

MARIETTA MUNICIPAL COURT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

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MUNICIPAL COURT
MARIETTA, OHIO

ANNUAL REPORT

-2017-



For the Period:
January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

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INTRODUCTION

Chapter 1901 of the Ohio Revised Code governs the conduct of Municipal Courts including the Marietta Municipal Court. Section 1901.14(A)(4) provides as follows:

“On or before the last day of March of each year, the Court shall render a complete report of its operation during the preceding year to the Legislative Authority and to the Board of County Commissioners of each county within its territory. The report shall show the work performed by the Court, a statement of receipts and expenditures of the civil and criminal branches, respectively, the number of cases heard, decided, settled and such other data as the Supreme Court, the Secretary of State, the Legislative Authority, and the Board of County Commissioners required.”

JUDGE'S COMMENTS

Restitution

The Court collected \$49,782.94 in restitution through the Probation Department and the Clerk's Office. This sum was then paid over to victims of criminal offenses.

Building Wide Training

Deputy Clerks completed the following training: Legal Advice vs. Legal Information, Security Awareness Training (LEADS) and Introduction to the Courts. Probation Officer continuing education hours are outlined in the Chief Probation Officer's report.

All Court employees received instruction in CPR and use of the AED.

Technology Grant

The Ohio Supreme Court awarded the Municipal Court a \$4,750 Technology Grant. With the approval of the Supreme Court, the Court used this grant to upgrade our website design.

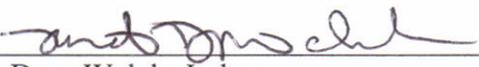
Crisis Intervention Training

The Judge hosted monthly planning meetings for the Crisis Intervention Training and presented at the Five Day Program. Crisis Intervention is a nationally recognized program designed to provide important information on mental health disorders, appropriate methods to recognize and to de-escalate potentially dangerous contacts, to improve diversion to proper community resources and to protect safety of community members, their families and members of law enforcement.

Weddings

The Court officiated thirty-nine weddings in 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Dyar Welch, Judge

CIVIL DIVISION

A. New Filings – Comparative Table

Type	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Civil	1,093	854	764	697	664
Small Claims	93	94	93	121	128

B. Hearings – Comparative Table

Held By:	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Judge	47	37	38	38	87
Magistrate Small Claims	48	59	51	69	88

C. Receipts and Expenditures

Payee	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
City – General	103,237.91	84,887.72	75,960.86	70,489.67	77,082.42
Court – Computer	9,432.00	7,504.00	6,784.00	6,384.00	6,080.00
Court – Capital Imp.	16,973.00	13,326.00	12,000.00	11,018.00	10,384.00
Ohio – Legal Aid	29,025.81	22,854.29	20,491.02	18,804.11	17,676.45
Total Disbursements:	158,668.72	128,572.01	115,235.88	106,695.78	111,222.87

CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION

A. New Filings – Five Year Comparative Table

Type Offense	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Felonies	471	414	371	376	381
Misdemeanors	1,872	1,848	1,644	1,550	1,717
OVI	431	415	325	264	330
Other Traffic	7,881	6,917	8,182	8,701	7,960
Total:	10,655	9,594	10,522	10,891	10,388

B. Trials

The Court conducted 21 preliminary hearings on felony cases, 28 court trials on contested traffic and criminal cases and 7 jury trials. These totals do not include motion hearings, probation violations, contempts, or restitution hearings.

