

# 12<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT

*Jackson, Michigan*

**2021 ANNUAL REPORT**



# Table *of* Contents

1	Mission & Value Statements
2	Message from Court Administrator
3	Judges/Magistrate
4	Administration
5	Caseload Filings
6	Criminal – Traffic
14	Civil
18	Judicial/Courtroom
19	Probation/Enforcement
27	Office of Administrative Services
32	Employee Awards
33	Court Directory
35	Appendix



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The 12th Judicial District Court is dedicated to dispensing equal justice in all matters under the court's jurisdiction, providing the highest quality of professional services in a prompt and efficient manner, and recognizing and respecting the individual dignity of all people served by the court.

## **VALUE STATEMENT**

- We value the personal treatment of all members of the public based upon courtesy and respect, regardless of socio-economic status or personal characteristics.
- We value all members of our court staff and are committed to their professional development.
- We value a positive work environment, which promotes creativity, teamwork, and respect among personnel.
- We value the highest standards of performance demonstrated by processing each individual transaction in an accurate, thorough, and timely manner.
- We value the continual analysis of all court processes in order to provide the highest level of service in an efficient and cost-effective manner.



# MESSAGE FROM THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Reader:

Thank you for taking your time to look at a snap shot of all the hard work the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court team accomplished! 2021 continued to be a tough year, not only due to continued changes in how the court operated under COVID-19 guidelines, but significant staffing changes, and several large legislative packages implemented during this time.

The court was finally released from the State Supreme Court COVID guidelines in July of 2021. While many aspects of the court opened at that time, cautiously many court hearings and probation contacts, that could be conducted remotely, continued. Jury Trials began in August 2021; however, continued to operate on a case by case basis dependent upon weekly numbers. While the court wasn't fully spared from the many COVID variants, we were able to remain safely open and provide full services during 2021.

Two thousand twenty-one also saw several retirements for a combined years of service of almost 75 years! A succession plan created and implemented in 2018 by then Court Administrator Bates came to fruition in 2021 with Deputy Court Administrator Burns taking the Court Administrator position in December and Chief Probation Officer Dase stepping into the Deputy Court Administrator's role.

Finally, two significant legislative packages were implemented this past year that directly impacted the court. The Clean Slate Laws not only increased the number of charges eligible for defendants' convictions to be "set aside", it also limited many offenses that were submitted to the Secretary of State to suspend driving privileges for failure to comply with a court order. Raise the Age adjusted the age for which a youth could be charged as an adult. The previous age was 17; 18 is now considered an adult. More information on each of these packages is located in the Legislative Update section.

While this report shows a lot of facts and stats, the real work completed by our great team is seen when a deputy clerk is reassuring a defendant who is confused or disturbed at the system, but leaves feeling heard and respected. When a probation officer goes above and beyond to work with a probationer to secure the necessary services to help get his/her life in order. And in the court room, when a court officer needs to take a defendant into custody and does so with professionalism and dignity. These stories happen every day to some extent because of the hard working and dedicated staff of D12.

The Court would like to express its gratitude to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners and Mr. Michael Overton, County Administrator, for their continued support of the 12<sup>th</sup> District Court!

Sincerely,

Jeremy C. Burns



# 12th District Court Judicial Staff

## The Honorable Daniel A. Goostrey



Appointed District Judge: 2012  
Elected District Judge: 2012  
Re-elected: 2018  
Chief Judge: 2018-Present  
Current Term Expires: 12/31/2024

## The Honorable Joseph S. Filip



Elected District Judge: 2004  
Re-elected: 2010, 2016  
Retired: 12/31/2022

## The Honorable Michael J. Klaeren



Appointed District Judge: 2007  
Elected District Judge: 008  
Re-elected: 2014  
Chief Judge: 2014-2017  
Chief Judge Pro Tem: 2018-2021  
Current Term Expires: 2/31/2026

## Magistrate Fredrick C. Bishop

Magistrate Bishop has been with the District Court since 2005 and serves under the direction of the Chief Judge. He serves in a quasi-judicial capacity as prescribed by statute, including issuance of misdemeanor and felony arrest warrants and search warrants. He also conducts misdemeanor and felony arraignments and sets bonds for the court. In addition, he assists the judicial staff by accepting guilty pleas on some misdemeanors,



conducting hearings and adjudicating civil infractions and small claims cases. He presides over informal hearings of civil infractions and the majority of the weddings conducted at the court.

## The Honorable Allison Bates



Elected District Judge: 2021  
Current Term Expires:  
12/31/2026



*Tamara J. Bates, Court Administrator  
Geremy C. Burns, Deputy Court Administrator  
Richard Dase, Chief Probation Officer  
Kathleen C. Ellis, Court Services Manager  
Eva Paluck, Court Services Manager  
Kelly Weeks, Administrative Services Manager  
Cindy Southworth, Administrative Services Manager*

