# THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF

MICHIGAN 2014 Annual Report



Coleman A. Young Municipal Center Civil Division Family Division – Domestic Relations Two Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48226

Frank Murphy Hall of Justice Criminal Division 1441 St. Antoine Detroit, MI 48226 Mediation Tribunal Association 333 W. Fort Street Detroit, MI 48226

Lincoln Hall of Justice Family Division-Juvenile 1025 E. Forest Avenue Detroit, MI 48207 Penobscot Building Friend of the Court 645 Griswold Detroit, MI 48226

# **2014 Administration**

Robert J. Colombo, Jr. Chief Judge

Zenell B. Brown Executive Court Administrator



#### THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN

ZENELL B. BROWN EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATOR 711 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER TWO WOODWARD AVENUE DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3413

(313) 224-5261

May 8, 2015

Honorable Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge Third Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan 701 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Judge Colombo:

I am pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report of Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan to the Court employees, the Wayne County Community, and the public we serve.

The statistics and narratives of this report represent the tireless efforts and the continued commitment of the Third Circuit Court Judges and staff. Innovations and accomplishments were plentiful in 2014. The Juvenile Division's Drug Treatment Program had the lowest recidivism rate of all of the Michigan programs. The Domestic Relations Division continued to provide mediation and legal services to help address parenting and custody issues of parents. The Friend of the Court's Child Support Help Outreach served over 200 people at the Detroit Public Library. The Criminal Division continued its Drug and Mental Health Courts, as well as launched a Veterans Treatment Court. The Civil Division continued the specialized Business Court docket and spearheaded the Summer Law Clerk Internship Program. The Administrative Team and Legal Counsel worked together on initiatives to ensure cases are timely moved to disposition, to update the public and employee work areas, to recruit and retain needed talent, and to realize savings and increase revenue.

We have been fortunate to have good relationships with partners and stakeholders; but most importantly, we continue to have strong public approval. In the Statewide 2014 survey, 85% of court users strongly agreed or agreed they understood what happened in their court case and 90% of court users indicated they strongly agreed or agreed they were treated with courtesy by the Court staff.

In closing, I want to thank Jeannette Heacox for her tireless efforts in compiling, drafting, and editing this year's report. Her contributions helped ensure that we produced a quality report that represented the collective effort of our Judges and employees. I am proud of our 2014 accomplishments and to be a part of the amazing Third Circuit Team.

Sincerely nell B. Brown

Executive Court Administrator



#### THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN

ROBERT J. COLOMBO, JR. CHIEF JUDGE

701 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER TWO WOODWARD AVENUE DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3413

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In 2014, my first year as Chief Judge, there has been many changes and accomplishments. Four new judges, Thomas C. Cameron, Alexis A. Glendening, Catherine L. Heise, and Edward J. Joseph, were appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to our Court. Due to retirements, the Court lost Judges Susan D. Borman, Michael James Callahan, Amy Hathaway, Vera Massey Jones, Arthur J. Lombard, and Robert L. Ziolkowski. On January 1, 2015, Judge Shannon Walker joined the Court's Criminal Division.

The past year also brought a new Executive Court Administrator Zenell Brown, Friend of the Court Kent Weichmann, General Counsel Richard Lynch, and Chief Financial Officer Violet Leonard.

The four divisions of the Court, Civil, Criminal, Family, and Juvenile have managed the dockets in an efficient manner and improved caseflow.

The Friend of the Court provided more services with less people than any other Friend of the Court in the State of Michigan.

The Third Judicial Circuit Court had a productive year in many different areas. One goal of the Court was to improve collections and this occurred in both the Criminal and Juvenile Divisions. In the Juvenile Division, a Collections Unit was added to determine indigency and to obtain non-indigent parties agreement to payment plans. In 2015, the Court is looking to expand its Collection Unit to the Criminal Division.

Jury management and delivery of jury services were also an important project in the past year. A new jury system was implemented in the fall of 2013 and into 2014. Juror utilization was decreased by requiring trial courts to verify the day before a scheduled jury trial that it would actually go. Juror demographics have been satisfactory under the new system. In October, the Court scheduled show cause hearings for jurors who did not appear for service.

To make visitor and juror experiences more comfortable, improvements have also been made to the central jury room in CAYMC, the jury rooms attached to courtrooms in CAYMC and FMHJ, courtrooms in CAYMC, and the administrative offices of the court in CAYMC.

With the assistance of the media, the Court was able to send a message to the public that juror service is an important civic obligation and it should not be avoided.

Significant changes have occurred with respect to Court Reporting Services. Nine Family Division judges and eight Civil Division judges operated audio/video recording systems. Recording systems were used by the Friend of the Court referees. In 2015, recording systems will be implemented for the Juvenile Division referees.

The use of electronic filing in the Civil Division continued to grow. The Court sought to have eFiling expanded to the asbestos docket in the Civil Division and to the Criminal and Family Divisions. Due to issues regarding funding eFiling and whether there should be a State-administered eFiling system, the State Court Administrative Office has not allowed expansion of eFiling. However, the Court has continued to move towards a paperless system. The Document Sharing program allows district courts to electronically file exam transcripts, appeal transcripts, and court files. A pilot project was established to use Document Sharing for discovery in criminal cases. The Court also has a pilot program to electronically move Friend of the Court Referee recommendation orders to Family Division judges. The implementation of the Odyssey Case Management System in the Juvenile Division is to occur in October, 2015. The Court is also looking to implement electronic processing of payments for attorneys representing indigent defendants in the Criminal Division.

An Annual Report for the year 2013 was issued by the Court. It was the first Annual Report since the 2008 Annual Report.

The Third Judicial Circuit Court looks forward to a productive year in 2015 and to improve services for all court users.

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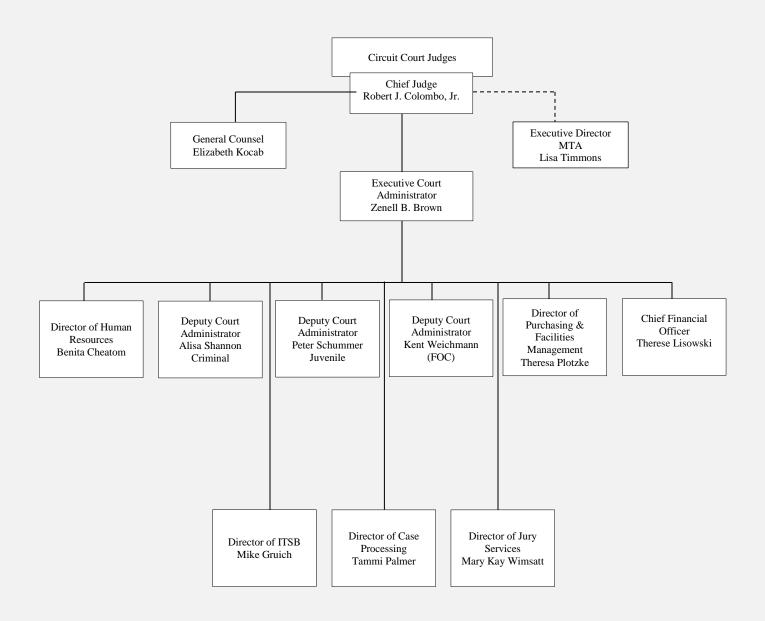
Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr. Chief Judge, Third Judicial Circuit Court

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# THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF MICHIGAN

# **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



# THIRD CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES

Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge

**CIVIL DIVISION** 

Maria L. Oxholm, Presiding

David J. Allen Annette J. Berry Susan D. Borman Daphne Means Curtis Edward Ewell, Jr. Patricia Perez Fresard Sheila Ann Gibson John H. Gillis, Jr. Muriel D. Hughes Kathleen Macdonald John A. Murphy Lita M. Popke Daniel P. Ryan Leslie Kim Smith Brian R. Sullivan Robert L. Ziolkowski

# CRIMINAL DIVISION

Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding

Gregory Dean Bill Ulysses W. Boykin Margie R. Braxton Megan Maher Brennan James A. Callahan Michael James Callahan Thomas C. Cameron James R. Chylinski Vonda R. Evans Ronald Giles David A. Groner Cynthia Gray Hathaway Dana Margaret Hathaway Daniel A. Hathaway Michael Hathaway Catherine L. Heise Vera Massey Jones Qiana Denise Lillard Bruce U. Morrow Richard M. Skutt Mark T. Slavens Craig S. Strong Lawrence S. Talon Deborah A. Thomas Margaret M. Van Houten

# FAMILY DIVISION-DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Kathleen M. McCarthy, Presiding

Eric Cholack Kevin J. Cox Charlene M. Elder Richard B. Halloran Charles S. Hegarty Susan L. Hubbard Connie Marie Kelley Arthur J. Lombard Lisa M. Neilson Lynne A. Pierce Martha M. Snow

#### FAMILY DIVISION-DOMESTIC-JUVENILE

Virgil C. Smith, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton Jerome C. Cavanagh Christopher D. Dingell Alexis A. Glendening Edward J. Joseph Frank S. Szymanski

# JUDGES JOINING THE BENCH IN 2014

The Third Circuit Court welcomed the following Judges to the Bench in 2014:



#### Hon. Thomas C. Cameron

Judge Thomas C. Cameron was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court by Governor Rick D. Snyder in April 2014 and is assigned to the Criminal Division. Before his appointment, Judge Cameron served as the Bureau Chief for the Michigan Attorney General where he managed over 100 attorneys in several divisions, including Criminal, Health Care Fraud, Child Support, Alcohol and Gambling, Civil Rights, Children & Youth Services, and Corrections. Before his appointment by the Attorney General, he prosecuted high-profile public corruption and cold case homicides for the Attorney General from 2003 to 2007. Judge Cameron received his Juris Doctorate from Wayne State University Law School in 1996 and a B.S. in Finance from Western Michigan University in 1992.



