

# **2006 Annual Report**



**Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

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Joseph M. James  
President Judge

## To the Citizens of Allegheny County

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We are pleased to present to the citizens of Allegheny County our 2006 Annual Report of Court operations.



Raymond L. Billotte  
District Court Administrator

In February 2006, the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas began using the statewide Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS) to manage and disseminate Criminal Court case information. Allegheny County became the 59th of 60 judicial districts in Pennsylvania to "go-live" on CPCMS. An integrated case management system initiated by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, CPCMS was created to facilitate secure, complete, timely and accurate criminal justice information sharing among criminal justice entities throughout the state. This system will eventually allow for access to certain information by the public.

The Court sponsored its first Juror Appreciation Day in May 2006 in conjunction with Governor Ed Rendell, the Pennsylvania General Assembly and County Executive Dan Onorato issuing declarations recognizing the crucial public service performed by citizens who respond to the call of jury duty. Distinguished guests and representatives of community organizations and law and business groups joined Court efforts to acknowledge and impart the Court's recognition and appreciation of all jurors. The Court was very pleased with the outstanding cooperation of community leaders on this occasion and by the Allegheny County Bar Association's generous monetary donation of support. We invite you to take a look at the article devoted to the event inside this report.

On February 15, 2006, the Honorable Cynthia A. Baldwin won confirmation to the state Supreme Court by the Pennsylvania Senate. In 1989, Judge Baldwin was the first elected African-American female judge on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and served in the Family (10 years) and Civil Divisions (5 years) of this Court. We applaud Justice Baldwin's elevation to the Supreme Court, offer thanks and gratitude for her contributions to this court, and convey our sincere best wishes for continued success in all of her endeavors.

The Court worked with Pittsburgh Public Schools Department of Academic Services Director Raymond

McClain, Ph.D., to facilitate the second annual high school education project in the city schools. This program, developed to educate students about the role of the courts in our society and their responsibilities as citizens, further encourages students to participate in jury service by registering to vote. Common Pleas Court Judges visited 11 city high schools during the month of March 2006, impressing upon students the positive aspects of civic responsibility.

In December 2006, the Pretrial Services Agency was created to improve the Court's ability to more closely monitor defendants released on bail and coordinate pretrial services among various programs. The agency, expected to begin formal operation in January 2007, will be responsible for improving the coordination of drug, alcohol and mental health services for defendants at the pretrial stage. It is the Court's expectation that through early detection and intervention of defendants in need of drug, alcohol and mental health services, the safety of our communities will be improved.

The Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and Allegheny County Jail introduced a video conferencing system in 2006 to expedite hearings. This system links courtrooms to the jail for bench warrant hearings, accelerating the legal process, thereby minimizing the time spent by defendants in jail by days and even months. Goals to expand the system to include probation and Family Division proceedings will further enhance objectives of saving taxpayers' money.

We would like to offer special thanks to Administrative Judges R. Stanton Wettick, Jr., Donna Jo McDaniel, Frank J. Lucchino and Kim Berkeley Clark for their leadership and cooperation during this past year.

# Court of Common Pleas

## CIVIL DIVISION

Hon. R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.  
Hon. Eugene B. Strassburger, III  
Hon. Robert P. Horgos  
Hon. Judith L.A. Friedman  
Hon. Joseph M. James  
Hon. W. Terrence O'Brien  
Hon. Paul F. Luty, Jr.  
Hon. Ronald W. Folino  
Hon. Timothy Patrick O'Reilly  
Hon. Eugene F. Scanlon, Jr.  
Hon. Robert J. Colville  
Hon. Michael A. Della Vecchia

## CRIMINAL DIVISION

Hon. Donna Jo McDaniel  
Hon. Jeffrey A. Manning  
Hon. Robert C. Gallo  
Hon. Kathleen A. Durkin  
Hon. Cheryl Lynn Allen  
Hon. David R. Cashman  
Hon. John A. Zottola  
Hon. Lawrence J. O'Toole  
Hon. Donald E. Machen  
Hon. Lester G. Nauhaus  
Hon. Kevin G. Sasinowski  
Hon. Randal B. Todd  
Hon. Anthony M. Mariani

## ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

Hon. Robert A. Kelly  
Hon. Lee J. Mazur  
Hon. Frank J. Lucchino

## FAMILY DIVISION

Hon. Kathleen R. Mulligan  
Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark  
Hon. Kim D. Eaton  
Hon. Guido A. DeAngelis  
Hon. David N. Wecht  
Hon. Christine A. Ward  
Hon. Jill E. Rangos  
Hon. Dwayne D. Woodruff  
Hon. Beth A. Lazzara  
Hon. Alan D. Hertzberg  
Hon. Thomas E. Flaherty  
Hon. Edward J. Borkowski  
Hon. Kathryn M. Hens-Greco

## SENIOR JUDGES

Hon. Gerard M. Bigley  
Hon. Livingstone M. Johnson  
Hon. Lawrence W. Kaplan



R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.  
Administrative Judge  
Civil Division

Kim Berkeley Clark  
Administrative Judge  
Family Division

Joseph M. James  
President Judge

Donna Jo McDaniel  
Administrative Judge  
Criminal Division

Frank J. Lucchino  
Administrative Judge  
Orphans' Court Division



# Fifth Judicial District Judges



## Opposite Page:

- Row 1:**  
Kim Berkeley Clark  
R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.
- Row 2:**  
Kim D. Eaton  
David N. Wecht  
Robert C. Gallo
- Row 3:**  
Lee J. Mazur  
Robert P. Horgos  
Kathleen R. Mulligan
- Row 4:**  
Kevin G. Sasinoski  
Dwayne D. Woodruff  
Jill E. Rangos
- Row 5:**  
Eugene F. Scanlon, Jr.  
Robert A. Kelly
- Row 6:**  
W. Terrence O'Brien  
David R. Cashman  
Jeffrey A. Manning  
Lawrence J. O'Toole  
Donald E. Machen



## This Page:

- Row 1:**  
Joseph M. James  
Frank J. Lucchino  
Donna Jo McDaniel
- Row 2:**  
Timothy Patrick O'Reilly  
Ronald W. Folino  
Eugene B. Strassburger, III  
Christine A. Ward
- Row 3:**  
Kathryn M. Hens-Greco  
Kathleen A. Durkin  
Judith L.A. Friedman
- Row 4:**  
Beth A. Lazzara  
Paul F. Luty, Jr.
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Thomas E. Flaherty  
Guido A. DeAngelis  
Cheryl Lynn Allen  
John A. Zottola
- Row 6:**  
Alan D. Hertzberg  
Lester G. Nauhaus  
Edward J. Borkowski
- Row 7:**  
Randal B. Todd  
Michael A. Della Vecchia  
Lawrence W. Kaplan\*

## Not Available for Photo:

- Gerard M. Bigley\*  
Robert E. Colville\*  
Robert J. Colville  
Livingstone M. Johnson\*

\*Denotes Senior Judge

## ELECTORATE OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Court of Common Pleas

Board of Judges

President Judge

**District Court  
Administrator**

### Judicial Support/Court Administration

For all judges, magisterial district judges, and court employees (Human Resources, Computer Systems, Fiscal Management, Procurement, Court Reporters, Jury Management and Facilities Management).

### Magisterial District Courts

49 magisterial district judges, senior magisterial district judges, civil matters not in excess of \$8,000, landlord/tenant disputes, protection from abuse actions, summary violations and criminal complaints.

### Civil Division Administrative Judge

- Arbitration
- Board of Viewers

### Criminal Division Administrative Judge

- Adult Probation
- Pretrial Services Agency
- Miscellaneous Courts

### Family Division Administrative Judge

- Adult Section
- Juvenile Section
- Children's Court

### Orphans' Court Division Administrative Judge

- Civil Commitments
- Guardianships
- Adoptions
- Estates

# Court Administration

## Court Reporters



Jo Lynne Ross  
Manager

In addition to recording testimony in all Criminal and Civil Division courtrooms throughout 2006, the Office of Court Reporters was responsible for recording homicide preliminary hearings as well as specified preliminary hearings for the offices of the Public Defender, District Attorney, Conflict Counsel and court-appointed attorneys at Pittsburgh Municipal Court. Official court reporters were also responsible for recording testimony in Family

Division courtrooms not connected to the Family Law Center Audio Room, and they continued to produce all transcripts ordered for Family-Adult audiotaped hearings and Civil Division videotaped hearings.

In the ongoing process of updating equipment, new software was purchased and complementary hardware ordered. A number of laptops were acquired, providing reporters the convenience of working on transcripts between courtroom assignments. Eventually, laptops will expedite the reporters' ability to connect to CAT systems in various courtrooms when called upon to do real-time writing for specified court hearings. A number of Allegheny County's court reporters are certified real-time writers and constantly utilize their exper-

tise in aiding any hearing-impaired parties during court proceedings. Although not currently certified, other reporters have honed their real-time skills to be capable of courtroom real-time work. Real-time writing is a highly skilled form of documenting the spoken word that requires rigorous practice and precision.

In November 2006, the management of videotapes from the Civil Division's video-equipped courtroom was transferred from Court Administration to the Office of Court Reporters. Production of the transcripts from those videotapes was always the responsibility of court reporters who are now also responsible for the storage, copying and sale of the videotapes.

The Office of Court Reporters has been working with Court Information Systems to develop an online order form to facilitate a more efficient and readily accessible procedure for attorneys and the general public to obtain transcript information. Mid-2007 is the anticipated target date for this project's installation.

The personnel of the Office of Court Reporters remains dedicated to supporting the judiciary of this county as professionally and efficiently as possible. Time management is a challenge when attempting to expeditiously provide transcripts coupled with intensive courtroom schedules. Procedures are being adjusted and equipment is being updated to meet the challenge.

## Human Resources



Charles Kennedy  
Manager

The court's workforce is comprised of nearly 1,200 employees. This includes 308 professionals (probation officers, counselors, investigators and computer programmers); 570 clerical employees (who have a varied range of job titles); 145 confidential staff (judicial personal staff and other administrative staff); 16 hearing officers, masters and Board of Viewer members; and 157 administrators, managers and supervisors. Eighty-one

new employees joined the court and 21 employees retired during the year. The employee with the longest tenure to effect retirement in 2006 was Judith Saunders. She served as

a Domestic Relations Supervisor in the Family Division and had over 38 years of service.

The court introduced online job postings in 2006. The first openings to be announced on the court's internet site (<http://www.alleghenycourts.us>) included a manager position at Pittsburgh Municipal Courts and a counselor position in the Family Division. These openings were included in the Human Resources section of the website ([http://www.alleghenycourts.us/administration/human\\_resources.asp](http://www.alleghenycourts.us/administration/human_resources.asp)) which also contains a downloadable employment application and an email link which can be used to submit a question or request for information from our Human Resources staff. This site is accessible to current employees looking for additional career information and for members of the public who may be interested in employment opportunities within the Fifth Judicial District.

## Court Systems

### COMMON PLEAS CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Sean Collins  
Manager

Judge System (MDJS) and the Pennsylvania Appellate Court Case Management System (PACMS).

Fortunately, a similar windows-based case management system, known as CIMS (Criminal Information Management System), had been implemented in the Criminal Division several years ago, electronically housing millions of accurate and current records. All CIMS data was ultimately successfully migrated into CPCMS. For several months, before and after installation of CPCMS, the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) provided specialized, individualized training to the principals in criminal case management: court administrative staff, the Common Pleas judges and their staff and all employees of the Clerk of Courts Office. In addition, training in accessing detailed case information through secure web and public web dockets was supplied to hundreds of ancillary criminal justice partners. AOPC continues to support CPCMS to all users through helpdesk services, user alerts and advanced training courses.

CPCMS is an event-based system that chronicles all court-related activity in criminal cases, including summary appeals, from initiation to disposition. In addition to recording critical calendar, scheduling, docketing and case status data, a substantial portion of the functionality of CPCMS is devoted to case financial work, including the collection, disbursement and reporting of fines, costs, fees, restitution and the administration of bail monies. Each user has a designated security level for access to the system, and all entries produce an audit trail.

Since all 60 judicial districts representing the 67 counties of the Commonwealth are using CPCMS, users can view statewide warrant documentation, as well as other information for any criminal case throughout the entire state. Electronic input from the Department of Corrections to CPCMS permits users to readily ascertain confinement status on a defendant, whether incarcerated in a state or local facility. An interface with CIMS permits the electronic filing of criminal information by the District Attorney's Office. Other interfaces and file transfers from local and statewide systems assist in electronically updating records and fulfilling reporting mandates. It is anticipated that additional data exchanges will be forthcoming to enhance CPCMS and other automated systems.

## School Students Visit the Courts







# Outreach Project

President Judge Joseph James, District Court Administrator Raymond Billotte and Department of Academic Services Director Raymond McClain, Ph.D., worked together to facilitate the second annual high school education project in the City of Pittsburgh School District. The program was developed to educate high school students on the role of the courts in our society, their responsibilities as citizens of our community, and to encourage participation in the jury process by registering to vote. Judges James, Woodruff, Hertzberg and Lazzara participated in the program by visiting 11 city high schools during the month of March 2006 to convey the program message and impress upon the students the extremely positive measures of citizen accountability.



## School Students Visit the Courts



The court welcomes and encourages the public, particularly students, to visit and observe courtroom proceedings. Student field trips to court facilities coordinated through the Court Administrative Office are designed to provide an education of the trial process and the function of judges and support staff within the state courts.

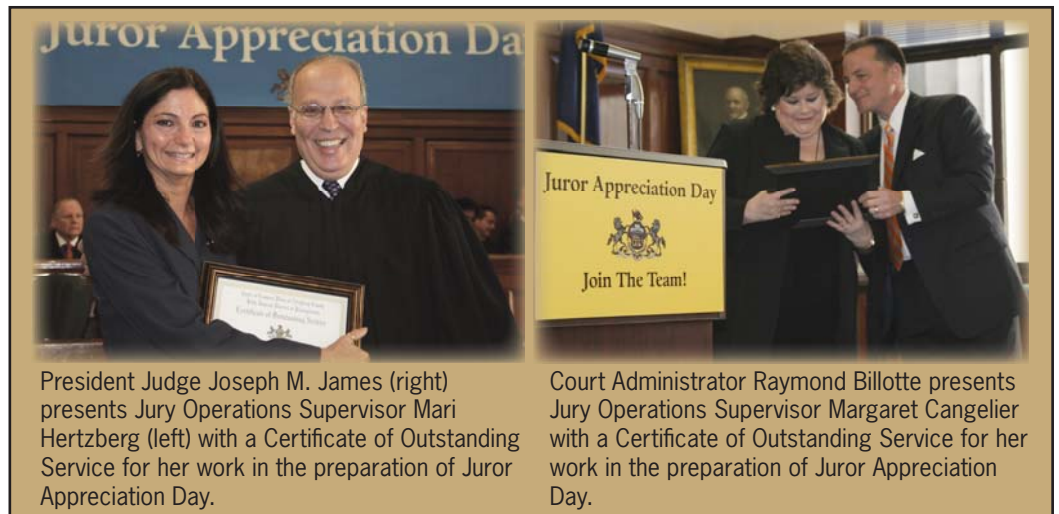


# Court of Common Pleas



The Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas sponsored Juror Appreciation Day on May 24 to recognize the importance of jury service and to honor the citizens serving in our courts. The celebration, held in the Court's Jury Assignment Room, was coordinated in conjunction with the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Governor Edward Rendell and County Executive Dan Onorato issuing declarations recognizing the crucial public service performed by citizens who respond to the call of jury duty.

Allegheny County's recognition event began with the introduction of Master of Ceremonies Sheldon Ingram of the Channel 4 Action News Team, followed by remarks by special guest and keynote speaker Bill Cowher, Coach of the Super Bowl Champion Pittsburgh Steelers. Coach Cowher emphasized that jury duty is a team effort to which each individual juror must contribute and bear responsibility. President Judge Joseph James, along with Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Baldwin, County Executive Dan Onorato, State Senator Jay Costa and District Court Administrator Raymond Billotte provided further remarks throughout the program explaining that without citizens willing to serve, the justice system could not function.



President Judge Joseph M. James (right) presents Jury Operations Supervisor Mari Hertzberg (left) with a Certificate of Outstanding Service for her work in the preparation of Juror Appreciation Day.

Court Administrator Raymond Billotte presents Jury Operations Supervisor Margaret Cangelier with a Certificate of Outstanding Service for her work in the preparation of Juror Appreciation Day.

“Juror service — along with voting — are two of the more significant and important civic duties Pennsylvanians can take part in. Jury service can be an experience of a lifetime and a fundamental illustration of the American form of justice at work. In a very basic way, this sets the United States and its citizen participation apart from many other nations.”

—Ralph J. Cappy  
*Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice*



# Juror Appreciation Day

Representatives of community organizations, law and business groups including the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, the Pittsburgh City School District, NAACP, National Council for Jewish Women and Allegheny County Council were in attendance and recognized as “civic partners,” each joining in the Court’s efforts to acknowledge and impart the importance, recognition and appreciation for service.

All jurors present on May 24 received a gift bag holding a coffee mug, ballpoint pen, hat, t-shirt, key chain and Pirate Baseball home game ticket, thanks in large part to the Allegheny County Bar Association’s generous monetary donation in support of this event. Jurors were also eligible for special prizes donated by the Pittsburgh Steelers, Pittsburgh Penguins, Pittsburgh Pirates, Kennywood Amusement Park and the University of Pittsburgh.

This event was held with the assistance of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization.

The Honorable  
Cynthia A. Baldwin  
Supreme Court Justice



Juror Appreciation Day

Join The Team!

Jay Costa  
State Senator



## Speakers

Sheldon Ingram  
WTAE News Anchor



Bill Cowher  
Steeler Coach



Dan Onorato  
County Chief Executive



## Juror Appreciation Day Raffle Winners



District Court Administrator Raymond Billotte (above right) looks on as Steeler Coach Bill Cowher announces a raffle winner. Judge Livingstone M. Johnson (below right) draws a winning ticket while Lynn Marks assists.



“Jury Service - Join the Team”

## *Criminal Division* **Criminal Division**



Donna Jo McDaniel  
Administrative Judge



## Judges

L-R: Gerard M. Bigley\*  
David R. Cashman  
Jeffrey A. Manning  
Donald E. Machen  
Cheryl Lynn Allen  
Anthony M. Mariani  
Kathleen A. Durkin  
Lawrence J. O'Toole

Donna Jo McDaniel  
Lester G. Nauhaus  
Kevin G. Sasinoski  
Randal B. Todd  
Robert C. Gallo  
John A. Zottola

\*Senior Judge

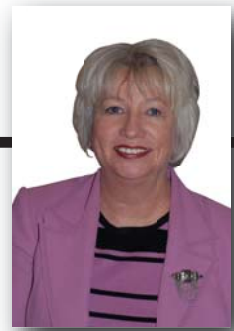


# Criminal Division

In 2006, the Criminal Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County continued updating and improving. The problems enumerated in the annual report for 2005 included a shortage of judges, overcrowding in the Allegheny County Jail, inequitable support personnel workloads and neglected facilities. Each of these issues has been addressed if not resolved.

In addition to the 13 commissioned judges in the Criminal Division in 2006, the Honorable Gerald M. Bigley sat as a senior judge and the Honorable John K. Reilly, Jr., a senior judge from Clearfield County, continued to work in Allegheny County on a limited basis. The Criminal Division disposed of 18,941 cases. The Honorable Robert C. Gallo sentenced 5,643 Accelerated Rehabilitative Dispositions (ARD's) and 1,297 Plea Disposition Quickies (PDQ's). Ninety-three homicide cases were filed. The division may be assigned additional judges after the upcoming election.

The problem of jail overcrowding persists despite the support of pertinent branches of county government to alleviate this problem. The jail population has continued to exceed its cap of 2,500 prisoners, and the court has instituted several new efforts to aid the Allegheny County Jail in reducing jail population. In 2006, the necessary electronic connections were completed to ensure the remote handling of all bail hearings. As of mid-2006, the motions judge had presided over motions in the courtroom, and through video conferencing, had handled bond hearings from the county jail, quickly identifying people eligible to be released on nominal or conditional bonds. The implementation of this system was a joint effort by the District Attorney's Office, the Office of the Public Defender, the Pretrial Services



Helen Lynch  
Administrator

Agency's Bail Division and the Allegheny County Jail. Criminal Court judges were also committed to the success of this program. In one instance, when mechanical difficulties disabled the equipment, the Honorable Lawrence J. O'Toole, that day's motions judge, gathered his staff and walked to the Pittsburgh Municipal Court Building to entertain motions. The camaraderie and cooperation of the judges in the Criminal Division is long-standing and continuing.

(Continued on Page 12)



(Above photos): Prior to a bail hearing conducted via video conferencing, Keith Duffy (above left) swears in the defendant located at the jail while Judge McDaniel presides at the courthouse.



A monitor is set up in the courtroom to conduct hearings through video conferencing.

Resolution of the jail-overcrowding problem was a priority project undertaken by the Criminal Division in 2006. After the departure of John Young as Bail Agency Manager, the Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel, Criminal Division Administrative Judge, undertook a search for a replacement manager and revamped the entire pretrial service arena. After consultation with experts in the pretrial service field from the National Institute of Corrections, as well as the Allegheny County Policy Board, former Adult Probation Senior Supervisor Thomas McCaffrey, was named head of the Pretrial Services Agency.

Adult Probation Services continued to reorganize under the leadership of James Rieland. Last year, the frequency of Gagnon I hearings at the jail was doubled in an effort to have these cases heard in a timely manner. At the end of 2006, a position was created for a Gagnon I Hearing Officer. Susan Filiaggi, Esquire, a former Assistant District Attorney and former defense attorney, was hired to conduct Gagnon I hearings. This change freed up senior probation supervisors to focus on other priorities while at the same time further reducing the average jail days between the time of arrest and hearing.

Reorganizing of support personnel has been progressing. Continuing education for minute clerks, tipstaves and other personnel is now routinely conducted. Court personnel have developed a Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS) committee to help identify problems and to identify areas where additional training would benefit personnel. John Matyasovsky, a former employee of the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), who was hired full-time by Court Administration to be our CPCMS trainer, has helped the court staff immensely.

The facilities of the courthouse continue to be updated. Room 504, which previously housed courtrooms for two senior judges, has been converted to probation offices for court liaisons and the intake and administrative unit staff. Defendants placed on probation report directly to Room 504 after their court proceeding for an intake interview and for DNA testing for those convicted of a felony. Moving the intake unit from the Wood Street location to the courthouse has resulted in the elimination of the large number of defendants who failed to register with the Probation Office. The administrative unit performs case processing, data entry and other management functions. The court liaison unit continues to handle probation violations and detainer matters.

In 2007, we hope to accomplish the total reorganization of pretrial services, a comprehensive employee-wellness program, evidence-based probation training for all members of the bench as well as the probation office and to continue updating court facilities.

#### SPECIALTY COURTS

The Criminal Division of the Court of Common Pleas has been a leader in the development of specialty courts, each target-

ing a particular type of offender. The five specialty courts of the Criminal Division are Mental Health Court, Drug Court, DUI Court, Domestic Violence Court and REPP Court (Rehabilitative Educational Prostitution Program).

#### MENTAL HEALTH COURT

The Honorable Robert E. Colville initiated Mental Health Court and upon his retirement, the duties were accepted by the Honorable John A. Zottola. Mental Health Court expedites case adjudication for individuals with mental illness who have committed misdemeanors or non-violent felonies. It mandates treatment and supervision as part of court-ordered conditions and has served over 400 individuals since its inception in 2001. Early in 2006, the United States Department of Justice recognized Allegheny County Mental Health Court as one of the top ten learning sites in the nation.



