

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN



The Gateway to Freedom



Coleman A. Young Municipal Center



Penobscot Building



Frank Murphy Hall of Justice



Lincoln Hall of Justice

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Civil Division
Family Division – Domestic Relations
2 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

2013 Administration

Virgil C. Smith
Chief Judge

Ronald R. Ruffin
Executive Court Administrator



THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN

ZENELL B. BROWN
EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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2 WOODWARD AVENUE
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April 30, 2014

Honorable Virgil C. Smith
Chief Judge
Third Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan
701 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Judge Smith:

It is my privilege and pleasure to submit to you the 2013 Annual Report for the Third Circuit Court. The report includes departmental overviews, annual caseload statistics, and overall Court activities. Since our last report, we have faced many challenges. However, as Executive Court Administrator Ronald Ruffin envisioned we would continue to streamline our services, and we would succeed. I would like to highlight some important accomplishments:

- Odyssey is now operational in the Criminal, Civil, and Family-Domestic Relations Divisions;
- E-Filing has been piloted successfully in the Civil Division; and,
- Imaging has been upgraded at the Friend of the Court and Family, Assessment, Mediation and Education Services.

Moreover, with grant funds, partnerships, and innovation, the Court has expanded public services. The Family-Domestic Relations Solution Oriented Domestic Violence Prevention Court, Veteran's Court, Juvenile Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and Adult Drug Court are a few examples of the Court delivering needed judicial services.

It is the commitment of the judges and employees that made all of this possible. It is their unwavering dedication to public service that will ensure the continued success of the Court. It is my hope that this annual report conveys the significance of the work they perform and makes them proud.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zenell B. Brown", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

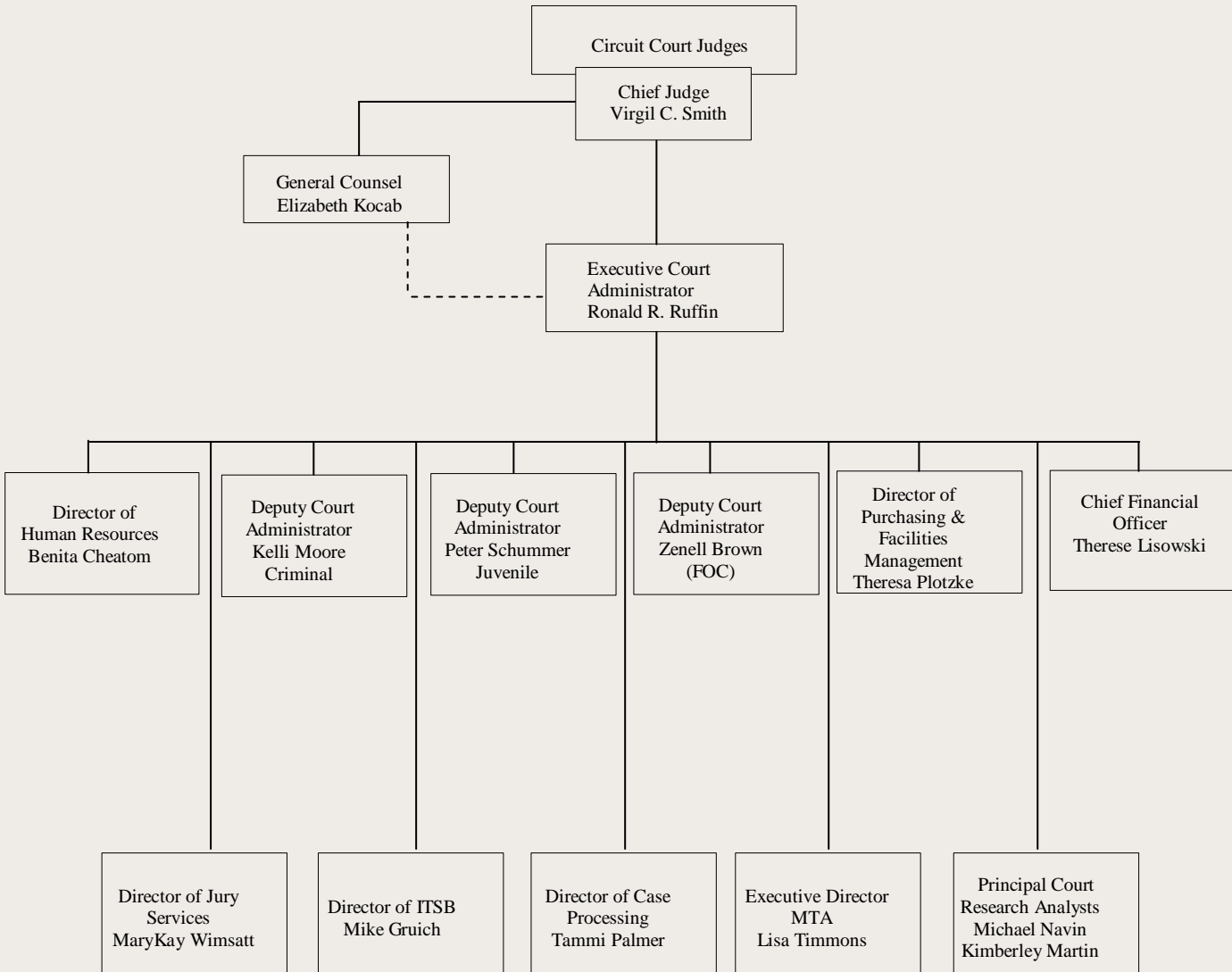
Zenell B. Brown
Executive Court Administrator

