

Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Court  
Judge David A. Hejmanowski  
2016 Annual Report

*“I’ve been struck by the upside-down priorities of the juvenile justice system. We are willing to spend the least amount of money to keep a kid at home, more to put him in a foster home, and the most to institutionalize him.”*

Marian Wright Edelman  
*Psychology Today*, 1975

Much has changed since Ms. Edelman’s observation 40 years ago, but much remains the same. The juvenile justice system continues to spend exorbitant amounts of money to institutionalize children or place them outside of their homes, while charitable, grant and direct-governmental funding for prevention programs is hard to come by.

The mission of the Delaware County Juvenile Court has always been to avoid institutionalizing youth except where public safety, public security, or the youth’s individual safety necessitate it, or in circumstances where all other options have failed. This mission arises not out of a sense of magnanimity nor any grand idealism, but instead out of the stark, pragmatic reality that institutionalizing youth is expensive and nearly universally ineffective at reducing the likelihood of future delinquent or criminal behavior.

Our efforts have therefore been focused on early prevention, early intervention and effective methods of reducing recidivism. Our diversion program funnels young, non-violent offenders out of the formal court process and into programming that can address the causes of their behavior. As a leader in her field, Lisa Williamson has previously served as President of the Ohio Juvenile Diversion Association and heads our Intake/Diversion Department.

The court’s school liaisons work directly in our local school districts, forming effective lines of communication between school officials and court personnel. They intervene early to address truancy issues and, in conjunction with our mediators conduct school truancy mediations that have been incredibly effective at getting kids to school.

The probation department, under the direction of Kara Moore adds to those efforts significantly. Our probation officers work around the clock to protect the public and to push the juveniles under their supervision to achieve the skills necessary to be successful in life. The Victim Awareness program, court-supervised community service and CASA programs all saw growth in 2016, with the latter benefiting from the leadership of Tammy Matias, and enjoying an expansion into Union County.

The Juvenile Treatment Court, presided over by Magistrate Schoenling and led by our Treatment Coordinator, Doug Althaus, serves as a model for other juvenile courts in the state to follow, and has achieved certification from the Ohio Supreme Court. Magistrate McCollister and her staff worked tirelessly every day to ensure that children have stable and appropriate homes so as to reduce the likelihood that they will come into contact with the system in other ways and she and Magistrate Childs spend countless hours enforcing child support orders so that children have the financial resources to be successful. And they did all this while smoothing the transition of those cases to the new Domestic Relations Division.

Our success is not measured by the number of juveniles who interact with our court, but rather by the number who are able to become productive, law-abiding adults. The commitment of each and every member of our staff to achieve that result in every case makes coming to work every day an absolute joy.

In Probate Court, Magistrate Kaiser leads an outstanding team that efficiently handles estates, marriage licenses, name changes, guardianships, conservatorships, adoptions and much more. Teresa Tackett has spearheaded the continuing expansion of our Guardianship Visitor program, and already that program has paid dividends and has attracted the support of grant making organizations in our county.

We live, work and raise our families in this community and, thus, are committed to making a place that we are proud to call home.

Judge David A. Hejmanowski  
Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Court

## **Employees of the Probate/Juvenile Court**

### **Judicial**

David A. Hejmanowski, Judge  
Kari Y. Childs, Magistrate  
R. Lamont Kaiser, Magistrate  
Sharon McCollister, Magistrate  
Robert Rice, Staff Attorney/Magistrate  
Lynne Schoenling, Magistrate  
Teresa Tackett, Judicial Services  
Manager/Probate Court Investigator

Katie Stenman, Court Administrator  
Dodie Davenport, Mediator  
April Nelson, Mediator  
Pamela Vest, Probate Court Investigator  
Donna Bukovec, Adoption Assessor

### **CASA**

Tammy Matias, CASA Coordinator  
Nicole Thornton, Assistant CASA  
Coordinator  
Carrie Huffman, Volunteer Coordinator

### **Clerical Services**

Renee Lovelien, Clerical Services  
Department Head  
Billie Jo Propst, Probate Office Manager  
Mandy Clements, Juvenile Clerk/Court  
Technologist  
Nicole Cox, Juvenile Clerk  
Kira Crawford, Juvenile Clerk  
Rachel Dennison, Juvenile Clerk  
Janette Haag, Juvenile Clerk  
Betsy Jones, Probate Clerk  
Marilyn Kinniard, Juvenile Clerk  
Melanie Layton, Records Clerk  
Stacey Morris, Probate Clerk  
Candy Nelson, Juvenile Clerk  
Lisa Patterson, Probate Clerk  
Karen Peaks, Probate Clerk  
Rene Ray, Receptionist  
Janet Ritter, Probate Clerk  
Ashlie Stidam, Juvenile Clerk  
Samantha Swope, Juvenile Clerk  
Debora Thomas, Juvenile Clerk

### **Fiscal**

Karen Wadkins, Fiscal Coordinator  
Debbie Wells, Fiscal Specialist

Kathy Sturman, Strategic Planning/Quality  
Control Manager  
Angela Riley, Court Services  
Analyst/Training Coordinator

### **Intake**

Lisa Williamson, Intake/Diversion  
Department Head  
Stacy Blair, City School Liaison/Senior  
Intake Officer  
Patty Cram, Mentor Coordinator  
Megan Dillman, Victim Services/Mentor  
Assistant  
Spencer Grummel, Intake/Diversion Officer  
Vikki Hardwick, County School Attendance  
Officer  
Sara Kapel, Intake/Diversion Officer  
Lisa Lemaster, County School Liaison  
Cecelia Monahan, Intake/Diversion Officer  
Eddie Parker, Diversion Officer  
Dana Wisecarver, Victim Services  
Coordinator

### **Probation**

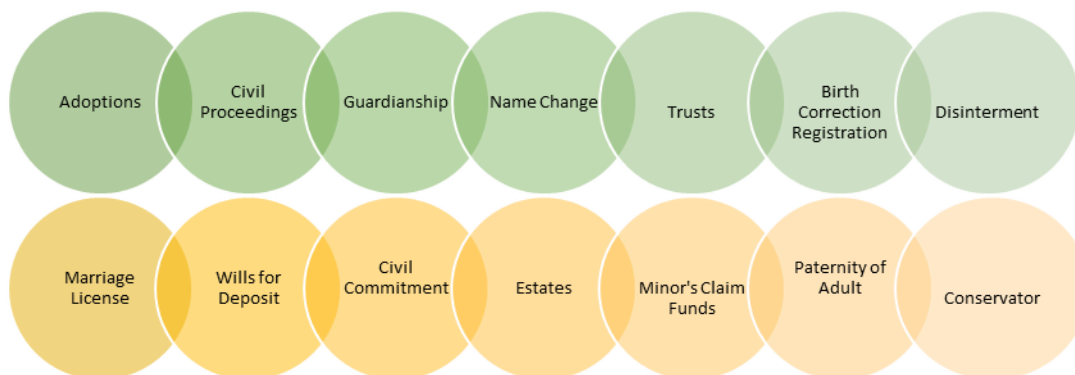
Kara Moore, Chief Probation Officer  
Darlene Miller, Deputy Chief Probation  
Officer  
Dave Andrews, Chief Field Officer  
Marc Camboni, Field Probation Officer  
Gia DiGirolamo, Community  
Service/Restitution Work Specialist  
Rob Garey, Probation Officer  
Kevin Krasa, Probation Officer  
Bobby Massie, Probation Officer  
Bonnie Scheidt, Transport Officer  
Ken Ward, Community Service/Restitution  
Work Coordinator

### **Treatment**

Doug Althaus, Treatment Court  
Coordinator  
Mary Cagnina, Family Advocate  
Coordinator  
Sharon Moran, Family Support Specialist  
Lauren Souza, Treatment Court Liaison  
Kimberly Baker, Family Advocate  
Jennifer Boytar, Family Advocate  
Adrienne Murray, Family Advocate

## **Probate Court**

### **Types of Cases Probate Court has the responsibility to oversee**



The Delaware County Probate Court has worked diligently addressing recent changes in the law to provide information to those providing guardianship over vulnerable wards. The enactment of Ohio House Bill 50, effective September 13, 2016 directed Probate Courts to furnish a guardianship guidebook to Court appointed guardians. This Court printed 600 copies of the guidebook and now provides them to new guardians upon appointment and is mailing the guidebooks to current guardians with annual report reminder letters.

Since 2014, the Court has provided quarterly local guardian training sessions at the Court. These sessions were created and delivered by a Probate Magistrate to provide information for new family-member guardians. In addition to instruction, these sessions provide an opportunity for the guardians to ask questions and to become comfortable in their new role. A second avenue to receive training is through the Supreme Court of Ohio consisting of an on-line training and attendance at their six-hour fundamentals training. In 2016, the Supreme Court added continuing education by offering a three hour online course for longer serving guardians.

Education of probate practices and rules for attorneys, paralegals, and probate/juvenile staff are developed and offered throughout the year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Practical Probate Seminar, provided information to 61 attorneys and paralegals. Presentations were given by the Judge, a Magistrate and probate attorneys on topics such as: will contests, fiduciary removal, planning in a turbulent trust/estate financial markets landscape and probate case law and legislative update. The Probate staff also presented at the “Court in a Year” training for internal Court staff where they gave a history of Probate Courts and an overview of the case types and programs handled in the Probate Court. This presentation was part of an overall effort to familiarize the combined probate/juvenile Court staff with the various functions of the combined Courts.

Technology continues to play an important role in providing support to staff and to the public. Desktop scanners and software integrated with the county records retention software enables all of the clerks to better serve the customer when fielding incoming calls as the documents are available in real-time to staff. Additionally, the public has the ability to view a large portion of current documents by using the public eAccess portal on their personal devices or at the computer terminal provided by the Probate Court for public use. The Court takes steps to limit

on-line access to sensitive information. A second major technological change introduced the public's ability to complete an online marriage application and pre-pay prior to arriving to the Probate Court. This has expedited the time required to process a marriage application when the applicants then come in to Probate Court.

A major advancement in assisting the growing elderly population was the revitalization of the Adult Protective Services (APS) through the Delaware County Department of Jobs and Family Services (JFS). During the latter part of 2016, the local APS staff filed five applications in the Probate Court seeking guardianships for adults in need. This collaboration between APS and Probate Court has helped these at-risk seniors secure the assistance they need.

