



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.



Coleman A. Young Municipal Center



Frank Murphy Hall of Justice



Lincoln Hall of Justice



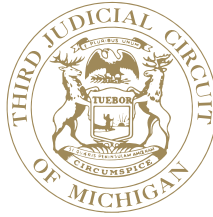
Mediation Tribunal



Penobscot Building



ZENELL B. BROWN
EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATOR



THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN

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

(313) 224-5261

Dear Third Circuit Court Judges and Personnel,

The year 2022 ends with a significant transition for our Court. Chief Judge Timothy M. Kenny retires and effective January 1, 2023, Judge Patricia P. Fresard will be elevated to Chief Judge of the Third Circuit.

Judge Kenny and Judge Fresard with the Executive Court Administrative Team (ECAT) have worked long hours to ensure the Court has a funding agreement that begins to address compensation and has a specific plan for a civil court campus, where we can have a unified family court. The agreement is the single most significant accomplishment of 2022, and it is a foundation upon which the Court plans to build.

The ECAT has continued to address the day to day challenges of the operations and to define what the “new normal” is for our Court. Jury Services is perfecting the recipe to ensure full jury utilization, Facilities is reviewing the use of plexiglass and air filters to ensure the health of employees and court users, the Friend of the Court is testing a virtual platform to provide customer service, and Human Resources is moving forward to recruit, promote, and retain diverse talent. The best practices and lessons learned will inform the Court as to the way forward.

Public satisfaction surveys, listening tours, and employee perspective surveys have allowed the diverse voices of the judges, court personnel, and court users to be heard and included.

We are on the cusp of major change in the judiciary at the national and state levels, and in 2023 as our Court embarks upon its second strategic planning endeavor, we are challenged to learn and unlearn, to reimagine, to be more inclusive and expansive as we as a Court create a “new normal” and ensure justice works for all.

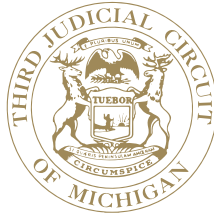
We are ready for change and transition.

Sincerely,

Zenell B. Brown
Executive Court Administrator



PATRICIA P. FRESARD
CHIEF JUDGE



THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN

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

(313) 224-2727

Dear Judges, Court Employees and Staff, Partners and Stakeholders:

Cooperation and flexibility were the watchwords of 2022, as the Court worked to resolve backlogs caused by the pandemic and rebuild toward a successful future. Like many other public institutions, the Court has seen an increasing need for services in the community even as the more immediate crisis created by COVID abates. The health of employees and the public remained the paramount consideration as the Court continued to revise COVID policies to balance safety with effective service delivery. To address a backlog of trials that developed over the course of the pandemic, the Criminal Division resumed in-person proceedings in a majority of cases, while most Family and Civil Division proceedings remained virtual. The Court has welcomed employees and the public back in increasing numbers. The Court's Self-Help Center, located in CAYMC, reopened to the public on May 1, 2022, and averaged 700 customers per month for the remainder of 2022.

One of the highlights of 2022 was the budget agreement reached with the County, which will ensure effective Court operations for years to come. The Court secured funding to improve compensation for its hardworking employees, a critical step toward addressing the ongoing challenges of recruiting and retaining a dedicated, talented workforce.

As in 2021, the Court conducted virtual "listening tours" with stakeholders in the Civil, Family, and Criminal Divisions to receive input regarding Court operations. The Court deeply appreciates all who attend – their feedback is taken into consideration and used to shape Court policy.

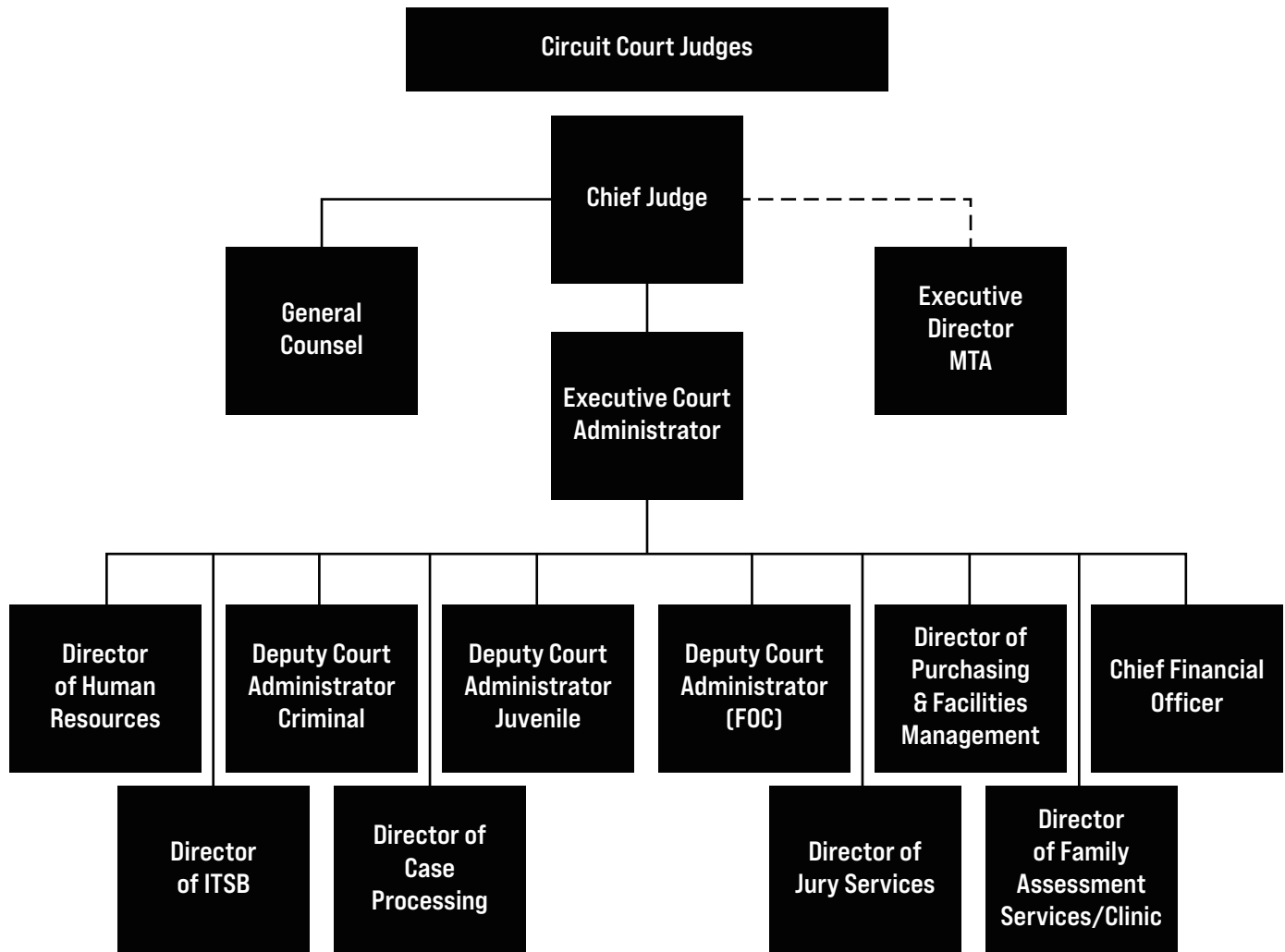
The Court looks back at 2022 with gratitude for the cooperation of its partners, stakeholders, Judges, and phenomenal employees, and looks ahead with hope and a renewed commitment to providing the highest level of public service.



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2022 THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF MICHIGAN ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



2022 THIRD CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES

Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge

CIVIL DIVISION

Patricia Perez Fresard, Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding

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

David A. Groner
Dana Margaret Hathaway
Charles S. Hegarty
Susan L. Hubbard
Muriel D. Hughes
Qiana Denise Lillard

Kathleen M. McCarthy
John A. Murphy
Leslie Kim Smith
Martha M. Snow
Brian R. Sullivan

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Prentis Edwards, Jr., Presiding

Chandra W. Baker-Robinson
Mariam Bazzi
Gregory Dean Bill
James R. Chylinski
Kevin J. Cox
Paul J. Cusick
Wanda A. Evans
Tracy E. Green
Claybourne

Bridget Mary Hathaway
Thomas M. J. Hathaway
Catherine L. Heise
Noah Hood
Donald Knapp, Jr.
Bruce U. Morrow

Kelly A. Ramsey
Mark T. Slavens
Lawrence S. Talon
Deborah A. Thomas
Regina D. Thomas
Margaret M. Van Houten
Shannon N. Walker
Darnella D. Williams-

FAMILY DIVISION - DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Melissa A. Cox, Presiding

Yvonna Abraham
Eric Cholack
Charlene M. Elder

Helal A. Farhat
Alexis A. Glendening
Adel A. Harb
Mary Beth Kelly

Lisa M. Neilson
Lynne A. Pierce
Carla G. Testani

FAMILY DIVISION - DOMESTIC - JUVENILE

Edward J. Joseph, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton
Jerome C. Cavanagh

Christopher D. Dingell

Cylenthia LaToye Miller
Frank S. Szymanski

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT REFEREES

FAMILY DIVISION - DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Stephanie Witucki, Chief Referee

Diane Biggar
Gwendolyn Davis-Yancey
Daniel Ferency
Craig Feringa

Eric Gloudemans
Rosanne Hostnik
Michael Kwarcinski
Lauren Wright Middleton

Christine Rodriguez
Lynn Ruhlman
Hulen Simpson
Edrick Thompson



(Referees: Top Picture - Chief Referee. 2nd/3rd Row: Alphabetical order starting left to right. Referee Ruhlman not pictured.)