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THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF MICHIGAN

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



THIRD CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES

Virgil C. Smith, Chief Judge

CIVIL DIVISION

Lita M. Popke, Chief Judge Pro Tem

Maria L. Oxholm, Presiding

David J. Allen
Annette J. Berry
Susan D. Borman
Robert J. Colombo, Jr.
Daphne Means Curtis

Patricia Perez Fresard
Sheila Ann Gibson
John H. Gillis Jr.
Amy P. Hathaway
Kathleen Macdonald

John A. Murphy
Daniel P. Ryan
Leslie Kim Smith
Brian R. Sullivan
Robert L. Ziolkowski

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Timothy M. Kenny, Presiding

Gregory Dean Bill
Ulysses W. Boykin
Margie R. Braxton
Megan Maher Brennan
James A. Callahan
Michael James Callahan
James R. Chylinski
Vonda R. Evans

Edward Ewell, Jr.
David A. Groner
Cynthia Gray Hathaway
Dana Margaret Hathaway
Daniel A. Hathaway
Michael Hathaway
Vera Massey Jones
Bruce U. Morrow

Linda V. Parker
Kevin F. Robbins
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
Muriel D. Hughes

Connie Marie Kelley
Arthur J. Lombard
Lynne A. Pierce
Martha M. Snow

FAMILY DIVISION-DOMESTIC-JUVENILE

Christopher D. Dingell, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton
Jerome C. Cavanagh

Qiana Denise Lillard
Lisa M. Neilson

Frank S. Szymanski

JUDGES JOINING THE BENCH IN 2013

Four things belong to a judge: to hear courteously, to answer wisely, to consider soberly, and to decide impartially.
Socrates

The Third Circuit Court welcomed the following Judges to the Bench in 2013:

Karen Y. Braxton

Judge Karen Y. Braxton was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan in November 2012. Judge Braxton was assigned to the Family Division–Juvenile. Prior to her election, Judge Braxton served as a private practice attorney, handling various family domestic and criminal cases within Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Judge Braxton received her Bachelors of Arts degree from the University of Rochester in 2000 and Jurist Doctor Degree from Western Reserve University in 2003.

Kevin J. Cox

Judge Kevin J. Cox was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit in November 2012. He was assigned to the Family Division-Domestic Relations. Prior to his election, Judge Cox served as a private practice attorney for 26 years handling complex civil litigation matters. He also served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Licensing and Regulation Division of the Michigan Attorney General’s Office. Judge Cox graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1981 and received his Jurist Doctor from Wayne State University Law School in 1984.

Dana M. Hathaway

Judge Dana Margaret Hathaway was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit in November 2012. Judge Hathaway was assigned to the Criminal Division. Prior to her election, Judge Hathaway served as an assistant Wayne County prosecutor and a civil defense litigator. Prior to graduating from University of Detroit Mercy Law School, Judge Hathaway worked as a forensic chemist at the Wayne County Medical Examiner’s Office.

Charles S. Hegarty

Judge Charles S. Hegarty was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit by Governor Rick D. Snyder in August 2013. Judge Hegarty was assigned to the Family Division-Domestic Relations. Judge Hegarty previously served as a private practice attorney, handling civil litigation matters for two decades, including 15 years at Bodman PLC litigating business disputes. Judge Hegarty was AV® Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and in 2013, he was recognized as a Michigan “Super Lawyer” in Business Litigation. Judge Hegarty graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in 1989 and received his Jurist Doctor from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1993.

Qiana Denise Lillard

Judge Qiana Denise Lillard was appointed by Governor Rick D. Snyder to the Third Judicial Circuit in August 2013. Judge Lillard was assigned to the Family Division-Juvenile. Prior to this appointment, Judge Lillard worked as an Assistant Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney. Judge Lillard also served several years in private industry with AAA and DTE. Judge Lillard graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelors of Arts in 1998 and from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 2001.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Assigned Counsel Services

The Office of Assigned Counsel Services (ACS) is responsible for providing counsel to represent indigent parties appearing before the Court. There are ACS offices in the Criminal Division and Family Division-Juvenile Section. The Case Processing Department performs many of the ACS functions for the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section.

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, accounts receivable and accounts payable processing, fiduciary accounting and reporting services, and financial reporting.

Case Processing

The Case Processing Department maintains an effective case management plan for all litigation filed in the Court. The department provides central support to the Bench through the development and distribution of statistical and management reports, oversight and maintenance of automated case flow management programs, training of judicial staff members, and the scheduling and noticing of hearings. The department also serves as a primary resource to Judges and staff on case flow methods and procedures, as well as providing general information to litigants, attorneys, and the public on case management issues.

Court Collections

The Collections Unit is responsible for the collection of court-imposed costs, fines, and fees. This includes the interaction between the Court and outside agencies regarding coordinating and monitoring collection activities as well as addressing and resolving complaints from payees and agencies. The Collections Unit responsibilities also include developing and maintaining collection policies and procedures.

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. The department also processes all transcript requests in each division, schedules reporters and recorders for courtrooms, maintains archival storage of all records of court reporters and recorders, provides staff support to video courtrooms, and orders interpreters for proceedings.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Human Resources

The Office of Human Resources manages all personnel-related activities for the Court's sixty-three Judges and 604 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.

