

A black and white photograph of Philadelphia City Hall and Independence Hall. City Hall is on the left, showing its iconic clock tower topped with the Statue of Liberty. Independence Hall is on the right, a tall building with many windows. A large, stylized graphic of a folded document with teal and dark blue layers is overlaid on the right side of the image.

2015 | ANNUAL REPORT

The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania
The Philadelphia Courts

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Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper
*President Judge, Court of Common Pleas
Chair, Administrative Governing Board*



Judge Marsha H. Neifield
*President Judge, Philadelphia
Municipal Court*



Joseph H. Evers
District Court Administrator

MESSAGE *from the* President Judges and District Court Administrator

On behalf of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania and its judges, administrators and staff, we proudly present the Philadelphia Courts' 2015 Annual Report. As one of the largest urban court systems in the country, we are committed to promoting the rule of law and burgeoning awareness of our county's courts and the services they provide to all Philadelphians. We aim to balance a history steeped in tradition with a responsible approach to the modern issues which accompany the rapid pace of social change in a large, metropolitan district.

Our mission is to adjudicate cases according to their jurisdiction and ensure fair, timely and accessible justice to the citizens and litigants in the City and County of Philadelphia.

In the pages that follow, each division of our court system has outlined some of the exceptional projects undertaken and accomplishments attained. However, there have been many court- wide initiatives that would not be possible without the entire District pulling together to effectuate success, and identify new objectives. To that end, we'd also like to take a moment to highlight some of the interdivisional and cross court successes, and goals of the district in 2015.

This report will show that continuous improvements on all fronts have a profound effect on the quality of justice in Philadelphia. More people are being helped in more ways than ever before. This is due in large part to the efforts of all the people working in our court system, on all levels. They serve our citizens and ensure that justice will continue to thrive in the City, the County, and the Commonwealth, through the continuing work of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania.

Sheila Woods-Skipper
*President Judge, Court of Common Pleas
Chair, Administrative Governing Board*

Marsha H. Neifield
President Judge, Philadelphia Municipal Court

Joseph H. Evers
District Court Administrator

HIGHLIGHTS *of the* YEAR

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service - Over four chilly days (January 20-23), 55 members of the FJD sought to make some small difference by volunteering in an effort to feed the homeless at The Sunday Breakfast Mission, mere blocks from City Hall and the Stout Center for Criminal Justice. For the volunteers, the days offered a chance to feel good about giving back when we've been given so much. For those we served, it was a reminder that they weren't forgotten, even on a cold day in January.



Web-Based Job Application – We've developed an on-line application system where city residents and interested job-seekers can apply for posted positions utilizing our on-line job application accessible via our website. Job applications can be completed without coming to our Human Resources office, saving the time and expense of travel to center city.



Summer Internship Program (SIP) - With the participation of dozens of students and Philadelphia judges, the First Judicial District's 2015 Summer Intern Program (SIP) kicked off its 15th year of supplementing the legal and civic tutelage of talented scholars ranging in experience from secondary education to law school. The annual program has grown steadily since its origin in 2001. During that time, more than 1,000 law, undergraduate, and high school students have participated in SIP; a program that blends a transparent view of our local courts with practical tools that serve to edify and build familiarity with the nuances of the state and federal justice systems as well.



Top 10 Court Websites



2015 WINNER

2015 Top 10 Court Website Award – The National Association for Court Management named the First Judicial District one of its Top 10 court websites. The award is given each year to courts that make the best use of web technology to improve court services and access to public record. For the second consecutive year, the First Judicial District scored the highest rating of all nominated websites.

Wi-Fi Connectivity - In an effort to enhance the use of advanced technology for improved effectiveness and efficiency in the Stout Center for Criminal Justice, in 2015 the First Judicial District installed Wi-Fi connectivity to our criminal courthouse. This allows for our courts to account for new technology and modernizations that will enable the Court's continued efforts to improve the efficiency and accessibility of our courts while supporting our mission of the administration of fair and impartial justice.

Creation of First Judicial District's Office of Communications -

In an effort to develop a cohesive approach to communicating the successes of our courts, in addition to enhancing the public's understanding of the court system, the First Judicial District created an Office of Communications in June, 2015. Functions of the office include: the development of concepts for informational and promotional programs; preparation of news releases, guest commentaries, and Op-Eds for publication; arrangement of newspaper, television, and radio coverage of special events; and facilitating responses to media requests.

Electronic Evidence Presentment - With the use of grant funds, the First Judicial District is moving forward with the installation of an Electronic Evidence Presentment solution in courtrooms in the Stout Center for Criminal Justice that would enable all courtroom litigants to present evidence via laptop, tablet, or mobile phone on a large screen monitor.

Back to School Drive - In an effort to make service a year round endeavor, court employees organized a back-to-school supply drive to support the education of elementary school students in Philadelphia. The effort resulted in the donation of over 1,000 individual items, ranging from composition books to calculators that were donated to two Philadelphia public schools.

2015 Pro Bono Publico Awards Ceremony, *for the public good* -

Recognizing the importance of pro bono legal services and the role those services play in ensuring access and justice for the citizens of Philadelphia, the First Judicial District announced their 2015 Pro Bono Publico Award recipients at a ceremony in the James McDermott Ceremonial Courtroom at City Hall. Recipients included eight attorneys, in addition to the Blank Rome Senior Veteran Pro Bono Team - who helped make whole an 88 year old World War II Veteran, who was scammed out of his home, his collection of antique cars, and nearly all of his personal belongings, and who was rendered homeless by the act of the perpetrator.



First Judicial District Hosts Youth Court – Accompanied by United States Attorney Zane Memeger, Philadelphia County judges observed Strawberry Mansion High School's Youth Court in action, an innovative student-run alternative to the usual school discipline proceedings and the juvenile justice system. Youth Court students and teachers are trained by lawyers, law students and other justice system professionals with an emphasis on finding facts quickly and seeking restorative dispositions. As part of their training, students are taught how to conduct disciplinary hearings and reach restorative solutions. Offending students appear before a group of their peers who sit on a "Youth Court." These participating students agree to abide by the findings of the Youth Court and its disciplinary decisions. The court peers ask questions and encourage the offending student to think about an appropriate remedy to the harm caused by their offense. The court deliberates in a jury fashion and determines a sentence; typically requiring the student to write letters of apology, community service and/or peer mentoring.



Judicial Fellowship Program – In 2011, the First Judicial District initiated the Judicial Fellowship Program for the mutual benefit of recent law school graduates and the Court. 5 years later, the program continues to provide high caliber law graduates with substantive experience in the law, and provides support to the Court in carrying out key functions. Fellows volunteer their time, have the same responsibilities as regular paid judicial law clerks, and gain the benefit of training by judges in the Philadelphia courts. Judicial fellows' service helps our high volume court system maintain its superior quality of service to the Philadelphia community. Judges help judicial fellows by mentoring and providing legal experience that will enhance their competitiveness for paid employment as new lawyers. The program has hosted 255 judicial fellows from 49 different law schools. 66 judges have volunteered to mentor judicial fellows, and the overwhelming majority of judicial fellows who have left their fellowship having successfully found paid jobs using their legal skills. 72 judicial fellows have been hired as judicial law clerks.



Ben Franklin Parkway

2015 ADMINISTRATIVE GOVERNING BOARD



Left to Right: Gary S. Glazer; Joseph Evers; Marsha H. Neifield; Kevin M. Dougherty; Sheila Woods-Skipper; Margaret T. Murphy; Zygmunt Pines; Matthew D. Carrafiello; (Not Pictured: Thomas B. Darr)

CONGRATULATIONS *and thanks* TO THE HONORABLE KEVIN M. DOUGHERTY

2015 saw Philadelphia's own, Justice Kevin M. Dougherty, elected to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Most recently, Justice Dougherty had served as the Administrative Judge of Philadelphia's Court of Common Pleas – Trial Division, and as Chair of the First Judicial District's Administrative Governing Board.

Over the course of his time with Philadelphia's courts, Justice Dougherty served as a jurist who valued the health, safety and well-being of children and he, notably, saw the necessity in balancing the need to ensure public safety with the re-entry and integration of formerly incarcerated persons back into our communities. He embraced technology in an effort to continue the courts' mission to continually improve efficiency and was instrumental in the planning and building of our new Family Court building.

His contributions to not only the city's court system, but all of Philadelphia, have been indelible. His brand of forward thinking has demonstrated that there is a place in this world for those who honor history while working tirelessly to improve the future. On behalf of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, we thank you for your service, we thank you for your leadership, and we wish you well in the newest chapter of your life and judicial career.



JUDGES *of the*
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



JUDGES *of the*
MUNICIPAL COURT


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graph TD; A[PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT] --> B[FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE GOVERNING BOARD  
Respective President and Administrative Judges, the State Court Administrator and District Court Administrator]; B --> C[District Court Administrator]; C --> D[Court of Common Pleas]; C --> E[Municipal Court]; D --> F[Trial Division]; D --> G[Family Division]; D --> H[Orphans' Court Division]; E --> I[Civil Division]; E --> J[Criminal Division]; E --> K[Traffic Division]; F --> L[Civil]; F --> M[Criminal]; G --> N[Domestic Relations Branch]; G --> O[Juvenile Branch]; H --> P[Office of Judicial Records];
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PENNSYLVANIA
SUPREME COURT

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE
GOVERNING BOARD
Respective President and Administrative Judges, the State Court
Administrator and District Court Administrator

District Court
Administrator

Court of
Common Pleas

Municipal
Court

Trial Division

Family Division

Orphans' Court
Division

Civil Division

Civil

Domestic Relations
Branch

Criminal Division

Criminal

Juvenile Branch

Traffic Division

Office of Judicial
Records

COURT ADMINISTRATION



Joseph H. Evers

*District Court
Administrator*



Mary Lou Baker

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Domestic Relations*



Kevin A. Cross

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Budget and Fiscal*



Mario D'Adamo, Esq.

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Juvenile*



Robert DeEmilio

*Deputy Court
Administrator*



Marc Flood, Esq.

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Procurement*



Joseph H. Hassett, Esq.

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Traffic Division*



Amy Mader

*Director,
Human Resources*

COURT ADMINISTRATION



Charles A. Mapp, Sr.

*Chief Deputy Court
Administrator;
Deputy Court Administrator,
Trial Division – Civil*



Patricia R. McDermott

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Municipal Court, Civil Division*



Harold Palmer

*Director,
Information Technology*



Daniel Rendine, Esq.

Jury Commissioner



Dominic Rossi, Esq.

*Deputy Court
Administrator,
Legal Department*

Not Pictured: Glenn S. Bozzacco, Esq.; Clayton Carter (Director, Administrative Services); Janet C. Fasy (Deputy Court Administrator, Court Reporter and Interpreter Services); Eric Feder (Deputy Court Administrator, Office of Judicial Records); Martha Fisher, Esq. (Human Resources Attorney); Richard McSorley, Esq. (Deputy Court Administrator, Trial Division – Criminal); Kathleen M. Rapone (Deputy Court Administrator, Municipal Court, Criminal Division)



The Court Administrator is the highest non-judicial leadership position in the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania (FJD). The position was created in 1996 when the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in reorganizing the FJD, established the Administrative Governing Board (AGB). The Office of the Court Administrator was instituted to complement the Board and carry out their directives, to propose solutions to problems and innovative ideas for improvements, and to oversee the day-to-day management of the District. In May 2013, Joseph H. Evers was appointed FJD Court Administrator. The Office provides centralized management for major service centers that affect the work of the courts throughout the District and coordinates the ministerial activities of Deputy Court Administrators located in specific courts and divisions of the FJD. The Chief Deputy Court Administrator is Charles A. Mapp Sr.

While the DCAs that are spread throughout the courts report to the Court Administrator, they must also work very closely and respond to the direction of their respective President and Administrative Judges. This dual organizational scheme guarantees individual courts and divisions the benefits of the services of a Deputy Court Administrator and at the same time ensures that their operations are coordinated as key components of the centralized FJD management structure.

The DCAs are complemented by a group of Directors who also lead departments specializing in cross-court services. Those departments include Human Resources, the Jury Commission; the Department of Information Technology Services, and Administrative Services.

Through the development of this Annual Report, Court Administration seeks to provide a resource that supports and catalyzes the mission of our judiciary to provide quality, efficient services throughout our Courts while facilitating the advancement of the progressive approach our District is known for.





COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



Kevin M. Dougherty
*Trial Division Administrative
Judge Chair, Administrative
Governing Board*



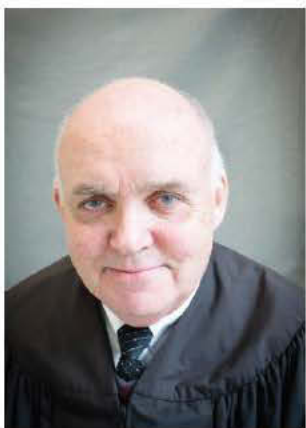
Sheila Woods-Skipper
President Judge



Margaret T. Murphy
*Family Division
Administrative Judge*



Matthew D. Carrafiello
*Orphans' Division
Administrative Judge*



Jeffrey P. Minehart
*Trial Division, Criminal
Supervising Judge*



Arnold L. New
*Trial Division, Civil
Supervising Judge*



Walter J. Olszewski
*Family Division
Supervising Judge*



Jacqueline F. Allen
Trial Division



Daniel J. Anders
Trial Division



Diana Louise Anhalt
Trial Division



Mark I. Bernstein
Trial Division



Gwendolyn N. Bright
Trial Division

COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



Glenn B. Bronson
Trial Division



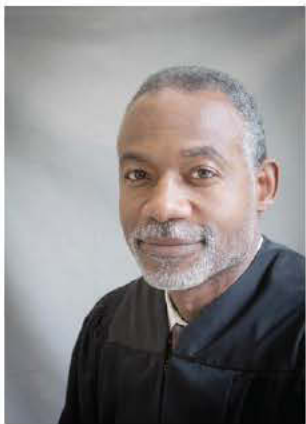
Joan A. Brown
Trial Division



Ann Butchart
Trial Division



Sandy L. V. Byrd
Trial Division



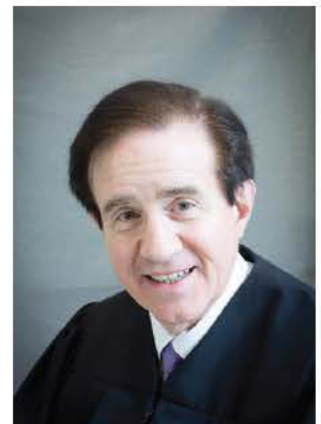
Giovanni Campbell
Trial Division



Linda Carpenter
Trial Division



Ellen Ceisler
Trial Division



Denis Cohen
Trial Division



Robert P. Coleman
Trial Division



Mary Colins
**Trial Division*



Amanda Cooperman
Family Division



Roxanne Covington
Trial Division

COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



Anne Marie B. Coyle
Trial Division



Charles J. Cunningham III
Trial Division



Rose Marie DeFino-Nastasi
Trial Division



Victor J. DiNubile, Jr.
**Trial Division*



Ramy I. Djerassi
Trial Division



Lori A. Dumas
Family Division



Charles A. Ehrlich
Trial Division



Michael Erdos
Trial Division



Michael Fanning
Family Division



Joseph Fernandes
Family Division



Abbe F. Fletman
Trial Division



Angelo Foglietta
Trial Division

COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



Holly J. Ford
Family Division



Idee Fox
Trial Division



Steven R. Geroff
**Trial Division*



Gary S. Glazer
Trial Division



Richard J. Gordon, Jr.
Family Division



Glynnis Hill
Trial Division



Jonathan Q. Irvine
Family Division



Vincent L. Johnson
Trial Division



Sean F. Kennedy
Trial Division



D. Webster Keogh
**Trial Division*



Marlene F. Lachman
Trial Division



Timika Lane
Trial Division

COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



James Murray Lynn
Family Division



Frederica Massiah-Jackson
Trial Division



William Mazzola
**Trial Division*



Daniel McCafferty
Trial Division



Barbara McDermott
Trial Division



Patricia A. McNerney
Trial Division



Maria McLaughlin
Family Division



Carolyn H. Nichols
Trial Division



J. Scott O'Keefe
Trial Division



George W. Overton
Orphans' Division



Frank Palumbo
Trial Division



Paul P. Panepinto
Trial Division

COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



Paula A. Patrick
Trial Division



Doris A. Pechkurow
Family Division



Kenneth J. Powell, Jr.
Trial Division



Lillian Harris Ransom
Trial Division



Lisa M. Rau
Trial Division



Robert J. Rebstock
Family Division



Abram Frank Reynolds
**Family Division*



Shelley Robins New
Trial Division



Rosalyn K. Robinson
Trial Division



M. Teresa Sarmina
Trial Division



Stephanie M. Sawyer
Trial Division



Susan I. Schulman
Trial Division

COURT *of*

COMMON PLEAS JUDGES



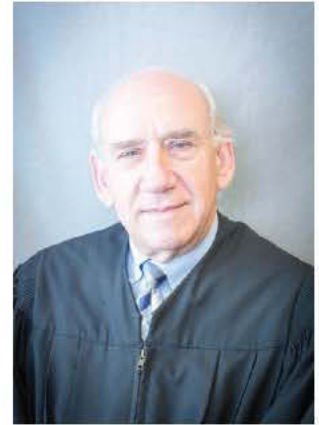
Lisette Shirdan-Harris
Trial Division



Karen Shreeves-Johns
Trial Division



Sierra Thomas Street
Trial Division



Allan L. Tereshko
Family Division



Diane Thompson
Family Division



Leon W. Tucker
Trial Division



Donna M. Woelpper
Trial Division



Edward C. Wright
Trial Division



Nina Wright Padilla
Trial Division



John Milton Younge
Trial Division

Not Pictured: Genece E. Brinkley, Trial Division; Ida K. Chen, Family Division; Pamela Pryor Dembe, *Trial Division; Gary F. DiVito, *Trial Division; Alice Beck Dubow, Trial Division; John W. Herron, Orphans' Division; Elizabeth Jackson, Family Division; Joel S. Johnson, Family Division; Barbara A. Joseph, Trial Division; Harold Kane, * Trial Division; Benjamin Lerner, * Trial Division; Eugene Edward J. Maier, * Trial Division; Robert J. Matthews, * Family Division; Rayford A. Means, Trial Division; Vincent N. Melchiorre, Trial Division; Joseph I. O'Keefe, Orphans Division; Harvey W. Robbins, * Trial Division; Angeles Roca, Family Division; Peter F. Rogers, Family Division; Esther R. Sylvester, * Trial Division; Earl W. Trent, Jr., Trial Division; Chris R. Wogan, Trial Division

* Senior Judge



During the calendar year 2015, under the leadership of Justice Kevin M. Dougherty, former Administrative Judge - Trial Division, the Common Pleas Court continued its commitment to assuring the administration of justice in a manner that is efficient and fair while promoting public confidence in the justice system.

The Trial Division is the largest division of the First Judicial District with a total of seventy commissioned judges. The judges in commission are supplemented by the services of several senior judges. Twenty-nine judges are assigned to the Civil Section and forty-one judges are assigned to the Criminal Section. In addition, there are approximately one thousand employees, including members of the Adult Probation and Parole Department, throughout the Trial Division.

The Trial Division is dedicated to providing access to justice and seeks to provide each litigant his or her day in court. This is evidenced by the implementation of programs and protocols designed to efficiently and impartially apply the laws of the Commonwealth. In 2015, the combined forces of seventy judges assigned to the Trial Division, aided by the sound support of Court Administration, delivered a more just and efficient court system.

CIVIL SECTION

Under the direction of Supervising Judge Arnold L. New, the Civil Section furthered its pursuit of excellence in case management in an efficient and productive manner. The Civil Section's ongoing effort to provide access to justice was actualized by the implementation of innovative and progressive case flow management systems, continuous education for judges and support staff, and the creation of appropriate pre-trial forums and technological advancements. The following accomplishments confirm the strong judicial leadership, the high level of judicial productivity and the commitment of the civil judges to the goals and objectives of the various civil case management programs:

- Ninety percent (90%) of all civil cases were disposed or otherwise resolved within the case processing time standards established by the American Bar Association (ABA).
- A compliance rate of ninety six percent (96%) for commercial cases disposed of within the ABA twenty four (24) month standard.
- Ninety three percent (93%) of mortgage foreclosure cases disposed or otherwise resolved within ABA time standards.

CRIMINAL SECTION

Under the direction of Supervising Judge Jeffrey P. Minehart, the Criminal Section continued its commitment to the administration of justice and reform by partnering with other justice stakeholders to achieve measurable outcomes. The following highlights the accomplishments realized in 2015:

MACARTHUR FOUNDATION GRANT

In May of 2015, the Court joined our criminal justice partners and submitted a comprehensive grant application for the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge. In April 2016, Philadelphia was awarded a \$3.5 million MacArthur Foundation grant to fund criminal justice reform. The following are measures the grant seeks to further and achieve:

- Pretrial and case management restructuring with the goal of reducing the percentage of incarcerated individuals awaiting trial to reflect the national average.
- Increased collaboration across the criminal justice system to reduce overall prison population and address racial and economic based biases across the system.
- The expansion and creation of diversion programs.

PAPAL VISIT

In September 2015, Pope Francis visited the United States and the City of Philadelphia. During the papal visit the many departments of the Criminal Section successfully maintained 24/7 operations in the midst of extreme security restrictions. Pretrial Services and Adult Probation and Parole worked with the Philadelphia Police and relocated personnel and all technical functions for the duration of the Pope's visit. All operations were maintained throughout the visit without incident or interruption.

What follows are the 2015 reports which provide detailed information on both the Civil and Criminal Sections of the Trial Division together with a summary analysis.

Respectfully,

Jacqueline F. Allen
Administrative Judge, Trial Division¹



¹ Appointed by the Supreme Court January 27, 2016, effective January 29, 2016.

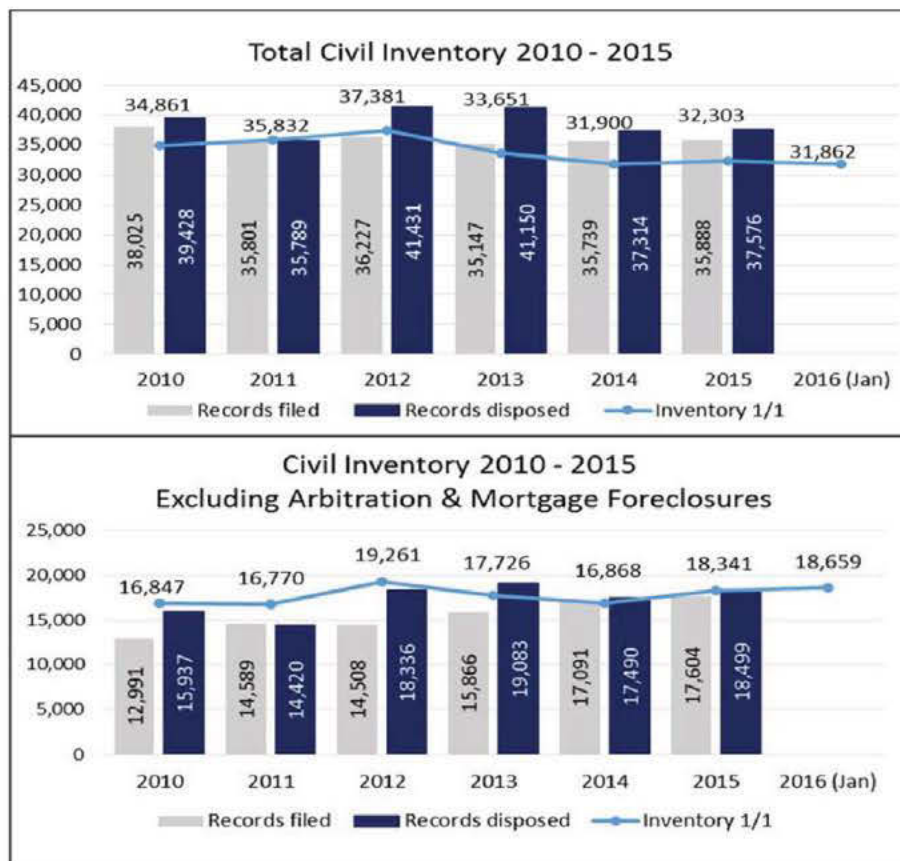
CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

The key to the success of the Trial Division – Civil is the intense management of cases. Civil cases are categorized and placed into case management programs specifically organized for effective handling and prompt, precise disposition. Significant court events are scheduled and deadlines are enforced. These programs include: Complex Litigation (Pharmaceutical, Asbestos and Medical Devices), Day Forward Major Jury, Major Non-Jury, Commerce Case Management, Compulsory Arbitration, Arbitration Appeals, Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program, Motions Program, Class Actions, Governmental and Administrative Agency Appeals, Code Enforcement, Rent Lease and Ejectment, Landlord/Tenant Appellate Mediation and Discovery, as well as the Civil Case Management and Dispute Resolution Centers.

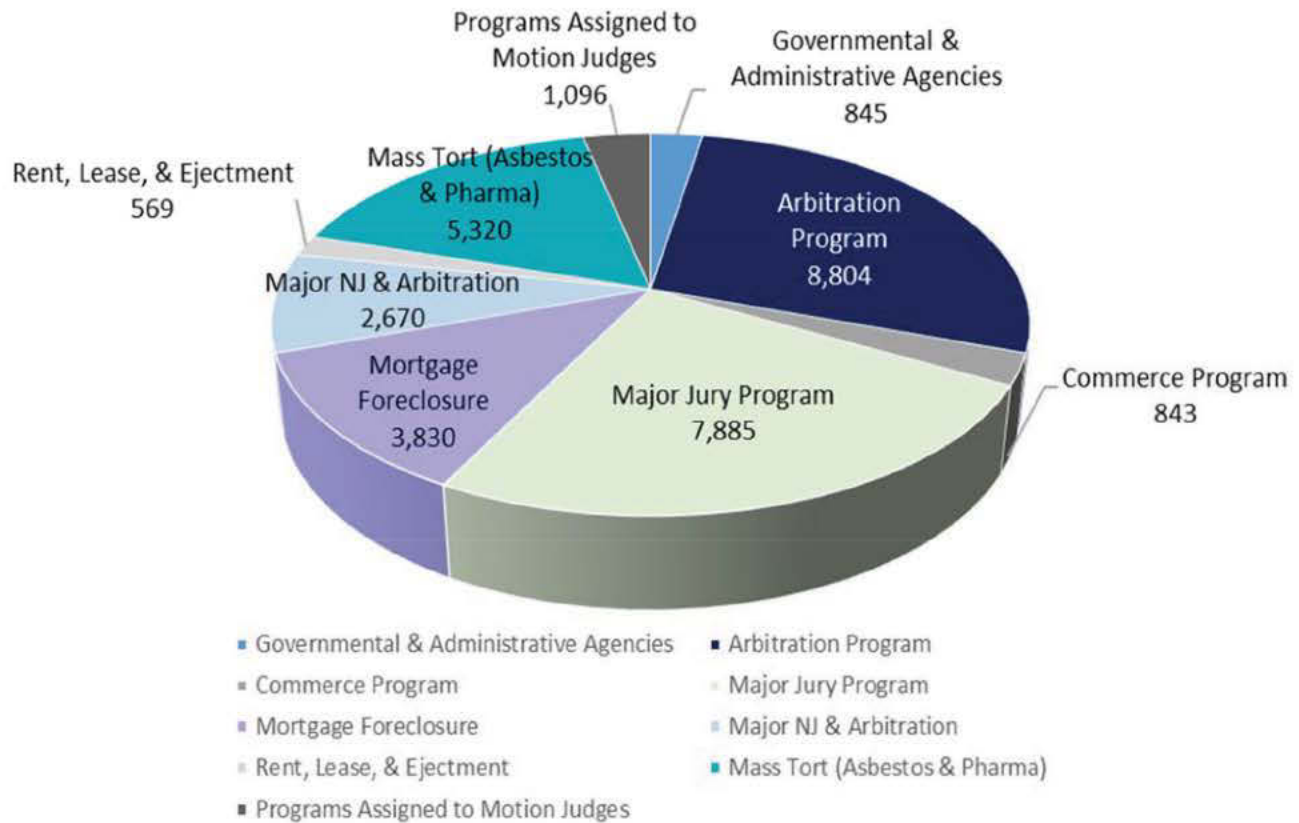
Charles A. Mapp | Chief Deputy Court Administrator

CIVIL INVENTORY

- **New Filings:** Including arbitration matters, the Trial Division – Civil received a total of 35,888 new filings during calendar year 2015.
- **Dispositions:** Total civil dispositions for 2015 equaled 37,576. Excluding arbitration matters, the Court disposed of 25,950 civil records.
- **Trials:** There were 318 Jury Trials and 320 Non-Jury Trials conducted in the Civil Section of the Trial Division during calendar year 2015.
- **Records Pending:** Civil records pending as of December 31, 2015 totaled 31,862; representing a one percent (1%) decrease in records pending for the year.

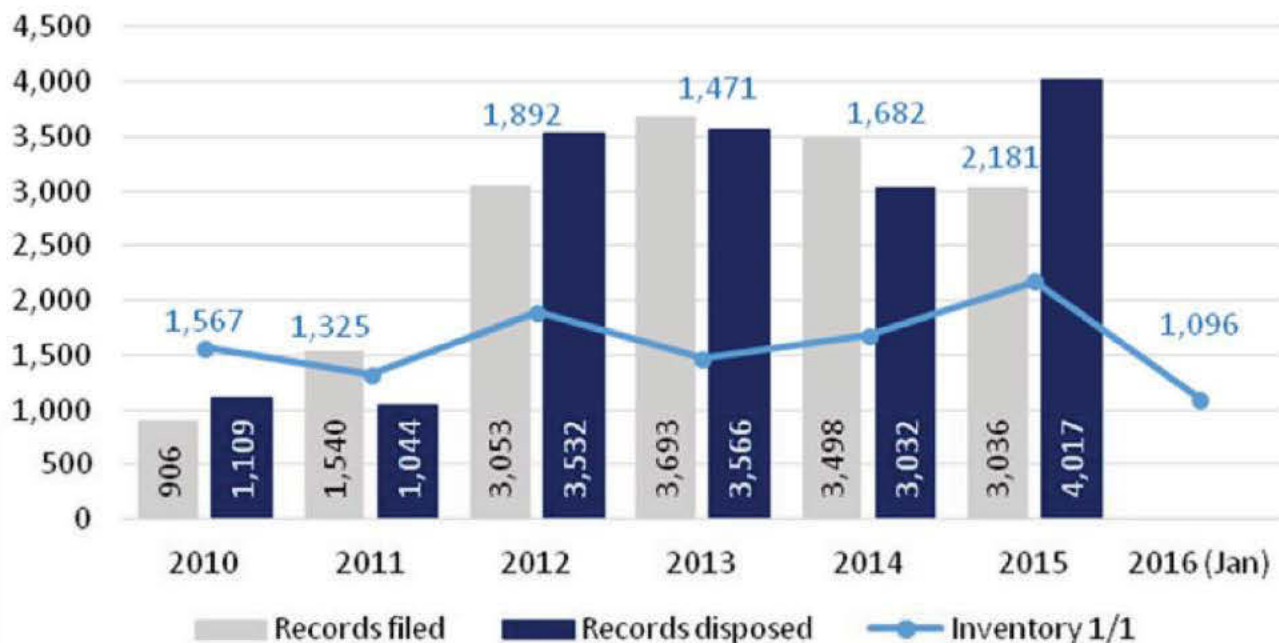


Records Pending Breakdown December Term 2015 (Total 31,862)

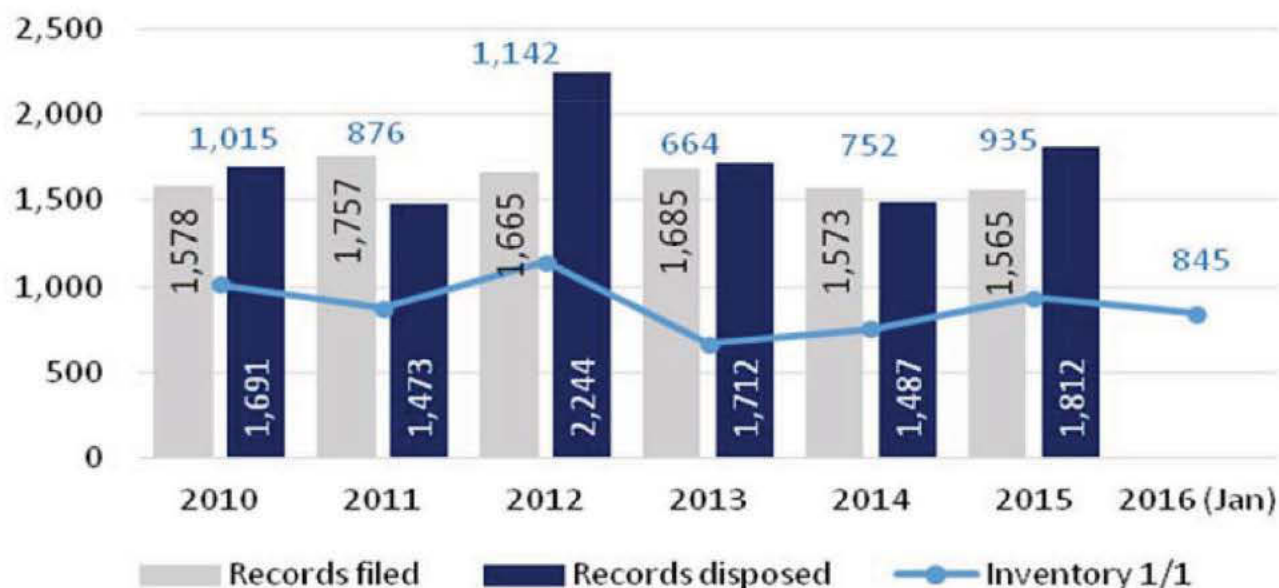


PROGRAM	RECORDS PENDING	PERCENT OF INVENTORY
Governmental & Administrative Agencies	845	2.65%
Arbitration Program	8,804	27.63%
Commerce Program	843	2.65%
Major Jury Program	7,885	24.75%
Mortgage Foreclosure	3,830	12.02%
Major NJ & Arbitration	2,670	8.38%
Rent, Lease, & Ejectment	569	1.79%
Mass Tort (Asbestos & Pharma)	5,320	16.70%
Programs Assigned to Motion Judges	1,096	3.44%
Total	31,862	100.00%

Programs Assigned to Motion Judges 2010 - 2015



Governmental & Administrative Agencies 2010 - 2015



GOVERNMENTAL & ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES - RECORDS PENDING / FILED / DISPOSED 2015

	Pending 1/4/2015	Records Filed	Re-Open	Records Disposed	Net Deferred	Net Transfer	Pending 1/3/2016	Deferred	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Increase (Decrease)
Equity-City of Philadelphia	291	569	60	543	-1	-5	371	1	80	27%
Landlord / Tenant Appeals	104	332	37	318	2	-7	150	4	46	44%
Lead Contamination	54	121	2	114	1	-18	46	0	-8	-15%
Penn-Dot Appeals	486	543	41	837	-2	47	278	3	-208	-43%
Total	935	1565	140	1812	0	17	845	8	-90	-10%

CIVIL ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

The First Judicial District's Civil Electronic Filing System (EFS), mandatory since January 5, 2009, has revolutionized the civil courts. Unique system features embody the kind of forward-thinking approach that has separated Philadelphia from its counterparts across the country. The My Cases link which allows a user access to their case inventory and all available electronic documents in the court's record has been a major highlight of the system since its inception. So, too, has the electronic notification of court filings, scheduling notices and judicial findings and orders to all members of the subject case who are EFS users.

The Civil Electronic Filing System, found at <http://www.courts.phila.gov/online>, is constantly evolving. Modifications to allow for new case types and filing options are added frequently. Recent updates include accommodating the complex filings that relate to actions with Eminent Domain implications and the implementation of an EFS process that is dedicated to Petitions to Appoint Sequestrators.

The First Judicial District's Civil Electronic Filing System (EFS), mandatory since January 5, 2009, has revolutionized the civil courts.

A major addition to the EFS environment has been the e-commerce component. Users have been given the ability to view and purchase public documents in civil cases through the web application. Subpoenas are also available for purchase electronically. All of these additions have been incorporated into the EFS portal which has been expanded to include applications utilized in the Criminal division. The success of the EFS has made it possible to incorporate applications across the First Judicial District under one umbrella.

The process of electronic notification of court filings, scheduling notices, judicial orders, and other documents requiring notice pursuant to Pennsylvania Rule of Civil Procedure 236 continues to be extremely effective. Since implementation, nearly four million notices have been served electronically on all interested parties; with over 750,000 delivered in 2015 alone. Postage savings continue to be a huge benefit with more than one-million dollars saved from mailing electronically as opposed to traditional means.

The Philadelphia Bar and litigants alike continue to benefit from the efficiencies and creativity that has been offered through the Civil EFS over the past six years. Last year, documents such as Case Management, Settlement and Pretrial memoranda were incorporated into the filing process. Expanding the functions of the system is always a goal. To increase efficiencies, a goal for 2016 is to provide our judiciary with the capability to enter orders and findings electronically.

COMMERCE COURT CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

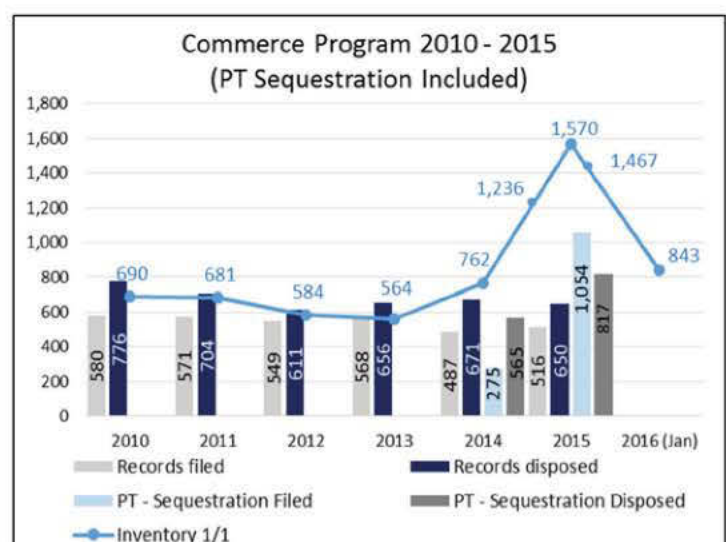
The Commerce Court Case Management Program is a specialized court focused on resolving commercial disputes brought by local, national, and international companies that do business in Philadelphia. As in previous years, the Commerce Court Program heard cases involving diverse parties and issues, including but not limited to: corporate shareholders, company members and partners; sales, mergers and dissolutions of businesses; commercial real estate transactions; construction and other business contracts; commercial insurance policies; legal, accounting and other professional (non-medical) malpractice; unfair competition, corporate fraud and theft of trade secrets; malicious prosecution; and negotiable instruments. The program also hears motions concerning confessed judgments in amounts greater than \$50,000.

In addition to resolving complex business disputes, in the fall of 2013, the Commerce Court Program began hearing Petitions to Appoint Sequestrators for commercial properties against which tax liens have been filed. This Sequestration Project provides means for the City to quickly collect overdue taxes. In the 2.5 years of the Commerce Program's Sequestration Project, the City obtained over \$35 million dollars in back taxes from the persons and entities against whom it filed Petitions with the Court. Approximately half of this money goes to the Philadelphia School District to help alleviate its funding shortfall.

This past year, the Commerce Court Program continued to fulfill its mandate to provide guidance on issues of Pennsylvania commercial law. Since its inception, Commerce Program judges have published more than 1200 opinions on the Commerce Program's website, including more than 50 new ones in 2015.

During calendar year 2015, Commerce Program judges disposed of 650 commercial cases. Ninety-six percent (96%) of these complex cases were disposed within 24 months of the date they were filed, which is the time standard established by the ABA. As of January 03, 2016, there were 574 pending business cases assigned to the Commerce Program, and 183 Sequestration cases assigned.

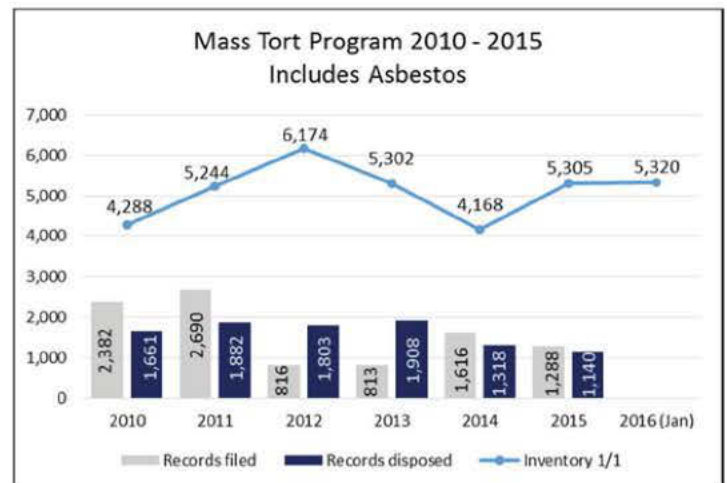
COMMERCE PROGRAM INVENTORY	COUNT
Pending 1/4/2015	560
Records Filed	1,570
Re-Open	57
Records Disposed	1,467
Net Deferred	115
Pending 1/3/2016	843
Deferred	112
<i>Increase (Decrease)</i>	283
<i>Percent Increase (Decrease)</i>	51%



COMPLEX LITIGATION CENTER

The Complex Litigation Center was responsible for managing twenty-seven percent (27%) of the total civil inventory, which includes the Pharmaceutical, Medical Device, and Asbestos Mass Tort Programs. At the beginning of calendar year 2015, there were 5,305 Mass Tort records pending within the Complex Litigation Center (4,643 Pharmaceutical and 662 Asbestos). There were 5,320 records pending at the end of the year (4,728 Pharmaceutical and 592 Asbestos).

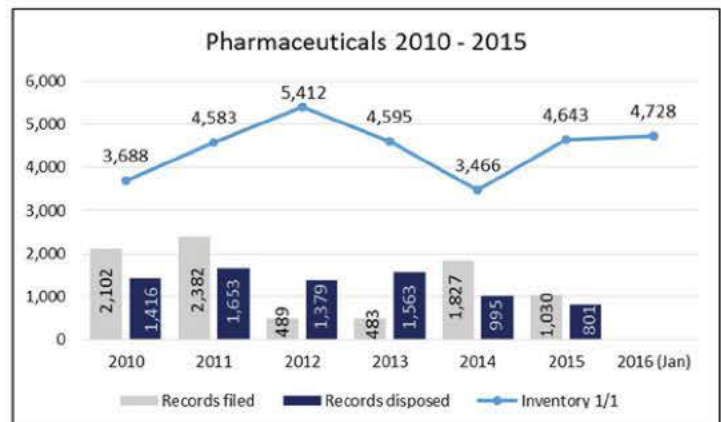
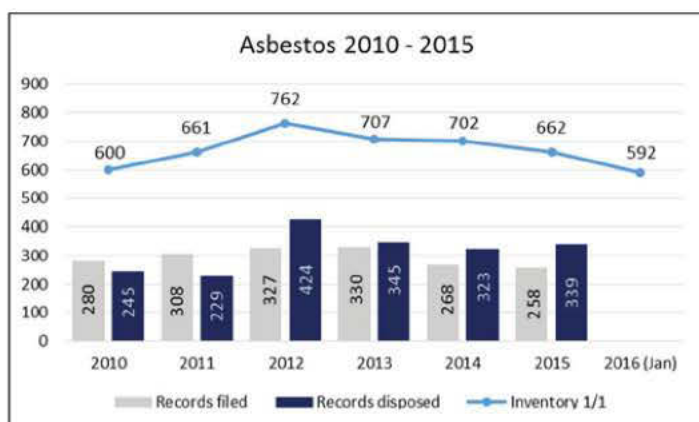
During 2015, the court received 1,288 new mass tort records (1,030 Pharmaceutical and 258 Asbestos). Risperdal (525 new filings) and Xarelto (487 new filings) represent 79% of the total new filings for calendar year 2015.



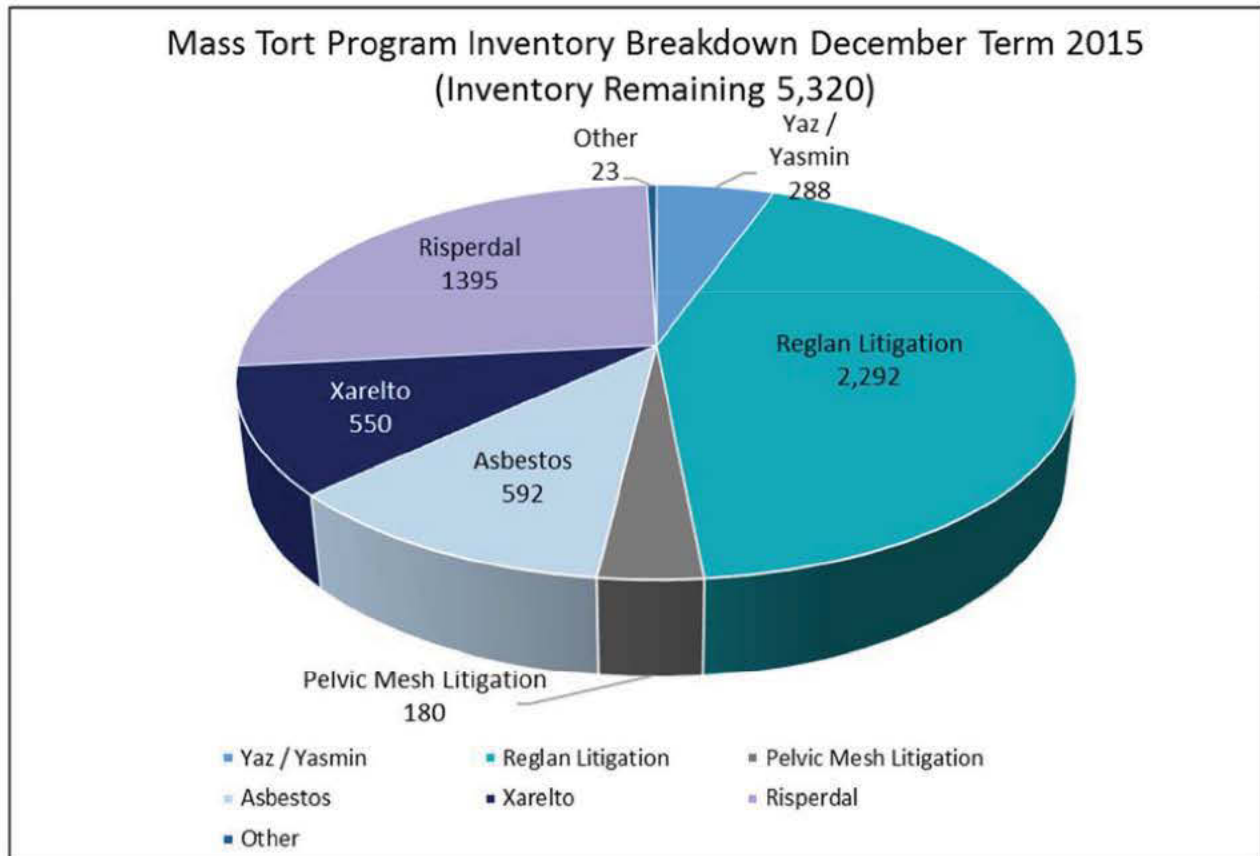
MASS TORT

Mass Tort Dispositions totaled 1,140 records (801 Pharmaceutical and 339 Asbestos). Pelvic Mesh (535 records disposed) represent 47% of the total dispositions for calendar year 2015.

The largest pharmaceutical programs remaining at the end of the year were Reglan (2,292 records pending), Risperdal (1,395 records pending), Xarelto (550 records pending), Yaz/Yasmin/Ocella (288 records pending) and Pelvic Mesh (180 records pending); representing forty-three percent (43%), twenty-six percent (26%), ten percent (10%) and five percent (5%), respectively, of the total mass tort inventory.



The Complex Litigation Center's Mass Tort Information website, which appears online at <http://www.courts.phila.gov/common-pleas/trial/civil/clc.asp>, was enhanced last year. In addition to providing general information and important updates on upcoming court events, users are now able to view real-time active case and trial lists.



MASS TORT PROGRAM INVENTORY	RECORDS PENDING	PERCENT OF RECORDS PENDING
Reglan Litigation	2,292	43.08%
Risperdal	1,395	26.22%
Asbestos	592	11.13%
Xarelto	550	10.34%
Yas / Yazmin / Ocella Litigation	288	5.41%
Pelvic Mesh Litigation	180	3.38%
Paxil Birth Defect	10	0.19%
Topamax Litigation	8	0.15%
Phen-Fen	4	0.08%
Denture Adhesive Cream	1	0.02%
Total	5,320	100.0%

CLASS ACTIONS

Class Actions were included in the Complex Litigation from 2006 – 2009, and they were included in the Major Jury program from 2012 through 2014. Thirty-four (34) Class Actions were removed from the Major Jury Program inventory to the Commerce Program inventory.

CLASS ACTIONS INVENTORY	COUNT
Pending 1/4/2015	34
Filed	41
Re-Open	2
Disposed	40
Net Deferred	-1
Net Transfer	-21
Pending 1/3/2016	15
Deferred	5
<i>Increase (Decrease)</i>	-19
<i>Percent Increase (Decrease)</i>	-56%



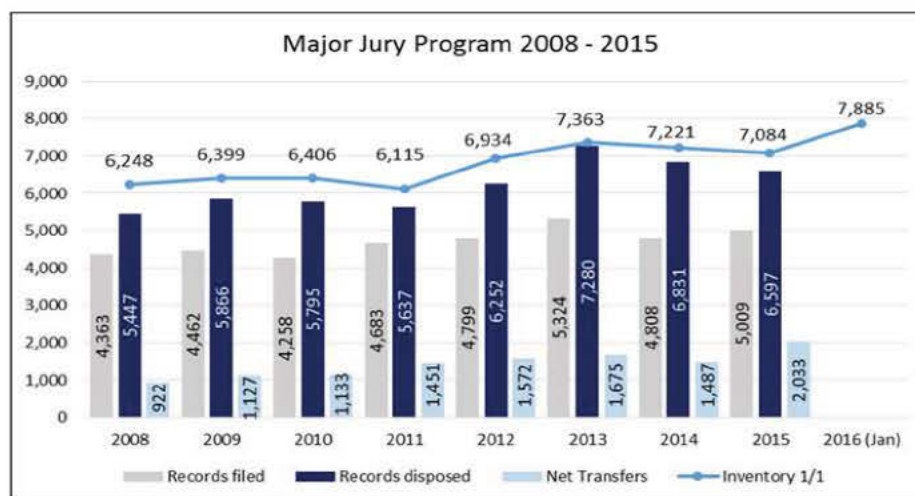
MAJOR JURY & NON-JURY PROGRAMS

DAY FORWARD MAJOR JURY PROGRAM

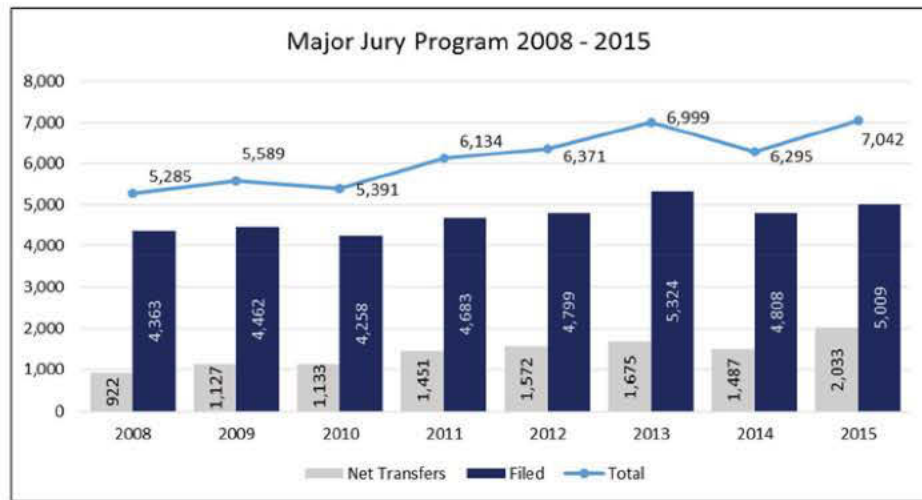
The nationally-recognized Day Forward Major Jury Program encompasses all major civil jury cases except Commerce and Mass Tort cases. Day Forward Case Management is a system that has been created to coordinate and schedule major jury cases for trial. It provides for early intervention and continuous control of the major jury cases. To manage these cases more effectively, judges assigned to this program are divided into teams. To maintain consistent oversight of each case, each team is led by a Judicial Team Leader. The Judicial Team Leader and the assigned team of judges rule upon all motions (including discovery motions), conduct status conferences, settlement conferences, pretrial conferences and trials. To assure effective case management, every case in the Day Forward Program is scheduled for a case management conference before a Civil Case Manager approximately ninety (90) days after commencement. The main objective of the Case Management Conference is to obtain early disclosure of basic information so that each case can be managed more effectively. Based on this information, the Civil Case Manager prepares a Case Management Order that establishes a schedule for each case. The Case Management Order sets deadlines for discovery, the exchange of expert reports, and the filing of motions. Also, a presumptive month is scheduled for a settlement conference, pretrial conference, and trial.