## COURT ADMINISTRATION

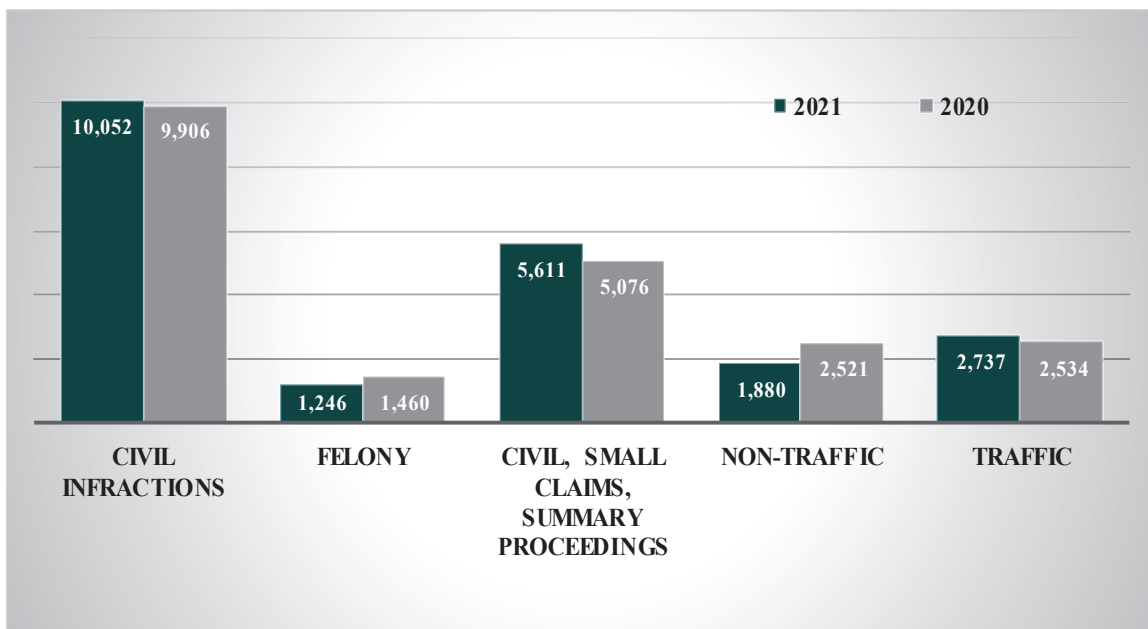


*Back Row L to R: Cindy Southworth, Kelly Weeks, Kathy Ellis, Eva Paluck  
Front Row L to R: Rich Dase, Tammy Bates, Geremy Burns*



## CASELOAD NEW FILINGS

Case Type	2021 Filings	2020 Filings	2021-2020 Difference
CIVIL INFRACTIONS	10,052	9,906	146
FELONY	1,246	1,460	-214
CIVIL, SMALL CLAIMS SUMMARY	5,611	5,076	535
NON-TRAFFIC MISDEMEANORS	1,880	2,521	-641
TRAFFIC MISDEMEANORS	2,737	2,534	203
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21,526</b>	<b>21,497</b>	<b>29</b>





*Kathleen Ellis, Court Services Manager  
Jessi Tucker, Deputy Clerk  
Julie Wartella, Deputy Clerk  
Sara Woodard, Deputy Clerk  
Taneshia Tanner, Deputy Clerk  
Kourtney Hubbert, Deputy Clerk  
Jamie Paksi, Deputy Clerk  
Linda Chamberlin, Deputy Clerk  
LaToya Scroggins, Casual Records Clerk  
Angie Warnsley, Casual Clerk  
Sarah Beadenkopf, Casual Clerk*

## **Criminal/Traffic**



*Back Row L to R: Sara Beadenkopf, Angie Warnsley, Jessi Tucker, Kathy Ellis, Linda Chamberlin, Sara Woodard  
Front Row L to R: Julie Wartella, Jami Paksi, LaToya Scroggins, Taneshia Tanner, Kourtney Hubbert*



# 12th District Court Clerk's Office

## *Criminal - Traffic*

### **Criminal**

The District Court Criminal Section handles state and local misdemeanors (crimes with a punishment of one year or less in jail) and preliminary hearings for felonious crimes (more than one year in jail or prison).

Of the seven full-time deputy clerks assigned to the Criminal-Traffic Section, one clerk is focused on accepting and processing all paperwork & new criminal charges filed with the court, judicial assignment and entry of some new cases, monitoring of on-line ticket resolution cases, preparation of daily date-generated reports, and filling-in wherever needed. Four deputy clerks process the criminal casework for each specific judge, including entry of new charges, scheduling of court dates, entry of warrants & protective conditions into the Law Enforcement Information Network (L.E.I.N.), production of dispositional paperwork, and reporting criminal history information to the Michigan State Police Central Records Division.

There are two deputy clerks assigned to traffic matters; one serves as the clerk to the Magistrate and handles the scheduling of Informal Hearings, responds to letters of explanation, processes dispositional paperwork and monitors the adjourn-to-pay cases. The other deputy clerk focuses her attention on assisting customers over the phone and in person on a daily basis, uploads and enters most electronic traffic citations into the court's case management system, processes the mail, works specific daily date-generated reports, and manages additional tasks that occur during the normal course of business.

We also have two part-time (casual) clerks, one of whom is responsible for file maintenance and record retention of traffic cases and the other, who has served as the criminal records clerk for 15 years, processes record requests and search warrants, as well as manages the closed criminal and probation cases for record retention.

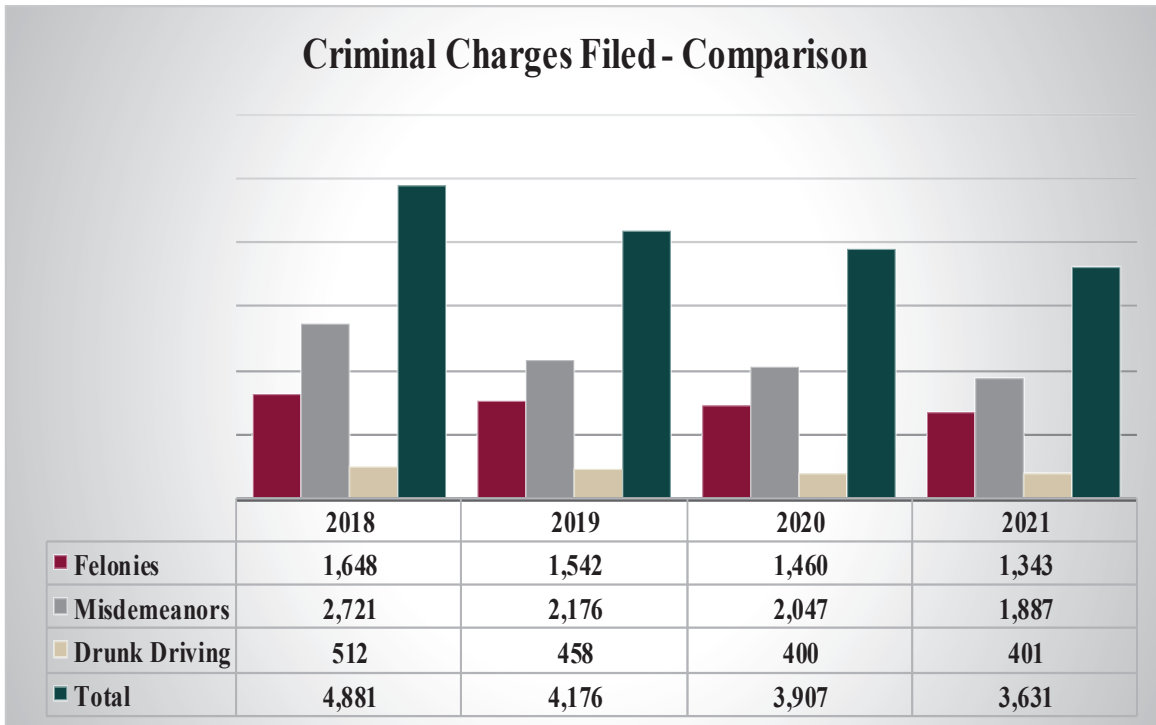


## DISPOSITIONAL INFORMATION

DISPOSITION	FELONY	MISDEMEANOR	DRUNK DRIVING
Jury Verdict	1	2	0
Bench Verdict	11	16	1
Guilty Plea/Admission/Waive	208	1038	373
Bindover/Transferred	842	0	96
Dismissed by Party	187	756	45
Dismissed by Court	55	29	4
Inactive/Bench Warrant	790	972	64
Case Type Changed	0	1	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2094</b>	<b>2814</b>	<b>587</b>