Information Technology Systems Bureau

The Information Technology Systems Bureau 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.

Odyssey Case Management System Implementation

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

The current Odyssey system has over 2.3 million current and historical cases. The Odyssey system has over 2000 users, including staff from the Wayne County Prosecutor, Michigan Department of Corrections, Wayne County Sheriff and local district courts. In October 2012 public access to the court register of actions was made available via the Court's website www.3rdcc.org.

Electronic Filing (E-Filing) Implementation

In November 2011, the court implemented E-Filing for CK (breach of contract) cases in the Civil Division. E-Filing allows the submission and processing of court documents electronically. The electronically filed documents move throughout the court system without the need for a paper case file. E-Filing allows the court to make significant progress towards a paperless environment.

The court continued on with other civil case types, and in August 2013 all civil cases except asbestos were filed electronically. In 2013 the court processed 2.7 million pages of documents electronically, saving the expense of paper and printing costs.

E-Filing Project Submissions

E-Filing Project 2013	291,350
E-Filing Project 2012	125,585
E-Filing Project 2011	5,758
Total Submissions E-Filing Project	422,693

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Jury Services

The Jury Services Department coordinates jury operations and obtains jurors for the Third Judicial Circuit and Probate Courts 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 the representativeness and inclusiveness of the jury source list; the effectiveness of qualification and summoning 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.

Jury Services 2013 Statistics

Total Questionnaires Mailed	185,309
Total Summons Mailed	71,152
Total Jurors Summoned	61,434
Total Jurors Called in for Service	43,905
Total Jury Panels Requested	1,629
Total Jurors Serving in Pool	38,365

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. There were 11,000 cases set for case evaluation in 2013. Dispositions for 2013 are as follows:

Case Evaluation 2013 Dispositions

Cases Evaluated	6,666
Case Awards Accepted after Evaluation	1,381
Total Cases Rejected and Continuing to Disposition	5,285

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Office of the General Counsel

The Office of the General Counsel serves as the official legal advisor to the Court and provides legal services to members of the Bench and Court department managers. The Office provides or coordinates the legal representation of the Court, its judges, and staff, including coordinating notification of the Court's professional liability insurer of claims brought against the Court or members of the Bench; conducts research on legal issues and prepares proposed opinions, orders, and memoranda of law, as well as gives informal oral consultations; drafts or reviews proposed local court rules, local administrative orders or docket directives; negotiates, drafts, or reviews requests for proposals, contracts, memoranda of understanding between the Court and private and other governmental entities, as well as manages the request for proposal process; serves as a liaison between the Court and related agencies, such as the State Court Administrative Office; generates 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, as well as maintains a legislative tracking service for noteworthy recent legislation; provides a full range of law library services including coordination of the provision of online legal research vendors.

Purchasing and Facilities Management

The Purchasing and Facilities Management Department is responsible for the procurement of office equipment, furniture, and printed material for the Court. This department is also responsible for reconfiguration of workspaces, all mail functions, including inter-office and metered mail, transportation, building services, and office equipment repair.

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, judges 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.

CIVIL DIVISION

Eighteen Circuit Court Judges were assigned to the Civil Division. Matters that involve claims of more than \$25,000 are heard in the Civil Division. In addition, civil matters appealed from Wayne County district courts and administrative agencies are also handled by the Civil Division Judges. There were 16,667 new case filings in the Civil Division in 2013.

CIVIL DIVISION

Virgil C. Smith, Chief Judge
Lita M. Popke, Chief Judge Pro Tem
Maria L. Oxholm, Presiding

David J. Allen
Annette J. Berry
Susan D. Borman
Robert J. Colombo, Jr.
Daphne Means Curtis

Patricia Perez Fresard
Sheila Ann Gibson
John H. Gillis Jr.
Amy P. Hathaway
Kathleen Macdonald

John A. Murphy
Daniel P. Ryan
Leslie Kim Smith
Brian R. Sullivan
Robert L. Ziolkowski

Civil and Tort Case 2013 Statistics

	General Civil*	Auto Negligence and No Fault	Other Civil Damage**	Other Civil***	Civil Appeals	Agency Appeals	Other Appeals	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	3,251	8,556	2,329	122	97	117	71	14,543
New Filings	5,154	8,521	1,681	515	267	320	209	16,667
Reopened Cases	375	428	152	17	17	14	4	1,007
Total Caseload	8,780	17,505	4,162	654	381	451	284	32,217
Dispositions Resulting From:								
Jury Verdicts	12	63	21	0	0	0	0	96
Bench Verdicts	45	7	3	0	0	0	0	55
Orders Entered	0	0	0	0	72	199	39	310
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	2,909	4,592	942	294	0	0	0	8,737
Transferred	232	204	53	2	19	22	5	537
Dismissed by Party	1,825	3,136	1,032	218	0	0	0	6,211
Dismissed by Court	944	678	212	30	220	137	152	2,373
Inactive Status	53	153	45	4	1	2	0	258
Other Dispositions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	6,020	8,833	2,308	548	312	360	196	18,577
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	2,760	8,672	1,854	106	69	91	88	13,640

*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, dramshop 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

Twenty Six Circuit Court Judges were assigned to the Criminal Division. All felony cases that are bound over from the district courts in Wayne County, as well as district court criminal appeals, are heard in the Criminal Division. In 2013, there were 10,346 new case filings in the Criminal Division.