Judge Zottola

#### DRUG COURT

The Honorable Lester G. Nauhaus, who was part of the founding team, currently presides over Drug Court. One of the court's most successful endeavors, Drug Court is in its ninth year of operation. In April 2006, Judge Nauhaus received the William J. Schofield, III, award for outstanding dedication and service to the addiction field for his work in Drug Court from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs.



Judge Nauhaus

#### DUI COURT

The Honorable Kevin G. Sasinoski currently presides over DUI Court, which addresses the problems of multiple DUI offenders. Judge Sasinoski and court staff, along with a team assembled from the Office of Adult Probation and the District Attorney's Office, supervise long-term alcohol users. In December 2006, Judge Sasinoski and his team were recognized by the Pennsylvania DUI Association of the Western Pennsylvania Law Enforcement at a seminar in Cranberry Township. The Judge received an award for his outstanding diligent and compassionate work in DUI Court.



Judge Sasinoski

#### REPP COURT

(Rehabilitative Educational Prostitution Program)  
Judge Sasinoski also presides over REPP Court, which like DUI Court, deals with individuals whose lives often have been affected by drugs and alcohol. These individuals, most of

(Continued on Page 13)



whom are women, agree to participate in a service plan designed to break the cycle of addiction and prostitution while teaching valuable life skills.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT

The Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel has created a specialized court program that focuses on repeat domestic violence offenders. In conjunction with the Domestic Violence Unit of the District Attorney's Office and the Office of the Public Defender, cases are diverted to Administrative Judge McDaniel's docket. At the trial level, repeat offenders comprise one-third of approximately 1,200 domestic violence cases within the Court of Common Pleas each year. Any defendant who has more than one active domestic violence criminal case, who has been previously arrested for domestic violence within the last five years, or has been arrested for violating a Protection From Abuse Order concerning the same victim is transferred to Judge McDaniel's docket on the pretrial conference date. Following a guilty resolution of the case, a defendant receives probation as part of his/her sentence. The Probation Department, equipped with specialized domestic violence probation officers, monitors the defendant and appears along with the defendant for a review hearing approximately 90 days from the guilty disposition.



Judge McDaniel

At that time, the Probation Department reports to Judge McDaniel detailing the defendant's compliance with the conditions of probation, which often include: drug/alcohol evaluation and treatment; mental health services; anger management programs; stipulation of no-contact with the victim; and payment of court costs. If a defendant has complied with all conditions of probation, Judge McDaniel may reduce the term of probation and advise the probation officer that another review hearing is not necessary, contingent upon the defendant's continued good-behavior. Should the defendant fail to comply with probation conditions, Judge McDaniel introduces swift intervention that could include jail time, additional structured review hearings, as well as extension of probation. Judge McDaniel conducts these review hearings in open court on the trial date of other repeat offenders with pending cases in an effort to demonstrate the ramifications of probation non-compliance. Although there are no official statistics available, nearly 75 percent of probationers successfully complete their sentences.

#### PRETRIAL SERVICES

The Allegheny County Criminal Justice Oversight Board recommended that major changes be made to the Allegheny County Bail Agency. The court contracted with the National

Pretrial Services Resource Center (PSRC) to conduct an assessment of the existing Bail Agency. PSRC listed sixteen areas of competence for pretrial services and suggested that this court embark on a major reorganization of its entire pretrial service community. An oversight committee, consisting of Judges Donna Jo McDaniel, Lawrence J. O'Toole and Kathleen A. Durkin, Court Administrator Raymond Billotte, Deputy Court Administrator Claire Capristo and Criminal Court Administrator Helen Lynch, was formed to direct this project.

In mid-September, PSRC Director Emeritus Aaron Henry met with several judges, prosecutors, defenders and court officials in Allegheny County to discuss the project suggested by the resource center. In the first week of October 2006, PSRC's John Clark began an on-site assessment of the existing Bail Agency. He worked with Bail Agency staff to identify approximately 9,000 cases that would be used in an assessment report to be presented by PSRC Executive Director Tim Murray to court officials.

Mr. Murray met with the oversight committee and suggested that the court conduct a nationwide search for a Director of Pretrial Services. The center also continued to collect data elements needed to validate a new risk assessment tool. By the end of the quarter, the oversight committee had selected Thomas McCaffrey as the director for the newly combined service agency.



Thomas McCaffrey

Mr. McCaffrey received a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work in 1979. He has been with the Allegheny County Adult Probation Office for 26 years, starting as a probation officer, promoted to supervisor and, subsequently, senior manager. Prior to accepting the position as Director of Pretrial Services in December 2006, as an Adult Probation senior manager, Mr. McCaffrey was in charge of the Allegheny County Alcohol and Highway Safety Program, the ARD, Interlock and ISC Units.

Mr. McCaffrey has brought energy and enthusiasm to his position as Director of Pretrial Services. While continuing to manage the ongoing Adult Probation programs, Mr. McCaffrey's new responsibilities will include supervision of the Bail Agency and the Behavior Clinic, all of which have been joined into one cohesive, comprehensive pretrial service unit.

(Continued on Page 18)

# Disposition Report

					DIVERSIONARY		ACQUITTALS	
	Complaints Filed	Remand	Nolle Prose/ Dismiss/ Judgment Granted	Migrated Disposition	ARD	PWV	Judge/ Non-Jury	Jury
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS</b>								
Criminal Homicide	93	0	0	9	0	0	8	6
Robbery	434	0	0	91	1	0	5	7
Kidnapping/Unlawful Restraint	34	0	0	0	1	0	7	1
Rape	71	0	0	5	0	0	2	7
Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	30	0	0	3	0	0	7	9
Other Sexual Offenses	298	0	0	70	7	0	8	16
Aggravated Assault	520	1	0	239	185	0	194	77
Simple Assault	995	3	32	569	276	0	97	47
Corruption of Minors	117	0	0	56	22	0	18	16
Subtotal	2,592	4	32	1,042	492	0	346	186
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY</b>								
Arson	26	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Burglary	814	5	5	382	32	0	43	6
Forgery/Counterfeit	855	4	10	144	571	0	10	0
Theft	1,524	2	10	348	340	0	25	1
Retail Theft	734	1	4	180	17	0	6	0
Subtotal	3,953	12	29	1,060	960	0	84	7
<b>DRUG/ALCOHOL OFFENSES</b>								
Driving Under the Influence	2,795	2	5	869	3,798	0	25	5
Narcotics/Drug Laws	4,037	5	6	662	231	6	41	3
Liquor Laws	2	2	0	0	13	0	10	0
Subtotal	6,834	9	11	1,531	4,042	6	76	8
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE</b>								
Criminal Mischief	79	0	0	18	26	0	6	5
Disorderly Conduct	351	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prostitution	173	1	0	22	0	0	1	0
Subtotal	603	2	0	40	26	0	7	5
<b>INCHOATE/MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES</b>								
Criminal Attempt/Solicitation	126	0	0	24	1	0	1	0
Criminal Conspiracy	190	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Escape/Default Appearance	135	0	0	24	5	0	0	0
Firearm Violation/Offensive Weapons/ Instruments of Crime	649	1	0	65	5	0	25	2
Vehicular Offenses	3,081	9	4	30	53	0	72	1
*All Other Offenses	406	1	0	53	59	0	11	4
Subtotal	4,587	11	4	196	123	0	111	7
Grand Total	18,569	38	76	3,869	5,643	6	624	213

\*Includes offenses related to local ordinances specific to Allegheny County such as boating laws and animal regulations; also Workers' Compensation Fraud, Medical Assistance Fraud, etc.

\*\*Intermediate Punishment

\*\*\*No Further Sentence

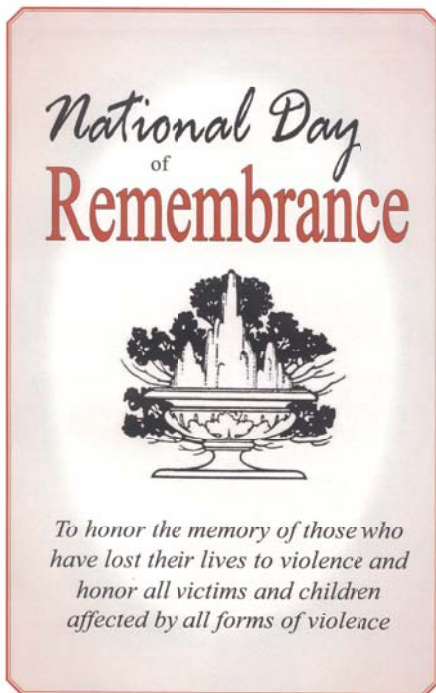
# Disposition Report

CONVICTIONS										SENTENCING		
Judge/ Non- Jury	Jury	Unspecified	Non- Trial	Plea	PDQ	Nolo Contendre	Probation	Incarceration	IP**	Merged	Financial Penalty Only	NFS***
11	16	1	0	9	0	0	5	40	1	0	0	0
23	9	4	2	191	0	10	111	193	8	0	2	16
1	0	0	0	8	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	2
0	2	0	0	5	0	1	3	8	0	0	0	2
0	0	0	0	3	0	5	3	9	0	0	0	0
2	0	2	0	228	0	3	221	59	5	0	0	19
40	32	16	8	985	8	10	725	547	74	0	0	43
95	12	17	4	1,748	84	60	1,889	432	37	0	12	169
2	0	0	4	98	0	4	100	41	6	0	0	4
174	71	40	18	3,275	92	93	3,060	1,334	131	0	14	255
5	0	0	0	32	0	0	31	10	2	0	0	0
39	12	2	23	735	10	33	686	429	37	0	24	62
19	0	1	16	480	20	6	573	85	13	0	8	59
33	3	7	14	1,100	85	10	1,087	229	25	0	19	83
7	0	4	10	660	99	4	576	211	23	0	1	58
103	15	14	63	3,007	214	53	2,953	964	100	0	52	262
90	0	19	8	3,190	384	4	2,260	1,142	793	1	1	8
62	5	21	10	3,000	542	14	2,676	731	159	4	1	218
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
152	5	40	18	6,191	926	18	4,937	1,873	952	5	2	226
5	0	0	2	69	0	2	71	41	1	0	1	13
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	137	0	1	112	34	2	0	0	13
6	0	0	2	206	0	3	183	75	3	0	1	26
0	5	0	0	29	0	0	30	30	1	0	0	3
2	1	0	1	15	0	0	13	3	1	0	0	2
0	0	0	1	125	0	1	63	56	2	0	0	13
20	2	1	0	306	0	3	217	143	23	0	0	14
16	0	0	0	91	3	0	83	25	2	0	1	30
11	0	0	0	268	62	0	244	36	1	0	0	80
49	8	1	2	834	65	4	650	293	30	0	1	142
484	99	95	103	13,513	1,297	171	11,783	4,539	1,216	5	70	911





Family members and friends attend the ceremony honoring those whose lives were ended through violence.



A banner (shown above) was provided by the Hands & Words Are Not For Hurting project.

(Pictured below): The Parents of Murdered Children organization hands out information and displays photos of children who were victimized.



(L-R): Carol Moss, Lindsay Hildenbrand and Jean Toner help set up for the ceremony.







(L-R): Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel, Administrative Assistant Wendy Feldmeier and Administrator Helen Lynch before the National Day of Remembrance ceremony.



(Above L-r): Judge Manning, Judge Cashman and Judge Nauhaus attend the ceremony.

At left, Deputy Sheriff Richard Manning plays the bagpipes.

On September 25, 2006, at noon in the courtyard of the Allegheny County Courthouse, the first annual National Day of Remembrance was commemorated. The master of ceremonies was Criminal Division Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel. Speakers included: Cindy Long of Parents of Murdered Children; Valerie Dixon of the Center for Victims of Violence and Crime; Julie Evans from Pittsburgh Action Against Rape; Laura Ditka, Deputy District Attorney and supervisor of the Child Abuse Unit; Joan Witkowski from Women's Place; and Dan Onorato, Chief Executive of Allegheny County. Over 200 citizens and Criminal Division employees attended as Chief Executive Onorato issued an Allegheny County proclamation designating September 25, 2006, as a Day of Remembrance. Many of the attendees were friends, relatives or parents of people who had suffered or had died as a result of criminal acts. Each participant was given a red (to symbolize the blood that was shed) balloon and asked to write the name of their loved one on the balloon in black (to symbolize mourning). While Deputy Sheriff Richard Manning played the bagpipes, these survivors released the balloons in a heartrending ceremony. Many local businesses donated their time and products and served the attendees cake, cookies and soft drinks.



Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato speaks at the National Day of Remembrance ceremony.



### Child Angels

*The sweetest Angels have been  
taken from this earth,  
A precious Child Angel lost,  
So many hearts do ache,  
Heaven holds our Child Angels  
that we have lost,  
The Memory of a Child Angel  
will live on in our hearts,  
They will not be forgotten,  
Forever they will be missed,  
Forever and Always they will  
be Remembered*

-By Joanne Witkowski  
Created for September 25th,  
National Day of Remembrance



A poem written and read by Joanne Witkowski of Womansplace (above) was followed by a balloon release.

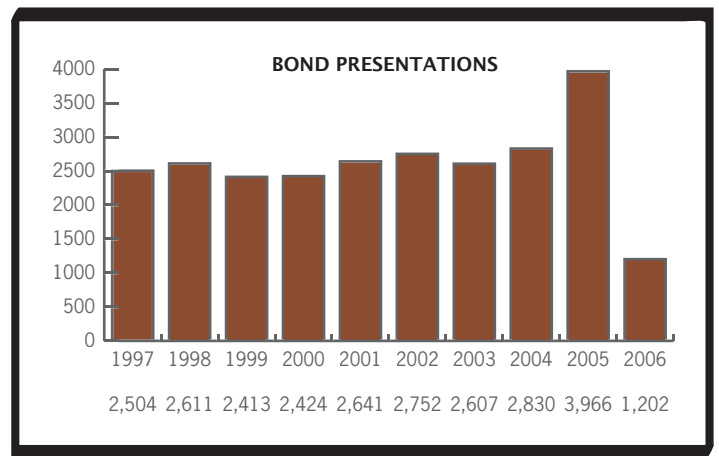


## BAIL AGENCY

John Young started his career at the former Bail Agency as part-time summer help under the Manpower Program while attending college. He was hired as a full-time investigator on October 15, 1974, promoted to supervisor in May 1983, and appointed as Director of the Bail Agency in February 1993. John's tenure of nearly 32 years with the Court of Common Pleas Bail Agency was a testament of his commitment to serve the taxpayers as well as to protect the right to reasonable bail for anyone arrested in Allegheny County.



John Young



John was active in the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies, attended the annual educational conferences, and was honored as the association's Member of the Year in 2006. He was also a valuable board member of the Pennsylvania Pretrial Services Association.

When he left county service in May 2006, John had earned a reputation for integrity and loyalty. He established many bonds of friendship within the criminal justice system and is wished repeated future success.

## BEHAVIOR CLINIC

During 2006, the Behavior Clinic psychiatrists evaluated over 3,000 defendants at the Allegheny County Jail and another 150 defendants at the Behavior Clinic's main office. Defendants who reported to the office had been released on bond. The Behavior Clinic's goal continues to be to assist the court by evaluating defendants' competency to stand trial. However, competency is not the sole purpose of the Behavior Clinic.



Geraldean Young

The social workers at the clinic liaise with forensic agencies and programs and work closely to help the defendant return to the community as quickly as possible. The clinic endeavors to see that the mental health consumer receives the least restrictive treatment.

Throughout 2006, there were increases in 18 of the 22 index crimes for which evaluations were conducted. "Endangering The Welfare Of A Child" category showed the most significant rise. One hundred seventeen mental health consumers were involuntarily committed to Mayview State Hospital through the Behavior Clinic.

BEHAVIOR CLINIC ACTIVITY	
—Court Appearances	88
—Evaluations of Defendants Discharged from Mayview State Hospital	113
—Involuntary Mental Health Commitments	117
—Evaluations by Judicial Request	202
—Re-Evaluations (Second Opinions)	216
—Social Histories	288

BOND FORFEITURES					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Increase/ Decrease 2005 to 2006
Sentencing	32	33	45	8	-82%
ARD	78	61	63	42	-33%
Pretrial Conference	447	519	513	494	-3%
Preliminary Hearing	813	1,078	1,025	314	-69%
Trial	1,239	1,284	1,180	731	-38%
Formal Arraignment	1,332	1,513	1,545	1,425	-7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,941</b>	<b>4,488</b>	<b>4,371</b>	<b>3,014</b>	<b>-31%</b>

Evaluations by Offense	2005	2006
Aggravated Assault	266	313
Arson*	52	44
Burglary	144	182
Corrupting the Morals of a Minor*	254	178
Disorderly Conduct	136	120
Driving Under the Influence	17	15
Endangering the Welfare of a Child*	165	259
Harassment*	126	133
Homicide*	79	112
Indecent Assault*	123	150
Indirect Criminal Contempt*	7	N/A
Indecent Deviate Sexual Intercourse*	55	72
Indecent Exposure*	100	111
Kidnapping*	9	20
Loitering and Prowling	7	N/A
Miscellaneous	201	245
Rape*	118	121
Reckless Endangerment of Another Person	92	113
Simple Assault	402	414
Stalking*	116	123
Terroristic Threats	101	170
Violation of the Uniform Firearms Act	11	14
Violation of Probation	17	22
Violation of the Controlled Substance Act	72	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>3,031</b>
*Mandatory Evaluation		

## MISCELLANEOUS COURTS

In its third year of operation, Miscellaneous Courts is a branch of the Criminal Division consolidating the caseloads of Summary Appeals, Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) and Plea Disposition Quickie (PDQ). The Honorable Robert C. Gallo continued to preside over Miscellaneous Courts matters, with the exception of civil summary appeals that are referred to the Civil Division Administrative Judge, the Honorable R. Stanton Wettick, Jr., for judicial assignment. Miscellaneous Courts staff electronically monitors the disposition of civil summary appeals cases filed with the Allegheny County Prothonotary. Summary and statutory appeals of magisterial district judge rulings pertaining to criminal citations filed with the Clerk of Courts are tracked from filing to disposition by Miscellaneous Courts staff.



Judge Gallo

Diversions programs, ARD and PDQ, are designed to fast-track cases of first-time offenders charged with less serious, non-violent crimes. Eligibility is determined by the District Attorney's Office. Judge Gallo handled 5,643 ARD and 1,297 PDQ hearings in 2006.

After 31 years of committed service, Joseph DeMarco retired as manager of Miscellaneous Courts.



Joseph DeMarco



Front Row (l-r): Joanie Kampas, Andrea Surgent, Judge Gallo, Lynn Kissling, Diane Podsiadly, (back row l-r) Sandy Marino and Deputy Sheriff Phil.



Top Photo (l-r): Administrative Judges McDaniel and Clark address the new probation officers.

Bottom Photo (l-r): Judge McDaniel swears in Probation Officer Lisa Hammond.

## Probation Officer Swearing-In Ceremony



Attending the probation officer swearing-in ceremony are (front row l-r): Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel, Court Administrator Raymond L. Billotte, President Judge Joseph M. James, (second row l-r) Family Division Administrative Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, Keonte Campbell, Dena Horner, Kristen Thomas, Lauren Pegher, Lisa Hammond, Celeste Robinson, Yvonne McKinnon, Timothy Dugan, Director James Rieland and Judge Lester G. Nauhaus.





On October 25, 2006, the Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel and Helen Lynch hosted a luncheon for the courthouse trades personnel in appreciation for all their diligent efforts on the court's behalf.

The luncheon was just a small thank you to let these dedicated workers know that their efforts do not go unnoticed by the court.

The attendees included electricians, carpenters, plumbers, painters, engineers, locksmiths, stone masons, marble setters, plasterers, their supervisors and Joe Olczak, Deputy Director Public Works Department.

Pictured Above: Judge McDaniel and Helen Lynch (center of photo l-r) hosted the luncheon, which was coordinated by Wendy Feldmeier (second from right).



#### STEELER TAILGATE PARTY

On Friday, February 3, 2006, Criminal Division Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel and Criminal Court Administrator Helen Lynch hosted a Pittsburgh Steelers tailgate party at noon in Judge McDaniel's courtroom to celebrate Super Bowl XL. The catered lunch included Pittsburgh classics such as kielbasa with sauerkraut and pierogies. Entertainment included the Steelers fight song and film clips provided by John Elash, Jr., Esquire.

In attendance were District Court Administrator Raymond Billotte and Judge McDaniel (above) and Judge Zottola and Criminal Court Administrator Helen Lynch (below).





**STEELERS  
SUPERBOWL  
RALLY**

A lunchtime rally held in Judge McDaniel's courtroom was attended by Steeler fans hoping for "One for the Thumb."



Denise Colberg    Jean Toner    Carol Moss

# Criminal Division - Adult Probation



James J. Rieland  
Administrator

Through the continued leadership of Criminal Division Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel, Adult Probation continues to evolve, reorganize and explore new methods of effective supervision practices. In early 2006 the department's Risk Assessment Workgroup spent two days with Brad Bogue, a consultant with Justice Systems Assessment and Training and the Center for Change. This was the first step toward adopting evidence-based practices in Adult Probation.

Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) is an organizational approach to using direct, scientific, current evidence to guide efficient, cost-effective correctional services that positively impact recidivism/victimization and/or public satisfaction. As stated by Brad Bogue, "Community corrections will only develop into a "science" when there is an increased commitment to measurable outcomes."

With Mr. Bogue's assistance, Adult Probation implemented a screening tool known as the "Proxy Scale" on a pilot basis. The Proxy Scale is based on an offender's answers to three questions:

1. Age at first arrest
2. The number of prior arrests
3. Current Age

Based on these answers, a risk value of low, medium or high is assigned to an offender, which risk category is used as the basis for the offender's supervision plan. Adult Probation's future practice will be enhanced through scientifically based risk/need assessment and evidence-based practices.

Until Adult Probation's new risk/needs assessment process is in place, probation officer's caseloads will not be significantly impacted. In the fall of 2006, a specialized sex offender unit

was developed consisting of a supervisor and four probation officers. In cooperation with Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR), Adult Probation staff have been meeting with community leaders to develop a supervision model for sex offenders in Allegheny County. This is an extremely important collaboration for our community as well as for Adult Probation.

The following are brief updates of various programs and activities in Adult Probation.

## ADULT PROBATION COMMUNITY-BASED OFFICES

Adult Probation community-based offices have been in existence since 1976 and have undergone many transformations over the years. The purpose of local offices has always been to provide the maximum degree of supervision possible to the convicted offender, commensurate with available resources and targeted at the protection of the community in addition to the proactive rehabilitation of the offender.

The original five offices are located in McKeesport, North Side, South Hills, Central Pittsburgh and Wilkinsburg.