Court appointed investigators/assessors assist the Probate Court in reporting their findings. Investigators serve notice upon alleged incompetents in guardianship cases, investigating the circumstances of alleged incompetents and filing a written report with specific information requested by the Court including any recommendations on the best options available. Assessors conduct home studies for adoption cases. Investigators and assessors attend annual training to keep current on skills and licensing.

Throughout the year, Probate Court staff conducted outreach services to provide assistance in performance of their duty. Deputy clerks traveled outside the office to aid applicants not physically able to appear at the clerk's office with obtaining their marriage license. The Magistrate has conducted several hearings in remote locations or in nursing homes to accommodate those medical personnel and individuals for whom a guardianship or conservatorship has been requested.

#### Number of Probate Cases Filed by Type

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Estates	514	543	491	445	485
Guardianship of Minors	38	50	37	45	27
Guardianship of Incompetents	39	48	52	55	66
Conservatorships	0	1	1	3	2
Testamentary Trusts	0	5	18	21	14
Civil Actions	3	28	17	24	11
Adoptions	10	42	36	39	44
Commitments	0	0	11	7	2
Minor Settlements	2	8	17	18	10
Wrongful Death	0	0	0	42	23
Birth Registration/Correction	0	10	2	3	2
Change of Name	0	95	72	73	82
Marriage Applications	803	751	758	898	879
Miscellaneous Actions	17	14	20	25	19
<u>Total Cases Filed</u>	1426	1595	1532	1698	1666

\*\* Wrongful Death Cases reported within Estates 2012-2014

\* Change of Name 2012 reported combined with 2013

The Court partners with the Ohio Department of Corrections where teddy bears and bunnies are handmade and brought to the Court until an opportunity arises where they can find a permanent home. The gift of a bunny to a child involved with an adoption, a name change or a guardianship is meaningful to the adult participants as well as the smiling child. The Probate Court staff endeavors to make comfortable all who appear before it. Over 58 bunnies and teddy bears were given out in 2016.

### Court Visitor Program

The Court Visitor Program is a guardianship monitoring program offered through the Probate Court. The program utilizes volunteers and student interns from local colleges to visit with wards and guardians involved with the Court. These visitors serve as the Court's eyes and ears, by visiting persons under guardianship to see whether they are receiving appropriate care, to ensure that the guardian is current with reporting requirements and to assist the guardian and/or ward with linkage to community resources. The program allows the Court to ensure the ward's needs are being met, the ward is safe and being cared, and the ward is in the least restrictive alternative for guardianship. The Program also provides the Probate Court with an additional mechanism for following up on any complaints and/or concerns noted with existing guardianships. The Program assists the Court in its responsibilities as the statutory guardian.

The program had six volunteers trained to conduct the visits. Two of the six were social work students from The Ohio State University College of Social Work, from Newark and Marion branches, who were completing their internship with the program. Another one of the volunteers in 2016 was a psychology student from the Ohio Wesleyan University. The other volunteers were community residents contributing their time to give back to their communities by assisting others.

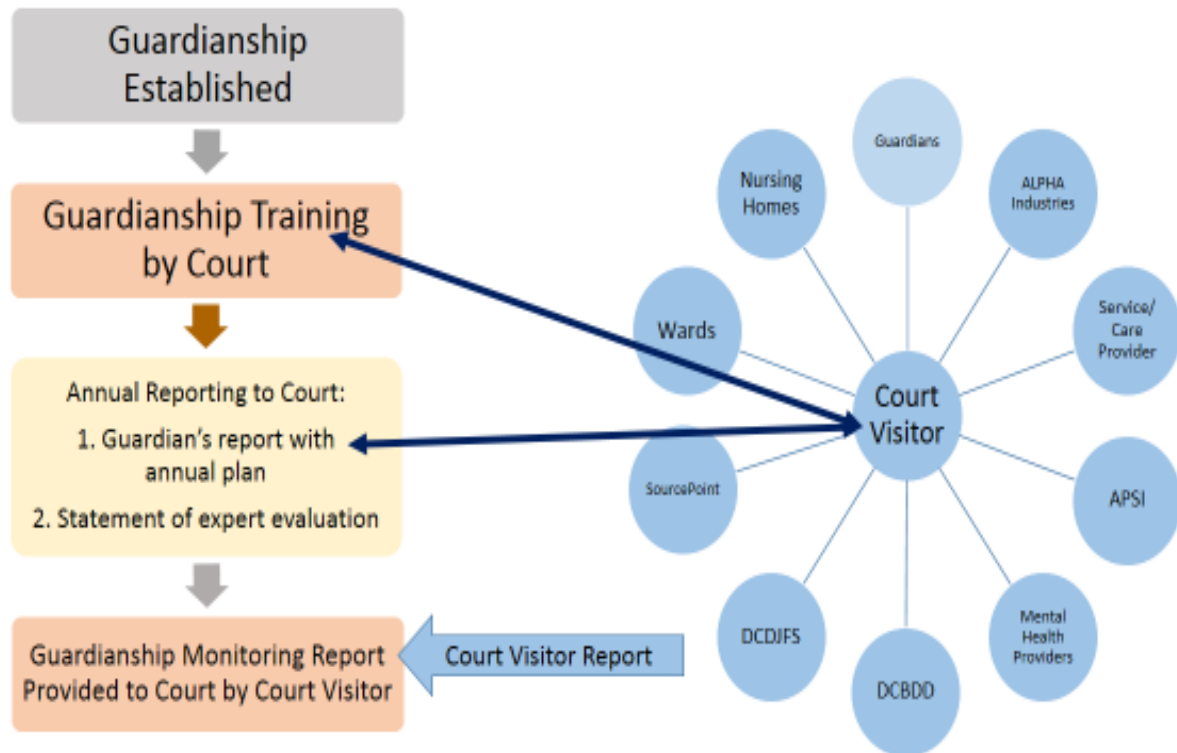
In 2016, the Court visitors conducted 92 home visits. These visits took place at private homes, group homes and nursing care facilities, including assisted living and full care nursing homes. Of the 92 visits conducted with wards and guardians in 2016, 65 individuals were age 55 or older and 43 individuals were receiving services from the Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities (DCBDD). The involved guardians were family members, friends, volunteer guardians, Court appointed guardians, and agency guardians (Advocacy & Protective Services, Inc. commonly known as APSI). The Court visitors were also sources for information regarding resources.

An added benefit of the Court Visitor Program is the ability to serve as a liaison for the Court with other agencies within the community such as DCBDD, SourcePoint, Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA), Adult Protective Services (APS) and various nursing care facilities. One of the volunteer Court visitors, Susan Katherman commented "I consider this to be a very worthwhile program and have been pleasantly surprised in how many parents or family members have stepped up to assist in the care of their loved ones for extended periods of time". Another volunteer visitor, Donald Anspaugh commented "For the guardians and wards, I think they appreciate the concern shown by the visits which personalize the Court's involvement while at the same time giving the Court a useful set of additional eyes and ears. For me as a volunteer, the

experience has been inspiring and humbling. The love and effort of the guardians and caregivers is uplifting to see.”

Prior to the establishment of the Court Visitor Program, guardians had access to limited resources to help them meet the requirements of being an appointed guardian. The Court Visitor Program provides additional resources to guardians.

## COURT VISITOR PROGRAM BENEFITS



The Court Visitor Program was the recipient of a grant from SourcePoint in 2016.



## **Clerical Services**

The Delaware County Clerical Services Department is comprised of individuals sworn as deputy clerks serving both the Probate and Juvenile Divisions. Some staff have additional duties in various areas of the Courts, such as facilities, technology, mediation, and Courtroom or administrative tasks. A core function of the Clerk's Office is to maintain accurate and complete records of all Court proceedings. The Clerical Services Department receives case filings and documents in person, facsimile, mail and the most recent technology enhancement allows E-filing through a client registered system supported by the Court's case management software. In 2016, Clerical Services processed 90,399 entries.

<b>Cases Handled Formally – Five Year Data</b>					
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Delinquent &amp; Unruly</u>	931	799	727	689	650
<u>Traffic Citations</u>	1049	966	876	837	899
<u>Adult Criminal</u>	143	100	102	87	84
<u>Dependency</u>	77	88	80	52	74
<u>Permanent Custody*</u>	0	2	3	2	2
<u>Miscellaneous**</u>	17	44	46	41	36
<u>Domestic Relations***</u>	1,129	1,141	1,121	1,026	926
<u>Total</u>	3,346	3,140	2,955	2,734	2,671

\* Case stems from a dependency proceeding

\*\*Power of attorney, civil protection orders, motions

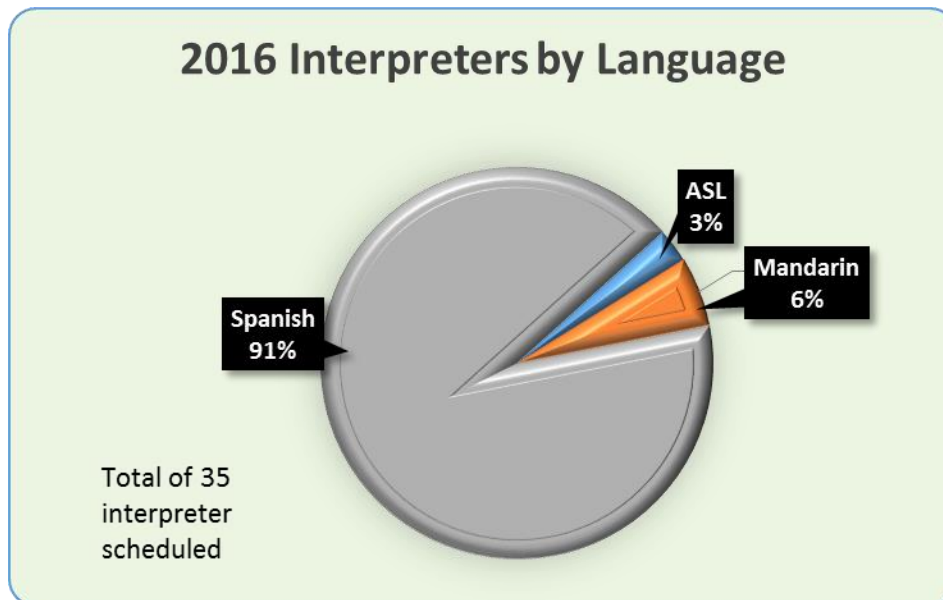
\*\*\*Custody, support, paternity, and UIFSA

The Clerical staff values efficiency and strives to evaluate and adjust practices to aid in the advancement of quick access to information by all they serve. In early 2016, staff quickly adapted to the addition of scanners to digitize and preserve legal case documents. Capturing documents as they are filed has allowed quicker access by staff and saves time by eliminating searching for archived paper case files. These documents can be accessed by staff from any Court computer and in some case types viewable thru the Delaware County Website link to "E-Services."

