

# **FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT**

**Columbus, Ohio**

**NINETY-NINTH  
ANNUAL REPORT**

**2014**

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## Letter from Clerk Lori M. Tyack

Welcome to the Ninety-ninth Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Court and Clerk's Office. As Clerk, my commitment is to strategically improve daily operations, effectively collect court-ordered costs and fines, remain current on relevant laws and cultivate cooperation with other government agencies and the community. This report is dedicated to the hard work and enthusiasm demonstrated every day by my entire staff. Thank you for your commitment to public service.

During 2014, the new filings of court cases remain similar to the previous year, providing an overall increase of less than one percent (1%) (See graph on page 45). The collection of court-ordered costs and fines, however decreased approximately seven percent (7%) (See graph on page 45). After careful examination, it appears that a recent decision of Ohio Supreme Court regarding *State v. Hoffman*, (Slip Opinion No. 2014-Ohio-4795) has affected both. Approximately six thousand eight hundred sixty (6,860) arrest warrants were dismissed by the Columbus City Prosecutor's Office based on new language requirements identified by the Ohio Supreme Court in the Hoffman case. As a result, fewer delinquent cases were sent to collections. In contrast, collection agencies reported a fifteen percent (15%) increase in collection of currently held cases for the year.

New legislation regarding expungements (SB143) was adopted by the Ohio Legislature, allowing defendants to file multiple cases for consideration on the same application for a single Fifty dollar (\$50) filing fee. Additionally, an Administrative Order (01-2014) directed the Clerk's Office to image all expungement cases prior to sending them to the Court for consideration.

The annual audit performed by Plante & Moran, PLLC, completed in May, resulted in the fourth year in a row of "zero infractions." The Quality Control Division along with the Accounting/Finance Division have worked tirelessly to perfect our financial record keeping strategies and create new internal controls where applicable.

The Office of Information Services (OIS) provides technical support for both Clerk and Court staff. Over Fifty-five hundred (5500) Help Desk Tickets were successfully completed by the staff of seven (7). Additionally, OIS evaluated, purchased and installed necessary equipment and software for two electronic filing pilot projects (E-Citation and E-Filing for Civil Environmental cases).

Our Traffic Violations Bureau initiated over eleven thousand six hundred (11,600) cases and mailed out over eight hundred (800) summonses via certified mail per month. Effective communication with police agencies, prosecutors, Common Pleas General Division and Juvenile Division, Mayor's Court Clerks and our own Courtroom Service Group was instrumental in maintaining all set quality of work standards.

The Criminal/Traffic Division implemented new standards for customer service calls which cut customer call wait times nearly in half. New training initiatives in response to the Hoffman decision were realized and executed with the assistance of the Columbus City Attorney's Office. Staff participated in several off-site support programs including: the 2014 Central Ohio Homeless Veteran's Stand Down Program; ABC 6 On Your Side telephone bank answering active warrant questions; and a warrant sweep performed by the Franklin County Sheriff's Vice Squad.

Managers and Staff of the Civil Division focused on restructuring an outdated phone system to more adequately handle phone calls. Upgrades of certified mail software mandated by the U.S. Post Office and the overhaul of certain internal docket codes for improved accuracy were among their accomplishments. Strategic planning for e-filing of civil environmental cases began in conjunction with OIS's hardware and software enhancements.

Thank you for taking the time to review our 2014 Annual Report.

## **OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT**

The Clerk's Office is entrusted with the responsibility of processing and archiving all Court records in accordance with file retention requirements established by the Supreme Court of Ohio. Additionally, the Clerk's Office calculates and fully details all financial transactions involving the Court. The Clerk's Office compiles and publishes an *Annual Report* each year that details the various categories of Court case filings and all financial transactions connected with all Court cases and statistically reports all relevant data regarding the same.



Lori M. Tyack, Clerk

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission of the Franklin County Municipal Court, Clerk of Court's Office is to accurately maintain, safeguard and store all Court documents as well as collect and disburse all monies as directed by legal mandates.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

To achieve our Mission by establishing and sustaining a knowledgeable and diverse staff that will strive to serve all who use this office through competent customer service, communications and community outreach.

## HISTORY OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

In 1916, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio created the Columbus Municipal Court. Prior to this time, the court operated under the Justice of the Peace System. On July 5, 1955, the Columbus Municipal Court was given countywide jurisdiction and, in 1968, the State Legislature changed the name of the court to the Franklin County Municipal Court.

The court has two (2) judicial divisions. The General Division operates with fourteen (14) judges, and six (6) magistrates. The Environmental Division, which began operations in 1992, has one (1) judge. In addition to performing all of the duties within the general division, the Environmental Division also has exclusive jurisdiction over criminal and civil actions to enforce building, housing, health, or safety codes applicable to premises intended for use as a place of human habitation. The Clerk of Court, serving both divisions, has a myriad of both financial and case management duties, as prescribed by law. The terms for the judges and the clerk are for a period of six (6) years.

The Court's administrative functions are overseen by Court Administration. Among these services are the Office of the Jury Commissioner, the Office of the Assignment Commissioner, Probation Services, the Small Claims Division, the Court Reporters, Court Security, the Service Bailiffs, the Courtroom Bailiffs, the Language Interpretation program, the Vehicle Immobilization Program, Legal Research, the Appointed Counsel/Volunteer Coordinator's Office, and Specialized Dockets.

In 1979, the court moved from its facilities in City Hall to the Franklin County Municipal Court building, located at 375 South High Street. Currently, the court has two (2) traffic-arraignment courtrooms, two (2) criminal-arraignment courtrooms, two (2) record hearing courtrooms, one duty courtroom and sixteen (16) jury courtrooms in the General Division. The Environmental Division operates with one (1) courtroom for its arraignment sessions, as well as its record and jury trials.

The Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk's Office is divided into several divisions. The divisions occupying the first four floors of the Municipal Court Building are: Clerk Administration, Accounting/Finance, Civil, Collections, Criminal/Traffic, Quality Control/Assurance, and the Traffic Violations Bureau/Communications. The Office of Information Services is located on the 16th floor.



## FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

The Franklin County Municipal Court has jurisdiction over traffic citations, criminal misdemeanor charges and civil case filings regarding disputes that range up to an amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00), as well as actions regarding building, health, housing or safety codes.

The Franklin County Municipal Court has county and city jurisdiction (reaching into Delaware and Fairfield County) and is divided into two (2) Divisions. The General Division is served by fourteen (14) Municipal Judges and the Environmental Division is served by one (1) Municipal Judge. Six (6) Magistrates also serve the Franklin County Municipal Court. Judges serve for a term of six (6) years.

### COURT ADMINISTRATION

Administrative and Presiding Judge

*Honorable Michael T. Brandt*

#### General Division Judges

Honorable Ted Barrows	Honorable H. William Pollitt, Jr.
Honorable James E. Green	Honorable Amy Salerno
Honorable Carrie E. Glaeden	Honorable Anne Taylor
Honorable Paul M. Herbert	Honorable David B. Tyack
Honorable Mark A. Hummer	Honorable Scott D. VanDerKarr
Honorable James P. O'Grady	Honorable David C. Young
Honorable Andrea C. Peoples	

#### Environmental Division Judge

Honorable Daniel R. Hawkins

#### Magistrates

Honorable Kathleen E. Graham	Honorable Kirk Lindsey
Honorable David S. Jump	Honorable Denise Mathews
Honorable Danielle Sparks	Honorable Antonio Paat

#### Clerk of Court

Honorable Lori M. Tyack

#### Court Administrator

Emily Shaw

**FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT  
CLERK OF COURT MANAGEMENT STAFF 12.31.2014**

<b>Lori M. Tyack</b>	<b>Clerk of Court</b>
<b>Obie Lucas</b>	<b>Chief Deputy Clerk</b>
<b>Jerry O'Shaughnessy</b>	<b>Executive Director, HR/Strategic Planning</b>
<b>Marilynn Stephens</b>	<b>Executive Director, Public Relations</b>
<b>Michelle LaMarr</b>	<b>Payroll &amp; Benefits Administrator</b>
<b>Crystal Ross</b>	<b>Executive Director, Fiscal Administration</b>
<b>Ken Euman</b>	<b>Procurement Administrator</b>
<b>Susan Johnson</b>	<b>Administrative Assistant</b>
<b>Jasmund Pugh</b>	<b>Quality Control Analyst, Criminal/Traffic Division- 2/14</b>
<b>Tacila DeLima Shaffner</b>	<b>Quality Control Analyst, Criminal/Traffic Division 5/14-</b>
<b>Judy Vance</b>	<b>Quality Control Analyst, Civil Division -11/14</b>
<b>Vickie Spivey</b>	<b>Quality Control Analyst, Civil Division 06/14-</b>
<b>Melissia Fuhrmann</b>	<b>Manager, Civil Division</b>
<b>Mike Cherry</b>	<b>Collections Program Administrator</b>
<b>Rhonda Ferguson</b>	<b>Director, Accounting/Finance Division; Treasurer</b>
<b>LeeAnne Sheppard</b>	<b>Manager, Quality Control</b>
<b>Ahmed Kasheer</b>	<b>Director, Office of Information Services</b>
<b>James Brad Laver</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Office of Information Services</b>
<b>Matt Pendy</b>	<b>Director, Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Laura Ricker</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Criminal/Traffic &amp; Courtroom Services Group</b>
<b>Sancha Young</b>	<b>Manager, Traffic Violations Bureau/Communications</b>
<b>Debra Jones</b>	<b>Assistant Manager, Traffic Violations Bureau</b>
<b>Mike VanGundy</b>	<b>Supervisor, Civil Division</b>
<b>Mindy Varga</b>	<b>Supervisor, Civil Division</b>
<b>James "Pete" Brim</b>	<b>Supervisor, Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Jerome Kemp</b>	<b>Supervisor, Criminal/Traffic Division, Telephones</b>
<b>Rick Kramer</b>	<b>Supervisor, Criminal/Traffic Division, File Room</b>
<b>Mike Pizzurro</b>	<b>Supervisor, 2nd Shift Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Robyn Johnson</b>	<b>Supervisor, 3rd Shift Criminal/Traffic Division</b>
<b>Jeff Dever</b>	<b>Supervisor, Accounting/Finance Division, Civil</b>
<b>Heather Kean</b>	<b>Supervisor, Accounting/Finance Division, Criminal/Traffic Division 03/14-</b>



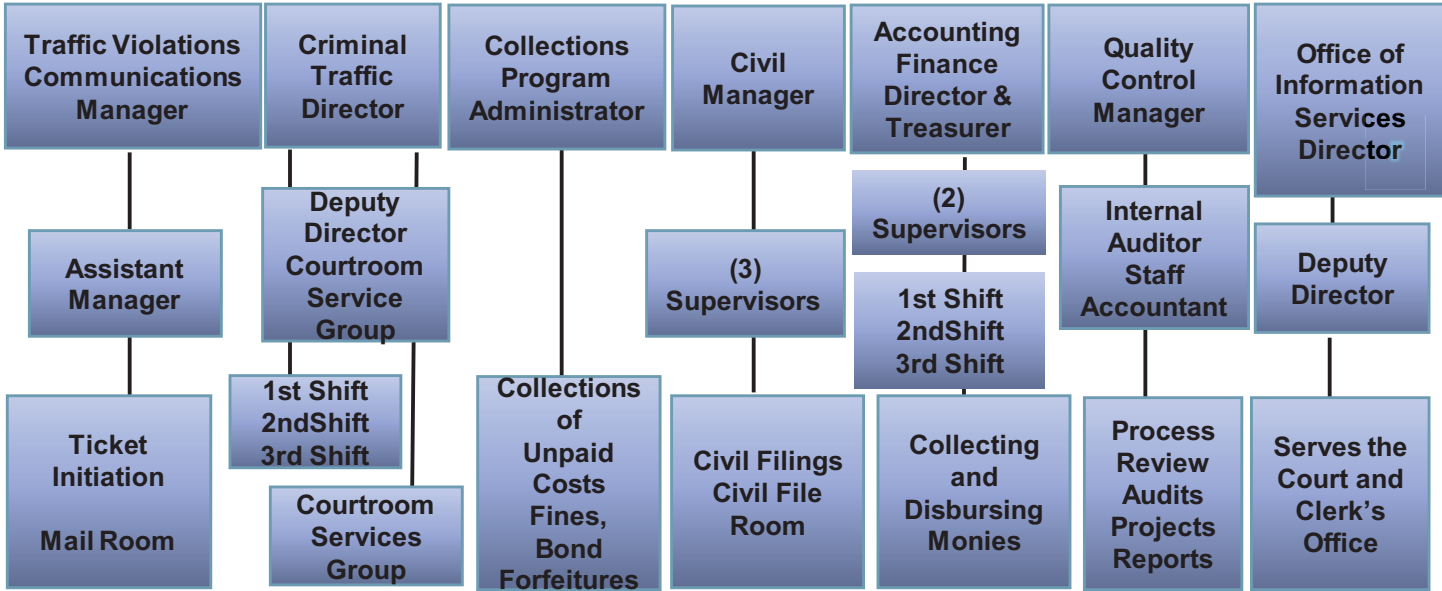
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## MUNICIPAL CLERK OF COURT

### CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

**Administrative Division**

**Executive Director, Human Resources & Strategic Planning**  
**Executive Director, Public Relations**  
**Executive Director, Fiscal Administration**  
**Payroll & Benefits Administrator**  
**Procurement Administrator**  
**Administrative Assistant**



## Funding of the Franklin County Clerk's Office

### Municipal Court Clerk's Office 2014 General Fund

<b>Personnel Services</b>	<b>\$10,362,233</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>	<b>125,484</b>
<b>Services for Operations and Maintenance</b>	<b><u>696,927</u></b>
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>\$11,184,644</b>

### Municipal Court Clerk's Office 2014 Special Revenue Fund

<b>Personnel Services</b>	<b>\$ 300,264</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>	<b>57,500</b>
<b>Services for Operations and Maintenance</b>	<b>594,866</b>
<b>Transfer Out-Operating</b>	<b><u>302,295</u></b>
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>\$ 1,254,925</b>

## **Clerk Administration Division**

**The Administrative Division of the Clerk's Office is comprised of the Office of the Clerk, Chief Deputy Clerk, Director of Public Relations, Executive Director, Fiscal Administration, Payroll & Benefits Administrator, Procurement Administrator, Administrative Assistant, and Executive Director, Human Resources/Strategic Planning which includes education and training. This Division oversees the day to day operations of the Clerk's Office and is governed by directives as set forth in the Annual Budget and the Ohio Revised Code. Additionally, all new programs, contracts, projects, and grants are established and implemented within the Division. It conducts all public relations and internal communications for the Clerk's Office. Accomplishments for the Administration Division in 2014 are as follows:**

- **Researched and established E-Governance Methodology for E-filing**
- **Appointed an E-Filing Project Coordinator**
- **Secured Capital Improvement Funding – City of Columbus**
- **Education Opportunities through the National Center for State Courts**
- **Continued professional development support for leadership through the Ohio Supreme Court**

### **Participated in Community Outreach Programs**

- **St. Vincent Family Center Toy Drive**
- **Sponsored a Book Fair to benefit the Combined Charitable Campaign**
- **Sponsored Jewelry is Fun to benefit the Combined Charitable Campaign**
- **Facilitated Two (2) Red Cross Blood Drives**
- **Provided career path tours and internships for local high school and college students**

## Office of Information Services

### IT Mission Statement

The Office of Information Services provides services related to information technology to the Franklin County Municipal Court and Clerk's Office staff. This Division's responsibilities include: Maintaining a stable electronic work environment, collaborating with other staff to use information technology to better serve the Franklin County Municipal Court, identifying emerging technologies for the Court's investment in technology, and providing training to staff on the proper use of software programs and equipment. Accomplishments for OIS in 2014 are as follows:

- Launched installation of resources for the E-filing and E-citation projects
- Initiated process of upgrading network equipment and associated software to support increased use
- Completed over 5500 Help Desk tickets in 2014
- Upgraded CourtView training environment to mirror the production version
- Assisted the Probation Department on a Computerization Project to utilize additional CourtView, OnBase, and Reporting features
- Achieved over 99.9% uptime on fmcclerk.com services
- Registered over 400 new users in 2014 for our Secure Web Portal
- Secure access provided to over 2000 registered (<https://secure.fmcclerk.com>)
- Worked cooperatively with Environmental Court and staff to provide resources and information about the Environmental Division to the public  
<http://www.fmcclerk.com/environmental>
- Completed database server and Compellent SAN configuration project
- Created articles for <http://fmcwiki/> to assist with FAQ and serve as a knowledge base
- Worked with the Court to deploy an employment application that can be filled out electronically (<http://www.fmcclerk.com/application/court>)

## **Quality Control/Assurance Division**

**The Quality Control/Assurance Division is responsible for minimizing erroneous data through a system of real time process monitoring, audit reporting and Total Quality Management Strategies. Through business process improvement and change control programs, the Quality Control team has elevated efforts toward reengineering business processes and is better positioned to identify and leverage new technologies. As a result, the Quality Control/Assurance Division has been able to improve the services that the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk's Office provides to both its internal and external customers while saving taxpayer dollars through helping to make the office more efficient. Accomplishments for Quality Control/Assurance in 2014 are as follows:**

- **Gained expertise from Accounting/Finance, Assignment Office, Expungements and CSG**
- **Supported Criminal/Traffic Division with end-of-year case file control**
- **Assisted Plante & Moran with Annual External Audit**
- **Conducted Supreme Court, Civil Dispositions Training**
- **Participated in development of a new procedure to collect Restitution**
- **Expanded auditing process to include Expungement cases**
- **Completed clearing of case disposition errors from 2010 to present**
- **Assisted Criminal/Traffic with identifying old warrants and felonies**
- **Effectively monitored all bank accounts - Fraudulent check activity, i.e. Positive Pay**

## **Quality Control/Assurance Division**

### **Accomplishments for Quality Control/Assurance in 2014 continued .....**

- **Internal Audit – assumed all Accounting/Finance auditing including, Cash Drawer and Cash Office**
- **New daily identification of account discrepancies**
- **Identified ongoing issue regarding application of \$25 late fee for partial payments**
- **Worked cooperatively with City Auditor, City Engineer and County Auditor regarding legislative changes affecting disbursement of funds**
- **Checked over 7000 cases in Criminal/Traffic**
- **Reviewed over 9000 cases in Civil**



## Collection Division

The Collection Division oversees and coordinates the collection of debts owed to the Court, with the primary objective of seeking monies due to the City of Columbus taxpayers. The Collection Division operates in conjunction with three (3) outside agencies in 2014. Additionally, the Collection Division is responsible for securing surety bond agent registration, monitoring compliance of State and Local Statutes and processing monthly billing statements.