FAMILY DIVISION - DOMESTIC - JUVENILE

James A. Catchings, Jr., Chief Referee

Kathleen Allen
Wanda Cal
Anthony Crutchfield
Raeigen Evans

Leslie Graves
Nicholas J. Hathaway
Laura D. Kellett
Sean Kerman

Daniel M. McGuire
Brandi Taylor
Charles W. Wilson, III
Mona M. Youssef



(Referees: Top Picture - Chief Referee. 2nd/3rd Row: Alphabetical order starting left to right.)

JUDGES JOINING THE BENCH IN 2022

*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.*



JUDGE SUSAN DABAJA was appointed to the Third Circuit Court by Governor Gretchen Whitmer on April 18, 2022.

In 2013, Judge Dabaja was elected as President of the Dearborn City Council, was reelected in 2017, and serves as Council President until December 2022.

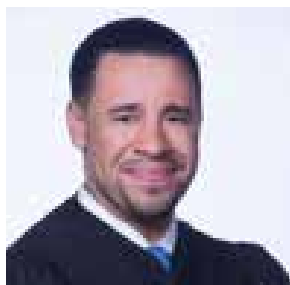
Prior to joining the bench, Judge Dabaja was a solo practitioner for over 17 years. In her practice, she specialized in family, civil, real estate, contracts, immigration, landlord-tenant, criminal, and bankruptcy law. She offered pro bono services for single and abused mothers, nonprofit institutions, and juveniles. She also served as a mediator and guardian ad litem.

As a young mother, she graduated from the University of Michigan – Dearborn, earning her Bachelor of Science. Judge Dabaja graduated first in her class from the University of Detroit – Mercy School of Law in 2004, earning her Juris Doctorate degree, *magna cum laude*.

Among her many awards and accomplishments, she was inducted in both the Frank Murphy Honor Society and the Alpha Sigma Nu, participated National Jesuit Honor Society, and served as Symposium Editor of the Law Review Board of Directors.

Judge Dabaja remains actively involved in a variety of Community Service Organizations, including the Dearborn Education Foundation, the Dearborn Rotary, and Dearborn Goodfellows.

Susan and her husband Majid are the proud parents of three children – Claudia (22), Joel (18), and Adam (15).



JUDGE CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL BLOUNT was appointed to the Third Circuit Court by Governor Gretchen Whitmer on April 18, 2022.

Judge Blount was born and raised on the Westside of Detroit by his parents, Michael (a retired Detroit Police Sergeant) and Sandra (a retired Detroit Public School teacher). He attended and graduated from Detroit Mumford High School and Wayne State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts, a Master of Urban Planning, and a Juris Doctorate.

As an art student at Wayne State University, Judge Blount successfully had two of his works displayed in the student show. Wayne State University is also where he developed a particular sensitivity to issues dealing with the urban environment, and was supplied an opportunity to study in South Africa. As a law student, he was elected to the law school's student board of governors. He was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan in 2007, and managed a law practice that consisted of criminal and probate law from 2007 until 2017.

As a criminal attorney and a personal victim of armed robbery, Judge Blount saw the hardships of the city as a way to serve his community and make change. This desire for change is what led him to pursue a judgeship in the City of Detroit. He was appointed Judge of 36th District Court by Michigan Governor Rick Snyder in March of 2017.

He is a lifelong Detroit resident and believes in being involved with organizations that empower and uplift the community. These organizations include: American Federation of Teachers, Association

of the Black Judges of Michigan, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, St. John Church, University District Community Association, and the Belle Isle Conservancy. Most recently, Judge Blount has been added to the faculty of Wayne County Community College as an Adjunct Professor and is an executive board member of the Wayne State University Law School, Black Law Alumni Council (BLAC)



JUDGE MICHAEL J. McCLORY was appointed as Wayne County Probate Court Judge effective November 1, 2022 and won a term to serve as Probate Judge commencing on January 1, 2023. He is assigned to Third Circuit Court – Family Division-Juvenile. Before becoming Judge, he was the Chief Deputy Probate Register for the Wayne County Probate Court. A graduate of Wayne State University Law School, his professional career has been in the areas of estate planning, administration, and probate.

Jude McClory is a past Chairperson of the Probate and Estate Planning Section of the State Bar of Michigan. He is a former member of the State Bar of Michigan's Representative Assembly. Judge McClory served on the Michigan Supreme Court's Estates and Trusts, Guardianship and Conservatorship, and Mental Health Forms Committees. He is an adjunct professor at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Judge McClory is a recipient of the Michael W. Irish Award, presented by the Probate and Estate Planning Section, for outstanding contributions to the estate planning profession.

Judge McClory is a frequent lecturer on probate practice and procedure for the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE) (most recently at the Probate and Estate Planning Institute in May and June 2022), the Michigan Probate and Juvenile Registers Association, and numerous other groups. His articles on probate law have been published in the Michigan Probate and Estate Planning Journal: "*MCR 5.101 and the Limits of Probate Court Jurisdiction*"; "*Joint Financial Accounts: Legal Analysis and Litigation Tips*"; and "*EPIC's Antilapse Provisions: An Analysis*." He has authored a chapter on challenges to joint financial assets which is part of *Michigan Probate Litigation: A Guide to Contested Matters*, published by ICLE. He also has written chapters on the duties and liabilities of guardians for adults and minors which is part of ICLE's *Michigan Guardianship and Conservatorship Handbook* and provides editorial assistance for ICLE's *Michigan Probate Benchbook*.



JUDGE BRADLEY COBB was appointed to the Third Circuit Court by Governor Gretchen Whitmer in August of this year to fill a partial term created when Judge Lawrence Talon resigned in April. Judge Cobb comes to the bench after having served over 25 years as an assistant prosecutor for Wayne County. In addition to having tried many cases over the years, he also served in several managerial capacities: principal attorney for the Out-County Division, the Diversion and Community Prosecution Units, and as lead Attorney for the Violent Crimes Unit. For the four years preceding

his appointment, Judge Cobb served as a docket supervisor in the General Trials Division and as chaplain for the Prosecutor's Office. Following his graduation from law school and before his time at the Prosecutor's Office, he worked as a pre-hearing attorney for the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Judge Cobb earned his Juris Doctor degree from Wayne State University Law School. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Wright State University. Outside the courtroom, Judge Cobb is the pastor of the Mount Beulah Baptist Church of Detroit. He lives in Canton with his wife, Bernadine, and their two daughters.



JUDGE NICOLE NEAL GOODSON was appointed to the Third Circuit Court by Governor Gretchen Whitmer in October. Judge Goodson graduated from the University of Detroit in 1994 and was awarded a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 1997. She began her career as a Staff Attorney with UAW Legal Services. In 1999 Attorney Goodson joined Legal Aid & Defender Association, Inc. (LAD) representing low-income residents of Wayne County in housing, consumers, real estate, and debt collection matters. From 2005 – 2009 Judge Goodson joined the Bingham Law Group, PLLC as a partner representing financial corporations in real estate matters, bankruptcy, and other consumer-related matters. In 2009, she rejoined LAD to pursue her passion for serving the underserved and often overlooked low-income residents of Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb County. In May of 2017 she was named Chief Counsel/COO for LAD and in December of that same year she was named President & CEO.

She was awarded the 2020 Community Leadership Award from First Step for their work with survivors of domestic violence, in 2021 LAD was awarded the Hon. Wade H. McCree, Jr. Award for the Advancement of Social Justice by the Federal Bar Association – Eastern District of Michigan Chapter, also in 2021 she was recognized as a Notable Women in the Law by Crain's Magazine. She was recently appointed to the State Bar of Michigan's Access to Justice Policy Committee. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter where she serves as Treasurer.

ADMINISTRATORS JOINING THE EXECUTIVE COURT ADMINISTRATION TEAM IN 2022



Third Circuit Court would like to welcome **CHRISTOPHER (CHRIS) BATES**, the new Assistant Director of Jury Services. Chris has been with 3rd Circuit Court for 17 years. He was recently a Senior Domestic Relations Specialist, but started at the courts as a Clerk I. He graduated from Tuskegee University in 2004 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. He is a passionate person but also easy going. He loves to help others whether it's a homeless person, friend, co-worker, or family member.



Third Circuit Court would like to welcome **BRIDGET LAMAR-JACKSON**, the new Senior Human Resources Manager. Bridget joins the Third Circuit Court of Michigan after serving 19 years as a Human Resources professional with the City of Detroit. In her most recent position she served as an Employee Services Manager II with Detroit Police Department's (DPD) Human Resources Bureau. She was tasked with overseeing the daily operations of Human Resources, Police Medical, and the COVID-19 Response Team. Under her leadership, DPD increased its civilian talent acquisition efforts by 50%. She was also an integral part of implementing a new Human Resources Information System within DPD. She's had the pleasure of serving as a human resources professional for every City of Detroit department with the exception of Water.

Bridget is a native Detroiter and 3rd generation public servant. She's also a proud Cass Tech graduate. She believes being a civil servant is a privilege and is honored to serve the employees and visitors of this Court.

Bridget received her undergraduate degree from Tennessee State University and graduate degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She believes "we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Community service is a natural extension of her everyday life. In her leisure time, she loves to cook, travel, and gardening. She also treasures spending quality time with family, especially her husband, son, granddaughter, and sorority of Delta Sigma Theta.



Third Circuit Court would like to welcome **EDNA CLARK**, the new Chief Assistant of Administrative Operations in the Family Division - Juvenile.

Edna began her career in 1987 working with Emotional Impaired Children in Residential Treatment/Youth Development and has held several key positions such as a Child Care Worker, Supervisor, Manager, and Project Director. For the past 19 years, Edna was employed with Macomb County Circuit Court wherein the first part of her career she was employed as a Juvenile Probation Officer and then as a Caseworker Manager. It was through her years of serving the families of Macomb that Edna gained experience in managing Probation Field, Intake, Diversion, Intensive and Residential Services.

