

3B DISTRICT COURT

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

Judges: Jeffrey C. Middleton
William D. Welty (retired December 2012)
Robert K. Pattison (elected 2013)

Ct Administrator/Magistrate: Tabitha Wedge

3B DISTRICT COURT
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY
2012

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3B DISTRICT COURT

Judges: Jeffrey C. Middleton & William D. Welty

District Court Authority:

- ❖ District Court is a court of limited jurisdiction. We have exclusive jurisdiction of:
 - Misdemeanors where potential punishment does not exceed one year in jail arraignment, setting and acceptance of bail, and conducting of preliminary examinations in felony cases.
 - Traffic offenses
 - Civil litigation up to \$25,000
 - Garnishments
 - Eviction proceedings, land contract and mortgage foreclosures
 - Small claims for civil cases up to \$5,000-litigants must waive their right to a jury, representation by a lawyer, rules of evidence, and the right to appeal the judge's decision
 - District Court decisions may be appealed to Circuit Court

- ❖ District Court has four (4) main divisions:
 - Criminal Division: Cases handled in this division include major traffic and misdemeanor offenses, felony offenses, liquor, conservation, watercraft, and animal violations. Municipal civil infractions and township ordinance violations are also included. Most of these violations require a personal appearance before a Judge or Magistrate.
 - Traffic Division: Traffic civil infractions and minor traffic misdemeanor offenses are handled here. Magistrates conduct informal hearings on contested traffic violations or individuals can pay their traffic fines daily.
 - Probation Division: Select criminal violations may result in a sentence where the individual receives a specific period of time they are placed on a supervised probation. They report to an assigned Probation Officer who assists them to complete several programs and testing requirements as part of the probation.
 - Civil Division: Processes civil suits, small claims, landlord tenant disputes and land contract cases. The court handles civil suits up to \$25,000 while Small Claims will provide an inexpensive forum for resolving money disputes up to \$5,000.

- ❖ No deputy clerk is permitted to give legal advice however may assist with policy and procedure directions.

- ❖ Payments are accepted in the form of personal checks, cash, money order and credit cards.

- ❖ Court hours have been set to provide convenient access for court patrons.

2012 3B DISTRICT COURT STAFF

Jeffrey C. Middleton-Chief Judge Pro Tem
(Elected: 2003-2015)

William D. Welty-Judge
(Elected: 1991-Retired December 28, 2012)

Robert K. Pattison-Judge
(Elected 2013)

Tabitha Wedge-Ct Administrator/Magistrate
(Hired September 1, 1987; "25 service years")

Mark Books-Magistrate/Judicial Associate
(Hired January 20, 2009; "3 service year")

Judicial Secretaries/Court Recorders:

Sue Eickhoff

(Hired January 13, 2003; "9 service years")

Lori Rumsey

(Hired January 2, 1991; "21 service years")

Probation Department:

Cindi Labencki-Clerk

(Hired December 23, 1992; "20 service years")

Gina Wagner-Probation Officer

(Hired September 8, 2009; "3 service years")

Ryan Smith-Probation Officer/Magistrate

(Hired October 6, 2009; "3 service years")

Jon Marcus-Probation Officer

(Hired September 16, 2011; "1 service year")

Criminal Department:

Patricia Ellis-Clerk

(Hired October 6, 1997; "15 service years")

Sally Hippen-Clerk

(Hired December 17, 2001; "11 service years")

Cynthia Custard-Clerk

(Hired January 18, 2005; "7 service years")

Accounting & Traffic Department:

Dorine Channey-Clerk

(Hired May 9, 2005; "7 service years")

Ashley Brewer-Clerk

(Hired September 27, 2011-Terminated January
2, 2013; "1 service year")

Cynthia Mostrom

(Hired January 29, 2013)

Civil Department:

Linda Jones-Clerk

(Hired August 15, 1978-Retired December 18, 2012
"34 service years")

Sally Wickum-Clerk

(Hired October 28, 1993; "19 service years")

Vilma Taylor-Clerk

(Hired January 2, 2002; "10 service years")

Michelle Baker-Clerk

(Hired January 15, 2013)



3B DISTRICT COURT 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

The Unexpected:

The court lost valuable institutional knowledge and history with the retirement of a long servicing District Court Judge-Family Division and Civil deputy clerk.