Accomplishments for Collections in 2014 are as follows:

- Collected \$988,490.38
- Continued generating past due notices in-house for payable tickets.
- Bond money forfeited by the Court for 2014 - \$57,961.00
- Bond Forfeiture Judgments paid for 2014 - \$17,560.50
- Managed billings and compliance for twenty one (21) active bond companies and over one hundred (100) surety agents.

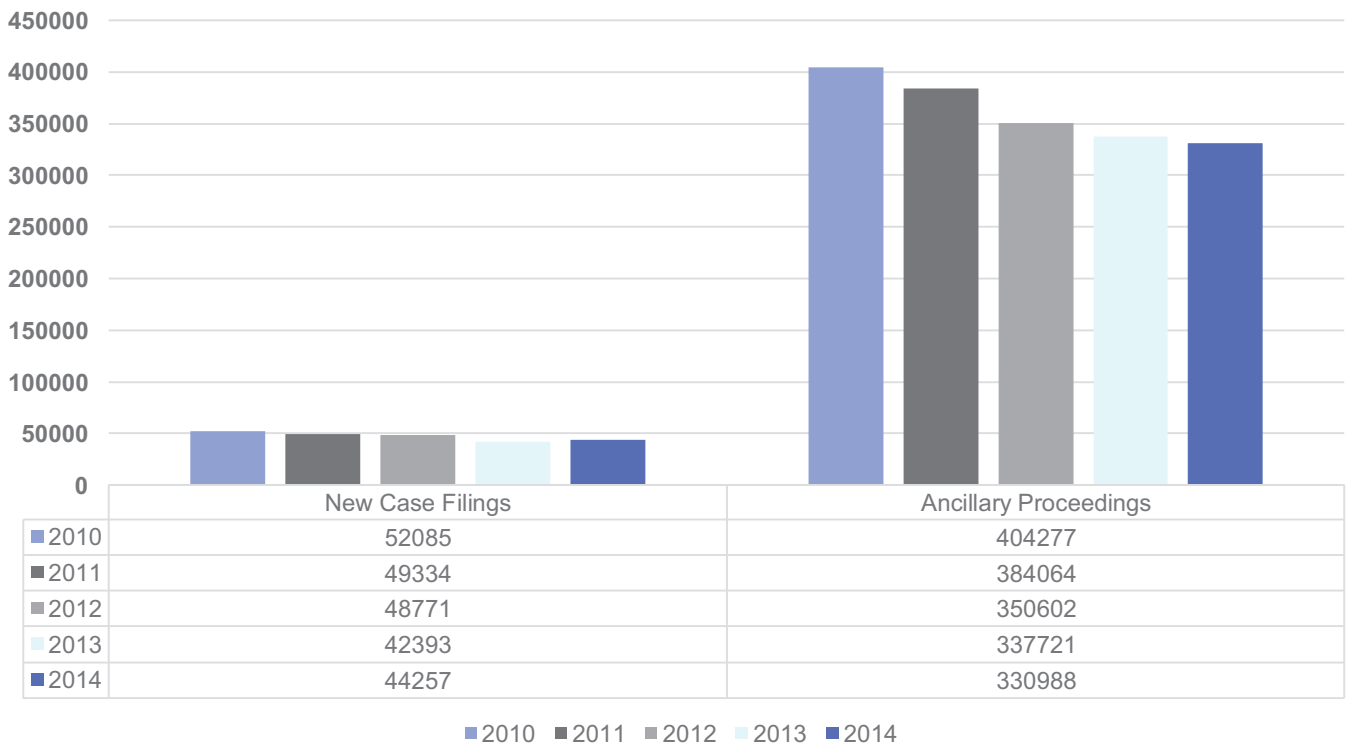
AGENCIES	TOTAL AMOUNT SENT IN 2014	TOTAL COLLECTED 2014	COMMISSION PAID 2014
LINEBARGER	\$1,132,660.00	\$ 292,385.03	\$ 58,471.33
APELLES	\$1,239,783.00	\$ 359,110.86	\$ 76,353.10
CAPITAL RECOVERY Bond Forfeitures	\$ 236,000.10	\$ 11,100.75	\$ 2,303.80
CAPITAL RECOVERY Enforcement Cases	\$1,373,866.00	\$ 325,893.64	\$ 75,116.94
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,982,309.10</b>	<b>\$ 988,490.28</b>	<b>\$ 212,245.17</b>

## Civil Division

The Civil Division is responsible for accepting, filing, issuing service, docketing, processing, and maintaining records for Civil cases. Civil cases include: contract disputes, personal injury, property damage, evictions, small claims, certificate of judgment transfers, foreclosures, declaratory judgments, housing and safety code issues. Accomplishments for the Civil Division in 2014 are as follows:

- Reconfigured phone system to better serve the public
- Began the initial planning for the civil environmental e-filing pilot
- Upgraded e-certified mail software
- Researched the possibility of moving all mail services in-house
- Began electronically scanning complaints in evictions and collections cases to better serve the Court and external customers
- Overhauled docket codes to increase public docket accuracy

### Civil Cases & Ancillary Proceedings



■ 2010 ■ 2011 ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014

2014 Annual Report					
	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
<b>New Civil Case Filings</b>					
<b>Personal Injury/Property Damage</b>	250	259	254	294	1,057
<b>Contracts, Notes and Accounts</b>	3,523	4,226	3,747	3,913	15,409
<b>Forcible Entry &amp; Detainer (Evictions)</b>	4,555	4,878	5,358	4,560	19,351
<b>Small Claims</b>	1,292	1,696	1,596	2,265	6,849
<b>Other Civil</b>	331	270	256	225	1,082
<b>Red Light Appeal</b>	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Civil Parking Appeal</b>	3	2	3	4	12
<b>Civil Environmental</b>	121	90	116	169	496
					44,257
<b>Total</b>	10,076	11,421	11,330	11,430	44,257

<b>Civil Ancillary Proceedings</b>	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
<b>Certified Mail Service Issued</b>	13,248	13,086	13,319	13,054	52,707
<b>Ordinary Mail Service Issued</b>	9,396	9,146	10,415	9,138	38,095
<b>Bailiff Service Issued</b>	6,242	6,202	6,973	6,072	25,489
<b>Process Server Service Issued</b>	66	105	114	104	389
<b>Sheriff Service Issued</b>	9	2	4	2	17
<b>Service by Publication Issued</b>	10	6	12	17	45
<b>Registered Mail</b>	0	2	3	8	13
<b>Express Mail</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Garnishments Issued</b>	4,378	3,782	3,641	3,401	15,202
<b>Garnishments Released</b>	801	831	849	673	3,154
<b>Writs of Restitution Issued</b>	2,612	2,774	3,195	2,716	11,297
<b>Requests for Set Outs Processed</b>	1,679	1,688	1,979	1,681	7,027
<b>Writs of Replevin Issued</b>	15	19	9	15	58
<b>Writs of Execution Issued</b>	26	7	10	11	54
<b>Judgments Certified to the BMV</b>	35	6	0	6	47
<b>Certificates of Judgment Issued</b>	2,250	2,477	2,844	2,251	9,822
<b>Transfers to Common Pleas Court</b>	9	16	11	9	45
<b>Civil Appeals Processed</b>	10	6	7	4	27
<b>Notice of Final Order Issued</b>	14,082	14,216	16,182	14,772	59,252
<b>Notice of Failed Service Issued</b>	3,687	3,803	4,549	3,617	15,656
<b>Exemplified Copies</b>	39	36	20	18	113
<b>Revivors of Judgment</b>	424	353	367	306	1,450
<b>Judgment Debtors</b>	432	369	617	477	1,895
<b>Civil Capias Warrants</b>	13	13	18	40	84
<b>Motion and Order for Show Cause</b>	29	27	30	24	110
<b>Motion for Contempt Orders</b>	39	72	43	22	176
<b>Mail Payments Processed</b>	21,869	23,257	22,344	20,747	88,217
					330,988
<b>Total</b>	81,400	82,847	87,555	79,186	330,988

## **Criminal/Traffic Division**

The Criminal Traffic Division processes and maintains Criminal, Traffic, and Environmental cases. The Criminal/Traffic Division provides a multitude of services to the general public, law enforcement, and the Court. This Division plays an integral role in the promotion of public safety by providing support twenty-four (24) hours per day to law enforcement agencies throughout the County. The Criminal/Traffic Division is also responsible for collection and disbursement of bail/bond monies for defendants who are in custody. This process includes providing documentation to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office so that defendants may be released from custody. The Criminal/Traffic Division is responsible for electronically reporting several types of Traffic violations to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The Division also processes applications for the expungement of case records as well as maintaining and securing records which have been ordered by the Court to be sealed. Other examples of service include administering oaths, accepting criminal and traffic charges, filing motions, filing search warrants, providing information about court cases, dispositions, future court dates, as well as assisting in the courtroom. Accomplishments for Criminal/Traffic in 2014 are as follows:

- **Implemented a new internal phone center agreement (with standards)**
- **Hoffman Decision/Probable Cause Training**
- **Updated BCI Charge Tables**
- **Amended expungement process based on new law changes**
  - **Multiple cases/One form**
  - **Imaging of Sealed Cases (Administrative Order)**
  - **New Hours of Operation 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
- **Criminal Rule 5 Update**
- **E-filing Common Pleas (Bindovers)**
- **Continuance Tracking on Assigned Cases for Judge Barrows**

**Accomplishments for Criminal/Traffic in 2014 continued .....**

- **Assisted Franklin County Sheriff's Office Vice Squad**
- **Internal Training Classes: Bond, Generations, and Background Check Class**
- **Expanded hours for 1A/1B and 4C same day add-ons**
- **Assisted the Columbus City Attorney's Office in pulling old cases for review and possible dismissal**
- **Implemented new OVI Arraignment Schedule in Courtroom 4C - 9:00 a.m.**
- **Participated in ABC 6 On Your Side – Warrant Awareness Phone Bank**



<b>Criminal Cases 2014</b>					
Type A-Felony	6,992				
Type B-Criminal	25,854				
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,846</b>				
<b>Traffic Cases 2014</b>					
Type C-OVI	6,642				
Type D-All Other	100,960				
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,602</b>				
<b>Five Year Comparative Review of Cases Filed</b>					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Environmental	4,834	4,358	4,892	4,453	4,061
Criminal	28,907	29,523	31,595	32,338	32,854
Traffic	95,174	91,441	109,856	106,456	107,602
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,915</b>	<b>125,322</b>	<b>146,343</b>	<b>143,247</b>	<b>144,517</b>
<b>Five Year Comparative Review of Charges Filed</b>					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Environmental	9,900	7,960	8,274	8,512	7,052
Criminal	43,414	56,691	53,845	43,765	42,806
Traffic	143,727	127,964	151,708	157,259	161,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>197,041</b>	<b>192,615</b>	<b>213,827</b>	<b>209,536</b>	<b>211,070</b>

### **COURT SERVICES GROUP**

The Courtroom Service Group (“CSG”) is a select group of highly skilled Deputy Clerks in the Criminal/Traffic Division responsible for the daily processing and updating of all cases on the Criminal/Traffic dockets. A CSG Deputy Clerk is assigned to each of the Fifteen (15) Judges as well as the Arraignment courtrooms (4C, 4D, 1A, 1B, 15C). On a daily basis, CSG Deputy Clerks docket subpoenas and motions, process unpaid fines and costs, enter sentencing information, issue warrants, process continuances, enter limited driving privileges, add Temporary Protection Orders, update bond information, and update all entries on CourtView. Additionally, CSG Deputy Clerks are responsible for routing files to the Assignment Office, Probation Department, Accounting/Finance Department, Expungement Department, Prosecutor’s Office, and to the Vehicle Immobilization Coordinator. They also time-stamp, docket, pull and route Statement of Violations filed by the Probation Department. In addition, CSG Deputy Clerks run and process case management reports.

Each CSG member acts as a liaison between the Court personnel and the Clerk’s Office. After court, CSG Deputy Clerks provide assistance to other Divisions of the Clerk’s Office. In 2014 the Courtroom Services Group accomplished the following:

- Enhanced coverage in Environmental Court to include Civil cases
- Assignment File Pilot Program - Scan all continuances in assigned courtrooms
- State v. Hoffman Decision - Dismissed over 6,860 Warrants
- BMV Vehicle Registration Blocks - Developed a manual transmission process

<b>Expungements &amp; Sealing of Cases in 2014</b>	
<b>Number of Applicatons Received For Expungement Proceedings</b>	<b>3,272</b>
<b>Number of Cases That Were Ordered Expunged By The Court</b>	<b>2,831</b>
<b>Number of Applicatons Denied For Expungement</b>	<b>358</b>
<b>Number of Expungement Applications Withdrawn</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Number of Cases Expunged By Order Of The Common Pleas Court</b>	<b>247</b>

## Environmental Division

The Environmental Division of the Court began operations in 1992. This Division has exclusive jurisdiction over criminal and civil actions to enforce building, housing, health, or safety codes applicable to premises intended for the use as a place of human habitation.

<b>Environmental Cases 2014</b>	
<b>Type A-Felony</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Type B-Criminal</b>	<b>2,830</b>
<b>Type C-OVI</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Type D-All Other</b>	<b>1,219</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,061</b>

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CHARGES FILED IN 2014</b>	<b>CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE</b>	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE</b>	<b>OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES</b>
<b>DOG VIOLATIONS</b>			
DOG REGISTRATION		2,187	3
DOG CONFINEMENT	3	1061	
CONFINE VICIOUS DOG		303	8
VICIOUS DOG INSURANCE		1	
RABIES QUARANTINE/IMMUNIZATION	1	1,138	2
ABANDONING OR CRUELTY TO ANIMALS		5	
DISPLAY DOG TAG	1	65	
DOG RUNNING AT LARGE	18		
PROHIBITIONS CONCERNING ANIMALS	13	113	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4873</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>CODE VIOLATIONS/PERMITS</b>			
BUILDING CODE	45		5
ZONING CODE	150		
NUISANCE ABATEMENT CODE	150		9
FIRE CODE			
HEALTH CODE	47		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES / WILDLIFE</b>			
WILDLIFE VIOLATION		15	
LITTERING	125	114	1
NO HUNTING LICENSE		18	
NO FISHING LICENSE			
UNLAWFUL SPITTING	9		
DISTURBING THE QUIET	3		1
POLLUTING WATERS/AIR POLLUTION		1	
PARK RESTRICTIONS	6	16	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>FAILURE TO HAVE LICENSE</b>			
NO MASSAGE LICENSE	1		
NO PEDDLERS LICENSE/RESTRICTIONS	11		
COMMERCIAL SALES	124		
VEHICLE FOR HIRE	16		
ALARM USER LICENSE	24		
TOTAL	12	0	0
<b>FIRE VIOLATIONS</b>			
ARSON			
OPEN BURNING/DUMPING		3	
FIREWORKS			
TOTAL	0	3	0
<b>COMMERCIAL TRUCKING OFFENCES</b>			
LOAD DRIPPING/DROPPING	67	88	
EXCEEDING MAXIMUM	12	469	
WIDTH/ HEIGHT/ AND WEIGHT	3	40	
MAXIMUM WHEEL LOAD		368	
WHEEL PROTECTORS	4	21	
TRANSPORT HAZARD WASTE	154	4	
TOWING VIOLATIONS / RESTRICTIONS	13	204	
TOTAL	253	990	0
<b>OTHER</b>			
LOUD SOUND	148		2
GRAFFITI	3		
TOTAL	151	0	2

CRIMINAL CHARGES FILED IN 2014	CITY OF COLUMBUS ORDINANCE	OHIO REVISED CODE	OTHER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES
<b>MURDER/ASSAULT</b>			
AGGRAVATED MURDER		2	
MURDER		46	
INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER DURING FELONY			
VEHICULAR MANSLAUGHTER	1	9	
AGGRAVATED/VEHICULAR HOMICIDE	1	3	
NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE			
ATTEMPTED MURDER			
AGGRAVATED/FELONY VEHICLE ASSAULT		6	2
FELONIOUS ASSAULT		412	
FELONY ASSAULT		27	
ASSAULT, NEGLIGENT ASSAULT, & AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	377	4204	44
MENACING AND AGGRAVATED MENACING	215	1150	19
MENACING BY STALKING		21	
FELONY AGGRAVATED MENACING		3	
FELONY MENACING BY STALKING		6	
TOTAL	594	5889	65
<b>KIDNAPPING &amp; ENTICEMENT</b>			
KIDNAPPING		111	
ABDUCTION		33	
UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT	17	31	3
CHILD ENTICEMENT		4	
TOTAL	17	179	3