Edna holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Psychology from Wayne State University. Additionally, she holds a Master of Science in Public Administration from Central Michigan University and a Certification in Judicial Administration from Michigan State University. Further,

Edna has extensive experience as a leader in the areas of project management, labor relations, leadership development, and grant management. Edna has respectively served as a Chair and Chief Negotiator for POAM (Police Officer Association of Michigan), the UAW (United Auto Workers) and AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees).

Edna is also a graduate of Leadership Macomb Class LM XII (leadershipmacomb.org) and serves on the Program Advisory Board for Junior Leadership Macomb (JLM). Edna is committed to serving the community, making meaningful connections, and being a voice for those who need it most. She was appointed to serve as Program Chair on the Macomb County Juvenile Justice Advisory Board and Executive Secretary on the Macomb County Women's Commission. She served on the One Macomb Executive Leadership Board, the Macomb County Circuit Leadership Committee, the Macomb County Circuit Court Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, and is currently the Co-Chair of the MSU Extension Leadership Council for Macomb County.

Serving families and helping to shape the lives of young people is her true passion, both professionally and personally. Edna states she looks forward to serving the families of Wayne County with the same commitment and drive.

Edna's priorities in life are faith, family, and community. She serves tirelessly in several capacities at her church, LAM Christian Church in Warren, Michigan. Edna finds her most enjoyable moments spending time with her husband, three daughters, large extended family and serving in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

COURT ADMINISTRATION



Lyn Roberts
Chief Financial Officer

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 Accounts Payable Unit processes payments to contractors and vendors that provide services to the Court. The Unit continues to work with the IT Department to automate the payment process for high volume requests from vendors who provide language interpreting services and other contractual services that are otherwise processed manually, as well as conference approvals for Court staff. Implementing the automated payment system for these high volume requests will continue to be a significant technological improvement, considering the Court has successfully implemented automated processes for per diem court reporters, transcripts and court officers. The Court's Accounts Payable Unit played a key role in processing payments to vendors who provided goods or services to the Court in response to the coronavirus, as well as other vendors, during the pandemic.

During fiscal year 2021-2022, in addition to processing vendor, contractual, and attorney payments for all Court Divisions, this Unit processed payments to attorneys for more than 14,000 cases.

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. In February 2015, the Collections Unit devoted staff to the Criminal Division in order to increase collection efforts. During fiscal year 2022, \$3,188,854 was collected in court costs, attorney fees, and late fees in the Criminal Division. In addition, the unit mailed out 9,698 delinquency notices and established an additional 237 payment agreements in 2022; bringing the total payment agreements initiated by the Collections Unit to over 2,000.

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 2022, the Grants Unit met the financial responsibilities related to the funding of the Friend of the Court (FOC), Child Parent Legal Representation (CPLR), Raise the Age (RTA), the Juvenile Clinic Family Assessment Services with Child Care and Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network funding, three Juvenile Division Child Care Fund Programs, two

Juvenile Division Specialty Court Programs, four Criminal Division Specialty Court Programs, two federal Coronavirus awards and several other grants. The total available funding managed by the Grants Unit for these programs exceeds \$38.7 million, with approximately \$27.6 million for the FOC and \$11.1 million for other grants.

Also, the Financial Services Unit (FSU) provides financial support to the Wayne County Friend of the Court. The primary function of FSU is local receipting of child support. In 2022, FSU processed 7,701 transactions totaling approximately \$3.2 million compared to 5,838 transactions and approximately \$2.1 million in 2021. Normally, the annual range is in excess of 24,000 transactions and approximately \$7.7 million. The reduction in volume is due to the partial closure of court facilities to the public due to the coronavirus. In-person payment options became available to the Friend of the Court customers in January 2022. Friend of the Court customers are also provided with online payment options, as well as Pay Near Me or MoneyGram options at 7-Eleven, Family Dollar, CVS, and Walmart stores located in various Wayne County communities. Ancillary functions include suspense management and arrears adjustments in accordance with State and other applicable authoritative guidelines.



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. Annually, Case Processing prints and mails over 80,000 notices of court events to attorneys and parties and answers over 13,000 phone calls. Case Processing also performs assigned counsel functions for the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section and assists with caseflow management at Friend of the Court (FOC).

Court Reporting Services

The Court Reporting Services Department is responsible for coordinating court reporting coverage for all divisions of the Court, assigning appellate counsel, submitting transcripts to the Court of Appeals, and acting as the liaison between the Court of Appeals and the Third Circuit Court. The Department also processes all transcript requests, maintains archival storage of all records of court reporters and recorders, provides staff support to video courtrooms, and orders interpreters for proceedings. There are 61 JAVS units available for use by judges/hearing officers. The JAVS technology reduces costs and results in a recording that can be transcribed and viewed by the public.

Many judges and hearing officers are also using Zoom to conduct and record hearings. The Zoom technology allows the judges and hearing officers to conduct hearings remotely for the convenience of the litigants.

With a few exceptions, the public can view the JAVS and Zoom recordings by either appearing at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center or via a Zoom session with a shared screen.



Michelle Milligan Chiaravalli
Director of Family Assessment Services

The Family Assessment Services

In March 2020, the Clinic for Child Study (Clinic) and Family Assessment, Mediation and Education (FAME) departments were merged under one department of Family Assessment Services. This department covers all assessment services within the Family Division of the Court.

Family Assessment Services (Formally Clinic for Child Study) has been accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) since 2001. The current accredited programs include Assessment and Referral (adults, children and adolescents) and Outpatient Treatment (children and adolescents). FAS received its 8th 3-year accreditation in 2022.

The majority of services in 2022 continued to be provided via Zoom across all programs.

FAS has maintained an active and long-standing practicum (internship) program with local universities for Ph.D. level psychologists. Practicum students are able to have a hands-on experience in assessment and psychological testing. Students primarily come from University of Detroit Mercy and Wayne State University.

Juvenile Services

DELINQUENCY - ASSESSMENT

- The Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI) includes predictive risk for future court involvement, mental health concerns, adverse childhood experiences (ACES) items as well as youth strengths. The assessment provides an early opportunity to determine the juvenile's strengths, the risk of recidivism, as well as any needs for mental health and/or substance use treatment.
- Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) Short Screener is used in general populations to identify clients with behavioral health disorders.
- Upon completion of the YASI and GAINSS, the results are provided to assigned defense counsel so they can advocate on behalf of their client for diversion from the official docket. Clinic staff also provide immediate referrals to the youth and family after the assessment for any needed services including but not limited to mental health services, substance use services, housing, and education assistance.
- Competency/Criminal Responsibility Assessments
- Psychological Assessment for Designated Cases
- Eligibility Assessments for Juvenile Mental Health Court
- Initial social history and psychological assessment for Supervised Treatment for Alcohol and Narcotics Dependence (STAND)
- Delinquency Predisposition Assessments, including YASI.
- Psychological for Designated Cases

DELINQUENCY - TREATMENT

- The Sexual Awareness Information and Treatment (SAIT) program was developed in 1989 to assist probationary youth before the Court for Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) offenses as well as at risk youth in the community. This program was initially based on a psycho-educational model, but was later expanded to be a comprehensive treatment program for Juvenile Sex Offenders. The SAIT program is conducted as a closed group, with no members admitted after the third session. Youth are required to attend and participate in group for a total of 21 weeks and must repeat if they complete less than 17 sessions. Youth are also encouraged to participate in individual treatment sessions in preparation for the SAIT group. If substantial progress regarding inappropriate sexual behavior or other emotional issues is not apparent at the completion of the group, youth are referred for additional individual treatment sessions. The SAIT program is designed with curriculum appropriate for youth in the 15 to 18-year age range. Currently, this group is being held over Zoom and youth are able to go at their own pace with a therapist and are not required to wait for a group to start.
- Competency Restoration – is provided when a youth is found not competent to stand trial and there is a reasonable belief that a youth can be restored to competency through education and treatment in the allotted statutory timeframe. Services are provided individually and cover all the areas of a competency evaluation.

CHILD WELFARE CASES

- Best Interest Assessments
- Permanency Planning
- Custody and Parenting Evaluations when the case begins in Juvenile Court
- Adoption Home Study Assessments for guardians and family members petitioning the Court to adopt youth in their care.

Domestic Relations Services

- Court-ordered evaluations, psychological testing, and mediations for families where the parents are in conflict regarding custody and/or parenting time. The 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.
- Coordination of 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 2022, Growth Works, served 347 families.
- Wayne County Dispute Resolution Center received 460 cases from the Court. Of those 343 were mediated with the following results 143 were mediated to agreement, 40 were mediated to partial agreement and 160 were mediated without agreement.
- Parent education for divorcing and never married parents who live apart from each other. Two online parent education programs are available via links on the Court’s website: Children in Between and Online Parenting Programs.com. The two online parent education programs served 279 parents in 2022. The Co-Parenting, Communication, and Coaching (3C) Program is more intensive. It is conducted in-person. In 2022, 179 parents completed the 3C program. Participant satisfaction surveys consistently indicate very high satisfaction and parents wish they would have “had this information sooner.”