#### Hon. Alexis A. Glendening

Judge Alexis A. Glendening was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court by Governor Rick D. Snyder in April 2014. She was originally assigned to the Family Division-Juvenile and was recently reassigned to the Criminal Division. Prior to her appointment, Judge Glendening served as a private practice attorney, handling juvenile neglect and abuse, child custody, and adoption matters. In her Probate Court practice, she has handled guardianship/conservator matters, involuntary commitments, and mental incompetence cases. Judge Glendening graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1976 and received her Juris Doctor from Detroit College of Law in 1981.



#### Hon. Catherine L. Heise

Judge Catherine L. Heise was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court by Governor Rick D. Snyder in April 2014 and serves in the Criminal Division. Judge Heise was admitted to the Bar in 1988 and specialized in civil litigation in both private and corporate practice. She served as a case evaluator with the Mediation Tribunal Association and on the Council of the Insurance and Indemnity Law Section, as well as on the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, where she chaired the Disciplinary Subcommittee. Judge Heise earned her Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Wayne State University in 1984 and her Juris Doctor Cum Laude from the Detroit College of Law in 1988. A published author on insurance-related subjects, Judge Heise also holds the designation of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter.



#### Hon. Edward J. Joseph

Judge Edward J. Joseph was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court by Governor Rick D. Snyder in April 2014 and is assigned to the Family Division-Juvenile Section. Prior to his appointment, Judge Joseph served as an attorney in private practice for 26 years, handling civil, juvenile, and criminal litigation. He also served as a special assistant attorney general and as a Wayne County public administrator. Judge Joseph graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting and Finance. He received his Jurist Doctor from Wayne State University Law School in 1987 and was inducted into the Order of the Coif upon graduation.

# **EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION TEAM JOINING THE COURT IN 2014**

If you find a path with no obstacles – it is probably a path that doesn't lead anywhere. Robert C. Savage



#### Chief Judge Robert J. Colombo, Jr.

Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr. joined the Third Judicial Circuit Court when he was elected to the bench in November 1982, taking office January 1983. During his tenure, he has handled civil, criminal, and domestic relations cases. In 1992, Judge Colombo became the asbestos judge for Wayne County Circuit Court. In 1993, he was appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to handle all of the breast implant cases in the State of Michigan. In 2000, the Michigan Supreme Court appointed him to handle all class action lawsuits brought under the Michigan Anti-Trust Law against Microsoft. The Michigan Supreme Court appointed Judge Colombo Chief Judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court in October 2013 for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2014.



#### Zenell B. Brown

Zenell Brown joined the Third Judicial Circuit Court in 1997 and became the Executive Court Administrator on January 13, 2014. After working in various capacities at the Friend of the Court, in 2009 she was appointed to serve as the Friend of the Court Deputy Court Administrator for the Family Division – Domestic Relations. She has sat on many state and national child support and court committees, spearheaded many community outreach efforts, and has been a presenter at various child support and mediation training conferences. She routinely engages those around her to establish workable solutions with limited resources. Because of that focus, the Friend of the Court For Our Children Consortium will celebrate its ninth year of public education and outreach. Her commitment to the advancement of the Court and the Wayne County community continues as she serves in the role as Executive Court Administrator.



#### Kent Weichmann

Kent Weichmann joined the Third Judicial Circuit Court on June 30, 2014 as the new Friend of the Court Deputy Court Administrator for the Family Division – Domestic Relations. Kent Weichmann is the former Washtenaw County Friend of the Court having served in that county from 1988 – 1997. He was a referee for Monroe County Friend of the Court from 1999 – 2002. He has successfully managed a private practice that focused on mediation and arbitration in family law cases, and he has been the Legislative Chair for the Family Law Section of the State Bar since 2004.



#### Richard M. Lynch

Richard Lynch joined the Third Judicial Circuit Court on November 10, 2014 as the new General Counsel for the Court. Richard Lynch worked previously from 1988 – 2014 with the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court in various legal roles. He has served as Court Clerk, as Chief of Court Operations, and most recently as Manager of the Civil/Criminal Divisions. He currently sits on the State Court Administrative Office's eFiling Advisory Group and the State Court Administrative Office's Foreign Language Translation Work Group. In 2013 and 2014, he lectured at the Michigan Translators and Interpreters Network Conference sharing ideas on court interpreting.

#### **Budget and Finance**

The Office of Budget and Finance is responsible for the processing and recording of accounting and financial information for the Court. The Office's responsibilities include budget and accounting services for general fund accounts, grants and contracts, and fiduciary accounts; accounts receivable and accounts payable processing; financial reporting; and collections.

#### Accounts Payable

The Accounts Payable Unit, which is responsible for establishing an accounts payable record and the timely payment to vendors, has begun working together with the Criminal and Juvenile Divisions and the IT Department to replace the current attorney payment procedure with an online system by the end of 2015. During 2014, in addition to processing vendor and contractual payments, the Accounts Payable Unit handled over 20,000 manual attorney payment service vouchers. The Court's plans to implement this online attorney payment process will be a significant technological improvement.

#### Court Collections

The Collections Unit enforces collection of court-imposed costs, fines, and fees. Collection is a top priority. In February 2015, the Collections Unit will be relocating staff to the Criminal Division in an effort to increase collections, as well as continuing to focus dedicated staff in the Juvenile Division.

#### **Case Processing**

Case Processing provides central support to the bench, gathers and reports required data to the State Court Administrative Office, serves as a primary resource to judges and their staff on caseflow methods and procedures, and provides information to the public. Support to the bench includes scheduling and noticing hearings, maintenance of the party/attorney records, development and distribution of statistical and management reports, maintenance of automated caseflow management programs, and training judicial staff members. Case Processing prints and mails over 80,000 notices of court events to attorneys and parties and answers over 13,000 phone calls annually. Case Processing also performs many of the Assigned Counsel Services' functions for the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section. Case Processing assists with caseflow management at Friend of the Court and provides weekly reports to assist with the timely processing of paternity cases.

#### **Court Reporting Services**

The Court Reporting Services Department is responsible for coordinating court reporting coverage for all divisions of the Court, as well as assigning appellate counsel and submitting transcripts to the Court of Appeals, and acts as the liaison between the Court of Appeals and the Third Circuit Court. The Department also processes all transcript requests in each division, maintains archival storage of all records of court reporters and recorders, provides staff support to video courtrooms, and orders interpreters for proceedings. The Court acquired 19 video court recording units in 2014 to continue to use the latest technology, provide the most reliable method of capturing the record, and to effectuate the goal of cost reductions. The units are being used in the Family Division – Domestic and Civil Division. Similar programs will be piloted for the Criminal Division and Family Division – Juvenile.

#### Human Resources

The Office of Human Resources manages all personnel-related activities for the Court's 63 Judges and 658 employees. These activities include recruitment, timekeeping, payroll, benefits, interpretation of workplace laws and regulations, training and development, support for management staff, and negotiating and administering labor agreements. The Court filled 105 vacancies through the recruitment and promotional processes, conducted 17 desk audits, and updated 37 job descriptions. New collective bargaining agreements were reached with both the Government Administrators Association (GAA) and the Judicial Attorneys Association (JAA).

The Information Technology Services Bureau and Human Resources are collaborating to roll out a new employee access and badging system throughout the court. In cooperation with the State Court Administrative Office, Human Resources will provide ethics, supervisory skills, and diversity training to court staff and leadership.

