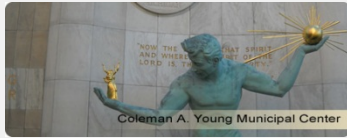




2017 Annual Report

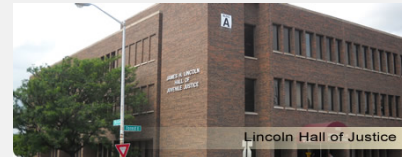
# Third Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan



Coleman A. Young Municipal Center



Frank Murphy Hall of Justice



Lincoln Hall of Justice



Mediation Tribunal



Penobscot Building

## 2017 Administration

**Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge**

**Zenell B. Brown, Executive Court Administrator**

### Mission of Third Judicial Circuit Court

The Court provides accessible and equal justice with timely dispute resolution.

### Vision of the Future

As a national leader in court performance and the administration of justice, the Court is recognized for:

- Using innovative and best practices;
- Building trust and confidence in the judicial branch; and
- Providing exemplary public service, programs, and work environment including professional facilities and effective technology.

### Core Values

- *Fair:* We are just, impartial, inclusive, and honorable in all we do.
- *Proactive:* We anticipate and prepare in advance for opportunities and challenges.
- *Responsive:* We are flexible and react quickly to changing needs and times.
- *User-friendly:* We are accessible and understandable.
- *Collaborative:* We involve and work well with each other, court users, and partners.



**THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF MICHIGAN**

ZENELL B. BROWN  
EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

711 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
TWO WOODWARD AVENUE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3413

(313) 224-5261



Dear Judge Colombo:

We have done well this year in meeting our goals and objectives. We have come to expect challenges, setbacks, and delays. And we address those with creativity, innovation, and persistence.

Your signature saying for the last four years has been some variation of “Let’s get it done.” It has not been a command or a directive but a statement that identified the need to move forward and complete tasks to deliver quality judicial services to the public. “Let’s get it done” has been the call that has allowed us to introduce JAVS systems in every division of the court; to complete our go-live with statewide eFiling; and, to implement a Courtwide statewide strategic plan.

This year has not been easy. Our team has mourned the loss of Judge Richard Skutt and of Todd Kidwell, our Deputy Chief Information Officer. We have shared condolences with many employees, judges, and partners who also suffered personal losses. We returned from the December holiday break and learned of the passing of Commissioner Burton Leland, and we most recently learned of the passing of Judge Arthur Lombard and Judge Lucille Watts.

The valuable take-a-ways from the death and grief is to be grateful and to show appreciation in real time. You have done that as Chief Judge as you regularly visited all of our court buildings to talk with the judges and staff; greeted employees at the workstations to acknowledge and celebrate their years of service; supported our volunteers who donate their time to serve our families; supported our judges’ community services and programs; and, attended Specialty Court graduations to ensure the graduates knew that the Court is invested in their success. We felt your gratitude and appreciation.

In 2018 and future years, we will continue to strive for better wages and benefits for our employees; we will continue be a good partner to our fellow courts and external partners; and, we will continue to ensure “Justice for All.”

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zenell B. Brown".

Zenell B. Brown  
Executive Court Administrator



## THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

OF MICHIGAN

ROBERT J. COLOMBO, JR.  
CHIEF JUDGE

701 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
TWO WOODWARD AVENUE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3413

(313) 224-5430



Dear Judges, Court employees and staff, partners, and stakeholders:

Congratulations to all who helped this Court to a very successful 2017! Due to your efforts, the Court was able to have a very productive year, find innovative methods to efficiently manage dockets and serve the public.

Perhaps the most important accomplishment in 2017 was the creation of a strategic plan for the Court. The process began in February 2016 to develop a five-year strategic plan to assist the Court to identify priorities, layout future action to continuously improve the Court, and provide a blueprint for the Court's direction. A committee of volunteer judges and management was formed and charged with the responsibility of developing a strategic plan. For the very first time in the history of this Court, court employees, staff, stakeholders, and partners were given the significant opportunity to provide input as to the direction that the Court should take in the future. Our strategic plan identified six strategic focus areas that include (1) facilities and parking, (2) employee satisfaction, work environment, pay, and benefits, (3) technology, (4) case management and operational efficiencies, (5) access to services and programs, and (6) external relations with stakeholders, partners, and customers. After the strategic plan was completed in April 2017, strategic focus areas and goals for 2017/18 were established for Courtwide and Divisional/Department projects. It is through these projects over the next five years we hope to accomplish the goals of the strategic plan.

It was an extremely busy year in the Criminal Division. Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division, Timothy M. Kenny, led a committee from Court Administration to work on the design of a new courthouse in the Rock Venture proposed criminal complex. A new assignment system for the appointment of criminal defense attorneys representing indigent defendants was proposed and approved by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO). Planning for the implementation of the new system continued into 2018. The Criminal Division and Court management worked with the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission which established standards for criminal defense attorneys representing indigent defendants. The Court and Wayne County made proposals with respect to funding additional work and facilities required by these standards. SCAO performance measures released June 26, 2017 demonstrated in 2016 the Criminal Division was meeting and exceeding time guidelines and statewide court averages for disposition of cases. The Division also had another strong year collecting court costs and fees led by the arraignment on the information judges. The specialty courts in the Criminal Division had a significant impact on those defendants who were able to complete the programs and graduate.

The Family Division – Juvenile continued its collaboration with the Casey Family Programs and was acknowledged as a model court in the initiatives it has introduced to the Wayne County community. These include the volunteer parenting time, where volunteers supervise additional family visits for children in foster care. The Court ensures that neglected and abused children are screened for trauma are properly assessed and



receive appropriate therapy. There has been an increased awareness and continued supervision of psychotropic medications given to abused and neglected children. The Active Efforts Docket allowed the Division to return children home to their parents in a shorter time when it may be safely accomplished. The specialty courts, the Juvenile Mental Health Court and the Juvenile Drug Court, continued their successful programs graduating dozens of successful young people. The Clinic for Child Study carried on as a pillar of support for all of our delinquency and abuse and neglect programs, including providing criminal responsibility and competency evaluations. This is the only juvenile mental health facility of its kind in the State of Michigan.

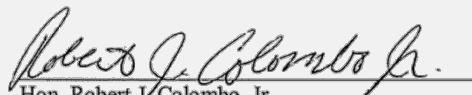
The Family Division-Domestic Relations worked with the Wayne County Clerk's Office to scan all pleadings into the Odyssey Case Management System. Work was done with a vendor to scan historical pleadings and load them into the Odyssey Case Management System allowing staff to instantly access electronic records. The Division had 393 litigants complete the Co-Parent Communication class. The Wayne County Legal Self-Help Center (SHC) offered free help on legal issues. Over 6,600 people were helped by the SHC with Domestic Relations issues.

The Friend of the Court continues to accomplish more with less. New offices were opened in the beginning of 2017 offering new, bright, and clean facilities to litigants and staff. Support of \$275,300,000 was ordered and \$270,800,000 was distributed. The total FOC staff of 238 people dealt with 270,470 opened FOC cases. The FOC referees timely resolved hearings and issued recommended orders. The Family Assessment, Mediation & Education Department (FAME) and the Referees have collaborated on a pilot project to use a team approach to help parties reach resolution on pre-judgment cases. An electronic signature process has been implemented on the FOC Referee dockets and two dockets are currently piloting an electronic workflow of recommended orders.

The Civil Division looked for and found greater efficiency through sharing ideas with the bench, expanding ADR opportunities, cooperating with partners such as the Mediation Tribunal Association (MTA), and the Detroit Bar Association (DBA). Through a grant from the MTA to the DBA, a discovery mediation program was launched which offers civil attorneys the opportunity to facilitate matters with experienced mediators from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Friday. The Division's judges and the DBA held quarterly conferences on topics such as no fault litigation and case evaluation, allowing for the sharing of ideas and information. A successful pilot program to require mediation of all cases that were case evaluated for \$25,000 or less was expanded to include all of the judges in the Division. The statistics indicate that a significant percentage of the referred cases are resolved without the need for a settlement conference or trial. The Division made progress towards the goal of resolving 70% of no fault cases in one year by a better statistical monitoring of these cases and a new scheduling order that streamlines discovery. The Division worked with Executive Court Administrator Zenell Brown to collect and donate purses and other useful items to shelters for survivors of domestic violence.

The 2017 Public Satisfaction Survey demonstrated that there was either agreement or strong agreement that 79% of the public were able to get their business done in a reasonable amount of time; 93% of the public were treated with courtesy and respect by the Court; 83% of the public believed that the way their case was handled was fair; 88% of the public believed the judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect; and 86% believed they understood what happened in their case when they left court.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Judges, management team, court employees and staff, partners and stakeholders for all your hard work. From my perspective, 2017 was a productive year and we worked to improve services for all court users. It has been my honor and pleasure to work with all of you and see the success you achieved in 2017.

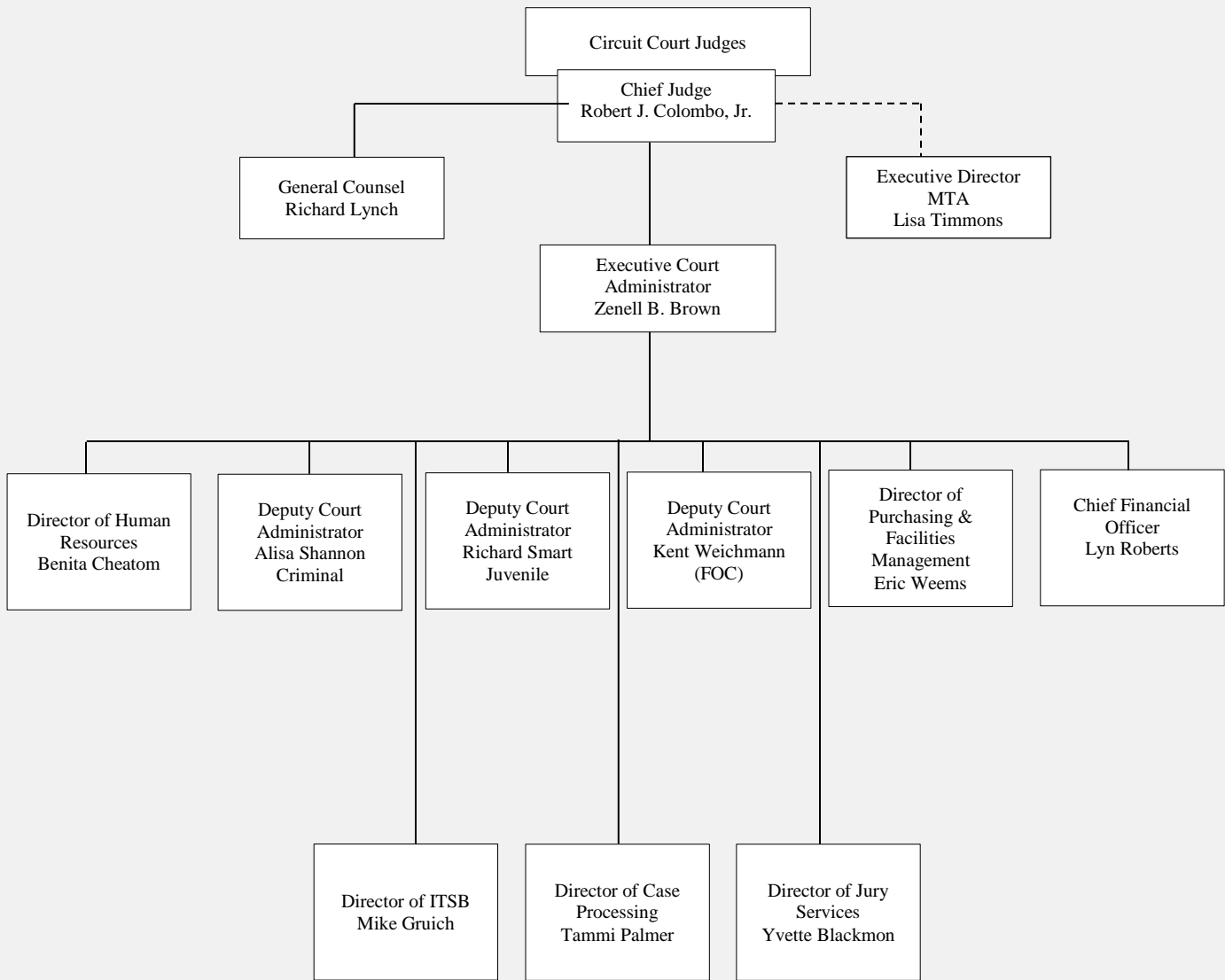
  
Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.  
Chief Judge, Third Judicial Circuit Court

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# THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF MICHIGAN

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**(Back Row L-R)** Lyn Roberts, Kent Weichmann, Rich Lynch, Toby Horner, Lisa Timmons, Eric Weems

**(Front Row L-R)** Richard Smart, Erin Lincoln, Jan Hiller, Cherece Hurley, Todd Kidwell, Chief Judge Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Zenell Brown, Mike Gruich, Tammi Palmer, Alisa Shannon, Tamela Aikens, Yvette Blackmon

**(Not Pictured)** Benita Cheatom

## **THIRD CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES**

Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge

### **CIVIL DIVISION**

Patricia Perez Fresard, Presiding

David J. Allen  
Annette J. Berry  
Megan Maher Brennan  
Edward Ewell, Jr.  
Sheila Ann Gibson  
John H. Gillis, Jr.

David A. Groner  
Daniel A. Hathaway  
Susan L. Hubbard  
Muriel D. Hughes  
John A. Murphy

Lita M. Popke  
Leslie Kim Smith  
Martha M. Snow  
Craig S. Strong  
Brian R. Sullivan

### **CRIMINAL DIVISION**

Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding

Mariam Bazzi  
Gregory Dean Bill  
Ulysses W. Boykin  
James R. Chylinski  
Kevin J. Cox  
Paul J. Cusick  
Prentis Edwards, Jr.  
Vonda R. Evans

Wanda A. Evans  
Cynthia Gray Hathaway  
Dana Margaret Hathaway  
Thomas M. J. Hathaway  
Catherine L. Heise  
Qiana Denise Lillard  
Bruce U. Morrow

Kelly A. Ramsey  
Richard M. Skutt  
Mark T. Slavens  
Lawrence S. Talon  
Deborah A. Thomas  
Margaret M. Van Houten  
Shannon N. Walker

### **FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

Kathleen M. McCarthy, Presiding

Eric Cholack  
Melissa A. Cox  
Charlene M. Elder  
Alexis A. Glendening

Richard B. Halloran  
Adel A. Harb  
Charles S. Hegarty

Connie Marie Kelley  
Lisa M. Neilson  
Lynne A. Pierce

### **FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC – JUVENILE**

Virgil C. Smith, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton  
Jerome C. Cavanagh

Christopher D. Dingell  
Edward J. Joseph

Frank S. Szymanski



## THIRD CIRCUIT COURT REFEREES

### FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Stephanie Witucki, Chief Referee

Diane Biggar  
David Calandro  
Eric Gloudemans  
Shannon Haneline  
Rosanne Hostnik

Michelle Letourneau-McAvoy  
Lauren Wright Middleton  
Christine Rodriguez  
Lynn Ruhlman

Anita Scott-Meisel  
Hulen Simpson  
Edrick Thompson  
Jessica Walker



### FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC – JUVENILE

Charles W. Wilson, III, Chief Referee

Kathleen Allen  
Nicholas J. Bobak  
James A. Catchings, Jr.  
Anthony Crutchfield

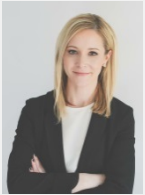
Raeigen Evans  
Leslie Graves  
Viola King

Daniel M. McGuire  
Peter J. Schummer, Jr.  
Brandi Taylor  
Mona M. Youssef



## JUDGES JOINING THE BENCH IN 2017

*I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of this State, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of **Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit Court** according to the best of my ability.*



**Hon. Melissa A. Cox**

Judge Melissa A. Cox was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in November of 2016 and is assigned to the Family Division – Domestic. Judge Cox graduated from the University of Michigan and received her Juris Doctorate from Ave Maria School of Law. She began her legal career as a law clerk for the law firm Fausone Bohn, LLP, in Northville. She continued to work for the firm as an associate attorney, focusing her practice in family law. She handled a high-volume caseload of divorce, custody, and adoption matters. Additionally, throughout her career, she served as assistant city attorney for several municipalities and, in that capacity, prosecuted criminal misdemeanors and civil infractions and defended civil litigation lawsuits. She has been afforded recognition as a Super Lawyer Rising Star for the past six years and has been named by Hour Magazine as a Top Female Attorney.



