

The background image is a low-angle photograph of a city street. On the left, a modern glass skyscraper (PNC Tower) rises into a clear blue sky. In the center, a tall, historic stone bell tower (Allegheny County Courthouse) is the focal point. To the right, another historic stone building with arched windows is visible. In the foreground, the white blossoms of a tree are in focus. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Pittsburgh, County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania

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Message from the President Judge and District Court Administrator

On behalf of the more than 90 judicial officers and 1,200 employees, we are pleased to present the court's 2011 annual report of operations. We hope you will take a few minutes to look through the important work performed by Common Pleas Judges, Magisterial District Judges, and employees of the Fifth Judicial District.

To ensure its core mission continues to be carried out, the court began a strategic planning process in 2011 to identify short and long-term goals and priorities. Employees and consumers of court services were surveyed to gather feedback on court performance. A Planning Committee comprised of 30 Common Pleas Judges, Magisterial District Judges, and senior management personnel was formed, and strategic focus groups consisting of front-line staff and supervisors were organized to assist with the planning process. Through a comprehensive assessment and analysis process, the court has identified a renewed mission, vision, and core values. It is anticipated that a formal strategic plan will be finalized and implemented in 2012.

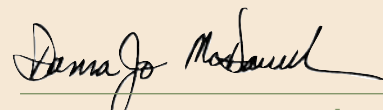
The district continued to implement collaborative and innovative programs in 2011, including Sex Offender Court. The first of its kind in Pennsylvania, Sex Offender Court is a program emphasizing accountability, intensive supervision, treatment, streamlined case processing, and enhanced victim services. The goals of Sex Offender Court include reduced recidivism and increased public safety.

To address the needs of self-represented litigants, the court's Family Division began planning for the establishment of a self-help center to increase citizens' access to justice by providing information, legal resource referral, and easy-to-use court forms to self-represented litigants. An additional goal of this project is the development of online document assembly tools to allow litigants to produce pleadings for filing.

The court continued to partner with stakeholders throughout the criminal justice system to implement the Justice Reinvestment at the Local Level initiative, a data-driven approach to reducing corrections spending and reinvesting savings in crime-reducing strategies. This project promotes effective and efficient policies for use by the Allegheny County Jail, alternative housing, community-based supervision, electronic monitoring, offender reentry programs, and treatment programs.

The Fifth Judicial District looks forward to 2012 with a renewed mission and vision, in collaboration with our justice system partners, to improve upon the services provided to our community.




Donna Jo McDaniel
President Judge




Raymond L. Billotte
District Court Administrator

Board of Judges



Front Row:

Lawrence J. O'Toole
W. Terrence O'Brien
Donna Jo McDaniel
Kathryn M. Hens-Greco
Jeffrey A. Manning

Second Row:

Paul F. Luty, Jr.
Thomas E. Flaherty
Arnold I. Klein
Guido A. DeAngelis
Ronald W. Folino
Christine A. Ward
Kathleen A. Durkin
Philip A. Ignelzi
Judith L. A. Friedman
Susan Evashavik DiLucente

Third Row:

David N. Wecht
Joseph K. Williams, III
Dwayne D. Woodruff
Kathleen R. Mulligan
Jill E. Rangos
Kevin G. Sasinoski
Michael F. Marmo
Michael A. Della Vecchia

Fourth Row:

Kelly Eileen Bigley
Edward J. Borkowski
Donald R. Walko, Jr.
John T. McVay, Jr.
Alan D. Hertzberg
R. Stanton Wettick, Jr.

Fifth Row:

Michael E. McCarthy
Cathleen Bubash
Robert J. Colville
Joseph M. James
Anthony M. Mariani

Sixth Row:

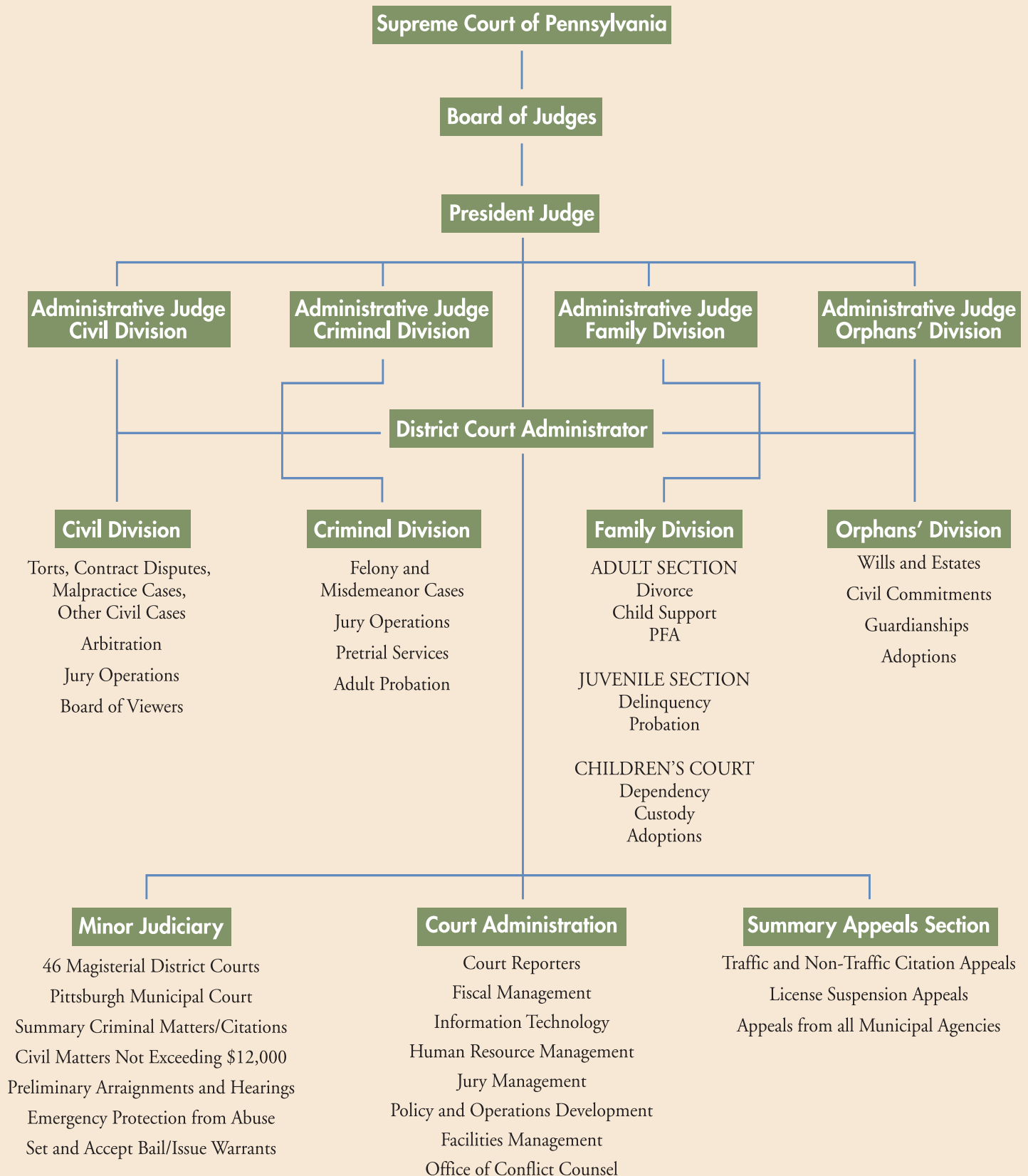
David R. Cashman
Donald E. Machen
Lester G. Nauhaus
Randal B. Todd

Not Pictured:

Gerard M. Bigley
Kim Berkeley Clark
Kim D. Eaton
Robert C. Gallo
Robert A. Kelly
Beth A. Lazzara
Frank J. Lucchino
Lee J. Mazur
Timothy Patrick O'Reilly
John A. Zottola

Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION



Highlights and Accomplishments



L-R: Supervisor Dante Works, Adult Probation Managers Charlene Christmas and Frank Scherer, Director of Adult Probation Thomas McCaffrey, District Court Administrator Raymond L. Billotte, and Criminal Division Administrative Judge Jeffrey A. Manning celebrate the opening of the Day Reporting Center-East.

Second Day Reporting Center Opens in Pittsburgh's East Liberty Neighborhood

On May 16, 2011 the court opened its second Adult Probation Day Reporting Center (DRC) in the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh. The first DRC has been operational in the city's Arlington neighborhood since October 2009. The DRC's provide a community-based location for offenders to participate in a variety of services designed to assist them in becoming productive, law-abiding citizens. Services include GED preparatory classes, employment skills development, job search resources, life skills programming, cognitive behavioral therapy, drug/alcohol screening, and community service coordination. The goal of the DRC approach is to reduce recidivism by providing offenders with a structured environment and individualized case planning that promotes positive lifestyle and behavioral change.



Judge Michael F. Marmo takes the oath of office, administered by Judge Robert C. Gallo, while his wife, Kathy, holds the bible.

Judges Bicket and Marmo Elected to Serve in the Fifth Judicial District

In November 2011, Judge Alexander P. Bicket won election to serve a ten-year term in the Fifth Judicial District-Court of Common Pleas. From 1989 until his election to the court, Judge Bicket practiced at the law firm of Zimmer Kunz, PLLC, specializing in commercial, insurance, and toxic tort litigation. He also served as a Special Master in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Prior to becoming an attorney, he taught Latin and English at Fox Chapel Area High School in Pittsburgh from 1982 to 1989. Judge Bicket received his law degree from Duquesne University in 1988. His education includes a master's degree in psychology and a bachelor's degree in law, sociology, and English. Born and raised in Cape Town, South Africa, Judge Bicket has lived in the United States since 1982.



U.S. District Court Judge Alan N. Bloch administers the oath of office to Judge Alexander P. Bicket. Holding the bible is Judge Bicket's daughter, Kalli.

Judge Michael F. Marmo, appointed by former Governor Ed Rendell to fill a vacancy in the Fifth Judicial District-Court of Common Pleas in July 2009, was successful in his bid for election in November 2011 to a ten-year term and is currently assigned to the Family Division. He received his law degree from Duquesne University in 1993 and began practicing in the areas of real estate, business, municipal law, and estate matters. He also possesses a master's degree in public administration from the University of Pittsburgh. From 1982 to 1994, Judge Marmo was the tax collector for Emsworth Borough and was employed as the Allegheny County Deputy Recorder of Deeds from 1984 through 1995. He also served approximately 14 years as a special master with the Allegheny County Board of Viewers, as well as an adjunct professor with the Community College of Allegheny County. Judge Marmo currently serves as an adjunct professor with Duquesne University School of Law.

Highlights and Accomplishments **CONTINUED**

Leadership Pittsburgh XXVII

District Court Administrator Raymond L. Billotte participated in a panel discussion entitled “The New Norm in Justice and Human Services: Shrinking Budgets and the Need for Creative Solutions to Maintain Our Health, Well Being and Safety,” a session of the “Justice and Human Services” program organized by Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. in March 2011. Deputy Director Erin Dalton of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, President and CPO Bob Nelkin of Allegheny County United Way, and Pittsburgh Chief of Police Nathan Harper joined Mr. Billotte in an exchange of ideas about the interconnections of the justice system and human services providers, concentrating on the challenges presented by funding cuts and growing need.

The program included site visits to the Criminal and Family Divisions of the Fifth Judicial District by senior and influential leaders of Leadership Pittsburgh XXVII to observe the local justice system and interrelate with judges and court administrators. Additionally, Judges Dwayne Woodruff, Joseph Williams, Beth Lazzara, Kathleen Mulligan, and Michael McCarthy traveled to county-based human services agencies to demonstrate current programs and further explore creative, collaborative solutions between the justice system and human services providers in response to budget cuts.

“Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to developing a diverse group of leaders to serve southwestern Pennsylvania” with a mission “to strengthen regional leadership through programs, partnerships and connections.” The Justice and Human Services forum provided Leadership Pittsburgh class members with an understanding of these systems and their impact on the community.



Judge Dwayne Woodruff presents to Leadership Pittsburgh XXVII participants.

Magisterial District Judge Richard G. King Receives Jeffers Award

The Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania (SCJAP) honored Magisterial District Court Judge Richard G. King with the John J. Jeffers Memorial Award during the President's Banquet at its 2011 annual conference. Named for a former Chester County district judge who died in 1995 after 20 years of service, the award is presented “in recognition of dedicated and unselfish service” to SCJAP. The SCJAP Executive Board votes from a list of nominees selected by fellow judges from each of the association's twelve districts. The judges of District Six, solely Allegheny County, nominated Judge King for the Jeffers tribute.



Judge Carmine Prestia, President of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania, presents Magisterial District Judge Richard King with the Jeffers Award.

Since he first became involved in SCJAP in 1994, Judge King has served on and chaired various committees including Vehicle Code, Judiciary, Publications, Special Conference, and Redistricting. He also has served as its president and on the Executive Board. A former president of the Allegheny County district of the SCJAP, Judge King was chosen as director of the county's district in May of 2010. Later that year in August, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed Judge King to a three-year term on the Minor Judiciary Education Board.

Judge King begins his fourth six-year term in January 2012 in Magisterial District 05-3-14 serving Mt. Oliver Borough and Pittsburgh Wards 29 and 32 (Allentown, Beltzhoover, Bon Air, Carrick, E. Brookline, Knoxville, and Overbrook.)

Judicial Education and Training Workshop

In January 2011, a Judicial Education and Training Workshop was held for judges of the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Criminal Division. Presenter Ernest Friesen, a leading educator in the field of court management, provided judges with information on improved case processing and efficient docket management. Highlights of the training included an overview of research on judicial leadership in case-flow management, a discussion regarding composition of the local legal environment, effects of delays in case processing, case calendaring systems, and the use of statistical reporting for evaluation purposes. The goal of the workshop was to provide judges with techniques and tools needed for efficient docket management while assuring the quality of justice services is not diminished.