#### Information Technology Systems Bureau

The Information Technology Systems Bureau (ITSB) provides reliable, cost-effective information systems solutions that meet the Court's evolving business needs. The department provides the application and technical operating environment necessary to meet the operating and administrative business objectives of the Court. ITSB has upgraded the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center for public Wi-Fi in court locations. Public Kiosks for payments have been added to Lincoln Hall of Justice, Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, and the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. The Court has expanded its reach into the area of Social Media and now has a presence on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Odyssey Case Management System Implementation

The Court has implemented the Odyssey system in the Adoptions and Guardianships, Criminal, Civil, and Family-Domestic Divisions. The programming and conversion for the Juvenile Division is currently on-going with an anticipated go-live date of October 2015. Implementation will allow all court divisions the ability to use a single case management system – Odyssey.

The current Odyssey system has over 2.4 million current and historical cases. The Court has converted over 5.4 million historical images. The Odyssey system has over 2,000 users, including staff from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Michigan Department of Corrections, Wayne County Sheriff, and local district courts. The public can access the court register of actions through our main court website <u>www.3rdcc.org</u>.

Electronic Filing (eFiling) Implementation

In November 2011, the Court implemented eFiling for CK cases in the Civil Division. eFiling allows the electronic submission and processing of court documents. The electronically filed documents are then moved throughout the court system without the need for a paper case file. eFiling allows the Court to make significant progress towards a paperless environment.

The Civil Division of the Court, except for asbestos cases, is completely electronic. In 2014, the Court processed 2.9 million pages of documents electronically, saving the costs of paper and printing. The court records are now available to court staff electronically, no more standing in line searching for a case file and no more missing documents.

#### **eFiling Project Submissions**

Total Submissions eFiling Project 2014	302,987
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2013	291,350
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2012	125,585
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2011	5,758
Cumulative Total Submissions eFiling Project	725,680

#### Jury Services

The Jury Services Department coordinates jury operations and obtains jurors for the Third Judicial Circuit and Probate Court, as well as provides qualification services for all district courts in Wayne County.

The Department's responsibilities include developing processes and procedures for regularly collecting and analyzing information regarding the performance of the jury system to ensure fair representation and inclusiveness; the effectiveness of qualification and summonsing procedures; the responsiveness of individual citizens to jury duty summonses; the efficient and effective usage of citizens called to serve on jury duty; and the cost effectiveness of the jury system. In 2014, there were 185,889 jury questionnaires/summons mailed and 1,574 jury panels requested.

#### **Jury Services 2014 Statistics**

Total Jurors Called to Appear for Service	86,863
Total Jurors Who Appeared	42,318
Total Jurors Who Failed to Appear	44,545

#### **Purchasing and Facilities Management**

The Purchasing and Facilities Management Department is responsible for the procurement of goods and services for all divisions of the Court. The Department also oversees building services and renovations, organizes staff moves, processes metered and interoffice court mail, reports equipment repairs, and transports employees and jurors between court locations.

#### Japanese Judge Program

Japanese judges have been coming to study in the Third Circuit Court since 1972. Each year a judge from the Japanese judicial system has come to Michigan to research and study the American judicial system. This partnership between the Third Circuit Court, Wayne State University Law School, and the Supreme Court of Japan ensures that each visiting judge will return home with a wealth of knowledge concerning America's judicial system with an emphasis of Michigan trial courts.

The Japanese Judge will be in residence for two semesters at the Law School of the Court. The judge will study all the divisions of the Court by observing proceedings, trials, and the operations of Court departments including Jury Services, Case Processing, and the Mediation Tribunal Association. Additionally, the judge will network with staff from Pretrial Services, Intake, Drug Court, Probation, and the Clinic for Child Study, while touring both the Wayne County Jail and the Juvenile Detention Facility. To culminate this program, the judge will lecture in one of the courses at the Law School and be available to students and faculty to discuss the research.

This program enhances the judicial systems of both cultures, as well as the curriculum at Wayne State University. The Court looks forward to this ongoing partnership.



**Hon. Naoki Takaishi.** Judge Takaishi finished his training with the Court in June 2014. Hon. Naoki Takaishi is interested in civil disputes between companies and consumers and criminal matters. Judge Takaishi is a staff attorney of Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court. Judge Takaishi has presided over criminal and juvenile delinquency cases.



**Hon. Hirokazu Kayawake.** Judge Kayawake began his training with the Court in September 2014. Hon. Hirokazu is interested in the management of civil cases and bankruptcy cases. Since 2011, he has served as an associate judge hearing civil and criminal matters. He graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Tokyo, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law, completed the course of Chiba University Law School, and passed the National Bar Examination in 2009. On November 14, 2014, Judge Kayawake lectured at Wayne State University Law School. His lecture, "Japanese Jury System" discussed the Japanese jury system and how it differs from the American system.

# MEDIATION TRIBUNAL ASSOCIATION

The Mediation Tribunal Association (MTA) is a non-profit agency established in 1979 that provides alternative dispute resolution services for the Third Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan, the United States District Court for the Eastern Division, and many district courts in the County of Wayne. The MTA is led by its Executive Director and governed by a Board of Directors. The MTA Board consists of two judges from the Civil Division and one judge from the Family Division of Wayne County Circuit Court, one judge from the United States District Court for the Eastern Division, and two attorney directors, representing both the Michigan Association for Justice (MAJ) and the Association of Defense Trial Counsel (ADTC).

The MTA maintains a roster of over 1,500 attorneys that serve as case evaluators under MCR 2.403. In 2014, there were 10,901 cases set for case evaluation. Those case types include general civil, employment, medical malpractice, commercial, and business court. Dispositions for 2014 are as follows:

Total Cases Set for Case Evaluation	10,901
Cases Settled Prior to Case Evaluation	529
Cases Settled After Case Evaluation	15
Cases Not Evaluated (Removed for Cause)	229
Cases Adjourned by the Court	3,416
Total Cases Evaluated	6,712

#### **Case Evaluation 2014 Caseload**

#### **Case Evaluation 2014 Dispositions**

Total Awards	10,730
Awards Accepted (15.22% of total)	1,633
Total Awards Rejected and Continuing to Disposition	9,097

# **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**

The Office of the General Counsel serves as the official legal advisor to the Court. This includes providing legal representation for the Court, its judges and staff, or coordinating the representation with outside counsel when claims are brought against them. It also provides a number of other legal services to members of the bench and department managers for the Court. The Office researches legal issues for the Court and either prepares formal proposed opinions, orders, and memoranda of law or provides informal briefings. It drafts or reviews proposed local court rules, local administrative orders, and docket directives. The Office prepares, negotiates, and reviews requests for proposals, contracts, and memoranda of understanding between the Court and other agencies, such as the State Court Administrative Office, Wayne County Corporation Counsel, and the Attorney General's Office. The Office prepares analyses or provides summaries of newly released Michigan Supreme Court and published Court of Appeals opinions and the syllabi of U.S. Supreme Court decisions for the Court. It also maintains a legislative tracking service for noteworthy recent legislation. Finally, the Office provides a full range of law library services. This includes a traditional library at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center campus and the coordination of electronic legal research resources.

In 2014, the Office of General Counsel played an integral role in the Court's summer law school intern program. Attorneys for the Office hosted brownbag lunches exposing the interns to the confidentiality requirements of working in the Court and various areas of law handled by the Court's divisions. The Office also drafted training materials on the updated interpreter rules for the hard of hearing and deaf. The Office lent its expertise and revised the Court's 1994 Jury Plan. The new plan reflects the technology updates, the implementation of the one-step juror questionnaire and summons process, and the expanded role and responsibilities of the Jury Services Director.

# **CIVIL DIVISION**

The Civil Division is comprised of 18 Circuit Court Judges, including the Chief Judge. The Civil Division has original jurisdiction in all general civil cases initiated in Wayne County where the amount in controversy exceeds \$25,000. The Civil Division serves as the appellate court for civil appeals from every district court in Wayne County, and for administrative agency decisions. The Civil Division includes the Business Court with jurisdiction over business and commercial disputes as defined by statute. There were 16,602 new case filings in the Civil Division in 2014.