Combined Court-Chief Judge Appointment	Effective January 2012 the courts received one Chief Judge appointment due to new SCAO guidelines; Judge Stutesman.
Part-Time Magistrate Appointment	Effective January-April 2012 the newly appointed Probation officer/Magistrate assumed more responsibility in the Magistrate duties.
District Court Judge Election	Late Spring to Fall 2012 the court was emphasized with the Judge Election between candidates Robert K. Pattison and Matthew Davidson.
Judge Elect	November 2012 Judge Robert K. Pattison is elected as the next District Court Judge-Family Division effective January 2013.
Court Administrator-Magistrate FMLA	Tabitha Wedge is placed on FMLA effective November 21, 2012.
Civil Clerk-FMLA	Sally Wickum is placed on FMLA effective November 21, 2012.
Probation Clerk-FMLA	Cindi Labencki is placed on FMLA effective December 21, 2012.
Civil Clerk-Retirement	Linda Jones announces her retirement effective December 18, 2012 after 34 years with the Court.
Judge-Retirement	Judge Welty announces his retirement effective December 28, 2012.

New Practices:

Sobriety Court	January 2012 officially begins the establishment of the new District Court Sobriety Court.
Felony Bind Over Procedure	January 2012 the District Court and Circuit Court streamline paper and share felony files between the two courts. Beginning the file in the District Court jurisdiction and transferring the same physical file to the Circuit Court jurisdiction.
Court Council Resumes	The previously established Court Council resumed meeting monthly effective January 2012.
Court Technology Committee	A new court technology committee was formed to begin to look at innovative ways for the court(s) to move forward in the electronic trends of today.

Meetings & Trainings:

The District Court Judges, Court Management and District Court Staff continue to seek additional education and knowledge to be used in their daily job responsibilities.

Regional Meetings	Judge Middleton, Judge Welty and Tabitha Wedge have regular participation in the Region II meetings. For the Judges this is done on an alternate attendance basis in order to provide continued court coverage. These meetings provide regular updates on upcoming law changes and areas of operations the court needs to be focused on.
Judicial Assignments	Both Judge Middleton and Judge Welty's services were assigned to other courts upon disqualification requests through SCAO. Assignments included: Branch, Berrien and Kalamazoo Counties. The four (4) St. Joseph County Judges are also cross-assigned.
St. Joseph County Judge Meetings	The four (4) judges regularly continue to meet and discuss various issues and procedures.
MCAA Board	Tabitha Wedge-President for the Michigan Court Administrators Association Board attends the meetings regularly. These meetings provide regular updates on upcoming law changes, and operations where the court should remain focused.
Community Corrections Advisory Board	Judge Middleton and Judge Welty are active participants with this Board. Gina Wagner-Probation Officer is also on the Board, representing the Probation Dept.
Conference Opportunities	Tabitha Wedge-Court Administrator, Mark Books-Magistrate, and Probation Officers-Gina Wagner, Ryan Smith and Jon Marcus, attended their annual Association conferences to meet with other colleagues. The conferences provide training updates and education on proposed law changes along with other necessary and valuable information.
Cross Training	The District Court continues to be an avid supporter of cross-training. It provides for more efficient operations due to unexpected leaves as seen during 2012 with FMLA's and retirements.

SOS Reporting & Interpreter Services:

Secretary of State Conviction Reporting	The District Court remains between a 93-98% compliance with timely reporting of caseload documents.
Interpreter Services	District Court employee, Vilma Taylor, continues to provide regular service as a Spanish interpreter for the court. She offers assistance to a variety of other County offices and proves to be a valuable representative for the court.

Technology Changes:

The District Court continues to support the concept of streamlining work tasks and procedures in a continued effort to reduce the work load experienced by all; striving to maintain the efficient operations we are accustomed to in providing services per allowed SCAO Guidelines.

The Court's newly established Court(s) Technology Committee is reviewing advancement possibilities and hopes to implement additional new procedures as they are feasible to assist with meeting this goal.

2012	3B DISTRICT COURT	REVENUE
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ACCT #	NAME OF ACCT		AMOUNT TO COUNTY TREASURER
544.100	Case flow Assistance-OUIL		\$16,174.01
545.000	Case flow Assistance-Drug		\$1,356.34
570.040	Victim Rights Program-DC	*	\$10,151.32
602.000	P51796 Court Costs		\$292,485.31
604.000	Reimbursed Ct Appt Atty		\$49,788.36
609.000	Civil Fees (Various)		\$106,290.00
609.010	Civil Fees (Filing)	*	\$66,067.76
610.020	Contempt Charges		\$1,693.00
696.00	NSF Fees		\$25.00
610.030	Oversight Fees		\$85,637.85
610.040	Screening Fees		\$11,055.00
656.000	Bond Forfeitures		\$16,610.60
657.000	Ordinance Fines	*	\$133,173.12
665.000	Interest CD & Investments		\$118.00
695.000	Cash Short/Over		\$4.40
265.229	District Court Drug Costs		\$10,631.00
264.351	County Booking Fee		\$2,190.00
701.351	State Booking Fee		\$436.00
608.020	DC Jury Fees		\$320.00
	YRLY TOTAL TO COUNTY TREASURER		\$804,207.07

* Indicates money collected is different then figure reflected here; as a portion of what is collected is not retained at the county.