<b>SEX OFFENCES</b>			
<b>RAPE</b>		<b>95</b>	
<b>RAPE-UNDER 13 YEARS OLD</b>		<b>37</b>	
<b>UNLAWFUL SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH A MINOR</b>		<b>35</b>	
<b>GROSS SEXUAL IMPOSITION</b>		<b>13</b>	
<b>GROSS SEXUAL IMPOSITION-UNDER 13 YEARS OLD</b>		<b>27</b>	
<b>SEXUAL IMPOSITION</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	
<b>SEXUAL BATTERY</b>		<b>13</b>	
<b>FELONY IMPORTUNING</b>		<b>1</b>	
<b>IMPORTUNING</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>VOYEURISM</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>PUBLIC INDECENCY</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SOLICITATION / PROCURING</b>	<b>1017</b>	<b>57</b>	
<b>COMPELL/PROMOTE PROSTITUTION</b>		<b>12</b>	
<b>PROSTITUTION</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>
<b>LOITERING FOR PROSTITUTION / SOLICITING</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>224</b>	
<b>PANDERING OBSCENITY</b>			
<b>PANDERING / DISSEMINATING / DISPLAYING HARMFUL MATTER TO JUV</b>		<b>66</b>	
<b>FAILURE TO REGISTER AS SEX OFFENDER</b>		<b>10</b>	
<b>FAILURE TO CHANGE OR RE-VERIFY ADDRESS AS SEX OFFENDER</b>		<b>257</b>	
<b>ABUSE OF A CORPSE</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1085</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>ARSON, VANDALISM &amp; CRIMINAL MISCHIEF</b>			
FELONY AGGRAVATED ARSON			
FELONY ARSON		2	
AGGRAVATED ARSON		11	
ARSON OFFENDER REGISTRATION		3	
VANDALISM		16	
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	44	31	6
CRIMINAL DAMAGE & ENDANGERMENT	193	212	23
TOTAL	237	275	29
<b>DRUG ABUSE</b>			
TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS		164	
FELONY DRUG ABUSE/POSSESS		1,588	
MISDEMEANOR DRUG ABUSE/POSSESS/HARMFUL INTOXICANTS/DANGEROUS DRUGS		2,571	145
DRUG PARAPHERNALIA		1694	146
DECEPTION TO OBTAIN DANGEROUS DRUGS		28	
ILLEGAL PROCUREMENT OF DRUG DOCUMENTS		8	
MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS		15	
POSSESS/SELL FAKE DRUGS		372	
POSSESSION OF DRUG INSTRUMENTS		718	61
PERMIT DRUG ABUSE/CORRUPT OTHERS		16	1
LOITER-DRUG OFFENSES			
TOTAL	0	7174	353
<b>ROBBERY, BURGLARY &amp; TRESPASSING</b>			
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY		262	
ROBBERY		204	
AGGRAVATED BURGLARY		120	
BURGLARY		385	
BREAKING & ENTERING		165	
SAFECRACKING & TAMPERING WITH A COIN MACHINE		7	
CRIMINAL TRESPASSING	402	844	44
AGGRAVATED CRIMINAL TRESPASSING	1	27	
TOTAL	403	2014	44

<b>WEAPONS</b>			
<b>CCW/FELONY</b>			
CCW	2	246	1
IMPROPER HANDLING OF FIREARM/MV		59	
<b>CCW LICENSE</b>			
VIOLETION/FALSIFICATION		1	
WEAPONS UNDER DISABILITY		244	
WEAPON USE WHILE INTOXICATED	2	21	
DISCHARGING WEAPONS	28	23	1
IMPROPER HANDLING/DISCHARGING/ POSSESSION FIREARM (FELONY)		172	1
FAIL TO INFORM OFFICER (CCW / FIREARM)		21	
POSSESSION OF CRIMINAL TOOLS/DEFACING		147	9
POSSESSION OF CRIMINAL TOOLS (FELONY)		110	
POSSESSION/UNSECURED OF DANGEROUS ORDINANCE		7	
FURNISH/POSSESS WEAPON/FIREARM TO MINOR		1	
ATTEMPT/FELONY		42	
ATTEMPT		61	3
COMPLICITY	15	150	19
TOTAL	47	1305	34
<b>THEFT &amp; FRAUD</b>			
GRAND THEFT		97	
FELONY THEFT		33	
THEFT/PETTY THEFT/ATTEMPTED	845	5,025	399
FELONY THEFT BY DECEPTION	28		
THEFT BY DECEPTION		66	
THEFT IN OFFICE			
EXTORTION		3	
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES	2	42	2
FELONY UNAUTHORIZED USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES-48 HOURS		37	
UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY		3	
FELONY UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PROPERTY			
FORGERY & UTTERING		641	
PASSING BAD CHECKS		541	10
RSP	181	1038	15
MISUSE OF CREDIT CARD MIS.		9	
MISUSE OF CREDIT CARD FELONY		8	
DEFRAUD, COUNTERFEIT & TAMPER WITH RECORDS		9	
FELONY TAMPERING WITH RECORDS		9	
CRIMINAL SIMULATION		28	3
FELONY CRIMINAL SIMULATION			
FELONY TAKING IDENTITY OF ANOTHER		1	
TAKING IDENTITY OF ANOTHER		91	
WORKERS COMP FRAUD		22	
TRAFFICKING IN FOOD STAMPS		3	
TOTAL	1056	7706	429

<b>OFFENCES AGAINST PEACE OFFICERS</b>			
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	933	441	29
RESISTING ARREST	296	210	6
FALSIFICATION/CERTAIN ACTS PROHIBITED/I.D.	285	123	30
FAILURE TO COMPLY/ELUDE	33	134	
MISCONDUCT AT EMERGENCY	23	4	1
INDUCING PANIC	9	8	1
MAKING FALSE ALARMS	2	11	1
IMPROPER USE OF 911	57	6	3
RIOT/ENTICING VIOLENCE/TERROR THREATS	1	19	2
OBSTRUCTING OFFICIAL BUSINESS	369	321	22
OBSTRUCTING OFFICIAL BUSINESS FELONY		17	
FALSE INFORMATION TO MISLEAD/FALSE REPORT/FALSE ALLEGATION	42	300	1
IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER/OFFICIAL		5	
ASSAULT ON POLICE OFFICER		53	
FLEEING AND ELUDING/FELONY			
FLEEING AND ELUDING			9
ESCAPE		36	
FELONY ESCAPE			
TOTAL	2050	1688	105
<b>OFFENCES AGAINST FAMILY</b>			
ENDANGERING CHILDREN		488	20
ENDANGERING CHILDREN/OVI		60	
FELONY ENDANGERING CHILDREN		4	
ENDANGERING MRDD/DISABLED		6	
INTERFERING WITH CUSTODY/NON-SUPPORT	1	33	1
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (FELONY)		6	
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE		4,563	
FELONY VIOLATION TEMPORARY PROTECTION ORDER		9	
VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDER		756	
PROTECTION ORDER FOR STALKING			
CONTRIBUTE, INFLUENCE WITH MINOR	3		1
TOTAL	4	5925	22

<b>OFFENCES AGAINST PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</b>			
CONTEMPT OF COURT		3	16
WITNESS INTIMIDATION/RETALIATION	1	21	
FELONY FORCE OR THREATEN WITNESS INTIMIDATION			
ETHNIC INTIMIDATION			
TAMPERING WITH EVIDENCE		120	
PUBLIC URINATION/DEFECATION	124		
CONVEY ILLEGAL CONTRABAND TO JAIL		101	
HARRASSMENT BY INMATE		32	
TELEPHONE/TELECOMMUNICATIONS HARRASSMENT		107	11
DISRUPT PUBLIC SERVICES/ MISCONDUCT		9	
ETHICS VIOLATIONS/DERELICTION OF DUTY		5	
NOTARY VIOLATION			
MISCONDUCT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION	62	4	
TOTAL	187	402	27
<b>ALCOHOL OFFENCES</b>			
PROHIBITED ALCOHOL UNDER 21 YEARS OLD	77	400	26
MINOR PURCHASING			2
OPEN CONTAINER	2	59	19
OPEN CONTAINER IN PUBLIC PLACE	524	119	1
OPEN CONTAINER IN MOTOR VEHICLE	304	63	7
KEEPER OF PLACE	28	1	
LIQUOR PROHIBITIONS	4	468	
TOTAL	939	642	55
<b>GAMBLING</b>			
PUBLIC GAMING			
GAMING			
GAMBLING	2	3	
CASINO RELATED OFFENSES		18	
TOTAL	0	0	0

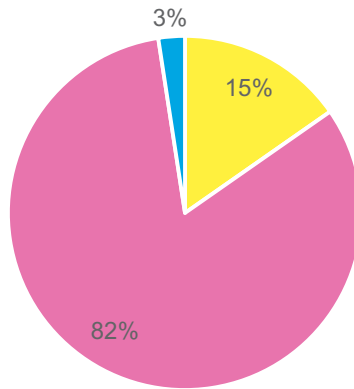
<b>MISC CRIMINAL VIOLATION</b>			
FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE		115	
HOLD FOREIGN JURISDICTION		384	
FELONY CONSPIRACY		2	
ETHNIC INTIMIDATION			
AIRCRAFT INTERFERENCE		1	
CIVIL CAPIAS		40	
ILLEGAL TOBACCO DISTRIBUTION/PERMITTING MINOR/REPORT INVIN		53	
VENDOR/SALES DIST/LICENSE/TAX/REPORT VIOLATIONS		108	
TAX FORMS		2	
AGGRESSIVE PANHANDLING	21		1
EXPOSING OTHERS-CONTAGION		13	
MOTOR VEHICLE DEALER VIOLA.		20	
TOTAL	21	738	1
<b>OVI &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>			
OVI			
OVI (FELONY)		60	
OVI PER SE			
PHYSICAL CONTROL			
TOTAL	0	60	0



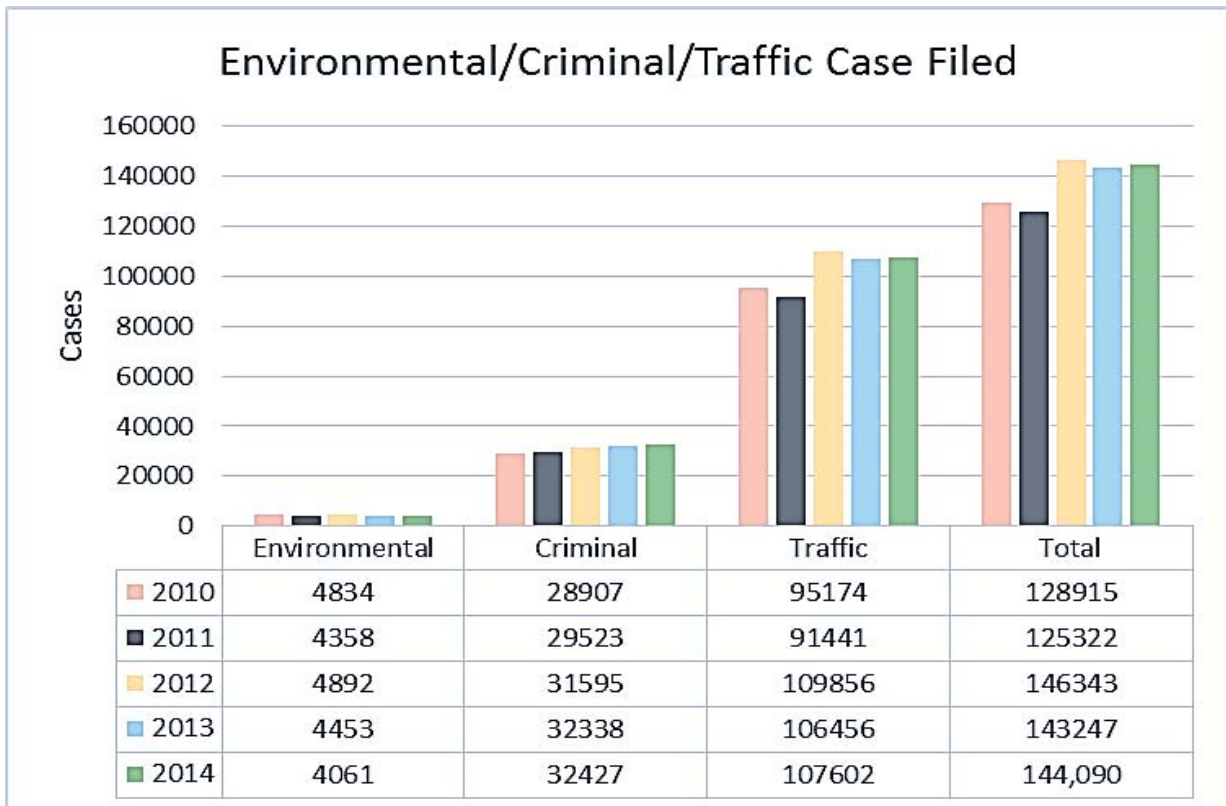
## Summary of Cases

	City of Columbus Ordinance	Ohio Revised Code	Other Municipal Ordinance
Environmental	987	6,030	35
Criminal	6,640	34,994	1,172
Total	7,627	41,024	1,207

## Charges By Ordinance & Ohio Revised Code



■ City of Columbus Ordinance    ■ Ohio Revised Code    ■ Other Municipal Ordinance



## **Traffic Violations Bureau**

**The Traffic Violations Bureau manages all complaints issued by the following jurisdictions within Franklin County: Columbus Division of Police, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Franklin County Sheriff, Ohio State University Police, Port Columbus Police, Eight (8) Townships, and Twenty-one (21) Municipal law enforcement agencies. Our Office has jurisdiction in Three (3) Counties; Franklin, Delaware, and Fairfield.**

**Within the Traffic Violations Bureau, is the Communications Department. The function of the Communications Department is to further promote ongoing communications and the delivery of excellent public service to the general public, law enforcement agencies, attorneys, court personnel, other courts, and governmental agencies.**

**The responsibilities of the Traffic Violations Bureau and Communications Department include the following:**

- **Initiating payable and mandatory offenses; this includes traffic, criminal, and environmental cases**
- **Scanning all original tickets, complaints and confidential identifiers**
- **Sending out notices and summonses for new court dates on traffic, criminal and environmental cases**
- **Referring cases to the Prosecutor for determination**
- **Storing payable traffic cases with future court dates and payable cases 30 days after the original court date**
- **Preparing cases to be processed for the Court's signature**
- **Opening, logging and processing mail for all divisions**
- **Processing payments to ensure accuracy prior to being receipted**
- **Referring cases to Magistrates and Judges for payment determinations**
- **Sending out letters for invalid car insurance and payments for traffic, criminal and environmental cases**

- **Processing cases transferred from Mayor's Courts, which may include bond money and slated defendants**
- **Assisting the public, employers, City, County and State Agencies by providing case dispositions pertaining to public record requests**
- **Preparing the daily traffic court docket sheets**
- **Entering Identification Tracking Numbers (ITN's) into CourtView**

**In 2014, the Traffic Violations Bureau accomplished the following:**

- **Continued effective communication with all stakeholders to ensure quality work**
- **Cross-trained staff**
- **Participated in Internal Office Training Classes**
- **Assisted the Criminal/Traffic Department with the end-of-the-year file control**
- **Initiated over 11,600 traffic, criminal and environmental cases per month**
- **Mailed out over 800 traffic, criminal and environment summonses by certified mail per month**

**In 2014, the Communications Department accomplished the following:**

- **Logged over 120,000 pieces of Civil mail and Criminal/Traffic payments**
- **Mailed out over 200 letters regarding a balance due and insurance letters per month**



CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED IN 2014

ACDA	6,143	Emrg Veh-Fail to Slow Down	2
Appr Pub Safety Veh w/Lts Dis	72	Expired Tags	462
Backing from Alley/Priv Dr/Bldg	63	Fail/Keep to Right	1
Backing on Freeway	18	Failure to Comply	229
Backing w/o Safety	397	Failure to Comply w/Officer	3
Bicycle Bell Required	1	Failure to Control	2,975
Bicycle Lamp/Refl Req at Night	94	Failure to Display	41
Bicycle Near Right Side	1	Failure to Display Headlights	469
Bicycle Ride-Right Side of Rdwy	27	Failure to Display License	2
Bicycle Signal Device	39	Failure to Display Two Plates	273
Bicycle Yield Right of Way Xing	4	Failure to Register	12
Bicycle-Oper w/o Control Proh	2	Failure to Reinstate License	1,794
Bicycle-Oper w/o Safety Proh	13	Failure to Signal	2,603
Bicycle-Oper w/o Two Hands Proh	6	Failure to Stop/Grade Crossing	1
Bicycle-Operate Weaving Proh	8	Failure to Stop-Accident	416
Bicycle-Parking on Sidewlk Restr	3	Failure to Stop-Mrkd Schl Xing	1
Bicycle-Ride on Sidewlk Proh	71	Failure to Stop-School Bus	41
Bike Signal Device	26	Failure to Yield Private Drive	679
Blue Light Prohibited	65	Failure to Yield Pub Safety Veh	60
Board/Alight in Motion Prohibited	3	Failure to Yield-Funeral Process	1
Brake Equipment Requirements	7	Fail-Yield Ped Crswlk/Sdwlk	89
Certain Acts Prohibited	1	False Info to Issuing Officer	31
Certain Acts Proh-False Display	10	Flashing Lights Prohibited	7
Certain Acts Proh-Fict ID	59	Flashing Red/Blue Lghts Proh	1
Certain Acts Proh-Lend ID	2	Flashing Traffic Signal	52
Chg Course w/o Safety	369	Fleeing	25
Counterfeit Plates	7	Focus and Aim of Headlights	4
Cycle-Helmet/Glasses	3	Following Emrg Vehicles	1
Damage Sidewlk/Traff Cntrl Dev	1	Following Too Closely	143
Drive on Closed Highway	35	FTY "T" Intersection	18
Drive on Curb/Sidewlk	68	FTY Right on Red	9
Drive over Fire Hose	1	FTY Stop Sign-Bicycle	2
Driving Across Grade Crossing	2	Hazardous or No Passing Zone	141
Driving Left of Center Prohibited	82	Hit Skip-Per/Propty	2
Driving on Right Side	228	Hit Skip-Pub Street	335
Driving Outside License Restr	50	Improper Bumper	2
Driving u/FRA Suspension	2,938	Improper Left Turn	225
Driving u/FRA Suspension Immob	1	Improper Passing	96
Driving u/OVI Suspension	214	Improper Right Turn	476
Driving u/Suspension	5,264	Inadequate Brakes	4
Driving Unsafe Vehicle	100	Installation of Proh Window Tint	12
Driving w/in Lanes	519	Inter w/Non-Wrking Traff Cntrl	44
Duties/Non-Working Signal	1	Keep to Right/Rotary	1



CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAFFIC CASES FILED IN 2014

Lane Control Signals	4	Passing on the Left	27
Let Licensed Driver Drive	3	Passing on the Right	66
License Plate Violation	2	Passing Veh Stpd at Crswlk/Proh	2
Lights Reg Parked/Stopped Veh	3	Ped Control Signal	29
Load Extension Limitations	3	Pedestrian Cross w/o Safety	114
Manner of Signal	2	Pedestrian Crossing Prohibited	53
Manner of Signal-Bicycle	3	Pedestrian Diagonal Cross Restr	45
Marked Lanes	1,815	Pedestrian Fail Yield Emrg Veh	2
Mirror-Unobstructed View	3	Pedestrian on the Roadway	241
Moped-Carrying Passenger Proh	1	Ped Outside Brdg/Tunl to Yield	1
Motor Vehicle/Cycle Noise	62	Ped Outside Crosswlk to Yield	23
Muffler,Excessive,Gas or Smoke	76	Ped Soliciting from Rdwy Proh	1,119
MV Title Violation	1	Ped Soliciting Ride Proh	34
No Moped License	1	Ped to Face Traffic	23
No Motorcycle Endorsement	57	Ped to Yield Right of Way-Veh	10
No Operators License	5,002	Ped Under Influence Prohibited	156
No Ops License Exp < 6 Months	315	Ped Use of Crosswalk Required	318
No Ops License-Valid Ops	96	Ped Use of Shoulder Required	80
Non-Trans Mat on Window Proh	5	Ped Use of Sidewalk Required	500
Obscured Lights	2	Poss or Sale of Traff Cntrl Dev	1
Obscured Windshield Proh	23	Poster/Sign Window	3
Obstruct Inter Railroad Xing	73	Prohibited Attaching to Vehicle	2
Obstruct RR Xing/Commercial	2	Prohibited Nmbr of Headlights	115
Obstructed View-Driver	8	Prohibited Use of Mobile Comm	60
Obstructed View-Passenger	2	Prohibited Left of Center	15
One Way Bicycle	12	Prohibited Riding in/on Vehicle	1
One Way-Highway/Rotary	514	Prohibited Right Turn	71
Open Door in Traffic	24	Prohibited Start/Backing	15
Open Door w/o Safety	4	Prohibited Turn	27
Operate MV w/o Title	1	Prohibition/Highway	55
Operate w/Foreign Tag	10	Rear License Plate Light	10
Operate w/Tag from Prev Owner	23	Rear View Mirror Clear View	36
Operating w/Outside Rider Proh	4	Red Light/Flag Req on Ext Load	7
Operation of MV/MC on Sidewalk	3	Red Reflectors Req on MV	10
Operation w/Proh Window Tint	1,142	Red Reflectors Req on Trailer	1
Operations of Moped Requirements	2	Reflectorized Mat on Window	2
Park-Handicapped Space	1	Registration Violation	5
Parking Violation	3	Repeat Offender Suspension	59
Park-Intersection	1	Req: Distr of Headlight Beams	80
Park-Obstr Garage/Driveway	1	Resisting Traffic Enf Official	12
Park-Obstr Street/Crosswalk	4	Riding Bicycle/MC Abreast	5
Pass on the Right/Cars Opp Dir	17	Riding Bicycle/MC Restrictions	9
Passing Left of Center	110	Riding on Outside Prohibited	8



Right of Way:Intersection	42	Windshield Wiper Requires	2
Right of Way: Pedestrian	13	Wrong Side Divided Road	49
Rt of Way/Stop/Yield	35	Wrongful Entrustment	86
Rt of Way When Turning Left	1,678	Yield Sign	41
Side Cowl/Fender/Backup Light	3		
Sidewalk/Closed Alley Restricted	3		
Signal Terms/Lights	121		
Signal-Stopping	2		
Skates,Coaster,Toy in Rdwy Proh	9		
Slow Moving Veh on Right Side	2		
Slow Speed	412		
Speed	18,601		
Speed/School Zone <35 MPH	799		
Speed/School Zone >35 MPH	155		
Speed-Unreasonable for Conditions	9		
Squealing Tires	116		
Stop Lights Required	174		
Stop Sign	2,188		
Stop-Sidewalk Area	176		
Street Racing	4		
Tags Violation	3,014		
Tail/License Plate Light Required	527		
Tampering W/Traffic Control Dev	4		
Temp Plate-Display	4		
Temp Permit w/o Licensed Driver	4		
Temporary Permit Violation	420		
Temporary Permit/MC Violation	16		
Title/Violation	4		
Traffic Control Device	3,860		
Traffic Control Device-Pedestrian	129		
Turn on Red	200		
Turn From One Way Street	3		
Turn/Stop Signals	43		
Turning at Intersections	1,867		
Turning/Priv Drwy,alley or Bldg	11		
Two Lights Required	304		
Unauthorized Signs and Signals	3		
Unnecessary Horn	31		
Use Fictitious Plates	76		
Use of Headphones	28		
Use Tag to Another Vehicle	377		
U Turn	657		
Valid Ops/Exp Ops	6		



ACDA	1,434	Failure to Comply	31
Apply Registration	2,082	Failure to Control	1,075
Bicycle Brake Required	2	Failure to Display	60
Bicycle Lamps/Refl Req at Night	14	Failure to Display Headlights	397
Bicycle to Ride on Right Side	3	Failure to Display License	186
Brake Equipment Required	1	Failure to Display Two Plates	26
Certain Act Prohibited-Fict ID	2	Failure to Mrk Handicapped Prk	1
Certificate of Title Violation	1	Failure to Register	9
Child Restraint	833	Failure to Reinstate a License	1,429
Consumption in a Motor Vehicle	1	Failure to Signal	1,238
Counterfeit Plates	1	Failure to Stop/Grade Crossing	2
Dealer Tag Display	5	Failure to Stop-Accident	120
Display of Warn Dev-Flamm Load	1	False Info to Issuing Officer	48
Display Regs-Comm	2	False Statements/License	13
Drag Racing	8	Flashing Lights Prohibited	1
Drive in Center Lane	1	Flashing Red/Blue Lights Proh	1
Drive on Curb/Walk	8	Flashing Traffic Signal	3
Drive Thru Safety Zone	2	Focus and Aim of Headlights	14
Drive Closed Highway	44	Follow Emergency Vehicle	2
Driver License Restriction	12	Following Too Close	441
Driving Action Appr Emrg Vehicle	166	FTY Pub Safety Vehicle	68
Driving Left of Center Prohibited	66	FTY to Ped in Xwalk/Sidewalk	10
Driving on Right Side of Roadway	225	FTY-Funeral Procession	2
Driving Outside License Restr	67	Handicapped Parking	120
Driving u/FRA Susp or Cancelled	3,172	Hazard/No Pass Zone	92
Driving u/Repeat Traffic Offender	229	Hit Skip-Pers/Propty	17
Driving u/Suspension	5,385	Hit Skip-Pub Street	90
Driving u/Susp-FTP Child Supprt	27	Horn/Siren/Alarm Signal	3
Driving u/OVI Suspension	351	Improper Bumper	9
Driving Unsafe Vehicle	118	Improper Passing	58
Driving w/o Valid License Exp	57	Inadequate Brakes	1
Driving w/o Valid License	86	Installation of Proh Window Tint	3
Driving While Texting	38	Intersec w/Non-Wrkng TCD	7
Driving Within Lanes	296	Lights Req on Prkd/Stpped Veh	4
Duties/Non-Working Signal	1	Lights Req on Slow Move Veh	1
Emrg Veh FT Slow Down	3	Manner of Signal-Bicycle	1
Engine Noise Violation	6	Marked Lanes	2,074
Equip Turn Signals	10	Max Number of Headlights	4
Equip Turn Signals-MC	1	Muffler,Excessive Gas or Smoke	102
Erect Stop Sign Private	1	MV Resistrar-Dealer	1
Fail to Stop School Bus	19	No MC Endorsement	28
Fail to Yield Bicycle	1	No Operators License	5,672
Fail to Yield from Private Drive	141	No Ops Lic Exp < 6 Months	163



Noncommercial MV Use	1	Pedestrian Use of Sidewalk Req	26
Non-Trans Mat on Window Proh	2	Pedestrian-FTY To Emrg Veh	2
Obscure Lights	5	Pedestrians	3
Obstructed View Mirror	6	Permit Minor Oper Vehicle	1
Obstructing Intersection/RR Xng	6	Permit Oper by Unlnsd Dr/Surr	1
One Way-Highway/Rotary	43	Permit Oper w/o Valid License	19
Open Container Traffic	24	Proh Against Pass Left on Cntrln	28
Open Door in Traffic	2	Proh Attaching to Vehicle	1
Operate MV w/o Title	1	Proh Number of Headlights	434
Operate w/Foreign Tag	5	Proh Riding In/On Vehicle	1
Operate w/Tag from Prev Owner	25	Proh U Turn	137
Operating w/Outside Rider Proh	1	Proof of FRA	19
Operation of Veh on/near Hwy/St	1	Rear View Mirror/Clear View	12
Operation w/Proh Window Tint	24	Red Light/Flag Req on Ext Load	5
Park-Crosswalk/Intersection	2	Red Reflectors Req on MV	27
Park-Double	4	Remove Parked Vehicle	1
Park-Driveway	3	Req:Distr of Headlight Beams	213
Park-Fire Hydrant	15	Resisting Traffic Enf Official	1
Park-Fire Station	1	Riding Bicycle/MC Restrictions	37
Park-Gvt Regulations	34	Riding on Outside Prohibited	2
Parking Near Curb	3	Right of Way Intersections	400
Parking on Highway	19	Right of Way Pedestrian	2
Parking on Rdwy Portion of Frwy	12	Rules for Passing on the Left	76
Parking Wrong Direction	7	Rules for Passing on the Right	38
Parking-Private Rules	9	Safety Glass	2
Park-Intersection	2	Safety Lighting on Comm Veh	7
Park-On Sidewalk	9	Seatbelt-Allow Passenger	176
Park-Safety Zone	18	Seatbelt-Operator	9,324
Park-To Obstruct Traffic	5	Seatbelt-Passenger	417
Park-Traffic Control Device	5	Side,Cowl,Fender,Back-up Light	62
Park-Within One Foot	2	Signal Terms/Lights	295
Pass on Right-Cars Opposite Dir	4	Slow Moving Veh on Right Side	9
Ped Control Signal	5	Slow Speed	62
Pedestrian Crossing Prohibited	8	Slow Veh Headlight Req	1
Pedestrian on the Freeway	3	Special Vehicles	1
Pedestrian on the Roadway	3	Speed	21,015
Pedestrian Outside Xwlk to Yield	33	Speed/School Zone > 20MPH	151
Pedestrian Soliciting from Rdwy	206	Speed-Unreasonable For Cond	5
Pedestrian Soliciting Ride Proh	19	Spotlight/Aux Driv Light Proh	1
Pedestrian Sudden Cross w/o Sfty	3	Starting and Backing Vehicles	113
Pedestrian to Face Traffic	1	Stop Lights Required	133
Pedestrian Under Influence Proh	4	Stop Sign	887
Pedestrian Use of Shoulder Req	5	Stop-Sidewalk Area	9





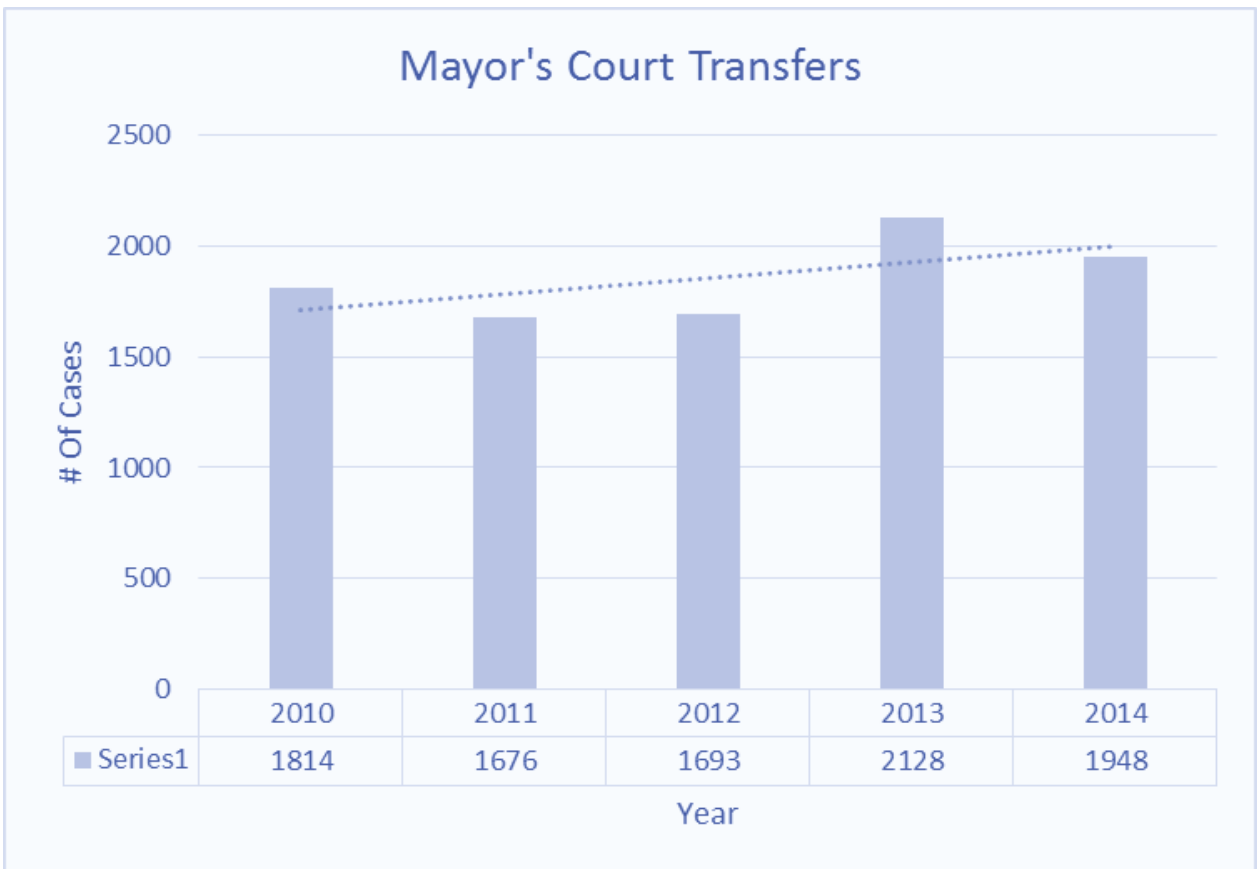
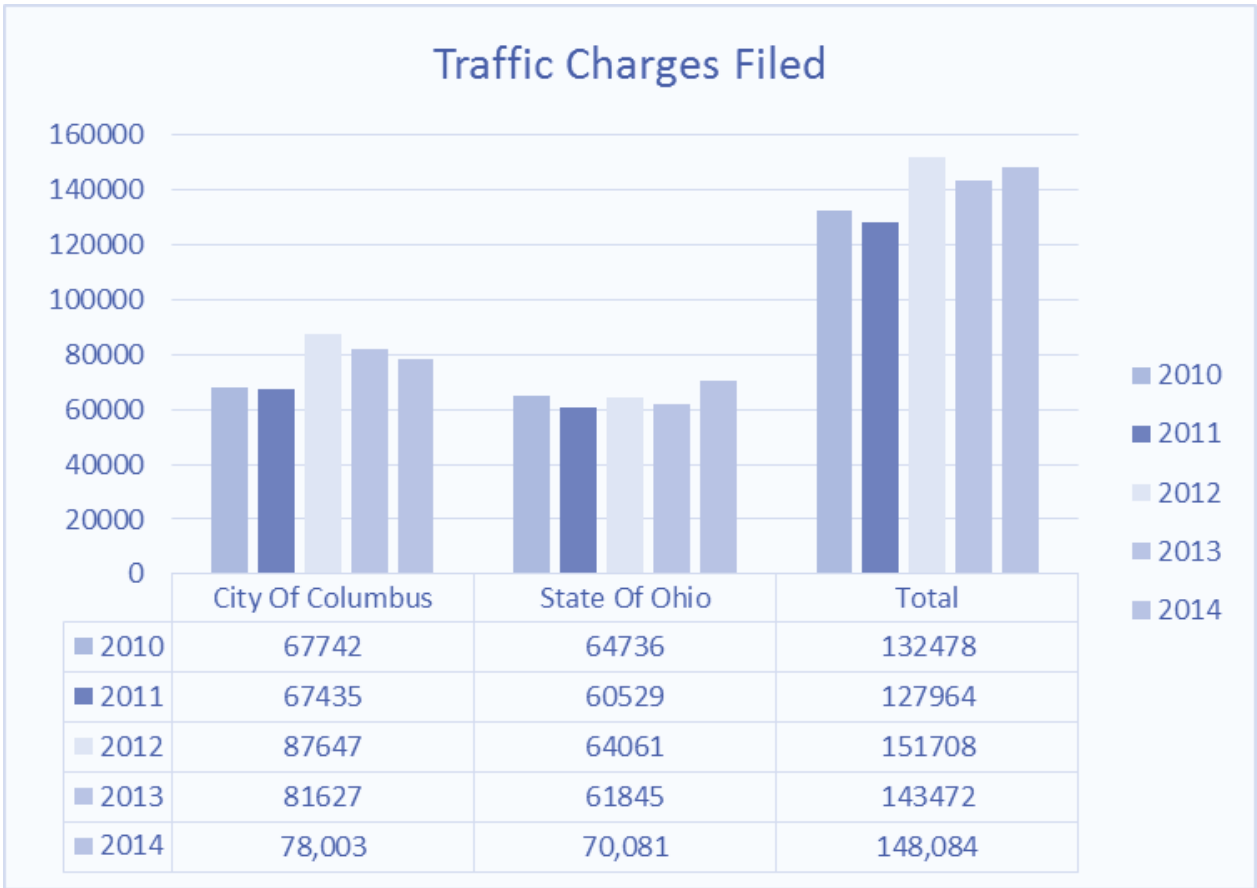
STATE OF OHIO TRAFFIC CHARGES FILED 2014