Allegheny County Sex Offender Court

Allegheny County Sex Offender Court (SOC), the first of its kind in Pennsylvania, began operations in the Fifth Judicial District in 2011. SOC was developed through collaboration with various stakeholders in the criminal justice system, including victim service agencies and treatment providers. The primary focus of SOC is offender accountability. Defendants charged with Megan's Law offenses have their cases adjudicated in SOC through streamlined case management processes. If a convicted offender is placed on probation for a Megan's Law offense, specially trained Adult Probation officers provide supervision and the offender must appear for regular review hearings before one of the SOC judges. President Judge Donna Jo McDaniel and Judge Jill E. Rangos adjudicate and supervise SOC cases, and Judge Thomas E. Flaherty hears issues relating to Megan's Law registration violations. Treatment providers remain in regular contact with Adult Probation regarding offender progress and compliance with treatment. Enhanced victim services are provided through improved coordination between the court and victim service agencies. The goals of SOC are to reduce recidivism, improve case processing, and enhance public safety.



Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Debra Todd announces the establishment of the Allegheny County Sex Offender Court at a press conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on May 4, 2011.

National Criminal Justice Program Award

Common Pleas Court Judge John A. Zottola accepted a prestigious award on behalf of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's (PCCD) Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee at the 2011 National Forum on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The National Criminal Justice Association Outstanding Criminal Justice Program award recognizes innovative and successful criminal justice programs and was awarded to the PCCD advisory committee for its work in providing guidance to counties in coordinating criminal justice and mental health activities. Judge Zottola chairs the Mental Health Advisory Committee, whose work led to the creation of a Center of Excellence for the development and improvement of programs serving adults with mental illness involved in the criminal justice system. Such programs use evidence-based practices to reduce the number of persons with mental health or co-occurring substance use issues from entering or remaining in the justice system, while protecting public safety.

Strategic Planning

The Fifth Judicial District commenced a large-scale strategic planning project in 2011. Strategic planning, a tool that helps to set long-term goals and execute effective strategies for achieving measurable improvements and results, will assist the court in developing priorities and comprehensive strategies for addressing short and long-term issues. These issues may include access to the courts, efficient and effective operations and services, collaboration with partners, organizational structure, and employee development.

In March 2011, a preliminary survey of the Fifth Judicial District's management was conducted to assess the court's readiness to pursue organizational strategic planning. The responses received showed a consensus among management that strategic planning was considered necessary and would benefit the court.

After further consideration by the president judge and administrative judges, the court announced it would move ahead with a strategic planning initiative by appointing a planning committee comprised of 30 Common Pleas Judges, Magisterial District Judges, and senior management personnel. The committee began its work by meeting in October 2011 and laid the groundwork for establishing mission and vision statements, identifying core values, and developing organizational responses to address internal and external trends. Shortly following this session, a comprehensive survey was disseminated to Common Pleas Judges, Magisterial District Judges, court staff, members of the bar, and court users seeking opinions concerning court services and performance. A trends analysis was also conducted to further assist in identifying strategic priorities.

The court engaged a consulting firm with national experience in court strategic planning to assist with designing and facilitating a process specific to the needs of the Fifth Judicial District. The court was successful in obtaining grant funding from the State Justice Institute to support the strategic planning process.

The planning committee met in December 2011 to finalize work already begun on mission, vision, and core value statements as well as to review the results of the court service/performance survey. The committee will continue to meet into 2012 to begin implementation of a formal strategic plan.



Administration

The Office of Court Administration provides professional, comprehensive support services to the judiciary and other court-related entities to ensure meaningful access to the courts by adherence to the rule of law, use of timely information management, and expenditure of resources in an effective and efficient manner, in furtherance of the enhancement of public confidence in the judicial branch of government.



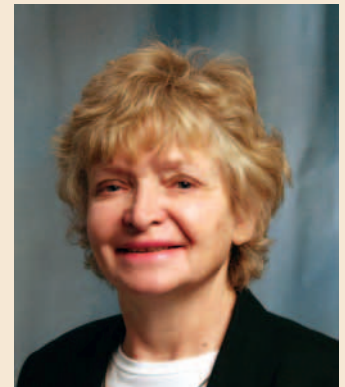
CLAIRE C. CAPRISTO, Esq.
Chief Deputy Court Administrator



RUSSELL CARLINO
Administrator, Juvenile Probation



SEAN F. COLLINS
Director, Information Technology



GERALYN DUGAN
Manager, Jury Operations



NANCY GALVACH
Deputy Administrator,
Magisterial District Courts



LISA HERBERT, Esq.
Deputy Court Administrator



CHARLES KENNEDY
Manager, Court Human Resources



MICHELLE H. LALLY, Esq.
Chair, Board of Viewers



HELEN M. LYNCH, Esq.
Administrator, Criminal Division



THOMAS M. McCAFFREY
Director, Adult Probation



PATRICK W. QUINN, Esq.
Administrator, Family Division



JANICE RADOVICK-DEAN
Director, Pretrial Services



DANIEL REILLY
Manager, Facilities



JO LYNNE ROSS
Manager, Office of Court Reporters



PAUL W. STEFANO, Esq.
Administrator, Orphans' Court Division



ANGHARAD GRIMES STOCK, Esq.
Administrator, Pittsburgh Municipal Court



CYNTHIA K. STOLTZ, Esq.
Administrator, Children's Court



GERARD TYSKIEWICZ
Manager, Fiscal Affairs

Civil Division

To serve citizens through the prompt, courteous, and impartial dispensation of justice by adjudicating cases in a timely manner using efficient case management techniques, adhering to high standards, and being responsible stewards of public funds.



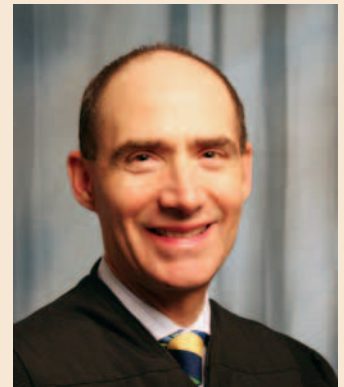
HON. W. TERRENCE O'BRIEN
Administrative Judge



HON. ROBERT J. COLVILLE



HON. MICHAEL A. DELLA VECCHIA



HON. RONALD W. FOLINO



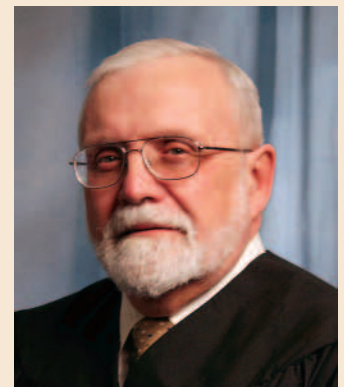
HON. JUDITH L. A. FRIEDMAN



HON. ALAN D. HERTZBERG



HON. JOSEPH M. JAMES



HON. PAUL F. LUTTY, JR.



HON. MICHAEL E. MCCARTHY



HON. CHRISTINE A. WARD



HON. DAVID N. WECHT



HON. GERARD M. BIGLEY
Senior Judge



HON. TIMOTHY PATRICK O'REILLY
Senior Judge



HON. R. STANTON WETTICK, JR.
Senior Judge

Civil Division **CONTINUED**

The Honorable W. Terrence O'Brien completed his first year as Administrative Judge of the Civil Division. In addition to its regular complement of commissioned judges, Senior Judges Gerard M. Bigley, Lee J. Mazur, Timothy Patrick O'Reilly, R. Stanton Wettick, Jr., Westmoreland County Senior Judge Charles H. Loughran, and Somerset County Senior Judge Eugene E. Fike, II also served in the Civil Division in 2011.

In addition to judges' customary workloads of presiding over conciliations, arguments, and jury and non-jury trials, the Civil Division also utilizes special dockets, programs, and the assignment of judges to hear specified matters. In 2011, assignments were as follows:

- Administrative Judge W. Terrence O'Brien - Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board and Office of Open Records appeals;
- Judge Robert J. Colville - expedited asbestos and Allegheny County drink tax cases;
- Judge Michael A. Della Vecchia - backlogged asbestos and eminent domain cases;
- Judge Judith L. A. Friedman - Housing Authority appeals;
- Judge Alan D. Hertzberg - Housing Authority appeals;
- Judge Joseph M. James - zoning and election cases and construction litigation seeking damages in excess of \$100,000;
- Judge Michael E. McCarthy - Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program;
- Judge Christine A. Ward - commerce and complex litigation cases;
- Judge David N. Wecht - prisoner civil litigation; and
- Senior Judge R. Stanton Wettick, Jr. - commerce and complex litigation, class action and toxic substance cases, special motions and motions related to arbitration cases.

Asbestos cases are complex due to intricate causation issues related to death and serious bodily injury, the large number of defendants, and multiple theories of liability and defense. The Fifth Judicial District's expedited and general asbestos dockets were designed to resolve backlogged cases and to accelerate the litigation process. In 2011, Judges Colville and Della Vecchia disposed of 1,421 motions for summary judgment related to asbestos cases. One hundred (100) percent of the asbestos cases placed on the trial list were settled prior to proceeding to trial.



Calendar Control Staff: Supervisor Claire Beckwith, Charlene Robinson, Maryann Schanck-Fescemyer, and Denise Seibel.

Since 2009, the Allegheny County Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program has assisted eligible homeowners in modifying their mortgages, enabling them to retain possession of their homes. In 2011, Judge McCarthy primarily heard these cases. Of the 566 mortgage foreclosure cases filed in 2011, 393 were diverted to the mortgage foreclosure program. Conciliation was scheduled for 691 cases in 2011, with agreements reached in 44.3 percent of those cases. Since its inception, the program has resulted in 33 percent of homeowners avoiding foreclosure. For details regarding the program, visit the court's website at www.alleghenycourts.us/civil/foreclosure.aspx.

Commencing in 2007, cases meeting specific criteria may be transferred to the Commerce and Complex Litigation Center. See Allegheny County Local Rule No. 249 and Appendixes 9-1 through 9-3 of Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Civil Practice Manual, Tenth Edition (PBI 2011). Judges Ward and Wettick adjudicate both the transfer motions and the complex cases.

CASES DISPOSED BY TYPE

Type of Disposition	Number of Cases	Percent of Total
Settled Prior to Trial	6,525	94.8%
Non-Jury	239	3.5%
Jury	80	1.1%
Stricken	3	.04%
Others	37	.56%
Total	6,884	100%

Civil Division judges also presided over statutory appeals from local and state agencies including the Pennsylvania Civil Service Commission, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, and the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records. In 2011, approximately 214 statutory appeals were filed; 53 percent were disposed of in the same year.

Of the 661 cases scheduled for trial in 2011, 92 percent reached final disposition. Judges conducted 324 trials; 25 percent proceeded to jury trial and 75 percent to non-jury trial. On scheduled trial dates, 249 cases settled; an additional 6,276 cases settled prior to the parties appearing for trial.

The Civil Division fosters education for students by providing courtrooms and judges for mock trial competitions. In 2011, the Civil Division participated in Allegheny County's component of the Pennsylvania High School Mock Trial Competition sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. The winning high school in the local competition represented Allegheny County in the state finals held in Harrisburg. The Civil Division also participated in the American Association of Justice's Mock Trial Competition for Law Schools by hosting one of 16 regional competitions. Two hundred teams competed nationwide. Administrative Judge O'Brien and Judges Della Vecchia, Gallo, Hertzberg, and McCarthy presided over trials and scored the participants. The regional winners competed in the national finals. Congratulations to the national winner, Duquesne University School of Law.

Pursuant to President Judge Donna Jo McDaniel's administrative order issued in 2011, Judge Joseph M. James was assigned to serve as the sole judge to hear construction litigation cases where the amount in controversy exceeds \$100,000. The result of having one supervising judge will be greater efficiency and consistency in the processing of cases, which often involve numerous parties and complex issues. Judge James has 25 years of experience on the bench and has handled multiple complicated construction litigation cases during his tenure in the Civil Division.

In addition, the division would like to acknowledge the retirement of Jury Operations Supervisor Mari Hertzberg and the many years of dedicated service she provided to the Civil Division.

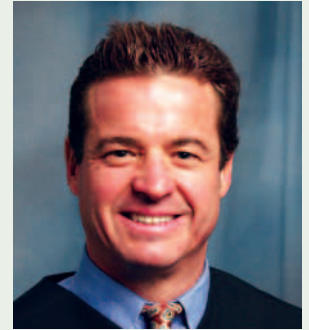
CASES FILED AND DISPOSED

TRESPASS-GENERAL	FILED	DISPOSED
Asbestos Silicas	66	102
Asbestos/FELA	2	22
Medical/Hospital Liability	290	286
Product Liability	55	36
Toxic Substances	4	5
Subtotal	417	451
OTHER TRESPASS-GENERAL		
Against Property Owner	250	265
Assault and Battery	2	8
Defamation	28	14
FELA	4	15
Other Tort	679	551
Other Traffic Accident	10	15
Subtotal	973	868
Total Tresspass	1,390	1,319
OTHERS		
Amicable Ejectment	7	0
Contract	539	428
Declaration of Taking	87	5
Declaratory Judgment	68	46
Ejectment	376	246
Equity	94	69
Equity-Lis Pendens	50	51
Equity-Partition	15	1
Mandamus	17	5
Mechanic's Lien	134	34
Mortgage Foreclosure (GD)	566	978
Motor Vehicle Accident	929	786
Multiple Civil Action	31	218
Quiet Tax Title and Real Estate	154	14
Quiet Title	63	33
Replevin	40	26
Sci Fa sur Municipal Lien	21	14
Sci Fa sur Tax Lien	2,843	2,424
Total Others	6,034	5,378
Grand Totals	7,424	6,697

The court continues to partner with the Department of Court Records to improve statistical tracking, as the number of filings and dispositions has been underreported in the past.

Judge David N. Wecht Elected to Pennsylvania Superior Court

Judge David N. Wecht, a Fifth Judicial District Common Pleas Judge since February 2003, was elected to the Pennsylvania Superior Court in the November 2011 general election. Judge Wecht most recently served in the Civil Division since January 2011, following an eight-year tenure in the Family Division where he was the Administrative Judge from 2009 through 2010. Judge Wecht attended law school at Yale University, clerked for a federal appellate judge, practiced as a litigation attorney with law firms in Washington, D.C. and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and served as Allegheny County's Register of Wills from 1998-2003.