TOTAL FEES COLLECTED BY DISTRICT COURT FOR JAN-DEC 2012		\$1,574,959.85
BOND RECEIVED		\$497,566.17
WITNESS/JURY RECEIVED		\$2,575.70
2012 Total Fees handled through Court		\$2,064,918.76

2012	COUNTY BUDGET	EXPENDITURES
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DESCRIPTION	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
Total Personnel Services	\$867,141.41	\$13,999.59
Total Supplies-Uniforms	\$269.42	\$230.58
Total Operating Expenditures	\$28,835.28	\$5,242.72
Total Capital Expenditures	\$3,846.23	\$2,753.77
YEARLY TOTALS	\$900,092.34	\$22,226.66

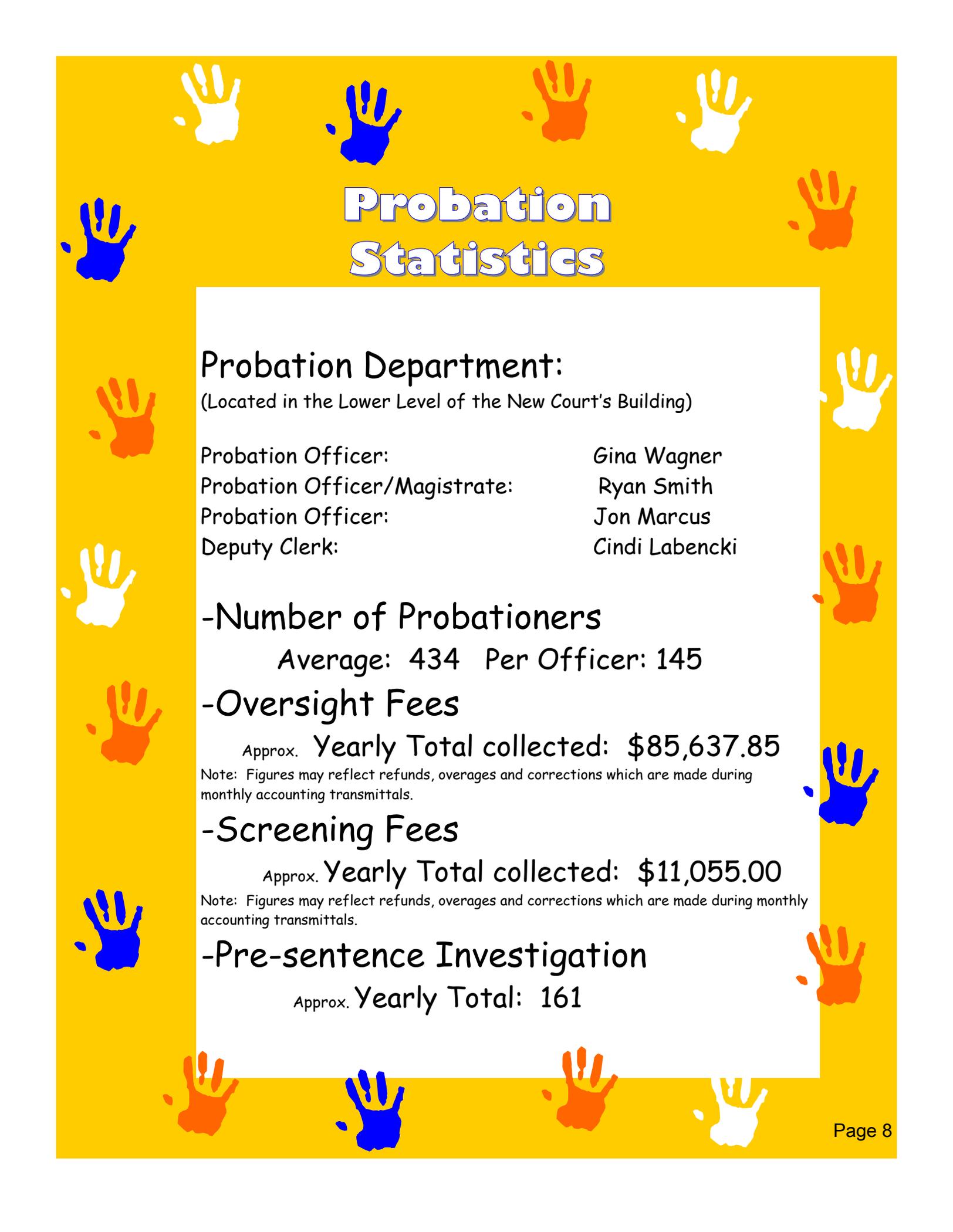
CREDIT CARD REVENUE

The court currently uses Government Payment Services to accept credit card payments. Payments can be made via telephone to an 800 number, on-line or at the court counter. While a service fee is required, many of our clients find this to be a more efficient and faster method to handle their court business and are not deterred by the small service fee.

