

MARIETTA MUNICIPAL COURT  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

FILED  
2021 MAR 31 PM 12:38  
MUNICIPAL COURT  
MARIETTA, OHIO

ANNUAL REPORT

-2020-



For the Period:  
January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Introduction	1
II.	Judge's Comments	2-3
III.	Civil Division	4
IV.	Criminal/Traffic Division	5
V.	Criminal/Traffic Receipts/Disbursements	6
VI.	Unpaid Fines and Costs and Special Projects Funds	7
VII.	Cost of Operation	8
VIII.	Probation Report	9 - 13

## **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 \$60,715.11 in restitution through the Probation Department and the Clerk's Office. This sum was then paid over to victims of criminal offenses.

### Court Building

The Court made its payment of approximately \$175,000 on the capital improvement bond for building renovation. These funds are generated by special project fees imposed in court cases. A reserve fund equal to one annual payment is maintained in this fund to protect against unplanned contingencies.

The Court building requires regular maintenance and repairs to preserve the value of the asset and to ward off greater and more expensive projects. The Court approved a \$17,890 contract paid from the Court Capital Improvement Fund for façade maintenance, window sealing and other masonry work.

### Non-Recurring Grants

The Ohio Supreme Court awarded a technology grant of \$106,914.30 to the Municipal Court in 2019. These funds were spent in 2020 for:

1. A major case management software upgrade.
2. To purchase, install and train Probation staff on the OCCS Case Management System.
3. Thirteen desktop computers and related peripherals.
4. A Key and Lock upgrade which integrated with the City Key System.

The Office of Criminal Justice Systems awarded a COVID-19 relief grant of \$34,039 which paid for seven "Zoom" Rooms and a Thermal Temperature Camera.

The COVID-19 response grant permitted the Court to practically eliminate inmate transports between the jail and the Court. This reduced the time police officers are pulled from patrol duty to discharge duties connected to the Court. In addition, the Zoom technology provided an avenue to greatly reduce traffic in the Court building while preserving the rights of the public to meaningfully participate in court matters.

#### Pandemic Response

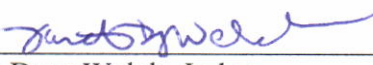
Several measures to address the Court response to the pandemic are outlined in other parts of this report. In addition, the Court adopted and implemented Ohio Department of Health and CDC guidance and orders. The Court used CARES money provided to the City of Marietta to purchase disposable masks for members of the public and staff, a replacement hydrostatic sprayer with approved disinfectants, sanitation supplies and polycarbonate barriers.

In addition, the Court implemented targeted reductions in employee hours. This reduction saved the City General Fund and Probation Fund approximately \$40,000.

#### Weddings

The Court officiated five weddings in 2020. The Court paused this public service at the beginning of the declared pandemic to avoid unnecessary exposure of wedding parties, guests and court personnel to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Dyar Welch, Judge

## CIVIL DIVISION

### A. New Filings – Comparative Table

Type	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Civil	998	1,317	1,186	1,093	854
Small Claims	100	107	103	93	94

### B. Hearings – Comparative Table

Held By:	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Judge	32	40	52	47	37
Magistrate Small Claims	53	78	63	48	59

### C. Receipts and Expenditures

Payee	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
City – General	94,981.33	129,589.77	109,848.33	103,237.91	84,887.72
Court – Computer	8,736	11,344	10,240	9,432	7,504
Court – Capital Imp.	15,596	20,430	18,392	16,973	13,326
Ohio – Legal Aid	26,652.78	34,940.07	31,447.35	29,025.81	22,854.29
<b>Total Disbursements:</b>	<b>145,966.11</b>	<b>196,303.84</b>	<b>169,927.68</b>	<b>158,668.72</b>	<b>128,572.01</b>