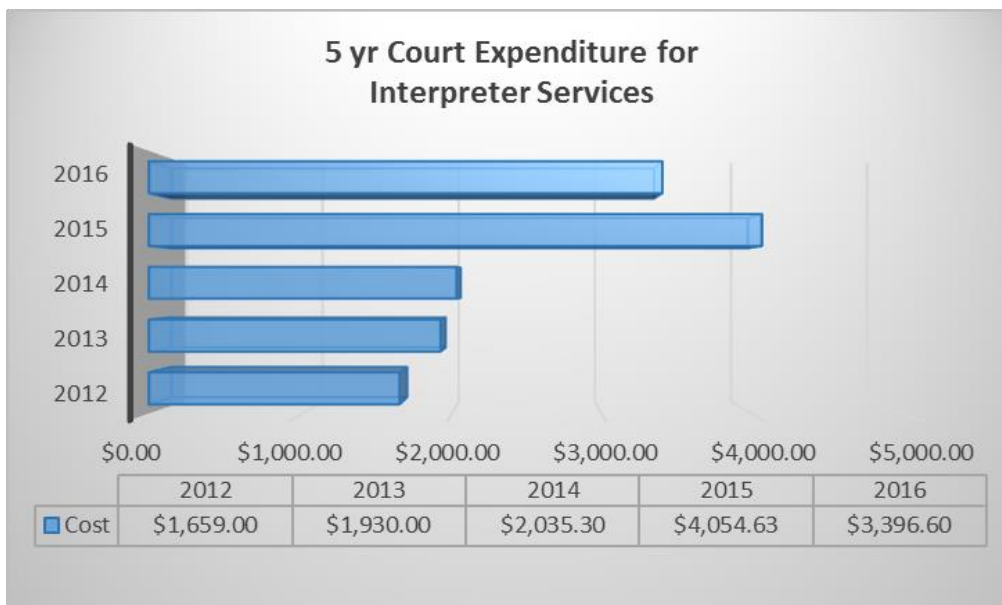
The end of 2016 brought to a close the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court presiding over the Parenting, Custody and Support Docket as it moved to the newly established Domestic Relations Court in 2017. This transition project involved a number of clerical staff to handle Supreme Court required case management changes, physical and digitized records, notification to the public and working with the staff from General Division Clerk of Courts staff and Domestic Relations staff.

Since clerical staff are involved in all areas from the beginning to the end of a case there are many items that make up how a case moves through the Court system. Just a few of the "behind

the scenes” activities clerical staff manage include: public defender appointments, interpreters, genealogists and historians, title and claimant’s searches, warrants and subpoenas issued, certified mail, jury management, and government or military record requests. In 2016, the Clerical Services Department secured 594 public defender appointments and processed over 80 warrants.

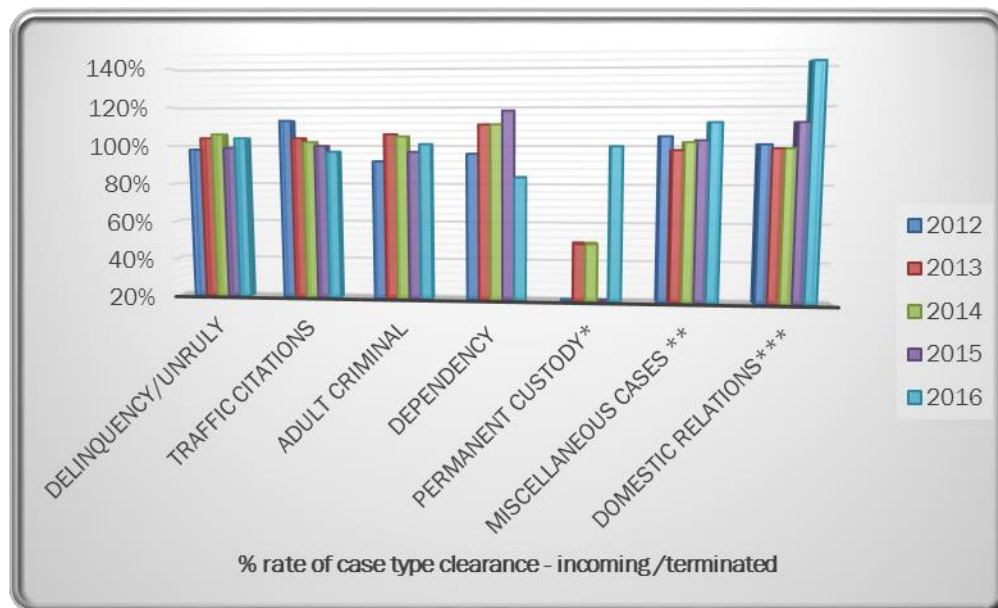


The Clerical Services Department also is responsible for securing language interpreter services for Court matter. In 2016, the Court utilized interpreter services 35 times. Of those 35 services, 32 were for Spanish language services, two for Mandarin, and one for American Sign Language.



## 2016 Case Statistics

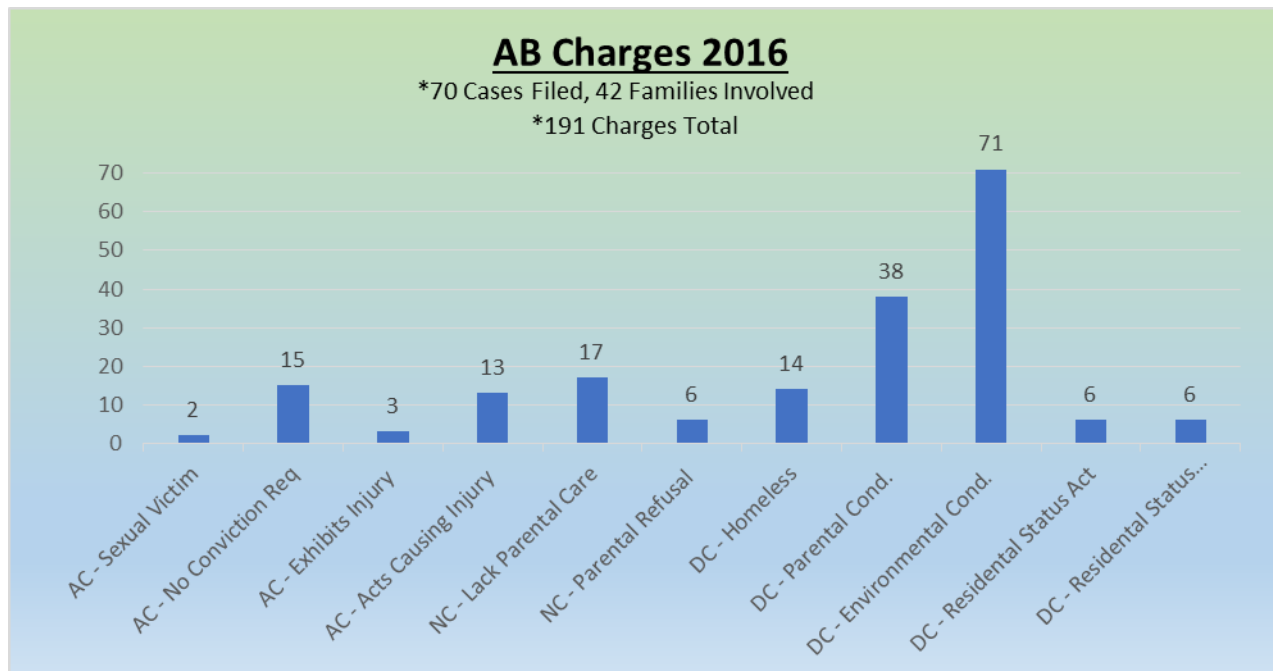
<b>Five Year Case Terminations</b>					
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Decision by Admission	1476	1176	1131	1080	1076
Decision by Trial	228	383	362	409	395
Dismissal	621	633	654	565	526
Other	95	128	88	61	66
Transfer out	177	165	139	131	396
Unavailable party	44	27	15	10	20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2641</b>	<b>2512</b>	<b>2389</b>	<b>2256</b>	<b>2479</b>



	<b>Case Clearance Rates - incoming/terminated</b>				
	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Delinquency/Unruly	98%	104%	106%	99%	104%
Traffic Citations	113%	104%	102%	100%	97%
Adult Criminal	92%	106%	105%	97%	101%
Dependency	96%	111%	111%	118%	84%
Permanent Custody*	N/A	50%	50%	N/A	100%
Miscellaneous**	105%	98%	102%	103%	112%
Domestic Relations***	101%	99%	99%	112%	142%
	101%	96%	96%	105%	106%

### Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Cases

The Delaware County Juvenile Court serves the needs of children by working with the Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services (DCDJFS) and other child based service organizations. Generally, DCDJFS receives information about the wellbeing or safety of a child and sends an intake worker to investigate. If there is sufficient evidence to remove the child or request protective supervision a Complaint is filed in the Juvenile Court starting a process where the Court takes the necessary steps to insure children's safety.



AC – Abused Child  
NC – Neglected Child  
DC – Dependent Child

#### Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Filings by Zip Code

Waldo	43356	2
Portsmouth	45662	1
Marion	43302	1
Columbus	43224	2
Westerville	43082	5
Sunbury	43074	8
Powell	43065	1
Marysville	43040	1
Lewis Center	43035	1
Galena	43021	1
Dublin	43017	1
Delaware	43015	46
TOTAL		70

#### Adult Criminal Cases

During 2016, the Juvenile Court accepted 84 matters per Ohio Revised Code Section 2919.24 pertaining to adults accused of contributing to the unruliness or delinquency of a child. There were 12 admissions, 65 dismissals (the majority due to compliance), and the remaining seven are pending resolution.