Arbitration

In August 2011, the Compulsory Arbitration Section of the Civil Division completed its first full year in the City-County Building. Its proximity to Civil Division judges and the Department of Court Records has streamlined the arbitration process and drawn favorable responses from judges, attorneys, litigants, and employees.

Arbitration offers a cost effective way for litigants appealing magisterial decisions and those filing claims under \$25,000 to efficiently proceed through the judicial process. The 542 arbitration boards called in 2011 rendered 2,402 awards. The appeal rate was 29 percent.

In a continuing effort to provide highly qualified arbitration panels, a second continuing legal education seminar was offered in 2011 to current and prospective landlord-tenant arbitrators. This videotaped seminar was well attended and is now a prerequisite for serving as a landlord-tenant arbitrator.

Also in 2011, the Arbitration Section expanded its cooperative educational efforts with local law schools as well as paralegal and internship programs. The goal is to further orient legal students to the compulsory arbitration process by allowing their attendance and participation, under the supervision of a lawyer, at various arbitration hearings. This experience has provided students an invaluable and practical learning tool.

ARBITRATION

	2009	2010	2011
Pending on January 1	5,909	3,686	3,466
New Cases Filed	15,733	13,193	10,339
Transferred from Civil Division	164	198	150
Cases Disposed	16,381	14,514	13,442
Awards by Boards	2,908	2,594	2,402
Settlements, Non-Pros., Etc.	12,287	10,839	10,033
Trial List Cases Disposed by Judge	1,186	1,081	1,007
Pending as of 12/31 (Awaiting Trial)	5,425	2,563	513
Appeals Filed	845	694	716
Rate of Appeals	29.05%	26.75%	29.81%
Number of Arbitration Boards Served	699	618	542
Number of Arbitrators	2,097	1,854	1,626
Arbitrator's Fee Per Day	\$150	\$150	\$150
Total Arbitrators' Fees	\$314,550	\$278,100	\$243,900
Less Non-Recoverable Appeals Fees	\$89,670	\$80,515	\$80,280
Total Costs	\$224,880	\$197,585	\$163,620
Average Arbitrator's Cost per Case	\$107.24	\$106.57	\$100.63
Cases with Current Hearing Date	3,612	3,398	2,357
General Docket Cases with Current Hearing Date	74	68	56
Total Cases Pending	3,686	3,466	2,413

The Board of Viewers of Allegheny County is a seven member, court-appointed board comprised of lay masters and attorney special masters, whose function is to hear and adjudicate cases involving eminent domain and real estate tax assessment appeals. The lay and special masters bring years of collective legal experience in the areas of real estate development and operations.

Eminent domain, the taking of private property by an agency of government for a public purpose, requires that the government pay just compensation for the property taken. Examples of eminent domain cases include the creation and installation of sewer and water lines by local water authorities and the taking by local government and by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Turnpike Commission and Department of Transportation of part, or all, of a property-owner's land for highway and road-improvement projects. In each of these examples, a three-member Board of Viewers panel personally visits the property to view all aspects of its location and physical characteristics. The panel convenes a hearing that is electronically recorded for the parties to present testimony from expert real estate and personal property appraisers, engineers, construction managers, arborists, and transportation designers. Upon presentation and consideration of the testimony, the Board submits a report to the court, which may award compensation to the property owner for business dislocation, relocation, machinery and equipment, and other relevant reparation. Decisions by the Board of Viewers are appealable to the Court of Common Pleas.

In 2011, the Board of Viewers processed a total of 81 eminent domain cases that included partial and total takes, and sewer and water line benefit and damages cases. The Board also heard displaced person cases involving specific damage claims for relocation, route equipment, and other reimbursable expenditures. These cases arose from the Route 28 and Route 19 North road construction projects that involved significant damage claims impacting many local businesses.

Another function of the Board of Viewers is to serve as the appellate authority for real estate tax assessment appeals. When a property owner or taxing body objects to the real estate assessment on a piece of property in Allegheny County, the first appeal is heard in an administrative process before the Board of Property Assessments Appeals and Review (BPAAR), a department of the executive branch of Allegheny County government. Pennsylvania statutes provide that the Board of Viewers shall hear appeals from the BPAAR. In 2011, the Board of Viewers scheduled, conciliated, and adjudicated 4,962 property tax assessment appeals involving both commercial and residential properties. The Board of Viewers process involves random, rotating assignment of cases to two-member panels, ensuring that no panel members hear cases from communities/school districts in which they reside. On the day the case is scheduled to be heard, a conciliation takes place, providing residential and commercial property owners and taxing bodies an opportunity to present supporting evidence in a less formal manner in an attempt to reach a mutually acceptable resolution. At least 95 percent of the cases heard in 2011 were resolved through conciliation and negotiation supervised by the Board of Viewers.

In instances where a negotiated resolution cannot be achieved, the special and lay masters hear the cases. Frequently, expert real estate appraisers testify as to the value of the real estate. Upon consideration of the evidence, a Master Report and Recommendation is submitted to the court, from which any party may file exceptions. Less than 5 percent of cases that proceeded to hearing resulted in exceptions being filed. Most residential property owners continued to appear pro se (not represented by counsel).

The Board of Viewers ended 2011 by working closely with Judge R. Stanton Wettick, Jr. to design procedures for processing assessment appeals resulting from the countywide reassessment. The Fifth Judicial District's website will incorporate revised appeal procedures in 2012.

BOARD OF VIEWERS

Eminent Domain

(New Petitions/Views/Hearings involving water and sewer line cases, partial and total takings, and private roads)

81

Tax Appeals

(Conciliations/Hearings/Settlements/Masters Reports involving residential and commercial real estate tax assessment appeals from the BPAAR decisions)

4,962

TOTAL

5,043

Orphans' Court Division

To provide accessible, courteous, prompt, and efficient court services to all litigants and attorneys in cases within the jurisdiction of the Orphans' Court Division, including Adoptions, Civil Commitments, Estates/Trusts, Guardianships (Incapacitated Persons and Minors), and Nonprofit Organizations.



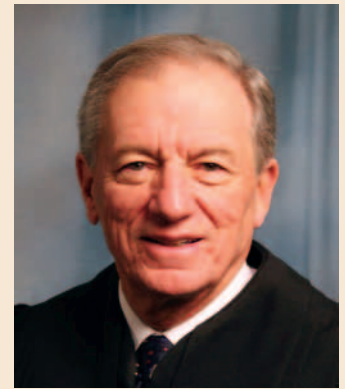
HON. LAWRENCE J. O'TOOLE
Administrative Judge



HON. ROBERT A. KELLY



HON. LESTER G. NAUHAUS



HON. FRANK J. LUCCHINO
Senior Judge

The Orphans' Court Division continued to work with the Department of Court Records to develop and implement an e-filing system. Members of the Allegheny County Bar Association's Probate and Trust Section have been participating as test filers to ascertain the accuracy and reliability of the system. While it was anticipated that the e-filing system would be operational in 2011, implementation was delayed due to technical difficulties. Absent unforeseen problems, the e-filing system will become operational in 2012.

Administrative staff further explored initiatives to improve delivery of services. A committee, comprised of court administrative staff and Orphans' Court practitioners, was formed to examine the petition and motions practice in the division. Recommendations presented to Administrative Judge Lawrence J. O'Toole by the committee were adopted and implemented. One recommendation resulted in a change in the scheduling of motions. Motions are now heard Monday through Friday at 9:30 a.m., and the monthly motions schedule is published in the Pittsburgh Legal Journal and on the court's website:

www.alleghenycourts.us/orphans/motions.aspx

Additionally, the motions coordinator provides copies of orders signed by the motions judge to counsel of record and parties in interest. The committee will continue to meet in 2012 to further review other areas of practice in the division.

Guardianship Department employees have been meeting with representatives of the Allegheny County Department of Aging, Allegheny County Law Department, and Ursuline Senior Services, Inc. (Ursuline) to study the impact that an upcoming funding reduction will have on the future viability of Ursuline's role as guardian of more than 164 incapacitated persons. The court is considering options available for the appointment of successor guardians in the event that Ursuline will no longer be able to function in that role.

ADOPTIONS

	Scheduled	Decreed	Withdrawn/ Dismissed
Adoptions	128	124	0
Confirm Consents	70	59	0
Involuntary Terminations	38	38	1
Confirm Consents w/Involuntary Terminations	2	2	0
Total	238	223	1

Orders of Court 482

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

Combined Decrees and Orders	705
Persons Adopted <i>(Some petitions include siblings)</i>	129
Adult Adoptee Search Requests	134
Orders Signed Appointing Search Agents	101
Birthparent Requests to Place Waivers in File	4

NON-RELATIVE ADOPTIONS

ADOPTION PLACEMENT BY AGENCIES

Allegheny County Agencies

Bethany Christian Services	11
Genesis of Pittsburgh, Inc.	1
The Children's Home of Pittsburgh	14
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh	2

Agencies Outside Allegheny County 22

ADOPTION PLACEMENTS BY NON-AGENCIES

Co-Parent Adoptions	8
Adult Adoption – No Intermediary	3

Total Non-Relative Adoptions 61

RELATIVE ADOPTIONS

Step-Parent	51
Other Relative	12
U.S.A. Re-Adoptions	5
Total Relative Adoptions	68
Total Persons Adopted	129
Total Orders Signed on Petitions to Register Foreign Adoption Decrees	18

Orphans' Court Division **CONTINUED**

GUARDIANSHIP – INCAPACITATED PERSONS

New Petitions Filed	253
Emergency Guardians Appointed	19
Permanent Guardians Appointed	165
Successor Guardians Appointed	17
Guardians Discharged	2
Petitions Withdrawn or Dismissed	40
Electro-Convulsive Therapy Petitions	36
Adjudication of Full Capacity	0
Petitions for Review	19
Contested Hearings	32
Total Number of Hearings	209
Bonds Approved	43
Safe Deposit Box Inventories	5
Court-Appointed Counsel	55
Independent Medical Evaluations	2
Petitions for Allowance/Ratification Presented	503
Annual Report of Guardians Filed	1,579
Final Report of Guardians (Person/Estate) Filed	111
Guardians of the Person of a Minor Filed	15

An ad hoc committee, formed by the Adoption Department in 2010, met throughout 2011 and has made several recommendations to Administrative Judge O'Toole regarding the implementation of provisions of Act 101 of 2010. Act 101 authorizes voluntary, open adoptions in Pennsylvania and permits the release of adoption records to persons other than the adoptee.

Several personnel changes occurred in Orphans' Court throughout 2011. After serving 18 years in the Criminal Division, Judge John A. Zottola was assigned to the Orphans' Division in September 2011 to replace Judge Robert A. Kelly upon his retirement. Administrative Judge Lawrence J. O'Toole, Judges Lester G. Nauhaus and John A. Zottola, and Senior Judge Frank J. Lucchino currently preside in Orphans' Court. Additionally, long-tenured employees, Janice McNamara, Adoption Supervisor (35 years of service), and Julia Smith, Motions Coordinator (13 years of service), retired in 2011. The judges and staff of the Orphans' Division recognize their valuable contributions and many years of service to the court.

Judge Kelly, Senior Status

After a long career of distinguished service to the citizens of Allegheny County, Judge Robert A. Kelly became a senior judge, approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court effective September 3, 2011.

Judge Kelly was nominated to the Common Pleas bench by Governor Richard Thornburgh and confirmed by the Senate in November 1984. He was elected to a 10-year term in November 1985 and won retention votes in 1995 and 2005. Judge Kelly previously served in the Criminal and Family Divisions until 1990, when he was assigned to the Orphans' Division. In 1993 the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed him administrative judge of this division. Upon election by the Board of Judges in 1999, he began a 5-year term as president judge.

One of President Judge Kelly's substantial contributions to Pennsylvania's unified judicial system was submission of a proposal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court with options for addressing and resolving the issue of the Pittsburgh Magistrates Court sharing geographical jurisdiction with Allegheny County's minor judiciary. Through perseverance, Judge Kelly constructed a reorganization proposal that was accepted and ordered by the Supreme Court. The goal was to transition the Pittsburgh Magistrates Court into the statewide magisterial district court system. Eventually, through Judge Kelly's leadership, Pittsburgh Municipal Court was established as one of the Fifth Judicial Districts' magisterial district courts.

Judge Kelly will continue to serve as a senior judge with the Family Division.



ESTATES

AUDIT HEARING OF ACCOUNTS

Accounts Filed by Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and Guardians	591
Small Estates (\$25,000) or Less	212
Decrees of Distribution	538
Contested Hearings*	297
* <i>Hearings on claims of creditors against estates, exceptions to accounts, and questions of distribution involving appeals from decrees of the Register of Wills in the grant of letters of administration, inheritance tax appraisals and assessments; will contests; proceedings against fiduciaries; termination of trusts; delinquent inheritance taxes due; miscellaneous hearings, including presumed decedents, absentees, corrections of birth records; excludes guardianship hearings, termination/adoption hearings</i>	
Exceptions Heard by the Court En Banc	0
Opinions Filed by the Court	14
Pretrial Conferences Docketed	341
Return Days Scheduled	83

PETITIONS FILED

Additional Bonds	20
Appointment of Guardians of the Person and Estates of Minors	31
Approval of Settlement of Minors' Claims	424
Lifting of Suspension of Distribution	18
Sale of Real Estate	62
Petitions for citation against fiduciaries to file accounts or to show cause why they should not be removed, etc.	129
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	164
Miscellaneous Petitions	496
Total Petitions Filed	1,344

CIVIL COMMITMENT DEPARTMENT

Total Petitions Presented	4,715
Dispositions	4,266
Prior to Judicial Review:	
Discharged	169
Withdrawn	190
Voluntary Admission	50
	409
By Mental Health Review Officer (Uncontested Hearings)	2,241
By Judges:	
Petition for Review	19
Electro-Convulsive Therapy	33
Expungement	8
	60
Contested Hearings—Patient Placed Under Commitment	
Patient in Attendance	763
Patient Not in Attendance	574
	1,337
Hearings where Patient Not Placed Under Commitment	98

HEARINGS BY TYPE UNDER MENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES ACT

303	Up to 20 Days Civil Commitment	2,482
304-B	Up to 90 Days Civil Commitment	1,017
304-C	Up to 90 Days Civil Commitment	142
305	Up to 180 Days Civil Commitment	569
306	Modification Civil Commitment	28
306-2	Up to 180 Days Criminal Commitment	20
304-G2	Up to 365 Days Criminal Commitment	1
402-B	Up to 60 Days Criminal Commitment	3
405/406	Up to 90 Days Criminal Commitment	4
ECT	Electro-Convulsive Therapy	33
EXP	Expungement	8
REVV	Judicial Review of Mental Health Review Officer Decision	19
Total Hearings		4,326

Criminal Division

The Criminal Division is committed to furthering all facets of the criminal justice system with professionalism, timeliness, and efficiency to promote confidence in the administration of justice by the impartial and equitable application of the law to protect the rights and liberties guaranteed by the state and federal constitutions.