CRIMINAL DIVISION Timothy M. Kenny, Presiding

Gregory Dean Bill
Ulysses W. Boykin
Margie R. Braxton
Megan Maher Brennan
James A. Callahan
Michael James Callahan
James R. Chylinski
Vonda R. Evans

Edward Ewell, Jr.
David A. Groner
Cynthia Gray Hathaway
Dana Margaret Hathaway
Daniel A. Hathaway
Michael Hathaway
Vera Massey Jones
Bruce U. Morrow

Linda V. Parker
Kevin F. Robbins
Richard M. Skutt
Mark T. Slavens
Craig S. Strong
Lawrence S. Talon
Deborah A. Thomas
Margaret M. Van Houten

Criminal 2013 Statistics

	Capital	Non-Capital	Felony Juvenile	Criminal Appeals	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	488	1,383	18	33	1,922
New Filings	1,221	9,039	33	53	10,346
Reopened Cases	168	824	1	5	998
Total Caseload	1,877	11,246	52	91	13,266
Dispositions Resulting From:					
Jury Verdicts	272	227	3	0	502
Bench Verdicts	78	176	1	0	255
Orders Entered	0	0	0	48	48
Guilty Pleas	774	7,235	25	0	8,034
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	0	0	0	0	0
Transferred	12	315	1	0	328
Dismissed by Party	18	48	0	0	66
Dismissed by Court	138	914	7	13	1,072
Inactive Status	143	578	1	5	727
Other Dispositions	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	1,435	9,493	38	66	11,032
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	442	1,753	14	25	2,234

CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Criminal Division Office of Court Administration manages the following Court Departments: Adult Drug Treatment Court, Assigned Counsel Services, Mental Health Court, Pretrial Services, and Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program. In addition, the Criminal Division has a Jury Services and Court Reporting Services department that provide services specifically to address Criminal Division needs. The Criminal Division Office of Court Administration also serves as the liaison for all outside agencies which impact the division including, but not limited to: Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Wayne County Clerk's Office, Wayne County Sheriff's Department, Michigan Department of Corrections, Michigan State Police, and the State Court Administrator's Office, as well as other circuit and district courts.

Adult Drug Treatment Court

The Adult Drug Treatment Court Program provides a sentencing alternative to non-violent prison-bound felony offenders whose criminal justice involvement stems from alcohol and/or drug abuse. To break the cycle of addiction and crime for these participants requires a collaboration of professionals to provide services and ensure accountability. 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.

Drug Court 2013 Statistics

Returning Participants	137
New Admissions	67
Removed Participants	58
Total Participants in the Program	262
2013 Graduating Participants	29

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 Program 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 jail bed space savings, reduced recidivism, quicker and less costly case resolution, and more consistent mental health treatment.

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 2013 Statistics

BONDS	
Written Bond Recommendations	1,685
Oral Bond Recommendations	6,751
Total Bond Recommendations	8,436
SUPERVISION (Yearly Averages)	
Total Defendants Monitored	3,123
Compliance Rate	91%
Failure to Appear Rate	9%
SENTENCING GUIDELINES	
Sentencing Guidelines Submitted	10,770
Percentage of Cases Guidelined	93%
LEIN QUERIES	19,850

FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Twelve Circuit Court judges were assigned to the Family Division-Domestic Relations. 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 25,697 new case filings in the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section in 2013.

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
Muriel D. Hughes**

**Connie Marie Kelley
Arthur J. Lombard
Lynne A. Pierce
Martha M. Snow**

Domestic Relations 2013 Statistics

	Divorce w/Child	Divorce No Child	Paternity	UIFSA*	Support	Other Domestic**	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	1,426	1,115	5,515	183	3,269	181	11,689
New Filings	2,888	3,209	10,226	502	8,420	452	25,697
Reopened Cases	197	142	83	2	68	30	522
Total Caseload	4,511	4,466	15,824	687	11,757	663	37,908
Dispositions Resulting From:							
Bench Verdicts	93	61	0	0	0	3	157
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	2,196	2,499	4,047	119	3,669	294	12,824
Transferred	0	1	1	0	0	3	5
Dismissed by Party	527	566	1,781	350	650	135	4,009
Dismissed by Court	337	261	3,581	2	2,774	27	6,982
Inactive Status	12	7	5	0	1	1	26
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	3,165	3,395	9,415	471	7,094	463	24,003
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	1,346	1,071	6,409	216	4,663	200	13,905

*These cases were filed under the Uniform Interstate Support Family Support Act and the Court was asked to establish 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

PPO Protection 2013 Statistics

	Domestic Relations	Non-Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	99	79	4	182
New Filings	4,901	2,536	119	7,556
Reopened Cases	5	2	0	7
Total Caseload	5,005	2,617	123	7,745
Dispositions Resulting From:				
Orders Issued Ex Parte	3,559	1,032	37	4,628
Orders Issued after Hearing	153	160	21	334
Transferred	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	560	843	39	1,442
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	407	359	18	784
Dismissed by Party	249	189	8	446
Orders Issued after Denial	1	0	0	1
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	4,929	2,583	123	7,635
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	76	34	0	110

FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

FRIEND OF THE COURT

The Third Circuit Friend of the Court (FOC) is the largest FOC in Michigan, with over 260,000 active domestic relations cases. The FOC is an administrative arm of the Circuit Court, which has as its primary responsibilities investigating, reporting, and making recommendations to the Court on matters of custody, parenting time, and support of minor children; and providing mediation as an alternative method of dispute resolution.

