

Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Court

Judge David A. Hejmanowski

2019 Annual Report

Message from the Judge

Calendar year 2019 demonstrated, once again, both the challenges and the advantages of the rapid growth that has been a constant feature in Delaware County for the last three decades. The Probate Court saw record numbers of estates, name changes, and miscellaneous filings, and a sharp increase in guardianship filings. As the county continues to grow, and as our population ages to a demographic more consistent with that of the rest of the state, we project significant increases in these case types. We constantly monitor these trends and engage in ongoing long-term planning to ensure a consistent level of service.

Despite our rapid population growth, we continue to see a decrease in juvenile delinquency filings and juvenile detention center use. For more than four decades, and through the tenure of three judges, Delaware County has been seen as a leader in cutting-edge juvenile programming. Over the last five years we have made a concerted effort to seek out funding for evidence-based early intervention programming- and we now see the fruits of that work.

This programming provides direct benefits in three ways. First, it benefits our community and its families by reducing delinquent and unruly behavior and the disruptive impact it has on our communities and schools. Second, it benefits the community as a whole by reducing the deleterious impacts of that delinquent behavior. Third, it reduces our costs both through reduction of staffing needs and also by limiting the necessity to utilize costly residential penalties.

We are proud of the work that we have done in this area. For the third consecutive year, the Probate/Juvenile Court brought more than one million dollars in outside grants to fund our programming. The grants come from both public and private sources, and they significantly reduce our reliance on county tax dollars to fund our work. We are careful with every penny of funding that is provided to us, and have consistently returned unspent dollars to the county's general fund. In 2019, the addition of new grant dollars, the success of programming to reduce the use of costly interventions, and careful use of our funds allowed us to return an incredible six hundred and fifty thousand dollars to the county's general fund. Those dollars will be vital in allowing the county to navigate the Covid-19 crisis in 2020.

We are blessed to live and work in a community in which we have amazingly dedicated partners. The county's school districts all work closely with us and are dedicated to the well-being of their students. The Delaware-Morrow Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, the Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Delaware County Health Department, SourcePoint, the Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services, the local mental health agencies, and many of our county non-profit agencies work closely together. The Delaware County Prosecutor's Office and our local bar are committed to the pursuit of justice and determination of truth.

And I am blessed to have an amazing group of co-workers. They are leaders in their fields, and they take on leadership roles in their professional groups from our state clerk's associations, the Ohio Juvenile Diversion Association, to the Ohio State Bar Association, and more. They are hardworking and determined, and they make it a joy for me to come to work each day. Together, we look forward to doing all we can to provide the most efficient, effective court that we can.

Employees of the Probate/Juvenile Court

Judicial

David A. Hejmanowski, Judge
Kari Childs, Magistrate
Thomas C. Clark, II Magistrate
Robert Rice, Magistrate
Benjamin Suffron, II, Magistrate

Katie Stenman, Court Administrator

CASA

Tammy Matias, CASA Coordinator
Jonathon Klemanski, Assistant CASA Coordinator
Melanie Kempton, Volunteer Coordinator
Elizabeth Neff, CASA Assistant

Clerical Services

Renee Lovelien, Clerical Services Department Head
Billie Jo Propst, Probate Office Manager
Debora Thomas, Judicial Services Manager
Nicole Cox, Juvenile Clerk
Kira Crawford, Juvenile Clerk
Rachel Dennison, Juvenile Clerk
Janette Haag, Juvenile Clerk
Cassandra Jewell, Probate Clerk
Marilyn Kinniard, Juvenile Clerk
Melanie Layton, Records Clerk
Stacey Morris, Probate Clerk
Molly Mustard, Juvenile Clerk
Lisa Patterson, Probate Clerk
Karen Peaks, Probate Clerk
Rene Ray, Receptionist
Janet Ritter, Probate Clerk
Samantha Swope, Juvenile Clerk

Fiscal

Karen Wadkins, Fiscal Coordinator
Angela Riley, Court Services Analyst/Training Coordinator
Debbie Wells, Fiscal Specialist

Intake

Lisa Williamson, Director of Court Services

Stacy Blair, City School Liaison/Intake Supervisor
Sara Kapel, Intake Supervisor
Kimberly Baker, Family Advocate
Melanie Bange, Mentoring Coordinator
Alan Bryan, Intake/Diversion Officer
Sydney Buckley, Victim Services Assistant
Mary Cagnina, Family Advocate Coordinator
Vikki Hardwick, County School Attendance Officer
Blake Kaminski, Intake/Diversion Officer
Sharon Moran, Family Support Specialist
Adrienne Murray, Family Advocate
Eddie Parker, Diversion Officer
Ruchelle Pride, Assessment Center Supervisor
Josh Williams, Family Advocate
Dana Wisecarver, Victim Services Coordinator

Mediation

Dodie Davenport, Mediator
April Nelson, Mediator

Probate

Donna Bukovec, Adoption Assessor
Teresa Tackett, Court Visitor Program Manager/Probate Court Investigator
Pamela Vest, Probate Court Investigator

Probation and Treatment

Kara Moore, Chief Probation Officer
Darlene Miller, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Marc Camboni, Field Probation Officer
Gia DeGirolamo, Probation Officer
Kevin Krasa, Probation Officer
Michelle Leighty, Probation Officer
Mitch Lockhart, Probation Assistant
Bobby Massie, Probation Officer
Megan Rivers, Treatment Court Coordinator
Jennifer Stokes, Community Service Specialist
Ken Ward, Community Service/Restitution Work Coordinator

Probate Court Statistics

| Type of Filing | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Estates | 491 | 444 | 485 | 501 | 487 | 546 |
| Guardianship of Minors | 37 | 45 | 27 | 34 | 44 | 35 |
| Guardianship of Incompetents | 158 | 55 | 66 | 45 | 57 | 70 |
| Conservatorships | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Testamentary Trusts | 18 | 21 | 14 | 7 | 11 | 7 |
| Civil Actions | 16 | 24 | 11 | 34 | 15 | 15 |
| Adoptions | 36 | 39 | 44 | 48 | 52 | 41 |
| Mental Commitment | 11 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Minor Settlement | 17 | 18 | 10 | 20 | 19 | 8 |
| Wrongful Death ¹ | 0 | 42 | 23 | 16 | 15 | 12 |
| Registration/Correction Birth Record | 2 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Change of Name | 72 | 73 | 82 | 92 | 100 | 126 |
| Marriage Applications Granted | 758 | 898 | 879 | 886 | 856 | 781 |
| Miscellaneous Filings ² | 80 | 97 | 77 | 91 | 92 | 99 |
| | 1697 | 1769 | 1724 | 1783 | 1756 | 1749 |

¹ Wrongful Death actions were not separated from Estate filings in 2013 and 2014.