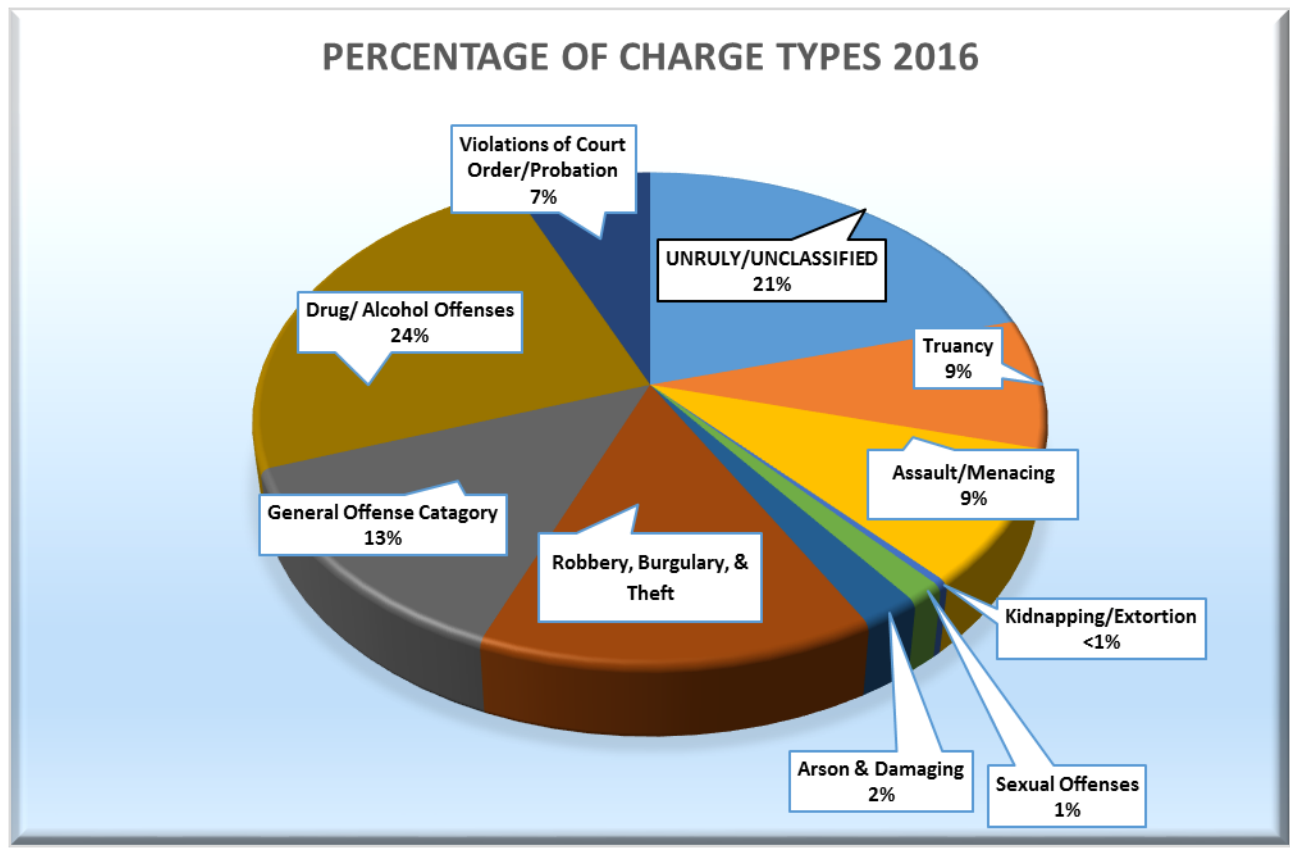
#### Delinquent and Unruly Cases

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over juveniles alleged to be delinquent or unruly. When a juvenile is found to be delinquent or unruly, the Court has jurisdiction to issue orders on the juvenile and the juvenile's parents or legal custodian.

<b>Delinquency Filings – Five Year History</b>					
	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
<b><u>Unruly/Unclassified</u></b>					
<b>General Unruly charges</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Tobacco</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Contributing to unruliness</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Curfew</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Littering</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Truancy</u></b>					
<b>Unruly Truant</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Chronic Truant</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Vehicular Homicide/Manslaughter</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b><u>Assault/Menacing</u></b>					
<b>Assault</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Menacing &amp; stalking</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Violation of Protection Order</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Kidnapping/Extortion</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b><u>Sexual Offenses</u></b>					
<b>Rape</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Sexual Assault</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Gross Sexual Imposition</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Trafficking - persons/prostitution</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Obscenity / Public Indecency</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Dissemination / illegal images</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Arson &amp; Damaging</u></b>					
<b>Arson</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Vandalism</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Criminal damaging</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Criminal mischief</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>
<b><u>Robbery Burglary Theft</u></b>					
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Trespassing</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Receiving stolen property</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Theft</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Other related</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>
<b><u>General Offenses</u></b>					
<b>Disorderly Conduct</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Inducing Panic/ False Alarms</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Terroristic Threats</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Harassment</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Tampering w/evidence</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Falsification</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Obstruction of Justice</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Resisting Arrest or comply</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Complicity</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Weapons or Criminal Tools</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Cruelty to Animals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

<b><u>Drug/ Alcohol Offenses</u></b>					
<b>Trafficking in drugs</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Possession Controlled Substance</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Possession / Use of Marijuana</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Possession/use of Paraphernalia</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Abuse Intoxicants</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Underage alcohol offenses</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>81</b>
<b><u>Violations</u></b>					
<b>Violation of Court Order</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Violation of Probation</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>28</b>
<b><u>TOTALS</u></b>	<b>878</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>858</b>



<b><u>Delinquency/Unruly Cases filed by Zip Code, Gender, and Age.*</u></b>										
<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Zip code</u></b>	<b><u># of cases</u></b>	<b><u>Male</u></b>	<b><u>Female</u></b>	<b><u>Age &lt; 11</u></b>	<b><u>Age 11 - 13</u></b>	<b><u>Age 14-15</u></b>	<b><u>Age 16</u></b>	<b><u>Age 17</u></b>	<b><u>Age 18+</u></b>
Detroit, MI	48206	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Dayton	45403	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Troy	45373	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mansfield	44907	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Galion	44833	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Sparta	43350	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Richwood	43344	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Russels Point	43348	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Morral	43337	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Marengo	43334	5	5	0	0	0	1	2	2	0
Marion	43302	7	2	5	0	1	1	1	4	0
Columbus	43240	3	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	0
Columbus	43235	7	5	2	0	0	0	3	3	1
Columbus	43232	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Columbus	43231	11	9	2	0	2	3	4	2	0
Columbus	43230	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Columbus	43229	8	5	3	0	2	3	0	3	0
Columbus	43228	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Columbus	43224	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Columbus	43223	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
Columbus	43221	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Upper Arlington	43220	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Columbus	43219	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Columbus	43214	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Columbus	43213	6	4	2	0	0	3	2	1	0
Columbus	43211	6	2	4	0	0	4	1	1	0
Columbus	43207	9	7	2	0	1	6	0	2	0

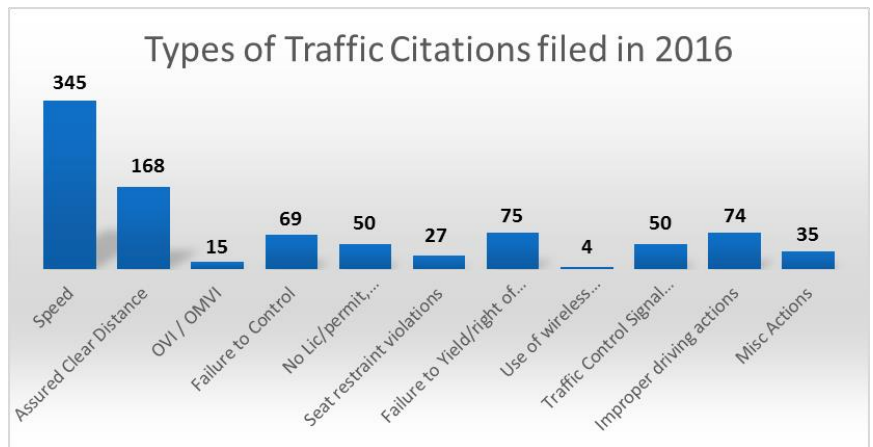


Columbus	43205	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Columbus	43204	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Columbus	43203	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Columbus	43201	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Columbus	43119	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Commercial Point	43116	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Columbus	43110	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Columbus	43103	3	1	2	0	0	1	2	0	0
Pickerington	43147	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Worthington	43085	4	3	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Westerville Del	43082	31	26	2	0	4	9	8	9	1
Westerville	43081	18	13	5	0	1	5	6	6	0
Sunbury	43074	34	13	18	1	1	9	8	15	0
Powell	43065	27	13	14	0	1	3	5	18	0
Plain City	43064	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ostrander	43061	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	4	1
Radnor	43066	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Kilbourne	43032	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Johnstown	43031	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Marysville	43040	5	3	2	0	0	1	1	3	0
Lewis Center	43035	52	39	13	0	2	12	13	25	0
Galena	43021	14	9	5	0	0	5	2	6	1
Dublin Frank	43017	7	5	2	0	0	2	2	3	0
Delaware	43015	228	139	89	1	30	72	49	72	4
Ashley	43003	15	12	3	0	1	5	3	5	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>546</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>10</b>

\*Includes cases which have been dismissed and sealed.

## Juvenile Traffic Court

The Delaware County Juvenile Court has exclusive jurisdiction to hear all cases of juveniles issued a traffic citation in Delaware County as well as Juveniles who reside in Delaware County but were issued a citation elsewhere. The Delaware County Juvenile Traffic Court handles cases involving persons who are under 18 years of age who are charged with offenses relating to the operation of motor vehicles, the use of state identification cards, and pedestrian safety. Youth involved in juvenile traffic Court often face costs, fines, and license suspension as potential sanctions. Another potential sanction is the Court's referral to a driver's educational program. During 2016, 571 youth completed programs such as CARTEENS, and 70 youth completed a Driving Improvement Program at the Bloom School of Driving Dynamix. These educational programs are utilized regularly by the Court to educate, assess, and intervene when needed to address problems identified in young drivers.