HON. DONNA JO McDANIEL
President Judge



HON. JEFFREY A. MANNING
Administrative Judge



HON. EDWARD J. BORKOWSKI



HON. DAVID R. CUSHMAN



HON. KATHLEEN A. DURKIN



HON. THOMAS E. FLAHERTY



HON. BETH A. LAZZARA



HON. DONALD E. MACHEN



HON. ANTHONY M. MARIANI



HON. JILL E. RANGOS



HON. KEVIN G. SASINOSKI



HON. RANDAL B. TODD



HON. JOSEPH K. WILLIAMS, III



HON. JOHN A. ZOTTOLA



HON. ROBERT C. GALLO
Senior Judge

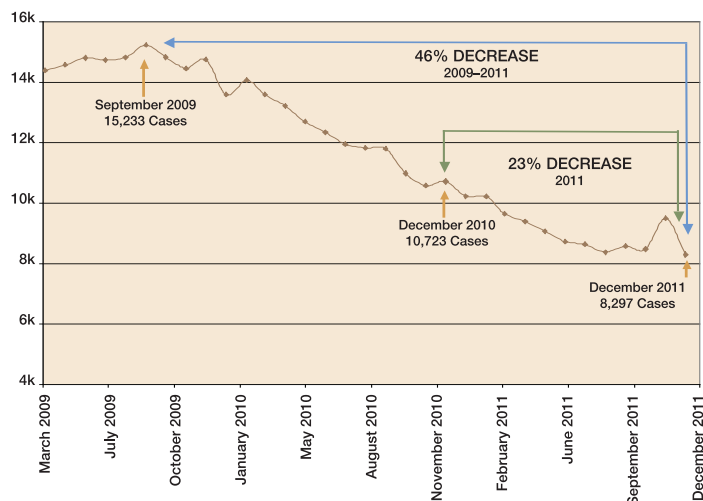
Criminal Division CONTINUED

Fourteen commissioned judges served in the Criminal Division of the Fifth Judicial District led by Administrative Judge Jeffrey A. Manning. There were significant changes to the Criminal Division bench over the past year. Notable was the passing of visiting Judge John K. Reilly, Jr. of Clearfield County shortly after he completed his judicial service as a senior judge in the Fifth Judicial District. Visiting Senior Judge Robert C. Reed from Beaver County also completed his judicial service to the district upon his retirement. Judge John A. Zottola was transferred from the Criminal Division to Orphans' Court, though he will continue to preside over Veterans Court. The division welcomed Judge Philip A. Ignelzi, who transferred from the Family Division. Judge Ignelzi will focus on Phoenix Court and the Expedited Disposition Program (EDP) dockets that were formerly presided over by Judge Beth A. Lazzara. Judge Lazzara will hear standard court cases as well as preside over the Mental Health Court caseload. Senior Judge Robert C. Gallo continued to adjudicate ARD (Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition) cases and Summary Appeals throughout 2011.

The Criminal Division of the court adjudicated a total of 22,794 cases in 2011, including 172 jury trials, 13,006 pleas, 2,798 Alternative Rehabilitative Dispositions (ARD), and 444 non-jury trials. Through the Expedited Disposition Program (EDP Court) 1,476 guilty pleas were processed. Diverted to the Phoenix docket, 5,038 cases were completed.

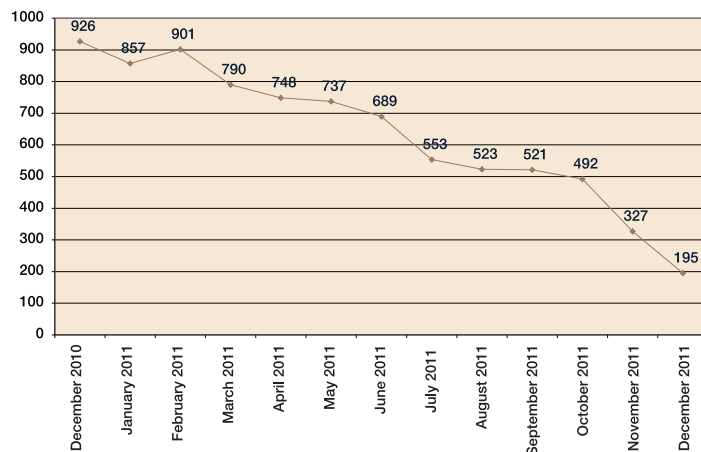
There was a significant reduction in the backlog of active criminal cases in 2011. The active caseload was 10,723 at the close of 2010. By the close of 2011, that number was 8,297, a decrease of 23 percent in the number of pending active cases over the past year (see Graph I).

Graph I Active Cases by Month



The aged case backlog has also been drastically reduced. The Criminal Division ended 2010 with 926 pending cases that were aged in excess of 720 days. That number was reduced to 195 cases by the close of 2011, an overall reduction of aged cases of 79 percent this past year (see Graph II).

Graph II Cases Open Over 720 Days



In Memoriam John K. Reilly, Jr.

October 4, 1935 – September 12, 2011

The Honorable John K. Reilly, Jr., former president judge of Clearfield County, Pennsylvania's 46th Judicial District, and from 2005 until December 2010 a visiting senior judge in the Fifth Judicial District, passed on September 12, 2011 after a year-long struggle with cancer. Assigned to the Criminal Division, Judge Reilly presided over thousands of cases, including jury trials and homicide cases, helping to significantly reduce case backlog. Judge Reilly is remembered by colleagues and associates as dedicated to both the bench and community. As a senior judge he sat in Huntingdon, Mifflin, Center, and Blair counties. As Clearfield County's President Judge for 30 years, he earned the reputation for being no-nonsense and fair with a good sense of humor. Beyond the courtroom, Judge Reilly proudly served as potentate of the Altoona Jaffa Shrine Club. He was an active member of a number of organizations within the Jaffa Shrine, other civic associations, and served as an elder and Sunday School teacher in his church. Judge Reilly's leadership will be missed not only in his home, Clearfield County, but also in the counties where he contributed as a senior judge.

The consistently high number of homicide cases continued in 2011. However, the court reduced the number of pending homicide cases from 131 at the close of 2010, to 100 as of December 31, 2011, a 24 percent reduction.

Improvements in case management processes, differentiated case management programs, and thorough review of judges' pending caseloads have contributed to the reduction in backlog and aged cases.

Other problem-solving and accountability court programs continued to be successful throughout 2011. President Judge Donna Jo McDaniel presided over 400 Domestic Violence Court cases; Judge Lester G. Nauhaus presided over 380 Drug Court cases; Judge Kevin G. Sasinoski presided over 316 DUI Court and 182 PRIDE Court cases; and Judge John A. Zottola presided over 326 Mental Health Court and 33 Veterans Court cases. Sixty-two (62) cases were disposed of in Sex Offender Court in 2011. In addition to holding offenders accountable for their actions, these programs employ resource coordination and collaboration to address the underlying problems fueling offenders' involvement with the criminal justice system. In early October 2011, a Problem Solving Court/Resource Coordinator was hired to assist in the management of problem-solving courts by identifying best practices, gathering and evaluating statistics, pursuing grant funding, facilitating collaboration between stakeholders, and coordinating resources among public and private agencies.

PROBLEM-SOLVING COURT ACTIVE CASES (12/31/11)

DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Court	275
Drug Court	242
Prostitution (PRIDE) Court	94
Domestic Violence Court	151
Veterans Court	50
Mental Health Court	425
Sex Offender Court	259

In 2011, 2,392 bail matters were resolved using video conferencing. Additionally, over 31,000 court proceedings, including arraignments, mental health commitments, and Gagnon I hearings were conducted via video conferencing between the court and the Allegheny County Jail. Approximately 22 state intermediate punishment and sentencing hearings were held between the Department of Corrections in Camp Hill and State Correctional Institution at Muncy using video conferencing. Over 1,400 Expedited Disposition Program pleas (EDP) were video conferenced between the Allegheny County Jail and the courthouse. The availability of video conferencing has reduced the cost of transporting defendants to the court by the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office.

The Criminal Division sponsored three Continuing Legal Education (CLE) seminars over the past year to educate members of the bar and disseminate information on various programs/topics. In May 2011, over 130 people attended a seminar providing information on Sex Offender Court and other problem-solving court programs. Eighty-five participants attended a "Probation-Detainers and Revocation Hearings" seminar in September 2011 covering Rule 708 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure, procedures regarding violation of probation, intermediate punishment and parole procedures, Gagnon I hearings, modification or revocation of order of probation, sentencing alternatives, sentencing guidelines, and pre-sentence investigations. The final seminar on "Post Traumatic Stress and the Law" was held in December 2011 with 55 attorneys in attendance. Veterans Court Judge John A. Zottola provided opening remarks, and Daniel Ziff, MSW, Clinical Coordinator of the PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) Clinic at the Veterans' Administration Medical Center in Pittsburgh, was the presenter.



Veterans Court Team L-R: Thomas J. Stokes, Veterans Justice Outreach, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System; Kelly Goodrich, Esq., Office of Conflict Counsel; Kirsha Weyandt, Esq., Office of Conflict Counsel; Debra Barninsin-Lange, Esq., Office of the District Attorney; Judge John A. Zottola; Adult Probation Managers Charlene Christmas and Robert O'Brien; Michael Bodis, Veteran's Leadership Program of Western PA; and Keather Likens, Veterans Justice Outreach, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.

Criminal Division **CONTINUED**

The Criminal Division sponsored two training sessions of Mental Health First Aid during the months of August and September 2011. The program was presented by Allegheny Health Choices, Inc. and is designed for non-clinicians who may encounter someone experiencing a mental health crisis during the course of their work. Registrants were taught an easy-to-use five-step action plan and were provided information regarding appropriate support services. Attendees included staff from the Probation Department and Pretrial Services.

In January 2011, the Criminal Division welcomed new employees to the division and recognized Keith Duffy (31 years), Carol Moss (32 years), Alberta Stoughton (38 years), Jean Toner (38 years), and Margaret Cangelier (40 years) for their service.

The Criminal Division Jury Assignment Room began implementation of a new computerized jury operations system in October 2011. The new system records juror attendance, streamlines the dissemination of information for service (i.e. lunch discount voucher, verification of service, payment voucher, diversity survey), tabulates juror usage statistics, and simplifies the release process for payment of juror fees. A total of 265 juries were selected in 2011 in the Criminal Division from a pool of 16,618 citizens who reported for jury duty.

The Court Arraignment Office formally arraigned 14,386 individuals. The Arraignment Office's efforts to contact defendants who failed to appear resulted in the issuance of fewer Failure to Appear warrants. Fingerprinting of defendants at arraignment who had yet to be fingerprinted also saved time in the booking process over the course of 2011.

CRIMINAL REPORT – FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

Cases Pending at End of Year 2010	10,723
New Cases Received in 2011	17,166
Cases Reopened During 2011	3,202
Cases Available for Disposition in Year 2011	31,091

CASES DISPOSED IN 2011

Inactive-Bench Warrants, Incompetency Determinations, and Interlocutory Appeals	3,087
Transfers to Juvenile Court, Magisterial District Judge, Family Court, Administrative Closures, Consolidations, Deceased Defendants, Remands to Lower Court	863
Dismissed, Withdrawn, Nolle Prossed, Speedy Trial, and Satisfaction Agreements	2,424
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	2,798
Guilty Plea	13,006
Non-Jury Trial	444
Jury Trial	172
Total	22,794

AGE OF PENDING CASES

DAYS

1 to 60	2,640
61 to 120	2,269
121 to 180	1,384
181 to 240	607
241 to 360	1,027
361 +	370
Total	8,297

In Memoriam Donald J. Lee

July 24, 1927 – March 17, 2011

Judge Donald J. Lee began his judicial career in 1984 as a gubernatorial appointee and, after serving a brief period in the Fifth Judicial District, Criminal Division, was defeated in the municipal election in November 1985. Judge Lee was again reappointed to the Allegheny County bench in 1988 by then Governor Robert P. Casey and was retained for a 10-year term in the 1989 election. Three days later, on November 9, 1989, President George H.W. Bush nominated Judge Lee for a vacancy on the federal bench. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 9, 1990 and served as a federal court jurist until his retirement in January 2004.

Judge Lee, 83, of Upper St. Clair, formerly of Bethel Park, died March 17, 2011.

Adult Probation and Parole is charged by the Court of Common Pleas with the responsibility of providing effective, community-based alternatives to incarceration, improving public safety, partnering with community and law enforcement resources, and promoting positive behavioral change from offenders.

While significant progress has been made to systematically improve the criminal justice system in Allegheny County, refining Adult Probation's approach in today's evidenced-based environment continues.

In 2011, Adult Probation again realized an increase in the number of offenders placed under supervision, with 29,521 adult offenders under supervision at year's end assigned to 125 probation officers. Concurrent with the increased demand on staff, Adult Probation also experienced additional cutbacks in funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. Despite the current financial environment and trends that are causing significant challenges for the Adult Probation Department, the mission to improve effectiveness continues.

