



THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Allegheny County



2019 / 2020 / 2021

TRIENNIAL REPORT

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PRESIDENT JUDGE'S MESSAGE

On March 16, 2020, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania declared a statewide judicial emergency due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Judges, administrators, and court staff immediately started planning and putting into place processes and technology to avoid a complete disruption of court services. As the pandemic progressed, processes were continually modified to address changing circumstances, all of which was extremely challenging for all those involved with the court in Allegheny County.

On behalf of the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who played a role in keeping our courts operational during the pandemic. Your dedication to public service was and continues to be outstanding. Judges, administrators, and court staff put forth an exceptional effort during these past two and a half years. Our Court Information Technology employees worked particularly hard to meet the challenges presented. Their expertise allowed many to work remotely, which kept everyone including the public that we serve, safer. I would also like to recognize the employees who worked every day during the pandemic and especially those who worked every day in a court facility. These employees exemplified public service in its most pure form.

I would also like to thank the Bar of Allegheny County and all of our justice related partners for their patience, understanding, and assistance as we constantly updated processes and procedures. A special thank you is extended to Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and County Manager William McKain for their strong support for the courts during the pandemic.

Finally, I want to recognize the heartbreaking losses of families and friends who suffered when loved ones passed away and the struggles of those confronted with serious COVID-related illnesses.

This 2019/2020/2021 Triennial Report reflects our dedication to improving access to the courts and the administration of justice. Thank you for taking the time to review this court's report.

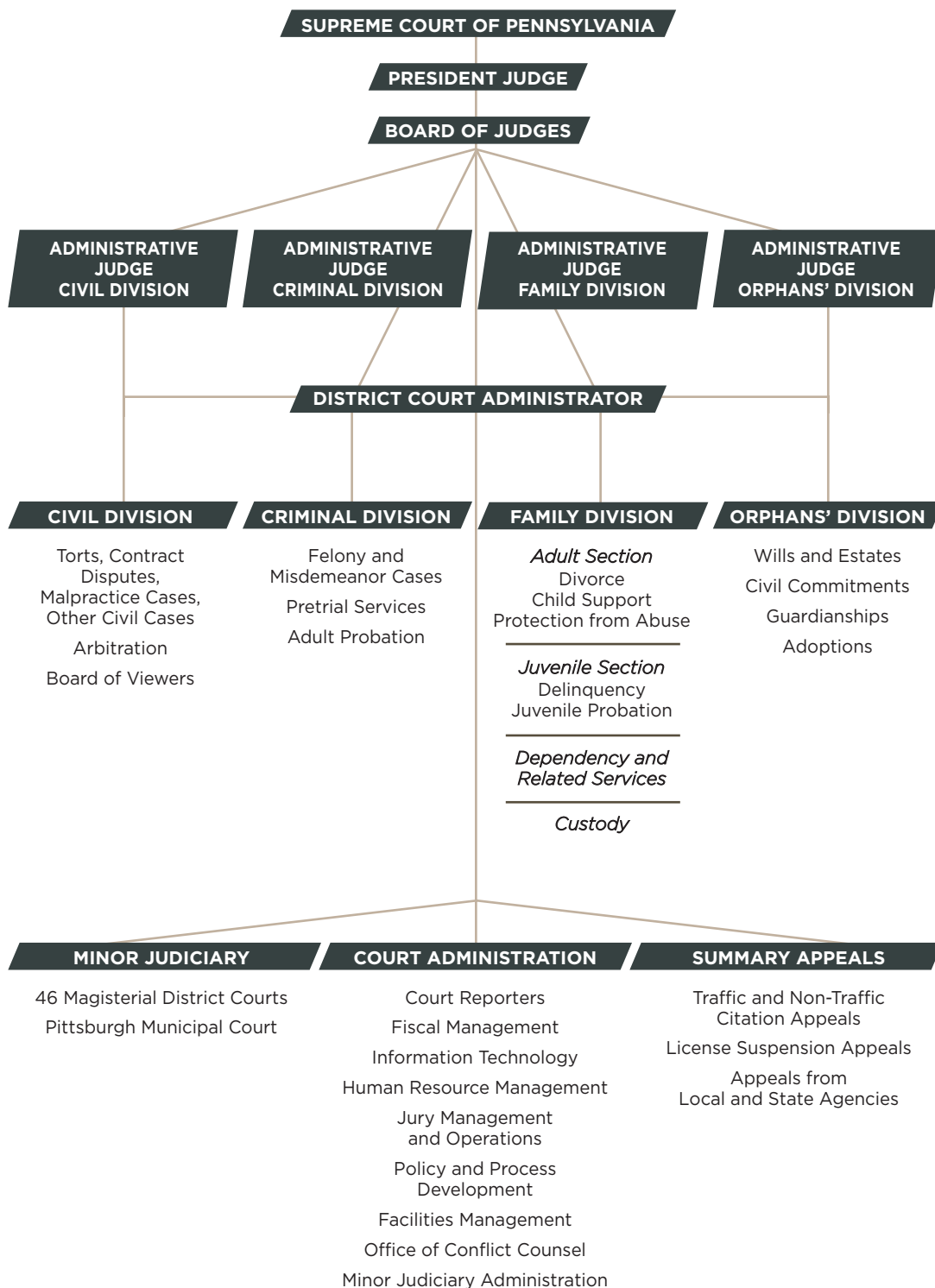


Kim Berkeley Clark
President Judge



Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark
President Judge

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



The Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania exists to administer fair and timely justice and provide efficient and effective court services.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Christopher H. Connors, Esq.
District Court Administrator

Angharad Grimes Stock, Esq.
Chief Deputy Court Administrator

Joseph Asturi
Director of Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs

Mark Baird
Manager, Facilities

Russell Carlino
Administrator, Juvenile Court

Sean F. Collins
Director, Information Technology

Lindsay Hildenbrand
Director, Jury Operations

Gary J. Kushner
Manager, Office of Court Reporters

Michelle H. Lally, Esq.
Chair, Board of Viewers

Thomas M. McCaffrey
Administrator, Criminal Division

Michele Poulos
Manager, Fiscal Affairs

Janice Radovick-Dean
Deputy Administrator, Special Courts

Melinda Sala, Esq.
Manager, Court Human Resources

Francis "Frank" J. Scherer
Director, Adult Probation

Tricia R. Sorg, Esq.
Administrator, Family Division

Paul W. Stefano, Esq.
Administrator, Orphans' Court Division

Cynthia K. Stoltz, Esq.
Administrator, Access to Justice and Cross Division Coordination

Dianne S. Wainwright, Esq.
Administrator, Civil Division

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



APPOINTMENTS | ELECTIONS

Judge Robert J. Colville Appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

Following his nomination and confirmation to the federal bench by the U.S. Senate, Judge Robert J. Colville was sworn in as a Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania on January 3, 2020.

Upon graduation from the Duquesne University School of Law, Judge Colville worked as a law clerk to Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Ralph J. Cappy and later as a lawyer for the law firm of Pietragallo, Bosick and Gordon. He was elected in November 1999 to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and served his first three years in the Juvenile and Adult Sections of the Family Division. From February 2003 through March 2019, he served in the Civil Division where he maintained a full general docket caseload and presided over Toxic Substance Cases, Class Action and Complex Case Management matters, special motions, Arbitration Appeal Motions, and discovery matters. He was transferred to the Criminal Division in April 2019 and continued to preside over arbitration, special motion, and discovery motion matters in the Civil Division while maintaining a criminal docket.



Judge Robert J. Colville

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Judge Mary C. McGinley

Judge Mary C. McGinley was nominated by Governor Tom Wolf and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate on June 27, 2019 to fill a vacancy on the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. She was subsequently successful in her bid for election to the Common Pleas bench in November 2019 to a ten-year term and has been assigned to the Family Division of the court.



Judge Mary C. McGinley took the oath of office for the Court of Common Pleas, administered by Judge Jennifer Staley McCrady, on January 3, 2020.

Prior to her judicial appointment, Judge McGinley graduated from Penn State University where she studied Sociology and Gerontology. She later earned a law degree from the Duquesne University School of Law in 2002. She began her legal career with the law firm of Meyer, Unkovic & Scott, LLP while in law school and focused on Orphans' Court matters and complex legal disputes in both state and federal courts. In 2013, she was named *Woman of the Year* by the Duquesne University School of Law Women's Law Association. She was also presented with the *Jefferson Award* for her 12-year service as co-chair of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, Attorneys Against Hunger, a campaign effort that coordinates resources and volunteers for hunger agencies throughout Allegheny County.

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



APPOINTMENTS | ELECTIONS

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (CONTINUED)



Judge Elliot C. Howsie, accompanied by Melissa Arnold, swore his oath of office on June 7, 2019.

Judge Elliot C. Howsie

Judge Elliot C. Howsie was nominated by Governor Tom Wolf and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate on May 7, 2019 to fill a vacancy on the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. He was subsequently successful in his bid for election to the Common Pleas bench in November 2021 to a ten-year term and is currently assigned to the Criminal Division of the court.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Howsie led the Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender from 2012 to 2019 where he was responsible for all operations including managing the annual budget and overseeing a staff of 89 attorneys and 35 support personnel. From 2005 to 2012, he worked as a private practice attorney representing clients involved in criminal and personal injury matters, and from 2002 to 2005 he served as

an Assistant District Attorney prosecuting cases involving assault, burglary, driving under the influence, and crimes of physical and sexual abuse of children. He was employed as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Justin M. Johnson in the Superior Court of Pennsylvania from 1989 to 1998 and served as an intern with the Allegheny Public Defender's Office (1997) and Neighborhood Legal Services (1996). He has been active in social service work where he was employed with Alternative Program Associates, Inc. of Pittsburgh as a Supervisor and Family Therapist and as a Residential Counselor with Whale's Tale working with troubled adolescents.

Judge Howsie is a current member of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board and the Macedonia Family and Community Enrichment Center.

Judge Howsie completed his undergraduate studies at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he earned his B.S. and M.S. in Criminology, and in 1998, he earned his law degree from Duquesne University School of Law.



Judge Thomas P. Caulfield took his oath of office for the Court of Common Pleas on December 30, 2021 accompanied by his wife, Lisa V. Caulfield.

Judge Thomas P. Caulfield

Prior to being elected to the Common Pleas bench in November 2021, Judge Thomas P. Caulfield served as Magisterial District Judge in District Court 05-2-08 (2010-2021), which includes the communities of Braddock Hills, Chalfant, Churchill, Forest Hills, and Swissvale. He was employed by the Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender (1991-2010) where he worked as an attorney and rose to the position of Deputy Director while maintaining a solo general practice (1991-2004). He worked as a Legislative Assistant for State Representative Paul Costa (1998-2010) and served as a Councilperson for Churchill Borough, being twice elected as Council President by his peers.

Judge Caulfield graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Pittsburgh with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and received his Juris Doctor from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1991. He has been assigned to the Criminal Division.

Judge Bruce R. Beemer

Judge Bruce R. Beemer was nominated by Governor Tom Wolf and confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate in December 2019 to fill a vacancy on the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. He was subsequently successful in his bid for election to the Common Pleas bench in November 2021 to a ten-year term and has been assigned to the Criminal Division. Prior to his election, he served as Inspector General of Pennsylvania (7/2016–8/2016 and 1/2017–12/2019) where he was responsible for investigating waste, fraud, and abuse in executive branch agencies of state government and for prosecuting cases involving welfare fraud, food stamp trafficking, and overpayment of benefits. He was also previously employed in the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General serving in positions including Attorney General (8/2016–1/2017), First Deputy Attorney General (6/2014–7/2016), Chief of Criminal Prosecutions and Senior Counsel to the Attorney General (1/2013–6/2014), and Chief of Staff (9/2011–1/2013). Judge Beemer worked for a short time in a private law firm specializing in environmental, personal injury, and white-collar criminal defense, and in the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office (1996–2010) as an Assistant and Deputy District Attorney.

Judge Beemer attended the University of Pittsburgh School of Law where he earned his Juris Doctor Degree in 1995. He earned a B.A. in History from the University of Scranton in 1992, *summa cum laude*.



Judge Bruce R. Beemer, his wife, Jodi, and children celebrate his appointment to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County.



Judge Nicola Henry-Taylor celebrated her oath of office ceremony on December 30, 2021 with her husband, Robert Taylor, and her children.

Judge Nicola Henry-Taylor

Judge Nicola Henry-Taylor was elected to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas in November 2021 and was assigned to the Family Division effective January 3, 2022. Prior to ascending to the bench, she interned for Judge Justin M. Johnson, Superior Court of Pennsylvania and worked as law clerk for Judges Charles R. Alexander (Clarion County) and Thomas J. Doerr (Butler County). She was employed by the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office in 2001 where she prosecuted Mental Health Court cases and joined the law firm of K&L Gates in 2007 before starting her own private practice in 2010 where she focused on family and criminal law.

Judge Henry-Taylor served as the Diversity Director for Duquesne University School of Law and is a member of the Duquesne Law Alumni Board of Governors. She was Commissioner on the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission, a member of the Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission for Gender, Racial and Ethnic Fairness – Legal Academics Working Group, and a former member of the Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts Board of Advisors. She previously served on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Disciplinary Board Committee. Judge Henry-Taylor is active in the Allegheny County Bar Association, having served two terms as Secretary, and is a current member of the ad hoc committee to Examine Police Use of Force and Court Rules for Bail, Probation, and Incarceration.

Judge Henry-Taylor is the recipient of The Josh Gibson Foundation Civil Service Award (2021), the Allegheny County Bar Association WLD Carol Los Mansmann Helping Hand Award (2019), the New Pittsburgh Courier Women of Excellence (2017), the Women's Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania Susan B. Anthony Award (2016), the Duquesne Women's Law Association Woman of the Year Award (2015), and the Pennsylvania Bar Association Minority Bar Committee Rising Star (2009).

She received her B.A. *cum laude* from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania and enrolled as a first-generation law student at Duquesne University School of Law, graduating in 1996.

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



APPOINTMENTS | ELECTIONS

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (CONTINUED)



President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark administered the oath of office to Judge Tiffany E. Sizemore on December 29, 2021. Standing L-R: Judge Clark and Judge Sizemore. Seated L-R: Elmira Sizemore and Bessie Essex, mother and aunt of Judge Sizemore.

Judge Tiffany E. Sizemore

In November 2021, Judge Tiffany E. Sizemore won election to serve a ten-year term in the Fifth Judicial District-Court of Common Pleas. She was assigned to the Family Division where she will primarily preside over juvenile delinquency and dependency cases.

Prior to her election, Judge Sizemore was an associate professor of clinical legal studies at Duquesne University School of Law, where she developed the Youth Advocacy Clinic to represent youth in delinquency and education matters. Prior to joining Duquesne Law School, Judge Sizemore was employed by the Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender as Deputy Director of the juvenile division. She served in this capacity for two years supervising juvenile defense practitioners and developing practice standards relating to delinquency matters. She served as a trial attorney for eight years at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia representing clients charged with homicide, sexual assault, armed robbery, kidnapping, and carjacking and as a supervisor in the juvenile section.

