funding sources to place 21 defendants into residential treatment, similar to the 2021 placement numbers of 23. The average time spent in jail waiting for placement was three days.

The 408 Treatment Coordinator also serves as the point person for identification, eligibility determination, and placement for the Mental Health and 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, court coordinators, defendant family members, municipal courts, community agencies, and the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department in placing individuals in the appropriate substance abuse and mental health settings.

In addition, the 408 Treatment Coordinator sets up weekly staffing with the MHDD Judges, community agencies, MHDD supervision officers, forensic liaisons, and attorneys and assisted in developing 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 several funding sources, including Court funding, Community Corrections Act funding, SAMHSA grants, BJA grants, and TASC HHS Funds. A portion of Community Corrections funding covers reagents and drug testing fees. A contract (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024) for instrumentation and reagents was awarded to ThermoFisher Scientific, Inc. (formerly Microgenics). (Please see Probation Department Report for 2022 figures.)

2022

TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES TO STREET CRIME (TASC)



Guillermo Torres
TASC Manager

Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) is a nationally recognized program model designed to break the addiction-crime cycle of recidivism by providing Substance Use Disorder treatment services for 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. All justice-referred clients receive a comprehensive biopsychosocial diagnostic clinical assessment, which becomes the foundation for treatment recommendations and ongoing services. 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 treatment agencies are providing effective treatment services.

Calendar year 2022 brought staff back into the building after working from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Clients were then slowly integrated back into the TASC offices for in-person services assessments, case management, and group sessions.

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 toward this mission, Cuyahoga County 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 and Addiction Services certified to provide non-intensive outpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, and mental health services. Additionally, TASC received Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accreditation in 2013, and has successfully renewed this accreditation in 2016, 2019, and 2022.

TASC serves 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, non-intensive outpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, coordination of referrals to community treatment providers, and drug testing. TASC Assessment Specialists are Master's Degree educated and licensed by the State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist Board, and/or the Ohio Chemical Dependency Board. TASC Clinical staff have all been trained on American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) treatment criteria for addictive, substance-related and co-occurring conditions, and the appropriate use of the criteria in clinical decision-making and treatment planning.

ASSESSMENT

TASC assessments are conducted at the following stages in the criminal justice continuum: Diversion and Post Sentence. TASC assessors continued conducting bail assessments and jail assessments in the jail behind glass this year. The assessor determines whether a substance use disorder exists using DSM 5 criteria and then recommends the appropriate treatment intervention based on ASAM Dimensional Criteria. TASC utilizes an in-house MDA (multidimensional assessment) for all clinical assessments. The computer-generated program allows clinicians to expand narrative fields to include more detailed data on each individual. The tool also includes additional exploration of current and historical trauma.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Assessment Specialists develop individualized case plans to assist clients in meeting treatment recommendations as identified in the substance abuse assessment. The TASC Assessment Specialists link clients to treatment facilities and assists in removing any barriers that might interfere with the individual successfully completing treatment. TASC licensed staff provide crisis intervention and individual counseling when appropriate. TASC Assessment Specialists also assist offenders with the Medicaid applications.

NON-INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT

TASC provides a Non-Intensive Outpatient Treatment program for males. The groups are conducted in person. The six-session group meets weekly for two hours. Participants are required to attend online 12-step meetings and submit to random urinalyses. Participants complete a URICA (University of Rhode Island Change Assessment Scale) at intake and then at successful completion to measure shifts in a client's stage of change. TASC also utilizes the Gorski Relapse Prevention evidence-based practice program.

INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT

TASC currently provides two Intensive Outpatient Treatment programs on-site. Our MATRIX Model Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program is recognized by SAMHSA 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 is the Women's Trauma, Recovery and Empowerment Model (TREM), 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, DC. 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. 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 placement criteria for Intensive Outpatient Treatment, and have experienced past or present trauma.

JAIL FEMALE INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT TREATMENT

Through a grant received from the Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board (ADAMHS Board), TASC in 2019 implemented an evidence-based behavioral health program for females incarcerated in the County Jail and diagnosed with having an Opioid Use Disorder. Multiple participants in the TASC IOP program concurrently receive Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) through MetroHealth Medical Center. This services combination is consistent with the U.S. HHS - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrations (SAMHSA) guidance for best practice intervention services with Opioid Dependent clients. On an annual basis, this program has capacity to serve a maximum of approximately 80 clients annually. This program has been temporarily suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions as set forth by the County jail with programming set to resume when determined by the CDC as safe.



TASC REFERRALS 2020-2022

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<i>Referral Source</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>
	<i>Referrals Received</i>	<i>Referrals Received</i>	<i>Referrals Received</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court PRETRIAL</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATION</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>184</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court PROBATION</i>	<i>1,095</i>	<i>1,212</i>	<i>1,348</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court DRUG COURT (General Referrals- Not Assigned to a Docket)</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>84</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court DRUG COURT (McDonnell/Gallagher)</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court DRUG COURT/HOPE COURT (McGinty)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court DRUG COURT/MAT (Matia)</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>75</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court RECOVERY COURT (Synenberg)</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>51</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court VETERAN'S COURT (Santoli)</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Common Pleas Court INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF CONVICTION</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,616</i>	<i>1,783</i>	<i>2,044</i>
<i>Cleveland Municipal Court PROBATION</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Cleveland Municipal Court DRUG COURT</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Women's Jail IOP (referred by Cuyahoga County Warden's Office)</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>1,643</i>	<i>1,816</i>	<i>2,060</i>



SPECIALTY DOCKETS

**MEGHAN E. PATTON,
SPECIALTY COURTS ADMINISTRATOR**

Specialty Court dockets save lives. The Courts strives to provide expert multidisciplinary teams of behavioral health and criminal justice professionals with judicial interaction to deliver the resources and interventions needed for lasting behavior change.

The Specialty Courts Department was created in 2017 as the Court continued to expand the different approaches to specific populations while ensuring that criminal justice partners were working collaboratively with behavioral health partners. These partnerships allow for offenders diagnosed with substance use and/or mental illness to receive enhanced services alongside court interventions.

The Specialty Court Department's mission is to provide direct oversight and management of the different specialty dockets in partnership with the assigned Judge and court administration. Specialty Court staff work closely with the Corrections Planning Board, the Adult Probation Department, and various criminal justice and behavioral health stakeholders to ensure successful implementation of docket operations, team management, and education and training experiences, along with county-wide initiatives and taskforces.

Our first Specialty Court was established in 2003 with the creation of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) Court dockets. In 2009, the Drug Court Program was created, and a coordinator was hired to oversee the management of this new docket. Seeing the benefits of having a coordinator, one was hired for the MHDD Court in 2015. Upon the creation of the Veterans Treatment Court, a coordinator for that docket was hired in early 2016. In 2019, the High Risk Domestic Violence docket and the Violence Intervention Program (VIP) were developed, both of which hired coordinators to oversee the dockets. That same year, a MHDD Jail Liaison specialist was hired to assist the MHDD Court with safe reintegration planning for offenders incarcerated within the county jail. To support the coordinator and specialist roles, a specialty docket administrator was hired to oversee department operations with its expansion. The administrator began in July of 2020 with the support of a Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Affairs grant.

The administrator oversees the Specialty Court Department, along with managing the Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Initiative focused on providing essential training to the behavioral health community based on the standards of specialty dockets.

The Drug Court Program
Judge David T. Matia, Medical Assisted Treatment Drug Court
Judge Joan Synenberg, Recovery Court
Judge Kelly A. Gallagher, Traditional Drug Court
Judge William McGinty, HOPE Drug Court
Molly Krueger, Coordinator
Molly Leckler, Coordinator

Drug Court's mission is to stop the abuse of alcohol and other drug-related criminal activity

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

The Cuyahoga County Drug Court program was established in May of 2009. The mission of the Drug Court Program is to provide judicial intervention, treatment, and intensive supervision to individuals who have committed criminal acts as a direct or indirect result of their substance use disorders. This was created through Local Rule 30.2 for assignments of criminal cases to Drug Court dockets. To be eligible for the Drug Court program, an offender must have a moderate to severe substance use disorder, along with a moderate to high risk to re-offend. Several different Drug Court dockets have been created in our Court since 2009 for targeted populations, such as those with opioid use disorders or human trafficking histories.

Judge David T. Matia was appointed as the first Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Drug Court Judge in 2009. In January 2015, a second docket was added to serve those specifically diagnosed with an opioid use disorder, known as Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) Drug Court, providing immediate access to Medication Assisted Treatment to aid in a participant's recovery.

The third Drug Court docket, Recovery Court, began in 2015 under the leadership of Judge Joan Synenberg, serving those diagnosed with a substance use disorder and trauma-related mental health issues. In 2022, Recovery Court transitioned to focus on offenders with human trafficking exposure.

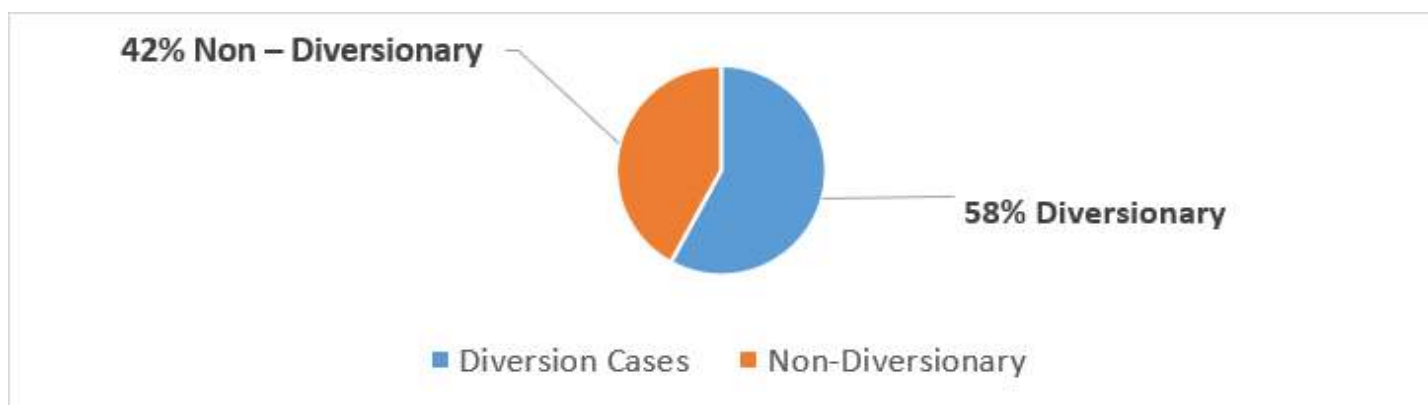
In November 2019, Judge Nancy McDonnell was appointed to the Cuyahoga County Drug Court to preside over the Traditional Drug Court track, allowing Judge Matia to oversee the ever-growing opioid use disorder participants. After the passing of Judge Nancy McDonnell in 2021, Judge Kelly A. Gallagher was appointed to oversee the Traditional Drug Court starting in January 2022. The Traditional Drug Court track continues to serve moderate risk individuals diagnosed from substance use disorders.