The FOC's mission of encouraging positive relations and ensuring financial security for the children and families are accomplished through the collective efforts of the Referee Department, the Case Establishment Department, the Legal Division, Information Services Division, 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 16,000 hearings were scheduled to ensure child support compliance. In 2013, 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 has added online parenting education this year and a parents' communication program offered through the Michigan State Extension Program.

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

FOC Fiscal Year 2013 Statistics

Caseload Open FOC Dockets	260,207
Medical Support Notices Issued	76,268
Custody and Child Support Reports and Recommendations	42,233
Hearing Held by Referees	30,334
Child Support Show Cause Hearings	16,221
Bench Warrant Issued	7,862
Bench Warrant Arrests	4,705
Custody and Parenting Time Enforcement Requests Processed	4,807
Amount of Child Support Collected for the Year	\$276,096,009

FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE

Five Circuit Court Judges and two Probate Judges were assigned to the Family-Juvenile section. Thirteen referees assist the Judges by conducting hearings and preparing written recommendations and findings of fact, as well as conducting informal hearings, which include traffic and ordinance violations and consent matters. There were 8,004 new case filings in the Family Division-Juvenile in 2013.

FAMILY DIVISION-JUVENILE

Christopher D. Dingell, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton
Jerome C. Cavanagh

Qiana Denise Lillard
Lisa M. Neilson

Frank S. Szymanski

Juvenile 2013 Statistics

	Designated*	Delinquency	Traffic	Child Protective	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	2	641	1,689	183	2,515
New Filings	21	4,812	2,268	903	8,004
Reopened Cases	2	335	0	0	337
Total Caseload	25	5,788	3,957	1,086	10,856
Dispositions Resulting From:					
Jury Verdicts	2	4	0	1	7
Bench Verdicts	0	251	1	479	731
Guilty Pleas/Admissions	16	1,766	821	298	2,901
Prosecutor Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Traditional Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	0	2	0	0	2
Dismissed by Court	4	1,164	1,088	0	2,256
Dismissed/Withdrawn	0	0	0	90	90
Consent Calendar	0	0	0	0	0
Transferred	0	93	0	22	115
Diversion/Not Authorized	0	1,376	143	43	1,562
Designation Granted	0	0	0	0	0
Inactive Status	0	271	17	0	288
Not Charged	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	1	0	0	1
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	22	4,928	2,070	933	7,953
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	3	860	1,887	153	2,903

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

FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

The Office of the Family Division-Juvenile Section 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 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. The unit also processes voluntary releases of parental rights stemming from neglect, abuse or other cases for the purpose of adoption.

Adoptions 2013 Statistics

	Petitions for Adoption
Pending Adoption Petitions as of Jan. 1st	103
New Filings	524
Reopened Cases	1
Total Caseload	628
Dispositions Resulting From:	
Finalized	460
Withdrawn by Petitioner	9
Dismissed by Court	27
Transferred	0
Rescission Granted	1
Rescission Denied/Withdrawn	0
Case Type Change	2
Total Dispositions	499
Pending Adoption Petitions as of Dec. 31st	129

FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE

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 in Wayne County. Volunteers are trained to serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Juvenile Jurists when making a decision regarding placement. Through gathering information by reviewing records, interviewing parents, talking to teachers, neighbors, and the children, the volunteers make recommendations regarding what is best for the children. Twelve new volunteer staff were trained in 2013. CASA is limited to 60 active caseloads at any given time.

CASA Program 2013 Statistics

	Number of Cases	Number of children involved
New Cases Assigned	44	98
Cases Closed	42	88

FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE

The Clinic for Child Study

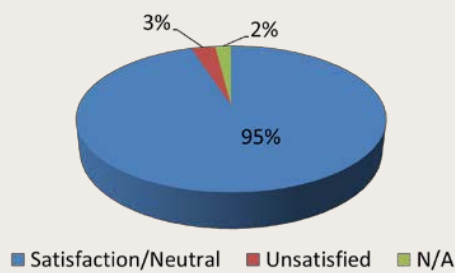
The Third Circuit Court-Clinic for Child Study fosters relationships that empower court-involved youth and their families to build healthy futures in their communities by providing an array of family-centered therapeutic services. The Clinic for Child Study is accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and offers assessment services, case management, outpatient therapy, and home-based therapy and case management.