In 2019, Judge Sizemore was chosen as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Interdisciplinary Leader to study the Holistic Legal Model used in the Youth Advocacy Clinic and was appointed to Governor Tom Wolf's Juvenile Justice Taskforce, which was charged with examining and proposing reforms to the juvenile legal system in Pennsylvania. She conducted numerous trainings throughout her legal career on subjects including fundamentals of evidence, effective juvenile disposition advocacy, and fundamental trial skills. She was a certified trainer through the National Juvenile Defender Center's Juvenile Training Immersion Program and is an alumna (1995) and Trustee of the Winchester Thurston School in Pittsburgh.

Judge Sizemore graduated from Howard University School of Law, *cum laude*, in May 2004. She attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, where she received a B.A. in Education.

Judge Jessel A. Costa

Judge Jessel A. Costa was successful in his bid for election in November 2021 to a ten-year term in the Fifth Judicial District-Court of Common Pleas. He received a B.A. in Philosophy and English Literature, as well as a minor in History, from the University of Pittsburgh (2009). He earned his law degree from Duquesne University School of Law in 2012. Prior to being elected to the Common Pleas bench, Judge Costa was employed by the Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender (2012-2015), by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, where he served as Deputy Attorney General in the Child Predator Section (2015-2021), and with the law firm of Attisano & Romano (2021).

Judge Costa's oath of office ceremony took place on December 28, 2021. He has been assigned to serve in the Family Division of the court.



Judge Jessel A. Costa celebrated his oath of office ceremony on December 28, 2021 accompanied by his family, L-R: Rachel Costa (sister), Erin Sunshine Costa (wife), Judge Costa, Roxanne Costa (mother), Senator Jay Costa, Jr. (father), and Anthony Costa (brother).

Judge Wrenna L. Watson

Prior to election to the Common Pleas bench in November 2021, Judge Wrenna L. Watson served as a Mental Health Review Officer in the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania – Orphans' Court for twenty-six (26) years and as a sole practitioner primarily representing children, families, and business owners (1992-2021). She is a strong advocate for children, and in addition to legal representation, she encouraged clients of all ages to seek better life circumstances. She served as a judge of the Pittsburgh Magistrates' Court, as hearing examiner for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board for Western Pennsylvania and Erie, was simultaneous chair of the Pittsburgh Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustments, and was Assistant General Counsel and Section 8 Hearing Officer for the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh.

Judge Watson received her Bachelor of Science degree from Howard University, Washington, D.C. and her Juris Doctor from the Duquesne University School of Law. She has been assigned to serve in the Criminal Division of the court.



Judge Wrenna L. Watson celebrated her oath of office ceremony on December 30, 2021 with her father, Judge J. Warren Watson, and President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark.

Judge Sabrina Korbel

Judge Sabrina Korbel, appointed by Governor Tom Wolf in October 2021 to fill a vacancy in the Fifth Judicial District-Court of Common Pleas, was successful in her bid for election in November 2021 to a ten-year term and is currently assigned to the Family Division. Prior to being elected, she devoted her legal career to serving domestic violence victims and children. She was employed at the Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh from 2002 through 2021, serving as the Legal Director and supervising the Shelter's Civil Law Project, where she managed the representation of survivors of domestic violence in over 7,000 cases. She focused her efforts on improving the justice system in ways that provide transparent and easy access to the courts for those most in need. Regularly serving on educational and policy panels as an expert in domestic violence dynamics, she instructed numerous attorneys on the procedures used in addressing pro bono protection from abuse cases.

Judge Korbel is a Founding Commissioner of the City of Pittsburgh Gender Equity Commission and sat as a Hearing Officer for the Allegheny County Retirement Board. She has served as a member of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Allegheny County Domestic Violence Task Force, the Allegheny County Children's Roundtable-Implementation Co-Chair/Family Violence Committee, and as President of the Pittsburgh Matrimonial Inn of Court. Former memberships include the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee and the Allegheny County Bar Association Board of Governors. She co-chaired the Allegheny County Bar Association Family Law Section Public Service Committee and is a Fellow of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. She was awarded the Allegheny County Bar Foundation Public Interest Attorney Award (2009), the Pennsylvania Bar Association Civil Legal Aid Attorney of the Year Award (2011), the Women of Achievement Award (2017), and the Salute to Legal Excellence Award (2020).



Judge Sabrina Korbel (center) celebrated her appointment to the Court of Common Pleas on November 8, 2021 with President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, her husband, Stephen Korbel, Esq., and her children.

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



APPOINTMENTS | ELECTIONS

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (CONTINUED)



Judge Chelsa Wagner

Judge Chelsa Wagner

Judge Chelsa Wagner was elected to the Common Pleas bench in November 2021 following a legal and business career dedicated to public advocacy and service. She was elected to three terms as Allegheny County Controller and three terms as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where she served on the House Judiciary Committee. She previously worked as an attorney in private practice and as a senior business analyst for an international software engineering company. A native of Pittsburgh's Beechview neighborhood, she earned her bachelor's degree in public policy from the University of Chicago in 1999 and her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2005.

Judge Wagner is the recipient of the following awards: "Elected Official of the Year" (2019) by the Pennsylvania Healthcare Access, Pitt Law Women's Association Marjorie Matson Award (2019), Governing Magazine Women In Government Leadership Honoree (2017), where she was selected among over 100,000 women holding office nationally for the program's third cohort, Pennsylvania Women's Hall of Achievement: Woman of the Year in Government (2009), Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Awardee (2008), State Legislative Leaders Foundation Emerging Leaders Honoree (2008), and Pittsburgh Magazine 40 Under 40 Honoree (2007).

Judge Wagner was sworn in as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas on December 29, 2021 and began her term in the Family Division on January 3, 2022.



Judge Lisa G. Middleman celebrated her oath of office ceremony on December 28, 2021 with her children.

Judge Lisa G. Middleman

Prior to her election to the Common Pleas bench in November 2021, Judge Lisa G. Middleman worked in the Allegheny County Public Defender's Office (1987-2021). She served as chief law clerk and was later promoted to Homicide Counsel where she concentrated primarily on complex homicide and death penalty cases while maintaining a small private practice.

Throughout her legal career, Judge Middleman prioritized speaking engagements at local high schools including Woodland Hills, North Allegheny, Avonworth, and Pittsburgh Public Schools to encourage students to pursue legal careers. She served as a judge at high school and law school moot court competitions and participated as an instructor at many continuing legal education events for attorneys.

A Highland Park, Pennsylvania native, Judge Middleman graduated from Duke University in 1983 and earned her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1987.

Judge Middleman was sworn in as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas on December 28, 2021 and began her term in the Family Division on January 3, 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



APPOINTMENTS | ELECTIONS

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGES



Magisterial District Judge
Leah Williams Duncan

Magisterial District Judge Leah Williams Duncan Elected to District Court 05-2-42

Magisterial District Judge Leah Williams Duncan was elected in November 2021 to Magisterial District Court 05-2-42, encompassing Pittsburgh Wards 26 and 27, and took office in January 2022. A life-long resident of Pittsburgh, she graduated from Perry Traditional Academy (1983), Penn State University (1988), and earned her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law (1994). While attending Penn State University, she enlisted in the United States Army Reserve (1985) and, upon graduation from Penn State University, she was commissioned and served as a Lieutenant (1988-1991). Prior to being elected, District Judge Duncan served as a criminal defense attorney and as a child and parent advocate and was employed by the Fifth Judicial District as a Hearing Officer in the Family Division (2001-2021). She also served as an appointee to the City of Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations and was a member of the City League All-Sports Hall of Fame Committee, the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Women's Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania, and the Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania. She was honored with the Salute to Legal Excellence Award (2020) and was named a Woman of Excellence by the New Pittsburgh Courier (2009).



Magisterial District Judge
Nicholas C. Martini

Magisterial District Judge Nicholas C. Martini Elected to District Court 05-3-13

In November 2021, Judge Nicholas C. Martini was elected to serve as Magisterial District Judge in District Court 05-3-13 (Pittsburgh Wards 20 and 28). Prior to being elected, his nearly two-decade career included teaching in Pittsburgh Public Schools, serving city and state government constituents, making technical contributions in the Allegheny County Controller's Office, and holding managerial positions with the City of Pittsburgh and Stowe Township. He was an active union member with the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees. Judge Martini graduated *magna cum laude* from Robert Morris University in 2009 with a double major in Political Science/Economics and Social Studies Education, as well as a minor in American History. In addition to his education and professional background, Judge Martini was awarded the Thomas Starzl Transplant Institute Medal of Honor in 2014 in recognition of his donating a kidney to his father in 2013. His volunteer experience encompasses nonprofit board director leadership, neighborhood litter management, middle school mentorship, reading tutoring, and umpiring youth sports.



Magisterial District Judge
Xander Orenstein

Magisterial District Judge Xander Orenstein Elected to District Court 05-3-10

Magisterial District Judge Xander Orenstein (they/them) was successful in their bid for election in November 2021 to serve as Magisterial District Judge in District Court 05-3-10 (City of Pittsburgh Wards 6 & 9). Prior to election, they graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences (2014) and from Johns Hopkins University with a master's degree in Biotechnology with a concentration in biodefense (2019). After working as a molecular biologist, biochemist, and synthetic chemist in infectious disease, basic ageing research, and genetic therapy development, they sought a career change where they could apply logic to problems and have a more effective, meaningful impact on the community.

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



APPOINTMENTS | ELECTIONS

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGES (CONTINUED)



Magisterial District Judge
Matthew V. Rudzki

Magisterial District Judge Matthew V. Rudzki Elected to District Court 05-2-04

Magisterial District Judge Matthew V. Rudzki graduated from Washington & Jefferson College in 2008 as a dual major in history and German, spent a gap year in Austria on a Fulbright Fellowship, and earned his law degree from the Duquesne University School of Law in 2013. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Rudzki interned in the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office and entered private practice with the Giuffre Law Office and later Jones, Gregg, Creehan & Gerace. He previously served his hometown, Sharpsburg Borough, as a Council member (2011-2017) and as Mayor (2018-2021). He was sworn in as Magisterial District Judge in District Court 05-2-04 (Aspinwall Borough, Indiana Township, Indianola, Blawnox Borough, Sharpsburg Borough, O'Hara Township, and Fox Chapel Borough) in December 2021 and began his term on the bench on January 3, 2022.



Magisterial District Judge
Michele Santicola

Magisterial District Judge Michele Santicola Elected to District Court 05-2-25

Magisterial District Judge Michele Santicola won election in November 2019 to serve in District Court 05-2-25, located in Coraopolis Borough, for a six-year term. She began her legal career as Deputy Attorney General with the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General (1995-2004) and later joined the law firm of Sainovich & Santicola (2004-2012). She served as a Hearing Examiner for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (2012-2016), and became a partner with the Santicola, Steel & Fedeles law office (2016-2019), where she focused on criminal defense and liquor law. She was a member of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors (2017-2019) and Moon Area Education Foundation Board of Trustees (2018-2020). Judge Santicola performed her undergraduate studies at Duquesne University, graduating 1992, *cum laude*, and in 1995 earned her law degree from Penn State Dickinson School of Law. She currently volunteers at the West Hills and Coraopolis Food Pantries as well as at the Mooncrest Community Center where she tutors school-age children and oversees a law enforcement program.



Magisterial District Judge
Hilary K. Wheatley

Magisterial District Judge Hilary K. Wheatley Elected to District Court 05-2-19

In November 2021, Judge Hilary K. Wheatley won election to serve a six-year term as Magisterial District Judge in District Court 05-2-19 (Mount Lebanon and Dormont Borough). Prior to her election, she was employed by the law office of Papernick & Gefsky, located in Pittsburgh, and focused on condominium and planned community association law, landlord-tenant matters, real estate transactions, estate planning, and general civil litigation from 2007-present. She served on the Mt. Lebanon Zoning Hearing Board from 2018-2022 and as an arbitrator and Housing Court mediator in the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas from 2004-2022. She is a founding member and past president of the Women's Club of Mt. Lebanon, which serves the Greater Pittsburgh area with volunteer and philanthropic efforts. Judge Wheatley earned a B.A. in Psychology from The Ohio State University in 1999 and a J.D. from the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University in 2002. She is admitted to practice law in Ohio and Pennsylvania and continues to provide limited legal services to clients in an of counsel role with Papernick & Gefsky.



Magisterial District Judge
Jehosha Wright

Magisterial District Judge Jehosha Wright Elected to District Court 05-2-40

Magisterial District Judge Jehosha Wright won election in November 2021 to serve a six-year term in District Court 05-2-40 (Pittsburgh Wards 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25). Prior to his election, he worked as a clinical mental health counselor. He was recognized for his efforts to diversify the student population at Carlow University where he earned his bachelor's degree and went on to obtain his master's degree for clinical mental health counseling. Introduced to Pittsburgh's philanthropic landscape in 2015 with The Door Campaign, he assisted with the development of the 2020 Vision Program and the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) curriculum for both Pittsburgh Public and Charter Schools. He served as a Community Outreach Specialist for Fineview and Perry Hilltop Citizen's Council and was instrumental in the crafting of a youth development program aimed at teaching Perry High School students about community leadership. His desire to make an impact in the judiciary was fortified through his experience as a drug and alcohol therapist at an alternative correctional facility.



INTERNATIONAL GUESTS



Delegates from Russia visited the Allegheny County Courthouse and the Family Law Center. L-R: Aleksey Chumakov, Daniil Potapov, Aleksandr Gorbachev, Criminal Division Manager Carol Eddins, Criminal Division Tipstaff Phyllis Green, Varvara Mikhailova, and Aleksandr Peredruk

Delegates from Russia Visit the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County

GlobalPittsburgh, a non-profit organization and member of the Washington, D.C.-based Global Ties U.S., hosted its 55th Open World program May 17-25, 2019, which included a visit by five human rights lawyers from Saint Petersburg and Moscow to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. With a general focus on legal issues involving antidiscrimination, freedom of speech, and human rights matters, Russian visitors observed criminal court proceedings on May 21, 2019 and toured the Family Law Center, formerly the Allegheny County Jail, which was renovated in 2000 into a state-of-the-art court facility. GlobalPittsburgh's Nadya Kessler accompanied the delegates and acted as an interpreter for the group.

Fifth Judicial District Welcomes Visitors from Tunisia

Representatives from Tunisia including law enforcement judges, prosecutors, probation officers, a prison advisor, and interpreters were welcomed by the Fifth Judicial District on September 16, 2019 to discuss criminal justice reform concepts. Accompanied by Professor John T. Rago, Duquesne University School of Law, and Allegheny County Criminal Justice Advisory Board Facilitator, Tunisian guests observed presentations on the bail system and probation and parole practices and participated in conversations with Judges Lester G. Nauhaus and Beth A. Lazzara regarding Allegheny County Drug Court and Mental Health Court procedures.



HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



JUDICIAL RETIREMENTS

Judge Jeffrey A. Manning

President Judge Emeritus Jeffrey A. Manning retired on January 2, 2022 following 33 years of distinguished service on the Common Pleas bench. He was appointed by Governor Robert P. Casey in 1988, won election in 1989, and was retained for additional terms in 1999, 2009, and 2019. By the unanimous vote of his peers, he was elected as president judge of the Fifth Judicial District in 2013 for a five-year term. Prior to his judicial tenure, Judge Manning served as an Allegheny County assistant district attorney (1973-1976), as an assistant U.S. attorney (1976-1988), and as first assistant U.S. attorney (1986-1988). He shared his wealth of knowledge as an adjunct professor of law with students at Duquesne University School of Law from 1988 until shortly before his retirement. Judge Manning is the recipient of the Allegheny County Bar Association's Philip Werner Amram Award (2002); Amen Corner's Judge Robert E. Dauer Award (2011); Sigma Chi National Fraternity (2013); the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges Golden Crowbar Award (2014); Duquesne University Distinguished Alumnus Award (2017); and Duquesne University Student Bar Association Award (2011 and 2014).



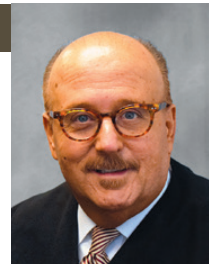
Judge David R. Cashman

Judge David R. Cashman was originally appointed to the Common Pleas bench by Governor Robert P. Casey in 1988. Upon his election to a full term in 1991, he was assigned to the Criminal Division, effective January 6, 1992, and was retained for two subsequent terms in 2001 and 2011. He was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court as administrative judge of the Criminal Division from January 2014 to December 2018. Under his leadership, improvements to the efficiency of the Criminal Division docket resulted in an all-time low number of pending cases. This achievement was recognized on a national level by the National Center for State Courts. Prior to his judicial career, he practiced law with the Cauley, Birsic & Conflenti (1970-1984) and Mazzotta & Winters, P.C. (1984-1988) law firms. Judge Cashman's application to serve as a senior judge was approved effective August 15, 2022.



Judge Guido A. DeAngelis

Upon Judge Guido A. DeAngelis's election to the Common Pleas bench in 2001, he was assigned to the Family Division where he served a short time before being reassigned to the Criminal Division in 2003. He returned to the Family Division-Juvenile Section in 2004 where he remained until his retirement in December 2021. Allegheny County became a launch site for Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform's (CJJR) Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) in 2014, and Judge DeAngelis led this significant effort. The goal of the CYPM is to improve outcomes for youth who are known to both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Prior to being elected to the Court of Common Pleas, Judge DeAngelis served as Magisterial District Judge in District Court 05-2-29 from 1990 to January 2002. He held positions and memberships in the following organizations: Special Court Judges Association of Allegheny; Ethics and Professionalism Committee; Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania; Center for Victims of Violent Crime; and the Pennsylvania and Allegheny County Bar Associations.



Judge Judith L.A. Friedman

Judge Judith L.A. Friedman retired on December 31, 2020, following 34 years of service on the Common Pleas Bench. Elected in November 1985, she was originally assigned to serve in the Criminal Division and was reassigned to the Civil Division in 1989 where she remained until her retirement. Prior to her election, she practiced civil law with the law firm of Friedman and Friedman (1974-1985) and as Allegheny County Deputy Coroner (1980-1985). She was a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges (Prison Committee, Judicial Ethics Committee), and the National Association of Women Judges.



Judge Michael A. Della Vecchia

Following his appointment by Governor Tom Ridge to serve on the Common Pleas bench in May 2001, Judge Michael A. Della Vecchia was elected to a 10-year term in the November 2001 general election and was retained for an additional term in 2011. He was initially assigned to the Family Division and transferred to the Civil Division in 2005 where he maintained a customary docket and presided over asbestos backlog cases and eminent domain cases. His application to serve as a senior judge was approved effective January 1, 2022. He will continue to serve in the Civil Division. Prior to his judicial election, Judge Della Vecchia was as a partner with the law firm Evashavik & Della Vecchia (1971-1996), a member of Rose, Schmidt, Hasley & DiSalle, P.C. (1996-2000), and served as the Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds (1980-2001). Memberships include the Allegheny County and American Bar Associations; Pennsylvania Recorder of Deeds Association; Pennsylvania and Federal Bar Associations; former trustee of Community College of Allegheny County; and Advisory Committee on Real Estate, Joint State Government Commission of the Pennsylvania General Assembly.



Judge Kathleen A. Durkin

Judge Kathleen A. Durkin was elected to the Common Pleas bench in November 1991 and was retained for additional terms in 2001 and 2011. She served the first 22 years of her judicial career in the Criminal Division and was reassigned in January 2014 to serve in the Orphans' Court Division. She retired in August 2019. Prior to her election to the bench, she was employed by the Allegheny County Law Department as a law clerk (1981-1982) and Assistant County Solicitor (1982-1991) where she represented litigants involved in Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act (U.R.E.S.A.) matters and welfare recipients in paternity conciliations. Non-legal experience included teaching socially and emotionally disturbed children and behavior modification counseling. She belonged to the following organizations: Allegheny County Bar Association, Pennsylvania Elected Women's Association, Women's Career Choices Advisory Board of Community College of Allegheny County, Daughters of Erin, and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.



Judge Donald R. Walko, Jr.

Elected to the Court of Common Pleas in November 2009, Judge Donald R. Walko, Jr. was assigned to the Family Division. He was transferred to the Civil Division in 2018, where he presided over asbestos litigation, cases involving prisoners' rights, and cases filed under the Abandoned and Blighted Property Conservatorship Act. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Walko served in the Pennsylvania General Assembly, where he was chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and practiced law with two local firms, Kennedy, Cannon & Devinney and Alan Hertzberg & Associates. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Legislative Committees of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. Judge Walko stepped down from the bench in September 2020.



Judge Lester G. Nauhaus

Judge Lester G. Nauhaus concluded his judicial tenure on December 31, 2021 following nearly 27 years of dedicated service. He was appointed to the bench by Governor Robert P. Casey in 1994, was elected to a ten-year term in 1997 and was assigned to the Criminal Division in January 1998. Judge Nauhaus volunteered to help implement and manage the Fifth Judicial District's Drug Court, a program that provides support and intensive drug treatment as an alternative to incarceration. He was honored with the William J. Schofield III Award for Outstanding Dedication and Service to the Addiction Field in 2006 by the Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs and with the 8th Tree of Life Award in 2010 from the Message Carriers of Pennsylvania, Inc. Effective January 2010, Judge Nauhaus was transferred to the Orphans' Court Division. His application to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to serve as a senior judge was approved effective January 1, 2014. He was assigned shortly thereafter to preside over Summary Appeals cases and continued to hear Drug Court cases until his retirement. Prior to his election to the bench, Judge Nauhaus served as the Allegheny County Chief Public Defender for 17 years. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Rules Committee and the American Inns of Court, served as an adjunct professor at Duquesne University, and taught at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's Criminal Law Symposium.



HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



HONORS & AWARDS

President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark Received the “Woman of the Year” and “Distinguished Alumna” awards from Duquesne University

President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark was named Woman of the Year in 2019 at the Duquesne University 27th Annual Woman of the Year Reception. The award is presented to a female alumna who “promotes gender equality, gives back to the community, demonstrates professionalism and leadership, raises awareness about issues affecting women, and pioneers a new path for them in the legal profession.”

Judge Clark was honored at the 67th Duquesne University Law Alumni Reunion Dinner in October 2019 with the Distinguished Alumna Award. This award is presented to a candidate who has practiced law for 20 years or more and who has distinguished herself or himself through accomplishments in the legal profession.

Judge Clark was also recognized in 2020 by the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA), Commission on Women in the Profession, as a woman trailblazer. An interview with Judge Clark is featured in PBA’s Commission on Women in the Profession’s “25th Report Card.”



Photo: Beth Anne Bauer

President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark accepts the Duquesne University 2019 Woman of the Year Award. L-R: Duquesne University student Megan Rothermel, Rebecca Silinski, Esq., Amanda Leonard (student), Judge Clark, and Ann Booth (student).

Judge Dwayne D. Woodruff presented with the “2020 Drum Major for Justice Award”

Judge Dwayne D. Woodruff and his wife, Joy Maxberry Woodruff, were honored with the Drum Major for Justice Award at the 21st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast, hosted by the Homer S. Brown Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association. The Drum Major award is presented to an individual or organization in recognition of their contributions in perpetuating the dream of Dr. King to make justice, equality, and opportunity a reality for all people.



Photo: Ashley Rice, Allegheny County Bar Association

Judge Dwayne D. Woodruff and Joy Maxberry Woodruff were presented with the Drum Major for Justice Award on January 20, 2020.



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.

In conformance with Safety and Justice Challenge objectives, representatives from the Fifth Judicial District, the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, the District Attorney's Office, the Office of the Public Defender, Magisterial District Courts, and other criminal justice partners participated in the development of strategies to reduce the period of incarceration for individuals awaiting trial and probation violation hearings. Stakeholders identified the opportunity to reduce the time to disposition by consolidating two court events—the formal arraignment and the pretrial conference. The second component of the new proposed process requires the prosecution and defense to have discovery materials available earlier, which will facilitate a more expeditious resolution of the case. Initially planned for implementation in the spring of 2020, this restructured process was delayed following adjustments to court operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The courts are committed to implementing this strategy as Allegheny County continues the Safety and Justice Challenge work.

Partnerships developed through the Safety and Justice Challenge network accelerated the court's ability to respond quickly to the COVID-19 pandemic and to facilitate the release of individuals from the Allegheny County Jail. Representatives from Pretrial Services, the Office of the Public Defender, and Adult Probation created a process for expediting the review of eligible cases by Common Pleas Court Judges to determine bail modifications, lifting of detainers, and parole. This collaborative effort contributed to a significant reduction in the Allegheny County Jail population bringing it to its lowest level in 20 years.

Criminal Division Judges

Jill E. Rangos,
Administrative Judge

Bruce R. Beemer
Alexander P. Bicket
Kelly Eileen Bigley
Edward J. Borkowski
David R. Cashman
Thomas P. Caulfield
Susan Evashavik DiLucente
Thomas E. Flaherty
Elliot C. Howsie
Beth A. Lazzara
Anthony M. Mariani
Kevin G. Sasinoski
Jennifer Satler
Randal B. Todd
Wrenna L. Watson

Robert J. Colville
*(appointed to U.S. District
Court for the Western
District of PA 1/2020)*

John J. Driscoll
(visiting judge 2020-2021)

Jeffrey A. Manning
(retired 1/2022)

Lester G. Nauhaus
(retired 12/2021)

John A. Zottola
(passed away 10/2020)

CRIMINAL DIVISION

DRUG COURT was established in 1998 to provide intensive drug treatment as an alternative to incarceration and to help offenders become drug-free, return to a productive lifestyle, and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. The total annual populations in 2019, 2020, and 2021 were 263, 272, and 252 respectively.

Training and education in relation to medically assisted treatment is ongoing for court personnel.



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual platforms were established to maintain contact with participants to avoid potential feelings of disconnect and isolation.

DUI COURT marked its 16th year of operation in 2021. Under the parameters of this program, defendants are assisted with obtaining treatment for their addiction(s), complete community service, find successful employment, and serve their mandatory sentence. Eighty-eight (88) percent of participants did not experience a re-arrest within one year. DUI Court had an average population of 268 participants between 2019 and 2021.

874

participants graduated from DUI Court since the inception of the program in 2005.

The **DRUG AND ALCOHOL DIVERSION PROGRAM**, introduced at the Allegheny County Jail in October 2012, was designed to divert eligible pretrial defendants from incarceration to substance use treatment while awaiting trial.

3,174

individuals were referred to the program from 2013 to 2020.



2,260

participants exited the program from 2013 to 2020.

75%

success rate



The **PROGRAM FOR THE RE-INTEGRATION, DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT (PRIDE)** provides individuals an opportunity to change their often-dangerous lifestyle, restore their self-esteem, and build a life free of exploitation.

While many unique challenges were presented during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PRIDE continued to provide drug and alcohol and mental health treatment, trauma care, and intensive case management services to program participants.

MENTAL HEALTH COURT was established in 2001 to provide a countywide, community-based, integrated system of treatment and care for individuals with mental health issues who are involved in the criminal justice system while ensuring public safety. Over 500 individuals have graduated from Mental Health Court since its inception.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual platforms were established to maintain contact with 242 participants who were involved in the program in 2020.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT utilizes a collaborative, accountability model to provide intense judicial supervision to domestic violence offenders sentenced to probation.

SEX OFFENDER COURT, implemented in 2011, focuses on early identification and intense case management of defendants convicted of Megan’s Law offenses. This program encourages community collaboration in creating a court-based response to sex offenses and coordination with victim services.

VETERANS COURT was implemented in 2009 and provides treatment alternatives combined with intensive supervision to veterans charged with criminal offenses.



Veterans Court began its second decade of service in 2020 by overcoming the substantial challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and the untimely passing of Supervising Judge John A. Zottola in October 2020. The Veterans Court program will continue under the leadership of Judge Susan Evashavik DiLucente.

INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS			
	AS OF 12/31/2019	AS OF 12/31/2020	AS OF 12/31/2021
Domestic Violence Court	349	192	248
DUI Court	254	184	247
Drug Court	259	209	199
Mental Health Court	170	164	221
Program for the Re-Integration, Development and Empowerment (PRIDE)	77	53	50
Sex Offender Court	263	275	245
Veterans Court	67	45	73
TOTAL	1,439	1,122	1,283

IN MEMORIAM



Judge John A. Zottola was a visionary, innovator, and a preeminent national authority on justice-involved veterans and persons with mental health challenges. He worked tirelessly to change how society perceives and addresses mental health and veterans’ issues in the criminal justice system. His judicial career began in December 1993 when he was nominated by Acting Governor Mark Singel and confirmed by the Senate of Pennsylvania to serve as a Common Pleas Court Judge. Judge Zottola was initially assigned to Criminal Division, was reassigned to the Orphans’ Court Division in 2011, where he continued to serve as supervising judge of the Mental Health Court (until January 2012) and Veterans Court, and was reassigned to the Criminal Division in 2017.

“Judge Zottola was a dedicated public servant who served the court and the citizens of Allegheny County with honor and integrity for more than 26 years. He will be remembered for his intelligence, fairness, and even temperament.”