On Monday, December 19, 2022, the Common Pleas Court Judges approved Local Rule changes for Drug Court. The updated rule incorporated HOPE Drug Court (Helping Others Prosper Everyday). The newest Drug Court targets offenders with a high risk to recidivate and who have longer criminal histories. Judge William T. McGinty was appointed to oversee this docket.

The expanded rule also removed the number of prior felonies permitted to enter the Drug Court Programs, but omits referrals that have convicted "pattern" of violent/trafficking offenses. Due to the incorporation of the new docket, the Court hired an additional coordinator in 2022 to assist with the needs of the program. Both Drug Court coordinators work closely with each other to ensure a shared responsibility in identifying referrals and making improvements to all the dockets.

The Drug Court Program admits offenders in any stage of the case process system. All offenders referred for eligibility are triaged and accepted into the most appropriate Drug Court docket. The Drug Court Program has two tracks offenders may enter. Track One is the diversionary track, which allows for offenders with limited prior criminal convictions. The Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office reviews all cases for possible diversionary track acceptance. If accepted and the offender graduates from the Drug Court Program, their case will be sealed following graduation. Track Two is the non-diversionary track designed for those with convictions that may not legally be sealed, such as a violent offenses or DUI), or those with longer criminal histories. Participants who enter Track Two will not receive the benefit of sealing their criminal case but will receive all the same enhanced services.

This chart illustrates the number of diversionary vs. non-diversionary cases in 2022.



FUNDING

The expansion of the Drug Court dockets has been made possible through several Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grants throughout the years, which assist with staff allocation, training, and treatment services.

The Drug Court was awarded a five-year grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. These funds were awarded to Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) Drug Court in 2019 for five years and is designed to serve those diagnosed with an opioid use disorder.

Upon Supreme Court Of Ohio Certification, all dockets receive Addiction Treatment Program (ATP) and OhioMHAS Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) funds awarded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. These funds assist certified Drug Court Programs to pay for treatment, sober living placements, and all other expenses needed to treat individuals in recovery, such as alleviating any barriers participants have when beginning their recovery journey. Additionally, the Court received the Supreme Court Specialized docket subsidy that is provided upon certification to assist with staff allocation.

TEAM MEMBERS

The Drug Court team is comprised of the Judge, coordinators, TASC case managers, probation officers, prosecutors, public defenders, and treatment liaisons. This collaborative team is responsible for the daily operations of the Drug Court Program and meets weekly for staffing and status review hearings.

In 2022, the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas had four judges presiding over the Drug Court Program, each handling different target populations:

Traditional Drug Court: Judge Kelly Ann Gallagher presides over offenders who have a moderate to severe substance use disorder (excluding Opioid Use Disorder) and moderate risk to reoffend, based on the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS).

Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) Drug Court: Judge David T. Matia presides over offenders who have a moderate to severe opioid use disorder and are moderate to high risk to reoffend based on the ORAS.

Recovery Court: Judge Joan Synenberg presides over offenders who have a moderate to severe substance use disorder, low/moderate to high risk to reoffend based on the ORAS, and human trafficking exposure/histories.

HOPE Court: Judge William T. McGinty presides over offenders who have a moderate to severe substance use disorder (excluding those with opioid use disorders) and high risk to reoffend based on the ORAS.

Participants participate in the program for 2.5 years while on Community Control Sanctions. Participants may graduate from their program sooner than the designated time if they complete their treatment and case plan goals.

The Drug Court Judges chair the team meetings and run the status review hearings each week, providing ongoing judicial interaction with each offender. Judges are the final decision-makers, especially concerning incentives, sanctions, phase advancement, and successful completion or termination from the Drug Court Program.

The docket coordinator oversees the daily operations of each court under the direction of the court administration and the Specialty Court Judge. The coordinator monitors the services to participants and ensures the treatment team members follow program policies and procedures, and they assist in the availability of training and education. The coordinator ensures the docket is in compliance with the certification standards from the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Each team’s Cuyahoga County prosecutor incorporates a non-adversarial approach while pursuing justice and protecting the public safety and victims’ rights. The prosecutor reviews cases for diversion eligibility. The team’s public defender also incorporates a non-adversarial approach while recognizing the distinct role of defense counsel in preserving the constitutional rights of the participant. The public defender explains the rights waived by entering the program and discusses possible sanctions and incentives with the participants.

The case manager assists participants in the development, utilization, and coordination of their treatment plan. The case manager attends all team meetings and status review hearings. Case managers are instrumental in advising the Judge in regard to a participant’s progress or struggles. Case managers are responsible for linking clients to appropriate treatment and any other additional services needed.

The probation officer conducts legal eligibility screening and makes certain court orders are followed while clients are participating in the program. The probation officer provides written violations to the court for formal hearings, communicates conditions to participants, and presents violations of those conditions to the court team.

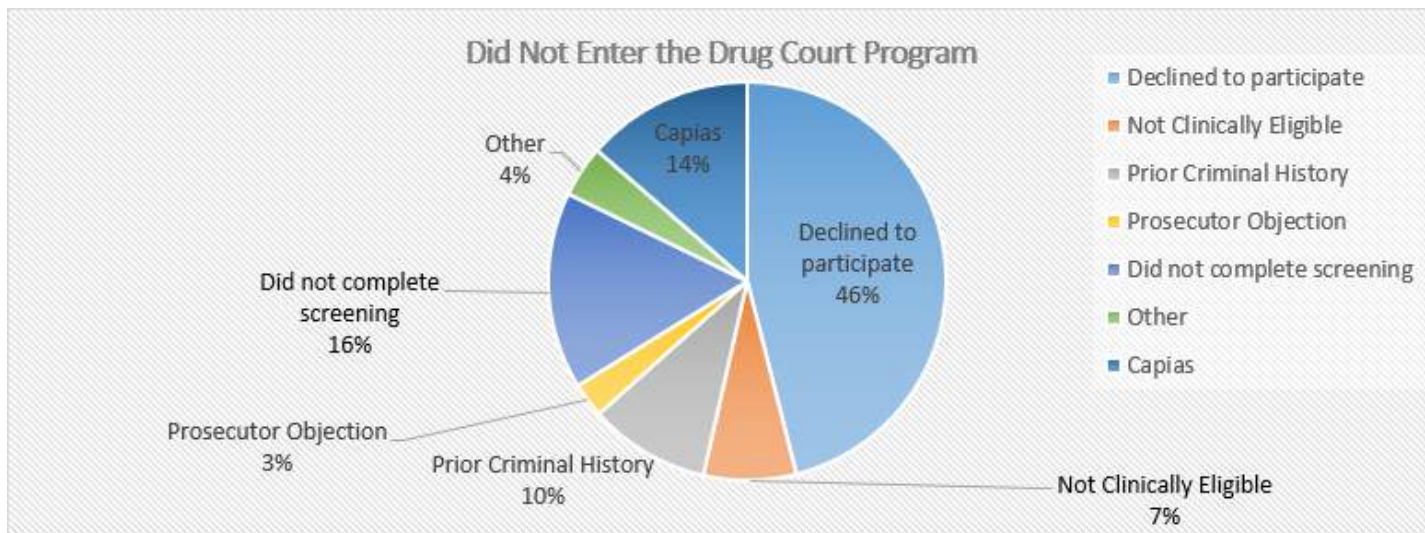
DRUG COURT YEAR IN REVIEW

The Drug Court Program received 351 referrals in 2022. This is a 49% increase from the previous year. The increase to the number of referrals was due in part to the Drug Court Local Rule changing in 2022, a rebound of pandemic numbers, and the incorporation of completing risk assessments during the screening process to ensure the Court was identifying offenders in need of the treatment court concept.

During 2022, 118 participants entered the Drug Court Program. Offenders were admitted and agreed to enter one of the Drug Court dockets based on criminal justice and substance use assessments:

- **Traditional Drug Court: 27 new participants**
- **MAT Drug Court: 60 new participants**
- **Recovery Court: 29 new participants**
- **HOPE Drug Court: 2 new participants** (This docket only began accepting participants in December of 2022.)

The reasons an offender was not placed into a Drug Court Program vary, and are noted in this diagram:



GRADUATIONS

During 2022, 57 participants graduated successfully from the Drug Court Program.

- **Traditional Drug Court: 18 graduates**
- **MAT Drug Court: 26 graduates**
- **Recovery Court: 13 graduates**
- **HOPE Drug Court: Due to beginning in December 2022, graduations have not been held.**

All graduation ceremonies are held in person, mostly on various floors of the courthouse, making it easy for both clients and court staff to attend these important milestones.

TREATMENT TEAMS AND COURT HEARINGS

Status hearings are a crucial element in the success of the Drug Court Program. These hearings provide opportunities for participants to speak directly with the Judge. Status hearings are attended by all Drug Court staff members and provide discussions about incentives, sanctions, and service treatment adjustments. Status hearings are held bi-weekly at the beginning phases of Drug Court and decrease monthly after certain milestones have been met by the participants.