Assessment Services	
Family Assessments for Protective Hearings	395
Adolescent Assessments for Delinquency Hearings/Probation Planning	829
Adolescent Assessments for Supervised Treatment for Alcohol Narcotics Dependency (STAND)	44

Other Services	
Case Management (Intensive Probation)	692
Case Management (Diversion)	198
Clinic Treatment Unit	390
Home-Based Unit	72
Referrals for Ongoing Psychiatric Services	141

2013 Program Success

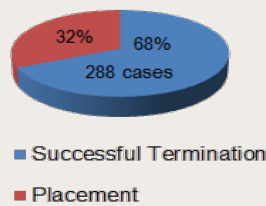
Consumer Satisfaction Results Across All Questions
354 Surveyed



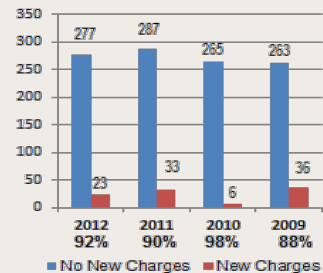
2013 Program Success

692 Consumers Served in Casework Services

423 Cases Closed

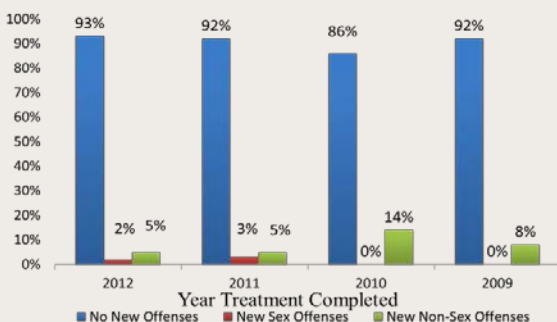


Recidivism Rates One-Year Post Successful Termination



2013 Program Success

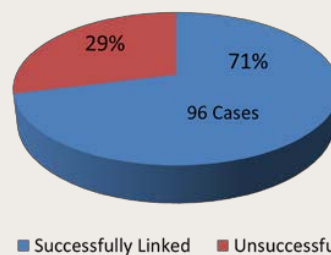
Sexual Awareness Information and Treatment (SAIT)
Recidivism Results Post One-Year Treatment



2013 Program Success

198 Consumers Served in Diversion Treatment Unit

136 Cases Closed



FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE

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, as well as interviewing, screening and processing all youth admitted to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility. The 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 2013 Statistics

Interviews on Admittance Into Juvenile Detention Facility	2,116
Police/Agency calls for Placement Authorization	65
Family Interviews	937
Probation (Consent, Diversion, Incorrigible)	74
Designated Cases	24
Out County/Plea Under Advisement/Truancy	18

Juvenile Drug Court

The formal name of the Juvenile Drug Court is Supervised Treatment for Alcohol Narcotics Dependency Program (STAND). Therapeutic jurisprudence and case management are used to develop, coordinate, and monitor a juvenile's treatment. STAND uses a system of graduated incentives and sanctions to encourage progress toward compliance, negative drug screens and regular school attendance, with a goal of no recidivism. Services are provided to youth who are on probation as well as youth whose charges are held in abeyance until completion of the program, at which time the case may be dismissed. In addition to substance abuse treatment, STAND provides tutoring, mental health services, career planning and recreational activities.

Juvenile Drug Court Statistics

Returning Participants	41
New Admissions	26
Removed Participants	21
Graduating Participants	19
Total Participants in Program for the Year	107

FAMILY DIVISION – MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous Family 2013 Statistics

	Other Family*	Ancillary**	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	134	0	134
New Filings	741	0	741
Reopened Cases	0	0	0
Total Caseload	875	0	875
Dispositions Resulting From:			
Orders Issued Ex Parte	0	0	0
Orders Issued after Hearing	636	0	636
Petition Granted	0	0	0
Transferred	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	30	0	30
Petition Denied	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	79	0	79
Petition Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0
Deferred	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	745	0	745
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	130	0	130

*Other Family includes name change, safe delivery, personal protection filed, emancipation of minors, infectious disease, and parental waiver actions.

**Ancillary Proceedings includes guardianship and conservatorships, mental illness, as well as judicial admissions matters.

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT RETIREMENTS

Wendy M. Baxter, 27 years
Judge, Civil Division

Denise Davis, 37 years
Manager of Court Reporting Services, Court Reporting, Administration

Robert C. Diebel, 23 years
Finance and Grant Analyst, Budget & Finance, Administration

Jerome Fekin, 35 years
Court Department Executive 8, Case Processing, Administration

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

Drenna Henderson, 27 years
Odyssey Support Coordinator, ITSB, Administration

Ronald, Kolito, 41 years
Recipient Rights Advisor/Quality Improvements, Clinic Administration, Family Juvenile

Debra McGinnis, 27 years
Chief Court Reporter, Court Reporting, Administration

Ronald R. Ruffin, 4 years
Executive Circuit Court Administrator, Court Administration

Jeanne Stempien, 20 years
Judge, Civil Division

Rita R. Strong, 27 years
Domestic Relations Supervisor, Order Entry, Family Domestic

Public Satisfaction Survey

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 six pages.

3rd Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Section 1: Access to the Court

1) Finding the courthouse was easy.

5 - Strongly Agree	165	57 %
4 - Agree	90	31 %
3 - Neutral	25	9 %
2 - Disagree	4	1 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	7	2 %

6 NA Response(s)

2) The forms I needed were clear and easy to understand.

5 - Strongly Agree	138	51 %
4 - Agree	81	30 %
3 - Neutral	31	12 %
2 - Disagree	11	4 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	7	3 %

30 NA Response(s)

3) I felt safe in the courthouse.

5 - Strongly Agree	163	56 %
4 - Agree	91	31 %
3 - Neutral	21	7 %
2 - Disagree	8	3 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	9	3 %

5 NA Response(s)

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

5 - Strongly Agree	126	45 %
4 - Agree	79	28 %
3 - Neutral	33	12 %
2 - Disagree	18	6 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	27	10 %

14 NA Response(s)

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

5 - Strongly Agree	164	56 %
4 - Agree	86	29 %
3 - Neutral	28	10 %
2 - Disagree	6	2 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	10	3 %

4 NA Response(s)

6) I easily found the courtroom or office I needed.