The Adult Probation Department continued expanding its community-based operations through the Mobile Probation Officer (MPO) initiative. The MPO initiative utilizes the agency's risk assessment and evidence-based practices and allows probation officers to create and access offender supervision plans through a web-based connection on laptop computers. The use of this technology permits probation officers to work in the community on a daily basis where they interact closely with the offender, the offender's family, and treatment providers. Offender supervision plans are formulated through the administration of the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) assessment tool, highlighting an offender's criminogenic need(s) and identifying areas of risk on which the probation officer should focus his/her energies and supervision strategies. Probation officers from Adult Probation's Central Community-Based Office, which served as a live test site, were instrumental in field testing the MPO database and administering the LSI-R assessment tool on hundreds of offenders in Allegheny County.



Probation Officers and staff working with clients as they job search at the Day Reporting Center-South. Probation Officer Kristen Santoro, Justice Related Services staff Ryan McConnell, and Community Monitor Terrence Garner assist clients.

In May 2011, Adult Probation opened its second Day Reporting Center (DRC) in the East Liberty area of Pittsburgh as part of an ongoing effort to offer criminal offenders a "one stop shop" for services. For those offenders seeking employment, the DRC's offer a variety of job readiness and job search services. Services offered at the DRC's include: Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous meetings, drug and alcohol evaluations, drug and alcohol testing, anger management classes, G.E.D./Adult Education Services, case management, cognitive behavioral therapy, community service, job readiness/job search programming, and life skills programming. Research in the field of criminal justice has shown a correlation between the DRC model of case management and supervision and reduced recidivism rates for offenders.

Criminal Division ADULT PROBATION CONTINUED



A DUI Court graduate accepting his diploma from Judge Kevin G. Sasinoski at a DUI Court ceremony. Probation Officers, Jon Rathfon, John Miller, Kristen Santoro, and Jason Kantz join the judge in congratulating the participant.

In an effort to improve outcomes for offenders incarcerated in the Allegheny County Jail (ACJ), the Adult Probation Department was awarded a grant through the federal Second Chance Act in 2011 to develop a dedicated team of “re-entry” probation officers. Allegheny County Adult Probation is one of only a few probation and parole departments nationwide receiving this funding. Historically, offenders were often released into the community with little or no established support mechanisms or continuity of care. The end result of this practice was quick recidivism and probation violation for many offenders. To address this, the re-entry probation team will work closely with ACJ staff and community treatment providers to develop case-planning services for offenders during their confinement. A review of statistics in 2010 showed that nearly 700 medium to high-risk offenders were released from the ACJ to the custody of the Adult Probation Department. Re-entry planning is critical to successfully reintegrating offenders into the community in a manner that promotes reduced recidivism and enhances public safety.

Allegheny County continues to be a national leader in the design and implementation of the ‘problem solving courts’ approach toward expanding community supervision, reducing recidivism, and improving outcomes. These programs allow the court to hold offenders accountable for their actions while promoting recovery through regular review and assessment hearings before the court. Review hearings, however, are not held solely as a means of addressing non-compliance, but also to note offenders’ successes and publicly acknowledge their efforts at reintegrating as productive, crime-free members of society. Graduation ceremonies are held in certain problem solving courts to mark an offender’s successful completion of probation. Such positive, public recognition, which may be the first such experience for some offenders, is as critical to the goals of evidence-based practices as are swift and certain sanctions for non-compliance.

Allegheny County’s Sex Offender Court (SOC) was developed and implemented in 2011, in conjunction with various stakeholders in the criminal justice, victim services, and treatment provider systems. SOC utilizes a comprehensive and collaborative approach toward the prosecution and supervision of registered sex offenders in Allegheny County. To more safely and effectively supervise sex offenders and hold them accountable, SOC uses evidence-based practices and provides specific training for probation staff. The Adult Probation Department utilizes a specialized team of four probation officers and a supervisor trained in sex offender management.

CASELOAD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2011

Probation	18,359
Parole	1,123
Intermediate Punishment	1,254
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	4,675
Probation without Verdict	451
Total	25,862

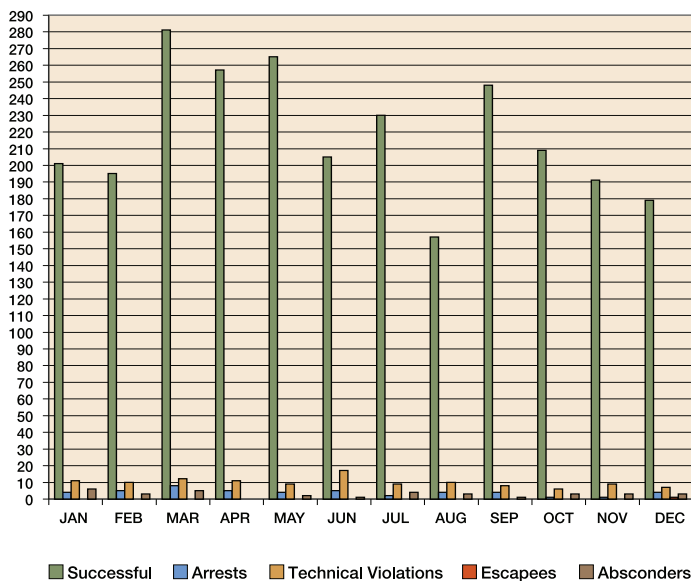
PROBATIONERS BY OFFENSE GRADE AND RACE

Misdemeanor	19,040
Felony	9,506
Other	975
Caucasian	17,710
African-American	11,314
Native Indian	7
Asian	93
Hispanic	51
Race Unknown	346

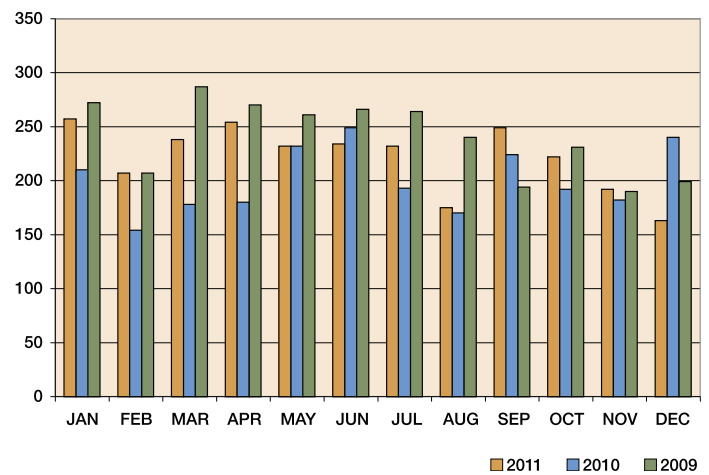
CASELOAD PER PROBATION OFFICER

McKeesport Community Based Office	131
North Side Community Based Office	179
Central Community Based Office	107
South Hills Community Based Office	148
Wilkinsburg Community Based Office	75
Electronic Monitoring	49
High Impact Unit	142
Forensic Unit (Mental Health)	155
Domestic Violence Unit	90
Sex Offender Unit	65
DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Unit	224
Minimal Supervision Unit	1,414
Intermediate Supervision Unit	592
Intrastate/Inter-County Unit/State	536 / 426 / 3,664

2011 Electronic Monitoring Outcomes



Total Intake Cases at Electronic Monitoring Per Month



In 2011, the Electronic Monitoring Unit (EM) marked its 24th year as an effective community alternative to incarceration. During the year, 33 probation officers assigned to the EM Unit supervised 3,738 offenders, 2,820 of whom successfully completed the program. EM officers also collected \$1,490,018 in program fees from offenders in 2011, representing a significant fiscal savings to the court when compared with the costs of incarceration. In line with the Adult Probation's evidence-based approach to supervision, offenders under EM supervision are also supervised based on potential risk as determined by the agency-validated assessment tools. Examples of successful evidence-based supervision are DUI Court and Drug Court programs, both of which are included in the EM Unit. Using problem solving and evidence-based protocols, less than 2 percent of offenders under EM supervision in 2011 were arrested for new criminal charges.



To provide accurate and timely information to assist the court in making informed decisions regarding bond, competency, and treatment. To supervise and monitor defendants in a respectful manner, utilizing cost-effective measures for the community, and to promote compliance with court orders, court appearances, and to support public safety.

The Pretrial Services department continues to be actively engaged in refining and expanding services. Commitment to our mission and goals has resulted in safer communities throughout Allegheny County and continued recognition, both locally and nationally, as a model pretrial program. Pretrial Services' management has participated in numerous forums throughout 2011 addressing both local and national issues relating to the criminal justice system. DUI Alternative to Jail presentations given at the Bench Bar Conference and the DUI Association Regional meeting were informative and well received. Judge Beth A. Lazzara, Adult Probation Manager Brian Dunbar, and Pretrial Services Director Janice Radovick-Dean presented a comprehensive over-view of the program from implementation to next steps on outcome measures.

In 2008, all of the pretrial manuals and forms produced by the Fifth Judicial District were translated into Spanish. This year, the Justice Studies Center of the Americas from Santiago, Chile made available the translated documents on their website for use by jurisdictions looking to reform and improve pretrial practices.

Participating in the Allegheny County Jail Collaborative, Pretrial Services' employees attended meetings, participated in the case review process, and several employees are currently on case review sub-committees. The case review sub-committees are essential to identifying solutions to systemic issues. Ms. Radovick-Dean chairs the Pretrial Services sub-committee, and several initiatives have been started this year resulting from the sub-committee discussions and recommendations. First, Anytrax, a call reminder and supervision management system, was engaged to provide court reminder notifications for defendants under pretrial supervision. This system will be operational in the first quarter of 2012. Second, a pilot program to provide magisterial district judges with verified criminal histories on arraignments outside of Pittsburgh Municipal Court will be undertaken in 2012 to ascertain the feasibility of this expanded service for Pretrial Services staff.

BOND FORFEITURES PRESENTED IN MOTIONS COURT

	Preliminary Hearing	Formal Arraignment	Pretrial Conference	Trial	Sentencing	Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition	Modification	TOTAL
2011	748	619	394	1,038	1	44	510	3,354
2010	824	723	461	1,092	1	41	653	3,795
2009	736	876	574	787	2	59	740	3,774
2008	766	948	520	1,009	6	48	700	3,997
2007	203	1,276	575	949	18	58	615	3,694

The Pretrial Services Alcohol Highway Safety Program and Adult Probation continue to collaborate on the implementation and oversight of the DUI Alternative to Jail Program, a program designed for first-conviction DUI offenders. Participation in this program allows defendants to complete their intermediate punishment sentence and state mandated driving under the influence classes and treatment at a four-day overnight program. Offenders remain supervised at the program location from Thursday through Sunday and are required to participate in intensive treatment programs lasting approximately twelve hours daily. In 2011, of the 481 offenders were sentenced to the DUI Alternative to Jail Program, 299 successfully completed the program, 63 violated for failure to complete, and 119 are scheduled to begin supervision in 2012. In late 2011, a second location for the DUI program was secured. The Alternative to Jail Program is paid for by offenders through fees and costs associated with participation in the program. The overall goal of this program is to reduce recidivism by exposing the DUI offender to four days of intense treatment and programming. By offering only first-conviction DUI offenders the option of serving their mandatory sentences in the DUI Alternative program or the Allegheny County Jail, these offenders are no longer utilizing scarce Electronic Monitoring (EM) resources, thus reducing the EM backlog/waiting list.

PRETRIAL BAIL UNIT

New Investigations	16,394
Bond Modifications Advocated	510
Bond Forfeiture Hearings Presented in Court	3,406
Defendants Supervised	3,659
Defendants Placed on Electronic Monitoring (EM)	23
Pretrial EM Fees Collected	\$24,042

The Bail Unit of Pretrial Services continues to maintain its reputation for comprehensive and efficient services. Pretrial Services personnel are located within the Allegheny County Jail to provide 24/7 investigative services. Inmate interviews are conducted with every defendant brought in on new charges or bench warrants. All investigations are conducted face-to-face using Pretrial Service's database and validated risk-assessment tool. Revalidation of the current risk instrument began in late 2011 and will be completed by early 2012. The accurate, factual information received by the arraigning authority enables them to make informed pretrial release decisions. The Pretrial Services Bail Unit performed 16,394 new investigations, advocated for 510 bond modifications, and presented at 3,406 bond forfeiture hearings in motions court in 2011.

The Pretrial Electronic Monitoring (PTEM) supervision numbers fell from 149 defendants placed on PTEM in 2010 to 23 in 2011. This was due to an overwhelming number of defendants placed on Electronic Monitoring (EM) for Restrictive Intermediate Punishment sentences, creating an EM backlog. A temporary moratorium was placed on pretrial defendants being granted EM and the backlog was eliminated. Defendants will again be recommended for PTEM in 2012 based upon the pretrial risk assessment score that measures a defendant's likelihood of failing to appear and the risk of reoffending.

Pretrial Services Behavior Assessment Unit (BAU) psychiatrists completed 1,395 court-ordered competency evaluations and recommended 125 involuntary commitments to Torrance State Hospital. The BAU social worker also completed 83 social histories associated with these mental health evaluations.



The DUI Alternative to Jail Program staff.
L-R: Kayla Younge, Wendy Feldmeier, and Jim Trozzi.

Criminal Division PRETRIAL SERVICES CONTINUED



The Pretrial Services first offender ARD Diversion Unit admitted 2,946 defendants into the program in 2011. The vast majority of these defendants were charged with DUI (2,580), and the remainder, (366), were charged with various other non-violent offenses. Working closely with the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office, the disposition of these cases has been a smooth and efficient process. In 2011, the ARD Unit submitted violation reports to the court on 1,570 offenders, many of whom came into compliance prior to their revocation hearing. ARD Probation Officers also verified compliance for offenders seeking early termination of the ARD Program and for offenders seeking to be readmitted to the ARD Program.