Traffic Citation	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Speed	363	366	335	329	345
Assured Clear Distance	148	139	129	128	168
OVI / OMVI	7	7	19	11	15
Failure to Control	58	53	54	60	69
No Lic/permit, suspended or restrictions	44	26	42	27	50
Seat restraint violations	38	22	28	25	27
Failure to Yield/right of way	81	66	85	24	75
Use of wireless electronic device/texting	0	2	2	1	4
Traffic Control Signal Violations	23	53	26	36	50
Improper driving actions	47	49	44	108	74
Misc Actions	70	47	62	13	35

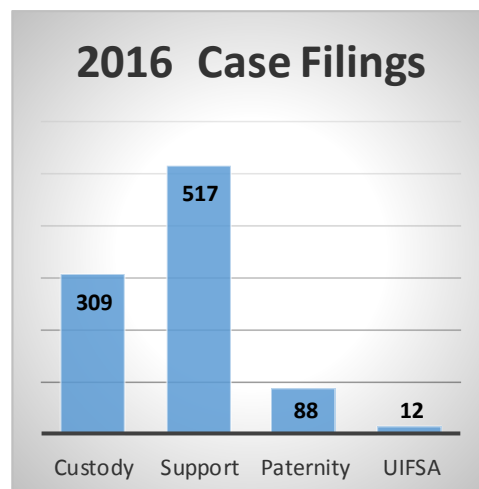
### Parenting, Custody and Support

2016 was the last year the Juvenile Court held jurisdiction over parenting matters involving children of non-married parents and children of parents not seeking divorce or legal separation. The issues in these cases involve matters of custody, parenting time, paternity, visitation, child and medical support. The Delaware County Child Support Enforcement Agency files motions for legal decisions on their administrative orders.

Delaware County combined domestic relations matters from the Juvenile Court and General Division of the Common Pleas Court into a new Domestic Relations Division for 2017.

### Miscellaneous Filings

This category contains legal filings that do not meet the criteria of other Case Types in the Juvenile Court, such as: Grandparent Power of Attorney, Juvenile Civil Protection Orders and Administrative Orders. There were 37 miscellaneous matters filed in 2016: 30 power of attorney, four civil orders, and 3 other matters.



## **Intake Department**

The Intake/Program Department is a juvenile's first contact in the Court system and serves the community by providing the least restrictive interventions in an effort to restore balance between accountability and treatment. The Intake team handles all Court referrals and complaints. All cases are handled in accordance with Rule 9 of the Ohio Rules of Juvenile Procedure, which states "[i]n all appropriate cases formal Court action should be avoided and other community resources utilized to ameliorate situations brought to the attention of the Court."

In 2016, the Intake/Program Department created a strategic plan. The plan is designed to better serve the youth and families of Delaware County. The plan includes goals focused on: increasing community and school outreach, decreasing overall involvement of juveniles in the Court system, becoming a trauma-centered department, and the development and implementation of best practice standards.

## **Diversion**

Diversion is an opportunity offered to a first time juvenile offender charged with a status or misdemeanor offense. Diversion is a voluntary program in which a case is sealed and dismissed upon successful completion of the terms of the diversion agreement. Group diversions are offered for alleged juvenile co-defendants to allow for increased responsibility for their involvement and to reduce blame on others. Customer satisfaction surveys on diversion cases boast a 95% overall satisfaction for the two years they have been in place. In 2016, the Diversion Program implemented a victim awareness program specifically designed for diversion youth. In 2016, the Court conducted 188 diversions, with 92.5% of the youth successfully completing the program. Of the youth who completed the program, 98.6% of those youth did not incur new charges within three months of successful completion.

## **Adult Cases**

The Intake Department facilitates the processing of adult cases for formal hearing. The two most common adult charges handled by intake are contributing to the delinquency or unruliness of a minor and failure to send a child to school. If an adult is found guilty, or pleads guilty to the charge, they may be placed on a period of probation and ordered to complete terms and conditions within one calendar year. The intake officer assigned to the case monitors the adult's compliance of their probation and completion of Court ordered terms. If the adult fails to comply with Court ordered terms the prosecutor may pursue contempt charges or motions to impose sentence.

## **GIRLS Group**

GIRLS (Gaining Invaluable Relationships & Learning coping Skills) Group was created to provide Court-involved girls with a safe place to share and learn coping skills. The GIRLS group is comprised of female juveniles between the ages of 12 and 19 who are on diversion or have been adjudicated delinquent/unruly. There are two adult facilitators and two peer facilitators. Intake staff have created a 12-week cyclical curriculum for the group with topics ranging from friends and family to self-efficacy and female empowerment.



Facilitators took GIRLS Group participants to see the Fantasy of Lights at Alum Creek State Park



At the 2016 Ohio Judicial Conference the GIRLS Group was awarded the Innovative Court Practices Award from the Ohio State Bar Association.



Judge David A. Hejmanowski accepts the award from Ron Kopp, President of the Ohio State Bar Association along with Intake Department Head Lisa Williamson, Intake Officer Cecelia Monahan, and GIRLS Group member Amber Buchanan.

### Fight Against Hunger Games

In November, in collaboration with Delaware Hayes High School, the Court conducted a canned food drive. The original goal of the program was to help benefit local veterans groups and the Weekend Helper Bag program at the Delaware City Schools - which supplied food for 18 families on the free and reduced lunch program over the weekends. This year the program helped to start/fund pantries for Delaware City School District and the Court, as well as expand the Weekend Helper Bag program throughout the district. Again, the success of the drive exceeded all expectations. Court staff, and staff, faculty and students at Hayes donated over 17,000 units of food. Through the collaboration, the School and Court were able to provide 75 Thanksgiving meals, complete with turkey/ham and all the trimmings to local families in need.

### Writing Group

In August 2016, two Court employees started a writing program at the Court. The purpose of the group is for juveniles to develop their own voice and self-awareness through writing and

journaling. It is based off the evidenced-based *Write Home* series which works with homeless teens, utilizing the same philosophy. The structure of the group includes weekly check-ins, topics ranging from a youth's initial offense to future goals, writing prompts, and exploring different forms of writing including poetry and prose. The writing group is an eight week class which offers its 3-4 participants community service credit. To date the group has successfully served ten juveniles.

#### PREP (Personal Responsibility Education Program)

The Court partnered with Nationwide Children's Hospital to run the PREP Program which is a statewide initiative to reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection rates in Ohio's high risk youth ages 14-19. The program provides health promotion education regarding teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection rates of Ohio's high risk youth ages 14-19 placed in foster care settings and/or in juvenile justice facilities. Nationwide Children's Hospital trained Court staff to competently teach an adapted evidence-based Reducing the Risk curriculum along with transition to adulthood topics of healthy relationships, financial literacy, and educational and career success. The first successful PREP program was completed in December 2016. The Court will facilitate up to four PREP sessions per year.

#### Mentor Programs

TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) is a mentoring program which currently involves 19 adult mentor volunteers and 19 youth mentees that are 10-14 years of age. The program is a one-on-one mentoring program that teaches alternatives to drugs and alcohol. These mentees are determined to be at risk for making poor choices and live in Delaware County. This is an all-volunteer program, for both mentors and mentees. The mentees and their parents meet with the mentoring staff and sign all paperwork prior to being matched with their mentor. The mentors are interviewed, given a background check and drug screen, trained and then matched with their mentee. The mentors are required to meet with their mentees every week for at least 2 hours and let the Mentoring Coordinator know what they did and how long they met. The mentors can call the coordinator anytime for any problems or to receive guidance.

MOMS (Moms Offering Mentoring Support) is a mentoring program for young moms and moms to be. The program aims to help prevent repeat pregnancies; help to reduce the number of hospital visits for the infants; help teach young mothers the importance of breastfeeding; reduce general stress leading to child abuse; reduce smoking; and provide young moms with community resources. The young ladies who participate in the program are given information about resources and told about the monthly meeting on the third Thursday of every month and are then matched as soon as possible with a "seasoned" mom. Once matched the mentor is required to have contact with their mentees until the child's first birthday or one year of age if child has already been born prior to being matched. The mentors help with providing support to the young mothers and to make sure they are attending their prenatal and well-baby checks. At the present we have 24 young moms and 12 mentors. The mentoring coordinator is always on call to help in anyway needed.

#### Victim Services Program

The Victim Services Program is committed to protecting victims by informing them of

their rights, providing information regarding the Court's legal process, arranging support for personal and emotional needs and attempting to help recover any financial losses. Keeping sight of a "balanced approach" ensures that offenders are held accountable to their victims and that victims regain some degree of wholeness after an offense has been committed against them. During fiscal year 2016, the Victim Services Program received 138 cases involving 141 victims. The Victim Services Program also assists victims in applying for compensation through the Ohio Victim of Crime Compensation Program. This program is available to victims of violent crime in which physical or emotional harm to the victim results in a financial loss.

The Victim Services Program is part of the Delaware County Coalition of Victim Services, which is involved with raising community awareness of victim-related crimes in Delaware County. The coalition has helped organize "Walk a Mile in her Shoes" to support awareness of sexual abuse and the "Dash at Dusk" 5K run and walk to support awareness of domestic violence. The Program also actively promotes National Crime Victim's Right Week in April.

The Victim Services Program also conducts a victim awareness class. Started in 2008, the Victim Awareness program helps juvenile offenders understand how their actions have affected their victims. Through a series of classes, these juveniles must analyze their actions and participate in exercises geared to help them more fully understand the consequences of those actions. The goal of the program is to keep these juveniles from re-offending by helping them understand the impact that their actions will have on others and themselves. The program emphasizes the process of making good choices by giving juveniles tools that can help them be more successful in their daily lives. In 2016, of the 51 juveniles who successfully completed the program, only 4 have committed an additional offense. Since its inception, the recidivism rate for juveniles who have successfully completed the Victim Awareness Program is 7.8%.