5 - Strongly Agree	159	56 %
4 - Agree	84	30 %
3 - Neutral	23	8 %
2 - Disagree	7	2 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	10	4 %

8 NA Response(s)

7) The court's website was useful.

5 - Strongly Agree	80	39 %
4 - Agree	52	25 %
3 - Neutral	48	23 %
2 - Disagree	15	7 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	10	5 %

81 NA Response(s)

8) The court's hours of operation made it easy for me to do my business.

5 - Strongly Agree	132	47 %
4 - Agree	90	32 %
3 - Neutral	30	11 %
2 - Disagree	14	5 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	12	4 %

15 NA Response(s)

3rd Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Section 2: Fairness

9) The way the case was handled was fair.

5 - Strongly Agree	86	44 %
4 - Agree	60	30 %
3 - Neutral	23	12 %
2 - Disagree	13	7 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	15	8 %

33 NA Response(s)

10) The judge/magistrate/referee listened to both sides of the story before making a decision.

5 - Strongly Agree	78	44 %
4 - Agree	58	32 %
3 - Neutral	24	13 %
2 - Disagree	6	3 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	13	7 %

42 NA Response(s)

11) The judge/magistrate/referee had the information necessary to make informed decisions about the case.

5 - Strongly Agree	82	46 %
4 - Agree	58	32 %
3 - Neutral	21	12 %
2 - Disagree	7	4 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	12	7 %

37 NA Response(s)

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

5 - Strongly Agree	92	50 %
4 - Agree	58	32 %
3 - Neutral	17	9 %
2 - Disagree	6	3 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	10	5 %

34 NA Response(s)

13) The judge/magistrate/referee told the parties what would happen next in the case.

5 - Strongly Agree	87	48 %
4 - Agree	58	32 %
3 - Neutral	19	10 %
2 - Disagree	6	3 %
1 - Strongly Disagr	11	6 %

36 NA Response(s)

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

5 - Strongly Agree	65	41 %
4 - Agree	45	28 %
3 - Neutral	29	18 %
2 - Disagree	6	4 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	14	9 %

47 NA Response(s)

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

5 - Strongly Agree	83	49 %
4 - Agree	48	28 %
3 - Neutral	13	8 %
2 - Disagree	10	6 %
1 - Strongly Disagree	15	9 %

39 NA Response(s)

3rd Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Section 3: Background Information

16) Who are you?

Attorney/prosecutor	33	12 %
Family/friend of party to case	63	22 %
Interpreter	4	1 %
Juror	8	3 %
Party	106	37 %
Witness	10	4 %
Other	61	21 %

17) What did you do at court today?

Appear as witness	12	4 %
Attend hearing or trial	95	33 %
File papers	51	17 %
Get information	50	17 %
Jury duty	7	2 %
Meet probation/pretrial staff	3	1 %
Search records/obtain docs.	14	5 %
Other	60	21 %

18) What type of case brought you to the courthouse today?

Child protective	44	15 %
Civil matter	15	5 %
Criminal/probation	34	11 %
Divorce/custody/support	95	32 %
Drug/sobriety court	3	1 %
Estate/trust	7	2 %
Guardianship/conservatorship	19	6 %
Juvenile delinquency	14	5 %
PPOs	1	0 %
Small claims	4	1 %
Traffic	0	
Other	62	21 %

19) What is your gender?

Female	148	55 %
Male	121	45 %

20) How do you identify yourself?

Am. Indian/Alaska Native	10	3 %
Asian	0	
Multiracial/biracial	4	1 %
Black/African American	171	59 %
Hispanic/Latino	13	4 %
White/Caucasian	84	29 %
Other	9	3 %

21) How often are you typically in the courthouse?

First time	68	24 %
Once a year or less	95	34 %
Several times a year	50	18 %
Regularly	65	23 %

22) What court did you visit today?

Circuit Court	69	22 %
District Court	5	2 %
Family Division	218	69 %
Probate Court	22	7 %

Statewide Results Public Satisfaction Survey

Section I: Access to the Court

Mean

Mean

1) Finding the courthouse was easy.

5 Strongly Agree	14,577	70%	
4 Agree	4,970	24%	
3 Neutral	784	4%	
2 Disagree	259	1%	
1 Strongly Disagree	160	1%	
			4.6
NA Response(s)	166		

2) The forms I needed were clear and easy to understand.

5 Strongly Agree	10,403	57%	
4 Agree	5,622	31%	
3 Neutral	1,711	9%	
2 Disagree	372	2%	
1 Strongly Disagree	232	1%	
			4.4
NA Response(s)	2,399		

3) I felt safe in the courthouse.

5 Strongly Agree	14,235	69%	
4 Agree	4,954	24%	
3 Neutral	1,010	5%	
2 Disagree	299	1%	
1 Strongly Disagree	245	1%	
			4.6
NA Response(s)	122		

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

5 Strongly Agree	11,600	58%	
4 Agree	5,211	26%	
3 Neutral	1,813	9%	
2 Disagree	693	3%	
1 Strongly Disagree	564	3%	
			4.3
NA Response(s)	486		

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

5 Strongly Agree	14,714	71%	
4 Agree	4,597	22%	
3 Neutral	848	4%	
2 Disagree	234	1%	
1 Strongly Disagree	237	1%	
			4.6
NA Response(s)	156		

6) I easily found the courtroom or office I needed.