Prior to status review hearings, Drug Court teams meet for pre-court staffing to discuss participants' progress and provide the platform for discussion and suggestions for needed service adjustments for individuals in the programs and preparation for upcoming status hearings. **During 2022, the following number of Court staffing hearings were held:**

- **Traditional Drug Court: 38 Status Hearings sessions**
- **MAT Drug Court: 39 Status Hearing sessions**
- **Recovery Court: 25 Status Hearing sessions**
- **HOPE Drug Court: 4 Status Hearing sessions (Note: HOPE Drug Court began meeting in November 2022.)**

Collectively, 106 team meetings were held.

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

The Drug Court Program continues to participate in monthly Overdose Fatality Review Stakeholder meetings held by the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office.

On March 3, 2022, the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas entered Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD). This project allows access to employment through vocational rehabilitation services to increase employment opportunities for those who have substance use disorders. OOD provides a designated, full-time Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) and one full-time caseload assistance job developer to aid Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court participants in obtaining and maintaining competitive employment. The VRC attends weekly team meetings and status review hearings to assist participants with employment needs and placements. Since beginning in October 2021, OOD has assisted 84 participants with job placements or assistance, provided direct employment services to 54 participants, placed 20 directly into job opportunities, and closed 12 cases successfully as they exhibited long-term employment following placement.

The Drug Court alumni group, Project 180, continues to offer safe, sober fun events for those not only in the Drug Court Program, but also in the recovery community. In 2022, Project 180 held coffee socials at a local treatment agency, organized a well attended talent show, hosted Whirlyball, and staged *Light Up the Night for Recovery*, everyone's favorite, at Lakewood Park. The Court is very grateful to this group of volunteers who offer free events for our current and past participants.

DRUG COURT IN THE NEWS

Judge Kelly A. Gallagher's Drug Court docket earned a three-year certification from the Ohio Supreme Court's Specialized Dockets on October 26, 2022. Additionally, Judge Joan Synenberg's Recovery Court received Initial Certification in December of 2022. The certification is a three-part process ending with a formal site visit by representatives of the Specialized Docket Section of the Ohio Supreme Court. Cuyahoga County joins more than 250 dockets across the state that specialize in Drug Court, Domestic Violence, Family, Mental Health and juvenile courts.

High Risk Domestic Violence Court

**Judge Sherrie M. Miday
Erin Becker, Coordinator**

The mission of the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court is to reduce the risk of violence and homicide in high-risk cases of intimate-partner violence. A specially-trained, multi-disciplinary team of justice system professionals works collaboratively to improve victim safety by providing resources for victims and intense monitoring and behavioral interventions for offenders.

HISTORY

Under the leadership of current and former Administrative and Presiding Judges John J. Russo and Brendan J. Sheehan respectively, and in collaboration with Judge Sherrie M. Miday, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court identified a unique opportunity to improve the criminal justice system's response to felony-level cases of intimate-partner violence in our county.

Judge Miday engaged and received the enthusiastic support of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Administration and stakeholders, including the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's office, Office of the Public Defender, Adult Probation Department, Bond Commissioner, Witness Victim Service Center, the Sheriff's Department, Cleveland Municipal Court, Journey Center for Safety and Healing, Legal Aid Society of Greater Cleveland, and Cuyahoga Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

With the support of the Ohio Supreme Court, the Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women and the Center for Court Innovation, stakeholders explored the feasibility of a specialty court to address dangerous, high-risk domestic violence cases. Encouraged by the results, stakeholders met regularly and developed a plan for implementation of the specialty court. On September 8, 2020, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judges voted to adopt Local Rule 30.5 for the establishment of a High-Risk Domestic Violence Court, and on September 28, 2020, the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court (HRDVC) began accepting its first cases.

OVERVIEW

In order to identify the most dangerous cases of domestic violence, eligibility criteria includes lethality risk factors of an allegation of the use of firearm and/or strangulation in the offense. Prior to arraignment, the HRDVC coordinator flags domestic violence cases that meet eligibility criteria, and the case is randomly assigned to one of the 34 Common Pleas Court Judges. Defendant participation is voluntary, and the assigned Judge has to approve transfer of the case to the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court. Participation is not an admission of guilt; defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty and retain the right to a trial. The emphasis is on victim safety; not all defendants are granted the privilege of community control supervision (commonly referred to as "probation"). However, the Court has been designed to safely and appropriately supervise defendants who are released into the community.

Upon transfer to the Court docket, each case is assessed by the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court's Risk Management Group. The committee meets weekly to share information and complete a comprehensive review of each case to determine risk and create individualized supervision strategies to reduce the risk of dangerousness. Members of the group are the coordinator, probation officers, victim advocate, and sergeant from the Sheriff's Department Electronic Monitoring Unit.

While in the community, whether on court-supervised release at the pretrial phase or community control supervision, defendants are closely monitored by the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court team. The victim advocate outreaches to victims early in the process and maintains communication throughout the duration of the case. Together they complete the Jacqueline Campbell Danger Assessment to help victims understand the level of risk and to inform safety planning. The advocate also provides resource referrals to victims. The advocate, who is designated to the court team, is able to ensure updated address information is conveyed to the probation officer so the GPS exclusion zones are accurate. The advocate keeps the victim apprised of developments in the case, the defendant's jail status, and relays victim input to the team. Information regarding supervision of the defendant can be helpful in safety planning for the victim.

All defendants are initially ordered to have no contact with the named victims and are placed on GPS monitoring. Exclusion zones (areas the defendant is not permitted to enter) are set up around victims' homes, places of employment, and other frequently visited locations, such as homes of victims' family members. Sheriff's Department detectives monitor GPS on a 24-hour basis, and they arrest defendants who violate the No Contact orders by entering exclusion zones. High-Risk Domestic Violence Court probation officers, along with the team detectives, conduct field visits to defendants' homes and jobs. During the pretrial phase, the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court team members communicate frequently with one another in order to monitor defendant compliance and victim safety.

Defendants who are sentenced to community control (also referred to as "probation") are typically sentenced to a two-year term of supervision. There are five phases to the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court program. Defendants are required to appear before the Judge at compliance hearings regularly. Intensity of monitoring and frequency of required court appearances decrease as defendants successfully progress through the phases. In order to reduce risk of violence and recidivism, the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court program uses evidence-based practices in supervision.

Defendants create case plans with their probation officers, which are individualized based on defendants' specific areas of risk and needs. All defendants are required to complete the University of Cincinnati Cognitive-Behavioral Program for Interpersonal Violence. Additional behavioral interventions are utilized where a specific need is indicated, such as substance use or mental health treatment. All defendants are required to submit to regular drug and alcohol testing, obtain full-time employment, and satisfy the financial obligations of their case.

The High-Risk Domestic Violence Court team meets weekly to discuss cases and attend compliance hearings. Prior to hearings, the Judge leads the team in case discussions regarding defendants' compliance and victim safety. Risk is monitored on an ongoing basis by the team. The Court responds swiftly and appropriately to all noncompliance and rewards compliance.

FUNDING

A three-year, \$1 million grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Innovations in Supervision was awarded to Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for the creation of the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court to handle 50 cases per year, or 150 cases over the life of the grant.

Case Western Reserve University assesses the effectiveness of the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court. Jeff Kretschmar, Ph.D., Managing Director of Case Western Reserve University's Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education, and Research Associate Ashley Bukach, MPH, conduct a process and outcome evaluation of the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court, both of which will be continuous throughout the duration of the project period. The process evaluation will examine whether the proposed High-Risk DV Court model is being implemented as intended. The outcome evaluation will measure the effectiveness of the High-Risk DV Court in producing intended change.

TEAM MEMBERS

Judge Sherrie Miday leads the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court Team and presides over all High-Risk Domestic Violence Court cases. Coordinator Erin Becker oversees the operations of the court under the direction of Judge Miday and court administration. The coordinator interacts with various personnel within the court system and with external partners and providers on an ongoing sustained basis. Judge Sherrie Miday and Erin Becker established policies and procedures of the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court with input from stakeholders, team members, technical assistance providers, and consultations with leaders of other successful Domestic Violence Courts. Together, they continue to identify ongoing needs while incorporating innovative solutions and strategic planning to strengthen operations and ensure continued efforts towards the HRDV Court's common mission.

High-Risk Domestic Violence Court team members commit to serving for at least one year to promote team consistency and team cohesiveness. Team members include an assistant prosecuting attorney, two public defenders, a court-supervised release probation officer, post-sentence supervision probation officer, victim advocate, sergeant from the Sheriff's Department Electronic Monitoring Unit, social workers from the Office of the Public Defender, mental health professionals from Signature Health, and the domestic violence program facilitator.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Since inception, 100 defendants have participated in the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court. **In 2022, 18 new individuals were accepted to the docket.** Of those sentenced in 2022, 26 were granted community control, and twelve were sentenced to prison. Three cases were dismissed, and one was transferred to the MHDD docket. Twelve cases were terminated at a community control violation hearing and were sentenced to a term of incarceration.

Community control supervision while engaged in the HRDV Court lasts two years and is divided into five phases. As participants meet requirements of phases and demonstrate compliance with rules of community control, they are rewarded with promotion to the next phase. In addition to complying with the rules of community control, participants are required to accomplish specific goals in each phase. Intensity of monitoring decreases in each phase. In order to be promoted to the next phase of the program, participants complete a Phase Change Application, which is reviewed by the team and Judge for approval.