President Judge
Kim Berkeley Clark

CRIMINAL DIVISION

CRIMINAL REPORT FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

NEW CASES FILED

	2019	2020	2021
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	1,861	1,146	1,343
Expedited Courts	4,954	2,849	2,704
Standard Court Case Types	7,454	5,037	5,744
TOTAL	14,269	9,032	9,791

CASES DISPOSED

Guilty Plea	10,762	6,220	7,356
Non-Jury Trial	514	304	418
Jury Trial	107	19	30
Diversionary Programs/Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	1,788	1,457	888
Dismissed, Withdrawn, Nolle Prossed, and Deceased Defendants	1,469	1,021	1,293
Satisfaction Agreement (Rule 586)	118	115	110
Transfers/Administrative Closures, Consolidations	30	10	19
Speedy Trial (Rule 600)	11	4	4
TOTAL	14,799	9,150	10,118

AGE OF PENDING CASES (Days)

	2019	2020	2021
0 to 60	2,475	1,350	2,027
61 to 120	2,424	1,923	1,692
121 to 180	1,397	1,646	896
181 to 240	560	751	464
241 to 300	233	360	223
301 to 360	121	219	144
361+	442	659	604



PACFile ELECTRONIC FILING

was implemented in November 2019, which proved to be essential to effective court operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. This service, available through the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania, provides the option to file documents with the courts electronically on new and existing cases, enables access to cases by proxy, and allows case searches.

CASES SENTENCED 2019|2020|2021

CRIME TYPE	CONFINEMENT						INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT			PROBATION						NO FURTHER PENALTY		
	STATE 2019	COUNTY 2019	STATE 2020	COUNTY 2020	STATE 2021	COUNTY 2021	COUNTY 2019	COUNTY 2020	COUNTY 2021	STATE 2019	COUNTY 2019	STATE 2020	COUNTY 2020	STATE 2021	COUNTY 2021	2019	2020	2021
Grade																		
CRIMES AGAINST PEOPLE																		
Felonies	217	103	84	84	140	85	28	7	11	1	66	0	48	5	71	2	3	2
Misdemeanors	19	118	5	91	15	103	13	7	7	8	743	7	466	10	604	4	7	15
Summaries	0	13	0	22	0	24	0	0	1	0	115	0	120	0	112	20	20	29
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY																		
Felonies	47	266	24	100	31	179	120	47	72	7	579	2	317	8	318	21	10	7
Misdemeanors	7	138	6	60	13	51	37	6	10	11	1,034	5	494	2	477	49	16	13
Summaries	0	34	0	15	0	19	0	0	0	1	120	0	70	0	93	57	22	26
DRUG OFFENSES																		
Felonies	78	117	44	48	42	62	70	28	29	7	274	1	155	1	179	4	7	5
Misdemeanors	3	182	1	89	4	71	31	18	52	2	1,909	1	932	3	1,128	124	54	49
Summaries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE																		
Felonies	0	2	11	10	17	13	25	20	31	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	2	0
Misdemeanors	18	909	8	657	4	795	1,005	369	299	1	201	0	184	1	256	0	43	27
Summaries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CRIMES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE/ORDER																		
Felonies	21	41	7	28	19	31	22	9	8	1	68	2	66	2	58	0	6	1
Misdemeanors	9	113	1	61	0	48	12	5	6	4	629	5	380	4	418	31	23	34
Summaries	0	142	1	71	0	113	2	2	0	0	273	0	256	0	337	199	113	171
WEAPONS																		
Felonies	93	70	48	46	68	77	35	8	20	3	60	1	62	2	109	0	2	3
Misdemeanors	3	25	2	6	2	22	7	0	1	3	113	0	60	0	91	1	3	5
Summaries	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
OTHER CRIMES																		
Felonies	2	6	2	13	5	13	1	0	8	0	12	0	12	0	33	0	0	1
Misdemeanors	2	12	6	25	5	13	47	31	49	0	17	1	37	0	37	1	2	3
Summaries	5	101	2	63	0	67	430	203	121	0	12	0	28	0	12	94	127	203
TOTAL	524	2,393	252	1,489	365	1,786	1,886	760	725	49	6,227	25	3,695	38	4,334	608	462	594

CRIMINAL DIVISION - ADULT PROBATION

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.

Significant events in 2019 included the launch of a medical marijuana policy, training on the use of naloxone, the implementation of a new DNA collection policy, continued training on the Carey Group's Four Core Competencies, and finalization of a redesigned probation case management system to reduce redundancies. The implementation of the medical marijuana and naloxone policies has advanced the ability of probation officers to better serve offenders and has informed the court about best practices regarding these treatment options.

Adult Probation transitioned over 200 employees to full-mobile functionality in 2020 to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19 among court users and staff.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Adult Probation, in collaboration with Court of Common Pleas Judges, Pretrial Services, and the Office of the Public Defender, reduced the detainer population of the Allegheny County Jail from 934 to a low of 584, a 35 percent reduction. This reduced population was maintained throughout 2020.

In an effort to keep the Allegheny County Jail at a smaller population while maintaining public safety, Adult Probation deployed cellular electronic monitoring units for the first time to accommodate individuals without a landline phone.

Adult Probation collaborated with the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing to understand substance use among the supervised population. This work was part of a statewide endeavor to study and ultimately better serve people on probation with substance use disorder. Adult Probation also worked with the Commission on the implementation of the use of sentencing guidelines for probation revocations in Allegheny County.

AVERAGE PROBATION CASELOAD BY UNIT

	AS OF 12/31/2019	AS OF 12/31/2020	AS OF 12/31/2021
Probation	15,775	13,346	11,182
Parole	1,051	1,091	1,205
Intermediate Punishment/ Probation with Restrictive Conditions	720	518	802
Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)	3,011	2,598	2,778
Probation Without Verdict	251	165	128
Bail	2,948	2,224	2,927
TOTAL	23,756	19,942	19,022

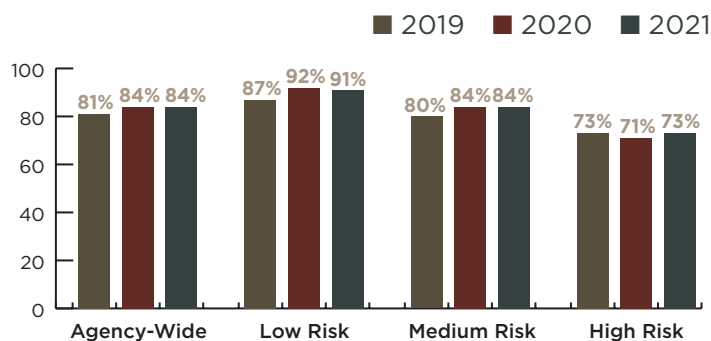
INDIVIDUALS UNDER SUPERVISION BY OFFENSE GRADE

Misdemeanor	13,079	10,870	10,214
Felony	10,269	8,774	8,617
Other	408	298	191

INDIVIDUALS UNDER SUPERVISION TYPE OF UNIT

Field Offices - High Risk	83	78	81
Field Offices - Medium Risk	93	86	94
Low Risk Unit	627	459	415
Electronic Monitoring	44	51	52
DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Unit	308	235	250
Restitution Unit	268	217	209
Sex Offender Court	72	73	62
Domestic Violence Court	53	46	59
Mental Health Court	39	38	46
Drug Court	65	54	59
DUI Court	64	51	56
Veterans Court	67	45	73
PRIDE Court	77	53	50
Reentry Unit	60	49	41
Inter-State	457	446	392
Inter-County	400	347	320
State	3,497	3,273	2,833
Bail	295	215	296

SUPERVISION SUCCESS RATE *



* Supervision success is defined as having completed a period of supervision without a new conviction or revocation due to a technical offense.

Adult Probation remained a critical stakeholder in the Safety and Justice Challenge, a countywide effort to safely reduce the Allegheny County Jail population. In the first year of the challenge, the jail population was reduced by seven percent. Adult Probation focused on updating policies to reduce the length of incarceration for detainees and to avoid issuing certain detainers altogether. The department is also collaborating with the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office to expand the number of offenders who are eligible for early termination of supervision.

Adult Probation worked on a multitude of projects and analyses in 2020 with researchers and experts from the Urban Institute, Vera Institute of Justice, Burns Institute, University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, Harvard University, Rutgers University, Carnegie Mellon University, and Penn State University. Areas of study and work included understanding and analyzing outcomes by race and ethnicity, safely reducing the jail population during the COVID-19 pandemic, assessment of intimate partner violence, impact of risk assessments, reviewing the experience of substance users, developing a model to better predict opioid overdoses, and learning about the impact of costs, fees, and restitution assessed to people supervised by probation.



REFERRALS TO SERVICES AT COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTERS (CRC)

	2019	2020*	2021*
Adult Education (GED)	42	8	14
Batterers Intervention Program	219	74	148
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	94	45	43
Community Service	194	47	73
Drug and Alcohol Evaluation	922	253	532
Drug Testing	1,108	257	786
Employment Assistance/ Job Search	291	88	79
Other Services	121	43	143
TOTAL REFERRALS	2,991	815	1,818

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS REFERRED 2,232 584 950

People may be referred for multiple services.

**CRC services were temporarily suspended on March 16, 2020. Some services returned to operation on June 1, 2021, however, as of May 2022, certain county-provided services remain unavailable as a precaution against the spread of COVID-19.*



IN MEMORIAM

John J. Matter, a valued member of the Criminal Division, passed away unexpectedly on February 10, 2021. John served as a Minute Clerk in the Criminal Division (2012-2021), where he oversaw the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition Program and was previously employed as a tipstaff (2010-2012). John had a dry sense of humor which always brought a smile. He is sorely missed by everyone who knew him.

CRIMINAL DIVISION - PRETRIAL SERVICES

Pretrial Services provides accurate and timely information to assist the court in making informed decisions regarding bond, competency, and treatment, supervises and monitors defendants in a respectful manner utilizing cost-effective measures for the community, promotes compliance with court orders and court appearances, and supports public safety.

Pretrial Services' Safe Surrender Program allows defendants with active failure to appear bench warrants to turn themselves in and to appear the same day in motions court for a bond reinstatement hearing. To address COVID-19 safety concerns in 2020, a procedure was developed to manage bench warrants. Upon the arrest of an individual with an active bench warrant, police officers contact the Sheriff's office who connects the call with Pretrial Services. Pretrial Services collects updated contact information from the defendant, clears the warrant, if appropriate, schedules a new hearing date, and issues a new subpoena.

In 2019, a total of 95,220 court reminders were sent to defendants via email, text, and landline. Commonly used forms and plea packets were generated and posted to the Fifth Judicial District website in 2020 to aid defendants and attorneys in the preparation of cases and to assist in remote court appearances.

BAIL UNIT investigators, who conduct interviews with all persons brought into the Allegheny County Jail on new charges or bench warrants began working remotely in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The interview process and the resultant reports are provided to the arraigning authority to make a more informed pretrial release decision. The Bail Court Unit began conducting bail hearings remotely via conference call in March 2020.

COURT AND BAIL UNIT STATISTICS

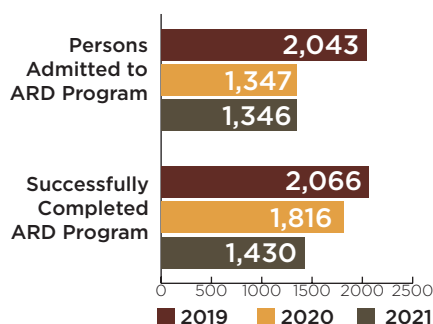
	2019	2020	2021
Bail Forfeiture Hearings	3,762	2,316	1,719
Bail Modification Hearings	2,499	2,579	2,587
Safe Surrender Program Reinstatements	919	918	701
New Investigations	23,349	17,140	17,193

The **BAIL SUPERVISION UNIT** monitors individuals on nonmonetary conditions of bail, including those who report by phone, report in person, and those on electronic monitoring. Bail Supervision staff continued to meet with defendants in person throughout the COVID-19 pandemic informing them of court closures and hearing dates and assisting them with instructions for utilizing Microsoft Teams.

Individuals Supervised by the Bail Supervision Unit

2,948	2,224	2,927
as of 12/31/2019	as of 12/31/2020	as of 12/31/2021

Individuals who successfully complete the first offender **ACCELERATED REHABILITATIVE DISPOSITION (ARD)** program are diverted from prosecution resulting in the dismissal and expungement of criminal charges.



Percent of individuals charged with DUI

89%	92%	91%
2019	2020	2021

Percent of individuals charged with non-violent offenses

11%	8%	9%
2019	2020	2021

BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT UNIT psychiatrists completed a large percentage of competency assessments of incarcerated defendants via advanced communication technology in 2020. In-person competency evaluations were conducted only when a defendant was unable to be brought to a video location. Evaluations of non-incarcerated defendants were completed in person at the Pretrial Services office.

BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT UNIT

	2019	2020	2021
Court-Ordered Competency Evaluations/ACJ	879	642	722
Competency Re-evaluations/ACJ	145	70	154
Competency Evaluations Completed in Person	51	38	45
Committed to Torrance State Hospital	128	133	129

An **IGNITION INTERLOCK SYSTEM** is a device that is installed on a motor vehicle to prohibit an individual under the influence of alcohol from operating the vehicle. The Ignition Interlock Program continued to operate in person throughout 2020.

Ignition Interlock Active Clients

590	569	637
as of 12/31/2019	as of 12/31/2020	as of 12/31/2021

The **DUI ALTERNATIVE TO JAIL PROGRAM**, designed for first-conviction DUI offenders, allows defendants to complete their intermediate punishment sentence and state mandated driving under the influence classes and treatment at a four-day overnight program. Due to COVID-19, the Alternative to Jail Program was suspended from March through May 2020, and from June through December 2020 the number of participants was limited to 18, one-half of the customary number of participants, to allow for social distancing and to adhere to state room capacity, and for the health and safety of all persons involved.

Offenders sentenced to program			Completed program successfully			Number of jail bed days saved		
562	462	565	489	238	438	1,956	952	1,752
2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021

The **ALCOHOL HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM (AHSP)** completes court-ordered evaluations of persons convicted of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and manages the Department of Transportation mandated DUI education programs. A Court Reporting Network (CRN) evaluation is required for all offenders who are found guilty of DUI. In March 2020, Pretrial Services began conducting CRN evaluations using advanced communication technology in accordance with the PA DUI Association guidance.



Court Reporting Network (CRN) Evaluations completed		
4,411	3,551	3,380
2019	2020	2021



SUMMARY APPEALS



The Summary Appeals branch of the Fifth Judicial District has a diverse docket.

The appeals arise from summary criminal convictions as well as civil statutory appeals. The majority of cases involve violations of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code and also include charges of disorderly conduct, defiant trespass, obstructing traffic, harassment, retail theft, public drunkenness, and underage drinking. Appeals involving the Pittsburgh Parking Authority, dog licensing provisions, and truancy are also heard by the Summary branch.

Civil statutory appeals arise from decisions by local and state administrative agencies and PennDOT driver license suspensions. Other appeals include, but are not limited to, legal issues arising from decisions by government agencies such as civil service, land use, zoning, the liquor control board, school boards, and the Allegheny County Health Department.

One thousand one hundred fifty-seven (1,157) cases were postponed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

	FILED 2019	DISPOSED 2019	FILED 2020	DISPOSED 2020	FILED 2021	DISPOSED 2021
Summary Appeals	2,400	2,465	1,521	1,463	1,406	1,192
PA Department of Transportation Appeals	692	830	473	448	569	526
Pittsburgh Parking Authority	5	2	1	2	3	3
In Forma Pauperis	773	773	509	509	307	307
Nunc Pro Tunc Appeals	439	439	311	311	292	292
Concise Statements	40	40	23	23	17	17
Opinions	40	40	27	27	18	18
Miscellaneous	65	65	113	113	69	69
TOTAL	4,454	4,654	2,978	2,896	2,681	2,424

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.