During calendar year 2015, the Major Jury inventory increased by 801 cases, or eleven percent (11%). The civil judges diligently managed to dispose of 6,597 major jury cases throughout the year. Ninety-two percent (92%) of the major jury cases were disposed or otherwise resolved within the case processing time standards established by the American Bar Association (ABA). As of January 3, 2016, there were 7,885 active cases pending within the Major Jury program.

MAJOR JURY INVENTORY	COUNT
Pending 1/4/2015	7,084
Records Filed	5,009
Re-Open	259
Records Disposed	6,597
Net Deferred	97
Net Transfer	2,033
Pending 1/3/2016	7,885
Deferred Inventory	408
<i>Increase (Decrease)</i>	<i>801</i>
<i>Percent Increase (Decrease)</i>	<i>11%</i>



To address the increase in the number of cases being managed through the Civil Case Management Conference Center and to reinforce the Court's commitment to effective case management, Case Management staff was supplemented with the hiring of a fourth Case Manager, assignment of a Quality Assurance Officer and additional support staff. The additional staff has improved conference scheduling, reduced wait time for users of the Center and improved overall efficiencies.



MEDICAL MALPRACTICE – MAJOR JURY

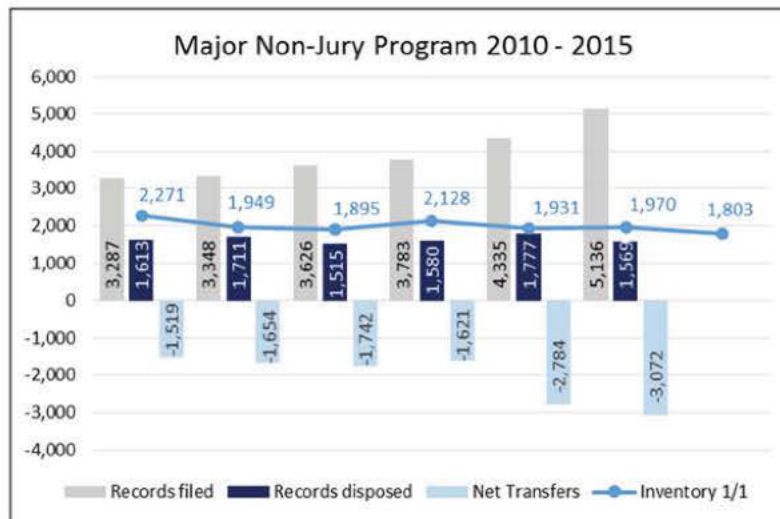
All records are not disposed of in the same year. Shown below are medical malpractice records as of 01/04/2016.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE RECORDS INVENTORY					
Year	Filed	Active	Disposed	Total Percent Disposed	Deferred
2015	381	310	64	17%	7
2014	382	239	141	37%	2
2013	376	81	292	78%	3
2012	414	3	408	99%	3
2011	426	2	424	100%	0
2010	389	0	388	100%	1

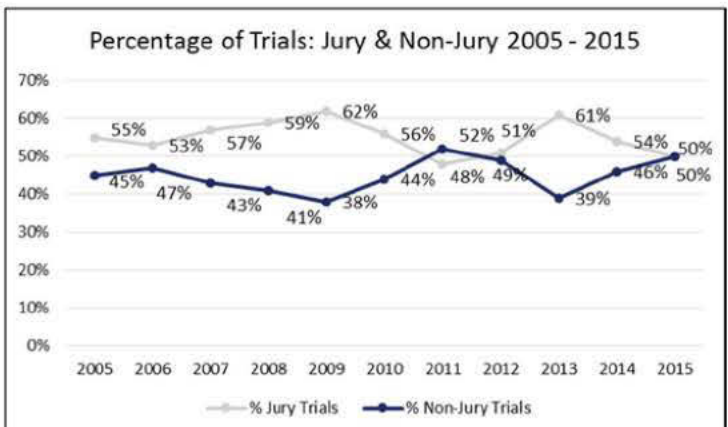
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE RECORDS - MAJOR JURY			
Year	Major Jury Filed	Medical Malpractice Filed	% Medical Malpractice Filed in MJ
2015	5,009	381	8%
2014	4,808	382	8%
2013	5,324	376	7%
2012	4,799	414	9%
2011	4,683	426	9%
2010	4,258	389	9%

MAJOR NON-JURY PROGRAMS

With respect to the Major Non-Jury Program, which is managed through the Complex Litigation Center, the inventory increased by 234 cases, or fifteen percent (15%). As of January 3, 2016, there were 1,803 active cases pending within the Major Non-Jury program.



Trials: There were 318 Jury Trials and 320 Non-Jury Trials conducted in the Civil Section of the Trial Division during calendar year 2015.



TRIALS: JURY & NON-JURY 2005 - 2015					
Year	Jury Trial	% Jury Trials	Non-Jury Trial	% Non-Jury Trials	Total Trials
2015	318	50%	320	50%	638
2014	331	54%	283	46%	614
2013	347	61%	221	39%	568
2012	305	51%	293	49%	598
2011	258	48%	278	52%	536
2010	391	56%	312	44%	703
2009	320	62%	197	38%	517
2008	338	59%	235	41%	573
2007	335	57%	252	43%	587

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION PROGRAM

All civil actions filed in the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County with an amount in controversy of \$50,000 or less, excluding equitable actions and claims to real estate, must first proceed to a compulsory arbitration hearing before a panel of three attorneys who have been certified by the court to serve as arbitrators.

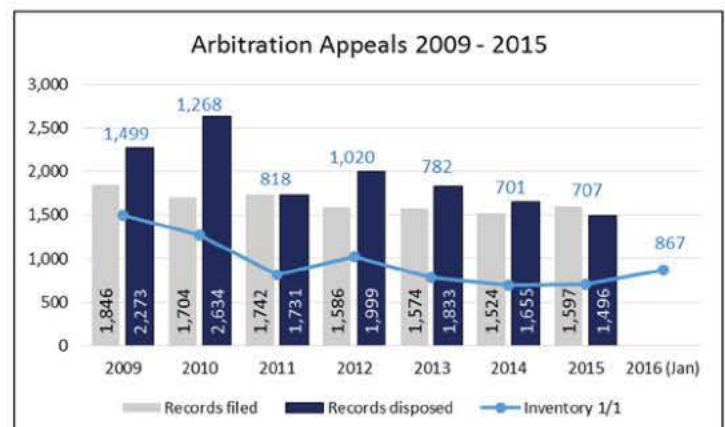
The Compulsory Arbitration Program in Philadelphia County is one of the most successful programs of its kind in the nation. In a continuing effort to promote meaningful Compulsory Arbitration Hearings, counsel and parties are reminded that they are required to attend and to fully participate in scheduled arbitration hearings. Furthermore, counsel and parties are expected to be ready to proceed with the matter at the time of the hearing (i.e. Complaint must be filed and served and discovery complete).

In furtherance of attaining these important objectives, the Court enters Rule Returnable Orders against parties who fail to appear/participate in arbitration hearings or who are not procedurally ready to proceed with their cases at the time of the hearing. The Rule Returnable Orders compel the offending party to appear in Court to explain why they failed to attend the hearing, why they were not ready to proceed and why sanctions should not be entered against them. Counsel and parties without a satisfactory excuse may be subject to sanctions, including assuming the cost of a second arbitration hearing, non-pros or default judgment. Failure to appear at the Rule Returnable Hearing could result in the imposition of additional sanctions, including entry of a preclusion Order or judgment against the non-complying party.

The Arbitration Center is regularly visited by delegations from other states and even several foreign countries to observe and hopefully emulate the efficient operation of compulsory arbitration in their respective jurisdictions. The Center was most recently visited by a delegation from the Republic of Cameroon, Africa.

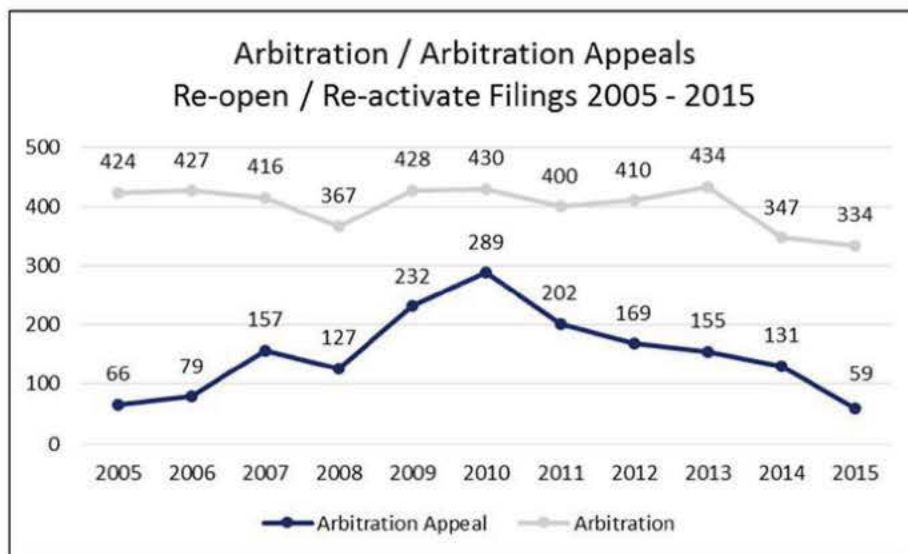
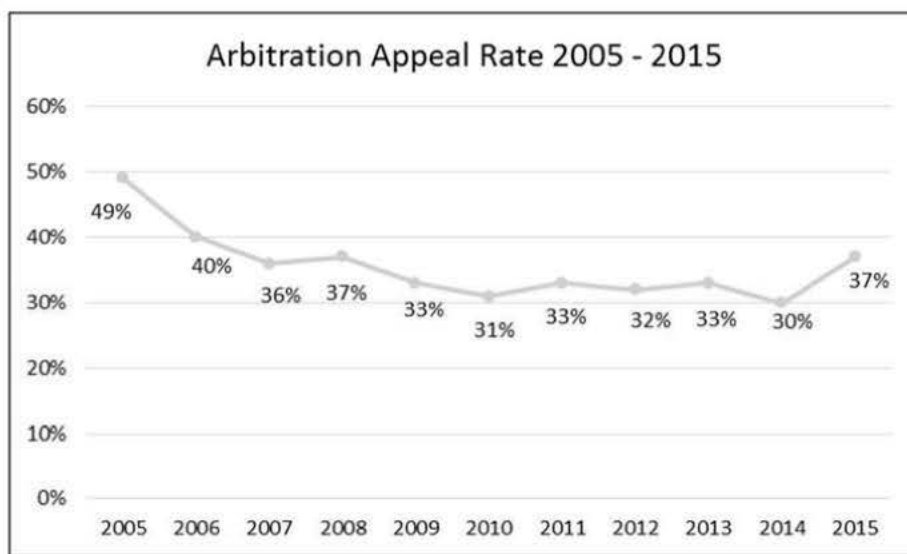
The Arbitration Center also regularly hosts students from area law schools and City agencies to observe the Arbitration proceedings. Additionally, in conjunction with the University of Pennsylvania Law School, mediation conferences are scheduled in cases on appeal from Municipal Court.

As a model of one of the most efficient Compulsory Arbitration Programs in the nation, the Trial Division's Arbitration Program handles approximately twenty-eight percent (28%) of the total civil inventory on a yearly basis; has a pending inventory of 8,804 cases; and is operating with a thirty-seven percent (37%) appeal rate.



Very recently, with the support of the Philadelphia Bar Association, free Wi-Fi access has been provided to the parties and attorneys who appear at the Arbitration Center. This access has allowed witnesses and parties to appear by Skype or similar application with the consent of all parties. Additionally, the Arbitration Center has obtained video conferencing capability, which allows parties who are incarcerated to appear/testify by video.

With 11,626 cases concluded at the Arbitration level in 2015, the Compulsory Arbitration Program continues to be an effective forum for resolving civil disputes with limited use of judicial resources.



RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE DIVERSION PROGRAM

Since the beginning of the Trial Division – Civil’s Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program, over 28,000 mortgage foreclosure conciliation conferences have been conducted. Of that number approximately seventy percent (70%) of homeowners have come through the conference program with varied resolutions. According to an independent study conducted by The Reinvestment Fund, thirty-five percent (35%) of participating homeowners reach sustainable resolutions. Of the thirty percent (30%) that do not appear, data suggests that the properties at issue are ineligible for the program because they are vacant or not owner-occupied. The court is in the process of developing the means to examine current data to most efficiently track results to date.

Overall, resolutions are reached in less than three conciliation conferences and of those that do reach a permanent agreement, allowing the homeowner to keep their home, eighty-five percent (85%) of those individuals remain in their homes one year later.

During calendar year 2015, the Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program received 5,178 new cases and disposed of 6,075 cases. Ninety-three percent (93%) of these cases were disposed or otherwise resolved within the case processing time standards established by the ABA. Overall, the Mortgage Foreclosure inventory was reduced by 576 cases, or thirteen percent (13%). As of January 3, 2016, there were 3,830 active cases pending within the program.¹

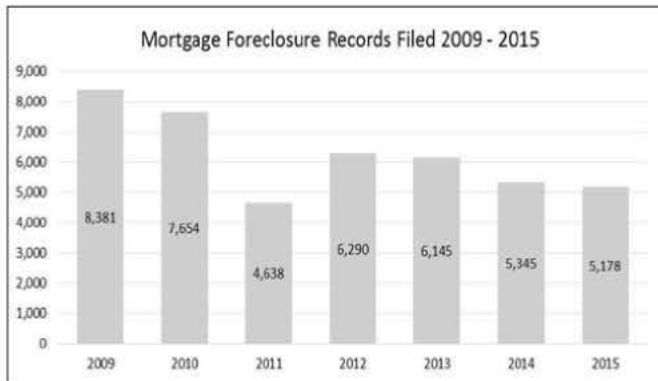


MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE PROGRAM INVENTORY	COUNT
Pending 1/4/2015	4,406
Filed	5,178
Re-Open	356
Disposed	6,075
Net Deferred	-77
Net Transfer	42
Pending 1/3/2016	3,830
Deferred	486
<i>Increase (Decrease)</i>	-576
<i>Percent Increase (Decrease)</i>	-13%

¹ During 2009, the court administratively terminated 5,186 records in which there had been no activity of record for more than three (3) years. In 2012, 1380 records; in 2013, 150 records; in 2014, 45 records; in 2015, 24 records were terminated. These are consistent with PA Rule of Civil Procedure 230.2, which provides an administrative method for the termination of inactive cases.

COURT of COMMON PLEAS

Civil Division



Philadelphia Skyline

DISCOVERY COURT & MOTIONS PROGRAMS

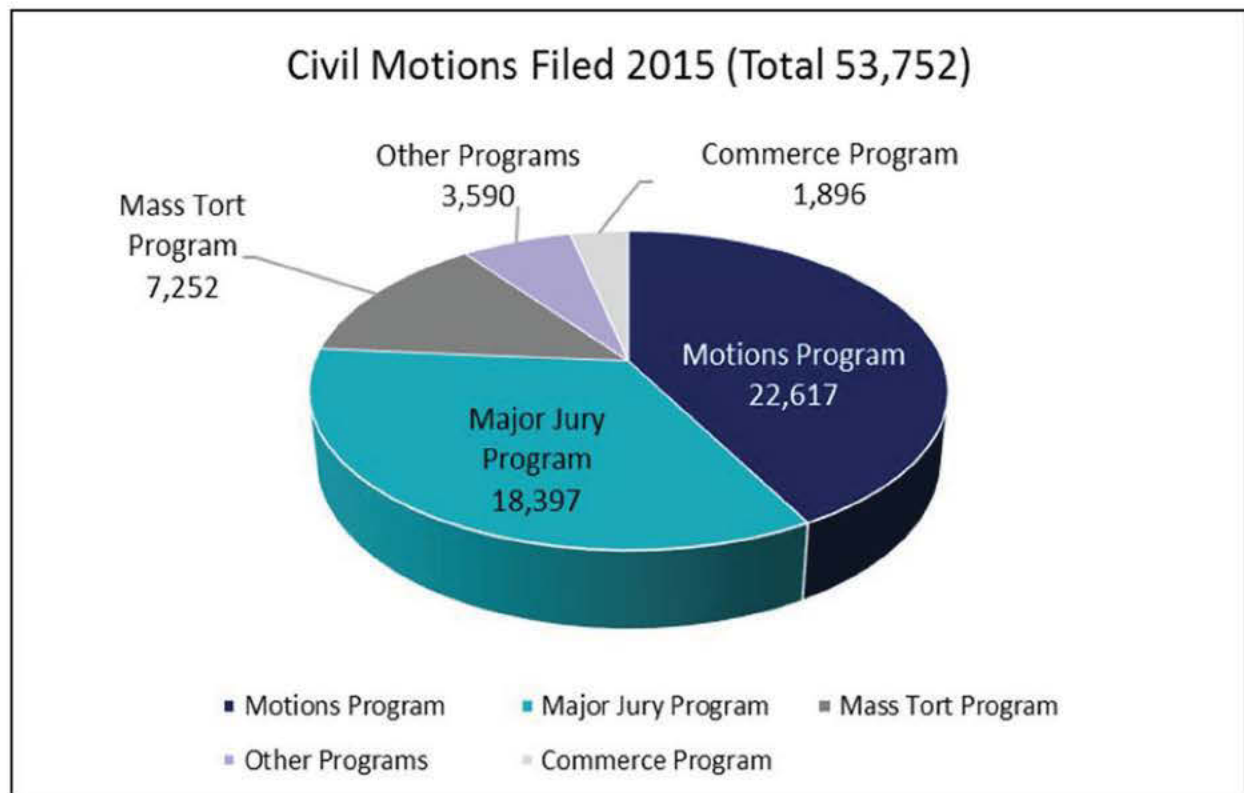
The Discovery Court Program operates in accordance with the alternative motion procedures set forth in Philadelphia Rule of Civil Procedure (P.A.R.C.P.) 208.3 with the Discovery Unit encompassing all Day Forward Programs, Commerce, Arbitration, Arbitration Appeal and Major Non-Jury programs. The assignment of Discovery Motions to judicial teams is a critically important part of the court's civil case delay reduction strategy. This strategy provides early and appropriate intervention in cases within the various civil programs under P.A.R.C.P. (B)(2). All Discovery petitions and motions (except in Mass Tort cases and cases already assigned to an individual Judge) are presented to, argued before, and determined by the Discovery Court. During Calendar year 2015, the Discovery Unit was responsible for processing and assigning 27,117 motions, petitions and stipulations requiring court approval. The unit also processed and managed 224 Name Change Petitions.

PROGRAMS

Included in the Motions Program are Discovery Motions / Petitions filed in the Statutory Appeals excluding Appeals from adjudications of the PA Department of Transportation, Non-Commerce Class Action & Expedited Non-Jury programs.

Other Programs included City of Philadelphia - Equity, Minor's Compromises and other matters assigned to Orphan's Court, Municipal Court Appeals from Landlord / Tenant matters, and Statutory Appeals from adjudications of the PA Department of Transportation & Lead Contamination matters.

PROGRAM	COUNT	PERCENT FILED
Motions Program	22,617	42.08%
Major Jury Program	18,397	34.23%
Mass Tort Program	7,252	13.49%
Other Programs	3,590	6.68%
Commerce Program	1,896	3.53%
Total	53,752	100.00%



DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER

The Dispute Resolution Center is an integral part of the Trial Division – Civil as its purpose is threefold:

- ***Centralize the location for mandatory settlement conferences;***
- ***Enhance uniformity in practice and procedure for settlement conferences; and to***
- ***Offer counsel and parties appropriate facilities to assist in the timely disposition of civil cases.***

As part of the initial case management order issued in all major jury cases, a mandatory settlement conference is scheduled. These occur after discovery, motion and expert deadlines so that the parties have a thorough understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of their cases and can approach settlement negotiations in a fully informed and meaningful manner. Depending upon the case type and case management track (expedited, standard or complex), settlement conferences will take place six to twelve months after the initial case management conference and two to three months before trial.

At the appropriate time, counsel and self-represented parties will receive an order apprising them of the date, time and place

for the settlement conference. Ten days prior to the conference, counsel must file a settlement memorandum electronically via the Civil Electronic Filing System and with the Dispute Resolution Center, Room 691, City Hall.

In addition to filing the settlement memorandum, counsel are obligated to appear at the conference on time and with full settlement authority. If a party does not attend, the party (or the party's insurer's claim manager) must be available by telephone during the conference.

The settlement conference will be presided over by a Judge Pro Tempore (JPT). JPT's are recruited from experienced members of the Philadelphia Bar. On average, four JPT's preside each day; each handling six to eight conferences daily. Consequently, approximately thirty-two (32) conferences are held daily.

Before the conference, the presiding JPT will have access to, and will have reviewed, the case file and the settlement memorandum previously submitted by counsel and self-represented parties. At the conclusion of the conference, the JPT will prepare and submit a confidential settlement conference report to the Judicial Team. The confidential report summarizes the results of the conference (latest demand, latest offer, report of settlement) and include other comments or recommendations (remand to arbitration, proceed to trial, etc.) for the Judicial Team Leader to consider.

During calendar year 2015, exactly 2,452 cases were scheduled for a settlement conference within the Dispute Resolution Center. Forty-seven percent (47%), or 1,114 cases, were amicably resolved; eight percent (8%), or 207 cases, were transferred to the Compulsory Arbitration Program; and two percent (2%), or 59 cases, were transferred to binding arbitration programs. The remaining forty-three percent (43%), or 1,072 cases, proceeded to the next significant court event (i.e., pre-trial conference trial).

PUBLIC ACCESS TO CIVIL INFORMATION

The Trial Division-Civil's court dockets, opinions, attorney activity reports, hearing lists, rules and procedures, operation manuals, judicial assignments charts, fee schedules, court holidays, hours of operation and maps can all be accessed and downloaded through the Court's website at <http://courts.phila.gov>.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER PRODUCTIVITY		
Cases Resolved	1,114	45.43%
Proceeded to Pretrial Conference	1,072	43.72%
Transferred (total)	266	10.85%
<i>Compulsory Arbitration</i>	207	8.44%
<i>Binding Arbitration</i>	59	2.41%
Total	2,452	---

COURT *of* COMMON PLEAS

Criminal Division



The year of 2015 served up plenty of surprises and challenges for the Common Pleas Court Criminal Division. The year opened with a judicial calendar in need of more Judges and closed with the departure of Administrative Judge of the Trial Division, Kevin M. Dougherty, to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court! The entire Trial Division wishes Justice Dougherty all the best as he takes on the mantle of responsibility presiding on the Commonwealth's highest Court. I am proud to say that under his leadership the Trial Division performed admirably in this past year.

The Trial Division once again rallied to come together to provide the services and access to justice demanded by the citizens of Philadelphia. We remain proud of our commitment to serve proudly and professionally. We began the year with one courtroom closed due to our shortage of assigned Judges and ended with even more courtrooms down due to judicial reassignments, retirements, and medical leaves. It was a challenge for Criminal Listings to maintain the flow of cases while constantly reassigning matters when necessary. Pretrial Services continued its rebuilding and growth. The mission of Pretrial has become more focused on management of our pretrial population while providing services to their clients. All of this is, of course, balanced with public safety. The year saw the submission of the MacArthur Grant which is mainly focused on the pretrial population and the goal of avoiding any pretrial incarceration. The submission application took many months and many staff from all units to complete. Adult Probation and Parole (APPD) also continued its mission of overseeing and providing much needed guidance and services to the adult post-trial probation population. With over 45,000 persons currently on active probation they continue to succeed despite budget cuts and loss of employees to other opportunities. They continue to explore new ways to monitor their probation population and have expanded their training program so that new probationers can hit the ground running. Courtroom Operations (CROP) struggled for much of 2015 due to shortages of personnel and the ever changing scheduling and assignment of Judges. This along with an increase of the use of the Indicting Grand Jury and using staff to assist the judiciary in paneling juries kept all the staff and management of CROP extremely busy.

As has been the case time and time again the past year provided many challenges. Some of these could have been major setbacks but the men and woman of the Trial Division refused to move backward and instead kept this court system moving ahead. Any ground we may have lost we know we will make up in 2016 under the new leadership of Administrative Judge Jacqueline F. Allen. In the pages that follow you will see the details of each unit in the criminal trial division. I am proud to submit this report on behalf of all of the employees of the First Judicial District Criminal Trial Division. Thank you.

Richard T. McSorley, Esq. | Deputy Court Administrator

ACTIVE CRIMINAL RECORDS | CRIMINAL LISTINGS

The Criminal Listings Department is a component of the First Judicial District that performs essential functions for Common Pleas Court and Municipal Court. The department is comprised of Common Pleas Court Trial Commissioners and their support staff, the Post Trial Unit, the Court Appointment Unit, and the Post Conviction Relief Act staff attorneys. The mission of this department is to allow, to the greatest extent possible, judges to preside over cases and to minimize their administrative responsibilities. Each unit consists of dedicated and experienced court administrative personnel who work hard every day to execute this mission.

During the execution of our mission during 2015, the department encountered obstacles. Some were predictable such as the courts being closed for a week during the visit of the Pope. Some were unforeseen, but anticipated, such as another year where the Common Pleas contingent of judges temporarily declined due to retirements or illnesses. No matter the circumstance, the Criminal Listings Department did our best to fulfill our mission.

The First Judicial District closed all Center City court venues From 5 p. m. September 22, 2015 through Monday morning, September 29, in anticipation of the September 26, 2015, visit of Roman Catholic Pope Francis. The proximity of the courthouse to most of the festivities, the anticipated throng that would be attending those festivities, the preparation needed to secure the area, and the need for Philadelphia police officers in various capacities contributed to the decision to close the courthouse during this time. Fortunately, planning for the event began early enough to give us notice to make the appropriate arrangements to not schedule criminal matters during that week so as not to inconvenience any involved parties.

As occurred in 2014, the Trial Division-Criminal contingent of judges decreased during 2015. The Trial Division-Criminal began 2015 with one unassigned courtroom, courtroom 508. Also at the beginning of the year, three judges were reassigned from the Trial Division-Criminal to Trial Division-Civil. Trial Division-Criminal received two judges in return thus, leaving another courtroom without an assigned judge. During the course of the year two judges retired and two other judges were unable to sit due to extended illnesses. Our section was down seven (7) judges at one time. This required a significant amount of juggling, repositioning, and cooperation from all the judicial partners, as well as judges and other FJD departments. While we have experienced similar situations before, there was no preparation that could have been undertaken to help us with these circumstances.

The good news is, considering the Trial Division-Criminal judicial contingent was as low as 34 out of 41 available courtrooms, our judges disposed of 17,327 CP and MC cases in 2015 compared to 17,831 cases in 2014, a decrease of only 2.8%. Plus, our clearance rate (Disposed cases/Incoming cases) still exceeds 100%.

What was neglected while cases and judicial assignments were juggled was our focused campaign to address the age of active criminal cases. We began this campaign several years ago to identify Common Pleas Court cases over two years old and, depending on when they were listed, notifying the presiding judge when these aging cases were scheduled or rescheduling aging cases before the Supervising Judge for review and possible disposition. We have had some success with this effort previously. However, last year our focus wavered and the number of cases exceeding 1,000 days old has increased approximately 10%. Having noted this, and now having a full complement of judges to begin 2016, we will redouble our efforts in this regard.

While we were not able to fully implement our review of older cases in 2015, several judges initiated a program where they reviewed older active felony drug cases. Since recent case law abolished some mandatory sentences for felony drug cases, the Honorable Susan Schulman coordinated an effort of several CP judges, along with the Philadelphia District Attorney's office (DAO) to review cases awaiting trial. The thought was that the plea offer from the DAO may have changed in light of the most recent findings. These efforts produced some non-trial dispositions, but the effect was negligible.

PROGRAMS

Several CP judges have determined there is a need for new special problem solving programs to address the recidivism. The Honorable Sierra Thomas-Street has led an effort called JTEE (Jobs Training, Employment, Education) Program. This program is available for defendants sentenced to probation for lesser felonies. The goal of the program is to promote rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. The program will include three major components: job training, employment, and education. All waiver rooms and specific defendants referred by each judge will participate. The individuals will be required to participate in order to facilitate re-entry into the community following incarceration and encourage those who are on probation as an alternative to incarceration to change their path towards a positive direction. High risk offenders should be given priority.

Probationers are provided information packages to aid in their re-entry. In each packet are assembled materials consisting of information about participating groups and available programs. The judge and the parties involved in each case, especially the defendant, will all be aware of the available options and resources. The judge will make suggestions and require the defendant to participate in the appropriate program, as chosen by the judge. There will be monthly check-ins (bring-backs) for each participating defendant to be scheduled and determined by the judge. The bring back dates will operate to ensure participation and that progress is being made by the individual. Probation officers may or may not attend at each judge's discretion.

The MENTOR Program, an initiative of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, seeks to reduce criminal recidivism by providing mentoring to individuals involved in the criminal justice system and returning to the Philadelphia community.

MENTOR

This program is in its early stage but is beginning to gather momentum.

MENTOR is a court-based program coordinated by Judge Michael Erdos and Judge Lisa Rau that matches individuals serving county sentences with volunteer mentors. Over the course of the one-year program term, mentors provide emotional support and encouragement to their participants, as well as practical assistance to overcome some of the traditional barriers to successful reentry. MENTOR also empowers its participants to take advantage of additional resources provided through a network of community-based partner organizations. When a participant successfully completes the MENTOR Program, he or she will receive a substantial reduction in the remaining term of court supervision. In addition, it is expected that participation in MENTOR will result in healthier communities and families, and a decrease in the various human and financial costs associated with crime, prosecution, and incarceration.

During 2015, President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper led an initiative to address the needs and challenges of the Commonwealth's aging population and pursue practical solutions that will improve and protect access to justice for our elders. This initiative was borne out of a review of the general recommendations of the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators in its November, 2014, Report and Recommendations of the Elder Law Task Force Report:

'Court systems increase judicial and court awareness of aging issues and elder abuse by: increasing the availability of training for judges and court staff on elder issues; encouraging local courts to examine current responses and develop innovative methods and approaches to elder abuse; developing court performance standards and case management systems that improve documentation and oversight of cases involving elders; encouraging judicial and court participation in multi-agency partnerships to combat elder abuse; advancing the use of technology to identify and document cases that involve older persons; improving monitoring and compliance practices; developing statewide model practices; and encouraging funding agencies to provide adequate resources to enable the courts to identify and respond to elder abuse.'

This initiative created a steering committee of all of the FJD Courts and Divisions along with judicial partners and experts in the field to identify needs of the elderly and how to address them. Analyses and assessments were performed in each Court. Capacities and capabilities already in place for the elderly were identified. Drafts of the design for an Elder Resource Center to house FJD information for the elderly have been circulated for review. The Center would be centrally located in City Hall to reduce locations interested elders would have to visit to access information. Other accommodations and changes are currently being reviewed.

COMMON PLEAS COURT TRIAL COMMISSIONERS

These individuals act in a para-judicial capacity and assist the criminal court judiciary by performing some administrative court functions and assignments. Trial Commissioners preside in courtrooms in the Stout Center for Criminal Justice and at the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility (CFCF) via video where criminal cases are assigned for court or administrative proceedings including Gagnon I hearings, emergency release hearings, and formal arraignments. In addition, they are responsible for conducting the review and assignment of criminal cases to judges. Trial commissioners are responsible for case management and performing administrative functions which assure the proper case flow in the Criminal Division.

Cases entering Common Pleas Court at Formal Arraignment where CP Trial Commissioners preside decreased in 2015 to 11,908 cases from 13,188 cases in 2014. That represents a reduction of nearly 10%. The decrease follows a similar pattern the preceding year. This may be further evidence of the effect of diversion efforts by the District Attorney's Office. The DAO has been making a concerted effort to address and make offers on felony cases as early as possible even before these cases make it to Common Pleas Court.

The Commissioners continue to participate in the scheduling of homicide cases for trial. Our collaboration with the Homicide Calendar courtroom has been very successful. First trial listings for homicide cases have been reduced from nearly a year to just over six months since the Commissioners got involved.

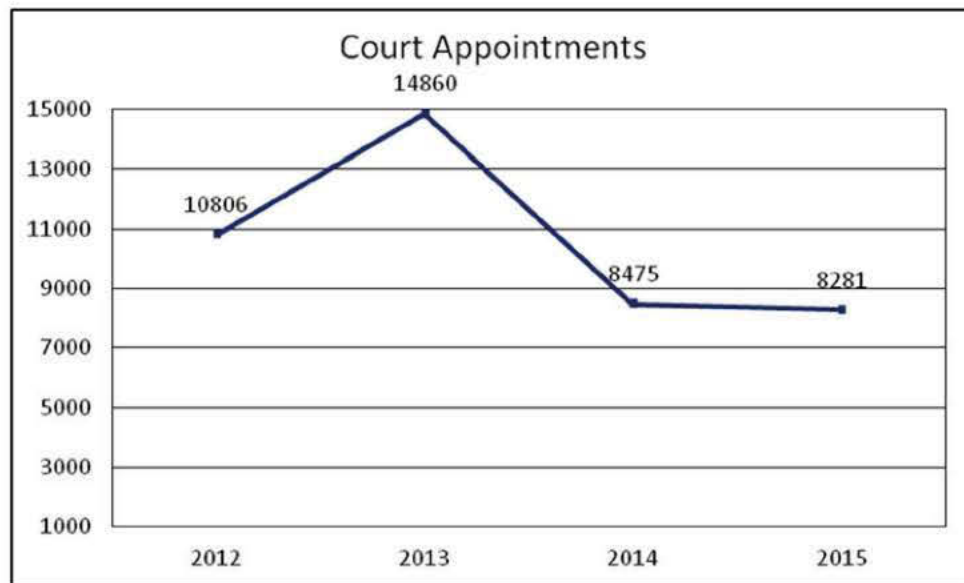
The commissioners continue to conduct pre-hearing screenings of expungements petitions, identity theft petitions and petitions to modify, reduce or waive APPD fees. Their role in all of these hearings is to make sure the petitions are perfected, to investigate the background financials where relevant and to dispose of matters to the extent possible without need of judicial involvement. The matters the Commissioners are unable to resolve are forwarded to a judge for disposition. Commissioners are able to resolve over 70% of the 7,348 expungement petitions scheduled before them, thus, saving our judicial resources for trial matters.

Identifying participants in CP and MC criminal matters who are located in state correctional facilities is another function of the CP Trial Commissioners. After identifying the participants, an order is prepared and delivered to the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) requesting these participants be temporarily transferred by the DOC to SCI Graterford. The participants are then transported to the Stout Center by the Philadelphia Sheriff's Department. This process is consistent with the tenets of Pennsylvania Act 82. This process prevents the Sheriffs from having to travel to multiple state correctional facilities throughout Pennsylvania. Weekly lists are submitted six (6) weeks in advance to the DOC. Over 5,000 participants were requested and successfully transported to the Stout Center as a result of this program.

COURT APPOINTMENTS

The Court Appointment Unit is responsible for processing counsel appointments to assure that indigent defendants are represented at scheduled court events. Appointments for homicide and non-homicide criminal cases and appeals are processed in accordance with Local Rule 406. This Unit also maintains each Municipal and Common Pleas Court judges' list of certified court appointed attorneys for misdemeanors, felonies, homicides and non-homicide PCRA and appeals. Appointments processed by this unit are for cases heard in Common Pleas, Municipal and Family Court (Domestic Relations and Adult Preliminary Hearings in Juvenile Court). This unit also processes relief of counsel due to conflicts and performs all CPCMS data entry and related clerical functions associated with the appointment process including close interaction with the FJD Fiscal Department, the Philadelphia Bar Association, and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

The number of cases requiring appointment of counsel decreased in fiscal year 2015. As seen in the table below, the Court Appointment Unit appointed counsel in 8,281 felony, misdemeanor, non-homicide PCRA, and non-homicide appeal cases as compared to 8,475 appointments in 2014.



These numbers do not include homicide court appointments. The Court Appointment Unit appointed counsel on 302 capital and non-capital homicide trials, capital and non-capital homicide appeals, and capital and non-capital PCRA's.

While the overall number of appointments is lower, the numbers do not accurately reflect our circumstances. The number of non-homicide PCRA court appointments decreased from 813 in fiscal 2014 to 718 in fiscal 2015. However, the decrease masks the fact that the Unit is unable to appoint on all the PCRA cases needing counsel due to a severe deficiency of attorneys accepting PCRA court appointments. The Criminal Listings Department, in conjunction with the Appeals Unit of the Office of Judicial Records, senior FJD management, the City of Philadelphia, and the private bar continue to explore ways to facilitate appointment of counsel for all indigent defendants especially PCRA petitioners.

PCRA UNIT

The PCRA staff attorneys formerly attached to the Office of Judicial Records have returned to the Criminal Listings Department. All requests for post-conviction relief are processed through this Unit. The PCRA Unit preliminarily reviews all PCRA petitions. Once the initial review of the PCRA case has been performed by the PCRA attorneys, the Criminal Court Appointments Unit will be notified of the need for court appointed counsel.

In 2012, the Appeals Unit instituted a more efficient process for PCRA petitions whereby Appeals Unit attorneys receive all pertinent filings pertaining to the subject PCRA petition before forwarding all pleadings to the judicial authority and listing the matter for disposition. This process eliminates docket clogging listings where filings were previously submitted. Feedback on the new process has been mixed. Defense counsel and the Commonwealth see advantages in fewer court appearances and centralized submission of filings. Some members of the judiciary favor keeping control of the process. The Appeals Unit is taking this feedback under advisement and is refining the process. The unit reviewed and scheduled 5,972 cases in 2015 using this method.

The PCRA Unit additionally prepares opinions and/or orders for those cases where the dispositional judge is either deceased or retired. The Unit prepared 100 opinions, 33 opinions and orders, and 130 orders in this regard.

Once the case has been joined by the filing of applicable pleadings from both parties (*Finley* Letter, Amended Petition and Commonwealth Motion to Dismiss) and the first dispositional listing before the assigned judicial authority has been scheduled, all future listings should be scheduled and updated by courtroom personnel in accordance with the court's calendar.

The staff attorneys from the PCRA Unit are also presiding over Drug Forfeiture Status hearings which have recently been returned to the Criminal Listings Department from the Trial Division-Civil. Drug Forfeiture Petitions are filed by the DAO and the Pennsylvania Attorneys General Office (AG) to forfeit the property of the respondent/owner. It is the DAO's assertion that the property (cash, coins, stocks, savings account, automobiles, jewelry, and real estate) may have been used in/or obtained from illicit drug activity.

During these status hearings, the staff attorneys will inform respondents of the Commissioner's role in these hearings and how the hearings will proceed. The staff attorneys will ascertain whether proper service has been made and if those in attendance as a result of receiving the DAOs mailing wish to contest the petition. Those who do not desire to contest the petition will be informed that their property will be deemed forfeited. The Commissioner will inform claimants interested in proceeding that, while they are entitled to secure counsel to represent them at these proceedings, no attorney will be court appointed for them. All will be told of the possible outcomes of their hearing which include another status listing if there is no open related criminal matter, but the case is not ready for trial, continued until further notice if there is an outstanding criminal case that needs to be resolved before the forfeiture can be pursued, a waiver trial before a judge if the case is ready and non-trial negotiations are fruitless, a non-trial disposition/settlement, or a jury trial before a judge.

POST TRIAL

This Unit is responsible for the scheduling of Common Pleas Court and Municipal Court violation of probation hearings, GAGNON I and II hearings, sentencing and post-trial motions. These matters are scheduled in conjunction with the

Probation/Parole Department, judges, and judicial staff. This unit is also responsible for the reassignment of cases where the sentence exceeded the tenure of the judicial authority with the approval of the Supervising Judge. The unit also continues the mission of the 701 Consolidation Program and NSJ programs that began in 2010.

Additionally, the unit receives numerous daily inquiries and requests from judges, judicial staff, attorneys and defendants. We hoped we could circumvent many of these contacts by using the reports we receive however that has not been the case.

The unit currently receives approximately 12,000 requests per year from the Adult Probation/Parole Department (APPD) to list cases for violation of probation hearings. Additionally, the unit reviews daily reports generated by the FJD Office of Innovation and Technovation to identify any cases possibly missed by the APPD list needing violation of probation listings.

The Post Trial Unit has begun a new process to expedite disposition of probationers/parolees violation of probation hearings where there is a new arrest. For those instances where the probationer/parolee is committed as a result of a new arrest for a misdemeanor offense, the Philadelphia Defenders' Association is receiving an offer from the DAO that is communicated before the open Municipal Court matter is heard in courtroom 404. This usually occurs within two (2) weeks after arrest. If the offer is accepted, the Defenders' Association relays that information to the Post Trial Unit and the open matter and the violation of probation hearing are scheduled before the probation/parole judge for disposition. This new process disposes of these matters much earlier than before thus reducing days of incarceration because most of these matters result in time served outcomes. We began this process late in 2015.

DATA MANAGEMENT

The Data Management Unit recently returned to the Criminal Listings Department from the Office of Judicial Records. The Data Management Unit has many daily responsibilities in the First Judicial District. The unit imposes stringent controls for records of new arrests, migration issues, participant identifiers, bench warrant hearings, and various other tasks as assigned and required. Unit personnel work closely with the District Attorney's Office in the creation of Bills of Information. The unit also assists in the case flow management by staffing several courtrooms – such as the Smart Rooms within zone courtrooms, bench warrant hearings, motions court, arraignment court, discovery court, and the homicide pre-trial room.

COURT *of* COMMON PLEAS

Criminal Division

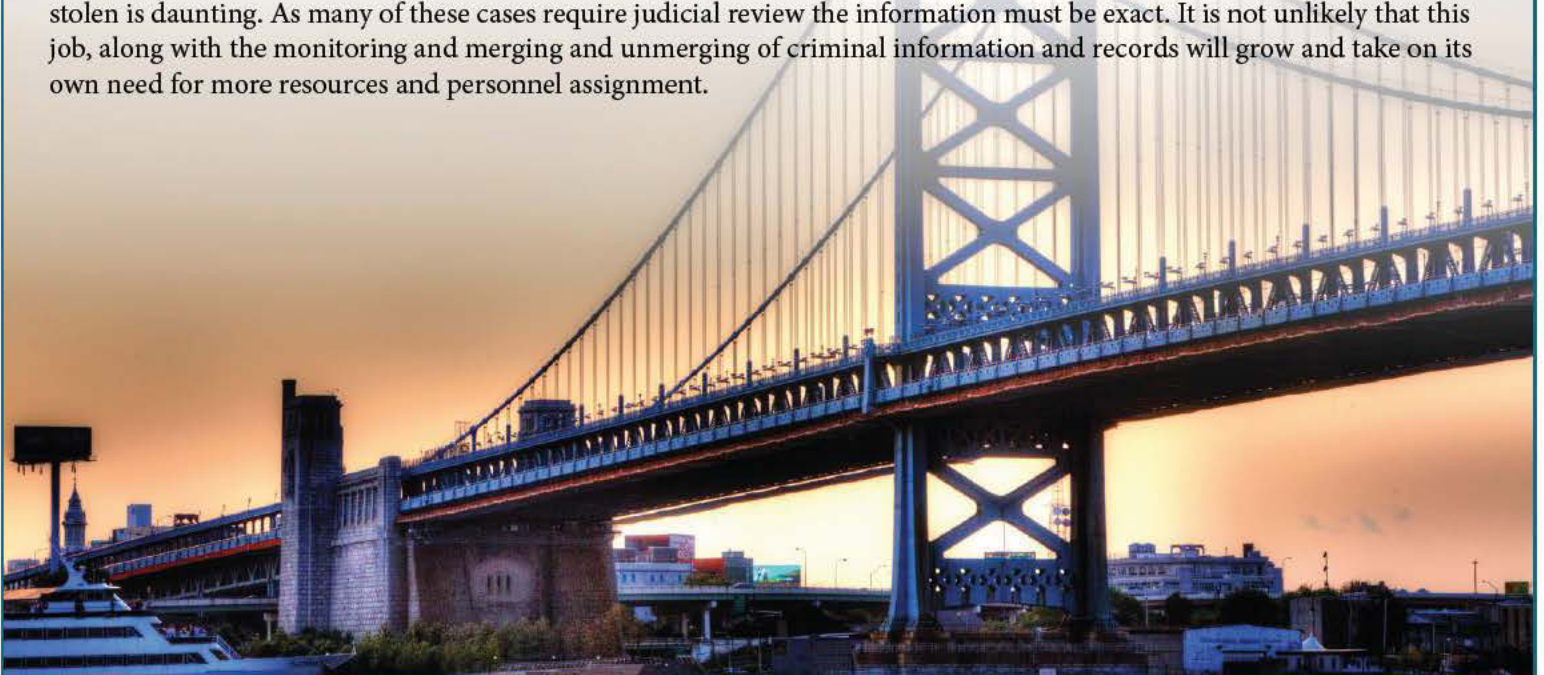
The Data Management Unit employees who staff the zone courtrooms are responsible for the random assignment of trial judges, calendar entries, and the collection of statistical data including, but not limited to: future dates, dispositions, and custodies. In some of the remaining courtrooms, staff members are responsible to issue and remove bench warrants, docket court proceedings, print subpoenas, and keep statistics specific to the room to which they are assigned.

All of the new arrests each day that are electronically passed from the Preliminary Arraignment Reporting System (PARS) to the Common Pleas Criminal Case Management System (CPCMS) are quality controlled by the Data Management Unit. Each file is checked to ensure that all identifying information is accurate and that any errors are fixed. In a case where the state identifier (SID), photo identification number (PID) or offense tracking number (OTN) is missing or duplicated, personnel use JNET to inspect and correct the record.

Since CPCMS has been integrated throughout the state of Pennsylvania, the task of validating defendant criminal case information has become more difficult and challenging. Incorrect identifier or data entered into CPCMS could affect employment, sentencing imposition, prior record scores, and various other problems for individuals. The unit has developed a reputation as knowledgeable experts on CPCMS database corrections through developing processes to identify and execute CPCMS data corrections. This has allowed the advent of assigning these duties at an almost full time basis to personnel in the Data Unit.

The Data Management Unit has always been responsible for targeting the cases within CPCMS that will require Bills of Information to be created. Cases such as those held for court, certified juveniles, or misdemeanor appeals are transferred manually and assigned proper case numbers. This information is then passed to the District Attorney's Office via the "DA Link" interface, checked for accuracy, and submitted back to CPCMS for the Data Management Unit to print.

Merge and Unmerge problems have existed since going live in CPCMS. However, as the system grows and is used more frequently by outside agencies via the public portal, more and more incidences of incorrect information are brought to our attention. Merge and unmerge issues, migration issues, photo identification number (PID) errors, and state identifier (SID) issues due to the complex nature of the work involved. Personnel must examine sensitive information via JNET CLEAN and make accurate decisions regarding identifying information. The process can become lengthy and time-consuming. Once all of this information is gathered, reviewed, and corrected it must be sent to the AOPC Help Desk to be assigned to an AOPC programmer. That department invariably needs communication with the FJD personnel who reviewed the case in order to gain more information or clarification. These issues also arise many, many times in Identity Theft cases. The amount of review, time, and work involved in untangling a known defendant's record from a citizen whose identity was stolen is daunting. As many of these cases require judicial review the information must be exact. It is not unlikely that this job, along with the monitoring and merging and unmerging of criminal information and records will grow and take on its own need for more resources and personnel assignment.



CRIMINAL COURTROOM OPERATIONS

The essence of this Department resides in the effort to assist the First Judicial District's judiciary in the performance of their very demanding duties on a daily basis. In calendar year 2015, members of this office were engaged in assisting in the disposition of nearly 15,000 Common Pleas Court matters and an additional 3,251 Municipal Court matters. Innumerable motions, sentencing hearings, probation violation hearings, and every other possible activity associated with a Common Pleas Court calendar in a major metropolitan jurisdiction were scheduled and disposed with the assistance of members of Courtroom Operations (CROP).

SUPERVISORS

The employees in this classification directly supervise line personnel according to all FJD policies and regulations and are responsible for the performance, training, evaluation of employees, and staffing of courtrooms when necessary. Many documents and records are prepared and maintained in the normal business flow of the FJD and are shared with other justice partners in order to ensure adequate staffing resources. In addition to these duties, supervisors are solely accountable for facilitating the flourishing attorney/client video interview program which has grown to include both county and state institutions. They are also responsible for scheduling and conducting State and County Video Hearings for all types of Criminal matters for the Court of Common Pleas. Also, CROP Supervisors preside over the selection of Criminal Jury Panels via the 631A Waiver Program. Each of these vastly experienced supervisors is well versed in each and every aspect of Courtroom Operations and is fungible in their duties and responsibilities.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

An administrative assistant is assigned to Room 401 of the Stout Center for Criminal Justice and another is assigned to the Receptionist Desk serving the SCCJ judiciary on the 13th floor at the Judicial Reception Desk. These employees are responsible for the various functions involved with the management of a professional office environment.

COURT INTERPRETERS

This two employee Unit of Courtroom Operations provides real time translation from the Spanish language to the English language (or vice versa) for the entire Criminal Trial Division. The staff of Interpreters is now and has been very much in need of more full time employees. Currently, there are two full time interpreters. These two dedicated staff members are supplemented by per diem hired interpreters brought on as needed. This unit handled over 1,992 cases. The two full time interpreters when not attending the myriad of other duties interpreted for 14 jury trials in 2015. It is hoped in 2016 that there will be additional staff hired in order to assist this hardworking unit!

The court interpreter unit handled over 1,992 cases

TIPSTAFF II

Members of this job classification perform a wide variety of functions, services, and maintenances to assist the judiciary.

As the primary liaison between the Court and all other agencies, offices, and departments that comprise the justice partners, these employees are sworn or affirmed to act "...with fidelity to the Court, according to the best of my ability with strict impartiality between litigants, witnesses, jurors and counsel..." while at the same time, establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with all participants to the process.

The justice partners would include, but are not limited to:

- All other FJD Departments
- The District Attorney
- The Defenders Association
- The Private Bar
- The Philadelphia Sheriff's Department
- The Philadelphia Police Department
- The Office of Judicial Records
- The Jury Commissioner

Acting as the first point of public contact with the Court for defendants, witnesses, and complainants, it is the further duty of the Tipstaff II to ensure the safety, care, and comfort of the jurors, as well as to warrant the dignity and decorum of the process for all involved.

Facilitating the overall functioning of the courtroom during legal activities, the Tipstaff II is also charged with adhering to the policies and procedures that have been enacted by FJD leadership to make certain the fair, equitable, and timely disposition of criminal charges.

This requires performing a varied and complex duty encompassing a multi-faceted knowledge of many court-related subject matters, but especially case flow management. This skill set begins at the early review of a docket days in advance of the scheduled hearing and continues through to disposition of any and all post-trial issues.

Further duties and responsibilities would include, but are not limited to:

- Data entry related to the Common Pleas Case Management System
- Case flow management
- Scheduling and calendaring of Court events
- Reporting directly to the Court
- Accounting directly to the Court
- Maintaining and supplying computer, fax, printer, phone, and other Court equipment
- Training in Safety, CPR, Defibrillation, Shelter in Place, SCCJ Evacuation, and Emergency Policies
- Providing general information to participants
- Limited courtroom security
- Ordering, requisitioning or arranging actions required for courtroom maintenance, supplies or services
- Preparing, marking, recording and maintaining necessary records of court procedures
- Resource management of other FJD departments and outside agencies

TIPSTAFF I SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Tipstaff I is under the direct supervision of the Court and the Tipstaff II, and assists the Tipstaff II in most duties itemized above. Members of this job classification are mainly responsible for assisting the Court and Tipstaff II in all phases of the jury process, but especially the care, comfort, and safety of the jurors, before and during selection, during the trial, and after verdict (to ensure payment and the safe exiting of the SCCJ).

HOURS OF OPERATION

The office of Courtroom Operations is staffed Monday through Friday from 7:00 am until 5:00 pm, or until the closing of any individual court day. However, supervisory staff and employees remain available to the judiciary on a 24 hour schedule, on Saturday, Sunday, or any Holiday with the approval of the Administrative Judge of the Trial Division. Courtroom Operations are available at any time for any length of time in order to facilitate any trial or hearing to fruition.

STAFFING RESPONSIBILITIES | STOUT CENTER FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CITY HALL

A Courtroom Operations Tipstaff II is present whenever a member of the judiciary is sitting in the SCCJ, where all criminal matters must be adjudicated. The judiciary of the Criminal Trial Division currently consists of 41 Judges who are assigned to one of the 46 Courtrooms in the SCCJ.

Family Court, Orphans Court, Civil Trial Division and specially presiding Judges are also staffed by Courtroom Operations whenever their presence is required in the SCCJ, usually due to a docket containing criminal matters, or where any Civil Trial Division or Orphans Court litigant is in custody.

The administration of the Civil Trial Division is responsible for the staffing of the Courtrooms in City Hall, however upon exigent circumstances due to illness or other unavailability of Civil Division staff, this office assigns a Tipstaff II to the Civil judiciary upon request.

Election Court, Grand Jury selection and all ceremonial sessions are also coordinated and staffed by this office. Non-judicial assignments include the operation of the two “Jury Flow” rooms on the second floor of the SCCJ, the operation of the Video Courtroom which is located in Room 1106 of the SCCJ and the staffing of the Trial Commissioner in Courtrooms 1104 and 1108 when feasible.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS VIDEO PROGRAM

The connectivity for the FJD, the Philadelphia Prison System facilities, and State Correctional Institutions is available in ten Common Pleas Courtrooms as well as two units in the office of Courtroom Operations (401 SCCJ). Each year, this program continues to expand the number of often problematic cases that are disposed via videoconferencing. In 2015, nearly 4,200 matters were resolved via video conferencing producing a Sheriff Transportation savings of over \$300,000 and a further savings of over \$100,000 for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections. Our justice partners avoided nearly \$400,000 in transportation costs alone.