During 2022, 13 participants entered Phase I, the Stabilization Phase of the program. In this phase, participants obtain employment, begin necessary behavioral intervention programming, such as batterer intervention or substance abuse treatment, obtain stable housing, abide by the No Contact Order, and comply with GPS monitoring home detention. Thirteen participants successfully completed Phase I and were promoted to Phase II. In Phase II, which is called Taking Responsibility, they are expected to complete batterer intervention and comply with the No Contact order and GPS monitoring of a curfew and exclusion zones. Nine participants successfully completed Phase II and entered Phase III, Into Action. In Phase III, participants explore options for individual counseling and complete all programming they started in previous phases. They are still on GPS monitoring, but only to monitor compliance with exclusion zones. Four participants completed Phase III and entered Phase IV, Building a Framework for Success, where GPS monitoring is removed, and they are required to complete a community service project that is approved by the team. One person completed that phase and entered Phase V, Integration. During the last phase of the program, they continue to report to the Probation Department, submit to drug and alcohol testing, and are subject to home visits by High-Risk Domestic Violence Court team members. Phase V lasts until the term of community control supervision expires.

In 2022, the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court began entering post-sentence No Contact orders into the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS). Previously, post-sentence No Contact orders, which are conditions of community control (and not protection orders), were only an entry on the Court's docket. If a defendant violated the order, law enforcement was unable to access or enforce the order, which jeopardized victim safety. With the order in LEADS, police can view the order and arrest the defendant if it is violated. By closing this system gap, the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court has improved the safety of named victims and the accountability of defendants.

In 2022, the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court created a process for modification or termination of No Contact orders. Once participants progress to Phase III of the post-sentence program, the Judge will consider victims' requests to modify or terminate the No Contact order. The new process was built to focus on risk and risk reduction. Therefore, when a No Contact order is requested to be modified or removed, the Risk Management Group conducts a risk assessment of the case. Their findings regarding if and how the defendant has taken steps to reduce the risk of dangerousness in the case are detailed in a report to the Judge. The victim appears for a hearing, and the Judge hears the request from the victim. No Contact orders are lifted in phases, and compliance is closely monitored. Several No Contact orders were lifted in 2022, and at each hearing, victims reported to the Court how they used their time away from their partner to become more independent and address their own individual needs and goals.

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

In addition to presiding over the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court, Judge Sherrie Miday chairs the Cuyahoga County Domestic Violence Task Force, a multidisciplinary collaborative comprised of leadership from municipal courts, law enforcement, and the medical field who are committed to improving victim safety and reducing intimate-partner violence in the community.

COURT IN THE NEWS

In October 2021, at the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections Conference, Judge Sherrie Miday was awarded the C.J. McLinn Award, given to an elected official in Ohio who has worked toward the improvement of community corrections in Ohio. Judge Miday was recognized for her work establishing the High-Risk Domestic Violence Court.

Mental Health and Development Disabilities (MHDD) Court
Judge Hollie L. Gallagher, Co-Chair
Judge Shannon M. Gallagher, Co-Chair
Judge Deena R. Calabrese
Judge Emily Hagan
Judge Michael P. Shaughnessy
Philip Florian, Court Coordinator

The mission of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Court is to promote early identification of offenders 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 offenders during the legal process and achieve outcomes that both protect society, and support the mental health care and disability needs of the defendant.

HISTORY

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

Acceptance to the Cuyahoga County MHDD Court is diagnosis-driven, which distinguishes our Court from virtually all other such specialty dockets in Ohio. Eligible offenders enter the MHDD Court with most offense types and offense levels, excluding charges filed under Ohio Revised Code Sections 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, and 2903.04.

The jurists who served the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) Court in 2022 were Judge Hollie L. Gallagher (co-chair), Judge Shannon M. Gallagher (co-chair), Judge Deena R. Calabrese, and Judge Michael P. Shaughnessy. At the start of 2022, the Court was thrilled to add Judge Emily Hagan to the MHDD docket. Judge Hagan replaces outgoing Judge Deborah Turner, who stepped down at the start of 2022. The MHDD Court thanks Judge Turner for her work and dedication to the MHDD Court bench.

OVERVIEW

The MHDD Court consists of a multidisciplinary team that strives to provide support to the Court and the offenders through a therapeutic approach. Along with the five MHDD Court Judges, the team consists of a variety individuals and programs, such as Forensic Liaisons from ADAMHS Board and CCBDD-funded programs, attorneys from the County Public Defender's office, and uniquely trained officers from the MHDD Probation unit.

The MHDD Court was created through amendments to Local Rules 30, 30.1, and 33, which outlines the eligibility, acceptance, and transfer process. In 2017, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges adopted revised amendments to Local Rule 30.1 allowing for eligible cases to have additional opportunity to transfer into the MHDD Court, including after sentencing an offender to community control sanctions (probation). On August 16, 2021, the Judges voted to accept an amendment to Local Rule 30.1 that impacts pre-trial transfers. It notes, "Defendants charged under Ohio Revised Code Sections 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03 and 2903.04 are not eligible for the MHDD docket upon arraignment or upon transfer except as provided in subsection (C)(2)(e) and (f)." In practice, this means that any cases involving murder charges cannot be transferred until the resolution of the case.

Offenders qualify by meeting either of the following criteria per the clinical diagnosis of a mental health professional: a) schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders, major depressive disorder with psychotic features, and bipolar disorder with psychotic features and/or b) suffer from an intellectual disability with an IQ of 75 or below, have adaptive skills deficit based on a diagnostic report, or may be eligible for services through the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (e.g., Autism Spectrum Disorder, Tic Disorder, or Major/Mild Neurocognitive Disorder with onset prior to age 22). 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.

TEAM MEMBERS

The MHDD Judges lead the MHDD Court team and presides over all MHDD Court cases. The Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities (MHDD) Coordinator oversees the operations of the Court under the direction of the Judges and Court Administration. The MHDD Coordinator interacts with various personnel within the Court system and with external criminal justice and behavioral health partners. Throughout the year, the MHDD Judges and the coordinator continue to identify ongoing needs while incorporating innovative solutions and strategic planning to strengthen operations and ensure continued efforts toward the Court's mission.

The Court of Common Pleas and the ADAMHS Board created a collaborative position, the Mental Health Jail Liaison Specialist, in July 2019. This position is funded by both organizations to assist with identification and linkage of mental health services for incarcerated clients at the earliest opportunity possible. The specialist works closely with the MHDD Judges, MHDD Court coordinator, Bond Commissioner's Office, contracted and non-contracted liaisons/agencies, MetroHealth's County Jail teams, the MHDD probation unit, County Jail staff, Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare, the Public Defender's office, social worker unit, and other pertinent stakeholders.

The Cuyahoga County Public Defender's office continues to identify four Public Defender Attorneys who oversee the MHDD cases assigned to their office, including representing clients at the MHDD Staffing hearings. The Public Defender's office has also engaged their staff social workers with assisting in release planning, staffings, and other valuable support to individuals on the MHDD docket.

The Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's office continued to identify a supervisor to oversee MHDD Court cases through pretrial to post-conviction. This assistance started in 2018, and has allowed for more meaningful dialogue between criminal justice agencies and provided consistent oversight of MHDD cases through their agency.

The MHDD Adult Probation unit assists persons 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, including those in the MHDD Court. The unit provides Judges with an alternative to prison commitment. The MHDD Unit is currently staffed by 12 specially trained officers and two supervisors. The MHDD Unit allocates seven officers to supervise clients with severe mental illness and four officers to supervise clients with developmental disabilities.

The ADAMHS Board funds the Behavioral Health Jail Liaison Program, which provides mental health linkage and reintegration planning efforts to those incarcerated with a severe mental illness in the county jail. Agencies receiving funding for this program during 2021 were Recovery Resources, Metro WRAP, Murtis H. Taylor, Signature Health, and The Centers. Licensed clinicians complete diagnostic assessments, reintegration plans, and service coordination for individuals being released to the community. Bridge prescriptions and release medications can be requested prior to release to ensure that there is no lapse in prescribed medications while transitioning to the community.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities provides liaisons through a Court contract to assist in the management of offenders with developmental disabilities while they are in the pretrial process, whether bail or incarcerated, on community control sanctions (probation), or sentenced to prison. CCBDD Liaisons also collaborate

with the Forensic Monitor from Recovery Resources to assist with their role monitoring the progress of individuals under the Incompetent to Stand Trial, Unrestorable status who are under Court Jurisdiction, focusing on individuals whose primary needs are developmental disabilities.

The MHDD Pre-trial Coordinator assist the Court by flagging cases eligible for the MHDD Court and sending notification of eligibility to the arraignment room, assigned courtrooms, and parties. This position is funded and located within the Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board.

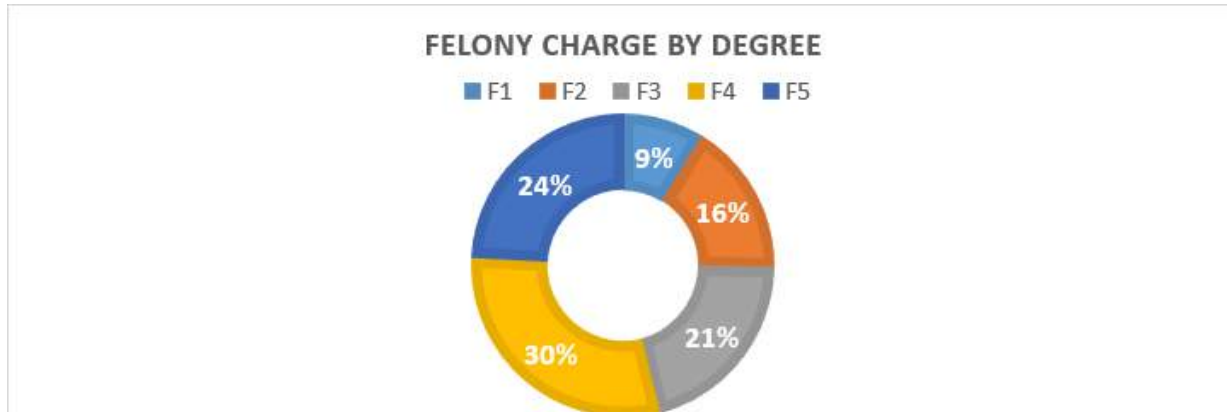
YEAR IN REVIEW

The five Judges oversee the MHDD Court on a voluntary basis while also carrying non-MHDD criminal and civil cases on their dockets. In 2022, approximately 56% of the MHDD Judges' active criminal dockets were identified as MHDD offenders.