2012		Payments
January		\$19,211.22
February		\$35,753.88
March		\$26,340.26
April		\$24,138.93
May		\$25,439.10
June		\$24,535.90
July		\$24,437.70
August		\$26,370.42
September		\$24,891.50
October		\$26,481.40
November		\$20,112.90
December		\$18,170.60
TOTAL		\$295,883.81
Total Transactions		2791

2011		Payments
January		\$24,894.40
February		\$27,825.50
March		\$30,248.80
April		\$23,998.85
May		\$24,324.20
June		\$30,658.40
July		\$26,478.70
August		\$23,319.45
September		\$24,935.00
October		\$29,269.28
November		\$23,849.96
December		\$23,938.73
TOTAL		\$313,741.27
Total Transactions		3001

2010		Payments
January		\$24,527.58
February		\$27,539.24
March		\$29,924.13
April		\$25,983.23
May		\$25,948.60
June		\$28,583.96
July		\$29,461.06
August		\$28,619.90
September		\$24,551.41
October		\$24,367.40
November		\$20,088.47
December		\$21,475.20
TOTAL		\$311,070.18
Total Transactions		3033



Probation Statistics

Probation Department:

(Located in the Lower Level of the New Court's Building)

Probation Officer:	Gina Wagner
Probation Officer/Magistrate:	Ryan Smith
Probation Officer:	Jon Marcus
Deputy Clerk:	Cindi Labencki

-Number of Probationers

Average: 434 Per Officer: 145

-Oversight Fees

Approx. Yearly Total collected: \$85,637.85

Note: Figures may reflect refunds, overages and corrections which are made during monthly accounting transmittals.

-Screening Fees

Approx. Yearly Total collected: \$11,055.00

Note: Figures may reflect refunds, overages and corrections which are made during monthly accounting transmittals.

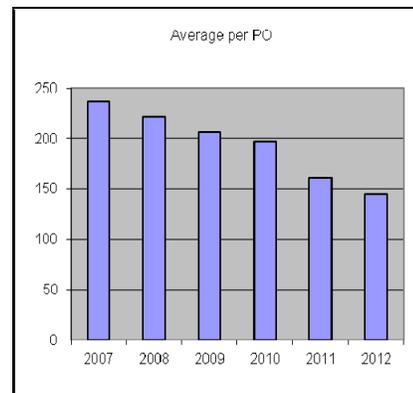
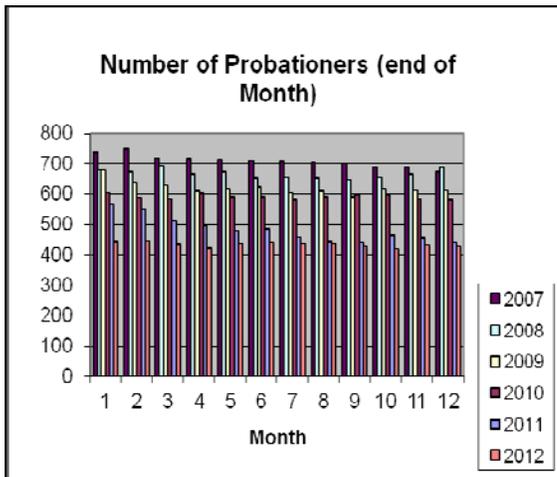
-Pre-sentence Investigation

Approx. Yearly Total: 161

Number of 3B District Court Probationers - End of the Month 2012

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average	Per PO
2007	738	748	720	717	714	710	709	704	700	690	690	672	709	236
2008	679	671	692	667	671	652	655	653	648	657	666	690	667	222
2009	677	636	629	609	616	623	603	609	590	614	613	613	619	206
2010	603	588	586	601	592	591	583	591	598	600	585	583	592	197
2011	565	551	511	498	479	484	459	444	442	466	456	441	483	161
2012	443	447	436	422	438	440	437	437	429	418	433	427	434	145

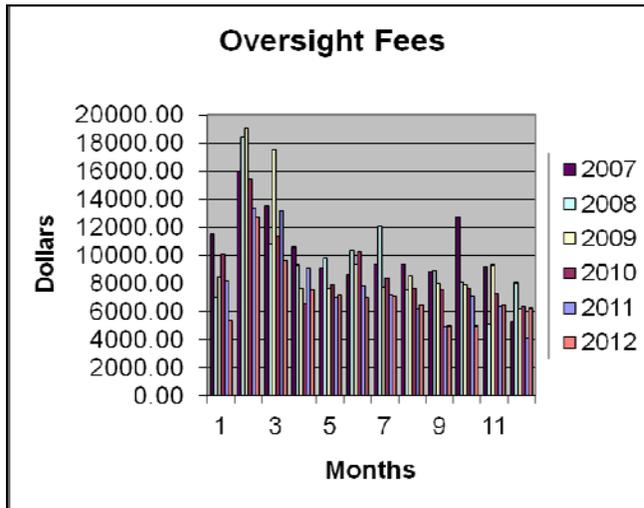
Each of the District Court Probation Officers is assigned individual clients resulting in direct supervision responsibilities. They assist the probationer in meeting their sentencing requirements. They also supervise the Alcohol/Drug testing ordered; fees being paid, work history and meet with the probationers on a regular basis until they have advanced and are allowed to report by mail.