2022 REFERRALS

Family Assessments for Protective Hearings Referrals	235
Custody Assessments Referrals - Juvenile	1
Adolescent Assessments for Delinquency Disposition /Probation Planning Referrals (includes JSAU and CAAU)	98
Adolescent Competency Assessments Referrals	56
Adolescent Criminal Responsibility Assessments Referrals	49
Adolescent Designated Assessment Referrals	5
Adolescent Assessments for S.T.A.N.D. Referrals	10
Adoption Assessments	20
YASI Assessments	561
JMHC	21
Clinic Treatment Unit Served (Sexual Awareness and Information Treatment)	34
Competency Restoration Served	2
Custody/Parenting Time Evaluations - Domestic	277
Psychological Custody/Parenting Time - Domestic	22
Parenting Time Evaluation - Domestic	88
Psychological Parenting Time - Domestic	5
Psychological Only - Domestic	3

SAIT/CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT (CSC) RECIDIVISM - FELONY CONVICTIONS

Closure Year	Date Reviewed	Total Successfully Closed	No Felony Convictions	Felony Convictions	CSC Convictions	Recidivism %
2021	January 2023 (1-year post closure)	20	20	0	1	Felony: 0% CSC: 5%
2019	January 2023 (3 years post closure)	61	53	7	2	Felony: 11.4% CSC: 3.2%



Benita Cheatom
Director of Human Resources

Human Resources & Labor Relations

The Office of Human Resources and Labor Relations (HR) manages all personnel-related activities for the Court's full-time positions, including judges. These activities include recruitment, timekeeping, payroll, interpretation of workplace laws and regulations, training and development, support for management staff, and negotiating and administering labor agreements. This office administers Court-provided benefits, and acts as the liaison on behalf of Court staff with regard to health care and retirement benefits provided and administered by Wayne County. HR filled vacancies through recruitment and promotional processes, conducted desk audits, and updated job descriptions. This office represented the Court in response to complaints lodged with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and in arbitration proceedings. Negotiations with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); Government Administrators Association (GAA); and Judicial Attorneys Association (JAA) for successor collective bargaining agreements were conducted and completed.

Activities related to and resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic such as employee health screening, contact tracing, notifications, isolation, and quarantine administration continued. Protocols have been and continue to be adjusted in accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as state and local health authorities.

The Office of Human Resources and Labor Relations worked with the Strategic Plan Labor Market Salary Study team to update the Court's Pay Schedules based on the findings and recommendations of the National Centers for State Courts subsequent to completion of its study and analysis of the Court's wages and titles. After Court leadership approved adoption of the adjustments, this office then implemented court-wide wage increases and in some cases, title changes. HR has continued to participate on the Strategic Plan Diversity and Inclusion team, providing subject-matter expertise and supporting its efforts to advance the Court's commitment to justice for all.



Mike Gruich
Director of Information Technology Systems Bureau

Information Technology Systems Bureau

The Information Technology Systems Bureau (ITSB) provides technology support to the court staff and our law enforcement partners to 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 staff provide standard hardware and software support. Over the past year ITSB staff have implemented the following projects:

- **Remote work for court staff** – Implemented processes and procedures to help staff working remotely. Provide the necessary hardware and software to accomplish the Court’s mission.
- **Zoom support for court proceedings** – With the transition from in-person to Zoom hearings, ITSB staff implemented processes and procedures needed for a virtual court session.
- **Paperless initiatives** – ITSB continued to work on paperless processing. An electronic filing system was created for the Family Domestic division replacing the email system put in place at the start of the pandemic. The new system allows the public to submit documents electronically and receive a signed, stamped document.

The public can access the court register of actions through the Court’s website www.3rdcc.org.

Website and Social Media

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.





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 for jury duty; and the cost effectiveness of the jury system.

In 2022, the jury services department gradually began to increase the number of jury trials for both the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center and the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice as we evolve through the COVID-19 pandemic. While we still maintain some of the procedures that were put in place, the following changes were made in 2022:

- Lunch was provided for jurors until that last day of trials in December 2022.
- Coleman A. Young Municipal Center began to hold jury selection in the courtrooms as opposed to the jury assembly room.
- Coleman A. Young Municipal Center increased the number of trials to two jury trials per day.
- Coleman A. Young Municipal Center discontinued summoning jurors on Thursdays as of September 1, 2022.
- Frank Murphy Hall of Justice increased the number of jury trials with no case limit restrictions.
- Jurors continued to receive increased compensation.
- Mask mandates were lifted in December, 2022.
- A New Assistant Director of Jury Services was selected in 2022.

JURY SERVICES 2022 STATISTICS

Total Jurors Called to Appear for Service	43,181
Total Number of Jurors Who Appeared for Service	14,827
Total Number of Jurors Who Failed to Appear for Service	28,354



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 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. The department is also responsive to the workplace needs for efficiency, client privacy and safety, and manages projects both big and small throughout four court locations.

In March of 2020, the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 pandemic required action from all of us. Purchasing and Facilities was tasked with a new set of responsibilities which was to protect staff and stakeholders from the pandemic while ensuring court operations could continue in a safe environment. Facility planning for the COVID-19 pandemic was critical for ensuring a safe and healthy work environment to our employees, stakeholders, and the public. Court administration, along with staff in the Facilities and Purchasing Department, have worked together to have operations ready for day-to-day use, but also to establish new workspace layouts and practices to provide a safe environment. CDC guidelines were the primary tool in developing the overall plans for the Court's workplace preparedness. Emergency funding was made available to address various facility needs through a partnership with Wayne County.

As the Court begins to move away from the matters of the pandemic, Facilities has also moved toward a new beginning. Facilities will be assisting with the move to the new Criminal Justice Complex from Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. Facilities will be tasked with the move of all Judge's and staff's belongings. Facilities will also continue to support the improvements and the demolition project at the Lincoln Hall of Justice.

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. Director Timmons received the State Bar of Michigan Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Section's 2022 Hero of ADR Award. The Hero Award is presented to an individual for providing exemplary service and represents the ADR's mission of conflict resolution.

The MTA Board consists of judges from the Civil 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 2022, there were 10,814 cases set for case evaluation. Those case types included general civil, employment, medical malpractice, commercial, and business court. Dispositions for 2022 are as follows:

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT CASE EVALUATION 2022 CASELOAD

Total Cases Set for Case Evaluation	10,814
Cases Settled Prior to Case Evaluation	679
Cases Settled After Case Evaluation	4
Cases Not Evaluated (Removed for Cause)	1675
Cases Adjourned by the Court	1996
Total Cases Evaluated	6,460

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT CASE EVALUATION 2022 DISPOSITIONS

Total Awards	10,306
Awards Accepted (8.37% of total)	863
Total Awards Rejected and Continuing to Disposition	9,443

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL



Richard Lynch
General Counsel

The Office of General Counsel serves as the official legal advisor to the Court. The Office staff consists of ten attorneys, a law librarian, two administrative assistants, and two Self-Help Navigators. The Office is divided into five sections overseen by the General Counsel with the support of Administrative Assistant, Lisa Stroud. Ms. Stroud also oversees the Summer Intern Program. Lynn Reeves oversees the operations of the Law Library and the Self-Help Center. This includes Navigators, Sonya Powers and Azaria Finley. The Civil Section has two attorneys: Julie Dale, Associate General Counsel – Civil Division, and Amanda Cunningham. The Criminal Section consists of four attorneys: Kimberley Reed Thompson, Associate General Counsel – Criminal Division, Sauda Ahmad-Green, Josef Funchess, and Linda Sims, and Administrative Assistant Brenda Westbrook, until her retirement, and then Lisa Bey. The Family Division supports the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Sections. It consists of Cynthia Sherburn, Associate General Counsel – Family Division, Millicent Melhado, and Amelia Maggio.

The Office of General Counsel assists the Court in a number of ways. Operations include legal representation of the Court, its judges and staff, and the coordination of representation by outside counsel depending upon the case when claims are brought against the Court or its employees or judges. It also provides a number of other legal services to members of the bench and department managers for the Court. Services include legal research for the Court supported by formal proposed opinions and orders, legal memoranda, or informal briefings. Staff draft or review proposed local court rules, local administrative orders, and docket directives. Staff review and help prepare comments to court rules or administrative orders proposed by the Supreme Court. Office attorneys provide in-depth training for judges, court staff, and other personnel on novel or complex legal issues and serve as presenters at conferences. Attorneys prepare, negotiate, and review requests for proposals, contracts, and memoranda of understanding between the Court and vendors, outside agencies, labor unions, and other governmental entities. The Office serves as a liaison between the Court and other agencies, such as the State Court Administrative Office, Wayne County Corporation Counsel, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Attorney General's Office. Attorneys provide the syllabi of U. S. Supreme Court decisions and prepare updates on decisions by the Michigan Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Finally, the Office provides a full range of law library services. While the Court relies primarily upon digital legal resources, it maintains a legacy traditional library at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center campus. The Office also assists chambers with the maintenance of subject specific collections and the coordination of electronic legal research resources through multiple providers.

The Self-Help Center program continues to operate under the umbrella of the law library. Returning to a sense of normalcy, the Self-Help Center resumed regular operations at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. With hours from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., the Self-Help Center operates from courtroom 1901. Lynn Reeves oversees the Center and supervises Navigator Sonya Powers. Lisa Stroud and Jalona Colvard, of the Executive Court Administrator's Office, also assist Ms. Reeves in the delivery of Self-Help Center services. While the Detroit Bar Association (DBA)

collaboration ended this year, the Self-Help Center continues to work with the DBA and the Salvation Army's William Booth Legal Clinic to arrange for services for individuals whose legal needs exceed the resources available at the Self-Help Center. For 2022, over 5,600 people received assistance at the Self-Help Center.

The Office of General Counsel also assisted in the development or expansion of various specialty court programs in the Criminal Division and Family Division- Juvenile Section. 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. 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. Staffing changes within the Boy Scouts, Great Lakes Field Service Council, interrupted the Explorer Program at Detroit Pershing High School, but the attorneys of the Criminal Section, under the leadership of Kimberley Reed Thompson, look forward to renewing the Explorer program in the near future. Designed to introduce high school students to the varied aspects of the law and law-related careers, the Criminal Section attorneys work with the students to highlight the many law-related career opportunities available to them through the Explorer program.