5 Strongly Agree	13,743	68%	
4 Agree	5,074	25%	
3 Neutral	964	5%	
2 Disagree	260	1%	
1 Strongly Disagree	160	1%	
			4.6
NA Response(s)	525		

7) The court's website was useful.

5 Strongly Agree	4,919	44%	
4 Agree	2,520	22%	
3 Neutral	2,949	26%	
2 Disagree	491	4%	
1 Strongly Disagree	333	3%	
			4.0
NA Response(s)	8,973		

8) The court's hours of operation made it easy for me to do my business.

5 Strongly Agree	10,932	56%	
4 Agree	5,775	29%	
3 Neutral	2,058	10%	
2 Disagree	564	3%	
1 Strongly Disagree	368	2%	
			4.3
NA Response(s)	994		

Statewide Results

Public Satisfaction Survey

Section II: Fairness

Mean

Mean

9) The way the case was handled was fair.

5 Strongly Agree	7,648	55%
4 Agree	3,651	26%
3 Neutral	1,496	11%
2 Disagree	518	4%
1 Strongly Disagree	605	4%

4.2

NA Response(s) 2,151

10) The judge/magistrate/referee listened to both sides of the story before making a decision.

5 Strongly Agree	7,231	57%
4 Agree	3,413	27%
3 Neutral	1,286	10%
2 Disagree	401	3%
1 Strongly Disagree	423	3%

4.3

NA Response(s) 3,029

11) The judge/magistrate/referee had the information necessary to make informed decisions about the case.

5 Strongly Agree	7,499	57%
4 Agree	3,534	27%
3 Neutral	1,219	9%
2 Disagree	392	3%
1 Strongly Disagree	400	3%

4.3

NA Response(s) 2,607

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

5 Strongly Agree	8,466	63%
4 Agree	3,428	26%
3 Neutral	944	7%
2 Disagree	302	2%
1 Strongly Disagree	295	2%

4.4

NA Response(s) 2,292

13) The judge/magistrate/referee told the parties what would happen next in the case.

5 Strongly Agree	7,606	60%
4 Agree	3,448	27%
3 Neutral	1,128	9%
2 Disagree	310	2%
1 Strongly Disagree	254	2%

4.4

NA Response(s) 2,815

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

5 Strongly Agree	4,771	46%
4 Agree	2,409	23%
3 Neutral	2,087	20%
2 Disagree	567	5%
1 Strongly Disagree	642	6%

4.0

NA Response(s) 3,716

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

5 Strongly Agree	6,412	57%
4 Agree	3,088	28%
3 Neutral	1,031	9%
2 Disagree	317	3%
1 Strongly Disagree	318	3%

4.3

NA Response(s) 3,033

Statewide Results

Public Satisfaction Survey

Section III: Background Information

16) Who are you?

Attorney/prosecutor	3,309	17%
Family/friend of party to case	3,255	17%
Interpreter	84	0%
Juror	703	4%
Party	5,894	31%
Witness	654	3%
Other	5,376	28%

17) What did you do at court today?

Appear as witness	815	4%
Attend hearing or trial	8,064	39%
File papers	2,293	11%
Get information	1,579	8%
Jury duty	680	3%
Meet probation/pretrial staff	1,651	8%
Search records/obtain docs.	603	3%
Other	4,906	24%

18) What type of case brought you to the courthouse today?

Child protective	1,306	6%
Civil matter	2,642	13%
Criminal/probation	4,434	22%
Divorce/custody/support	1,912	9%
Drug/sobriety court	922	5%
Estate/trust	574	3%
Guardianship/conservatorship	1,199	6%
Juvenile delinquency	697	3%
PPOs	245	1%
Small claims	469	2%
Traffic	2,875	14%
Other	3,153	15%

19) What is your gender?

Female	9,058	47%
Male	10,020	53%

20) How do you identify yourself?

American Indian / Alaska Nat.	407	2%
Asian	188	1%
Multiracial/biracial	222	1%
Black/African American	2,772	14%
Hispanic/Latino	661	3%
White/Caucasian	15,347	76%
Other	668	3%

21) How often are you typically in the courthouse?

First time	4,338	22%
Once a year or less	5,689	29%
Several times a year	3,727	19%
Regularly	5,864	30%

22) What court did you visit today?

Circuit Court	3,852	18%
District Court	11,588	53%
Family Division of Circuit Ct.	3,590	16%
Probate Court	2,833	13%

2013 Court Managers

Therese M. Lisowski
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Elizabeth R. Kocab
GENERAL COUNSEL

Kelli D. Moore, Deputy Court Administrator
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Peter J. Schummer, Deputy Court Administrator
JUVENILE DIVISION

Zenell B. Brown
FRIEND OF THE COURT

Benita Cheatom
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Michael Gruich
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Jerome Fekin / Tammi Palmer
DIRECTOR OF CASE PROCESSING

Theresa Plotzke
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING AND FACILITIES

MaryKay Wimsatt
DIRECTOR OF JURY SERVICES

Lisa Timmons, Executive Director
MEDIATION TRIBUNAL ASSOCIATION

Copies of this report may be obtained from the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan:
Court Administration
2 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: 313-224-521
Fax: 313-224-6070

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