#### **CIVIL DIVISION**

David J. Allen Annette J. Berry Susan D. Borman Daphne Means Curtis Edward Ewell, Jr. Patricia Perez Fresard Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge Maria L. Oxholm, Presiding Sheila Ann Gibson John H. Gillis, Jr. Muriel D. Hughes Kathleen Macdonald John A. Murphy

Lita M. Popke Daniel P. Ryan Leslie Kim Smith Brian R. Sullivan Robert L. Ziolkowski

#### **Civil and Tort Case 2014 Statistics**

		Auto						
	General	Negligence	Other Civil	Other	Civil	Agency	Other	
	Civil*	and No Fault	Damage**	Civil***	Appeals	Appeals	Appeals	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	2,698	8,650	1,847	102	72	88	54	13,511
New Filings	5,097	8,542	1,808	474	224	279	178	16,602
Reopened Cases	421	577	129	12	13	9	2	1,163
Total Caseload	8,216	17,769	3,784	588	309	376	234	31,276
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>								
Jury Verdicts	16	61	12	0	0	0	0	89
Bench Verdicts	43	11	4	1	0	0	0	59
Orders Entered	0	0	0	0	50	146	30	226
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	2,610	4,744	749	97	0	0	0	8,200
Transferred	200	206	79	0	14	31	1	531
Dismissed	0	0	0	0	144	117	152	413
Dismissed by Party	2,079	3,279	971	351	0	0	0	6,680
Dismissed by Court	671	466	97	32	0	0	0	1,266
Inactive Status	35	74	31	1	11	7	0	159
Other Dispositions	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	5,656	8,842	1,943	482	219	301	183	17,626
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	2,560	8,927	1,841	106	90	75	51	13,650

\*General Civil cases are business claims, partnership termination, condemnation, employment discrimination, environmental matters, forfeiture, housing and real estate, foreclosure, land contracts, contractual obligations, labor relations, antitrust, franchising, trade regulation, and corporation receivership.

\*\*Other Civil Damage cases include Medical malpractice, other professional malpractice, other personal injury, product liability, dram-shop act and all other claims for damages not otherwise included.

\*\*\*Other Civil cases are proceedings to restore, establish or correct record; claim and delivery to recover personal property; receivers in supplemental proceedings; supplemental proceedings; and, miscellaneous proceedings.

## **CRIMINAL DIVISION**

The Criminal Division is comprised of 26 Circuit Court Judges, including the Chief Judge Pro Tem, and has sole jurisdiction over all felony and high misdemeanor offenses committed in Wayne County. The Criminal Division serves as the appellate court for criminal appeals filed from every district court in Wayne County. The Criminal Division manages various ancillary services and departments throughout the Court, including Pretrial Services, Mental Health Court, Veterans Treatment Court, Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program, and Adult Drug Treatment Court. In 2014, there were 11,748 new case filings in the Criminal Division.

#### **CRIMINAL DIVISION**

Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding				
Gregory Dean Bill	Ronald Giles	Qiana Denise Lillard		
Ulysses W. Boykin	David A. Groner	Bruce U. Morrow		
Margie R. Braxton	Cynthia Gray Hathaway	Richard M. Skutt		
Megan Maher Brennan	Dana Margaret Hathaway	Mark T. Slavens		
James A. Callahan	Daniel A. Hathaway	Craig S. Strong		
Michael James Callahan	Michael Hathaway	Lawrence S. Talon		
Thomas C. Cameron	Catherine L. Heise	Deborah A. Thomas		
James R. Chylinski	Vera Massey Jones	Margaret M. Van Houten		
Vonda R. Evans				

#### **Criminal 2014 Statistics**

			Felony	Criminal	
	Capital	Non-Capital	Juvenile	Appeals	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	436	1,448	13	25	1,922
New Filings	1,176	10,472	48	52	11,748
Reopened Cases	143	899	3	4	1,049
Total Caseload	1,755	12,819	64	81	14,719
Dispositions Resulting From:					
Jury Verdicts	284	225	2	0	511
Bench Verdicts	77	191	0	0	268
Orders Entered	0	0	0	38	38
Guilty Pleas	712	8,827	46	0	9,585
Transferred	11	274	0	1	286
Dismissed	0	0	0	6	6
Dismissed by Party	3	42	0	0	45
Dismissed by Court	128	999	7	0	1,134
Inactive Status	117	730	2	1	850
Other Dispositions	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	1,332	11,288	57	46	12,723
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	423	1,531	7	35	1,996

# **CRIMINAL DIVISION**

The Court Administration Office of the Criminal Division manages the following Court Departments: Drug Court, and Pretrial Services. This office also serves as the liaison for all outside agencies which impact the division, including but not limited to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Wayne County Clerk's Office, Wayne County Sheriff's Department, Michigan Department of Corrections, Michigan State Police, the State Court Administrative Office, as well as other circuit and district courts.

#### **Adult Drug Treatment Court**

The Adult Drug Treatment Program provides a sentencing alternative to non-violent prison-bound felony offenders whose criminal justice involvement stem from alcohol and/or drug abuse. Court staff and community service providers work together to break the cycle of addiction and crime. Successful program completion may result in the dismissal of the original charge, a reduced sentence, no jail or prison time, or a combination of the above.

Active Participants	91
New Participants Accepted	57
Discharged Participants*	45
2014 Graduated Participants	21
*unsuccessful discharge/death	

#### Adult Drug Treatment/Court Urban Drug Court Initiative

#### **Assigned Counsel Services**

The Office of Assigned Counsel Services (ACS) is responsible for coordinating the assignment of counsel for indigent defendants pursuant to the Sixth Amendment to the US Constitution and *Gideon v. Wainwright* in criminal matters. Additionally, Assigned Counsel Services coordinates the assignment of counsel for the various district courts in the county for their criminal case matters.

# **CRIMINAL DIVISION**

#### **Mental Health Court**

The Mental Health Court is designed to provide comprehensive, judicially monitored, psychiatric treatment for individuals who have non-violent criminal backgrounds and are severely and persistently mentally ill. Many clients also have co-occurring substance abuse disorders. Defendants are given an opportunity to voluntarily participate through conditional release in community treatment and court approved service plans as an alternative to incarceration and the normal criminal prosecution process and punishment. The goals of the program are to provide reduced recidivism, quicker and less costly case resolution, jail bed space savings, and more consistent mental health treatment.

#### **Mental Health Court**

Active Participants	54
New Participants Accepted	43
Discharged Participants*	25
2014 Graduated Participants	23
*unsuccessful discharge/death	

#### **Pretrial Services**

The Pretrial Services Department monitors defendants released on bond and submits oral and written bond recommendations to the circuit court bench and to judges and magistrates in the district courts throughout Wayne County. Pretrial Services also calculates Preliminary Sentencing Guideline Reports for the Circuit Court Judges. These reports are used to assist in plea negotiations and management of the dockets. The Court, Wayne County, and the community benefit from the cost savings of decreased pretrial detention by identifying those defendants who can be safely released back to the community pending disposal of felony matters.

#### **Pretrial Services 2014 Statistics**

BONDS	
Written Bond Recommendations	1,806
Oral Bond Recommendations	5,783
Total Bond Recommendations	7,589
SUPERVISION (Yearly Averages)	
Total Defendants Monitored	1,415
Cumulative Total of Defendants Monitored	3,532
Compliance Rate	94%
Failure to Appear Rate	6%
SENTENCING GUIDELINES	
Sentencing Guidelines Processed	10,486
Percentage of Cases Guidelined	96%
LEIN QUERIES	17,983

# FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

The Family Division – Domestic Relations is comprised of 11 Circuit Court Judges and one Probate Judge. Cases handled include divorce, paternity, personal protection, emancipation of minors, name changes, parental waivers, and infectious disease matters. Each of these case types may include matters concerning custody, support, parenting time, property, and other issues. There were 24,606 new case filings in the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section in 2014.

#### FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Eric Cholack Kevin J. Cox Charlene M. Elder Richard B. Halloran Kathleen M. McCarthy, Presiding Charles S. Hegarty Susan L. Hubbard Connie Marie Kelley Arthur J. Lombard

Lisa M. Neilson Lynne A. Pierce Martha M. Snow

	Divorce	Divorce				Other	
	w/Child	No Child	Paternity	UIFSA*	Support	Domestic**	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	1,333	1,051	6,411	215	4,649	199	13,858
New Filings	2,855	3,346	9,803	331	7,856	415	24,606
Reopened Cases	202	135	78	4	49	35	503
Total Caseload	4,390	4,532	16,292	550	12,554	649	38,967
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>							
Bench Verdicts	99	52	0	0	0	8	159
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	2,132	2,623	5,767	125	5,147	332	16,126
Transferred	2	0	0	0	1	3	6
Dismissed by Party	421	459	1,457	159	761	101	3,358
Dismissed by Court	333	284	4,118	94	3,314	21	8,164
Inactive Status	7	5	1	0	1	4	18
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	2,994	3,423	11,343	378	9,224	469	27,831
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	1,396	1,109	4,949	172	3,330	180	11,136

#### **Domestic Relations 2014 Statistics**

\*These cases were filed under the Uniform Interstate Support Family Support Act and the Court was asked to established paternity, or to establish or modify child support in matters where the custodial party and the child lived outside of Michigan.