Summer Law Clerks

The Third Judicial Circuit's long-standing practice of bringing summer law clerks into the Court again fell victim to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022. Operational modifications required to ensure court operations continued to the extent practicable under the Michigan Supreme Court, State, and local public health orders again limited the Court's participation in this worthy program. The Court hopes that conditions permit the return of the Summer Law Clerk program in 2023.



Farewell

Azaria Finley and Brenda Westbrook both moved on from the General Counsel's Office in 2022. We wish them well in their new endeavors and thank them for their dedicated service.

CIVIL DIVISION



Hon. Patricia Perez Fresard
Chief Judge Pro Tem & Presiding Judge – Civil Division

The Civil Division is comprised of 18 Circuit Court Judges, including the Chief Judge, and 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 appeals. The Civil Division includes four Business Courts.

In 2022, Civil Division Judges continued to hear most proceedings via Zoom. The Division fully erased the backlog of jury trials that arose at the beginning of the pandemic, thanks to the hard work of Judges and staff, including Jury Services. As in 2021, the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division participated in multiple “listening tours” to receive input from attorneys who practice in the Civil Division.

Although the majority of proceedings were conducted virtually, Judges and staff returned to work in person at the courthouse in increasing numbers during 2022, recognizing that the physical presence of the judiciary at the courthouse and in the community projects a message of accessibility and accountability to the public. Monthly in-person Civil Bench meetings resumed, providing an opportunity for fellowship and collaboration. The Civil Division looks forward to building on the success of 2022 and meeting the challenges that lay ahead.

CIVIL DIVISION JUDGES

Timothy M. Kenny, Chief Judge

Patricia Perez Fresard, Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding

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

David A. Groner
Dana Margaret Hathaway
Charles S. Hegarty
Susan L. Hubbard
Muriel D. Hughes
Qiana Denise Lillard

Kathleen M. McCarthy
John A. Murphy
Leslie Kim Smith
Martha M. Snow
Brian R. Sullivan

CIVIL AND TORT CASE 2022 STATISTICS

	General Civil*	Auto Negligence and No Fault	Other Civil Damage**	Other Civil***	Civil Appeals	Agency Appeals	Other Appeals	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	2,476	11,910	1,940	102	67	51	31	16,577
New Filings	5,837	9,715	1,410	388	125	192	68	17,735
Reopened Cases	211	626	110	14	5	11	0	977
Total Caseload	8,524	22,251	3,460	504	197	254	99	35,289
Dispositions Resulting From:								
Jury Verdicts	3	11	3	0	0	0	0	17
Bench Verdicts	5	5	1	0	0	0	0	11
Orders Entered	0	0	0	0	36	98	30	164
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	3,077	5,261	574	80	0	0	0	8,992
Transferred	109	121	77	1	9	9	0	326
Dismissed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	1,432	4,348	779	253	0	0	0	6,812
Dismissed by Court	426	513	69	34	73	74	29	1,218
Inactive Status	37	128	37	1	0	3	0	206
Other Dispositions	2	5	0	2	0	0	0	9
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	5,091	10,392	1,540	371	118	184	59	17,755
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	3,433	11,859	1,920	133	79	70	40	17,534

*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. Prentis Edwards, Jr.

Presiding Judge – Criminal Division

The Criminal Division is comprised of 23 Circuit Court Judges 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, Mental Health Court, Veterans Treatment Court, Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program, and Adult Drug Treatment Court. In 2022, there were 7,656 new case filings in the Criminal Division.

CRIMINAL DIVISION JUDGES

Prentis Edwards, Jr., Presiding

Chandra W. Baker-Robinson
 Mariam Bazzi
 Gregory Dean Bill
 James R. Chylinski
 Kevin J. Cox
 Paul J. Cusick
 Wanda A. Evans

Tracy E. Green
 Bridget Mary Hathaway
 Thomas M. J. Hathaway
 Catherine L. Heise
 Donald Knapp, Jr.
 Kelly A. Ramsey
 Mark T. Slavens

Lawrence S. Talon
 Deborah A. Thomas
 Regina D. Thomas
 Margaret M. Van Houten
 Shannon N. Walker
 Darnella D. Williams-
 Claybourne

CRIMINAL 2022 STATISTICS

	Capital	Non-Capital	Felony Juvenile	Criminal Appeals	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	1107	5357	14	29	6507
New Filings	732	6888	7	29	7656
Reopened Cases	145	1149	0	1	1295
Total Caseload	1984	13394	21	59	15458

CRIMINAL 2022 STATISTICS, CONTINUED

<i>Dispositions Resulting From:</i>					
Jury Verdicts	74	40	0	0	114
Bench Verdicts	10	39	0	0	49
Orders Entered	0	0	0	22	22
Guilty Pleas	501	7048	11	0	7560
Transferred	3	18	0	0	21
Dismissed	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	14	90	0	0	104
Dismissed by Court	102	1150	0	0	1252
Inactive Status	171	1162	1	0	1334
Other Dispositions	0	0	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	875	9547	12	22	10456
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	1109	3602	9	30	4750



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. It provides general oversight of all other Court Departments in the division. 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

The Office of Trial Court Services (TCS) is responsible for coordinating the assignment of counsel in felony matters for indigent defendants in Wayne County, pursuant to the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution and **Gideon v. Wainwright**. Additionally, the Trial Court Services Department is responsible for ensuring the accuracy of all warrants within forty-eight (48) hours of entry (excluding holidays and weekends). This process is mandated by The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Michigan State Police (MSP) for second party verification of all Failure to Appear (FTA) and Violation of Probation (VOP) warrants entered into LEIN by Third Circuit Court.

Specialty Court Services

The Office of Specialty Court Services oversees the following operations in the Criminal Division: Adult Drug Treatment Court (ADTC), Mental Health Treatment Court (MHC), Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), and Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program (SSSPP).

Throughout the year, the Office of Specialty Court Services continues to partner with various organizations and events: Veterans Treatment Court outreach with the Southeast Michigan Veterans Stand Down in October; Mental Health Court incorporating a Med Drop program for participants, which was sponsored by Genoa Healthcare and the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network. The effects from the pandemic still linger; however, Specialty Court Services continues to engage with community partners virtually to reinforce collaboration of ideas and efforts to promote Specialty Court Programs.

The **Adult Drug Treatment Court (ADTC)** is a sentencing alternative to non-violent prison-bound felony offenders whose criminal justice involvement stem from alcohol and/or drug abuse. Court staff and community service providers work together to break the cycle of addiction and crime for these defendants. 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.

ADULT DRUG TREATMENT COURT (ADTC)

Participants from previous year	19
New Participants Accepted	10
Discharged Participants	5
2022 Graduated Participants	5
Active Participants 2022	19

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 participants 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	11
New Participants Accepted	16
Discharged Participants	3
2022 Graduated Participants	4
Active Participants 2022	20

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 aforementioned.

VETERANS TREATMENT COURT (VTC)

Participants from previous year	22
New Participants Accepted	15
Discharged Participants	5
2022 Graduated Participants	2
Active Participants 2022	30

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	3
New Participants Accepted	1
Discharged Participants	2
2022 Graduated Participants	0
Active Participants 2022	2

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. 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 2022 STATISTICS

BONDS	
Written Bond Recommendations	1606
Oral Bond Recommendations	0
Total Bond Recommendations	1606
SUPERVISION (Yearly Averages)	
Total Defendants Monitored	1016
Cumulative Total of Defendants Monitored	1323
Compliance Rate	83%
Failure to Appear Rate	26%
SENTENCING GUIDELINES	
Sentencing Guidelines Processed	0
Percentage of Cases Guidelined	0
LEIN QUERIES	9617

FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS



Hon. Melissa A. Cox
Presiding Judge – Family Division – Domestic

The Family Division – Domestic Relations is comprised of 11 Circuit Court Judges. The year 2022 brought many changes to the Family Division – Domestic Relations Bench. Judge Lisa M. Neilson, a Probate Judge assigned to the Family Division – Domestic Relations Bench, and Judge Lynne A. Pierce, both retired from many years of successful service to the families of Wayne County. Judge Susan Dabaja and Judge Nicole N. Goodson both joined the bench after appointments by Governor Gretchen Whitmer, in March 2022 and October 2022, respectively. Judges Don Teeple and Dan Kelly both assisted the Family Division – Domestic Relations as Visiting Judges in 2022.

The Family Domestic Relations Division realized many successes in meeting the growing and diverse needs of families. The trends of increased self-representation and out-of-wedlock births greatly impacted the work of the Family Domestic Relations Division in 2022. 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 2022, there were 19,816 new case filings in the Family Division – Domestic Relations Section. One of the biggest successes realized in the Family Domestic Relations Division in 2022 was the implementation of a new electronic filing system that made electronic filing easier for both attorneys and self-represented litigants. The system was rolled out in August of 2022.

FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS JUDGES

Melissa A. Cox, Presiding

Yvonna Abraham
Eric Cholack
Susan Dabaja

Charlene M. Elder
Helal A. Farhat
Alexis A. Glendening
Nicole N. Goodson

Adel A. Harb
Mary Beth Kelly
Carla G. Testani

FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC RELATIONS REFEREES

Stephanie Witucki, Chief Referee

Alicia Bianchi
Diane Biggar
Gwendolyn Davis-Yancey
Daniel Ferency
Craig Feringa

Eric Gloudemans
Rosanne Hostnik
Michael Kwarcinski
Lauren Wright Middleton

Christine Rodriguez
Lynn Ruhlman
Hulen Simpson
Edrick Thompson
Pamela Tracy

DOMESTIC RELATIONS 2022 STATISTICS

	Divorce w/Child	Divorce No Child	Paternity	UIFSA*	Support	Other Domestic**	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	1,000	943	7,029	114	5,922	173	15,181
New Filings	2,691	3,240	6,150	135	6,952	648	19,816
Reopened Cases	62	54	12	5	13	13	159
Total Caseload	3,753	4,237	13,191	254	12,887	834	35,156
<i>Dispositions Resulting From:</i>							
Bench Verdicts	52	39	1	0	0	7	99
Defaults, Uncontested, Settled	1,656	2,217	1,168	14	851	342	6,248
Transferred	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Dismissed by Party	533	709	848	74	543	169	2,876
Dismissed by Court	122	80	4,429	15	4,304	9	8,959
Inactive Status	1	4	0	0	0	27	32
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	2,365	3,049	6,446	103	5,698	555	16,940
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	1,388	1,188	6,745	151	7,189	279	16,940

*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.