These community sites provide probationary/parole supervision for approximately 8,100 convicted offenders, including specialized caseloads of domestic violence, sex offenses, mental health maladies, and alcohol/drug addictions. Caseload sizes vary from 80 to 250 offenders per probation officer, in addition to a minimum supervision caseload (located in McKeesport) consisting of 1,300 non-reporting, low-risk offenders. Officers supervising

(Continued on Page 22)

## Offenders Under Supervision by Offense

Sexual Assault	249
Domestic Violence	368
All Other Assaults	403
Burglary	300
Theft	1,199
Motor Vehicle Theft	253
Fraud	333
Drug Law Violations	4,516
Driving Under the Influence	7,640
All Other Offenses	7,375
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,636</b>

## —Supervision—

## —Total—

	Direct	Indirect	Absconder	Transferred out of County	2006	2005
Probation	8,497	1,505	1,075	1,341	<b>12,418</b>	12,910
Parole	692	42	84	72	<b>890</b>	852
Probation/Parole	1,262	31	126	156	<b>1,575</b>	292
Intermediate	1,147	50	0	181	<b>1,378</b>	1,261
ARD	184	4,537	892	141	<b>5,754</b>	2,197
Probation w/o Verdict	502	61	0	11	<b>574</b>	617
Bail/Bond	47	0	0	0	<b>47</b>	46
<b>TOTAL as of 12/31/06</b>	<b>12,331</b>	<b>6,226</b>	<b>2,177</b>	<b>1,902</b>	<b>22,636</b>	18,175

specialized caseloads (i.e., mental health, domestic violence and sex offenders) participate in related trainings throughout the year in an effort to hone skills regarding their specialties. These specialized officers also play an active role in the Criminal Division's Mental Health and Domestic Violence Courts (the Honorable John A. Zottola and the Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel presiding, respectively). The staff for these community-based offices is composed of six supervisors, five support staff members and a total of 40 probation officers.

During 1990, a sixth community-based office located on Pittsburgh's South Side was created to specifically address the needs of convicted offenders throughout Allegheny County requiring intensive drug/alcohol supervision. It should be noted that this district office utilizes the Swift Intervention Program (SIP) (the Honorable Cheryl Lynn Allen presiding) that incorporates speedy violation hearings for misconduct for which the offender may serve 2, 10, 30 or 60 days in the Allegheny County Jail (ACJ) for non-compliance. Through team-initiated participation with the Allegheny County Sheriff and District Attorney's offices and various local police agencies, "bar searches" and "police ride alongs" are conducted seeking offenders under supervision with outstanding warrants and/or probation/parole violators. The caseload size of this district office varies between 60-65 offenders, with the team comprised of one supervisor, one support staff and ten probation officers.

Community-Based officers partner with numerous law enforcement agencies, the ACJ and alternative housing facilities, many drug/alcohol programs, and neighborhood community centers, in addition to collaborating with offender re-entry and rehabilitative programs throughout Allegheny County.

In addition to providing a range of services to both the offender and the community, the district offices have been tasked with the vital role of collecting a DNA sample from all felony offenders per the DNA Registration Act 185-2004. The number of supervised offenders required to provide a DNA sample averages out to roughly 500-700 offenders per community-based office.

The department is in a state of constant growth and transformation, encouraging innovative ideas from staff to provide community safety while simultaneously offering guidance to convicted offenders for constructive reintegration into society.

#### ADULT PROBATION INTAKE/COURT LIAISON UNITS

On August 16, 2006, the Adult Probation Court Liaison and Intake Units relocated to Room 504 in the Allegheny County Courthouse. Prior to the move, Court Liaison and the Intake Unit interviewers were located in separate offices in the Courthouse, while the remaining Intake Unit members were located at Probation Office headquarters at 14 Wood Street. Upon completion of the move, the twelve-member combined units are now housed in one location.

The Intake and Court Liaison Units require direct interaction with Criminal Court judges and their staffs to process new probation and parole cases and to schedule and conduct probation violation hearings. Being centrally located provides easier access and more efficient interaction with court personnel.

Also, with the passage of Senate Bill Act 185 of 2004, which requires all those convicted of a felony to provide a DNA sample, the Probation Office Intake Unit's location in the Courthouse allows for the collection of the samples immediately upon the defendant's leaving the courtroom.



(L-R): Sherry DiCicco and Sandy Evans work in the Intake Unit.



(L-R): Kathleen Smarra, Cindy Zwergel, Karen Oliver and Kathleen Tommassin attend the Juvenile Justice Conference.

#### ELECTRONIC MONITORING – HOUSE ARREST (EM)

More than 18,000 offenders have been supervised utilizing electronic monitoring throughout its 19 years of operation. The unit occupies a 6,500 square foot office in the suburb of Castle Shannon. EM is comprised of a manager, four supervisors, a Drug Court coordinator, a DUI coordinator, thirty probation officers, ten full-time support staff and seven part-time monitoring staff. The office is manned 24/7, 365 days a year and EM staff also monitor the emergency telephone number for Adult Probation Services.

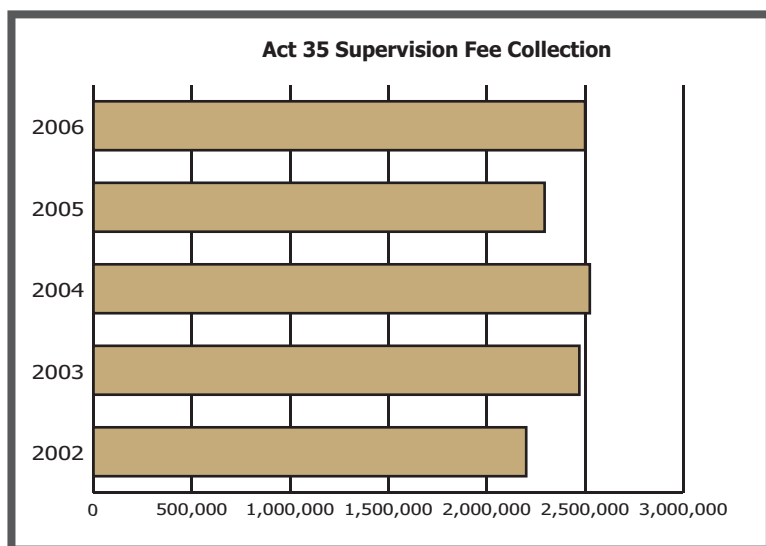
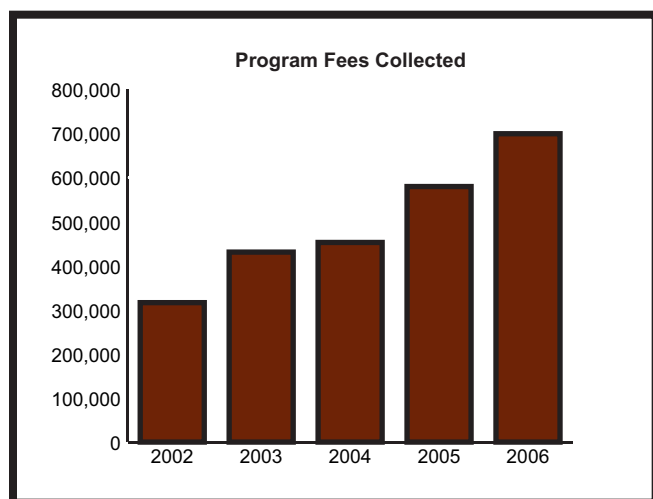
The EM program supervises five categories of offenders: electronic monitoring for sentenced and detained offenders, Restrictive Intermediate Punishment, which started in 1992, a Drug Court Unit, a Bail Agency Pretrial Unit, and the DUI Court Unit.

(Continued on Page 23)



Officers in the unit are responsible for screening offenders referred by the court for electronic monitoring. The officers install the monitoring equipment and set the parameters of supervision for each offender. Field officers directly supervise offenders four days per week and are periodically assigned to work evenings, weekends, and holidays. Offenders are closely monitored to enforce court-ordered special conditions of supervision. Officers do routine urine screening and make referrals for offenders that test positive for drug and alcohol usage. Offenders who violate the conditions of EM supervision are sanctioned or returned to jail.

During 2006, EM was used to supervise 2,559 offenders with an average monthly population of 754 offenders; 1,755 offenders successfully completed the program. Sixty-one offenders absconded from supervision; 13 of those offenders are still at large, with warrants issued by the court for their arrest. Fifty-eight EM participants were arrested on new charges, 34 of whom are either awaiting court action or have been convicted of new charges, and 24 offenders either had their charges reduced to a summary level or were dismissed. This computes to a recidivism rate of 1.4 percent for the year. Seventy-seven offenders were returned to the Allegheny County Jail for technical violations of the program.



EM saved 277,583 jail days for the year. That figure, coupled with the \$64.88 per day cost to house an offender in the Allegheny County Jail, amounts to \$18,009,585. The program also collected \$699,658.69 in program fees.

The approximate cost to operate the EM unit is \$3.5 million per year. Therefore, after deducting the program's fees and the unit operational cost, the net savings to Allegheny County in 2006 was approximately \$15,000,000.

#### ADULT PROBATION – PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Adult Probation Presentence Investigation Unit is responsible for personal background reports ordered by the court concerning convicted defendants prior to sentencing. A presentence investigation (PSI) assists the sentencing judge by providing detailed information on various aspects of a defendant's background. Personal information investigated includes the defendant's family, marital status, educational, medical, and employment background, and any prior juvenile and criminal history.

While providing information on the defendant, the PSI also contains an official version of the committed offense and allows both the defendant and victim to describe his/her version of the offense. The victim is also given an opportunity to advise the court of any impact the defendant's actions may have had on the victim's situation and to express an opinion regarding imposition of sentence.

During 2006, the Probation Office completed and submitted 526 presentence investigation reports to the court. Also in 2006, the Probation Office re-designed the PSI request process to allow more flexibility in the type of investigations that can be ordered. The court may now order PSI reports (short or medium) that focus on specific areas of interest in lieu of a full report. The Probation Office further enhanced efficiency in 2006 by utilizing email to submit completed reports to the court.

#### DNA SAMPLING

With the passage of Senate Bill Act 185 of 2004, all those convicted of a felony are required to provide a DNA sample. This legislation's intent is to expand a defendant identification database maintained by the Pennsylvania State Police to assist in criminal investigations.

Prior to the passage of this bill, only sex offenders and those convicted of robbery and burglary were required to submit to testing. Allegheny County Jail officials and a few probation officers drew the samples.

Because of this new requirement increasing the number of required samplings, it is necessary for all probation officers to learn how to fingerprint, obtain a DNA swab and complete the paperwork needed to obtain the sample. Since January 2006, each Allegheny County Probation Office Community-Based Center has completed approximately 30-40 samples per month. The Adult Probation Intake Unit

(Continued on Page 24)

has collected approximately 60 samples per month since locating to the courthouse.

Through the diligent efforts of probation staff, the cooperation of jail personnel, and the training and assistance provided by the County Police ID Unit, Adult Probation has a system in place to comply with the requirements of Act 185.

#### DRUG COURT

In it's ninth year, Allegheny County Drug Court continues to be a collaborative effort of the District Attorney's Office, Adult Probation, the Public Defender's Office and the Allegheny County Human Services Department. The Honorable Lester G. Nauhaus has presided over the program since it's inception in 1998 with compassion and a touch of wit, so "Happy 9th Birthday" to the Judge and his entire staff. With the help, cooperation and diligence of the Judge and his staff, the program continues to provide a great opportunity for individuals committed to making positive changes in their lives.

Drug Court strives to assist program participants to remain clean and sober while engaging in positive activities such as education, community projects and employment. The court targets criminal defendants who demonstrate a clear need for formal substance abuse treatment. Engagement in such treatment is a requirement for all participants. Grant monies from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency provide funding for treatment.

The ultimate goal for the offenders and the Drug Court team is reintegration by program participants into society as positive role models and productive citizens. The average Drug Court sentence of Intermediate Punishment is about 23 months. This period includes inpatient and/or outpatient treatment, if necessary, electronic monitoring, and intensive probation supervision. Offenders are rewarded when deserving and, conversely, sanctioned when appropriate. Defendants stay in close contact with the court by attending monthly progress hearings. The hearings afford the defendants the opportunity to let the judge know what progress they are making, discuss their families, and report to court, in most cases, in a non-threatening environment, something most defendants have never experienced.

In 2006, 51 defendants entered the Drug Court program, clearing 80 cases from the Criminal Court docket. Defendants entering Drug Court must plead guilty to all charges pending against them in front of Judge Nauhaus to be sentenced into the program. During 2006, 36 defendants graduated from Drug Court at official ceremonies, complete with diplomas and the opportunity for the graduates to make a speech. We even had cake! Since the program's inception, there have been 254 graduates, with an overall program success rate of about 70 percent. With the recidivism rate for drug-addicted offenders always active, this is money well spent. We look forward to another nine

(Continued on Page 25)

## PROBATION OFFICER SWEARING-IN CEREMONY



Judge McDaniel (right) administers the oath to Probation Officer Torress Hatten (center) as Supervisor Sabrina Orlansky and Director Rieland look on.



Front Row (l-r): Jim Trozzi, Jackie Whittaker, Heather Bradford, Jennifer Howison, Judge McDaniel, Charlene Christmas and Ron Domis. Back Row (l-r): Joel Santoro, Torress Hatten, Director Rieland, Tom McCaffrey and Rich Gardner.



(L-R): Deputy Director Rich Gardner, Director Tom McCaffrey, Manager Field Supervision Charlene Christmas, Manager Intermediate Punishment Ron Domis and Manager Electronic Monitoring Jim Trozzi attend the ceremony.



The DUI team (first row l-r) Lisa Colavecchia, John Miller, Judge Sasinoski, Assistant District Attorney Rebecca Walker, Jon Rathfon and Tom McCaffrey; (second row l-r) Aleta Pfeifer, Helen Lynch, Judge James, Judge McDaniel, Frank Scherer, Public Defender William Bickerton.

Not in photo: Erich Jeffries, Nicole Ballard and Robert Kraus.



Stephen Erni, Executive Director of the PA DUI Association, presents Judge Kevin Sasinoski with a plaque recognizing DUI Court's outstanding performance.

years of this unique program that has rescued many defendants from a life of crime, and in some cases, even saved their lives.

#### ALLEGHENY COUNTY DUI TREATMENT COURT

The mission of DUI Court is to make the multiple DUI offender, often referred to as "the hard core drunk driver," accountable for his/her actions by bringing about a behavioral change that ends DUI recidivism or other criminal behavior through the use of long term judicial intervention, intensive probation supervision, and drug/alcohol treatment. Protecting public safety is paramount. Now in it's second year of operation, the court is presided over by the Honorable Kevin G. Sasinoski.

Currently, 126 clients are supervised in the program. With an average Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) of .229 at time of arrest, offenders are at various phases in the program, ranging from home confinement with electronic monitoring to intensive probation supervision. Supervision may last up to five years. All clients are required to complete intensive drug/alcohol treatment, maintain sobriety, and are also required to obtain and maintain full-time employment. Participants entering the program in 2007 will also be required to complete community service. The ultimate goal is to change the offenders' behavior patterns to produce sober, productive citizens. Since the court's inception in 2005, only one participant has been arrested and convicted of a subsequent DUI.

Teams of dedicated probation officers work in conjunction with a DUI Court Assistant District Attorney, a Public Defender, Judge Sasinoski, and his staff. In October 2006, the DUI Court Team was recognized at the PA DUI Association's annual conference in State College, PA, for outstanding work in the DUI court field. In December 2006, Judge Sasinoski was honored at the Western PA Law Enforcement Summit in Cranberry, PA, for his diligent and compassionate work with DUI Court. Judge Sasinoski and his "team" look forward to many more years of continued success with the program.

(Continued on Page 26)

#### ELECTRONIC MONITORING

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Offenders Served	1,613	1,811	1,959	2,041	2,559
Successful Completions	968	1,081	1,159	1,169	1,755
Currently on Program	462	489	560	619	794
Escapes	7	17	16	9	13
Absconders	44	65	68	76	48
New Arrests	22	11	27	41	58
Removed/Rules Violations	135	146	127	129	101
Jail Days Saved	149,881	180,914	192,605	221,720	277,583



Probation Officer Chris Shanley (right) demonstrates the newly added visual screen on the outside of the simulator at Westinghouse High School.



## ALCOHOL HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS:

2006 was no exception for Adult Probation's DUI/Alcohol Highway Safety Program staff, as they took "their show on the road." In addition to conducting 4,230 Court Reporting Network (CRN) evaluations, educational programs were held throughout the year with various community partners.

This year's events featured:

- A town hall meeting that was conducted collaboratively with the Pennsylvania DUI Association and Pennsylvanians Against Underage Drinking
- The annual Youth Rally in the rotunda of the state capital to address statewide concerns regarding underage drinking
- Seven Springs Mountain Resort was the site of the annual SADD conference. Adult Probation sponsored 100 students from Allegheny County and financially supported their attendance

A number of programs were conducted throughout the year to educate our youth on the dangers of drinking and driving:

- Keys for Life
- Safety Bug Program
- Sober Bowl
- Designated Driver Booth at the Chevrolet Amphitheatre at Station Square

Representing the Pittsburgh Steelers, Right Cornerback Deshea Townsend participated with Adult Probation and others in a Clear Channel Radio Campaign designed to advise youth and, specifically, the 25 – 44 age group, that drinking and driving can produce fatal results.

(Continued on Page 27)



Pittsburgh Steeler Deshea Townsend speaking to the students of Chartiers Valley High School.



A youth rally attended by SADD students was held in the Rotunda of the State Capital in Harrisburgh.

## TOWN HALL MEETING



Bob Dulac (center), supervisor of the Alcohol Highway Safety Program, addresses the audience at the Town Hall Meeting concerning alcohol-related issues.



Attending the meeting are Chris Shanley, Jim Trozzi, Kristen Thomas and Lauren Pegher.



KDKA TV news investigator Marty Griffin interviewed students attending the Town Hall Meeting.



Internationally renowned youth motivational speaker Jeff Yalden at the annual SADD Conference held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort.



Eugene Baird (above) of the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office spoke at the third annual Fatal Awareness Conference.



Officer Mike Spaglionetti from the Allegheny County Police Department (above left) presents a Gateway High School Student with the Teen Leadership Award at the conference.

### Fatal Awareness

The Adult Probation Office proudly presented the third annual Fatal Awareness Conference on March 30th at the Sewell Center on the Moon Township campus of Robert Morris University. Students representing 20 Allegheny County high schools participated in the all-day event that featured keynote speaker Karen Vadino. Also on the agenda were Eugene Baird from the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, Pennsylvania State Trooper Robin Mungo, and Allegheny County Police Officer Mike Spaglionetti. To top off the day, Aaron Bernard presented his ever-popular "Road Rageous" program. AAA-East Central, the PA DUI Association, and Pennsylvanians Against Underage Drinking also helped to make this day possible with their support.

### DUI Safety Simulator

The second of the two most popular prevention programs brought to schools in Allegheny County, the DUI Simulator provides a great learning tool for teens and future young drivers in our community. Different from the Safety Bug in that the simulator is housed in a 30-foot trailer that can accommodate 20 students, more students can participate with each other's experience.

Designed to "simulate" any number of driving situations, the DUI Simulator offers students another opportunity to hear and see the consistent message to be responsible for the choices that you make, including those on the roadway.



An all-day event, the simulator was demonstrated at 15 schools in Allegheny County in 2006, with the cooperation of the PA DUI Association.

### Ignition Interlock Program

Three million miles and counting...that is the number of alcohol-free miles that the Ignition Interlock Program presented to the citizens of Allegheny County in 2006. Installed into the cars of repeat DUI offenders, ignition interlock devices are designed to prevent anyone from starting their vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

This year, 350 offenders participated in this successful program. The main goal of this operation is to keep roadways safe from the impaired driver. We are proud to report that this goal is being achieved.

Program participants' service fees are the sole funding source for Allegheny County's Ignition Interlock Program. No taxpayer dollars are used to support this effort.

### Law Enforcement Seminars

Collaboration and cooperation are the driving forces behind Adult Probation's involvement with Pennsylvania's Safe Driving Communities Coalition, the PA DUI Association, and PENNDOT. The coalition merges police, judges, probation, and other professionals who strive to increase safety.

The first seminar was held on March 20th at the Radisson Hotel in Greentree. Attended by 100 people, this all-day event featured presentations by Allegheny County Assistant District Attorney Rebecca Zager, and Adult Probation Supervisor Frank Scherer about the recently formed DUI Court program. Also, Adult Probation Supervisor Janice Dean and Adult Probation Officer Robert Ando prepared an informed presentation on the "ABC's of Ignition Interlock." The keynote address for the day was given by PENNDOT Transportation Planning Manager Lou Rader.



Probation Officer Supervisor Frank Scherer conducts a presentation at the Law Enforcement Seminar held at the Radisson Hotel in Greentree.

The second seminar was held on December 7th at the Marriott North in Cranberry Township. With 170 people in attendance, the day began with an address from PA DUI Association Executive Director Stephen Erni. Presentations were made by Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Warrant Squad Greg Willig and Dave Mink, and Tom Gianni of the Smooth Operator Program of Pennsylvania. A panel consisting of prosecutors from Western Pennsylvania fielded questions following the presentations. The day was highlighted by the PA DUI Association's special recognition of

(Continued on Page 28)



Allegheny County Common Pleas Judge Kevin G. Sasinoski and the entire DUI Court team for a job well done.



Second seminar held at the Marriott North in Cranberry Township.

### Moving DUI Victim's Memorial

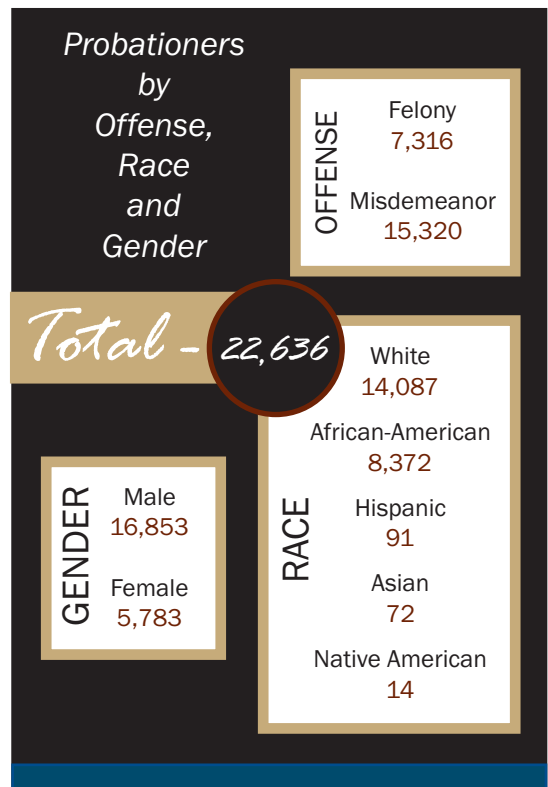
The Moving Memorial was designed by the PA DUI Association to provide a tribute to all of those people who have lost their lives to a drunk driver. Over 1,300 names appear on the hand-painted wall inside the memorial, which is designed to replicate a garden setting with benches and flowers.

On December 6th, the Moving Memorial came to the University of Pittsburgh Student Union Building as the backdrop for a press conference introducing the memorial. On hand to speak were Criminal Division Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel, PA DUI Association Executive Director Stephen Erni, and Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala, Jr.

After the press conference, the memorial was transported to Avalon for a candlelight vigil honoring all DUI victims.

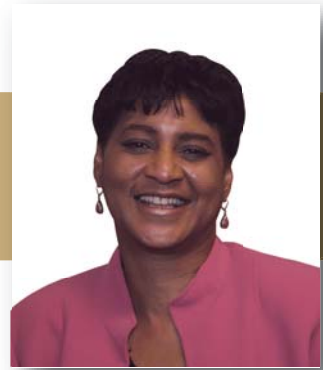


District Attorney Stephen Zappala honoring DUI victims during a very emotional ceremony introducing the Moving Memorial at the University of Pittsburgh.