In 2019, Civil Division Judges tried 69 cases to jury verdict and 388 cases to non-jury verdict.

Motions practices were streamlined in 2019 with the appointment of Judge Philip A. Ignelzi as Civil Division Discovery Judge. Matters formerly known as “special motions” were moved to General Motions.

In March 2020, the Court of Common Pleas temporarily postponed in-person activities. In April 2020, the Civil Division began scheduling proceedings remotely before the General, Discovery, Calendar Control, and Housing Court Motions Judges. Electronic submission of contested and uncontested motions was implemented to expedite and simplify the filing process, and oral arguments were heard remotely via advanced communication technology.

MOTIONS ADJUDICATED VIA ADVANCED COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DURING THE COVID-19 COURT CLOSURE

	2020
Calendar Control Motions	843
Housing Court – Landlord/Tenant Motions	565
General Motions	3,989
Injunctions, Special Relief, and Preliminary Objections	4,806

Civil Division Judges

Christine A. Ward,
Administrative Judge

Patrick M. Connelly

Michael A. Della Vecchia

Alan D. Hertzberg

Philip A. Ignelzi

Joseph M. James

Arnold I. Klein

Paul F. Lutty, Jr.

Mary C. McGinley

John T. McVay, Jr.

W. Terrence O'Brien

Daniel D. Regan

Judith L.A. Friedman
(retired 12/2020)

Donald R. Walko, Jr.
(resigned 9/2020)

CIVIL DIVISION

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the suspension of six consecutive Civil Division trial lists. In an effort to manage trial lists and reduce case backlog, the Civil Division, in partnership with the Allegheny County Academy of Trial Lawyers, launched a *Pro Bono* Mediation Program where attorneys served as mediators in all cases appearing on the September and November 2020 trial lists, with no cost to litigants. Over 80 attorneys were trained in the process and volunteered in over 400 cases as a part of this pilot program.

PRO BONO MEDIATION PROGRAM

	SEPTEMBER 2020	NOVEMBER 2020
Cases Assigned to Mediators	195	232
Cases Settled	64	67
Success Rate	33%	29%



HOUSING COURT

The Civil Division Housing Court began official operation on June 24, 2019 and is presided over by Judge Alan D. Hertzberg. Housing Court is a collaborative problem-solving court model where landlord/tenant motions, appeals, and code violations are adjudicated. Pleadings relating to landlord/tenant matters including motions, complaints, appeals, and praecipes are accepted for filing and scheduling at the Housing Court Help Desk located at the Allegheny County Department of Court Records (DCR) office, First Floor, City-County Building, 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh. With the support of The Pittsburgh Foundation, a supervisor was hired in July 2019 to manage the Help Desk, improve resource lists, and develop a clinic for graduate-level social work students who staff the Help Desk.

To address difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, adjustments to processes were made and creative problem solving was initiated. During the initial emergency court closure in March 2020, Housing Court staff continued to address public inquiries remotely. Staff also worked with the DCR to create an electronic filing method via email. To maximize safety precautions, motions were processed by the Housing Court Judge via advanced communication technology. Although landlord/tenant case filings decreased from 1,460 in 2019 to 535 in 2020, inquiries to the Housing Court Help Desk remained constant. Orders from agencies and jurisdictions restricting the filing and execution of evictions during the pandemic required Housing Court staff to be up to date on continually changing protocols. As a result of directives issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that impacted landlord-tenant matters, the Housing Court Judge adjudicated 565 motions in 2020.

To support litigants facing serious financial and housing issues brought on by the pandemic, the federal government released extensive rental assistance funds. The Housing Court Help Desk staff worked closely with local non-profit and government agencies to inform litigants of available resources.



Administrative Judge Christine Ward and Civil Division Administrator Dianne Wainwright were presented with the Allegheny County Bar Foundation Judicial Services Award on October 6, 2021 in recognition of their efforts in establishing the Landlord Tenant Mediation Project. The Project was developed after implementing a mediation program for landlords and tenants and also identifying the impact of having pro bono lawyers to provide advice and representation at landlord tenant mediations. Pictured L-R: Judge Patrick M. Connelly, Judge Ward, Case Management Coordinator Candice Malizio, Dianne Wainwright, Housing Court Help Desk Supervisor Shawnell Smith, and Civil Data/Housing Court Clerk Quinn Kobelak.

PHOTO: James Piaggio, Allegheny County Bar Association

CIVIL DIVISION | DOCKETED CASES

TORT (Does not include mass tort.)

	2019	2020	2021
Intentional	73	71	69
Malicious Prosecution	4	6	2
Motor Vehicle	1,332	1,259	1,226
Nuisance	7	9	7
Premises Liability	388	387	322
Product Liability	62	45	55
Slander/Libel/Defamation	19	31	31
Other	778	1,066	942
Asbestos	91	69	75
Tobacco	0	0	0
Toxic Tort - DES	0	0	0
Toxic Tort - Implant	0	0	1
Toxic Waste	0	0	0
Dental	4	4	7
Legal	27	22	26
Medical	217	263	235
Other Professional	29	27	38

CONTRACT (Does not include mass tort.)

Buyer Plaintiff	217	222	211
Debt Collection: Credit Card	1,881	1,819	2,115
Debt Collection: Other	1,891	1,296	1,462
Employment Dispute: Discrimination	35	36	34
Employment Dispute: Other	79	65	56
Other	1,329	1,444	1,259

REAL PROPERTY

Ejectment	247	105	97
Eminent Domain/Condemnation	171	96	145
Ground Rent	0	0	0
Landlord/Tenant Dispute	1,457	535	827
Mortgage Foreclosure: Residential	1,708	616	436
Mortgage Foreclosure: Commercial	43	24	24
Partition of Real Property	20	16	25
Quiet Title	280	159	152

CIVIL APPEALS - ADMINISTRATIVE

Board of Property Assessment	2,145	1,462	3,113
Board of Elections	3	17	12
Department of Transportation	670	525	564
Zoning Board	19	16	15
Statutory Appeals - Other	101	64	56

MISCELLANEOUS

Common Law/Statutory Arbitration	24	17	14
Declaratory Judgment	57	68	58
Mandamus	10	3	8
Non-Domestic Relations Restraining Order	0	0	1
Quo Warranto	0	0	0
Replevin	38	25	25
Class Action Suits	22	85	181
Magisterial District Court Appeals	918	562	569

TOTAL **16,396** **12,536** **14,495**

Pro se (self-represented) filings 3,831 1,173 1,625

CIVIL DIVISION - ARBITRATION



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, arbitration hearings were suspended in March 2020 for two months. During that time, a remote hearing procedure was developed and cases were rescheduled. Following the installation of plexiglass and the rearrangement of seating for safe distancing, the Arbitration department resumed operations in June 2020 by conducting a limited number of in-person hearings daily. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention protocols were strictly followed for the safety of litigants and court staff. Remote hearings were initiated in July 2020 following the training of arbitrators and court staff on the use of Microsoft Teams, a SharePoint file system, and a Polycom videoconferencing device.

ARBITRATION CASES

	2019	2020	2021
New Cases	7,842	5,817	6,451
Transferred from Civil Division	143	69	78
TOTAL	10,690	9,571	6,529
Awards by Boards	1,640	829	994
Settlements, Non-Pros., etc.	4,561	3,451	5,336
Trial List Cases Disposed by Judge	804	406	453
TOTAL	7,005	4,686	6,783
Appeals Filed	518	268	297
Rate of Appeal	31.59%	32.33%	29.88%

ARBITRATION BOARDS

	2019	2020	2021
Number of Arbitration Boards Summoned	429	347	411
Number of Arbitrators Summoned	1,287	1,041	1,233
Arbitrator's Fee Per Day	\$150	\$150	\$150
Total Arbitrators' Fees	\$193,050	\$156,150	\$184,950
Less Non-Recoverable Appeals Fees	\$58,520	\$33,760	\$37,640
TOTAL COSTS	\$134,530	\$122,390	\$147,310
Average Cost per Case	\$82.03	\$147.64	\$148.20

CIVIL DIVISION - BOARD OF VIEWERS

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Viewers successfully adapted to the use of advanced communication technology (ACT) and was able to operate effectively from remote locations. Conciliations were transitioned from in-person proceedings to audio conferences, and all cases that were postponed in the early months of the pandemic were rescheduled. Hearings on tax and Eminent Domain matters were conducted remotely through ACT.

The majority of cases appealed to the Board of Viewers involve residential properties filed by school districts and property owners, many of whom appear *pro se* (self-represented). Appeals to the Board of Viewers are *de novo* (new), after first having received a “disposition” from the Allegheny County Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review (BPAAR), an administrative body of Allegheny County. As in years past, appeals in 2019 and 2020 were representative of nearly all school districts and municipalities in Allegheny County.

The Special (lawyer) and Lay Masters of the Board of Viewers manage their individual caseloads, schedule conciliations and hearings, monitor the progress of information exchanged between the parties, and work to resolve tax appeals through a negotiated resolution. When attempts to resolve are not successful, the Special and Lay Masters conduct evidentiary hearings to consider such things as comparable sales, neighborhood-wide assessed values, and individual characteristics of the properties.

Evidentiary hearings, where the Rules of Evidence are followed and a transcript is produced, result in a written recommendation to the court based on the evidence. The Board of Viewers has jurisdiction over the tax year in which the appeal is filed, and in the event of multi-year appeals, jurisdiction extends to all subsequent years, including the year in which the hearing is held.

The Board of Viewers is dually tasked with hearing commercial and residential real estate tax assessment appeals and serves as the first level court for Eminent Domain matters. Special and Lay Masters visit the properties which are the subject of a declaration of taking by a municipal or state authority for a variety of projects including road widening, creation of turning lanes, water lines, and especially for the Southern Beltway in South Fayette Township. In each instance, the properties were visually observed and inspected in the company of the condemnor’s representatives, engineers, and legal counsel and in the company of the property owner/tenant condemnee and their counsel. Thereafter, hearings were held with expert and lay witness testimony, and Viewers’ reports were filed awarding compensation consistent with the Eminent Domain Code.

BOARD OF VIEWERS

	2019	2020	2021
Eminent Domain	35	11	10
<i>(New Petitions/Views/Hearings involving water and sewer line cases, partial and total takings, scheduled readings, and exception reports)</i>			
Tax Appeals	3,701	1,117	1,715
<i>(Conciliations/Stipulated Resolutions/Hearings/Masters’ Reports involving residential and commercial real estate tax assessments appealed from the Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Reviews (BPAAR) decisions)</i>			
TOTAL	3,736	1,128*	1,725

**Case filings fluctuated in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

FAMILY DIVISION

The mission of the Family Division is to resolve family legal issues in a user-friendly forum, which maximizes access to the court and best addresses the important and unique needs of children and families.

Family Division Judges

Kim D. Eaton,
Administrative Judge

Cathleen Bubash

Eleanor L. Bush

Kim Berkeley Clark

Jessel A. Costa

Paul E. Cozza

Nicola Y. Henry-Taylor

Kathryn M. Hens-Greco

Sabrina Korbel

Jennifer S. McCrady

Hugh F. McGough

Lisa G. Middleman

Kathleen R. Mulligan

Tiffany E. Sizemore

David L. Spurgeon

Chelsa Wagner

Dwayne D. Woodruff

Guido A. DeAngelis
(retired 12/2021)

FAMILY DIVISION - ADULT SECTION

CUSTODY FILINGS

ORIGINAL FILINGS	2019	2020	2021
Custody Complaint	1,576	1,094	1,301
Divorce Complaint w/ Custody	152	187	248
TOTAL	1,728	1,281	1,549

SECONDARY FILINGS

Modification	630	450	527
Contempt	176	129	226
Reinstatement	50	21	11
TOTAL	856	600	764

HEARING OFFICER

Partial Custody Hearings	682	482	536
Interim Relief Hearings	156	280	475
TOTAL	838	762	1,011

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Mediations	1,105	1,031	1,240
Conciliations	233	252	601
TOTAL	1,338	1,283	1,841



Geraldine M. Redic, Esq. retired on March 15, 2019 following 21 years of dedicated service to the Fifth Judicial District. She began her career with the court in 1998 as a judicial law clerk and was promoted to the position of Deputy Administrator of the Family Division-Adult Section in 2001 where she served until her retirement.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

FEDERAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	2019	2020	2021
Support Order	91.61%	90.57%	90.85%
Paternity Establishment	111.38%	106.48%	109.88%
Current Payment	83.36%	82.68%	83.85%
Arrearage Payment	84.53%	88.44%	86.36%
Cost Effectiveness	80%	80%	80%

FAMILY DIVISION - ADULT SECTION

The Family Adult Section's mission is 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.

PROTECTION FROM ABUSE (PFA)

TEMPORARY PFA

APPLICATIONS	2019	2020	2021
Temporary PFA Orders Granted by Judge	3,254	3,202	3,343
Petitions Denied	203	175	198
Petitions Not Filed After Initial Application	487	399	345

FINAL PFA HEARINGS

New	3,290	3,091	3,482
Continued	1,392	1,512	1,886

INDIRECT CRIMINAL CONTEMPT HEARINGS

New	820	724	857
Continued	587	409	654

FAMILY DIVISION | DIVORCE

ORIGINAL FILINGS	2019	2020	2021
Filed	2,436	2,307	2,327

JUDICIAL

Contested	177	167	113
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HEARING OFFICER/MASTER

Contested	179	201	269
Uncontested	0	0	3

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Uncontested	2,093	1,546	1,830
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IN MEMORIAM | 11/22/1955 - 3/20/2021

Patrick W. Quinn, Esq., who served as Administrator of the Family Division-Adult Section from 2003 through 2021, passed away unexpectedly on March 20, 2021. Previously employed as a manager in the Allegheny County Solicitor's Office (1992-2003) and as a Deputy Administrator in the Allegheny County Family Division (1989-1992), he believed in giving back to the community and spent his career working in the public sector. He served on many local and national boards and associations in an effort to improve the family court system. Pat was well regarded and respected by members of the bench, court administrators, court staff, and all who knew him for his sharp intellect and caring nature.



FAMILY DIVISION | CHILD SUPPORT

ORIGINAL FILINGS	2019	2020	2021
Complaints Added (PACSES)	6,305	4,068	4,784

SECONDARY FILINGS

Modifications	8,049	5,877	6,205
Contempt Hearings	13,408	7,098	8,611

JUDICIAL

Support Contempt Hearings	510	122	171
Exceptions	216	100	71

HEARING OFFICER

Hearing Officer Hearings	3,264	2,046	2,504
Hearing Master Complex Support	71	93	85

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Screenings	15,497	3,314	3,425
Conciliations	11,146	7,727	8,640
Contempt Hearings	13,408	7,098	8,611

FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE SECTION

Juvenile Probation continued its mission by working 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.