<b>Begin Pending - 1/1/21</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>122</b>
New Filings	1,246	1,880	492
Re-Opened	830	1,014	87
<b>Total Pending Disposition</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>3,424</b>	<b>701</b>
Less Dispositions	-2,094	-2,814	587
<b>End Pending - 12/31/21</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>114</b>

*Note: Extraditions are counted as felonies. Felony drunk driving cases are counted as drunk driving.*



*Extraditions are counted as felonies. Felony numbers include drunk driving third offense charges*

Over the past 4 years, the Court has experienced a gradual decrease in the number of cases being adjudicated by year's end. Prior to having a Public Defender's Office, many cases were handled at the initial arraignment and defendants were either immediately sentenced or their cases adjourned for sentencing. However, with the creation of the Public Defender's Office, most all cases continue past the arraignment, with pre-trials or settlement conferences being set. While new case filings have slightly decreased, the added hearings have significantly increased, thereby creating an increase in pending cases. This anomaly was most visible during 2020's pandemic, where many hearings were unable to occur, resulting in a slightly higher number of pending cases.

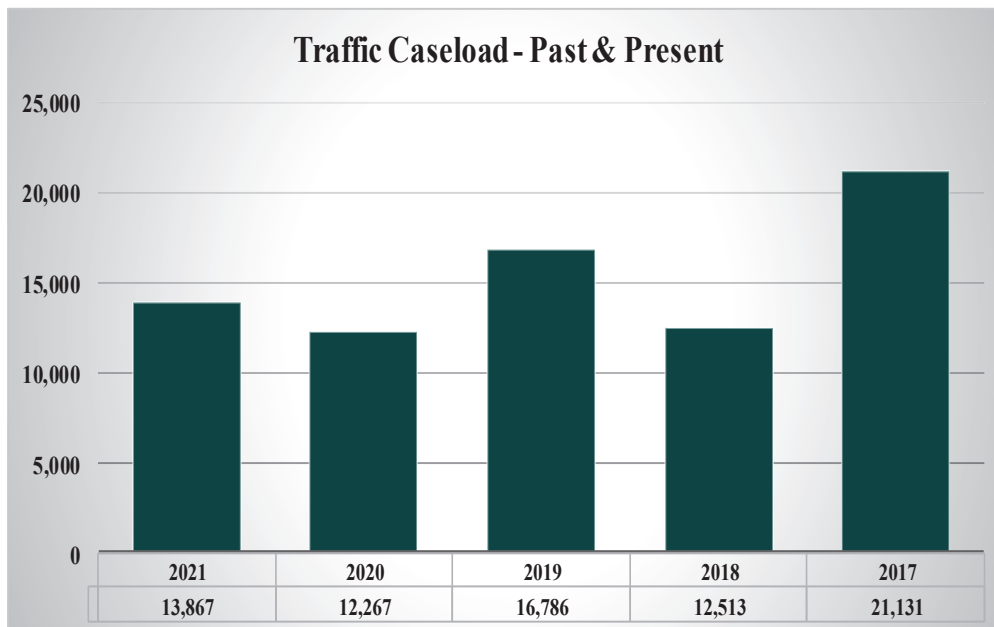
The video arraignment process has been working well since 2004 and has significantly decreased the number of inmates requiring transportation to and from the courthouse by law enforcement, thereby increasing security at both the courthouse and the Jackson County Jail. Magistrate Bishop arraigned approximately 1060 defendants via video connection in 2021.



## Traffic

Since 2017, the Court had been operating with only one deputy clerk dedicated solely to the processing of civil infraction charges, commercial motor vehicle citations, and some parking tickets filed with the District Court. In addition, this clerk was primarily responsible for providing service to our daily customers when they personally appeared to address their traffic citations. After elimination of the Collections Department, and the retirement of Kathy Bellew, the traffic-criminal section Casework Coordinator & clerk to Magistrate Bishop, the court chose to re-invent the Casework Coordinator position and hire another deputy clerk to serve as the Magistrate’s clerk and handle the adjourn-to-pay cases.

In 2021, the District Court accepted just over 10,000 civil infractions and over 2,700 traffic misdemeanors, mostly filed electronically, from Jackson County’s seven remaining law enforcement agencies, as well as the Michigan State Police and Department of Natural Resources, a slight increase from 2020.



*These numbers represent the total number of civil infractions, both state and local, parking tickets & municipal civil infractions, along with the total number of traffic misdemeanors handled by the department.*



## Violations by Offense Category

Charge	2021	2020	Difference
Speeding	2,106	2,488	-382
Speeding (limited access)	787	811	-24
Insurance Violations	1,450	1,190	260
Child/Seat Belt	537	476	61
Defective Equipment	462	472	-10
License Violations	1,587	1,390	197
Registration/Plate Viol.	995	904	91
Other violations*	5,943	4,536	1407
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,867</b>	<b>12,267</b>	<b>1600</b>

*\* Other violations include: fail-to-yield, fail-to-stop, fail-to-signal, follow too closely, careless driving, reckless driving, improper land use, prohibited or improper turn, and impeding traffic*



The Magistrate continued to conduct the majority of his Informal Hearings via Zoom, although defendants were allowed to appear in person when the Court moved into Phase 4 and after the Governor lifted her restrictions in mid-2021.