# Family Division Family Division



Kim Berkeley Clark  
Administrative Judge



## Judges

L-R: Kathryn M. Hens-Greco  
Thomas E. Flaherty  
Kathleen R. Mulligan  
Guido A. DeAngelis  
Beth A. Lazzara  
Lawrence W. Kaplan\*  
Kim Berkeley Clark

Dwayne D. Woodruff  
Kim D. Eaton  
Alan D. Hertzberg  
Christine A. Ward  
Edward J. Borkowski  
David N. Wecht  
Jill E. Rangos

\*Senior Judge

# Family Division - Adult Section



Patrick Quinn, Esq.  
Administrator

2006 was a year of transition for the Adult Section of the Family Division. While it proved to be demanding and challenging, it was also a successful year for the court.

The Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark was appointed Administrative Judge of the Family Division by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court effective January 1, 2006, succeeding the Honorable Eugene F. Scanlon, Jr., who had served in that capacity since April 2002. Judge Clark has brought new and visionary ideas to the division after having served as the supervising judge of the Family Division's Juvenile Section for the past three years. Additionally, the Honorable Kim D. Eaton was appointed and assumed her duties as Supervising Judge of the Family Division's Adult Section, where she has served for six years. Judge Eaton's experience has been invaluable in maintaining the consistently high qualitative and quantitative standards for which the court has earned a national reputation. Under the leadership of Judge Clark and Judge Eaton, the section advanced its impressive reputation by handling a record volume of domestic relations cases in both a timely and cost-effective manner. At the same time, the section continued to move forward with initiatives to improve its performance in providing service to litigants and leadership to colleagues across the state and nation.

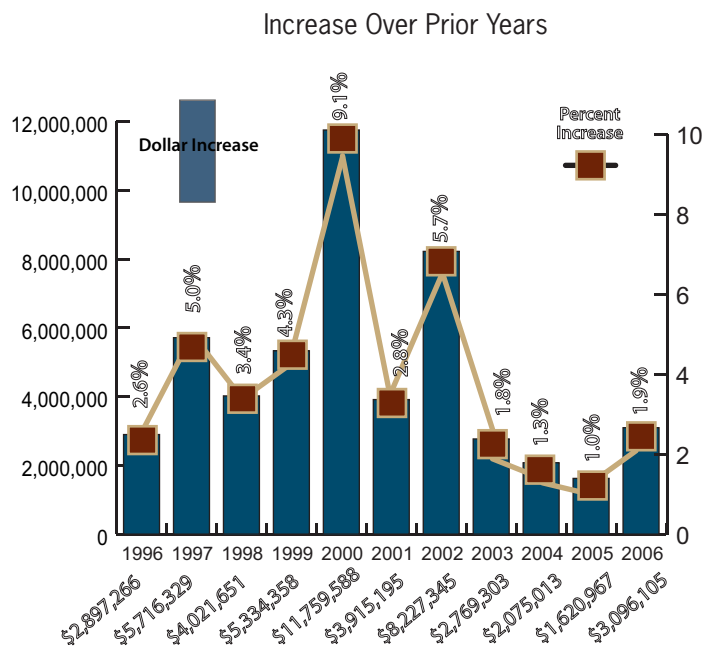
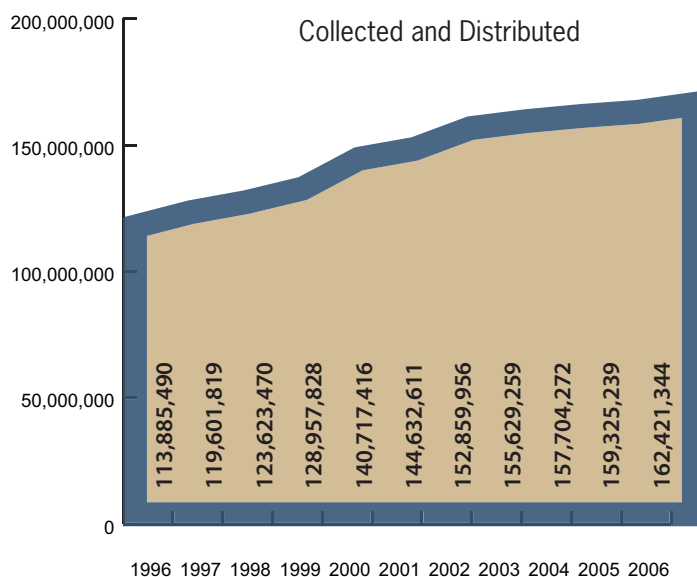
With respect to the collection of child support for the federal fiscal year ending October 1, 2006, Pennsylvania was again deemed to have finished first among the 56 states and

territories with respect to the five federal performance indicators: support collection, support order establishment, paternity establishment, support arrears collection and cost efficiency. Allegheny County, as the second largest county in the commonwealth, is obviously a substantial contributor to this lofty distinction. In fact, Allegheny County has often been publicly lauded by federal officials as being the best urban jurisdiction in the country in child support performance. The county leadership is often invited by federal officials to participate in various workshops to "share the secrets" of our success with other urban jurisdictions, which struggle to come close to the court's performance statistics.

In calendar year 2006, Family Division continued to build on its outstanding support collections record, collecting \$162,421,344, a \$3.096 million increase over support collections in 2005. The division continues to operate at 100 percent in the "cost effectiveness" category of the federal performance measures.

(Continued on Page 31)

## Child Support Amounts Collected and Distributed



Child Support Enforcement  
Performance Measures of Allegheny County

Federal Fiscal Year	Paternity Establishment	Support Order	Current Payment	Arrearage Payment	Federal Fiscal Year	Paternity Establishment	Support Order	Current Payment	Arrearage Payment
2005	%	%	%	%	2006	%	%	%	%
October	87.29	74.94	71.41	29.16	January	87.73	75.47	71.28	48.42
November	87.39	74.99	68.70	36.46	February	87.83	75.36	70.27	51.57
December	87.85	75.47	71.47	42.69	March	87.81	75.31	75.02	56.41
					April	89.30	75.34	68.97	58.56
					May	89.16	75.26	74.67	61.61
					June	89.02	75.31	73.67	63.53
					July	89.10	75.25	69.41	64.88
					August	89.20	75.55	74.13	66.49
					September	95.25	75.87	70.46	67.71

Implementation of a Management Review Plan proceeded throughout the year to further improve child support performance and enhance client services. The Management Review Plan, jointly developed by the Family Division and the Department of Public Welfare, essentially involves a restructuring of the staffing of the division's child support component with a goal of creating more accountability and quality control. This also entails a complete review of the business practices of the entire function of the child support operation. The goal is to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of current practices and to develop an original instructional manual of the revised business practices. Committees

consisting of staff from the "front line," supervisors, managers and administrators, are developing the policy and procedures. The additional staff was funded by a grant from Pennsylvania's Department of Public Welfare (DPW).

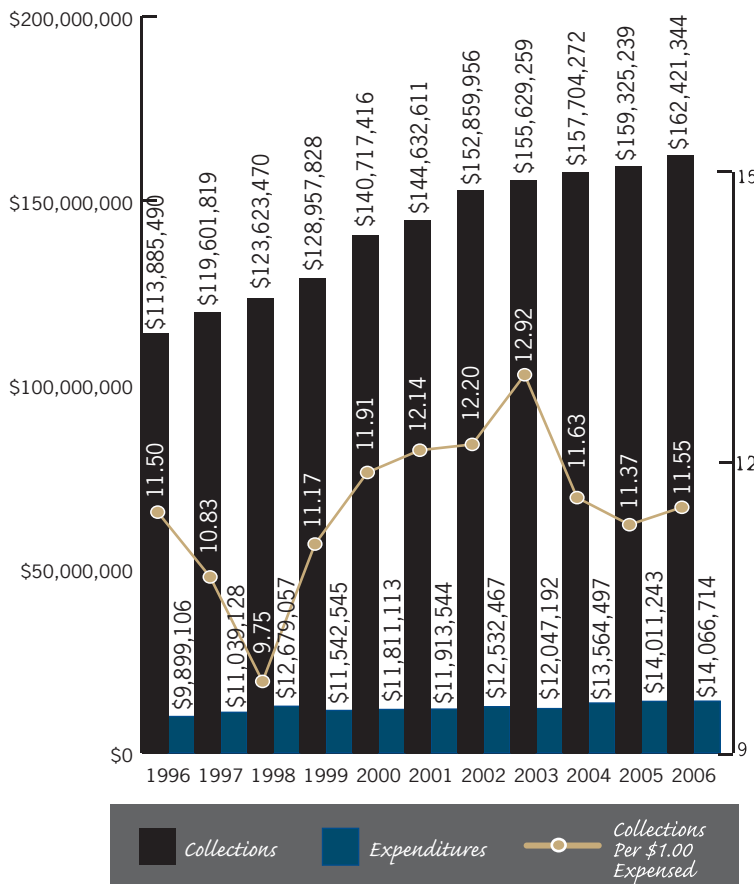
Family Division has also reinforced its role in the design, improvement and operation of the statewide computer system, Pennsylvania Child Support Enforcement System (PACES). Allegheny County has a representative employee on each of the PACSES sub-system work groups. The purpose of each group is to address the concerns of the county, while making system designs and enhancements. To date, this process has proven quite beneficial in not only enhancing the improvements to PACSES, but also in providing the Family Division with ample time to respond to proposed changes contemplated by state staff who manage PACSES. Ultimately, this collaboration will result in improved automated enforcement remedies, which will further increase the division's successful collection rate.

In compliance with federal regulations, the division's case closure unit is significantly increasing the closing of inactive support cases, such as those where paternity cannot be established, the subject child has been emancipated, or one of the parties cannot be located. This process of removing inactive cases preserves scarce resources and increases Allegheny County's performance for federal incentive dollars.

The innovative and successful Phone Power and Night Court programs continued to operate in 2006. The Phone Power program permits court employees to phone delinquent obligors during evening hours in an attempt to obtain information and secure support payments. Midway through 2006, the division changed the focus of the Phone Power program. Instead of contacting delinquent obligors who had not made payment in many years, the court began to contact newer cases, where initial payments had not yet been paid. The idea was to impress upon obligors their duty to pay "early on" in the process and to advise them as to what negative consequences may ensue as a result of failure to pay the required support. Early indica-

(Continued on Page 32)

### Support Collections vs. Program Expenditures





tions are that from a "personalized" standpoint, the clients benefit from the opportunity to ask questions and obtain information that may not have been addressed during their court appearance. The Phone Power program resulted in direct collections of almost \$57,000, with 28 new wage attachments and 1,268 referrals for contempt proceedings and/or case closure. The short and long-term result of the "emphasis" on newer cases is still being tracked.

Family Division's "Night Court" program, an effort to make the court more "client friendly," allows support litigants to receive assistance with their cases during non-traditional hours. In 2006, over 1,900 cases were handled on Wednesday evenings between 4:30 – 8:30 p.m.

In yet another collaborative venture with the DPW Bureau of Child Support Enforcement, an innovative approach to assist obligors in finding employment, and hence pay support, was initiated in August 2004 and continued throughout 2006. In a venture fully funded by the state, the court contracted with Educational Data Systems, Inc. (EDSI) to establish a referral system and protocol with the EDSI Reemployment Transition Center in downtown Pittsburgh. The contract provides for 250 placements with EDSI to provide limited job search, skill training and referrals to specific employers. The contract also provides financial incentives to EDSI for individuals who obtain jobs, who retain jobs for extended periods, and who are promoted by employers. This proactive, innovative approach targets a root cause of failure to pay child support, specifically, the lack of steady employment. For the first time, the court is actively referring support obligors to an agency whose sole responsibility is to assist the obligor in obtaining employment. The program has proven highly successful and has been identified as a national "best practice" by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. In 2006, 75 percent of referred clients obtained meaningful employment with an average wage of \$9.00 per hour, with 79 percent of placements maintaining employment for a minimum of six months. Fifty-six percent of referred clients received medical insurance benefits. Early results indicate that the program will produce substantial child support payments to needy children

and families who, in some instances, have gone months and years without any financial support.

In 2006, the Adult Section of the Family Division continued to appropriately address and dispose of its traditionally large caseload. Support cases filed totaled 24,891 and 25,150 support cases were resolved. There were 38,246 support matters listed for disposition in 2006, with 45,035 cases disposed of with entry of a support order. Also, there were 3,099 divorce cases filed, 2,937 disposed of with entry of a decree. The number of equitable distribution cases listed for disposition was 641. A slight decrease was noted in Protection from Abuse (PFA) filings from 4,047 in 2005 to 3,555 in 2006.

In its ongoing effort to improve staff performance, the Family Division continues to work collaboratively with the Bureau of Child Support and the Pennsylvania Child Support Enforce-

(Continued on Page 33)

#### FILING AND DISPOSITION REPORT

	2006		Pending
	Filed	Disposed	1/1/06
Support*	24,891	25,150	20,601
Custody/Partial Custody	1,370	1,386	12
Divorce	3,099	2,937	4,333
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29,360</b>	<b>29,473</b>	<b>24,946</b>

\*Statistics from PACSES Computer System.

#### DIVORCE DECREES GRANTED

	2005	2006
Fault-Uncontested (3301-A)	8	3
No Fault-Uncontested (3301-C, 3301-D)	3,237	2,934
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,245</b>	<b>2,937</b>

#### DISPOSITION OF SUPPORT CASES REQUIRING ACTION AT EACH LEVEL OF THE EXPEDITED HEARING PROCESS

*The Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure have introduced a "Diversionary Procedure" into actions for support. This procedure relieves the judiciary of the need to hear support cases in the first instance and passes this responsibility to hearing officers. This report lists the results of this procedure at each level of the process.*

	2005	2006
Total Number of Cases Listed for Disposition	37,926	38,246
Cases Scheduled for Conference before Domestic Relations Officers	37,926	38,246
Cases Resulting in a Court Order after a Domestic Relations Officer's Conference	28,460	29,341
Cases Referred to a Hearing Officer at Conclusion of a Domestic Relations Officer's Conference	9,466	8,905*
Cases Resulting in a Final Court Order after a Hearing Officer's Recommendation	9,021	8,470
Cases in which Exceptions are Filed before a Judge after a Hearing Officer's Recommendation	445	435

\*In 2006 the Hearing Officers scheduled and heard 4,167 Direct Hearings in addition to this figure.

ment Training Institute (PACSETI), an outreach service of Pennsylvania State University, to provide training to employees at no cost to the county. In 2006, 247 employees attended 26 classes, totaling 3,242 training hours conducted at PACSETI's South Side training facility. The Family Division's supervisors and managers collaborated with PACSETI instructors to create the curriculum for many of the classes. In addition,

28 staff persons attended 14 classes conducted at the Allegheny County Computer Learning Center.

Family Division also collaborates with many organizations that provide training and support for the federal and state child support program, including the National Child Support Enforcement Association, the Eastern Regional Interstate Child Support Association, and the Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania. By providing these educational opportunities to division staff members, the court is better able to serve the varied litigants involved with the child support system and maintain its status as a successful and innovative leader in child support collections.

Also in 2006, our court spearheaded regularly scheduled discussion meetings with the domestic relations offices of surrounding counties to address improved procedures for handling support cases.

Also a year of change and innovation for the court with regard to its disposition of Protection From Abuse (PFA) actions,

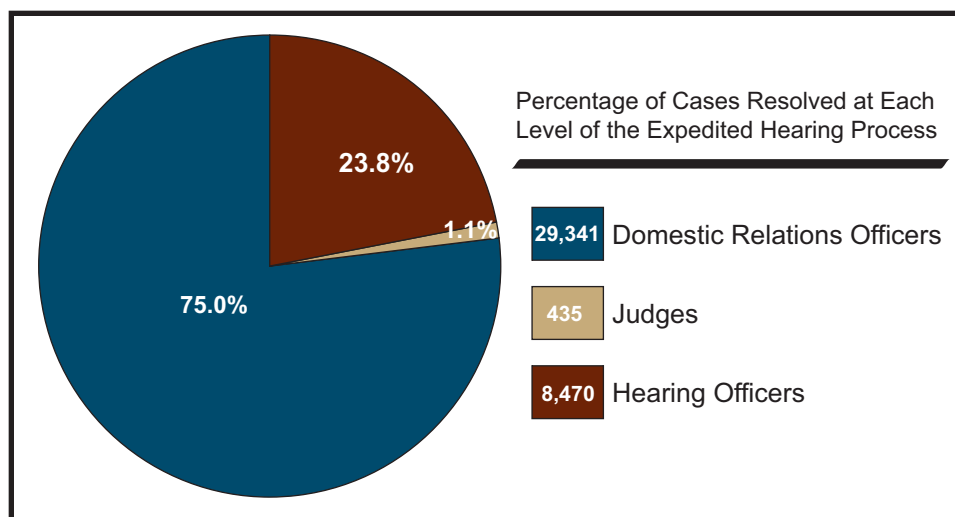
beginning in February 2006, the Pennsylvania State Police required all PFA orders to be electronically transmitted from the Prothonotary via the PFAD system. Replacing the old method of filling out data sheets and faxing orders created extra work, which the court was able to resolve by hiring an additional clerk and establishing a new protocol with the Prothonotary. The end result is a more efficient method to make orders available to police officers in a timely manner. In May 2006, the court implemented new PFA amendments and amended Rules of Civil Procedure regarding time frames (i.e., schedule hearings within ten business days; final orders now have a duration of three years), as well as the change in Indirect Criminal Contempt regarding venue/jurisdiction. In addition, the court implemented unified Family Court procedures in the following manner relative to PFA's:

a) Protocols were implemented to screen PFA applicants/defendants to determine if the individual(s) are active in Juvenile Court proceeding(s), in which case the PFA is assigned to the appropriate Juvenile Court judge.

b) The PFA Department began to promote and utilize the supervised visitation/exchange program operated by the Parental Stress program.

c) The PFA Department worked conjunctively with the child support program to complete protocols to enable temporary support orders created in the PFA process to be "logged in" to the PACSES. This facilitates wage attachments and enforcement remedies pending final support hearings.

(Continued on Page 34)



JUDICIAL ACTIVITY		
	2005	2006
<b>New Family Cases Assigned for Judicial Conciliation</b>		
Equitable Distribution/Alimony	660	641
Custody	205	222
Paternity	6	8
Divorce (3301-D, Contested)	30	19
Other	59	59
<b>Cases Listed for Judicial Hearing</b>		
Equitable Distribution/Alimony (Judge)	277	351
Equitable Distribution/Alimony (Permanent Master)	246	43
Complex Support (Permanent Master)	90	157
Full Custody	228	221
Partial Custody	81	70
Paternity	4	2
Divorce	17	25
Other	7,237	8,549
Support (Contempt)	3,473	3,661
Protection From Abuse (Final)	2,965	2,919
Protection From Abuse (Contempt)	1,082	1,063
PFA Direct Hearings Scheduled	119	99
PFA Indirect Criminal Contempt	105	94
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Support Exceptions	445	435
Post Trial Motions	82	51
Motions	12,886	12,108
Support Orders Reviewed and Entered	23,077	24,891
Preliminary PFA Hearings	3,698	3,555

The Family Division is an active member of the Allegheny County PFA Task Force. This committee consists of individuals from the county's various domestic violence advocates and shelters, the District Attorney's Office, the court, the Magisterial District Courts and the Allegheny County Police Chiefs Association. The purpose is to create cooperation among the various entities that address and combat domestic violence, to create a unified community response to domestic violence, and to create legal procedures and protocols to implement these solutions.

Through the task force, the court worked with the offices of Allegheny County's District Attorney and Sheriff to create procedures and forms to implement the new PFA amendments regarding weapons confiscation and return. A system, with accompanying forms, is being developed to better track and ensure that confiscation of weapons orders are being obeyed. In addition, a system will be implemented that ensures the return of confiscated weapons only to individuals who are entitled to receive them.

2006 also marked a collaborative effort with the Allegheny County Bar Association Pro Bono Project and the YWCA to create a system that allows married couples to expedite their divorce and address the division of their property in a cost-effective manner through the use of an "Expedited Docket" for small marital estates. This docket enables individuals with joint marital assets of less than \$150,000 (excluding presently inaccessible qualified pension plans) to utilize an expedited process by agreement of the divorcing parties. The major elements of the expedited docket include:

1. Limited and time sensitive discovery rules
2. Agreed to evaluations and/or evaluators
3. Specific forms
4. Expedited conciliation by a judge
5. Expedited trial

Open Cases As of December 31, 2006			
	Child Support	Non IV-D Alimony	Total
Federal Foster Care	2,728	0	2,728
General Assistance	71	150	221
Medical Need Only	4	0	4
Non-Federal Foster Care	2,048	1	2,049
Non-TANF*	54,724	3,867	58,591
TANF	12,553	76	12,629
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72,128</b>	<b>4,094</b>	<b>76,222</b>

*\*Temporary Aid to Needy Families*

Case Activity Report	
Complaints Pending	16,899
Modifications Pending	3,702
Complaints Added	12,210
Modifications Added	12,829
Complaints Processed	12,740
Modifications Processed	12,410
Conferences Conducted	21,660
Court Hearings Conducted	7,616
De Novo Withdrawals Processed	7
Contempt Hearings Conducted - Plaintiff	1
Contempt Hearings Conducted - Defendant	25,062
Paternity Filings	1,568
Paternity Acknowledged	1,185
Paternity Excluded	406

The YWCA Legal Resources for Women also operates a pro bono program through which lawyers are assigned to litigants in the expedited divorce program on an "income qualified" basis.

As a result of the efforts of the Family Division's Adult Section judges, support staff and its collaborative partners, the citizens of Allegheny County have been well-served as the court continues to provide leadership in its efforts to promptly and fairly adjudicate the incredible volume of cases with which it is charged.

Incentive Measure Dashboard Allegheny County Child Support Enforcement Federal Fiscal Year	
	2006
—Open IV-D Cases	73,919
—IV-D Cases with Support Order Established	56,084
—Support Order Ratio	75.87%
—Children Born out of Wedlock	45,689
—Children with Paternity Established	43,520
—Paternity Ratio	95.25%
—Current Support Owed	\$149,654,623
—Current Support Disbursed	\$107,185,708
—Current Support Ratio	71.62%
—Cases with Arrears Owed	53,624
—Cases with Disbursements toward Arrears	36,309
—Arrears Ratio	67.71%

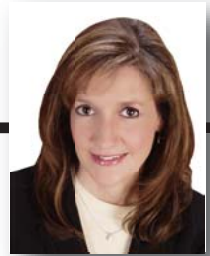


# Family Division - Children's Court



## MISSION

*The mission of the Children's Court is to provide a forum for fair, prompt and coordinated resolution of legal matters affecting children and families, to promote the best interests of children including each child's right to a safe, permanent and loving home, and to strengthen and preserve families whenever possible.*



Cynthia K. Stoltz, Esq.  
Administrator

*Dedicated to protecting children and promoting families.*

In 2006, as part of the court's commitment to meet the legal needs of children and families, President Judge Joseph M. James and Family Division Administrative Judge Kim Berkeley Clark announced the establishment of the Children's Court, part of the Family Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. The Children's Court addresses what is at stake in family matters before the court – the best interests of children and the stability and preservation of families.



(L-R): Cindy Stoltz, Judge James, Judge Clark and Supreme Court Justice Baer after the announcement of the establishment of Children's Court.