3B DISTRICT COURT: PROBATION OVERSIGHT FEES Collected 2012

Oversight fees are the fees charged for the Probation Department to monitor a defendant placed on a probation term. This fee is not subject to a State Breakdown and is 100% payable to the County Funding Unit. The fee is collected on a monthly basis. Some defendants have the advantage of a lesser fee if they are discharged from probation by complying with their sentencing guidelines in a reduced amount of time.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2007	11537.50	15939.00	13522.80	10606.53	9052.00	8650.00	9373.00	9383.67	8809.89	12753.44	9244.40	5276.25	\$124,148.48
2008	6986.75	18425.75	10794.25	9303.50	9815.85	10349.00	12038.03	7568.55	8942.00	8115.00	5063.75	8059.00	\$115,461.43
2009	8464.82	19017.50	17551.15	7660.00	7652.00	9367.00	7774.75	8559.00	7976.13	7901.52	9323.65	6196.90	\$117,444.42
2010	10042.90	15420.90	11372.25	6512.35	7927.77	10233.20	8391.00	7655.00	7584.00	7668.93	7252.80	6326.23	\$106,387.33
2011	8189.75	13375.26	13184.50	9089.00	7013.00	7858.62	7196.87	6180.00	4945.00	7074.00	6352.00	4092.01	\$94,550.01
2012	5384.00	12741.00	9648.00	7540.44	7153.06	6968.00	7075.50	6464.00	4965.00	4967.00	6503.00	6228.85	\$85,637.85

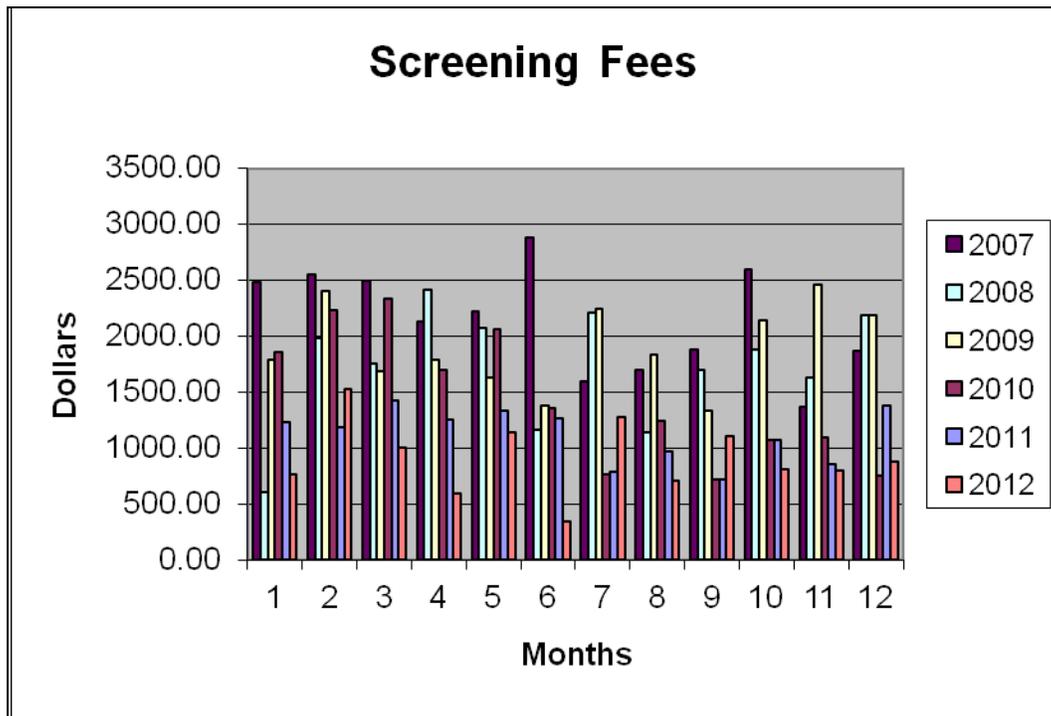


3B DISTRICT COURT: SCREENING FEES Collected 2012

The Screening is a requirement for various Alcohol and Drug convictions. This assessment is handled by the Probation Officer and is used to assist the Judge to determine the sentencing outcome.

The fee is not subject to a State Breakdown and is 100% payable to the County Funding Unit.