**Hon. Wanda A. Evans**

Judge Wanda A. Evans was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in November of 2016 and is assigned to the Criminal Division. Judge Evans was born and raised in the City of Detroit. She Graduated from Cass Technical High School, earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Eastern Michigan University, a Master of Social Work Degree from Wayne State University, and a Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Detroit Law School. She became a member of the State Bar of Michigan in 1995 and was licensed to practice in the Federal District Court. She worked for the Misdemeanor Defender’s Office of the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court representing indigent clients. Later, she started her own law firm and practiced law for over seventeen years in the areas of Criminal, Family and Civil Law prior to being elected to Judge of the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court in 2012.



**Hon. Thomas M.J. Hathaway**

Judge Thomas M.J. Hathaway was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in November of 2016 and is assigned to the Criminal Division. Judge Hathaway practiced as a trial attorney for over 30 years of a national law practice in a wide range of constitutional, employment, corporate, business, and admiralty matters. He is a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School, the College of the Holy Cross, and Vanderbilt University School of Law. Judge Hathaway is a former Special Assistant Attorney General, as well as a former President of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. Prior to his election, Judge Hathaway was consistently reviewed as a leading lawyer in Michigan by third-party peer review publications such as “Best Lawyers in America,” “Michigan Super Lawyers,” “Chambers USA: Leading Individual,” and “Crain’s Detroit Business Top Attorneys.”

## JUDGES JOINING THE BENCH IN 2017

*I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of this State, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of **Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit Court** according to the best of my ability.*



**Hon. Kelly A. Ramsey**

Judge Kelly A. Ramsey was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in November of 2016 and is assigned to the Criminal Division. Judge Ramsey was born and raised in Detroit and is a life-long resident of Wayne County. She has extensive judicial and trial experience having served for over 23 years as a referee in the Wayne County Circuit Court - Juvenile Division, and over five years as a Wayne County assistant prosecuting attorney. Judge Ramsey is the co-founder of For the Seventh Generation, a non-profit organization enriching the lives of disadvantaged children. She currently serves on the boards of Vista Maria, Child's Hope, Franklin Wright Settlements and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation. She is also a member of the Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse & Neglect.



**Hon. Mariam Saad Bazzi**

Judge Mariam Saad Bazzi was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in May of 2017 and is assigned to the Criminal Division. Judge Bazzi received her bachelor's from the University of Michigan – Dearborn in 2001 and her Juris Doctorate from Wayne State University Law in 2005. She has over 11 years of experience prosecuting various types of criminal cases at the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, where she most recently served as the lead attorney in charge of the Deed and Mortgage Fraud Task Force. She is a member and previously served as the President of the Arab American Political Action Committee (AAPAC) from 2010 to 2014 and is a member of the Dearborn/Dearborn Heights League of Women Voters. Prior to her appointment to the circuit court, she was elected and served as President of the Dearborn Board of Education and Chair of the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees. She also served on the Michigan Middle Eastern Affairs Commission and the Environmental Justice Work Group for the State of Michigan.



**Hon. Prentis Edwards, Jr.**

Judge Prentis Edwards, Jr. was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in July of 2017 and is assigned to the Criminal Division. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Edwards was an assistant prosecuting attorney for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office where he served in the Special Operations Community Prosecution Unit, and Trials Division, prosecuting a variety of complex and serious crimes. He also worked as a policy analyst and legislative aide in the Michigan State House, Senate, Detroit City Council, and as an attorney for the Detroit Public Schools, respectively. Judge Edwards is a member of the State Bar of Michigan Diversity Inclusion Advisory Committee, the Detroit Bar Association, the Wolverine Bar Association, the Association of Black Judges of Michigan, the Charles H. Wright Museum, and the NAACP Detroit Chapter. Judge Edwards is a graduate of Michigan State University, Eli Broad School of Business and Western Michigan University - Thomas Cooley Law School.

## EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION TEAM JOINING THE COURT IN 2017



### **Tamela Aikens – Director of Criminal Court Services**

Tamela was the Director of Community Corrections for Wayne County where she was responsible for the development, implementation, and management of the County's Annual Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan and Application funded by the Michigan Department of Corrections. She served as the liaison across several community justice stakeholders and law enforcement agencies, and she recently completed the County's successful application to attend the National Stepping Up Summit. Tamela earned a Masters of Economics from Walsh College, and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Eastern Michigan University. She is the past Secretary of the Michigan Association of Community Corrections Advisory Boards, a former member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency, and a graduate of the FBI Michigan Citizens' Academy, where she served as the Secretary of its Alumni Association.



### **Toby Horner – Deputy Chief Financial Officer**

Toby has been working in the accounting profession for municipality and non-profit agencies for over 17 years. He began his career with the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART Bus) as an Accounts Payable Associate. He worked for SMART Bus for over 12 years in increasingly progressive capacities including Principal Accountant, Supervisor of Internal Audits and Manager of Financial Analysis and Audit. He transitioned to Easter Seals Michigan in 2011 as Controller for 6 years where he was responsible for all cycles of the accounting function including overseeing and managing all accounting and billing staff, financial statement and budget preparation, internal control systems and facilitating external audits. He also worked as interim Chief Financial Officer for over a year. Toby earned a Master of Science in Accounting from Walsh College, and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Walsh College as well. He is also a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.



### **Toielynn Smith – Chief Assistant of Administrative Operations**

Toielynn has worked for the Court over 21 years in various capacities. She began her career with the Court as a Court Clerical Worker in 1996. She also worked as a Purchaser for the Court (1998-2009), Information Specialist (2009-2010), Clerical Services Supervisor (2012-2013), and Docket Services Supervisor (2013-2016). Her most recent position has been in the Juvenile Section since February of 2016 as the Manager of Specialty Court Services. Toielynn is a graduate of Central Michigan University from where she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Community Development. She also is seeking a certification from Michigan State University in Judicial Administration.



## **COURT ADMINISTRATION**



**Lyn Roberts – Chief Financial Officer**

### **Budget and Finance**

The Office of Budget and Finance is responsible for the processing and recording of accounting and financial information for the Court. The office's responsibilities include budget and accounting services for general fund accounts, grants and contracts, and fiduciary accounts; accounts receivable and accounts payable processing; financial reporting; and collections.

### **Accounts Payable**

The unit is currently working with the IT Department to automate the payment process for high volume requests from vendors who provide language interpreting services, per diem court reporting services, transcripts and house counsel attorneys. During fiscal year 2016-2017, in addition to processing vendor, contractual payments and attorney payments for all Court Divisions, this unit processed payment of over 6,000 requests from the aforementioned vendors. Implementing an automated payment system for these high volume requests will be a significant technological improvement.

### **Court Collections**

The Collections Unit, which is responsible for the collection of court-imposed costs, fines, and fees, is one of the top priorities of the Court. The Collections Unit in the Juvenile Division was established at the start of fiscal year 2014. During fiscal year 2017, \$77,161 was collected in court costs and attorney fees in the Juvenile Division. In addition, the unit serviced 2,666 walk-ins, mailed out 4,161 delinquency notices, and established 55 payment agreements. In February 2015, the Collections Unit devoted staff to the Criminal Division in order to increase collection efforts. During fiscal year 2017, \$3,578,238 was collected in court costs, attorney fees, and late fees in the Criminal Division.

### **Budget and Grants Accounting**

The Budget Unit and Grants Accounting Unit are responsible for managing and analyzing performance of the Court's general fund, capital fund, and grant funded programs for short and long-term planning. This includes preparing and submitting annual budgets, annual five year capital improvement plans, and quarterly revenue and expenditure projections to Wayne County in accordance with deadlines required by the County. The Grants Unit is responsible for all financial requirements set forth in the terms and conditions of all Court grant awards, which includes adherence to applicable federal and state laws, guidelines, financial reporting requirements, and regulations. In fiscal year 2017, the Grants Unit met the financial responsibilities related to the funding of the Friend of the Court (FOC), the Clinic for Child Study, three Juvenile Division Child Care Fund Programs, two Juvenile Division Specialty Court Programs, four Criminal Division Specialty Court Programs, and several other grants. The total available funding managed by the Grants Unit for these programs exceeds \$28.2 million, with approximately \$20.7 million for the FOC and \$7.5 million for other grants.

## **COURT ADMINISTRATION**



**Tammi Palmer – Director of Case Processing and Court Reporting Services**

### **Case Processing**

Case Processing provides central support to the bench, gathers and reports required data to the State Court Administrative Office, serves as a primary resource to judges and their staff on caseflow methods and procedures, and provides information to the public. Support to the bench includes scheduling and noticing hearings, maintenance of the party/attorney records, development and distribution of statistical and management reports, maintenance of automated caseflow management programs, and training judicial staff members. Case Processing prints and mails over 80,000 notices of court events to attorneys and parties and answers over 13,000 phone calls annually. Case Processing also performs many assigned counsel functions for the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section. Case Processing assists with caseflow management at Friend of the Court and provides weekly reports to assist with the timely processing of paternity cases.

### **Court Reporting Services**

The Court Reporting Services Department is responsible for coordinating court reporting coverage for all divisions of the Court, as well as assigning appellate counsel and submitting transcripts to the Court of Appeals, and acts as the liaison between the Court of Appeals and the Third Circuit Court. The Department also processes all transcript requests in each division, maintains archival storage of all records of court reporters and recorders, provides staff support to video courtrooms, and orders interpreters for proceedings. In 2017, video court reporting technology was added to five courtrooms. This brought the total to 36 JAVS courtrooms. The JAVS technology reduces personnel costs and produces a video that is accessible to the public. New transcript production monitoring software, reports, and standards were also implemented. These newly developed checks and balances have increased the number of transcripts timely filed in the Court of Appeals.



**Benita Cheatom – Director of Human Resources**

### **Human Resources**

The Office of Human Resources manages all personnel-related activities for the Court's approximately 600 full-time positions, including judges. These activities include recruitment, timekeeping, payroll, benefits, interpretation of workplace laws and regulations, training and development, support for management staff, and negotiating and administering labor agreements. The Court filled 120 vacancies through recruitment and promotional processes, conducted two desk audits, and updated 215 job descriptions. Wage negotiations were successfully completed with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the Government Administrators Association (GAA), and the Judicial Attorneys Association (JAA).

## **COURT ADMINISTRATION**

In partnership with the Information Technology Services Bureau (ITSB), HR has begun the implementation of an upgrade of the Kronos Workforce Central Timekeeping system that includes the addition of a new module, Workforce Ready. A Supervisors' Academy training series was conducted for all Court administrators, managers, and supervisors. Also, in collaboration with the Michigan Judicial Institute, Creating a Civil Treatment Culture in the Workplace training was provided to all administrative, management, and supervisory staff. Future plans are for Restorative Practices training to be provided to all Court employees to facilitate achievement of the Court's goal to function more effectively by fostering an improved work environment where productive discussions and better relationships are built with both colleagues and clients. Additional future plans include the launch of VitalSmarts Crucial Conversations training to Court staff, wage discussions with the GAA group, and negotiations with the AFSCME and JAA groups for successor collective bargaining agreements.



**Mike Gruich – Director of Information Technology Systems Bureau**

### **Information Technology Systems Bureau**

The Information Technology Systems Bureau (ITSB) provides reliable, cost-effective information systems solutions that meet the Court's evolving business needs. The department provides the application and technical operating environment necessary to meet the operating and administrative business objectives of the Court. ITSB has upgraded the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center for public Wi-Fi in court locations. Public Kiosks for payments have been added to Lincoln Hall of Justice, Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, and the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. The Court has expanded its reach into the area of Social Media and now has a presence on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

### **Odyssey Case Management System Implementation**

The Court has implemented the Odyssey case management system in all divisions (Adoptions, Guardianships, Criminal, Civil, Family Domestic, and Family Juvenile). The entire court now has the ability to use a single case management system – Odyssey.

The current Odyssey system has over 2.5 million current and historical cases. The Court has converted over 8 million historical images to cases. The Odyssey system has over 2,000 users, including staff from the Wayne County Prosecutor, Michigan Department of Corrections, Wayne County Sheriff, and local district courts. The public can access the court register of actions through the Court's website [www.3rdcc.org](http://www.3rdcc.org).

### **Electronic Filing (eFiling) Implementation**

In November 2011, the Court implemented eFiling for contract cases (CK) in the Civil Division. eFiling allows the submission and processing of court documents electronically. The electronically filed documents are then moved throughout the court system without the need for a paper case file. eFiling allows the Court to make significant progress towards a paperless environment. eFiling now covers all civil and criminal cases.

# COURT ADMINISTRATION

## eFiling Project Submissions

Total Submissions eFiling Project 2017	407,822
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2016	391,573
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2015	357,412
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2014	326,460
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2013	291,350
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2012	125,585
Total Submissions eFiling Project 2011	5,758
<b>Cumulative Total Submissions eFiling Project</b>	<b>1,905,960</b>

## Electronic Signature

In 2017, the Court implemented an electronic signature process for Orders in the Juvenile, Family and Criminal divisions. This process allows orders generated internally to use workflow to process and sign electronically.

## Website and Social Media

The court has updated our public website [www.3rdcc.org](http://www.3rdcc.org) to a 'responsive' design. Responsive design allows users to access our website regardless of the devices being used – phone, tablet, and personal computer (PC).

The court has a presence on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Twitter: 3rdccorg

Facebook: Third Judicial Circuit Court

Linked In: Wayne County Third Circuit Court

Website: 3rdcc.org

Instagram: 3rdccorg



Through social media, the Court publishes holiday closings, emergency closings, and press releases for upcoming events, performance measure data, legal community events, and accomplishments. The court staff and the public are welcome to visit, follow, and like the Court on social media.

To receive Third Judicial Circuit Court's monthly eNewsletter and stay informed, court staff and the public may join by sending contact information (name and e-mail address) to [3CCE-News@3rdcc.org](mailto:3CCE-News@3rdcc.org).