In January of 2016, the Victim Services program initiated a new program to better serve the victims of juvenile crime who have incurred financial loss due to a juvenile's offense. The purpose of the Restitution Tracking and Compliance Program is to provide oversight of victim restitution from initial contact with the victim through the final collection process. The goal of this program is to improve compliance of the payment of restitution by juvenile offenders so that the victim realizes financial reimbursement for their loss in a timely manner. VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) funding was obtained through a grant that subsidizes a 25 hours/week Restitution Specialist who will oversee the process of restitution collection and compliance. In fiscal year 2016, the Court received and distributed \$7,040 in restitution to victims of juvenile crime

#### Addressing Truancy

In the summer of 2016, and in preparation of the 2016/2017 school year, the Court established a dedicated docket to manage the case load regarding truant and unruly behavior at local schools throughout Delaware County. The purpose and goal of the dedicated docket was to centralize the hearing schedules of the City and County School Liaisons, as well as to ensure quick resolutions to cases. The dedicated docket hears cases regarding truancy, unruly activity at school, failure to send children to school as well as adult contributing charges.



Cases can only be formalized once alternative efforts are attempted to divert the cases from the Court. In that effort, the School Liaisons meet with the children at issue and attempt to address barriers to attendance. If that is unsuccessful in curbing the truant/unruly behavior, a mediation is scheduled with the Court's Mediator. If that mediation is unsuccessful, the school is then given the opportunity to file a charge on the child and/or the parent, depending on the issues at hand in each case.

On April 6, 2017, HB 410 was enacted as law. That Bill changed a number of particular requirements regarding truancy and how the schools and the Court handle those issues. Of note is that through the School Liaisons and the Court Mediator, this Court was already nearly in full compliance of the Bill before it was even drafted, signed and enacted. Much of the Bill regards the counting of time absent from school, the implementation of diversionary programming prior to formalizing charges as well as reporting requirements on the Court and schools.

Looking toward the future, this Court will continue the dedicated docket to ensure fair and just results in cases where truancy and unruly behavior at school are the root issues. Without the excellent job performed by many Court personnel, in conjunction with our local school districts, Delaware County would be behind in implementing this new legislation. Thankfully, the Court is ahead of HB 410, and looks forward to serving the citizens of Delaware County through this dedicated docket to address truant and unruly behavior at school.

#### Attendance Officer

The Court partners with the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio to provide an attendance officer which serves three of the four school districts within Delaware County: Olentangy Local School District (Olentangy), Big Walnut Local School District (Big Walnut), and Buckeye Valley Local Schools (Buckeye Valley). The attendance officer's responsibility is to inform/educate students and parents of Ohio's laws in relation to school attendance. The goal is to keep juveniles in compliance with the school's attendance policy and out of the juvenile justice system. The attendance officer oversees attendance issues at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. The attendance officer meets with students and parents as needed to discuss attendance concerns and met with 1019 students with five days of unexcused absences and made 29 filings.

#### School Liaisons

The school liaisons serve Big Walnut, Buckeye Valley, Delaware City Schools (Delaware), Olentangy and the Delaware Area Career Center (Career Center). School liaisons work with at-risk juveniles in the school systems to prevent formal Court involvement by advocating for the juveniles, addressing attendance concerns, attending school meetings, assisting in behavior plans, participating in mediations, and giving referrals to community resources. In the 2015/2016, school year, the school liaison serving Delaware City Schools met with 360 youth and families, participated in 125 mediations to attempt to find solutions to chronic truancy issues with each individual family, and filed 56 charges of either truancy, contributing or unruly. During the 2015/2016 school year, the county school liaison serving Big Walnut, Buckeye Valley, Olentangy,

and the Career Center met with 584 youth and participated in 55 mediations, and filed 51 charges of truancy, contributing, or unruly.

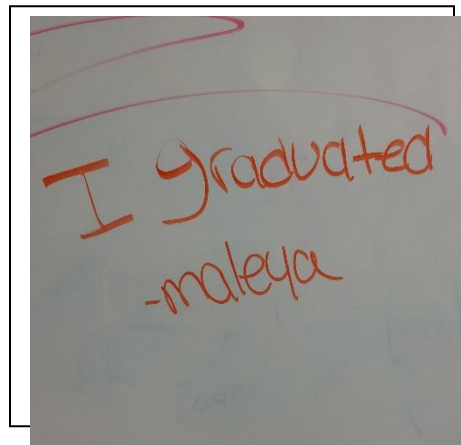
<b>Attendance Activities by School District for the 2016-2017 School Year</b>						
	Delaware	Buckeye Valley	Big Walnut	Olentangy	Career Center	Total
Informal Meeting	456	273	183	964	79	1955
Mediations	221	32	34	57	39	383
Adult Charges Filed	15	0	9	2	0	26
Truancy Charges Filed	25	5	7	13	0	50
Adjudicated	0	0	1	2	0	3
Intervention in Lieu of Conviction	0	2	1	0	0	3
Diversion	1	0	0	0	0	1
Dismissed	19	3	11	7	0	40
Pending	20	0	3	6	0	29

## **Treatment Department**

### **Treatment Team**

Delaware County's Juvenile Court operates two treatment Courts for people whose legal trouble is the result of drug or alcohol misuse, or mental health concerns. The Supreme Court of Ohio has awarded its Specialized Docket Certification to the Court's Juvenile Treatment Court designed for juveniles whose delinquency is related to behavioral health concerns, and to the Court's Adult Treatment Court designed for parents whose involvement with Job & Family Services/Child Protective Services stems from a mother's or father's use of drugs, alcohol, or inadequately treated mental health concerns. Specialized dockets are cost-effective ways to protect the community, ensure the safety of children, and rehabilitate defendants who could stay out of trouble if they could find proper help.

Both of the Delaware County Juvenile Court's Specialized Dockets serve the purpose of helping participants find treatment, and then motivating them to take that treatment seriously. That motivation comes through regular and frequent hearings where the participants give updates to the Court, supervision by probation officers or JFS caseworkers, and random drug testing. Treatment Court staff can also help participants find additional support when it is needed, such as contacting a school to find out about tutoring, or contacting agencies that can help a parent with rent or utility bills. Both specialized dockets have the goal of graduating participants once they have learned the skills to live as law-abiding citizens without the supervision of the Court, a probation officer or a case worker. With Adult Treatment Court, an additional goal is to return children to their parents, to be raised by loving, healthy adults who are not only good parents, but good role models.



In 2016, 43 defendants participated in the specialized dockets. Twelve juveniles successfully completed Juvenile Treatment Court. Three adults completed Adult Treatment Court. Those three graduates had nine children, between them, though only six of those children were involved with Delaware's JFS. Three children were reunited with two of the participants prior to their graduation. The three other children continued to live with grandparents while JFS provided additional services to the third graduate. Fifteen participants who did not yet graduate from their specialized docket, and who did not earn an unsuccessful discharge, will continue to participate in Adult or Juvenile Treatment Court in 2017.

### Family Advocate Program

The Treatment Court staff includes family advocates, led by the Family Advocate Coordinator. The Delaware County Juvenile Court's Family Advocate Program was among the first in the United States to utilize the now familiar "community-based" interventions for juveniles offenders. Since 1983, family advocates have provided comprehensive home-based, family centered services that were traditionally found only in an office setting.

In 2017, the Court's family advocates provided services to thirty-eight families in Delaware County. Family advocates receive training to provide support for troubled families, using techniques from the evidence-based Functional Family Therapy model. Family advocates meet with families one to two times per week in their homes for an average of six months. They help families address issues in areas such as communication, discipline and problem solving, and help parents to develop their strengths into skills and strategies that will help their children become successful. Advocates also help families access resources, such as medical, academic or financial services.

The quality of family advocate services is continually monitored and improved. A formal system of evaluation for family advocates and receiving client feedback is in development and will be implemented throughout 2017.

### Family Support Services Program

Delaware County Juvenile Court has attempted to meet the complex and increasing demands of our children and families through a process of expansion, internal accountability and striving for continuous improvement. This year brought change to the Family Advocate Program through the development of the Family Support Services Program. This program was developed, to divert youth in crisis from detention, from further involvement in the system, and to divert youth already involved with the Court from further placement in detention. It is modeled after the Front-End Diversion Program that was developed and implemented in Texas to keep youth with mental health and developmental disabilities out of the Court system. In May of 2016, the Department of Youth Services awarded grant funding to Delaware County Juvenile Court to develop this program.

Youth who qualify for the program are at-risk youth who have undiagnosed or diagnosed mental health concerns, alcohol or other drug concerns, and family distress. Using a team approach, the Family Support Services, FSS, begins an intensive array of services, utilizing

multiple Court resources, to provide in-home support services, crisis intervention, strengthen family relationships, and prevent further Court contact. Therapeutic methods based off of the family functional therapy model are utilized with the families to reduce blame and increase family function.

The program utilizes two assessments of the youth and family to assess risk and family needs. These assessments include the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument- Version 2 (MAYSI-2), a youth screening tool, to assess for mental health, AOD, and trauma concerns, and the Family Environmental Scale which measures the social and environmental characteristics of the family. The Family Support Services Program maintains three contacts with a family per week.

The program was implemented in June 2016 upon the hire of a Family Support Specialist. Since that time a total of 16 families have been or are being served by the program. Eight of those families have already successfully terminated without serving any further time in detention.

### **Probation Department**

Probation officers provide accountability for youth between the ages of 11 and 18 and up to the age of 21. The Probation Department is designed to closely monitor offenders who are of higher risk to recidivate. The department strives to provide alternative sanctions to detention such as electronically monitored house arrest with GPS capabilities, house arrest without electronic monitoring, curfew and increased reporting standards. Officers monitor the youth outside of a regular office setting and beyond the standard work day hours. Probation Officers meet with youth at school, home, and will check in with them at their recreational settings. In 2016, four probation officers served 113 youth.

The GPS monitoring system used at the juvenile Court is unique in the aspect that an officer can call the offender via the device at any time and communicate with the offender. Officers are also able to utilize mobile devices to track an offender's location and an audible alert can be activated if the offender is hiding. In 2016, 134 offenders were monitored for a total of 4,645 days. The average number of monitoring days per offender was 35 days. Offenders who are on electronic monitoring are not permitted to have friends visit, possess a cellular phone or send or receive calls or texts. Monitored offenders are permitted to attend school, work, treatment and approved meetings or activities and are expected to be accountable to provide verification of attendance.

The Juvenile Court also runs a Suspension Alternative Program (SAP), which provides daily activities for youth suspended from school. SAP is six hours a day and consists of community service projects for non-profit agencies and government entities. In 2016, 146 youth participated in SAP, of which 25 were female and 119 were male. SAP is funded through the Juvenile Court, schools, and grants.