² Miscellaneous filings include: Disinterment, Dispensing with Guardianship, Wills for Deposit, Administrative Orders, and other filings not specifically reported to the Ohio Supreme Court.

| Age of Adult Wards Under Guardianship 2019 | |
|---|------------|
| Age Range | |
| 18-30 | 203 |
| 31-50 | 96 |
| 51-70 | 77 |
| 71-90 | 47 |
| 91+ | 5 |
| Total | 428 |

| Types of Adoptions Filed 2019 | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Adult | 10 |
| Private | 5 |
| Private - Agency | 0 |
| Adoption Preplacement | 2 |
| Public Agency | 1 |
| Refinalization | 6 |
| Step-parent | 17 |
| Total | 41 |

| 2019 Monthly Report of Marriage Licenses Issued | |
|--|------------|
| January | 31 |
| February | 32 |
| March | 41 |
| April | 81 |
| May | 83 |
| June | 76 |
| July | 71 |
| August | 106 |
| September | 94 |
| October | 83 |
| November | 36 |
| December | 42 |
| TOTAL | 776 |

| 2019 New Estate Case Action* Does not include re-open actions in same case number | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Type of Estate | Attorney file | Pro Se file | Total |
| Ancillary Administration | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Full Administration | 288 | 4 | 292 |
| Probate Will | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Release From Administration | 67 | 43 | 110 |
| Real Estate Transfer | 20 | 1 | 21 |
| Special Administration | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Short Form Release | 2 | 8 | 10 |
| Summary Release | 29 | 19 | 48 |
| Taxes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wrongful Death | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Will for Record Only | 13 | 1 | 14 |
| TOTAL | 429 | 77 | 506 |

| Types of Hearings Scheduled in 2019 | Number of Hearings |
|--|---------------------------|
| Case Review | 116 |
| Adoption Consent | 7 |
| Adult Adoption | 8 |
| Appointment of Guardian | 109 |
| Appointment of Co-Guardian | 12 |
| Appointment of Fiduciary | 1 |
| Appointment of Trustee | 1 |
| Conservatorship | 2 |
| Evidentiary | 0 |
| Hearing | 162 |
| Insolvency | 17 |
| Minor's Claim/Minor Guardianship Matter | 23 |
| Name Change - Adult | 72 |
| Name Change - Minor | 57 |
| Non-Oral Hearing | 18 |
| Pre-Placement Adoption | 2 |
| Private Agency Adoption | 5 |
| Private Placement Adoption | 5 |
| Public Agency Adoption | 4 |
| Refinalization of Foreign Adoption | 8 |
| Status Conference | 5 |
| Step-Parent Adoption | 36 |
| Pre-trial | 1 |
| Trial | 2 |
| TOTAL | 673 |

| Results of Probate Scheduled Hearings in 2019 | Number |
|--|---------------|
| Continued | 109 |
| Failure to appear | 19 |
| Informal / No Recording | 7 |
| Heard | 393 |
| Non-Oral Complete | 3 |
| Vacated | 142 |
| Total | 673 |

A total of 770 inventory and account filings were reviewed and approved by non-oral hearing during 2019.

Juvenile Court Statistics

Traffic

| Traffic Citation | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Speed | 366 | 335 | 329 | 345 | 401 | 312 | 326 |
| Assured Clear Distance | 139 | 129 | 128 | 168 | 163 | 140 | 131 |
| Operating a Vehicle Under the Influence | 7 | 19 | 11 | 15 | 13 | 8 | 17 |
| Failure to Control | 53 | 54 | 60 | 69 | 48 | 55 | 60 |
| No License/Permit, Suspended or Restrictions | 26 | 42 | 27 | 50 | 48 | 47 | 61 |
| Seat Restraint violations | 22 | 28 | 25 | 27 | 38 | 28 | 31 |
| Failure to Yield/Right of Way | 66 | 85 | 24 | 75 | 103 | 70 | 92 |
| Use of Wireless Electronic Device/Texting | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Distracted Driving ** | | | | | | | 15 |
| Traffic Control Signal Violations | 53 | 26 | 36 | 50 | 40 | 36 | 45 |
| Improper Driving Actions* | 49 | 44 | 108 | 74 | 86 | 49 | 52 |
| Miscellaneous Actions | 47 | 62 | 13 | 35 | 31 | 74 | 35 |
| Total | 830 | 826 | 762 | 912 | 972 | 823 | 869 |

*Encompasses various charges including lane violations, improper turns, and hit skips.

**Law in effect in 2019

Unruly/Delinquency

In 2019, 689 delinquency or unruly charges were filed – from which 430 cases were created. These matters resulted in 151 youth adjudicated on 216 charges in 199 cases. In addition, there were 69 counts of either a Violation of Court or Violation of Probation filed during the year.

| Charges Filed and Adjudicated in 2019 | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Number of Charges Filed | Number of charges adjudicated |
| Assault and Menacing | | |
| Assault | 58 | 19 |
| Menacing | 12 | 2 |
| Sexual Offenses | | |
| Rape | 9 | 1 |
| Pandering/Illegal use of a minor in nude material | 9 | 2 |
| Sexual Battery | 3 | 3 |
| Sexual Imposition | 21 | 11 |
| Disseminating Material Harmful to Juveniles | 4 | 4 |
| Kidnapping, Restraint, Extortion & Coercion | | |
| | 10 | 5 |
| Property Offenses | | |
| Criminal Damaging | 19 | 9 |
| Criminal Mischief | 4 | 1 |
| Vandalism | 10 | 6 |
| Robbery, Burglary, Trespass, and Safecracking | | |
| Burglary | 2 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 1 |
| Criminal Trespassing | 1 | 0 |
| Breaking and Entering | 11 | 5 |
| Possession of Criminal Tools | 5 | 2 |
| Theft and Fraud | | |
| Theft | 62 | 14 |
| Misuse of Credit Cards | 1 | 0 |
| Identify Fraud/Falsification/ Forgery | 6 | 1 |
| Receiving Stolen Property | 23 | 11 |
| Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle | 4 | 2 |
| Offenses Against the Public Peace | | |
| Disorderly Conduct | 95 | 27 |
| Telephone Harassment | 4 | 0 |
| Inducing Panic | 4 | 0 |
| Disrupting Public | 1 | 0 |
| Ethnic Intimidation | 1 | 1 |
| Violating Protection Order | 2 | 2 |
| Voyeurism/Public Indecency | 3 | 2 |
| Offenses Against the Family | | |
| Domestic Violence | 27 | 1 |

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Offenses Against Justice and Public Administration | | |
| Obstructing Justice | 20 | 4 |
| Tampering with Evidence | 1 | 0 |
| Resisting Arrest / failure to comply with police order | 16 | 4 |
| Conspiracy, Attempt and Complicity, Weapons Control, Corrupt Activity | | |
| Weapons Control/Possession/Conceal | 11 | 2 |
| Attempt – often used as amended charge | 1 | 5 |
| Complicity | 7 | 4 |
| Possession of a Controlled Substance | 41 | 14 |
| Possession of Drugs / Drug Paraphernalia | 26 | 8 |
| Offenses Involving Underage Persons - Alcohol | 7 | 0 |
| Aggravated Trafficking | 2 | 2 |
| Other Offenses | | |
| Unruly Child | 115 | 35 |
| Prohibitions Relating to Tobacco | 5 | 1 |
| Habitual Truant | 10 | 3 |
| Unruly School Truant | 2 | 0 |
| Curfew | 10 | 2 |
| Swimming Prohibited | 4 | 0 |
| Total | 689 | 216 |