C. Criminal/Traffic Receipts and Disbursements – Comparative Table

Payee	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
City of Marietta General Fund	468,180.36	400,989.84	440,078.16	477,033.67	450,498.17
Capital Improvement Fund	202,675.33	185,453.51	208,039.26	218,725.89	206,575.67
Court Computer/ Convenience Fee	101,230.45	89,819.65	95,055.50	96,539.14	91,832.00
Indigent Alcohol Fund	16,537.00	14,780.00	15,843.50	16,078.50	16,008.33
County General Fund	217,876.23	197,924.43	191,954.72	220,272.82	221,713.97
House Arrest	45,864.00	50,780.50	36,599.00	66,506.55	21,181.45
Probation/ Security Fees	128,692.41	126,936.31	103,977.83	109,973.85	126,056.45
Law Library	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00
Sheriff	11,451.04	10,644.88	10,838.14	12,063.13	13,962.10
State of Ohio*	567,279.91	510,468.49	587,234.63	604,375.12	596,735.76
Beverly	248.00	398.00	289.00	416.00	860.00
New Matamoras	1,003.00	869.00	886.00	770.00	355.50
Lowell	-0-	-0-	50.00	185.00	365.00
Macksburg	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Capital Recovery	42,702.58	38,451.48	38,152.12	34,674.18	32,043.12
Belpre	4,454.40	3,452.00	1,354.00	3,277.50	17,100.00
Belpre Police Sub	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
College Law Enf.	450.00	350.00	450.00	150.00	1,155.00
Common Pleas Court	11,387.41	15,754.77	7,169.94	11,891.22	11,514.80
Total Disbursements	1,825,532.12	1,652,572.86	1,743,466.80	1,878,432.57	1,803,457.32

* State of Ohio includes Ohio State Highway Patrol, Criminal Reparations Account, Child Restraint, Pharmacy Board, Liquor Control, Division of Conservation, etc.

UNPAID FINES AND COSTS

The Court is owed \$594,794.49 for unpaid fines and costs imposed in calendar year 2017. Cases with delinquent fines and costs are assigned to the Court's collection agency, Capital Recovery, and the statutory thirty percent fee is added to the amount due. This collection fee is paid by the offender. The collection agency is not paid a portion of the fines and costs it collects. Collection efforts continue for prior years on accumulated fines and costs. Uncollected fines imposed prior to January 1, 2013 are deemed uncollectible but are subject to being reopened if the offender appears in court for another reason.

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDS

In 2017 the Court expended \$34,473.00 from its Computer Fund. The Court paid the annual bond payment for its share of the renovation of the current court facility from its Court Capital Improvement Fund. The Computer Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund are separately generated by the Court through the assessment of fees on offenders and other users of court services.

COST OF OPERATION

General Fund Budget

	2017	2016	2015	2014
General Fund Budget	\$807,435.00	\$844,357.00	\$892,312.00	\$924,166.00
General Fund Actually Spent	\$782,877.00	\$840,917.00	\$885,144.34	\$887,372.00
Amount Under Budget:	\$24,558.00	\$3,440.00	\$7,167.66	\$36,794.00

Payments to the General Fund

Payment from Fines and Cost	\$600,134.00	\$500,647.00	\$548,526.11	\$557,848.00
Payment from Probation Funding	\$166,556.00	\$164,957.00	\$140,576.83	\$176,481.00
Total:	\$766,690.00	\$665,604.00	\$689,102.94	\$734,329.00

PROBATION REPORT

The Chief Probation Officer is responsible for security at the Court Facility. One full-time Court Security Officer provided security in and around the court building during the hours of operation. The security staff screened 34,394 people in 2017, an average of 661 people a week. In addition, the Marietta Police Department as well as the Washington County Sheriff's Office Security Division provided an additional presence during the hours of peak public presence.

Offenders worked 3,883 hours of community service in lieu of jail for numerous departments, work which is valued at \$31,060. The Washington County Jail had 45 inmates work 2,738 hours of supervised community service totaling \$21,902 which was credited for court fines.

Case Management Services:

Sarah Wright provided case management services to 357 offenders who were classified moderate to very high risk of future criminal conduct. Of the 357 served, 295 were referred to counseling, 50 were referred and placed in long-term residential treatment, 87 were referred to intensive outpatient treatment, 87 were referred for employment, 36 for housing programs, 10 were referred to Veterans programs, 30 received utility assistance, 11 received GED and educational tutoring, and 85 were referred to Thinking for a Change group. Ms. Wright also obtained her CDCA Licensure (Chemical Dependency Counseling Assistant)

Quality Assurance:

2017 was the second full year in-house auditing was conducted by a full-time quality assurance officer. This position, held by Eric Brockmeier, conducts case file audits, monitors staff delivery of services provided to the offender, monitors the accuracy of the Ohio Risk Needs Assessment, and confirms accurate data entry mandated by the State of Ohio. He served as the court liaison to local service providers as well as the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. He was instrumental in securing additional

funding from the State of Ohio that will fully fund a second Case Manager beginning fiscal year 2018. Along with quality assurance, he was responsible for providing supervision to moderate to very high-risk offenders.