In addition to SAP, the Juvenile Court also runs a community service program that allows the youth to work through the Court to meet their community service requirements and earn money to pay their owed restitution. In 2016, 87 youth (24 females and 63 males) worked through the community service program.

Through these programs and a partnership with SourcePoint, we completed 229 requests for services from our elderly in Delaware County. This consisted of 120 individual clients, of which, 34 were over 75 years of age. Those clients that were over 75 years of age made up 124 of the total service requests in 2016. The service requests, also known as referrals, are collected by SourcePoint and forwarded to the Juvenile Court for the community service or SAP crew to complete and are supervised by a Court employee. These referrals included requests for garden weeding, general yard clean up, lawn care, mulching, raking, planting, stacking wood, snow and ice removal, as well as salting. In 2016, the total service hours completed by the crews were 2215.15, with the bulk of the referrals being completed within three business days.

In 2016, the SAP and Community service programs also serviced the Delaware County Health Department by picking up 152 bags of litter and disposing of 23 very large items, for a total of 236 service hours completed.

### Juvenile Sex Offender Program

One component of the services provided by the probation team is the Court's juvenile sex offender (JSO) treatment program, which is designed to allow offenders to receive intensive treatment while residing in their own community through intensive supervision and community teaming. Through a rigorous treatment program, offenders learn to develop and exercise greater control of their behavior while being supervised by specially trained probation officers. In an effort to increase the effectiveness of responses to JSO cases, the Juvenile Court entered into a partnership with the Delaware-Morrow Mental Health and Recovery Services Board in 2014, under which the Board provides a grant to allow Maryhaven to dedicate an employee to the JSO program. That dedicated employee is housed at the Court so that the entire program can operate from one location. This increases the likelihood of youth success because youth do not have to attend multiple appointments at multiple locations.

The Court's consulting psychologist is currently conducting all JSO assessments onsite in order to reduce the amount of time it takes for an assessment to be completed within 30 days of the initial order. All adjudicated sex offenders can now receive a consistent assessment by a skilled practitioner regardless of the family's ability to pay. To provide even more services to the youth, each JSO's case is clinically reviewed bi-monthly by the Court's consulting psychologist. Each youth is seen in a formal Court hearing as needed in order to recognize progress, preserve community placements, and address problems in a timely manner. Youth must participate in treatment and comply with treatment recommendations and must successfully complete that treatment. Program components include: pro-social skill building, sex education, sexual health, autobiographies, trauma, offenses cycle, empathy, restorative justice, and relapse prevention planning. Treatment groups are co-facilitated between a clinician and probation officer. An individualized approach is used to determine treatment needs, but treatment completion tends to fall between 12 and 18 months.

A total of 27 adolescent sex offenders were served in 2016. In 2016, the sex offender probation officer was responsible for the supervision of 25 cases. In 2015, eight cases were successfully terminated from JSO supervision.

## Detention Statistics

### COYC Usages for 2014-2016

	2014		2015		2016	
Months	Total Youth	Bed Days	Total Youth	Bed Days	Total Youth	Bed Days
January	16	135	17	131	21	140
February	20	159.5	13	90	23	110
March	27	118	26	168.5	11	116
April	16	80	23	111	20	95.5
May	26	178.5	18	143	24	151
June	19	165.5	15	138	10	135.5
July	20	210.5	13	47.5	17	159.5
August	31	225	14	56.5	14	149
September	19	161	21	132.5	11	73
October	31	105.5	29	192	21	169.5
November	21	107.5	17	157.5	19	182.5
December	18	74	22	162.5	26	217
Total	265	1720	228	1530	217	1698.5

Youth Placed in Other Juvenile Facilities	2014	2015	2016
North Central Ohio Rehabilitation Center	0	0	1
Perry County Community Correctional Facility	0	2	2
West Central Juvenile Detention Center	0	1	1

## Mediation

In 2016, the Court mediation program served 144 families in parenting/custody cases, 244 youth and families in school attendance matters, and another 27 youth and families in delinquency and Family Support Services cases. The mediation program uses mediators as neutral facilitators to assist parties in reaching mutual agreement and often resolution of the issues facing them. In a parenting case, that may mean the parties agreeing upon a non-residential parent's time with the child. In the school setting, mediation means looking for ways to eliminate barriers to regular school attendance and strengthen the dialogue between the school and the family.

A new component was added to the mediation program in 2016 with the creation of the FSS, explained elsewhere in this annual report. Mediators are used as needed to defuse crises at

Court between the youth and parents or the youth and Court staff. Mediators also work with families and the FSS Specialist to resolve issues of appropriate home and social behaviors.

Mediator April Nelson was a co-presenter at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, an international organization. Along with co-presenter Alise Sanchez, Native American Youth and Family Alliance, Portland, Oregon, she led a 90 minute session on implicit bias titled “Seeing Color in an All White World: Working With Families Across Cultural Lines.” She then presented a 60 minute session on the same topic at the Fall 2016 meeting of the Ohio Magistrates Association.



The Court’s school attendance mediation program has gained the attention of the Dispute Resolution Section (ADR) of the Ohio Supreme Court and is considered one of several model programs statewide. With the passage of HB 410, which decriminalizes truancy while placing a greater responsibility on school districts to be proactive on attendance issues, the Commission on Dispute Resolution, which advises ADR, has created a Subcommittee on Truancy and Attendance, chaired by the Judge Robert Fragale, Marion County Juvenile Court. The subcommittee’s task is to create a model Court rule and model Court program templates for Court/school attendance by the end of 2017. Mediator April Nelson is a member of that subcommittee.

The greatest change impacting the mediation program in 2016 took place at the end of the year. Delaware County gained a new division of the Court of Common Pleas, effective January 1, 2017, which has jurisdiction over all domestic relations cases in Delaware County. With the creation of the new Domestic Relations Court, this Court lost jurisdiction over the parenting/custody cases. Looking ahead to 2017, a goal is to expand abuse/neglect/dependency (AND) mediation from limited involvement to involvement from the onset of an AND case to resolution, including termination. This Court will be looking at the mediation programs in Fulton/Henry Counties, which uses mediators from start to finish and tailoring those programs to our Court demographics and dynamics.

## 2016 Mediation Statistics

Type of Mediation	Referred	Mediated	Outcomes	Hours
Parenting/Custody	127	144	50 Full Resolution 40 Partial Resolution 46 No Resolution	152
Attendance*	244	244	115 Full Resolution 114 No Resolution 15 Other	125
Delinquency	21	15	15 Full Resolution 6 Other	11.6
FSS	4	7	7 Full Resolution 3 Other	11.5
Abuse/Neglect	9	9	5 Full Resolution 1 Partial Resolution 3 No Resolution	11.25
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>419**</b>		<b>311.35</b>

\*In attendance mediations, all cases are scheduled and “referred” is defined as number of cases scheduled. Also, “no” resolution in an attendance mediation typically means the family did not attend the mediation.

\*\*Some cases have more than one mediation session.

## CASA of Delaware and Union Counties

The CASA Program (Court Appointed Special Advocates) had a very productive 2016. The program not only celebrated its 32<sup>nd</sup> year in Delaware County, but also officially expanded its services into Union County. Under the leadership of Judge Hejmanowski and Union County Probate/Juvenile Judge Charlotte Coleman Eufinger and utilizing funding obtained through a VOCA grant, an Inaugural Swearing-In Ceremony of CASA Volunteers was held on March 21, 2016.



Judges, Staff, and CASA volunteers at the initial swearing-in for Union County held on March 21, 2016.



The number of CASA Advocates doubled in 2016 from 14 to 28 in Delaware County. Additionally, 8 volunteers were sworn in as CASA Advocates in Union County.

CASA of Delaware and Union County – 2016 Statistics		
<b>Volunteer Advocates</b>	36 (Delaware and Union)	
<b>Children Served</b>	146	
<b>New Children</b>	97	
<b>Cases Closed</b>	62	
<b>Placement at time of closure</b>	Legal Custody	8
	Reunification Achieved	19
	Guardianship	2
	Emancipation	2
	Long-Term Relative Care	5
	Case removed from Docket	11
	Child turned 18/21	2
	Never Served	2
	Other	11

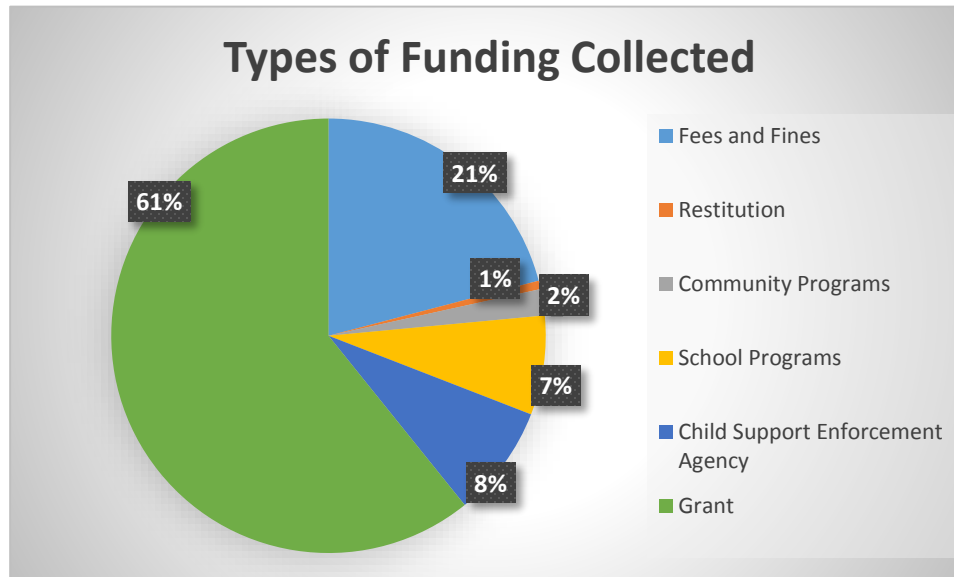
Out of the 97 new cases received in 2016, 80 children were ages 0-12 and 17 children were ages 13+. Forty-four of the children were male and 53 were female.