The Motions Court now resolves almost 100% of the custody cases listed there via video, making it the first “all video” Courtroom in our district, and perhaps in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Also, in 2015 the Non-Sitting Judge Video Program disposed of over 2,400 matters via video conferencing encompassing over 95% of the custody matters scheduled in this program, which nearly doubled last year’s productivity.

In addition, the Attorney/Client Video Interview Program was instituted in April, 2011. In 2015, 677 State and County interviews were scheduled resulting in the early disposition of almost 30% of these matters. While it was previously required for a Trial Commissioner to travel to the PPS facilities, Gagnon 1 Hearings for MC and CP matters are now conducted via videoconferencing. This program addressed over 400 matters in 2015.

While it was previously required for defendants indicted by the “Grand Jury” to be transported to the SCCJ to be notified of their indictment, effective December, 2014 the Video IGJ Notification program was initiated. These matters are scheduled for video hearings by CROP Supervisory staff and presided over by an assigned Trial Commissioner. In its first full year, the program addressed 265 IGJ matters via video saving over \$20,000 in transportation costs.

On Election Day this session is staffed from 6am until 10pm in Courtroom 676, City Hall, without incident or delay.

ELECTION COURT

Due to the changing voting laws and legislation, the FJD was required to design and institute a Court process regarding “emergency petitions” commencing at the November 2008 election cycle. In addition, Courtroom Operations also assists the judiciary and the City Commissioner’s Office by staffing hearings regarding challenges to candidates nominating petitions at Delaware and Spring Garden Avenues.

CASE CONSOLIDATION

Defendants with multiple cases in any individual judicial calendar were targeted by supervisory staff for earlier disposition. Their activity began at the Pre-Trial Conference stage, trial impediments were addressed and removed, multiple cases were consolidated on a single day, and each trial was addressed, in a series, if necessary. The judicial economy resulting from this program was adopted by the Court Administration and is now named “**Advanced Review and Consolidation**” (ARC).

TRANSPORTATION LIST AND INTERPRETER

Prior to the scheduled event, the Tipstaff II is required to review the docket to ascertain the necessity of the defendant or non-Spanish Interpreter. Working closely with case Counsel, the Tipstaff presents relevant information to the Presiding Judge. A pre-determination is made based on certain realities and the needs of the Court. Cancellations are entered or forwarded to the

appropriate Department so that effort, time, and money are saved by the FJD and/or appurtenant agencies. There is no dollar amount of savings available for presentation.

GRAND JURY SELECTION

Conducted in City Hall, these groups of 300 jurors are empaneled into the sitting Grand Jury in a most expeditious and professional manner. These refinements in the process have been well received by the participating judiciary. In 2015 alone, Courtroom Operations Supervisors have participated in the selection of several Local and Statewide Investigating Grand Juries as well as several Indicting Grand Jury Panels.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

- Zero overtime expenditure for 12 years in a row
- Reduced usage of sick time
- Exceeded expectations for the FJD Combined Campaign
- Exceeded expectations for the FJD Blood Drive
- Coordinated and hosted Studies Program participants from Grade School through Graduate School
- Participates in the Philadelphia Mentoring Program
- Assisted in the planning and carrying out of numerous special ceremonial sessions including swearing-ins, portrait unveilings, memorial services, and various other ceremonies
- Interpreter Shadowing Program

RULE 631A WAIVER PROGRAM

As judicial time is the most precious, this program was designed to relieve the judiciary of most of their energy expended in jury selection. Upon agreement of the defendant and both Counsel, Counsel and supervisory staff conducted the more time consuming aspects of jury selection. The required presence of the Presiding Judge was reduced to make the necessary legal rulings on jury service, such as hardship and challenge for cause. Each jury selected in this way resulted in an additional block of time the judiciary has available for other matters in furtherance of the agenda of the Court. In 2014, this program has made significant strides. In addition to List Room Jury Demands and Major Felony matters, Courtroom Operations supervisory staff has also selected numerous Non-Capital Homicide Jury panels by way of the 631A Waiver program.

Over 100 matters have been scheduled pursuant to the Rule 631A Waiver Program resulting in a saving of many hours of judicial time.

JURY FLOW

Each and every juror is provided escorted transportation in secure elevators to all Courtrooms in the SCCJ. This labor intensive service warrants against jury tampering and intimidation in any unguarded moment of jury service.

TIPSTAFF TRAINING

In 2015, several training sessions were held by the supervisory staff of Courtroom Operations. Some of the most fruitful sessions were training in the Court Document Management System (CDMS), Digital Signature Solutions (DSS), Policies and Procedures, Homicide Training, as well as an extensive training on Courtroom duties.

READY POOL PROGRAM

In 2012, the Honorable Jeffrey P. Minehart spearheaded a new Case Ready Pool Program in which all active cases 1,000 days old or older were brought before Judge Minehart to procure earlier trial dates. In 2015, assisted by Courtroom Operations supervisory staff as well as Criminal Listings, this program has succeeded in the procuring of earlier trial dates for numerous matters by as much as eight months as well as the earlier dispositions of several other matters via non-trial disposition. This Program grew in 2015 to include Narcotics matters first before The Honorable J. Scott O'Keefe and most recently The Honorable Daniel McCaffery whom together have all but alleviated the backlog.

DAILY READY CASE POOL

In April, 2014 a new protocol for ready trial matters was instituted by Supervising Judge Minehart in which both Courtroom Operations and Criminal Listings staff are directly obtaining available trial rooms for ready matters. In 2015 nearly 300 matters were resolved applying this protocol.

HOMICIDE CALENDAR ROOM

Courtroom Operations Supervisory staff has also worked in conjunction with Criminal Listings in assisting with the scheduling of Homicide Trial matters. CROP supervisors work weekly with Homicide Tipstaff as well as Homicide Judges in ascertaining the earliest available trial dates for their assigned courtrooms.



DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH

Dr. Jaime S. Henderson was hired as the Research and Information Analyst for the First Judicial District in September, 2011. At the time, this position was new to the FJD and was created as part of the Reform Initiative led by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. As a trained social scientist, Dr. Henderson works collaboratively with Court Administration, the Judiciary, The Department of Innovation and Technovation (IT), and justice partners to develop and standardize performance measures, write grants, and provide evidence to guide decision-makers.

Over the past 4.5 years, Dr. Henderson has served Municipal Court, Court Administration, The Court of Common Pleas, and Pretrial Services. The number of projects that can be completed is greatly limited as Dr. Henderson has been the sole researcher working with these courts and their departments in the FJD. Under the direction of Deputy Court Administrator, Richard T. McSorley, the goal is to form an official Department of Research to better address the volume of research requests in the FJD. Numerous court districts in the nation have Research Departments staffed by social scientists to assist decision-makers by providing evidence to guide policy and practice.

In anticipation of a formal Department of Research, Jennifer Amabile, the Supervisor of the Quality Control Unit & Data Entry Unit will be formally under the direction of Dr. Henderson beginning in April, 2016. Together, these two employees will serve as a foundation for a high-volume, high-quality Department of Research to serve the FJD's multitude of data and research needs.

The formal implementation of the Department of Research is expected during 2016, with the addition of more trained social scientists.

SUMMARY OF 2015

MACARTHUR SAFETY & JUSTICE CHALLENGE

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Numerous projects under development were put on hold due to the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge that began in March of 2015. During a CJAB Prison Population Subcommittee meeting, the justice partners decided to collect data for the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge (SJC). The goal of the SJC is for jurisdictions to reduce the overall jail population and address the minority and economic-based disparities found in jails. Dr. Henderson was part of the grant-writing team that comprised of representatives from the City and the justice partners. Dr. Henderson composed a majority of the Phase application as it heavily focused on the need for Pretrial reforms that could positively impact Philadelphia's population.

Dr. Henderson
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In May of 2015, Philadelphia was awarded a Planning Phase grant for the SJC in the amount of \$150,000. Dr. Henderson serves as a member of the Grant Management Team, Planning Team, Pretrial Subcommittee, is the Chair of the Subcommittee, and collaborated with the Race/Ethnicity Subcommittee on developing a racial/ethnic audit at key points in the system. She was one of the Philadelphia delegates who attended MacArthur conferences in Washington, DC, and Chicago. During the 6-month Planning Phase, Dr. Henderson led efforts on completing a data template on crucial points in the criminal justice process. Another important data aspect of the Planning Phase was a daily snapshot of the prison population that the Planning Team used to generate initiatives.

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For perhaps the first time in history when discussing the prison population, all of the justice partners referred to the same data report and discussed strategies using the same data figures while generating reforms as part of the SJC.

A detailed snapshot of the prison population was created by merging prison and court data, and inmates were categorized by the new confinement categories that were agreed upon by all partners. Dr. Henderson did the analysis, created a detailed 62-page report, and presented results to the Planning Team.

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justice partners due to varying business practices. For example, the prisons considered 'pretrial' to mean any inmate in an open case, regardless of additional holds such as a detainer. To facilitate discussion, the Data Subcommittee created a standard definition of 'pretrial' for all justice partners.

detailed confinement categories for inmates such as Pretrial Only, Pretrial with Philadelphia Detainer, and Pretrial Held without Bail, to better understand the prison population and elicit more productive communication.

Dr. Henderson is the Chair of the Data Capacity Initiative which proposes hiring two additional degreed social scientists to assist with the collection of data, report generation, and tracking of the MacArthur reforms in Philadelphia. The social scientists will be hired by the FJD, trained, and directed by Dr. Henderson.

PRETRIAL RISK TOOL

The revision of the bail guidelines has been ongoing for many years in Philadelphia. The goal is to implement a new pretrial risk tool to separately assess the risk of re-offense and failure to appear during the pretrial period. This will be developed and implemented using the same researchers from the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) and statistical technique used to generate APPD's risk tool. Dr. Henderson has been closely involved with the pretrial reform efforts and liaises between FJD leadership and the UPenn researchers on the development of the pretrial risk tool. Additionally, Dr. Henderson works closely with the Director of Pretrial Services, Michael P. Bouchard, III, on implementing and evaluating best practices in pretrial settings.

ADDITIONAL MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES IN 2015

- Assisted Judge Erdos' staff with the composition and submission of a Bureau of Justice Smart Supervision Grant for the MENTOR program
- Attended the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies annual conference in Indianapolis
- Visited Allegheny County's Pretrial Services Agency to learn about their process and risk tool
- Analyzed the first annual Employee Satisfaction Survey data
- Standardized and assembled the Trial Division's Annual Report

REPORTS IN PRODUCTION

During 2015, Dr. Henderson was responsible for the generation and distribution of over 300 pages in reports for Common Pleas and Municipal Courts. Both Jennifer Amabile and the part-time Research Assistant contributed to the Failure-to-Appear reports. Below are some of the reports under the purview of Dr. Henderson:

MONTHLY REPORTS

- Failure to Appear Rates and Bench Warrants Issued
- Municipal Court Disposition and Filings, Misdemeanors and Felonies
- Municipal Court Disposition and Filings, Summaries

ANNUAL AND SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS

- Common Pleas Court Indicting Grand Jury Program
- Municipal Court Bench Warrant Court
- Municipal Court Domestic Violence Dispositions
- Common Pleas Court Employee Satisfaction Survey

DEPARTMENT OF PRETRIAL SERVICES

In March of 2015 a new Director of Pretrial Services, Michael P. Bouchard, III, was hired. Michael came to us from outside of Philadelphia and has a wealth of criminal justice experience and education which complements his work ethic and leadership abilities. He hit the ground running and, with the oversight of Deputy Court Administrator, Richard T. McSorley, significantly restructured The Pretrial Services Division.

There were several major highlights involved in this restructuring. First, Deputy Director Sharon Malvestuto was brought into the leadership structure. The Pretrial Services Warrant Unit was dissolved and through collaboration many of their duties were transitioned to The Sheriff's Department who formed The Sheriff's Fugitive Warrant Unit. Pretrial Services kept several administrative roles once held by the Pretrial Services Warrant Unit and formed the Data Verification Unit. This transition began in 2014 and was fully complete on August 10, 2015.

At the start of 2015 Pretrial Services was comprised of four units:

- Accounting/Arraignment/Bail Acceptance
- Bail Services and Supervision
- Electronic Monitoring
- Warrant Unit

Pretrial Services also transferred the bail acceptance and accounting units to The Office of Judicial Records. This conversion occurred on September 14, 2015. This major structural change was key in ensuring that the Division is in line with other Pretrial Services Agencies in the state and nationally.

At the close of 2015 Pretrial Services was still comprised of four units, but with some changes:

- Arraignment (Bail Interviewing)
- Bail Services and Supervision
- Data Verification
- Electronic Monitoring

Pretrial Services also had the opportunity to have representation at the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) annual conference for the first time in decades. Additionally, Pretrial Services had a large contingent at the Pennsylvania Pretrial Services Association annual conference. Both of these allowed the division to learn more about current trends and network with executives at NAPSA, The Pretrial Justice Institute, and other pretrial colleagues from across the country. Further national exposure occurred in 2015 through a grant award which allowed Philadelphia and its justice partners to compete for a MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge grant. If awarded this grant Pretrial Services will see significant changes that can only be described as invigorating and ground-breaking. Notification of the recipients of this grant is slated for March, 2016.

The attached annual report was prepared by Pretrial Administrative Leadership including managers Karleen Flowers, Christopher Keogh, Thomas Press, and Samuel Turner in conjunction with Deputy Director Sharon Malvestuto and Director Michael Bouchard, III. It will give you a summary of our year's data and more insight into the significant innovative changes that have taken place this year.

ARRAIGNMENT UNIT (BAIL INTERVIEWING)

The Arraignment Unit operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This unit works in coordination with six Detective Divisions and Police Headquarters for the purpose of interviewing all adults charged with misdemeanors or felonies and Direct File juveniles via video in Philadelphia. The interviewers are responsible for collecting information regarding the arrested individual's personal and financial history, family/community ties, and criminal history. The role of the unit is to capture charge severity, detailed personal information, and any other critical information for the purpose of calculating a release guideline. This calculation is then presented to a judicial authority for a bail determination. In 2015, the Arraignment Unit interviewed and processed 35,914 individual defendants before their preliminary arraignment.

ENHANCEMENTS

A. UNIT RESTRUCTURING

On August 10, 2015, as part of the mass restructuring of Pretrial Services envisioned by the Deputy Court Administrator of Trial Division and the Director of Pretrial Services, the managerial oversight of this unit changed. Christopher Keogh was appointed as the dedicated manager to the Arraignment Unit. This organizational restructuring led to a focus on the gathering and analysis of comprehensive statistical packages which has resulted in the implementation of best practices to increase effectiveness and efficiency while remaining fiscally conscious.

B. INCREASED STATISTICAL TRACKING

Through the newly acquired statistical packages provided on a monthly basis by the Preliminary Arraignment Reporting System (PARS) Technical Team, this unit is now able to better track the interview process. For example, we can now conclude with high accuracy the success rates for the verification of residential addresses and gathering of email addresses, number of interviews waived and the particular reason for the waiver, and total number of interviews completed by each bail interviewer. Management has also developed an all-inclusive Excel spreadsheet template that serves as the statistical analysis nucleus for the unit.

C. WORKFORCE TRANSITION

Perhaps the most significant change within this unit during the 2015 calendar year was the mass reorganization of the bail interviewing workforce. In the past, the Arraignment Unit was comprised of 43 part-time bail interviewers. On 12/28/2015, management initiated the transition process for the training and incorporation of 16 newly hired full-time bail interviewers.

Not only will this transition inject some much-needed stability into the unit, but it also coincides with the expected overall reorganization of Pretrial Services over the next 5 years. While this transition will yield some immediate benefits, it will also assist Pretrial Services with the forthcoming National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) accreditation process and the corresponding requirements for accreditation. For example, when analyzing the NAPSA Personnel Practices, having a dedicated, full-time workforce guarantees accountability through annual performance appraisals, enriches the unit's ability to develop and implement training programs, and enhance the administration's ability to ensure that at least 30% of the unit's employees are certified Pretrial Professionals. All of these benefits are requirements per NAPSA personnel practices for accreditation. Although the process of accreditation is time-consuming and requires both effort and commitment, adhering to the many requirements will make certain that our unit and Pretrial Division as a whole is working toward becoming the new national leader in standards. By doing so, we will be improving staff training, developing programs, assessing the strengths and weaknesses as a unit, and making drastic improvements to the overall professionalism of this department.

These 16 full-time bail interviewers will ensure the continued 24 hours a day, 7 days a week coverage required to handle the current and projected workflow, while significantly enhancing the finished product of each bail interview. When gaps in coverage present themselves, management has secured a part-time pool consisting of 27 experienced Bail Interviewers.

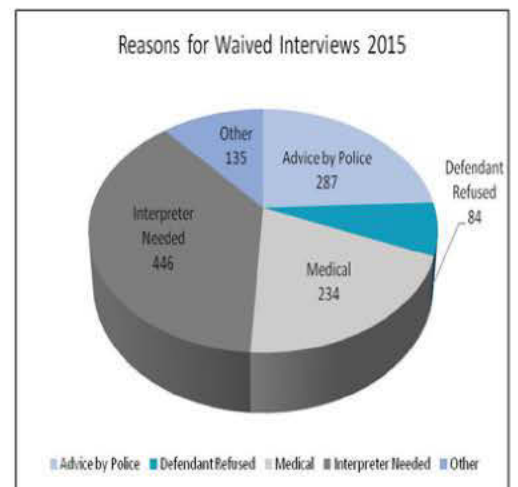
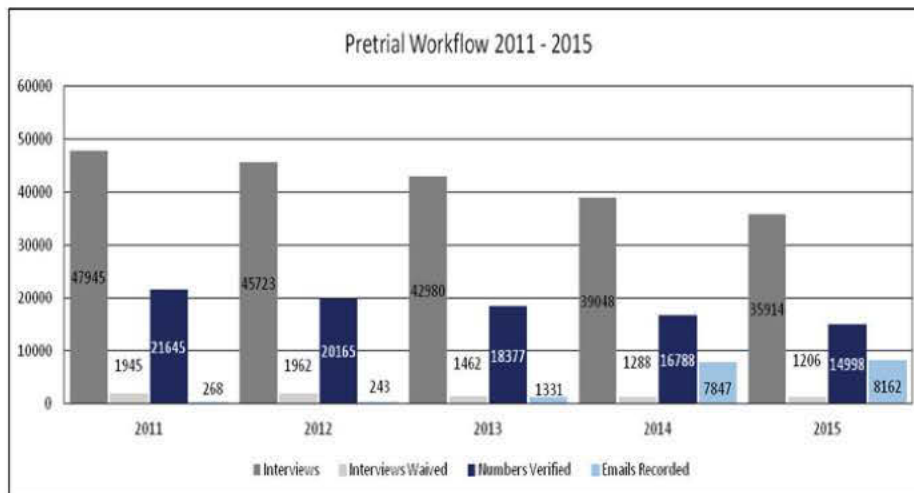
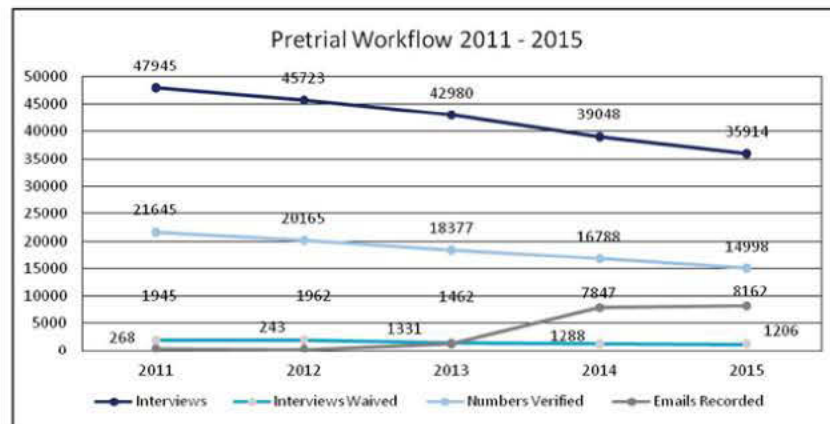
2015 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Development of a detailed procedural manual
- Acquisition of newly created statistical packages which ensure accountability and increase effectiveness and efficiency
- Continued 24/7 services during the 2015 Papal Visit relocation to 3901 Whitaker Avenue
- Seamless transition of workforce from part-time to full-time employees
- Development of Excel spreadsheet template for both statistical analysis and budget tracking purposes
- Increased levels of cooperation and communication with criminal justice partners
- Acquisition of additional video conferencing equipment
- Continued research for eventual video conferencing equipment replacement

2016 GOALS

- Development of a detailed training manuals and programs
- Schedule mental health awareness training sessions
- Remain active in the development of an updated and validated risk assessment instrument
- Increase success rates for the collection of email addresses and verification of residential addresses during the interview process
- Reduce the number of waived interviews by implementing the use of translation services
- Continue budgetary tracking with regards to the part-time pool of bail interviewers
- Explore options which would guarantee 30% of the unit employees are certified Pretrial Professionals
- Improve the Employee Appraisal/Evaluation process

YEARLY TREND DATA



BAIL SERVICES AND SUPERVISION

The Records and Notification Unit is responsible for all defendant check-ins. They conduct appointment of counsel financial interviews in which it is determined if the defendant is eligible for a Public Defender or Court Appointed Counsel. Employees field real estate bail inquiries and produce the necessary real estate certificates for bail when appropriate. Record and Notification employees mail notification postcards to defendants who are wanted on bench warrants for failing to appear in court. They serve as Pretrial Services' representation at Special Release Hearings. These hearings are held for defendants who are placed into custody at arraignment when the bail guidelines initially recommended them for a lesser pretrial status. Another key role for this unit is the performance of the Pretrial Orientation for defendants who are released to pretrial supervision. Lastly, they respond to all general inquiries posed to the unit.

The Pretrial Services Division's Bail Services and Supervision Unit consists of two essential areas: 1) Records and Notification and 2) Supervision. It is a high volume unit that comes in contact with hundreds of individuals on a weekly basis in person and via telephone. The unit handled 12,387 total defendant visits in 2015.

The Supervision Unit is responsible for monitoring and supervising all defendants who are court ordered to adhere to specific conditions of release including, but not limited to, ROSC Type I and II, Direct Supervision and Electronic Monitoring – House Arrest. Pretrial Officers are responsible for the dissemination of instructions and the rules and regulations of the bail conditions to their respective clients.

Electronic Monitoring is the most restrictive form of supervision and requires constant communication with the defendant, the Judiciary, attorneys, the monitoring room, the Sheriff's Department, the Philadelphia Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies. The Pretrial Officer must be able to interpret legal documents that pertain to the conditions of the defendant's release.

Defendants ordered to a less restrictive form of release are supervised by Direct Supervision Pretrial Officers. Defendants are required to make weekly office visits and place check-in calls directly to their assigned Pretrial Officer. Pretrial Officers call respective clients the day prior to a scheduled court appearance as well.

Defendants ordered to ROSC Type I/II bail are typically medium risk in terms of charge severity and court/social history. They are required to come to an initial visit and then to phone in through the Interactive Voice Response System once or twice per week. These are monitored by the assigned Pretrial Officer.

ENHANCEMENTS

A. STAFFING

Bail Services and Supervision filled numerous positions that had been vacated as far back as 2011. This includes the Records and Notification supervisory position which had been vacant for two years. Also included are two staff positions in Bail Records and Notifications and four staff positions in Bail Supervision. This greatly assists the unit in getting closer to past staffing levels.

B. INCREASED STATISTICAL TRACKING

The Bail Services and Supervision Unit began tracking data it had previously never tracked. This began in August, 2015, under the direction of Director Bouchard. Although the data are not available for full analysis for 2015, they will be used to look at our system through 2016. New data will be included in yearly reports 2016 and beyond. Bail Services and Supervision will be working in collaboration with the FJD's Department of Research.

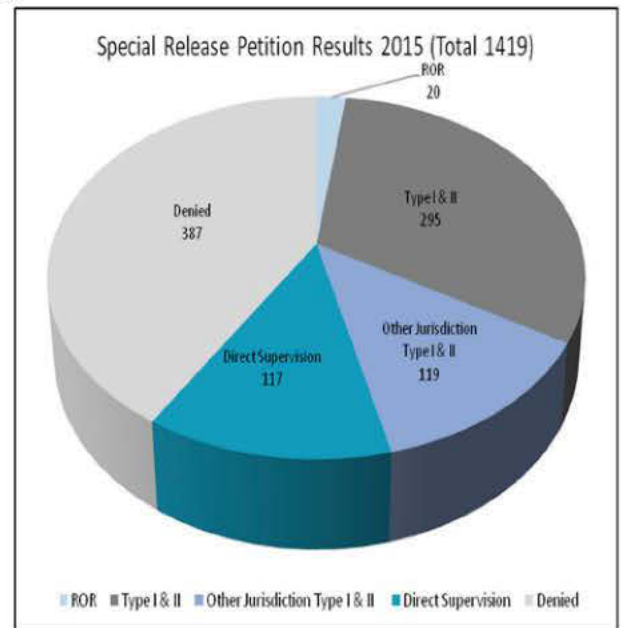
2016 GOALS

- Update the appointment of counsel interview
- Explore the option of reducing time from arraignment to orientation from 4 days to 2 or 3 days
- Reduce the wait time for a counsel interview by 8 minutes
 - 23 minute average wait for 2015
- Restructure and redevelop pretrial orientation
- Smooth transition to the use of new EM technology and software
- Creation of an updated and formalized training manual
- Creation and use of a dedicated staff training area

2015 DATA

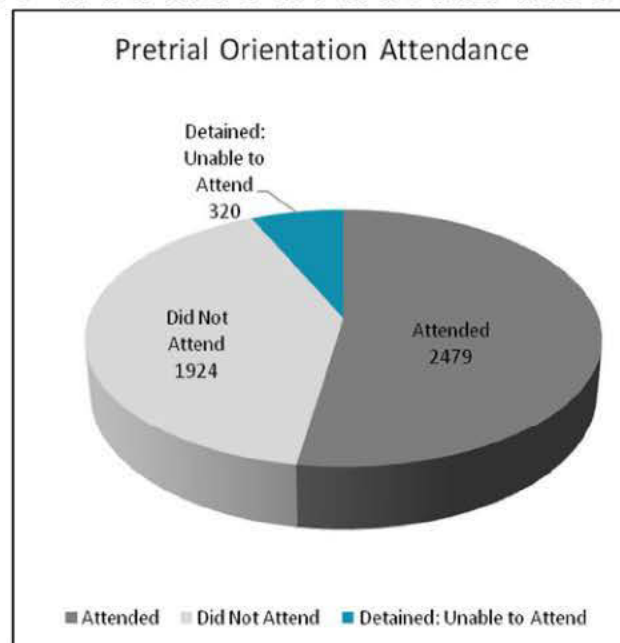
A. RECORDS AND NOTIFICATION

- 14,105 phone calls fielded
- 1,546 appointment of counsel interviews (1,602 cases)
- 567 cases deemed eligible
- 218 real estate bail inquiries
- 50 real estate certificates produced
- 6,597 bench warrant post cards mailed
- 1,419 defendants petitioned for Special Release Hearings
- 4,692 defendants ordered to attend Pretrial Orientation



Pretrial began tracking those who participated in Pretrial Orientation as instructed and subsequent attendance at the first court hearing. Tracking did not begin until 8/3/2015 and was part of the restructuring that took place in August 2015.

- RESULTS - 8/2/2015 - 12/31/2015
 - Did not attend orientation and failed to appear at court: 113
 - Total bench warrants issues for defendants that did not attend orientation: 98
 - Attended orientation and failed to appear at court: 30
 - Total bench warrants issued for defendants that attended orientation: 21

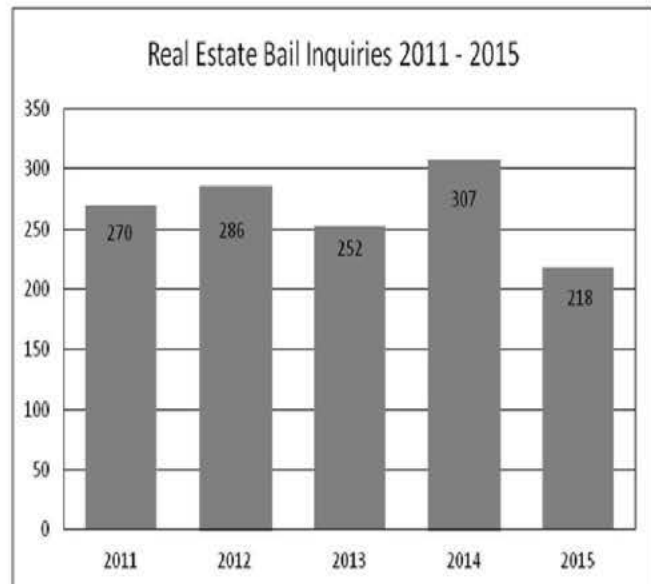
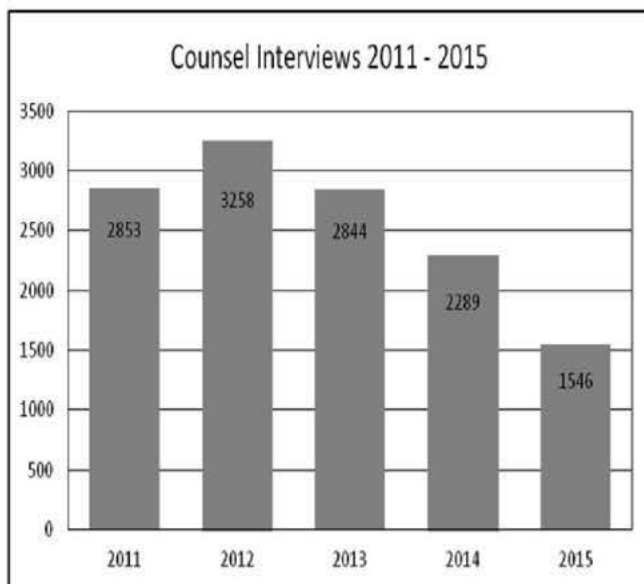
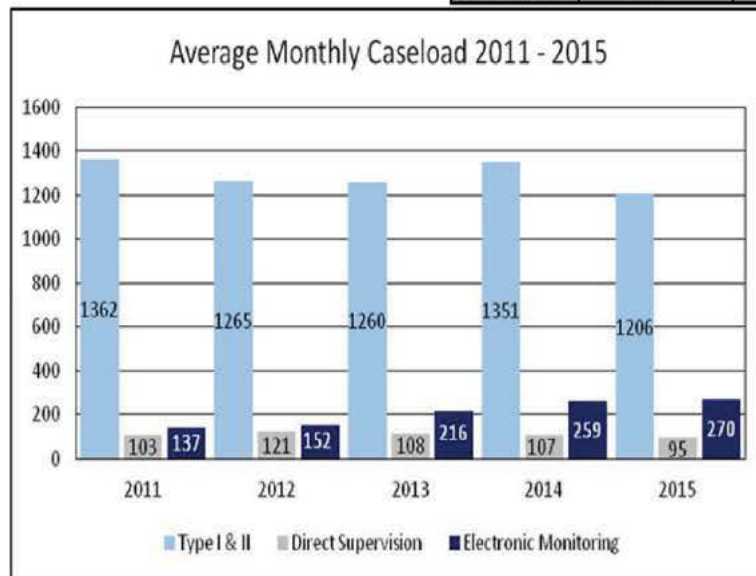


COURT of COMMON PLEAS Criminal Division

B. BAIL SUPERVISION

- a. Electronic Monitoring averaged 270 active cases per month
- b. Average of 55 active violation cases per month
- c. 35 past absconders date back as far as 1999
- d. Direct Supervision averaged 95 active cases per month
- e. Average of 75 active violation cases per month
- f. Type I/II averaged 1,206 active cases per month

Bail Supervision Cases 2015				
Month	Electronic Monitoring	Direct Supervision	Type I & II	Total
January	262	98	1347	1707
February	267	105	1235	1607
March	273	108	1187	1568
April	269	96	1215	1580
May	265	101	1159	1525
June	256	94	1121	1471
July	262	89	1215	1566
August	275	80	1108	1463
September	278	77	1173	1528
October	262	94	1183	1539
November	275	101	1275	1651
December	291	101	1259	1651



DATA VERIFICATION UNIT (DVU)

The Data Verification Unit is a 24/7 operation which processes correspondence from the Philadelphia Police Department, Law Enforcement Agencies, and Corrections Facilities throughout the United States as part of the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network (CLEAN) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) in order to confirm the validity of criminal bench warrants and probation violation warrants for individuals detained in those jurisdictions.

The Data Verification Unit is responsible for the quality control of warrants entered into NCIC and routinely conducts reviews of NCIC to edit warrants that are no longer valid and to enter warrants that should be in the system. The personnel generate the bench warrant hearing list for the prison and the bench warrant surrenders, while providing staff for the bench warrant surrender room and the bench warrant hearing courtroom.

Warrants are lodged for defendants who are being held within the Commonwealth on new charges and are being remanded to the county prison or inmates who are already incarcerated. The Sheriff's Fugitive Warrant Unit personnel are dispatched to accept custody of fugitives wanted on FJD warrants who are not being held on any other criminal charges. Inquiries received from outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are extradition matters that are coordinated with the Philadelphia District Attorney's office and when extradition is approved, the Data Verification Unit will lodge the warrant and will send out a notification memo to all concerned Court and District Attorney's personnel.

The unit checks the validity of bench warrants for the Department of Public Welfare and Social Security Administration for applicants to those programs. The Data Verification Unit investigates reports that individuals with court warrants have died and provides death verifications for consideration of abatement hearings. The unit assumed the responsibility for maintaining and distributing the Sheriff's Fugitive Warrant Unit Arrest Notification logs in August when the Pretrial Warrant Unit was transitioned, which provides a statistical package and a notification process to Probation and Pretrial Officers for the arrest of defendants.

ENHANCEMENTS

A. UNIT RESTRUCTURING

Prior to August 10, 2015, all roles that now are under the DVU fell under the Pretrial Services Warrant Unit. On August 10, 2015, the DVU roles remained with Pretrial Services, while the other responsibilities were transitioned. At the end of 2015, a supervisor was added to the DVU to have more supervisory coverage of the 24/7 functions. As of the end of 2015, the DVU manager is formulating a full restructuring plan for the unit to be implemented in early 2016.

2016 GOALS

- Implement restructuring plan
- Full cross-training of all full time staff duties to all full time staff
- Full cross training of all part time staff duties to all part time staff
- Management and supervision complete all JNET/JTAC trainings and oversight

2015 DATA

- 973 warrants removed from NCIC
- 11 warrants entered into NCIC
- 565 criminal record checks for The Department of Public Welfare
- 360 death notifications processed for future abatement hearings
- 1,182 warrant arrests processed
- Bench Warrant Court warrant disposal
 - 6,850 bench warrants disposed

COURT of COMMON PLEAS

Criminal Division

2015 DATA, Cont.

- 3,601 bench warrants surrendered
- 3,249 bench warrants from the jail
- 3,249 bench warrants from the jail, 5,355 defendants
 - 2,855 bench warrant defendants surrendered
 - 2,500 bench warrant defendants from the jail
- 2,104 NCIC inquiry responses
 - 654 lodges
 - 757 arrests
 - 55 cancellations
 - 23 live scan refuse

NCIC Inquiries 2015				
Month	Arrests	Lodge	Cancellation	Live Scan Refused
January	88	21	55	1
February	101	16	52	1
March	95	25	35	1
April	71	48	46	3
May	67	78	33	3
June	66	80	50	3
July	58	86	50	4
August	54	74	100	3
September	29	37	52	3
October	53	79	64	0
November	45	65	75	0
December	30	45	58	1
Total	757	654	670	23



ELECTRONIC MONITORING UNIT (EM)

The Electronic Monitoring (EM) Unit is a 24/7 operation responsible for the facilitation, installation, continuous monitoring, maintenance, and removal of EM equipment attached to pretrial and post-trial defendants. The continuous surveillance of offenders utilizing Field Monitoring Devices (FMD) connected to their respective residence and a Transmitter (TX) affixed to their ankle provides the assurance of court compliance and proper supervision. The Electronic Monitoring Unit is now comprised of administrative and field personnel. The 24/7 EM administrative personnel process court orders in an expedited manner to keep the amount of time an offender is in custody prior to release as short as possible. They conduct phone interviews to ensure the residence for EM installation is properly prepared for the field investigation and installation of

EM equipment. They also monitor, investigate, and determine the legitimacy of all EM alerts. Supervision also determines if an arrest is warranted and facilitates arrest with The Sheriff's Fugitive Warrant Unit.

The EM field unit has an array of responsibilities conducted in Philadelphia during day and evening shifts. The field team is responsible for home investigations that guarantee the residence and its occupants are indeed properly prepared for installation of EM equipment and for the defendant to reside there. They also install the equipment in the residence and ensure proper functionality. The field unit oversees any maintenance requests for all EM equipment both in and out of house and often recovers EM equipment from the defendants' residences. An additional responsibility of the field team is attaching the ankle monitors to the defendants at the prison prior to their release.

Throughout the year, the EM Unit has gone through several improvements leading to outcomes surpassing the previous year's results. These improvements were met through changes in managerial structure, improving operational processes, and reaffirming internal and external working relationships with related agencies and the public.

This year the EM Unit has been challenged by the new administration seeking better accountability, resulting in the clear understanding of what is required for the continued expansion of the EM Unit. Additionally, these challenges have been overcome with organization, guidance, and teamwork. In December of 2015, an RFP was released to update Pretrial's EM technology and that RFP closes at the end of January 2016. In 2015, the EM Unit's monitoring services fielded 52,306 alerts and installed 1,641 defendants onto EM.

ENHANCEMENTS

A. UNIT RESTRUCTURING

On August 10, 2015, as part of the mass restructuring of Pretrial Services mentioned earlier, the organization and managerial oversight of EM changed. EM management was turned over to Samuel Turner. The field unit function of EM was previously overseen by the Pretrial Warrant Unit. In the transition of The Pretrial Warrant Unit to The Sheriff's Department, Pretrial Services remained responsible for the EM field functions. With these duties remaining Pretrial's responsibility, a new unit was created under EM responsible for all field operations. This unit runs two shifts, days and evenings, and has overall supervisory oversight provided by Heather Bernard and shift field oversight by assigned working supervisors. Several field team members were also hired in order to maintain day to day functions in the field. The EM administrative personnel also had Lawrence Aliberti added as a supervisor, significantly reducing the gap in supervisory coverage that previously existed.

During the restructuring period several areas of Electronic Monitoring needed daily documentation of its activities and responsibilities. These reports were all created or modified to track workflow and data and are electronically submitted daily, weekly, or monthly by EM staff. The use of statistical reports, not already being utilized, and daily supervisor activity logs were added to the EM operation creating more information sharing, thus better efficiency in EM's work products.

B. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Based on the performance and ability of the current EM equipment and software supplied by the current vendor, BI, it was determined an update was necessary. Additionally, the contract in place did not keep up with the demand for replacement parts, without additional cost to the FJD. Several vendors met with EM and set up pilot programs for their equipment. The pilot programs immediately revealed our EM capabilities are very outdated and have not kept up with the industry standards. At the conclusion of the testing, a Request For Proposal (RFP) was placed by the FJD for bidding in December 2015. The RFP closes in January 2016. The potential of the new equipment and software is exciting and will bring Philadelphia up to date with our EM capabilities.

2016 GOALS

- Finalization of a detailed procedural manual
- Development of a detailed training manuals and programs
- Update and transition all EM technology through the RFP process
- Continue to reduce the days in custody for defendants ordered to EM

YEARLY DATA

The number of cases supervised each month by the monitoring room varies. In the below **2015 Monthly EM Supervision Totals** chart you will see the breakdown of EM defendants under surveillance each month. The chart is broken down into Pretrial and Post-trial with a total indicated as well.

Monthly Electronic Monitoring Totals 2015			
Month	Pretrial	Post-trial	Total
January	296	393	689
February	306	388	694
March	311	394	705
April	321	405	726
May	305	390	695
June	302	376	678
July	309	383	692
August	330	386	716
September	328	365	693
October	337	345	682
November	329	333	662
December	344	325	669

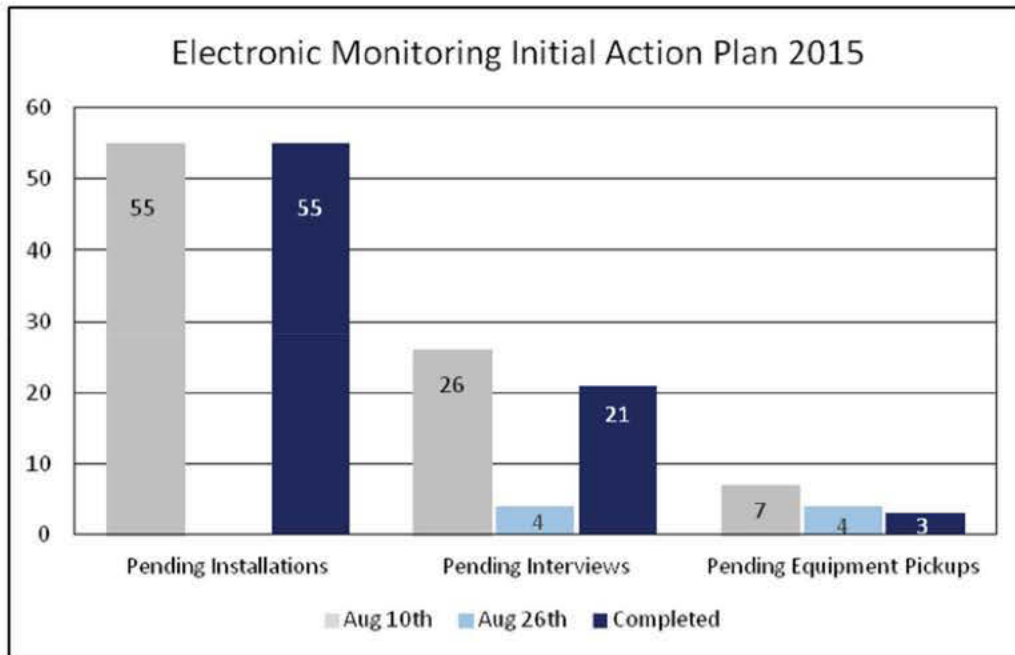
The EM monitoring room processed 52,306 alerts from defendants' activities throughout the year on a seven day a week, round the clock basis. These alerts indicated on the **2015 EM Alerts** chart below required immediate telephonic response from the Monitoring Room personnel, along with notification of the respective Pretrial and Probation Officers via email and/or phone. Once the alert was fully investigated, if an arrest was necessary it was passed on to The Pretrial Warrant Unit prior to August 10, 2015 and The Sheriff's Fugitive Warrant Unit after that date.

Electronic Monitor Alerts 2015				
Month	7am - 3pm	3pm - 11pm	11pm - 7am	Total
January	2667	1333	446	4446
February	1704	852	285	2841
March	1882	911	305	3098
April	2295	1147	384	3826
May	2732	1366	456	4554
June	3455	1727	577	5759
July	3409	1704	570	5683
August	3502	1751	585	5838
September	2727	1363	455	4545
October	2464	1232	412	4108
November	2290	1145	382	3817
December	2274	1137	380	3791

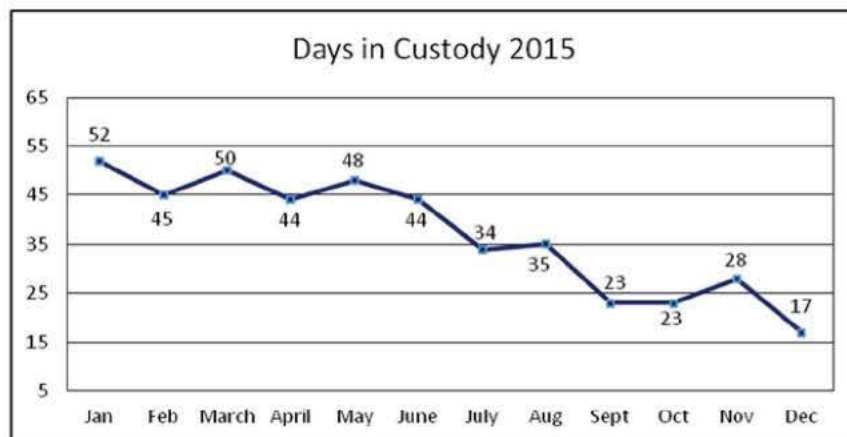
In the summer of 2015, a backlog was discovered consisting of 55 pretrial and post-trial defendants awaiting release from custody to EM and 25 additional defendants awaiting field home investigations which are necessary prior to release from

prison. Overall operational changes were initiated by the EM Manager under the direction of the Director on August 10, 2015, in conjunction with the creation of the EM field team.

The following **EM Initial Plan of Action Statistics** chart reflects the outcomes of the areas requiring immediate field attention to reduce substantial number of offenders waiting to be released on their court ordered electronic monitoring. This plan of action from August 10, 2015 to August 26, 2015 reflects the results of the backlog clearance of offenders awaiting release and remains in place as a daily operation to prevent any future backlogs. This includes the new court orders being facilitated for installation, interviews, and the continued need for new equipment pickups.

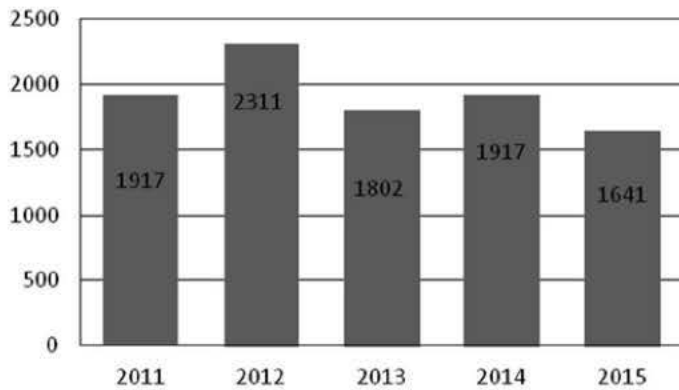


The number of days an offender was being held in custody was a major focal point of Pretrial's administration and in the first half of 2015 was unacceptable. The **2015 Days in Custody** chart below reflects how all of the operational processes set forth by new management brought the number of days to a reasonable level without allowing anyone to remain in custody unwarranted. Those being held for extended periods had additional court matters beyond the control of the EM unit to resolve before being able to be facilitated on EM, as court ordered.

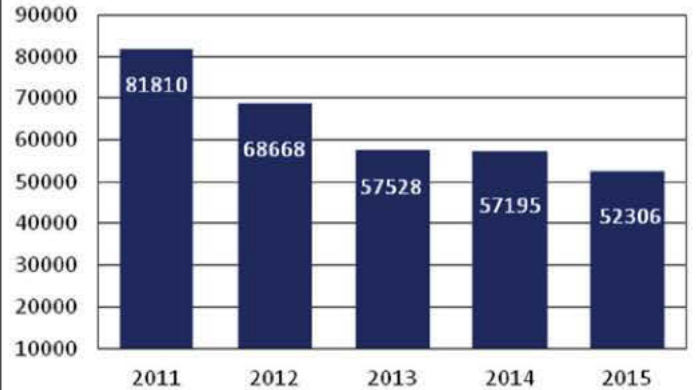


The final two charts below show the last five years of key workflow information for the EM Unit. EM alerts have decreased over the last five years as have our total number of installations. These decreases in alerts are proportionate with the number of installations with the exception of 2011.

Total Installations 2011 - 2015



Alerts Processed 2011 - 2015

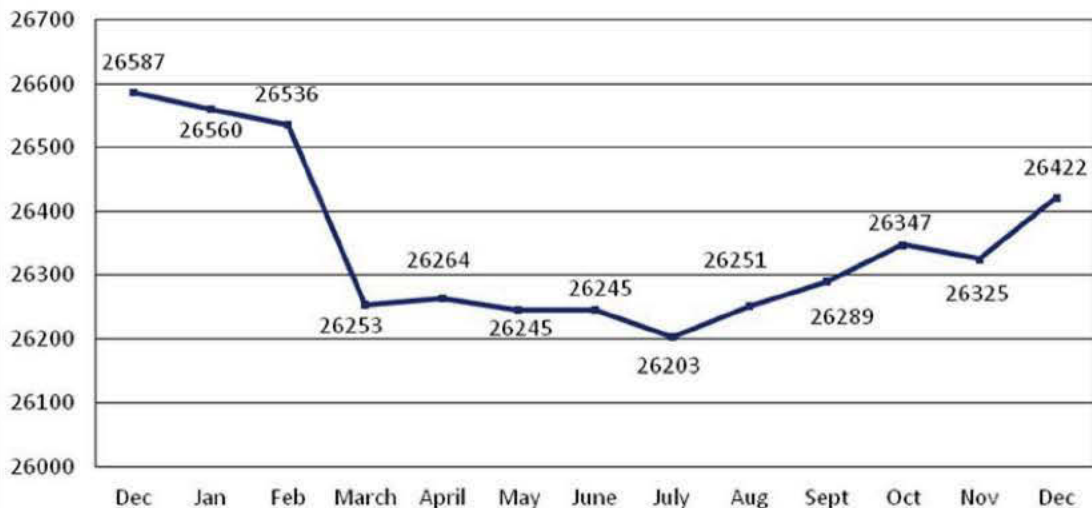


PRETRIAL WARRANT UNIT

The Pretrial Warrant Unit was fully transitioned on August 10, 2015. The below statistics are numbers from January 1, 2015 – August 10, 2015.

- 546 transports of defendants
- 416 EM violation arrests
- 309 traffic warrant arrests
- 2,934 B/W and VOP arrest

Total Bench Warrants: December 2014 - December 2015
MC & CP | Misdemeanor & Felony



MENTAL HEALTH COURT

The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania Mental Health Court (FJDMHC) provides an alternative to incarceration for offenders with mental illness and co-occurring disorders by preparing individuals for re-entry into more effective treatment modalities in supervised community settings. Under the leadership of Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper, Administrative Judge Kevin M. Dougherty, Supervising Judge Jeffrey Minehart, and Deputy Court Administrator Richard T. McSorley, the FJDMHC aims to reduce the jail population and criminal justice costs by balancing justice, treatment, and public safety.

The FJDMHC is a re-entry program that provides a unique multidisciplinary collaborative approach, which combines intensive wrap-around treatment and individualized probation supervision. This includes the coordinated efforts of the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disABILITY Services, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia Adult Probation and Parole, Defender Association of Philadelphia, Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, and the Philadelphia Prison System.

Utilizing the framework of the Sequential Intercept Model, the FJDMHC demonstrates the joint commitment of each justice partner to protect the interest of public safety while lower the criminal recidivism rate for individuals with severe mental illness involved with the criminal justice system.

GRANT FUNDING

Since receiving the Planning and Implementation Grant from Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) in 2009 and 2010, the court has evolved from creating a logistical, clinical, and criminal justice framework into a fully functioning court with dedicated personnel. In July, 2011, the court was awarded additional funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act/Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, which funded the Public Defender position until June 2012, and the Probation Officer and Court Administrative Officer positions were funded until February 1, 2013. Funding for the Court Administrative Officer and Probation Officer continued under the PCCD Byrne Justice Assistance Grant until September 30, 2015 and subsequently the positions became a part of the FJD's annual budget.

PRESENTATION/SITE VISIT

In order to ensure the FJDMHC maintains the highest standards in programming, policy, and procedures, President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper presented at the Drexel Law Review Symposium on October 16, 2015, focusing on Mental Health Court and the re-entry process for individuals diagnosed with a mental illness. The Mental Health Coordinator, along with the Program Analyst from the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disABILITY Services Targeted Case Management Unit (DBHTCMU), presented at the 23rd Annual Forensic Rights and Treatment Conference in December, 2015. The presentation provided an overview of the Mental Health and the collaborative partnerships with DBH/TCMU. Mental Health Court also hosted several students from the University of Pennsylvania's Psychology Department who observed the court in action and met with Judge Woods-Skipper and the team members.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

The FJDMHC has partnered with the Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP) to help secure SSI/SSDI benefits for individuals who have a history of homelessness and are suffering from serious, persistent mental illness and co-occurring disorders. A total of 61 referrals were made since the program began in July of 2013. Of the 61 referrals, 34 were approvals for SSI/SSDI benefits, 13 were ineligible, and 14 were reinstatements. The SOAR Program has continued to be an added benefit to the Mental Health

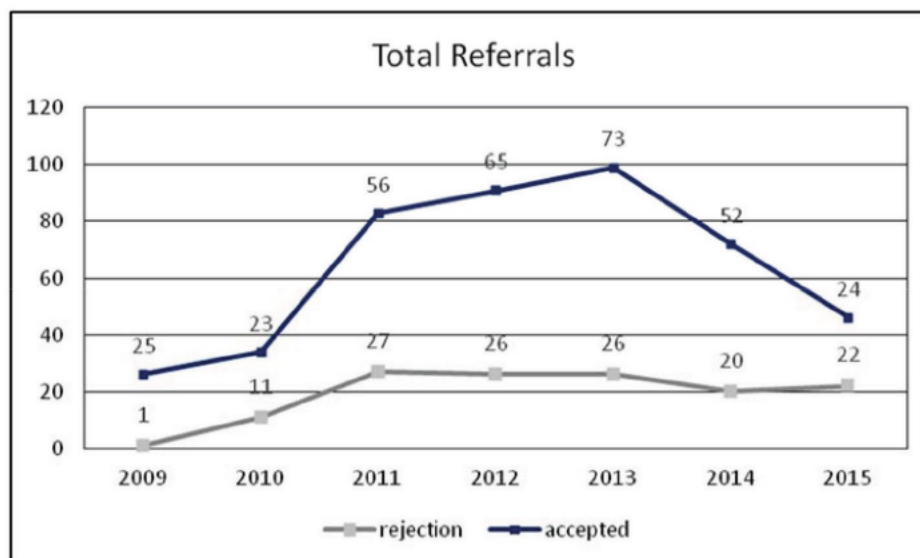
The assessments will be utilized to identify appropriate treatment placement, as well as enhanced interventions to decrease criminal recidivism and improve behavioral health functioning and recovery among participants.