The Children's Court, as the third permanent section of the Family Division, is responsible for handling the following matters:

- Child Custody
- Child Protection and Permanency
- Domestic Violence Involving Children
- Behavioral Health Matters Involving Children
- Contracted Professional Services for Families and Children
- Special Projects for Families and Children

The Children's Court is part of the Unified Family Court, which utilizes "one judge one family" principles to manage cases.

This approach allows primarily one judge to address most of a family's legal matters, providing continuity and reduced stress for families. Following this approach, several new initiatives were implemented in 2006 that resulted in less fragmented court experiences and better coordination between legal and social service systems for families.

## CHILD CUSTODY

In 2006, the Children's Court began implementing a series of broad changes to better serve custody litigants and their children. There were more than 15,000 requests for assistance from the court regarding custody issues and over 1,600 children were the subjects of new custody actions filed in 2006. The Custody Department streamlined and expedited the court process in partial custody cases, resulting in earlier resolution.

For indigent parties unable to pay fees associated with custody proceedings, a same-day procedure was established to address fee waiver requests expeditiously. During the final quarter of 2006, roughly 570 requests were pre-screened, which assisted our most needy clients and reduced the burden of repeated trips to the courthouse. In addition, two programs were developed with the Allegheny County Bar Association's Pro Bono Partnership. The Pro Bono Custody Conciliation Project was launched in 2006 to provide free legal counsel to low-income parents for custody conciliations. In the planning stage and scheduled to begin in early 2007, the second project will provide children in high-conflict custody cases with free legal counsel to serve as Guardian Ad Litem.

## Generations

...for our children's children



The Generations Program continued to provide high quality interactive groups for children as well as education and mediation sessions for adults to promote party-driven solutions as an alternative to often costly and emotionally traumatizing litigation. In 2006, roughly 2,000 adults and 900 children participated in education seminars. Over 700

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mediation sessions were conducted, with over 56 percent resulting in parties resolving some or all of their parenting issues.

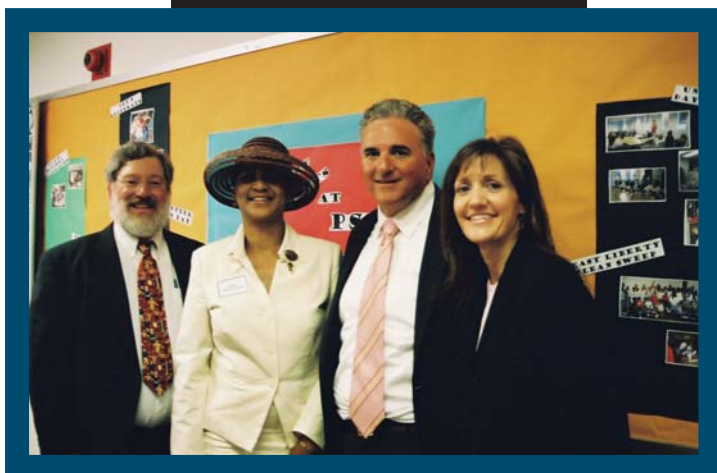
Nearly 400 cases were listed before the Children's Court custody hearing officer in 2006, including 25 expedited referrals from judges. Hearing Officer Laura Valles successfully conciliated over 70 percent of the cases, resulting in consent orders.



Finally, the court celebrated the grand opening of Safe Visits/Safe Families in April 2006. An ambitious initiative, Safe Visits/Safe Families is a supervised visitation and safe custody exchange program developed in partnership with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services and the Parental

Stress Center to enhance safety for adults and children at risk for family violence. Present at the grand opening to lend support for this project were Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Max Baer, Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato, Family Division Administrative Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, Director of Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) Mark Cherna, and Children's Court Administrator Cynthia Stoltz, together with judges, community leaders and service providers.

## Kids Come First!



(L-R): Marc Cherna, Judge Clark, Supreme Court Justice Max Baer and Cindy Stoltz at the Safe Visits Safe Families opening.

The supervised visitation component provides a child-friendly environment where children can feel safe and offers non-custodial parents an opportunity for more frequent, healthy contact with their children. The safe exchange component offers an alternative to police station exchanges,

which are not ideal for children, at a facility staffed by security guards with two separate entrances on opposite streets. The program eliminates unnecessary contact between parents that can erupt into conflict and/or violence witnessed by children. Administrative Judge Kim Clark captured the sentiment of those supporting Safe Visits/Safe Families..."We are excited about the launch of this program because it will directly impact the violence we hear about too often in the news with high-conflict families in custody disputes. We hope for immediate, positive results from Safe Visits/Safe Families." In 2006, the Safe Visits/Safe Families Program accepted referrals for over 100 families recommended for supervised visitation and safe exchange services.

### CHILD PROTECTION AND PERMANENCY

The Children's Court is committed to a court system that best addresses every child's need for safety and a permanent, loving home and family. The Child Protection and Permanency Department (CP & P) handles legal matters including:

- Dependency and Foster Care
- Permanent Legal Custodianship and Independent Living
- Termination of Parental Rights and Adoption

#### Child Protection & Permanency

Total Number of Hearings	23,710
Children Court-Active as of 12/31/06	5,781
Children with the Goal of Adoption	765
Children in Placement	1,197
With a Relative	466
With a Non-Relative	731

#### Judge/Hearing Officers

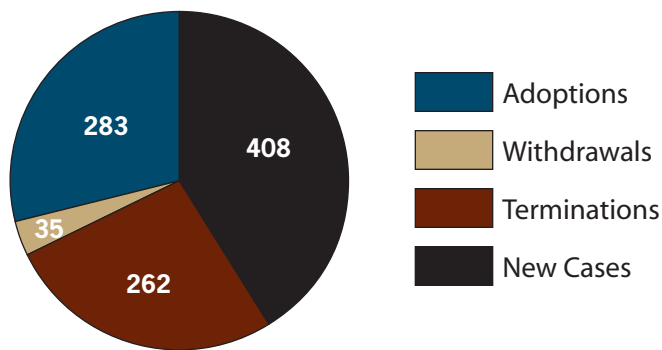
##### Child Protection & Permanency Hearings

	No. of Hearings	No. of Children
Judges	12,387	2,636
Hearing Officers	11,323	3,145
Total	23,710	5,781

#### Dependency Hearing Officer Statistics

Reviews Conducted	6,580
Cases Closed	788
Case Closure Result:	
Reunification with Parent	346
Permanent Legal Custodianship	73
Adoption	194
Involved Children over Age 18 No Longer Eligible for Services	175
Emergency Shelter Hearings	786

(Continued on Page 37)



The Dependency Court Improvement Project (CIP) Children's Roundtable, initially launched in 2004 and coordinated by the Family Division, continued as a collaborative initiative to improve court operations and to achieve excellence in handling primarily child abuse neglect cases. The CIP Children's Roundtable is a multi-disciplinary group comprised of judges, court and child welfare administrators, parent and child advocate leaders, service providers, medical and mental health experts and others. In 2006, implementation of an ambitious strategic plan representing the recommendations of these stakeholders continued. Some of the most notable projects in 2006 are outlined below.

#### •Zero to Three Project

Allegheny County Children's Court received a \$100,000 federal grant to become the fifth national model court to participate in the ZERO TO THREE project, which combines judicial leadership with child development and mental health community partners so that babies, toddlers and their families are given the attention and life-changing help they need. Judge Jill Rangos is leading the team that includes Marc Cherna, Director of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, Dr. Marcia Sturdivant, Deputy Director of Children Youth and Families (CYF), Cynthia K. Stoltz, Esquire, Administrator of the Children's Court, and newly hired Karen Rubicon, Community Coordinator for ZERO TO THREE. Other participants include child welfare and health professionals, child advocates and community leaders who provide services

to abused and neglected infants and toddlers. By working together (with support and training from the national nonprofit organization ZERO TO THREE) these teams are developing and enacting comprehensive approaches to meet young children's complex needs swiftly and effectively.

#### •Electronic Filing Project

Throughout 2006, there was significant progress toward full implementation of this Children's Court initiative, a state-of-the-art web-based system providing electronic filing and service of all juvenile pleadings, motions and court orders. Over 62,000 electronic orders were generated and docketed in this system in 2006, averaging 6,200 orders per month. Completion of the project is scheduled for 2007.

#### •Judicial Training

The initiative of our court's long-term goal for comprehensive judicial training for Family Court judges was realized in early 2006, when four newly elected judges assigned to Family Division spent one week engaged in training on practices in the Family Division.

The Children's Court staff also participated again in 2006 in the effort to raise funds for foster children through the Allegheny County Music Festival. This project was created to provide for the purchase of goods and services for DHS children and youth that would not otherwise be possible through government funding.

Finally, 2006 marked the Family Court's sixth year of participation in National Adoption Month, a collective national effort to raise awareness of the 114,000 children in foster care in the United States needing permanent homes. The Children's Court coordinated activities throughout the month of November.

What Shoe Fits You: An installation art display representing children in need of permanent, loving homes was displayed throughout November and December at the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Zoo and Oxford Centre.



(L-R): Congressman Tim Murphy, Congresswoman Melissa Hart, Judge Rangos, Administrative Judge Clark and Cynthia Stoltz after the presentation of the federal grant check for the Zero to Three Project.



(Continued on Page 40)



# National Adoption Week

National Adoption Saturday, November 18, 2006: The Allegheny County Children's Court is nationally recognized for its Adoption Saturday celebration, along with New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. The Family Court was the center of another exciting celebration for children and families, while finalizing 60 adoptions. Attorneys, judges, caseworkers, court staff and a variety of community providers volunteered their time to ensure that children were welcomed into their families with great festivity.





The project was made possible through an innovative collaboration between the Children's Court, Allegheny County DHS, the Children's Museum and the Pittsburgh Project.

**Children's Museum Educational Series:** Presented by local professionals, the seminars focused on opportunities for mentoring, kinship and foster care, and adoption.

**Heart Gallery:** Sponsored by the Children's Court, DHS and Three Rivers Adoption Council, the Heart Gallery is a traveling portrait exhibit of foster children in our community who are waiting to be adopted.

**What Family Means to Me:** The fourth annual countywide elementary school poster contest added to the month's celebration. Entries and winners were displayed in the Family Court rotunda during November.

**A Vision for Pennsylvania's Children:** The 2006 Foster Care and Adoption Forum featured Estelle Richmond, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, and focused on the need for reform in the child welfare system, including creative means to achieve permanency. The presentation was followed by an awards ceremony and reception honoring the ten-year anniversary of the Adoption Legal Services Project.

and coordinated manner and that children's safety and best interests remain a priority.

#### AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH

The Children's Court also coordinated behavioral health matters involving children throughout 2006. Professional services were engaged and special projects developed for children and families, including forensics evaluations for dependency, delinquency, and custody matters, drug and alcohol screening for custody and dependency matters, conflict counsel appointment for children and parents and Guardian Ad Litem appointments.

The Children's Court worked diligently to approach the legal needs of children and their families from a holistic perspective, undertaking a "problem solving" approach that would improve overall outcomes for children and families through the Family Court process.



(L-R): Marc Cherna, Cynthia Stoltz, Judge Clark, Estelle Richman and Judge James at the Foster Care and Adoption Forum.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INVOLVING CHILDREN

The Children's Court, through the CIP Children's Roundtable, develops and implements programs, policies and training that address the impact on children who witness domestic violence and the co-occurrence of child abuse, family violence and high conflict custody matters. Most notable in 2006 was the refinement of a screening process to better address protection from abuse (PFA) matters involving juveniles, PFA's between adults involving CYF/dependency, delinquency and/or custody issues when children are involved. These processes will ensure that cases are handled in a consistent



Vincent J. Grogan, Esq. (right) presents Justice Baer with an award served by the Adoption Legal Services Project in recognition of ten years of commitment to children and families.



Judge James (left) and County Manager James Flynn at the 2006 Foster Care and Adoption Forum.



# Family Division - Juvenile Section

Balanced and Restorative Justice – Community Protection, Victim Awareness and Youth Competency became law in Pennsylvania in 1996. In 10 short years, the Juvenile Justice System in Pennsylvania, and especially in Allegheny County, has gone through a dramatic transformation.

When enacted, Balance and Restorative Justice had very little meaning to judges, probation officers and others. Through judicial leadership and diligent staff efforts, these three small phrases, Community Protection, Victim Awareness and Youth Competency, are now well-defined guiding principles of Juvenile Court.

networking with numerous community groups. These practices are designed to enhance community safety and, in many instances, gain community participation.



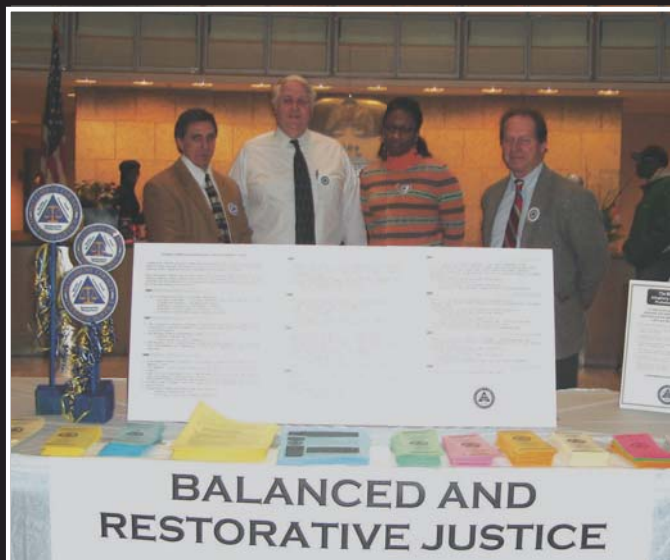
James J. Rieland  
Administrator

**Victim Awareness:** In the 2006 publication entitled "Advancing Accountability: Moving Toward Victim Restoration," the point is made that juvenile offenders should not only fulfill their obligation to individual victims but should also gain insight and understanding into the wrongfulness of their actions. The court has made advances toward these goals over the last 10 years by ordering and collecting restitution, ordering and monitoring community service, putting a "face" on crime through the "Victim Awareness" curriculum, victim offender mediation, neighborhood accountability boards, victim notification, victim impact statements, victim impact panels and victim advocacy. Although much work remains, the court can take pride in the progress that has been made.

**Competency Development:** All human beings progress through various life-cycle competency stages. Due to the efforts of a dedicated group of researchers and practitioners, juvenile offender competencies have been reduced to five learning skill domains: Pro-Social, Moral Reasoning, Academic, Workforce Development and Independent Living. By gaining knowledge and skills in these five domains, young offenders have the ability to become productive, connected, law-abiding members of their communities. Probation staff are engaged with the National Center for Juvenile Justice to identify and/or develop curriculum-based programs within each domain.

Although much has been accomplished in the past 10 years to integrate the principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice into the court's daily operation, further development throughout the system is planned.

The following articles further tell the story of Balanced and Restorative Justice in Allegheny County.



(L-R): Russ Carlino, Ted Kairys, Kim Booth and Eric Joy at the 10-year anniversary celebration of Balanced and Restorative Justice.

**Community Protection:** The Juvenile Court makes a substantial contribution to community protection through enhanced supervision practices. Some examples are Community-Based Supervision, School-Based Supervision, Community Intensive Supervision Program, placement resources, improved probation/police partnerships, Warrant Unit, Home Detention/Electronic Monitoring and probation officers

## Community Protection

	Number of Youth	% of Cases Closed
Violation of Probation	117	7.6%
New Adjudication	190	12%
Completed Three-Hour Victim Awareness Curriculum	1,156	75%



Director Rieland receives recognition at the annual JCJC Conference for his cumulative efforts towards implementation of balanced and restorative justice.

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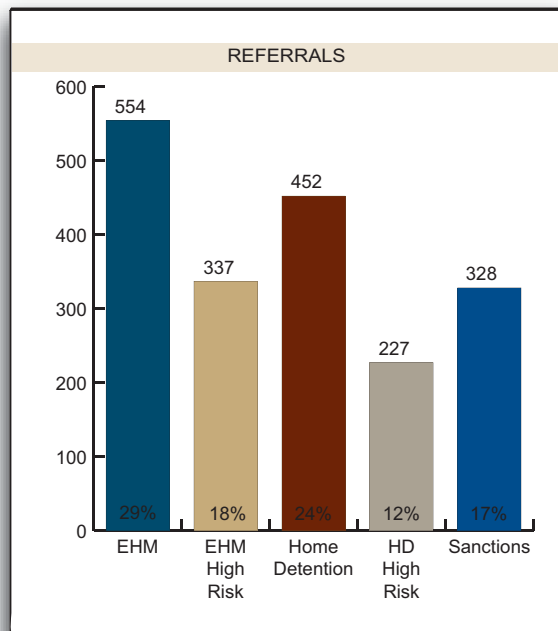
## COMMUNITY-BASED PROBATION

Community-Based probation officers (PO's) are responsible for supervising the largest percentage of juvenile offenders under court supervision. There are seven community-based supervisory units geographically dispersed throughout the county with a total of 37 PO's. With an average caseload of 41 juveniles, Community-Based PO's provide supervision and services to a range of juveniles from those under a consent decree or on probation to those in residential placement.

Community-Based PO's are tasked with protecting the community, restoring victims and communities, and helping youth develop competencies that will make them productive, responsible citizens. To accomplish these goals, Community-Based PO's work closely with other concerned parties including parents, schools, community organizations and law enforcement professionals. Often referred to as the "work-horse" of the system, Community-Based PO's are a vital resource of the department.



## Electronic Monitoring/Home Detention



**DISCHARGES**

	Total	% Successful
Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM)	552	80%
EHM High Risk	304	76%
Home Detention (HD)	414	77%
HD High Risk	196	69%
Sanctions	320	86%
Total Discharges	1,786	78%

Electronic Monitoring/Home Detention is employed by the Juvenile Section as an alternative to secure detention for alleged juvenile offenders pending adjudication of their cases. It is also used when more intense supervision is needed for youth in CISP and the Academy.

## SPECIAL SERVICES UNIT (SSU)

### Community Supervision Component

Supervision and treatment of sex offenders residing in the community involve two to three weekly contacts with an SSU probation officer. One of these contacts is a sex offenders' group facilitated by the SSU probation team. Meeting at the probation office for an hourly session once a week, the group is highly structured and utilizes a sex offender educational curriculum that helps explain to the youth the realities of their behavior. Also, the group participants are required to complete journals and homework assignments to gain a better awareness of themselves.

### Institutional and Aftercare Component

The Institutional/Aftercare Component of the SSU is composed of three probation officers who work with sex offenders while they are in placement and for a minimum of six months following their return to the community. While the offenders are in placement, the probation officers visit each youth and institutional staff on a monthly basis to monitor progress. As the institutionalized youth nears the completion of the placement, the aftercare probation officers coordinate post-discharge planning. When the court determines that the offender's behavior is sufficiently under control, the youth is discharged to the community under the supervision of the Aftercare Component of the SSU.

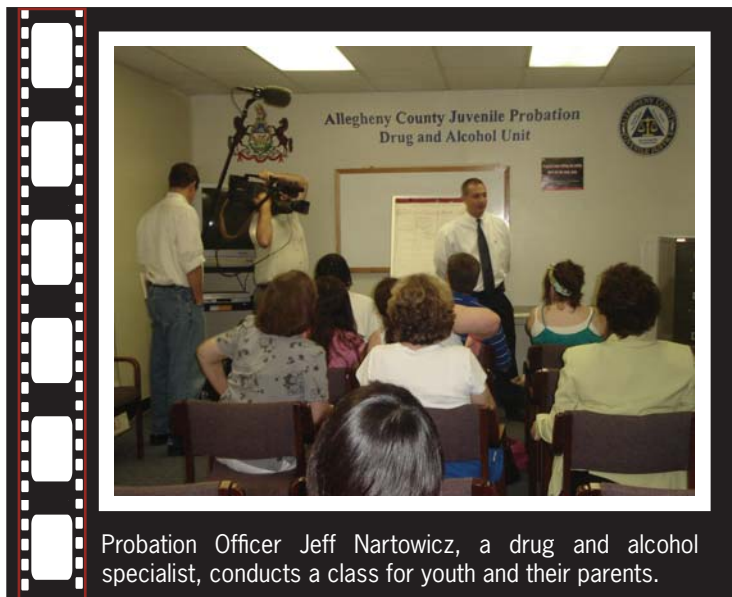
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Probation Officer	Cases Supervised	Successfully Completed	Recidivism: New Delinquent Offense	Percent of Recidivism
SSU	59	18	5	8.5%
Institutional/ Aftercare	86	25	4	3.5%

### Group Parent Meetings

The SSU aftercare probation officers, together with Harborcreek Youth Services staff, conduct monthly education and support group meetings for parents of offenders at Harborcreek. These sessions are held at the Northern Probation Center.

In 2006, the parent meetings were held 12 times. The number of parents participating ranged from six to ten parents per session; the average number of participants was eight per month.



Probation Officer Jeff Nartowicz, a drug and alcohol specialist, conducts a class for youth and their parents.

### SSU/WPIC

In 1998, the SSU and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC) secured Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) grant money to form a collaborative effort in the treatment and supervision of adjudicated sex offenders. This partnership has allowed for all offenders referred to the community-based component to receive an assessment by WPIC staff. However, the grant funding for the program ended and the county assumed costs of the program in 2006. In addition to the assessment, WPIC provides clinical interventions that are designed to improve the mental health treatment of juvenile sex offenders and their families. This collaboration eliminated the SSU waiting list that in the past delayed interventions for up to four months. Because of the working relationship that the SSU shares with WPIC, sexual offenders referred to the SSU's community-based component during 2006 were immediately assigned to an SSU probation officer and received an assessment at WPIC.

(Continued of Page 44)

School-Based Probation	
	Probation Officer(s)
Pittsburgh School District	
Allderdice	2
Arsenal	1
Brashear/South Hills Middle School	2
Carrick	2
Langley	2
McNaugher	1
Oliver	2
Peabody	2
Perry	1
Schenley	1
Student Achievement Center	3
Westinghouse	1
Other Schools in Allegheny County	
Baldwin	1
Chartiers Valley	1
Duquesne/West Mifflin High School	1
Fox Chapel	1
Hampton	1
Highlands	1
Keystone Oaks	1
McKeesport High School	2
Moon/West Allegheny	1
North Allegheny	1
North Hills	1
Penn Hills	1
Shaler	1
Steel Valley	1
Sto-Rox High School	1
Wilkinsburg	1
Woodland Hills Jr./Sr. High	2
During the 2006/2007 school year, school-based probation officers (PO's) served 13 Pittsburgh Public Schools and 19 other school districts throughout the county. The PO services all youth who are on probation and attend the school. The PO is also responsible for all intakes that occur within their assigned school. The School-Based Probation Project is responsible for operating the Truancy Task Force. This program provides intervention for truant youth who are 13 years old and younger.	



## COMMUNITY INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM (CISP)

The Community Intensive Supervision Program (CISP) operated by Juvenile Court is designed to reduce the need for youth to be removed from their homes and put into placement, yet still provide close supervision of those youth. The program also provides aftercare services for male offenders who are returning to the community after placement. During 2006, CISP had 194 commitments including 28 percent (54 youth) for aftercare. Of the 140 regular commitments, property/nonperson crimes accounted for 80 percent and person-to-person crimes accounted for 20 percent.