Since 1996, Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) has been Allegheny County Juvenile Probation's legislative mandate and mission, establishing community protection, accountability, and competency development as system goals. Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), created in 2010, fundamentally changed how the Department achieves BARJ by adding evidence-based practices, data-driven decision making, and professional development as goals.

Probation officers assess juveniles using the Youth Level of Service Risk/Needs Assessment (YLS) prior to filing a delinquency petition with the court. The YLS examines eight criminogenic factors related to delinquent behavior and helps probation officers determine a juvenile's risk to reoffend and develop an individualized dispositional recommendation and supervision plan.

Allegheny County Juvenile Probation is one of more than 30 juvenile jurisdictions in Pennsylvania to fully implement the Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (PaDRAI). This validated risk instrument helps probation officers decide which juveniles should be securely detained and which should be released to an alternative to secure detention pending a formal hearing based on their risk to reoffend and likelihood to appear for court. The tool accurately predicts these risk factors at a rate of over 90 percent.

Allegheny County Juvenile Probation is one of 23 departments in Pennsylvania implementing the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™), which seeks to improve programming for juveniles, thereby reducing their risk to reoffend. Through 2021, Allegheny County applied the SPEP™ process to 67 interventions at 16 residential and community-based provider locations.

Aggression Replacement Training® (ART®) is an evidence-based cognitive behavioral intervention that improves social skills, moral reasoning, and anger management while reducing aggressive behavior. Juvenile Probation's Community Intensive Supervision Program Centers and contracted local providers deliver ART® to moderate- and high-risk youth. During the pandemic, ART® was modified to be delivered virtually.

Juvenile Probation has developed an array of graduated rewards and sanctions to help move juveniles toward law abiding, productive citizenship. Research indicates that applying rewards/sanctions at a ratio of 4:1 can positively shape a juvenile's behavior.

The entire Department is trained in Motivational Interviewing (MI), a collaborative conversation style for strengthening motivation and commitment to change to facilitate behavior changes in juveniles.

Juvenile probation officers are trained to use tools that assist youth in skill building targeted to identified criminogenic needs, such as the Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) model, Four Core Competencies, and Brief Intervention Tools (BITS). Developed by the University of Cincinnati, EPICS helps probation officers provide small but effective doses of evidence-based interventions during their direct contacts with juveniles. In 2020, EPICS was modified to be delivered virtually.

Pennsylvania's Balanced and Restorative Justice mission requires that juveniles be held accountable for crimes committed and that they fulfill court-ordered restitution obligations to victims before supervision is terminated. Restitution not paid in full when an individual attains the age of 21 is indexed as a judgment with the Department of Court Records.

RESTITUTION, FEES, AND COSTS COLLECTED

2019-2021

Repaid to Victims for Losses Incurred	\$400,518
Paid to the Victim Compensation Fund	\$29,023
Directed to the Stipend Fund for Victim Restitution	\$11,609
Court Fees and Costs Incurred by Juvenile Offenders	\$139,310

In 2020, Allegheny County began participating in Optimizing Supervision and Service Strategies to Reduce Reoffending: Accounting for Risks, Strengths, and Developmental Differences, a federal National Institute of Justice grant-funded three-year project. The project seeks to reduce youth reoffending by linking supervision and service strategies to protective factors such as prosocial



Probation Officer Emilinda Jarrett received the 2020 Statewide Probation Officer of the Year Award; Assistant Chief Probation Officer Shawn Forbes accepted the 2020 Statewide Court Operated Program of the Year Award for the School Justice Partnership Program; Probation Supervisor Daniel Bauman received the 2020 Statewide Juvenile Probation Supervisor of the Year Award; and Administration Clerical Supervisor Marchelle Wright received the 2020 Statewide Juvenile Court Support Service Award.

identity, engagement in prosocial activities, social skills and supports, and self-control and self-efficacy. The goal is to develop research-based strategies to plan more effective supervision approaches and increase Pennsylvania's capacity to accurately measure recidivism and success.

IN MEMORIAM

Makeida Thompson, who served as a Supervisor for the Community Intensive Supervision Program (CISP) (2017-2020) and as a probation officer (2016-2017) in the Family Division, Juvenile Section passed away unexpectedly on November 10, 2020. In addition to her passion for education, she was committed to her family and frequently engaged in community activities. Ms. Thompson, a valued member of the court, is greatly missed.

Karen Hatcher, a well-regarded member of the Family Division, Juvenile Section, passed away unexpectedly on November 26, 2020. She most recently served as secretary for the Central District Probation Office and was employed by the court for nearly 30 years (1990-2020). Her longevity with the court instilled a familiarity with office operations, which she shared with newly hired supervisors and probation officers. She is fondly remembered by all who knew her.

FAMILY DIVISION | JUVENILE PROBATION

ALLEGATIONS	2019	2020	2021
New Allegations ¹	1,148	661	568
Reopened Cases ²	321	214	153
Additional Allegation Filed with New or Reopened ³	47	65	29
New Allegation on Active Juvenile ⁴	760	491	394
TOTAL	2,276	1,431	1,144

HEARINGS BY JUDGES

Detention Hearings	276	272	198
Pre-Hearing Conferences	1,671	1,393	1,135
Adjudicatory Hearings	848	948	921
Dispositional Hearings	446	257	217
Dispositional Review Hearings	3,061	2,358	1,630
Failure to Adjust/Violation of Probation Hearings/Reviews	549	282	271
Other Hearings	158	268	218
<i>(Certification, Competency, Expungement, Intercounty Adjudicatory, and Motions)</i>			
Warrants	803	537	336
TOTAL	7,812	6,315	4,926

HEARINGS BY HEARING OFFICERS

Detention Hearings	963	568	365
Pre-Hearing Conferences	54	27	10
Dispositional Review Hearings	147	114	150

TOTAL	1,164	709	525
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JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICERS⁵

Hearings	8,173	6,487	5,115
Warrants	803	537	336
Individualized Service Plan Meetings	384	242	162
Intakes - Allegations Received	2,276	1,431	1,144
Petitions Filed	1,169	897	568
Case Contacts	62,192	42,532	33,906
TOTAL	74,997	52,126	41,231

¹ New allegations represent the first allegation ever received on an individual juvenile.

² After a juvenile's case is closed, it is reopened when a new allegation is received.

³ 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.

⁴ Allegations filed against juveniles currently under supervision.

⁵ Juvenile Probation Officers do not conduct hearings but have regular contact with juveniles under supervision.

FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE SECTION

ALLEGHENY COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION 2019 /2020 /2021 OUTCOME MEASURES

SUPERVISION

Number of Youth
Ending Supervision

911	825	600
2019	2020	2021

COMMUNITY PROTECTION

Youth Who Successfully
Completed Supervision

86%	86%	88%
2019	2020	2021

COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT

91%	88%	85%
2019	2020	2021

Youth Attending School, Vocational
Program, GED Training, or Employed
at Supervision End

ACCOUNTABILITY

Amount of Restitution Paid

\$122,141
2019

\$127,494
2020

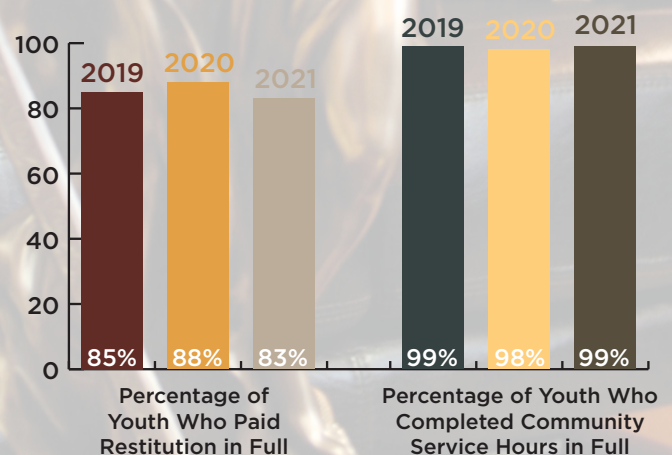
\$134,339
2021

Community Service Hours Completed

24,226
2019

19,925
2020

11,724
2021



FAMILY DIVISION - DEPENDENCY AND RELATED SERVICES

Dependency and Related Services 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.

DEPENDENCY AND RELATED SERVICES

DEPENDENCY ORDERS	2019	2020	2021
Adjudication	1,524	1,185	1,158
Aggravated Circumstances	122	141	119
Bypass	30	43	45
Emergency Protective Custody	1,125	895	925
Permanency Review	6,589	6,089	6,445
Resumption of Jurisdiction	4	5	2
Shelter Care	1,170	832	870
Termination of Court Supervision	972	947	916
TOTAL	11,536	10,137	10,480

SECONDARY FILINGS

Termination of Parental Rights Petitions	219	212	270
Adoption Petitions	214	175	209
TOTAL	433	387	479

HEARING OFFICER

Recommendations	5,598	5,133	5,429
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PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Bypass Processing	30	43	45
Emergency Protective Custody Processing	1,125	895	925
Permanent Legal Custody Modification Processing	72	44	56
Private/Police Petition Processing	202	85	141
TOTAL	1,429	1,067	1,167

Although the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically changed Dependency Court proceedings beginning in March 2020, the court was able to fully implement teleconferencing by June 2020, at which time full Dependency and Delinquency dockets were being heard via Microsoft Teams.

The Dependency and Related Matters Department also utilized remote operations to provide continued administrative support for emergency custody authorizations, termination of parental rights cases, adoption scheduling, judicial bypasses, private dependency petitions, and permanent legal custody modifications.

Throughout the pandemic, the Allegheny County Children's Roundtable (ACCR) continued to meet remotely. Established workgroups, including Court Relations, Crossover Youth Practice Model, Educational Success and Truancy Prevention, School Justice Partnership, Domestic Violence and the Older Youth workgroup continued their focus on improving outcomes for court involved children, youth, and families.

The unifying thread in the court's day-to-day operations and its Roundtable efforts is a focus on being trauma-informed and trauma-responsive. Despite the challenges the pandemic presented, Judge Jennifer S. McCrady continued efforts to improve the physical courthouse environment and court practices based on the 2018 partnership with the Department of Human Services and Carnegie Mellon's Human Centered Design Master Class. These efforts included improved signage in the Family Law Center, a focus on language access, and the installation of a sensory room and outdoor playground.

In conjunction with the Court Relations Workgroup and the Model Courts Initiative, the court advanced its trauma-informed efforts by implementing time-certain scheduling in September 2021. This approach provides families with a specific time for their case to be heard rather than having to appear at court and waiting several hours for their case to be called.

The court continues to explore ways to provide additional trauma-informed services to families who enter the Family Law Center.

ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

The mission of the Orphans' Court Division is 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.

Orphans' Court Division Judges

Lawrence J. O'Toole,
Administrative Judge

Michael F. Marmo
Michael E. McCarthy
Joseph K. Williams, III

Kathleen A. Durkin
(retired 8/2019)

Orphans' Court Division personnel collaborated with members of the Allegheny County Bar Association, Probate and Trust Section to develop and present a training program on Orphans' Court practices. New and experienced attorneys attended Skills Training 101 in 2019 where Orphans' Court Judges and supervisors discussed courtroom etiquette and motions, audit, adoption, civil commitment, and guardianship procedures. Participants subsequently reported to the Department of Court Records, Wills/Orphans' Court Division offices in the City-County Building, Pittsburgh where they were introduced to personnel at the Probate, Orphans' Court, and Inheritance Tax desks. Due to the large success of Skills Training 101, the series has been video-taped for future use by the Allegheny County Bar Association.

GUARDIANSHIP - INCAPACITATED PERSONS

	2019	2020	2021
New Petitions Filed	281	246	229
Emergency Guardians Appointed	36	35	44
Permanent Guardians Appointed	180	138	201
Successor Guardians Appointed	28	18	23
Guardians Discharged	1	3	5
Petitions Withdrawn or Dismissed	37	34	46
Adjudication of Full Capacity	6	1	0
Petitions for Review	12	5	8
Bonds Approved	24	9	12
Safe Deposit Box Inventories	4	2	4
Court-Appointed Counsel	47	57	55
Independent Medical Evaluations	3	7	4
Exemplification/Foreign Guardianships	0	0	4
Petitions for Allowance/ Ratification Presented	488	403	353
Annual Report of Guardians Filed	1,461	1,606	1,939
Final Report of Guardians (Person/Estate) Filed	128	82	258
Inventories Filed	138	123	175
New Petitions - Guardians of the Person of a Minor Filed	19	8	35

ADOPTIONS 2019|2020|2021

	SCHEDULED 2019	DECREED 2019	SCHEDULED 2020	DECREED 2020	SCHEDULED 2021	DECREED 2021	WITHDRAWN/ DISMISSED 2019	WITHDRAWN/ DISMISSED 2020	WITHDRAWN/ DISMISSED 2021
Adoptions	81	85	58	65	64	61	0	0	1
Voluntary Relinquishments	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Confirm Consents	44	49	26	30	22	22	0	0	0
Involuntary Terminations	27	20	27	24	19	18	5	2	2
TOTAL	153	155	111	119	106	102	5	2	3
Orders of Court (Includes orders on petitions presented, continuances, amendments, allowance of service by publication, acceptance of jurisdiction, allowance of interrogatories, appointments of search agents)							389	255	287
Combined Decrees and Orders							544	374	389
Persons Adopted (some petitions include siblings)							100	71	66
Orders Signed on Petitions to Register Foreign Adoption Decrees							8	8	5
Adult Adoptee Search Requests							43	31	59
Orders Signed Appointing Search Agents for Adult Adoptee Search Requests							35	13	23
Family Search Requests (Includes parents, siblings, daughters-sons of deceased parents, and adoptees)							31	21	38
Orders Signed Appointing Search Agents for Family Search Requests							16	9	12
TOTAL SEARCH REQUESTS AND SEARCH ORDERS							125	74	132
NON-RELATIVE ADOPTIONS	Adoption Placement by Agencies								
	Bethany Christian Services						6	4	1
	Building Arizona Families						0	0	7
	Children's Home of Pittsburgh						7	8	2
	Franklin County Children Services (OH)						6	0	0
	King County Children Youth & Families (WA)						1	0	0
	Summit County Children Services (OH)						4	0	0
	Genesis of Pittsburgh, Inc.						0	1	1
	TRAC Services for Families						0	2	0
TOTAL							24	15	11
	Adoption Placement by Non-Agencies								
	Attorney						1	1	1
	Parent						8	8	2
	All Other						2	2	0
TOTAL							11	11	3
RELATIVE ADOPTIONS	Step-Parent						44	30	34
	Co-Parent Adoptions						7	9	9
	Other Relative						10	4	6
	U.S.A. Re-Adoptions						4	2	0
	Adult Adoptions						0	0	3
TOTAL							65	45	52
TOTAL PERSONS ADOPTED							100	71	66

ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

The year 2020 proved to be a challenge for the Orphans' Division due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Effective March 24, 2020, the Orphans' Division limited court proceedings to emergency motions and hearings and performed essential court functions only. With the assistance of the Department of Court Records, the court established an email contact list for attorneys and *pro se* (self-represented) litigants for the purpose of transmitting emergency motions and hearing requests. Mental Health Review Officers conducted involuntary civil commitment hearings via audio conferencing, and Orphans' Division employees shifted to working remotely. With few exceptions, operations proved to be difficult due to technological limitations and statutory restrictions. With support from Court Information Systems, Orphans' Court employees were able to perform various court-related functions off site. As the pandemic progressed, the Orphans' Division continued to conduct conferences and hearings via audio conferencing and later expanded to Microsoft Teams and in-person proceedings.