Court Program by assisting the participants in their community re-entry process. The FJDMHC has also partnered with DBH/IDS on the Byrne Justice Assistance/Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Grant. The grant project hopes to improve the FJDMHC's response to justice-involved individuals with severe mental illnesses, by providing a comprehensive assessment that will include both criminogenic and behavioral health risk and need outcomes.

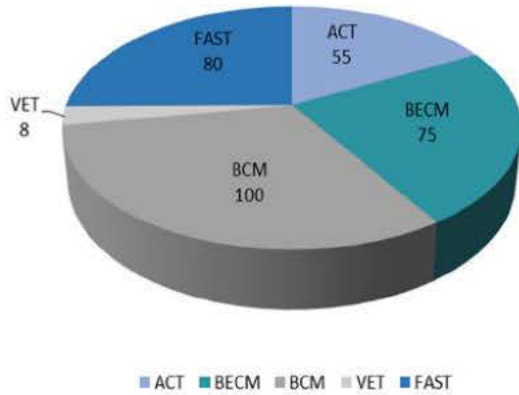
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS/REFERRALS/CASES

Not only has the number of cases increased over the years, but the number of referrals has increased since the court's inception in 2009. The court has been successful in bringing most cases with mental health issues under its jurisdiction as well as adding program treatment tracks to provide a continuum of care. Over the last 6 years, the number of cases processed in the court has more than tripled, compared to the 320 cases processed in 2009 to the 4152 cases processed in 2015. Since 2009, the FJDMHC has processed approximately 451 referrals for individual participation in the mental health court program. Of the 451 referrals submitted, 318 were approved for the program, which is a 71% acceptance rate. The FJDMHC admitted a total of 318 individuals between the various treatment tracks and supervised approximately 1,289 cases (670 individuals) on the Competency Assessment Track. Out of the 318 individuals admitted to the program, 15% of the individuals completed court supervision, while 19% of the individuals were terminated from the program. The FJDMHC is a felony re-entry court that maintains a comprehensive and strict supervision plan for all participants to ensure public safety, which requires longer probation sentences and stringent program sanctions. The program treatment tracks are as follows:

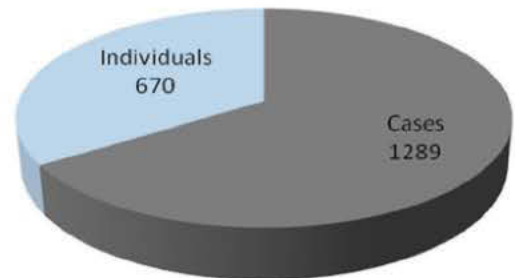
- **ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT (ACT)** | case management services are provided by an ACT team and individuals identified as appropriate for this level of care receive intensive support and treatment.
- **BLENDED ENHANCED CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK (BECM)** | case management services are provided to individuals identified for this level of care - they receive intensive support, medication management, and are referred out to treatment.
- **BLENDED CASE MANAGEMENT (BCM)** | case management services are provided to individuals identified for this level of care - they receive intensive to moderate support, and are referred out for all treatment.
- **COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT TRACK (CAT)** | provides court supervision of individuals who are unable to proceed to trial or VOP hearing due to incompetency.
- **VETERANS EVALUATION TRACK (VET)** | case management services are provided through the VA system, individuals identified are eligible for veteran's benefits and treatment services.
- **FORENSIC ALTERNATIVE SERVICES TRACK (FAST)** | individuals who are not currently appropriate for the ACT, BECM, BCM, or VET tracks, but may be eligible for treatment or other case management services.



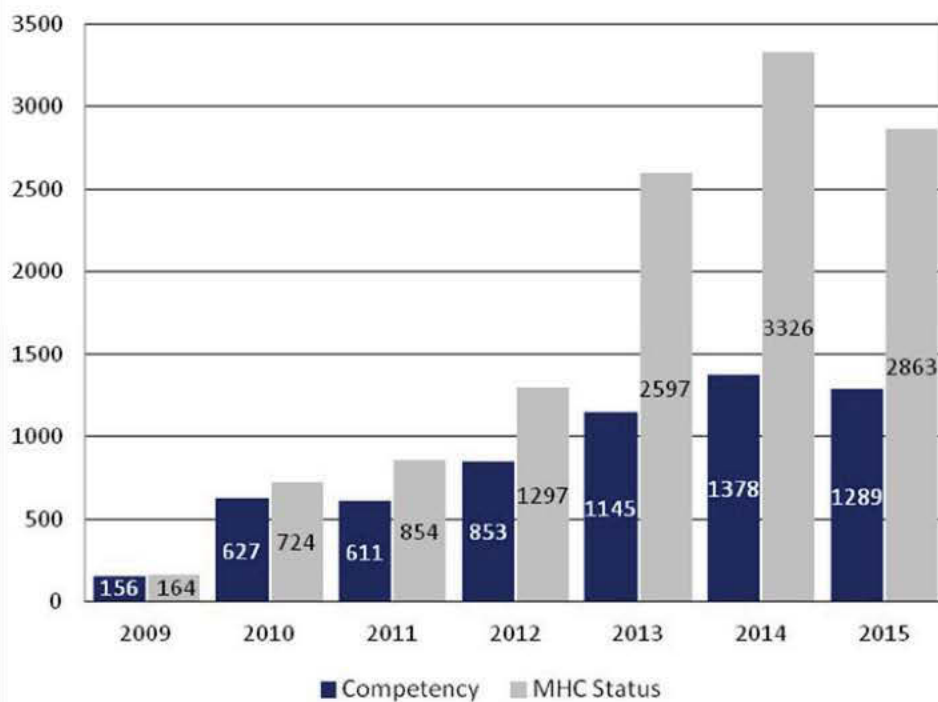
MHC Treatment Tracks

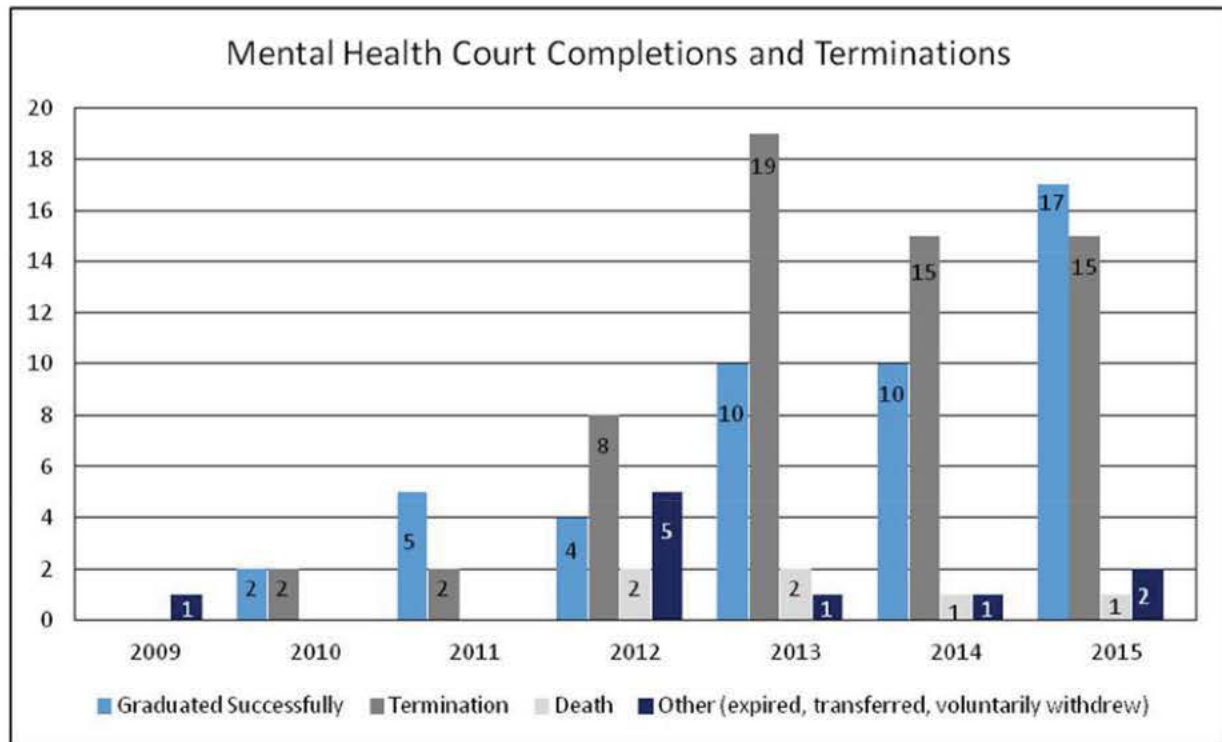


Competency Assessment



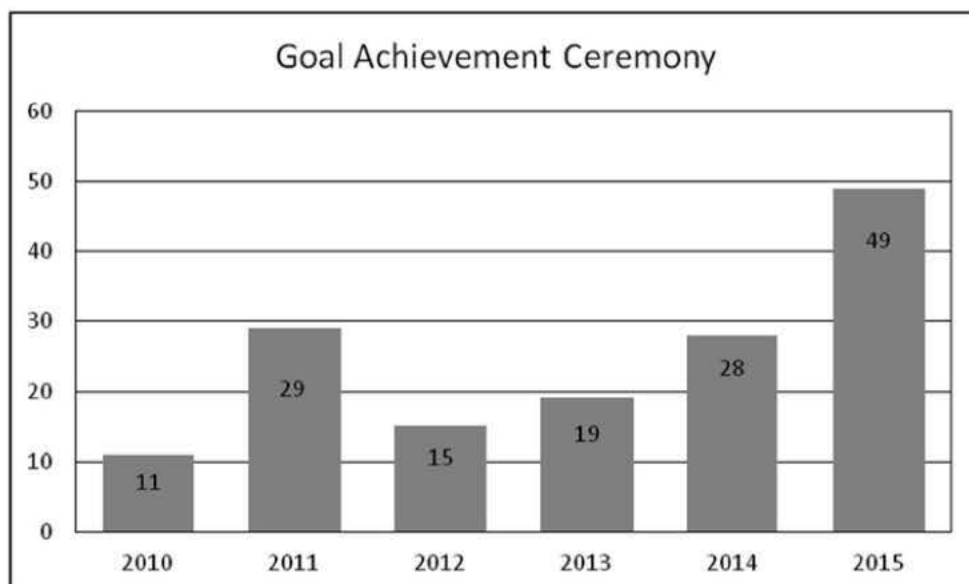
Total Cases for MHC 2009 - 2015





GOAL ACHIEVEMENT CEREMONY

An integral aspect of Mental Health Court is to consistently motivate program participants to continue their treatment, comply with their medications, and maintain law-abiding behaviors. In order to recognize those individuals who achieved milestones or goals set by the court, President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper implemented the Goal Achievement Ceremony. On September 17, 2015, Mental Health Court's Annual Goal Achievement Ceremony recognized 49 program participants, the court's largest ceremony since its inception. Administrative Judge Kevin M. Dougherty was the keynote speaker and 12 of the program participants completed their court supervision.



DAYS SAVED

The re-entry of offenders from incarceration into supervised community settings has generated a total of **509** incarceration days saved for 2015, a savings total of **\$50,900** - an average daily incarceration cost of **\$100**. The days saved is based on paroling the individual by their minimum sentence calculated by the Philadelphia Prison System.

The FJDMHC is an innovative program that fosters collaboration across system agencies. The Court has not only been able to save incarceration days and reduce prison costs, but make a difference in the lives of program participants. In 2015, the Court witnessed several participants complete court supervision, achieve independent living, enroll in school, obtain employment and reunite with family members. With a participant profile of 65% of individuals with co-occurring disorders, 5% with learning disabilities and 1% with major medical disorders, the FJDMHC model has encouraged treatment compliance, while improving individual lives and ensuring public safety.

Work Status	Total	Housing Status	Total	Special Circumstance Review	Total
Full Time	8	Hospital	6	Awaiting placement	---
Part Time	15	Treatment Facility	40	Authorization for Case Management	5
Volunteer	2	Living w/ Family	---	Change in treatment status	10
Training	---	Own Apartment	8	Awaiting medical benefits	---
Not Ready	20	House Arrest	3	VOP Review	---
Total	45	Total	57	Total	15
Levels of Supervision	Total	FJDMHC Participant Highlights 2015		Goal Achieved	Total
ACT	55			Started a new job	5
BECM	75			Moved into a new apartment	5
BCM	100			Reunited with family	2
VET	8			Visitation with child(ren)	2
FAST	80			Court Supervision Concluded	24
Total	318			Total	38
Rewards	Total	Education	Total	Sanctions	Total
Decreased Court Appearances	25	GED	5	Increased court appearances	30
Decreased Probation Supervision	8	GED Prep	---	Increased probation supervision	25
Non-Reporting Probation	6	College Prep	---	Bench Warrant	7
Pass to travel out of town	1	Part-time College Student	4	Jail Time	50
Goal Achievement Ceremony	49	Full-Time College Student	---	Removal from FJDMHC	12
Gift Certificate	65	Vocational Training	5	Total	124
Total	154	Computer Usage	---		
		Total	14		

ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE

INTRODUCTION

The Philadelphia Adult Probation and Parole Department (APPD) is the largest Department within the Criminal Trial Division of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania. During the 2015 year, The Probation Department reported to The Honorable Kevin M. Dougherty, the Administrative Judge of the Trial Division. The Chief Probation Officer, Charles J. Hoyt, oversees APPD and reports directly to Richard T. McSorley, Deputy Court Administrator of the Criminal Trial Division. The President Judge is the Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper.

In this report, the various efforts that APPD has engaged in to maximize our impact on public safety are described.

Mission Statement | The mission of the Philadelphia Adult Probation and Parole Department is to protect the community by intervening in the lives of offenders. We hold them accountable by enforcing the orders of the Court. Through a balance of enforcement and treatment strategies, offenders are afforded the opportunity to become productive, law-abiding citizens. APPD provides all possible assistance to the victims of the offenders under supervision.

Vision Statement | To become a leading organization in the field of community corrections by implementing evidence-based offender supervision strategies.

The APPD strives to be forward thinking, data driven, proactive, and mission focused. This entails staying up to date on best practices within the field of community supervision, and implementing them throughout the department using a robust mixture of training, research, and effective management techniques.

STAFFING

The APPD Staff consists of represented and non-represented employees. The former group is represented by the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), and salaries are determined in part through collective bargaining. The FJD determines the salaries of non-represented employees.

STAFF CATEGORY	COUNT
Chief	1
Deputy Chief	1
Directors	8
Supervisors	37
Probation Officers (total)	282
<i>Case Carrying</i>	249
<i>PSI</i>	20
Administrative Secretary	2
Training Specialist	1
Research Associate	1
Clerical Staff	38
Part-time Staff	22

DEPARTMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Prior to the 2009 reorganization around risk, cases were assigned based on the residence of the offender or specialized court order (e.g., sex offender). With the introduction of the APPD Risk Tool, we decided to create divisions based on risk score, so all cases under each officer would follow the same supervision protocol. This resulted in four supervision divisions: Anti-Violence (high risk), General (moderate risk), Administrative (low risk, fraud, and ARD), and Specialized (cases court-ordered to a specific type of supervision such as mental health). Below are descriptions of each of the four supervision divisions.

The department also has three divisions that oversee operations: Professional Accountability, Facilities, and Grant Management; Supervision Support; and Information Systems, Training, and Policy Development. These divisions handle the various functions of the department outside of supervision. There is also a Research Department that reports directly to the Chief.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION DIVISION

Offenders report either through Monitor Connect or follow a traditional reporting protocol of contacts.

This division receives all low risk offenders¹ as well as Fraud and Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) cases.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION UNITS (AS)

The AS units supervise offenders who are predicted by the APPD Risk Tool to not commit any new offenses while under supervision. The ratio of offender to officer is higher in these units and reporting frequency is reduced.

- The traditional reporting protocol is contacts every three months, alternating between phone and office visits. This protocol was tested in a randomized control trial with our partners at UPenn which showed that supervising low risk offenders in large caseloads does not increase the risk to public safety.
- Monitor Connect (MC) is a phone/web-based application that allows the offender to call/log in and answer a series of questions (e.g., were you arrested? Yes/No) that APPD customized. The information is synched with Monitor so the offender's data are updated automatically with the information from the contact.

ARD/FRAUD

- **ACCELERATED REHABILITATIVE DISPOSITION (ARD)** | ARD is a diversionary program available to certain first time non-violent offenders at the discretion of the District Attorney's Office. ARD officers supervise offenders in the ARD program.
- **FRAUD** | Fraud offenders are convicted of defrauding the Department of Public Welfare and/or Unemployment Compensation. These officers are funded by the Office of Inspector General.

GENERAL SUPERVISION DIVISION

GS units supervise offenders who are predicted by the APPD Risk Tool to be charged with a new, non-serious offense within two years of their probation start date and low risk offenders ineligible for AS. Offenders supervised by this division report to APPD monthly. After 9 months, these offenders are eligible for step-down reporting to every other month if they have been totally compliant with their supervision requirements (e.g., no new arrests, negative urines, reporting as required).

ANTI-VIOLENCE (AV) SUPERVISION DIVISION

- **ANTI-VIOLENCE** | AV units supervise offenders who pose the greatest risk to public safety. They are predicted by the APPD Risk Tool to be charged with one of the following offenses within two years of their probation start date: murder, attempted murder, rape (or other sex offenses), robbery, or aggravated assault. These units are regionalized and use intensive supervision techniques such as frequent office and field visits, as well as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

- **YOUTH VIOLENCE REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP (YVRP)** | YVRP is a multi-agency effort to reduce violent crimes among high-risk/at-risk juveniles and adults age 24 or younger. YVRP officers conduct Targeted Patrol with Police Officers, visiting homes between 4:00 p.m. and midnight in 12th, 19th, 22nd, 24th, 25th and 39th Police Districts.

PECEALIZED SUPERVISION DIVISION

- **DOMESTIC INTERVENTION** | The Domestic Violence unit supervises offenders prosecuted by the Family Violence and Special Victims Unit in the DA's Office. These are chronic, serious domestic violence offenders court-ordered to domestic violence treatment and supervision. All offenders with a domestic violence condition are referred to anger management counseling.
- **FORENSIC INTENSIVE RECOVERY (FIR)** | This program was developed in conjunction with the District Attorney, Public Defender, and Philadelphia Health Management Corporation. Offenders in this program have the dual diagnosis of drug/mental health problems and are supervised in the FIR unit.
- **INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT (IP)** | IP is a probation sentence established by statute and intended to divert offenders from state or county prison. Offenders who have substance abuse problems and are scored in the upper range of the Sentencing Guideline calculation are eligible for IP and their supervision includes inpatient drug and alcohol treatment and house arrest with electronic monitoring.
- **MENTAL HEALTH** | Offenders in this unit are stipulated by the sentencing judge. Offenders have documented psychiatric difficulties and require mental health treatment. This unit works closely with the Court Mental Health Clinic to identify treatment options and develop supervision plans for the offenders. Offenders convicted in Mental Health Court are supervised by the Mental Health unit. Veteran's Court, an FJD initiative with the Veterans Administration, is also a part of this unit. An officer is assigned to handle all veteran offenders sentenced by this court whose goal is to streamline the services available to these types of offenders.
- **MONITORED SUPERVISION** | This unit provides a structured alternative to incarceration for offenders who are monitored electronically and referred for needed treatment. Offenders who violate their monitoring conditions are subject to arrest by the Sheriff's Warrant Unit.
- **OUT OF COUNTY/STATE** | Offenders who reside in another jurisdiction, but are convicted of a criminal offense in Philadelphia are supervised by the Probation Department in the county of residence, with administrative monitoring by officers in this unit. Supervision cases outside the State of Pennsylvania are reviewed for transfer in accordance with the interstate compact rules. APPD receives reports from the supervising jurisdiction, which sometimes requires intervention by our officer. Cases are returned to APPD for cause. This unit also provides courtesy supervision for offenders that live in Philadelphia, but were convicted of a criminal offense in other jurisdictions.
- **SEX OFFENDERS** | This unit intensively supervises offenders convicted of sexual offenses. Supervision includes urinalysis, mandatory sex offender treatment, and monitoring of stay away orders and inappropriate living arrangements. The officers initiate Megan's Law registration for those offenders convicted of designated sex offenses. Female sexual offenders are assigned to one female officer to specifically address their issues. Computer technology monitors and blocks internet usage by certain sex offenders.
- **SPECIALTY COURTS** | The Specialty Courts Unit is comprised of 8 Probation Officers supervising caseloads from the various FJD Specialty Courts.
 - **DUI TREATMENT COURT** | DUI Treatment Court includes 3 caseloads dedicated to offenders convicted in DUI Treatment Court. This specialty court allows eligible offenders (individuals with multiple

DUI offenses with no history of violent crime or other legal complications related to their DUI offenses) to serve reduced jail time by attending extensive treatment that is legally enforceable.

- **FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT MENTAL HEALTH COURT** | The First Judicial District Mental Health Court (FJDMHC) comprises 3 special caseloads. The FJDMHC caseload consists of offenders diagnosed as severely mentally ill and convicted in the First Judicial District's Mental Health Court. Each Philadelphia Forensic Assertive Community Treatment Team (PFACI) consists of a group of service providers (caseworker, intensive case manager, nurse, and psychiatrist). Services provided include medication, housing, and wrap around, among others. These offenders have to be listed as eligible by the Defender Association and the DA based on set criteria and must volunteer to participate in this program. The referral process starts at the prison and most are parolees.
- **DAWN'S COURT** | A specialty court that hears prostitution cases for offenders that have been victims of sexual assault/abuse
- **VETERANS' COURT** | Philadelphia Veterans Court, a problem solving court initiative, takes a holistic Treatment Court approach to dealing with justice-involved Veterans. The Judicial leadership in Municipal Court recognizes the tremendous service members of our Armed Forces provide to our Country. This initiative started with the premise of providing Veterans involved in the criminal justice system with a program and services to overcome the challenges they face. The Probation Officer assists the Veteran in working toward a successful resolution of the criminal charges, including a change in life choices, so that future contacts with the criminal justice system can be avoided.

SUPERVISION SUPPORT

The specialized technical staff handles the administrative transactions generated by certain frequently-occurring case events.

- **RECORDS MANAGEMENT**
 - Maintains and catalogs master files, which contain all documents accumulated for any offender supervised by APPD whose cases have expired
 - Initiates out-of-county dockets in Monitor
 - Responds to subpoenas for archived case information
 - Responds to requests from other agencies for information on active and expired cases
- **CRASH COURT** | This court hears all Gagnon I hearings. These hearings are handled by one probation officer assigned to the Supervision Support Division.
- **VIOLATION OF PROBATION MANAGEMENT**
 - Generates and tracks arrest warrants requested by officers for offenders who have violated or absconded from supervision
 - Fields inquiries from agencies nation-wide regarding our offenders apprehended in other jurisdictions
 - Issues and tracks warrants requested by State Parole agents on certain shared-supervision cases; schedules and attends warrant hearings
- **PAROLE** | Parole staff are responsible for the timely issuance of petitions to sentencing Judges based on local parole eligibility rules. The Release Information Network (RIN) is a computer application used by APPD and the Public Defender to support the paroling process. The Parole Unit receives and acts on both approved and denied petitions received from sentencing Judges.
- **PRESENTENCE** | Two presentence units are staffed by experienced probation officers who conduct background investigations examining and evaluating the offender's criminal and psycho-social history. Investigators compose reports for requesting Judges to assist in sentencing. PSI officers also calculate Offense Gravity Scores using the PA Sentencing Guidelines and present these to the Judge.

- **VICTIM SERVICES UNIT** | One probation officer is dedicated to assisting victims of crime. This officer reaches out to all victims of sexual offenses and survivors of homicide attempts. The officer works with victims to compose impact statements which are a part of the presentence report and coordinate services with support agencies.
- **DUI COORDINATOR** | Liaison role between the DUI Coordinator of MC court and APPD officers, monitoring all FTA weekend offender surrenders.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE** | This program arranges all Court-ordered community service for offenders so conditioned. APPD has developed well-monitored site placements with responsible organizations. APPD receives reports on hours of service by offenders and maintains computerized records of completion.
- **COURT MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC** | Mental health evaluations are ordered by the judiciary to determine offenders' competency to stand trial and assist in their own defense. Evaluations are also ordered for involuntary commitment cases, amenability to treatment determinations, and special requests from trial Judges. The clinic honors APPD requests for mental health evaluations on supervised offenders and provides training for the judiciary regarding mental health issues.
- **DNA** | DNA samples are collected from offenders convicted of felonies in accordance with Pennsylvania Act 185-2004. Testing is conducted according to State Police standards by a technician from Compliance Oversight Solutions Ideal, LLC, a contracted vendor. The Pennsylvania State Police supply collection kits and receive the results.
- **INTAKE** | Intake technicians use Monitor to initiate probation cases for all offenders so sentenced. Case initiation involves briefly interviewing the offender, entering docket information and running the APPD Risk Tool. All new probation officers do a rotation in this unit as it is the best training ground for understanding the business of probation. Student interns and externs are also assigned there. Intake staff works closely with the Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY, FACILITIES AND GRANT MANAGEMENT

- **PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY** | The function of Professional Accountability in our department includes:
 - Conducting investigations into employee conduct and workplace behavior
 - Completing reports on these investigations for the Chief and Deputy Chief Probation Officer, that include a recommendation for a course of action
 - Assist directors and supervisors in completing Personnel Action Acknowledgment (PAA) forms
- **DRUG DETECTION CENTER** | APPD operates an on-site drug detection laboratory staffed by a contracted vendor. The department has made a concerted effort to drug test only those offenders who are court ordered or those who show cause for needing this service.
- **FACILITIES AND GRANT MANAGEMENT** | Several staff who have other duties share the following responsibilities:
 - Building management - 1401 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19102
 - Vehicle fleet management
 - Equipment and supplies – ordering, storing, inventory, distribution and repair
 - Supervision of part-time clerical employees
 - Ensure compliance with federal, state, and local grants
 - Maintain messenger service
 - Management of service contracts

INFORMATION SYSTEMS, TRAINING, & POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- **INFORMATION SYSTEMS** | This unit is responsible for handling all data requests from APPD Administration, Court Administration, and Criminal Justice Partners. This unit also develops new methods of data-sharing and creates applications that assist staff in carrying out their daily functions and improve department efficiency.
- **TRAINING** | This multifaceted unit arranges for and conducts training that, among other things, complies with the Pennsylvania Board of Parole and Probation mandate of 40 hours for professional staff and 16 hours for support staff. The Training Unit studies and develops policy for the department. FJD subsidizes, through APPD, certain graduate studies for which training hours are credited.
- **MONITOR** | Monitor is the APPD case management system used by probation officers to enter data on all aspects of case supervision. Managers also use Monitor to audit cases and otherwise oversee the operation of their units. Technically proficient staff maintain liaison with the vendor and conduct ongoing weekly and ad hoc phone conferences to support and improve the program.
- **PROB-START (Probation Supervision through Analysis, Research, and Training)** | An overarching management and accountability construct using data from Monitor and CPCMS. The Chief and Deputy Chief Probation Officer select topics of importance in case supervision that are analyzed by the research team. Concurrently, Managers, Supervisors, and Officers audit cases for instances of the ProbSTART topic. Each division is reviewed at least twice a year. Group case conferences are held and management and line staff present and explain pertinent cases. Identified practices are lauded or remediated.

The research department generates monthly statistics which are distributed to all upper management allowing Directors and Supervisors to identify, review, and act on trends.

RESEARCH

- **SPECIAL PROJECTS AND RESEARCH** | Provides APPD with operational and evaluative information not otherwise available. Two degreed professionals conduct fruitful studies and receive support and liaise with the UPenn, Drexel, and Temple Universities. With UPenn, the department developed and implemented the APPD Risk Tool which is used to assess the offender risk.
- **WEAPONS RELATED INJURY SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (WRISS)** | APPD maintains a database of shooting victims in Philadelphia with data from the Philadelphia Police Department. APPD uses these data to identify APPD offenders who were victims of gun violence and disseminate weekly reports.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER | CHARLES J. HOYT | 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

- **SOARING 2 OBSERVATIONS** | APPD supervisors completed approximately 1,300 observations of probation officer and offender meetings. The supervisors have assessed and provided feedback on the officers' use of motivational interviewing and needs assessment identification techniques, which they learned from George Mason University's (GMU) SOARING 2 curriculum.
- **NEEDS ASSESSMENT & CASE PLAN** | In partnership with experts at GMU, APPD developed, tested, and refined a needs assessment tool and complementary case plan to guide its supervision plans for high risk, moderate risk, and specialized offender caseloads.
- **PRESENTATION TO BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) LEADERSHIP** | In November, APPD leadership and its implementation partners from GMU traveled to Washington, D.C. to provide the BJA Director and

other administrators with an update on the progress made in implementing the Department's Fiscal Year 2013 Smart Supervision Grant.

- **MACARTHUR GRANT PROPOSAL** | APPD administration, along with other Philadelphia justice partners, participated in the MacArthur Foundation's competitive Safety and Justice Challenge, an ongoing, collaborative process to develop a comprehensive, data driven plan to reduce the local prison population and the disproportionate number of incarcerated minorities.
- **REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY** | APPD operates its own drug detection unit, using conventional detection methods. In October 2015, APPD entered into an agreement with Redwood Toxicology and upgraded our existing data management system to ToxAccess, a web-based Redwood application for scheduling and results management.
- **DVIC (DELAWARE VALLEY INTELLIGENCE CENTER) POSITION** | APPD has assigned one (1) officer to serve as an intelligence analyst for the YVRP program as well as provide the Philadelphia Police Department with information regarding offenders under our department's supervision. This officer is responsible for searching social media outlets in an effort to identify offenders possessing firearms. This officer will also attend the Philadelphia Police Department's (PPD) CompStat meetings and share intelligence regarding our probationers and parolees. Additionally, this officer will participate in warrant initiatives with the PPD and Juvenile Enforcement Team (JET). Information sharing among DVIC Criminal Justice Partners is at the heart of this initiative, empowering APPD administration to take appropriate action with the identified probationer/parolees, including coordinating searches of property and communication with members of the judiciary.
- **APPD TRAINING DATABASE** | In an effort to improve the efficiency of communication, tracking, and reporting of APPD Training courses and training hours, an internal database was developed by the APPD Information Systems, Training, and Policy Development Division and put into production in the first quarter of 2015. The application allows for digital creation of training announcements and approvals in the form of preset email templates and forms. The second phase of this application will be a user interface for review of training course hours and accounting. The application has enhanced the department's ability to track and report employee progress via internal controls for ad hoc report development.
- **RISK TOOL NEW RELEASE (MODEL D)** | APPD leaders and academics from the UPenn are currently rebuilding the Department's cutting edge risk tool with newer data so APPD can continue to ensure that offenders who are at higher risk for reoffending receive appropriate supervision and services.
- **PHILADELPHIA REENTRY COALITION** | We continue our partnership with Federal, State, and County agencies to develop a city-wide vision for a prisoner reintegration system.

ON THE HORIZON

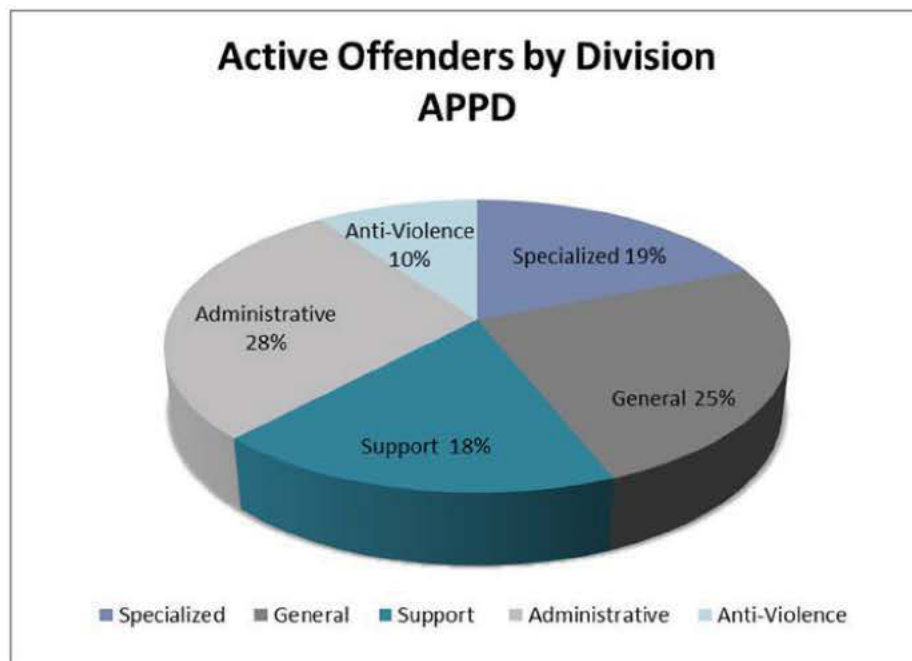
- **2016 APPD TRAINING CURRICULUM PROPOSAL** | The APPD Information Systems, Training, and Policy Development Division is responsible for the training and professional development of the employees of the APPD. In an effort to position this department to fulfill its mission, remain true to its vision, comply with state standards, and better serve the offender population and the district, this division has assumed the task of developing a plan that will restructure the existing training protocol of the APPD.
 - The proposal seeks to enhance the existing training protocol by providing a clear definition and distinction between two core concepts: training and professional development. With a globally accepted set of terms, a curriculum will be put in place for all employees, specific to their job class and/or title. This proposal will extend beyond the simple labeling of an unknown set of courses into two categories, mandatory or elective, and introduce a predetermined set of courses and materials annually. The mandatory courses and materials will be specific to the daily functions of the employee of his/her job class or title, while still allowing for

opportunities to explore and grow via elective courses. Ultimately, this proposal will ensure that all APPD employees are provided meaningful opportunities for training and professional development annually.

- **DESIGNING AN INCENTIVES STRUCTURE** | APPD is currently creating a series of progressive social incentives that will be awarded to offenders who demonstrate continued compliance with their case plans and the Department's rules and regulations. Once in place, our research partners at Temple University will evaluate this structure to determine if it reduces violations and improves treatment initiation.
- **18-MONTH MONITOR CONNECT EVALUATION** | The Research Division is in the process of completing a second evaluation of the new Monitor Connect program for low risk offenders. The report will examine the number of offenders using the new system, their characteristics, and recidivism rates 18 months after program initiation.

2015 ANNUAL STATISTICS

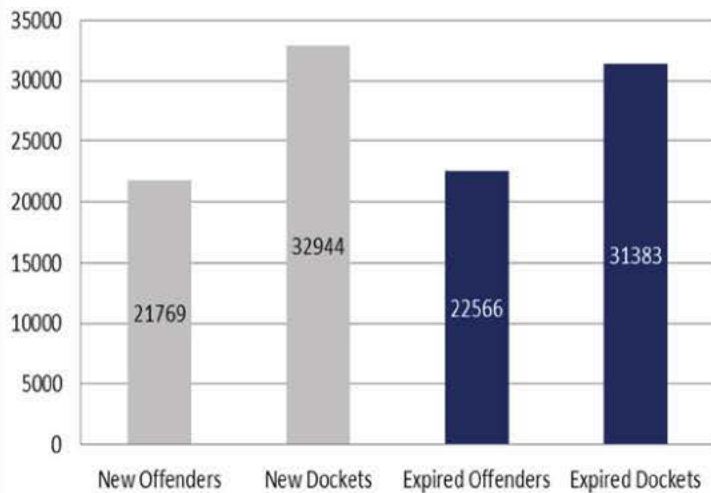
- Total number of offenders supervised by APPD on 12/31/2015 | 44,722
- Total number of dockets supervised by APPD on 12/31/2015 | 64,197



COURT of COMMON PLEAS

Criminal Division

Changes in APPD Supervision Inventory 2015



SELECTED WORKLOAD FIGURES

New Arrests	9,727
Gagnon I Hearings	
Held	15,485
Lifted	403
Cancelled	333
Gagnon II Hearings	
Dockets Scheduled	22,226
Dockets Scheduled by Unique Date	33,342
Dockets Revoked	10,634
Drug Tests Administered with Result	75,225
Presentence Investigations Administered	2,784



City Hall

OFFICE OF JUDICIAL RECORDS

OVERVIEW

Formerly known as the Offices of the Prothonotary and the Clerk of Quarter Sessions, or more recently the Clerk of Courts, the Office of Judicial Records of Philadelphia was implemented in October 2013 by Order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. The Office of Judicial Records is responsible for the records, books, and dockets for the Court, including civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. All duties and responsibilities inherent with the Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts were assigned to the Office of Judicial Records.

Since the establishment of the Office of Judicial Records, hereafter OJR, numerous changes have occurred, or are expected to be implemented, in the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania. The OJR operates under the jurisdiction of the Administrative Judge of the Trial Division. The office holder of the department is known as the Clerk of Judicial Records. The restructuring of the Trial Division - Civil into two major components - the OJR and Civil Operations - encompassed the expansion of the role of the Prothonotary. This expansion included the transfer of all functions and duties of the Civil Motions Program and the Discovery Program under the direction and leadership of the Office of Judicial Records. This transition occurred smoothly and created a fluid and more efficient system for the review and processing of all filings.

Eric Feder | Deputy Court Administrator

OFFICE OF JUDICIAL RECORDS – CIVIL

The Office of Judicial Records, Civil, hereafter OJR-Civil, is organized into six departments. In the past year, the responsibilities and management structure of these departments has been modified in some areas and clarified in others. The following are some department and statistical highlights:

- Non-Discovery Motions / Petitions filed in 2015: 53,752.
- Discovery Motions Filed in 2015: 27,117.
- Approximately 1.8 million documents were stored in the case management system in 2015.
- E-Filing Review Office: In 2015 nearly 460,000 filings were reviewed and accepted for filing in this department. A focus on cross-training creating a broader understanding of the Rules of Civil Procedure has allowed the staff to process most filings almost immediately upon receipt – a major accomplishment this year.
- Civil Filing Center: This department continued to evolve in 2015. Access and support was a major focus. The department is providing clearer and more accurate forms and information while servicing any litigant who may not have the means to utilize the Civil Electronic Filing System.

CIVIL OPERATIONS

The restructuring of the Office of Judicial Records has enabled the consolidation and centralization of the following operations:

- **E-Filing Review Department:** This department is responsible for the review of all filings submitted through the Civil Electronic Filing System, including motions. The staff has been cross-trained creating an enhanced and highly skilled unit of employees who are capable of reviewing and screening all electronic filings consistent with the rules of civil procedure and court case management practices.
- **Filing Department:** This department is responsible for accepting all over-the-counter filings, managing the Electronic Filing Center, and providing support for all e-filing questions and problems via telephone and e-mail.
- **Courtroom Operations:** This department is responsible for the coverage of all courtrooms that operate as a result of motion filings and specialized programs, including the motions argument list, discovery hearing list, Statutory Appeals, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Appeals, Municipal Court Appeals, Civil Forfeiture, Mortgage Foreclosure, and City of Philadelphia Equity and Tax cases.

It is the goal of this department to provide one designated area where all commerce with the Office of Judicial Records will be conducted, plans for which are presently underway. This department will allow the public to file documents over the counter, purchase subpoenas and certified and exemplified copies of records, decrees, notary signatures, and conduct all other forms of commerce. OJR-Civil aims to create new and better ways to do business. Some major strides were made in 2015 to keep the Office moving in the right direction. The following are a few of the accomplishments in 2015:

- In concert with the Law and Revenue Departments of the City of Philadelphia, more than 530,000 Real Estate Tax Liens have been migrated from the City's database to the Court's case management system over a several month period. This provides appropriate and more accessible information to the community.
- The Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) selected Philadelphia County to undertake a pilot project to electronically transmit the official court record to the Superior Court of PA Prothonotary in cases where an appeal has been filed. The programs and protocols have been developed. The pilot commenced at the end of 2015 with great initial success. As the project continues to unfold, it will reap many benefits including bringing more accuracy and efficiency to a historically cumbersome process.
- Working with the representatives from the Department of Revenue of the Commonwealth of PA, an electronic exchange of data and documents was developed to create lien records in lieu of a tediously manual paper process. Again, more efficiency, accuracy and less personnel resources have been major benefits in the new process which began at the end of 2015.

Looking ahead to 2016, OJR-Civil will be working on its access to justice goals while creating forms and information tools while developing a Civil Help Center. Partnering with the legal community, the chief goal is to have a center that provides legal assistance that court staff are not permitted to provide. Working with more departments in the Commonwealth of PA and other entities, the electronic exchange of data to create liens will continue to grow. The Department of Labor and Industry has begun discussions to implement the new process in July 2016.

OFFICE OF JUDICIAL RECORDS – CRIMINAL

The Office of Judicial Records, Criminal, hereafter OJR-Criminal, provides court clerks to the Adult Criminal and Juvenile divisions of the court. OJR-Criminal is also responsible for maintaining the files and dockets for criminal and juvenile cases.

The year 2015 continued the reformation of OJR-Criminal. The filing of sealed search warrants and applications for electronic intercepts were transferred from Criminal Listings to OJR at the end of 2015. The Bail Acceptance and Accounting Units were transferred from Pretrial Services to OJR in September of 2015. The Bail Unit began to accept bail payments electronically through AOPC's ePayBail during the same month. Plans are underway in conjunction with the City of Philadelphia and the Defender Association of Philadelphia to increase the availability and usage of ePayBail in 2016. The bail office at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility (CFCF) was closed at the end of 2015, and a new process, developed in conjunction with Philadelphia Prison System personnel, was developed to process bail for walk-through prisoners.

Continuing with access initiatives, OJR-Civil has begun to identify data standards while developing more effective means for storing and presenting the data. This development will provide the community and court personnel with more efficient and accurate ways to retrieve case, judgment and lien information.

COURT *of* COMMON PLEAS

Office of Judicial Records

Below are 2015 statistics from the Bail Unit:

	DR BAILS		LEXINGTON		REAL ESTATE		CASH BAIL		E-PAY		TOTAL BAIL		FINES & FEES	
Month	Count	\$\$\$	Count	\$\$\$	Count	\$\$\$	Count	\$\$\$	Count	\$\$\$	Count	\$\$\$	Count	\$\$\$
January	5	\$8,780	4	\$270,000	2	\$125,000	974	\$1,217,932	0	\$0	985	\$1,621,711.50	81	\$4,721.50
February	5	\$7,609	7	\$460,000	3	\$130,868	1020	\$1,575,495	0	\$0	1035	\$2,173,972.00	49	\$6,685.00
March	7	\$6,200	12	\$610,000	1	\$46,319	1009	\$1,225,716	0	\$0	1029	\$1,888,234.64	46	\$4,220.50
April	1	\$250	14	\$807,000	9	\$127,000	1130	\$1,244,511	0	\$0	1154	\$2,178,761.00	53	\$3,974.00
May	3	\$2,800	20	\$939,500	2	\$76,693	1047	\$1,231,851	0	\$0	1072	\$2,250,843.50	46	\$7,851.50
June	2	\$1,700	10	\$415,000	2	\$64,390	989	\$1,303,557	0	\$0	1003	\$1,784,647.00	47	\$2,851.50
July	4	\$6,230	15	\$666,700	5	\$148,598	1029	\$1,065,059	0	\$0	1053	\$1,886,586.80	21	\$1,634.29
August	2	\$2,200	17	\$681,000	2	\$30,000	981	\$1,096,231	0	\$0	1002	\$1,809,431.00	21	\$2,516.50
September	2	\$1,000	24	\$1,120,000	2	\$189,259	853	\$1,111,161	15	\$14,590	896	\$2,436,009.60	18	\$2,511.50
October	0	\$0	13	\$675,000	6	\$386,780	901	\$1,193,944	18	\$12,710	938	\$2,268,433.40	24	\$2,755.00
November	0	\$0	36	\$1,445,000	9	\$516,067	809	\$1,170,954	44	\$52,728	898	\$3,184,749.00	39	\$3,501.00
December	2	\$2,000	27	\$1,145,500	0	\$0	820	\$1,132,541	34	\$57,430	883	\$2,337,471.00	24	\$3,313.00
Total	33	38769	199	\$9,234,700	43	\$1,840,974	11562	\$14,568,952	111	\$137,458	11948	\$25,820,850.44	469	\$46,535.29

The following are additional department and statistical highlights:

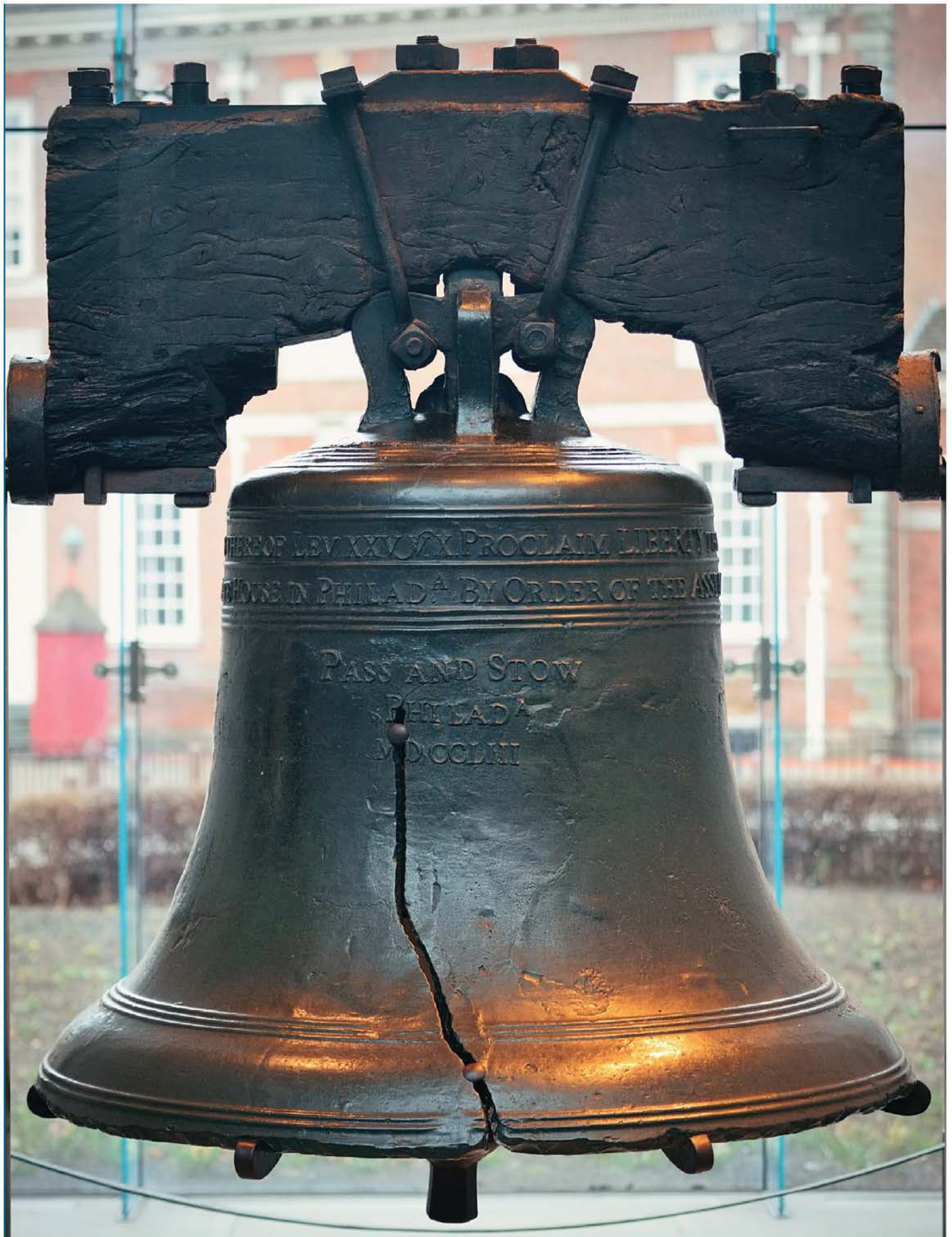
DEPARTMENT & STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS 2015	COUNT
Document Management System Total	850,217
E-Filings Accepted	36,240
Average Time to Approve an E-filing (hours)	3.15
Expungements Processed	7,252
Partial Expungement Processed	1,011

The year 2016 promises to be an exciting one in OJR-Criminal. The Criminal Division will follow the Civil Division in electronically transmitting the official court record to the Superior Court of PA Prothonotary in cases where an appeal has been filed. AOPC plans on implementing PacFile in Juvenile Court in the spring of 2016. PacFile will allow attorneys and agencies to electronically file documents in Juvenile Court. OJR is also working with AOPC and Family Court to institute the entry of electronic orders of court. Upon the successful completion of the Juvenile Court Project, we plan to extend PacFile and electronic orders of court to the Adult Criminal Division, hopefully in late 2016.

OJR-Criminal continues to reach out to its criminal justice system partners, including the District Attorney, Defender Association, Community Legal Services, members of the private bar, and most importantly, members of the judiciary.

Our fiscal unit began a project in 2015 to modernize the receipting and accounting functions in the Civil Division. Banner Courts, the Civil Division's case management system, will be used to receipt walk-in filings, and a new accounting package will streamline accounting and auditing functions. Shown below is a snapshot of the monies collected in 2015 by OJR in both its Civil and Criminal Divisions:

FEES COLLECTED	AMOUNT
Civil Filing / Escrow	\$37,816,448
Bail	\$25,820,850
Fines / Fees / Restitution	\$6,832,648
Fines / Fees / Restitution	\$2,580,357
Fines / Fees / Restitution	\$46,535
Total	\$73,096,839



FAMILY Court Division



Hon. Margaret T. Murphy
Administrative Judge



Hon. Walter J. Olzewski
Supervising Judge

Led by Administrative Judge Margaret T. Murphy and Supervising Judge Walter J. Olzewski, the Family Division, as part of the First Judicial District, consists of the Juvenile Branch and Domestic Relations Branch. Twenty-three (23) judges are assigned to Family Court and approximately 780 full-time employees. This report will provide a detailed inventory of the day-to-day operation of the Philadelphia Family Court. Philadelphia continues to be a model court in both the Juvenile Branch and Domestic Relations Branch by implementing widespread reforms that are both fiscally and socially responsible.



Boathouse Row

Juvenile Branch

The Juvenile Branch has jurisdiction over delinquency, dependency, truancy, termination of parental rights, and adoption proceedings. Juvenile Branch judges also preside over criminal matters involving juvenile victims and adult defendants. Deputy Court Administrator Mario D'Adamo, Esq. manages the overall operation of the Juvenile Branch, including building operations. DCA D'Adamo is also responsible for carrying out initiatives identified by the Court Administrator of the FJD, in addition to working directly with the Administrative Judge and Supervising Judge of Family Court. Chief of Operations, Katherine Grasela, administers all court operations, including all of the budgetary aspects of Family Court. Faustino Castro Jimenez, Chief of Juvenile Probation, and Bennie Price, Deputy Chief of Probation, direct the daily functions of the Juvenile Probation Department. The Juvenile Branch judicial component consists of ten (10) judges and two (2) senior judges. Five (5) of the masters are stationed in the courthouse; one (1) to preside over delinquent dispositional hearings, and four (4) assisting in dependency matters. Our judicial reach is also extended by stationing four (4) masters at regional courts for truancy hearings and one (1) at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC) for pretrial and detention hearings.

To lessen the caseload of our judges and to meet AOPC timelines, masters specializing in the areas of delinquency, dependency, and truancy assist our judges in hearing cases.

Juvenile Probation Department

Mission Statement

Justice is best served when the community, victim and youth receive balanced attention and all gain tangible outcomes from their interaction with Juvenile Probation. When crimes occur, it is not an isolated phenomenon, but affects the entire community. Therefore, the mission of the Juvenile Justice System is to protect the community from delinquency; impose accountability for offenses committed and restoration of the victim. Consequently, there are three clients; the community, victim and offender whom shall receive equal consideration from the Juvenile Justice System in order to reduce crime and restore order. Family Court is committed to employing trauma-informed and evidence-based practices to identify appropriate treatment services for juvenile offenders, in order to provide them with the opportunity to achieve positive change and to reduce recidivism.

Juvenile Probation Overview

The Probation Department continues to embrace various initiatives and proven evidence-based reforms. The implementation of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategies (JJSES) has refocused our efforts towards addressing youth criminogenic needs. As a result, these strategies have paved the way for continuous reductions in recidivism rates and opportunities for greater reforms.

- Reduction in the number of delinquency petitions docketed for juvenile court decreased by 16.75% when compared to 2014, signaling a decrease in the number of juvenile arrests
- Continued implementation of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) led the way to additional reforms, specifically, in reducing the reliance on secure detention for youth in custody.
- Continued utilization of alternatives to placement or detention, such as Global Positioning Systems (GPS), has allowed the court to strictly monitor their activities in their community while also ensuring community safety.