# COURT ADMINISTRATION



**Yvette Blackmon – Director of Jury Services**

## Jury Services

The Jury Services Department coordinates jury operations and obtains jurors for the Third Judicial Circuit and Probate Courts, as well as provides qualification services for all district courts in Wayne County.

The Department’s responsibilities include developing processes and procedures for regularly collecting and analyzing information regarding the performance of the jury system to ensure fair representation and inclusiveness; the effectiveness of qualification and summoning procedures; the responsiveness of individual citizens to jury duty summonses; the efficient and effective usage of citizens called to serve on jury duty; and the cost effectiveness of the jury system. In 2017, there were 181,922 jury questionnaires/summons mailed and 1,323 jury panels requested.

In 2017, Third Circuit Court Jury Services Department implemented a new phone system and fax server to improve accessibility for jurors. The Jury Services Department also implemented a bus ticket program to assist jurors with transportation expenses. In April 2017, Jury Services held show cause hearings before Chief Judge Robert J. Colombo where 109 jurors appeared and rescheduled their jury service date and fulfilled their civic duty.

### **Jury Services 2017 Statistics**

Total Jurors Called to Appear for Service	59,559
Total Jurors Who Appeared	34,546
Total Jurors Who Failed to Appear	25,013

*The highest calling of any citizen is to serve as a juror.  
~President Abraham Lincoln*

## COURT ADMINISTRATION



**Eric Weems – Director of Purchasing and Facilities Management**

### **Purchasing and Facilities Management**

The Purchasing and Facilities Management Department, with a staff of four full-time employees, is responsible for the procurement of goods and services for all divisions of the Court. The Department also oversees building services and renovations, organizes staff moves, processes metered mail and inter-office court mail, reports equipment repairs, transports employees, and addresses courthouse security issues.

In conjunction with the Departments of Budget and Finance and Information and Technology, the Purchasing and Facilities Management Department helped implement a new electronic-based requisition system. In addition to the efficiencies gained with the elimination of paper requisitions, the system also serves as a central repository for the Court to keep track of its purchases and pertinent information regarding the purchases. The Department now uses a facility HelpDesk request system to receive and respond to maintenance or transportation requests.

The Department was responsive to the workplace needs for efficiency, client privacy, and safety, and oversaw projects both big and small throughout Court locations. Renovations, Life-saving First Aid Kits, the At-Hoc emergency alert system are just a sampling of the many projects that required the staff's involvement.

# COURT ADMINISTRATION

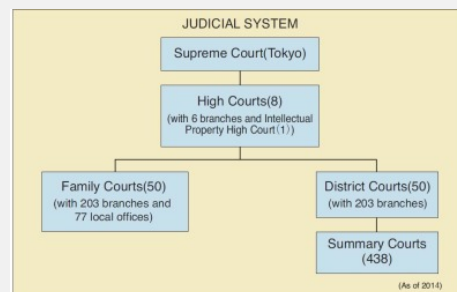
## Japanese Judge Program



Supreme Court of Japan



Courtroom of the Grand Bench  
of the Supreme Court



Japanese judges have been coming to study in the Third Circuit Court since 1972. Each year a judge from the Japanese judicial system has come to Michigan to research and study the American judicial system. This partnership between the Third Circuit Court, Wayne State University Law School, and the Supreme Court of Japan ensures that each visiting judge will return home with a wealth of knowledge concerning America's judicial system with an emphasis on Michigan trial courts.

The Japanese Judge will be in residence for two semesters at the Wayne State University Law School. The judge will study all the divisions of the Court by observing proceedings, trials, and the operations of Court departments including Jury Services, Case Processing, and the Mediation Tribunal Association. Additionally, the judge will network with staff from Pretrial Services, Intake, Drug Court, Probation, and the Clinic for Child Study, while touring both the Wayne County Jail and the Juvenile Detention Facility. To culminate this program, the judge will lecture in one of the courses at the Law School and be available to students and faculty to discuss the research.

This program enhances the judicial systems of both cultures, as well as the curriculum at Wayne State University. The Court looks forward to this ongoing partnership.

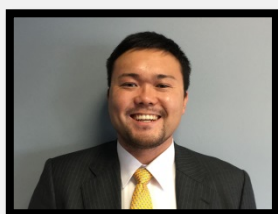


### **Hon. Toshihiko Fujii**

Judge Fujii began his training with the Court in September 2016. Hon. Fujii's main interest and goals are to learn more about the American Juvenile Justice Case Proceeding within the court, as well as the processes concerning plea bargaining procedures, jury selection, and trials with the criminal justice cases. He graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Tokyo, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law in 2006 and graduated from the Graduate School for Law and Politics (School of Law) of the University of Tokyo, receiving the degree of Juris Doctor in 2008. Judge Fujii takes part in a mixed chorus group called "Otomodachi." "Oto" in Japanese means "sound" and "tomodachi" means "friend." The group mainly consists of people of Japanese descent who live in and around Novi.

# COURT ADMINISTRATION

## Japanese Judge Program



**Hon. Keisuke Koizumi**

Judge Keisuke Koizumi began his training with the Third Circuit Court in September 2017. Judge Koizumi's main interest was to learn more about the litigation management in the courts of Michigan. He graduated from the Faculty of Law of Waseda University, which is located in Tokyo, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law in 2009 and graduated from the School of Law of the Chuo University, which is also located in Tokyo, receiving the degree of Juris Doctor in 2012. He was appointed to be a judge in January 2014 and was hearing civil cases on a Panel at Tokyo District Court. (District Court in Japan is the first trial court like the circuit court in Michigan). Judge Koizumi likes to watch sports while he was here in Detroit. He has watched the Tigers, Pistons, Lions, and Red Wings games. He likes basketball the best, and his favorite team is the Pistons.

## HISTORY OF THE JAPANESE JUDGES

Year	Name	Name: English Translation	Year	Name	Name: English Translation
1972	秋山壽延	Toshinobu Akiyama	1995	川畑正文	Masafumi Kawabata
1973	原田敏章	Toshiaki Harada	1996	大垣貴靖	Takayasu Ogaki
1974	安広文夫	Fumio Yasuhiro	1997	青木孝之	Takashi Aoki
1975	平谷正弘	Masahiro Hiraya	1998	品田幸男	Yukio Shinada
1976	池田勝之	Katsuyuki Ikeda	1999	上岡哲生	Tetsuo Kamioka
1977	飯村敏明	Toshiaki Imura	2000	坂田威一郎	Iichiro Sakata
1978	中山一郎	Ichiro Nakayama	2001	近藤暁郎	Akio Kondo
1979	村瀬 均	Hitoshi Murase	2002	野澤晃一	Koichi Nozawa
1980	園尾隆司	Takashi Sonoo	2003	田辺暁志	Satoshi Tanabe
1981	升田 純	Jun Masuda	2004	倉成 章	Akira Kuranari
1982	井上弘通	Hikomichi Inoue	2005	宮崎朋紀	Tomoki Miyazaki
1983	杉原則彦	Norihiko Sugihara	2006	出口博章	Hiroaki Deguchi
1984	木口信之	Nobuyuki Kiguchi	2007	阿保賢祐	Kensuke Abo
1985	永野厚郎	Atsuo Nagano	2008	高原大輔	Daisuke Takahara
1986	白井幸夫	Yukio Shirai	2009	大野健太郎	Kentaro Ono
1987	始関正光	Masamitsu Shiseki	2010	新宅孝昭	Takaaki Shintaku
1988	定塚 誠	Makoto Jozuka	2011	倉知泰久	Yasuhisa Kurachi
1989	増田 稔	Minoru Masuda	2012	渡邊充昭	Mitsuaki Watanabe
1990	吉村典晃	Noriaki Yoshimura	2013	高石直樹	Naoki Takaishi
1991	矢尾 涉	Wataru Yao	2014	栢分宏和	Hirokazu Kayawake
1992	西田隆裕	Takahiro Nishida	2015	前田優太	Yuta Maeda
1993	田中健治	Kenji Tanaka	2016	藤井俊彦	Toshihiko Fujii
1994	西田時弘	Tokihiro Nishida	2017	小泉敬祐	Keisuke Koizumi

# JUDGES' LAW CLERKS AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS



Civil Division



Criminal Division



Family Division – Domestic



Family Division – Juvenile

# MEDIATION TRIBUNAL ASSOCIATION



**Lisa Timmons – Director of Mediation Tribunal Association**

The Mediation Tribunal Association (MTA) is a non-profit agency established in 1979 that provides alternative dispute resolution services for the Third Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan, the United States District Court for the Eastern Division, and many district courts in the County of Wayne. The MTA is led by its Executive Director, Lisa W. Timmons, and governed by its Board of Directors. The MTA Board consists of judges from the Civil Division, Family Division, and Criminal Division of Wayne County Circuit Court; a judge from the United States District Court; a neutral director; and two attorney directors, representing both the Michigan Association for Justice (MAJ) and the Association of Defense Trial Counsel (ADTC).

The MTA maintains a roster of over 1,500 attorneys who serve as case evaluators under MCR 2.403. In 2017, there were 11,433 cases set for case evaluation. Those case types included general civil, employment, medical malpractice, commercial, and business court. Dispositions for 2017 are as follows:

## **Third Circuit Court Case Evaluation 2017 Caseload**

Total Cases Set for Case Evaluation	11,433
Cases Settled Prior to Case Evaluation	769
Cases Settled After Case Evaluation	9
Cases Not Evaluated (Removed for Cause)	819
Cases Adjourned by the Court	2,681
<b>Total Cases Evaluated</b>	<b>7,155</b>

## **Third Circuit Court Case Evaluation 2017 Dispositions**

Total Awards	13,409
Awards Accepted (15.22% of total)	2,124
<b>Total Awards Rejected and Continuing to Disposition</b>	<b>11,285</b>



## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL



**Richard Lynch – General Counsel**

The Office of the General Counsel serves as the official legal advisor to the Court. The Office staff consists of twelve attorneys, a librarian, two administrative assistants, and a Self-Help Navigator. It is divided into four divisions that are overseen by the General Counsel, who is assisted by an administrative assistant: Civil with four attorneys, Criminal with four attorneys and an administrative assistant, Family with two attorneys, and a labor and employment attorney.

Sadly, two attorneys left the Office last year. Jared Jackson of the Family Division and Anne Newcomer of the Civil Division left to pursue new opportunities. However, the Office welcomes Jane Enright who transferred from Judge Strong's chambers to the Civil Division. The Office also welcomes Andre Poplar, the labor and employment attorney, who joined the Office from private practice, and Lisa Stroud, who transferred from Budget and Finance – Collections Unit.

The Office provides a variety of services to the Court. These include legal representation for the Court, its judges and staff, or the coordination of the representation with outside counsel when claims are brought against them. It also provides a number of other legal services to members of the bench and department managers for the Court. The Office researches legal issues for the Court and either prepares formal proposed opinions, orders, and memoranda of law or provides informal briefings. It drafts or reviews proposed local court rules, local administrative orders, and docket directives. The Office prepares, negotiates, and reviews requests for proposals, contracts, and memoranda of understanding between the Court and vendors, outside agencies, and other governmental entities. It serves as a liaison between the Court and other agencies, such as the State Court Administrative Office, Wayne County Corporation Counsel, and the Attorney General's Office. The Office provides the syllabi of U.S. Supreme Court decisions and prepares analyses or provides summaries of newly released Michigan Supreme Court and published Court of Appeals opinions for the Court. It also maintains a legislative tracking service for noteworthy recent legislation. Finally, the Office provides a full range of law library services. This includes a traditional library at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center campus, assisting chambers with the maintenance of subject specific collections, and the coordination of electronic legal research resources.

The Self-Help Center program continues to operate under the umbrella of the law library. The Law Librarian, Lynn Reeves, supervises the Center and assists visitors with navigation services. Pam Copeland, who has worked with the program since its initiation under a grant from Michigan Legal Help, continues to serve as the program's Lead Navigator. Lisa Stroud, Administrative Assistant in General Counsel and Jalona Colvard, Court Service Assistant in Court Administration, also support the program by serving as Navigators. The Court secured a grant from the Mediation Tribunal Association to continue funding during the current year and looks to expand funding and operations in upcoming years.

## OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

The Office of General Counsel also assisted in the development or expansion of various specialty court programs in the Criminal and Juvenile Divisions. The Office continues to conduct the Business Court case screening to ensure proper case assignment. Attorneys in the Office also oversee the court officer program and assist the Court in the enforcement of orders through various show cause programs and the review of subpoenas and FOIA requests directed to the Court. In addition, the Office continued its integral role in the Court's summer law school intern program. Attorneys for the Office hosted brownbag lunches exposing the interns to the confidentiality requirements of working in the Court and various areas of law handled by the Court's divisions. The Office participated in the internal and external review required to move forward with the statewide implementation of the proposals of the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission regarding indigent criminal defense. This year the Office participated in a program designed to expose a high school student intern to the court system and various offices that assist the Court with daily functions and services.

### Summer Law Clerks

A long-standing tradition for the Third Judicial Circuit is the practice of bringing summer law clerks into the Court. The internship process begins each spring when law students submit an application to the Court's Human Resources Department with a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and letter of recommendation. The complete files are circulated among the judges who select one or more students to serve as summer law clerks, whose applications are then processed through Human Resources.

For 2017, 29 law students were placed with judges in the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section, Civil Division, and Criminal Division. Many of this year's participants were students from University of Detroit's Dual enrollment program with Canada. The clerkships, which run from late May until mid-August, provide well-qualified law students an opportunity to enhance their academic studies by applying that knowledge to real world issues presented to the Court. Under the supervision of the assigned judge, each law student observes courtroom proceedings, performs legal research, and attends mandatory lunch and learn seminars designed to expose the summer law clerks to a wide sampling of the issues presented to a general jurisdiction trial court. Ideally, by shadowing a judge throughout the internship, each law clerk leaves the 12 week program with a greater understanding of how the law works and better prepared to continue their legal education and to serve future clients.



## CIVIL DIVISION



**Hon. Patricia Fresard, Presiding Judge – Civil Division**

The Civil Division is comprised of 18 Circuit Court Judges, including the Chief Judge. The Civil Division has original jurisdiction in all general civil cases initiated in Wayne County where the amount in controversy exceeds \$25,000. The Civil Division serves as the appellate court for civil appeals from every district court in Wayne County, and for administrative agency decisions.

This year the Civil Presiding, Judge Fresard, enlisted the Detroit Bar Association to apply for a grant from the Wayne County Mediation Tribunal for assistance for Civil Division lawyers and judges in their Friday motion call.

Pursuant to this grant, the Detroit Bar was able to open its offices which were previously closed Fridays from 8:30 to 12:30 every Friday to assist lawyers on motion call. Discovery/Facilitation Masters are now available every Friday on the 12<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center to expedite services by rendering recommendations on discovery issues and offering facilitation services.

In addition the Civil Division participated in the Courtwide Strategic Planning meetings. The Civil Division's Strategic Plan included enhancement of civil court services to litigants by improving communication and effort through quarterly Bench/Bar meetings.

Throughout the years, the Civil Division has pioneered best practices increasing efficiency and productivity. In 2016, the Civil Division launched a mediation pilot. The pilot was developed to determine whether mediation resolves cases that evaluated \$25,000 or less more efficiently and economically than the traditional trial docket. Two dockets were selected to participate in the pilot, which was expanded in August of 2017 to all civil dockets. In 2017, there were 734 Business Court cases filed and 18,237 overall new case filings in the Civil Division.