| Charges by Zip Code and Age | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|------|--------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Location | Zip | Male | Female | age 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18+ |
| Ashley | 43003 | 9 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | 7 | |
| Centerburg | 43011 | 0 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Delaware | 43015 | 91 | 52 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 29 | 28 | 30 | 35 | 2 |
| Dublin FC* | 43016 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Dublin | 43017 | 6 | 0 | | | | | | 4 | 2 | |
| Galena | 43021 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Johnstown | 43031 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Lewis Center | 43035 | 18 | 20 | 8 | | 1 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 8 | 1 |
| Marysville | 43040 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 | | |
| Mount Vernon | 43050 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Heath | 43056 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Ostrander | 43061 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Pataskala | 43062 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Plain City | 43064 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Powell | 43065 | 27 | 7 | | | | 6 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| Reynoldsburg | 43068 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Sunbury | 43074 | 11 | 4 | | | 2 | 2 | 5 | | 6 | |
| Westerville FC* | 43081 | 12 | 5 | | | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 |
| Location | Zip | Male | Female | age 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18+ |
| Westerville | 43082 | 21 | 6 | | 1 | 2 | 6 | 10 | 7 | 1 | |
| Worthington | 43085 | 7 | 2 | | | | | | 4 | 5 | |
| Galloway | 43119 | 0 | 2 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Grove City | 43123 | 0 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| London | 43140 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Washington Courthouse | 43160 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43203 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43204 | 4 | 0 | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43206 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43207 | 1 | 3 | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43209 | 1 | 0 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Columbus | 43211 | 4 | 3 | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | |
| Columbus | 43213 | 2 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43214 | 2 | 0 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|------|--------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Upper Arlington | 43220 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43223 | 3 | 2 | | | 3 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43224 | 5 | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Columbus | 43227 | 1 | 3 | | | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43228 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43229 | 13 | 3 | | | 1 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| Columbus | 43230 | 4 | 0 | | | | | | 1 | 3 | |
| Columbus | 43231 | 3 | 3 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| Columbus | 43232 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Columbus | 43235 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | 2 | 3 | |
| Columbus | 43240 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Marion | 43302 | 6 | 2 | | 2 | | | 2 | 1 | 3 | |
| Cardington | 43315 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Lakeview | 43331 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Marengo | 43334 | 3 | 0 | | | | | 2 | 1 | | |
| Mount Gilead | 43338 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Prospect | 43342 | 2 | 0 | | | | | 2 | | | |
| Waldo | 43356 | 1 | 0 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Liberty Center | 43532 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Zanesville | 43701 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Akron | 44320 | 0 | 2 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Kensington | 44427 | 1 | 0 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Location | Zip | Male | Female | age 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18+ |
| Wooster | 44691 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Galion | 44833 | 1 | 0 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Mansfield | 44902 | 0 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Mansfield | 44903 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Mansfield | 44906 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Portsmouth | 45662 | 1 | 0 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Grand Rapids, MI | 49503 | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| TOTAL | | 281 | 149 | | | | | | | | |

*Franklin County

Annual Statistics as reported to the Ohio Supreme Court

| | Delinquency | Traffic | Dependency, Neglect | Unruly | Adult Cases | Motion for Permanent Custody | Custody, Change of Custody, Visitation | Support Enforcement | Parentage | U.I.F.S.A. | All Others | Total | Visiting Judge |
|--|-------------|---------|---------------------|--------|-------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------|----------------|
| Pending beginning of period | 18 | 18 | 5 | 20 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 76 | 0 |
| New cases filed | 321 | 778 | 43 | 71 | 70 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 1,325 | 0 |
| Cases transferred in, reactivated, or redesignated | 64 | 11 | 1 | 31 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 141 | 0 |
| Total cases | 403 | 807 | 49 | 122 | 90 | 9 | 13 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 1,542 | 0 |

TERMINATIONS

BY:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| Trial by Judge | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Trial by Magistrate | 4 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| Dismissal by party, judge, or prosecutor | 65 | 16 | 7 | 53 | 41 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 187 | 0 |
| Admission to judge | 23 | 430 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 464 | 0 |
| Admission to magistrate | 119 | 217 | 13 | 36 | 29 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 431 | 0 |
| Unavailability of party for trial | 53 | 67 | 0 | 21 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 154 | 0 |
| Transfer to another judge or court | 111 | 26 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 145 | 0 |
| Other terminations | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 27 | 0 |
| TOTAL Terminations | 378 | 758 | 34 | 119 | 85 | 1 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 1,431 | 0 |
| Pending end of period | 25 | 49 | 15 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 111 | 0 |
| Number of informal cases | 208 | 0 | 0 | 1,882 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2,097 | 0 |

Abused, Dependent, or Neglected Children

| Abused Neglect Dependent Charges Filed 2019 | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| Description of Individual Charges | Charges filed | Adjudicated |
| Abused Child - Out of Home Abuse | 2 | 0 |
| Abused Child - Exhibits Injury | 5 | 1 |
| Abused Child - No Conviction Required | 23 | 1 |
| Abused Child - Victim Sexual Activity | 5 | 0 |
| Abused Child- Acts Causing Injury | 13 | 2 |
| Dependent Child - Residential Status Danger | 6 | |
| Dependent Child - Residential Status Act | 9 | |
| Dependent Child- Environmental Condition | 38 | 24 |
| Dependent Child- Homeless | 17 | 2 |
| Dependent Child- Parental condition | 24 | 7 |
| Neglected Child Abandoned | 3 | 0 |
| Neglected Child - Injury by Omission | 7 | 3 |
| Neglected Child - Lack Parental Care | 22 | 3 |
| Neglected child - Out of Home | 3 | |
| Neglected Child - Placement Violation | 2 | 0 |
| Neglected Child - Special care | 5 | 0 |
| Neglected Child-Parental Refusal | 12 | |
| TOTAL * 10 charges remain pending | 196 | 43 |

| Motions for Permanent Custody | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Filed 2019 | 8 |
| Carryover open 2018 | 1 |
| Granted 2019 | 1 |
| Dismissed 2019 | 0 |
| Carryover into 2020 | 8 |

Hearings Scheduled in 2019

| Type of Schedule Hearings Juvenile 2019 | Total |
|--|--------------|
| Family Treatment Court | 200 |
| Bridges Hearing | 5 |
| Case Review | 696 |
| Change of Plea | 47 |
| Child Support | 46 |
| Civil Protection Order | 2 |
| Competency Hearing | 24 |
| Compliance Review | 128 |
| Contempt | 10 |
| Detention | 95 |
| Detention Review | 70 |
| Disposition | 337 |
| Evidentiary Hearing | 14 |
| Formal Arraignment | 569 |
| Formal Traffic Arraignment | 875 |
| In Camera Review | 24 |
| Show Cause Hearing | 11 |
| Miscellaneous Hearing | 35 |
| Motion Hearing | 161 |
| Non-Oral Hearing | 19 |
| Objection | 0 |
| Permanent Custody | 8 |
| Pre-Trial | 910 |
| Probable Cause | 44 |
| Restitution | 4 |
| Sealing/Expungement Hearing | 46 |
| Specialized Case Review | 100 |
| Specialized Hearing | 0 |
| Status Hearing | 67 |
| Suppression | 6 |
| Treatment Court | 83 |
| Trial | 193 |
| Violation of Court Order | 45 |
| Violation of Probation | 49 |
| Grand Total | 4923 |

Results of Scheduled Juvenile Hearings

| 2019 Hearing Results | Total |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Continued | 784 |
| Denial | 189 |
| Dismissed w/out Hearing | 33 |
| Failure to Appear | 162 |
| Heard | 3207 |
| Informal Hearing | 158 |
| Non-Oral Hearing Completed | 7 |
| Vacated | 383 |
| Grand Total | 4923 |

Juvenile Court Processes in 2019

- 459 summons issued in 439 cases
- 30 warrants created/issued/ 36 outstanding warrants executed or recalled
- 531 appointments of a Public Defender
- A Guardian ad Litem was appointed in 159 juvenile cases
- 6 cases requested jury trial, all resolved prior to summoning a jury
- Approx. 223 written record requests were provided yearly from government, law enforcement, military or probation services

Clerical Services

The Clerical Services Department assigns staff in both the Probate and Juvenile Courts. Each department operates independent of the other and follows local rules created for each Court. Clerical staff are involved in all areas of the Court by processing filings from the beginning to the end of the case. One of the core functions of the Clerical Services Department 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 E-filing through a client registered system. Cross training between Probate and Juvenile clerical staff continues to be on-going, with a goal to provide services when needed without interruption to either Court.