### Magistrate Traffic Statistics

<b>Proceedings</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2021-2020 Difference</b>
<b>Informal Hearings</b>	1249	620	770	150
<b>Found Responsible</b>	793	457	441	-16
<b>Found Not Responsible</b>	58	36	44	8
<b>Dismissed</b>	219	133	183	50
<b>Default Issued</b>	261	149	242	93
<b>Letters of explanation</b>	576	525	75	-450

## Online Ticket Resolution

On May 1, 2018, the court instituted On-line Ticket Resolution, available for most of its traffic civil infractions. The online platform, called Matterhorn™, walks individuals through a series of qualifying questions and allows them to submit their position online as if they were speaking in court. The Magistrate reviews their explanation/request, and is able to consult with the issuing law enforcement officer if necessary, before rendering a decision. Throughout the process, litigants receive emails and text messages updating them on the status of their case.

Court Innovations Inc., an Ann Arbor-based software company that originated at the University of Michigan Law School, developed the Matterhorn™ platform to assist both citizens and courts with managing their legal affairs, handling them in a more time & cost effective manner.

Between January 1 and December 31, 2021 the Magistrate reviewed about 357 traffic cases on-line, a slight decrease from the year before, and almost 160 of those cases were resolved without the defendant having to appear “in court”. Those whose tickets could not be addressed via this method, were scheduled to appear via Zoom for Informal hearing.



## Legislative Highlights

Below are brief descriptions of some of the measures the Michigan Legislature passed in 2021.

\* **PA 49:** Establishment of penalties for entering a school bus without authorization or impeding or obstructing a school bus. *Effective 10/11/2021*

\* **PA 55:** Prohibits the sale of marijuana to an individual who is younger than 21 years of age or visibly intoxicated. Also creates a cause of action of harm that the individual causes. *Effective 09/02/2021*

\* **PA 79 & PA 82:** Allows the setting aside of a conviction for a first violation operating while intoxicated (OWI) under certain circumstances, and prescribes the time period in which an Application to Set Aside a Conviction for a first violation OWI offense would have to be filed. *Effective 2/19/2022 & 3/09/2022 respectively*

\* **PA 104 & PA 106:** Allows the designation as an individual with a communication impediment on an application for a vehicle registration, or renewal of a vehicle registration, as well as on an enhanced driver's license and provides for law enforcement access to that information. *Effective 11/04/2021*

\* **PA 118:** Also known as Raise the Age legislation, requires a criminal case to be transferred to family court if the individual is under the age of 18 years at the time the offense was committed; applies only to an offense committed on or after October 1, 2021. For an offense occurring before October 1, 2021, it requires a criminal case be transferred to the family court if the individual was under the age of 17 years when the offense was committed. *Effective 11/30/2021*



*Eva Paluck, Court Services Manager  
Luanne Mehelich, Deputy Clerk  
Lori Pratt, Deputy Clerk  
Julie Williams, Deputy Clerk  
Beth Stroup, Deputy Clerk,  
Jaislyn Williams, Deputy Clerk*

## Civil



*Back Row L to R: Lori Pratt, Jaislyn Williams  
Front Row L to R: Beth Stroup, Luanne Mehelich, Julie Williams*



## 12th District Court Civil Division

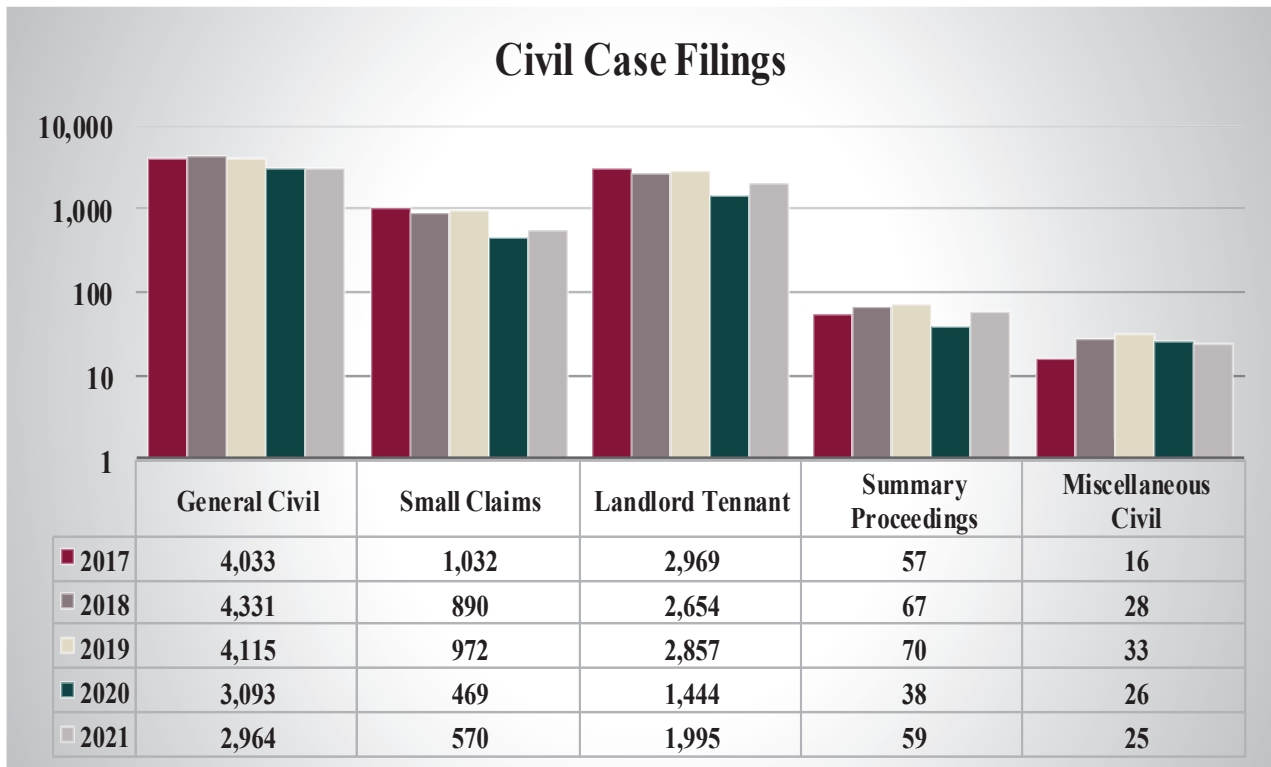
The Civil Division is dedicated to processing cases that involve controversies that arise between individuals, businesses, or institutions. Someone is being sued to protect civil, personal or property rights. The objective of the civil case is restoration of the parties involved, most commonly through monetary damages, orders for action, and judgments restoring property to a rightful owner. This is accomplished through General Civil, Claim and Delivery, Small Claims, Landlord Tenant, and Land Contract case filings.