Erin Lincoln
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 276,000 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 Court Clerical Services Department, the FOC Scheduling Office, the Family Assessment Services 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. The Friend of the Court uses many means to collect child support. Over \$215,000,000 in support was collected and distributed in 2022.

FOC FISCAL YEAR 2022 STATISTICS

Caseload-Open FOC Dockets	276,515
Medical Support Notices Issued	61,317
Custody and Child Support Reports and Recommendations	8,732
Hearings Held by Referees	9,442
Child Support Show Cause Hearings	66
Bench Warrant Issued	10
Bench Warrant Dismissals/Resolution	1,853
Custody and Parenting Time Enforcement Requests Processed	1,980
Amount of Child Support Distributed for the Year	\$215,617,925

FOC CHILD SUPPORT OUTREACH

Community Partners	Number of Participants
Salvation Army William Booth Legal Aid Clinic	106
Focus Hope	9
United Auto Workers Vote Center	16
ACCESS	23
La Sed	6
Team Wellness Center	34
Free Child Support Help Program	130
Other	233
Total	557

The Friend of the Court partners with many organizations to get information about the Friend of the Court processes and procedures out to those who use the Friend of the Court Services. Covid related closures of community partners continued to affect outreach in 2022. However, the Friend of the Court was able to resume its in person Free Child Support Help event in November of 2022, serving 130 individuals at a new location, Wayne County Community College-Northwest District.



Dennis Donahue
Legal Director, Domestic Violence Program

Dennis Donahue 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 2022, the PPO docket processed 6,483 new cases.

PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDER (PPO) 2022 STATISTICS

	Domestic Relations	Non-Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	3	0	0	3
New Filings	4,574	1,888	21	6,483
Reopened Cases	545	387	4	936
Total Caseload	5,122	2,275	25	7,422
<i>Dispositions Resulting From:</i>				
Orders Issued Ex Parte	2,461	500	8	2,969
Orders Issued after Hearing	9	3	0	12
Transferred	0	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	2,116	1,393	13	3,522
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	500	352	4	856
Dismissed by Party	1	0	0	1
Orders Issued after Denial	34	27	0	61
Case Type Change	0	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	5,121	2,275	25	7,421
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	1	0	0	1

FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE



Hon. Edward J. Joseph
Presiding Judge – Family Division-Juvenile

The Family Division – Juvenile is comprised of four Circuit Court Judges and two Probate Judge. Thirteen Referees assist the judges by conducting child protection and delinquency 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 2,985 new case filings in the Family Division – Juvenile in 2022. 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). However, because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, compliance with SCAO PIR guidelines have been compromised. The Juvenile Section took swift and appropriate action to continue its operations throughout the pandemic by using remote technology and conducting remote hearings.

FAMILY DIVISION – JUVENILE JUDGES

Edward J. Joseph, Presiding

Karen Y. Braxton
Jerome C. Cavanagh

Christopher D. Dingell
Michael J. McClory

Cylenthia LaToye Miller
Frank S. Szymanski

FAMILY DIVISION – DOMESTIC – JUVENILE REFEREES

James A. Catchings, Jr., Chief Referee

Kathleen Allen
Wanda Cal
Mona Youssef

Leslie Graves
Laura D. Kellett
Sean Kerman

LaChelle Logan
Anthony Crutchfield
Daniel M. McGuire

Brandi Taylor
Charles W. Wilson, III
Nicholas Hathaway

JUVENILE 2022 STATISTICS

	Designated*	Delinquency	Traffic	Child Protective	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	16	701	566	396	1,679
New Filings	11	2,188	94	692	2,985
Reopened Cases	0	115	1	0	116
Total Caseload	27	3,004	661	1,088	4,780
<i>Dispositions Resulting From:</i>					
Jury Verdicts	0	0	0	1	1
Bench Verdicts	0	38	0	328	366
Guilty Pleas/Admissions	3	634	17	176	830
Prosecutor Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Traditional Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Dismissed Incompetent	0	99	0	0	99
Dismissed by Party	0	547	3	0	550
Dismissed by Court	0	0	0	40	40
Dismissed/Withdrawn	0	0	0	0	0
Consent Calendar	0	104	0	11	115
Transferred	0	326	0	18	344
Diversion/Not Authorized	0	0	0	0	0
Designation Granted	0	84	0	0	84
Inactive Status	0	0	0	0	0
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
Total Dispositions	3	1,832	20	574	2,429
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	24	1,172	641	514	2,351

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



ToieLynn Smith
Deputy Court Administrator (Juvenile Division)

The Deputy 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 356 new filings in 2022. 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, 40 voluntary releases of Parental Rights and 112 requests for release of post-adoption information were processed.

ADOPTIONS 2022 STATISTICS

2022 Filings	
Voluntary Release of Parental Rights	40
Requests for Release of Post-Adoption Information	112
Pending Adoption Petitions as of January 1, 2022	85
New Filings	356
Reopened Cases	0
Total Caseload	593
Adoptions Finalized	305
Adoption Petitions Withdrawn	0
Adoption Petitions Dismissed	18
Rescissions Granted	0
Adoption Petitions Transferred	0
Total Dispositions	475
Pending Adoption Petitions as of December 31, 2022	118

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 ACS 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) STATISTICS

Attorney Assignments Scheduled	2,566
Orders of Appointments	334
Request for Emergency House Counsel Assignments	1,203
Notice of Removal of Assigned Counsel	326
Appearances	179
Attorney Assignment/Payment Inquiries	164

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 Status Unit also provides services to families seeking help for youth exhibiting incorrigible behavior.

The Unit interviews, screens, and processes all youth admitted to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) 24 hours daily. The 24-Hour Desk located inside JDF assists Police Agencies, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and the Public during and after Court business hours.

Additionally, this Desk coordinates the transportation of youth through Transfer of Jurisdiction (within counties) and interstate transportation through Interstate Compact (DHHS).

The Status Unit continues to service and accept 17-year-olds with new charges into the JDF. This is in accordance with the October 1, 2021, the Raise the Age (RTA) legislation which implemented Juvenile Services to include Juveniles who are 17 years of age.

The Status Unit provides Pre-sentence and Re-sentencing reports to the Court for Designated cases. The Status Unit performed monitoring services of youth during 2022 via Zoom and telephone. In-person monitoring occurred while following strict COVID-19 protocols.

JUVENILE STATUS UNIT STATISTICS

Interviews on Admittance into Juvenile Detention Facility	1483
Family Interviews	481
Informal Probation (Consent, Diversion, Incurrigible)	115
Designated Cases	24
Out County/Plea Under Advisement/Truancy	0
Petitions Filed	36
Raise the Age (17-year-olds)	17

TIP – Truancy Intervention Project

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.

During the 2022-23 school year, the following schools received TIP services: Annapolis High, O.W. Best Middle, Garden City School District, Brownstown Middle, and Patrick Henry Middle School. Additionally, TIP provided attendance information to assist schools throughout the county. After COVID-19, participating schools transitioned to in person learning, during the 2022-23 school year an approximately 100 students were referred to the program. TIP continues to be an integral part of reducing school truancy and absenteeism while providing support services to schools in Wayne County.

The TIP Program Coordinator continues to share information about the services provided and how it positively affects the community. The work of TIP has been shared with the Wayne County Dispute Resolution Center, Wayne Regional Educational Services Agency, National Parent Union, Insight Youth and Family Connections, as well as other youth assistance organizations, which emphasizes the commitment of the TIP Program to combat chronic absenteeism and truancy.

TRUANCY INTERVENTION PROJECT (TIP) STATISTICS – SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023

Number of Students Referred by Schools	84
Number of Cases Processed in Program	84
Number of Initial Meetings Scheduled	85
Number of Schools Participating in Program	7

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 participants and families are connected to appropriate services in the community, with the goal of reducing the number of youths 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.

The JMHC team consists of 3 jurists, 5 defense attorneys, 5 attorney educational advocates, a prosecutor, a probation officer, a program coordinator, a PHD psychologist, and about 30 mental health professionals (therapists, wrap around workers, Community Living Skills (CLS) workers, parent support partners, and peer support partners) from our partner agencies.

Clinical Assessments, Home-Based Therapy, Medication Reviews, and other Clinical Groups are provided by the Family Assessment Services, Guidance Center, Lincoln Behavioral Services, Black Family Development, Southwest Counseling Solutions, Development Center, Northeast Guidance Center, Children's Center, and Starfish Family Services. These agency partnerships were developed in 2018, and have added the ability for JMHC to serve youth who do not receive Medicaid through the uses of the Severe Emotional Disturbance Waiver. Home-Based Therapy provides a therapist in the home for 2-20 hours per week, as needed by the participant. Parent Support Partners work with parents once per week, and Wraparound Services meet with the family several times per week. Psychiatric services are provided by each agency. Drug testing, assessment, and treatment referrals are handled through the Court's Case Management Team, which consists of the probation officer, the coordinator, the therapists, wrap around workers, and parent support partners.

In 2022, JMHC has begun to grow again following the pandemic. The year started with 7 active participants, and has grown to 13. JMHC now has three jurists hearing two dockets on a biweekly basis. Three youth graduated successfully from the program.