Susp Non Resident Viol Compact	1		
Suspension Drug Offense	6		
Tag Violation	2,498		
Tail/License Plate Light Required	583		
Temp Plate Dealer	2		
Temp Plate Registrar	5		
Temporary Permit Violation	52		
Temp Prmt w/o Licensed Driver	117		
Temp Prmt/MC Violation	5		
Tinted Windows	95		
Title & Reg Transfer	46		
Traffic Control Device	1,504		
Traffic Control Device Pedestrian	8		
Turn on Red	356		
Turning at Intersection	293		
Two Lights Required	312		
Unattended Motor Vehicle	5		
Unauthorized Signs and Signals	5		
Use Fictitious Plates	258		
Use of Headphones	19		
Use Tag to Another Vehicle	371		
Use Special Plates	2		
Windshield Placard Viol Parking	2		
Windshield Required	44		
Windshield Wiper Required	1		
Wrong Side-Divided Road	75		
Wrongful Entrustment	82		
Yield Sign	38		

<b>BEXLEY</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>BRICE</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>CANAL WINCHESTER</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>DUBLIN</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>GAHANNA</b>	<b>274</b>
<b>GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>GROVE CITY</b>	<b>583</b>
<b>GROVEPORT</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>HILLIARD</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>MARBLE CLIFF</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>MINERVA PARK</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>NEW ALBANY</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>OBETZ</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>REYNOLDSBURG</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>UPPER ARLINGTON</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>VALLEYVIEW</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>WESTERVILLE</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>WHITEHALL</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>WORTHINGTON</b>	<b>103</b>

TOTAL CASES FILED:

1,942



## Accounting/Finance Division

The Accounting/Finance Division oversees the collection of and accounting for all fines, court costs, fees, bail, garnishments, and judgments issued by the Court. The Division oversees the disbursement of collected funds to the appropriate parties, and releases funds in satisfactions, judgments, attachments, garnishments, and executions. The Accounting Division also has three internal payment programs in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code and Local Court Rules. The programs are as follows:

### Time Payment Program

This program under authorization by the sentencing Judge allows a defendant to make monthly payments on court fines and costs up to twelve months or until balance is paid in full.

Total number of sign-ups in 2014: 2820

### Rent Escrow Program

This program allows tenants with complaints regarding their residential housing conditions to deposit rent due into an escrow account until the matter has been resolved.

Cases filed in 2014: 266

### Trusteeship Program

This program allows a debtor to deposit a portion of the personal earnings with the Clerk of Courts to avoid legal proceedings by creditors. The funds collected are disbursed to creditors equally until all debt is paid in full.

Cases filed in 2014: 31

### EPAY Online Payment Service

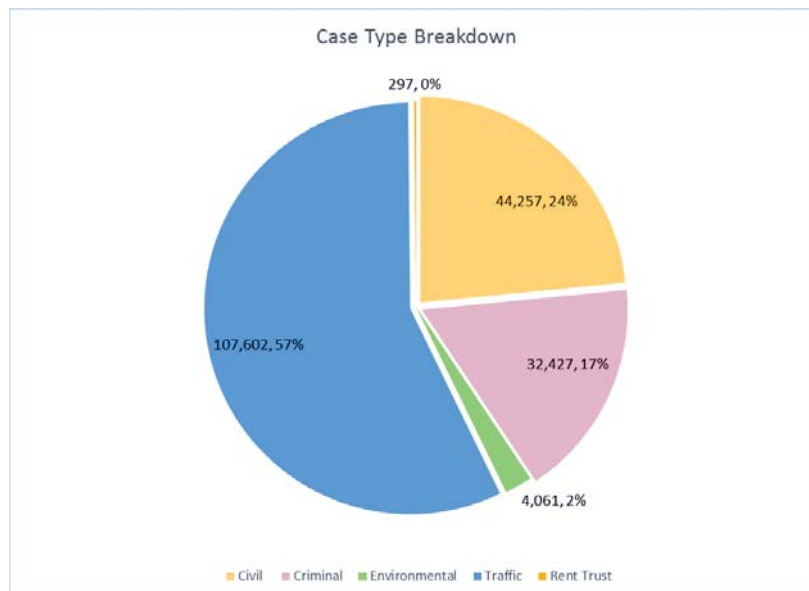
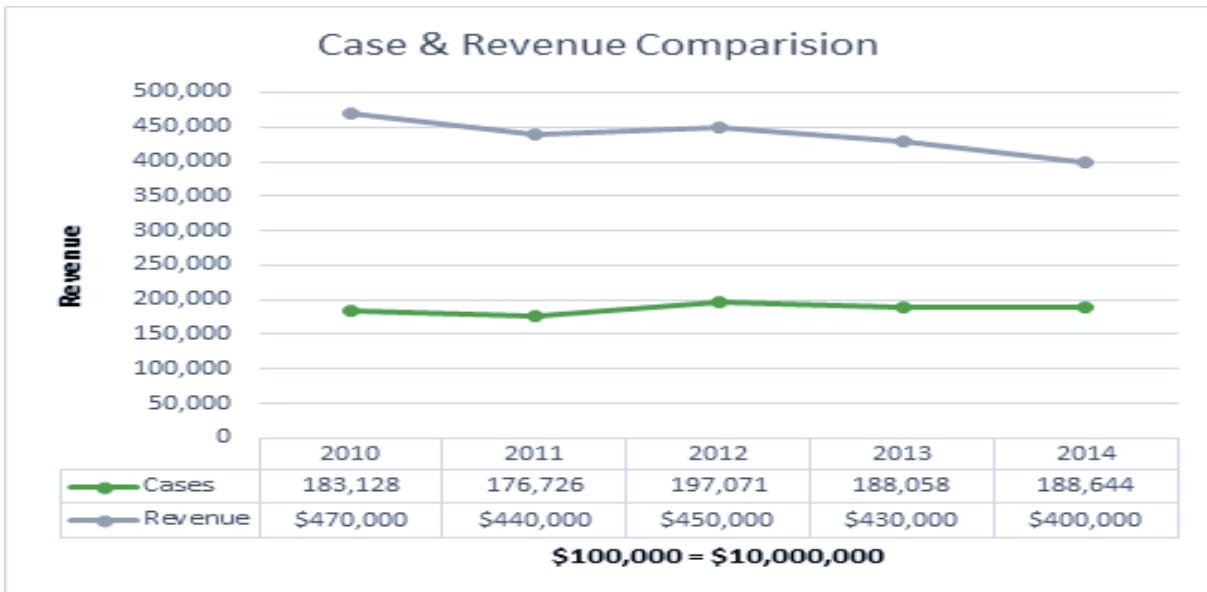
This is an online payment convenience that is offered by the Clerks Office for payments of payable citations, and also payment of fines and costs incurred once adjudicated.

Total cases paid in 2014: 40,528

Amount collected in 2014: \$6,741,106.96

**The Accounting/Finance Division is responsible for preparing a monthly general accounting for all funds received and disbursed by the Clerk's Office. These records are audited annually by a licensed certified public accounting firm and approved by the State Auditor's Office. Accomplishments for Accounting/Finance in 2014 are as follows:**

- **Implemented new weekly bond refund**
  - **Savings realized - postage, checks issued, and unclaimed funds**
- **Completed Annual Audit - Zero Infractions (4<sup>th</sup> year straight)**
- **Improved Customer Service During Shift Change**
- **Restitution - Collaborated with the Probation Department and the Restitution Unit**
- **Maintained Three-Deep Training for key areas – Rent, Trusteeship, Bail and E-Pay**
- **Updated and Improved Rent and Trusteeship Program Information on Website**
- **Continued efforts with each department and courthouse to attain a paperless environment.**
- **Enhanced professional development opportunities through our Leadership Training Program, Est. 2012**
  - **Recognition Program**
    - **Based on training initiatives**
    - **New Deadline Schedule for Unclaimed Funds, Year-end close, and Law Library disbursement**
    - **Court Cost Increases**
      - **\$1 Assisted Self-Help Center**
      - **\$2 Specialized Docket Fee**



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**2014 Franklin County Municipal Court  
Financial Statements**

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Financial Statements

Balance Sheet

For the Year Ending December 31, 2014

**Assets**

Cash Civil	\$1,204,238.11
Cash Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund	\$1,527,517.91
Cash Rent Escrow Fund	\$129,576.03
Cash Trusteeship Fund	\$5,757.42

**Total Assets**

**\$2,867,089.47**

**Liabilities**

Due to Payee Civil Fund	\$1,204,238.11
Due to Payee Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund	\$1,527,517.91
Due to Payee Rest Escrow Fund	\$129,576.03
Due to Payee Trusteeship Fund	\$5,757.42

**Total Liabilities**

**\$2,867,089.47**

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements

For the Year Ending December 31, 2014

**Receipts**

Receipts Civil Fund	\$18,994,622.44
Receipts Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund	\$20,450,367.80
Receipts Rent Escrow Fund	\$325,309.66
Receipts Trusteeship Fund	\$157,111.11

**Total Receipts**

**\$39,927,411.01**

**Disbursements**

Disbursements Civil Fund	\$18,867,922.83
Disbursements Criminal/Traffic/Bail Fund	\$20,560,140.00
Disbursements Rent Escrow Fund	\$287,101.67
Disbursements Trusteeship Fund	\$155,218.98

**Total Disbursements**

**\$39,870,383.48**



**Statement of Civil Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>City of Columbus</b>	
Administrative 1% Legal Aid Fees	\$9,772.82
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person CV OCA 226005	\$15,066.00
Civil Contempt Fine	\$0.00
Civil Court Cost	\$4,500,525.65
Civil Environmental Fines	\$839.00
Civil Home Incarceration Program Fee	\$250.00
Civil Home Incarceration Equipment Cost	\$250.00
Civil Security Facilities Fees	\$402,182.72
Civil Specialty Docket Programs	\$65,117.06
Copier Debit Cards	\$3,134.00
Municipal Clerk Computer Fees	\$403,575.33
Municipal Court Computer Fees	\$121,080.00
Return Check Fees	\$600.00
Small Claims Dispute Resolution Sub-Fund	\$270.00
<b>Total City of Columbus</b>	<b>\$5,522,662.58</b>
<b>State of Ohio</b>	
State Legal Aid Fees	\$967,343.19
<b>Daily Reporter</b>	
Publication Fees	\$356,269.00
<b>Other Entities</b>	
Civil Bond Deposits	\$20,208.00
Civil Deposits	(\$134.42)
Civil Judgment Deposits	\$12,035,243.31
Civil Jury Deposits	\$52,000.00
Civil Overpayment Deposits	\$34,667.99
Civil Sheriff Deposits	\$1,960.00
Civil Towing Deposits	\$1,600.00
Civil Witness Deposits	\$2,091.79
Environmental Appraisal	\$600.00
Environmental Injunctive	\$0.00
Environmental Mortgage	\$0.00
Environmental Sheriff	\$111.00
<b>Total Other Entities</b>	<b>\$12,148,347.67</b>
<b>Total Civil Fund Receipts</b>	<b>\$18,994,622.44</b>





**Statement of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

**City of Columbus**

Appearance Bond Costs	\$125,436.27
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person TR OCA 226105	\$22,784.63
City Jury Fees	\$6,320.71
Collection Account 14450	\$234,979.00
Columbus City Code Fines	\$2,693,511.14
Columbus Health Department Fines	\$0.00
Court Costs	\$4,501,226.58
CR/TR Clerk Computerization Fund	\$972,893.18
CR/TR Collection Fee	\$222,426.26
CR/TR Court Computerization Fund	\$291,828.50
CR/TR Environmental Fines	\$38,318.00
CR/TR Probation Services	\$548,697.10
CR/TR Security Facilities Fee	\$956,151.36
CR/TR Specialty Docket Program	\$133,085.39
Criminal Diversion Fee	\$50.00
DUI Education Fund	\$26,692.85
ENV Probation Services	\$7,710.83
Home Incarceration Equipment Cost	\$9,325.00
Home Incarceration Program	\$8,355.00
Indigent DR ALC Fund DUS	\$125.00
Immobilizing/Disabling Devices Fine	\$101,769.21
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund DUI	\$192,143.15
Local Expungements City Share	\$7,400.00
Local Witness Fees	\$30,247.87
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines 14050	\$461,093.13
Prosecutor's Check Resolution Program	\$26,347.50
Returned Check Fees	\$1,350.00

**Total City of Columbus**

**\$11,620,267.66**

**State of Ohio**

Bail Surcharge-Indigent Defense Support	\$208,616.00
Child Restraint Law State Fund	\$11,374.50
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$286,564.47
Indigent Defense Support Fund	\$2,511,660.26
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund	\$90.00
Justice Program Services Fund	\$8,386.80
Local Expungements State Share	\$11,100.00
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines State Share	\$527,049.05
Public Defender-Indigent Defense Support Fund	\$9,432.00
State Expungements State Share	\$26,010.00
State Highway Safety Fund	\$232.50
State Liquor Fines State Share	\$37,608.50
State Seatbelt Fines	\$3,175.00
Trauma and EMT Fund	\$236,418.98
Victims of Crime	\$853,205.25

**Statement of Criminal Traffic Fund Receipts Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>State of Ohio-BMV</b>		
BMV License Suspension/Reinstatement Fee		\$360.00
BMV Warrant Block Reinstatement Fee		\$360.00
<b>State of Ohio-DUI</b>		
Ohio Highway Patrol DUI Education Fund		\$18,616.00
<b>State of Ohio-ODNR</b>		
State Watercraft Fund		\$200.00
State Wildlife Fund		\$2,278.50
<b>Total State of Ohio</b>		<b>\$4,752,737.81</b>

**Franklin County**

	<b>State Traffic 4511 &amp; 4513</b>	<b>Other State Traffic Violations</b>	<b>Other State Violations</b>	
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$5,342.95	\$5,592.95
Captial Area Humane Society	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$582.00	\$582.00
Columbus Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus Regulation Division	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Columbus State University	\$1,485.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,685.00
County Road & Bridge Fund	\$192,531.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$192,531.50
Department of Animal Control	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,955.71	\$65,955.71
Franklin County Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,394.80	\$7,394.80
Municipal Police	\$358,932.99	\$48,749.00	\$151,743.13	\$559,425.12
Ohio Department of Natural Resouces	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ohio Department of Public Safety	\$0.00	\$3,582.00	\$0.00	\$3,582.00
Ohio Department of Taxation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,213.00	\$7,213.00
Ohio Ethics Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$825.00	\$825.00
Ohio Highway Patrol	\$116,553.09	\$194.50	\$374.40	\$117,121.99
Ohio State Agencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$580.00	\$580.00
Ohio State University	\$12,408.50	\$2,850.00	\$2,811.00	\$18,069.50
Otterbein College	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Port Columbus Airport	\$18,427.00	\$3,655.00	\$990.00	\$23,072.00
	<b>\$700,488.08</b>	<b>\$59,480.50</b>	<b>\$243,823.99</b>	
Indigent Application Fee				\$121,841.28
State Expungements-County Share				\$17,340.00
State Jury Fees				\$4,336.07
State Liquor Fines-County Share				\$37,608.50
Law Library Resources Fund				\$69,391.50
State Witness Fees				\$19,862.52