As the COVID-19 virus continued to spread in 2021, the protocols established in 2020 by The Michigan State Court Administrator's Office (SCAO), Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the Federal Government, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) directing the courts on how to advance court cases continued to challenge the processes, workload, and dockets of the Civil Division into 2021. The case type most affected was Landlord Tenant.

Though the 12<sup>th</sup> District Court is an established "answer court", requiring the tenant in a suite to file a written answer to request a hearing, the issuance of the SCAO's Administrative Order 2020-17, Priority Treatment, and New Procedures for Landlord/Tenant Cases, halted this practice in 2020 and required all Landlord-Tenant cases be scheduled for an initial pretrial and follow up hearings. This order was again revised in 2021, requiring mandatory adjournments and additional hearings in conjunction with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority's (MSHDA) COVID Emergency Assistance program (CERA).

The July 2021 amendment to Administrative Order 2020-17 directed courts to stay all Landlord Tenant cases in which a tenant in a case has applied for CERA funding through the local MSHDA office. Despite the SCAO's effort to establish a time line for approval/denial and distribution of funds to the property owner, and the hard work of the Community Action Agency (CAA) team, the CERA approval process has proven to be less than efficient. The delays created by tenants, landlords, and the CERA approval process created frustration for landlords, wasted time in court, and cases had to be rescheduled multiple times.

The court continued its established partnership with Southeast Dispute Resolution Services (SeDRS) and Legal Services of South Central Michigan (LSSCM) as allowed under the SCAO Order 2020-17. This partnership helps control the judges' dockets, and allows parties to negotiate a possible conditional dismissal that works for all involved. SeDRS facilitates the required pretrial, advises parties of their rights, and attempts to mediate the cases. LSSCM meets with tenants who choose and qualify for legal representation, and Community Action Agency (CAA) participates to assist parties with funding for past due rents, electric/gas bills, and water bills. All cases move forward to a hearing and bench-trial unless both parties have attorney representation and reach a settlement agreement. This partnership resulted in three hundred sixty (360) settlement agreements. Helping tenants avoid having judgments for possession on their rental histories.

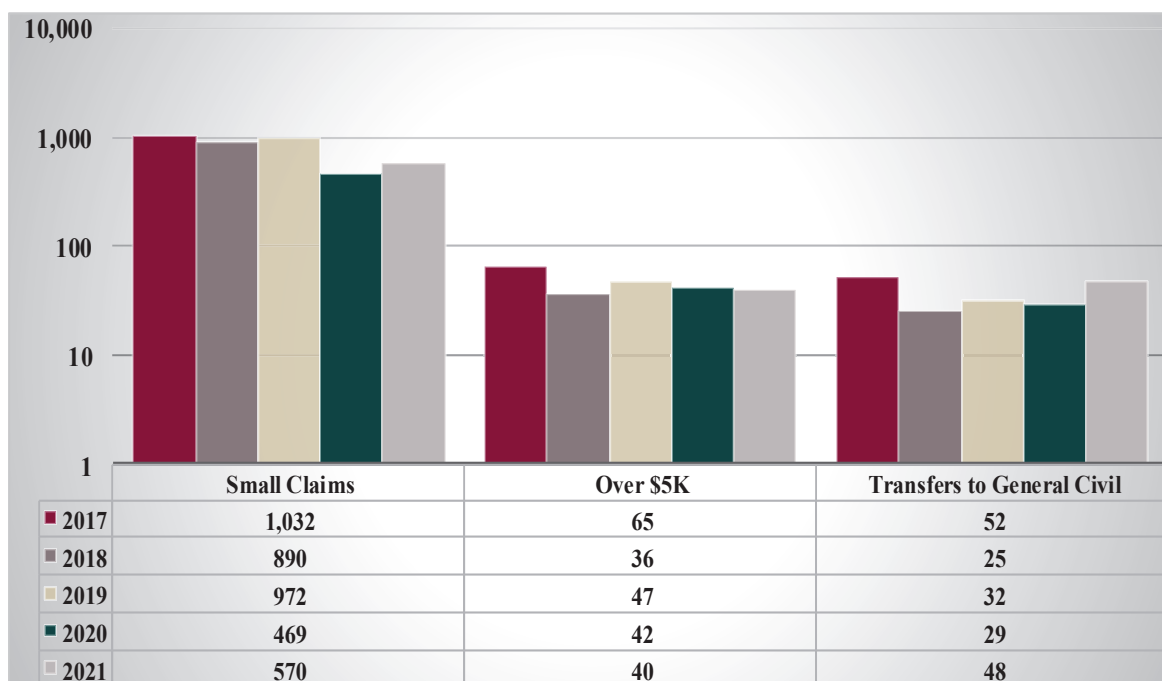


Total new caseload increased by 543 cases in 2021 compared to 2020. Small Claims, Landlord Tenant and Summary Proceeding case types increased while Claim and Delivery and General Civil case types saw a slight decrease.

The Civil Division Clerks facilitated civil hearings each week in their respective courtrooms, and scheduled more than seven thousand (7,000) landlord-tenant court hearings, five hundred (500) General Civil/Claim and Delivery court hearings, and almost sixty (60) Summary Proceeding (Land Contract) hearings. The division processed more than five thousand (5,000) new suits, almost three thousand (3,000) judgments and over two thousand (2,000) dismissals. Additional casework activity processed by the clerks included over twenty-five hundred (2,500) orders, over four hundred (400) petitions, over two thousand (2,000) notices, over fifteen hundred (1,500) motions, over ten thousand (10,000) garnishments, over one thousand (1,000) garnishment proofs-of-service, over thirty-three hundred (3,300) garnishment disclosures, and over five hundred (500) writs of eviction and seizure of property.



## Small Claims



In 2020, the Michigan Small Claims Court’s maximum jurisdictional limit increased from \$5,000 to \$6,500, as per former Governor Snyder’s legislation signed in 2012. The court saw a slight increase in case filings for 2021 compared to 2020.

In a few small claims cases, parties may choose to hire an attorney and/or request a case transfer to a General Civil case type. No longer adjudicated by the Magistrate, these cases are assigned to one of the four District Court Judges and proceed accordingly. In 2021, we saw an increase in this practice compared to 2020. This may be a direct result of court access and the slight increase in filings.