Our clerical staff believe that it is important to continually look for ways to improve our service to the court and the public we serve. We also reinforce the need to keep up with the latest changes to the law and its effect on the Courts with training opportunities. Participation in Court-wide and departmental team meetings reinforce the importance of education for all staff. Attendance at a yearly conference for deputy clerks provides networking and information on the latest practices of other Ohio Probate and Juvenile Courts. The staff also have opportunities throughout the year to attend events developed by the Court's training coordinator and also are encouraged to attend Supreme Court trainings onsite or via their desktop computers.

One Department Head oversees both Probate and Juvenile Clerical Services staff. Probate Court clerical staff for 2019 included an Office Manager and five Deputy Clerks. Each clerk is assigned a Probate case type for efficient processing for the duration of the pending Probate case. Juvenile Court clerical staff for 2019 included 10 Deputy Clerks. Areas of assignment include:

traffic court, records, courtroom services, treatment court, probation, jury services, docketing and processing, assignment commissioners, and client services.

Number of Clerical inputs into legal cases in 2019

Juvenile - 30,996 docket entries in 2,853 cases

Probate - 50,870 docket entries in 3,787 cases

| Phone Calls Handled | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------|
| | Probate | Juvenile |
| Incoming | 11,980 | 7,410 |
| Outbound | 2,309 | 3,405 |
| Total Hours | 380 | 280 |
| | | |
| Documents Issued/Served | | |
| | Probate | Juvenile |
| Subpoenas | 21 | 455 |
| Certified Mail | 453 | 341 |
| Personal Service by Sheriff | 0 | 165 |
| Service By Court staff | 5 | 114 |
| Electronic Service | 0 | 11 |
| Notice by Publication | 124 | 7 |

The Court’s Records Office audits, reviews, and processes the Court’s filed documents for preservation. Scanned documents save time and increase efficiencies, by allowing the image to be electronically accessed versus the previous requirement of physically locating each case file and the required document. The Probate and Juvenile Clerks Office scanned 54,521 documents in 2019. Although, each case filing can contain multiple images, there have been approximately 778,777 document images uploaded and 186 boxes sent to the County Record Center for historic preservation on microfilm.

The Probate/Juvenile Court follows the Supreme Court of Ohio’s guidelines for language interpreters by using in-person certified interpreters for the majority of the Court’s matters. In 2019, the Court set 44 in-person interpretation events for a cost of \$ 5,174.43. Of the interpreters requested 70% of requests for an interpreter were for the Spanish language, others included Arabic, Somali, Vietnamese, Nepali, and ASL. The Court increased the usage of telephonic interpreters when an in-person interpreter service wasn’t available. In 2019, the service was used 39 times for 1,798 minutes, Somali language services accounted for 839 minutes.

The Court’s website is actively utilized by the public. In 2019, the Probate Court website was visited 121,264 times, with the self-service probate forms being the most utilized feature by both the public and court staff. The Juvenile Court website was visited 31,842 times with the hearing schedules receiving the most traffic.

Court Visitor Program

The Court Visitor Program is a guardianship monitoring program 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 visits are usually conducted at the ward's home to allow the Court Visitor to observe the ward in the natural environment. 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 Court Visitor program also provides the Probate Court with an additional mechanism for following up on any complaints and/or concerns noted with existing guardianships. The Court Visitor program assists the Court in its responsibilities as the Statutory Guardian.

In 2019, the program had six trained volunteers conducting visits. These volunteers provided 144.75 hours to the program and the program director input 1621.25 hours into the program. The Court Visitors conducted 167 court visits in 2019. Of these cases, 61(36%) wards were fifty-five years of age or older and 107(64%) guardians were fifty-five years of age or older. Sixty-six individuals visited in 2018 were receiving services from their local board of developmental disabilities.

In 2019, the Court Visitor Program also tracked the new guardianship cases filed concerning adults. Of the 68 cases filed, 4 (6%) cases were filed for medical reasons, 39 (57%) cases were filed based on developmental disabilities, 15 (22%) cases were filed because of mental illness, and 10 (15%) cases were filed due to the onset of Dementia or Alzheimer's Disease.

Juvenile Court - Intake Department

Diversion

Diversion is an opportunity offered to a juvenile offender charged with a status or misdemeanor offense, usually a first-time offender. Diversion is a voluntary program in which a case is sealed and dismissed upon successful completion. The Diversion Program has been enhanced with a strong evidenced-based approach to better assess youth and to not unnecessarily keep them involved with the Court. Redesigned in 2017, Diversion has three levels: Fast Track, General, and Intensive. Group Diversion has been found effective for alleged juvenile co-defendants to allow for increased responsibility for their involvement and to reduce blame on others. The Diversion program has a customer satisfaction survey that is completed after the diversion conference is held, and rates the diversion on a scale of 1-4. The Diversion program boasts a customer satisfaction average

score of 3.785 after the diversion. Diversion also has an additional customer satisfaction feedback survey which is completed after the case has been successfully closed. The Diversion program boasts a customer satisfaction average score of 3.876 at the close out of the diversion case. In 2019, the Court conducted 217 diversions. Of the 217 cases, 154 youth successfully completed diversion in 2019. 63 cases remain open going into 2020. Of the 154 successful youth, 19 youth had new charges filed within 6 months of their termination from diversion for a success rate of 88.66%. The court receives wonderful feedback on its diversion program, including parents say that the program is “amazing, even my son said, that’s exactly what I needed.”

Intake

The Intake Department is a youth and family’s first contact in the court system. The Intake team handles all juvenile 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 July of 2017, the Intake department created three separate program areas to serve youth who are not placed on probation due to a low risk level on the OYAS screening tool. The three program areas are: Intervention in Lieu, General Intake and Progressive Intake. Youth are placed into the program area based upon their offense type and risk score. Depending on the program area the youth are placed, the placement determines the program service hours received. The programs identify the criminogenic need areas for the youth, provide or refer to appropriate interventions to address those needs while keeping low risk youth from further penetrating the juvenile justice system. This year 42 Intervention in Lieu, 44 General Intake, and 12 Progressive Intake cases were opened.

A few members of the Court also took on a special project this year, which was spearheaded by a member of the Intake team. The project began in conversation discussing school aged girls not being prepared for the day their menstrual cycle comes, not understanding what is happening at the first time they have a period, and then in some situations not having resources to get supplies like tampons, pads, etc. The team took those concerns and created bags geared toward two different age groups – a pads and wipes only bag for geared more towards elementary school aged kids – younger middle schoolers, and a bag for older kids that include tampons, panty liners, pads and wipes. Currently, we have packed enough bags to provide High School with 40 bags, Middle School with 40 bags, and each Elementary School with 5 bags. We have also incorporated our court’s girls group to write a positive note for each bag.

Parent Project

Parent Project is a program that is offered to parents that have youth involved in the juvenile court and also offered to parents in the community that are struggling with parenting strong-willed teens. The program is designed to help parents who are dealing

with challenging adolescent teen behavior such as, drug and alcohol use, poor academic performance/attendance, violent behavior, running away/threats of harm, and not following home rules. This program helps parents learn new, more effective ways to approach and handle these problem behaviors in order to create change in their home. It also provides parents with a support system to help sustain and maintain change in their home. In 2019, the program assisted 34 parents in Delaware County. Of the 34 parents, 18 of them had youth involved in the court and only 16% had youth recidivate (acquired charges after completion of the program).

Truancy

The Court has 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 is 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. During the mediation, a Student Attendance Intervention Plan (SAIP) is created in effort to prevent charges from being filed. Parents and students are provided a copy of the mediation agreement/SAIP immediately following mediation. If there is not an improvement in attendance over the next sixty days, the school can choose to file a charge on the child and/or the parent, depending on the issues at hand in each case. Every effort is made to prevent charges from being filed. It is the collaboration with the school staff, court staff, and the student's family that helps to encourage and improve school attendance. April 6, 2017, HB 410 was enacted as law. That Bill has 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.