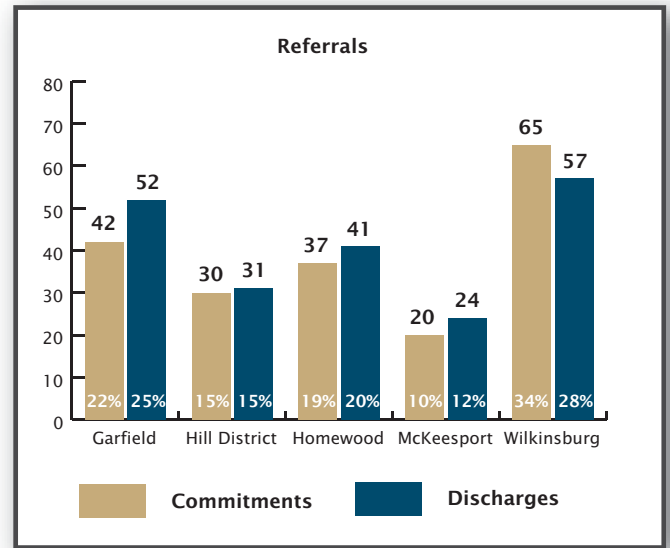
The program operates seven days per week out of five treatment centers located in the following communities: Garfield, Hill District, Homewood, Wilkinsburg and McKeesport, the newest center opened in July 2001. The program staff includes two coordinators, six supervisors, five assistant supervisors, five drug and alcohol counselors, fifty community monitors and six support staff. Youth committed to the program report to their respective centers after school and on weekends. At the end of each day's program, they are transported home by program staff and monitored electronically throughout the night and the following day. The program design is based on the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) model, which emphasizes community protection (intensive supervision), accountability (restoring victims and

the community through restitution and community service) and competency-skill development (academic, employment and life skills instruction).

### 2006 CISP Discharges

Of the 205 youth discharged in 2006, 144 (70 percent) were positive discharges, 61 (30 percent) were negative discharges. Of the 61 negative discharges, 46 youth (22.5 percent) failed to meet the program requirements and 15 youth (7.5 percent) committed a new crime. Of the 61 negative discharges, 55 of these youth were placed in out-of-home care.

(Continued of Page 45)



CISP Youth Painting Project



Youth paint the jury room in the Courthouse as part of a project to give back to the community.



CISP youth presents the Center for Victims of Violence and Crime with a check of the proceeds from the annual carwash.

by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. A majority of the unit also completed High Risk Entry training conducted by a Drug Enforcement Administration expert.

#### 2006 Statistics

Juveniles	Total
Sought	78
Apprehended by Warrant Unit	29
Apprehended by Police	29
Turned in by Parents	4
Warrants Vacated	4
Still Missing from Warrant Unit Run	12

(Continued of Page 46)

#### WARRANT UNIT

Juvenile Court's Warrant Unit, which became operational in 2004, continues to actively pursue juvenile offenders with outstanding warrants. Comprised of volunteers from various departmental probation positions, the unit assembles regularly to conduct sweeps in targeted neighborhoods. Working cooperatively with local, state and federal law enforcement, the unit continues to apprehend a substantial number of high-risk offenders. In addition to regular sweeps, members of the Warrant Unit collaborated with law enforcement agencies in joint efforts such as Operation Falcon coordinated by the United States Marshals and numerous Saturation Patrols conducted by the Pittsburgh Police, FBI, ATF, State Police, State Parole and County Sheriff's Department.

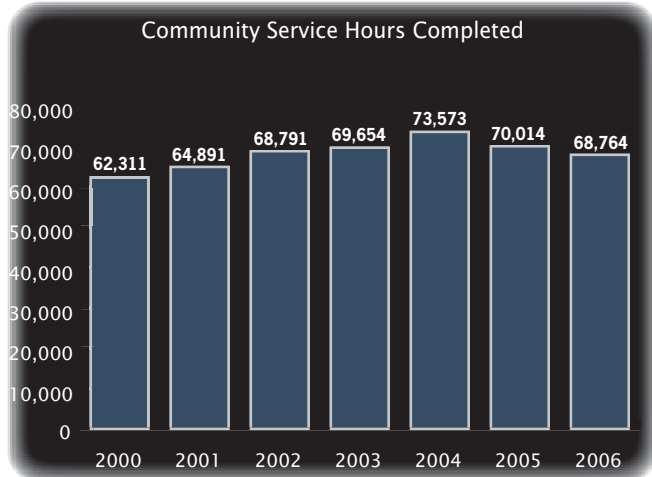
The Warrant Unit remains committed to improving its skills and knowledge base. In 2006, each member of the unit successfully completed the Basic Firearms Training conducted



Warrant Officer Greg Willig (right) with a camera crew filming the "Realities of Juvenile Justice" video.



(L-R) First Row: Angela Wyman, Robert Dassel, Michelle Picciani, Christine Lisko and Greg Willig; Second Row: Trainer Tim Barnes, Russ Carlino, Trainer Ron Seyko, David Mink and Trainer; Third Row: Ray Bauer, Greg Greene Matt Filipovic, Scott Thompson, Jeff Nartowicz and Michelle Howard. Missing from photo: Jim Miller, Craig Resnik, John Bout and Scott McMurdy.



## RENEWING THE OATH

Allegheny County Family Division enjoyed a popular and successful celebration of Juvenile Justice Week from October 1st - 7th. A special feature in previous years has been the oath of office ceremony for new probation officers. This year, Allegheny County Juvenile Court's Community Education Initiative invited a select group of probation officers, supervisors, and administrators with 25 years or more of service to be re-sworn by the Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark, Family Division Administrative Judge. Nineteen veterans were recognized for their commitment and dedication to youth, families, and citizens of Allegheny County on October 4, 2006.

A press release was issued to highlight this unprecedented event at the Family Law Center in Pittsburgh. These 19 probation officers represent a total of 590 years of performing probationary work with the youth of Allegheny County. The most senior probation officer has a total of 41 years of service! The program also emphasized the renewal of their commitment to continue the implementation of the Principles of Balanced and Restorative Justice.

Director of Probation Services James Rieland remarked that this group of individuals form the backbone of a profession devoted to victims, clients, and the community. Prior to administering the Probation Officer Oath, Judge Clark likened probationary work as a ministry dedicated to serving families and thanked the honorees for choosing a professional and competent career path. The Honorable Joseph M. James, President Judge, and Raymond Billotte, District Court Administrator, complimented the group's wealth of experience and knowledge that have drawn national attention for innovation and resourcefulness. After swearing to continue performing their duties with fidelity and competency at all times, the probation officers were greeted in a receiving line comprised of President Judge Joseph James, Administrative Judge Kim Clark, Family Division Judges Alan Hertzberg, Kathryn Hens-Greco, Dwayne Woodruff, Thomas Flaherty and Christine Ward.

Spouses, friends, and peers also received recognition for their support and participation. After official photographs, a reception was hosted by the Community Education Initiative to congratulate the veterans for all their achievements and reaching this milestone in their careers.

(Continued on Page 47)

New probation officer swearing-in ceremony (L-R) Front Row: Eric Joy, Amy Roenker, Mark Sheffo, Gilbert Pohodich, Russ Carlino, Judge Clark and Kim Booth; Back Row: Ted Kairys and Director Rieland.





The following is a list of the honorees:

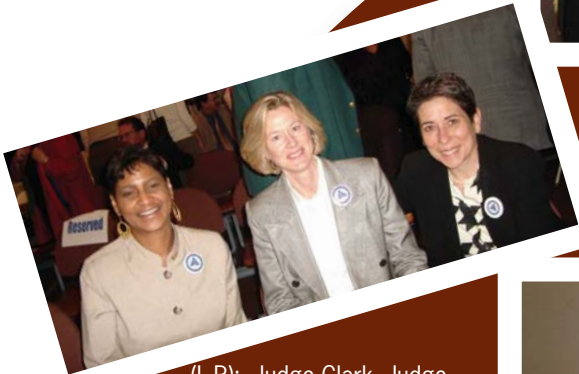
Years of Service	Probation Officer
25	Robert Dassel Ronald Seyko
26	Raymond Bauer Charles Bregman Linda Tanis
28	James Tucker
29	Stephen Bechtold George Kinder
30	Leonard Thomas
32	Karen Ambrose Ronald Dziuban Robert Straw
33	Kevin Buckley Edward Kairys Richard Smith
34	Louis Guardino
37	Bertrand Hathaway
39	Eric Joy
41	Joseph Cacolice



(L-R) First Row: Judge Ward, Judge Flaherty, Judge Hertzberg, Judge Hens-Greco, Judge James, Judge Clark, Judge Rangos, Judge Woodruff; Second Row: Joe Cacolice, Eric Joy, Chuck Bregman, Ron Seyko, Karen Ambrose, Linda Tanis, Rich Smith, Lou Guardino, Bob Dassel, District Court Administrator Raymond Billotte; Third Row: Bert Hatheway, Lenny Thomas, George Kinder, Kevin Buckley, Steve Bechtold, Bob Straw, Ted Kairys, James Tucker, Ron Dziuban, Ray Bauer, Director James Rieland.



(L-R) Front Row: Raymond Billotte, Judges Strassburger, Clark, Johnson, Rangos and Wecht; Back Row: Judges Hertzberg and Woodruff, Supreme Court Justice Max Baer and Director Rieland.



(L-R): Judge Clark, Judge Rangos and Judge Ward attend a conference during Juvenile Justice Week.

JUVENILE  
JUSTICE  
WEEK



Director Rieland (left) and Judge Clark (right) meet with a delegation of juvenile justice court personnel from Chicago.

## JCJC

The following staff members were honored by the court locally, as well as nominated for statewide recognition by JCJC. Congratulations to all!

### Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year



John Fiscante  
CISP – McKeesport

### Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year



David Mink  
Northern – SSU

### Juvenile Court Support Service Award



Alena Leybovich  
Administrative Services

### Court-Operated Program of the Year Community Education Initiative

## Referrals to Juvenile Court by Most Serious Charge

	2005	2006	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Aggravated Assault	297	288	-9	-3%
Aggravated Assault on Teacher	124	179	+55	44%
Arson	20	34	+14	70%
Auto Theft Related	396	368	-28	-7%
Burglary	353	272	-81	-23%
Carjacking (Robbery of Motor Vehicle)	10	9	-1	-10%
Criminal Mischief/Institutional Vandalism	115	126	+11	10%
Criminal/Defiant Trespass	108	114	+6	6%
Disorderly Conduct	113	143	+30	27%
Drugs (Including Crack)	614	642	+28	5%
Driving Under the Influence (DUI)	24	40	+16	67%
Escape	16	20	+4	25%
Ethnic Intimidation	3	4	+1	N/A
Failure to Adjust (FTA)	381	489	+108	28%
Firearm Unlicensed or Possession	98	121	+23	23%
Harassment	31	25	-6	-19%
Nonpayment of Fines	1,454	1,082	-372	-26%
Receiving Stolen Property	148	111	-37	-25%
Retail Theft	46	66	+20	43%
Robbery and Related	188	213	+25	13%
Sex Offenses	97	100	+3	3%
Simple Assault	555	489	-66	-12%
Terroristic Threats	148	126	-22	-15%
Theft and Related (Conspiracy/Attempt)	153	141	-12	-8%
Transfers from Other County	115	117	+2	2%
Violation of Probation	356	401	+45	13%
Weapons on School Property	144	188	+44	31%
Subtotal:	6,107	5,908	-199	-3%
All Other	246	282	+36	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,353</b>	<b>6,190</b>	<b>-163</b>	<b>-3%</b>

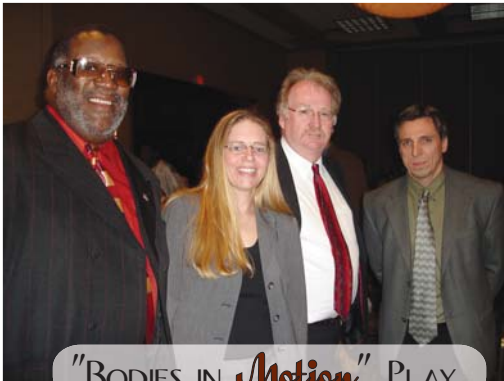


First Row (l-r): Kyle Harder, Probation Officers Tina Rafferty, Jennifer Cellante; second row, Probation Officers Jim Miller, Jan Adams and Jason Argueta attend the JCJC Conference.



(L-R): Judge DeAngelis, Judge Clark, Judge Woodruff and Judge Flaherty visit VisionQuest as part of a provider trip.





James Tucker, Val Ketter, Ray Bauer and Russ Carlino (left); Judge Woodruff, Director Rieland and Judge Borkowski (right); and Probation Officers Mark Sheffo, Jason Bright and Robert Konesky (below) attend the Bodies in Motion play.



## AIDS WALK

## TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK



Clerk Gail Meixner chaperones a tour of the Jail Museum.



(Above l-r): Shawn Forbes, Jeff Nartowicz and Russ Carlino participate in the Aids Walk.

(Below l-r): Ted Kairys, Robert Straw, Russ Carlino and John Fiscante with his daughter take part in the Annual Aids Walk and accept the trophy for Juvenile Court.



(L-R): Director Rieland, Supreme Court Justice Max Baer, Judge Hens-Greco, Judge Hertzberg and Judge Clark volunteer at the Music Festival that raises money for needy and abused children.

## SUPPORT STAFF RETREAT

L-R (front row): Chris France, Bridgette Lunz, (back row) Cindy Davis, Lisa Little, Bernita Diggs, Lynn Kissling, and Darcel Goodlowe is the winning team at the support staff retreat.



(L-R): Supervisor Tim Dailey, Pittsburgh Steeler Deshea Townsend, support staff Rookie of the Year Award winner DeShay Berry and Judge Rangos.



*Civil Division*  
**Civil Division**



R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.  
Administrative Judge



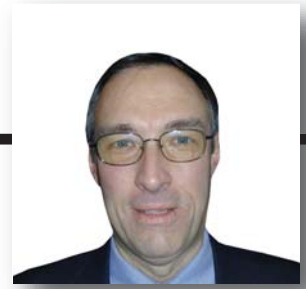
## Judges

L-R: Judith L.A. Friedman  
Ronald W. Folino  
Michael A. Della Vecchia  
Eugene B. Strassburger, III  
Eugene F. Scanlon, Jr.  
R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.  
W. Terrence O'Brien

Robert P. Horgos  
Paul F. Luty, Jr.  
Timothy Patrick O'Reilly

Missing from Photo:  
Robert J. Colville

# Civil Division



Clair R. Beckwith  
Manager

During each trial term, the judges in the Civil Division spend their time presiding over jury trials. Because of the efficient manner in which they conduct jury trials, the Civil Division does not have a backlog.

The Honorable Eugene B. Strassburger, III, Calendar Control Judge of the Civil Division, manages the trial list. Because of his skillful management of the trial list, most cases are tried, if they cannot be settled, within one year after an attorney has placed the case on the trial list.

Civil Division judges also maintained an accessible motions practice that provided attorneys and pro se litigants with prompt rulings. Administrative Judge R. Stanton Wettick, Jr., presided over compulsory arbitration matters, discovery, and other pretrial motions, and the Daily Motions Judge decided preliminary objections and other dispositive motions and presided over evidentiary hearings of requests for injunctive relief. This accessibility and prompt decision-making helped resolve pretrial matters and contributed to the court's ability to bring cases quickly to trial.

The Honorable Robert P. Horgos continues to assume responsibility for the class action litigation in this division. This is a time-consuming assignment that he performs between trial terms. The Honorable Robert J. Colville continues to assume responsibility for managing the asbestos litigation. This has become a more difficult assignment because this division is now listing more than fifty asbestos cases for trial during each trial term. President Judge Joseph M. James continues to assume responsibility for appeals involving zoning and land

use planning. The Honorable Michael A. Della Vecchia has assumed responsibility for eminent domain proceedings and is assisting the Honorable Robert J. Colville with asbestos litigation. The Honorable Eugene F. Scanlon, Jr., has assumed responsibility for litigation involving eligibility issues for subsidized housing. Senior Judge Livingstone M. Johnson continues to take responsibility for nonjury landlord-tenant appeals. The Honorable W. Terrence O'Brien has assumed responsibility for litigation relating to access to public records. The Honorable Timothy Patrick O'Reilly has assumed responsibility for summary appeals involving local government issues. The Honorable Judith L.A. Friedman continues to serve as the Daily Motions Judge whenever there is a gap in the schedule. As part of a new program, the Honorable Ronald W. Folino decides cases involving insurance coverage disputes prior to the trial of the underlying case. The Honorable Paul F. Luty, Jr., has become this court's specialist in medical malpractice litigation and most of his time is devoted to trying or settling medical malpractice claims.

Compulsory arbitration enjoyed great success in resolving cases with claims under \$25,000 and landlord and tenant proceedings. The continued effectiveness of Arbitration is due in large part to the efforts of the staff.

The Board of Viewers disposed of thousands of tax appeals while keeping the condemnation docket current.

(Continued on Page 53)

## CIVIL ACTIONS FILED

Against Property Owner	294
Asbestos Silicas	59
Asbestos/FELA	11
Assault & Battery	15
Contract	1,125
Defamation	18
FELA	14
Medical/Hospital Liability	303
Motor Vehicle Accident	871
Multiple Civil Action	678
Other Tort	681
Other Traffic Accident	18
Product Liability	53
Sci Fa sur Municipal Lien	59
Sci Fa sur Tax Lien	3,566
Toxic Substances	12
Total of New Case Filings	<u>7,777</u>

## BOARD OF VIEWERS

**Condemnations**  
New Petitions/Views/  
Hearings 270

**Tax Appeals**  
Conciliations/Hearings/  
Settlements/Masters  
Reports 3,444

TOTAL 3,714

### ARBITRATION

	2004	2005	2006
Pending on January 1	2,372	3,125	3,509
New Cases Filed	8,897	9,586	11,620
Transferred from Civil Division	274	270	237
Cases Disposed	8,228	8,908	10,143
Awards by Boards	2,168	2,192	2,254
Settlements, Non-Pros., etc.	5,363	6,173	7,311
Trial List Cases Disposed by Judge	697	543	578
Pending as of 12/31 (Awaiting Trial)	3,315	4,073	3,000
Appeals Filed	795	773	759
Rate of Appeals	36.67%	35.26%	33.67%
Number of Arbitration Boards Served	803	721	712
Number of Arbitrators	2,409	2,163	2,136
Arbitrator's Fee Per Day	\$150	\$150	\$150
Total Arbitrators' Fees	\$361,350	\$324,450	\$320,400
Less Non-Recoverable Appeal Fees	\$80,985	\$79,020	\$76,155
Total Costs	\$280,365	\$245,430	\$244,245
Average Arbitrator's Cost Per Case	\$116.38	\$113.47	\$114.35

### As of December 31

Cases with Current Hearing Date	3,059	3,418	4,657
General Docket Cases with Current Hearing Date	66	91	91
Total Cases Pending	3,125	3,509	4,748

### Cases Disposed by Type

Type of Disposition	Number of Cases	Percent of Total
Settled	15,660	97.99%
Non-Jury	133	0.83%
Jury	146	0.91%
Stricken	6	0.04%
Others	36	0.23%
Grand Total	15,981	100%

Included in these figures are trial-ready cases and those cases disposed before being certified ready for trial.

### CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

	Filed	Disposed
TRESPASS - GENERAL		
Asbestos Silicas	59	1,722
Asbestos/FELA	11	14
Medical/Hospital Liability	303	469
Product Liability	53	41
Toxic Substances	12	2
Subtotal	438	2,248
OTHER TRESPASS - GENERAL		
Against Property Owner	294	308
Assault & Battery	15	9
Defamation	18	9
FELA	14	10
Other Tort	681	531
Other Traffic Accident	18	11
Subtotal	1,040	878
TOTAL Trespas	1,478	3,126
OTHERS		
Amicable Ejectment	19	2
Contract	1,125	1,037
Declaration of Taking	144	15
Declaratory Judgment	95	88
Ejectment	989	383
Equity	162	102
Equity - Lis Pendens	154	134
Equity - Partition	3	1
Mandamus	15	8
Mechanic's Lien	109	18
Mortgage Foreclosure	4,944	4,842
Motor Vehicle Accident	871	820
Multiple Civil Action	678	806
Pre-computer Case	0	46
Quiet Tax Title & Real Estate	118	10
Quiet Title	55	26
Replevin	58	29
Sci Fa sur Municipal Lien	59	22
Sci Fa sur Tax Lien	3,566	4,466
TOTAL Others	13,164	12,855
GRAND TOTAL	14,642	15,981



## Asbestos Case Management

Referred to in the Wall Street Journal as "The Asbestos Blob," the RAND Institute for Civil Justice identifies asbestos litigation as "the longest-running mass tort litigation in U. S. history." From its inception in the 1960's, courts have endeavored to improve the asbestos litigation process through development of alternative case management strategies designed to timely resolve lawsuits and reduce private and public transaction costs. The Honorable Robert P. Horgos, with the assistance of retired Judge I. Martin Wekselman and the late Judge Silvestri Silvestri, had significantly reduced Allegheny County's asbestos case backlog as of March 1998, after instituting procedural rule changes in the mid-1990's to facilitate processing voluminous pleadings and motions.

The Civil Division's current asbestos team, the Honorable Robert J. Colville, the Honorable Michael A. Della Vecchia, and Docket Clerk Amy Katz, along with Administrative Judge R. Stanton Wettick, Jr., and Calendar Control Judge Eugene B. Strassburger, III, began revising all Case Management Orders as of March 2005. After reviewing successful strategies in other venues and conferring with local asbestos lawyers, two new dockets were created.

The "expedited" docket identified worthy cases that could more speedily be brought to trial. In 2006, 128 expedited asbestos docket cases were included in the division's trial lists, of which only 1 went to trial, 78 settled, 4 dismissed/discontinued and 45 were continued to future trial lists. For 120 trial-ready asbestos cases, 3,277 Product ID Motions for Summary Judgment were filed and ruled upon in 2006. Judge Colville manages the regular and expedited asbestos cases docket. He estimates that "expedited" cases are routinely resolved in less than half the time of the average asbestos case.

The "backlog" docket, administered primarily by Judge Della Vecchia, segregates asbestos cases that have been pending for more than three years. The Allegheny County Prothonotary reported approximately 3,000 active pending asbestos cases involving over 4,000 separate plaintiffs with an average of 20+ defendants per case in March 2005. Following requisite hearings, more than 2,000 cases with filing dates between 1995 and 2003 were dismissed in their entirety, with the exception of some bankrupt defendants. The remaining "backlog" docket of approximately 1,000 cases has been aggregated in groups of 50-60 per month for pretrial process-

ing, first by identifying those with the oldest filing dates and combining cases at the same litigation juncture. Upon publication of the case groups, plaintiffs' firms are provided a 14-month timetable for processing the necessary paperwork from Information Sheet to trial list. To date, most cases (65-75%) settle or are discontinued during the 14-month process. It is projected that all asbestos docket cases with a 2004 or earlier filing date will be on a trial list by 2007 and resolved by the end of 2009. Judge Della Vecchia will be scheduling mass conciliations for the summer of 2007.

Judge Colville credits much of the success of the new procedures to the "management extraordinaire" of Docket Clerk Amy Katz who is the court's liaison with counsel and their support staffs. Ms. Katz maintains the paperwork timetables and schedules while coordinating all asbestos case filings. With the introduction of statewide rules and automatic pleadings, Judge Colville notes that Ms. Katz' ability to chart the volumes of filings has been an invaluable resource.