## Wedding Ceremonies

The Civil Division has the pleasure of hosting civil marriage ceremonies. The magistrate handles the majority of the weddings in his courtroom although, on occasion, a District Court judge will be called on to lead the nuptials. In 2021, the 12<sup>th</sup> District Court was the site of 114 weddings. This was a slight increase compared to the 91 weddings hosted in 2020.



*Kelly Purucker-King, Court Recorder  
Shane Trudell, Court Officer  
Teresa Heisler, Court Recorder  
Kayla Ward, Court Officer  
Shellie Sanders, Court Recorder  
Lynn Cavanaugh, Court Officer  
Kamari Scott, Court Recorder  
Robert Noppe, Court Officer  
Karmen Haney, Casework Coordinator  
Barb Patterson, Casual*

## Judicial/Courtroom



*Back Row L to R: Teresa Heisler, Kelly Purucker-King, Kamari Scott, Karmen Haney, Robert Noppe, Shane Trudell  
Front Row L to R: Kayla Ward, Lynn Cavanaugh, Barb Patterson, Shellie Sanders*



*James Hunt, Alternative Sentencing Officer  
Scott Vitale, Probation Officer  
Kimberly Colligan, Probation Officer  
Jason Crawford, Probation Officer  
Tiffany Scott, Probation Officer  
Chuck Brant, Warrant Enforcement Officer  
Chris Johnston, Warrant Enforcement Officer  
Pam Nebelung, Deputy Clerk  
Cary Brant, Deputy Clerk  
Lisa Harms, Deputy Clerk*

## **Probation/Enforcement**



*Back Row L to R: Jason Crawford, Jim Hunt, Chuck Brant, Chris Johnston, Scott Vitale  
Front Row L to R: Cary Brant, Lisa Harms, Pam Nebelung, Kimberly Colligan, Tiffany Scott*



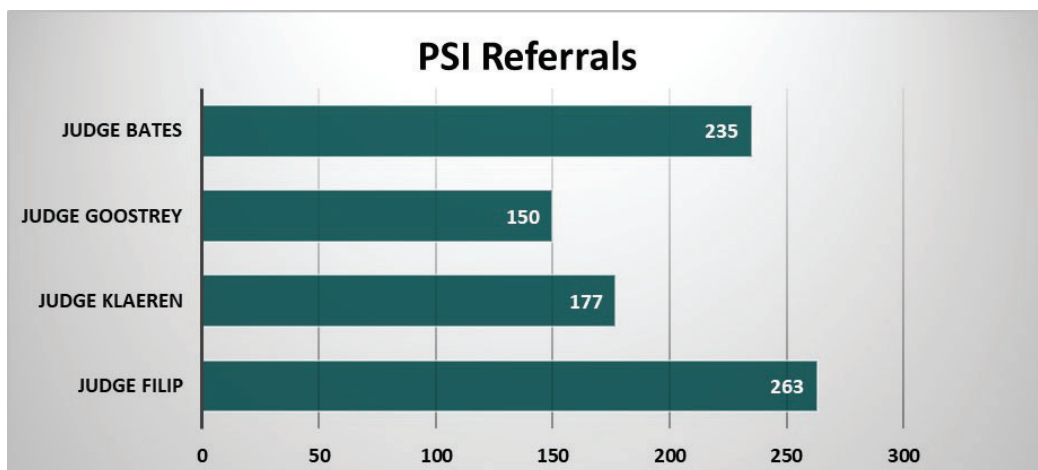
## 12th District Court Probation Division

Probation is a sentence that allows the defendant to live in the community under the supervision of a probation officer. The sentencing judge makes this decision after careful study of the defendant's background, behavior, and potential for success. It is based on the philosophy that the rehabilitation of some defendants might be hampered by incarceration and will be supported and encouraged by placement back into the community under supervision.

Probation officers serve as mentors and authority figures to those they supervise. They meet with defendants on a regular basis to assess their drug/alcohol use, determine their desire to remain free, monitor their rehabilitative requirements and payments to the court, and provide professional advice and direction. This keeps the community safe and, often times, creates productive members of society.

One of the primary responsibilities of a probation officer is to prepare a presentence report for the sentencing judge. Presentence reports begin with a Basic Information Sheet that details the defendant's family, employment, education, physical/mental health history, and criminal history. The probation officer then prepares an evaluation and plan detailing the aspects of the offense, defendant's version of events and other pertinent information. At the conclusion of the report, the probation officer makes a sentence recommendation based on the aforementioned information and impressions from the presentence investigation interview.

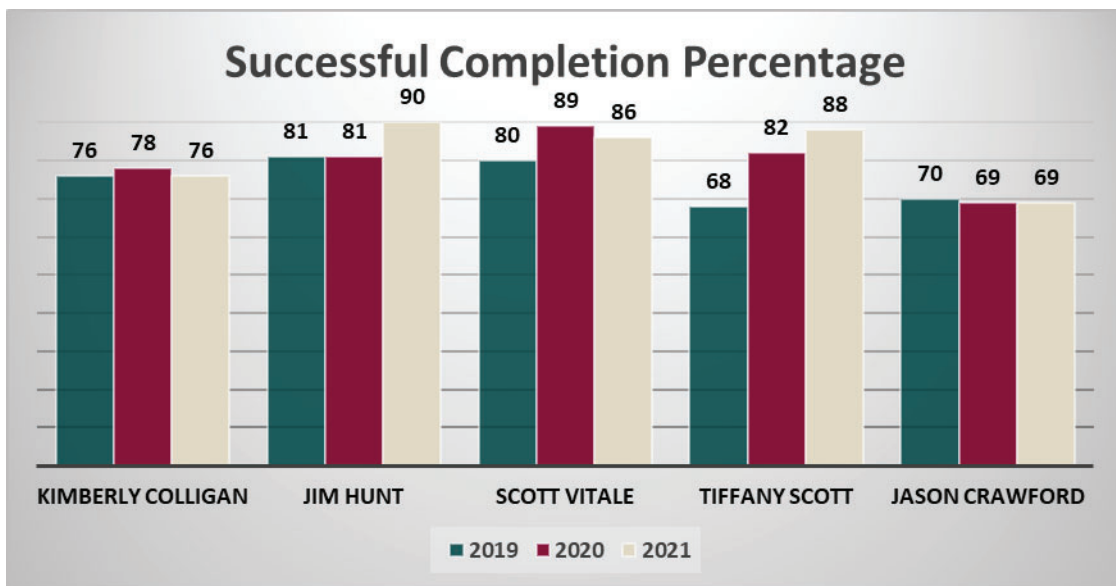
In 2021, probation officers conducted 825 presentence investigations. This represents an increase from the previous year. A yearly comparison is contained in the Appendix section - Probation Pre-Sentence Report. Below is a chart illustrating the number of presentence investigation referrals by judge for the year 2021.