- Utilizing office, school, home and community site visits, Juvenile Probation Officers completed more than 47,500 successful contacts with youth and their families.
- Diversionary efforts that were supported through Court and stakeholder programs collectively diverted more than 1,400 youth from penetrating the Juvenile Justice System.
- According to Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management Systems (PaJCMS) data, our young people completed over 15,000 hours of meaningful community services in neighborhoods around the City of Philadelphia.
- More than \$117,500 in restitution was collected for victims of juvenile crime.
- Two hundred and eighty-two (282) youth earned their high school diploma and 47 youth received their GED certificate while in placement care for the 2014-2015 school year.
- A total of 478 juvenile justice involved youth were engaged in meaningful employment during the summer of 2015.

Supervision

As of 2015 calendar's end, 2,496 juveniles were on some form of court ordered supervision. Supervision types range from formal probation to consent decrees, to courtesy supervision, interim probation, intensive probation and residential supervision. Supervision is provided to youth based on criminogenic needs identified through the Youth Level of Service (YLS), an evidenced-based risk assessment instrument. Along with court ordered stipulations, the YLS assists probation officers in developing individualized case plans for youth. Probation officers are assigned to geographic and residential probation districts and are responsible to monitor youth in their respective community or in the institution they have been sent to for rehabilitation and treatment. Tools such as the Global Positioning System (GPS) provide enhanced monitoring while allowing the youth to remain at home with a stricter level of supervision.

Community Based Supervision

Community based probation is the first intervention for juveniles who have been arrested and deemed ineligible for diversion and preventative service programs. Currently, there are five (5) community based probation units covering the city of Philadelphia by zip codes. There are 32 probation officers assigned to these geographic units, providing direct supervision to 1,008 juveniles.

Juvenile Probation is committed to providing evidence-based practices relative to the most current and valid research findings. Evidence-based practice is the application of evidence gathered from research studies to assist with the decision making within applicable processes and systems. Research confirms that proper application of evidence-based practices assists in reducing recidivism. Juvenile Probation has implemented the use of an evidence-based, risk assessment tool, the Youth Level of Service (YLS). YLS assists probation officers in determining the top criminogenic needs and along with the services matrix, probation

officers can refer youth to community-based agencies that will address these criminogenic needs. The YLS aids probation officers in determining the amount of supervision contacts a juvenile requires depending on the juvenile's level of risk; low, moderate, high and very high. This prevents probation officers from overwhelming juveniles with too many services and supervision, as research has shown that each level of risk requires different levels of supervision. In 2015, Juvenile Probation conducted 2,747 YLS assessments

Supervision contacts are used to effectively monitor a juvenile on probation within the community. Community based probation conducted 20,584 successful supervision contacts with juveniles and families in 2015. This averages around 502 successful field contacts per Probation Officer.

with 34% of the juvenile population at a low level of risk to reoffend, 58% at a moderate level of risk to reoffend, 7% at a high level of risk to reoffend and less than 1% at a very high risk to reoffend.

Juvenile Probation is utilizing other evidence-based practices, such as Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Cognitive Behavioral Training (CBT) and Multi-systemic Therapy (MST). There are three (3) FFT certified providers, one (1) certified MST provider and one (1) CBT certified provider serving the juvenile population in the City of Philadelphia.

Community Behavioral Health (CBH), through the Behavioral Health Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, is the primary funding source for FFT in Philadelphia. Juvenile Probation has partnered with the Philadelphia Department of Human Service (DHS) to provide special funding for juveniles who are ineligible for FFT services through CBH.

Juvenile Probation focuses on utilizing the resources available to juveniles within their own communities. Juvenile Probation refers juveniles to a multitude of community based agencies that offer services in accordance with the criminogenic needs identified by the YLS. Juveniles are referred to agencies that offer prosocial activities, such as the Philadelphia Youth Advocate Program (PYAP) and the Sports for Juvenile Justice (SJJ). Several community based agencies, such as Educational 3 Centers, Face Forward and CORA services, offer educational assistance and skills in obtaining gainful employment. Referring juveniles to programs within their community helps to reinforce the positive connection a juvenile can have with their community and encourages them to utilize the resources available to them in their neighborhood.

In addition to providing community-based supervision, the goal is to provide the means for appropriate juveniles to remain in the community and out of secure detention. Probation officers, along with several stakeholders, such as the Public Defenders, Community Behavioral Health, DHS' Juvenile Justice Services Central Referral Unit, and Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Service Center staff, meet regularly to discuss juveniles in secure detention at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Service Center. The Youth Review Meeting was developed to assist the Probation Department who, along with the stakeholders, are involved in the juvenile's case. The goal is to work together to plan for an alternative solution to detention and to reduce the amount of days a juvenile remains in secure detention. In 2015, the average length of stay for a youth in secure custody at the Juvenile Justice Center was 19 days.

Institutional Supervision

The Residential Services Units (RSU) service youth from placement to discharge with aftercare probation supervision upon reentry to communities. Residential Probation Officers (RPO) manage, supervise, and monitor youth in placement facilities where they receive treatment and rehabilitation. RPOs travel to private and state facilities, homes, schools and community-based programs to visit with youth, their parent(s) or guardian(s), and others. In 2015, RPOs conducted 21,289 visits and contacts. These visits and interactions enabled RPOs to assess and review every youth's progress and long term goals. In 2015 the average length of stay in a residential facility for youth receiving treatment and rehabilitation was 12 months. RPOs continue to reinforce and emphasize to youth the benefits of earning a high school diploma or GED certificate. In 2015, 282 youth earned their high school diploma and 47 youth received their GED certificate while in placement care for the 2014-2015 school year. Youth were also afforded the opportunity in most facilities to earn vocational certifications. These vocational certifications, mostly supported through the Pennsylvania Academic Career Technical Training (PACTT) affiliation,

In 2015, 282 youth earned their High School Diplomas and 47 youth received their GED Certificates while being in placement care for the 2014-2015 school year.

strengthen and promote employment skills which further enhance their opportunity for future work. College courses are also offered via computer classes for youth who want to pursue higher education.

Global Positioning System (GPS)

Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring unit continues to address all aspects of the Balanced and Restorative Justice Principles (BARJ) which includes offender accountability, victim awareness, and community protection. The utilization of the GPS device is another service used in the array of Alternatives to Detention (ATD) as well Alternative to Placement (ATP) options. The judiciary at Philadelphia Family Court has embraced the success of the unit's capability for monitoring youth 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week, 365 days throughout the year.

Youth who are currently being supervised on GPS monitoring include those in pre-trial status, dependent and delinquent youth, those who are on aftercare probation as well as identified gang members who have been placed on area restrictions. Juveniles who are court ordered to attend either the Pre or Post Evening Reporting Centers are also monitored by GPS.

In 2015 the GPS unit entered into a unique partnership with several of the major area hospitals which are most likely to treat a juvenile who has a GPS device on their person. The Probation Department trained the hospital staff on how to both safely remove and properly store the equipment while the juvenile's medical needs are being met. This partnership is just one of the many innovative programs in the GPS spectrum.

A total of 1,450 youth were monitored by the GPS unit for an average of 51.6 days. 347 youth were placed on GPS as an Alternative to Detention (ATD) at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (JJSC) or one of the local Community Based Shelters. Utilization of the GPS device as an ATD has helped reduce the detention population at the JJSC.

The GPS Unit is working closely with the Philadelphia Police Department's IT Unit on merging GPS software with the Real Time Crime software which will allow the police to respond in real time to any youth who is alleged to have committed a crime while under GPS supervision.

If we multiply the number of youth placed on GPS as an alternative to detention (347) x the average cost for detention (\$422.08) x the average length of stay (18.16), we find that \$2,659,745.56 would have been the cost if the 347 youth would have been detained. However, given that they were released on GPS at a \$6.75 per diem rate and using the 18.16 average days of stay, the cost was \$42,535.26. Subtracting the GPS cost from the secure detention cost, we may say that Family Court's GPS program saved the City of Philadelphia \$2,617,210.30.

Student Transition Center

The Philadelphia School District continues to operate the Student Transitional Center (STC) in partnership with the School District Probation Liaison (SDPL). This collaboration focuses on school assignments for youth who are discharged from private or state facilities. The STC and SDPL work together to assess and review school transcripts and academic history so youth are immediately (usually within one (1) to two (2) days) assigned to a community-based school or alternative program. Both the STC and SDPL are dedicated to the educational needs and academic success of youth transitioning back to the community.

In 2015, STC and SDPL completed 508 intakes for youth reporting to the center for school assignment or assistance with their academic goals. Of the 508 youth reporting the STC, 418 youth were assigned to a Comprehensive School, a Transitional

School or Alternative Program to complete their academic requirements for a high school diploma or GED certificate. The remaining youth were enrolled in either a Charter School, a Middle School, attended a GED program or needed a specialized service.

The collaboration between the STC and SDPL continue with their efforts with assisting youth and their families with school assignments or with guidance so youth can meet their academic goals in a safe and enriched school program.

Private Criminal Complaint

Juvenile Probation continues to implement diversionary programs to assist youth, their families and our communities in resolving situations without police involvement. The Office of Private Criminal Complaints (PCC) continues with its diversionary practices to address complaints involving victimization without reaching the level of a police arrest. PCC works to mediate cases where a youth, between the ages of 10-17, allegedly committed a criminal act. The intention of PCC is the successful mediation between the parties so the matter does not progress to a formal court proceeding. The PCC mediation process is utilized to review the allegations, address accountability, discuss future goals, and implement community activities to resolve the conflict in a peaceful and safe manner. PCC recorded 640 private criminal complaints. Of the 640 complaints recorded, 503 hearings were conducted and resolved. PCC makes referrals to our Prevention Services Unit which offers community-based services, when appropriate, to families for additional guidance and support services to assist them with their needs. PCC continues to effectively produce successful outcomes with their mediation practices and with their diligence in serving the public.

Initiatives

Summer Jobs Program with Philadelphia Youth Network

Through a collaborative effort with the Department of Human Services and Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN), in July of 2015, Juvenile Probation hosted a series of Summer Employment Enrollment Sessions. Representatives from the School District and PYN were present to facilitate Work Ready assignments, as well as assist youth in obtaining their working papers. Work Ready Philadelphia is a system of programs that are supported by a broad-based partnership. The program is dedicated to building the region's future workforce. By assisting youth with the Work Ready application process, and finding a suitable work site, the Probation Department and PYN were able to secure 478 summer jobs for juvenile justice involved youth. Additionally, our older youth were placed in a retention based program, Youth Employment Pilot Project (YEPP), which resulted in 42 youth becoming employed in a fulltime position, or in a paid work experience where they learned the necessary skills for a position prior to a work site assignment.

A grand total 478 youth were engaged in meaningful employment during the summer of 2015.

Sports for Juvenile Justice (SJJ)

Beginning in 2011, the US Attorney's Office and Juvenile Probation collaborated on a creative effort to tailor a unique sports program for youth who were under court supervision. The program created a partnership with local agencies to enlist our youth in non-traditional sports such as golf, rowing, and tennis. This collaboration involved the Philadelphia Juvenile Probation Department, the University of Pennsylvania's Out of School Time Resource Center, The Palmer Group, and the Department of Human Services.

The premise behind the program is to structure these non-traditional sports as a way to foster our youth's social skills through team work, building self-esteem and accomplishing goals in ways never known to them. In recognition of the program's hard work, President Barack Obama met with one of our SJJ participants as part of his My Brother's Keeper's Initiative.

In the current 2015-16 fiscal year (from July – present), SJJ has already provided sports programming to 200 court involved youth. Providers ensured youth were transported and engaged in Legacy Tennis, Mid-Atlantic Youth Anglers (fishing), MVP360 (fitness and self-defense), Team Up Philly, Philadelphia City Rowing, and Village Champions (flag football).

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

In the spirit of advancing our youth's educational goals through generous support and contributions, the Probation Department held its second annual "Back to School Drive". During the month of August, the Department rallied around this endeavor and it was truly a successful event. Many of our youth are challenged not by their will to succeed, but by the lack of resources available to them. Not only were youth energized by the materials they received, but they were also grateful for the simple gesture of caring from all those who participated in the endeavor. This was yet another way that the Department was able to give back to juvenile justice involved youth who may not have been able to secure the necessary items for a successful school year. Items such as book bags, notebooks, folders, and pens were donated by Probation Officers for our youth.



Alternative to Secure Detention

Evening Reporting Centers (ERC's) are community-based alternative to detention programs. ERC's provide highly structured and well supervised group activities during high risk time periods. The ERC's engage youth in strength-based programming to promote court appearances and reduce the likelihood of re-arrests, while allowing the youth to remain at home and continue to attend their neighborhood school. In November, 2013 the Probation Department and DHS launched 2 ERCs, each providing gender-specific programming, one for males and one for females. There were 205 youth serviced at these locations in 2015, and only (seven) 7 of them were re-arrested while under supervision. The programs reported a 92.20% overall success rate.

Due to the success of the Pre-adjudicatory ERC, stakeholders spent 2015 developing and designing a Post-adjudicatory ERC program to serve as a community-based alternative to placement. The program will open for intake in early 2016.

Pre-adjudicatory Diversion Expungement Initiative

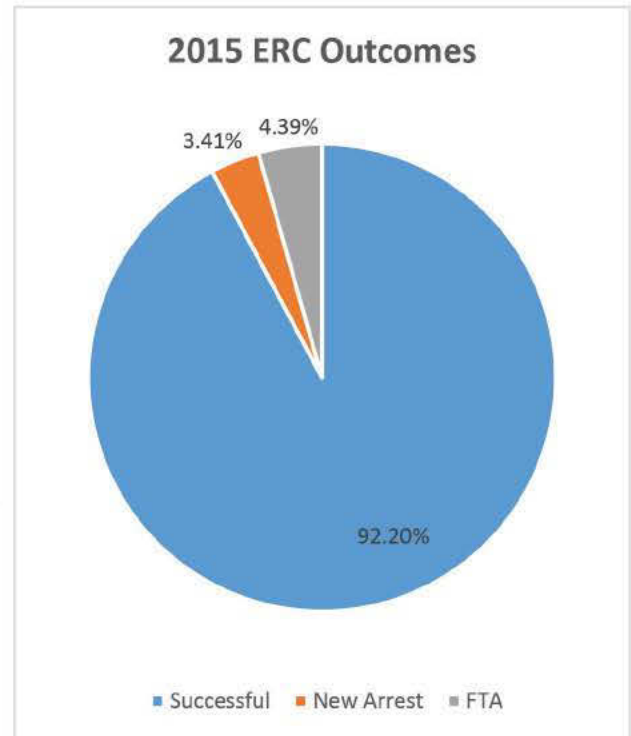
The pre-adjudicatory expungement initiative continued with 371 juvenile's records expunged. The expedited electronic expungement process is computer generated based on specific criteria, reviewed and approved via a file sharing procedure. The electronic expungement process was reinitiated for informal adjustments.

A total of 786 juvenile records were expunged through either a court hearing or the electronic process.

Law Enforcement Partners

The Probation Department continued its partnership with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The Department continues to be committed to Balanced and Restorative Justice Principles, and through its Armed Officer Units namely the Youth Violence Reduction Partners (YVRP), and the Juvenile Enforcement Team (JET), allows the Department to maintain a balanced commitment to both its social service focus and its law enforcement obligation. Through its Armed Officer Units, Juvenile Probation is able to focus on the most at-risk youth in our communities.

Combined, the Armed Officer Units of the First Judicial District conducted 887 bench warrant apprehension attempts of which 237 were apprehended. Enforcement efforts resulted in confiscations of 18 firearms as well as over \$64,000.00 worth of illegal narcotics. During the past 2 years the armed units have confiscated 43 illegal firearms and over \$86,000.00 worth of illegal controlled substances.



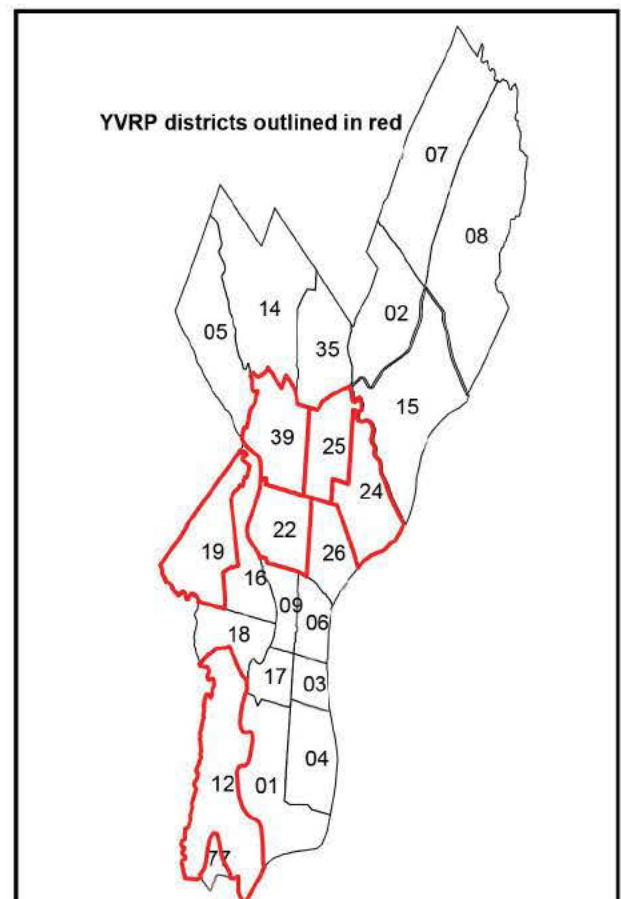
YOUTH VIOLENCE REDUCTION PARTNERS

The Youth Violence Reduction Partners (YVRP) Initiative attempts to keep all youth under YVRP probation “alive at 25” using two key strategies; (1) steer youth partners away from violence through close and intensive supervision and, (2) provide a youth partner with the necessary supports and services such as; education, employment, drug/alcohol treatment, and counseling services (which might also be provided for participants’ parents) to set them on a path to productive adulthood. These strategies are implemented by an Intervention Team consisting of probation officers, police, and mentors. Probation officers and police officers collectively conduct home visits which allows for community policing. The YVRP Unit probation officers supervise an intensive caseload of high risk youth between the ages of 14-20. The average caseload for officers in the YVRP Unit is 15-20 youth. The YVRP Unit operates in six (60 of the most violent Police Districts in the City of Philadelphia: 22nd, 24th, 25th, 39th, 19th and 12th.

The YVRP Unit collaborated with several community organizations, as well as local businesses, to empower youth partners on YVRP probation in gaining employment. Local organizations such as the Mural Arts GUILD, which focuses on beautifying city buildings, along with Power Corps PHL, and several local businesses, employed youth on YVRP probation. The YVRP Unit and The Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI) completed a Trauma/Wounded Officer Training at The Federal Building in Philadelphia.

In October 2015, YVRP entered a partnership with Pennsylvania State Police to start sharing intelligence.

YVRP officers intensively monitored over 160 youth and conducted 4,461 successful patrol contacts throughout the year. The unit also provided services and assistance to unescorted juveniles at connecting airports in route to their home or their demanding state.



Juvenile Enforcement Team



The JET Unit is comprised of probation officers who work in conjunction with Philadelphia police officers focusing on reducing gun and gang violence in the city of Philadelphia. The JET Unit identifies gun offenders and gang members currently under court supervision and also executes outstanding juvenile bench warrants. The JET Unit continued its collaboration with law enforcement agencies which included but was not limited to, the Philadelphia Police Department, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority Police (SEPTA), Office of the District Attorney of Philadelphia, US Marshals, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Drug Enforcement Agency, and a multitude of neighboring county Police Departments. The collaborations consisted of training, warrant initiatives, intelligence meetings, and assisting in numerous investigations.

The JET Unit focused some of its resources on partnering with the FBI Human Trafficking Task Force which addressed the widespread human trafficking epidemic. JET was instrumental in successfully locating numerous youth who were on juvenile bench warrant and also identified as being victims of human trafficking. JET's investigation training allowed them to debrief youth who were victims of human trafficking, while at the same time, gather intelligence on the identification of the perpetrators.

Victim Services

The Victims Service Unit (VSU) provides services to all victims of juvenile offenders. The core mission of VSU relies on the Balance and Restorative Justice (BARJ) principles and is dedicated to provide support and assistance to victims in all delinquent matters.

VSU has recently become involved in the Working to Restore Adolescents Power (WRAP) Program to assist and reintegrate this highly traumatized population back into the community. VSU has taken a pro-active role in human trafficking and has participated in city wide meetings to better service the victims. VSU has also lobbied the Victim Services Compensation Program (VCAP) to assist in tattoo removal for our youth.

VSU serviced close to 1,600 victims and their family members. The duties of the staff range from accompanying victims to court, notifying victims of upcoming court dates, preparing daily court lists so they can notify court staff of substantial restitution, informing victims as to which offenders were placed on Informal Adjustment and working with probation officers to collect restitution. Based on closed cases in PaJCMS, for 2015 VSU, along with the probation officers and placement care, were able to collect \$117,656.96 in restitution, which was distributed to victims of crime.

One of the main goals under the BARJ principles is to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions. VSU carefully monitors the restitution of our youth and works closely with the probation officers as well as the District Attorney's Office to make sure victims are being compensated.

Training Highlights

Training Hours

Juvenile probation officers completed more than 9,200 hours of training. All active probation officers exceeded the minimally required 40 hours of training. In addition to the many training hours devoted to the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), other trainings focused on information sessions on various programs, such as; autism in juvenile justice, mandated reporter training, trauma awareness, and interstate trainings.

Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES)

Philadelphia County continues to work through the stages of the JJSES by focusing on the goals of our implementation plan. Philadelphia County now has 5 YLS Master Trainers. Two (2) YLS booster trainings for staff were recently completed. Probation officers also completed four (4) Core Competencies conducted by the Carey Group. Family Involvement training was offered to probation staff. During 2015, with the assistance from a consultant, a Graduated Response workgroup was formed and the members are making great strides in formulating a Graduated Response system for the county.

James E. Anderson Annual Conference

Twenty staff members, including administration, supervisors, and line staff, attended the annual Juvenile Justice Conference in November 2015.

Internship Program

The student internship program at the Juvenile Probation Department aims to provide a well-rounded experience and educate students in all areas of juvenile probation and court services. This past year, 41 students participated in and benefited from an internship experience.

JCJC Shippensburg Graduate Education Program

The Training Unit coordinates with staff that attend the Shippensburg University graduate program offered through JCJC. Currently there four (4) juvenile probation officers enrolled in this program.

Specialty Courts

Crossover Court and Shared Case Responsibility

Shared Case Responsibility (SCR) is the practice of mutually providing care of and services to youth who are involved in both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Since 2011, juvenile probation officers and social workers assigned to a child have taken part in joint assessments meetings to develop a coordinated single case plan. During 2015, 254 joint assessment meetings were conducted that allowed all parties to participate in planning for the needs of youth and their families with multiple system involvement.

Crossover Court processed cases involving children adjudicated both dependent and delinquent, as well as cases in which there is a court ordered mandate for SCR. A total of 1,604 hearings were held in Crossover Court.

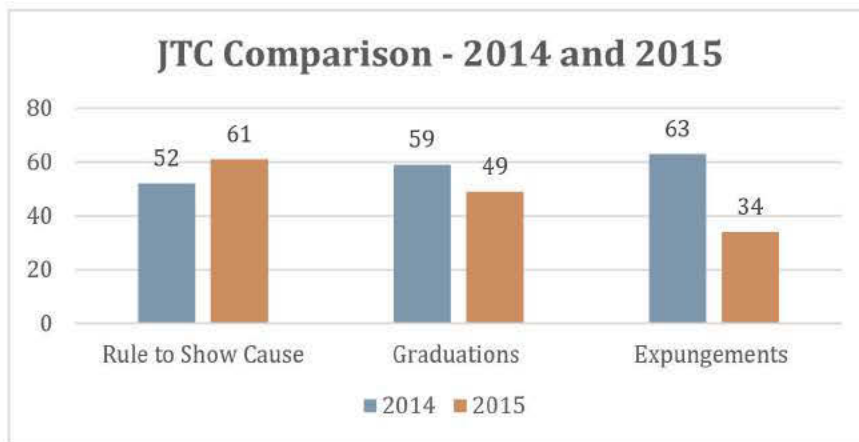
Juvenile Treatment Court

Juvenile Treatment Court (JTC) continues to provide positive support to juveniles who are experiencing problems with drug and alcohol dependency. Approximately 214 juvenile matters are heard in JTC monthly. The program presently has an active caseload inventory of 80 juveniles.

Participation in JTC is voluntary. Juveniles first agree to a stipulation of the facts of their case, and then enter into “deferred adjudication” status thereby avoiding the adverse consequences of an adjudication of delinquency. Juveniles participate in

regular treatment for their drug and alcohol dependency based on a drug assessment, which determines the level of treatment. Community Behavior Health determines the level of treatment and provides financial support for their treatment, either for inpatient or outpatient services. These juveniles are subject to intensive judicial oversight to monitor their progress both in treatment as well as their overall adjustment in the community, school and in the home. “Relapse” is a part of the dependency process. The juvenile will then be referred for inpatient treatment, when necessary, or terminated from the program for repeated infractions. JTC uses the graduated response model that emphasizes incentives and praise for positive behavior and sanctions for negative behaviors. Juveniles who remain arrest and drug free for one (1) year after graduating from the program will have a Motion for Expungement filed on their behalf.

Of the 58 juveniles that entered the program in 2015, 47 are still active participants, five (5) graduated successfully and four (4) juveniles were unsuccessfully discharged, due to a new offense. Two (2) juveniles voluntarily withdrew from the program.



JTC has expedited appropriate placement for many youth by streamlining the planning process. The Probation Department continues its active role with the Treatment Team and has been providing liaison services. In many instances when there was a Rule to Show Cause for termination from the program, the probation officers liaison was able to locate appropriate residential services immediately, eliminating the need for the juvenile to remain in detention.

Juvenile Human Trafficking Court – Working to Restore Adolescents Power (WRAP)

Philadelphia’s Juvenile Human Trafficking Court, Working to Restore Adolescents Power “WRAP”, is a pilot program in juvenile court, aimed at helping children with delinquency and/or dependency matters who have been identified by various criminal justice partners as being a victim of commercial sexual exploitation/human trafficking. This collaborative problem solving court is designed to address the specialized needs of trafficked children in an individualized trauma informed manner. As a part of the WRAP court design, hearings are less formal and more collaborative than traditional proceedings with the child actively engaged in the decision making process at every stage. A carefully constructed support team accompanies participants to the monthly status listings and work to facilitate their transition to independence.

In 2015, there were approximately thirty (30) cases in WRAP court, presided over by the Honorable Lori A. Dumas. The program was recognized by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and in Legal Intelligencer article, “Phila. Family Court Offers Hope for Young Victims of Trafficking”

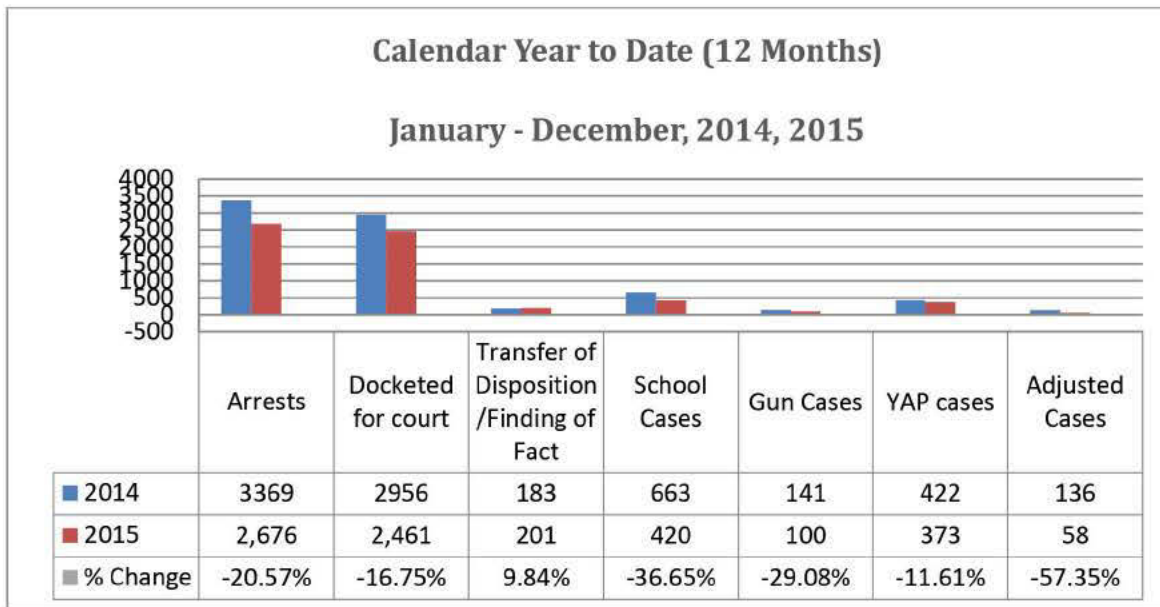
Outcome Measures

The Pennsylvania Juvenile Case Management System (PaJCMS) reflected the following data for juvenile cases closed in Philadelphia:

Outcome measures	2014	2015
closed cases	1545	1563
community service	15,362	15,750
median supervision no.	9.0 months	14.0 months
juveniles without a new offense at closure	1,220	1,244

The successful outcomes are attributable to the hard work of all the dedicated probation staff along with the collaborative work with all our stakeholders. The unique partnerships, the many diversion programs, the continuum of care, the community based services, and targeted initiatives, have all resulted in a significant decrease of arrests of juveniles.

JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES CENTER OUTCOME MEASURES



Family Court's Collaborative Initiatives

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives

Family Court continued its commitment to the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). JDAI focuses on safely reducing reliance on secure confinement and strengthening the Juvenile Justice System through a series of interrelated reform strategies. The Probation Department focused on four of the eight core initiative strategies: Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI), Graduated Response, Data, and Disproportionate Minority Contact. Task forces for the aforementioned core strategies were developed with Philadelphia Juvenile Justice stakeholders which resulted in significant milestones such as: the continued use of the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument to objectively screen all newly arrested youth to determine which youth can be safely supervised in the community; the continued success of the Pre-adjudicatory ERC for both male and female youth as an alternative to detention; the design and development of the city's first Post-adjudicatory ERC to serve as a community-based alternative to placement; improved data collection and data sharing; the award of a contract to produce an educational video regarding the juvenile justice system to help inform youth and families about juvenile justice processes; and continued partnership with the Philadelphia Police Department to implement the Philadelphia Police School Diversion Program that diverts youth that commit delinquent acts within the school to Intensive Prevention Services that would normally result in an arrest.

Academic Health Center

In November of 2014, a collaborative effort between the Philadelphia Family Court, Philadelphia Department of Human Services, and the School District of Philadelphia, was formed to create the Academic Help Center. The Academic Help Center is located at the Philadelphia Family Courthouse. The mission of the Academic Help Center is to bridge the gap between the three entities in order to assist our youth (dependent and delinquent) in obtaining educational stability as well as fostering a successful educational experience. The Academic Help Center works with youth and families referred by Family Court, as well as walk-ins, to support them with educational consults, educational records, alternative educational settings and assisting with referrals to the School District of Philadelphia for a variety of reasons (i.e. academic supports, counseling, physical, mental and behavioral health, community resources, specialized services, bullying issues, transfers/re-enrollments, high school selection process and much more). The customers serviced by the Academic Help Center include; court ordered Youth and Families, Probation Officers, Court Representatives, Legal Personnel, Philadelphia DHS, Community Umbrella Agencies (CUA's), Provider Agencies and anyone seeking educational assistance. In 2015, over 2,582 customers were served.

The goal of the Center is: **H**elping to unify Families, Schools and the Courts...**E**ducational Consults and Records...**L**inking to Supportive Services, Resources and Referrals...**P**ositive Partnerships and Outcomes...

University of Pennsylvania (Project PENN)

Project PENN, an innovative court-based outreach program for families awaiting dependency (child abuse and neglect) proceedings at Philadelphia Family Court. On two mornings a week University of Pennsylvania graduate students are present in the courthouse to help families find community-based resources to address the most common stressors that cause disruption in families and place children at risk for harm.

In the 2014-2015 program year, 288 individuals, families, or professionals on behalf of clients, received services from project penn.

Participating families have access to a comprehensive resource directory (developed and updated regularly by Field Center interns), web-based resources, and brochures on topics such as housing, employment, food, clothing, utility assistance, education, youth development services, and health services.

With the move to the new courthouse, Project Penn has adapted their outreach to the 4th and 5th floors. When services are accepted, Project Penn works on the identified concrete need of the client. In 2014-2015, Project Penn provided information and referral services to 288 clients. A 23% increase from 2013-2014. The most frequently requested services in 2014-2015 were housing, employment, utilities and general education. In instances when services were not accepted or needed, Project Penn staff distributed informational brochures on the program and its offerings.

Good Shepherd Mediation Program

Mediators from the Good Shepherd Mediation Program continued to facilitate Pre-Hearing Conferences (PHC) prior to all adjudicatory hearings this year. A Pre-Hearing Conference is an opportunity for all parties to meet and discuss placement, services and visitation in a neutral setting before entering the courtroom. After the PHC the mediator provides the recommendations of the parties to the Dependent Judge conducting the adjudicatory hearing to take into consideration when rendering a court order. In 2015, 86% of the prehearing conferences resulted in recommendations forwarded to the judge.

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) and the Behavioral Health Forensic Evaluation Center (BHFECE)

CBH and the BHFECE staff are located in the Courthouse. Providing behavioral health services on site to court involved children, youth and families allows for better communication between the Court, CBH and BHFECE, a more timely process, and keeps with the mission of “one-stop shop” for families who are at risk and often unable to navigate these complicated multiple systems. In 2015, in order to determine and treat the clinical needs of our families, over 1,100 behavioral health and psychiatric evaluations were performed.

Starting in 2014, CBH further extended services by creating a specialized team to collaborate with CUAs (Community Umbrella Agency) to ensure children, youth, and families have access to and are provided with quality behavioral health services, in their own communities. The role of the CBH CUA Care Coordination Team is to synthesize/formulate behavioral health information so that the respective CUA’s understand the context of experiences (trauma, mental health, addiction) and how it relates to current behaviors, symptoms, and need for treatment, to coordinate meetings with respective treatment providers when team meetings need to be held, or if behavioral health concerns are elevating to a point where immediate action needs to be taken, and to assist the CUAs in determining if higher levels of care are needed for children and youth.

675

Consultations with
Probation Officers

557

Delinquency Evaluations
Completed

548

Dependency Evaluations
Completed

3,195

Individuals in
Dependency Court
referred to Outpatient
Treatment by CBH.

24,556

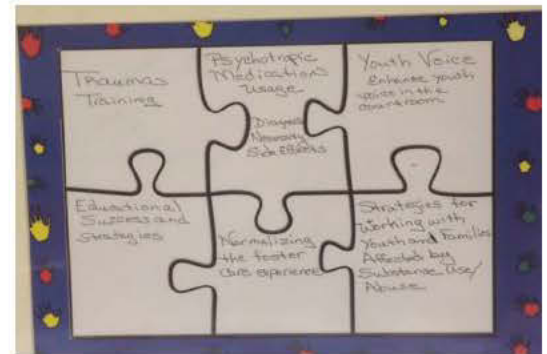
Hearings attended by
CBH Staff

THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

The mission of Philadelphia's Office of Children, Youth and Families is to create and maintain best practice standards and operations that ensure the protection, safety, and stability of all Philadelphia's children, youth, and families who enter the dependency system. Over the past year, the following initiatives have aided us in this mission. Some of the highlights for the year include:

THE PHILADELPHIA LOCAL ROUNDTABLE

With the support of the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts' (AOPC) Office of Children and Families in the Courts (OCFC), Family Court continued to make significant reforms to its child welfare system in 2015. The Philadelphia Local Roundtable (PLR), modeled after the AOPC statewide Roundtable is chaired by the Administrative and Supervising Judges of Family Court and the Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner. Representatives from DHS, the Department of Behavioral Health, the School District of Philadelphia, the Support Center for Child Advocates, the Child Advocacy Unit of the Philadelphia Defender's Association, the City Solicitors Office, Community Legal Services, local colleges and universities, hospitals and universities attended the quarterly Roundtable meetings.



In 2015, participants from the PLR attended the Children's Leadership Roundtable Summit, where several areas of focus were identified. Collaboratively, the PLR adopted three (3); Trauma Training, Educational Success/Tuancy, and Psychotropic Medication Usage for further discussion and presentation at the quarterly meeting.

PENNSYLVANIA PERMANENCY INITIATIVE (PPI) AND OLDER YOUTH

Although not formally defined in the Adoptions and Safe Families Act, APPLA is a term used to describe the case management plan for those youth in out of home care for whom there appears to be no family resources available. The majority of youth in this category are those nearing or achieving the age of majority. Disheartened by the statistics that youth leaving the child welfare system without family resources are destined to homelessness, incarceration, and a continued life of poverty, Family Court began an initiative in 2011 that provided our older youth in care with continued evidence-based services such as Family Finding, Family Group Decision Making, Grief and Loss Counseling, and Family Development Credentialing to ensure permanent and stable human connections upon their departure from dependent care. Since it is very difficult to find permanent placement for this population, a cohort of 50 youth living in out-of-home care was randomly selected.

As of December 2015, all of the original cohort's cases have been closed and their outcomes are listed below:

- 9 children (18%) reunified with a parent(s) or a guardian
- 2 children (4%) transferred to Adult Services
- 1 child (2%) was adopted



Effective February 3, 2015, all new dependency petitions filed and assigned to Courtroom 5D were identified as the PPI cohort. Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) was offered as an option for all families at the adjudicatory hearing stage. This allowed families to avail themselves of the opportunity to have expert counselors and practitioners from two on-site service providers to aid them in reaching the right decision for restoring their families and making informed decisions for the best interest of the child. At the end of 2015, 331 families were referred to FGDM, and 191 families participated in FGDM conferences.

Dependent Court Overview

The goal of the Pennsylvania Dependency system is “to ensure every child grows up in a safe, nurturing, and permanent family”. At every stage of the juvenile court proceeding, the courts obligation is to act in the best interest of the child. Every day Family Court works toward this goal, by reunifying children with their parents, placing them with relatives or other kin, or by finding suitable placements for them in their own neighborhoods. Dependent case activity can be seen in appendix A.

Case Volume & Court Performance

- Increases in Dependency filings. A total of 3,889 dependency cases were filed in 2015. A 13% increase from 2014. The number of dependency filings has steadily increased over the past three years.
- Cases Adjudicated Dependent increased an additional 17% when compared to 2014.
- Ninety day review hearings for compliance increased by 19% in 2015; over 31,000 hearings were scheduled
- A total of 2,278 Adjudicated Dependent Cases were closed, terminated from court supervision. A 22% increase from 2014.
- The “Goal of Family Reunification” is the preferred permanency option for children in the dependency system. In 2015, the goal of Family Reunifications increased by 113% (239), compared to 2014 (112).
- The “Goal of Adoption” increased by 20% in 2015, a 51% increase over the past three years.
- Of the children under the courts supervision at the end of 2015, 50% remained at home or were in kinship care, 34% were in foster care, 11% were in congregate care, and the remainder either in a detainment center or hospital, according to case reports.
- The number of children in home or in kinship care increased by 3.9% from 2014 year end.
- Congregate Care continues a multi- year trend downward.

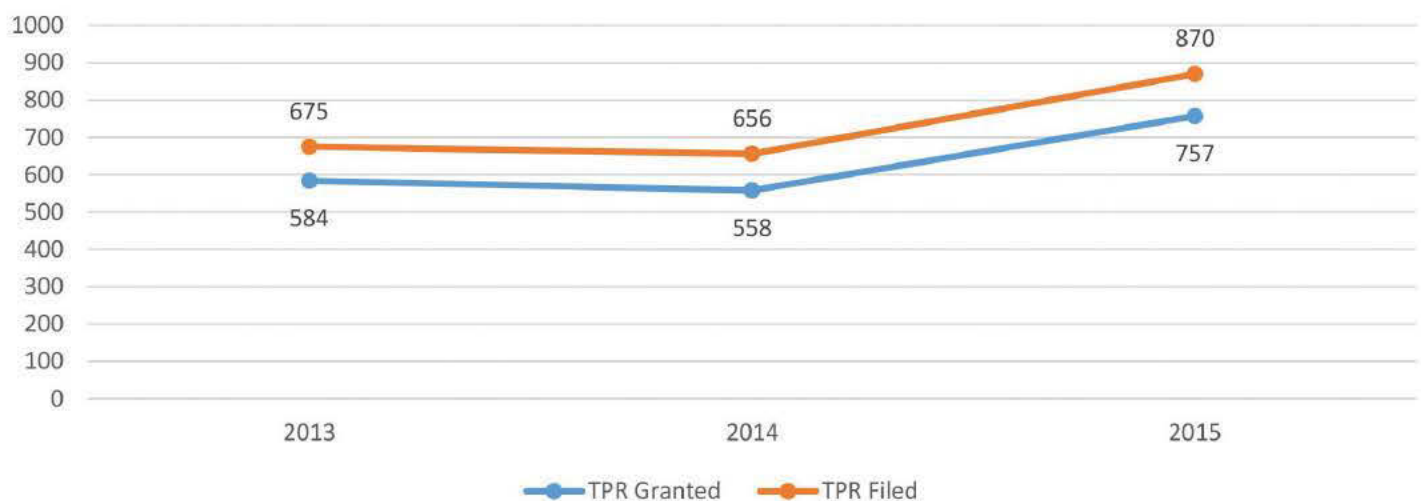
In October 2015, Administration took a series of proactive measures to address the increase in dependency activity and caseloads. Overall juvenile court activity is being closely monitored to best utilize judicial and operational resources. The actions taken included:

- Transitioning a specialized dependency courtroom into a core dependent courtroom.
- Transitioning a judge from delinquency matters to dependency matters to hear special dependency list: Orders for Protective Custody, Master Appeals, and Uncontested Goal Change Terminations (4th Continuance out of Pre-Trial Conference).
- Appointing a master to hear all dependency cases with a goal of APPLA (Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement).
- Ongoing meetings with the Philadelphia Department of Human Services, the Office of Children and Families in the Courts, and Stakeholders Leadership to strategize and improve courtroom efficiency and case outcomes.

TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

Once it is determined the goal of family reunification is not possible, adoption may be named as the desired case permanency plan goal. Adoption can only be named as a permanency plan goal when the Termination of Parental Rights Petition is granted and when the goal change petition is granted.

TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ACTIVITY 2013-2015



- Petitions for the Termination of Parental Rights filed increased 33% in 2015
- 199 more or 38% more Termination of Parental Rights petitions were granted in 2014 than in 2015 After Adoption is formally named as the goal, the case enters the Accelerated Adoption Review Court, a specialized dependency courtroom focused on achieving permanency.



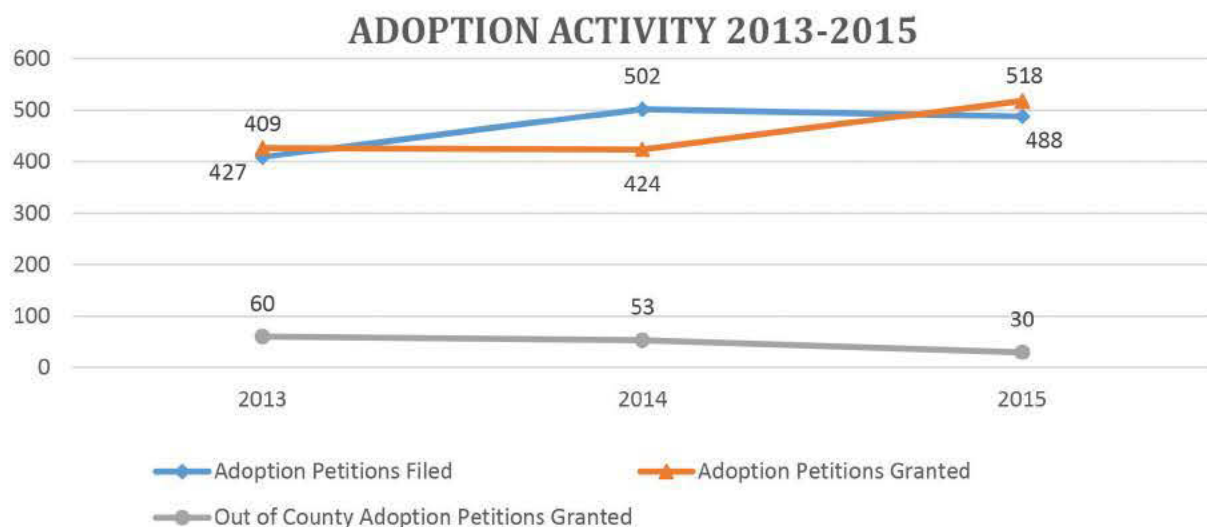
Accelerated Adoption Review Court (AARC)

Pursuant to 20 Pa. C.S. 713, Philadelphia County is the only county in the state in which the Family Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas has exclusive jurisdiction over adoption matters. The Adoptions Branch is responsible for accurately and expeditiously processing, scheduling and reviewing all petitions to ensure compliance with the Pennsylvania Adoption Act and the Orphan's Court Rules. The Adoptions Branch continues to monitor enhancements to the Adoption Act, which include; one judge to preside over all matters pertaining to Finalizations of Adoptions, masters to oversee matters pertaining to the Accelerated Adoption Review Court (AARC) proceedings, and pre-trial "Best Interest" hearings to address barriers to Adoption prior to Finalization hearings.

The Adoptions Branch staff:

- Works with masters in the AARC courtroom to insure the best interests of the children are being met and that any impediments (Profiles/Medical Exams) prior to the filing of the petition are being properly addressed.
- Monitors the AARC caseload to ensure timeliness of disposition.

Adoptions



- Adoption petitions granted increased by 23%.

ADOPTION CELEBRATION- NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

On November 20, 2015, Supervising Judge Walter J. Olszewski and Judge Jonathan Irvine presided over the adoptions of nineteen (19) children at a ceremony in recognition of National Adoption Day. After the adoption finalization hearings, a celebration was held at the Friends Center, Rufus Jones Conference Room. The ceremony was emceed by Vai Sikahema, from NBC 10 and included remarks from Councilwoman Cindy Bass, and Mr. Gary Williams, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Human Services. This annual event recognizes the collaborative efforts of the courts, child-welfare agencies, child-welfare advocates, policy makers and foster families to finalize adoptions and to find permanent homes for children with “forever families”.



SPECIALIZED SERVICES UNITS

PREVENTION SERVICES UNIT

The Prevention Services Unit (PSU) is a prevention program which serves families and children who voluntarily access the Court for assistance. An array of community and evidence-based resources are discussed including supportive services such as parent support and advocacy, parenting classes, school services, and mental health services. An assessment of what is causing the problematic behavior is conducted by a PSU Social Worker. PSU then makes contact with Department of Human Services (DHS) electronically. Services are then initiated by either Family Empowerment Services (FES) at DHS Children & Youth Division or Intensive Prevention Services (IPS) at DHS Juvenile Justice Division depending on the severity or special needs of the family. Since 2014, DHS has shared information regarding families referred by PSU. Consequently, PSU now is prepared for any follow-up contacts, requests for additional services by returning families, or if DHS has referred the families back to PSU to consider court involvement. This assists in tracking outcomes and contributes to the development of best practices in serving families.

544

Families Assessed in the PSU and referred to appropriate services

86

Families Accepted DHS Services

TRUANCY

Philadelphia's response to truancy is a collaborative partnership between the City, the Court, the Department of Human Services (DHS), and the School District of Philadelphia (SDP) to prevent, address, and reduce chronic truancy and increase school attendance. The partnership meets on a quarterly basis to refine, adapt, and enhance the services provided to chronically truant students and their families. Hearings are held by court-appointed Truancy Masters at four regional truancy courts and order appropriate social and educational services to help the family combat the barriers that led to chronic truancy. Each family receives management services to assist them with re-engagement in the child's education. If truancy continues, Family Court will hold additional hearings.

Highlights relating to the efforts of the Truancy collaborative include:

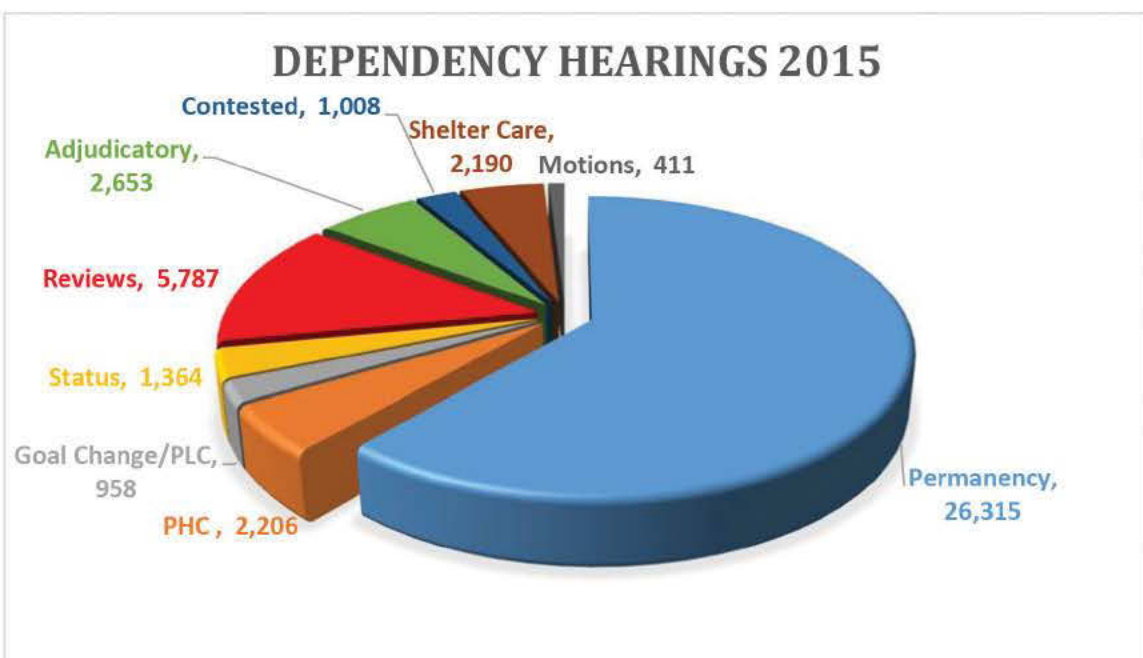
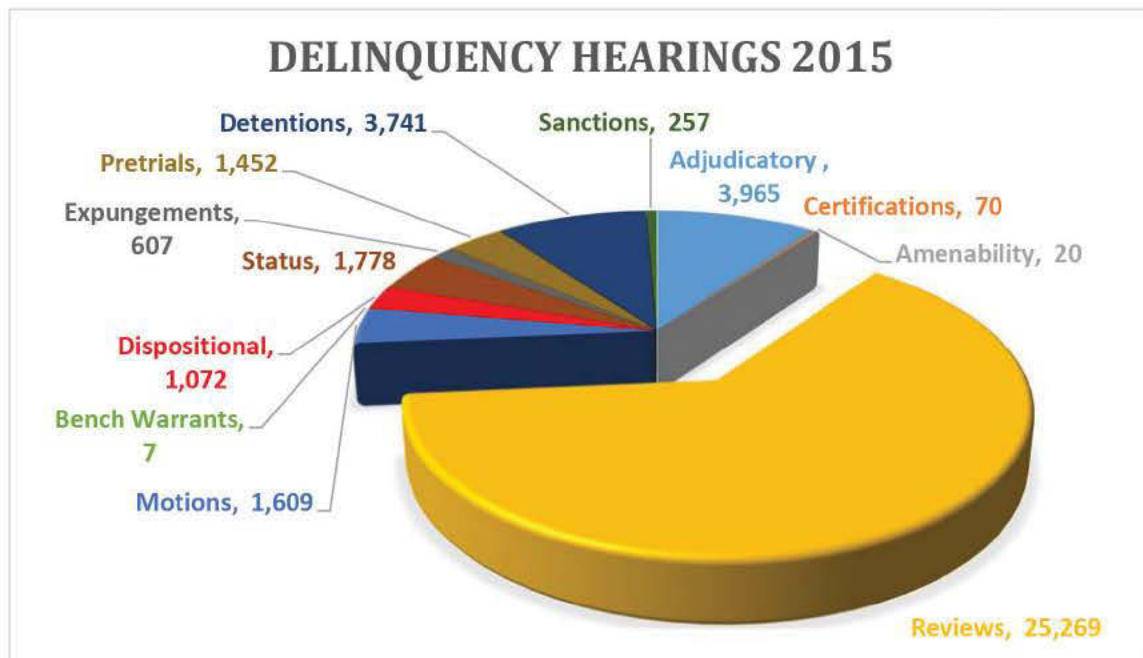
- SDP updated their Truancy Prevention Intervention Protocol and continues to provide training in evidence-based behavioral interventions.
- DHS now provides Pre-Truancy and Truancy Services to the SDP and 10 Charter Schools through an established three (3) tier system.
- The Truancy Collaborative presented at the Local Children's Roundtable
- Family Court created a truancy manual and converted to a new web-based computer system to better track case processing and capture statistics.