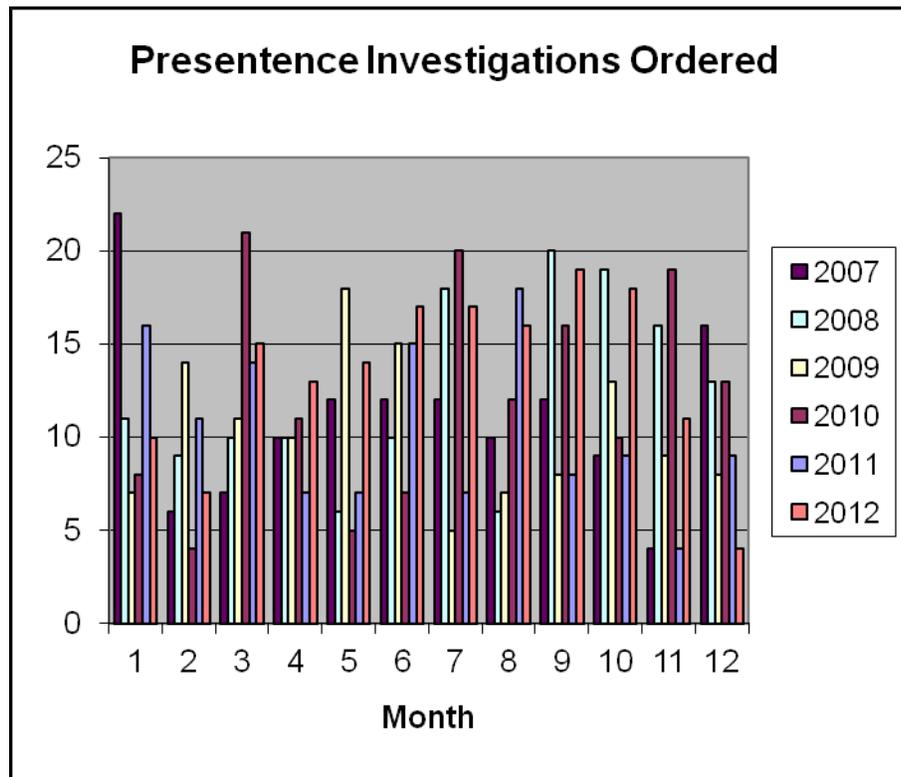
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2007	2481.00	2556.00	2490.00	2130.00	2219.00	2885.00	1593.00	1699.00	1884.00	2599.00	1365.00	1870.00	\$25,771.00
2008	605.00	1978.00	1757.00	2413.00	2078.00	1160.00	2210.00	1137.50	1702.50	1880.00	1630.00	2189.00	\$20,740.00
2009	1785.00	2408.80	1688.00	1791.00	1629.00	1380.34	2241.20	1836.00	1329.00	2142.00	2455.00	2184.00	\$22,869.34
2010	1857.05	2237.00	2332.95	1698.00	2064.00	1354.00	765.00	1240.00	720.00	1072.00	1091.00	757.00	\$17,188.00
2011	1229.00	1191.00	1431.00	1254.00	1335.00	1267.00	786.00	966.00	720.00	1073.00	854.00	1382.00	\$13,488.00
2012	761.00	1530.00	1008.00	600.00	1141.00	343.50	1278.50	706.00	1103.00	810.00	795.00	879.00	\$10,955.00



3B DISTRICT COURT: PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATIONS for 2012

A presentence investigation is conducted within our Probation Department by a Probation Officer. It is a meeting where the defendant provides information concerning the case at hand. The Prosecutor, victim and officers are given the opportunity to also provide information in writing. The assigned Probation Officer must review all the facts provided concerning the violation against the defendant, and make an honest recommendation to the Judge in areas concerning the sentencing outcome.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
2007	22	6	7	10	12	12	12	10	12	9	4	16	132
2008	11	9	10	10	6	10	18	6	20	19	16	13	148
2009	7	14	11	10	18	15	5	7	8	13	9	8	125
2010	8	4	21	11	5	7	20	12	16	10	19	13	146
2011	16	11	14	7	7	15	7	18	8	9	4	9	125
2012	10	7	15	13	14	17	17	16	19	18	11	4	161





3B DISTRICT COURT-SOBRIETY COURT:

Panel consists of:

- Jeffrey C. Middleton, District Judge
- Jon Marcus-District Court Probation Officer
- Gina Wagner-District Court Probation Officer
- Ryan Smith-District Court Probation Officer/Magistrate
- Erin Harrington-Assistant Prosecutor
- Mark Lillywhite-UnderSheriff
- Tony Calloway-Day Reporting
- Spencer Price-Community Mental Health
- Nancy Pick-Community Corrections Representative
- Robert Pattison-Defense Attorney Representation

“One of the most successful types of specialty courts is the Sobriety Court”...the most recent studies and literature would indicate that there is a better way known as “the judicial therapeutic approach.”