\*\*These matters are custody actions and other family matters.

# FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

#### **Personal Protection Order (PPO)**

The Family Division – Domestic Relations has a Personal Protection Order (PPO) docket, meant to serve the civil personal protection order needs of domestic abuse, violence, and stalking victims. In 2014, the PPO docket processed 6,975 new cases. Additional PPOs were handled by individual judges to whom a prior case between the parties was assigned.

	Domestic	Non-Domestic		
	Relations	Relations	Juvenile	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	63	28	0	91
New Filings	4,659	2,191	125	6,975
Reopened Cases	10	1	0	11
Total Caseload	4,732	2,220	125	7,077
Dispositions Resulting From:				
Orders Issued Ex Parte	3,154	731	42	3,927
Orders Issued after Hearing	60	34	0	94
Transferred	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	1,139	1,247	69	2,455
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	139	81	6	226
Dismissed by Party	222	122	8	352
Orders Issued after Denial	8	1	0	9
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	4,722	2,216	125	7,063
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	10	4	0	14

#### Personal Protection Order (PPO) 2014 Statistics

#### Solution Oriented Domestic Violence Prevention Court (SODVPC)

The Solution Oriented Domestic Violence Prevention Court (SODVPC) is a specialized court dedicated to those cases in the Family Division – Domestic Relations with the most severe allegations of domestic abuse between intimate partners.

By giving litigants access to a trained and dedicated domestic abuse and violence prevention staff, SODVPC provides resources for extended judicial monitoring and increased access to a coordinated community response.

# FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

#### Friend of the Court

The Third Circuit Friend of the Court (FOC) is the largest FOC in Michigan, with over 266,000 active domestic relations cases. The FOC is an administrative arm of the Court and has as its primary responsibilities investigating, reporting, enforcing, and making recommendations on matters of custody, parenting time, and child support. Also the FOC partners with the Wayne Mediation Center to provide alternative dispute resolution in custody and parenting time disputes.

The FOC's mission of encouraging positive relations and ensuring financial security for the children and families is accomplished through the collective efforts of the Referee Department (12 referees); the Case Establishment Department; the Legal Division; Information Services Department; the FOC Scheduling Office; the Family Assessment, Mediation, and Education Department; and Administrative Operations.

Friend of the Court referees, attorneys, and their support staff process referrals to establish paternity and family support obligations. The attorneys assist the Family Division – Domestic Relations judges at review hearings to ensure that the "best interests of the children" are served.

Once support is established, the departments work in concert to ensure collections. Over 17,000 hearings were scheduled to make certain there was child support compliance. In 2014, the Friend of the Court partnered with external agencies and organizations offering services for bench warrant resolution and arrearage discharge, giving many an opportunity to make good faith payments and avoid arrest.

The FOC's Family Assessment, Mediation, and Education Department (FAME) provides court-ordered evaluations, mediations, and psychological assessments to resolve parenting time and custody disputes, as well as parent education programs and home assessments for the Court and other jurisdictions. FAME provides a parents' communication program offered through the Michigan State Extension Program and an online parenting education course. It also partners with Growth Works to facilitate supervised parenting time.

FAME services are free or low cost and the emphasis is on providing continuous quality services to the public.

Caseload-Open FOC Dockets	266,614
Medical Support Notices Issued	85,541
Custody and Child Support Reports and Recommendations	27,152
Hearing Held by Referees	26,478
Child Support Show Cause Hearings	17,517
Bench Warrant Issued	8,551
Bench Warrant Arrests	4,951
Custody and Parenting Time Enforcement Requests Processed	4,392
Amount of Child Support Collected for the Year	\$273,627,494

#### FOC Fiscal Year 2014 Statistics

The Family Division – Juvenile is comprised of six Circuit Court Judges and one Probate Judge. Thirteen Referees assist the judges by conducting hearings and preparing written recommendations and finding of fact, as well as conducting informal hearings, which include traffic and ordinance violations and consent matters. There were 5,632 new case filings in the Family Division – Juvenile in 2014. The judges and referees of the Juvenile Division continue to meet and exceed stringent time guidelines set by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) in Permanency Indicator Reporting (PIR). In 2014, the Court attained a compliance rate of at least 85% in all categories, and over a 90% rate in five of those categories. Per SCAO definition, 1,398 neglected children achieved permanency.

#### FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

Karen Y. Braxton Jerome C. Cavanagh Virgil C. Smith, Presiding Christopher D. Dingell Alexis A. Glendening

Edward J. Joseph Frank S. Szymanski

	Designated*	Delinquency	Traffic	Child Protective	Total
Der Pro-Conserve Conserve 1st		639	1,874		
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	-		· · · ·	120	2,634
New Filings	7	3,807	900	918	5,632
Reopened Cases	1	182	0	0	183
Total Caseload	9	4,628	2,774	1,038	8,449
Dispositions Resulting From:					
Jury Verdicts	0	2	0	4	6
Bench Verdicts	0	171	1	404	576
Guilty Pleas/Admissions	4	1,661	564	271	2,500
Prosecutor Waiver	0	8	0	0	8
Traditional Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed Incompetent	0	7	0	0	7
Dismissed by Party	0	3	0	0	3
Dismissed by Court	2	990	479	0	1,471
Dismissed/Withdrawn	0	0	0	124	124
Consent Calendar	0	0	0	0	0
Transferred	0	53	0	28	81
Diversion/Not Authorized	0	753	96	45	894
Designation Granted	0	0	0	0	0
Inactive Status	0	193	4	0	197
Not Charged	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	7	0	0	7
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	0	0	0	0	0
Orders Issued after Hearing	0	0	0	0	0
Orders Issued Ex Parte	0	0	0	0	0
Orders Issued after Denial	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	6	3,848	1,144	876	5,874
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	3	780	1,630	162	2,575

#### **Juvenile 2014 Statistics**

\*These are criminal matters in which the juvenile has been designated as an adult.

The Court Administration Office of the Family Division – Juvenile manages the following Court Departments: Adoptions, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Intake, Juvenile Drug Court, and Juvenile Services.

#### Adoptions

The Adoptions Unit is responsible for processing all adoptions for Wayne County residents. The Unit handled a total of 503 new filings in 2014. The Unit helps ensure permanently bonded families through the timely termination of parental rights, formal placement of children into approved homes, adoption finalization, and the delivery of efficient post-adoption services. In addition to the adoption petitions that were filed, 43 Voluntary Releases of Parental Rights and 208 requests for release of post-adoption information were processed.

	Petitions
	for
	Adoption
Pending Adoption Petitions as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	129
New Filings	498
Reopened Cases	0
Total Caseload	627
Dispositions Resulting From:	
Finalized	468
Withdrawn by Petitioner	3
Dismissed by Court	40
Transferred	0
Total Dispositions	511
Pending Adoption Petitions as of Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	116

#### **Adoptions 2014 Statistics**

#### **Assigned Counsel Services**

The Assigned Counsel Services (ACS) Unit processes assignments and scheduling of House Counsel for attorneys representing indigent parties. The Unit also addresses attorney payment inquiries and is responsible for ensuring that attorneys are available and dispatched to courtrooms when needed.

Assigned Counsel Services (ACS)	
Attorney Assignment Scheduled	2,280
Orders of Appointment/Updated Petitions Processed	1,022
Emergency Attorney Assignment Forms Processed	1,979
Notice of Removal Forms Processed	346
Appearances Processed	135
Attorney Letters Regarding Payment Inquiries	566

### **Court Appointed Special Advocate Program**

The Court Appointed Special Advocates Program (CASA) plays a valuable role in child protective proceedings and services children in out-of-home placement. Volunteers are trained to serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Juvenile Jurists when making a decision regarding placement. By reviewing records, interviewing parents, talking to teachers, neighbors, and the children, the CASA volunteers make recommendations regarding what is best for the children. Fourteen new volunteer staff were trained in 2014 and served as the voice of 155 children in the courtroom. In addition, the CASA program maintains a donation-driven clothing room, which has benefited hundreds of disadvantaged families.

#### **CASA Program 2014 Statistics**

		Number of children
	Number of Cases	involved
New Cases Assigned	40	85
Cases Closed	37	79

#### Intake

The Intake Unit provides services for certain youth on probation, as well as diverted youth whose petitions have not been made official. The Unit also provides services to families in which a parent is seeking help for a youth's incorrigible behavior. The Unit also interviews, screens, and processes all youth admitted to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility. The Unit's 24-Hour Desk assists police agencies, DHS, and the public outside of regular court business hours. The Unit also provides presentence and resentencing reports to the Court on Designated cases.