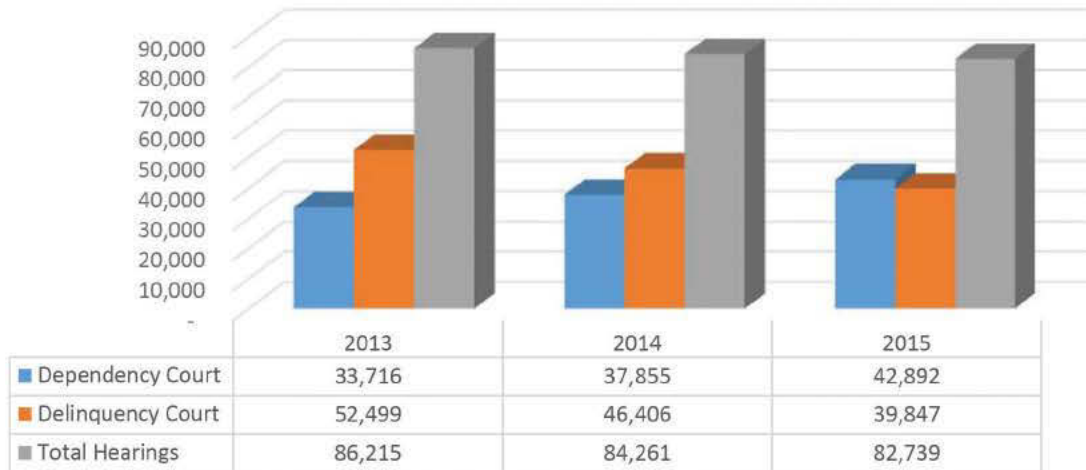
Court Operations

Dependent and Delinquent Court Operations Units

The Dependent and Delinquent Court Operations Units (DDCO) are responsible for the coordination of courtroom operations providing direct support and services to the bench, and/or the public/court users. The charts below detail the types of hearings that are staffed and managed by DDCO.



JUVENILE BRANCH HEARING ACTIVITY 2013-2015



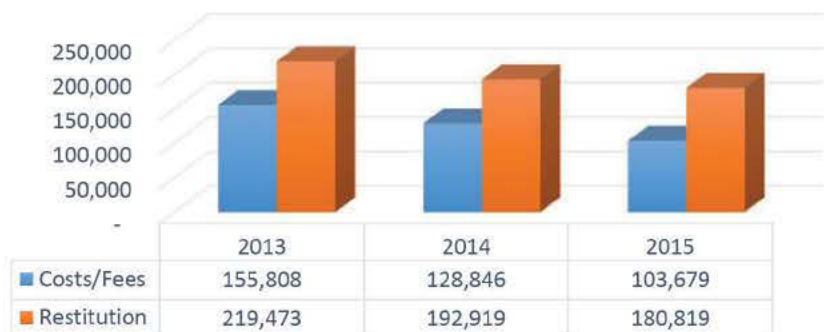
Substance Analysis Unit

The Substance Analysis Unit is responsible for all court ordered specimen testing and services the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Branches of Family Court. The timeliness of the testing and reporting of results is critical to the determination of primary issues in cases before the Family Court. In 2015, the unit tested 19,090 youth and adults.

Fiscal Unit

The Fiscal Unit provides financial support services to the Juvenile Probation Department, juvenile facilities, and juvenile agencies. The unit is responsible for the collection and processing of fines, fees, and restitutions ordered by the Court, reconciling and depositing daily receipts, preparing monthly bank reconciliations, and auditing CPCMS balances. The unit also monitors court orders such as (remits, reduced to judgment, vacate, revoke and waive) that affects the financial statements. The Fiscal Unit processed over 2,913 payments for juvenile restitution payments, court costs and fines totaling \$284,498 in 2015.

ANNUAL COLLECTIONS 2013-2015



Appendix A – Dependency Case Activity

Philadelphia Family Court

Abuse /Neglect and Status Offense Inventory – For Year End

	<u>2013</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>Total</u>
<u>Active Dependency Case Inventory - Pending Adjudication</u>			
Inbound Cases			
Cases Pending From Prior Period	239	216	319
Cases Filed	2,628	3,055	3,463
Cases Reopened- New Petition Filed	447	414	426
Total Inbound Cases	3,075	3,469	3,889
Total of Active Pending Cases (Includes Inventory):	3,314	3,685	4,208
Outbound Cases			
Cases Adjudicated Dependent	2,630	3,011	3,500
Cases Adjudicated Not Dependent	437	354	441
Cases Withdrawn	5	1	1
Miscellaneous	30	0	0
Total of Active Pending Cases Processed	3,102	3,366	3,942
Total Active Cases Available for Processing:	212	319	266
<u>Adjudicated Dependency Case Inventory</u>			
Inbound Cases			
Cases Pending From Prior Period	4,480	5,262	6,407
New Active Adjudications of Dependency	2,630	3,011	3,500
Dependency Jurisdiction Resumed	0	20	9
Miscellaneous	55	1	0
Total Adjudicated Dependent Inbound Cases	2,685	3,032	3,509
Total of Active/ Adjudicated Cases:	7,165	8,294	9,916
Outbound Cases			
Cases Where Court Supervision Was Terminated	1,843	1,871	2,270
Cases Transferred to Other Jurisdiction	18	9	8
Cases Withdrawn	8	6	0
Miscellaneous	37	0	0
Total of Active/Adjudicated Cases Removed from Inventory	1,906	1,886	2,278
Total Active Cases Remaining Active/Adj. Dependent:	5,259	6,408	7,638
	=====	=====	=====

Source: CPCMS Report 3920 (2015 report dated 1/28/16)

Quick Facts – Juvenile

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
<i>Juvenile Petition Filings</i>			
Delinquent Filings			
New Filings (Dockets Created)	4,770	3,572	2,897
Dependent Filings			
New Abuse/Neglect and Status Offense Filings	3,075	3,469	3,889
Adoption Filings			
New Adoption Filings	409	502	489
Relinquishments	<u>675</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>870</u>
Total Adoption Filings	1,084	1,158	1,359
Total Juvenile Petition Filings	8,929	8,199	8,145
<i>Yearly Hearing Activity</i>			
Dependency Court	33,716	37,855	42,892
Delinquency Court	<u>52,499</u>	<u>46,406</u>	<u>39,847</u>
Total Juvenile Hearings	86,215	84,261	82,739
<i>Yearly Activity by Unit or Support Service</i>			
Juvenile Probation			
Youth on Probation	3,374	2,939	2,496
Field Contacts	28,296	25,209	36,826

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Diversion			
Youth Aid Panel	632	422	373
Informal Adjustments	213	136	58
JCJC Outcome Measures			
Closed Cases	1,593	1,545	1,563
Community Service Hours Completed	15,671	15,362	15,750
Juveniles Without A New Offense*	1,244	1,220	1,244

**Resulting in a Consent Decree, Adjudication of Delinquency, or Finding of Guilt.*

Quick Facts

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
<i>Yearly Activity by Unit or Support Service</i>			
Victim Services Unit (VSU)			
Victims and Families Served	1,628	1,884	1,595
Victim Addresses Added to JCMS System*	1,979	1,608	1,776
Court Accompaniments	13	120	64
CPCMS Restitution to Victims (held back)	\$15,465.05	\$8,585.32	\$ 6,146.68
Prevention Services Unit			
Families Served	641	470	544
Families/Children receiving DHS Services	205	109	86
Project Start Truancy			
Total Hearings at Regional Courts and Courthouse(s)	10,068	10,296	10,730
Total Cases Discharged	2,991	3,141	3,416
Substance Abuse Unit			
Court Ordered Specimen Testing	22,313	20,157	19,090
Fiscal Unit Collections			
Restitution Payments	219,473	192,919	180,819
Court Costs/Fees	<u>155,808</u>	<u>128,846</u>	<u>103,679</u>
Total Fiscal Unit Collections	\$ 375,281	\$ 321,765	\$ 284,498

**Address entry is automatically done via CPCMS, on current cases with a restitution order*

Domestic Relations Branch

The Domestic Relations Branch has jurisdiction over paternity establishment; child and spousal support order establishment, order modification and enforcement; custody; divorce and domestic violence matters. Under the leadership of Deputy Court Administrator, Mary Lou Baker; Directors, Joseph C. Kamnik, Jr.; Roy C. Chambers; Joseph P. McGill, Esq.; Joseph McHugh; and Edward V. Lehmann, Jr., the Domestic Relations Branch consists of over 30 operational units. DCA Baker is also responsible for carrying out initiatives identified by the Court Administrator of the FJD, in addition to working directly with the Administrative Judge and Supervising Judge of Family Court. Twelve (12) judges and one (1) Senior Judge are assigned to Domestic Relations to preside over all support, custody, divorce and domestic violence matters, including criminal abuse matters. The Domestic Relations Branch utilizes state of the art case management techniques that enhance timely case processing, increase performance measures, collect child support, establish paternity and secure medical support for children.

There were more than 79,000 total filings in the Domestic Relations Branch (19,598 custody, 36,584 support, 10,101 domestic violence and 13,211 divorce) and more than 85,000 interim and final orders entered (26,431 custody, 27,901 support, 28,102 domestic violence, and 3,036 divorce).

The Domestic Relations Branch exceeded the 80% threshold in all performance areas and was instrumental in ensuring that the state of Pennsylvania remained the most efficient and effective Child Support Enforcement program in the country.

Paternity Establishment = 97.10%

Support Order Establishment = 80.39%

Current Collections = 80.37%

Arrears Collections = 80.71%

The Title IV-D Child Support Enforcement Program

Mission Statement

Partnering with the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) and the State Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE), the mission of the Child Support Enforcement Program within the Domestic Relations Branch is to increase the reliability of child support paid by non-custodial parents by: locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing and enforcing realistic support orders, increasing health care coverage for children, and removing barriers to support payments, such as referring non-custodial parents to employment and educational services. Child support orders are established and enforced in accordance with federal, state and local rules and statutes. In Pennsylvania, the Child Support Enforcement Program utilizes a statewide computer system, PACSES, to establish, monitor and enforce support orders.

Federal Performance Measures

Since Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2000, the OCSE has assessed the effectiveness of Child Support programs and calculated state incentive payments based on the performance measures as mandated in the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act (CSPIA) of 1998. Performance of 80% or above in each performance measure is required and penalties are incurred if the minimum performance level is not achieved.

The key performance measures are as follows:

- **Paternity Establishment** – all active children on IV-D cases that were born out of wedlock and have had paternity established divided by all active children on IV-D cases that were born out of wedlock
- **Support Order Establishment** – open IV-D cases with orders divided by open IV-D cases
- **Current Collections** – total amount of current support collected and disbursed divided by the total amount of current child support due
- **Arrears Collections** – IV-D cases with payments disbursed towards arrears divided by the total number of IV-D cases with arrears due

Paternity Establishment

The establishment of paternity is the first step toward determining the child support obligation. In Pennsylvania, there is no legal relationship between the alleged father of a child born out of wedlock unless and until a valid Acknowledgement of Paternity, signed by both parties, is validated and on record with the BCSE; or the court enters an order establishing paternity. Acknowledgements of paternity may be entered voluntarily, or can be completed in-hospital, at the time of the child's birth. Once paternity is established, the child may be eligible for any of the following:

- Birth Certificate – child's birth certificate will show name of father
- Health Care Benefits – if available, the father may be able to include the child under his health care plan
- Social Security – the child may be eligible to receive Social Security benefits if the father becomes disable or dies
- Inheritance – upon death of the father, a child may have the right to inherit from his estate
- U.S. Military benefits – the child may be entitled to benefits as a result of the father's military service
- Child Support – the court may establish an order for the father to support the child until the child is emancipated

Utilizing rules and statutes governing paternity establishment, the court may enter default paternity orders or use genetic testing to establish the paternity of a child. During the order establishment process, conference officers routinely establish paternity for children born out of wedlock by executing acknowledgements of paternity or scheduling genetic tests. This testing procedure is non-invasive, i.e., the body is not pierced by any instrument. The instrument used to collect a buccal swab is a cotton or Dacron™. The procedure involves gently stroking the lining of the inner cheek (buccal mucos) with the applicator. The tissues collected on the swab are buccal epithelial cells that are continually shed as a normal physiological process and are normally present in saliva. These cells contain the DNA required to perform parentage testing. Typically four (4) swabs are collected from each individual in a case, two (2) are used for initial testing, which is usually adequate to

finish a case; and the remaining two (2) are stored indefinitely. There are no age restrictions on individuals from whom specimens are to be drawn. Currently, buccal swabs are used on one-day-old infants as part of in-hospital acknowledgement programs. Because some intergovernmental jurisdictions may not currently utilize Buccal Specimen Collection, it may be necessary to collect blood specimens in reciprocal cases. The Domestic Relations Branch also has access to the Pennsylvania Paternity Tracking System (PTS) that allows them to research and view in-hospital Acknowledgements of Paternity.

The Genetic Testing Lab located in Family Court conducted more than 4,500 DNA paternity tests.

Support Order Establishment/Modification

36,584
Total Support Filings
17,529
New Complaints for Support
43,891
Conferences Scheduled
10,909
Record Hearings Conducted
1,430
Support Exceptions Filed

In a continuing effort to improve performance and increase support collections, all conference officers manage their assigned portion of the child support caseload. Officers conduct establishment, modification and enforcement conferences in accordance with the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil procedure and are expected to effectively manage their caseload by establishing realistic orders, and by utilizing the Pennsylvania Automated Child Support Enforcement System (PACSES), and other ancillary applications to ensure compliance.

There were more than 36,000 support filings, including 17,529 new complaints for support and 10,546 petitions to modify an existing support order.

Each new complaint is scheduled for an establishment conference which is conducted under Pennsylvania Rule of Civil Procedure (Pa. R.C.P.)1910.12. If no agreement for support is reached at the conference, or if the defendant fails to appear, the conference officer may enter an interim support order based on the support

guidelines as allowed by Pa. R.C.P. 1910-12 (b)(1)(2). If paternity of an out of wedlock child is denied, genetic testing will be ordered and the case listed for court to resolve the paternity issue. Conference officers also hold conferences on claims for spousal and child support raised in a divorce action and process stipulations and orders for alimony payments.

If the matter is not resolved at the establishment conference, the case is scheduled for a hearing before one of the nine (9) quasi-judicial support masters assigned to Domestic Relations. All support masters are licensed attorneys who conduct record hearings (by audio-recording). At the conclusion of the hearing, the master prepares a "proposed order," which is the master's recommendation to the court.

Issuance of the proposed order starts a twenty (20) day period during which either or both sides may file "exceptions" to the proposed order. Exceptions is a document in which a party specifies the mistakes of law, fact or procedure that the party believes were made by the master in the report and proposed order and/or during the hearing.

There were 10,909 record hearings conducted before a support master and there were 1,430 support exceptions filed. Under certain circumstances a case can also be "remanded" to the master by a judge after a court hearing on exceptions.

Support Order Enforcement – Collection of Current and Past Due Support

Conference officers routinely monitor and track all child support orders in their assigned caseload to ensure compliance. Support orders are electronically monitored through the Pennsylvania Automated Child Support Enforcement System (PACSES) for payments. Efforts are taken to encourage compliance as soon as the order is entered. If necessary, progressive enforcement remedies are taken. When accounts become delinquent, obligors may be scheduled for enforcement conferences, contempt conferences, or judicial contempt hearings, depending on the circumstances or the severity of the delinquency. There were approximately 18,000 enforcement conferences scheduled before conference officers. Domestic Relations judges presided over approximately 9,000 contempt of support hearings. The underlying objective of the child support enforcement process is to compel payment, and encourage ongoing compliance, so that child support payments become a consistent source of income for families and children.

17,980
Enforcement Conferences scheduled
5,491
Contempt Petitions filed
8,781
Contempt Hearings scheduled
\$153,081,105
Total Collections

Cases that meet certain criteria for automated enforcement are selected for one or more of the following enforcement remedies: Income attachment, Federal and Pennsylvania tax intercepts, Credit Bureau Reports, Driver's License Suspensions, Professional License Suspensions, Financial Institution Data Matches, Passport Denials, Property Liens, and Lottery Interceptions.

New Employment Opportunities for Noncustodial Parents (NEON)

In 2004, under the state funded New Employment Opportunities for Noncustodial Parents (NEON) program, the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement, Family Court, and Educational Data Systems, Inc. (EDSI) formed a partnership to address employment barriers faced by many of Philadelphia's child support obligors.

Since 2004, 5948 unemployed obligors have been enrolled in the NEON program.

84% of the obligors who complete the program find jobs with an average hourly wage of \$10.32, and 48% of those jobs provide medical coverage

Since 2004, obligors who have completed the NEON program have paid more than \$27,000,000 in child support.

Under this partnership, NEON awards Philadelphia 500 job training and job placement slots annually. The Domestic Relations Branch created the Networking for Jobs and Ex-offender Reentry Program to promote responsible parenthood and improve work opportunities for unemployed obligors. The Networking for Jobs and Ex-offender Reentry Program helps unemployed obligors find and keep full time employment by connecting them with EDSI.

EDSI provides career counseling, job readiness classes, peer support, job placement, and on-going contact with a career counselor. The Networking for Jobs and Ex-offender Reentry Program has since expanded its outreach to include other job providers outside the NEON program; including CareerLink, the Mayor's Office of Community Service (MOCS) Fatherhood Initiative, and People for People.

Since 2004, 5,948 unemployed obligors have been enrolled in the NEON program. This partnership has enabled 84% of the obligors who completed the EDSI program to find jobs with an average hourly wage of \$10.32 and 48% of those jobs provided medical benefits.

As of June 2015, the total life-to-date collections for obligors successfully completing the NEON program was \$27,091,603.34.

Pennsylvania Child Support Enforcement System (PACSES) Enhancements:

Enterprise Content Management/PACSES Imaging

In 2015, Pennsylvania's Department of Human services (DHS) implemented an Enterprise Content Management (ECM) system for Domestic Relations Sections and the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE). ECM provides all DHS offices with the infrastructure necessary to scan and manage electronic documents. BCSE's portion of ECM is known as PACSES Imaging.

Major components of PACSES Imaging include:

- Automated indexing of documents through barcodes
- Automatic uploading of forms generated by PACSES
- Work tracking within PACSES Imaging through tasks
- Preprogrammed retention guidelines
- Shared image repository access statewide
- Automated and manual document redaction

Implementation of PACSES Imaging began with a phased rollout in Philadelphia, Allegheny and York counties. Leading up to implementation, Philadelphia County DR staff was actively involved in the planning and preparation, including participating in regularly scheduled meetings with BCSE, and conducting in-house training sessions for all pertinent staff. Since implementation, PACSES Imaging has increased the efficiency of operations by enabling a "near paperless" system of records management.

Payment Score Calculator Enhancements

Payment Score Calculator (PSC) is an early intervention tool developed and deployed in 2011 that provides DRS staff with information needed to develop strategies to improve collections. PSC predicts the likelihood that an obligor will pay 80% of current support within three months of establishing a new or modified order.

Enhancements were made to PSC to ensure all open cases have a payment score and automate the generation of payment scores for all cases on an ongoing basis. Payment scores are now updated automatically for each case, every 90 days.

These enhancements help to increase the effectiveness of PSC as a tool for developing case management strategies.

Pennsylvania Title IV-D Cooperative Agreement

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, the County Commissioners, and the Domestic Relations Section of the County Courts of Common Pleas, entered into a new Title IV-D Cooperative Agreement for the period October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2020. The agreement establishes the functional guidelines of responsibility for state and county IV-D agencies, and determines the basis for funding at the county level.

Administrative Judge Margaret T. Murphy and Joseph Kamnik, Director, were part of the workgroup that prepared the 2015-2020 Cooperative Agreement. The workgroup began discussion in September, 2014 and completed its work on the final draft of the agreement in March, 2015.

E-Services

E-services has reduced the number of walk-in clients for the Intake Unit; resulting in expeditious service to clients. The Intake Unit is processing on an average 135 E- service cases monthly. E-services has been very successful in giving clients an alternate way to file their complaints and petitions.

Since its implementation, E-filing services have expanded in the Intake Unit. Clients are able to easily file new complaints for support, petitions to modify current support orders, recovery petitions for overpayments, and file requests to withdraw their petitions when necessary.

Custody Responsibilities

The judges and custody masters assigned to the Domestic Relations Branch preside over all custody related matters, including, but not limited to, primary custody, partial custody, contempt of custody and relocation matters. Resolution of child custody disputes is one of the more sensitive and emotionally charged functions of the Domestic Relations Branch.

All petitions seeking to establish a custody order or to modify an existing order are referred to the Master's Unit by the Clerk of Family Court and the Intake Unit. There were more than 19,500 custody related filings filed with the Domestic Relations Branch, including approximately 9,000 complaints seeking to establish or modify a custody order. The Domestic Relations Branch increased its complement of quasi-judicial Custody Masters to nine (9) attorneys, who conduct conferences and record hearings in child custody cases. The additional staffing has enabled the Domestic Relations Branch to increase its weekly case listings from 128 to 256 at the Masters level, and to dramatically enhance its ability to respond to a demanding caseload. There were more than 10,000 events scheduled in the Custody Masters' Unit.

If an agreement is not reached at the master's conference, the master may in some cases, direct the parties to a judge for a same-day hearing. More than 450 cases were referred to court directly from the masters hearing. Where no final agreement is reached at the conference, the matter will be listed for a full judicial hearing. There were approximately 11,500 custody related judicial events scheduled. Through the efforts of the custody masters and judges, more than 26,000 final and interim dispositions were entered.

19,598
Total Custody Filings
10,037
Events scheduled - Masters
11,508
Events scheduled - Judicial
26,431
Custody Dispositions entered
(Interim and Final)

Family Court Help Center



In April 2015 the Family Court Help Center was opened as a resource for pro se litigants to obtain forms and information related to domestic relations matters. Staffed by volunteer attorneys from the Philadelphia Family Law Section, Women Against Abuse, and Philadelphia Legal Assistance, the Help Center is located in the office of the Clerk of Family Court on the 11th floor of 1501 Arch Street, and open from 12:00pm to 3:00pm on normal Family Court business days. Although the initial focus of the Help Center is to provide assistance in custody cases, forms and informational materials are also available for all other domestic relations case types.



DIVORCE

The Domestic Relations Branch has jurisdiction over all facets of divorce proceedings. These include the entry of decrees in divorce and annulments and resolutions of all economic claims arising from divorce actions. Domestic Relations Judges hear all divorce motions, including motions for discovery, substituted service, specific relief, and enter orders approving grounds for divorce. Economic claims arising from divorce actions, such as equitable distribution, alimony, and counsel fees and costs are initially heard by our two (2) experienced divorce masters, who conduct non- record hearings. If an agreement is not reached before the divorce master, a proposed Order and Decree is issued and a party may file for a trial de novo before a Domestic Relations judge.

There were 1,732 new Complaints in Divorce filed and there were 1,497 Divorce Complaints disposed. In addition to new Divorce Complaints, there were 11,479 divorce related pleadings (contested and uncontested) filed within the Domestic Relations Branch.

1,732

New Divorce Complaints filed

1,497

Divorce Complaints disposed

11,749

Related pleadings filed
(Contested and uncontested)



Domestic Violence

Responsibilities

The Domestic Violence Unit is a *pro se* filing unit designed to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Unit conducts interviews with petitioners and prepares Protection from Abuse (PFA) Petitions, which are then submitted to Domestic Relations Judges for review and, if appropriate, the entry of a Temporary PFA Order. Domestic Relations Division Judges hear cases involving domestic violence between family members, or between parties who have had an intimate relationship. Domestic Relations Judges also conduct hearings to vacate or extend restraining orders, and in contempt of PFA orders, both criminal and civil. In 2015, PFA petitions seeking the entry of an order totaled 10,101. In 2015, Domestic Relations' Judges presided over approximately 19,000 domestic violence related events.

10,101
New PFA petitions filed
9,829
Temporary Orders Entered
9,912
Final Orders entered

Judges assigned to the Domestic Relations Division conduct criminal trials on cases charging defendants with indirect criminal contempt for violation of a protection order entered pursuant to the Protection from Abuse Act. In 2015, Domestic Relations Judges conducted approximately 3,000 hearings in criminal abuse cases.

Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation Act (PSVI)

On July 1, 2015, the Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation (PSVI) Act (42 Pa. C.S. § 62A) went into effect. PSVI provides victims of sexual violence or intimidation a civil remedy that requires the offender to stay away from the victim regardless of whether the victim seeks criminal prosecution. In accordance with PSVI, all pleadings filed, and hearings conducted, will occur within the Domestic Relations Branch.

While the PSVI process is modeled after the Protection from Abuse Act (PFA), there are significant differences, most notably, the issue of jurisdiction. Under PSVI, victims of sexual violence or intimidation are eligible for relief if they do not have a family or household member relationship with the defendant. Victims of sexual violence or intimidation who have a family or household relationship with the defendant would instead be eligible for civil relief under PFA.

FAMILY Court Division

**Philadelphia Family Court
Domestic Relations Branch
Calendar Years 2013-2015**

Total DR Filings		2013	2014	2015
Custody Filings	Custody/Confirm Custody	7,337	5,532	5,594
	Partial Custody/Visitation	391	295	429
	Modify Custody	4,028	3,126	3,231
	Contempt of Custody	2,183	1,836	1,631
	Subtotal	13,939	10,789	10,885
	Custody Exceptions	60	73	88
	Motions & Other Filings	10,000	7,290	8,625
	Total Custody Filings	23,999	18,152	19,598
Support Filings	New Complaints	27,145	17,137	17,529
	Modifications	10,289	9,778	10,546
	Contempt Petitions	3,666	4,399	5,491
	Support Exceptions	954	983	1,430
	Support Motions	1,485	1,482	1,588
	Total Support Filings	43,539	33,779	36,584
Domestic Violence	New Petitions	11,300	10,074	10,101
Divorce	New Petitions	1,633	1,721	1,732
	Misc. Filings (Contested & Uncontested)	11,682	11,150	11,479
	Total Divorce Filings	13,315	12,871	13,211
Total DR Filings		92,153	74,876	79,494

Total DR Petitions Processed		2013	2014	2015
Custody Support	Interim, Master and Judicial	30,307	30,296**	26,431
	Establishment only. Disposition of contempt and motion hearings are not counted on statewide child support system - PACSES	24,910	24,317	27,901
Domestic Violence	Interim & Final	34,196	29,285	28,102
Divorce	Final & Interim Orders only	3,464	3,048	3,036
Total DR Dispositions		92,877	86,946	85,470

*** Includes dispositions entered by judges that were temporarily assigned to DR to preside over custody matters.*

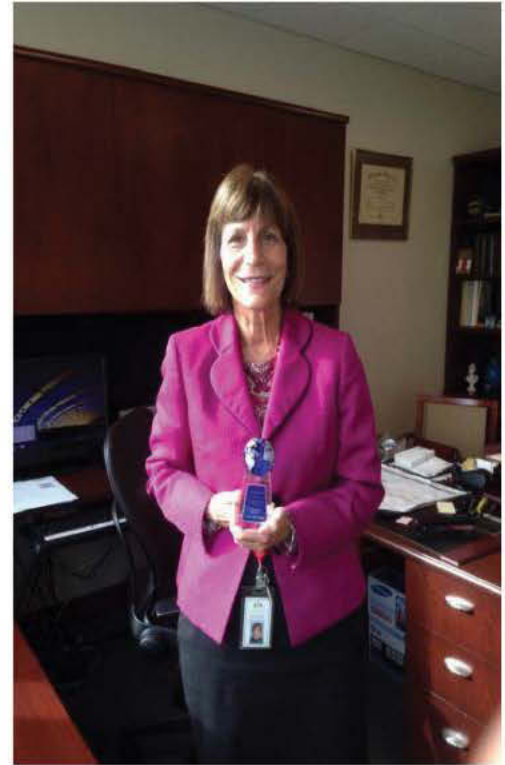
Family Court Staff Awards

Grazie Award – Mary Lou Baker

The intimidating experience for new court interpreters is now mitigated with the courtroom exposure provided by the FJD's Shadowing Program. The success of this program is due, in no small part to the tireless work of the 2015 Grazie Award recipient, Mary Lou Baker, Deputy Court Administrator, Domestic Relations Section. Mrs. Baker was presented with the award at the program's closing ceremonies in October for her hard work and commitment to the creation and growth of this important initiative.

The FJD's Shadowing Program was established in 2013 with the goal of providing anyone interested in becoming a certified court interpreter with the opportunity to shadow working translators in a courtroom environment.

Mrs. Baker became involved in the Shadowing Program at its onset when she began offering and coordinating training space. Upon observing the enthusiasm of the participants, Mrs. Baker became more involved and invested in the program. A believer in the goal of creating a more welcoming and accessible environment for Philadelphians of all cultural backgrounds, Mrs. Baker has served as an invaluable resource and advocate for increasing training and access to interpreters in Philadelphia's courts.



Mary Lou Baker, 2015 Grazie Award Recipient

DRAP Award of Excellence – Justin Sieck

At the 2015 Annual Training Conference of the Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania (DRAP), held in Erie, Pa., Philadelphia's Justin Sieck, Court Administrative Officer, was awarded the DRAP Award of Excellence. This award is intended for DR staff members throughout the state who demonstrate a commitment to the Pennsylvania Child Support Program beyond the scope of their normal duties. Justin is an active participant in many DRAP committees and has been involved in the design and implementation of many statewide initiatives.



Justin Sieck, DRAP Award of Excellence winner, Ed Lehmann, Director, DR

Municipal Court Honors – Hai Ngo



Hai Ngo, the Director of Technology for Family Court, was honored with a special award typically given to someone employed outside of Municipal Court. Commended for his gracious attitude and indefatigable work ethic, Hai is valued for being incredibly responsive, and his ability to think outside of the box to find solutions. His knowledge is only trumped by his genial disposition and his willingness to act as a mentor to younger staff members.

Hai Ngo (far right), receiving special award from Municipal Court

Swearing-in Ceremony – Juvenile Probation Officers



On May 6, 2015, Administrative Judge Margaret T. Murphy, Supervising Judge Walter J. Olszewski, and Judge Vincent Melchiorre, presiding over a ceremony to swear in newly hired Juvenile Probation Officers.



ORPHANS' Court Division



Since its creation by William Penn in 1683, the Orphans' Court has consistently strived to fulfill its mission of ensuring "that care may be taken for those that are not able to take care for themselves." At present, the work of the Orphans' Court Division of the First Judicial District, in its daily labors to vigorously protect the growing population of those who find themselves within its jurisdiction and in need of its protection, is administered by three seasoned Judges, who bring over 70 years of combined judicial experience to the Court, Administrative Judge Matthew D. Carrafiello, Senior Judge John W. Herron, and Judge George W. Overton, and their staff.

Jurisdiction in the Orphans' Court Division covers a wide-range of matters including, but not limited to, guardianships of minors and incapacitated persons and their estates, decedents' estates, marriage licenses, powers of attorney, and non- profit corporations committed to a charitable purpose. In addition, the Orphans' Court oversees appeals from the Register of Wills, including will contests, as well as matters involving both inter vivos and testamentary trusts. These matters constitute the more "traditional" jurisdiction of the Court and are performed with such efficiency that this litigation goes mostly unnoticed by the general bar and public, but to the litigants and society, the Court provides reasonable expectation, closure of extremely contentious matters and vindication of the rule of law.

The Orphans' Court Division has been enhanced with the hiring of a new Court Administrative Officer in 2015, who has worked diligently and tirelessly in establishing a more centralized and organized administration. Older outdated computer systems and printers have been replaced and other office technology implemented. With the increased need for automation and in anticipation of future changes to the Orphans' Court's case management system, the Court Administrative Officer was tasked with developing a process to automate the statistical reporting for the Division with the goal of producing accurate and reliable monthly and annual statistics for the AOPC as well as for internal use. This entailed working in conjunction with the Department of Information and Technology, Data Processing Unit, Trial Division's Office of Quality Assurance, and the Clerk of Orphans' Court's staff, all of whose input and assistance in this effort was invaluable. Data clean-up and quality assurance processes are now built into the daily case management and workflow processes.

Prior to this year, the Division's inventory was managed both manually and by data processing, however, it was never fully integrated into the First Judicial District's data processing stream. These improvements, together with the high quality of effort from our Court Administrative Officer, will result in the production of meaningful, statistically accurate and reliable reports which will aid the Division in the management of its caseload and assist the Orphans' Court in facing the problems of a changing and growing population. The Court's performance in disposing of matters within its jurisdiction, in calendar year 2015, is detailed on Exhibit "A" in the new format.

The Division is traversing new terrain as it assists the AOPC with the development, testing, and eventual implementation of a uniform Orphans' Court case management system (OCCMS) similar to the CPCMS system currently in use in the Criminal Trial Division. Orphans' Court computer systems vary widely by county, making it difficult to establish uniform practices relating to the monitoring and collection of data. The statewide unified system envisioned by the AOPC will promote the standardized collection of data, assist the Orphans' Court in its guardianship monitoring responsibilities, and, in conjunction with the new rules, will provide uniformity and clarity for Orphans' Court practitioners.

The Division will continue to work with the AOPC in Joint Application Design (JAD) sessions in the design and development of the new system, and to provide input and feedback to the analysts and developers regarding matters such as case creation, docket/registry entry, and workflow. Rollout and implementation of the new case management system is expected to occur from 2017 through 2018.

We believe that the automation process put in place in 2015 will better prepare the Orphans' Court Division to adapt to the implementation of the AOPC's new OCCMS system.

On December 1, 2015, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court adopted the long awaited new Pennsylvania Orphans' Court Rules with an effective date of September 1, 2016. The new rules will bring significant change to Orphans' Court practice. Exceptions practice will be abolished under the new regime, and motions for reconsideration will be allowed instead, much as under the civil rules of procedure. All preexisting local rules, except those pertaining to guardianships, will be vacated on the effective date of the new rules, and all proposed local rules will have to be vetted and approved by the Rules Committee prior to becoming effective. Because the Orphans' Court has a significant body of local rules, Court personnel and staff have been working diligently with the Probate Section Rules and Practice Committee to identify those local rules that are necessary to be retained and to propose new local rules where applicable for submission to the Supreme Court Rules Committee for approval. In all, while the new rules will bring significant challenges to the Orphans' Court Division, as well as to the practicing estate bar, in the end they will lower barriers to justice by simplifying practice and ensuring more uniformity from county to county within the Commonwealth, and between our Orphans' Court and Civil Trial Divisions.

Because the Orphans' Court Division's jurisdiction requires it to oversee the rights and interests of Philadelphia's varied population, it is dramatically impacted by even the smallest changes in population and demographics. Since 2006, Philadelphia has experienced consecutive population growth. The 2015 U.S. Census figures noted a .8% increase in Pennsylvania's population from 2010, increasing .1% since 2014. Philadelphia's population increased 2.2% from 2010. Greater Center City Philadelphia is now second only to Midtown Manhattan for urban density, having grown by 16% since 2000.

We believe that the automation process put in place in 2015 will better prepare the Orphans' Court Division to adapt to the implementation of the AOPC's new OCCMS system.

While the overall population of Philadelphia is growing, the aging population is experiencing an even more rapid increase. Residents of Philadelphia over the age of 60 make up 18% of the total City population. The median age of a Philadelphia resident is expected to rise with a surge in persons aged 55-74, as well as those persons aged 85 years and older. It is estimated that the older adult population will double between 2010 and 2030. One of every six persons in Pennsylvania is 65 or more years of age.

This growing elderly population brings with it a myriad of challenges. Older Philadelphia residents over the age of 60 experience poverty at almost twice the rate of senior citizens in the rest of the nation. Currently in Philadelphia there are an estimated 32,000 cases of Alzheimer's disease among those 65 or older. These numbers pertain to Alzheimer's only and do not reflect other forms of dementia. National studies suggest that a staggering 1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia. Other struggles faced by a rapidly increasing aging population include homelessness, an older immigrant population isolated by language and cultural barriers, aging individuals who suffer from AIDS, and an increasing number of developmentally disabled seniors. Because of these challenges, there is an increased need for the Orphans' Court to provide compassionate attention as quickly and efficiently as possible.

One, if not the most, effective method of providing oversight of guardians for their administration of incapacitated persons and their estates, is the mandatory filing of Annual Guardianship Reports. Orphans' Court expends great efforts in monitoring these reports and guardian inventories, as is reflected in the 2015 statistics shown on Exhibit "A", so that instances of either noncompliance or improper administration may be discovered and remediated. Our electronic filing system, BANNER Case Management System, is programmed to identify non-compliant guardians, automatically generate a letter/notice which is sent directly to the guardian, notifying the guardian of the overdue status and advising that if the report is not timely filed, the matter will be listed for Court. If the guardian continues to fail to comply, BANNER notifies the assigned Judge for Court action, which usually results in a hearing being scheduled to determine the reasons for noncompliance, possible remedial action(s) which may include removal of the guardian, appointment of an ad litem or imposition of sanctions, or other Court action.

While this system works flawlessly, it places a burden on judicial resources since it falls upon the assigned Judge, not only to adjudicate, but to preliminarily investigate such instances of noncompliance or improper administration. In order to alleviate this load, the Orphans' Court

The issues of elder abuse among senior citizens and guardianship of incapacitated persons raised by the Elder Law Task Force created by Retired Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille and the Report of Madame Justice Debra McCloskey Todd are being addressed by President Judge Woods Skipper's Elder Court Committee, of which Administrative Judge Carrafiello is the co-chair of the Orphans' Court Subcommittee.

Division has made an ongoing request to establish the position of Guardian Investigator, who would have the authority to provide immediate and intensive attention to guardian compliance. The Guardian Investigator position was finally approved at the close of 2015, with the position to be funded and filled in 2016.

It is anticipated that the Division, through the efforts of the new Guardian Investigator, will be able to more fully monitor guardian compliance with the filing of complete and accurate inventories and annual reports, conduct investigations, where appropriate, of matters concerning guardians and their wards, including but not limited to issues of non-compliance and allegations of elder abuse, and assist guardians with access to services

and the Court on matters of concern. This position is of historical significance in that it will result in the direct and almost immediate accountability of guardians where improprieties are uncovered.

The Court has experienced a dramatic increase in *pro se* petitioners seeking guardianship of a minor or an alleged incapacitated person. With the growth in both the elderly and minor populations in the City, family members are often the primary caregivers and the point of contact between the Court and the minor or incapacitated person. Information, instructions and blank forms to those unfamiliar with the process are available online at <http://www.courts.phila.gov/common-pleas/orphans/> to enable a *pro se* litigant to complete and file petitions necessary to access relief from the Orphans' Court. The duties for guardians of incapacitated persons and their estates including sample inventory and annual report forms are contained in the Guardian's Manual available online at the Court's website. Printed copies of the manual with forms are available together with three computers in the Clerk's Office dedicated solely for use by the filing public.

As with the elderly population, the Orphans' Court is responsible for appointing guardians for minors' estates, approving petitions for allowance of funds from minors' estates, and when appropriate, ensuring those guardians account for their stewardship. The Court is responsible for the approval of the creation of Irrevocable Trusts and Special Needs Trusts for minors and incapacitated persons, as well as disabled persons. These trusts are designed to ensure that the beneficiaries who are disabled by condition or age can enjoy the use of that property which is intended to be held for their benefit. Appointment of initial and successive trustees, including corporate fiduciaries, review of petitions for use of principal and at times trust modifications, as well as approval of fiduciary actions with respect to all types of trusts, including testamentary, special needs and *inter vivos* are encompassed within the Court's functions.

The Orphans' Court is charged with creating and maintaining a list of approved corporate fiduciaries. This list is posted on the Division's website so that the public and counsel may be advised of entities that have applied for and received Court approval for deposit of entrusted funds. The list for 2015 included 44 entities who were approved to act as corporate fiduciaries through December 31, 2015. The approval process was much simpler when Pennsylvania banking laws limited all but local banks from doing business in Philadelphia. Now applications are received and reviewed from distant institutions, as well as new and little known institutions. Nevertheless, the Orphans' Court Division timely and thoroughly reviews all applications filed.

The Orphans' Court's priority of providing public access to its records and filing system, not only for guardianship matters, but for all actions commenced in Orphans' Court is complete.

Orphans' Court continues to scrupulously review minors' and incapacitated persons' petitions for settlement, compromise and distribution together with wrongful death and survival action petitions to determine their conformity to law, to protect those who are incapacitated by age or condition, and to protect the liens justly due to the Commonwealth's Department of Human Services. Despite the impact of recent laws, which make said payments obligatory and the resulting complications encountered, this Court continues to timely dispose all said petitions while ensuring the Department of Human Services the fullest protection of its interest.

As previously stated, the Orphans' Court's priority of providing public access to its records and filing system, not only for guardianship matters, but for all actions commenced in Orphans' Court is complete. Once granted access to our system, parties to a case and their attorneys are able to view and file pleadings as well as docket entries. To assist users of the Orphans' Court E-Filing system, a training video and user manual are available online at the Court's website at: <http://www.courts.phila.gov/common-pleas/orphans/>. The website contains

ORPHANS' Court Division

forms and guidelines helpful to both attorneys and parties. We continue to update and maintain our website to provide the fullest of support and information to our public.

Orphans' Court is one of the vehicles used by the Department in its collection efforts, the Court is independent and provides all citizens with the right to be heard.

In addition to its other functions, the Orphans' Court hears petitions filed by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue against personal representatives of decedents' estates who have failed to either file and/or pay inheritance tax, petitions filed by personal representatives and beneficiaries challenging the Department's asset valuation and tax calculations, and audits executors' and trustees' accounts where

proof of payment of inheritance tax is required to be stated. The inheritance tax is a tax imposed on transfers at death by will, intestacy, or operation of law, is payable to the Register of Wills, as agent, and goes directly to the Pennsylvania General Fund. While the Orphans' Court is one of the vehicles used by the Department in its collection efforts, the Court is independent and provides all citizens with the right to be heard. Although a projection of the amount of revenue actually realized by the Commonwealth from the Orphans' Court's involvement is not readily ascertainable, it is without a doubt that the \$73,123,024.00 collected by the Commonwealth from inheritance taxes paid to the Register of Wills of Philadelphia County in 2015 would only be a fraction of that amount if not for the Court's vigilance in seeing that the Commonwealth's interest is protected at every step of administration and litigation.

Irrespective of the challenges and hurdles we face, the Orphans' Court Division, through its Judges and staff, shall continue to further the vision for our Orphans' Court, established by William Penn over 300 years ago, to protect those who cannot otherwise be protected.



ORPHANS' Court Division

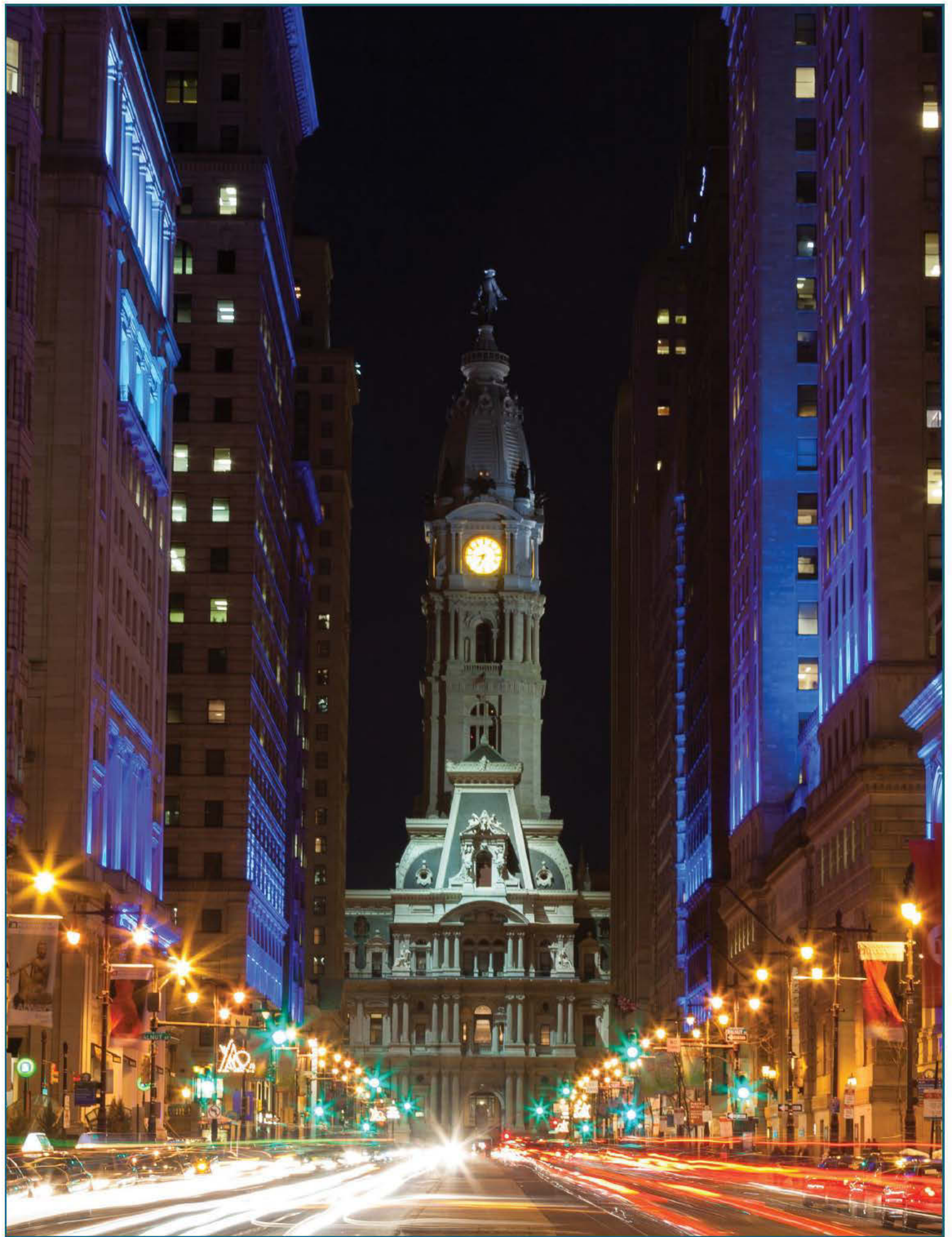


First Judicial District of Pennsylvania
The Orphans' Court Division
Processed the following during calendar year 2015

Type of Filing	Carry-Over from 2014	New Filings in 2015	Total Disposed of in CY 2015	Total Open Matters as of 04-Jan-2016
Accounts (for all case types)	49	169	138	79
Schedule of Distribution	2	7	6	3
Exceptions	1	16	14	3
Appeal from Register of Wills	4	18	17	5
Petitions to Appoint Guardians:				
Incapacitated Persons	68	412	415	65
Minors	2	62	60	4
Annual reports, Guardian Inventories and Final Reports	0	1485	1486	0
Minors' Compromises				
Orphans' Court	31	450	445	36
Civil Division	23	487	446	62
WD/SA Compromises				
Orphans' Court	2	32	30	4
Civil Division	1	252	246	10
Petitions for Allowance: Minors & Incapacitated Persons	5	342	316	31
Scheduling Orders	0	4356	4358	0
Inheritance Tax Matters	0	179	179	0
Citations	0	948	948	0
Petitions to Buy/Sell Real Estate	10	56	44	22
Corporate Fiduciaries	0	61	61	0
"Other" Petitions	27	2588	2490	209
Report of Exams & Termination of Trust Assets and Exams of Safe Deposit Boxes	0	12	12	0
Marriage License Matters	0	16	16	0
Report of Cemetery Assets	0	916	916	0
Miscellaneous Matters ‡	0	516	516	0
TOTAL	229	13382	13161	533

‡ "Miscellaneous Matters" include Review and Certification of Exemplified Documents.

EXHIBIT
"A"
2015



MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES



Marsha H. Neifield
President Judge



Gary S. Glazer *
*Administrative Judge,
Traffic Division*



Frank T. Brady
*Supervising Judge,
Criminal Division*



Bradley K. Moss
*Supervising Judge,
Civil Division*



James M DeLeon



Teresa Carr Deni



Patrick F. Dugan



Joyce O. Eubanks



Jacqueline Frazier-Lyde



Barbara S. Gilbert



Charles Hayden



Gerard Kosinski

* Sitting Judge on the Court of Common Pleas and Administrative Judge for Municipal Court Traffic Division

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES



Henry Lewandowski III



William A. Meehan, Jr.



Wendy L. Pew



T. Francis Shields



David C. Shuter



Karen Yvette Simmons



Craig M. Washington

*Not Pictured: * Robert S. Blasi; Martin Coleman; Thomas F. Gehret; Roger F. Gordon; Nazario Jiminez, Jr.;
* Lydia Kirkland; Joseph J. O'Neill; Dawn A. Segal; Marvin L. Williams*

** Senior Judge*



MUNICIPAL *court*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

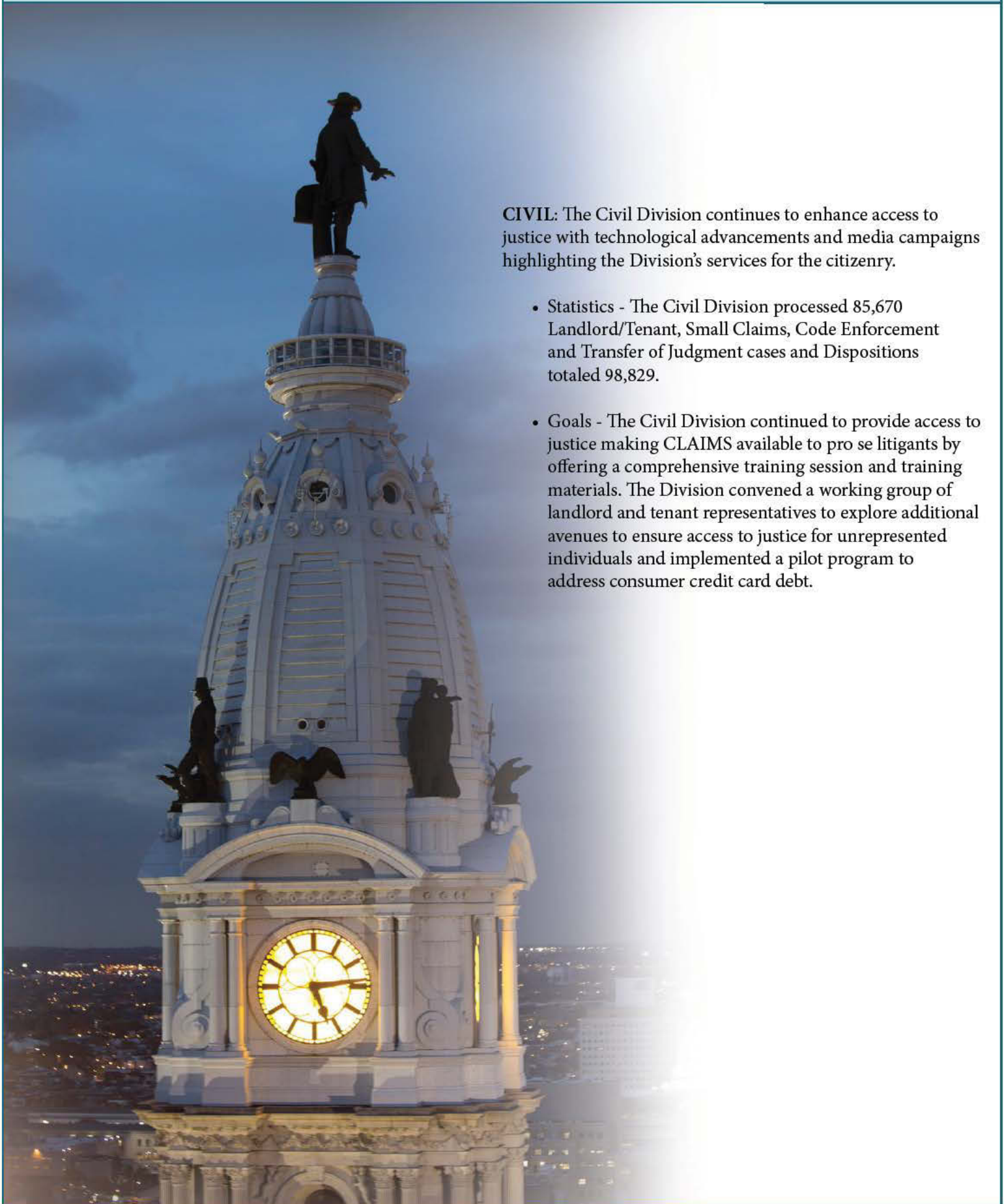
CRIMINAL: The Philadelphia Municipal Court continued its reform initiatives in the Criminal Division throughout 2015, by proactively participating in the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge. Regardless of the outcome of grant awards, we have collaborated extensively with our criminal justice partners to bring about additional criminal justice reforms. The outcomes will be implemented expeditiously with the grant award; however, conversations with the City illustrate a commitment to fund, albeit at a slower pace given financial constraints.

- **Statistical reviews:** A comparison across nine years of data in this report provides more insight into continued progress. Dismissed rates have dropped from 18.7% (2007) to 8.2% (2015) - a 56% decrease, while the Held for Court rate has increased 25% from 48.5% (2007) to 60.7% in 2015. The annual clearance rate for felonies has consistently exceeded 100% since 2007.
- Over the 8-year period, the Dismissed rate fell markedly from 17.6% in 2007, to 6.4% in 2015, which is a 64% decrease. Due to the inception of multiple diversion programs, the percentage of cases diverted has more than doubled since 2007, with 29% of cases being diverted in 2015. The Withdrawn rate fell 28% from 2007 (26.4%) to 2015 (19%). With the exception of 2008 and 2009, the annual clearance rates for misdemeanor cases surpassed 100%. In calendar year 2015, 6,709 cases were diverted, 96.2% of which were Misdemeanors.
- **Goals:** The Criminal Division continues its involvement in the expanded First Judicial District (FJD) reformation project; is actively involved in the PARS Rewrite/Renovation, the Bail Reform project and continued reviews of measuring case flow management and performance. The resolution of data integrity has expanded into further analysis projects that present challenges beyond our direct control and we continue to work with the Office of Judicial Records to rectify.