**Statement Of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Townships County Share</b>	<b>State Traffic 4511 &amp; 4513</b>	<b>Other State Traffic Violations</b>	<b>Other State Violations</b>	
Blendon	\$24,301.50	\$3,900.50	\$452.50	\$28,654.50
Clinton	\$16,153.74	\$5,273.00	\$615.00	\$22,041.74
Franklin	\$8,928.72	\$4,324.25	\$754.00	\$14,006.97
Madison	\$16,067.72	\$5,071.50	\$800.00	\$21,939.22
Mifflin	\$7,995.00	\$2,920.75	\$503.50	\$11,419.25
Perry	\$31,123.75	\$11,599.50	\$54.50	\$42,777.75
Sharon	\$11,604.50	\$1,654.00	\$0.00	\$13,258.50
	<b>\$116,174.93</b>	<b>\$34,743.50</b>	<b>\$3,179.50</b>	
<b>Total Township County Share</b>				<b>\$154,097.93</b>
<b>Franklin County Sheriff</b>	<b>State Traffic 4511 &amp; 4513</b>	<b>Other State Traffic Violations</b>	<b>Other State Violations</b>	
Sheriff Blendon	\$19,658.00	\$870.00	\$1,091.00	\$21,619.00
Sheriff Brown	\$4,575.00	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$5,275.00
Sheriff Clinton	\$2,660.00	\$0.00	\$2,812.00	\$5,472.00
Sheriff Franklin	\$18,182.00	\$0.00	\$11,832.20	\$30,014.20
Sheriff Hamilton	\$102.50	\$16,606.50	\$59.50	\$16,768.50
Sheriff Jackson	\$27,872.00	\$3,276.00	\$0.00	\$31,148.00
Sheriff Jefferson	\$12,007.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$12,107.00
Sheriff Madison	\$8,079.00	\$0.00	\$2,601.00	\$10,680.00
Sheriff Mifflin	\$13,490.00	\$1,150.00	\$2,395.00	\$17,035.00
Sheriff Non-Township	\$59,405.96	\$37,773.38	\$7,855.00	\$105,034.34
Sheriff Norwich	\$2,024.75	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$2,804.75
Sheriff Perry	\$1,045.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,195.00
Sheriff Plain	\$4,411.00	\$390.00	\$0.00	\$4,801.00
Sheriff Pleasant	\$7,634.00	\$955.00	\$0.00	\$8,589.00
Sheriff Prairie	\$27,092.76	\$14,550.26	\$125.00	\$41,768.02
Sheriff Sharon	\$1,880.00	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$2,155.00
Sheriff Truro	\$12,689.00	\$11,659.50	\$0.00	\$24,348.50
Sheriff Washington	\$1,190.00	\$12.50	\$0.00	\$1,202.50
	<b>\$223,997.97</b>	<b>\$88,723.14</b>	<b>\$29,295.70</b>	
<b>Total Franklin County Sheriff</b>				<b>\$342,016.81</b>
<b>Total Franklin County Receipts</b>				<b>\$1,770,287.18</b>



**Statement Of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<u>Municipalities</u>	<b>DUI Education</b>	<b>Fines</b>	<b>Mayors Court</b>	
Bexley	\$425.00	\$4,003.00	\$0.00	\$4,428.00
Brice	\$25.00	\$3,791.00	\$5,435.00	\$9,251.00
Canal Winchester	\$425.00	\$401.00	\$0.00	\$826.00
Dublin	\$575.00	\$14,694.00	\$3,794.50	\$19,063.50
Gahanna	\$1,050.00	\$16,342.95	\$5,823.00	\$23,215.95
Grandview Heights	\$319.00	\$6,182.00	\$0.00	\$6,501.00
Grove City	\$899.00	\$10,244.50	\$2,056.50	\$13,200.00
Groveport	\$275.00	\$925.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Harrisburg	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hilliard	\$395.00	\$16,673.82	\$4,649.00	\$21,717.82
Marble Cliff	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Minerva Park	\$125.00	\$1,025.00	\$0.00	\$1,150.00
New Albany	\$275.00	\$3,215.00	\$2,374.03	\$5,864.03
Obetz	\$125.00	\$340.00	\$0.00	\$465.00
Reynoldsburg	\$1,154.00	\$4,747.00	\$701.00	\$6,602.00
Upper Arlington	\$125.00	\$29,655.50	\$2,357.00	\$32,137.50
Urbancrest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Valleyview	\$25.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Westerville	\$850.00	\$29,335.00	\$3,065.02	\$33,250.02
Whitehall	\$888.00	\$4,030.92	\$1,118.00	\$6,036.92
Worthington	\$1,360.00	\$7,411.00	\$3,507.00	\$12,278.00
	<b>\$9,315.00</b>	<b>\$153,216.69</b>	<b>\$34,880.05</b>	

**Total Municipalities** **\$197,411.74**

<u>Townships</u>	<b>DUI Education</b>	<b>Fines</b>	
Blendon	\$1,125.00	\$28,654.50	\$29,779.50
Clinton	\$150.00	\$22,041.76	\$22,191.76
Franklin	\$325.00	\$13,017.96	\$13,342.96
Hamilton	\$0.00	\$16,768.50	\$16,768.50
Madison	\$650.00	\$21,939.21	\$22,589.21
Mifflin	\$425.00	\$11,419.25	\$11,844.25
Norwich	\$0.00	\$2,804.75	\$2,804.75
Perry	\$1,037.00	\$42,777.75	\$43,814.75
Prairie	\$0.00	\$41,767.98	\$41,767.98
Sharon	\$75.00	\$13,258.50	\$13,333.50
Washington	\$0.00	\$1,202.50	\$1,202.50
	<b>\$3,787.00</b>	<b>\$215,652.66</b>	

**Total Townships** **\$219,439.66**



**Statement Of Criminal/Traffic Fund Receipts Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b><u>Other Entities</u></b>	
<b><u>Central Ohio Crime Stoppers</u></b>	
CR/TR Crime Stoppers Fee	\$7,447.21
<b><u>Columbus Airport Authority</u></b>	
Port Columbus PD DUI Education Fund	\$219.00
<b><u>Columbus &amp; Franklin County Metro Parks</u></b>	
Metro Parks Police Fines	\$757.00
<b><u>Columbus Development Center</u></b>	
Col Develop Center DUI Education Fund	\$0.00
<b><u>Franklin County Sheriff</u></b>	
Sheriff DUI Education Fund	\$5,486.42
DUI Offender Housing Fund	\$134,764.98
<b><u>Ohio Department of Agriculture</u></b>	
Ohio Department of Agriculture	\$0.00
<b><u>Ohio Department of Public Safety</u></b>	
ODPS Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$318.00
<b><u>The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy</u></b>	
State Drug/Pharmacy Fund	\$57,314.50
<b><u>The Ohio State University</u></b>	
Ohio State University DUI Education Fund	\$575.00
<b><u>Overpayments</u></b>	
Criminal/Traffic Overpayment Deposits	\$40,121.39
Criminal/Traffic Applied Overpayment Deposits	(\$94.50)
<b><u>Time Payments</u></b>	
Time Payment Receipts	\$788,489.28
Applied Time Payments	(\$788,866.81)
<b>Total Other Entities</b>	<b>\$246,531.47</b>



**Statement of Bail Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Appearance Bonds</b>		
Appearance Bond Receipts		\$1,157,684.04
Applied Appearance Bonds		(\$197,734.61)
		<b>\$959,949.43</b>
<b>Bond Costs</b>		
Bond Cost Receipts		\$128,631.56
Applied Bond Costs		(\$125,565.77)
		<b>\$3,065.79</b>
<b>Bond Surcharge</b>		
Bond Surcharge Receipts		\$342,475.00
Applied Bond Surcharge		(\$209,234.00)
		<b>\$133,241.00</b>
<b>Cash Bonds</b>		
Cash Bond Receipts		\$373,081.95
Applied Cash Bonds		(\$57,210.89)
		<b>\$315,871.06</b>
<b>Moving Violations</b>		
Moving Violation Receipts		\$60,530.00
Applied Moving Violations		(\$47,566.00)
		<b>\$12,964.00</b>
<b>Non-Moving Violations</b>		
Non-Moving Violation Receipts		\$1,810.00
Applied Non-Moving Violations		(\$1,150.00)
		<b>\$660.00</b>
<b>Public Defender</b>		
Public Defender Receipts		\$292,971.00
Applied Public Defender		(\$165,928.50)
		<b>\$127,042.50</b>
<b>Victims-Of-Crime</b>		
Victims-Of-Crime Receipts		\$166,145.00
Applied Victims-Of-Crime		(\$75,246.50)
		<b>\$90,898.50</b>
<b>Total Bail Fund Receipts</b>		<b>\$1,643,692.28</b>
<b>Total Receipts Crim/Traf/Bail</b>		<b>\$20,450,367.80</b>



**Statement of Rent Escrow Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

Court Costs	\$3,381.09
Deposits	\$321,928.57
Overpayment Deposits	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$325,309.66</b>

**Statement of Trusteeship Fund Receipts  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

Court Costs	\$1,596.00
Deposits	\$154,566.27
Applied Deposits	(\$150,652.14)
Disbursement	\$150,652.14
Overpayment Deposits	\$948.84
Applied Overpayment Deposits	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$157,111.11</b>



**Statement of Disbursements Treasurer City Of Columbus  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Civil Fund</b>	
Administrative 1% Legal Aid Fees	\$9,760.53
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person CV OCA 226005	\$13,450.00
Civil Contempt Fine	\$0.00
Civil Court Costs	\$4,502,034.01
Civil Environmental Fines	\$839.00
Civil Home Incarceration Program Fee	\$250.00
Civil Home Incarceration Equipment Cost	\$250.00
Civil Security Facilities Fees	\$401,909.79
Civil Specialty Docket Programs	\$61,858.06
Copier Debit Cards	\$3,184.00
Municipal Clerk Computer Fees	\$403,371.43
Municipal Court Computer Fees	\$121,017.00
Return Check Fees	\$575.00
Small Claims Dispute Resolution Sub-Fund	\$270.00
<b>Total Civil Fund</b>	<b>\$5,518,768.82</b>
<b>Criminal/Traffic Fund</b>	
Appearance Bond Costs	\$128,297.27
Assist Self Help for Indigent Person TR OCA 226105	\$20,518.63
City Jury Fees	\$6,218.71
Collection Account 14450	\$235,892.50
Columbus City Code Fines	\$2,714,494.32
Columbus Health Department	\$0.00
Court Costs	\$4,532,748.71
CR/TR Clerk Computerization Fund	\$978,184.72
CR/TR Collection Fee	\$224,167.76
CR/TR Court Computerization Fund	\$293,424.50
CR/TR Environmental Fines	\$38,577.50
CR/TR Probation Services	\$552,801.06
CR/TR Security Facilities Fee	\$961,315.53
CR/TR Specialty Docket Program	\$129,206.39
Criminal Diversion Fee	\$50.00
DUI Education Fund	\$27,055.14
ENV Probation Services	\$7,366.83
Home Incarceration Equipment Cost	\$9,325.00
Home Incarceration Program	\$8,355.00
Immobilizing/Disabling Devices Fine	\$104,192.50
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund	\$96.00
Indigent DR ALC Fund DUS	\$125.00
Indigent Driver's Alcohol Treatment Fund DUI	\$193,996.34
Local Expungements City Share	\$7,240.00
Local Witness Fees	\$30,942.06
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines 14050	\$459,249.13
Prosecutor's Check Resolution Program	\$26,941.50
Returned Check Fees	\$1,484.00
<b>Total Criminal Traffic Fund</b>	<b>\$11,692,266.10</b>
<b>Rent Escrow Fund</b>	
Court Costs	\$3,259.22
<b>Trusteeship Fund</b>	
Court Costs	\$1,758.00
<b>Disbursements Treasurer City Of Columbus</b>	<b>\$17,216,052.14</b>



**Statement Of Disbursements Treasurer State Of Ohio  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Civil Fund</b>	
State Legal Aid Fees	<b>\$966,135.52</b>
<b>Criminal Traffic Fund</b>	
Bail Surcharge-Indigent Defense Support	\$211,048.00
Child Restraint Law State Share	\$11,829.50
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$287,729.30
Indigent Defense Support Fund	\$2,525,941.62
Justice Program Services Fund	\$8,422.60
Local Expungements State Share	\$10,860.00
Ohio Highway Patrol Fines State Share	\$524,954.30
Public Defender Indigent Support Fund	\$9,627.10
State Expungements State Share	\$26,100.00
State Highway Safety Fund	\$232.50
State Liquor Fines State Share	\$38,656.50
State Seatbelt Fines	\$3,440.00
Trauma and EMT Fund	\$236,151.23
Victims of Crime	\$857,854.25
<b>Total Criminal Traffic Fund</b>	<b>\$4,752,846.90</b>
<b>Total Treasurer State Of Ohio</b>	<b>\$5,718,982.42</b>

**Statement Of Disbursements Franklin County Treasurer  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>CriminalTraffic Fund</b>				
<b>Agency</b>	<b>State Traffic 4511 &amp; 4513</b>	<b>Other State Traffic Violations</b>	<b>Other State Violations</b>	
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$8,277.95	\$8,527.95
Capital Area Humane Society	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$582.00	\$582.00
Columbus Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus Regulations Division	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Columbus State University	\$1,485.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,685.00
County Road & Bridge Fund	\$193,591.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$193,591.50
Department of Animal Control	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67,529.71	\$67,529.71
Franklin County Development Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,376.80	\$7,376.80
Municipal Police	\$373,093.12	\$49,262.50	\$151,791.36	\$574,146.98
Ohio Department of Natural Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ohio Department of Public Safety	\$0.00	\$3,652.00	\$0.00	\$3,652.00
Ohio Department of Taxation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,938.00	\$6,938.00
Ohio Ethics Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$825.00	\$825.00
Ohio Highway Patrol	\$116,103.99	\$192.00	\$360.50	\$116,656.49
Ohio State Agencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$830.00	\$830.00
Ohio State University	\$12,833.50	\$2,875.00	\$2,711.00	\$18,419.50
Otterbein College	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Port Columbus Airport	\$18,484.00	\$3,824.00	\$1,045.00	\$23,353.00
	<b>\$715,741.11</b>	<b>\$60,255.50</b>	<b>\$248,279.32</b>	
Indigent Application Fee				\$122,400.22
State Expungements-County Share				\$17,400.00
State Jury Fees				\$4,436.07
State Liquor Fines-County Share				\$38,656.50
State Witness Fees				\$20,465.64



**Statement Of Disbursements Franklin County Treasurer Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<u>Townships County Share</u>	<b>State Traffic 4511 &amp; 4513</b>	<b>Other State Traffic Violations</b>	<b>Other State Violations</b>	
Blendon	\$23,940.00	\$3,798.00	\$552.50	\$28,290.50
Clinton	\$16,073.24	\$5,285.50	\$630.00	\$21,988.74
Franklin	\$9,095.72	\$4,509.25	\$879.00	\$14,483.97
Madison	\$15,975.22	\$5,121.50	\$750.00	\$21,846.72
Mifflin	\$7,820.50	\$2,886.75	\$503.50	\$11,210.75
Perry	\$31,439.25	\$11,582.00	\$54.50	\$43,075.75
Sharon	\$11,699.50	\$1,427.00	\$0.00	\$13,126.50
	<b>\$116,043.43</b>	<b>\$34,610.00</b>	<b>\$3,369.50</b>	

**Total Township County Share \$154,022.93**

<u>Franklin County Sheriff</u>	<b>State Traffic 4511 &amp; 4513</b>	<b>Other State Traffic Violations</b>	<b>Other State Violations</b>	
Sheriff Blendon	\$19,515.00	\$870.00	\$1,141.00	\$21,526.00
Sheriff Brown	\$4,500.00	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00
Sheriff Clinton	\$2,749.00	\$0.00	\$3,075.00	\$5,824.00
Sheriff Franklin	\$17,924.00	\$0.00	\$11,405.20	\$29,329.20
Sheriff Hamilton	\$102.50	\$16,881.50	\$59.50	\$17,043.50
Sheriff Jackson	\$28,102.00	\$3,526.00	\$0.00	\$31,628.00
Sheriff Jefferson	\$12,169.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$12,269.00
Sheriff Madison	\$9,305.00	\$0.00	\$2,817.00	\$12,122.00
Sheriff Mifflin	\$13,340.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,345.00	\$16,935.00
Sheriff Non-Township	\$61,031.96	\$37,414.38	\$8,301.00	\$106,747.34
Sheriff Norwich	\$2,047.75	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$2,827.75
Sheriff Perry	\$1,045.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,195.00
Sheriff Plain	\$4,541.00	\$390.00	\$0.00	\$4,931.00
Sheriff Pleasant	\$7,372.00	\$955.00	\$0.00	\$8,327.00
Sheriff Prairie	\$27,494.76	\$14,656.76	\$125.00	\$42,276.52
Sheriff Sharon	\$1,695.00	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$1,970.00
Sheriff Truro	\$13,714.00	\$11,854.50	\$0.00	\$25,568.50
Sheriff Washington	\$1,190.00	\$12.50	\$0.00	\$1,202.50
	<b>\$227,837.97</b>	<b>\$89,290.64</b>	<b>\$29,793.70</b>	

**Total Franklin County Sheriff \$346,922.31**

**Total Franklin County Treasurer \$1,728,579.60**

**Statement Of Disbursements Municipalities  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<u>Criminal Traffic Fund</u>	<b>DUI Education</b>	<b>Fines</b>	<b>Mayors Court</b>	
Bexley	\$425.00	\$3,898.00	\$0.00	\$4,323.00
Brice	\$25.00	\$3,816.00	\$5,680.00	\$9,521.00
Canal Winchester	\$425.00	\$340.00	\$0.00	\$765.00
Dublin	\$575.00	\$14,278.00	\$3,657.50	\$18,510.50
Gahanna	\$1,000.00	\$16,497.95	\$5,928.00	\$23,425.95
Grandview Heights	\$344.00	\$7,342.00	\$0.00	\$7,686.00
Grove City	\$929.00	\$10,891.00	\$2,046.50	\$13,866.50
Groveport	\$225.00	\$525.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Harrisburg	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hilliard	\$420.00	\$16,870.00	\$4,644.82	\$21,934.82
Marble Cliff	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Minerva Park	\$125.00	\$1,025.00	\$0.00	\$1,150.00
New Albany	\$250.00	\$3,215.00	\$2,257.03	\$5,722.03
Obetz	\$125.00	\$340.00	\$0.00	\$465.00
Reynoldsburg	\$1,204.00	\$4,981.80	\$731.00	\$6,916.80
Upper Arlington	\$125.00	\$29,644.00	\$2,442.00	\$32,211.00
Urban Crest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Valleyview	\$25.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Westerville	\$925.00	\$29,400.00	\$3,041.03	\$33,366.03
Whitehall	\$940.00	\$4,580.92	\$1,088.00	\$6,608.92
Worthington	\$1,439.00	\$7,681.00	\$3,601.00	\$12,721.00
	<b>\$9,526.00</b>	<b>\$155,525.67</b>	<b>\$35,116.88</b>	