Several important and exciting events took place in 2016. First was the formation of a new non-profit CASA Board. Six members and three ex-officio members officially began their mission as The Friends of CASA of Delaware and Union Counties. The board's main focus is to support the volunteers and their advocacy for abused and neglected children through fundraising and creating community awareness of the program. Another impactful event in 2016 was the CASA Judicial Question and Answer Panel for the Volunteers. Three Magistrates, two from Delaware County and one from Union County, answered questions from the volunteers on several important topics regarding their work and advocacy in the Court. This was a highly successful evening and will likely become an annual event.

### **Fiscal/Human Resources**

Thirteen full-time employees were hired in 2016, as were two part-time employees. Of the full-time positions, four were internal transfers to new or vacated positions. Additionally, at the end of 2016, the creation of the Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations Division moved four full-time positions to the oversight of Judge Randall Fuller. One of the newly created positions in 2016 was a Court Services Analyst/Training Coordinator. As the name suggests, the intent of the position was two-fold. The Court Services Analyst portion of the position would serve to write policies and procedures as well as work with other departments to developing best practice standards and quality assurance guidelines. In the role of Training Coordinator, the staff member will schedule and arrange trainings for individuals and groups as well as develop and implement no less than twelve in-service training opportunities for Court staff each year. The Court also created the full-time position of Family Support Specialist.

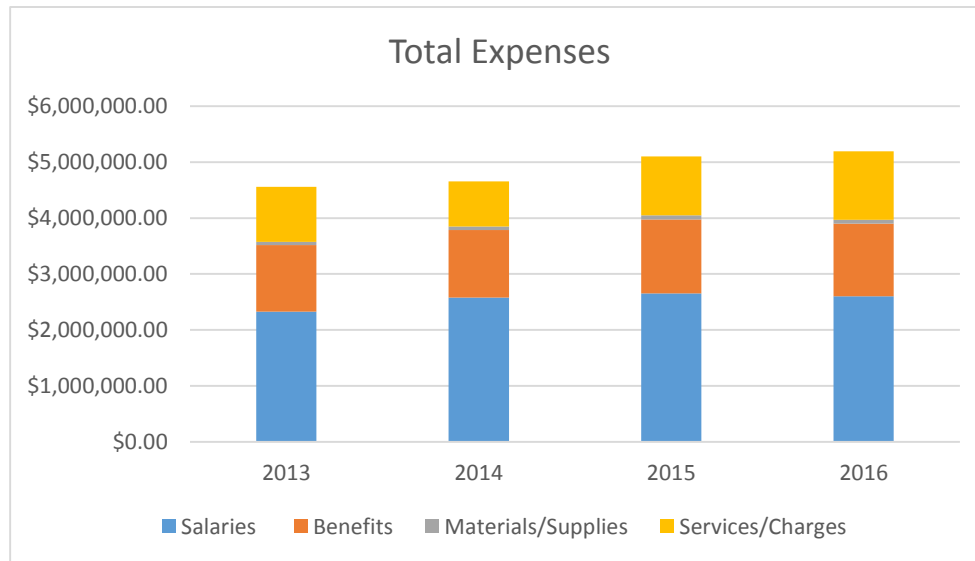
Funding for the Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Court is received from a variety of sponsors and sources. While the core administrative structure of the Court is funded from county funds, the Court has been able to supplement many of its programs with grants and contracts, as well as the fees and fines collected. In the calendar year 2016, \$1.46 million was received from outside sources, an additional \$390,468.77 was collected in fees and fines, and the Juvenile Court also collected \$11,796.08 in restitution. A large portion of funding received from outside sources



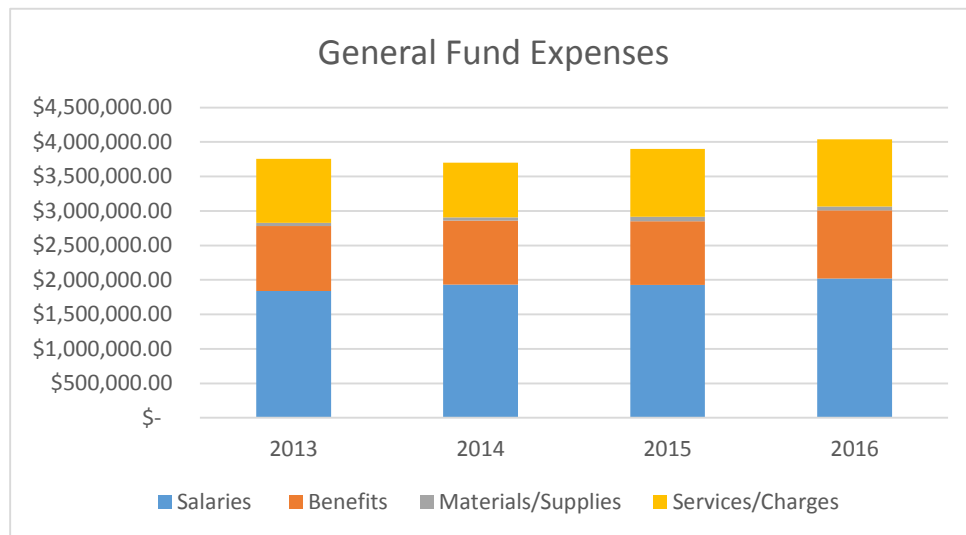
comes from the Ohio Department of Youth Services RECLAIM grant. The award to Delaware County for 2016 (covering the timeframe of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017) is estimated to be \$640,079.95, or approximately 44% of our supplemental funding. In addition to the RECLAIM funding, Delaware

County proposed, and received, an \$88,231.19 grant to address juvenile detention alternatives. This program supports the full-time Family Support Specialist. While this is not a renewable program, funds are available in the RECLAIM award to continue this program past its original end date. In 2015, funding was received from the Attorney General's Office for Victim Services and the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), with available CASA funding to expand services to Union County. Funding for this expansion was continued in 2016; it currently supports three full-time positions and one part-time position serving Delaware and Union Counties.

Expenses for the Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Court are primarily salaries and benefits. The Court currently has 63 employees on payroll and numerous volunteers. The largest non-payroll item is the agreement with Central Ohio Youth Center (COYC), the detention facility serving the Court, costing \$618,824.98 in fiscal year 2016, and an estimated cost of \$650,239.64 for fiscal year 2017. Total expenses have increased by only 1.75% from fiscal year 2015 to fiscal year 2016. It is expected that, with the transfer of the Domestic Relations staff and files, expenses on the general funds for fiscal year 2017 will decrease.



	2013	2014	2015	2016
Salaries	\$ 2,327,298.00	\$ 2,578,086.09	\$ 2,655,010.62	\$2,599,973.72
Benefits	\$ 1,192,153.00	\$ 1,206,868.19	\$ 1,317,156.86	\$1,299,366.10
Materials/Supplies	\$ 56,021.00	\$ 60,676.03	\$ 79,238.79	\$ 70,244.03
Services/Charges	\$ 983,207.00	\$ 812,455.96	\$ 1,052,665.20	\$1,223,865.71



	2013	2014	2015	2016
Salaries	\$ 1,837,208.85	\$ 1,932,828.68	\$ 1,928,865.70	\$ 2,022,135.17
Benefits	\$ 946,297.28	\$ 926,520.91	\$ 923,991.05	\$ 987,858.93
Materials/Supplies	\$ 42,148.26	\$ 47,580.83	\$ 64,380.55	\$ 52,484.77
Services/Charges	\$ 928,810.62	\$ 794,680.96	\$ 983,371.48	\$ 977,647.24

## Strategic Planning

In fiscal year 2016, the Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager made great strides in the process of creating strategic plans and implementing work plans under the Big Picture Project. The Big Picture Project was initiated by Judge Hejmanowski in 2015 to review the internal operations and processes of the Court. The Project started with the direct services departments of Probation, Intake and Treatment Court. The Court underwent significant staffing changes within the Probation and Treatment Departments which generated a delay in the creation of a strategic plan for those departments. To maintain the advancement of the project, the strategic plan process for the Intake Department was commenced.

The Intake and Program Services Department began the process by identifying areas in need of refining, and determining opportunities for growth and innovation. They took time during the planning process to identify areas of strengths, areas of growth, and barriers outside of the Court that prohibited them from providing the least restrictive, yet most comprehensive, services available to juveniles and their families. The department identified and focused on a shift in philosophy from traditionally being reactive to taking a more proactive methodology. A strategic plan was developed along with a comprehensive work plan that was approved by the Judge in November 2016. The strategies the Intake and Program Services Department developed are:

- ❖ Increase community outreach and knowledge of the services offered.
- ❖ Increase and expand the services offered at the front-end of cases.
- ❖ Become trauma-centric.
- ❖ Establish best practice standards.
- ❖ Expand and increase the service and support offered to the schools.

The Intake and Program Services Department continues to meet on a regular basis, as well as meeting once a month with the Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager to review their progress. The department also will generate an updated report that will be provided to the Judge as appropriate. This year also brought about the start of the Treatment Team strategic planning process which oversees the Adult and Juvenile Treatment Courts, and the Family Advocate program.

In response to a request for proposals from the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS), the Strategic Planning Quality/Control Manager collaborated with the Intake and Program Services Department Head and the Family Advocate Coordinator to develop the Family Support Services program, a new program in the Court's Family Advocate Services. This program was modeled after the Front End Diversion program developed in Texas with a purpose to keep juvenile offenders out of detention. The final proposal was submitted to DHS in May 2016; and in June 2016, the Court was awarded the full requested amount of \$88,231.19 through the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative.

Looking toward 2017, the Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager has already initiated the strategic planning process with the Probation Department which has undergone recent staffing changes. The department is motivated and excited about developing their plan and incorporating new changes of implementing evidenced based practices.

The Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager will also update the Court's quality assurance as well as begin the evaluation process of the Probate Court. Once the final physical transition of the staff and files related to the Domestic Relations Division of the Court are complete, the Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager will begin the evaluation process of the Clerical Department. The Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager was also accepted into the National Center for State Courts, Court Management Program hosted by the Ohio State Supreme Court which will begin in April 2017. This opportunity will allow the Strategic Planning/Quality Control Manager to acquire and develop Court focused best practice skills which will further assist the Delaware Probate/Juvenile Court in achieving current and future, goals and objectives.