MUNICIPAL *court*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



CIVIL: The Civil Division continues to enhance access to justice with technological advancements and media campaigns highlighting the Division's services for the citizenry.

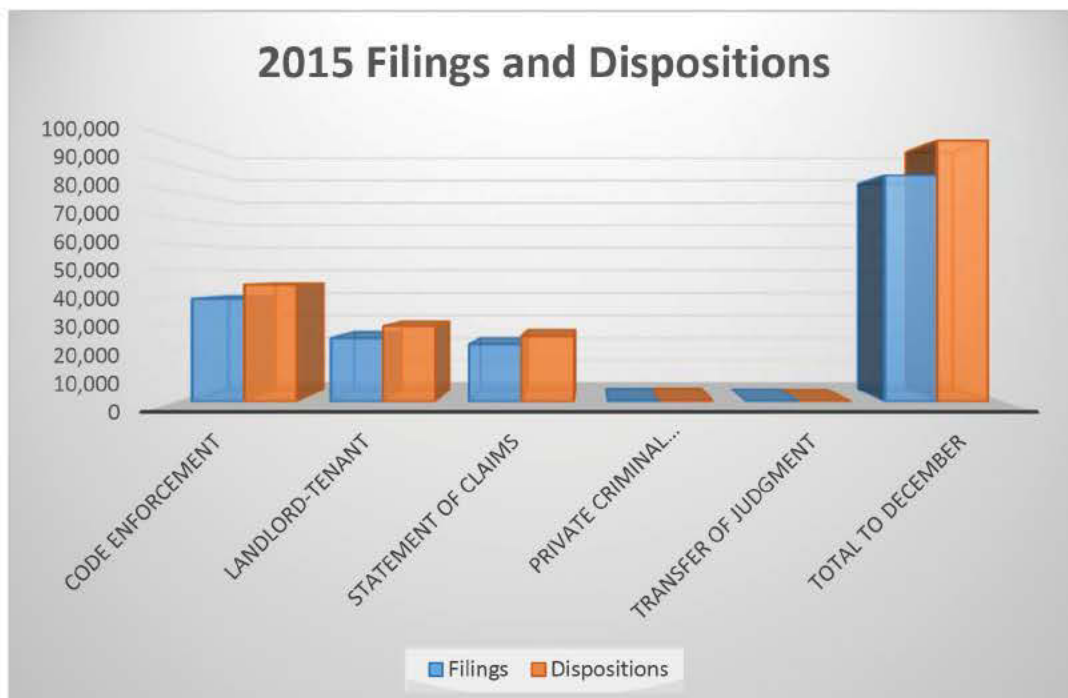
- **Statistics** - The Civil Division processed 85,670 Landlord/Tenant, Small Claims, Code Enforcement and Transfer of Judgment cases and Dispositions totaled 98,829.
- **Goals** - The Civil Division continued to provide access to justice making CLAIMS available to pro se litigants by offering a comprehensive training session and training materials. The Division convened a working group of landlord and tenant representatives to explore additional avenues to ensure access to justice for unrepresented individuals and implemented a pilot program to address consumer credit card debt.

The Civil Division has successfully met many challenges that resulted from managerial and procedural changes in 2015. Court Administration continues to enhance the e-filing system to ensure the most efficient and user friendly applications, and the court continues to educate employees, managers, attorneys and clients on all aspects of the Division. Access to justice and education of the public are two of the Division's main goals for 2016.

Civil Statistical Reports

2015 Filings and Dispositions

Code Enforcement	39,346	44,734
Landlord-Tenant	24,391	28,892
Statement of Claims	21,874	25,185
Private Criminal Complaints	356	465
Transfer of Judgment	59	18
Total to December	86,026	99,294



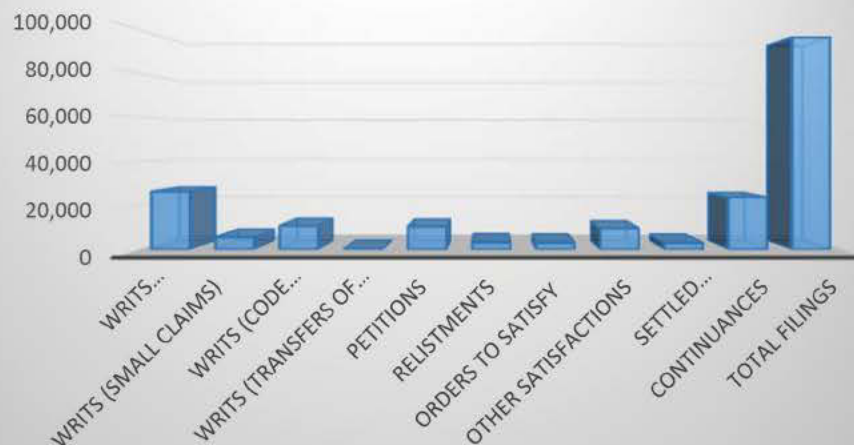
2015 Second Filings

2015 Clearance Rates by Case Type



Writs (Landlord/Tenant)	26,475
Writs (Small Claims)	5,564
Writs (Code Enforcement)	10,869
Writs (Transfers Of Judgment)	73
Petitions	10,523
Relistments	3,260
Orders To Satisfy	3,120
Other Satisfactions	9,682
Settled Discontinued & Ended	3,058
Continuances	23,838
Total Filings	96,462

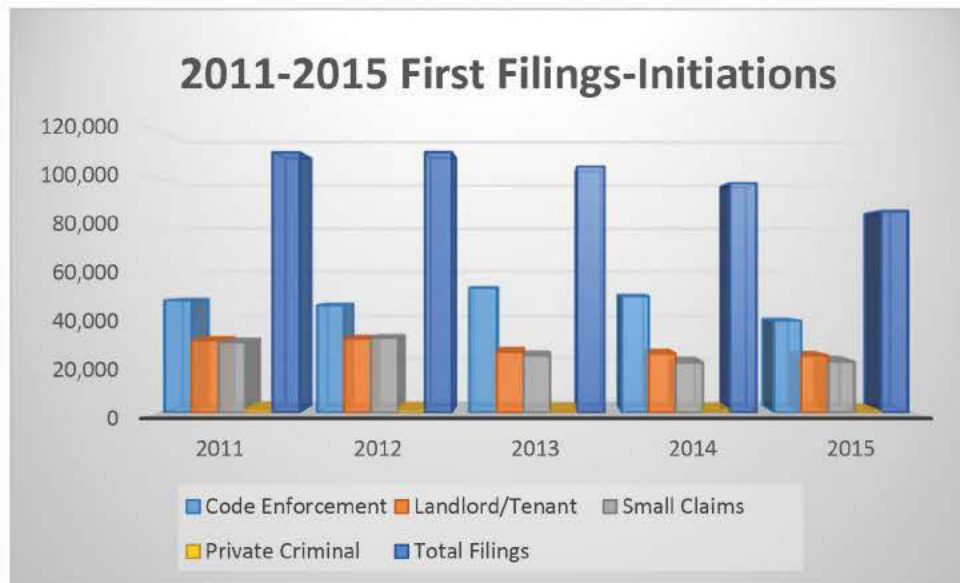
2015 Second Filings



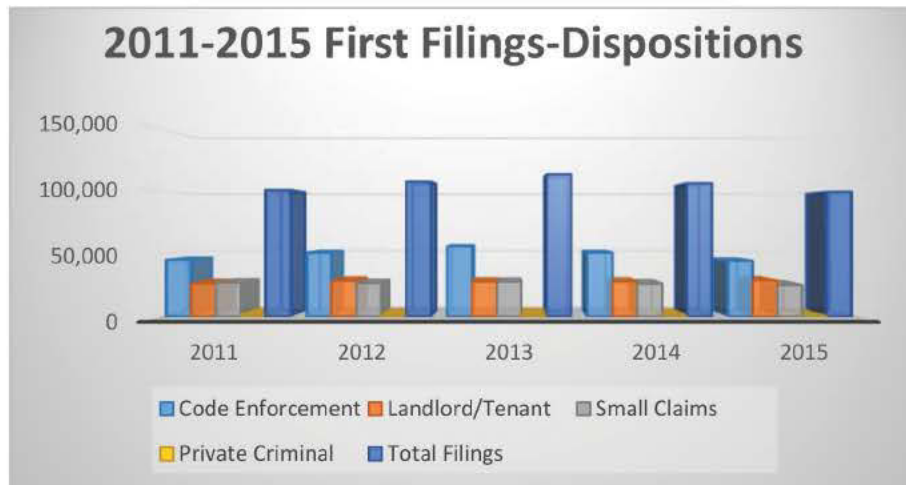
2011-2015 Comparison

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Code Enforcement	48,224	45,988	53,365	49,978	39,346
Landlord/Tenant	30,939	31,632	26,081	25,280	24,391
Small Claims	30,152	32,012	24,476	21,572	21,874
Private Criminal	1,494	1,327	997	1,002	356
Total Filings	110,809	110,959	104,919	97,832	85,967

First Filings-Case Initiation

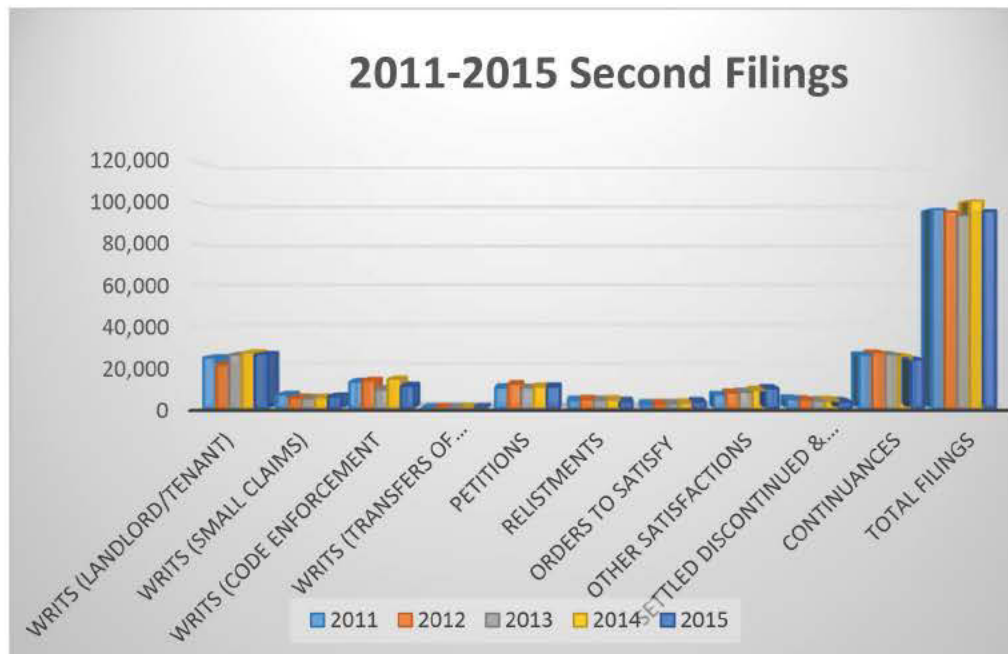


First Filings-Dispositions



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Writs (Landlord/Tenant)	24,862	21,158	26,220	27,188	26,475
Writs (Small Claims)	6,457	4,840	4,684	4,996	5,564
Writs (Code Enforcement)	12,822	13,468	9,251	14,112	10,869
Writs (Transfers Of Judgment)	63	66	67	67	73
Petitions	10,075	11,607	9,926	10,455	10,523
Relistments	3,804	4,104	3,841	3,944	3,260
Orders To Satisfy	1,992	2,122	2,146	2,353	3,120
Other Satisfactions	6,365	7,513	7,985	8,857	9,682
Settled Discontinued & Ended	4,399	3,966	3,565	3,638	3,058
Continuances	26,220	27,112	26,422	25,574	23,838
Total Filings	97,059	95,956	94,107	101,184	96,462

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Code Enforcement	45,497	51,046	56,183	50,995	44,734
Landlord/Tenant	26,507	28,508	27,879	27,894	28,892
Small Claims	26,985	26,602	27,732	26,255	25,185
Private Criminal	1,732	1,250	1,576	761	465
Total Filings	100,721	107,406	113,370	105,905	99,276



Initiatives and Accomplishments for 2015

CLAIMS Enhancements

1-Continuance Designation. Accomplishing a 2014 goal, this enhancement allows court personnel to indicate which party has requested a continuance. The information is docketed, allowing the court to track previous continuances when considering new requests.

2-City Solicitor Role. This enhancement was created at the request of the City Solicitor's Office. It allows one solicitor to represent the City of Philadelphia on multiple code enforcements filings and other matters using one main city solicitor name. The court absorbed the cost of the enhancement due to the City's lack of funds.

3-Stipulation in Lieu of Judgment Disposition. The court added a Stipulation in Lieu of Judgment disposition to allow payments or actions to occur without placing a judgment against the defendant as long as there is compliance with the agreed upon terms.

4-SC/CC Case Subtype. This filing type was created for use in the Consumer Credit Conciliation Pilot Program by the attorneys participating in the pilot. The defendant is served with notification of the Consumer Credit Conciliation Pilot Program and its objectives. Attorneys using this subtype can also use the Settlement in Lieu of Judgment agreement process.

5-Settlement in Lieu of Judgment Agreement. This function was also created in conjunction with the Consumer Credit Conciliation Pilot Program. Attorneys can initiate a Settlement in Lieu of

Judgment Agreement with defendants, allowing defendants to enter into a payment arrangement without having a judgment entered against them. Compliance with the agreement is required. Each agreement is subject to judicial review and approval. Use of the agreement outside of the pilot program is expected in the future.

6-Additional Process Servers. Both MTE Courier Services and Scotland Yard Security were added to the selection of available process servers for all case types.

7-Courtroom Progress. This enhancement enables court personnel to track each courtroom daily in real time to determine the length of the hearing list and the number of non-disposed cases. With this function, the Division can better determine which courtroom staff may need assistance and which courtroom staff is able to assist. This new function has had a positive impact on the daily case management operations in the courtrooms.

8-Scheduling. Various scheduling changes were necessary during the past year to accommodate clients and courtroom capacity. A new pilot program and the Philadelphia Housing Authority required specific dates and times for operation, which resulted in the restructuring of the case flow management system on CLAIMS.

9- Forms. Accomplishing a 2014 goal, both the Breach of Agreement Affidavit and the Judgment by Agreement forms have been revised and reviewed by both the Supervising Judge and private counsel.

Restructure and Redesign of the Civil Division

During 2015, an overview of the Division's operations resulted in changes to the work flow of the offices. A study showed that petitions filed by pro se litigants needed to be moved to another department to permit improved client access. This required a redesign of the office and the restructuring of responsibilities within departments. In the midst of many changes to the Division's leadership caused by multiple employee retirements, the Second Filings Office staff was increased to better handle client filings.

Our goal is to continue to increase public service, employee knowledge and the efficiency of day-to-day operations.

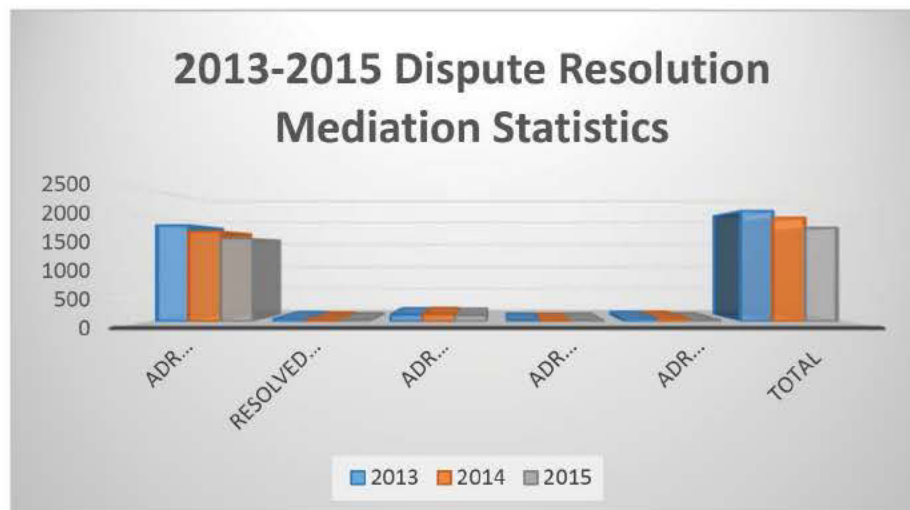
Dispute Resolution Program

In 2015, with the Dispute Resolution program acting as lead, the Civil Division hosted two groups of lawyers and judges visiting from China associated with the Temple University-Tsinghua LL.M program. These international visitors were participants in a Temple Law School program designed to exchange ideas and methodologies between countries. The groups participated in two seminars, which showcased the effectiveness of the Civil Division's Dispute Resolution program.



The unit has also furthered its goals of clarity, communication and teaching via an enhanced Judgment by Agreement explanation procedure and the planned hire of a bilingual employee (Spanish/English) to better serve the needs of litigants who have been relying solely on Telephonic Translation services.

Mediation Statistics	2013	2014	2015
ADR Mediation Agreement Housing	1819	1704	1564
Resolved Mediation Agreement, SDE	55	43	29
ADR Mediation Agreement Small Claims	131	139	126
ADR Mediation Agreement SC Housing	24	21	22
ADR Mediation Withdrawn Without Prejudice	61	60	31
Total	2090	1967	1772



Total Arbitration Cases	Remand	Contempt
115	0	1
Total Criminal Mediations	Resolved by Agreement	Contempt
87	26	0

ADA Accommodations

The Civil Division continues to provide accommodations to individuals with disabilities. In 2015, the division received 2,034 calls for information, assisted 194 individuals with wheelchair access to and from the courtrooms, provided 16 sign language interpreters and addressed 310 requests to provide additional time for clients to secure further accommodations. Judges conducted a total of 154 telephonic hearings and the ADA Coordinator handled more than 2,050 individual requests for accommodations.

Interpreter Services

The Civil Division continues to utilize a phone line language service to assist individuals with linguistic barriers plus Interpreter services in the courtrooms.

2012 – 168 per diem

2013 – 254 per diem

2014 – 302 per diem

2015 - 307 per diem

Wage Attachments for Landlord/Tenant Matters

The court processed new attachments for 151 attorneys and 56 pro se filers, resulting in the collection and disbursement of \$300,113.71 in 2015.

Landlord/Tenant Help Center

The Landlord/Tenant Help Center is a collaborative court-based legal assistance program to improve access to justice for low-income unrepresented tenants in Philadelphia. The court provided additional space for informational pamphlets and volunteer attorneys to use. Meetings between President Judge Neifield, Turn (Tenant Union Representative Network), the Senior Law Center, the private bar and Municipal Court Administrators continue to discuss the following:

- Vision for the Help Center as an integral component of the Lawyer for the Day Program
- Expansion of services to provide increased use of volunteers for tasks such as intake/screening and off-site advice
- Access to justice issues, including Limited Entry of Appearance for pro bono counsel and to encourage volunteer participation
- Discussion of a site visit to New York's Help Center

Access to Justice Working Group

The Civil Division achieved its goal to convene a working group of landlord and tenant representatives, Division directors, the Deputy Court Administrator, Supervising Judge Bradley Moss and President Judge Marsha Neifield to explore additional avenues to ensure access to justice for unrepresented individuals. This working group met several times in 2015. As a result, changes such as the Trial Commissioners reading a colloquy to litigants and revisions to the landlord tenant form and information pamphlet have been implemented and proven successful.

Consumer Credit Conciliation Pilot Program

This pilot program was created through various meetings with President Judge Neifield and the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys, Community Legal Services, Philadelphia VIP, the Deputy Court Administrator and Supervisors of the Civil Division with a goal to assist those being sued for outstanding credit card debt by providing access to volunteer lawyers. A defendant/debtor is given information on financial counseling and other resources and receives assistance in obtaining a satisfactory resolution of the case at a settlement conference. Both the plaintiff/creditor and defendant/debtor agree to participate in good faith to resolve the debt. Should the parties be unable or unwilling to settle the case, the case is transferred to a Municipal Court Judge for trial. The goal is to reduce the number of default judgments entered in debt collection cases, as well as educate debtors/defendants concerning their rights and responsibilities and ensure that creditors have adequate documentation to prove their case.



The Philadelphia Municipal Court continued its reform initiatives in the Criminal Division throughout 2015, by proactively participating in the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge. Regardless of the outcome of grant awards, we have collaborated extensively with our criminal justice partners to bring about additional criminal justice reforms. The outcomes will be implemented expeditiously with the grant award; however, conversations with the City illustrate a commitment to fund, albeit at a slower pace given financial constraints.

STATISTICS

2007-2015

A comparison across the nine years of data illustrates a decrease in cases charged. Progress remains evident in annual clearance rates for felonies which consistently exceeded 100% since 2007. Dismissed rates have dropped from 18.7% (2007) to 8.2% (2015) - a 56% decrease, while the Held for Court rate has increased 25% from 48.5% (2007) to 60.7% in 2015.

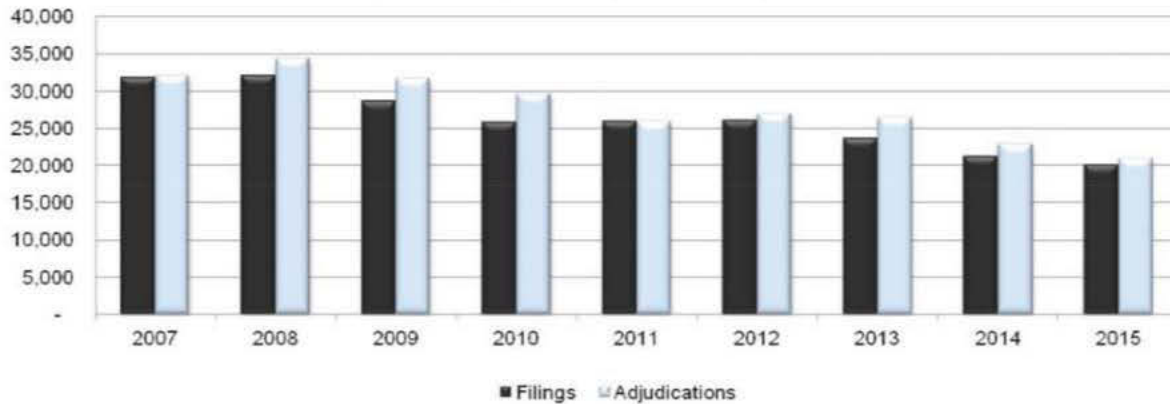
Municipal Court Felony Statistics 2007-2015

Felony	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Filings	31,806	32,067	28,674	25,825	26,012	26,065	23,666	21,215	20,157
Adjudications	32,027	34,378	31,685	29,636	26,004	27,011	26,512	22,924	20,951
ClearanceRate	101%	107%	111%	115%	100%	104%	112%	108%	104%

MUNICIPAL *court*

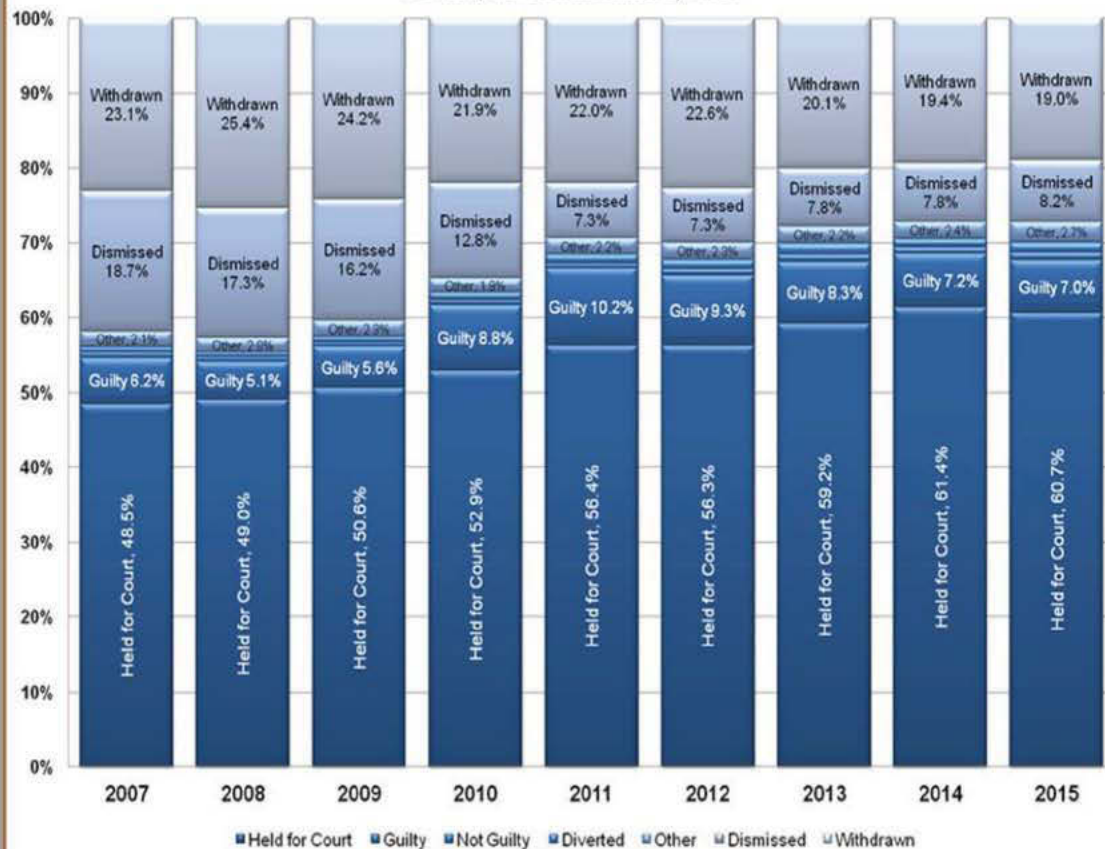
Criminal Division

Municipal Court | Felony Filings/Adjudications



Municipal Court Felony Dispositions 2007 - December 2015

All Felony MC Dockets Initiated by Arrest



Municipal Court Misdemeanor Statistics 2007-2015

2007-2015

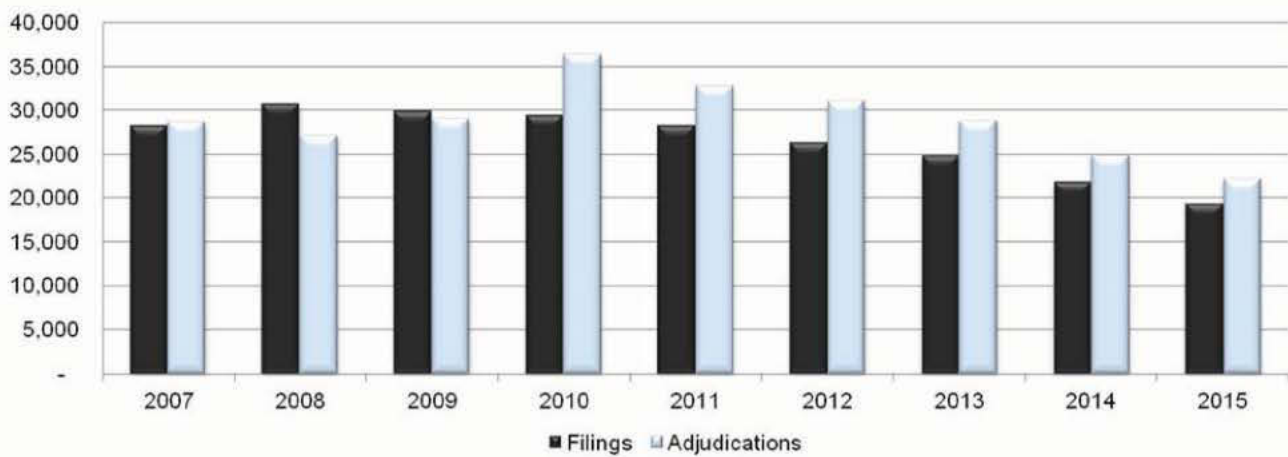
Over the 9-year period, the Dismissed rate fell markedly from 17.6% in 2007, to 6.4% in 2015, which is a 64% decrease. Due to the inception of multiple diversion programs, the percentage of cases diverted has more than doubled since 2007, with 29% of cases being diverted in 2015. The Withdrawn rate fell 28% from 2007 (26.4%) to 2015 (19%). With the exception of 2008 and 2009, the annual clearance rates for misdemeanor cases surpassed 100%.

Diversion

In calendar year 2015, 6,709 cases were diverted, 96.2% of which were Misdemeanors. The most common Diversion programs were ARD-County Open which accounted for 22.8% of all Diversions, AMP (21.9%) and Nolo Contendere/PWOV (13.2%). Diverted cases comprised 15.5% of all Misdemeanor and Felony dispositions for the year. Misdemeanor diversion dispositions resulted in fewer pretrial, non-violent incarcerations. Public safety concerns and prison overcrowding remain topics of discussion with the criminal justice partners participating in the Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) and MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge.

Misdemeanor Filings/Adjudications									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Filings	28,164	30,707	29,841	29,385	28,184	26,331	24,839	21,800	19,342
Adjudications	28,712	27,180	29,051	36,365	32,783	31,136	28,846	24,864	22,194
Clearance	102	89	97	124	116%	118%	116	114%	115

Municipal Court | Misdemeanor Filings/Adjudications

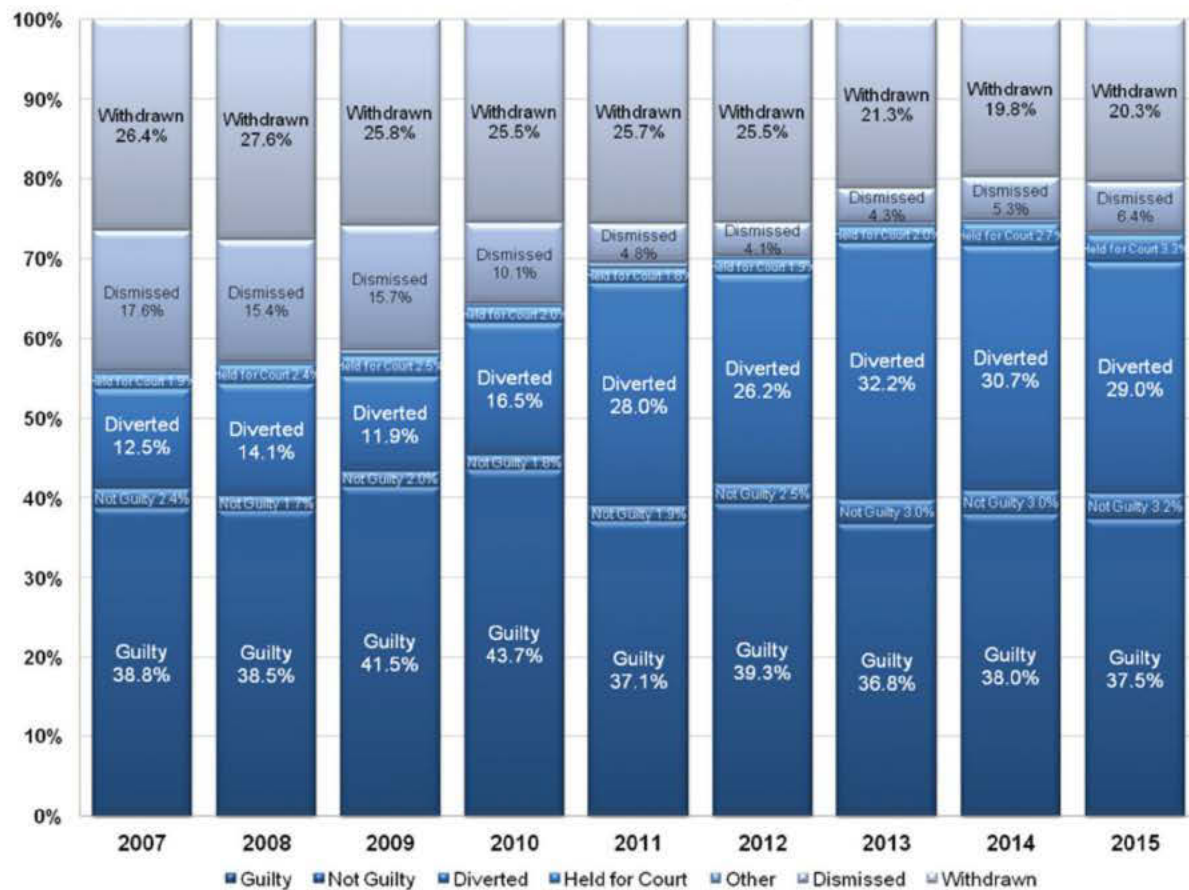


MUNICIPAL *court*

Criminal Division

Municipal Court Misdemeanor Dispositions 2007 - December 2015

All Misdemeanor MC Dockets Initiated by Arrests



2015 CRIMINAL DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Project Dawn Court - Prostitution Initiative

The “Project Dawn” initiative is for women who are in custody on detainers or open prostitution cases. Municipal Court continues to work with the Commonwealth and Defender Association to streamline prostitution cases by centralizing treatment, housing and ancillary services. The project includes a component of therapy for survivors of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Project Dawn operates with the dual goals of decreasing the number of non-violent offenders in Philadelphia county jails and reducing recidivism for this population of women. Project Dawn strives to provide holistic and evidence based treatment options to its participants, supporting them through their recovery journeys by addressing mental health, substance abuse and significant trauma histories. In 2015, Project Dawn admitted 8 individuals, 21 cases and 16 probation matters.

In 2014, the John J. Peters Institute (JJPI) collected data from 40 randomly selected PDC participants and found the following:

- 75% of PDC participants have CSA (childhood sexual abuse)
- 75% of PDC participants started their substance abuse in adolescence
- 80% of PDC participants suffer from SMI (severe mental illness)
- 95% have co-morbid disorders
- 65% of PDC disclosed a history of domestic violence
- 75% disclosed a history of homelessness
- 70% reported a history of experiencing poverty, emotional abuse and witnessing domestic violence as children

JJPI joined the program in the summer of 2012 and has been a valued partner in effectively treating trauma among these women through both group and individual therapy tailored to their needs. Project Dawn has also partnered with the Philadelphia non-profit Gearing Up to work with women in transition from abuse, addiction or incarceration in the early part of recovery and re-entry into society.

Domestic Violence

The President Judge, court staff and criminal justice stakeholders worked to refine a Batterers Intervention Program for District Attorney-referrals of eligible domestic violence cases. This formalized Domestic

Violence Court commenced formal operations in 2014 as a collaborative, two-tiered domestic violence program to address anger management, underlying substance abuse and mental health related issues. In 2015, 215 individuals accepted the DV Diversion program.

AMP (Accelerated Misdemeanor Program)

The Accelerated Misdemeanor Program (AMP) is an alternative to traditional prosecution methods that diverts offenders with low level misdemeanor arrests. AMP hearings are scheduled to district courtroom locations throughout the City. The cases are heard and disposed expeditiously with sentencing options of community service to be completed in the neighborhood where the crime occurred. The expansion of this program (AMP 2) has resulted in increased sentencing options including guilty pleas, Section 17 and Section 18 adjudications. Alternative sentencing also addresses underlying behavior issues through court-ordered social service assessment and treatment.

The AMP unit has a community service representative in the courtroom to provide direction to offenders on completing their service hours, along with a list of court approved sites and contact information to report compliance. To assist with this task, the court has partnered with over 100 non-profit organizations within the City including the Department of Recreation. The AMP staff works closely with these organizations to track offender progress and report updates to the AMP assigned District Attorney and Public Defender. All sentence information is entered into a Community Service database to ensure accurate reporting of offender compliance. In addition, courtroom statistics are tracked and entered daily for proper case management. Staff members also assist with offenders and various criminal justice agencies through telephone contact, managing AMP dockets and maintaining a precise filing system.

In 2015, 4,880 misdemeanor cases were diverted to AMP. Of those diverted, 3,020 accepted and 2,545 successfully completed. A total of 19,564 community service hours were completed.

SER (Sexual Education Responsibility) Class

Recognizing the need for sound strategies to address sexual exploitation by criminal offenders, the Court, the District Attorney's Office and the Defender Association partnered with representatives from JJPI to develop a diversion class for defendants who are charged with solicitation. The evaluation and treatment of individuals arrested for solicitation of a prostitute includes participation in a one day, four-hour group therapy experience. The aim of the SER class is to diminish the demand for prostitution within Philadelphia; to provide high quality, professional clinical intervention; and to provide accurate information to individuals regarding the impact on the sex worker, the community and on the individual soliciting sex.

The District Attorney's Charging Unit flags eligible solicitation cases for AMP. In lieu of community service, defendants are required to complete the four-hour SER class held at JJPI, and pay the \$250 program fee and mandatory court costs. The program fee is paid directly to JJPI. Attorneys and court staff assigned to AMP are prepared to assist defendants who accept the offer. If a defendant chooses not to participate in the SER class, the case is scheduled for trial and defendants who are convicted of

solicitation at trial are ordered to complete the SER class. Participation in the SER class is mandated as part of any Commonwealth negotiation for solicitation offenses.

The first SER class was held on Saturday, May 10, 2014 and is conducted the 2nd Saturday of each month. From May 2014 – December 2015, 397 defendants were scheduled, with 333 completions.

Accelerated Misdemeanor Program					
2015 SER Class					
	Defendants Scheduled	Class Completions	Completion Rate	# FTA	FTA Rate
TOTAL	194	155	79.90%	39	20.10%

Veterans Court

Municipal Court, in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, the Defender Association and veterans' agencies, continues its successful problem solving endeavor to divert front end cases involving veterans. The program assists justice-involved veterans struggling with mental health, substance abuse or other reintegration issues. The presiding judge of Veterans Court is a Veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Building on the success of established programs, Veterans Court oversees a range of services offered to qualified veterans involved in the criminal justice system. The judicial branch recognizes the tremendous service veterans provided to our country and believes it is the Court's duty to offer veterans programs and services to overcome challenges that are unique to their experiences.

Veterans Court provides veterans with immediate access to representatives from the Veterans Administration (VA) to determine benefits eligibility and to perform an assessment to settle on the appropriate level of care. The assessment determines each veteran's suitability for an array of VA programs, including alcohol, substance abuse, mental health or medical treatment, as well as housing, job training, job referrals and other ancillary services. In 2015, 58 individuals (multiple cases) successfully graduated Veterans Court.

The Choice is Yours (TCY)

TCY strives to reduce recidivism rates and address the problem of prison overcrowding without compromising public safety. In partnership with Jewish Employment and Vocational Services (JEVS), TCY's goals are to:

(1) reduce the likelihood of recidivism among TCY participants; (2) reduce state and city costs by cutting the number of trials among the TCY target population; (3) reduce costs associated with pre-trial and post-trial incarceration; and (4) provide participants with the skills and training necessary to become productive, employable individuals without the stigma of a criminal conviction.

The program targets first-time felony drug offenders charged with Possession with Intent to Deliver (PWID) 2 to 10 grams of powder or crack cocaine. The District Attorney's Office has sole discretion in approving or rejecting a defendant's participation in TCY. Participants engage in a variety of activities, including: job readiness training (resume preparation, networking skills, interviewing and job search); computer classes; education and skills training (GED, college and technical classes); community service; job placement and advancement; mentoring from community members; and regular check-ins (progress listings) with the TCY judge.

TCY received a funding bridge donation from JEVS in early 2014, which enabled new participants to begin enrolling in the orientation phase from March through June. An additional allocation was made by the Philadelphia Prison System in the summer. Forty-five defendants were identified for the program and 38 formally entered TCY in 2014. Funds are in place to sustain services for these participants throughout the year long program. Additional funding is being sought for new enrollment in 2016. In 2015, 33 cases were accepted into the TCY program.

The Choice is Yours (TCY) is an innovative alternative-to-incarceration program that diverts non-violent felony drug offenders away from prison and toward positive social services and support.

Video Crash Court

Municipal Court continues its use of expanded video technology in association with the prison to conduct expedited misdemeanor trials, thereby eliminating the need to transport defendants to the courthouse for negotiated pleas and stipulated trials. Video Crash Court hearings are typically scheduled 3 weeks post arrest. Through the cooperation of the District Attorney's office, judges are also able to immediately address many Municipal Court probation/parole issues that in the past resulted in longer lengths of incarceration pending judicial review. In 2015, 360 cases were adjudicated through Video Crash Court, which was a decrease in cases over previous years.

Early Resolution Initiative

In January 2013, a new initiative was implemented in Municipal Court for early resolution of felony cases where the offer would be extended to plead to the misdemeanor offense. Over time, the early resolution program was expanded to include waiver of preliminary hearings, as well as pleas on misdemeanor cases.

In 2015, 630 cases were adjudicated through the early resolution initiative. Many cases that would have previously been scheduled to Video Crash Court are now scheduled more quickly to the early resolution list.

DUI Treatment Court

DUI Treatment Court continues to promote public safety, to hold offenders accountable for their actions, and to help offenders maintain sobriety and be responsible and productive members of the community. The target group for DUI Treatment Court includes DUI offenders who qualify for Levels 3 or 4 of the Sentencing Guidelines promulgated by the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing and who are in need of drug and/or alcohol treatment. DUI Treatment Court is dedicated to the treatment and adjudication of individuals with multiple DUI offenses who have no related history of violent crime or other legal complications. These individuals serve reduced jail time by attending extensive treatment. For example, a defendant who is subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 90 days in prison will serve 10 days in prison, followed by treatment. A defendant who is subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of one year in prison will serve 6 months prior to participating in treatment. In all, 89% of the participants have successfully completed the program. To date, 54 of the 368 graduates (15%) have been arrested and 30 have been convicted on new criminal charges (8%).

Philadelphia Drug Treatment Court

The Philadelphia Drug Treatment Court, the first drug court in Pennsylvania, was established in response to the dramatic growth in drug related criminal activity occurring in Philadelphia. Recognizing that sound strategies to address the

drug involvement of criminal offenders must be a fundamental priority of the criminal justice system, the Court represents an effort to establish a new working relationship between the court and the substance abuse treatment system.

There are 2,736 successful graduates of the program; of those, 91% were not convicted of a new crime within one year of graduation and 84% remained arrest free within one year of graduation.

Mental Health Initiative

Many of the mental health challenges brought before the Municipal Court have been centralized and streamlined before President Judge Neifield. Operationally, the ability to centralize mental health cases for criminal defendants has proven beneficial in dealing with questions of competency and coordinating orders for mental health evaluations. At subsequent status hearings, the judge monitors defendants returned to the community. Through the collaborative efforts of the District Attorney and defense counsel, hundreds of cases have been monitored for treatment with prosecution eventually withdrawn. Other cases have had non-trial dispositions requiring mental health supervision and treatment, and ongoing monitoring by the court.

Bench Warrant Court

The Court provides swift justice to address repeated failures to appear, which had undermined public trust and confidence in the criminal justice system. Adjudications range from the removal of the warrant, a contempt charge and sanction, bail modifications, and, in certain misdemeanor cases, the immediate resolution of the underlying case. FTA rates have been steadily declining.

Emergency Protection from Abuse

The Emergency Protection from Abuse unit operates during non-traditional hours for emergency petitions only. The unit is staffed by law-trained masters who, in accordance with the Protection from Abuse Act, conduct *ex-parte* hearings and review facts to determine if a petition should be granted. The current complement of staff includes one supervisory master, 10 per diem masters and 10 clerical assistants (on rotating shifts). Grant funds support comprehensive educational and sensitivity training for all masters and clerks. The unit approved 2,243 petitions in calendar year 2014 and provided referrals for victim services and emergency referral sites throughout Philadelphia to several thousand non-qualifying petitioners. The EPFA unit is available to petitioners when many other service agencies are closed. Funding cuts threaten the continued operation of this critical service in Municipal Court.

Non-Traffic Summary Citations

Non Traffic Summary Citations January – December, 2015	
Filings	27,054
Adjudications	29,773
Clearance Rate	110%
Active Inventory	1,935

Supreme Court rule changes permitting trials *in absentia* for non-traffic summary cases resulted in judges conducting slightly more than 15,929 Rule 1002 hearings with assessments of over \$4.9 million dollars. The vast majority of these assessments have been referred for collection.

Summary Diversion Program

Special non-traffic summary programs, such as nuisance night court and the summary diversion program, helped pioneer problem solving diversion initiatives in the Commonwealth. Introduced in the late 1990's, these programs address quality of life issues for the citizens of Philadelphia in an attempt to deter future criminal behavior. In 2015, 3,494 offenders successfully completed the Quality of Life Diversion Program and collections for the Victim Compensation Fund amounted to \$167,280. Collections continue to sustain the operations of the departmental staff, nuisance night court and the summary diversion programs.

Other criminal cases initiated without an arrest warrant:

CASE TYPE	DISPOSITIONS 2015
Private Criminal Complaints	373
Unemployment Compensation	60

PARS Renovation

The Criminal Division represents the FJD for the PARS software application rewrite. PARS is the critical arrest to preliminary arraignment data application. Municipal Court Criminal Administration participated in vendor selection and the completion of a Request for Proposal with the City of Philadelphia's Office of Information Technology. The rewrite is a multi-year initiative that will also incorporate the needs and resources of the FJD's Court of Common Pleas Criminal and Family Court-Juvenile Divisions. The Court will work closely with the AOPC's Office of Judicial Automation to implement operational process changes and ensure that interfaces with CPCMS are seamless. Current challenges with the City's OIT department to negotiate a contract are impacting the progression of the project.

MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge

Throughout 2015, the President Judge and Criminal Division staff actively participated in a collaborative examination of additional criminal justice reforms in Philadelphia. We successfully

received a preliminary MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge Grant. Our subsequent application outlines a comprehensive plan to reduce the prison population by 34% in three years, reduce the rate of racial, ethnic, and economic disparities, and enhance the justice system's data capacity. This plan addresses the three main drivers of our population: 1) the over-incarceration of pretrial defendants, 2) a lengthy case process, and 3) the incarceration of individuals who violate the terms of their community supervision.

Among several strategies, Philadelphia will address over-incarceration of pretrial defendants by fundamentally changing the way preliminary arraignment decisions are made and pretrial defendants are supervised in the community. The aim is to reduce admissions to the jail and the reliance on cash bail. The First Judicial District will implement a new pretrial risk tool designed specifically for Philadelphia and restructure the Pretrial Services Department to expand the range of supervision options. Other strategies will look to increase efficiency in case processing for pretrial and sentenced defendants, and address our excessive length of stay problem in Philadelphia. We will use newly-collected data to identify and respond to unnecessary delays and bottlenecks in the system, expedite plea offers on felony cases, improve case processing for sentenced defendants, examine options for quicker resolution of violations of probation, examine issues of racial and ethnic disparities by implementing a pre-arrest diversion program, provide implicit/explicit bias training to agency staff, and conduct a comprehensive review of racial and ethnic disparity data across the system.

This is an excellent opportunity to collaborate with our justice partners and implement data-driven practices for efficient and responsive court programs and policies. This reform effort will be mechanism to improve our alternative to pre-trial incarceration and encourage better prison population management while balancing the need to ensure public safety.

Papal Visit

In anticipation of the Papal visit to Philadelphia in September, 2015, the court was advised that security measures would be enacted that would render the criminal courthouse inaccessible during the Pope's visit. As a result, measures were undertaken to identify alternate, secure sites located outside the Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice to continue operations for the 24/7 Preliminary Arraignment Courtroom and Emergency Protection from Abuse services. Similar to the Republican National Convention planning in 2000, the court requested the use of several courtrooms/roll call rooms in police facilities. Given the need to conduct video arraignments, and in order to accommodate the courtroom staff, pretrial staff and the District Attorney's Charging Unit, the court converted space in two police districts to use as the primary site for video preliminary arraignments. A secondary police location available as a back-up video arraignment site and prison video bench warrant hearing courtroom staffed by a Municipal Court Judge was also secured. While no one anticipated a mass arrest or citation issuance scenario, plans were made to coordinate with the police department and other justice partners to conduct hearings at the identified locations, if necessary. Similarly, the

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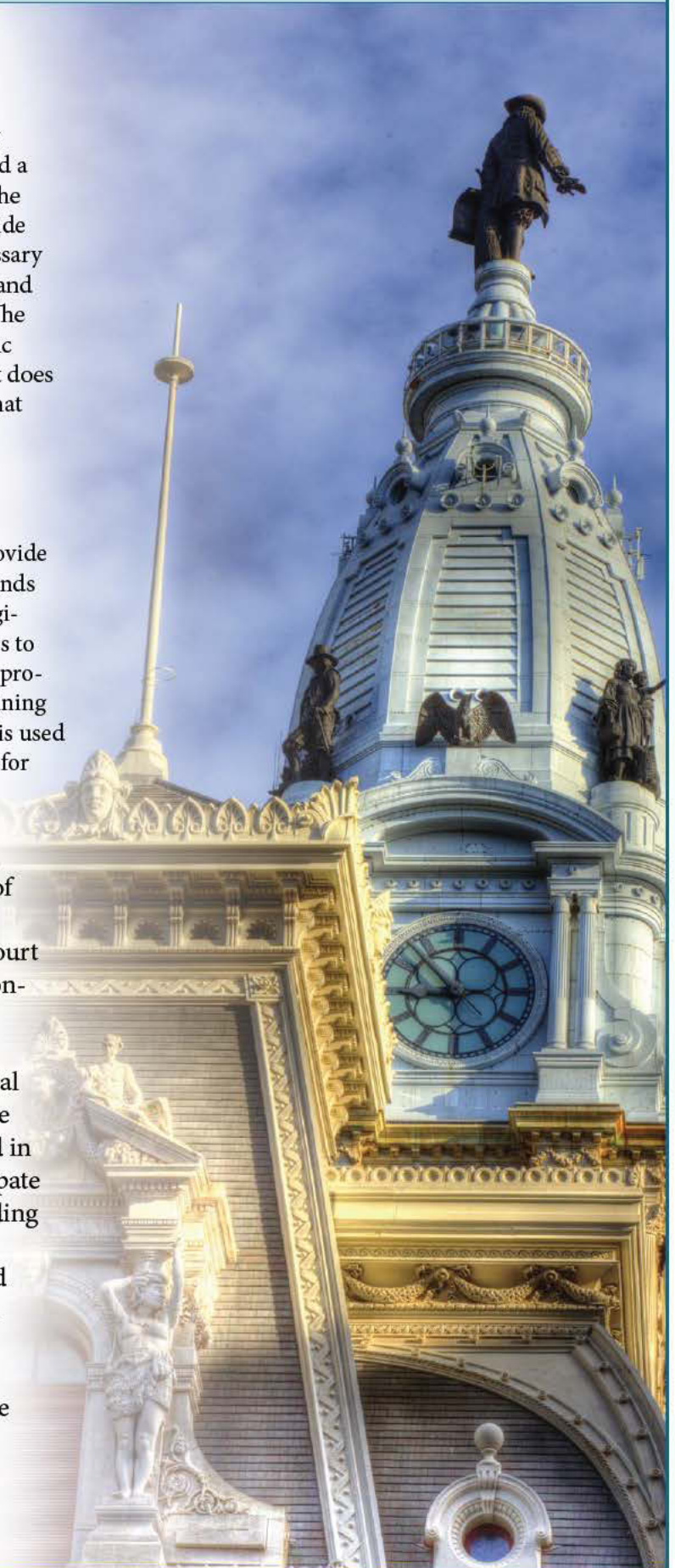
Criminal Division

Emergency Protection from Abuse site was relocated to a Juvenile Justice Center in West Philadelphia within close proximity to public transportation for petitioners requiring emergency relief. The Deputy Court Administrator assumed a lead role in assembling appropriate IT teams to: 1) ensure the technical infrastructure logistics were enabled, and 2) provide time for the FJD and the District Attorney to procure necessary equipment. All staff remained respectful of police districts and caused minimal disruption to standard police operations. The implementation of similar back-up plans for the Democratic National Convention in July 2016 is expected, but the court does not anticipate the extremely restrictive security measures that were employed in Center City during the Papal Visit.

Municipal Court in Review

The Civil Division, the true People's Court, continues to provide for dispute resolution in civil actions and adjudicate thousands of cases annually while maintaining and enhancing the original e-filing system. The Division continues to provide access to justice by making CLAIMS available to pro se litigants and providing them with a comprehensive training session and training materials. The Division's state-of-the-art conference center is used regularly by the Bar Association, the AOPC and the FJD for continuing legal education and training.

The year 2015 saw the continuation of positive reform initiatives in the Court's Criminal Division. In excess of 6,709 cases were diverted from the Court's standard calendars, saving costs associated with formal trials, court related police overtime and lengthy prison stays for non-violent offenders. The resolution of data integrity and analysis challenges continues to ensure the effective management of cases is maintained within the Criminal Division. The Division continues its involvement in the expanded FJD reformation project; is actively involved in the PARS rewrite/renovation; and continues to participate in the Bail Reform project. We look forward to expanding the successful Accelerated Misdemeanor Program to focus on a reduction in the number of detainees placed on custody defendants, and we anticipate an early bail review process before the President Judge to be implemented in mid-2016. The Court continues to work collaboratively with its justice partners to provide access to justice to all parties requiring services in Municipal Court.



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Traffic Division

The Philadelphia Municipal Court, Traffic Division, ("Traffic Division") is located at 800 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19123. The Court's mission of promoting public safety, providing access to justice, and adjudicating cases promptly, fairly, and cost-effectively, is exemplified in the undertakings, initiatives, and achievements that are summarized and overviewed in this 2015 annual report.