#### **Intake 2014 Statistics**

Interviews on Admittance Into Juvenile Detention Facility	1,857
Police/Agency calls for Placement Authorization	49
Family Interviews	926
Probation (Consent, Diversion, Incorrigible)	67
Designated Cases	18
Out County/Plea Under Advisement/Truancy	26
Not in Custody Petitions Screened	1,502

#### **Juvenile Drug Court**

The Supervised Treatment for Alcohol and Narcotic Dependency (S.T.A.N.D.) Program is a juvenile drug court program that was designed to eliminate a juvenile's substance use and abuse and delinquent behavior. The program utilizes a non-adversarial approach, therapeutic jurisprudence, and case management to develop, coordinate, and monitor the juvenile's treatment. It forges partnerships with other public agencies and community based organizations to enhance the program's effectiveness. The S.T.A.N.D. Program is supervised by Judge Karen Braxton.

Participants in the S.T.A.N.D. Program are provided access to a continuum of alcohol and drug related treatment services. The program also provides many other services such as family therapy, a parent group, tutoring, and mental health services. While the program uses various sanctions for failure to comply with the terms of a juvenile's treatment plan, the Court focuses on incentives as rewards for the progress that a juvenile has made. Additionally, the program promotes participation in a pro-social activity by hosting annual baseball games, basketball games, and bowling tournaments for the participant and their family and friends.

The program lasts approximately one year but the actual length of the program depends upon the juvenile's progress. In some circumstances, if the juvenile successfully completes the program, the original charge will be dismissed, allowing the juvenile to maintain a clean juvenile record. After successful completion of the program, the youths participate in a formal graduation ceremony sharing their successes with family, friends, and other participants still enrolled in the program.

The S.T.A.N.D. Program is a very intense program; however, the benefits to the participants and their families are extraordinary. Not only are the youth substance free after completion of the program, but they are well prepared for a productive life without any court involvement.

2014 Program Participants		
Returning Participants	19	
New Admissions	63	
Total Participants in Program for the Year	82	

# Juvenile Drug Court Statistics

#### **2014 Outcomes**

Total Participants	82
Removed Participants	26
Graduating	15
Active Participants at the end of 2014	41

#### **Juvenile Services**

The Juvenile Division started a Truancy Intervention Project (TIP). This project was developed at the request of Detroit Public Schools, with the goal of providing services to youth who are not attending school on a regular basis without making their involvement with the Court official. This utilizes probation officers and case managers, as well as a network of community providers. After a slow start, 621 TIP referrals were received for the 2013-2014 school year and 540 TIP hearings were held. This program is being expanded to other school districts in Wayne County.

#### The Clinic for Child Study

The Third Circuit Court Clinic for Child Study fosters relationships that empower court-involved youth and families to build healthy futures in their communities by providing an array of family-centered therapeutic services. The Clinic extends the continuum of care of the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency (D-WCCMHA) by providing mental health services to a population that is traditionally underserved; juveniles who have the dual concerns of delinquency and mental health. The accreditation body, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), has repeatedly recognized the Clinic's success in balancing the needs of both mental health and the court systems:

"Since 1915, Clinic for Child Study has successfully merged the services of a mental health clinic with meeting the legal demands of the Third Circuit Court. Given its unique focus, the organization has been able to utilize therapeutic jurisprudence to motivate youths and their families to comply with mental health treatment and the conditions of the Court. All of this is achieved with a traditionally underserved population where it is more acceptable to be delinquent than to receive services for a treatable mental health concern."

The following Clinic programs are accredited under the mental health umbrella of CARF: Assessment and Referral (adults, children and adolescents), Case Management/Services Coordination (children and adolescents), Outpatient Treatment (children and adolescents), and Intensive Family-Based Services (children and adolescents).

In 2014, the Clinic was primarily funded by the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency (D-WCCMHA) with additional funding received from the Third Circuit Court and Department of Human Services. The Home-Based Unit is funded entirely through a contract with Gateway Community Health. The Clinic is responsible for complying with the rules and regulations of the Third Circuit Court, Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Mental Health Code, Gateway Community Health, Inc., and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Assessment services include mental health assessments, psychological assessments, and psychiatric assessments for delinquency, protective hearings and treatment planning. Specialized assessments for delinquency include competency and criminal responsibility.

Case management services link Intensive Probation, Diversion, Incorrigibility and at-risk youth with appropriate community resources. Youth are seen at home, in the school or community, and at the Court. In addition, probation monitoring is provided to those youth placed on Intensive Probation.

Home-Based services include intensive in-home family and individual therapy, case management services, and support coordination with schools and community.

Outpatient therapy services for youth and their families include individual, family, group, psychiatric evaluations, and medication monitoring; and specialized group, Sexual Awareness, Information & Treatment (SAIT, Y-SAIT & DDSAIT) for youth exhibiting inappropriate sexual behaviors. Groups are created with age and development in mind.

#### The Clinic for Child Study

Trauma focused interventions are available for moderately to highly traumatized youth utilizing the following evidenced based modalities: Sensory Interventions for Traumatized Children, Adolescent and Parents: At-Risk Adjudicated Treatment Program (SITCAP-ART), and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT).

Assessment Services		
Family Assessments for Protective Hearings	390	
Adolescent Assessments for Delinquency Hearings/Probation Planning	883	
Adolescent Assessments for STAND	38	

Other Services	
Case Management (Intensive Probation)	489
Case Management (Diversion)	252
Clinic Treatment Unit	500
Home-Based Unit	63
Referrals for Ongoing Psychiatric Services	154

#### Miscellaneous

	Other		
	Family*	Ancillary**	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	119	0	119
New Filings	758	0	758
Reopened Cases	0	0	0
Total Caseload	877	0	877
Dispositions Resulting From:			
Orders Issued Ex Parte	0	0	0
Orders Issued after Hearing	623	0	623
Petition Granted	0	0	0
Transferred	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	43	0	43
Petition Denied	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	115	0	115
Petition Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0
Deferred	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	781	0	781
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	96	0	96

# **Miscellaneous Family 2014 Statistics**

\*Miscellaneous Family includes name change, safe delivery, personal protection filed, emancipation of minors, infectious disease, parental waiver actions, and Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care.
\*\*Ancillary Proceedings includes guardianship and conservatorships, mental illness, as well as judicial admissions matters.

# **HISTORY OF THE BENCH – CHIEF JUDGES**

1/16/67 – 1/14/75	-	Hon. Joseph A. Sullivan
1/15/75 - 12/31/77	-	Hon. James N. Canham
1/1/78 - 12/31/85	-	Hon. Richard Dunn
1/1/86 - 3/16/86	-	Hon. Joseph B. Sullivan
3/17/86 - 3/24/86	-	Hon. W. Leo Cahalan
3/25/86 - 12/31/93	-	Hon. Richard Kaufman
1/1/94 - 9/30/97	-	Hon. James Rashid
10/1/97 - 12/31/01	-	Hon. Michael Sapala
1/1/02 - 12/31/03	-	Hon. Timothy Kenny (Co-Chief Judge)
1/1/02 - 12/31/07	-	Hon. Mary Beth Kelly
1/1/08 - 12/31/08	-	Hon. William Giovan
1/1/09 - 12/31/13	-	Hon. Virgil C. Smith
1/1/14 – Present	-	Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.