Alcohol and Drug Assessments:

Dr. Eric Limegrover completed 91 assessments at the court. 75 males and 16 females, who were identified as moderate to very high-risk offenders, were assessed. The findings and recommendations of those assessments were immediately provided to the probation department and included as a key component to the offender case plan. The quick turnaround is a key to the success of our moderate to very high risk offenders.

Kiosk Reporting:

Probation referred 340 individuals to the self-reporting Kiosks located at the Marietta City Building and the Belpre City Building. These individuals scored as low risk for recidivism based on the Ohio Risk Needs Assessment which is conducted on each person under the supervision of the Court. By diverting offenders deemed low risk, the probation department is freed up to spend more time working with and supervising moderate to very high risk offenders.

Moderate - Very High Risk Offenders:

Melanie Ferrell and Patrick Brockmeier provided supervision to moderate risk, high risk, and very high risk offenders. They worked with Case Manager Wright and targeted fifty moderate to very high risk offenders for extended, inpatient opiate abuse rehabilitation. The inpatient treatment phase is generally ninety days.

Both probation officers carried an average caseload of 105 offenders each. These offenders reported to their assigned officer based on their assessed risk level with targeted offenders reporting several times weekly. In accordance with established policies based on criminal risk factors these offenders were sent to intensive outpatient treatment providers as appropriate. Probationers were subject to frequent drug testing together with follow up home

visits. The probation officer uses evidence based practices including motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral intervention techniques to improve rehabilitation objectives

Pretrial Supervision:

The Judge establishes bond pursuant to Revised Code Chapter 2937 and Rule 46 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure. In the past year, the Court has required continuous alcohol monitoring devices, electronically monitored house arrest, weekly reporting, drug and alcohol testing, and counseling/treatment in lieu of cash bonds where appropriate. These tools have been generally successful deterring criminal conduct while Defendants are awaiting trial and are protective of public safety. The Probation Department provides the services and supervision associated with these bond conditions.

Training:

Probation employees received training hours as follows:

J. Hamilton	24
M. Ferrell	24
E. Brockmeier	24
P. Brockmeier	24
S. Wright	24 *Obtained CDCA (Chemical Dependency Counseling Assistant)

All training hours were held in the State of Ohio and were fully funded by the Community Corrections Grant.

2017 Breakdown of Persons Sentenced to Probation

768 persons were placed on probation. 43 Probation Violations were filed, 21 served the balance of jail suspended.

Gender		Age		Race	
Male-----	550	18-21-----	98	White -----	736
Female----	218	22-25-----	135	Black -----	25
		26-35-----	236	Hispanic----	2
		36-45-----	161	Other-----	5
		46-55-----	83		
		56+ -----	55		

Probationers by Officer	Conviction	Total
Ferrell	75 DUI	339
E. Brockmeier	163 Property	90
P. Brockmeier	136 Traffic	34
Community Control	394 Domestic Violence	50
	Other	164
Total:	768 Alcohol	28
	Violent/Crimes against Persons	31
	Drug Abuse Offenses	29
	Sex Offenses	3

4 Year Statistical Report

	<u>Year</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>2017</u>
Urine Test Performed	396	1034	1001	1239
Positive Urine Test	142	382	340	441
Electronically Monitored House Arrest	12	20	17	25
Jail Beds Saved on EMHA	241	400	510	560
Soberlink	71	95	58	68
Driver Intervention Program Enrollment	130	128	154	192
Ignition Interlock Program Enrollment	22	24	37	43
Total New Probationers (All Levels)	678	622	733	768
Community Service Hours Worked	3046	3244	3725	3883
Fines Credited for Community Service	\$24,368	\$25,267	\$29,246	\$29,693
Court Ordered for Community Service	5,696	2,972	3239	4497
Jail Beds Saved	2,448	2613	4787	3764



Jason Hamilton
Chief Probation Officer