### CIVIL DIVISION

Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge

Patricia Perez Fresard, Presiding

David J. Allen

Annette J. Berry

Megan Maher Brennan

Edward Ewell, Jr.

Sheila Ann Gibson

John H. Gillis, Jr.

David A. Groner

Daniel A. Hathaway

Susan L. Hubbard

Muriel D. Hughes

John A. Murphy

Lita M. Popke

Leslie Kim Smith

Martha M. Snow

Craig S. Strong

Brian R. Sullivan

# CIVIL DIVISION

## Civil and Tort Case 2017 Statistics

	General Civil*	Auto Negligence and No Fault	Other Civil Damage**	Other Civil***	Civil Appeals	Agency Appeals	Other Appeals	Total
<b>Pending Cases as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	2,595	10,482	1,789	97	67	69	19	15,118
New Filings	6,253	9,148	1,646	483	234	267	206	18,237
Reopened Cases	285	722	117	18	8	14	1	1,165
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>9,133</b>	<b>20,352</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>34,520</b>
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>								
Jury Verdicts	7	39	18	0	0	0	0	64
Bench Verdicts	7	7	4	0	0	0	0	18
Orders Entered	0	0	0	0	53	137	23	213
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	3,990	6,101	783	120	0	0	0	10,994
Transferred	134	145	90	1	14	18	2	404
Dismissed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	1,574	4,240	781	334	0	0	0	6,929
Dismissed by Court	687	562	70	35	166	124	162	1,806
Inactive Status	44	61	25	1	4	6	0	141
Other Dispositions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>6,443</b>	<b>11,155</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>20,569</b>
<b>Pending Cases as of Dec. 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>9,197</b>	<b>1,781</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13,951</b>

\*General Civil cases are business claims, partnership termination, condemnation, employment discrimination, environmental matters, forfeiture, housing and real estate, foreclosure, land contracts, contractual obligations, labor relations, antitrust, franchising, trade regulation, and corporation receivership.

\*\*Other Civil Damage cases include Medical malpractice, other professional malpractice, other personal injury, product liability, dram-shop act and all other claims for damages not otherwise included.

\*\*\*Other Civil cases are proceedings to restore, establish or correct record; claim and delivery to recover personal property; receivers in supplemental proceedings; supplemental proceedings; and, miscellaneous proceedings.

## CRIMINAL DIVISION



**Hon. Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge Pro Tem & Presiding – Criminal Division**

The Criminal Division is comprised of 23 Circuit Court Judges, including the Chief Judge Pro Tem, and has sole jurisdiction over all felony and high misdemeanor offenses committed in Wayne County. This Division also serves as the appellate court for criminal appeals filed from every district court in the county. The Criminal Division’s mission is to administer criminal justice in a fair, professional, and efficient manner. The Division manages various ancillary services and departments throughout the Court, including Pretrial Services, Trial Court Services (formerly Assigned Counsel Services), Mental Health Court, Veterans Treatment Court, Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program, and Adult Drug Treatment Court. In 2017, there were 11,398 new case filings in the Criminal Division.

### CRIMINAL DIVISION

Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding

Mariam Bazzi	Wanda A. Evans	Kelly A. Ramsey
Gregory Dean Hill	Cynthia Gray Hathaway	Richard M. Skutt
Ulysses W. Boykin	Dana Margaret Hathaway	Mark T. Slavens
James R. Chylinski	Thomas M. J. Hathaway	Lawrence S. Talon
Kevin J. Cox	Catherine L. Heise	Deborah A. Thomas
Paul J. Cusick	Qiana Denise Lillard	Margaret M. Van Houten
Prentis Edwards, Jr.	Bruce U. Morrow	Shannon N. Walker
Vonda R. Evans		

### Criminal 2017 Statistics

	Capital	Non-Capital	Felony Juvenile	Criminal Appeals	Total
<b>Pending Cases as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	419	1,526	10	11	1,966
New Filings	1,001	10,343	18	36	11,398
Reopened Cases	134	1,197	3	2	1,336
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>1,554</b>	<b>13,066</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>14,700</b>
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>					
Jury Verdicts	230	225	6	0	461
Bench Verdicts	67	195	0	0	262
Orders Entered	0	0	0	30	30
Guilty Pleas	657	8,498	13	0	9,168
Transferred	7	293	0	0	300
Dismissed	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	4	42	0	0	46
Dismissed by Court	148	1,120	2	3	1,273
Inactive Status	121	1,034	5	0	1,160



## CRIMINAL DIVISION

### Criminal 2017 Statistics (Cont'd)

	Capital	Non-Capital	Felony Juvenile	Criminal Appeals	Total
Other Dispositions	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>11,407</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12,700</b>
<b>Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2,000</b>



**Alisa Shannon – Deputy Court Administrator (Criminal Division)**

The Court Administration Office of the Criminal Division manages the following Court Departments: Trial Court Services, Specialty Court Services, and Pretrial Services. This office also serves as the liaison for all outside agencies which impact the division, including but not limited to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Wayne County Clerk's Office, Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Michigan Department of Corrections, Michigan State Police, the State Court Administrative Office, as well as other circuit and district courts.

#### **Trial Court Services (formerly Assigned Counsel Services)**

The Office of Trial Court Services (TCS) is responsible for coordinating the assignment of counsel in criminal matters for indigent defendants pursuant to the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution and *Gideon v. Wainwright*. Trial Court Services coordinates the assignment of counsel in criminal cases for the various district courts in the county. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Michigan State Police (MSP) mandate that all Failure to Appear (FTA) and Violation of Probation (VOP) warrants are validated by a second party. It is the responsibility of the Office of Trial Court Services to ensure the accuracy of all warrants within forty-eight (48) hours of entry (excludes holidays and weekends).

#### **Specialty Court Services**

The Office of Specialty Court Services oversees the following operations in the Criminal Division:

- **Adult Drug Treatment Court and Urban Drug Court Initiative (ADTC/UDCI)**
- **Mental Health Court (MHC)**
- **Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)**
- **Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program (SSSPP)**

Throughout the year, the Office of Specialty Court Services partnered with various organizations and events:

- **Michigan State University—Detroit Center Healthy Living Classes**
- **Central City Integrated Health—5K Walk/Run**
- **Networking, Organizing and Advocating for the Homeless (NOAH) Project—Central United Methodist Church**
- **Annual Mental Health Court Community Health Fair**
- **City of Detroit—Senior Day**
- **John D. Dingell VA Medical Center—Mental Health Summit**
- **Veterans Administration Ann Arbor Healthcare System—Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony**

## CRIMINAL DIVISION

- **Various community partners participated throughout the year in the VTC's resource room held at Frank Murphy Hall of Justice**
- **Southeastern Michigan Veterans Stand Down**

The Adult Drug Treatment Court and the Urban Drug Court Initiative (ADTC/UDCI) are two drug treatment court programs with very similar treatment components. They both provide a sentencing alternative to non-violent prison-bound felony offenders whose criminal justice involvement stem from alcohol and/or drug abuse, however, UDCI was specifically for cases that originated within the City of Detroit. ADTC was for all cases that originated out-county. Court staff and community service providers work together to break the cycle of addiction and crime. Successful program completion may result in the dismissal of the original charge, a reduced sentence, no jail or prison time, or a combination of the above. As of September 30, 2017, the UDCI pilot program was ended.

### ADTC (data merged with UDCI)

Participants from previous year	53
New Participants Accepted	34
Discharged Participants	10
<b>2017 Graduated Participants</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Active Participants 2017</b>	<b>62</b>

## Mental Health Court

The Mental Health Court (MHC) is designed to provide comprehensive, judicially monitored, psychiatric treatment for individuals who have non-violent criminal backgrounds and are severely and persistently mentally ill. Many clients also have co-occurring substance abuse disorders. Defendants are given an opportunity to voluntarily participate (through conditional release) in community treatment and court approved service plans as an alternative to incarceration and the normal criminal prosecution process and punishment. The goals of the program are to provide reduced recidivism, quicker and less costly case resolution, jail bed space savings, and more consistent mental health treatment.

### Mental Health Court

### MHC

Participants from previous year	32
New Participants Accepted	36
Discharged Participants	14
2017 Graduated Participants	<b>15</b>
<b>Active Participants 2017</b>	<b>39</b>

## CRIMINAL DIVISION

### Veterans Treatment Court

The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) program is designed to divert eligible Veterans from the traditional criminal justice system and ensure their treatment needs for PTSD, mental health issues, or co-occurring disorders are addressed and provided. Candidates must have a discharge other than dishonorable to be eligible for VTC. Like the Court's other treatment programs, VTC provides a sentencing alternative to non-violent prison-bound felony offenders. The court staff, the Veterans Administration, and community service partners work together to address the various needs of the VTC participants. Successful program completion may result in the dismissal or reduction of the original charge, a reduced sentence, no jail or prison time, or a combination of the above.

#### Veterans Treatment Court

	VTC
Participants from previous year	33
New Participants Accepted	13
Discharged Participants	0
2017 Graduated Participants	10
<b>Active Participants 2017</b>	<b>36</b>

### Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program

The Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program (SSSPP) is an intensive probation compliance program modeled after Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) program. SSSPP is designed to provide an immediate response to non-compliance. Any proven violation will result in a swift and certain response from the court. SSSPP works closely with the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) to provide supervision of all probationers. Probationers are required to undergo frequent, scheduled, and random drug screenings while under supervision. They are also subjected to face-to-face monitoring by the court and MDOC to ensure probation compliance. Although the main goal is to increase compliance, SSSPP also strives to address any other needs of the probationer to help them to be successful and productive citizens once off probation.

#### Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program

	SSSPP
Participants from previous year	18
New Participants Accepted	27
Discharged Participants	16
2017 Graduated Participants	2
<b>Active Participants 2017</b>	<b>27</b>

## CRIMINAL DIVISION

### Pretrial Services

The Office of Pretrial Services monitors defendants released on bond and submits oral and written bond recommendations to the circuit court bench and to judges and magistrates in the district courts throughout Wayne County. Pretrial Services also calculates Preliminary Sentencing Guideline Reports for the Circuit Court Judges. These reports are used to assist in plea negotiations and management of the dockets. The Court, Wayne County, and the community benefit from the cost savings of decreased pretrial detention by identifying those defendants who can be safely released back to the community pending disposal of felony matters.

#### Pretrial Services 2017 Statistics

<b>BONDS</b>	
Written Bond Recommendations	2,286
Oral Bond Recommendations	7,398
<b>Total Bond Recommendations</b>	<b>9,684</b>
<b>SUPERVISION (Yearly Averages)</b>	
Total Defendants Monitored	1,080
Cumulative Total of Defendants Monitored	3,557
Compliance Rate	90%
Failure to Appear Rate	10%
<b>SENTENCING GUIDELINES</b>	
Sentencing Guidelines Processed	10,133
Percentage of Cases Guidelined	88%
<b>LEIN QUERIES</b>	<b>34,171</b>

## FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS



**Hon. Kathleen M. McCarthy, Presiding Judge – Family Division – Domestic**

The Family Division – Domestic Relations is comprised of 10 Circuit Court Judges and one Probate Judge. The Family Domestic Relations Division realized many successes in meeting the growing and diverse needs of families. As anticipated last year, the trends of increased self-representation and out-of-wedlock births greatly impacted the work of the Family Domestic Relations Division in 2017. Cases handled include divorce, paternity, personal protection, emancipation of minors, name changes, parental waivers, and infectious disease matters. Each of these case types may include matters concerning custody, support, parenting time, property, and other issues. In 2017, there were 23,792 new case filings in the Family Division – Domestic Relations Section.

### FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Kathleen M. McCarthy, Presiding

Eric Cholack  
Melissa A. Cox  
Charlene M. Elder  
Alexis A. Glendening

Richard B. Halloran  
Adel A. Harb  
Charles S. Hegarty

Connie Marie Kelley  
Lisa M. Neilson  
Lynne A. Pierce

### FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS REFEREES

Stephanie Witucki, Chief Referee

Diane Biggar  
David Calandro  
Eric Gloudemans  
Shannon Haneline  
Rosanne Hostnik

Michelle Letourneau-McAvoy  
Lauren Wright Middleton  
Christine Rodriguez  
Lynn Ruhlman

Anita Scott-Meisel  
Hulen Simpson  
Edrick Thompson  
Jessica Walker

### Domestic Relations 2017 Statistics

	Divorce w/Child	Divorce No Child	Paternity	UIFSA*	Support	Other Domestic**	Total
<b>Pending Cases as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	1,334	1,094	3,482	150	2,841	217	9,118
New Filings	2,972	3,399	7,750	472	8,596	603	23,792
Reopened Cases	130	104	58	0	63	22	377
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>4,436</b>	<b>4,597</b>	<b>11,290</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>33,287</b>
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>							
Bench Verdicts	77	50	0	0	0	7	134
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	2,037	2,505	3,063	81	3,273	335	11,294
Transferred	2	2	0	0	0	1	5
Dismissed by Party	470	575	1,120	269	672	195	3,301
Dismissed by Court	410	303	3,267	9	3,320	41	7,350



## FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

### Domestic Relations 2017 Statistics (Cont'd)

	Divorce w/Child	Divorce No Child	Paternity	UIFSA*	Support	Other Domestic**	Total
Inactive Status	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
Case Type Change	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>3,002</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>7,450</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>7,265</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>22,091</b>
<b>Pending Cases as of Dec. 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>1,434</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>3,840</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>4,235</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>11,196</b>

\*These cases were filed under the Uniform Interstate Support Family Support Act and the Court was asked to establish paternity, or to establish or modify child support in matters where the custodial party and the child lived outside of Michigan.

\*\*These matters are custody actions and other family matters.

### Domestic Violence Program



**Michael Kwarcinski**

Michael Kwarcinski is the Legal Director of the Domestic Violence Program and oversees the Personal Protection Order and the Solution Oriented Domestic Violence Prevention Court.

### Personal Protection Order (PPO)

The Family Division – Domestic Relations has a Personal Protection Order (PPO) docket to serve the civil personal protection order needs of domestic abuse, violence, and stalking victims. In 2017, the PPO docket processed 8,431 new cases.

### Personal Protection Order (PPO) 2017 Statistics

	Domestic Relations	Non-Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Total
<b>Pending Cases as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	0	1	0	1
New Filings	5,776	2,562	93	8,431
Reopened Cases	3	1	0	4
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>5,779</b>	<b>2,564</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>8,436</b>
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>				
Orders Issued Ex Parte	4,276	1,139	43	5,458
Orders Issued after Hearing	14	3	0	17
Transferred	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	1,441	1,401	49	2,891
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	7	1	0	8
Dismissed by Party	33	19	1	53
Orders Issued after Denial	3	0	0	3
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>5,774</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>8,430</b>
<b>Pending Cases as of Dec. 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

## **FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

### **Solution Oriented Domestic Violence Prevention Court (SODVPC)**

The Solution Oriented Domestic Violence Prevention Court (SODVPC) is a specialized docket dedicated to those cases in the Family Division – Domestic Relations with the most severe allegations of domestic abuse between intimate partners.

By giving litigants access to a trained and dedicated domestic abuse and violence prevention staff, SODVPC provides resources for extended judicial monitoring and increased access to a coordinated community response.