# **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014**



William Booth Zoo Walk - May 31, 2015



Juror Show Cause - October 30, 2014



The Clinic's Student Art Project



The Clinic's Student Art Project



Take Your Child to Work Day 2014



New Lawyers' Swearing-In Ceremony



Updated Jury Assembly Room – CAYMC



# **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014**

#### Grants Awarded in 2014

FY 2015 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant – Adult Drug Court - \$150,000 Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2015 Michigan Drug Court Grant Program – Juvenile Drug Court Program (STAND) - \$50,000 Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant – Juvenile Drug Court Program (STAND) - \$526,443 from October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2017 Awarded by the Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

FY 2015 Michigan Swift and Sure Sanction Probation Program Grant Award - \$150,000 Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – Juvenile Drug Court Program (STAND) -\$325,000 per year for each year from September 30, 2014 – September 29, 2017 Awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

FY 2015 Urban Drug Court Initiative Grant Program Award – Adult Drug Court - \$290,000 Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2015 Michigan Veterans Treatment Court Grant Program Award - \$101,000 Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2015 Michigan Mental Health Court Grant Program Award - \$423,900 Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

#### **Our Community Partners Include:**

Abundant Children & Family Services C.A.F.S. Children's Trust Fund of MI Circle of Parents (NHMBC) Cody Rouge Community Action Alliance Detroit Parent Network Detroit Public Library **Disability Network** 80 Strong Community Outreach Faith in the Son Ministries Fifth Third Bank Jehovah Jireh Deliverance Jewish Vocational Services Legal Aid Defenders Association Looking For My Sister Mariner's Inn Shelter & Treatment Michigan Veterans Foundation Neighborhood Service Organization New Hope Parenting Ministry SCAO Region 1 St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center

Stakeholder Partnerships, Education & Communications (SPEC)
The Children's Center
The Guidance Center – Southgate
The Salvation Army's William Booth Legal Aid Clinic
UAW Vote Center
U of D Mercy School of Law
U.S. Probation Officer Workforce Development/Community
Wayne County Head Start
Wayne County Probate Court
Wayne Mediation Center
Wayne State University Law School
Wayne-Westland Head Start
WCCC District
Western Wayne County YWCA
Young Fathers Standing United

# THIRD CIRCUIT COURT RETIREMENTS

I think there's no higher calling in terms of a career than public service, which is a chance to make a difference in people's lives and improve the world. Jack Lew



Hon. Susan D. Borman, 41 years – Judge, Civil Division



Hon. Michael James Callahan, 24 years – Judge, Criminal Division



Nancy Chopp, 24 years – Judicial Secretary, Administration



Kay Daugherty-Farrell, 38 years - Court Department Executive 7, Family Juvenile



Catherine Gardner, 21 years – Family Division Referee, Family Juvenile



Jeffrey Goldberg, 39 years – Senior Staff Attorney, Family Domestic



Jeffrey Goldsmith, 39 years – Official Court Reporter, Administration



Hon. Amy Hathaway, 19 years - Judge, Civil Division



Marilyn Harvill, 26 years – Judicial Secretary, Administration



Hon. Vera Massey Jones, 36 years – Judge, Criminal Division



Elizabeth Kocab, 33 years – General Counsel, Administration



Hon. Arthur J. Lombard, 19 years – Judge, Family Division – Domestic Relations



Therese Lisowski, 13 years - Chief Financial Officer, Administration

# THIRD CIRCUIT COURT RETIREMENTS



Kathleen Maxwell, 40 years - Official Court Reporter, Administration



Rebecca Mendoza, 36 years - Court Services Administrative Assistant, Administration



Sherry Scott, 18 years – Official Court Reporter, Administration



Cheri Valuet, 26 years – Adoptions Coordinator, Family Juvenile



Naomie Williams, 34 years – Certified Electronic Recorder, Administration



Hon. Robert L. Ziolkowski, 24 years – Judge, Civil Division

What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significant of the life we lead. Nelson Mandela

#### **Outstanding Employees**



**Craig Tindle**, March 2014. Mr. Tindle exercises diligence, patience, and thoughtfulness throughout all phases of his job. As an Information Specialist I in the Family Domestic Division, Mr. Tindle encounters daily challenges which require the appropriate use of professionalism, empathy, and enthusiasm while servicing customers.

# -

**Glenn Olds**, November 2014. Mr. Olds is a Purchasing and Facilities Assistant in the Administration Division. He demonstrates superior leadership in his current position and continually performs above and beyond the call of duty. In addition to assisting with directing vendors, processing mail, and transporting judges and employees, Glenn has a willingness to help wherever help is needed and always does it with a smile.



**Kim LePoudre** was the 2014 Jason Coleman Child Support Award Recipient for being a public servant, innovator, and team player.



**Wiley Graham** is the winner of the Court's 2014 Annual Report Cover Contest. We want to thank Mr. Graham for helping to make our 2014 Annual Report more unique.

# IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOST



Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed, and very dear.



**Hon. Leonard Townsend,** Retired Judge. August 5, 1934 – December 30, 2013. Judge Townsend loved his job. He came to work every day with a great spirit. He was a very hard worker. Judge Townsend presided over about 3,000 felony trials during nearly three decades on the bench. He had a reputation as a no-nonsense, efficient judge who came down hard on violent offenders.



**Hon. Carole F. Youngblood**, Retired Judge. July 30, 1946 – February 12, 2014. Judge Youngblood was a true champion of social justice. Her docket was always one of the best managed on the Court. She served as a Wayne Circuit Judge for 18 years. She enjoyed her retirement tremendously.



**Thomas M. Drake**, Retired – Chief Financial Officer. March 9, 1950 – February 26, 2014. He was an honorable, devoted, loving man that spent his life caring and giving to others. He left this life with great courage. His legacy lives in all of us.



**Okey P. Eanes, III**, Clinical Supervisor in the Family – Juvenile Division, February 28, 1967 – March 11, 2014. Okey was a loving and kind-hearted person but never ask him a question you did not want a truthful answer to. He touched many lives during his time. He was an avid sports fan and an active member of New Birth Baptist Church.



**Joann Depetro,** Retired – Clerk IV – Family Domestic, Passed Away April 18, 2014. She was survived by her three daughters; Lisa, Jackie, and Lori (Rick) Sullivan. Dear grandmother to Scott, Taylor, and Andrew and "Gigi" to Michael.



**Hon. Mary M. Waterstone**, Retired Judge. November 19, 1939 – April 21, 2014. Judge Waterstone was a pioneering woman lawyer for Michigan Bell and while initially appointed as Judge, subsequently was successfully reelected twice. At the end of her long career, she encountered adversity, which she met with courage and fortitude. She was an accomplished athlete, running marathons and climbing mountains, including Mt. Everest.

# IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOST

Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed, and very dear.



**Jerome J. Fekin, Jr.**, Retired – Court Department Executive – Case Processing. August 27, 1951 – June 4, 2014. Jerry was a good golfer, better bowler, and a great asset to Wayne County Circuit Court and its employees and judges. He was an expert on case management and developed many reports to assist judges and staff in managing the docket. He was always willing to help.



Michael C. Hidalgo, Retired – Referee – Family Division. May 7, 1944 – June 20, 2014. Michael served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam in 1967 and 1968. He was very politically active throughout his life. He was loved by all and will be missed by many.



**George L. Jackson**, Retired – Probation Officer – Juvenile Intake. May 19, 1945 – July 12, 2014. After success as a teacher and occupational therapist, he settled into a career as a juvenile probation officer. George's passion was writing. He loved the written word and dedicated a generous amount of time to his craft, successfully publishing three books, a book of poetry, a book of short stories, and a novel. He will be greatly missed.



**Hon. Claudia House Morcom,** Retired Judge. June 7, 1932 – August 17, 2014. Judge Morcom was a true civil rights giant 50 years ago when she risked her life to register minority workers and desegregate public facilities in Mississippi. She devoted her life to establish racial and gender equality through her work as an attorney. She became the first African American woman appointed to Wayne County Circuit Court in 1983 and served as a delegate to the United Nations Council on Human Rights.

#### **Public Satisfaction Survey**

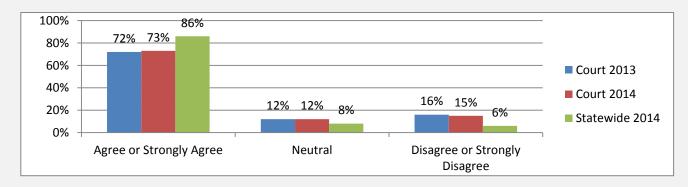
During a typical month, the Third Circuit Court summons 12,960 jurors, conducts 55 jury trials, handles 16,000 child support calls, and 2,000 in-person Friend of the Court inquiries among its many interactions with the public. To ensure a positive user-friendly environment, the Court has added more directional signage and updated the CAYMC jury assembly and deliberation rooms. More updates to the public areas are planned for 2015.

The State Court Administrative Office required all Michigan courts to participate in a Public Satisfaction Survey. The Third Circuit Court of Michigan uses the Public Satisfaction Survey as a tool to identify areas of concern and to make the needed improvements. The results of both the State Court Administrative Office and Third Judicial Circuit Court are on the following five pages.

# Questions 1 and 2 were directed to all respondents.

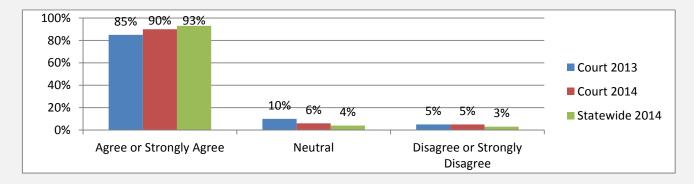
#### 1) I was able to get my court business done in a reasonable amount of time today.