The Sobriety Court was created to reduce the incidence of repeat drinking and driving offenses. Its main purpose is to reduce recidivism among repeat drunk drivers using court and community resources. The tools include: intensive supervision, individualized treatment, personal accountability, and frequent judicial review. The goals include: improved public safety and substance-free, sober lives for participants.

Upon entering the 24 month program, the offender is placed on an intensive probation track structured in four phases. Each phase has a built-in incentive.

Month/Year	Year to Date Enrolled	Newly Enrolled	Total Active	Successful Termination	Unsuccessful Termination	%
January 2012	1	1	16	0	0	n/a
February 2012	3	2	18	0	1	0.000%
March 2012	3	0	17	0	0	n/a
April 2012	3	0	17	0	0	n/a
May 2012	5	2	19	1	1	50.00%
June 2012	9	4	21	1	0	100.00%
July 2012	14	5	25	0	0	n/a
August 2012	16	2	27	0	0	n/a
Sept 2012	18	2	29	1	4	20%
October 2012	19	1	25	0	0	n/a
Nov 2012	21	2	27	2	0	100.00%
Dec 2012	24	3	28	2	0	100.00%
TOTAL	18	24		7	6	53.85%

Status as of January 2013: PLEASE NOTE: The phase items are intended to provide a general description and guidelines for completion of Sobriety Court. The time required to complete a phase is often more than three months.

Phase Level	Phase Description	# Enrolled
Phase One	Stabilization & Treatment	11
Phase Two	Healthy Living	8
Phase Three	Maintenance of Recovery	5
Phase Four	Sobriety Recovery and Giving Back	7

3B DISTRICT COURT

CASE ACTIVITY

YEAR: 2012



DISTRICT COURT CASE ACTIVITY

NEW CASES FILED:

CRIMINAL	2012	2011	2010
Felony	843	754	853
Misdemeanors	1,241	1,300	1,334
Civil Infractions	1,235	1,356	1,265
TOTAL	3,320	3,410	3,452

TRAFFIC	2012	2011	2010
Misdemeanor & Civil	9,086	10,415	11,806
Parking	37	67	23
Operate While Intox	203	200	241
TOTAL	9,325	10,682	12,070

CIVIL	2012	2011	2010
Civil	1,900	1,831	1,998
Small Claims	283	205	229
Summary	620	704	672
TOTAL	2,803	2,740	2,899

YEARLY NEW FILING	2012	2011	2010
TOTALS	15,448	16,832	18,421

DISTRICT COURT CASE ACTIVITY

CASE DISPOSITIONS:

CRIMINAL	2012	2011	2010
Felony	1,296	1,160	1,279
Misdemeanors	1,572	1,630	1,614
Civil Infractions	1,213	1,389	1,241
TOTAL	4,081	4,179	4,134

TRAFFIC	2012	2011	2010
Misdemeanor & Civil	9,425	10,658	12,064
Parking	35	61	26
Operate While Intox	234	225	266
TOTAL	9,694	10,944	12,356

CIVIL	2012	2011	2010
Civil	1,832	1,903	2,014
Small Claims	260	193	246
Summary	587	733	655
TOTAL	2,679	2,829	2,915

YEARLY DISPOSITION	2012	2011	2010
TOTALS	16,454	17,952	19,405

DISTRICT COURT CASE ACTIVITY

CASES PENDING: DECEMBER 31, 2012

CRIMINAL	2012	2011	2010
Felony	57	39	47
Misdemeanors	119	93	111
Civil Infractions	91	68	102
TOTAL	267	200	260

TRAFFIC	2012	2011	2010
Misdemeanor & Civil	550	600	521
Parking	7	6	0
Operate While Intox	24	24	20
TOTAL	581	630	541

CIVIL	2012	2011	2010
Civil	558	491	558
Small Claims	52	28	16
Summary	107	93	123
TOTAL	717	612	697

YEARLY PENDING	2012	2011	2010
TOTALS	1,565	1,442	1,498

	Non-Traffic			Traffic			Civil			Total
	Felony	Misdemeanor	Civil Infractions	Misdemeanor and Civil	OWI/OWVI	Civil	Small Claims	Summary	Parking	
Beginning Pending	38	93	67	597	24	485	28	74	6	1,412
New Filings	843	1,241	1,236	9,086	203	1,900	283	620	36	15,448
Reopened	472	357	1	292	31	5	1	0	0	1,159
Total Caseload	1,353	1,691	1,304	9,975	258	2,390	312	694	42	18,019
Jury Verdict	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bench Verdict	0	9	33	216	0	10	56	172	0	496
Guilty Plea/Admis/Waiver	249	870	179	6,617	180	0	0	0	9	8,104
Uncontested/Dft/Settled	0	0	0	0	0	1,368	133	291	0	1,792
Bindover/Transfer	523	0	0	0	16	10	4	0	0	553
Dismissed by Party	113	275	311	890	12	220	43	116	0	1,980
Dismissed by Court	17	63	24	192	0	144	21	7	4	472
Default	0	0	666	1,289	0	0	0	0	22	1,977
Inactive Status	393	353	0	218	26	61	0	0	0	1,051
Other Disposition	0	0	0	0	0	19	3	1	0	23
Case Type Change	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
Total Dispositions	1,296	1,572	1,213	9,425	234	1,832	260	587	35	16,454
Ending Pending	57	119	91	550	24	558	52	107	7	1,565

NOTE: This is a Caseload Summary Report which lists the total cases filed by a variety of case categories.