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.

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 2019, Stacy Blair was awarded the Ohio Association of Juvenile Court Judges (OAJCJ) annual Court Service Award. The award is given to one individual in the state nominated by a member of OAJCJ for extraordinary conduct/service/support. Stacy Blair, serves as School Liaison for Delaware City Schools. Stacy was nominated for her extraordinary service that she provides for students. Stacy has been employed as a School Liaison for 12 years and employed at the Court for 17 years. Over the last twelve years, Stacy has met with 3,755 students who were at risk for truancy filings, and of those students only 507 (13.5%) charges were filed on the student or parent. Her passion and drive are what make her extraordinary. Stacy assists students in improving attendance, no matter the effort. She responds to requests from the school district, the Court, and from families. The symbiotic and trusting relationship Stacy has with the schools is a vital part of her success in reducing truancy. Heidi Kegley, Superintendent for Delaware City Schools states “Mrs. Blair truly understand the barriers that many of our students and families face. She is always willing to work with them on identifying solutions and finding resources to help support them as they work collaboratively to reduce the non-academic barriers for their success.” The success noted is a direct result of Stacy’s relentless efforts to ensure attendance by every student enrolled in Delaware City Schools. Hundreds of families have her to thank for helping keep their children in school. Without her persistence and vision, countless children would have slipped through the cracks or dropped out into an unknown future.

Delaware County Schools 2019/2020* Interventions:

| 2018-2019 | Delaware | Buckeye Valley | Big Walnut | Olentangy | DACC | Total |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Informal Meeting | 219 | 111 | 144 | 505 | 97 | 1076 |
| Mediations Scheduled | 87 | 16 | 25 | 77 | 4 | 209 |
| Truancy Charges Filed | 10 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 18 |
| Diversion Offered | 10 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 18 |
| Diversion Successful | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Adjudicated | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pending | 8 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 15 |

*The decrease in interventions between the 2019/2020 school year and the prior school year is highly attributable to the coronavirus pandemic which shifted how schools tracked attendance in March of 2020.

Victim Services

The Victim Services Program was established for Juvenile Court in 1987 to provide information and support for victims of juvenile crime and to ensure that case-related decisions include greater consideration for the victim. The 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 2019, the Victim Services Program provided services to 362 victims of juvenile crime.

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. Each spring the Coalition organizes "Walk a Mile in her Shoes" to support awareness of sexual abuse. The Program also actively promotes National Crime Victim's Right Week in April and Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.

Victim Awareness Program

Created 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 2019, of the 27 juveniles who successfully completed the program, only 2 have committed a subsequent offense. Since its inception, the recidivism rate for juveniles who have successfully completed the Victim Awareness Program is 9.3%.

Restitution Tracking and Compliance Program

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. In 2018, a Restitution Docket was established. This docket holds juveniles accountable for making regular payments toward the restitution owed by requiring them to attend a monthly hearing if a monthly payment is not made according to terms agreed upon by the juvenile at the time of disposition. VOCA (Victims of Crime

Act) funding was obtained through a grant that subsidizes a 25 hours/week Restitution Specialist who oversees the process of restitution collection and compliance. In fiscal year 2019, the Court received and distributed \$8656 in restitution to victims of juvenile crime.

P.A.S.S. Counseling Program for Victims of Sexually-Oriented Offenses

In 2018, Delaware County Juvenile Court partnered with Maryhaven to offer a new treatment program for child victims of juvenile sex offenses and their families. This program, Providing Assistance to Sexual Survivors (PASS), is offered free of charge to children who have been victimized by a juvenile sibling or step sibling. The program includes family treatment and can be combined with the Court's Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment Program to provide a holistic approach for family healing. The PASS program is funded through a grant provided by VOCA.

Mentoring Programs

2019 was a change-driven year for the Mentoring Programs. In spring, the Coordinator, Patty Cram, unexpectedly passed away. Patty coordinated the mentoring programs for many years and had a unique and personal approach to the programming. Knowing that no one would run the programs the way Patty designed them and as Patty did, the Court recognized the need to explore options, change approaches, and relaunch the programs in the fall.

Both Together Everyone Achieves More (T.E.A.M.), and Mothers Offering Mentoring Support (M.O.M.S.), are modeled similarly. Both programs are one-to-one mentoring programs that meet weekly. Both programs offer a once a month large group time with the purpose of mentors communicating about their match's strength/struggles and for mentees to socialize in a space outside of academic/structured environments, and each match can bond in a new environment.

Community Mentors are each screened through two interview processes, complete the County's vetting/disclosure process, and complete training. Mentees and families/guardians meet with the Mentoring Programs Coordinator in two phases; to get to know each other/the programs and to complete applications. Until matched, the Mentoring Programs Coordinator meets with each Mentee. Once matched, the coordinator monitors each match through monthly check-ins. The program shares a monthly newsletter with large group information, potential programs that each match could attend, and community partnership information.

Specifically, T.E.A.M. pairs adolescents aged 10-14 with community mentors and is supported by the Delaware-Morrow County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board. The Mentees in T.E.A.M. are determined to be "at-risk" for making poor choices, needing support with behaviors, and have the potential to be susceptible to drug/alcohol use. Mentors teach reasoning skills behind behaviors, innovative ways of thinking about daily topics, and provide various free/low cost ideas that students can do within their own personal lives. T.E.A.M. utilizes the After School Activities portion of the Too Good for

Drugs curriculum between each match and during large group times. The Mentees for T.E.A.M. receive referrals from within Juvenile Court, Juvenile Court's Assessment Center, the school system, and families. As of December 2019, 13 adolescent Mentees were fully enrolled; 8 of whom are currently matched. The Mentoring Programs Coordinator meets with the additional 5 students weekly. Four adolescents have withdrawn from the program.

Highlights of the T.E.A.M. Program's large groups have included making a sheet to hang within Ohio Wesleyan University's Hamilton Williams Campus Hall, visiting Strengthening Families, and working with cats at the Delaware Humane Society.

M.O.M.S. pairs pregnant/new mothers with experienced mothers as mentors. The Mentees in M.O.M.S. are determined to need support with parenting/self-sufficiency skills. Mentors support new/expectant families with getting to the next phase within parenting, "typical" child development, scheduling/maintaining of appointments, family self-care, and self-sufficiency skills (including budgeting, meals, and completion of academics). M.O.M.S. utilizes workbooks with InJoy Health Education for pregnancy and is currently selecting a curriculum to use for after the child is born. Currently, Mentors are sharing credible information from national organizations such as the Center of Disease Control and the American Association of Pediatrics to provide support after a child is born. The Mentees for M.O.M.S. receive referrals primarily from the school system and the Juvenile Court's programs. As of December 2019, there were 5 Mentees fully enrolled; 3 of whom are currently matched. The Mentoring Programs Coordinator meeting with the additional 2 weekly. Highlights from the M.O.M.S. Program's large groups have included car seat checks from the Delaware General Health District, exploring Boardman Arts Park, and a visit from Santa.

Assessment Center

One of the Court's major accomplishments in 2019, was the receipt of a grant from the Department of Youth Services to open an Assessment Center. Beginning to provide services on November 1, the Assessment Center opened in the Willis Education Building. The center will implement cutting edge practices to continue the county's trend of reducing the cost, personal impact, and future implications of juvenile delinquency.