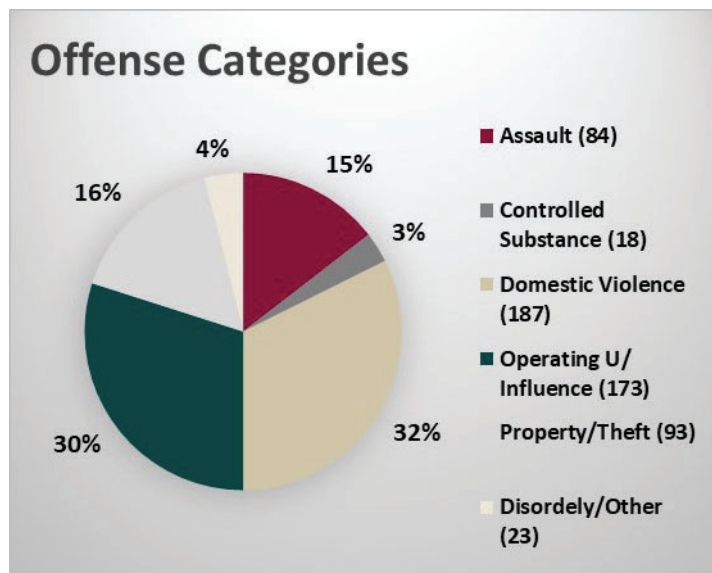
Current probation officer caseloads, compared to previous years, are allowing probation officers more time to be proactive instead of reactive. More one-on-one time is being spent assisting defendants with case management opportunities – counseling, completing job applications and resumes, obtaining medical and financial benefits, and exploring medical and treatment options.



Below is a chart illustrating the successful completion rate of each probation officer. These percentages alone are not an accurate measure of the officers' effectiveness. This year the departmental success rate was 83% which is the sixth consecutive year that rate has increased.



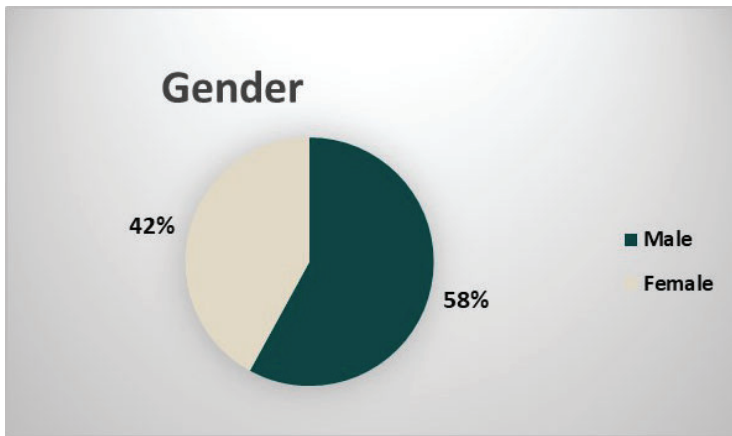
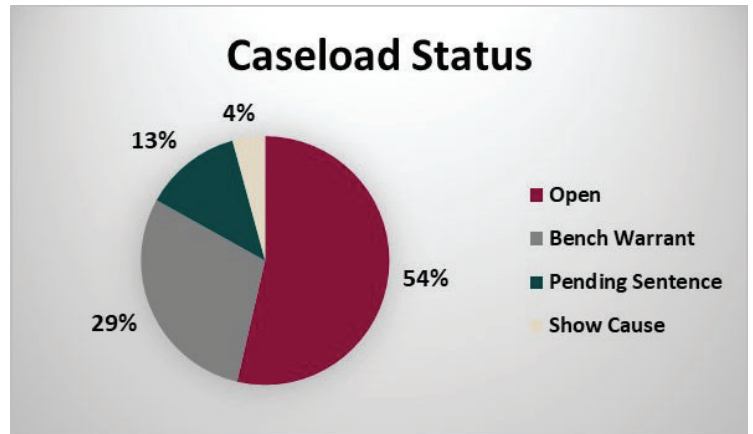
*The figures at right represent the number of defendants (578) under 12<sup>th</sup> District Court Probation supervision, including all status categories, on 12/31/2021.*





### Caseload Status Breakdown

355	Open
195	Bench Warrant
84	Pending Sentence
27	Show Causes



### Caseload Gender Breakdown

335	Men
243	Women

## SCRAM & GPS

Two thousand twenty-one marked the fourth full year the 12<sup>th</sup> District Court Probation Department has utilized SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) ankle tethers to monitor defendants who suffer from significant alcohol-related issues. The tether is fitted around the ankle and analyzes the defendant’s perspiration for traces of alcohol. The tether provides 24/7 monitoring and violations are uncovered when the device is downloaded. Currently, defendants are required to download once a week. The Probation Department is renting the tethers through Judicial Services Group and is responsible for placement, maintenance, and supervision of the devices.

The 12<sup>th</sup> District Court Probation Department received a total of 115 referrals to SCRAM and 4 referrals to GPS from the four 12<sup>th</sup> District Court judges during 2021. The utilization of SCRAM led to the saving of 12,927 jail bed days with a total savings of \$581,715 (calculated at \$45 per day). The utilization of GPS led to the saving of 1,372 jail bed days with a total saving of \$62,010.



## Community Service

Two thousand twenty-one also marked the fourth full year of the 12<sup>th</sup> District Court Probation Department's community service program, and 116 defendants were sentenced to the community service program resulting in \$58,860 in jail bed savings. A total number of 1,308 community service days were completed at various non-profit and county agencies. At a calculation of \$10 per hour, the financial benefit to the County was \$15,700 and \$49,720 to local non-profits.