Revocations from the ARD Program continue to increase and are attributed to the delayed revocation procedure instituted by the court in 2009. In 2011, an analysis of that procedure was performed. The court ordered 608 delayed revocations as a result of non-compliance, which culminated in 313 administrative revocations. Of the 313 administrative revocations, 132 offenders completed their original conditions and were readmitted to the ARD program prior to their case proceeding to trial. Statistically, 70.2 percent of the offenders given a final chance to complete the ARD Program did so successfully. Participating ARD offenders completed 38,197 community service hours in 2011, an increase over 30,792 hours completed in 2010.

The Pretrial Services Alcohol Highway Safety Program (AHSP) continued its work of education, intervention, and prevention in the field of DUI. From TV and radio public service announcements, to community events, the message reached thousands of children across 40 school districts in Allegheny County.

The AHSP is also responsible for the completion of court-ordered evaluations of DUI offenders and for managing the Department of Transportation mandated DUI education programs. Pretrial Service employees associated with this program completed 5,301 court-ordered evaluations of DUI offenders in 2011, the most for a single jurisdiction in the state. Additionally, AHSP operated the largest and most successful Ignition Interlock Program in the state. Five-hundred-fifty-two (552) ignition interlock devices were installed this year, enabling program participants to drive in excess of one million sober miles. With an interlock device installed by the AHSP, not one person has been charged with DUI since 2004.

In 2011, the AHSP was awarded the inaugural "Friends of SADD Award," which was presented by Felicity Debacco-Erni of the PA DUI Association. Also in 2011, the AHSP worked in collaboration with the PA DUI Association to offer six localized trainings for law enforcement, probation, and treatment providers.



Christopher Shanley, Supervisor of the Alcohol Highway Safety Program, gives operating instructions for the new driving simulator to Bethel Park High School students.

Family Division



HON. KATHRYN M. HENS-GRECO
Administrative Judge



HON. KELLY EILEEN BIGLEY



HON. CATHLEEN BUBASH



HON. KIM BERKELEY CLARK



HON. GUIDO A. DeANGELIS



HON. SUSAN EVASHAVIK DiLUCENTE



HON. KIM D. EATON



HON. PHILIP A. IGNELZI

Family Division CONTINUED



HON. ARNOLD I. KLEIN



HON. MICHAEL F. MARMO



HON. JOHN T. McVAY, JR.



HON. KATHLEEN R. MULLIGAN



HON. DONALD R. WALKO, JR.



HON. DWAYNE D. WOODRUFF



HON. LEE J. MAZUR
Senior Judge

To provide the most efficient and cost-effective processes for the establishment, modification, and enforcement of support obligations; to provide accurate, timely, and efficient processes for distributing and accounting for support payments; and to process other family-related case matters in an expeditious manner.

In 2011, Judge Kathryn M. Hens-Greco succeeded Judge David N. Wecht as Administrative Judge in the Family Division. Under Judge Hens-Greco's leadership, the Adult Section of Family Division continues to reassess efficiencies of current policies and procedures with the goal of improving processes to better facilitate support, divorce, and protection from abuse matters.

Because enforcement of support orders constitutes a large percentage of the Family Division workload, the Adult Section continued to employ innovative methods to address delinquent obligors in an effort to bring cases current. For example, in 2011, additional personnel and resources were reallocated to the employment search program to aid delinquent obligors in finding and maintaining steady employment in order to meet support obligations. The employment specialist unit continued to research, contact, and add additional employers and employment search agencies to the list of community partners to whom it may refer individuals in need of employment. Many community partners also offer parenting, drug/alcohol counseling, vocational counseling, and education resources. During 2011, communication and reporting relationships with community partners were strengthened to allow the court to respond quickly and effectively when individuals fail to adequately participate in court-ordered programs.

In September 2011, the Family Division conducted a bench warrant amnesty program in an effort to reach out to non-custodial parents who had discontinued paying support or who had failed to appear for court hearings. Public announcements were issued and letters were mailed to 1,866 defendants advising them of their eligibility to participate in the program. The program was designed to allow defendants to appear in court without fear of being incarcerated to resolve outstanding child support issues. While the primary goal of the program was to

FAMILY DIVISION – CUSTODY

CUSTODY – ORIGINAL FILINGS	2010	2011
Custody Complaint	1,957	1,952
Divorce Complaint with Custody	99	97
Protection From Abuse with Children	1,940	1,898
Dependency Case Closure with Custody Order	106	59
Total	4,102	4,006
CUSTODY – SECONDARY FILINGS	2010	2011
Modification	581	593
Contempt	128	80
Total	709	673
CUSTODY – JUDICIAL	2010	2011
Conciliations	700	396
Hearings	368	284
Motions	8,819	8,635
Total	9,887	9,315
CUSTODY – HEARING OFFICER	2010	2011
Partial Custody Hearings	434	503
CUSTODY – PROFESSIONAL STAFF	2010	2011
(In Forma Pauperis review, pro se motions review, and walk-in consent orders.)		
Screening	5,194	5,353
Mediation	953	1,280
Conciliations	887	818
Contempt Conferences	504	436
Total	7,538	7,887

Family Division ADULT SECTION CONTINUED

FAMILY DIVISION – CHILD SUPPORT

SUPPORT – ORIGINAL FILINGS	2010	2011
Complaints Added (PACSES)	8,801	9,128
SUPPORT – SECONDARY FILINGS	2010	2011
Modifications	12,203	12,386
Contempt Hearings	19,777	20,024
Total	31,980	32,410
SUPPORT – JUDICIAL	2010	2011
Support Contempt Hearings	1,158	1,148
Exceptions	145	129
Total	1,303	1,277
SUPPORT – HEARING OFFICER	2010	2011
Hearing Officer Hearings	5,160	5,300
Hearing Master Complex Support	283	245
Total	5,443	5,545
SUPPORT – PROFESSIONAL STAFF	2010	2011
Screening	14,150	13,730
Conciliations	16,821	15,571
Contempt Hearings	19,777	20,024
Total	50,748	49,325

FAMILY DIVISION – DIVORCE

DIVORCE – ORIGINAL FILINGS	2010	2011
Complaints Filed	2,921	2,831
DIVORCE – JUDICIAL		
Contested	322	381
DIVORCE – HEARING OFFICER		
Contested	83	81
DIVORCE – PROFESSIONAL STAFF		
Uncontested	2,266	2,227

collect child support, another outcome included allowing an individual to obtain a “fresh start” on providing for his/her family. New employers were identified, with consequent wage attachments issued insuring on-going support payments. When necessary, referrals were made to job search agencies. In appropriate cases, modification petitions were filed to allow for an appropriate level of support to be re-established based on the parties’ respective incomes. During amnesty week 249 defendants, representing 360 cases, appeared in court and paid over \$18,000 in child support, 56 cases were scheduled for additional proceedings, 20 new support orders were entered, and 32 new wage attachments were issued as a result of identifying new employers.

In the process of enforcing support orders, staff members regularly look for additional opportunities and methods to collect arrears. Early in 2011, the court became aware of a class-action settlement in federal court involving a class of individuals who were incarcerated in the Allegheny County Jail. After identifying the 193 class members who owed support arrears, Family Division collected and disbursed \$197,443 to families by December 31, 2011.

Following an exhaustive evaluation of processes used to manage over 40,000 support cases, the Adult Section identified changes that will be made to its case management system to implement a team case-load approach. In this system, teams of domestic relations officers and clerical support staff are responsible for the establishment, modification, and enforcement of all orders associated with cases assigned to the respective teams. It is believed that this case ownership principle will result in fair, reasonable, and collectable support orders producing better rates of collection. The new case management system is to be implemented in January 2012.

The Family Division-Adult Section strives to make itself open and accessible by providing information about programs and services via the court’s website and maintaining a “phone room” operated by staff who answer questions and provide information over the telephone and through e-mail. The Adult Section maintains a screening section to answer questions, address concerns, file modification petitions, and provide information to litigants. During 2011, the Screening Unit assisted 8,808 self-represented litigants and approximately 2,000 attorneys on a “walk-in” basis, representing service on over 13,700 cases. In addition, evening hours were offered at the court so that individuals employed during the day could appear to address support issues after work. In 2011, 1,390 people were assisted during Wednesday evening “Night Court.”



Family Division South Hills Community Office staff L-R: JoAnn Morgano, Case Management Clerk; Patricia Bridge, Domestic Relations Officer; Jan Schumacher, Regional Office Manager; Joe Zalar, Supervisor; and Lisa Mykeloff, Clerical Supervisor.

Another significant development for Family Division in 2011 was the opening of a community-based office for the South Hills communities of Allegheny County. Litigants may file for support, modify an existing support order, or obtain information regarding their case at the local office. Support conferences and hearings are conducted at the South Hills office located at 250 Mt. Lebanon Boulevard, Castle Shannon. This community-based office will expand and enhance access to court services for the citizens of Allegheny County.

As a result of the aforementioned programs and newly implemented protocols, the Family Division significantly contributed to Pennsylvania finishing first among the 56 states and territories in the five federal performance measurements of the child support enforcement program in 2011. The Fifth Judicial District exceeded the statewide average in four of the five categories. By exceeding 80 percent in all five performance benchmarks, the court received the maximum amount of available performance-based federal funding. Some of the statistical highlights of the court's performance include the collection and disbursement of almost \$160 million in support to families, and a one-year reduction in the amount of aggregate arrears owed by over \$19 million. The court's federal performance percentages in four of the five federal performance categories increased in 2011 while the court maintained its 100 percent cost efficient standard in the fifth performance category.

FAMILY DIVISION – PROTECTION FROM ABUSE

PROTECTION FROM ABUSE (PFA)	2010	2011
Petitions / Temporary Hearings	3,847	3,849
Final Hearings / Conciliations	4,268	4,295
Total	8,115	8,144
PFA – JUDICIAL	2010	2011
Temporary Hearings	3,231	3,279
Final Hearings	164	131
Conciliations	409	447
Indirect Criminal Contempts	87	92
Total	3,891	3,949
PFA – PROFESSIONAL STAFF	2010	2011
Applications	3,847	3,849
Conciliations	4,268	4,295
Indirect Criminal Contempt Processing	1,313	1,223
Total	9,428	9,367

The court continued to offer its pro-se motions program, providing income-eligible participants assistance in preparing, filing, and in many instances, presenting motions to judges. University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University Law School students primarily provide the assistance, augmented by pro bono attorneys of the Allegheny County Bar. In 2011, the program served 1,870 litigants in the preparation of 3,541 motions.

To reduce and prevent juvenile crime; promote and maintain safe communities; and improve the welfare of youth and families who are served by the court.

For over 15 years the mission of the Juvenile Probation Department has been to achieve the goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice: *protecting the community, restoring victims and communities, and developing the competency skills of juvenile offenders*. Juvenile Probation is currently in the second year of a comprehensive effort aimed at improving outcomes for each of these goals. The initiative, known statewide as the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), emphasizes evidence-based practices and structured decision making at every key point in the juvenile justice process.

A crucial component of JJSES is the Youth Level of Service (YLS), a validated risk/needs instrument that measures a juvenile's risk to re-offend. A team of administrators and supervisors who received master trainer certification in 2011 subsequently trained every juvenile probation officer to conduct the YLS and interpret the results. YLS yields a score indicating whether a juvenile is a low, medium, or high risk to recidivate. In addition, YLS identifies the juvenile's top criminogenic needs – those areas most related to the juvenile's offending behavior – that become the focus of treatment interventions. The criminogenic needs identified in YLS include family circumstances/parenting, education/employment, peer relations, substance abuse, leisure/recreation, personality/behavior and attitudes/orientation.

A second critical component of JJSES is the development of a case plan for statewide use that incorporates the results of the YLS assessment. Along with several other Pennsylvania juvenile departments, Allegheny County Juvenile Probation helped to develop a case plan for use statewide that includes the rules and requirements of probation as well as specific objectives and activities concentrating on the juvenile's identified criminogenic needs. At the end of 2011, the department was piloting the case plan and providing feedback to the statewide planning committee.

Juvenile Probation remains an active participant in the Pittsburgh Initiative To Reduce Crime (PIRC). PIRC is a multi-agency, community collaboration aimed at reducing homicides and gun crimes in the City of Pittsburgh. Now in its second year of operation, PIRC emphasizes communication and cooperation among the Pittsburgh Police Department, Juvenile Probation, Adult Probation, State Parole, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF), Federal Probation, and other law

enforcement agencies. High-risk juvenile and adult offenders are identified and advised that continued violence will not be tolerated. Several Juvenile Probation Department members regularly participate in law enforcement sweeps to apprehend PIRC-identified individuals who have violated conditions of supervision or committed additional crimes. PIRC also includes a service delivery team comprised of Goodwill Industries and other community agencies that offer programming and a pathway out of gang-related activities for juvenile and young adult offenders.

In April 2011, the Community Intensive Supervision Program (CISP) opened a sixth center located on Pittsburgh's North Side. Court-operated since its inception in 1990, CISP provides intensive supervision and programs for youth who require more supervision and services than traditional probation. The centers, which operate 7 days a week, 365 days a year, conduct programs in the afternoon and evening hours. CISP utilizes electronic monitoring when the juveniles are required to be home. CISP Centers are located in the communities of Garfield, the Hill District, Homewood, McKeesport, Wilkinsburg, and North Side.



The sixth CISP Center Open House was held in December 2011 and was attended by judges, Juvenile Probation staff, and community members. L-R: North Side CISP Supervisor Marvin Randall, Assistant Administrator Kimberly Booth.



On September 12, 2011, Juvenile Probation sponsored a 10-Year 9/11 Anniversary Remembrance ceremony. Veterans, Brian Barnhart, Earnest Frazier, and Joseph Zalar from the Family Division were recognized for their military service. **L-R:** Juvenile Probation Officer Brian Barnhart, Judge Clark, Judge Hens-Greco, Judge Eaton, Juvenile CISP Supervisor Earnest Frazier, and Domestic Relations Supervisor Joseph Zalar. (Veterans not pictured: Juvenile Community Monitor Andre Frazier and Juvenile Probation Officer Norman Wesolowski).