Space for the Assessment Center is being generously provided by the Delaware City Schools and the United Way Strengthening Families Initiative which already provides a number of community resources in the Willis Education Building. The Assessment Center is part of a growing initiative to serve juveniles in the least restrictive setting and also to intervene with children exhibiting problem behaviors before they become formally involved with the juvenile justice system. As its name suggests, youth referred to the Assessment Center will receive a series of assessments and screenings to determine both youth-specific and family needs. Based on the outcome of those assessments, youth will be referred to any number of community partners to meet those needs and the assessments will inform the decision whether youth will be either diverted from formal court involvement.

A growing body of research demonstrates that low-risk youth have better outcomes when served outside of a traditional courtroom setting. The Assessment Center will also provide services for at-risk youth who may be referred by a parent, law enforcement, school, or other community partner, allowing parents, teachers, and law enforcement with a reliable method of early intervention. The same assessment process will help Assessment Center staff determine the needs of at-risk youth and their families with the goal of facilitating linkage between youth and families in need and community partners who have resources to meet the needs. Over the course of 2020, the Court will examine what is working best at the Assessment Center and determine how it can tailor its approach to best serve youth and families, prevent delinquencies, and decrease new court involvement.

CASA of Delaware and Union Counties

The CASA Program of Delaware and Union Counties continued to grow and thrive in 2019. Total number of volunteers rose to 47 and 12 new CASA Volunteers were sworn in and began serving in both counties to advocate for children’s best interests in abuse, neglect and dependency cases. Following are some important statistics:

Volunteer/Case Statistics:

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|----|
| Volunteer CASA Advocates | 47 (Delaware and Union) | |
| Volunteer Total Case Hours | 5,240 | |
| Miles Driven by Volunteers for Casework | Over 39,000 miles | |
| Number of Children Served | 217 | |
| Of Children served: | 112 | |
| Female | | |
| Male | 103 | |
| Unknown | 2 | |
| Child Age Range | 0-5 | 89 |
| | 6-11 | 65 |
| | 12-15 | 42 |
| | 16-17 | 16 |
| | 18+ | 5 |

Case outcomes:

In 2019, 85 children’s cases were closed with a CASA Volunteer involved. Of those 85 children, following are some important outcomes:

| | |
|---|----|
| Reunification achieved | 25 |
| Adopted | 2 |
| Kinship Placement (long term relative care) | 25 |
| Child turned 18/21 | 4 |
| Other(case transferred, removed from docket etc. legal custody to non-relative) | 29 |

Some exciting CASA events took place in 2019. In September, The Ohio CASA Conference took place in Columbus, Ohio. Forty-four CASA Programs around the state congregate together to learn more about child advocacy through workshops and seminars. The CASA Program of Delaware and Union Counties was well represented with twenty-two volunteers and four staff members attending. The 2019 conference was especially exciting as Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Judge David Hejmanowski participated as a panelist in one of the general sessions; a judicial Q&A for CASA Volunteers. Judge Hejmanowski also led one of the breakout sessions on Permanent Custody for children on the Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Docket. Both of those sessions were very well attended. In November of 2019, The CASA Program hosted its 4th Annual Judicial Panel. Every year, CASA volunteers submit their questions to the judicial officers about various topics which are answered by the judicial panel after enjoying a catered dinner together. This event gives the CASA Volunteers the chance to interact with the judges and magistrates outside of the courtroom. It also provides the volunteers the opportunity to assess their skills and to learn of their value as volunteer advocates in the juvenile court. In 2019, the event was held in Union County and each one of the judicial officers from both counties attended. Volunteer turnout was high for this event and a lot of helpful information was shared with the CASA Volunteers. The CASA Program is fully supported by the judicial bench in both Delaware and Union Counties.

As 2019 came to a close, the Union County Juvenile Court decided to transition their CASA Program into a CASA/GAL program. This new and exciting undertaking is the collaboration between Judge David Hejmanowski, Probate/Juvenile Judge Delaware County and Judge Charlotte Coleman Eufinger, Probate/Juvenile Judge Union County. As this venture unfolds in 2020, more information and statistics will be sure to follow.

Every year, it is the goal of the CASA Program to serve every abused, neglected, or dependent child in both the Delaware and Union County Juvenile Courts. The dedication and efforts of the CASA Volunteers is what truly makes this program successful. The year 2019 was no exception in attaining this goal and the crucial advocacy for abused children by CASA Volunteers in both counties was most certainly accomplished.

Mediation

In 2019, the Court mediation program served 495 youth and families in school attendance matters, 39 youth and families in delinquency, 4 families in custody matters, 4 families in the child abuse docket, and another 2 families, agencies or parties through other routes to the Court, including referrals from the Delaware City Schools. Overall, the caseload for the program increased by 39% from 2018.

Court mediators serve as neutral facilitators to assist parties in reaching mutual agreements and often resolution of the issues facing them. In the school setting, under the provisions of House Bill 410, mediation means looking for ways to eliminate barriers to regular school attendance and strengthen the dialogue between the school and the family. Attendance mediations increased by 41% from 2018.

The mediation program stayed strong with its two longtime mediators, April Nelson and Dodie Davenport, in the department. Midyear, a third part-time position was added and Deputy Clerk Kira Crawford was trained and joined the team in time for the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

In 2019, mediator April Nelson presented “Opening the Doors for ALICE: Exploring Approaches to Access to Justice” at the Fall AFCC international conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Looking ahead to 2020, several changes are in store for the Court’s mediation department and programs. After much discussion, the Judge has begun mandating mediation in all Child Protection cases. Dodie Davenport will be the lead mediator in that effort. The school attendance mediation program is expected to continue at full speed, keeping all three mediators heavily scheduled during the peak months of November through April of the school year. Kira Crawford will be obtaining additional mediation training in 2020 so that she can take on a heavier caseload in the department. Kira and Dodie will be attending four-day training in restorative justice to begin implementing that process into the department.

2019 Mediation Statistics

| Type of Mediation | Referred | Mediated | Outcomes* | Hours |
|-------------------|----------|----------|---------------|--------|
| Attendance** | 495 | 495 | 344F/100N/51O | 324.75 |
| Delinquency | 39 | 27 | 27F/6N/6O | 40.25 |
| Child Protection | 4 | 4 | 1F/2P/1N | 5.5 |
| Parenting/Custody | 4 | 4 | 3F/1P | 6.5 |
| Miscellaneous | 2 | 2 | 2F | 2.5 |
| | | | | |
| Total | 544 | | | |

*Outcomes are full, partial, no, or other resolutions.

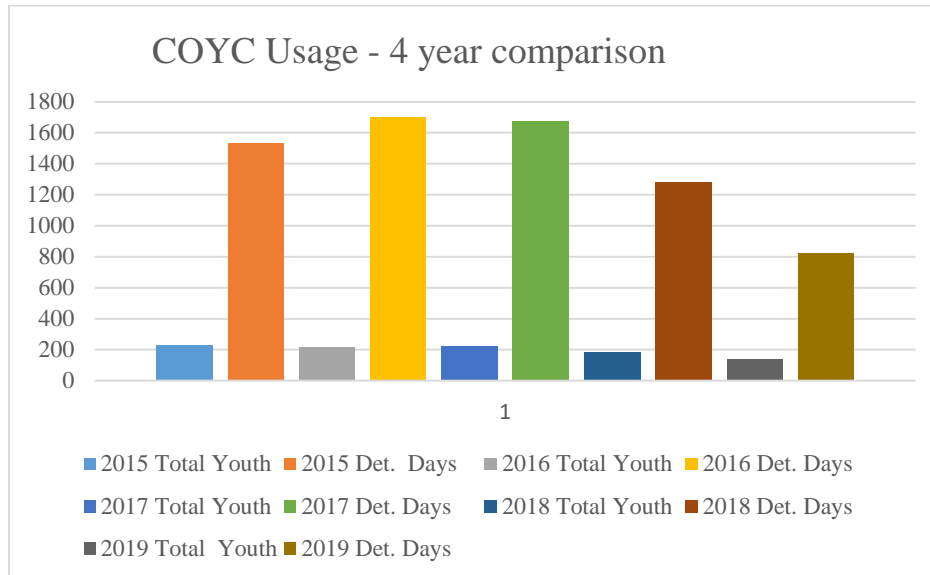
**In attendance mediations, all cases are scheduled and “referred” is defined as number of cases scheduled. Also, “no” resolution in an attendance mediation typically means the family (and the student, where appropriate) did not attend the mediation.