In 2022, 356 pretrial or probation cases transferred to the MHDD Docket.

During 2022, the Jail Liaison Specialist obtained or coordinated 417 mental health records for MHDD Court eligibility review (this includes new and updated MHDD eligibility). The Specialist provided various assistance to incarcerated individuals during 2022 as the primary contact of communication between stakeholders to assist in streamlining reintegration efforts. The Mental Health Jail Liaison Specialist conducted more than 900 contact meetings with inmates for psychiatric, medical, and medication-assisted treatment needs. The Mental Health Jail Liaison Specialist and liaisons completed 448 reintegration plans during 2022 to the MHDD Court Judges, and coordination was provided to additional defendants. This is an increase of 35% from the previous year.

By the close of 2022, there were 553 intakes into the MHDD Probation department. The below chart illustrates the breakdown of felony degrees places on Community Control sanctions throughout 2022.



TREATMENT TEAMS AND COURT HEARINGS

One of the most important features of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (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.

Research has suggested people suffering from mental illnesses nationwide are more likely than others under community supervision to have their community sentences revoked. This has an enormous impact 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 staffings. Although MHDD offenders may have a higher amount of minor technical violations, the MHDD Court consistently works with the offenders to assist them through medication compliance, substance use treatment, housing stability, securing entitlements, benefits, and employment when public safety is not in jeopardy. Each MHDD Judge schedules staffing hearings once or twice per month in close collaboration with MHDD probation officers and team members. Community behavioral health partners from several agencies attend the staffing and assist in community development plans. Community and jail liaisons, attorneys, and social workers from the Public Defender's Office are also typically present at the team meetings. The team commitment by various stakeholders continues to strengthen the collaborative relationship.

The MHDD Court and the treatment team established a variety of court hearings that may be requested by officers at the staffing hearings. These hearings reinforce the obligations and consistency of compliance among offenders. Throughout an offender's community control experience within MHDD Court, probation officers will regularly have an offender attend staffing hearings for a variety of reasons.

The year 2022 started with many COVID-19 related restrictions, but were gradually lessened, with all restrictions being removed by the end of the year. This loosening of restrictions meant more staffings were done in person and, as a result, there was a significant jump in the amount of cases staffed in 2022 over the previous year.

Statistics and Analysis	2022 Stats	2022 %	2021 Stats	2021 %
Total Staffing Hearings	562	100%	368	100%
30-day Review Hearings and New Transfers	12	2.1%	9	2.4%
Case Review Hearings	187	33.3%	167	45%
CBCF Pre-Release Hearings	12	2.1%	4	1%
Compliance / Modification Hearings	27	4.8%	22	6%
Violation Hearings	240	42.7%	127	35%
Early Termination Hearings	37	6.6%	15	4.1%
Terminations	17	3%	10	2.7%
Release Plans	3	.5%	2	.5%
Other (i.e. CR hearings, Status, etc)	27	4.8%	12	3.3%

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

The MHDD Court coordinator continued to develop strategies to engage with partnership initiatives.

In 2022, the 34 Judges that make up the entirety of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas referred 185 defendants to receive 20-day evaluations or inpatient restoration programming from either Northcoast Behavior Healthcare or NBH (the regional Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) state psychiatric hospital), Twin Valley Behavior Healthcare or TVBH (the state's only OMHAS-funded state hospital to support high risk psychiatric patients), and Warrensville Developmental Center or WDC (the regional facility run by the state Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities).

The MHDD Court coordinator and Specialty Court’s office assistant coordinate referrals from the Court to the facilities, monitor the progress of defendants, and communicate the results of the treatment to the court and provide technical assistance to Courts and treatment facilities to ensure timely and accurate referrals.

Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare Pilot Program

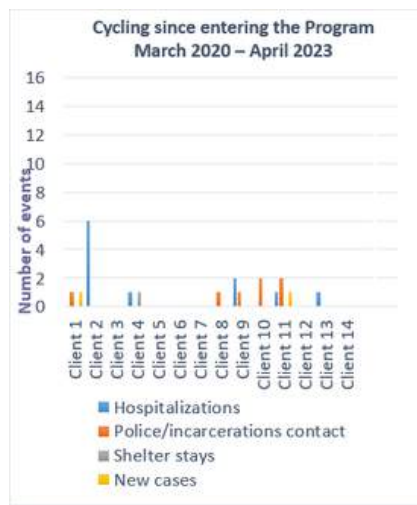
The Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare Reintegration Pilot project was created in 2019 to achieve safe community reintegration of low-level felony offenders on the MHDD Court docket. Upon returning to the county jail from Northcoast Behavioral following a restoration period, a reintegration plan would be promptly completed. This project was made possible due to the collaboration of the Court, Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare, the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office, and the Cuyahoga County Public Defender’s Office. In 2022, the program was expanded to include all cases referred to Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare for competency restoration on pending low level felony cases (felony degrees 3, 4, and 5), or for competency restoration on a probation violation so reintegration planning can be in progress prior to individuals returning to the County Jail.

Forensic Monitoring

The State of Ohio, via OMHAS, provides funding to the local County ADAMHS Boards to fund a Forensic Monitoring position to oversee the coordination of care and supervision of clients who were found to be incompetent to stand trial, unrestorable (ISTU) or not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI) who were also under continuing jurisdiction of the Court for a period of years equal to their highest original felony charges. Some are under jurisdiction of the Court for life, but most fall within eight to 11 years. The Forensic Monitor completes ongoing notices to the Judges overseeing these cases for routine updates, plan changes necessitated by client needs, and at times violation hearings when a client refuses medication or needed services. The MHDD Court coordinator provides technical support to courtrooms as needed and meets monthly with the Forensic Monitor to ensure timely updates and adequate supervision of these cases. At this time, there are 111 clients under continuing court jurisdiction status who are on conditional release status in the community. In addition, there are 75 additional clients who are working toward Conditional Release while residing at one of our inpatient treatment facilities (NBH, TVBH, and WDC).

Returning Home Cuyahoga

Returning Home Cuyahoga is a partnership between EDEN, Inc, Frontline Services, and the MHDD Court. This program began in 2018 with a presentation to the Stepping Up leadership and stakeholders group about the homeless continuum and the larger Returning Home Ohio program. From 2018-2019, data was examined to understand MHDD clients who were the highest utilizers of mental health services who also cycled through the jail as well as hospital systems and were chronically homeless. In 2019, the following criteria was determined for candidates for this initiative: currently incarcerated in the County Jail, on the MHDD docket, homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness, frequently incarcerated (three times in 365 days), a high utilizer of the shelter system and/or hospital system and, finally, diagnosed with an Axis I mental health disorder. Individuals who met these criteria engage in intensive planning that will end with housing, a case plan, assignment to a Frontline case manager, and engagement with peer supports. By the end of 2022, 14 new clients were successfully enrolled, though some continued to work to find housing. It was noted that the housing market was difficult for individuals with criminal histories. That said, the candidates who were in the program the longest, all went from multiple hospitalizations and jail stays to a large decrease during the years they were involved in the program as illustrated in the charts below:



By the end of 2022, there were six additional clients on the referral list. The pilot program will continue into 2023. Through this partnership, local landlords now have access to funds through a Landlord Mitigation Pilot our office assisted in creating with the State of Ohio. These funds allow landlords who will rent to justice involved individuals with mental illnesses to be reimbursed when a tenant damages their property or fails to pay rent on the way out of a lease. The idea is to retain interested landlords for future tenant needs.

Outpatient Restoration Program - Murtis Taylor

Ohio Senate Bill 2, passed in 2021, created funding and rules around outpatient restoration to competency. OMHAS funded an outpatient program through the local ADAMHS Board. Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board chose Murtis Taylor to provide this service. Throughout early 2022, the MHDD Court coordinator worked with the ADAMHS Board and Murtis Taylor to create processes, draft policy, and present this program to the larger Court of Common Pleas as an alternative to inpatient restoration to competency for individuals deemed capable of remaining in the community. The MHDD Court coordinator assists the Courts with the referral process, monitoring the progress of the clients at Murtis Taylor, and files the final report back to the court when the process is completed. **By the end of 2022, 11 individuals were referred to the program to complete their restoration to competency.**

Veterans Treatment Court Judge John J. Russo, Judge Andrew Santoli Kenya Gray, Coordinator

HISTORY

Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is a certified Supreme Court of Ohio Specialized Docket with a multidisciplinary approach made up of criminal justice and behavioral health experts. This unique team offers services tailored to a shared military experience, making direct and positive differences for veterans and those who served in the military. Data has proven that participation in VTC, in Ohio and nationally, yields less recidivism for veterans.

The Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges voted to approve a Local Rule for The Veterans Treatment Court on January 21, 2015. The Local Rule establishes clinical and legal criteria for acceptance into the docket and transfer policy procedures.

The Veterans Treatment Court was dedicated on May 29, 2015, under Judge Michael Jackson, a Vietnam veteran. Following Judge Jackson's retirement, Judge John J. Russo presided over the court and was certified by the Supreme Court of Ohio's Specialized Docket Commission on September 17, 2019. In October 2022, Judge Russo stepped down as the VTC Judge. The Administrative Judge appointed Judge Andrew J. Santoli. The Court thanks Judge Russo for his service and commitment to the VTC docket. Judge Santoli became certified with the Ohio Supreme Court Specialized Docket Commission on December 16, 2022.

On Monday, December 19, 2022, the Common Pleas Court Judges approved Local Rule amendments to 30.3. The updated rule incorporated a diversionary and non-diversionary track, allowing more opportunity for the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office to review cases that may be eligible for diversion, if appropriate.

OVERVIEW

There are several fundamental components to The Veterans Treatment Court to ensure fidelity of the model. These components are integrating substance use and mental health services into the court setting, early identification, using a non-adversarial approach by team members, responding to compliance and non-compliant behavior, ongoing judicial interaction, regular and random drug testing, and the Mentor program. Mentors are volunteer veterans who assist the veteran participant in VTC with accountability, support, friendship, and guidance through shared military experience. Additionally, team members closely monitor an offender's progress through phase requirements and progression.

The Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court created Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) to work exclusively with individuals who are veterans or served in the military and suffer from a substance use diagnosis. Individuals are clinically eligible for VTC if they have a moderate to severe substance use diagnosis or a mental health illness and/or traumatic brain injury with a substance abuse use (mild, severe, or moderate). The Court accepts most military discharges. A veteran must provide verification of veteran status through DD214 and/or other governmental forms.

Identification of potential participants may occur at any time: pre-arraignment, pre-trial, or post-conviction. Pretrial officers, pre-sentence investigators, defense counsel, the prosecutor, probation officers, county jail, the Veterans Justice Outreach specialist, TASC, or family or friends may identify a possible eligible veteran. In 2022, the Court incorporated the Department of Veteran Affairs' Veterans Re-entry Search Service (VRSS) in an effort to identify all military service personal at the onset of their case. This process not only identifies all veteran felony offenders in jail, but also those on bail in the early case processing stages.

Once notification is sent to the assigned courtroom, a journal entry order can be issued. Thereafter, a veteran will complete a VTC screening and substance use assessment. To be found legally eligible, most offense levels are acceptable. These include In Lieu of Conviction (ILC) or diversion related programs and any offense for which a defendant may receive Community Control sanctions (probation).

The VTC Judge shall have discretion to decide admission into the program in accordance with the VTC written eligibility criteria. Lastly, an individual must agree to participate by signing the Participation Agreement. Transfer may occur pre-plea for any diversion or ILC-related programming, post-plea for charges with a felony of the third, fourth, and fifth degree, and post-sentencing for felony of the first or second degree when ordered to Community Control Sanctions.

FUNDING

The VTC is funded by various sources including Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through a five-year grant, the Cuyahoga County Office of Reentry, Ohio Mental Health and Addictions Services Specialized Docket subsidies, Addiction Treatment Program, and Cuyahoga County Council Veterans allocation.

Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) assesses the effectiveness of the Veterans Treatment Court as part of the SAMSHA grant services. CWRU's research team conducts a process and outcome evaluation for VTC, both of which have been continuous throughout the duration of the SAMSHA grant.

TEAM MEMBERS

The Judge leads the Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) and presides over all cases transferred to the docket. The VTC Coordinator oversees the operations of the court under the direction of the judge and specialty court administration. The VTC Coordinator interacts with various personnel within the court system and with external partners and providers on continual basis. Throughout the year, the VTC Judge and coordinator continue to identify ongoing needs while incorporating innovative solutions and strategic planning to strengthen operations and ensuring continued efforts toward the Court's common mission.

The treatment team commits to service for at least one year to promote team consistency and cohesiveness. Team members also include a designated public defender, designated prosecutor(s), Veteran Affairs' justice outreach specialist, TASC case manager, probation officer(s), probation supervisor, representatives from Veterans Benefits Administration, Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission, and volunteer mentors. Many team members are veterans themselves and have the ability to relate to the participants involved in the court program.

YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2022, the coordinator and team members identified 156 potential referrals to Veterans Treatment Court. Of those 156 potential clients, 91 individuals were referred for VTC, and 47 were accepted into VTC. A total of 44 individuals were not accepted. Of those, 40% were found not to have the appropriate clinical eligibility and 59% declined participation.

The Court graduated 34 Veterans from Veterans Treatment Court in 2022. Graduations were held quarterly throughout the year. **Fifteen veterans were terminated unsuccessfully. At the end of the 2022, the Court was supervising 54 Veterans.**



This chart illustrates the number of VTC clients who graduated successfully, were terminated unsuccessfully or neutral discharged due to illness or death.

TEAM AND COURT HEARINGS

The Judge leads the team meetings and court sessions weekly throughout the year. The Veterans Treatment Court team reviews each participant’s progress, compliance, and non-compliance while responding swiftly with incentives or sanctions. The Judge relies on the expert input of the trained treatment members when imposing therapeutic adjustments, sanctions or incentives.

Advancement through the phases is dependent on completion of specific criteria for each phase of treatment. The veteran will work with a treatment team to identify goals the veteran will work toward while in the program. These goals may include, trauma-related treatment, returning to school, job-skill training, counseling, employment, substance use treatment, medication compliance, reconnecting with family, strengthening supports in the community, accessing benefits, and securing safe and stable housing.

There were a total of 37 VTC Court sessions held in 2022, with approximately 749 hearings/discussion reviews held.

Types of Hearings	Number of hearings	Percentage
Case Reviews <i>(Hearings not held on the records)</i>	121	16%
Compliance / Check-ins	468	62%
Probation Violations	113	15%
Sentencings/new acceptance	47	6%

GRADUATIONS

According to Case Western Reserve University's (CWRU) Annual Report (2022), the VTC continues to have a promising graduation rate of 68.5% as compared to the national rate of 59.7%. The VTC also exhibits significant decreases in Veteran substance and alcohol use, most notably at discharge—making a significant impact toward addressing the area’s drug epidemic.

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

Through coordinated efforts with the Cuyahoga County Sherriff’s Department and jail administration, a Veteran’s Pod was established in 2016, however, due to COVID-19 restrictions, this pod was eliminated in 2020.

The VTC team and Probation Department implemented a robust case planning process and revised phasing requirements for VTC clients participating in VTC, which allows the team to monitor a client’s progress more closely.

On March 3, 2022, the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD). This project allows access to employment through vocational rehabilitation services to increase employment opportunities for those who have substance use disorders. OOD provides a designated full-time Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) and one full-time job developer caseload assistance to support all Drug Court and Veteran Treatment Court participants obtain and maintained competitive employment. The VRC attends weekly team meetings and Status Review Hearings to assists participants with employments needs and placements. Since beginning in October of 2021, OOD has assisted 84 participants with job placements or assistance, provided direct employment services to 54 participants, placed 20 directly into job opportunities and closed 12 cases successfully as they exhibited long-term employment following placement.

Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Court
Judge Brendan J. Sheehan
Meghan E. Patton, Specialty Court Administrator

HISTORY

Recognizing the stark reality that Cuyahoga County experiences large numbers of gun violence and gun-related deaths each year, Judge Brendan J. Sheehan piloted the Violence Intervention Program (VIP) docket in 2018 to target felony offenders with gun-related specifications. The program works to prevent felony offenders with gun-related specifications well before they become a gun-violence or even a homicide-related statistic.

The pilot program demonstrated tremendous promise, and Judge Sheehan received support from the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges, Court Probation Department, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's office, Office of the Public Defender, and other agency stakeholders to pursue grant funding to continue to expand the program. Volunteer peer mentors, trauma therapists, and job placement agencies assisted the program to target additional participants, specifically young men between the ages of 18 and 26 from high-poverty Cleveland neighborhoods known for gun-related homicides.

The Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Affairs, awarded the Court with a grant of \$750,000 over a three-year period to support the VIP efforts.

OVERVIEW

In June 2021, the VIP Court began accepting participants under the grant funding. Cases can be transferred to the VIP Court by any of the 34 Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges.

Eligible cases are gun-related charges that include: Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Having Weapons under Disability, Using Weapons while Intoxicated, and Improperly Handling Firearms in a Motor Vehicle. Additionally, priority is given to those with a moderate to high risk of re-arrest using the Ohio Risk Assessment Score (ORAS), are emerging adults (ages 18-26), are unemployed or underemployed, have educational needs, require trauma services, and have a willingness to complete the program. Finally, cases that are ineligible for the VIP Court would be instances where the pending charges are violent, related to significant drug issues, or sexual offenses. There can be no prior history of domestic violence.

After referral, the Prosecutor's Office (specifically the Crime Strategies Unit in conjunction with the Cleveland Police Gang Unit) and the Court Probation Department complete screenings before a defendant is presented to the VIP Judge and team for review.

Participation is voluntary, and, if accepted, an individual is required to sign a Participation Agreement to join the program. Once in the program, participants then move through five phases: (1) Making the Choice, (2) Challenging Yourself, (3) Changing for the Better, (4) Planning for Success, and (5) Making the Commitment (graduation). Throughout the phasing process, participants work closely with dedicated team members, ensuring the adherence to all program conditions and expectations. This includes reporting to the probation officer, having regular compliance check-ins with the judge, completing the individualized goals developed in the case plan, undergoing drug and alcohol testing, and working with a trauma coach, mentors, and employment experts.

Regular Court staffings are held, and once a participant is identified as achieving all of the major goals of the program, while also developing the positive thinking and safety skills needed for future pro-social decision-making, a graduation is held. The program follows a diversion track and at the time of graduation the case was dismissed.

FUNDING

The Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Affairs awarded a grant to the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for VIP Court. With a grant of \$750,000 over three years, the VIP Court is able to address between 105-135 unduplicated defendants (35-45 per year), provide designated team members to the VIP Court, contract with MetroHealth Trauma Resiliency Center and the Cleveland Peacemakers, and work with Passages Employment Program and OhioMeansJobs.

The VIP Court is evaluated on its ability to meet the principles of “Swift, Certain, and Fair” required by the grant. The VIP Court does so by providing therapeutic responses, mentoring opportunities, incentives to reinforce prosocial behavior and develop new skills, and sanctions to stop undesired behaviors. The VIP Judge, court coordinator, and team members regularly reviews adherence to the standards.

TEAM MEMBERS

Judge Brendan J. Sheehan leads the VIP Court and presides over all cases transferred to the docket. The VIP Court Coordinator and Specialty Court Administrator, Meghan E. Patton, oversees the operations of the Court under the direction of Judge Sheehan and Court. Moreover, the VIP court coordinator interacts with various personnel within the court system and with external partners and providers on an ongoing sustained basis. Throughout the year, Judge Sheehan and the coordinator continue to identify ongoing needs while incorporating innovative solutions and strategic planning to strengthen operations and ensure continued efforts toward the Court’s common mission.