All areas of the Orphans' Division saw a decline in the number of cases filed, as shown by a review of 2019 and 2020 statistical reports. Small estate petitions filed in 2019 totaled 175 and fell to 140 in 2020, which may be attributed to the adoption of Pennsylvania Supreme Court Orphans' Court Rule 5.50, which went into effect October 1, 2020. Rule 5.50 indicates, in part, small estate petitions must include "a statement that a Pennsylvania inheritance tax return has been filed, that all taxes due on the assets listed on the petition have been paid in full, and that proof of such payment is attached to the petition, or the reason why payment has not occurred."

Security is being enhanced in the Orphans' Court with the remodeling of the reception area. This follows the addition of a metal detector and a magnetometer in 2018. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2021.

CIVIL COMMITMENTS		2019	2020	2021
TOTAL PETITIONS PRESENTED		5,518	5,261	6,167
HEARINGS BY TYPE UNDER MENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES ACT				
303	Up to 20 Days Civil Commitment	3,028	3,256	3,494
304-B	Up to 90 Days Civil Commitment	1,118	910	1,116
304-C	Up to 90 Days Civil Commitment	114	88	94
305	Up to 180 Days Civil Commitment	443	356	453
306	Transfer Civil Commitment - Location Transfer Between Facilities	5	6	7
306-2	Up to 180 Days Civil Commitment	1	1	7
304-G2	Up to 365 Days Criminal Commitment	17	28	21
402/405	Up to 60 Days Criminal Commitment	114	109	119
406	Long Term Civil Commitment	5	1	7
ECT	Electro-Convulsive Therapy	38	31	37
EXP	Expungement	19	14	18
RE VW	Judicial Review of Mental Health Review Officer Decision	34	8	37
	Discharged, Withdrawn, Voluntary Admission and Continuance	608	591	904
TOTAL		5,544	5,399	6,314



ESTATES

AUDIT HEARING OF ACCOUNTS

	2019	2020	2021
Accounts Filed by Executors, Administrators, Trustees, and Guardians	256	274	321
Small Estates (\$50,000 or less)	175	140	108
Decrees of Distribution	292	278	325
Contested Hearings*	329	191	270

**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*

Exceptions Heard by the Court En Banc	0	0	0
Opinions Filed by the Court	29	29	26
Pretrial Conferences Docketed	177	131	205
Return Days Scheduled	138	109	128
Additional Bonds	59	26	41

PETITIONS FILED

Appointment of Guardians of the Person and Estates of Minors	25	2	2
Approval of Settlement of Minors' Claims	374	264	314
Lifting of Suspension of Distribution	11	18	3
Sale of Real Estate	64	40	39
Petitions for citation against fiduciaries to file accounts or to show cause why they should not be removed	138	86	123
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	3	6	0
Miscellaneous Petitions	784	616	652
Family Settlement Agreements	1,027	902	1,078

TOTAL PETITIONS FILED

2,426	1,934	2,211
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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.

Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts published a *Handbook on Rules and Procedures for Landlord-Tenant Relations in the Fifth Judicial District*, which was made available at all Magisterial District Court offices. Sixteen (16) landlord-tenant workshops were conducted reaching 441 individuals in 12 communities. Magisterial District Judges David J. Barton, Bruce J. Boni, Anthony M. Ceoffe, Kevin Eugene Cooper, Jr., Mikhail N. Pappas, Oscar J. Petite, Jr., Eugene N. Ricciardi, and Derwin Rushing participated in the workshops.

Magisterial District Judge Beth Scagline-Mills was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to serve as a member of the Minor Court Rules Committee, effective January 30, 2019.

Magisterial District Judge Thomas G. Miller, Jr. was presented with the District Judge Robert Wyda Memorial Community Impact Award by the Western Pennsylvania Police Benevolent Foundation on February 23, 2019.

Magisterial District Judge Oscar J. Petite, Jr. was one of the honorees at the Classic Events! - 5th Annual Salute to Legal Excellence on October 19, 2019.

Magisterial District Judge Richard G. King was reappointed as a member of the Minor Judiciary Education Board for a term of three years commencing July 1, 2020.

Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) Resource Specialists are assigned to each Magisterial District Court and are integral in referring individuals to services, specifically in the areas of truancy and domestic violence.

REFERRALS TO ALLEGHENY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

	2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR	2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR	2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR
Focus on Attendance Program	3,032	2,973	3,135
Students with Pending Truancy Citations Diverted from Magisterial District Courts to Juvenile Court	45	56	40
Batterer's Intervention Program	972	1,141	1,275

The Magisterial District Courts spent most of 2020 adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic and utilized the Fifth Judicial District Continuity of Operations Plan to manage essential functions. In the initial stages of the pandemic, eight Magisterial District Court offices remained open to the public, all of which closed temporarily as the pandemic progressed. Magisterial District Judges and staff quickly pivoted to the use of advanced communication technology (ACT) and worked in remote locations to minimize public and staff exposure to COVID-19. Essential court functions including criminal case processing, bail payments, emergency protection from abuse petitions, and indirect criminal complaint matters were addressed remotely through ACT or at Pittsburgh Municipal Court. Allegheny County Police Departments processed their paperwork electronically.

Magisterial District Court offices reopened in June 2020 for designated, in-person proceedings, while many court cases continued to be conducted via ACT. Magisterial District Courts prepared for reopening by implementing COVID safety measures including the installation of plexiglass and temperature machines and distribution of personal protective equipment.



Newly elected Magisterial District Judge Michele Santicola and five re-elected Magisterial District Judges celebrated their oath of office, administered by President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, on January 2, 2020. L-R: Judge Oscar J. Petite, Jr., Judge Richard D. Olasz, Jr., Judge Michele Santicola, President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, Judge Beth Scagline-Mills, Judge Eugene F. Riazzi, Jr., and Judge Anthony W. Saveikis.

Magisterial District Court Judges

Hon. Ronald A. Arnoni
05-2-20

Hon. David J. Barton
05-2-17

Hon. Carolyn S. Bengel
05-2-05

Hon. Bruce J. Boni
05-3-06

Hon. Daniel E. Butler
05-2-35

Hon. Thomas P. Caulfield
05-2-08

Hon. Anthony M. Ceoffe
05-3-10

Hon. Kevin E. Cooper, Jr.
05-3-12

Hon. Anthony L. DeLuca
05-2-06

Hon. Roxanne Sakoian Eichler
05-2-11

Hon. Robert L. Ford
05-3-02

Hon. James J. Hanley, Jr.
05-2-36

Hon. Jeffrey L. Herbst
05-2-07

Hon. Kim M. Hoots
05-2-10

Hon. Ralph Kaiser
05-2-18

Hon. Richard G. King
05-3-14

Hon. Jack Kobistek
05-2-23

Hon. Daniel J. Konieczka, Jr.
05-2-03

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. Richard D. Olasz, Jr.
05-2-14

Hon. Richard G. Opiela
05-2-02

Hon. Mikhail N. Pappas
05-2-31

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. Saveikis
05-3-17

Hon. Beth Scagline-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. Craig C. Stephens
05-2-22

Hon. Tom Swan
05-3-04

Hon. Carla M. Swearingen-Batch
05-2-43

Hon. Michael Thatcher
05-2-16

Hon. Thomas R. Torkowsky
05-2-15

Hon. William K. Wagner
05-2-12

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Magisterial District Judges and court staff volunteered in their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic in the following ways:

- **Magisterial District Judges Jack Kobistek, Michele Santicola, Anthony W. Saveikis, Carla M. Swearingen-Batch**, and employee **Pat Svihula** volunteered with food preparation and distribution.
- **Magisterial District Judge Beth Scagline-Mills** sewed masks for nursing homes, first responders, local stores, police departments, school districts, and court employees.
- **Magisterial District Judge Tom Swan** organized a 100th birthday event for a veteran in his community.
- Employee **Denise Affolter** volunteered with pet food distribution and at the Humane Animal Rescue-Pittsburgh.
- Employee **Kim Brown-Riley** sewed masks and assisted patients with cerebral palsy.

Magisterial District Court Senior Judges

Hon. Robert Barner
 Hon. John N. Bova
 Hon. Thomas S. Brletic
 Hon. Pat A. Capolupo
 Hon. Eileen M. Conroy
 Hon. Jesse J. Cramer
 Hon. Robert P. Dzvonick
 Hon. Nathan Firestone
 Hon. Leonard J. HRomyak
 Hon. Dennis R. Joyce
 Hon. Regis C. Welsh, Jr.
 Hon. Gary M. Zyra

FINES, FEES, AND COLLATERAL COLLECTED BY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS FOR TRAFFIC AND NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS.

DISTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

	TOTAL AMOUNT COLLECTED	COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY	COMMONWEALTH OF PA	LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES
2019	\$17,353,620	\$3,463,494	\$11,285,700	\$2,604,426
2020*	\$10,954,642	\$2,001,303	\$6,818,843	\$2,134,496
2021	\$11,880,834	\$2,245,181	\$7,603,021	\$2,032,632

*A large percentage of cases were postponed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Magisterial District Court secretaries attended annual training in November 2019. Topics addressed included customer service techniques and legal updates.

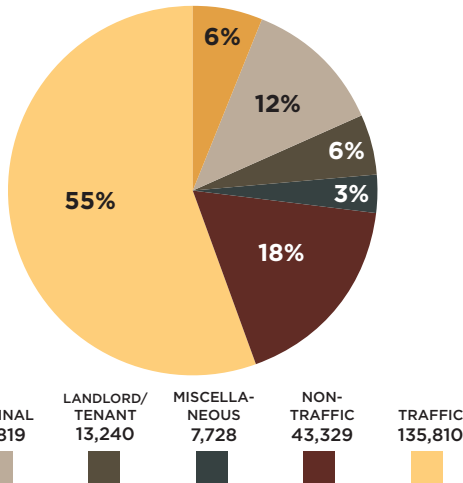
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT FILINGS 2019

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	LANDLORD/ TENANT	MISCELLANEOUS	NON-TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC	TOTAL
MDJ-05-0-03	1	10,558	1	265	8,883	34,402	54,110
MDJ-05-0-04	0	1	0	5,100	0	1	5,102
MDJ-05-2-01	261	623	304	55	905	5,341	7,489
MDJ-05-2-02	436	918	184	50	758	3,979	6,325
MDJ-05-2-03	399	581	188	92	822	2,581	4,663
MDJ-05-2-04	258	462	126	40	533	4,001	5,420
MDJ-05-2-05	339	502	264	63	748	2,209	4,125
MDJ-05-2-06	971	675	606	113	874	1,727	4,966
MDJ-05-2-07	529	795	460	89	884	2,593	5,350
MDJ-05-2-08	319	409	303	62	937	2,883	4,913
MDJ-05-2-10	229	665	550	45	524	7,707	9,720
MDJ-05-2-11	395	609	313	29	774	4,432	6,552
MDJ-05-2-12	347	307	78	87	414	2,951	4,184
MDJ-05-2-13	596	706	717	79	2,042	590	4,730
MDJ-05-2-14	351	1,104	399	51	1,576	3,028	6,509
MDJ-05-2-15	369	481	274	62	1,222	1,675	4,083
MDJ-05-2-16	493	531	144	79	634	4,364	6,245
MDJ-05-2-17	206	459	199	62	596	3,709	5,231
MDJ-05-2-18	327	745	485	24	710	1,839	4,130
MDJ-05-2-19	340	311	170	47	800	3,276	4,944
MDJ-05-2-20	363	533	115	57	699	2,507	4,274
MDJ-05-2-21	307	307	97	127	452	3,569	4,859
MDJ-05-2-22	227	316	85	87	299	1,404	2,418
MDJ-05-2-23	278	338	161	68	749	2,156	3,750
MDJ-05-2-25	317	663	232	49	812	4,431	6,504
MDJ-05-2-26	281	169	102	57	465	480	1,554
MDJ-05-2-27	259	2	387	52	796	14	1,510
MDJ-05-2-28	288	1	590	5	602	0	1,486
MDJ-05-2-31	337	0	342	44	597	2	1,322
MDJ-05-2-32	524	244	169	51	268	2,801	4,057
MDJ-05-2-35	189	1	108	1	540	0	839
MDJ-05-2-36	256	147	140	68	369	4	984
MDJ-05-2-38	316	0	201	51	666	2	1,236
MDJ-05-2-40	173	0	404	10	516	2	1,105
MDJ-05-2-42	315	0	730	42	900	1	1,988
MDJ-05-2-43	282	745	90	19	755	4,099	5,990
MDJ-05-2-47	399	990	813	63	1,178	2,036	5,479
MDJ-05-3-02	170	261	35	25	334	4,925	5,750
MDJ-05-3-03	189	682	50	31	475	4,123	5,550
MDJ-05-3-04	353	365	44	47	539	3,571	4,919
MDJ-05-3-05	295	285	122	7	318	597	1,624
MDJ-05-3-06	262	785	546	56	875	1,324	3,848
MDJ-05-3-09	493	471	251	43	1,249	1,105	3,612
MDJ-05-3-10	74	0	48	5	260	0	387
MDJ-05-3-12	222	2	511	6	1,061	0	1,802
MDJ-05-3-13	367	0	356	12	708	0	1,443
MDJ-05-3-14	533	727	590	53	1,707	1,720	5,330
MDJ-05-3-17	219	343	156	98	504	1,649	2,969
TOTAL	15,454	29,819	13,240	7,728	43,329	135,810	245,380

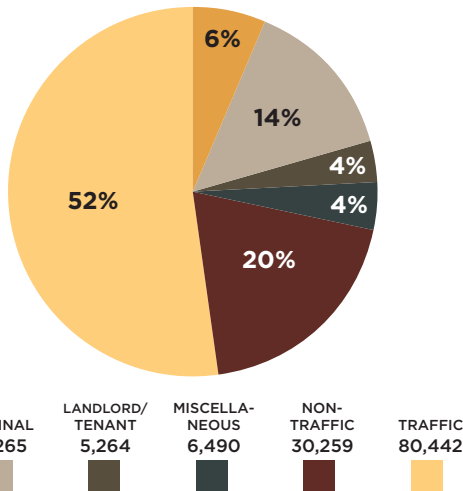
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS FILINGS