**Kent Weichmann – Deputy Court Administrator (Friend of the Court)**

### **Friend of the Court**

The Third Circuit Friend of the Court (FOC) is the largest FOC in Michigan, with over 266,000 active domestic relations cases. The FOC is an administrative arm of the Court responsible for investigating, reporting, and making recommendations to the Court on matters of custody, parenting time, and support of minor children; and providing mediation as an alternative method of dispute resolution.

The FOC’s mission of encouraging positive relations and ensuring financial security for the children and families is accomplished through the collective efforts of the Referee Department, the Case Establishment Department, the Legal Division, Information Services Division, the FOC Scheduling Office, the Family Assessment, Mediation, and Education Department, and Administrative Operations.

Friend of the Court referees, attorneys, and their support staff process referrals to establish paternity and family support obligations. The attorneys assist the Family Division-Domestic Relations judges at review hearings to ensure that the “best interests of the children” are served.

Once support is established, the departments work in concert to ensure collections. Over 10,000 hearings were scheduled to ensure child support compliance. In 2017, the Friend of the Court partnered with external agencies and organizations offering services for bench warrant resolution and arrearage discharge, giving many an opportunity to make good faith payments and avoid arrest.

## FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

### FOC Fiscal Year 2017 Statistics

Caseload-Open FOC Dockets	270,478
Medical Support Notices Issued	83,423
Custody and Child Support Reports and Recommendations	15,299
Hearing Held by Referees	25,728
Child Support Show Cause Hearings	10,157
Bench Warrant Issued	5,062
Bench Warrant Arrests	3,088
Custody and Parenting Time Enforcement Requests Processed	726
Amount of Child Support Collected for the Year	270,806,240

### FOC Child Support Outreach

<b>Community Partners</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
Salvation Army William Booth Legal Aid Clinic	835
Focus Hope	36
United Auto Workers Vote Center	89
Resource Network	71
ACCESS	43
Detroit Public Library Every Day Legal Issues (April & Oct. 2017)	315
Other events in the community	1,393
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,782</b>

The Family Assessment, Mediation, and Education Department (FAME) is a Department of the Friend of the Court. It is comprised of two units. The Family Evaluation, Mediation, and Counseling Unit (FEMC) provides court-ordered evaluations and mediations for families where the parents are in conflict regarding custody and/or parenting time. Dispute Resolution Unit (DRU) partners with Wayne Mediation Center and serves the increasing need for mediation and alternative dispute services in Domestic Relations. DRU also coordinates both Court-funded and grant-funded family education programs.

On the Parenting Time Docket, 461 cases were mediated resulting in 312 agreements placed on the record. The In-Court Mediation Project (ICMP) received 261 referrals, 160 matters were meditated and 86 of the mediations reached agreements.

FAME offers parent education for divorcing and never married parents who live apart from each other. The program, Kids First, continues to benefit the children in our community with 832 parents served in 2017. Additionally, FAME has approved two online four hour parent education programs: Children in Between and Online Parenting Programs.com. The Co-Parenting, Communication, and Coaching (3C) Program is a more intensive eight hour live parent education program. In 2017, 393 parents completed the 3C program. Participant satisfaction surveys consistently indicate very high satisfaction and parents wish they would have “had this information sooner.”

FAME also coordinates supervised visitation. Through the State Court Administrative Office – Access and Visitation Grant, the Court has contracted with Growth Works, Inc. to conduct supervised parenting time. In 2017, Growth Works, Inc. served 94 families.

## **FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

FAME continues to foster an active internship program by offering master level social work students from area universities hands-on training in family evaluation, psychological testing, mediation, and a host of other valuable assessment and mental health tools. Wayne State University, Eastern Michigan University, and other universities utilize FAME as a field placement for their students.



## FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE



**Hon. Virgil C. Smith, Presiding Judge – Family Division-Juvenile**

The Family Division – Juvenile is comprised of five Circuit Court Judges and one Probate Judge. Twelve Referees assist the judges by conducting hearings and preparing written recommendations and findings of fact, as well as conducting informal hearings, which include traffic and ordinance violations, school truancy, and consent matters. The Court also services parents with their children that may be incorrigible by filing incorrigibility petitions. There were 3,891 new case filings in the Family Division – Juvenile in 2017. The judges and referees of the Juvenile Division continue their efforts to meet and exceed stringent time guidelines set by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) in Permanency Indicator Reporting (PIR).

### FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

Virgil C. Smith, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton  
Jerome C. Cavanagh

Christopher D. Dingell  
Edward J. Joseph

Frank S. Szymanski

### FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC – JUVENILE

Charles W. Wilson, III, Chief Referee

Kathleen Allen  
Nicholas J. Bobak  
James A. Catchings, Jr.  
Anthony Crutchfield

Raeigen Evans  
Leslie Graves  
Viola King

Daniel M. McGuire  
Peter J. Schummer, Jr.  
Brandi Taylor  
Mona M. Youssef

### Juvenile 2017 Statistics

	Designated*	Delinquency	Traffic	Child Protective	Total
<b>Pending Cases as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	10	458	101	263	832
New Filings	13	2,431	407	1,040	3,891
Reopened Cases	1	207	12	0	220
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3,096</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>4,943</b>
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>					
Jury Verdicts	2	2	0	1	5
Bench Verdicts	0	55	8	513	576
Guilty Pleas/Admissions	9	995	21	386	1,411
Prosecutor Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Traditional Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed Incompetent	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	0	53	0	0	53
Dismissed by Court	3	547	42	0	592
Dismissed/Withdrawn	0	0	0	74	74
Consent Calendar	0	0	0	0	0
Transferred	0	80	0	20	100

## FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

### Juvenile 2017 Statistics (Cont'd)

	Designated*	Delinquency	Traffic	Child Protective	Total
Diversion/Not Authorized	0	478	1	21	500
Designation Granted	0	0	0	0	0
Inactive Status	2	186	25	0	213
Not Charged	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	0	0	0	0	0
Orders Issued after Hearing	0	0	0	0	0
Orders Issued Ex Parte	0	0	0	0	0
Orders Issued after Denial	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2,396</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>3,524</b>
<b>Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>1,419</b>

\*These are criminal matters in which the juvenile has been designated as an adult.



**Richard Smart – Deputy Court Administrator (Juvenile Division)**

The Court Administration Office of the Juvenile Division oversees various departments and operations to help ensure the best interest and well-being of children are served in protective cases and deterrent and rehabilitative measures are available in delinquency cases.

### Adoptions

The Adoptions Unit is responsible for processing all adoptions for Wayne County residents. The Unit handled a total of 489 new filings in 2017. The Unit helps ensure permanently bonded families through the timely termination of parental rights, formal placement of children into approved homes, adoption finalization, and the delivery of efficient post-adoption services. In addition to the adoption petitions that were filed, 64 voluntary releases of Parental Rights and 255 requests for release of post-adoption information were processed.

### Adoptions 2017 Statistics

2017 Filings	510
Voluntary Release of Parental Rights	64
Requests for Release of Post-Adoption Information	255
Pending Adoption Petitions as of January 1, 2017	154
New Filings	489
Reopened Cases	2
Total Caseload	643
Adoptions Finalized	465
Adoption Petitions Withdrawn	8
Adoption Petitions Dismissed	19



**Third Circuit Court Women Judges Celebrating Judge Lila Neuenfelt**





**Judge Lila Neuenfelt (1902-1981) was the first woman elected a Circuit Court Judge in Michigan and served as a Third Circuit Court Judge from 1941 – 1966.**

## FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

### Adoptions 2017 Statistics (Cont'd)

Adoption Petitions Transferred	0
Total Dispositions	496
Pending Adoption Petitions as of December 31, 2017	151

### Assigned Counsel Services

The Assigned Counsel Services (ACS) Unit is responsible for processing attorney assignments and scheduling attorneys as Emergency House Counsel and House Counsel to represent indigent parties. The Unit also addresses attorney assignment and payment inquiries and ensures that attorneys are available and dispatched to the courtrooms when needed.

### Assigned Counsel Services (ACS)

Attorney Assignment Scheduled	2,549
Orders of Appointment/Updated Petitions	905
Request for Emergency House Counsel Assignments	2,054
Notice of Removal of Assigned Counsel	565
Appearances	125
Attorney Payment/Assignment Inquiries	547

### Court Appointed Special Advocates Program

The Court Appointed Special Advocates Program (CASA) plays a valuable role in child protective proceedings and services children in out-of-home placements. Volunteers are trained to serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Juvenile Jurists when making a decision regarding placement. By reviewing records, observing parenting time visits, attending (family team meetings, etc.), CASA volunteers can make fact-based recommendations to the jurists.

CASA volunteers make recommendations regarding what is best for the children. Nine new volunteer staff were trained and sworn in in 2017. The total number of children served by CASA volunteers was 194. In addition, the CASA program supervises a donation-driven clothing closet for Wayne County Friends of CASA, which has benefited hundreds of disadvantaged families. Donations made are through the Friends of CASA and are tax deductible. Approximately 300 families and children combined have been served by the clothes closet.

### CASA Program 2017 Statistics

	Number of Cases	Number of children involved
New Cases Assigned	55	194
Cases Closed	6	0

## FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

### CASA Volunteers sworn in in 2017:

Mary Arrasmith  
April Beaton  
Sage Castleman

Nancy Croft-Stahl  
Denise Dorantes  
Rachel Harkness

Angela Malloy  
Annisia Shaw  
Markus Woods



### Juvenile Status Unit

The Juvenile Status Unit provides services for certain youth on probation, as well as diverted youth whose petitions have not been made official. The Unit also provides services to families in which a parent is seeking help for a youth exhibiting incorrigible behavior.

The Unit provides pre-sentence and re-sentencing reports for judges on designated cases as needed.

The Status Unit interviews, screens, and processes all youth admitted to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center 24 hours a day.

The Unit's 24 hour desk assists the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) remove children that are in imminent danger of harm after normal business hours. Additionally, the Status Unit coordinates with local police, state police, and federal officers seeking search warrants after normal business hours to assure safety in the community.

The Unit also addresses questions concerning juveniles from the public 24 hours a day.

### Intake 2017 Statistics

Interviews on Admittance Into Juvenile Detention Facility	1,341
Family Interviews	758
Informal Probation (Consent, Diversion, Incorrigible)	568
Designated Cases	18
Out County/Plea Under Advisement/Truancy	16
Petitions Filed	76



## **FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE**

### **Juvenile Drug Court**

The Supervised Treatment for Alcohol and Narcotic Dependency (S.T.A.N.D.) Program is a juvenile drug court program that was designed to eliminate a juvenile's substance use and abuse and delinquent behavior. The program utilizes a non-adversarial approach, therapeutic jurisprudence, and case management to develop, coordinate, and monitor the juvenile's treatment. It forges partnerships with other public agencies and community-based organizations to enhance the program's effectiveness. The S.T.A.N.D. Program is supervised by Judge Karen Braxton.

Participants in the S.T.A.N.D. Program are provided access to a continuum of alcohol and drug-related treatment services. The program also provides many other services such as family therapy, a parent group, tutoring, and mental health services. While the program uses various sanctions for failure to comply with the terms of a juvenile's treatment plan, the Court focuses on incentives as rewards for the progress that a juvenile has made. Additionally, the program promotes participation in the pro-social activity by hosting annual baseball games, basketball games, and bowling tournaments for the participants and their families and friends.

The program lasts approximately one year, but the actual length of the program depends upon the juvenile's progress. In some circumstances, if the juvenile successfully completes the program, the original charge will be dismissed, allowing the juvenile to maintain a clean juvenile record. After successful completion of the program, the youth participate in a formal graduation ceremony sharing their successes with family, friends, and other participants still enrolled in the program.

The S.T.A.N.D. Program is a very intense program; however, the benefits to the participants and their families are extraordinary. Not only are the youth substance free after completion of the program, but they are well prepared for a productive life without any further court involvement.

The highlight for the STAND Program was being able to partner with students from Michigan State University, Innovate.Gov program. The students were able to interact with program participants by mentoring and interacting during pro-social activities.

### **Juvenile Drug Court Statistics**

#### **2017 Program Participants**

Returning Participants	47
New Admissions	40
<b>Total Participants in Program for the Year</b>	<b>87</b>

#### **2017 Outcomes**

Total Participants	87
Removed Participants	14
Graduating	32
<b>Active Participants at the end of 2017</b>	<b>41</b>

## **FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE**

### **Juvenile Services**

The Truancy Intervention Project (TIP) was launched during the 2013-2014 school year to address the rise of chronic absenteeism problems throughout the schools in Wayne County, Michigan. Since the 2014-15 school year, TIP has expanded as a community outreach model for school districts providing support services to address and reduce school truancy problems. Students receive services from TIP to avoid formal court involvement. The Juvenile Court Referee conducts informal hearings with students referred by their school attendance officers with parents and if needed law enforcement, social service agencies, and mental health providers in attendance. The representatives attending these hearings will assist with the development of viable intervention plans for each student. While each case is unique, TIP always seeks to improve student attendance, promote academic achievement, facilitate greater parental involvement, and build strong partnerships with local service providers.

Presently, TIP has all schools in the Detroit Public School Community District participating, as well as Garden City Public Schools, Brownstown, and Romulus Middle Schools. During the school year 2017-18, Patrick Henry Middle School began participating. Additionally, TIP has disseminated attendance information to assist schools throughout the county. During the 2016-17, approximately 500 students have been referred to the program and over 500 TIP hearings have been heard. TIP is looking forward to eliminating school truancy and providing support services throughout Wayne County.

### **The Clinic for Child Study**

The Third Circuit Court Clinic for Child Study fosters relationships that empower court-involved youth and families to build healthy futures in their communities by providing an array of family-centered therapeutic services. The Clinic extends the continuum of care of the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (DWMHA) by providing mental health services to a population that is traditionally underserved: juveniles who have the dual concerns of delinquency and mental health. Given this unique focus, the Clinic has been able to utilize therapeutic jurisprudence to motivate youth and families to comply with mental health treatment. The accreditation body, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), has repeatedly recognized the Clinic's success in balancing the needs of both mental health and the Court systems:

The following Clinic programs are accredited under the mental health umbrella of Commission on Accreditation on Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF): Assessment and Referral (adults, children, and adolescents); Case Management/Services Coordination (children and adolescents); Court Treatment: Mental Health (children and adolescents), Outpatient Treatment (children and adolescents); and Intensive Family-based Services (children and adolescents).

Assessment services include mental health assessments, psychological assessments, and psychiatric assessments for delinquency, protective hearings, and treatment planning. Specialized assessments for delinquency include competency and criminal responsibility.

Case management services link Intensive Probation, Diversion, Incurability, and at-risk youth with appropriate community resources. Youth are seen at home, in the school or community, and at the Court. In addition, probation monitoring is provided to those youth placed on Intensive Probation.

Home-based services include intensive in-home family and individual therapy, case management services, and support coordination with schools and community.



## FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

### The Clinic for Child Study

Outpatient therapy services for youth and their families include individual, family, group, psychiatric evaluations, and medication monitoring. The Clinic runs a very successful specialized group, Sexual Awareness, Information & Treatment (SAIT, Y-SAIT & DDSAIT) for youth exhibiting inappropriate sexual behaviors and the Rainbow Teen group for youth who are “out” to friends and family as LGBTQ. Groups are created with age and development in mind.