Probation

The Probation department is charged with supervising youth who have been recognized as being moderate to high risk by validated assessment tools. Probation officers use evidence based practices such as EPICS, the Carey Guides, and Motivational Interviewing techniques to change behavior and reduce recidivism. Support services for the probation department consist of a transport officer and an afternoon field officer who monitors compliance. The department is involved in two specialized dockets: Juvenile Treatment Court and the Juvenile Sex Offender docket. In 2019, 43 cases were carried over from 2018 and 30 new cases were assigned for a total of 73 youth on supervision. Of those youth: 39 cases were successfully terminated, 8 cases were unsuccessfully terminated, 2 cases were neutrally terminated, and 24 cases were carried over into 2020.

Of the youth served by probation during 2019: 58 youth identified as white, 8 identified as African American, 2 identified as Hispanic, and 4 identified as mixed race. The Probation team served 49 males and 23 females.

The Probation Department works diligently to provide programming that keeps kids from long-term detention commitment. However, sometimes detention is in the best interest of the youth served. In 2019, two youth were placed into programming at the Perry Multi-County Juvenile Correctional Facility.



The Juvenile Sex Offender Program served 41 males and 2 females in 2019. Of those youth 34 identified as white, 7 identified as African American, and 2 identified as Asian. Twelve youth were successfully terminated from the program in 2019 and two youth were neutrally terminated. The remaining 29 youth were carried over into 2020.

The court recently started a therapy dog program. Currently we have a Labrador Retriever mix named Franklin in training for his therapy dog certification. Franklin's

handler, Gia DeGirolamo is a probation officer who trains with him and cares for him when he is not at work. Franklin will be used in the courtroom with children who have had traumatic experiences or are maybe just struggling to get through a hearing. Franklin also provides support to youth you may be having stressful court contact as well as to employees who may be experiencing challenges at work.

The Suspension Alternative Program/Community Service

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 2019, 98 youth participated in SAP working 6 hours a day for a total of 588 hours of supervised service. SAP is funded through the Juvenile Court, schools, and a grant from SourcePoint. 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 2019, 390 youth worked through the community service program on various projects.

Through a partnership with SourcePoint, the Court served 114 elderly residents of Delaware County in 2019. The service request, also know a 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 shoveling snow, planting plants/bulbs, weeding, mulching, raking leaves, cleaning out garages, picking up sticks, leveling yards, trimming bushes, removing and setting up patio furniture, picking up walnuts and sweet gums. In 2019 the total service hours completed by the crews were 825, with a bulk of the referrals being completed within seven business days.

In 2019, the SAP and Community Service programs also served the Delaware County Health Department by picking up 158 bags of litter and disposing of 123 large/very large items. The programs also delivered 7,500 issues of The Communicator, SourcePoint's bimonthly newspaper. In 2019, the programs were also recognized by the Delaware County Health Department for their outstanding efforts to keep Delaware Litter free.

Treatment Court

The Delaware County Juvenile Court operates two Specialized Dockets for persons whose involvement with the Court is a result of drug or alcohol misuse or mental health concerns. The Juvenile Treatment Court (JTC) is designed for juveniles whose delinquency is related to behavioral health concerns and/or drug or alcohol concerns. The Family Treatment Court (FTC) is designed for parents whose involvement with the Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services (JFS) stems from parental misuse of drugs or alcohol or inadequately treated mental health concerns. Specialized Dockets, such as the JTC and FTC, are cost effective ways to protect the community, ensure the safety of children and assist in rehabilitating parents and juveniles who could stay out of legal entanglements if they were to receive proper community based services. Both

dockets are completely voluntary with a goal of improving the lives of the parents and juveniles with whom we are privileged to work.

Both of the Court's Specialized Dockets serve the purpose of helping participants find treatment options, and assisting in motivating them to take treatment seriously and then apply that treatment to their daily lives. That motivation comes through frequent hearings where the participants give updates to the Court, regularly attend treatment appointments with community based providers, submit to supervision by probation officers and/or JFS Case Workers, and perform frequent and random drug screening. The Treatment Court Coordinator partners with many community based providers to assist the participants in finding additional supports when needed, such as linking them to services dealing with employment, education, parenting, family dynamics, or even tutoring. Both Specialized Dockets have the goal of assisting participants to matriculate to graduation from the JTC or FTC once they have obtained the skills to manage their mental health, live a drug free lifestyle, and live as law abiding citizens without the need of supervision from the Court. With FTC, another goal is to return children to their parents to be raised by healthy adults who possess appropriate parenting skills.

In 2019, 16 adults participated in the FTC, and four juveniles participated in the JTC. Five adults completed the FTC successfully, and two juveniles completed the JTC successfully. Twenty children were involved with the FTC, and five were reunited with their parents. One participant stated "Without the weekly touchpoints with the Magistrate and the treatment team, I would not have been able to maintain my focus on sobriety."

Also in 2019, the Treatment Court team was reset with a new Magistrate overseeing the docket and the hire of a new Treatment Court Coordinator. Looking toward the future, the FTC has been provisionally re-certified by the Ohio Supreme Court. The JTC is currently awaiting provisional approval, but that has been delayed by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is also clear that opioids are still a touchstone of misuse in Delaware County. However, the Court remains committed to holding those before the Court accountable for substance misuse, to assist families in need of services, to work in the best interest of children and to do all of this with our community based partners with honesty, compassion, and accountability.

Family Advocate Programs

The Family Advocate program began at the Court in 1983. A community based, family-directed intervention that is designed to deal with at-risk, multi-need youth and their families. This unique service provides a valuable perspective through direct observation of the family in the natural environment which quickly brings into focus the interpersonal dynamics that can help guide goal focus. Advocates provide a home-based family systems orientation using Functional Family Therapy. FFT is designed to broaden families' abilities to conceptualize problems, reduce blame and develop shared ownership in resolving problems; teach necessary skills for families to improve functioning; and reduce recidivism and placements. Families participate in an assessment tool, the Family Environmental

Scale (FES), to measure the environmental and social characteristics of the families. The ten FES subscales assess three sets of dimension: relationship dimensions, personal growth dimensions and systems maintenance dimensions.

Advocates meet with each family an average of twice a week to establish goals and provide interventions. Length of stay in the program ranges from 3 to 12 months depending on whether families are receiving services as part of the general program, the Family Support Services Program or the Intensive Family Advocate Program. The Delaware County Juvenile Court's Family Advocate Program represents an innovative effort to blend treatment and accountability elements into a community based alternative intervention. In 2018, the general family advocate program served 25 youth and families, the Family Support Service Program served 34 families, and the Intensive Family Advocate Program served 22 families in Delaware County.