Juvenile Probation staff again volunteered at the annual Allegheny County Music Festival held at Hartwood Acres. Festival funds provide opportunities for delinquent and dependent youth in Allegheny County to participate in cultural, educational, and recreational activities that are otherwise unavailable to them.

In September 2011, Juvenile Probation sponsored an event commemorating the 10th anniversary of 9/11. All Family Division staff in the armed services were recognized for their service to our country.

Governor Tom Corbett continued the tradition of declaring the first week of October as Juvenile Justice Week. Juvenile Probation sponsored numerous events throughout the week to highlight the department's commitment to serving the citizens of Allegheny County. On October 3, 2011, a ceremony was held to dedicate artwork created by several youth committed to the Youth Development Center at New Castle. The artwork, a painting of a mandala, a colorful, concentric design, is prominently displayed in the Juvenile Court waiting area of the Family Law Center. The week's events included juvenile justice related workshops attended by students from high schools throughout the county.

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) has designated The Fifth Judicial District Juvenile Department as a Model Delinquency Court site, one of only 12 in the nation. As a model court site, Juvenile Court is working to implement 16 key principles set forth in the Juvenile Delinquency Guidelines to improve delinquency case processing and outcomes for youth, families, and communities. Judge Kim Berkeley Clark is directing the project.

FAMILY DIVISION – PROBATION

JUVENILE PROBATION - ORIGINAL FILINGS ¹	2010	2011
New Filings ²	2,005	1,843
Reopened Cases ³	747	581
Additional Allegation Filed with New or Reopened ⁴	125	122
New Allegation on Active Juvenile ⁵	1,939	1,626
Total	4,816	4,172

JUVENILE PROBATION – JUDICIAL	2010	2011
Hearings ⁶	9,971	8,858
Warrants	1,484	1,593
Total	11,455	10,451

JUVENILE PROBATION - HEARING OFFICER	2010	2011
Detention Hearings	1,858	1,831
Other Hearings	2,462	2,492
Total	4,320	4,323

JUVENILE PROBATION - PROFESSIONAL STAFF	2010	2011
Detention Hearings	2,223	2,283
Other Hearings	12,423	11,350
Warrants	1,484	1,593
Individualized Service Plan Meetings	543	545
Intakes – Allegations Received	4,816	4,172
Petitions Filed	3,527	3,123
Case Contacts ⁷	58,224	55,056
Total	83,240	78,122

¹ Filings are based on allegations received.

² New filings represent the first allegation ever received on a specific individual juvenile.

³ After a juvenile's case is closed, it is reopened when a new allegation is received.

⁴ When multiple allegations for a new or reopened case are filed simultaneously, only one allegation is counted as "New" or "Reopened." Additional allegations are reported separately under this category.

⁵ Allegations filed against juveniles currently under supervision.

⁶ Includes detention and all other hearing types.

⁷ Juvenile Probation Officers have regular contact with juveniles under supervision.

Of the 1,878 cases closed during 2011, 86.5 percent of juveniles successfully completed supervision without re-offending. They paid victims a total of \$234,130 in restitution, and 76 percent of juveniles fully satisfied their financial obligations. Juvenile probationers completed a total of 64,084 hours of community service, 94 percent of whom completed community service obligations in full.

Children's Court provides a forum for fair, prompt, and coordinated resolution of legal matters affecting children and families, and strives 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.

In response to new Pennsylvania Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure and recent federal legislation, a new program was created in Children's Court in January 2011 to ensure that the educational needs of each child under the court's jurisdiction are being met. Since April 2011, program staff received 137 referrals from judges and hearing officers. In response, parents and other education decision makers were provided with specific information about countywide resources designed to empower families to facilitate their children's academic success, and program staff worked with the court, school districts, and counsel to achieve prompt resolution of education-related issues.

Family Division Administrative Judge Kathryn M. Hens-Greco along with Judges Kim Berkeley Clark, Arnold I. Klein, John T. McVay, Jr., and Dwayne D. Woodruff joined Co-Chairs Administrator Cynthia K. Stoltz, Esq., Blair County President Judge Jolene Kopriva, and Child Protection and Permanency Department Manager Margie Remele at the Pennsylvania Children's Roundtable Summit in September 2011. Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, 385 participants representing 51 counties attended the three-day summit in an effort to explore innovative solutions to the challenges facing dependent children and their families.

Throughout the fall, Children's Court and the Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) co-sponsored a multi-session training on Family Finding for children's guardians *ad litem*, parents' attorneys, and OCYF staff. Family Finding utilizes various strategies to locate and engage relatives of children in foster care. It is a best practice recognized by the Pennsylvania Permanency Practice Initiative (PPI), which forms the practice change foundation for Pennsylvania's dependency system. The underlying theory on which the PPI is built is that enhanced judicial oversight, combined with strength-based, family-led social work practices, will ultimately increase the number of children safely maintained in their own homes and support expedited permanency either through safe reunification with parents or the finalization of another permanent living arrangement.



Cameron Hairston, Adriene Parsons, Margie Remele, Judge John T. McVay, Jr., Amanda Dunbar, Alexandra Gruskos, Diondra Spells, and Callen Taylor assist with 2011 National Adoption Day activities.

National Adoption Day was celebrated on November 19, 2011 when courts across the country held special sessions to finalize the adoptions of children in foster care. Seven Family Division judges presided over the adoptions of 44 children ranging in age from 10 months to 17 years. Relatives adopted nearly half of the children, which is recognized as the best practice when possible. "A day like today makes it all worthwhile," said Judge Kathleen R. Mulligan. "Most of the time this is a difficult job." A total of 210 children in foster care were adopted in 2011.

Sherry Anderson of Three Rivers Adoption Council as part of Children's Court's annual public policy forum presented "The Power of Trusting Relationships," a discussion of the neurobiology of developmental trauma in child and parent histories, in November 2011. Following the program, Judge Hens-Greco presented Ms. Anderson with the court's Kids for Keeps Community Champion Award in recognition of her distinguished career as a social worker, program director, and family therapist in the child welfare arena.



Children's artwork on display in the Family Law Center.

Children's Court continues its collaboration with stakeholders in both custody and dependency matters. Upon the enactment of Act 101, which allows for legally enforceable open adoptions, a new association was formed with the Adoption Legal Services Project for the provision of *pro bono* services for facilitation, mediation, and drafting of open adoption agreements in dependency cases.

Manager Margie Remele served as an evaluator for the OCYF Quality Service Review (QSR). The QSR is an innovative program that evaluates the provision of services and supports to children and families within the child welfare system. Deputy Administrator Sharon Biasca, a member of the OCYF Permanency Workgroup, was tasked with implementing improvements recommended as a result of the review.

Ms. Remele is also a member of the Allegheny County review team responsible for fulfilling a state mandate to examine cases of suspected child abuse that result in a fatality or near fatality. The team issues recommendations for changes at the state and local levels in an effort to reduce the likelihood of future child fatalities or near fatalities related to child abuse.

Children's Court also maintains its partnership with several local law firms whose lawyers provide *pro bono* representation to low-income clients in custody conciliations and pro bono and reduced fee guardians *ad litem* for children in high-conflict custody matters. Ninety-four cases were referred for custody conciliations and 863 hours of pro bono guardian *ad litem* work was performed.

Another continuing joint venture between Children's Court and Family Resources, the Safe Visits for Safe Families project, provides families with a safe place for supervised visitation and exchanges of custody. Payment for the visitation service is based on a sliding scale according to a party's ability to pay. There is no fee for the exchange portion of the program. Eighty-one families were referred to this program in 2011.

Custody Department Manager Amy Ross, a featured speaker at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh's annual conference on child maltreatment, presented "The Litigation Effect: Custody Cases and Outcomes for Children." Ms. Ross also continues to provide outreach to community organizations including Hill House and OCYF, which offer educational programs for fathers involved in custody cases.

FAMILY DIVISION – DEPENDENCY

DEPENDENCY PETITIONS	2010	2011
Agency (Children Youth & Families – CYF)	1,196	934
Agency with Aggravated Circumstances (CYF)	32	30
Private/Police	378	349
Re-filed – Post Closure		59
Total	1,606	1,372

SECONDARY FILINGS	2010	2011
Aggravated Circumstances Petitions – Post Adjudication	105	91
Terminated Parental Rights Petitions	247	121
Adoption Petitions	236	210
Total	588	422

JUDICIAL	2010	2011
Emergency Custody Authorization Requests	1,074	1,103
Shelter Orders	1,258	1,330
Motions ¹	3,232	3,823
Adjudicatory Orders – Dependent	891	901
Adjudicatory Orders – Not Dependent	132	55
Permanency Review Orders	4,182	6,795
Bypass Orders	69	42
Total	10,838	14,049

HEARING OFFICER	2010	2011
Shelter Applications ²		1,576
Shelter Recommendations	1,222	1,080
Permanency Review Recommendations	4,879	4,317
Total Hearing Officer	6,101	6,973

PROFESSIONAL STAFF	2010	2011
Private/Police Petition Processing	378	342
Permanent Legal Custody Modification Processing	28	74
Total	406	416

¹ All motions heard by judges and hearing officers, including motions for dually adjudicated youth, special relief, modification of permanent legal custody, and appointment of educational and/or medical decision makers.

² Shelter applications were filed beginning April 1, 2011.

Summary Appeals

The Summary Appeals branch of the Fifth Judicial District performs several functions. The Honorable Robert C. Gallo presides over appeals arising from summary criminal convictions as well as civil statutory appeals of decisions by local and state administrative agencies.

A large percentage of civil statutory appeals arise from actions taken by PennDOT relating to driver license suspensions. Additional civil appellate matters include, but are not limited to, legal issues arising in areas of civil service, land use, zoning, the liquor control board, school boards, and the health department.

The majority of criminal appeals arise under the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code. Additionally, criminal appeals also include cases of disorderly conduct, harassment, retail theft, public drunkenness, and underage drinking. Appeals involving dog-licensing provisions and truancy are also heard by the Summary Appeals branch.

The Summary Appeals court conducts hearings on every appeal and is responsible for the disposition of all ancillary matters related to the appeal.



SUMMARY APPEALS – CASE DISPOSITIONS

CASE TYPE	NEW CASES FILED 2010	CASES DISPOSED 2010	NEW CASES FILED 2011	CASES DISPOSED 2011
Criminal Summary Convictions	3,064	3,312	3,170	3,073
Motor Vehicle Code Suspensions	1,111	1,265	1,111	948
Pittsburgh Parking Authority	10	9	10	9
Nunc Pro Tunc Appeals	488	488	548	548
Administrative Agency	24	24	26	16
Civil Service	2	2	2	2
Land Use	16	16	16	10
Zoning Board	30	30	30	21
Local Agency	157	157	157	116
Liquor Control	13	11	22	22
School Board	2	2	2	2
Total	4,917	5,316	5,094	4,767

Magisterial District Courts

To provide a forum for fair and equal access to judicial services that promotes the expeditious resolution of public and private disputes through community-based locations throughout Allegheny County.



HON. ROBERT BARNER
05-2-11



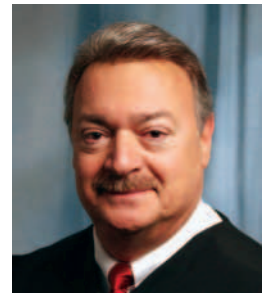
HON. DAVID J. BARTON
05-2-17



HON. CAROLYN S. BENDEL
05-2-05



HON. SUZANNE BLASCHAK
05-3-04



HON. JOHN N. BOVA
05-2-18



HON. PAT A. CAPOLUPO
05-2-16



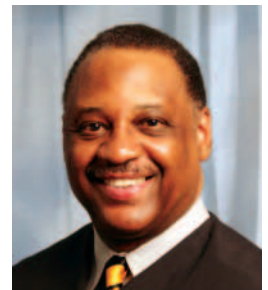
HON. THOMAS P. CAULFIELD
05-2-08



HON. ANTHONY CIOFFE
05-3-10



HON. MARY ANN CICONI
05-3-06



HON. KEVIN E. COOPER
05-3-12



HON. RON N. COSTA, SR.
05-2-31



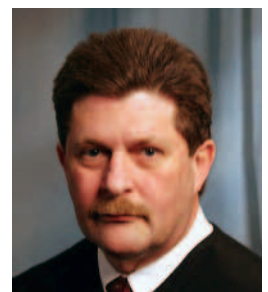
HON. ROBERT P. DZVONICK
05-2-03



HON. ROBERT L. FORD
05-3-02



HON. JAMES J. HANLEY, JR.
05-2-36



HON. JEFFREY L. HERBST
05-2-07

Magisterial District Courts CONTINUED



HON. KIM M. HOOTS
05-2-10



HON. LEONARD J. HROMYAK
05-2-06



HON. DENNIS R. JOYCE
05-2-23



HON. RICHARD G. KING
05-3-14



HON. ELISSA M. LANG
05-2-04



HON. BLAISE P. LAROTONDA
05-2-19



HON. ARMAND A. MARTIN
05-3-09



HON. RANDY C. MARTINI
05-3-13



HON. MAUREEN MCGRAW-DESMET
05-2-21



HON. THOMAS G. MILLER, JR.
05-3-05



HON. JAMES A. MOTZNIK
05-2-38



HON. MARY P. MURRAY
05-2-25



HON. RICHARD D. OL SZ, JR.
05-2-14



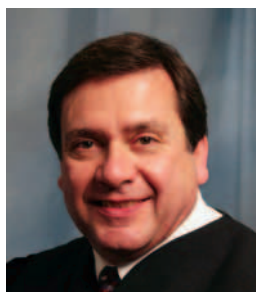
HON. RICHARD G. OPIELA
05-2-02



HON. OSCAR J. PETITE, JR.
05-2-28



HON. ROBERT P. RAVENSTAHL, JR.
05-2-42



HON. EUGENE F. RIAZZI, JR.
05-2-13



HON. EUGENE N. RICCIARDI
05-2-27



HON. DERWIN RUSHING
05-2-40



HON. ANTHONY W. SAVEKIS
05-3-17



HON. BETH SCAGLIONE MILLS
05-2-26



HON. SCOTT H. SCHRICKER
05-2-47



HON. TARA L. SMITH
05-2-01



HON. DAVID J. SOSOVICKA
05-3-03



HON. CARLA SWEARINGEN
05-2-43



HON. THOMAS TORKOWSKY
05-2-15



HON. REGIS C. WELSH, JR.
05-2-46



HON. ROBERT C. WYDA
05-2-20



HON. LINDA I. ZUCCO
05-2-32



HON. GARY M. ZYRA
05-2-22



HON. EDWARD BURNETT
SENIOR JUDGE



HON. ELAINE M. MCGRAW
SENIOR JUDGE



HON. DOUGLAS W. REED
SENIOR JUDGE

NOT PICTURED

HON. NATHAN FIRESTONE
05-2-35

HON. WILLIAM K. WAGNER
05-2-12

HON. NANCY L. LONGO
SENIOR JUDGE

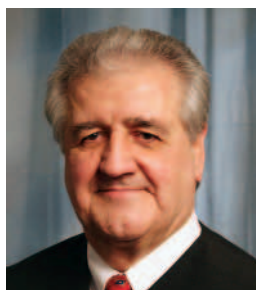
HON. CHARLES A. McLAUGHLIN, JR.
SENIOR JUDGE

HON. LEE G. PEGLOW
SENIOR JUDGE

HON. RICHARD H. ZOLLER
SENIOR JUDGE



HON. EDWARD A. TIBBS
SENIOR JUDGE



HON. EUGENE ZIELANSKI
SENIOR JUDGE

Magisterial District Courts CONTINUED

The Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Minor Judiciary, experienced a number of significant changes in 2011.