Team members of the VIP Court include a designated public defender, prosecutor, probation officer, probation supervisor, a trauma coach through MetroHealth Trauma Recovery Center, mentors with the Cleveland Peacemakers, and employment experts from OhioMeansJobs and Passages.

This VIP Court Team meets for staffings on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

YEAR IN REVIEW

A total of 41 participants were supervised during 2022, with 16 new individuals being admitted into the VIP Court. All the individuals completed screenings and were reviewed by the VIP Court team.

Of the 16 individuals admitted, 16 were male. Additionally, 14 newly admitted participants were African Americans and one was Caucasian. One individual was Hispanic.

Of those admitted, one participants was “low risk” with high responsivity needs, 12 were “moderate risk,” and three were “high risk” using the ORAS Assessment.

Additionally, **11 participants graduated successfully from the program in 2022, and their cases were dismissed.** One case was abated by death due to a participant’s death (non-gun related), and two participants were terminated for non-compliance and ordered to a community control supervision.

TREATMENT TEAM AND COURT HEARINGS

The Judge leads the team meetings and Court session weekly throughout the year. The VIP Court team reviews each participant’s progress, compliance, and non-compliance while responding swiftly with incentives or sanctions. The Judge relies on the expert input of the trained treatment members when imposing therapeutic adjustments, sanctions, or incentives.

Advancement through the phases is dependent on completion of specific criteria for each phase of treatment. The participant will work with a treatment team to identify goals and will work toward while in the program. These goals may include trauma related treatment, returning to school, job-skill training, counseling, employment, substance use treatment, medication compliance, reconnecting with positive family members, strengthening pro-social supports in the community, accessing benefits, and securing safe and stable housing.

Throughout 2022, the Court established regular Court sessions reviews with the team and participants. Throughout the year, the team held approximately 20 court sessions.

SPECIALTY COURT TRAINING INITIATIVES

The Specialty Court department presents and coordinates various training seminars for team members, behavioral health stakeholders, judges, and attorneys. During 2022, the specialty court administrator, coordinator, and jail liaison specialist coordinated an impressive assortment of seminars and activities.

The annual Mental Health and Development Disabilities (MHDD) Court Attorney Certification Seminar presentation returned in a virtual setting, consisting of two half-day sessions. More than 100 attorneys attended in sessions taught by local MHDD team members as well as representatives from North Coast Behavioral Healthcare, County Board of DD, the jail behavioral health unit, and a panel of experienced MHDD attorneys, representing interests of both the public and private sector. Attorneys from the County Prosecutor's office also attended, recognizing the importance of understanding the workings of the MHDD Court. In addition, this was the first year that Magistrates from around the court participated in the training, citing an interest in learning more about mental health and how that might impact the kinds of cases they work on such as addressing protection orders.

In May 2022, the HRDVC team members traveled to Dallas, Texas, to attend the Conference on Crimes against Women where they learned from experts around the country on best practices in responding to domestic violence.

In June 2022, Incorporation of Naloxone Devices at Justice Center training was presented by Case Western Reserve University and the HEALing Communities Study.

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) hosted its annual RISE 22 Conference in Nashville, TN, in July 2022. The Common Pleas Court had 25 employees attend the conference. The NADCP continues to host annual conferences across the country to bring together public health and public safety leaders to find ways to expand treatment for people with substance use and mental health disorders who become involved in the criminal justice system.

In addition to attending the NADCP Conference, Specialty Court Administrator, Meghan E. Patton, and MHDD Court Coordinator, Phil Florian, were invited to present through the Council of State Government's Building Partnerships Between Problem-Solving Courts and Housing Providers on the Returning Home Cuyahoga program.

Additionally, Meghan Patton was invited to participate on a panel seminar, Effective Partnerships Between Mental Health Courts and Service Providers conference, providing expertise on the strategic impact Specialty Courts have made with the behavioral health community.

The Center for Court Innovation along with James E. Henderson, Jr. came to Cleveland to train the HRDVC team members on supervising domestic violence offenders, addressing substance use and trauma and how to work with victims in September.

Unchecked Trauma Is Untreated Trauma and Re-entry Simulation, Presented by Mr. Daryl McGraw was held in October 2022. Over three days, Daryl trained court staff, Judges, and stakeholders.

Administrator of Specialty Courts, Meghan E. Patton, presented at the Virginia Housing Alliance Conference. She was invited to speak about the development and successes of the Returning Home Cuyahoga Pilot, October 2022.

The HRDVC team members were chosen to participate in a four-part series hosted by the Center for Court Innovation on incorporating guiding principles for best practices in domestic violence cases, October 2022.

Treatment Court staff also took part in two trainings: Final Directions for Incentives, Sanctions and Therapeutic Adjustments, (Part 1 & 2), November 2022 and Criminogenic Thinking: Role of Race and Culture, plus HEAT Overview, presented by Mr. Guy Wheeler, December 2022.

The Mental Health Jail Liaison Specialist, Lottie Gray, was invited to present to new correctional officers during their training with the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA). This training covered information about mental health

and developmental disabilities, how to appropriately interact with individuals, services/resources available to individuals in the community and in the County Jail, and addressing concerns/crisis management regarding their behavioral health needs and safety, October – December 2022

The Coordinators were able to schedule tours of partner agencies or facilities in the community:

- o The MHDD probation team toured two activity programs focused on serving their local communities and people in recovery for substance use. On Cleveland's east side, the team toured the Life Exchange Center and partook in their morning breakfast and group discussion. On the west side, they toured Future Directions and saw how people in recovery were able to express themselves in a variety of art projects, August 2022
- o The teams also toured the Diversion Center, April 2022
- o The new MetroHealth Behavioral Health inpatient hospital, December 2022

Court Celebration Months – The coordinators, along with other Court staff, created various activities for the Court staff and the public entering the Justice Center. The specialty court administrator and coordinators assisted with Mental Health Awareness Month in May, Recovery Month in September, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. During these months, activities such as book club, movies and documentaries, subject related seminars, and art displays were developed to raise awareness and reduce stigma around substance use, mental illness, and domestic violence.

Re-Entry Court Judge Nancy Margaret Russo

The Cuyahoga County Re-Entry Court (REEC) was implemented in January, 2007, and is presided over by Judge Nancy Margaret Russo. The goal of REEC is to reduce recidivism and recommitments to ODRC through intensive, specialized supervision of persons accepted into the program and granted Judicial Release.

REEC participation has specific eligibility criteria and defendants are screened by the REEC team. The decision to accept or deny the defendant is made by the REEC Judge and the decision to permit the defendant to transfer into the REEC program for purposes of the Judicial Release Hearing and supervision, is made by the individual sentencing Judge.

All Judges of the Court of Common Pleas may either opt in or opt out of participation in this specialized docket. At present, 32 of 34 of the Court of Common Pleas Judges participates in the REEC program.

The REEC keeps savings and demographic data for all defendants filing Motions for Judicial Release on the dockets of Participating Judges, and for all those filing REEC Applications.

REEC savings to taxpayers in calendar year 2022:	\$955,417.68
REEC savings to taxpayers from 2007 through 2022:	\$15,928,080.88

These savings are calculated conservatively, using only the established per diem rate for prison commitment, and does NOT include such things as medical costs, prc supervision costs or other ancillary commitment costs saved by ODRC, as the result of the defendants' participation in REEC. These savings also do not reflect the value gained by the employment of these individuals, their status as taxpayers and not as inmates, the value to their families and reduction on government assistance, nor can we quantify the value of a person not returning to prison for future crimes.

The REEC also partners with non-profit organizations and governmental agencies to seek solutions to the recidivism and re-entry issues facing Cuyahoga County. Some of those partners include EDWINS and ODRC.

Graduates are followed for a three-year period to determine if they are arrested subsequent to their completion of REEC. This is an aggressive, self-imposed measure that REEC sets for itself and its graduates, in order to determine the effectiveness of REEC.

REEC currently measures its success at 92%, with only an 8% recidivism rate, based on the most recent measures. REEC wishes to express its gratitude to the Court of Common Pleas, our participating Judges, and to the taxpayers of Cuyahoga County, for their support of the REEC.

Honor Roll		
With 25 or more years of service with the Court		
Michael	Aronoff	Psy Clinic
Kevin	Augustyn	Magistrates
Lisa	Austin	Probation
Kathleen	Barry	Magistrates
Gary	Bolinger	Probation
Michael	Brady	Probation
Monica	Brown	Probation
Stephen	Bucha III	Magistrates
Erika	Bush	Information Systems
Michael	Cain	Probation
Jarvis	Clark	Probation
John	Coakley	Probation
Rachel	Colbert	Probation
Mary	Cooley	Court Reporter
Laura	Creed	Staff Attorney
Michelle	Davis	Probation
Marlene	Ebner	Court Reporter
Brian	Ely	Corrections Plan Board
Keith	Fromwiller	Bailiffs
Michelle	Gordon	Probation
Winston	Grays	Probation
Sertarian	Hall	Probation
Mary	Hayes	Probation
Lisa	Hrovat	Court Reporter
Robert	Intorcio	Court Reporter
James	Jeffers	Probation
Michelle	Kozak	Probation
Catrina	Lockhart	Probation
Nicholas	Marton	Information Systems
Steve	McGinty	Probation
Timothy	McNally	Probation
Denise	McNea	Probation
Wendy	McWilliam	Probation
Timothy	Meinke	Court Reporter
Evangelina	Orozco	Criminal Records
Susan	Ottogalli	Court Reporter
Kerry	Paul	Court Reporter
Gregory	Popovich	Administration
Kellie	Reeves-Roper	Court Reporter
Cheryl	Russell	Probation
Kelli	Summers	Probation

Brian	Thelen	Probation
Nicole	Thomas	Probation
Pamela	Thompson	Corrections Plan Board
James	Toth	Probation
Jennifer	Vargics	Dispute Resolution
Margaret	Wagner	Probation
Kimberlee	Warren	Probation
Rebecca	Wetzel	Dispute Resolution
Stephanie	Wherry Branch	Probation