	Cour	Court 2013		Court 2014		Courts
					Statewic	le 2014
5 – Strongly Agree	126	45%	286	43%	10,542	58%
4 – Agree	79	28%	198	30%	5,044	28%
3 – Neutral	33	12%	80	12%	1,394	8%
2 – Disagree	18	6%	47	7%	563	3%
1 – Strongly Disagree	27	10%	52	8%	550	3%
Total Responses	283		663		18,093	
Score		3.9		3.9		4.4
NA – Not Applicable	14		22		496	
No Response	3		10		317	



#### 2) I was treated with courtesy and respect by court staff.

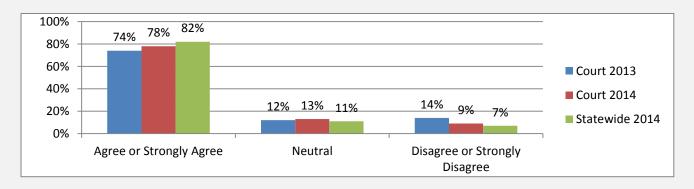
	Court 2013		Cou	Court 2014		Courts
				Statewid	e 2014	
5 – Strongly Agree	164	56%	398	59%	12,932	71%
4 – Agree	86	29%	204	30%	4,133	23%
3 – Neutral	28	10%	38	6%	719	4%
2 – Disagree	6	2%	13	2%	244	1%
1 – Strongly Disagree	10	3%	19	3%	238	1%
Total Responses	294		672		18,266	
Score		4.3		4.4		4.6
NA – Not Applicable	4		7		185	
No Response	2		16		455	



# Questions 3 and 4 were directed to persons who attended a hearing or trial.

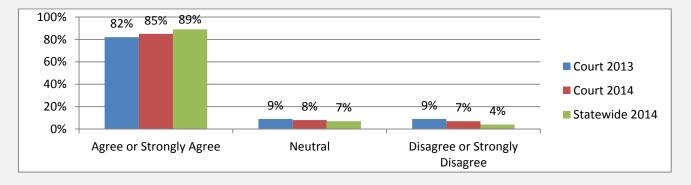
3) The way the case was handled was fair.

	Court	Court 2013		Court 2014		Courts
					Statewic	le 2014
5 – Strongly Agree	86 4	44%	242	48%	6,476	56%
4 – Agree	60	30%	152	30%	3,072	26%
3 – Neutral	23	12%	63	13%	1,229	11%
2 – Disagree	13	7%	19	4%	387	3%
1 – Strongly Disagree	15	8%	26	5%	456	4%
Total Responses	197		502		11,620	
Score		4.0		4.1		4.3
NA – Not Applicable	33		101		2,776	
No Response	70		92		4,510	



#### 4) The judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect.

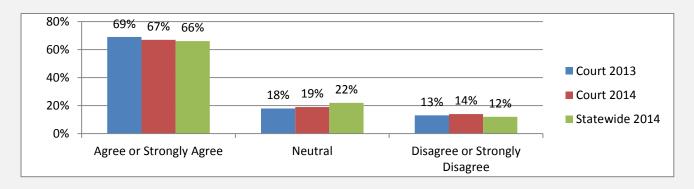
	Court 2013		Cou	Court 2014		Courts
					Statewid	le 2014
5 – Strongly Agree	92	50%	294	58%	7,452	65%
4 – Agree	58	32%	138	27%	2,758	24%
3 – Neutral	17	9%	42	8%	762	7%
2 – Disagree	6	3%	17	3%	194	2%
1 – Strongly Disagree	10	5%	16	3%	286	2%
Total Responses	183		507		11,452	
Score		4.2		4.3		4.5
NA – Not Applicable	34		84		2,751	
No Response	83		104		4,703	



# Questions 5 and 6 were directed to persons who were a party to the case.

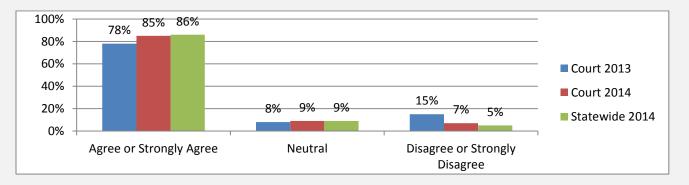
5) The outcome in my case was favorable to me.

	Court 2013		Cour	Court 2014		Courts
					Statewid	le 2014
5 – Strongly Agree	65	41%	161	42%	4,056	44%
4 – Agree	45	28%	97	25%	2,001	22%
3 – Neutral	29	18%	74	19%	2,013	22%
2 – Disagree	6	4%	24	6%	485	5%
1 – Strongly Disagree	14	9%	30	8%	568	6%
Total Responses	159		386		9,123	
Score		3.9		3.9		3.9
NA – Not Applicable	47		145		3,741	
No Response	94		164		6,042	



#### 6) As I leave the court, I understand what happened in my case.

	Court 2013		Cou	Court 2014		Courts
					Statewid	e 2014
5 – Strongly Agree	83	49%	224	56%	5,653	58%
4 – Agree	48	28%	114	29%	2,660	28%
3 – Neutral	13	8%	36	9%	839	9%
2 – Disagree	10	6%	9	2%	207	2%
1 – Strongly Disagree	15	9%	17	4%	307	3%
Total Responses	169		400		9,666	
Score		4.0		4.3		4.4
NA – Not Applicable	39		128		3,197	
No Response	92		167		6,043	



# **Questions 7-9 were directed to all respondents.**

7) What type of case brought you to the courthouse today? (Select all that apply.)

	Cou	rt 2014	County Courts	
			Statewid	e 2014
Child protective	52	7%	1,256	7%
Civil matter	63	9%	2,063	11%
Criminal/probation	194	28%	3,852	21%
Divorce/custody/support	179	26%	2,575	14%
Drug/sobriety court	23	3%	823	5%
Estate/trust	3	0%	601	3%
File papers	13	2%	879	5%
Get information	25	4%	714	4%
Guardianship/conservatorship	5	1%	1,200	7%
Juvenile delinquency	17	2%	592	3%
Make a payment	8	1%	830	5%
PPO	22	3%	358	2%
Small claims	2	0%	352	2%
Traffic/Ticket	3	0%	1,658	9%
Other	98	14%	2,454	13%
Number of Respondents	695		18,198	
No Response	44		708	

8) Who are you? (Select all that apply.)

	Cou	rt 2014	County Court	
			Statewid	le 2014
Party (Plaintiff/Defendant)	243	35%	8,416	47%
Agency Worker	18	3%	944	5%
Attorney/prosecutor	164	24%	2,875	16%
Family/friend of party to case	116	17%	2,880	16%
Juror	65	9%	531	3%
Witness	20	3%	340	2%
Other	48	7%	2,406	13%
Number of Respondents	695		17,914	
No Response	30		992	

9) How do you identify yourself? (Select all that apply.)

	Cou	rt 2014	County	Courts
			Statewid	e 2014
Male	298	43%	9,116	49%
Female	346	50%	8,643	47%
American Indian/Alaska Nat.	11	2%	409	2%
Asian	4	1%	123	1%
Multiracial/biracial	9	1%	224	1%
Black/African American	211	30%	1,556	8%
Hispanic/Latino	10	1%	548	3%
White/Caucasian	134	19%	9 <i>,</i> 568	52%
Other	7	1%	288	2%
Number of Respondents	695		18,501	
No Response	27		405	

#### **2014 LEADERSHIP**

#### Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr. **CHIEF JUDGE**

Hon. Timothy M. Kenny CHIEF JUDGE PRO TEM PRESIDING - CRIMINAL DIVISION Hon. Maria L. Oxholm PRESIDING - CIVIL DIVISION

Hon. Kathleen M. McCarthy PRESIDING - FAMILY DIVISION-DOMESTIC RELATIONS PRESIDING - FAMILY DIVISION-JUVENILE

Hon. Virgil C. Smith

#### Zenell B. Brown **EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATOR**

Therese M. Lisowski CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Elizabeth R. Kocab GENERAL COUNSEL

Tammi Palmer

Alisa Shannon, Deputy Court Administrator CRIMINAL DIVISION

Peter J. Schummer, Deputy Court Administrator JUVENILE DIVISION

Kent Weichmann FRIEND OF THE COURT

Theresa Plotzke

Benita Cheatom DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

DIRECTOR OF CASE PROCESSING

Michael Gruich CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Lisa Timmons, Executive Director MEDIATION TRIBUNAL ASSOCIATION

Mary Kay Wimsatt DIRECTOR OF JURY SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING AND FACILITIES

Copies of this report may be obtained from the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan: Court Administration Two Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48226 Phone: 313-224-5261 Fax: 313-224-6070

This report is available on the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan's website, www.3rdcc.org.