**Total Municipalities \$200,168.55**

**Statement Of Disbursements Townships  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Criminal Traffic Fund</b>	<b>DUI Education</b>	<b>Fines</b>	
Blendon	\$1,075.00	\$28,290.50	\$29,365.50
Clinton	\$175.00	\$21,988.76	\$22,163.76
Franklin	\$325.00	\$13,300.96	\$13,625.96
Hamilton	\$0.00	\$17,043.50	\$17,043.50
Madison	\$625.00	\$21,846.71	\$22,471.71
Mifflin	\$425.00	\$11,210.75	\$11,635.75
Norwich	\$0.00	\$2,827.75	\$2,827.75
Perry	\$1,062.00	\$43,075.75	\$44,137.75
Prairie	\$0.00	\$42,276.48	\$42,276.48
Sharon	\$75.00	\$13,126.50	\$13,201.50
Washington	\$0.00	\$1,202.50	\$1,202.50
	<b>\$3,762.00</b>	<b>\$216,190.16</b>	
<b>Total Townships</b>			<b>\$219,952.16</b>

**Statement Of Disbursements Other Entities  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Civil Fund</b>		
<b>Daily Reporter</b>		
Publication Fees		\$355,678.00
<b>Other Entities</b>		
Civil Bond Deposits		\$54,294.00
Civil Deposits		\$519.58
Civil Judgment Deposits		\$11,925,487.47
Civil Jury Deposits		\$8,000.00
Civil Sheriff Deposits		\$2,990.48
Civil Towing Deposits		\$2,400.00
Civil Witness Deposits		\$28.50
Environmental Appraisal		\$600.00
Environmental Injunctive		\$0.00
Environmental Mortgage		\$0.00
Environmental Sheriff		\$100.00
<b>Criminal Traffic Fund</b>		
<b>Central Ohio Crime Stoppers</b>		
CR/TR Crime Stoppers Fee		\$7,599.21
<b>Columbus Airport Authority</b>		
Port Columbus PD DUI Education Fund		\$200.00
<b>Columbus &amp; Franklin County Metro Parks</b>		
Metro Parks Police Fines		\$700.00
<b>Columbus Development Center</b>		
Col Develop Center DUI Education Fund		\$0.00
<b>Franklin County Sheriff</b>		
Sheriff DUI Education Fund		\$5,664.00
DUI Offender Housing Fund		\$137,601.89

**Statement Of Disbursements Other Entities Continued  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

<b>Franklin County Law Library</b>	
Law Library Fund	\$64,400.50
<b>Ohio Department of Agriculture</b>	
Ohio Department of Agriculture	\$0.00
<b>Ohio Department of Public Safety</b>	
ODPS Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$328.50
<b>The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy</b>	
State Drug/Pharmacy Fund	\$56,315.50
<b>The Ohio State University</b>	
Ohio State University DUI Education Fund	\$575.00
<b>State of Ohio-BMV</b>	
BMV License Suspension/Reinstatement Fee	\$360.00
BMV Warrant Block Reinstatement Fee	\$367.00
<b>State of Ohio-DUI</b>	
Ohio Highway Patrol DUI Education Fund	\$19,003.50
<b>State of Ohio-ODNR</b>	
State Watercraft Fund	\$200.00
State Wildlife Fund	\$2,591.50
<b>Rent Escrow Fund</b>	
Rent Deposit Payments	\$283,842.45
<b>Trusteeship Fund</b>	
Trust Deposit Payments	\$0.00
Trust Disbursements	\$152,512.14
<b>Total Other Entities</b>	<b>\$13,082,359.22</b>

**Statement Of Bail Fund Disbursements  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

Appearance Bonds	\$963,307.06
Bond Costs	\$3,119.16
Bond Surcharge	\$135,000.00
Cash Bonds	\$288,954.43
Moving Violations	\$11,864.00
Non-Moving Violations	\$460.00
Public Defender	\$130,807.00
Victims-Of-Crime	\$94,446.00
<b>Total Bail Fund Disbursements</b>	<b>\$1,627,957.65</b>

**Statement Of Overpayment Refunds  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

Civil Refunds	\$32,920.46
Criminal/Traffic Refunds	\$42,462.44
Rent Escrow Refunds	\$0.00
Trusteeship Refunds	\$948.84
<b>Total Overpayment Refunds</b>	<b>\$76,331.74</b>

**Statement Of Unclaimed Funds Disbursements City Of Columbus  
For the Year Ending December 31, 2014**

Civil Unclaimed Funds	\$26,718.92
Criminal/Traffic Unclaimed Funds	\$70,851.74
Rent Escrow Unclaimed Funds	\$117.83
Trusteeship Unclaimed Funds	\$1,672.42
<b>Total Unclaimed Funds</b>	<b>\$99,360.91</b>



## Notes to the Financial Statements

### Notes A - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Reporting Entity

The Franklin County Municipal Court (the court) was created and operates under the authority of Section 1901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code. Under the present law, the Court operates with 15 elected Judges and an elected Clerk of Court, each whom serves a six year term. The court has been granted jurisdictions for the entire area of Franklin County.

For financial reporting purposes, the Court is an agency fund group which consists of the agency fund of the five divisions of the Court: Criminal/Traffic, Bail, Civil, Trusteeship and Rent Escrow. The operating expenses of the Court are funded by the City of Columbus and Franklin County and are not; therefore, part of the reporting entity.

#### Basis of Accounting

The Court prepares its financial statements on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

### Note B - Civil Fund Receipts

In addition to the Civil Fund total receipts and disbursements, cases are processed for the City of Columbus, State of Ohio and Franklin County agencies at not cost at the time of filing.

#### Additional Amount Breakdowns

See statements for summary totals of this information

### Note C - Statement of Disbursements to Municipalities

The DUI Education Fund fine amounts are included in the totals for each municipality and township.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT**  
**Columbus, Ohio**

**NINETY- NINTH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2014**



**FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT**  
 375 South High Street  
 Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520

Chambers of  
**Judge Michael T. Brandt**  
 Administrative & Presiding Judge  
 Telephone: 614/645-8296

March 20, 2015

Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk  
 Citizens of Franklin County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with section 1901.14 of the Ohio Revised Code, it is my pleasure to provide you with the 2014 Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Court.

From all indications, the Franklin County Municipal Court remains the largest and busiest municipal court in Ohio. We continually strive to improve our services to every citizen who appears in this Court and to be wise and efficient stewards of taxpayer resources. We appreciate the financial support that we receive in these difficult economic times and hope that this continued support is a reflection of your trust in the way we conduct our operations and expend taxpayer dollars.

The increasing complexity of the laws, and the desire to meet the needs of every citizen who appears in this Court all present substantial challenges to our judges and staff. As you will see from the details in the report that follows, our judges and staff remain fully committed to meeting the needs of our citizens and our community. As the largest and busiest municipal court in Ohio, we continually strive to improve our services and fulfill our obligation to fairly interpret the laws of Ohio.

Please feel free to contact me or Court Administrator Emily Shaw at 645-8214 if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Yours truly,

*/s/ Michael T. Brandt*  
 Michael T. Brandt  
 Administrative and Presiding Judge

Enclosure

# THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

375 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520  
614-645-8214



## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

The Franklin County Municipal Court traces its origin to the creation of the Columbus Municipal Court in 1916. Now, the geographic jurisdiction of the Court is all of Franklin County and those portions of the City of Columbus that extend beyond the boundaries of Franklin County. The Court has 14 judges in the General Division and one judge in the Environmental Division. Judges serve six-year terms, unless appointed or elected to fill a vacancy. Annually, they elect one of their peers to serve as the Administrative and Presiding Judge.

The judges who served the Franklin County Municipal Court during the year 2014 were Judge Michael T. Brandt who served as Administrative and Presiding Judge, and Judges Anne Taylor, Scott D. VanDerKarr, H. William Pollitt, Jr., James Green, Ted Barrows, Paul M. Herbert, Carrie E. Glaeden, Amy Salerno, Andrea C. Peebles, David B. Tyack, Mark A. Hummer, David Young, James P. O'Grady and Environmental Court Judge Daniel Hawkins.

Judges preside over civil, criminal, and traffic cases and conduct both jury and non-jury or court trials. In jury trials, judges interpret the law and the jury determines the facts. Court trials are the most common trials in this Court. In these trials, judges have the dual role of interpreting the law and determining the facts. The judges also conduct criminal arraignments and preliminary hearings on felony cases; set bond on criminal charges; issue search warrants; and impose sentence when a defendant is found guilty of a traffic or criminal charge. The judges hear civil cases with an amount in controversy of \$15,000 or less, and cases that are transferred from the Small Claims Division to the General Division of the Court. Other civil disputes resolved in this Court included evictions, rent escrow proceedings, and proceedings to aid in the collection of judgments.

The Environmental Division has exclusive jurisdiction to enforce local codes and regulations affecting real property, such as fire and building codes. The Environmental Division has injunctive powers, and there is no monetary limit on those cases that fall within the Division's exclusive jurisdiction.

Each week a different judge is assigned to the Duty Session to handle a variety of responsibilities, such as applications from law enforcement officers for search warrants, probable cause hearings, and civil wedding ceremonies.



## **MAGISTRATES**

The Court employs an Administrative Magistrate, five full-time magistrates and one part-time magistrate who preside over traffic arraignments, landlord-tenant actions, wage garnishments, small claims cases, and other civil matters. Judges may refer a specific case to a magistrate to take testimony, make legal rulings, and render a decision that is subject to final approval by the judge. Magistrates have the authority in misdemeanor cases to accept guilty and no contest pleas. If the parties agree, they may also hear contested criminal cases and preside over civil cases heard by a jury. Consent is not required from either party for a magistrate to hear a minor misdemeanor criminal case.

## **BAILIFFS**

Bailiffs coordinate activities in the courtrooms, schedule cases, provide docket management, provide information to the public about the status of cases, and act as liaisons between their assigned judge or magistrate and attorneys, court personnel, and the general public. Each judge has an assigned courtroom bailiff, there is an unassigned or “floater” bailiff who rotates among the judges when a judge’s bailiff is absent, and there is a Duty Room Bailiff. Each magistrate also has a bailiff.

## **COURT ADMINISTRATION**

Court Administration oversees the administrative and operational functions of the Court. It carries out the non-judicial policies of the Court. In addition to providing overall support and direction to the Court’s nearly 200 employees, some of its specific functions include personnel management, budgeting and fiscal management, purchasing, liaison with other courts and agencies, public information, appointment of counsel, court support services, court security, interpreter services, vehicle immobilization, and volunteer services. The Court Administrator is the chief non-judicial officer.

The Court’s General Fund Operating budget for 2014 was \$16,190,614 with an additional \$1,601,629 Secure Facilities Fund budget and \$419,387 Computer Fund budget.

<b>Personal services</b>	<b>\$14,413,517</b>
<b>Materials and supplies</b>	<b>27,500</b>
<b>Services</b>	<b>1,409,597</b>
<b>Other expenditures</b>	<b>340,000</b>
<b>Total General Fund Expenditures</b>	<b>\$16,190,614</b>

## **COURT SUPPORT SERVICES**

Court Support Services is a two-person unit that helps defendants resolve matters such as extensions of time to pay fines and court costs, delaying the start of court-ordered incarceration, issuance of or change in limited driving privileges, withdrawal of warrant or order-in that has been issued, assistance with impounded vehicle, assistance with Bureau of Motor Vehicle problems, and continuance of a court date. In 2014, Court Investigation assisted approximately 7,100 individuals.

## **COURT SECURITY PROGRAM**

The Court Security Program was established to maintain a safe environment in the courthouse for elected officials, Court employees, and all others having business in the courthouse. The staff consists of a Security Director, Security Supervisor, Administrative Assistant, Control Room Operator, and 17 Security Officers on the first shift, plus a control room operator on the second and third shifts. In addition, the Court contracts with a private security company that provides evening, weekend, and holiday coverage. During 2014 approximately 1.079 million visitors to the Court were screened at the Court's entry points by Security Officers.

## **INTERPRETER SERVICES**

During 2014, the Court employed two full-time Spanish language interpreters and contracted for two part-time Spanish and Somali language interpreters. Together they completed an estimated 7,958 requests for service (6,937 in Spanish and 1,021 in Somali). The Court has multiple contracts with outside vendors to provide foreign language and ASL interpreters. There were 808 requests for interpreters in 32 other languages which were filled by onsite interpreters. There were 37 requests for interpreter services in languages of lesser diffusion which were covered through telephonic interpretation. The foreign languages for which interpreters were most requested were Spanish, Somali, Arabic, French, Nepali, Amharic, Mandarin, Tigrinya and Russian. Additionally, the Court filled 178 requests for American Sign Language interpretation.

## **VEHICLE IMMOBILIZATION PROGRAM**

State law mandates the immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles operated by defendants who are convicted of the following offenses: repeat OVI offenses (operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs) and driving under certain court or BMV-issued suspensions. Immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles involved in suspension cases of Financial Responsibility/Accountability and wrongful use of a vehicle are at the Court's discretion. A steering wheel locking device is used to immobilize vehicles. In 2014, the Court processed 8,648 driving under suspension cases and 9,430 OVI cases. The driving under suspension case filings are up 7.2% from 2013, and the OVI case filings experienced a 2.89% increase. The program's two employees provide the communication from and to the courts, law enforcement and defendants to ensure compliance with the court's orders involving the defendant's vehicle.

## **ASSIGNMENT OFFICE**

The Assignment Office is responsible for the assignment of Judges to criminal, traffic, and civil cases. The Rules of Superintendence for Municipal Courts, promulgated by the Supreme Court of Ohio, require that cases be assigned to Judges in a random manner. Random assignment occurs at the time a defendant enters a “not guilty” plea in criminal and traffic cases, and upon the filing of a motion or an answer in civil cases. Local Rules are also used to define the assignment of cases (Local Rule 1 and 8). The Court also employs a single assignment system. This means that when a person is charged with a criminal or traffic offense and already has a pending criminal or traffic case, or the person is on probation to this Court, the new charge(s) will be assigned to the Judge who presided over the previous case.

Once a case is assigned to a Judge, the Assignment Office is responsible for the management of the case as it proceeds through the Court system. The Assignment Office generates the daily Court dockets for the Judges and distributes case listing reports throughout the Court System. In 2014, the eight Assignment Coordinators processed 2,509 new or reactivated civil cases and 51,121 new or reactivated criminal or traffic cases, with approximately 225,000 judicial proceedings and a minimum of 500,000 Court appearance notices. The Assignment Office has eight Case Coordinators, one Case Coordinator Floater, and two Assignment Clerks.

The Assignment Office is responsible for completing the monthly Judges’ report for the Ohio Supreme Court, prepare other necessary reports to manage cases, the monitoring of cases assigned to Visiting Judges when needed, scheduling and managing of expungement cases, and for the monitoring of assigned specialty docket cases. The Court has one Environmental Judge and currently has 4 of its 15 Judges conducting specialty dockets. The Solicitation Docket (CATCH), Veteran’s Docket (MVSSD), Alcohol and Drug Docket (ADAP), and Mental Health Docket (MHPD), which judicial case proceedings are monitored through the Assignment Office.

## **COURT REPORTERS**

Court Reporters make a verbatim record of court proceedings, prepare a transcript from the record of court proceedings upon request, and maintain records of exhibits introduced at court proceedings. The Court has an obligation to provide a transcript of all proceedings upon request of a party, and there must be a court record of all pleas and waivers. In 2014 there were 13 full-time Court Reporters and 1 part-time Court Reporter and they produced 242 requested transcripts.

## **JURY COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE**

It is the duty of the Jury Commissioner’s Office to summon, orient and assign prospective trial jurors to courtrooms when needed. The Jury Commission tracks *voir dire* (a preliminary examination of prospective jurors to determine their qualifications and suitability to serve on a jury, in order to ensure the selection of fair and impartial jury)

results and trial verdicts, and collects demographic data to ensure the jury venire (those summoned for jury service) is a true sampling of all cognizable groups in Franklin County's qualified population.

Jury service is limited to two weeks, except in those cases for which additional days are required to reach a verdict. In certain instances, jurors will serve for one week only. Several different reporting times are offered to accommodate parking issues and work schedules. The number of jurors summoned in 2014 was 3,973. The reporting percentage for 2014 was 89.44% while the failure to appear rate was 4.81%, which is well below the national average. Jurors are paid \$20.00 per day as well as travel expenses for each day they are in attendance.

### **LEGAL RESEARCH**

The Court employs a Legal Research Supervisor who provides legal research, supervises the work of part-time law clerks, and serves as a part-time magistrate. The Supervisor and Law Clerks research and prepare memoranda on issues pending before the Court, maintain research and reference materials, review new case law to ensure the Court's compliance with the decisions, review pending legislation that may affect the Court, and advise the Judges and Employees regarding new legal developments and applications of current law to court procedures.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION SERVICES**

The Department of Probation Services (DOPS) serves the Franklin County Municipal Court Judges under the immediate direction of the Court Administrator. The largest division of the Court, the staff of the DOPS strive to promote public safety through accountable rehabilitation by monitoring and enforcing all court ordered conditions of probation. These conditions can include any combination of assessments, educational programs, counseling for mental health or substance abuse issues, and random urinalysis to monitor and encourage sobriety.

During 2014 the Department supervised 11,441 total cases, including 6,411 new probation placements. At year's end 16,837 cases remained assigned or on warrant to the Probation Department.