Pursuant to order of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court dated February 15, 2011, two magisterial district courts were closed (Magisterial Districts 05-2-46 and 05-2-09), and eleven other offices were reconfigured. District Judges Welsh and Cioppa retired in 2011, as did District Judge



Newly elected Magisterial District Judge Hugh McGough takes the oath of office with re-elected district judges on December 27, 2011. L-R: Magisterial District Judges David Sosovicka, Hugh McGough, Mary Ann Cercone, and William Wagner.

Nathan Firestone, whose vacancy was filled by the election of District Judge Hugh McGough. The closure of these two courts reduced the number of magisterial district courts in the Fifth Judicial District to 46 community-based courts. Pittsburgh Municipal Court operations were unaffected by this change.

The Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) implemented a new Magisterial District Judge Computer System (MDJS) in the Fifth Judicial District. The process of implementing the system statewide began in 2009, concluding with Allegheny County in December 2011. Throughout the year, the AOPC trained minor judiciary staff and prepared for the migration of data prior to the implementation of the new MDJS that went “live” on December 12.

The enhanced MDJS supports the management of traffic, non-traffic, criminal, private criminal, civil, landlord-tenant, and miscellaneous docket cases. The system incorporates several new features: improved information exchange regarding the existence of warrants from other jurisdictions; provision of statewide bail and sentencing history; provision of additional information on defendant confinement and case balances; improved interaction with Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS); and enhanced transfer of case information through JNET to the State Police, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, and to other counties and state agencies.

A secure payment application for court fines, costs, and restitution, ePay, is supported by the new MDJS. Payments may be made with credit and debit cards via the Internet at ujsportal.pacourts.us.

Nancy Galvach, former Administrator of the Fifth Judicial District’s Minor Judiciary, retired after more than 20 years of service. Her successor, Matthew E. Zoccole, previously employed as the Assistant Court Administrator for Civil/Criminal Division by the Eighth Judicial District of Nevada, was appointed to fill Ms. Galvach’s position. Mr. Zoccole has worked in court management for over 10 years, he holds a bachelors degree in business administration and is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps.



Nancy Galvach is presented with the Pennsylvania Association of Court Management’s prestigious President’s Award for outstanding service. L-R: PACM President Don L. Heagy, Jr., Nancy Galvach, and District Court Administrator Raymond L. Billotte.

After more than 20 years of dedicated service to the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Deputy Court Administrator Nancy Galvach retired in 2011. Ms. Galvach began her career with the District in 1989, and was appointed Manager of the Magisterial District Courts (MDC) in 1995, a position she held until her retirement. In addition to overseeing the operations of district judges and their staff, Ms. Galvach directed the operations of the MDC Administrative Office. In June 2011, she was awarded the Pennsylvania Association of Court Management’s prestigious President’s Award in recognition of her tireless and continuous efforts to the profession of court administration and to the effective administration of justice. She was also awarded a Special Commendation by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for her outstanding service and contribution to the Judicial Council’s Committee on Judicial Security and Emergency Preparedness. Ms. Galvach was well regarded for her attention to detail, knowledge of court operations, and commitment to public service.

FILINGS BY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT

COURT	CRIMINAL	PRIVATE SUMMARY	TRAFFIC	NON-TRAFFIC	CIVIL	LANDLORD/TENANT	TOTAL
05-0-03	11,991	129	38,212	9,849	0	1	60,182
05-0-04	293	1	0	0	0	0	294
05-2-01	612	56	5,235	926	318	279	7,426
05-2-02	907	499	3,412	770	446	109	6,143
05-2-03	727	321	3,592	963	452	207	6,262
05-2-04	380	23	3,053	808	360	123	4,747
05-2-05	399	122	3,677	1,041	343	266	5,848
05-2-06	581	385	2,122	923	671	451	5,133
05-2-07	455	328	2,336	827	413	382	4,741
05-2-08	411	252	6,663	504	165	114	8,109
05-2-09	536	228	3,757	1,117	180	501	6,319
05-2-10	578	139	2,772	1,599	233	651	5,972
05-2-11	576	198	6,269	966	396	349	8,754
05-2-12	633	583	4,136	476	833	126	6,787
05-2-13	708	152	1,736	2,632	380	658	6,266
05-2-14	1,496	694	2,287	2,024	834	704	8,039
05-2-15	689	258	3,469	1,601	273	209	6,499
05-2-16	575	118	3,687	438	335	195	5,348
05-2-17	394	121	4,301	451	243	256	5,766
05-2-18	849	27	2,719	1,003	296	306	5,200
05-2-19	476	28	4,717	1,024	347	148	6,740
05-2-20	436	257	3,653	672	375	108	5,501
05-2-21	398	605	4,791	575	350	87	6,806
05-2-22	383	80	1,718	383	278	86	2,928
05-2-23	396	129	2,997	961	300	194	4,977
05-2-25	783	86	2,778	932	568	178	5,325
05-2-26	166	86	1,103	288	421	83	2,147
05-2-27	2	72	2,414	709	339	361	3,897
05-2-28	2	97	320	795	350	980	2,544
05-2-31	0	227	36	436	393	710	1,802
05-2-32	311	150	1,137	250	273	137	2,258
05-2-35	1	30	1,066	505	276	225	2,103
05-2-36	148	40	2	126	204	194	714
05-2-38	1	50	120	421	310	268	1,170
05-2-40	1	39	179	447	286	613	1,565
05-2-42	1	66	59	836	260	602	1,824
05-2-43	418	227	2,854	391	435	318	4,643
05-2-46	323	288	7,764	325	357	33	9,090
05-2-47	875	330	3,091	1,389	438	421	6,544
05-3-02	167	20	4,949	268	122	23	5,549
05-3-03	378	157	3,449	551	302	46	4,883
05-3-04	327	739	10,192	586	200	18	12,062
05-3-05	183	34	797	304	209	103	1,630
05-3-06	1,156	180	2,170	1,240	329	558	5,633
05-3-09	583	718	1,719	1,399	579	187	5,185
05-3-10	1	28	79	107	128	127	470
05-3-12	2	56	51	694	193	442	1,438
05-3-13	4	50	831	378	251	235	1,749
05-3-14	313	227	891	820	469	673	3,393
05-3-17	304	181	4,268	701	470	148	6,072
TOTAL	32,329	9,911	173,630	47,431	16,983	14,193	294,477

Note: Due to migration of data to the new Magisterial District Court case management system, a slight variation may exist between some statistics (above) obtained from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and actual case filings. Also, due to 2011 Magisterial District Court Reestablishment, some courts experienced significant fluctuations in filings from previous years due to changes in jurisdictional boundaries.

Pittsburgh Municipal Court

To promote public trust and confidence in our judicial system by providing quality service to the public and law enforcement agencies in an impartial, efficient, and effective manner.

In 2011, the Pittsburgh Municipal Court (PMC) continued its commitment to promote public trust and confidence by providing quality service in an impartial, efficient, and effective manner. Efforts were made in all divisions to concentrate on service to court participants and the timely resolution of cases.

The Arraignment Division of PMC continues to conduct business 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Magisterial district judges from all district courts in the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania preside in Arraignment Court on a rotating basis. In 2011, the Arraignment Division conducted 16,394 preliminary arraignments via two-way simultaneous audio-visual communication with the Allegheny County Jail, pursuant to Pa.R.Crim.P. 540. The Arraignment Division utilized video conferencing to conduct 45 arraignments for individuals housed in correctional facilities throughout Pennsylvania, which reduced the expense of transportation and provided for greater safety.

In addition to handling preliminary arraignments, the Arraignment Division processes criminal complaints and the issuance of arrest and search warrants for all magisterial district courts during non-business hours, and for the City of Pittsburgh during all hours. The magisterial district judges assigned to the Arraignment Division conducted 99 marriage ceremonies in 2011.

The Arraignment Division also collects bail and collateral on Summary, Criminal, and Family Division cases during non-business hours and on weekends and holidays. This division collected \$1,242,984 in 2011, which primarily represents bail on criminal cases, but also includes collateral on traffic and non-traffic cases, and Department of Court Record fees.

Emergency Protection from Abuse (PFA) Petitions are processed at Arraignment Court in the evenings, Monday through Friday, and 24 hours on weekends and holidays. The Arraignment Division processed 2,971 Emergency Protection from Abuse Petitions in 2011.

Total case filings at PMC decreased in 2011. A total of 60,181 cases were filed at PMC's Non-Traffic, Traffic, and Criminal Divisions. Of this number, 11,991 were criminal, 9,849 were non-traffic, 38,212 were traffic, and 129 were private criminal complaints.

PMC continues to use the on-line calendar and postponement request system, both of which are available on the Fifth Judicial District website, www.alleghenycourts.us/pmc/calendar.aspx. The public can search cases by date, defendant, or OTN. Attorneys may create an account providing them access to electronically request postponements. By year's end, 204 attorneys were registered to use the system.

The Traffic and Non-Traffic divisions of PMC began utilizing videoconferencing for proceedings with incarcerated defendants and conducted, approximately 40 proceedings in 2011 with defendants housed in correctional facilities throughout Pennsylvania.

Payments on citations can still be made through the services of nCourt, a private company that provides the public with the ability to pay traffic and nontraffic fines over the Internet. The nCourt website, www.pittsburghpatix.com, is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In 2011, the nCourt service processed 5,682 citations and collected \$526,645 in fines, fees, and costs.

The Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) implemented a new and enhanced Magisterial District Judge Computer System (MDJS) statewide. Implementation of the system began in 2009 in various Pennsylvania counties. Allegheny County transitioned to the new system in December 2011. PMC spent much of 2011 preparing for the migration of data and training of employees. AOPC staff trained 48 PMC employees within three weeks beginning in the fall of 2011.

The new MDJS provides improved compatibility with current technology, and supports the management of traffic, non-traffic, criminal, private criminal, civil, landlord-tenant, and miscellaneous docket cases with several new features:

- Provides a more efficient method for identifying the existence of warrants from other jurisdictions;
- Provides information on statewide bail and sentencing history and increases capabilities for cross-court actions for night courts and central courts;
- Provides additional information on defendant confinement and case balances, and improved interactions with the Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS) and
- Improves the transfer of case information through JNET to the State Police, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, and other county and state agencies.

Additionally, the new MDJS supports the ePay online case payment application. Developed by the AOPC, ePay saves staff processing time by providing a convenient option for defendants to pay court fines, costs, and restitution with credit and debit cards via the Internet at ujportal.pacourts.us. Applications available in the new MDJS will allow PMC to provide services to the public more efficiently and effectively.

PMC collected \$4,264,404 in fines, fees, and collateral for traffic and non-traffic citations in 2011.

DISTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

County of Allegheny	\$699,952
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$2,055,758
City of Pittsburgh	\$1,508,694



Pittsburgh Municipal Court Audio/Video Technician DJ. Trozzo.

PITTSBURGH MUNICIPAL COURT

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE	COURT NUMBER	SESSIONS ASSIGNED	PMC CASES ¹	MDJ COURT FILINGS IN 2011	TOTAL FILINGS PER MDJ ²
Hon. Eugene N. Ricciardi	05-2-27	62	2,698	3,897	6,595
Hon. Oscar J. Petite, Jr.	05-2-28	105	4,569	2,544	7,113
Hon. Ron N. Costa, Sr.	05-2-31	110	4,786	1,802	6,588
Hon. Nathan Firestone	05-2-35	107	4,656	2,103	6,759
Hon. James J. Hanley, Jr.	05-2-36	154	6,701	714	7,415
Hon. James A. Motznik	05-2-38	114	4,960	1,170	6,130
Hon. Derwin Rushing	05-2-40	102	4,438	1,565	6,003
Hon. Robert P. Ravenstahl, Jr.	05-2-42	105	4,569	1,824	6,393
Hon. Anthony Ceoffe	05-3-10	191	8,310	470	8,780
Hon. Kevin E. Cooper	05-3-12	104	4,525	1,438	5,963
Hon. Randy C. Martini	05-3-13	155	6,744	1,749	8,493
Hon. Richard G. King	05-3-14	60	2,611	3,393	6,004
Hon. Carla Swearingen ³	05-2-43	14	609	4,643	5,252
Total		1,383	60,176	27,312	87,488

¹ Equals Sessions Assigned Per Year x Average Number of Cases Per Session (43.51)

² Equals PMC Filings + MDJ Court Filings

³ Magisterial District Judge Carla Swearingen sits in a Friday rotation only because the majority of filings in her district are from Robinson Township.





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County of Allegheny**

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