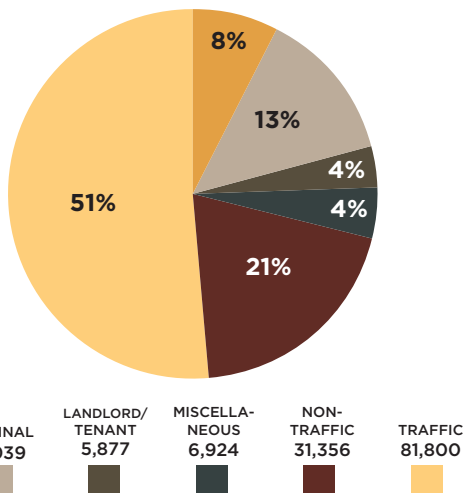
2019



2020



2021



The following Magisterial District Judges retired:

2020

Magisterial District Judge Elissa M. Lang *District Court 05-2-04*
 Magisterial District Judge Blaise P. Larotonda *District Court 05-2-19*
 Magisterial District Judge Randy C. Martini *District Court 05-3-13*
 Magisterial District Judge Robert P. Ravenstahl, Jr. *District Court 05-2-42*
 Magisterial District Judge Thomas R. Torkowsky *District Court 05-2-15*

2021

Magisterial District Judge Linda I. Zucco *District Court 05-2-32*

The following employees retired in 2019, 2020, and 2021 and are recognized for their service to Magisterial District Courts:

2019

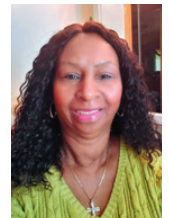
Sandra Ford
District Court 05-3-02
 13 years
 Victoria Leasure
District Court 05-2-06
 13 years
 Jane Massaro
District Court 05-3-09
 24 years
 Barbara Piskorik
District Court 05-3-17
 18 years
 Theolinda Robertson
District Court 05-2-13
 10 years

2020

Lawanda R. Fletcher-Gooden
District Court 05-2-13
 39 years
 Michele Frew
District Court 05-2-01
 31 years
 Frank Moone
District Court 05-2-40
 9 years
 Jodi Rodman
District Court 05-2-08
 16 years
 Tina Starkey
District Court 05-2-21
 26 years

2021

Raye Lynn Mazzocca
District Court 05-2-12
 35 years
 Mary Jo Kulik
District Court 05-2-19
 13 years
 Pamela Peterson
District Court 05-2-04
 19 years



Lawanda R. Fletcher-Gooden

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

	2019	2020	2021
Emergency Protection From Abuse	259	159	276
Search Warrants	944	856	952
Indirect Criminal Complaints	78	74	124
Arraignment for Other Courts	13	9	7
Juvenile Written Allegations	2	2	1
Out of County Warrant Executions	1	2	2
Marriage Ceremonies	11,133	770	846
Extraditions	1	6	3

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT FILINGS 2020

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	LANDLORD/ TENANT	MISCELLANEOUS	NON-TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC	TOTAL
MDJ-05-0-03	1	7,832	0	68	5,505	19,098	32,504
MDJ-05-0-04	0	2	0	4,505	0	0	4,507
MDJ-05-2-01	176	329	88	38	520	2,319	3,470
MDJ-05-2-02	278	467	71	26	546	1,882	3,270
MDJ-05-2-03	293	504	84	99	638	1,682	3,300
MDJ-05-2-04	169	295	46	15	473	2,380	3,378
MDJ-05-2-05	171	373	96	40	490	1,307	2,477
MDJ-05-2-06	595	560	280	125	678	1,348	3,586
MDJ-05-2-07	331	620	201	66	713	1,409	3,340
MDJ-05-2-08	175	333	145	62	680	1,807	3,202
MDJ-05-2-10	181	464	185	34	522	3,630	5,016
MDJ-05-2-11	307	389	154	12	537	1,862	3,261
MDJ-05-2-12	249	281	38	59	302	1,456	2,385
MDJ-05-2-13	265	729	257	80	1,237	354	2,922
MDJ-05-2-14	269	698	117	36	1,016	1,665	3,801
MDJ-05-2-15	194	364	110	35	847	2,077	3,627
MDJ-05-2-16	272	398	51	28	449	2,607	3,805
MDJ-05-2-17	146	333	95	66	367	2,594	3,601
MDJ-05-2-18	213	497	204	47	440	1,167	2,568
MDJ-05-2-19	228	220	76	5	517	1,180	2,226
MDJ-05-2-20	233	474	50	82	564	1,413	2,816
MDJ-05-2-21	222	221	46	80	350	1,634	2,553
MDJ-05-2-22	149	187	47	76	220	1,146	1,825
MDJ-05-2-23	163	269	89	38	480	1,268	2,307
MDJ-05-2-25	253	500	113	100	536	3,377	4,879
MDJ-05-2-26	157	162	50	32	259	413	1,073
MDJ-05-2-27	188	0	147	55	715	2	1,107
MDJ-05-2-28	182	0	154	5	409	1	751
MDJ-05-2-31	263	1	135	40	489	2	930
MDJ-05-2-32	271	228	57	44	267	2,135	3,002
MDJ-05-2-35	121	1	52	0	371	3	548
MDJ-05-2-36	158	113	92	71	374	3	811
MDJ-05-2-38	210	0	124	30	519	0	883
MDJ-05-2-40	146	1	130	3	335	0	615
MDJ-05-2-42	210	0	212	6	520	0	948
MDJ-05-2-43	183	393	26	6	495	2,341	3,444
MDJ-05-2-47	270	928	279	21	973	1,817	4,288
MDJ-05-3-02	106	222	13	26	340	4,704	5,411
MDJ-05-3-03	99	439	24	35	305	1,811	2,713
MDJ-05-3-04	221	283	21	54	363	1,953	2,895
MDJ-05-3-05	138	146	49	9	202	255	799
MDJ-05-3-06	143	707	229	46	634	924	2,683
MDJ-05-3-09	308	329	116	48	1,121	921	2,843
MDJ-05-3-10	50	0	30	5	282	1	368
MDJ-05-3-12	180	0	152	9	649	0	990
MDJ-05-3-13	227	0	166	3	423	0	819
MDJ-05-3-14	334	678	258	41	1,162	1,197	3,670
MDJ-05-3-17	197	295	105	79	425	1,297	2,398
TOTAL	9,895	22,265	5,264	6,490	30,259	80,442	154,615

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT FILINGS 2021

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	LANDLORD/ TENANT	MISCELLANEOUS	NON-TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC	TOTAL
MDJ-05-0-03	0	7,216	0	24	5,742	24,007	36,989
MDJ-05-0-04	1	5	0	4,653	0	1	4,660
MDJ-05-2-01	183	243	100	48	529	2,994	4,097
MDJ-05-2-02	289	414	80	50	407	1,557	2,797
MDJ-05-2-03	332	539	112	133	698	1,463	3,277
MDJ-05-2-04	241	267	80	18	506	2,567	3,679
MDJ-05-2-05	282	399	97	50	607	1,455	2,890
MDJ-05-2-06	723	578	354	161	612	1,485	3,913
MDJ-05-2-07	357	589	245	78	623	1,289	3,181
MDJ-05-2-08	224	377	132	41	587	1,085	2,446
MDJ-05-2-10	202	384	291	38	368	1,310	2,593
MDJ-05-2-11	302	379	156	12	719	1,993	3,561
MDJ-05-2-12	260	275	42	53	313	1,189	2,132
MDJ-05-2-13	382	646	217	120	1,485	178	3,028
MDJ-05-2-14	328	571	106	26	1,126	1,128	3,285
MDJ-05-2-15	300	320	125	41	913	848	2,547
MDJ-05-2-16	255	391	34	29	506	2,163	3,378
MDJ-05-2-17	172	367	135	88	655	3,203	4,620
MDJ-05-2-18	272	427	196	33	398	841	2,167
MDJ-05-2-19	220	175	115	2	575	659	1,746
MDJ-05-2-20	291	417	69	50	590	1,756	3,173
MDJ-05-2-21	304	189	39	94	438	1,992	3,056
MDJ-05-2-22	176	199	100	116	265	1,114	1,970
MDJ-05-2-23	241	234	113	56	619	1,379	2,642
MDJ-05-2-25	223	542	106	131	554	3,195	4,751
MDJ-05-2-26	234	190	66	51	295	517	1,353
MDJ-05-2-27	199	0	145	125	583	6	1,058
MDJ-05-2-28	189	1	176	4	337	0	707
MDJ-05-2-31	293	0	131	38	402	3	867
MDJ-05-2-32	336	246	63	53	226	2,063	2,987
MDJ-05-2-35	168	0	68	0	427	0	663
MDJ-05-2-36	185	120	82	27	437	51	902
MDJ-05-2-38	257	0	152	35	630	1	1,075
MDJ-05-2-40	220	0	135	3	408	1	767
MDJ-05-2-42	305	0	187	3	536	0	1,031
MDJ-05-2-43	203	417	42	2	429	3,146	4,239
MDJ-05-2-47	401	898	253	26	745	1,287	3,610
MDJ-05-3-02	150	230	19	29	419	4,336	5,183
MDJ-05-3-03	180	398	26	34	335	2,086	3,059
MDJ-05-3-04	299	317	31	76	402	2,243	3,368
MDJ-05-3-05	189	182	74	6	184	385	1,020
MDJ-05-3-06	253	760	202	63	778	1,167	3,223
MDJ-05-3-09	437	311	157	63	995	1,055	3,018
MDJ-05-3-10	71	0	40	4	216	1	332
MDJ-05-3-12	211	0	194	0	600	0	1,005
MDJ-05-3-13	310	0	190	2	443	1	946
MDJ-05-3-14	490	535	313	58	1,279	1,037	3,712
MDJ-05-3-17	182	291	87	77	415	1,563	2,615
TOTAL	12,322	21,039	5,877	6,924	31,356	81,800	159,318

PITTSBURGH MUNICIPAL COURT

Pittsburgh Municipal Court (PMC) continues to use technological advancements to provide more efficient case processing. Three hundred four (304) summary proceedings were conducted in 2019 via videoconferencing. The online payment features, the PAePay application, <http://ujportal.pacourts.us>, and nCourt, www.pittsburghpatix.com, provide the public with the ability to pay traffic and non-traffic court financial obligations with credit/debit cards via the internet and are increasingly utilized by court participants. The number of PAePay users increased to 9,120 in 2019.

Significant efforts were devoted in 2020 to addressing case scheduling affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and implementing safety measures in court facilities. PMC remained open throughout the Fifth Judicial District court closure, and Magisterial District Judges and court staff quickly pivoted to the use of advanced communication technology (ACT) to avoid delays in essential functions including criminal case processing, bail payments, hearings on Emergency Protection from Abuse petitions (24 hours a day), and indirect criminal contempt complaints. Temporary Protection from Abuse petitions, which are heard by judges assigned to the Family Division and Civil Division motions were also processed at PMC during the pandemic.

PMC proceeded with designated in person proceedings in June 2020, while many cases continued to be conducted via ACT. Modifications to court facilities for in person proceedings included the installation of plexiglass and temperature machines and implementation of other protective measures.

Bail payments and fees collected by Arraignment Court at Pittsburgh Municipal Court

\$364,825	\$256,589	\$253,566
2019	2020	2021

Traffic summary hearings were held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh from October through December 2020, opening additional courtroom space at PMC for criminal cases to be scheduled and heard safely.

PITTSBURGH MUNICIPAL COURT 2019

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE	COURT NUMBER	SESSIONS ASSIGNED	PMC CASES	MDJ COURT FILINGS IN 2019	TOTAL FILINGS PER MDJ
Hon. Eugene N. Ricciardi	05-2-27	118	4,634	1,510	6,144
Hon. Oscar J. Petite, Jr.	05-2-28	107	4,202	1,486	5,688
Hon. Mikhail N. Pappas	05-2-31	112	4,399	1,322	5,721
Hon. Daniel E. Butler	05-2-35	117	4,594	839	5,433
Hon. James J. Hanley, Jr.	05-2-36	155	6,086	984	7,070
Hon. James A. Motznik	05-2-38	123	4,830	1,236	6,066
Hon. Derwin Rushing	05-2-40	123	4,830	1,105	5,935
Hon. Robert P. Ravenstahl, Jr.	05-2-42	104	4,084	1,988	6,072
Hon. Anthony M. Ceoffe	05-3-10	162	6,360	387	6,747
Hon. Kevin E. Cooper, Jr.	05-3-12	124	4,869	1,802	6,671
Hon. Randy C. Martini	05-3-13	108	4,240	1,443	5,683
Hon. Richard G. King	05-3-14	25	982	5,330	6,312
TOTAL		1,378	54,110	19,432	73,542

*Similar statistics for 2020 and 2021 are unavailable due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PITTSBURGH MUNICIPAL COURT

Dennis Onderick, who was employed with the Fifth Judicial District for 45 years, retired on October 18, 2019. He most recently served as a supervisor in PMC's Arraignment Division for 14 years.

Daniel Rahuba retired on November 1, 2020 following 47 years of service to the Fifth Judicial District. He most recently served as a supervisor in PMC's Arraignment Division for 24 years.

Donna Valdiserri retired on March 27, 2020 following 14 years of service to the Fifth Judicial District in PMC's Non-Traffic Division.

Judy MacFarlane retired on May 7, 2021 following 44-1/2 years of service to the Fifth Judicial District. She was originally employed as a clerk in PMC's Traffic Division, was promoted to various positions within the court, and served most recently as supervisor of the Traffic Division for 16-1/2 years. Judy is congratulated for her many years of service with the court.

Jerry Cavalovitch, Manager of PMC, and the Arraignment Court staff were deemed essential workers and are acknowledged for their dedication and service throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Magisterial District Judge Beth Scagline-Mills and **Paula DeClaudio** of Sutersville, Pennsylvania are acknowledged for sewing an abundance of masks for court staff.

PITTSBURGH MUNICIPAL COURT FILINGS

	2019	2020	2021
Preliminary Arraignments	15,840	11,811	11,463
Preliminary Arraignments for Other Jurisdictions	281	210	208
Emergency Protection from Abuse Petitions	3,678	3,436	3,470
Emergency Protection from Sexual Violence and Intimidation Petitions	12	15	11
Extradition Hearings	210	128	145
Indirect Criminal Contempt Complaints	787	665	757
Juvenile Written Allegations	78	55	62
Criminal	10,558	7,832	7,159
Non-Traffic	8,883	5,505	4,767
Traffic	34,102	19,098	23,619
TOTAL	74,429	48,755	51,661

FINES, FEES, AND COLLATERAL COLLECTED BY PMC FOR TRAFFIC AND NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS.

DISTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

	TOTAL AMOUNT COLLECTED	COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY	COMMONWEALTH OF PA	CITY OF PITTSBURGH
2019	\$3,544,844	\$570,743	\$1,981,503	\$992,598
2020	\$2,416,665	\$389,285	\$1,316,764	\$710,616
2021	\$2,593,327	\$477,673	\$1,383,381	\$732,273



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, safety measures including the installation of plexiglass and temperature machines were implemented in court facilities. Michael Foley, District Judge Clerk, is pictured, working in a courtroom at Pittsburgh Municipal Court.





FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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