In 2014, the DOPS was staffed by 44 probation officers who reported to four probation officer supervisors. Caseload assignments include General Supervision, Domestic Violence Unit, Multiple OVI Program, Mental Health Specialist, Electronically Monitored Home Incarceration, Work Release and the Investigation Unit. Officers are also assigned to the Court's innovative specialized docket programs, including the Mental Health Program, Military and Veteran Service (MAVS), Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH), Alcohol and Drug Addiction Program (ADAP), and the Opiate Extension Program (OEP). Each of these caseloads is monitored by highly trained professional staff, many of whom have specialized training, certifications and licensures in their areas of specialty.

Three of the above listed officers facilitate programs which allow offenders to serve their sentences in the community, either via home incarceration (EMHI) or through a work release facility. These programs represent significant savings to the public. The Work Release program provided the opportunity for employed offenders to retain their job while serving their jail sentences. 6,080 jail days were served in this fashion, and \$82,440 was collected from participants toward funding of the program. The EMHI program monitored 204 offenders via GPS, limiting their movements within the community as ordered by the court. Officers assigned to the Work Release and EMHI caseloads are on call and respond to violations 24 hours per day, facilitating warrants and alerting victims to violations as appropriate.

The Community Sanctions Unit, comprised of four staff and one supervisor, monitored 2,371 probationers who were sentenced to Provided No Convictions status for new charges. This unit also schedules and monitors court-ordered community service and restitution collection. In 2014, 46,562 hours of community service were ordered, and 23,843 were successfully completed. \$313,891 in restitution was ordered in 471 cases last year, and \$217,804 was collected and disbursed, with 303 victims fully paid. The remainder are still paying, revoked, or on order-in status.

The DOPS has an Evaluation Specialist on staff who screens potential referrals for inpatient substance abuse treatment to ensure they are clinically appropriate for subsidized services. This individual conducts assessments in the office as well as within the jail setting as needed. 2014 brought the implementation of the Suzanne Hopper Act, through which Courts are mandated to identify offenders with specific mental health diagnoses and convictions and report their sentence to law enforcement. The Evaluation Specialist, in cooperation with other court departments has facilitated compliance with this law. Additionally, the Evaluation Specialist serves as a member of the Franklin County Hoarder Project team along with staff members from Environmental Court, ADAMH, mental health treatment agencies and code enforcement departments. The team completed program planning and the pilot project implementation began in 8/14.

A busy support staff, which includes 12 line staff and one supervisor, provides essential support for the programs that are facilitated by the DOPS. Additionally, the department's two Victim Assistants have pursued and maintain credentials as registered advocates, providing critical support and guidance to victims of probation cases. Their assignment to the Domestic Violence Unit offers close proximity and teamwork when addressing these critical cases.

The Chief Probation Officer is responsible for the overall operation of the Department of Probation Services, and is supported by the Deputy Chief Probation Officer and Supervisors in facilitating all of the department's programs. Probationers paid \$555,653.93 in probation user fees in 2014, holding down probation costs to taxpayers. Careful management of this budget is essential to provide much needed services to probationers and the court including contracted substance abuse clinical services, urine screens, subsidized domestic violence programming, staff training and equipment. The DOPS has continued to partner with the Franklin County Municipal Clerk of Courts to work toward the digitalization of probation caseloads in effort to streamline workflow, increase data collection capabilities and streamline processes within the department. This project will continue to be advanced in 2015.



## SERVICE BAILIFFS

Service Bailiffs assist litigants, attorneys, and the Court by delivering court documents to parties and enforcing both pre-judgment and post-judgment remedies. Responsibilities include service of complaints, summonses, criminal and civil subpoenas, garnishments, juror letters, and probation revocation hearing notices. Writs of replevin are enforced through seizure of property to be returned to the rightful owners, and writs of execution through levy and sale of personal property for the purpose of satisfying judgments. Additionally, Service Bailiffs supervise the set-out of tenants' property during evictions.

The Service Bailiffs' Department processed or served in excess of 44,000 legal documents in 2014 and supervised over 1,400 set-outs. The Department currently employs 17 full-time individuals: a Chief Service Bailiff, 2 Deputy Chief Service Bailiffs, 13 Service Bailiffs, and a Secretary/Receptionist.

## SMALL CLAIMS DIVISION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION DEPARTMENT

The **Small Claims Division (Division)** helps individuals and businesses file claims for money damages up to \$3,000. Small Claims Court is less formal than the General Division of the Court; Small Claims Court may also resolve cases more quickly. Usually, an attorney is not required in small claims cases.

The Division provides information, forms and instructions about filing a small claims case, appearing in court, concluding a case and collecting a judgment on the Court's webpage: <http://www.fcmclerk.com/forms/smallclaims.php>. In 2014, more than 27,000 visitors viewed 68,000 pages. The majority of page views were of the court forms section. This Information and forms are also available in the Division Offices—375 S. high St., 16<sup>th</sup> floor.

The Division has six full-time employees. The managed more than 6,500 small claims cases in 2014. The staff initiates, assigns, and schedules each case for trial. The Small Claims Division staff also sets new hearing dates based on requests for continuances and the need to re-issue service. The staff supports the work of five magistrates. In addition to managing and processing cases for the small claims docket, Division staff answer questions about this court and makes referrals to other courts and services. In 2014, the Small Claims Division staff handled 10,946 telephone calls.

In the **Dispute Resolution Department (Department)**, parties may request **Pre-Filing Mediation** before they file a lawsuit. There is also a service to resolve disputes about an unpaid check or outstanding account. **Rent Escrow** cases are referred to the Department for mediation as well. In 2014, there were 25 evening mediation sessions. The Department coordinated volunteer mediators for each session. The Department scheduled 831 mediations and mediated 245 disputes through these sessions. Agreements were reached in 147 (60%) of the mediations held. Parties resolved 124 cases (15%) before the scheduled mediation date.

Volunteer mediators also staff the Court's **Eviction Docket** and **Day of Trial** mediation programs. Mediators come from the community at large, Nationwide Insurance Company, Capital University Law School and The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Each mediator receives extensive mediation training. In addition, Mediators from Community Mediation Services of Central Ohio provide mediation and referral services in Eviction Court. Volunteer mediators contributed more than 1,000 hours to the Court's dispute resolution services in 2014. Without services from volunteer mediators, the Court would have paid more than \$60,000 in mediators' fees to staff these programs.

During 2014, Judges and Magistrates referred 817 **civil cases** to mediation. Half of the total referrals were resolved during mediation (179 cases) or settled prior to the mediation date (229 cases).

From November 2008 to February 2015, the Court operated the Franklin County Foreclosure Mediation Project (Project) for the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. The Project wound-down its services in early 2015. The Project provided mediation services that brought borrowers and lenders together to discuss case resolution. In 2014, there were 733 requests for foreclosure mediation.

### **SPECIALIZED DOCKETS**

Specialized dockets are an innovative approach to the criminal justice system with a focus on rehabilitative justice. Specialized dockets are intended to benefit offenders who have significant mental health and/or substance abuse issues and who are at a moderate to high risk of committing future offenses. Each of the Court's five specialized dockets link defendants to appropriate mental health and/or substance abuse treatment and promote healthy lifestyle choices, including stable housing, supportive inter-personal relationships, education, and employment. By focusing on all aspects of the defendants' lives, recidivism rates decrease and public safety increases, yet defendants are still held accountable for their criminal behaviors through the use of frequent court hearings.

In January 2013, the Supreme Court of Ohio adopted new Rules of Superintendence, which required certification for any court operating a specialized docket. Throughout 2014, each of the five specialized dockets received final certification, meaning the dockets meet or exceed minimum standards.

The **Mental Health Program** was established in 2004 to provide a non-adversarial approach to defendants who have pled guilty to misdemeanor crimes. Defendants in the Mental Health Program have been diagnosed with a moderate to severe mental health issue and have a history of treatment non-compliance or a refusal to accept treatment results, which has led to multiple misdemeanor convictions. In 2014, the Mental Health Program had approximately 50 active participants.

**Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH)** was established in 2009 and provides a non-adversarial approach to defendants who have pled guilty to loitering, solicitation, prostitution, and other crimes where the defendant has been the victim of human trafficking. CATCH defines human trafficking in the same manner as Ohio Revised Code section 2953.38(A)(4). CATCH differs from the traditional models for mental health courts and drug courts because participants in CATCH have often been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder or major depression after having been victims of human trafficking. CATCH participants are not just survivors – they learn how to thrive. In 2014, CATCH had an average of 25 active participants.

Also in 2009, the **Alcohol and Drug Addiction Program (ADAP)** was developed to provide a non-adversarial approach to defendants who are primarily dependent on alcohol or drugs, other than opiates. Some defendants may have a secondary dependency on opiates and may be appropriate for medically assisted treatment. Defendants' chemical dependency and history of treatment non-compliance and/or refusal to accept treatment will have resulted in criminal charges, including low-level felonies. In 2014, ADAP maintained an average of 65 active participants.

In 2011, ADAP recognized that prescription pain pills and heroin were having a significant impact on the community, and the defendants' needs could not be met adequately through ADAP. The **Opiate Extension Program (ADAP-OEP)** was formed to provide a non-adversarial approach to defendants who are dependent on opiates. Most defendants, through cooperation with the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, have been charged with low-level felonies but have pled guilty to misdemeanor crimes. Some defendants have been charged and convicted of misdemeanor offenses, but after referral and assessment by ADAP, treatment through ADAP-OEP is more appropriate. In 2014, ADAP-OEP was selected to participate in the Addiction Treatment Pilot Program, a two-year, state-funded research project to study the effects of medication assisted treatment, coupled with intensive substance abuse and mental health treatment, on drug court participants. ADAP-OEP is the largest docket and has approximately 135 active participants.

In 2012, the **Military and Veteran Service (MAVS)** specialized docket was established to provide a non-adversarial approach to defendants who have pled guilty to misdemeanor crimes. Defendants in MAVS often suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or adjustment issues following active duty in any branch of the United States Armed Services. MAVS also serves defendants who are veterans or have military service in any branch of the United States Armed Services. MAVS works closely with the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that defendants receive services to which they are entitled, as well as with other community partners. In all regards, the MAVS program strives to serve the men and women who have served our country and need a little support to maintain positive lifestyles. In 2014, MAVS held its first graduation ceremony, and it maintained an average of 55 active participants.



**Special Projects Funds****Dispute Resolution & CARS Fund – 2014 - Revised Code section 1901.262**

2014 Beginning balance	\$80,510.68
Revenue	+ 19,540.56
Total funds	100,051.24
Expenses	- 647.00
Ending balance	\$99,404.24

**Computerized Legal Research Fund – 2014 - Revised Code section 1901.261(A)**

2014 Beginning balance	\$429,117.16
Revenue	+ 417,501.50
Total funds	846,618.66
Expenses	- 412,500.13
Ending balance	\$434,118.53

**Secure Facilities Fund – 2014 - Revised Code section 1901.26(B)(1)**

2014 Beginning balance	\$537,561.85
Revenue	+ 1,732,376.40
Total funds	2,269,938.25
Expenses	- 1,631,106.05
Ending balance	\$638,832.20

### **Cost Savings and Efficiency Initiatives:**

The Franklin County Municipal Court continually strives to improve its programs and operating procedures to increase efficiency and save valuable public dollars. Over the last several years, the following have been undertaken in pursuit of those objectives.

#### **Assignment Office**

- The modification of the mailing of notices to suburban prosecutors' law firms. We have a number of suburban prosecutors that either pick up their notices or have the assignment office fax them in an effort to save postage and the time elapsed between scheduling and notification of the court date. We are also asking large law firms to pick up their Court notices instead of mailing them.

#### **Magistrates Department**

- The Magistrates Department continue to work with the Franklin County Public Defender, the Columbus City Prosecutor and the Clerk's office to use the arraignment courtrooms to reduce the number of traffic cases being individually assigned to the judges. Savings is related to taking the time to resolve cases in the arraignment courts instead of referring them through a not-guilty plea to the judges' assigned dockets. The costs saved include overtime for law enforcement officers called for pre-trials or trials.

#### **Interpreter Services**

- The Interpreter Services Program from Franklin County Municipal Court would like to recognize the initiative of the Supreme Court of Ohio to provide remote interpreting for languages which are less commonly used and for which it is often very difficult to find a qualified on-site interpreter. We are working to develop guidelines and are acquiring better equipment to make this a more manageable alternative for special language situations.
- Interpreter Services strives to improve its programs and operating procedures, streamlining the requesting and scheduling processes to save valuable public dollars while providing the most qualified interpreters. This department continues to promote effective communication throughout the courthouse to better assist the prompt and organized scheduling of interpreters, which is a large part of this Department's work.
- Training and supervising interpreters who are sub-contracted to work at the Court is a passion of this department. Having interpreters provide uniform, consistent and professional services is an important part of this office's mission. A mentoring program is available through this office in which new interpreters are able to shadow the full-time interpreting staff and the results have been very positive. Several interpreters who took advantage of this hands-on learning opportunity have attained their Supreme Court Certification for legal interpreting in this past year.

- The Court's lead interpreter collaborated with Community and Court Interpreters of Ohio (CCIO) and the Supreme Court of Ohio to develop and organize numerous trainings for beginning and advanced interpreters in central Ohio. Some of the trainings in 2014 include: "How to Become a Nationally Certified Medical Interpreter" with Natalya Mytareva, the current Chair of the Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI), and "Get Street Smart!" offered by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office DARE program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) and "A Roundtable on Mental Health," "Advanced Legal Translation," Interpreter Ethics, Modes of Interpretation, and many more.
- The Interpreter Services Program works with Court staff, the Public Defender's Office and with the Prosecutor's Office to gather feedback in order to implement improvements in all areas of interpreting services, from scheduling, to assuring excellent, trustworthy interpreter performance, to the gathering of better statistics.

### **Court-Appointed Counsel Program**

- Improved the tracking system for extraordinary fee requests that has improved accessibility to information and has reduced the incidences of lost bills. This results in an improved confidence of the quality of the attorney information that is in the payment system.
- Added the requirement that attorneys turn in affidavits of indigency for defendants that have not already fully completed an affidavit, which allows us to ensure compliance with all state and county indigency standards.
- Increased the use of electronic communications to allow for decreased time in obtaining reconciliation of monthly Ohio Public Defender reports. Usually reconciled by the coordinator and received by the County budget office within one day instead of one week.
- Increased use of electronic storage of paid bills via spreadsheets to allow searching on one database to find payments when inquiries are made from attorneys or the Court. This increases the confidence of service providers (attorney) in our system of payment
- Reviewing and re-establishing the Volunteer Program. The application and release forms have been revised and the Court started five volunteers in 2014.

### **Service Bailiffs**

- Bailiwicks have been redesigned and are closely monitored to minimize mileage. These service regions are now close to or include the area in which the bailiffs reside.
- Most Department logs and forms have been computerized to reduce paper usage and increase accuracy.

### **Small Claims Division**

The Franklin County Municipal Court continually strives to improve its programs and operating procedures to increase efficiency and save valuable public dollars. Over the past year the Small Claims Division has increased the number of volunteers to support the Court's dispute resolution programs, and maintained a standalone website to enhance access to the Court's services as well.

Forms, instructions, brochures and guides about proceeding through every phase of a Small Claims case are available in paper form to the public in the Division offices. Approximately 6,000 informational packets containing all the necessary paperwork to file a small claims lawsuit were distributed in-person at the Small Claims Division. Forms are also available electronically through the Division's webpage [smallclaims.fcmcclerk.com](http://smallclaims.fcmcclerk.com).

The Small Claims website enhances the public's access to the Court's services. The majority of visitors that accessed the Small Claims website were within the City of Columbus; however, many visitors (49%) accessed the website from more than 351 cities across the State of Ohio. More than 3 out of 4 visitors (76.35%) were first-time visitors.

The Small Claims website and the information provided therein facilitates direct access to the specific resources that visitors are looking for. The majority of visitors were referred from the Municipal Court's website, [www.fcmcclerk.com](http://www.fcmcclerk.com) (56%); however, more than one-third of the sites visitors (35.4%) accessed the Small Claims site through search engines, such as Google. Some of the most frequently used search terms to access the site included: "small claims court," "how to file a counterclaim," and "collecting a judgment." The Division reports 27,576 visits to the page during calendar year 2014. The most visited pages on the site were "Court-Forms" (32.9%), followed by "Filing-a-lawsuit" (13.25%).

### **Dispute Resolution Department**

Cases that magistrates and judges refer to mediation result in case resolutions that require less attention from judges and their staffs. Cases resolved after a referral to mediation tend to stay resolved and do not proceed to trial. Dispute Resolution Staff, contract mediators, student interns, and volunteers provide high levels of mediation service for a much lower cost than the time and cost of involving multiple court staff in multiple departments to process cases. Further, cases resolved after they are referred to mediation reduce the work for the Assignment Office, Bailiffs, Secretaries, Magistrates, Judges and Clerk of Court Staff. The Dispute Resolution staff processed 817 cases in 2014.

The Department continues to work with both Capital University Law School, Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University, Nationwide Insurance Company, and Community Mediation Services to coordinate mediation services for the pre-filing, small claims, and eviction mediation programs. Without services from volunteer mediators the Court would have paid more than \$90,000 for services in these three programs.

In 2014, the Department scheduled 831 pre-filing and rent escrow mediations; volunteer mediators contributed more 184 hours to these programs, a cost savings to the court of approximately \$15,000.

Volunteer mediators also serve the Eviction Docket. Volunteer Mediators from Nationwide Insurance Company are available to the court five days per week. These mediators held 112 mediation sessions and contributed 224 hours of service to the Court, a cost savings of approximately \$18,000. In addition, Mediators from Community Mediation Services of Central Ohio provides mediation and referral services in Eviction Court.

Finally, mediators from both local law schools and Nationwide mediated on the day of trial in Small Claims Court. These mediators provided more than 750 hours of service to the Court in 2014, saving the court \$60,000.00.