Trauma-focused interventions are available for moderately to highly traumatized youth utilizing the following evidenced-based modalities: Sensory Interventions for Traumatized Children, Adolescent and Parents: At-Risk Adjudicated Treatment Program (SITCAP-ART), and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT).

### 2017 Referrals/Consumers Served

Family Assessments for Protective Hearings	313
Adolescent Assessments for Delinquency Disposition /Probation Planning (includes JSAU and CAAU)	708
Adolescent Competency and Criminal Responsibility Assessments	0
Adolescent Competency Assessments	66
Adolescent Criminal Responsibility Assessments	50
Adolescent Assessments for S.T.A.N.D.	59
Case Management (Intensive Probation)	440
Case Management (Diversion)	0
Clinic Treatment Unit	339
Home-Based Unit	110
Ongoing Psychiatric Services	143

### 2017 Outcomes

Satisfaction Surveys (390 surveys completed-average satisfaction across all questions)	<b>93.7%</b>
Ongoing Services (Intensive Probation/Treatment/Case Management) Successful Closures	<b>169/246 69%</b>
No Felony Arrests/Convictions 3-Years Post Successful Termination from IPU (2014 Closures) <b>Reported data is primarily arrests as conviction data is not always entered into ICHAT</b>	<b>183/215 86%</b>
No Felony Arrests/Convictions 1-Year Post Successful Termination from IPU (2016 Closures) <b>Reported data is primarily arrests as conviction data is not always entered into ICHAT.</b>	<b>175/191 92%</b>
No Recidivism of any nature 1-Year Post Successful Completion of Sex Offender Group (2016 Completion)	<b>33/33 100%</b>
No Recidivism of any nature 3-Year Post Successful Completion of Sex Offender Group (2014 Completion) One Felony arrest for robbery	<b>23/24 96%</b>

## **FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE**

### **Juvenile Mental Health Court**

The Juvenile Mental Health Court (JMHC) is a problem-solving court that combines judicial supervision with community mental health and other ancillary services in an effort to reduce court contact and improve the quality of life for program participants.

JMHC strives to identify youth with mental health concerns and divert them from the formal court docket. The youth and families are connected to appropriate services in the community, with the goal of reducing the number of youth with mental health issues who reoffend, and to increase adherence to appropriate services for mental health issues by using a multi-disciplinary team approach to develop and monitor service plans and compliance.

The supervising Judge of the JMHC is Judge Edward Joseph. Youth and families have weekly status review hearings and the judge closely monitors these cases. The judge rewards progress through the program with various incentives, and handles non-compliance with graduated sanctions.

Clinical Assessments, Home-Based Therapy, Medication Reviews, and other Clinical Groups are provided by the Clinic for Child Study. Home-Based Therapy provides a therapist in the home for 2-20 hours per week, as needed by the participant. Drug testing, assessment, and treatment referrals are handled through the Court's Case Management Team. This year, the Clinic was able to add a Parent Support Partner to the services being provided. This addition has enhanced JMHC's ability to engage parents in the program.

JMHC has grown significantly in 2017. The year started with 16 active participants, and has grown to 29 over the past year. JMHC has added a second jurist to assist with the additional cases. Four participants graduated from the program in March, and the event was filmed and a documentary was completed by the State Court Administrator's Office. One of the graduates and her father were interviewed, along with Judge Joseph, and the Program Coordinator.



JMHC's Education Advocacy service has also grown, and in 2017, all participants with a need for education advocacy have been assigned their own attorney advocate from Michigan Children's Law Center.

In 2017, JMHC was highlighted in the Wayne County System of Care's Annual report to the Community, as a part of their spectrum of effective community based services for children and youth with Serious Emotional Disturbances.



2017 has been an exciting time of growth and development, and JMHC looks forward to more of the same in 2018.

#### **Juvenile Mental Health Court Statistics 2017 Program Participants**

Returning Participants	15
New Admissions	29
<b>Total Participants in the Program for the year</b>	<b>44</b>

## FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

### Juvenile Mental Health Court 2017 Outcomes

Total Participants	44
Removed Participants	12
Graduating	4
Active Participants at the end of 2017	28

### Miscellaneous

#### Miscellaneous Family 2017 Statistics

	Other Family*	Ancillary**	Total
<b>Pending Cases as of Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	117	0	117
New Filings	793	0	793
Reopened Cases	0	0	0
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>910</b>
<b>Dispositions Resulting From:</b>			
Orders Issued Ex Parte	46	0	46
Orders Issued after Hearing	604	0	604
Petition Granted	0	0	0
Transferred	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	23	0	23
Petition Denied	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	111	0	111
Petition Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0
Deferred	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>784</b>
<b>Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>126</b>

\*Other Family includes name change, safe delivery, personal protection filed, emancipation of minors, infectious disease, parental waiver actions, and Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care.

\*\*Ancillary Proceedings includes guardianship and conservatorships, mental illness, as well as judicial admissions matters.

## HISTORY OF THE THIRD CIRCUIT COURT

The Third Judicial Circuit Court is the largest trial court in the state. It has been an important court in the state because of the cases litigated, decisions issued, and the public service careers of its judges on this bench and elsewhere. Chief Judge Colombo, with the help of Judge William Giovan and Judge John O'Hara, was able to put together the rendition of the historical highlights of the Court and locate some lost portraits. The Historical Society Committee was created to do further research and develop the history, so that it may be preserved and shared.



**Third Circuit Court's Historical Society Committee**

On September 19, 2017 Third Judicial Circuit Court's Historical Society took a trip to Lansing. They went on a tour through the Supreme Court, where they looked at many portraits displayed throughout the building, toured the Learning Center, and also Chief Justice Stephen J. Markman took some time and spoke to the group about the Supreme Court's Historical Society and The Douglass Cup. In the afternoon, they took a tour of the Michigan State Capitol.



## HISTORY OF THE BENCH – CHIEF JUDGES



1/16/67 – 1/14/75 - Hon. Joseph A. Sullivan



1/15/75 – 12/31/77 - Hon. James N. Canham



1/1/78 – 12/31/85 - Hon. Richard Dunn



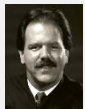
1/1/86 – 3/16/86 - Hon. Joseph B. Sullivan



3/17/86 – 3/24/86 - Hon. W. Leo Cahalan



3/25/86 – 12/31/93 - Hon. Richard Kaufman



1/1/94 – 9/30/97 - Hon. James Rashid



10/1/97 – 12/31/01 - Hon. Michael Sapala



1/1/02 – 12/31/03 - Hon. Timothy Kenny (Co-Chief Judge)



1/1/02 – 12/31/07 - Hon. Mary Beth Kelly



1/1/08 – 12/31/08 - Hon. William Giovan



1/1/09 – 12/31/13 - Hon. Virgil C. Smith



1/1/14 – Present - Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017





# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017



Led by a Circuit Court Judge and local attorney volunteers, students from 13 Wayne County high schools participated in mock oral arguments addressing legal issues raised by bullying on social media. [StopBullying.gov](http://StopBullying.gov) reports from a 2014 study, "15% of high school students (grades 9-12) were electronically **bullied**." Justice Bridget M. McCormack served as the keynote speaker and welcomed the students with the hope of further sparking their interest in pursuing a career in the legal field professions.



**Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.**  
Western International



**Hon. Frank Szymanski** – East English Village



**Hon. Qiana Lillard** – Detroit Loyola



**Hon. Annette Berry** – Henry Ford



**Hon. Richard Halloran** – Cass Tech



**Hon. Karen Braxton** - Renaissance



**Hon. Daniel Hathaway**  
Detroit Delta Prep



**Hon. Kevin Cox** – Voyageur College



**Hon. Melissa Cox** – Benjamin Carson



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017



**Adoption Day**



**Boys and Girls Club of Metro Detroit visiting Lincoln Hall of Justice**



**Juvenile Mental Health Court celebrated its first graduation**



**Casey Family Foundation Showcase**



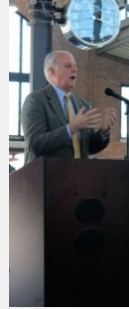
**The Salvation Army William Booth Legal Aid Clinic - 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Justice**



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017



Fall Mass Swearing In



Adult Mental Health Court - Community Health Fair at Eastern Market



In Honor of Social Work month



Veterans Court Graduation

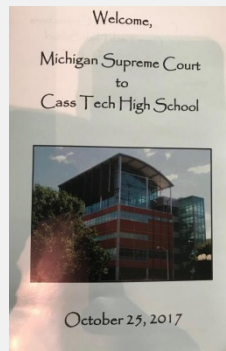


FOC Outreach



## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

The Third Circuit Court participated in the Michigan Supreme Court's Community Connections Program. The Supreme Court made a historic visit to Cass Technical High School on October 25, 2017 where they heard oral arguments. The event marked the 21<sup>st</sup> time the Court went on the road to a local community to hear arguments, but the first time the Court visited a Detroit School. The case, *People v Elisah Kyle Thomas*, involved whether police are permitted to show a crime victim a single photo of a suspect (such as one taken by a smart phone), or does such a procedure create a substantial likelihood of misidentification?



## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

In February, 2016 Chief Judge Robert J. Colombo, Jr. and Executive Court Administrator, Zenell Brown, discussed and determined the need for developing a five-year strategic plan for the Third Judicial Circuit Court. A strategic plan was needed to help the Court identify its priorities, lay out future action to continuously improve the Court and provide a blue print for the Court's direction.

The Deputy Court Administrator Alisa Shannon served as the Court's leader on this project. The Strategic Plan Committee has identified six strategic focus areas that include (1) facilities and parking, (2) employee satisfaction, work environment, pay and benefits, (3) technology, (4) case management and operational efficiencies, (5) access to services and programs and (6) external relations with stakeholders, partners and customers. These strategic focus areas are consistent with this Court's mission to provide accessible and equal justice with timely dispute resolution. Long range goals and objectives and strategic projects also are included for each strategic focus area. The projects, which have been assigned to a person and/or team to complete, set forth our annual priorities and will help the Court measure progress and accomplishments each year. The most important part of a strategic plan is to implement it. We are committed to following-through on this Plan with the help of our many great judges, managers, and staff. It is this Court's hope that this strategic plan will create a clear vision and roadmap for the future and provide a quality environment for all who work in and with the Court.



2017-2021 Strategic Plan



Strategic Plan At-a-Glance





# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017



**Lisa Cook's wedding to Tim Cook**



**Hon. Thomas M.J. Hathaway at the Life Directions Annual Spark of Hope Gala**



**Judge Strong – Wolverine Bar Association helped bag 1,000+ apples at Gleaners**



**Judge Halloran receiving the Justice Marilyn J. Kelly Award**



**General Counsel Office Community Outreach MEP Girl**



**WLAM and BWLAM at Wayne State University Law School**



**Judge Strong sending water to Flint with the Wolverine Bar Association**



**Executive Court Administration Team sorted 11,400 pounds of food in 2.5 hours at Gleaners Community Food Bank**



**Zenell Brown presented at a Wisconsin Conference**



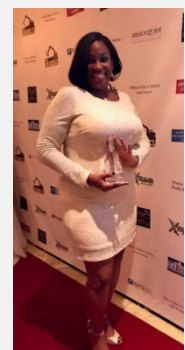
**Judge Strong with Judge Lucile Watts and Judge Avern Cohn**



**Referee Letourneau-McAvoy 2017 Service to the Board Award**



**Judge Strong – 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Soul Food Luncheon**



**Judge Karen Braxton 2017 Warrior Award**



## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

### Grants Awarded in 2017

FY 2018 Michigan Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program Grant Award - \$50,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2018 Michigan Veterans Treatment Court Grant Program Award - \$81,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

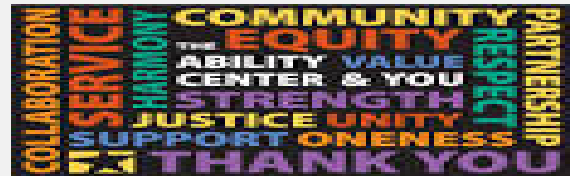
FY 2018 Michigan Mental Health Court Grant Program Award – Juvenile Mental Health Court - \$255,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2018 Michigan Mental Health Court Grant Program Award – Adult Mental Health Court - \$364,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2018 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Award – Hybrid DWI/Drug Court - \$110,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2018 Michigan Drug Court Grant Program Award – Juvenile Drug Court - \$60,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

FY 2018 Michigan Drug Court Grant Program Award – Hybrid DWI/Drug Court - \$155,000  
Awarded by the State Court Administrative Office

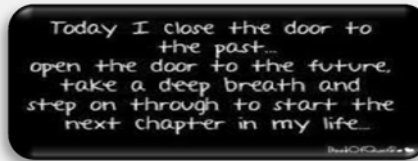


### Our Community Partners Include:

**Arab Community Ctr. for Economics & Social Services (ACCESS)**  
Black Child Development Institute  
**Black Women Lawyers Association of Michigan**  
Children and Family Services (C.A.F.S.)  
**Circle of Parents (NHMBC)**  
Detroit Bar Association  
**Detroit Parent Network**  
Detroit Public Library  
**Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority**  
Disability Network  
**80 Strong Community Outreach**  
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Detroit)  
**Fifth Third Bank**  
Friends of CASA  
**Focus Hope**  
Jewish Vocational Services  
**Looking For My Sister**  
Mariner's Inn Shelter & Treatment  
**Matrix Human Services**  
Michigan State University  
**Michigan Veterans Foundation**

SCAO Region 1  
**Stakeholder Partnerships, Education & Communications (SPEC)**  
The Children's Center  
**The Guidance Center – Southgate**  
The Salvation Army's William Booth Legal Aid Clinic  
**UAW Vote Center**  
U of D Mercy School of Law  
**U.S. Probation Officer Workforce**  
Wayne County Family Law Bar Association  
**Wayne County Head Start**  
Wayne County Probate Court  
**Wayne Mediation Center**  
Wayne State University Law School  
**Wayne County Community College District**  
WMU-Cooley Law School  
**Women Lawyers Association of Michigan**  
Young Fathers Standing United

## THIRD CIRCUIT COURT RETIREMENTS



**Leonard Branka**, 32 years – Domestic Relations Supervisor, Administration



**Cheryl Burt-Gibson**, 30 years – Director of Court Reporting Technology, Administration



**Hon. Daphne Means Curtis**, 27 years – Judge, Civil Division



**Ronya David**, 30 years – Forensic Family Clinician, Family Domestic



**Kim Faison**, 24 years – Probation Officer, Family Juvenile



**Cynthia Gardner**, 38 years – Official Court Reporter, Administration



**Marsha Hearst**, 12 years – Probation Officer, Family Juvenile



**Regina Hickman**, 22 years – Information Specialist I, Family Domestic

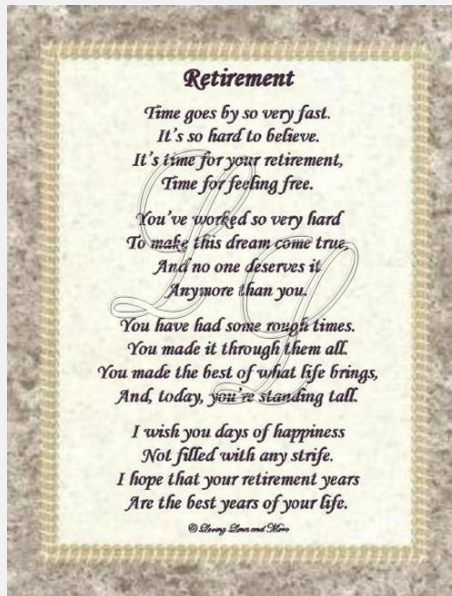


**Verrette Hyatt**, 29 years – Certified Electronic Recorder, Administration



**Rosanne Josephs**, 31 years – Judicial Staff Coordinator, Criminal Division

## THIRD CIRCUIT COURT RETIREMENTS



**Susan Owens**, 18 years – Family Division Referee, Family Domestic



**Denise Pike**, 24 years – Typist II, Family Domestic



**Enrique Rodriguez**, 38 years – Pretrial Services Specialist, Criminal Division



**Janis Sherrell**, 32 years – Case Processing Supervisor, Administration



**Sandra Tate**, 11 years – Probation Officer, Family Juvenile



**Jacqueline Worthey**, 22 years – Information Specialist II, Family Domestic

### Special Recognition



**Hon. Chief Justice Robert Young** – He retired from the Michigan Supreme Court in April 2017 after 18 years on the bench. He served on the Court of Appeals before moving to the Michigan Supreme Court.

## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

*Many of the great Achievements of the world were accomplished by Tired and Discouraged people who kept on Working!*

**Kristian Anthony** – A Court clerical worker in the Friend of the Court’s Information Services Department received her Associate Degree in Business Information Technology from Schoolcraft College.

**Hon. Annette J. Berry** – She was elected to serve as Chair of the Judicial Council for the State Bar of Michigan. She was appointed to both the Access to Justice Policy Committee and the Judicial Ethics Committee with the State Bar of Michigan.

**Hon. Ulysses W. Boykin** – He received the Annual Trailblazer Award presented by the D. Augustus Straker Bar Association.

**Hon. Karen Braxton** – She received the Warrior Award from the House of Providence for her relentless advocacy for Michigan’s youth.

**Hon. Thomas Cameron** – He was appointed by the Governor to the Michigan Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention & Treatment Board. He was appointed by the Governor to the Court of Appeals.

**Brenda Charleston** – She was awarded outstanding CASA of the year by Wayne County Friends of CASA and the CASA staff.



**Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.** – He was named one of the Top Circuit Court Judges by DBusiness magazine. He received the Firm Foundation Award from the Detroit Bar Association Barristers. He received the Judicial Award of Excellence from the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel (MDTC) for his judicial excellence in the pursuit of justice, while exemplifying courtesy, integrity, wisdom, and impartiality.

**Lisa Cook** – She received her Bachelor’s Degree in Legal Studies from Dominican University. She got married on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Hon. Edward Ewell, Jr.** – He was The Made Man Honoree presented by 100 Black Men of America, Inc.

**Hon. Richard Halloran** – He received the Justice Marilyn J. Kelly Award for Outstanding Service by a Family Division Judge in the State of Michigan.

**Michelle Letourneau-McAvoy** – She received the 2017 Service to the Board Award in recognition of her loyalty, dedication, and continued assistance as Co-Chair of the Membership Committee of the Referees Association of Michigan.

**Hon. Qiana Denise Lillard** – She was awarded the Pillar of Justice Award from the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries for her exemplary work in public service.

**Hon. Timothy M. Kenny** – He celebrated 20 years on the bench.



## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

*When everything feels like an uphill struggle, just think of the view from the top.*

**Hon. Kathleen M. McCarthy** – She was asked to be a part of the MJI Leadership Team; the MJI Mentor Team; and the MJI Leadership Team, Family Division Academic Advisory Committee (AAC).

**Hon. Kelly Ramsey** – She received the Champion of Justice Award from the State Bar of Michigan.

**Lisa Robinson** – She received the 2017 Michigan Family Support Council Lifetime Achievement Award at the Fall 2017 Michigan Family Support Council Conference. She graduated from the ProsperUS Detroit Entrepreneur Training Program.

**Hon. Craig Strong** – He was the recipient of many distinguished awards in 2017: the Soul and Spirit Humanitarian Award by Judge Damon Keith; the 2017 Heritage Legacy Award by Ford Motor Company's African-Ancestry Network; Wolverine Bar Association Living Legacy Award 2017; the Appreciation Award from the Jackets for Jobs Program; the Annual Trailblazer Award presented by the D. Augustus Straker Bar Association; Distinguished Service Award Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration; Award of Appreciation – the Charles H. Wright Museum; Certificate of Appreciation – World Conference of Mayors; Testimonial Resolution – Detroit City Council; Resolution from County of Wayne for Distinguished Service; and The Made Man Honoree presented by 100 Black Men of America, Inc.

**Hon. Deborah A. Thomas** – She received the Annual Trailblazer Award presented by the D. Augustus Straker Bar Association.

## OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES OF 2017



**Briana Wright**, February 2017. Ms. Wright is a Clerk III in the Family Juvenile Division. She exemplifies outstanding customer service by displaying an extensive knowledge of departmental procedures and aptitude for customer care. She enhances the experience for both staff and families at the Lincoln Hall of Justice with her can-do attitude in an environment that constantly changes.



**Ivan Bishaw, Jr.**, March 2017. Mr. Bishaw is a Probation Officer in the Juvenile Drug Court of the Family Juvenile Division. He discerns the need of the participant in the program and develops a creative approach for the purpose of increasing the likelihood of successful completion. His ability to resolve conflict, along with his compassion and respect for families, builds trust which encourages full participation.



**Shawn Perry**, May 2017. Ms. Perry is a Human Resources Coordinator II in the Human Resources Department of the Administration Division. Her great customer service skills and diligence often results in new employees transitioning smoothly into the court. During the orientation with new employees, she carefully and thoroughly explains various benefit options to each employee upon their arrival. She has excellent time management skills and is very detailed which allows her to function at a capacity level that benefits both the Office of Human Resources and the court.



**Dawn Pitcher**, June 2017. Ms. Pitcher is a Senior Domestic Relations Specialist in the Legal Department of the Family Domestic Division. She is recognized as an outstanding employee because of her consistent level of high performance. In addition to all of her regularly assigned duties, she has taken the initiative to work a list of Friend of the Court cases with the most arrearages. She reviews the cases to determine the most appropriate remedies.



**Dawn Hintz**, August 2017. Ms. Hintz is a Clinical Case Manager in the Casework Services Department of the Family Juvenile Division. Her extensive tenure in the Clinic for Child Studies has established an outstanding rapport with the participants in her caseload. Throughout the years, she has referred them to various community resources to assist them with housing, food, and transportation. She is an excellent team player. She is always willing to assist supervision, as well as her coworkers.



## OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES OF 2017



**Dayna Crenshaw**, September 2017. Ms. Crenshaw is a Domestic Relations Specialist in the Information Services Department of the Family Domestic Division. Her contribution as a Domestic Relations Specialist in the Information Services Department exudes excellence and dedication. She voluntarily participates in further trainings to remain fully knowledgeable of processes that can improve overall performance of her department. Her commitment to excellent customer service is displayed by her willingness to follow up with litigants by contacting them the following day to ensure that they understood their case process.



**Karen Hessler**, October 2017. Ms. Hessler is a Court Reporter in the Court Reporting Department of the Administration Division. During a period of short staffing within the Court Reporting Department, she volunteered to assist the office until a permanent replacement was appointed. She is an enthusiastic worker and always willing to assist where needed. Her assistance with training and acclimating new staff has resulted in a seamless transition within the department.

## RECOGNITION FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE IN 2017

### January

Brianna Wright  
Kara Baxter  
Rocco Sanfilippo  
Cheryl McGill-McNeary

### February

Annette Seguin  
John Marra  
Edna Washington  
Earline Lemons

### March

Rachel Saverson  
John O'Neill  
Kara Grasso  
Pal Brooks

### April

Rhonda Fowler  
Chanell Rawls  
Linda Branch  
Beryl Fletcher

### May

Melissa Harding  
Tosi Cleveland  
Andrea Walker  
Sandra Perez

### June

Clyde Bradley  
Shayna Terry  
Christa Zabawski  
Camella Corbin

### July

Carly Cheedie  
Jennifer O'Driscoll  
Dawana Andrews  
Ruth Smith

### August

Jeffrey Jones  
Gilbert Roland  
Candice Wilson  
Katurah Glenn

### September

Nicole Fluellen  
Leigh Anne Spaman  
Edward McAree  
Evon Lee-Williams

### October

Kimberley Cavanaugh  
Chanell Rawls  
Laura Maher  
Andree Tarrant

### November

Lynn Reeves  
John Marra  
Girard Stempin  
Jowanda Williams

### December

Erica Taylor  
Carolyn Howard  
David Chaffin  
Sierra Dunklin

## TWENTY YEAR EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION OF 2017

*We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.*  
~Winston Churchill



**Shelee D. Beard**, Official Court Reporter in Civil Division.



**Zenell B. Brown**, Executive Court Administrator in Administration.



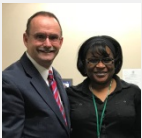
**Gary Coury**, Official Court Reporter in the Criminal Division.



**Jan C. Dejnozka**, Domestic Relations Specialist in Family Juvenile Division.



**Robert E. Geiger**, Forensic Family Clinician in the Family Juvenile Division.



**Hope Hale**, Information Specialist, II in the Family Domestic Division.



**Jeannette Heacox**, Executive Assistant in Administration.



**Lavina A. Hill**, Domestic Relations Specialist in Family Domestic Division.



**Alfreda Moore**, Information Specialist I in Family Domestic Division.

## TWENTY YEAR EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION OF 2017



**Anjela R. Moore**, Domestic Relations Supervisor in Family Domestic Division.



**Eileen M. Nanna**, Senior Domestic Relations Specialist in Family Domestic Division.



**Nicole D. Parsons**, Pretrial Services Specialist in Criminal Division.



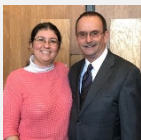
**Georgette E. Passmore**, Administrative Assistant I in Family Juvenile Division.



**Sonya M. Ristic**, Specialty Court Coordinator in Family Juvenile Division.



**Richard L. Smart**, Deputy Court Administrator in Family Juvenile Division.



**Denise M. Solis**, Senior Domestic Relations Specialist in Family Domestic Division.



**Rochelle Waldrip**, Official Court Reporter in Criminal Division.



**Edward A. White**, Information Specialist I in Family Domestic Division.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH WINNERS

**Don't think of the opportunities that you have missed in the last year. The New Year is an unwritten book, so choose your actions and words wisely and fill it up with pages that are worth reading by the end of the year. ~Author Unknown**

**Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts. ~Winston S. Churchill**

**Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. ~Oprah Winfrey**

**The Challenge of every team is to build a feeling of oneness, of dependence on one another because the question is usually not how well each person performs, but how well they work together. ~Vince Lombardi**

**A bend in the road is not the end of the road...Unless you fail to make the turn. ~Helen Keller**

**You don't need to be perfect to inspire others. Let people get inspired by how you deal with your imperfection. ~Wilson Kanadi**

**If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it. ~Michael Jordan**

**If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way. ~Napoleon Hill**

**Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down. ~Oprah Winfrey**

**If plan "A" fails, you have 25 letters left. ~Author Unknown**

**Fill your heart with the kindness of friends, the caring of everyone you love, and the richness of memories you wouldn't trade for anything. ~Douglas Pagels**

**As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, the other for helping others. ~Audrey Hepburn**

Special thanks to Wilda Motley-Penn, Carolyn Robbins, Lila Lowe, Cheryl McGill-McNeary, Tylynn Puller, Kathryn Eckel, Theresa Payne, Theresa Mack, Jennifer Howard, Lynda Lopez, Ursula Richardson, and Angel Patterson for providing us with quotes that inspired us throughout the year.

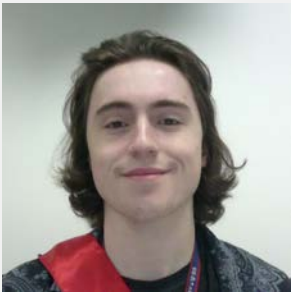


## COVER CONTEST WINNERS

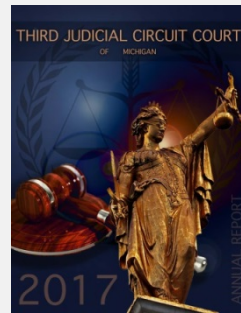


**Madison Ristic – 1<sup>st</sup> Place**  
(William D. Ford Tech Center)

Madison Ristic is an aspiring artist and graphic designer. Her older sister is her role model. She has won multiple awards over the course of several years. Her most recent was the poster contest for the DAFT film festival. She has also won the Academic Letter Award and the Presidential Award. Madison has been on the Honor Roll for four years. After high school she plans on attending Schoolcraft and furthering her experience in design.



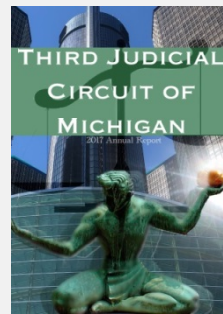
**Nathan Adermatt – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place**  
(William D. Ford Tech Center)



Nathan Adermatt is a second year Graphic Design student who loves to design new innovative things. He plans to further his education at Michigan State University where he wishes to design future vehicles. He has always been around cars and from the beginning found inspiration. He wanted to design something with creative additives, as well as a professional feeling that the court related with.



**Demond Taylor, Jr. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place**  
(Detroit Cristo Rey High School)



Demond Taylor is a high school student from Detroit. “Creativity involves breaking out of established patterns in order to look at things in a different way.” This quote by Edward de Bono inspires him to keep being himself; to keep being the elephant in the room. He wants to continue to have different opinions than other people because his opinion will stand out. He wants to stand out because he knows it only takes one leader to begin the change that we seek. Demond wants to stay a creative, optimistic, and determined person and he feels as though by attending Eastern Michigan University, he can achieve success while keeping his traits intact.



## IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOST



**Hon. M. John Shamo**, Retired Judge. March 31, 1934 – November 24, 2016. Judge Shamo graduated from Eastern High School in Detroit. After a brief stint in the U.S. Army, he went on to study law at the University of Detroit, graduating with Juris Doctor degree in 1965. He practiced civil and criminal law for 10 years before being elected a Detroit Traffic Court referee. The Michigan Supreme Court later appointed Judge Shamo permanent presiding judge of Traffic Court. He was elected to the Detroit Recorder's Court in September 1981.



**Beth Anne "Betsy" Castro**, Administrative Secretary II. April 29, 1962 – February 5, 2017. Betsy was passionate about the Special Olympics of Michigan and D.A.D.S. (Dads Appreciating Downs Syndrome). She was also a member of the Women's Civic League of St. Clair Shores.



**Hon. Louis Frank Simmons, Jr.**, Retired Judge. Age 86, passed away May 13, 2017. Judge Simmons was born in Beaumont, TX and moved to Flint, MI at an early age. After moving to Detroit, he attended U of D Law School. He was the first African-American President of the Detroit Bar Association and served 23 years on the bench.



**Merryle Westbrook**, Retired – Budget & Finance. Passed away May 13, 2017.



**Hon. Robert J. Colombo**, Retired Judge. September 30, 1927 – May 19, 2017. He was a Detroit Recorder's Court judge from 1967 – 1976. He was appointed to Circuit Court by Governor Milliken and served until May 1985. He served the last two and a half years with his son, Robert J. Colombo, Jr.