With the continued collaboration of the court and asbestos attorneys, Judge Colville is confident the process of resolving Allegheny County's asbestos cases will continue to move efficiently. Administrative Judge Wettick and Ms. Katz, with the cooperation of the Prothonotary, are developing a "paperless" filing system that will further reduce processing time. Judges Colville and Della Vecchia are confident that consistent refinement of administrative procedures will enable asbestos cases to proceed to trial in an efficient manner with established avenues for settlement and resolution in the process.



The asbestos team (l-r) Judge Colville, Amy Katz and Judge Della Vecchia.

*Orphans' Court Division*  
**Orphans' Court Division**



Frank J. Lucchino  
Administrative Judge

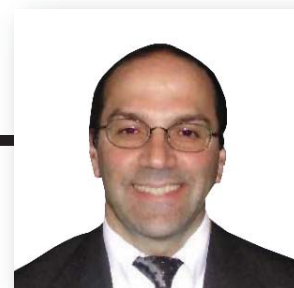


## Judges

L-R: Thomas D. Gladden\*  
Lee J. Mazur  
Frank J. Lucchino  
Robert A. Kelly

\*Visiting Judge

# Orphans' Court Division



Paul W. Stefano, Esq.  
Administrator

In 2006, in accordance with the statutory amendments to the Adoption Code, the court implemented new procedures for the registering of foreign adoption decrees in Allegheny County. A petition must first be filed with the clerk's office (i.e., Register of Wills), which transmits the file to the Adoption Department for review to determine compliance with the new statutory requirements. If the petition complies with the new requirements, the foreign adoption decree is registered; if the petition does not comply, the petitioner is required to readopt the child in accordance with Allegheny County Orphans' Court Rule No. 15 governing adoptions. Also, an adoption committee has been convened to review and make recommendations for the comprehensive revision of Local Rule No. 15. The committee's goal is to streamline the overall adoption practice and procedure in Allegheny County in conformity with the recent state-wide statutory amendments.

In the guardianship area, a uniform Petition for Allowance form was developed for pro se litigants. This petition was created in response to the overwhelming number of requests for the withdrawal of funds from sequestered minor's accounts. Most of these accounts were created as a result of the settlement of a personal injury claim, death claim or estate inheritance that resulted in a monetary award to the minor. The new form petition allows the petitioner (usually the parent) to make a formal request without incurring attorney fees that would otherwise be paid from the minor's funds.

At the request of the Honorable Frank J. Lucchino, Orphans' Court Division Administrative Judge, new procedures were implemented at the Register of Wills Office for the opening of estates where an incapacitated person is the fiduciary or a beneficiary. The Register of Wills will no longer accept a renunciation signed by a guardian of an incapacitated person unless the renunciation is accompanied by an order of court authorizing it. This change was in direct response to cases of potential financial exploitation discovered by court personnel who regularly review all estate settlement agreements filed in the Register of Wills Office. Orphans' Court Division employees are continuing to monitor all estates and trusts where minors and incapacitated persons have an interest.

and employing a front desk receptionist. Additionally, a deputy sheriff regularly patrols the offices, and two deputy sheriffs are present on days when the court is hearing cases involving the termination of parental rights; all visitors are screened for weapons and other contraband before entering the court offices. The court is working with the administrative office to expand upon these security initiatives.

GUARDIANSHIP PROCEEDINGS	
Incapacitated Persons	
Number of New Petitions Presented	241
Hearings	
*Emergency Guardians Appointed	35
**Permanent Guardians Appointed	162
Successor Guardians Appointed	25
Guardians Discharged	16
Petitions Withdrawn	22
Petitions Dismissed	11
Electro-Convulsive Treatment (ECT)	23
Adjudication of Full Capacity	3
Petitions for Review	15
Contested Hearings	17
Total Number of Hearings Above	329
Bonds Approved	60
Safe Deposit Box Inventories	8
Court-Appointed Counsel	85
Independent Medical Evaluations	3
Number of Allowances	929
Annual Report of Guardian of Person and/or Estate (includes 147 final reports, 172 inventories filed)	1,922
Minors	
Guardianship of Person of Minor	22

The Orphans' Court has improved the security at its 17th floor Frick Building location by installing security doors



# ADOPTIONS

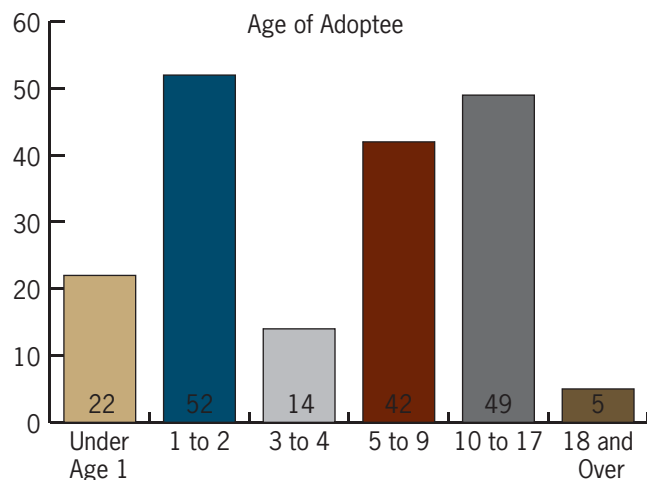
## BIRTHPLACE

Allegheny County	125
Elsewhere in Pennsylvania	13
Outside Pennsylvania	23
Outside USA	23

## GENDER

Female	99
Male	85

Age of Adoptee



## ADOPTION ACTIVITY

	Scheduled	Decreed	Withdrawn/ Dismissed
—Adoptions	164	166	0
—Voluntary Relinquishments	3	3	0
—Confirm Consents	92	88	0
—Involuntary Terminations	69	59	1
—Confirm Consents with Involuntary Terminations	4	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>1</b>

ORDERS OF COURT (Includes orders on petitions presented, continuances, amendments, allowance on publication service, acceptance of jurisdiction, allowance of interrogatories, appointments of search agents) 497

COMBINED DECREES AND ORDERS 817

ADULT ADOPTEE SEARCH REQUESTS 89

PERSONS ADOPTED (Some petitions include siblings) 184

ORDERS SIGNED APPOINTING SEARCH AGENTS 71

BIRTH PARENT REQUESTS TO PLACE WAIVERS IN FILE 3

## FOREIGN ADOPTIONS

Total Orders Signed on  
Petitions to Register Foreign  
Adoption Decrees

4

## NON-RELATIVE ADOPTION PLACEMENTS BY NON-ALLEGHENY COUNTY AGENCIES

—Department of Social & Health Services, Las Vegas, NV	1
—Idaho Department of Health & Welfare	1
—International Adoption Guides, North Carolina	1
—Love the Children, Quakertown, PA	1
—Children & Youth Services, Mifflin County, PA	1
—Welcome House Adoption Program/Pearl Buck International	1
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>6</b>

## NON-RELATIVE ADOPTION PLACEMENTS BY ALLEGHENY COUNTY AGENCIES

—Bethany Christian Services	5
—Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh	2
—Genesis of Pittsburgh, Inc.	8
—The Children's Home of Pittsburgh	25
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>40</b>

## NON-RELATIVE ADOPTION PLACEMENTS BY NON-AGENCIES

—Attorney	1
—All Other	5
—Parent	6
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12</b>

—Co-Parent Adoptions	8
—Adult Adoption - No Intermediary	4

**TOTAL Non-Relative Adoptions 70**

## RELATIVE ADOPTION PLACEMENTS BY NON-AGENCIES

—Step-Parent	80
—Other Relative	17
—U.S.A. Re-Adoptions	17

**TOTAL Relative Adoptions 114**

**TOTAL PERSONS ADOPTED 184**

CIVIL COMMITMENTS		
I.	Total Petitions Presented	5,805
II.	Dispositions	
A.	Hearings by Mental Health Review Officers	5,333
B.	Hearings/Reviews by Court	48
	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	<u>5,381</u>
HEARINGS BY TYPE UNDER MENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES ACT		
303	Up to 20 days involuntary commitment	3,067
304-B	Up to 90 days involuntary commitment	1,045
304-C	Up to 90 days involuntary commitment	202
305	Up to 180 days involuntary commitment	783
306	Modification of restrictions of commitment	225
306-2	Up to 180 days criminal commitment	4
304-G2	Up to 365 days criminal commitment	2
406		5
ECT	Electro-Convulsive Treatment (ECT)	20
EXP	Expungements of Records	8
REVS	Reviews of 303, 304B, 304C, etc.,	18
	TOTAL HEARINGS	<u>5,379</u>
	Total Contested Hearings	1,526
	Total Hearings Disposed by Stipulation without Patient Attendance	2,389
	Total Hearings Disposed by Stipulation with Patient Attendance	541

## ESTATES

### AUDIT HEARINGS OF ACCOUNTS

—Accounts by Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and Guardians 828

—Small Estates (\$25,000 or less) 184

TOTAL DECREES OF DISTRIBUTION 707

CONTESTED HEARINGS OF ESTATE MATTERS\* 275

Hearings on claims of creditors against estates, exceptions to accounts, questions of distribution involving appeals from decree of the Register of Wills in the grant of Letters of Administration, inheritance tax appraisals and assessments, will contests, proceedings against fiduciaries, termination of trust, delinquent inheritance tax due, miscellaneous hearings, including presumed decedents, absentees, and correction of birth records.

OPINIONS FILED 8

PRETRIAL CONFERENCES DOCKETED 441

RETURN DAYS SCHEDULED 174

### PETITIONS FILED

—Additional Bonds 29

—Appointment of Guardians of the Person and Estates of Minors 37

—Approval of Settlement of Minors' Claims 469

—Lifting of Suspension of Distribution 21

—Sale of Real Estate 80

—Petitions for citation against fiduciaries to file accounts or to show cause why they should not be removed, etc. 183

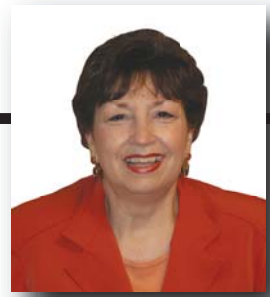
—Petitions filed by Inheritance Tax Department and citations awarded against fiduciaries to show cause why they should not file Transfer Inheritance Tax Return and/or pay Transfer Inheritance Tax due 99

—Miscellaneous Petitions 713

TOTAL PETITIONS FILED 1,631

\*Excludes guardianship hearings and termination/adoption hearings.

# Magisterial District Courts



Nancy L. Galvach  
Manager

Filings continue to increase in the Fifth Judicial District's Magisterial District Courts. There were 304,062 filings in 2006 following 287,050 filings in 2005. However, the types of cases being filed remain steady: Criminal-12%; Civil-5%; Landlord/Tenant-5%; Non-Traffic-17%; Private Criminal Complaints-4%; and Traffic-56%.

Fluctuations from year to year in a particular category of filing in any court are normal; however, it should be noted that criminal filings have been going up inexplicably in the district's Mon Valley area. During the reestablishment of the magisterial districts in 2002, the Court Administrative Office took note of the rise in criminal filings that had occurred during the 1990's and created a new court, 05-2-47, to help alleviate the workload. Filing reductions were seen in 2004, the first year of the court's existence. Since then, filings have continued to rise. The new court did not impact Court 05-3-09, included in the chart below, however, it is also located in the Mon Valley and was joined by Magisterial District 05-3-07, which was eliminated in reestablishment.

District Court	2003	2004	2005	2006
05-2-09	697	607	728	915
05-2-14	1,185	788	740	869
05-2-15	647	647	687	776
05-2-47	-	709	594	615
05-3-09	537	584	656	888
TOTAL	3,066	3,335	3,405	4,063

Staffing is a constant and daily concern in Magisterial District Courts. Audits by the state auditor general often cite lax DL-38 and warrant procedures. A DL-38 is a driving privilege suspension issued when a defendant fails to respond to or pay a traffic citation, and warrants are issued for the same reason. Especially the issuance of warrants brings outstanding funds to the courts, which in turn disperse those funds to the municipality, county and commonwealth. Simply stated, more employees bring better collection procedures.

Magisterial District Courts continue to be understaffed. The court uses a ratio of one staff member for each 1,500 filings as optimum. During 2006, 31 of 49 courts exceeded that optimum, some substantially, with seven exceeding 2,000 filings per staff. The most understaffed court had 2,456 filings per staff in 2006. Pittsburgh Municipal Court is also understaffed. Staffing was approximately 2,653 filings per staff during 2006.

In 2006, filings in Pittsburgh Municipal Court (PMC) rose by 7,369:

	Criminal	Non-Traffic	Private Complaints	Traffic	Total
2005	13,485	10,739	1,170	46,832	72,226
2006	14,851	11,300	776	52,668	79,595

Preliminary hearings in all county homicide cases are scheduled at PMC within 3-10 days. Magisterial district judges trained by the Honorable Jeffrey A. Manning, Court of Common Pleas Judge in the Criminal Division, presided over the hearings.

The court receipted \$4,581,726.77 in 2006 and collected \$691,401.95 for Allegheny County; \$2,020,581.96 for Pennsylvania, and \$1,567,330.14 for the City of Pittsburgh. Total cases disposed were 66,190. There were 11,126 warrants issued, 4,717 warrants served and 2,664 warrants cancelled.

Changes to the Rules of Court effective in 2006, directing that many of the misdemeanors that had previously resulted in arrests now be sent by summons via mail to defendants, resulted in increased postage costs for the court. In 2006, \$513,985.60 in postage was deposited into the district courts' postage meters, while \$339,093.29 was collected. Revenue collected for Allegheny County through fines in magisterial district courts was over \$4,000,000 in 2006. In twenty-dollar fees assessed for insufficient funds checks written to the courts, \$25,633.55 was deposited into the county treasury.

Through the efforts of a statewide security committee established by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and chaired by Madame Justice Sandra Schultz-Newman, electronic security devices were installed in all Magisterial District Courts in the commonwealth. Court staff monitors digital surveillance cameras mounted in the courts' public areas. Duress alarms are easily accessible on all courtroom benches and in staff areas.

Additionally, a personal safety training program was developed by Temple University. Following completion of train-the-trainer sessions, Jerry Cavalovitch, Supervisor of Pittsburgh Municipal Court, Rebecca Planinsek, Administrative Assistant in the Court Administrative Office, and Nancy Galvach, Manager of Magisterial District Courts, began presenting the program to all 193 Fifth Judicial Magisterial District Court employees in September. Eight one-day sessions were needed to train all employees because of the judicial district's large number of courts and staff.

During 2006, the Allegheny Standardized Arrest Program (ASAP), a program conceived by an ad hoc committee comprised of Raymond L. Billotte, Court Administrator of the Fifth Judicial District, representatives of the Office of the District Attorney, the Chief of Police Association, and


(Continued on Page 62)



	<b>Tara L. Smith</b> 05-2-01		11 Meade Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15202
	<i>Avalon Bellevue Ben Avon</i>	<i>Ben Avon Heights Emsworth</i>	<i>Kilbuck Ohio</i>
	Phone: 412-761-8770      Fax: 412-761-8254		

<i>Photo Not Available</i>	<b>Susan Evashavik</b> 05-2-08		2065 Ardmore Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15221
	<i>Churchill Edgewood</i>	<i>Forest Hills Wilkins</i>	
	Phone: 412-271-9125      Fax: 412-271-7529		

	<b>Richard G. Opiela</b> 05-2-02		339 Perry Highway Pittsburgh, PA 15229
	<i>Ross</i>	<i>West View</i>	
	Phone: 412-931-3205      Fax: 412-931-4135		

	<b>Ross C. Cioppa</b> 05-2-09		300 Rankin Boulevard Rankin, PA 15104
	<i>Braddock Braddock Hills</i>	<i>Rankin Swissvale</i>	
	Phone: 412-271-7734      Fax: 412-271-3530		


	<b>Robert P. Dzvonick</b> 05-2-03		1007 Mt. Royal Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15223
	<i>Etna Millvale</i>	<i>Reserve Shaler</i>	
	Phone: 412-487-7630      Fax: 412-487-7567		

	<b>Kim M. Hoots</b> 05-2-10		907 West Street Penn West Office Building Pittsburgh, PA 15221
	<i>Wilkinsburg</i>		
	Phone: 412-241-6529      Fax: 412-247-9270		

	<b>Elissa M. Lang</b> 05-2-04		1205 Main Street Pittsburgh, PA 15215
	<i>Aspinwall Blawnox Fox Chapel</i>	<i>Indiana Indianola O'Hara</i>	<i>Sharpsburg</i>
	Phone: 412-784-8555      Fax: 412-784-3167		


	<b>Robert L. Barner</b> 05-2-11		371 Lincoln Highway North Versailles, PA 15137
	<i>East McKeesport N. Versailles</i>	<i>Trafford Wall</i>	<i>Wilmerding</i>
	Phone: 412-824-3862      Fax: 412-824-3864		

	<b>Carolyn S. Bengel</b> 05-2-05		53 Garfield Street Natrona, PA 15065
	<i>Brackenridge Fawn</i>	<i>Harrison Tarentum</i>	
	Phone: 724-224-5555      Fax: 724-226-1594		

	<b>William K. Wagner</b> 05-2-12		8105 Perry Highway Pittsburgh, PA 15237
	<i>Bradford Woods Franklin Park</i>	<i>Marshall McCandless</i>	
	Phone: 412-366-2221      Fax: 412-366-8260		

	<b>Leonard J. HRomyak</b> 05-2-06		85 Universal Road Pittsburgh, PA 15235
	<i>Penn Hills</i>	<i>Verona</i>	
	Phone: 412-731-0100      Fax: 412-731-1986		

<i>Photo Not Available</i>	<b>Thomas S. Brletic</b> 05-2-13		687 O'Neil Boulevard McKeesport, PA 15132
	<i>McKeesport</i>		
	Phone: 412-664-4612      Fax: 412-664-1554		


	<b>Jeffrey L. Herbst</b> 05-2-07		339 Old Haymaker Road Suite 1500 Monroeville, PA 15146
	<i>Monroeville</i>	<i>Pittcairn</i>	
	Phone: 412-372-1125      Fax: 412-372-8740		

	<b>Richard D. Olasz, Jr.</b> 05-2-14		1800 Homeville Road West Mifflin, PA 15122
	<i>Dravosburg</i>	<i>West Mifflin</i>	<i>Whitaker</i>
	Phone: 412-466-1503      Fax: 412-466-3202		

<i>Photo Not Available</i>	<b>Thomas Torkowsky</b> 05-2-15	510 East Eighth Avenue Munhall, PA 15120
	Homestead	Munhall West Homestead
Phone: 412-461-5977 Fax: 412-461-0786		


	<b>Gary M. Zyra</b> 05-2-22	Scott Township Municipal Bldg. 301 Lindsay Road Carnegie, PA 15106
	Greentree	Heidelberg Scott
Phone: 412-276-7887 Fax: 412-276-0654		

<i>Photo Not Available</i>	<b>Mary Grace Boyle</b> 05-2-16	343 Old Curry Hollow Road Pittsburgh, PA 15236
	Jefferson Hills	Pleasant Hills South Park
Phone: 412-653-2102 Fax: 412-653-0221		

	<b>Dennis R. Joyce</b> 05-2-23	136 Bradford Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15205
	Carnegie Crafton	Ingram Pennsbury Village Rosslyn Farms Thornburg
Phone: 412-921-5559 Fax: 412-921-5619		


	<b>David J. Barton</b> 05-2-17	530 Caste Village Shopping Center Pittsburgh, PA 15236
	Castle Shannon	Baldwin Township Whitehall
Phone: 412-885-2111 Fax: 412-885-4630		

	<b>Mary P. Murray</b> 05-2-25	923 Fifth Avenue Coraopolis, PA 15108
	Coraopolis Crescent	Moon Neville
Phone: 412-262-3881 Fax: 412-262-2710		


	<b>John N. Bova</b> 05-2-18	Wallace School Building 41 Macek Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15227
	Baldwin Boro	Brentwood
Phone: 412-881-1996 Fax: 412-885-2443		

<i>Photo Not Available</i>	<b>Ernest L. Marraccini</b> 05-2-26	250 Swiss Lane Swiss Alpine Village, Route 48 Elizabeth, PA 15037
	Elizabeth Boro Elizabeth Township	Forward West Elizabeth
Phone: 412-751-3199 Fax: 412-751-8555		

	<b>Blaise P. Larotonda</b> 05-2-19	Washington Center Building 680 Washington Rd., Suite B-103 Pittsburgh, PA 15228
	Dormont	Mt. Lebanon
Phone: 412-561-4415 Fax: 412-561-4338		

	<b>Eugene N. Ricciardi</b> 05-2-27	Maul Building, Suite 300 1700 East Carson Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203
	Pittsburgh — Ward 4 Oakland	Wards 16 and 17 Arlington Heights Southside St. Clair Village
Phone: 412-481-0616 Fax: 412-481-1997		

	<b>Robert C. Wyda</b> 05-2-20	Bethel Park Municipal Bldg. 5100 W. Library Avenue Bethel Park, PA 15102
	Bethel Park	
Phone: 412-835-1661 Fax: 412-835-4060		

	<b>Oscar J. Petite, Jr.</b> 05-2-28	1030 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219
	Pittsburgh — Wards 1, 2, 3 and 5	Downtown Uptown Hill District
Phone: 412-261-2660 Fax: 412-261-0772		

	<b>Elaine M. McGraw</b> 05-2-21	295 Millers Run Road Bridgeville, PA 15017
	Bridgeville	Collier South Fayette
Phone: 412-221-3353 Fax: 412-221-0908		


	<b>Ron Costa, Sr.</b> 05-2-31	4764 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15224
	Pittsburgh — Wards 10 and 11 Garfield Highland Park	Morningside Stanton Heights Ward 8 Bloomfield
Phone: 412-621-2202 Fax: 412-681-5794		

	<b>Linda I. Zucco</b> 05-2-32	10101 Saltsburg Road Pittsburgh, PA 15239
	<i>Plum</i>	
Phone: 412-793-2727 Fax: 412-793-1355		

	<b>Regis C. Welsh, Jr.</b> 05-2-46	Coventry Square Office Center 4655 Route 8-Suite 124F Allison Park, PA 15101
	<i>Hampton</i>	<i>Pine</i>
Phone: 412-486-0454 Fax: 412-486-2576		

	<b>Nathan N. Firestone</b> 05-2-35	5850 1/2 Forward Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15217
	<i>Pittsburgh — Ward 14 Point Breeze</i>	<i>Squirrel Hill Swisshelm Park</i>
Phone: 412-521-9288 Fax: 412-521-3400		


	<b>Scott H. Schricker</b> 05-2-47	100 Penn Plaza Shopping Ctr. Penn Avenue Turtle Creek, PA 15145
	<i>Chalfont City of Duquesne</i>	<i>East Pittsburgh North Braddock</i>
Phone: 412-824-6201 Fax: 412-824-6364		

	<b>James J. Hanley, Jr.</b> 05-2-36	4371 Murray Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15217
	<i>Pittsburgh — Wards 15 and 31</i>	<i>Greenfield Hays</i>
Phone: 412-521-7782 Fax: 412-521-3500		


	<b>Robert L. Ford</b> 05-3-02	190 Ohio River Boulevard Box 153 Leetsdale, PA 15056
	<i>Aleppo Bell Acres Edgeworth Glenfield</i>	<i>Haysville Leet Leetsdale Osborne</i>
Phone: 724-266-7179 Fax: 724-266-7422		