JMHC's Education Advocacy service has become stronger, and the Attorney Advocates have been regularly attending webinars regarding educational advocacy to increase their knowledge of this area of the law. They share the information with each other to benefit the team. All participants with a need for education advocacy have been assigned their own attorney advocate from the law group to which they are assigned.

In 2022, JMHC was again 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.

In 2022, Program Coordinator Deborah Nelson received the Hero Award from the Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals. She was nominated by Kevin Fischer, the Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Michigan. In August, Specialty Court Manager

Sonya Ristic and Program Coordinator Deborah Nelson attended the Everybody Versus Stigma Cruise. This foundation is run by Kevin Fischer, and raises money to end the stigma of mental health. Funds raised support Catholic Central High School and the National Alliance on Mental Illness. JMHC supports community-based organizations that raises awareness of mental illness and educates the community.

Judge Joseph, Deborah Nelson, and Doctor Lindsay Carr presented a session entitled Major Elements of a Juvenile Mental Health Court at the Community Mental Health Association’s fall conference in Lansing in October.

JUVENILE MENTAL HEALTH COURT STATISTICS

Returning Participants	7
New Admissions	16
Successful Completions	3
Discharged	6
Total Participants	14

Juvenile Drug Court

The Supervised Treatment for Alcohol and Narcotic Dependency (STAND) Program is a juvenile drug treatment 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 STAND Program is supervised by Judge Karen Braxton.

Participants in the STAND 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, mental health, and mentor services. The Court focuses on incentives as rewards for the progress a program participant makes. Additionally, the program promotes participation in pro-social activities by hosting annual baseball games, basketball games, and bowling tournaments for the participants and their families and friends.

The STAND Program is a nine-month program, but the actual length of the program depends upon the participant’s progress. In some circumstances, if the juvenile successfully completes the program, the original charge will be dismissed, allowing the participant to maintain a clean juvenile record. After successful completion of the program, the youth participate in a graduation ceremony sharing their successes with family, friends, and other participants still enrolled in the program.

The STAND 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 2022 highlights for the STAND Program included increasing community partnerships. STAND Program Judge Karen Braxton and the Program Coordinator Christopher Whittington, met with agencies such as Hype Athletics that offers substance abuse treatment, drug testing, education and employment support; which once a partnership is established can enrich the lives of program participants. The STAND Program hosted two pro-social activities that included participants, families and the entire drug court team. The activities were a summer picnic that included food, games, dancing and a host of other activities. The STAND Program also hosted a bowling tournament between participants, families and team members.

The STAND Program participants received backpack donations that were filled with school supplies from the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club Inc. - Detroit Club. The program also received age appropriate holiday presents from the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program.

The STAND Program, through its collaboration with the Third Judicial Circuit Court – Family Assessment Services Department, focuses on assessments that identify co-occurring disorders and a need for mental health services.

Some of the measurable outcomes during 2022 were, increased negative drug screens, attendance and participation, increased incentives, and an increase in participant focus and expectations.

The STAND Program continues to be a model Juvenile Drug Treatment Court. The program has been able to sustain and thrive through its funding from significant federal, state and local grants, including Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, State Court Administrative Office and the Child Care Fund. With the listed grants, the program is able to maintain its high level of commitment and services to participants and their families.

JUVENILE DRUG COURT STATISTICS

2022 Program Participants	
Returning Participants	7
New Admissions	11
Total Participants in Program for the Year	18
2022 Outcomes	
Total Participants	18
Removed Participants	7
Graduated	3
Active Participants at the end of 2022	8

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 and appointed by the Jurists to serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Juvenile Jurists when making decisions regarding placements. 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 in the best interest of the children.

As of April 2022, the Wayne County CASA transitioned into its own 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization. CASA continues to be a valued partner of the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan.

CASA PROGRAM 2022 STATISTICS

	Number of Cases	Number of Children Involved
New Cases Assigned	40	89
Cases Closed	0	0

MISCELLANEOUS FAMILY 2022 STATISTICS

	Other Family*	Ancillary**	Total
Pending Cases as of Jan. 1st	126	0	126
New Filings	974	0	974
Reopened Cases	0	0	0
Total Caseload	1,100	0	1,100
<i>Dispositions Resulting From</i>			
Orders Issued Ex Parte	71	0	71
Orders Issued after Hearing	661	0	661
Petition Granted	0	0	0
Transferred	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied Ex Parte	0	0	0
Dismissed: Denied after Hearing	49	0	49
Petition Denied	0	0	0
Dismissed by Party	107	0	107
Petition Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0
Deferred	0	0	0
Case Type Change	0	0	0
Total Dispositions	888	0	888
Pending Cases as of Dec. 31st	212	0	212

*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.

TRANSITIONS IN JUDICIAL LEADERSHIP

CHIEF JUDGESHIP



Chief Judge Timothy M. Kenny (2019 -2022) & Chief Judge Patricia Perez Fresard (2023 - present)

JUDICIAL LEADERSHIP FOR 2023



JUDGE PATRICIA PEREZ FRESARD has served as a Wayne County Circuit Court Judge since 1999. Judge Fresard began her judicial career as a Felony Trial Court Judge and initial Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division’s Drug Court. She presided over hundreds of criminal felony trials including murder, rape, carjacking, drug, and firearm charges.

Judge Fresard was accepted by bid to the Civil Division in 2012 and selected by Chief Judge Colombo as Presiding Judge of the Civil Division in 2016. In 2019, Chief Judge Timothy M. Kenny appointed Judge Fresard as Chief Judge Pro Tem and Presiding Judge of the Civil Division. Judge Fresard has spearheaded efforts to ensure that case backlogs are addressed, supported competitive wages for court personnel, and championed the Court’s ongoing collaboration with the legal community.

Judge Fresard will be the second woman and the first Hispanic to serve as Chief Judge of the Third Circuit Court.

As Chief, Judge Fresard seeks to continue on the path of delivering quality services to the public and creating a productive, innovative work environment. Her primary goals include the move of the Criminal Division to the new Criminal Court Complex, the establishment of the Family Court as prescribed by statute, and the continued advancement of an inclusive workplace culture. Judges, court management, and staff will be invited to participate in the various 2023 Strategic Plan initiatives and projects.

The Chief Judge under Michigan Court Rule 8.100 shall select a Chief Judge Pro Tempore and a Presiding Judge of any division of the trial court. Chief Judge Patricia Perez Fresard is pleased to introduce her selection for Chief Judge Pro Tempore and Presiding Judges.



JUDGE LESLIE KIM SMITH will serve as the Chief Judge Pro Tem and the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division. Judge Smith has an illustrious judicial career; she has served on the Third Circuit Court since April 2003. She has been in the Civil Division since September 2013. From April 2003 to August 2013, Judge Smith served on the Family Division-Juvenile Section, and she was the Presiding Judge in that division from January 2009 to December 2012. As Presiding Judge, she led the restructuring of legal representation for children involved in child welfare and juvenile justice matters. She

currently serves on the Court’s Executive Bench Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. Judge Smith also served as a judge for the 30th Judicial District Court in Highland Park, Michigan from January 1987 to April 2003 and was the Chief Judge from January 1988 to April 2003. Prior to coming to the bench, Judge Smith was an Assistant Attorney General.



JUDGE CYLENTHIA LATOYE MILLER will serve as the Presiding Judge of Wayne County's Third Circuit Court Family-Juvenile Division. Judge Miller was appointed to the Third Judicial Circuit Court on July 22, 2019 and is assigned to the Juvenile Division. Judge Miller served on the 36th Judicial District Court from April 10, 2006 through August 18, 2019. Judge Miller was the Founding & Presiding Judge over Street Outreach Court Detroit, which assists Detroit's homeless population with clearing their driver's licenses and returning to self-sufficiency. Judge Miller is an

Adjunct Professor at Baker College of Allen Park and Baker College of Jackson. She has worked in the Criminal Justice Department since 2012 and in the Humanities Department since 2016. Judge Miller received her Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Michigan State University College of Law in 1996. Judge Miller was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan in 1996 and to the State Bar of Arkansas in 1997.



JUDGE DONALD KNAPP will serve as the Presiding Judge of Wayne County's Third Circuit Court Criminal Division. Judge Knapp was appointed to the Third Circuit Court in April of 2018. Prior to that appointment, he served for nine years as the Livonia city attorney during which time he advised the Mayor, City Council, department heads, and commissions, handled criminal prosecutions, litigated civil litigation filed against the City of Livonia, and managed the Law Department's other attorneys and staff. He also specialized in commercial and civil litigation, probate and estate

planning, and municipal law at Fausone Bohn, LLP in Northville for fourteen years. Judge Knapp's career began as a research attorney for Third Circuit Court Judge Timothy M. Kenny. He also worked as a legislative aide for then State Senator Thaddeus McCotter and as an associate attorney for a small medical malpractice defense firm, respectively. He is a graduate of the Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Detroit Catholic Central. Judge Knapp was elected to the Livonia City Council in 2001 and re-elected in 2005. He was active in the Livonia Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Federalist Society, Livonia Bar Association, and Detroit Bar Association.



JUDGE MELISSA COX will serve as the Presiding Judge of Wayne County's Third Circuit Court Family Domestic Relations Division. Judge Cox was elected to the Third Judicial Circuit Court in November 2016. 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. She is a member of the Wayne County Family Bar Association, the Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers, and the past Vice President of the Livonia Bar Association.

HISTORY OF THE BENCH – CHIEF JUDGES



[Left to Right: Hon. James Rashid, Hon. Michael Sapala, Hon. Mary Beth Kelly, Hon. Timothy Kenny, Hon. William Giovan, Hon. Virgil Smith, Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr. / Not Pictured: Hon. Richard Kaufman]



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 M. 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 – 12/31/18
Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr.



1/1/19 – 12/31/22
Hon. Timothy M. Kenny



1/1/23 –
Hon. Patricia Perez Fresard

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." —African Proverb

Our Community Partners help strengthen the Court.