**Rosemary Ann Hakim**, Retired – Judicial Secretary. Age 80, passed away May 1, 2017. Rosemary was well known for her kind and generous, nurturing heart. She has been described as loving, determined, strong, hardworking, tenacious, fiercely loyal, skilled in business and life, intense, spirited, feisty, persistent, and beautiful, inside and out. She grew up in an entrepreneurial family, participated in running the family business (Detroit area roller skating rinks), as well as working full-time in the Wayne County judicial system.

## IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOST



**Eleanor Ann Austin**, Retired – Director of Court Services – Juvenile Court Register. January 14, 1937 – June 19, 2017. Eleanor graduated from Cass Technical High School and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree and Master of Social Work (MSW) Degree from Wayne State University. Eleanor had an extraordinary career dedicating her time and talent to helping others. She was employed as the supervisor of the Intake Department, Juvenile Division of the Wayne County Probate Court, eventually becoming the Juvenile Court Register.



**Karen Tucker**, Retired – Typist II. August 8, 1946 – August 3, 2017. Karen graduated from Cass Technical High School and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Wayne State University, graduating with honors. She enjoyed shopping, traveling, and reading; and was an active member of the St. Stephen A.M.E. Church Loyal Hearts and Sr. Usher Board No. 1.



**Hon. John Robert Kirwan**, Retired Judge. Age 89, passed away August 17, 2017. Judge Kirwan was a graduate of the University of Detroit High School and University of Detroit Law School. He was a member of the U of D College Hall of Fame and the Past President of the Alumni Association. He enjoyed coaching basketball and baseball in the CYO league. Judge Kirwan served in the Wayne County Circuit Court for 32 years. He served our country in WWII as a member of the U.S. Navy.



**Jerome Andrzejewski**, Retired – User Liaison Coordinator. Passed away December 26, 2017.

## Public Satisfaction Survey

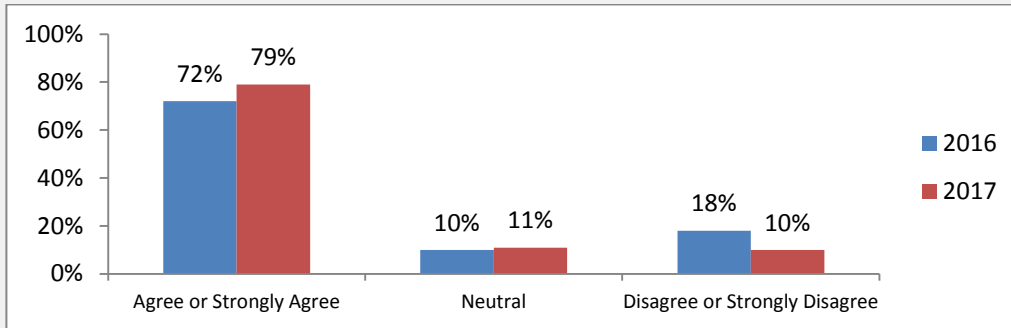
The State Court Administrative Office required all Michigan courts to participate in a Public Satisfaction Survey. The Third Circuit Court of Michigan uses the Public Satisfaction Survey as a tool to identify areas of concern and to make the needed improvements. The results of both the State Court Administrative Office and Third Judicial Circuit Court are on the following five pages.

## Third Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Questions 1 and 2 were directed to all respondents.

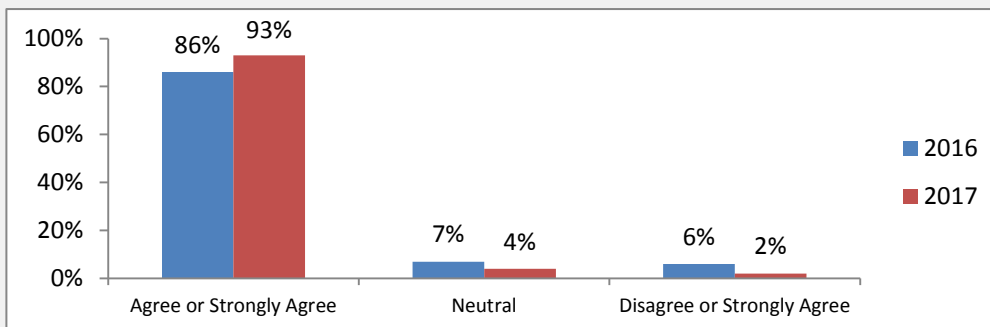
1) I was able to get my court business done in a reasonable amount of time today.

	2016		2017	
5 – Strongly Agree	332	40%	303	47%
4 – Agree	259	32%	209	32%
3 – Neutral	85	10%	73	11%
2 – Disagree	62	8%	31	5%
1 – Strongly Disagree	83	10%	31	5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	821		647	
<b>Score</b>	3.8		4.1	
NA – Not Applicable	41		41	
No Response	20		5	



2) I was treated with courtesy and respect by court staff.

	2016		2017	
5 – Strongly Agree	480	57%	438	66%
4 – Agree	245	29%	186	28%
3 – Neutral	63	7%	29	4%
2 – Disagree	25	3%	2	0%
1 – Strongly Disagree	29	3%	13	2%
<b>Total Responses</b>	842		668	
<b>Score</b>	4.3		4.5	
NA – Not Applicable	11		18	
No Response	29		7	

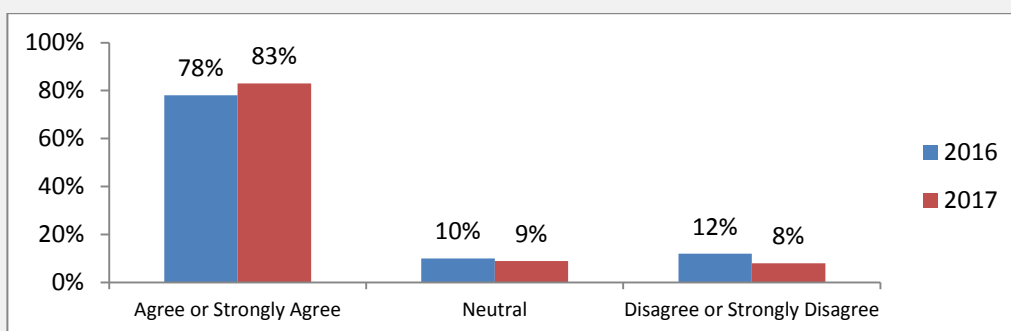


## Third Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Questions 3 and 4 were directed to persons who attended a hearing or trial.

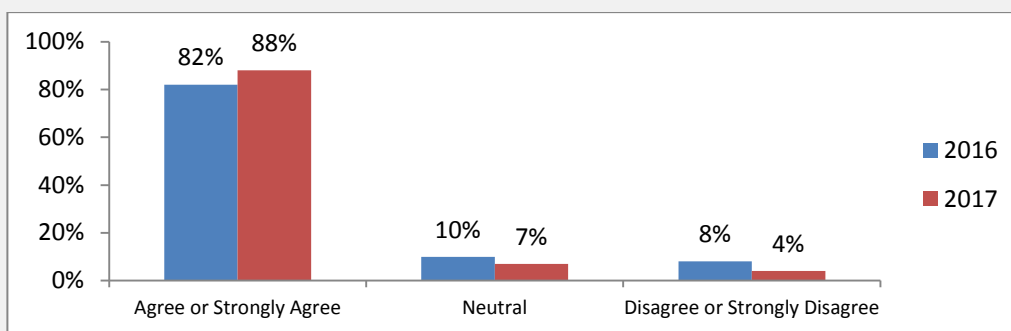
3) The way the case was handled was fair.

	2016		2017	
5 – Strongly Agree	270	44%	273	55%
4 – Agree	209	34%	136	28%
3 – Neutral	62	10%	46	9%
2 – Disagree	31	5%	15	3%
1 – Strongly Disagree	44	7%	22	4%
<b>Total Responses</b>	616		492	
<b>Score</b>	4.0		4.3	
NA – Not Applicable	160		132	
No Response	106		69	



4) The judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect.

	2016		2017	
5 – Strongly Agree	317	52%	318	64%
4 – Agree	184	30%	119	24%
3 – Neutral	59	10%	37	7%
2 – Disagree	26	4%	7	1%
1 – Strongly Disagree	26	4%	13	3%
<b>Total Responses</b>	612		494	
<b>Score</b>	4.2		4.5	
NA – Not Applicable	156		128	
No Response	114		71	

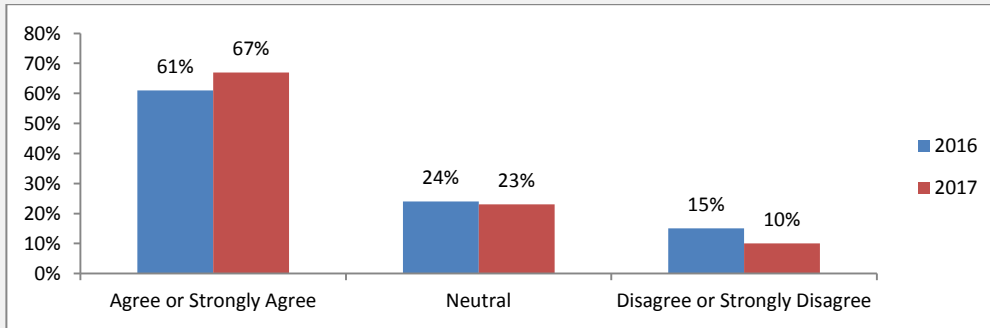


## Third Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Questions 5 and 6 were directed to persons who were a party to the case.

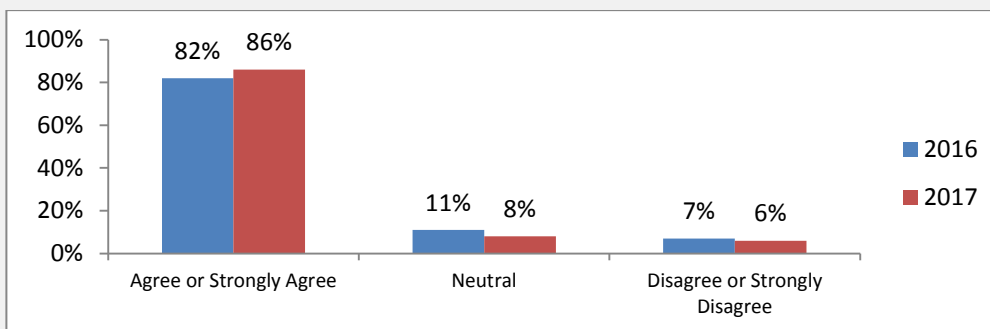
5) The outcome in my case was favorable to me.

	2016		2017	
5 – Strongly Agree	187	37%	173	45%
4 – Agree	125	25%	83	22%
3 – Neutral	121	24%	86	23%
2 – Disagree	36	7%	11	3%
1 – Strongly Disagree	41	8%	28	7%
<b>Total Responses</b>	510		381	
<b>Score</b>	3.7		4.0	
NA – Not Applicable	218		197	
No Response	154		115	



6) As I leave the court, I understand what happened in my case.

	2016		2017	
5 – Strongly Agree	289	53%	235	58%
4 – Agree	160	29%	115	28%
3 – Neutral	60	11%	32	8%
2 – Disagree	16	3%	8	2%
1 – Strongly Disagree	25	5%	16	4%
<b>Total Responses</b>	550		406	
<b>Score</b>	4.2		4.3	
NA – Not Applicable	175		173	
No Response	157		114	





## Third Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Questions 7-10 were directed to all respondents.

7) What type of case brought you to the courthouse today? (Select ALL that apply.)

	2016		2017	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Child Protective	86	10%	59	9%
Civil Matter	128	15%	66	10%
Criminal/Probation	170	20%	163	24%
Divorce/Custody/Support	180	21%	113	17%
Drug/Sobriety Court	14	2%	16	2%
Estate/Trust	17	2%	6	1%
File Papers	39	5%	40	6%
Get Information	41	5%	27	4%
Guardianship/Conservatorship	38	5%	24	4%
Juvenile Delinquency	47	6%	32	5%
Landlord/Tenant	0	0%	0	0%
Make a Payment	10	1%	14	2%
PPO	15	2%	7	1%
Small Claims	0	0%	0	0%
Traffic/Ticket	0	0%	0	0%
Other	129	15%	149	22%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>841</b>		<b>674</b>	
<b>No Response</b>	<b>41</b>		<b>19</b>	

8) Who are you? (Select ALL that apply.)

	2016		2017	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Party (Plaintiff/Defendant)	325	38%	271	40%
Agency Worker	46	5%	30	4%
Attorney/Prosecutor	242	28%	122	18%
Family/Friend of party to case	141	16%	101	15%
Juror	37	4%	58	9%
Witness	11	1%	14	2%
Other	68	8%	89	13%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>863</b>		<b>681</b>	
<b>No Response</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>12</b>	

## Third Circuit Court Public Satisfaction Survey

### 9) What is your gender?

	2016		2017	
<b>Male</b>	375	44%	331	48%
<b>Female</b>	483	57%	351	51%
<b>Other</b>	2	0%	2	0%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	854		683	
<b>No Response</b>	28		10	

### 10) How do you identify yourself? (Select ALL that apply.)

	2016		2017	
<b>American Indian/Alaska Native</b>	30	4%	20	3%
<b>Asian</b>	4	0%	6	1%
<b>Multiracial/Biracial</b>	15	2%	19	3%
<b>Black/African American</b>	474	56%	370	55%
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	17	2%	24	4%
<b>White/Caucasian</b>	306	36%	218	32%
<b>Other</b>	27	3%	34	5%
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	850		671	
<b>No Response</b>	32		22	

## COURT LEADERSHIP

### **Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.** **CHIEF JUDGE**

Hon. Timothy M. Kenny  
CHIEF JUDGE PRO TEM  
PRESIDING – CRIMINAL DIVISION

Hon. Patricia Perez Fresard  
PRESIDING – CIVIL DIVISION

Hon. Kathleen M. McCarthy  
PRESIDING – FAMILY DIVISION-DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Hon. Virgil C. Smith  
PRESIDING – FAMILY DIVISION-JUVENILE

### **Zenell B. Brown** **EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATOR**

Lyn Roberts  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Richard Lynch  
GENERAL COUNSEL

Toby Horner  
DEPUTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Richard Smart, Deputy Court Administrator  
FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE

Alisa Shannon, Deputy Court Administrator  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Toielynn Smith  
CHIEF ASSISTANT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

Tamela Aikens  
DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL COURT SERVICES

Benita Cheatom  
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Kent Weichmann, Deputy Court Administrator  
FRIEND OF THE COURT  
FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Cherece Hurley  
SENIOR MANAGER – HUMAN RESOURCES

Erin Lincoln  
ASSISTANT FRIEND OF THE COURT

Lisa Timmons, Executive Director  
MEDIATION TRIBUNAL ASSOCIATION

Eric Weems  
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING AND FACILITIES

Michael Gruich  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Jan Hiller  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING AND FACILITIES

Todd Kidwell  
DEPUTY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Tammi Palmer  
DIRECTOR OF CASE PROCESSING

Yvette Blackmon  
DIRECTOR OF JURY SERVICES

Copies of this report may be obtained from the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan:  
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This report is available on the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan's website, [www.3rdcc.org](http://www.3rdcc.org).