<i>Photo Not Available</i>	<b>Charles A. McLaughlin</b> 05-2-38	736 Brookline Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15226
	<i>Pittsburgh — Ward 19 Beechview Brookline</i>	<i>Duquesne Heights Mt. Washington Station Square Shops</i>
Phone: 412-343-1188 Fax: 412-343-6667		

	<b>David J. Sosovicka</b> 05-3-03	721 Gulf Lab Road Cheswick, PA 15024
	<i>Cheswick Harmar Oakmont</i>	<i>Springdale Boro Springdale Township</i>
Phone: 724-274-4800 Fax: 724-274-2515		

	<b>Cathleen Cawood Bubash</b> 05-2-40	421 East Ohio Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212
	<i>Pittsburgh — Wards 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25</i>	<i>Allegheny Center Lower North Side Manchester</i>
Phone: 412-321-0788 Fax: 412-321-4014		

	<b>Suzanne Blaschak</b> 05-3-04	2060 Saxonburg Boulevard Gibsonia, PA 15044
	<i>Creighton East Deer</i>	<i>Frazer West Deer</i>
Phone: 724-265-2380 Fax: 724-265-2727		

	<b>Robert P. Ravenstahl, Jr.</b> 05-2-42	3874 Perrysville Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15214
	<i>Pittsburgh — Wards 26 and 27 Perrysville</i>	<i>Upper North Side</i>
Phone: 412-321-0116 Fax: 412-321-0702		

	<b>Thomas G. Miller, Jr.</b> 05-3-05	Rainbow Village Shopping Ctr. 1985 Lincoln Way White Oak, PA 15131
	<i>Lincoln South Versailles</i>	<i>Versailles White Oak</i>
Phone: 412-672-3916 Fax: 412-672-3922		

	<b>Carla Swearingen</b> 05-2-43	5624 Steubenville Pike McKees Rocks, PA 15136
	<i>Pittsburgh — Ward 28 Broadhead Manor Crafton Heights</i>	<i>Westgate Robinson</i>
Phone: 412-787-5000 Fax: 412-787-5510		

	<b>Mary Ann Cercone</b> 05-3-06	104 Linden Avenue McKees Rocks, PA 15136
	<i>Kennedy</i>	<i>McKees Rocks</i>
Phone: 412-331-3414 Fax: 412-331-3422		



Photo Not Available	<b>Armand Martin</b> 05-3-09	One Allegheny Square Suite One Glassport, PA 15045
	City of Clairton Glassport	Liberty Port Vue
Phone: 412-673-0864 Fax: 412-673-0467		

	<b>Richard G. King</b> 05-3-14	2213 Brownsville Road Pittsburgh, PA 15210
	Pittsburgh — Wards 29 and 32 Carrick East Brookline Mon Wharf	Overbrook Station Square Parking Lots Wards 18 and 30 Allentown
Phone: 412-884-1511 Fax: 412-884-3135		


	<b>Eugene Zielmanski</b> 05-3-10	4211 Butler Street Suite 1 Pittsburgh, PA 15201
	Pittsburgh — Wards 6 and 9 Lawrenceville	Arsenal
Phone: 412-681-1558 Fax: 412-681-5300		

Photo Not Available	<b>Sally Ann Edkins</b> 05-3-16	Sainte Clair Plaza, Suite 300 1121 Boyce Road Pittsburgh, PA 15241
	Upper St. Clair	
Phone: 724-941-6724 Fax: 724-941-3413		

	<b>Kevin E. Cooper</b> 05-3-12	566 Brushton Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15208
	Pittsburgh — Ward 12 East Liberty	Ward 13 Homewood
Phone: 412-241-1165 Fax: 412-241-3600		

	<b>Anthony W. Saveikis</b> 05-3-17	8052 Steubenville Pike Oakdale, PA 15071
	Findlay McDonald	North Fayette Oakdale
Phone: 724-695-2070 Fax: 724-695-3761		

	<b>Randy C. Martini</b> 05-3-13	625 Hillsboro Street Pittsburgh, PA 15204
	Pittsburgh — Ward 20 Elliott	Sheraden West End
Phone: 412-331-9828 Fax: 412-331-0475		

<b>Senior Magisterial District Judges</b>	Edward Burnett Raymond L. Casper Frank Comunale, III Mark B. Devlin Nancy L. Longo Lee G. Peglow	Donald H. Presutti Douglas W. Reed Richard J. Terrick Edward A. Tibbs Richard H. Zoller

## In Recognition

### MDJ King Elected State Association President

Magisterial District Judge Richard G. King, of Allegheny County's District Court 05-3-14, was elected president of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania for 2006-2007 in June. The association represents the state's 550 magisterial district judges as well as the Philadelphia municipal and traffic court judges.



First elected as a magistrate in 1993, Judge King previously served as Allegheny County Special Courts Judges Association president (1998-2004). He has been active on various committees and boards, most recently, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ad hoc Committee on the Pittsburgh Magistrates Court merger into the state district court system. Other professional involvements have included the Allegheny County Apportionment Advisory Committee, Committee on Establishment of Mental Health Court, Pittsburgh City Council Reapportionment Committee, Mayor's Commission on Public Education and A+ Schools.

Judge King's district includes the communities of Allentown, Beltzhoover, Bon-Air, Carrick, East Brookline, the City of Pittsburgh's Knoxville and Overbrook sections, and Mount Oliver Borough.



Magisterial District Judge Kevin E. Cooper was appointed to preside over the Pittsburgh Municipal Court's (PMC) Housing Court division, effective January 1, 2006. Furthering the court's commitment to improve the adjudication process of Housing Court matters, Court of Common Pleas President Judge Joseph M. James expects that MDJ Cooper can provide a positive impact on resolving housing issues at PMC in a "consistent, timely and equitable fashion."

Currently serving the 11th and 12th Wards in the City of Pittsburgh, District Court 05-3-13, comprised of the East Liberty and Homewood neighborhoods, MDJ Cooper first became a district judge in January 1990. A native Pittsburgher, he "welcomes the opportunity" to address the problems caused by vacant properties and dilapidated houses throughout the city.

Allegheny County Identification and designed by Michael Svidron, programmer with Court Information Systems, was rolled out. Prior to ASAP, police completed criminal complaints manually and filed them with a magisterial district court, which again entered all the information. When a defendant was arrested, the Allegheny County Jail keyed in the same information, as did the Allegheny County Bail Agency, County Identification, and the District Court Arraignment Office. Because ASAP was accepted universally by all police agencies filing criminal complaints within Allegheny County, when officers key in the complaint, it is electronically transferred to those agencies, which can then add only their distinctive information. Another advantage is that each agency's input is time stamped, thereby allowing court personnel to track cases and address any delays in processing of defendants.

Through a cooperative effort between the Court Administrative Office and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), which is responsible for the computer programming used by magisterial district courts, the criminal complaint will also be electronically transferred to the correct magisterial district court early in 2007, thereby

eliminating the need for duplicate data entry in the court.

Other computerization milestones are the ability of magisterial district courts to view Allegheny County Jail information so that they can determine whether a defendant is incarcerated and to electronically schedule county defendant identification appointments. Prior to the implementation of these programs, both functions were performed by telephone. The electronic processing of this information has proven to be tremendously timesaving. Robin Shook, Administrative Assistant in the Court Administration Office, provided training on these programs to court employees.

In 2006, Magisterial District Judges Jeffrey Herbst, Kim Hoots, Randy Martini, Eugene Ricciardi, and Tara Smith took the bench; Magisterial District Judges Thomas Brletic, Mary Grace Boyle and Ernest Marraccini retired.

		Traffic	Criminal	Civil	Landlord/ Tenant	Non- Traffic	Private Summary	Total
05-2-01	Hon. Tara L. Smith	7,065	434	352	216	977	807	9,851
05-2-02	Hon. Richard G. Opiela	3,874	814	460	158	735	548	6,589
05-2-03	Hon. Robert P. Dzvonick	2,606	766	429	178	1,508	504	5,991
05-2-04	Hon. Elissa M. Lang	4,067	375	392	135	1,064	47	6,080
05-2-05	Hon. Carolyn S. Bengel	1,364	431	297	211	937	410	3,650
05-2-06	Hon. Leonard J. HRomyak	2,016	721	1,109	470	1,049	740	6,105
05-2-07	Hon. Jeffrey L. Herbst	1,936	611	524	384	1,066	246	4,767
05-2-08	Hon. Susan Evashavik	3,065	422	174	107	623	1,016	5,947
05-2-09	Hon. Ross C. Cioppa	5,488	915	300	400	1,670	107	8,880
05-2-10	Hon. Kim M. Hoots	1,061	667	392	695	901	20	3,736
05-2-11	Hon. Robert L. Barner	3,779	613	248	279	1,185	342	6,446
05-2-12	Hon. William K. Wagner	5,335	529	396	72	561	233	7,126
05-2-13	Hon. Thomas S. Brletic	1,828	819	790	772	2,930	17	7,156
05-2-14	Hon. Richard D. Olasz, Jr.	1,615	869	416	153	908	471	4,432
05-2-15	Hon. Thomas Torkowsky	2,712	776	257	217	1,777	219	5,958
05-2-16	Hon. Mary Grace Boyle	3,277	493	330	148	558	96	4,902

		Traffic	Criminal	Civil	Landlord/ Tenant	Non- Traffic	Private Summary	Total
05-2-17	Hon. David J. Barton	3,282	462	402	227	499	61	4,933
05-2-18	Hon. John N. Bova	3,190	696	346	398	813	17	5,460
05-2-19	Hon. Blaise P. Larotonda	4,148	589	312	212	1,220	20	6,501
05-2-20	Hon. Robert C. Wyda	1,912	359	320	119	575	38	3,323
05-2-21	Hon. Elaine M. McGraw	3,991	545	399	69	596	350	5,950
05-2-22	Hon. Gary M. Zyra	2,965	474	286	115	412	122	4,374
05-2-23	Hon. Dennis R. Joyce	3,720	500	305	203	849	259	5,836
05-2-25	Hon. Mary P. Murray	3,281	784	736	252	1,074	164	6,291
05-2-26	Hon. Ernest L. Marraccini	1,320	242	457	88	421	61	2,589
05-2-27	Hon. Eugene N. Ricciardi	1,926	0	495	530	680	46	3,677
05-2-28	Hon. Oscar J. Petite, Jr.	791	1	593	927	747	330	3,389
05-2-31	Hon. Ron Costa, Sr.	37	0	628	1,230	621	37	2,553
05-2-32	Hon. Linda I. Zucco	976	299	262	195	288	176	2,196
05-2-35	Hon. Nathan N. Firestone	665	0	465	354	336	39	1,859
05-2-36	Hon. James J. Hanley, Jr.	7	33	214	236	11	48	549
05-2-38	Hon. Charles A. McLaughlin	219	131	424	325	592	162	1,853
05-2-40	Hon. Cathleen Cawood Bubash	509	0	402	571	219	204	1,905
05-2-42	Hon. Robert P. Ravenstahl, Jr.	58	0	360	786	1,134	58	2,396
05-2-43	Hon. Carla Swearingen	3,903	478	362	186	423	157	5,509
05-2-46	Hon. Regis C. Welsh, Jr.	3,968	396	653	35	409	296	5,757
05-2-47	Hon. Scott H. Schricker	1,957	615	509	411	1,473	441	5,406
05-3-02	Hon. Robert L. Ford	5,566	110	112	45	287	26	6,146
05-3-03	Hon. David J. Sosovicka	3,804	464	261	60	581	272	5,442
05-3-04	Hon. Suzanne Blaschak	1,979	355	208	36	567	1,391	4,536
05-3-05	Hon. Thomas G. Miller, Jr.	631	250	298	100	286	41	1,606
05-3-06	Hon. Mary Ann Cercone	2,054	851	321	393	1,683	344	5,646
05-3-09	Hon. Armand Martin	1,791	888	613	179	2,292	115	5,878
05-3-10	Hon. Eugene Zielmanski	2	13	226	193	97	37	568
05-3-12	Hon. Kevin E. Cooper	31	2	329	548	681	78	1,669
05-3-13	Hon. Randy C. Martini	389	0	224	256	291	47	1,207
05-3-14	Hon. Richard G. King	1,365	279	571	455	857	412	3,939
05-3-16	Hon. Sally Ann Edkins	834	80	89	2	187	47	1,239
05-3-17	Hon. Anthony W. Saveikis	4,630	378	618	220	707	116	6,669
05-0-03	Pittsburgh Municipal Court	52,668	14,851	0	0	11,300	776	79,595



## JUDICIAL TRANSITIONS - In Recognition

### Honorable Cynthia A. Baldwin



Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Baldwin is sworn in accompanied by her daughter Crystal and son James.



Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Baldwin is robed by husband Arthur.

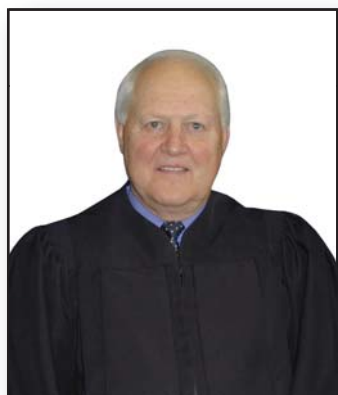
The Honorable Cynthia A. Baldwin was officially sworn in as Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on March 24, 2006, the second female African-American to sit on Pennsylvania's highest court. Stating that it is "a privilege and an honor to serve" the commonwealth, she will fill a vacancy until January 2008.

The first African-American woman elected to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Justice Baldwin has been a judge since 1990, serving the first ten years in the Family Division, the last five in the Civil Division. A former educator, she has chaired the Pennsylvania State University's board of trustees since January 2004, first appointed to the board in 1995. The justice also served as Penn State's alumni association president from 1991 to 1993.

Justice Baldwin earned both a B.A. in English and M.A. in American Literature from Penn State. She earned her law degree at Duquesne University where she was a member of its Law Review. She is a member of the university's Board of Directors and past president of its Law Alumni Board.

Justice Baldwin's appointment to Pennsylvania's Supreme Court is a result of her dedication to the legal profession. This court is pleased for Justice Baldwin and offers congratulations on her appointment.

### Honorable Robert E. Colville



After serving only a few months as a senior judge in the Court of Common Pleas, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed the Honorable Robert E. Colville, age 70, to the state's Superior Court as a senior judge, where he may serve until the age of 75. Judge Colville will hear appeals as part of a three-judge panel as a senior Superior Court judge.

Assigned to Juvenile Court when he first came to the county bench, the judge's last assignment with this court began in 1999 in the Criminal Division, where he managed Mental Health Court from its inception in 2002. Judge Colville was elected to the county bench in 1997 after serving as Allegheny County District Attorney, Pittsburgh's Chief of Police, high school teacher and coach.

Criminal Division Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel praised Judge Colville's common sense, intelligence, work ethic, and sense of humor while presiding in criminal court. Those same attributes will be important in his new job, which he contemplates will be "a more intellectual effort, more reading cases than being on the bench."

## JUDICIAL TRANSITIONS - Awards and Honors

### Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark

#### Family Division Administrative Judge Clark Elected ACBA President

The Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark became not only the Family Division Administrative Judge in 2006, but also the first African-American woman and first judge elected as the Allegheny County Bar Association's (ACBA) president in its 135-year history. Passed the gavel while attending her 22nd bench-bar conference in mid-June, Judge Clark's presidency officially began on July 1. She has been an active ACBA member since beginning her legal career with the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office. Performing in the annual bench-bar conference "Big Show" fostered Judge Clark's ACBA involvement and dynamic service that has resulted in her leading the organization this year.



After completing her undergraduate work at Tennessee State University, Judge Clark earned her law degree from Duquesne University. As an assistant district attorney for 16 years, Judge Clark prosecuted more than 150 jury trials. She was appointed to the bench in 1999 by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge and won a ten-year term in that year's general election. Assigned to the Family Division in 1999, she served as the Juvenile Section's supervising judge for the last three years, and now serves as the division's administrative judge by appointment of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

### Honorable Livingstone M. Johnson

The Honorable Livingstone Morris Johnson ("Livy" to his friends) received the 2006 Drum Major for Justice Award, honored by the Homer S. Brown Law Association at its Seventh Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast on January 16, 2006. A regional organization of African-American lawyers, the association pays tribute to individuals for their lifetime contributions to the field of justice. An Allegheny County Council proclamation sponsored by Councilwoman Brenda Frazier recognized and commended Judge Johnson "as the deserving and distinguished recipient" of the award, "a champion of justice" who has made "significant contributions to improving the quality of life in this region."

A Court of Common Pleas judge since January 1973, Judge Johnson has served as a senior judge in the Civil Division for the past nine years. Like many new judges in this court, he first presided in the Family Division Juvenile Section, where for more than nine years he conducted roughly 21,500 hearings and earned the Allegheny County League of Women Voters' Outstanding Juvenile Court Judge Award. The Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) Juvenile Law Committee honored him in 1985 with the Juvenile Law Award. In 1995, the Women's Bar Association acknowledged Judge Johnson's efforts on behalf of equal treatment with the Susan B. Anthony Award.



(L-R): Judge Livingstone M. Johnson, Homer S. Brown Association President Paul A. Ellis, Jr., Esquire and Pennsylvania Superior Court Senior Judge Justin M. Johnson

Judge Johnson's legal career began at the University of Michigan Law School (J.D., 1957) after an impressive military service as a Navigator Radar Bombardier for which he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross with four Oak Leaf Clusters, having flown 58 combat missions over Korea. Following law school, Judge Johnson practiced law at his father's Pittsburgh firm and served as an assistant county solicitor prior to his judicial career from 1962 until 1973.

A lifelong Pittsburgh resident, Judge Johnson has always been active in community and professional organizations. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP and the Urban League and has served on the boards of several associations including the American Red Cross, Boys Club of Western Pennsylvania and the YMCA. An American Bar Foundation Fellow, Judge Johnson also belongs to Omega Psi Phi, American Inns of Court, the Homer S. Brown Law Association, American Judicature Society, ACBA, and the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges.

## Honorable Lester G. Nauhaus

### Judge Nauhaus honored for Drug Court Leadership



The Honorable Lester G. Nauhaus volunteered to help implement and manage the Fifth Judicial District's Drug Court nine years ago. He received statewide recognition in 2006 for the success of the program that boasts a 25 percent recidivism rate as compared to 75 percent for defendants whose sentence includes jail time.

Judge Nauhaus was presented with the William J. Schofield III Award for Outstanding Dedication and Service to the Addiction Field in an April ceremony at State College, Pennsylvania. In a program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs (BDAP) and the Institute for Research, Education and Training in Addictions (IRETA), the judge was honored for his "exemplary leadership and strong commitment to the community." Drug Court provides a support system for defendants committed to recovery that includes regular court appearances before Judge Nauhaus. Treatment is individualized for Drug Court participants whose supervision can last up to two and one-half years.

Prior to election to the bench in 1997, Judge Nauhaus served as the Allegheny County Chief Public Defender for 17 years. He earned a law degree from Duquesne University in 1968 and completed undergraduate work at the University of Colorado in 1965.

The Schofield Award is presented to individuals who best exemplify the characteristics of William J. Schofield, III, renowned for community service and volunteering for good causes.

## JUDICIAL TRANSITIONS - In Memoriam

### The Honorable Walter R. Little October 1, 1943 – June 5, 2006



"He truly enjoyed being a judge," reminisced President Judge James. He knew Judge Little from their law school days together at the University of Pittsburgh in the early 70's, later when they both worked as Pittsburgh city magistrates for several years, and for the better part of the last 30 years as colleagues in the Court of Common Pleas. Attorney Wendell Freeland, a longtime friend of Judge Little, recalls that the judge "gave both sides hell" in criminal cases and will be remembered for his work ethic and no-nonsense courtroom approach.

A Pittsburgher, born on the South Side and reared in the Hill District, Judge Little graduated from Central Catholic High School and built a legal career after serving in the U.S. Army. He attended Community College of Allegheny County (A.A., 1968) and the University of Pittsburgh (B.A., 1970; J.D., 1973). After law school, the judge clerked for Allegheny County Common Pleas Judges I. Martin Wekselman and Livingstone M. Johnson before he held positions in the Office of the Public Defender, Neighborhood Legal Services, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Consumer Affairs and the Office of the District Attorney. Judge Little was appointed a City of Pittsburgh magistrate in 1979, serving in that capacity until his election to the Court of Common Pleas in 1985. Following ten years in the Criminal Division, he served in the Orphans' Court Division for eight years prior to his death.

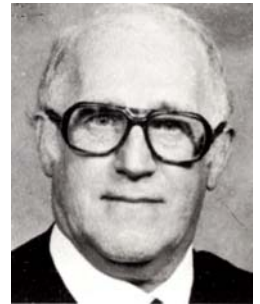
Judge Little was a member of the Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations, Pennsylvania Association of Trial Court Judges, Pittsburgh NAACP, the National Association for the Study of Afro-American History and Smith-Watkins Veterans Post No. 2. He sat on the boards of Auberle, the Children of Love Theatre, Pittsburgh Community Services and the Sickle Cell Society.



## The Honorable John W. O'Brien

August 22, 1921 - May 26, 2006

First elected to the Court of Common Pleas in 1971, Judge O'Brien retired in June 1999 from an active senior status that began in 1990. His entire court tenure was in the Criminal Division where he earned lawyers' respect for fairness, compassion and strong moral conviction. Remembered for his candor and a wry sense of humor, he has been referred to as an "old school gentleman." "Most of all, he was a humble and dedicated family and community man" best describes Judge O'Brien's legacy.



The judge's education at St. Vincent College was interrupted for U.S. Army Infantry service during World War II, for which he was awarded a Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. After the war, he worked his way through the University of Pittsburgh and its law school (B.A., 1948 and LL.B., 1951). Before his judicial career, Judge O'Brien was active in Baldwin Borough politics, first as council president, then as mayor. He was partner in a private law firm, Gatz, Cohen and O'Brien. In the Criminal Division for almost three decades, Judge O'Brien presided over some very high-profile, memorable trials.

As an attorney and judge, he was a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association from 1953 to 1997. Judge O'Brien chaired the Pennsylvania State Sentencing Commission from 1979 to 1989 and also served as chairman of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges.

## The Honorable Raymond L. Scheib

May 13, 1915 – July 18, 2006

Judge Scheib's 20-year judicial career began in 1976 with a gubernatorial appointment after success as a lawyer, politician and arbitrator. The top vote-getter in a field with six other judicial candidates, he won election to the bench in 1977 at the age of 62. Retired Commonwealth Court Judge Emil E. Narick, elected to the Court of Common Pleas in that same election, admired Judge Scheib for his conscientious, hard-working approach to the law. Credited with disposition of a substantial backlog of summary appeals cases over several years, now-Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge John L. Musmanno lauded Judge Scheib's "resolute determination and dedication" in 1992. He served as a senior judge until 1996.

A Pittsburgh native, Judge Scheib's education included graduation from Central Catholic High School and the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned bachelor's and law degrees between 1933 and 1940. He started a private law practice before he served stateside in the Army Air Forces during World War II. Following the war, Judge Scheib served as an Allegheny County Assistant Solicitor in the early seventies and specialized as an arbitrator with the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board, serving as its chairman from 1972 to 1976.

Before his judicial tenure, Judge Scheib was Democratic chairman for Mt. Lebanon. Throughout his legal career, he belonged to the Allegheny County, American and Pennsylvania Bar Associations, American Association of Arbitration, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services Panel of Arbitrators. He was an active board member of the Diocesan Purchasing Commission and Marian Manor Home for the Aged.



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