DISTRICT COURT WARRANT COMPARISON

SEARCH WARRANTS:

The purpose of a search warrant is to offer the protections mandated by the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution against unreasonable search and seizures. The District Court Magistrate(s) review search warrants for the purpose of property searches and blood samples in the onset of a criminal investigation.

Year	Amount
2012	248
2011	180
2010	241

CRIMINAL WARRANTS:

The purpose of an arrest warrant is to bring the defendant before the court on an accusation charged in a complaint. An arrest warrant is the order by the court to arrest a defendant and bring them before the court to answer the charge alleged in the complaint filed by the Prosecution.

Year	Amount
2012	769
	Felony Warrants 355
	Misdemeanor Warrants 414
2011	686
	Felony Warrants 308
	Misdemeanor Warrants 378
2010	716
	Felony Warrants 332
	Misdemeanor Warrants 384

BENCH WARRANTS:

A bench warrant is issued by the District Court Judge after a defendant has failed to appear, comply with the judgment entered or conditions of bond. The defendant can face contempt penalties based upon the bench warrant arrest in addition to their original case status.

Year	Amount
2012	574
	Outstanding 112
2011	691
	Outstanding 175
2010	712
	Outstanding 93

TOTAL WARRANTS ISSUED FOR 2012: 1,591



DISTRICT COURT JUDGES PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDER INFORMATION

The District Court Judges are cross-assigned with the Circuit Court to assist with various job tasks. This has proven most effective in cases where a conflict may arise causing a disqualification or case re-assignment.

In Michigan, a civil protection order mainly used against domestic abuse is known as a "personal protection order" or "PPO". PPO's are available to restrain domestic and non-domestic abuse and to restrain a broad range of abusive behavior. The PPO's are one of the regular job tasks shared by all four (4) St. Joseph County Judges.

Jeffrey C. Middleton:

PPO'S:		ISSUED		DENIED
MONTH	YEAR: 2012	YEAR: 2011	YEAR: 2012	
January	0	2	0	
February	1	6	0	
March	1	1	0	
April	1	1	0	
May	4	0	1	
June	4	0	0	
July	0	1	1	
August	2	0	4	
September	0	2	4	
October	8	4	0	
November	5	1	2	
December	3	1	1	
TOTAL YEARLY AMOUNTS:	29	19	13	

William D. Welty:

PPO'S:		ISSUED		DENIED
MONTH	YEAR: 2012	YEAR: 2011	YEAR: 2012	
January	3	1	1	
February	4	10	2	
March	3	5	0	
April	3	5	0	
May	2	8	2	
June	4	4	1	
July	6	8	0	
August	9	1	0	
September	3	5	1	
October	4	3	1	
November	1	2	1	
December	3	5	0	
TOTAL YEARLY AMOUNTS:	45	57	9	

PPO HEARINGS:

Judge	PPO Hearings/Case Actions Held
Judge Middleton	27
Judge Welty	52

Note: Hearings/Other Case Actions refers to additional case handling by the judge on PPO's after they have been granted. This can include a hearing, request to terminate a PPO, violation, arraignment on a violation, trial, etc. which all involve additional courtroom or handling time from the judge.



3B DISTRICT COURT WEDDING LOG COMPARISON

The District Court Magistrate is authorized to perform marriages within the District the Magistrate serves. At 3B District Court we perform marriages on one afternoon a week during the winter months and two afternoons a week during the summer months. The court will also accommodate a walk-in request if we have the availability.

Language barriers sometimes play a role in our marriage ceremonies. While the parties are provided a hand-out explaining the need to bring an interpreter for their ceremony, it is not uncommon for individuals to appear for their appointment with an unreliable interpreter. For 3B District Court we are fortunate to have employed Vilma Taylor, who has been able to interpret for the individuals on a last minute basis. The court created a separate Spanish wedding ceremony as a more convenient tool in these circumstances.

By statute the Court charges a \$10.00 fee for each marriage performed. This fee is deposited in the county's treasury making it a source of revenue generated at the District Court Office.

YEAR	TOTAL WEDDINGS PERFORMED
2012	118
2011	119
2010	141
2009	126
2008	153