The Traffic Division was established by Act 17 of 2013 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, which transferred the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia Traffic Court to the Philadelphia Municipal Court. In 2015, over 6,770 individuals walked through the public entrance of the Traffic Division on a weekly basis, for a total of 352,128 annually.

Under the supervision of Administrative/Common Pleas Court Judge Gary S. Glazer, the Court remains committed to providing expedient and convenient service to the public and, therefore, is open from 8:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. On a daily basis, the court operates two trial courtrooms, including the General Assembly Room, which is comprised of six hearing rooms, as well as a motion court, an impoundment courtroom, and a night court, which remains open until 7:30 p.m. Mandatory and subsequent offense violations are tried in one courtroom, while the majority of the cases are heard in the General Assembly Room.

Those rooms are primarily staffed by Judge Christine Solomon and Hearing Officers Derrick Coker, Esquire; Stefanie Ebert, Esquire; Bharati Patel, Esquire; Demetrios Semos, Esquire; and Y. Judy Song, Esquire, all of whom adjudicate violations of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code, release vehicles impounded under Sections 6309, 6309.1, and 6309.2 of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code, conduct financial determination hearings and warrant hearings, and rule on motions for continuances. In addition, Domenic C. Reda, Director of Operations for the Traffic Division, presides in Motion Court



MUNICIPAL *court*

Traffic Division

where he, too, conducts financial determination hearings, considers motions for continuances, and arraigns prisoners, in addition to his responsibility of overseeing several core units of the Traffic Division. (Bharati Patel, Esquire, resigned from her position as a hearing officer effective December 22, 2015. Working in conjunction with the Human Resources Department of the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts ("AOPC"), in mid- December, 2015, the Traffic Division began the open recruitment process for a hearing officer who will be hired on the basis of merit. A position announcement was posted on the AOPC's website and in the Philadelphia Inquirer. The extensive interview process will begin in early January, 2016.)



Summary Trial Appeal Program

The implementation of the **Summary Trial Appeal Program** was the most comprehensive change that occurred in the Traffic Division in 2015. Appeals of convictions to motor vehicle citations adjudicated at the Traffic Division were historically heard by judges of the Court of Common Pleas at the Criminal Justice Center. Jurisdiction was transferred to the Traffic Division on January 5, 2015. Appeals de novo, nunc pro tunc appeals, and Informa Pauperis Petitions that were previously handled by the Criminal Trial Division are now filed, scheduled, processed, and heard at the Traffic Division by Municipal Court judges designated as Common Pleas Court judges. The appeals are heard on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Beyond the associated structural and procedural changes finalized in 2014 in anticipation of the additional responsibility assumed by the Traffic Division in connection with the appeal matters, the court realized in early January, 2015, that the communication process between the police and the court had to be upgraded and automated in order to expedite the manual process of tracking and reporting the leave time (i.e., training days, regular days off, and vacation) of all City of Philadelphia police officers to ensure their availability on the date of the appeal hearing.

Working in conjunction with the police department, the court installed a thumb-scanning device for use in monitoring the whereabouts of the issuing officer (similar to a time clock); ran a dedicated line from the police server to a separate computer in the courtroom; provided a non-FJD telephone line, with restricted access, for ease in contacting police districts regarding the presence of the issuing officer; and opened an extra courtroom to dichotomize trials and status cases, thereby allowing for crowd control and accelerated processing. In addition, at the time of scheduling, the court provides the defendant with three dates on which the issuing officer is available to report for trial. The trial date is subsequently assigned based upon the availability of the defendant.

All of the foregoing changes, coupled with the strict adherence to law, have ensured a higher rate of attendance of defendants and police personnel, thereby reducing the number of relistments. Statistics support that fewer nunc pro tunc petitions were filed and granted in 2015, as compared to 2014, as reflected in the following chart.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Appeals De Novo	7,984	6,117
Nunc Pro Tunc Petitions (filed)	3,521	2,489
Nunc Pro Tunc Petitions (granted)	1,723	764

The following report displays the adjudications of the appealed citations by calendar year:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Appeals Withdrawn	166	125
Guilty	5,560	3,825
Not Guilty	2,897	2,073

Accolades have been received from the general public and members of the legal community regarding the manner in which the appeal cases have been conducted, the convenience in filing the appeals, and the professionalism of courtroom staff. The Traffic Division is appreciative of all of the judges who were assigned to hear the appeals cases, including, most notably, Judge Bradley Moss, who was the first Municipal Court Judge to preside over the appeal trials. Judge Moss was instrumental in defining the procedures of the appeal process and, under his personal tutelage, the court officers of the Traffic Division were trained in the areas of courtroom etiquette and decorum, legal terminology, and courtroom security. The efforts of Judge Francis Shields, Judge Roger Gordon, and Judge Michael Coleman, all of whom were assigned to the appeal court on a rotational basis, are also acknowledged and appreciated.



Rocky Statue

Compliance Program

The adoption of a **Compliance Program**, one of the cornerstones of the extensive reform measures implemented by Administrative Judge Gary S. Glazer since 2011, was the most significant accomplishment in 2015. Administrative Docket No. 01 of 2015 was filed on May 4, 2015 (In Re: Adoption of a Compliance Program for the Philadelphia Municipal Court, Traffic Division). Similar in structure to that of compliance programs utilized in the private sector, this program enlists the support of every employee of the Traffic Division to monitor the integrity and professionalism of the court's operations. The Program identifies *potential risk areas*, including, but not limited to,

- Ex parte communications with judges, hearing officers and staff regarding pending matters.
- Attempts to secure special consideration for friends, family and the politically connected.
- Inquiries from public officials and their staffs regarding pending cases.
- Political campaign activity by judges, hearing officers and staff.
- Unauthorized access to confidential information such as Pennsylvania State driving records and eTMS record information.
- Abuse of work hours.
- Discourteous and unprofessional treatment of the public and fellow employees.
- Adjudication of citations involving court employees and their immediate family members.

The Compliance Program also specifies the *standards of conduct* by which the employees are governed, the *procedures for reporting*, and the *role of the Compliance Officer* who directly reports to the Administrative Judge on all matters relating to the program and is charged with the task of administering the compliance program, by

- Developing and maintaining a method for logging complaints of unethical conduct.
- Developing and implementing the anonymous reporting process for alleged violations.
- Ensuring the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation.
- Overseeing the investigation and resolution of complaints.
- Ensuring that all employees execute the annual acknowledgement that they have read and understand the personnel policies of the FJD including the applicable Code of Conduct.

Administrative Judge Glazer and Deputy Court Administrator, Joseph L. Hassett, Esquire, met with all Traffic Division employees in May, 2015 to provide an overview of the compliance program and orientate the employees on the various methods of reporting suspicious activity, one of which is via a designated Compliance Hotline number (215-686-1624). The reports are logged, monitored, and tracked by the compliance officer.

The Compliance Program, as implemented in the Traffic Division, is unique to the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania ("FJD") and was a solidifying component in the reform process.

CITATION ISSUANCE / ENFORCEMENT

As evidenced on the attached graph reflecting citation issuance by all police agencies for calendar years 1999 through 2015, issuance decreased by 9,433 motor vehicle citations in the last year. During calendar year 2015, one hundred twenty-six thousand, one hundred forty seven (126,147) citations were issued in the City of Philadelphia by various Police Agencies, including City Police; Pennsylvania State Police; Pennsylvania State Police Truck Enforcement; Highway Patrol; Accident Investigation Division; Airport Police; Housing Authority Police; SEPTA Police; Pennsylvania Fuel Tax; University of Pennsylvania; Drexel University; Temple University; Delaware River Port Authority; and AMTRAK Police.

Despite the continual decline in ticket issuance, the Traffic Division remains committed to promoting public safety and focusing on the need for the electronic citation which will automate the writing of the citations for the police, while enhancing case-flow management and ensuring the integrity of operations for the court. Unfortunately, minimal progress was made in 2015 on the e-Citation program. Use of the electronic citation will yield safer and more expedient car stops. In October, 2015, there was a resurgence of interest, as representatives of the police department and the City's Office of Technology resumed monthly meetings regarding the status of the project. A project manager has been appointed to oversee the program and coordinate strategy sessions to effectuate district-wide implementation of the electronic citation. Future meetings in 2016 will include representation from the Traffic Division. The court remains confident that the e-Citation will become a reality and, in that regard, has reaffirmed its pledge of \$1,000,000 from its own budget to implement the program.

ENFORCEMENT

Pennsylvania State Police - To augment the enforcement efforts of the Pennsylvania State Police Department to evaluate their operations and increase accountability, in 2015, the Court accorded the troopers with the same tools that are provided to the Philadelphia police, i.e., query-only access to the warrant subsystem so that the State Police barracks will be able to verify the status of a Traffic Division warrant at the time of the stop and a weekly report of defendants with active warrants who were not arrested at the time of a stop.

Philadelphia Police - In the latter part of 2015, attention was focused on ensuring that all motor vehicle citations issued by City of Philadelphia police are filed timely with the court. Historically, in conformance with Pennsylvania Rule of Criminal Procedure 406, which provides that a citation should be filed with the proper issuing authority within five days after it is issued to the defendant, and that the citation should be filed as soon as is practical so the issuing authority may process the case, approximately fifty percent (50%) of citations issued by Philadelphia police were received on a timely basis. In January, 2015, the percentage of citations that were received in the courthouse within one and seven days declined to 42%; by July, 2015, only

16.01% of the citations were received timely. Recognizing that the untimely filing of citations generates problems for defendants whose citations were received and data entered *subsequent* to the date-certain trial date, as recorded on the citation at the time of the stop, the court is now supplying the police with monthly reports to apprise them of the districts that are not in compliance with the state law and the number of days by which the citations are filed untimely. The police have expressed their concern over these delays and are cooperating with the court to resolve the issue.

Department of Prisons – In early February, 2015, the court worked with a team from the Philadelphia Prison Management Unit, the Philadelphia sheriffs, and other court personnel to implement protocol for the processing, tracking, and monitoring of weekend surrenders from the Traffic Division upon sentencing for incarceration. Prior to the establishment of these procedures, the Traffic Division was devoid of any means by which to address situations where defendants violated their sentencing orders.

CASE FLOW MANAGEMENT

While over 126,000 motor vehicle citations were issued in the City of Philadelphia throughout 2015, the Traffic Division *actually adjudicated 131,350 citations*. The following charts provide a comparative overview of case statistics for calendar years 2014 and 2015, including the number of installment payment plan hearings, impoundment hearings, warrant hearings, and closed-circuit television hearings for inmates.

CITATIONS DISPOSED:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
TRIAL: GUILTY	88,354	79,167
TRIAL: NOT GUILTY	18,892	10,831
GUILTY PLEA	24,079	20,653
DISMISSAL	1,352	1,514
PROS. WITHDRAWN	10,644	15,487
TOTAL DISPOSED:	148,192	131,350

(Other adjudications, including, but not limited to, voided citations and those that were marked as deceased, are encompassed in the number of disposed citations.)

Of equal significance are the number of defendants who entered into payment plan agreements with the Court after a financial determination hearing was conducted; the number of defendants who appeared before the Impoundment Court judge or hearing officer in an effort to effectuate a release of their vehicle which had been impounded by the Police or the Parking Authority; and the number of defendants who were brought down from the prisons, arrested and transported by district police, or had hearings through the closed-circuit TV process. All of these enforcement mechanisms assisted in our goal to provide safer streets for the general public.

<i>Installment Payment Plan Hearings</i>	<i>55,872</i>
<i>Impoundment Hearings</i>	<i>12,011</i>
<i>Warrant Hearings</i>	<i>2,200</i>
<i>Closed Circuit Television Hearings</i>	<i>70</i>

The Court is continuing to pursue the options of expanding our closed-circuit television hearing process for inmates, which will obviate the need to transport the prisoners to the courthouse. In that regard, the court has met with the Deputy Warden and the Deputy Commissioner of the Philadelphia Prison system to develop a program whereby a daily flat file reflecting the names of all inmates who are taken into custody in the City of Philadelphia will be forwarded to the court for cross referencing with the active warrant sub-file, thereby increasing the population of inmates who will have access to the closed circuit hearing process.

SECURITY

The Traffic Division remains focused on the security of its courthouse, ensuring the safety of the judges, hearing officers, employees, and the general public. The following security measures were effectuated in 2015:

- A sheriff was deployed in the General Assembly Room (Courtroom “A”) at all times, as opposed to periodic rotations;
- A security monitor was installed in the General Assembly Room for constant surveillance of all key courthouse areas;
- The key-fob system was upgraded;
- Eighty percent of the administrative offices were rekeyed for security purposes;
- The building’s obsolete pass point system was upgraded to a more efficient and secure computer-based program; and
- Building access (via identification badges) was reviewed and restricted for all staff based upon actual need.

FINANCIAL

In 2015, the Court collected a total of \$21,996,219.67 in revenue. In accordance with the disbursement schedule, the Commonwealth received \$9.2 million, the City received approximately \$6.4 million, Xerox received \$1.6 million, and the Philadelphia Parking Authority received \$755,747.77. In addition, the Court disbursed over \$3.8 million to the FJD. See attached graph comparing revenue received versus citation issuance.

In its quest to collect outstanding fines and costs, in 2015, the court identified a population of defendants whose accounts were in default by \$25.00 or more for outstanding fines and costs. A one-time only reminder notice captioned “Use Your Tax Refund Wisely” was mailed to those entities, with some exclusions based upon appeal status or outdated addresses. The response was significant; 5,370 customers either satisfied their debt in its entirety or established a monthly payment agreement. The revenue generated as a result of those notices was \$463,651.15.

Similarly, through the court’s Interactive Voice Response system (“IVR”), \$723,924 was paid by defendants who were attempting to satisfy their total debt or comply with their monthly payment obligation.

(The IVR allows a defendant to retrieve information pertaining to his or her case file, obtain general information, or pay a citation via a telephone call to the Traffic Division.) Through interaction with the Court’s database, the defendant can retrieve such information as the amount due on the record, the case status, and the date on which the monthly payment is due.

The IVR is centralized through the call center, which is primarily staffed by three employees and one supervisor. In its mission to efficiently deploy personnel, the court rotates cashiers and other customer service representatives in the unit on days of higher volume. Approximately 201,563 individuals contacted

the Call Center via the call-forwarding feature of the Interactive Voice Response System (“IVR”) that became fully operational in February, 2015. Sixty percent (60%) of those calls were addressed without staff intervention, while forty percent (40%) were transferred to a customer service representative for assistance. This technology has streamlined operations for the Court by significantly reducing the number of defendants who pass through our courthouse and has provided the general public with “24/7” access to the court and more immediacy in terms of response time to their inquiries.

STAFFING LEVELS / TRAINING

The Traffic Division recognizes the challenges encountered and the successes realized by its staff during the past year. To lay a foundation of knowledge and skills to assist them in their daily assignments, the court provided annual training in 2015.

- The Court contracted with Elevate USA, a professional skills training company, to provide training in the areas of (1) Anger Management, which provided direction and strategies for defusing volatile situations and deconstructing and addressing anger issues; and (2) Optimism in the Workplace, which provided insight into “negativity traps” and providing instruction as to how one can overcome negativity with optimistic thinking. Positive feedback was received from the employees.
- The court also provided professional skills training administered by the Office of Human Resources for newly appointed supervisors and conducted ethics classes for newly hired employees. Those classes provided round-table discussions for all employees in order to reinforce the need to be governed by sound, moral principles. Emphasis was placed on public perception, how to address situations involving family members or friends who face court proceedings, and the importance of reporting behavior that is in direct violation of the Code of Conduct Policy of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania.
- Training was also provided to the hearing officers in the areas of ethics training, the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code, and the Code of Conduct Policy for employees of the Unified Judicial System.

Traditionally, all interpreter services are provided for and funded by the FJD. The need for Spanish interpreters at the Traffic Division dramatically increased in 2015. In 2015, 1,037 requests for Spanish interpretation services were generated by the Traffic Division. To offset budgetary constraints, the Traffic Division hired its own Spanish interpreter trainee, an individual who will be assigned exclusively to the Traffic Division, eight hours per day, at a flat salary. The trainee, who was selected as a result of an open-interview process, will participate in the interpreter orientation program presented by the AOPC and complete all requirements and testing administered by the AOPC. The position will be filled in January, 2016. The employee will have two years to become fully certified and, in addition to providing Spanish interpreter services for the court, the employee will be responsible for scheduling other language interpreters in the courthouse. This represents a cost-saving measure for the FJD.

As the number of staff was reduced through attrition, the Court took a proactive approach to assess the operations of several departments and, as a result, restructured the Payment Adjustment Department by consolidating it with the Ticket Inventory and Dispute Resolution Units, under the supervision of one individual. Efforts will continue to focus on reorganization as an alternative to hiring additional managerial staff.

An impressive amount of work was processed with a limited number of staff at the Traffic Division in 2015, thereby attesting to the fact that the Court continues to effectively maximize its human resources to improve efficiency.

It should be noted that the complement of personnel remained status quo. By year end, the court employed 108 individuals, eighteen of whom were assigned to the second shift (12:00 Noon until 8:00 p.m.). Those 108 employees were deployed in the following Traffic Division departments: Appeals/Attorney Listings; Boot & Tow; Call Center; Central Records; Citation Control; Court Listings; Courtroom Operations; Customer Service; Financial Control; Lockbox; Mail Room; Payment Adjustment; Personnel; Pre-Trial Services; Processing Edits; and Record Retention.

The momentum continued throughout 2015 towards some of the ongoing, excellent programs instituted by the Court in previous years, such as:

- The Re-Entry Program - The Court continued to work with United States Magistrate Judge Timothy Rice and his team of mentoring attorneys and law students on the Re-Entry Program which assists federal probationers to transition into society after release from incarceration. Key officials from the Traffic Division participated in a team leader meeting, which was held in the first quarter of 2015; periodic procedural inquiries are directed to court administration by the students regarding such matters as the appeals process, financial determination hearings, and impoundment proceedings.
- The Public Safety Out-Reach Program - The Court's Public Relations Manager for Education has been working with representatives from the Bicycle Coalition of Philadelphia to foster a partnership for the betterment of the community by promoting awareness about the need for vehicle safety while emphasizing the danger of distracted and aggressive driving. They endeavor to change driver behavior and encourage compliance with motor vehicle laws.

TECHNOLOGY

Throughout 2015, the Court conducted weekly meetings with representatives from Xerox (who provides contractual services for ticket processing) to monitor the existing contract, ensure compliance with system enhancements and upgrades, and to assess and address production problems. The following changes were implemented to the Court's ticket-processing database:

- The eTIMS system was modified to allow for the data entry of new appeal disposition codes to reflect judicial orders, as well as negotiated guilty pleas, rendered in the appellate court. This modification will enhance the court's ability to track and monitor statistical data.
- The system logic was adjusted to allow for new surcharge statutes (i.e., Section 3111(a) of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code).

Trial Court Performance Measures

CourTools, which was designed by the National Center for State Courts, provides a structured means by which trial courts can gauge their performance. The Traffic Division continued to perform statistical analysis in this regard and fulfilled its obligation by ensuring that all cases scheduled with the Court are processed in a timely manner. Through statistical analysis of new cases filed, cases dispositioned, and cases pending, the Traffic Division realized a 124% closure rate.

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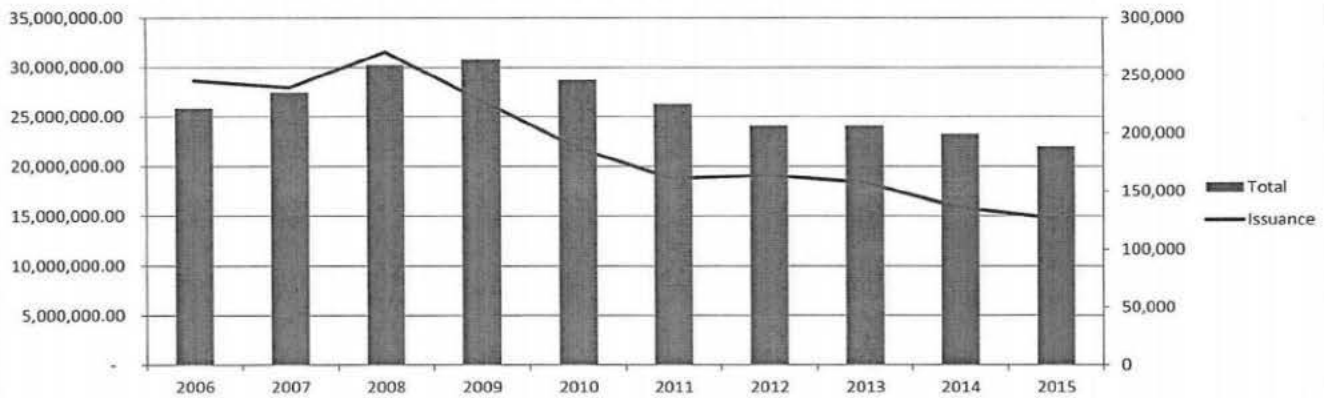
Traffic Division

Philadelphia Municipal Court Traffic Division

This sheet displays the breakdown in distribution by Fiscal Year

Year	State	City	Xerox Fee	Warrant Fee	PPA	2360 Fee	Total	Issuance
2006	12,049,242.60	8,604,208.06	1,778,338.92	837,691.70	1,185,108.71	1,382,483.75	25,837,073.74	245,169
2007	12,139,699.52	8,763,253.62	2,524,200.77	1,594,887.56	1,202,605.97	1,201,706.52	27,426,353.96	239,270
2008	13,292,208.88	9,494,433.86	2,150,603.65	2,487,406.14	1,404,227.00	1,433,974.94	30,262,854.47	270,355
2009	13,495,066.55	9,638,204.79	2,468,125.90	2,402,613.72	1,446,100.84	1,362,112.77	30,812,224.57	228,119
2010	12,378,430.87	8,893,518.72	2,276,438.77	2,391,113.17	1,323,407.46	1,453,954.39	28,716,863.38	186,998
2011	11,147,068.69	8,134,053.20	2,042,594.21	2,279,687.12	1,169,857.09	1,542,577.46	26,315,837.77	160,556
2012	9,926,046.43	7,392,848.17	1,824,722.42	2,096,982.53	1,062,323.41	1,785,722.76	24,088,645.72	163,328
2013	9,791,972.62	7,355,330.22	1,848,320.76	2,235,477.18	1,064,316.08	1,792,921.34	24,088,338.20	157,142
2014	9,378,692.82	7,056,759.76	1,804,113.92	2,373,109.73	981,955.98	1,674,868.67	23,269,500.88	135,580
2015	9,291,555.21	6,435,217.01	1,635,931.24	2,368,716.94	755,747.77	1,509,051.50	21,996,219.67	126,147
Total	\$ 112,889,984.19	\$ 81,767,827.41	\$ 20,353,390.56	\$ 21,067,685.79	\$ 11,595,650.31	\$ 15,139,374.10	\$ 262,813,912.36	1,912,664

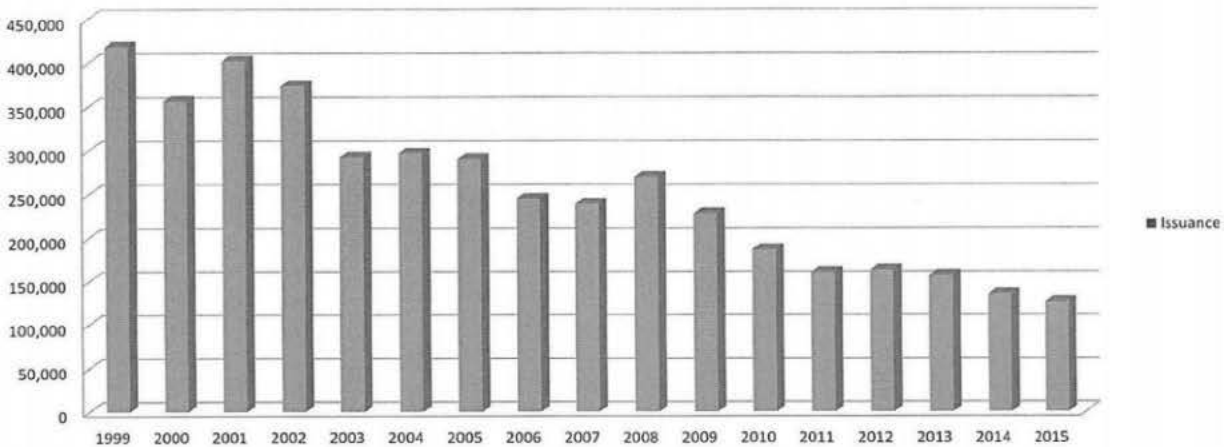
Total Distribution/Citation Issuance



Philadelphia Municipal Court Traffic Division

This sheet displays the total issuance for all agencies

Citation Issuance - All Agency



Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Issuance	418,881	356,934	402,542	374,151	292,591	297,450	290,481	245,169	239,270	270,355	228,119	186,998	160,556	163,328	157,142	135,580	126,147



JUDICIAL EDUCATION SUMMARY

The Judicial Education Committee brings new ideas and best practices to Philadelphia's judiciary. The Committee dedicates hundreds of volunteer hours to improving administration of justice through education and candid discussion.

Common Pleas judges staff nearly a dozen subcommittees year-round to present seminars led by experts who generally teach pro bono. Programs usually take place during the lunch hour or on weekday afternoons between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Judges are exposed to topics within and outside of their respective court assignments. The Committee records attendance and the programs are available to more than one hundred judges of the Common Pleas and Municipal Courts.

The Judicial Education Committee has a website accessible to all judges and First Judicial District ("FJD") staff. Jury instructions, selected course materials, and court manuals are available.

Many judges active on the Judicial Education Committee serve as panelists on CLE programs and teach in a variety of other settings. In 2015, judges also mentored over sixty students through summer internships, and law school graduates through the Judicial Fellowship Program.

Judicial Education Committee Co-Chairs:

Judges Idee Fox and Lisette Shirdan-Harris

Immediate Past Co-Chairs:

Judges Ramy Djerassi and Rosalyn K. Robinson

Chairs of Judicial Education Subcommittees:

Civil Conversations	Judges George W. Overton and Idee C. Fox
Criminal Conversations	Judges Gwendolyn N. Bright and Denis P. Cohen
All in the Family	Judges Holly J. Ford and Doris A. Pechkurow
Law Clerk Continuing Education	Judge Diana Anhalt
Brown Bag Luncheon.....	Judge Linda Carpenter
Ethics.....	Judges Patricia A. McInerney
FYI.....	Judges Lori A. Dumas and Maria McLaughlin
Conversations at Sidebar	Judge Rosalyn K. Robinson
New & Transferring Judges Training.....	Judges Charles A. Ehrlich and Marlene F. Lachman
Perspectives.....	Judge Lillian Harris Ransom
State Judicial Education Committee Liaisons.....	Judges Jacqueline F. Allen, Ida Chen, Idee C. Fox (term ended September 2015), Rosalyn K. Robinson and Lisette Shirdan-Harris.

2015 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Honorable Jacqueline F. Allen,
Administrative Judge, Trial Division
(effective January 29, 2016)

Honorable Diana Anhalt

Honorable Mark I. Bernstein

Honorable Gwendolyn N. Bright

Honorable Linda Carpenter

Honorable Ida K. Chen

Honorable Denis P. Cohen

Honorable Ramy I. Djerassi,
Co-Chair (through September 2015)

Honorable Kevin M. Dougherty
(Supreme Court Justice effective
January 2016)

Honorable Lori A. Dumas

Honorable Charles A. Ehrlich

Honorable Joseph Fernandes

Honorable Angelo Foglietta

Honorable Holly J. Ford

Honorable Idee C. Fox, Co-Chair
(effective September 2015)

Honorable Marlene F. Lachman

Honorable Patricia A. McInerney

Honorable Robert J. Matthews
(retired 2015)

Honorable Barbara McDermott

Honorable Maria McLaughlin

Honorable Walter Olszewski

Honorable Doris A. Pechkurow

Honorable Lillian Harris Ransom

Honorable Annette M. Rizzo
(retired 2015)

Honorable Rosalyn K. Robinson

Honorable Lisette Shirdan-Harris,
Co-Chair

Honorable Karen Shreeves-Johns

Honorable Leon W. Tucker

Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper,
President Judge

I. PROGRAM SERIES

A. Civil Conversations

Civil Conversations meets monthly over lunch to discuss civil litigation issues, new case law, and court administration. Civil Conversations meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. Discussions are led by judges, court administrators and outside guests. The programs are open to all members of the bench. Civil Conversations was co-chaired by Judges George W. Overton and Idee Fox in 2015.

Civil Conversations programs in 2015 included:

Date	Program
January 22	<p>Handling the Complex Pharmaceutical Cases from Beginning to End</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Judge Victor J. DiNubile, Jr.,</p> <p>Judge Ramy I. Djerassi</p> <p>Judge Shelley Robins-New and</p> <p>Judge George W. Overton</p>
March 19	<p>Issues in Product Liability Cases After <i>Tincher</i>, from Discovery Through Jury Charge</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Edward A. Gray, Esquire, Eckert Seamans and James Ronca, Esquire, Anapol Schwartz</p>
April 23	<p>Updates in Banner</p> <p>Presenter:</p> <p>Steven J. Wulko</p>
May 28	<p>Conversations with the Chancellor</p> <p>Chancellor Albert S. Dandridge, III</p>
June 25	<p>Updates in Eminent Domain</p>

Presenters:

Marjorie Stern Jacobs, Esquire and Lawrence S. Rosenwald, Esquire

August 27

Summer Open Forum

September 24

No program due to Court Closure for Pope's Visit

October 22

Security Concerns in City Hall

Presenters:

Undersheriff Joseph Vignola, Esquire,

Captain John Keavney, Ret., and

Staff Inspector Paris Washington

November 19

Quirky Jury Problems, from Selection to Post Verdict – Open Forum

B. All in the Family

The All in the Family committee is co-chaired by Judges Holly J. Ford and Doris A. Pechkurow. Judge Robert Matthews has worked closely with this committee as a course planner for many years. All in the Family's name was officially changed from First Wednesdays to reflect the substantive topics covered by this committee. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month and are generally held in the Family Court building. The Committee is dedicated to bringing the best and latest family court practices to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Divisions of the FJD's Family Court.

All in the Family programs in 2015 included:

Date

Program

January 4

Appellate Procedures

Presenters:

President Judge of the Superior Court,
Susan Gantman and

Judge Jack Panella, Superior Court

How to proceed with 1925(b) Opinions, time sensitive Opinion Procedures, and/or how to request a “Memorandum Opinion” be made a “Precedential Opinion.”

The Appellate Judges were also open to answer our questions about the Pa.R.A.P and Internal Operating Procedures of the Superior Court. Judge Gantman also brought the Superior Court Staff Attorney to field any procedural issues we might have had.

February 4

Effects of Legal and Illegal Drugs

Presenters:

Dr. Ellen Walker

The program explored the effects of legal and illegal drugs on different people using same drug and the effects of the drug use on parents and caregivers, as well as the children involved. She also presented ways that drug tests are manipulated and which drugs can be tested.

April 1

Administrative Meeting with Judge Margaret Murphy, Administrative Judge, Family Division

May 6

Best Practices for LGBTQ Youth in Care

Presenters:

Milagros Roca, LSW, Child Advocate Social Worker
Support Center for Child Advocates

Rebecca Levin, Esq., Associate, Jerner and Palmer
and

Barrett Marshall, Esq., Staff Attorney, The Mazzoni Center

June 3

Sexual Assault: Legal Consideration and Victim Behavior

Presenters:

Scott Johnston, M.Ed.

Director of Counseling Services WOAR

Jennifer Gentile Long, MGA, JD

August 12

Computer Programs Designed to Make Family Communication Easier for Shared Parenting

Presenters:

Brian Altman, COO, Our Family Wizard

Joel Birenbaum, Esq.

“Hands on” display of the capability and availability of the Family Wizard program for both domestic relations and juvenile/dependency uses. The Parent Guide was distributed and online communication tools to make shared parenting easier were offered including – “Helping Divorced and Separated Families Communicate and Solve Shared Parenting Challenges Once and For All”

September 9

Age of Opportunity: Lessons from the New Science of Adolescence

Presenter:

Dr. Laurence Steinberg

Distinguished University Professor Temple University

Laura H. Carnell Professor of Psychology

Presentation was on his research and book on that challenges much of our knowledge about adolescent brain development and its consequences. The program was planned by Judge Ida Chen.

October 7

Complex Custody Matter

Presenter:

Dr. Annie Steinberg, M.D.,

Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry University of

Pennsylvania – School of Medicine

The program and discussion centered around the fluid boundary between dependency and domestic relations and the challenges judges face. Also explored was the impact of a comprehensive forensic

psychiatric evaluation in judicial decision making.
This program was planned by Judge Robert Matthews.

December 2

Round-Table Discussion

C. Criminal Conversations

The Criminal Conversations Committee is chaired by Judges Gwendolyn Bright and Denis P. Cohen. The committee presents programs on criminal law and procedure issues. Open to all members of the bench, Criminal Conversations takes place on the third Wednesday of the month during the lunch hour and is generally held in the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice.

Criminal Conversation programs in 2015 included:

Date

Program

February 18

PCRA Updates

Presenters:
Robin Godfrey, Chief, District Attorney's Office
PCRA Unit
Tracey Kavanagh, Assistant Chief
Janis Smarro, Esquire

March 18

Appellate Rules and Procedures

Presenters:
D. Alicia Hickok, Esquire, Drinker Biddle & Reath
Deputy Counsel to the Pennsylvania Appellate Court
Procedure Rules Committee; and
Todd Hutchinson, Esquire, Drinker Biddle & Reath

April 15

Evidence-based Mental Health Interventions

Presenter:
Toorjo Ghose, Ph.D., Director, Center for Carceral
Communities at the University of Pennsylvania
Program addressed the Center's programs which
provide cognitive-behavioral group therapy, and
intensive case management to individuals with a

history of incarceration in an effort to address risk behaviors and related issues to reduce recidivism.

May 20

Social Media as a Crime Scene

Presenter:

Professor Donald F. Tibbs, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law and the author of “From Black Power to Prison Power: the Making of Jones v. North Carolina Prisoners’ Labor Union”, and “Hip Hop and the Law.”

June 17

Difficult Issues. Difficult Lawyer and Difficult Defendants

Presenters:

Open forum with discussion led by Jeffrey Minehart, Supervising Judge, Criminal Trial Division 2015, Judges Genece Brinkley, Glenn Bronson, Rose Marie Defino-Nastasi, Charles Ehrlich, Barbara McDermott and Susan Schulman.

July 15

Minimum Sentences, Maxouts and State Parole – When are Defendants Actually being Released from State Custody?

Presenter:

Dr. Bret Bucklen, Director, of the Bureau of Planning Research and Statistics for the PA Department of Corrections

Byron Cotter, Defenders Association and Denise Spadaccini, District Attorney’s Office

October 21

Sentencing Guideline Updates

Presenter:

Nancy S. Xavios, Sentencing Policy Specialist, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing.

November 18

Recent Developments in Search and Seizure Law

Aaron Marcus, Esq., Assistant Defender and

Michael Ehrlich, Esq., Assistant District Attorney

December 15

Open Forum

Judge Jeffrey Minehart addressed issues and concerns unique to the FJD Trial Criminal Division.

D. Law Clerk Committee

The Law Clerk Committee is chaired by Judge Diana Anhalt. In 2015, the committee organized CLE classes for the First Judicial District's Judicial Law Clerks and Judicial Fellows. The CLE classes were open to the public, as required by PACLE and held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cost of each credit was de minimis. Six CLE credits were provided at a reduced rate to all attendees. There were four sessions offered. The classes were organized primarily by D. Alicia Hicock, Esquire, Todd N. Hutchison, Esquire, both from Dechert, LLC. and Dean R. Phillips, Esquire, of Elliot Greenleaf, P.C. On average, there were fifty to seventy-five law clerks and attorneys in attendance.

Law Clerk Series in 2015 included:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>
March 11	Pre- Complaint through Summary Judgment Presenters: Dean Phillips, Esq. Aimee Kumer, Esq. Colin O'Boyle, Esq. Frederick Santarelli, Esq.
April 8	Pretrial through Trial Presenters: D. Alicia Hicock, Esq. Todd Hutchinson, Esq.
May 13	Post Trial Presenters: Alicia Hicock, Esq. Todd Hutchinson, Esq.
June 17	Ethical Issues Presenters: Honorable Patricia McInerney Larry Fox, Esq.

D. FYI Committee

The FYI (“For Your Information”) committee is chaired by Judges Lori A. Dumas and Maria McLaughlin. The committee addresses topics of general and practical interest to judges of all divisions on the Common Pleas and Municipal Court benches. Meetings are held at lunchtime on the first Friday of the month. Chosen topics have included dealing with stress, human resources, cultural diversity, IT, etc. The sub- committee meets annually to plan topics that affect all Philadelphia Judges, regardless of division.

Sub-committee Members:

Hon. Diana Anhalt

Hon. Ramy I. Djerassi

Hon. Lori A. Dumas

Hon. Angelo Foglietta

Hon. Barbara McDermott

Hon. Patricia A. McInerney

Hon. Maria McLaughlin

Hon. Lillian Harris Ransom

Hon. Lisette Shirdan-Harris

Hon. Karen Shreeves-Johns

Hon. Sheila Woods-Skipper, President Judge

FYI programs for 2015 included:

Date

Program

February 6

“Who Loves You Baby? Preventing Burnout”

Presenters:

David Miller

Program Planners:

Program was designed to help judges learn how to take care of their bodies in light of the stressful nature of their work.

March 6

What Benefits??? Knowing and Understanding the “Ins and Outs” of Judicial Staff Benefits

Presenters:

Amy Mader, Executive Director of Human Resources and Martha Fisher, Esq.,

Program Planners:

Judge Lisette Shirdan-Harris and

Judge Diana Anhalt

Human Resources representatives shared insights on what benefits are available to Judicial staff members.

June 5

Time to Learn a New Language

Presenters:

Program planners:

President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper and

Judge Lillian Harris Ransom

Representatives from the FJD Office of Chief Innovation Officer discussed the latest developments in information technology at the FJD and provided judges an introduction to and use of the new IT at the FJD.

October 2

Welcome Back Open Forum

Program Planners:

Judge Lori Dumas and

Judge Maria McLaughlin

November 6

Meet Our Press

Presenters:

Marty O'Rourke

Gabriel Roberts

Program Planner:

President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper

Presentation on best methods and ideas on ways to strengthen the communication between the Courts and the media.

December 4

Holiday Traditions

Presenters;

Various Judges

Program Planners:

Judges Karen Shreeves-Johns with contributions from various Judges.

This program was an opportunity to share beliefs, traditions, and cultural backgrounds among the judiciary.

Judges brought foods representative of their culture or traditions.

F. Brown Bag Luncheon

The Brown Bag Committee Chair is Judge Linda Carpenter. Founded by Judge Flora Wolf (ret.), this committee meets the second Wednesday of each month. Judges break bread together and discuss issues they face on the bench in a relaxed setting among colleagues. The conversations have no set format or topic, although on occasion a colleague may suggest a topic. Additionally, the monthly meeting is occasionally used to invite a speaker to present on a particular topic of interest to members of the bench. One topic in 2015 involved judicial ethics in a Judicial Retention election. Generally, twelve to fifteen judges attend each session bringing experiences from the various divisions of our Court.

G. Conversations on Ethics

The Ethics Committee is chaired by Judge Patricia A. McInerney. The committee is responsible for providing sessions each year devoted to ethical issues involving judicial conduct. In addition to annual presentation at an FYI program, the committee offers an annual presentation to all newly elected and appointed judges.

H. New Judges' Training

The New Judges' Training sub-committee is chaired by Judge Marlene Lachman. Judge Charles Ehrlich took on the responsibility of planning additional training to all newly appointed and transferring judges into the Criminal Trial Division. Judge Lachman organizes the general orientation for all new Common Pleas Court judges. In 2015, the citizens of Philadelphia elected twelve new Common Pleas Court judges and three Municipal Court judges. All of the newly elected judges were invited to two orientation programs held on December 2 and 3, 2015.

After welcomes and introductions from Justice-Elect Kevin Dougherty, President Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper, Administrative Judge Margaret Murphy, Judge Lisette Shirdan-Harris, Co-Chair of the Education Committee, and Court Administrator Joseph Evers, the program consisted of discussions of the following topics led by the following discussion leaders:

Court reporters and interpreters
Courtroom management

Pro se litigants
Judicial ethics

Deputy Court Administrator Janet Fasy
Judges Karen Shreeves-Johns,
Susan Schulman, Joseph Fernandes
Judge Nina Padilla-Wright
Judge Patricia McInerney

Setting up chambers

Mandatory reports

Judge's relationship with AOPC

Interns, fellows and law clerks

Time management

Judicial decision making

Stress management

Judges Maria McLaughlin and
Marlene Lachman

Judge Marlene Lachman

Judge Barbara McDermott

Judges Daniel Anders, Lillian Ransom

Judge Daniel Anders

Judge Linda Carpenter

Judges Diane Thompson, Kenneth Powell

In addition to the discussion leaders, a dozen experienced judges were present each day to add their thoughts and advice on each topic and to answer questions from the judges-elect. They were:

Judge Ann Butchart

Judge Ramy Djerassi

Judge Idee Fox

Judge Eugene Maier

Judge Arnold New

Judge Leon Tucker

Judge Edward Wright

Judge Anne Marie Coyle

Judge Charles Ehrlich

Judge Gary Glazer

Judge Frederica Massiah-Jackson

Judge Rosalyn Robinson

Judge Donna Woelpper

A copy of the written materials distributed to the new judges is submitted herewith, including additional hand-outs. An additional copy of the index to the materials is attached for ease of reference. A discussion of appellate procedure and opinion writing is scheduled for March 17, 2016, after the new judges have had some time to adjust to their new role and before they are likely to have any appeals. Judge Anne Lazarus of the Superior Court and Alicia Hickok, Esquire will be the presenters.

I. Conversations @ Sidebar

Judge Rosalyn K. Robinson chairs this committee and is also the founder of this special initiative launched in 2008. Her idea was to provide a relaxed setting for comradery among judges after the Quarterly Board of Judges Meetings.

J. Perspectives Committee

The Perspectives Committee is chaired by Judge Lillian Harris Ransom. In May, they

presented a program entitled “Combating Commercial Sex Trafficking. What’s A Judge to Do?” The goal of the program was to raise awareness of the issue of commercial sex trafficking and to inform the judges of the current state of legislation in Pennsylvania. Two guest speakers offered informative presentations which included the use of video clips on the subject. The speakers also provided a laminated copy of a bench card listing resources which could be called upon in the event that commercial sex trafficking is suspected. The speakers were Shea Rhodes, Esquire, the director of the Villanova Law Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Jamie Manirakiza, MSW, Director of Anti Trafficking and Social Services for the Salvation Army. A lively discussion followed the presentation and approximately 35 judges attended.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

In addition to our regularly scheduled programs, the Education Committee sponsored two special programs in 2015 related to the FJD’s commitment to equal justice and opportunity under the law.

One of the programs highlighted *Youth Courts in Philadelphia: Peer Justice as a Strategy to Block the School-to-Prison Pipeline*.

Held in Courtroom 305 of the Justice Juanita Kidd Stout Center for Criminal Justice, this program, planned by Judges Susan I. Schulman and Linda Carpenter, highlighted the growing Youth Court programs in Philadelphia as well as throughout the nation. Students from the Strawberry Mansion High School conducted an actual Youth Court session followed by discussion moderated by Gregg Volz, Director of the Youth Court Support Center.

Youth Court is a national program with a mission to utilize positive peer pressure to resolve conflict and divert students away from the criminal justice system. Youth Court participants in the Philadelphia region are trained by more than 70 volunteer lawyers, law students and teachers to run school-based court for offenders with disciplinary infractions. Students perform all court functions, from prosecutor to judge and jury.

Youth Court is supported by the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Public Defenders Association, District Attorney’s Office of Philadelphia, the PA Bar Association, all six regional Law Schools, EducationWorks, the Stoneleigh Foundation and other non-profit organizations. The interactive presentation was followed by discussion on ways how the judiciary can work with the Youth Courts.

II. JUDICIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY

The Judicial Education Committee maintains a dedicated space in the Alex Bonavita Library located at Room 600 City Hall. In addition to hard copy materials, the Judicial Education Committee saves selected CDs and DVDs from various sources, including programs conducted by the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges.

III. JUDICIAL EDUCATION WEBSITE

The First Judicial District's website includes a link to the Judicial Education Committee site. The site offers a links to the most current Code of Judicial Conduct, calendar of upcoming education programs, practice manuals and standard suggested jury instructions. A link to the Prisoner Resource Network is also available along with documents and interactive testing used by Professor Rachel Godsil during her Implicit Bias presentations sponsored by the National Center for State Courts.

IV. FJD SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM

Judge Lillian Harris Ransom, once again, coordinated the FJD Summer Internship Program which organized educational programming over a six week period. The program continues to receive positive feedback from the students.

First Judicial District SIPs was featured as front page news on our FJDnet website in 2015 highlighting "SIPs from the Fountain of Youth." The article is quoted below:

"With the participation of dozens of students and Philadelphia judges, the First Judicial District's 2015 Summer Intern Program (SIP) kicked off its 15th year of supplementing the legal and civic tutelage of talented scholars ranging in experience from secondary education to law school.

Led by the Honorable Lillian Harris Ransom and her dedicated staff, the annual program has grown steadily since its origin in 2001. During that time, more than 1,000 law, undergraduate, and high school students have participated in SIP; a program that blends a transparent view of our local courts with practical tools that serve to edify and build familiarity with the nuances of the state and federal justice systems as well.

During the summer, FJD Judges are invited to select students to work, observe, and assist the judiciary with the day-to-day activities that enable our courts to function under the stress of a high-volume caseload. Often accompanying their respective judges to court, interns are also tasked with contributing legal research and writing assignments, all while acclimating themselves to an environment in which many hope to eventually ply their trade.

Spanning the months of June and July, SIP is designed to enhance the typical intern

experience by offering an ever-expanding slate of enrichment activities. Interns are encouraged to explore and develop their various legal interests via numerous law-based scholastic programs and events. For many, the opportunity to delve deeper into a medley of specialized fields enables them to find their professional niche. Additionally, as an approved work study site, eligible students can use their summer placement at the First Judicial District (FJD) as part of their financial aid package, pending their school's approval.

"[SIP] provided an invaluable learning experience," said Michael Camastra, a 2016 Juris Doctorate candidate at Villanova University School of Law. "It really opened my eyes to the litigation side of law. As a result, I intend to further pursue Trial Advocacy courses in order to educate myself on what it takes to be a successful trial attorney."

"By all reports, from interns and from their supervising judges, the program was a tremendous success," said Judge Ransom. "It exposed the students to experiences which will help them make informed decisions concerning their legal careers."

The program also provides insight into non-profit legal work and indigent representation for students who are drawn to the legal field by a desire to help those who, perhaps, need it the most. Interns were invited to see, up close, the positive effects of reentry programs like the Mental Health and Veterans Courts and heard stories, both harrowing and uplifting, told by speakers from Community Legal Services and Women Against Abuse that highlighted the services of caring, passionate people.

SIP, for both the students and the courts, is wholly beneficial. For the judiciary, and various other program partners, the experience lends the opportunity to influence and educate young minds that are as raw as they are bright. Meanwhile, interns are offered an individualized, practical legal education under the tutelage of seasoned judges and aided by the tools provided by SIP.

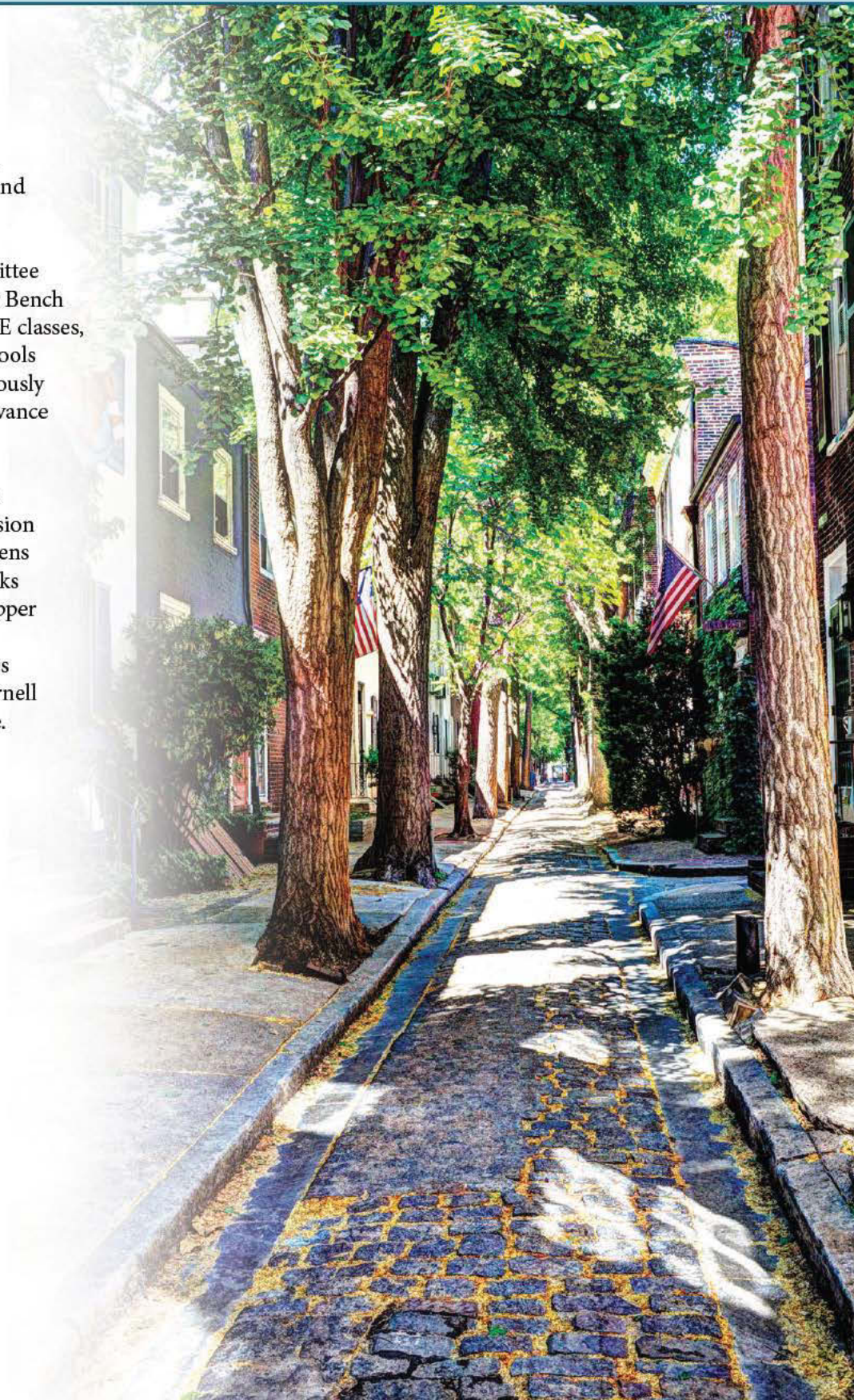
V. OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO LEGAL EDUCATION

The FJD Education Committee strongly supports the educational programming of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. Judges Jacqueline F. Allen, Ida K. Chen, Rosalyn K. Robinson, Shelley Robins New and Lisette Shirdan-Harris serve as members on the Conference Educational Committee. Additionally, many members of the FJD bench attend Pennsylvania State Trial Judges conferences twice a year featuring multiple educational lectures and seminars. FJD judges are also active participants as CLE students and presenters at the Annual Bench-Bar Conference of the Philadelphia Bar Association held in October at Atlantic City. Judges also participate in many other educational programs at law schools, bar associations and other venues. Many judges also earn certificates each year at the National Judicial College taking week-long courses with other judges from around the country. Courses include advanced

evidence, capital litigation, general jurisdiction, mediation and logic, and opinion writing.

The FJD Judicial Education Committee also acknowledges members of our Bench who presented and/or attended CLE classes, taught as adjunct faculty at law schools throughout the country, and generously gave their time in other ways to advance legal education.

In sum, the FJD Judicial Education Committee carries out a noble mission and enjoys the commitment of dozens of volunteers. The Committee thanks President Judge Sheila Woods- Skipper for her continued support in the tradition of former President Judges Frederica Massiah- Jackson, C. Darnell Jones, II, and Pamela Pryor Dembe.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following individuals are recognized for their vital and timely assistance in the successful publication of this report:

Honorable Sheila Woods-Skipper

President Judge, Court of Common Pleas – Chair, Administrative Governing Board

Honorable Marsha H. Neifield

President Judge, Municipal Court

Honorable Jacqueline F. Allen

Administrative Judge, Trial Division

Honorable Margaret T. Murphy

Administrative Judge, Family Division

Honorable Matthew D. Carrafiello

Administrative Judge, Orphans' Court Division

Honorable Gary S. Glazer

Administrative Judge, Traffic Division

Joseph H. Evers

District Court Administrator, First Judicial District of Pennsylvania

The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania would like to congratulate **Thomas B. Darr**, who assumed the role of Court Administrator of Pennsylvania during the summer of 2015. He takes over for Zygmunt Pines, Esq., who had previously served as Court Administrator since 2000. Mr. Darr's experience in state government, specifically with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, makes for a seamless transition, and the Philadelphia courts look forward to his guidance.

We would also like to recognize the First Judicial District's Deputy Court Administrators and their respective staff members, as well as the Judicial Education Committee for their contributions to this report.

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The First Judicial District of Pennsylvania

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