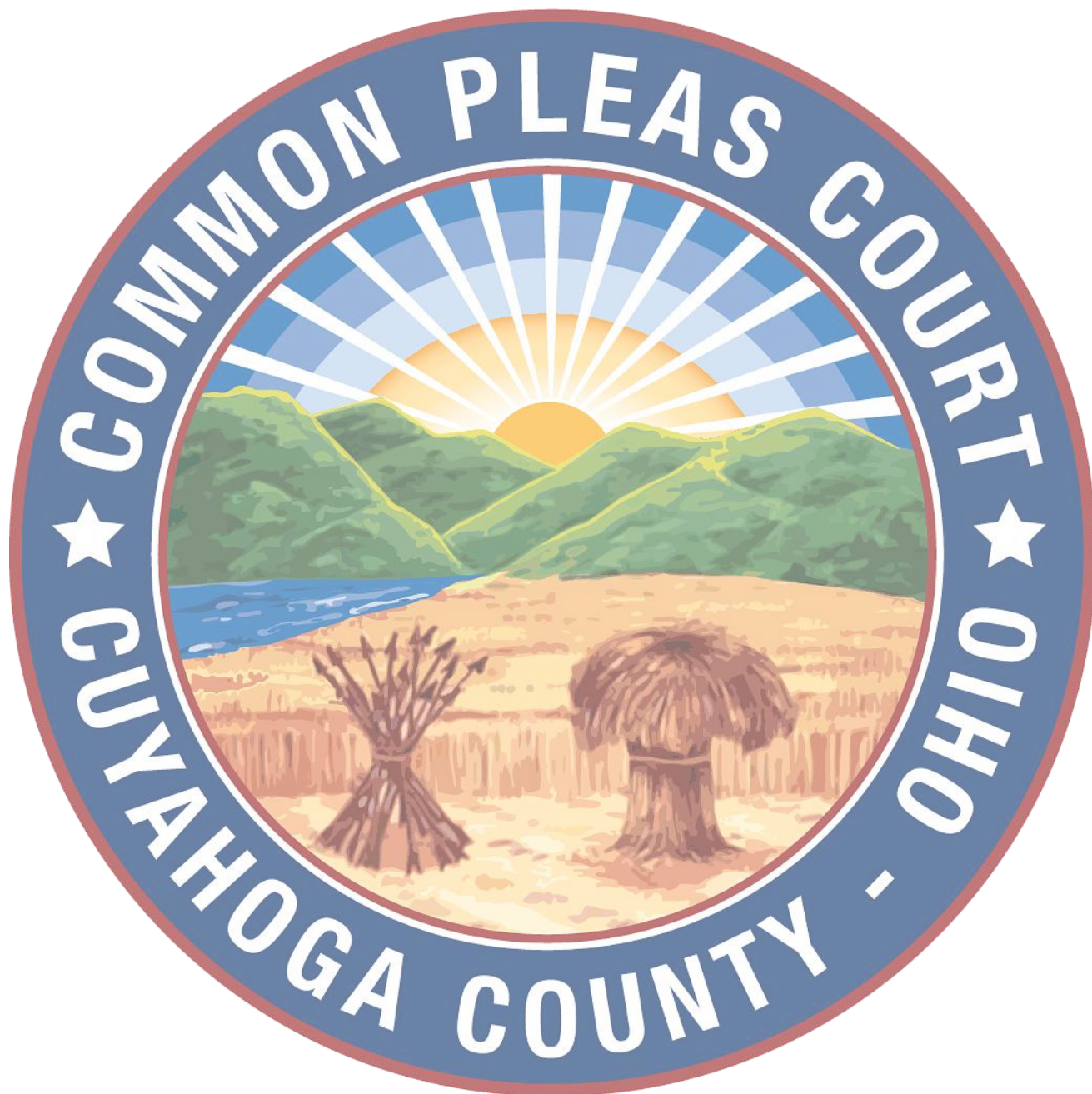
With 20-24 years of service with the Court

Thomas	Arnaut	Information Systems
Tion	Benn	Probation
Angie	Bryant	Probation
Nicole	Byron	Probation
Angela	Collins	Probation
Shaunte	Dixon	Probation
Vivian	Eskridge	Probation
Leila	Fahd	Central Scheduling
Anna	Foley	Central Scheduling
Julianne	Fritz-Marshall	Probation
Kevin	Gallagher	Probation
Erricka	Grays	Probation
Margaret	Hastings	Bailiffs
Michelle	Hoiseth	Probation
Amy	Jackson	Magistrates
LaToya	Jones	Probation
Karen	Jopek	Probation
Sean	Kincaid	Probation
Monica	Klein	Magistrates
Gregory	Koterba	Court Reporter
Richard	Kraft	Probation
Paul	Ley	Information Systems
Robert	Lloyd	Court Reporter
Paul	Lucas	Magistrates
Deena	Lucci	Bailiffs
Renee	Maalouf	Probation
Laura	Miller	Bailiffs
Patricia	Mingee	Administration
Nakia	Mitchell	Probation
Eric	Moten	Probation
Philip	Novak	Probation
Cheryl	Parker	Probation
Kathleen	Patton	Probation

Molly	Rakic	Special Docket
Jessica	Rivera	Probation
Lauren	Rivera	Probation
Loretta	Ryland	Corrections Plan Board
Patricia	Schmitz	Probation
Mary	Schuler	Court Reporter
Patrick	Shepard	Probation
Leslie	Svoboda	Probation
Shontrell	Thompson	Probation
Mathew	Urbancich	Probation
Latanya	Wise	Probation
Michael	Yezbak	Probation
With 10-19 years of service with the Court		
Bill	Kavourias	Probation
Maureen	Povinelli	Court Reporter
Angela	Cudo	Court Reporter
Luann	Cawley	Court Reporter
Kari	Jones	Probation
Minerva	Torres	Probation
AnnMarie	Gardner	Probation
Walter	Luc	Criminal Records
Maria	Bonezzi	Magistrates
Kelly	Barr	Probation
Kenya	Gray	Special Docket
Kelly	McTaggart	Administration
Timothy	Malik	Probation
Kathleen	Barrett	Dispute Resolution
Lisa	Villanueva	Probation
Althea	Menough	Probation
Andrea	Kinast	Administration
Maria	Nemec	Probation
Tammy	Sherman	Probation
Omer	Farhat	Probation
Carlos	Torres	Probation
Weddie	Sojourney	Probation
Mikel	McCormick	Probation
Molly	Leckler	Special Docket
Ilene	White	Court Reporter
Marybeth	Sammon	Magistrates
Matthew	O'Brien	Probation
LaToya	Cook	Jury
Ronald	Borchert	Criminal Records
Tracy	Vargo	Court Reporter

Jessica	Amos	Bailiffs
Jennifer	Moody-Davis	Corrections Plan Board
Barbara	Apanites	Probation
Don	Crump	Probation
Gerald	Abbadini	Court Reporter
John	Dyke	Magistrates
Sabrina	Nelson	Judges' Secretaries
Christopher	Bonezzi	Probation
Ritamarie	White	Probation
Marija	Mergl	Staff Attorney
Charise	Flowers	Central Scheduling
Maureen	Broestl	Judges' Secretaries
Gwendolyn	Bennett	Criminal Records
Christopher	Wise	Probation
Sarah	Tuggey	Probation
Meghan	Disbrow	Special Docket
Christopher	Day	Magistrates
Margaret	Wallison	Central Scheduling
Celeste	Hodous	Probation
Julie	Farrell	Bailiffs
Kamil	Drutel	Information Systems
Patrick	Phillips	Probation
Michael	Cooney	Probation
Jessica	Alvarado	Probation
Dylan	Shepherd	Probation
Carla	Kuhn	Court Reporter
Nancy	Scarcella	Staff Attorney
Lyndsy	Roser	Probation
Marchila	Chapman	Probation
Jayne	Jakubaitis	Staff Attorney
Jacqueline	Cheatwood	Probation
Erin	Becker	Special Docket
Timothy	Smith	Criminal Records
Brendan	Campbell	Bailiffs
Mary Nell	Komara	Magistrates
Amanda	LaBanc	Probation
Michelle	Jones	Court Reporter
Scott	Moorman	Staff Attorney
Rhonda	Andres	TASC
Nannette	Barrett	TASC
Arlene	HudsonBey-Lewis	TASC
Felicia	Norwood	TASC
Dara	Opala	TASC
Donna	Woods	TASC

Elise	Panehal	TASC
Teresa	Egan	TASC
Michael	Rahm	Probation
Gregory	Burger	Criminal Records
Bradley	Lamb	Central Scheduling
Diangie	Perez	Magistrates
Carleen	Bartlett	Magistrates
Akeyasha	Jones	Probation
Bobbie	Watkins	Probation
Heather	Malecki	Magistrates
Kristin	Beutler	Court Reporter
Jessica	Hurt	Probation
Victoria	Boyd	Probation
Renee	Murray	Probation
Jennifer	Walt	Probation
Ricardo	Sanders	Probation
Kathleen	DiNovo	Court Reporter
Bernadette	Nichelson	Judges' Secretaries
Theodore	Chaplik	TASC
Marlin	Broner	Probation
Doreen	Mittinger	TASC
Joanne	Adamo	TASC
Latanya	Aikens	Psy Clinic
Kathleen	Dunham	Bailiffs
Konrad	Fuetter	Probation
Portia	Pettus	Psy Clinic
Lisa	Shelby	Information Systems
Jermain	Salaz	Probation
Brett	Taylor	Probation
Timothy	Fratena	Probation
Javares	Green	Probation
Kelly	Lechner	Probation
Brian	Batzel	Criminal Records
Kenneth	Smeallie	Information Systems
Anthony	Parker	Bailiffs



Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

General Division

1200 Ontario Street

Cleveland, OH 44113

216-443-8560

<https://cp.cuyahogacounty.us/>