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 Integrated Health Network
- Disability Network
- 80 Strong Community Outreach
- Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Detroit)
- Fifth Third Bank
- Friends of CASA
- Focus Hope
- Gersher Human Services
- Judge Nance on radio 910AM
- Looking For My Sister
- Mariner's Inn Shelter & Treatment
- Michigan State University
- Michigan Veterans Foundation
- National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs (NANBPWC)
- National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ)
- Stakeholder Partnerships, Education & Communications (SPEC)
- The Children's Center
- The Guidance Center – Southgate
- The Salvation Army's William Booth Legal Aid Clinic
- 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



MAGICAL MOMENTS IN 2022



MAGICAL MOMENTS IN 2022



MAGICAL MOMENTS IN 2022

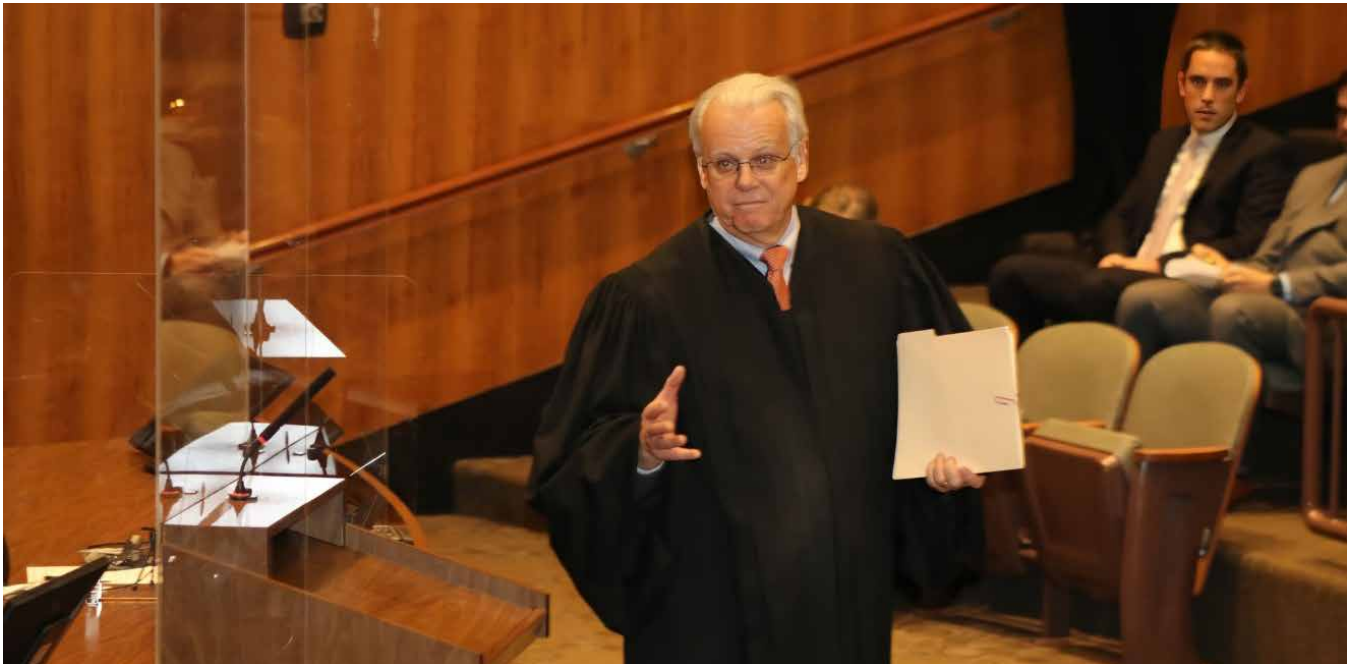


MAGICAL MOMENTS IN 2022



A year is 31,536,000 seconds. In 2022, there were holidays, graduations, award ceremonies, 10Ks and 5Ks. There were birthdays, retirements, and charity drives. There were judicial appointments and staff promotions. There were swearing in ceremonies, community outreaches, Adoption Day, and a Zoo Walk. We cheered, "Go Green!" We cheered, "Go Blue!" And, we wore orange in observance of Truth and Reconciliation for Native Americans. We worked hard. We served. In 2022, there were 31,536,000 seconds, and an infinite number of magical moments.

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIAL RETIREMENTS



The **Years of Service Recognition Virtual Chat** was hosted for Judges who retired at the end of 2022: Chief Judge Timothy M. Kenny, Judge Thomas M.J. Hathaway, Judge James R. Chylinski, Judge David A. Groner, and Judge John A. Murphy.

The Detroit Bar Association sponsored the event for the metro Detroit Legal Community. Zenell Brown, Third Circuit Court Administrator and President-Elect of the Detroit Bar Association dialogued with the honorees and highlighted their years on the bench. American Black Journal also featured Judge John A. Murphy, who was the longest sitting judge in Michigan, on a segment prior to his retirement. The host Stephen Henderson talked with Judge Murphy about the various courts he sat on in his 44-year career and his experiences surrounding African American representation on the bench. Chief Judge Kenny was featured in the *Detroit Free Press* and celebrated by Attorney General Dana Nessel and many others for his 25 years on the Circuit Court Bench and well as his outstanding career as an Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor.

In addition to the judges honored at the Years of Service Recognition Virtual Chat, two other judges, Judge Lynne Pierce (Family Division-Domestic Relations) and Judge Bruce Morrow (Criminal Division) retired from the Third Circuit Court as well.



Chief Judge
Timothy M.
Kenny



Judge Thomas
M.J. Hathaway



Judge James R.
Chylinski



Judge David A.
Groner



Judge John A.
Murphy



Judge Lynne
Pierce



Judge Bruce
Morrow

THIRD CIRCUIT COURT STAFF RETIREMENTS



**Kimberly
Archie**



**Loretta
Borne**



**Cherilyn
Carter**



**Andrea
Dunnett**



**Joanne
Gaskin**



**Gina
Jackson**



**Laretta
Keleman**



**Evon
Lee-Williams**



**Lila
Lowe**



**Catherine
Moore**



**Lydia
Northcross**



**Mary
Otto**



**Shelly
Payne**



**Dawn
Pitcher**



**Doris
Richardson**



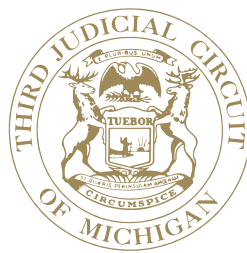
**Andree
Tarrant**



**Brenda
Westbrook**



**Dana
White**



Thank You

to these dedicated and valued employees!

THE 2022 STATE OF THE COURT



Chief Judge Timothy M. Kenny



Judge Patricia Perez Fresard



Kevin Boyle

The Detroit Bar Association hosted the **2022 State of the Court** address. This event was held in the community for the first time, and over 160 lawyers, judges, and court professionals, stakeholders, and partners registered.

Chief Judge Timothy M. Kenny and Chief Judge Pro Tem Patricia Fresard shared the current state of Third Circuit Court, acknowledging the accomplishments of the Court and the many lawyers who practice in the Court. They discussed the plans for the Court as we continue to transition out of the COVID pandemic.

Kevin Boyle was the keynote speaker for the event. A native Detroiter, Professor Boyle spoke on the racial history of Detroit and the case of Ossian Sweet, an African-American doctor who was charged with murder in 1925 after he and his friends used armed self-defense against a hostile white mob protesting after Sweet moved into their neighborhood. Professor Boyle is the author of the novel *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age*, an electrifying story about the 1925 murder trial that divided the city and ignited the civil rights struggle. Professor Boyle is a William Smith Mason Professor of American History at Northwestern University.



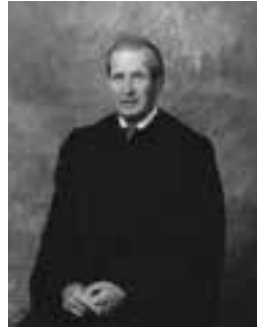
THE 2022 STATE OF THE COURT



IN MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOST



*Your presence we miss.
Your memory we treasure.
Loving you always.
Forgetting you never.*



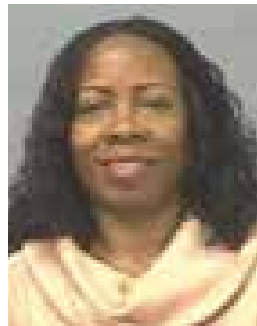
Retired Hon. Paul Stephen Teranes served as a Judge in the Court's Civil Division.



Retired Hon. Prentis Edwards, Sr. served as a Judge in the Court's Criminal Division.



Delores J. Evans, Retiree, served the Court as a Court Department Executive 8 in the Juvenile Division.



Sandra Tate, Retiree, served the Court as a Probation Officer in the Juvenile Status Department of Family - Juvenile



Shaundrea Whiting served the Court as a Domestic Relations Specialist in Case Establishment in the Court's Family Division - Domestic Division.

OUR ANNUAL REPORT COVER ARTIST



Destiny Smith created the artwork on the cover page when she was as freshman attending Southgate Anderson High School in Southgate, Michigan. At that time Destiny aspired to work in an artistic field but had not quite figured out which artistic direction to take yet. She enjoys art very much and she has stated, “I never took my art seriously until middle school. When I did, it was like a big light I could actually follow.”

After graduating, Destiny started attending College for Creative Studies. She is majoring in Advertising Design and has a minor in Photography. “My career path is pretty set, I’m hoping to go into something that is design based. I still do illustration and fine arts on the side of my schooling! Art and design is still a major passion for me, not just something for school or a job.”



Thank you, Destiny, for sharing your art with the Third Circuit Court.

The Annual Report Cover Contest is a part of the Court’s ongoing civic outreach programs to engage students.





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