Fiscal

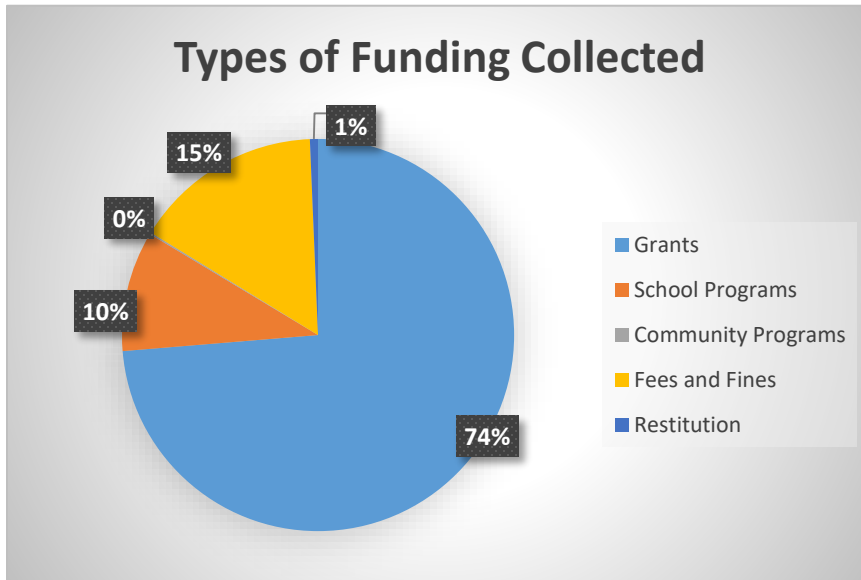
Human Resources

Thirteen full-time employees were hired in 2019, ten of which were for vacated positions. Of the newly created positions, two are fully funded by a Competitive RECLAIM grant from the Department of Youth Services awarded July 1, 2019; and the other by funding released by the elimination of two administrative positions (Strategic Planner and Chief Field Officer). The primary functions of the eliminated positions were reallocated to current staff; including the rotating assignment of the on-call phone to intake/probation staff, and the Department of Youth Services quality assurance metrics assigned to program directors and the Court Services Analyst/Training Coordinator. Additionally, three interns were sponsored by the Court in 2019. These interns assisted with several court programs; including, Victim Services and the Guardianship Visitor.

Funding

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 2019, \$1.346 million was received from outside sources, an additional \$312,351.36 was collected in fees and fines, and Juvenile Court also collected \$8,910.84 in restitution.

A large portion of funding received from outside sources comes from the Department of Youth Services RECLAIM grant. The award to Delaware County for

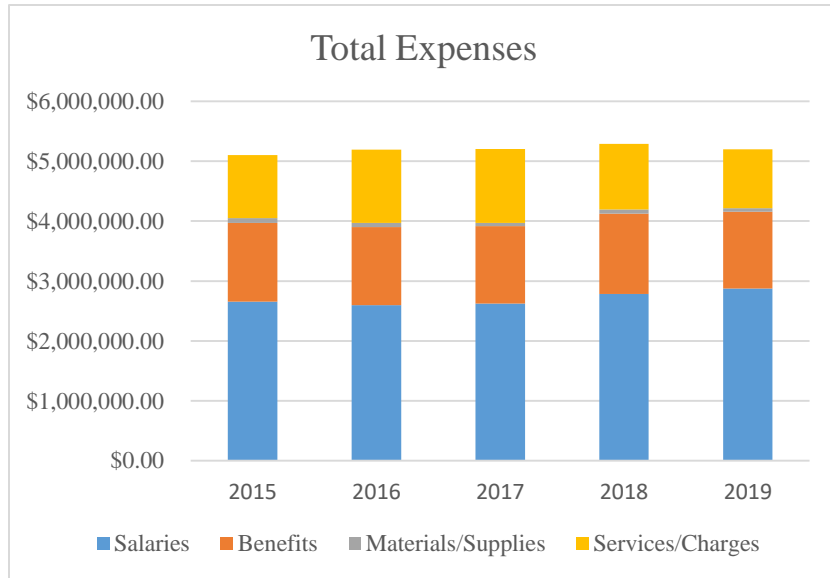


SFY2019 (covering the timeframe of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019) was \$540,068.18, or approximately 40.12% of our supplemental funding. In addition to the RECLAIM funding, Delaware County proposed, and received, two Competitive

RECLAIM awards for the SFY2020 project period. The first was an award funding the final year of the Intensive Family Advocate position and several behavioral change training opportunities for the probation and intake staff. The second award, in the amount of \$150,000, is for the creation and staffing of the Assessment Center located at the Willis Educational Center.

Expenses

Expenses for 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), costing \$493,834 in fiscal year 2019, a decrease of \$63,076 or 12.4% from fiscal year 2018. In addition to this line item, overall expenditures for 2019 decreased by \$90,582.90 or 1.71%.



| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Salaries | \$2,655,010.62 | \$2,599,973.72 | \$2,622,894.00 | \$2,786,601.87 | \$2,876,018.22 |
| Benefits | \$1,317,156.86 | \$1,299,366.10 | \$1,291,172.68 | \$1,337,123.78 | \$1,281,958.11 |
| Materials /Supplies | \$79,238.79 | \$70,244.03 | \$55,246.21 | \$68,112.78 | \$59,268.68 |
| Services/ Charges | \$1,052,665.20 | \$1,223,865.71 | \$1,231,915.02 | \$1,095,986.41 | \$979,996.93 |
| Total | \$5,104,071.47 | \$5,193,449.56 | \$5,201,227.91 | \$5,287,824.84 | \$5,197,241.94 |

Training/In-service

The court staff participated in two in-service trainings last year. The first, Understanding Interstate Compact for Juveniles, was presented by the Interstate Compact Commission with the goal of providing seamless transition of services, legal proceedings, and supervision when a youth offender leaves or moves into the state. The second, Crime Victims' Rights in Ohio Post-Marsy's Law, was organized in partnership with the Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center. This training served to update staff on victims' rights as well as inform them of pending legislation and implementation strategies. In addition to the in-services, the court partnered with the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the Ohio Department of Public Safety to provide a training available to staff and community partners as well as local attorneys and counselors titled Identifying and Responding to Juvenile

Victims of Human Trafficking. This informative and powerful training empowered staff and allied professionals with the tools to be able to identify and support trafficked children and youth.

The Court Services Analyst/Training Coordinator was pleased to present at the OACA 2019 Fall Conference about the benefits of developing an onboarding program for new hires. Since the presentation, several Ohio counties have reached out for additional information, resources and advice while developing or enhancing their own onboarding programs.

Fight Against Hunger Games

This year the Probate/Juvenile Court partnered with local schools and county agencies to collect 964 boxes of mac and cheese, 1230 cans of corn, more than 1900 cans of green beans, 304 cans of cranberry sauce, and 450 cans of peas. Joining us this year in the Fight Against Hunger Games were several elected officials offices and agencies including the Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services, the Delaware County Board of Commissioners, the Delaware County Auditor, the Delaware County Recorders, the Delaware County Clerk of Courts, the Delaware County Treasurer, the Domestic Relations and General Divisions of the Court of Common Pleas, the Delaware County Prosecutor's Office and the Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities. All of these agencies and the Delaware City School District came together and collected stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, foil roasting pans, and raised enough money to purchase 225 pumpkin pies! Some great architectural feats happened with the side dishes - Regional Sewer with their stuffing turret and Carlisle Elementary with a 1000 can green bean pyramid. In addition to this, more than 120 turkeys were delivered to the community service van on Tuesday morning and enough money to buy the remaining birds was donated/raised by you, our fellow county employees, and local community members. 237 COMPLETE meals were given to those in need.

The extra food from the Thanksgiving Meals and food collected by the Hayes High School filled multiple van loads, and has been taken to the Willis Education Building, fully restocked the Pacer Pantry. This pantry serves anyone that simply walks in and asks for help. There is no income requirement, no ID necessary - just a simple request for food. The Board of Developmental Disabilities spent 3 hours stocking and sorting all of the food that came in for the pantry. This restocking will hopefully get the Family Resource Center through the winter months