## Aggression Court

The 12<sup>th</sup> District Aggression Court completed its seventeenth year in 2021. This specialty court is dedicated to reducing the number of domestic violence incidents in Jackson County through a coordinated effort, which focuses on safety and accountability. The court works toward the establishment of consistent practices and policies that do not perpetuate the dynamics of power and control found in abusive relationships. The court strives to dispense equal justice in all domestic violence matters under the court's jurisdiction in a prompt and efficient manner. Upon initial contact with police, the victim is given a pamphlet that explains the court process and contains numbers to various community programs. The pamphlet was designed, with the assistance of the Jackson County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, to educate the victim immediately following police interaction.

All aggression cases are assigned to the Judge Allison Bates. At arraignment, the defendant is subject to a "no contact" bond provision. That provision is not lifted unless the victim appears before Judge Bates to request it be reviewed. Judge Bates grants the request if she believes the victim is acting on his/her own accord and is free of any threats. This is another way to provide additional safety to the victim.

Once the defendant pleads or is found guilty of the charge, he/she is referred to the probation department for a presentence interview. The department has two officers, Kimberly Colligan and Jason Crawford, dedicated to supervising this caseload. The officer investigates the defendant's background and criminal record, along with his/her version of the offense. The officer then contacts the victim to obtain additional information relating to the offense and any other domestic violence events. This is another opportunity for the probation officer to assist the victim in understanding the court process and community resources, along with determining if any restitution is owed to the victim.

At sentencing, the defendant is typically placed on probation for at least 15 months and is required to successfully complete a batterer's intervention program. The court coordinates with Recovery Technologies for therapy. While success ultimately depends on the defendant's willingness to change, these batterer's intervention programs are the court's foundation. Program length ranges from 26 to 52 weeks, depending on the defendant's needs.

Along with being supervised by their probation officer, defendants also attend periodic review sessions before Judge Bates to ensure compliance and gain recognition. This year the court successfully graduated 56 defendants, bringing the total to 1,353 successful graduates since inception.



In addition to domestic violence offenses, the Aggression Court handles all other assault, stalking, child abuse, malicious destruction of property and resisting and opposing cases. One hundred and eighty-three (183) aggression cases were referred to the probation department for a presentence investigation in 2021.

## Mental Health Court

An era came to a close in 2021, as the Jackson County Mental Health Court discontinued service. The Jackson County Mental Health Court (MHC) held its first court session in July 2008. Over the last thirteen years, this specialty court was devoted to improving public safety, reducing recidivism, and enhancing the quality of life among mentally ill defendants.

The MHC accepted misdemeanor and felony offenses. Judge Klaeren served as both a District and Circuit Court Judge. This meant Judge Klaeren was able to preside over felony cases that were accepted into the Mental Health Court. Requirements for the Mental Health Court included, but were not limited to, the following:

1. Individual is 18 years or older and a resident of Jackson County
2. Individual has the capacity to understand the requirements of the Mental Health Court Program and voluntarily agrees to participate in the Mental Health Court Program
3. Individual has a diagnosis of severe, persistent mental illness
4. Individual does not have a developmental disability or diagnosis of Anti-Social Personality Disorder
5. Individual is not on parole
6. Individual has committed any misdemeanor or felony offense with maximum penalty of up to 5 years of imprisonment. CSC and Child Abuse 3<sup>rd</sup> degree are not eligible charges.

Defendants sought admittance through an application process. In addition, anyone could complete an application on the defendant's behalf (family members, arresting officer, and jail personnel). Regardless of who completed the application, the defendant had to agree to participate. If the defendant did not agree, he/she was not considered for the program.

If the defendant met the above requirements, and was willing to participate, a formal mental assessment was conducted. An assessment report was generated and reviewed by a "Treatment Team." The Treatment Team was comprised of the Judge, Prosecuting Attorney, representative defense attorney, Allegiance Hospital representative, Lifeway's representatives, social worker, District and Circuit Court Probation Officers and the program coordinator. The Treatment Team met the first and third Tuesdays of the month to discuss new applications and current defendants.

Once sentenced, the defendant was placed on a term of probation with specific requirements. Requirement examples included following treatment plans, taking medication as prescribed, refraining from the use of drugs and alcohol, attending bi-weekly review hearings, and anything else deemed necessary by Judge Klaeren.



The Michigan Mental Health Court Grant Program (MMHCGP) is administered by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) to provide courts and community mental health services programs funding to plan and implement these specialty courts.

Treatment was provided through a partnership with the local community mental health provider, Lifeways, Inc. It included access to psychiatrists, therapists, case managers, medication and substance abuse treatment. Many participants could not afford these services without the funding provided by the grant.

During 2021, the MHC discharged 21 participants. Of those discharged, 52% were successful, 48% non-compliant. The average participant age was 32 yrs. and males represented 67% of the participants. Thirty-six cases were referred to MHC and the probation department referred 33% of those new cases.

## Drug Testing

The Probation Department conducts random drug tests on those sentenced to probation. For controlled substance offenses, defendants are required to submit to a minimum of two tests during their probationary term. The department conducted 42 random drug tests in 2021. Approximately 78% tested positive for at least one drug, with marijuana being the most prevalent. The five-panel drug tests detect for the presence of benzodiazepines, cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamines and opiates.

In addition to in-house testing, the court continued utilizing the services of Alcohol Drug Administrative Monitoring, Inc. (ADAM) located on the first floor of the courthouse. When defendants enroll in ADAM, they are issued a letter that corresponds to their testing frequency. ADAM places a message on the defendant's voice-mail at 5 a.m., instructing those whose last name begins with a certain letter, to report for testing. Defendants are able to test from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Holidays and weekends are morning only.

A total of 180 defendants were referred, resulting in 1,169 tests. Thirty-six percent (39%) of those referred violated by testing positive or failing to test when directed.

## Technology

Probation and Warrant Enforcement departments are working together to apprehend active absconders and people in warrant status with District Court. Warrant Officer, Chris Johnston, is adding photos and personal information of absconders to the Court's website (d12.com) and Facebook (12<sup>th</sup> District Court). Currently, over 10,765 people are following us on Facebook. Additionally, the Court has 211 Twitter followers and 278 Instagram followers as of December 2021.

Utilizing these three social media platforms, the warrant office was able to receive tips anonymously from the public, which resulted in several arrests and many offenders turning themselves in to the court. Living in a technology driven society, District Court is able to maintain an open line of communication with the public. With the simple touch of a smart phone, the public is able to access pictures, warrants and other information in the palm of their hands.



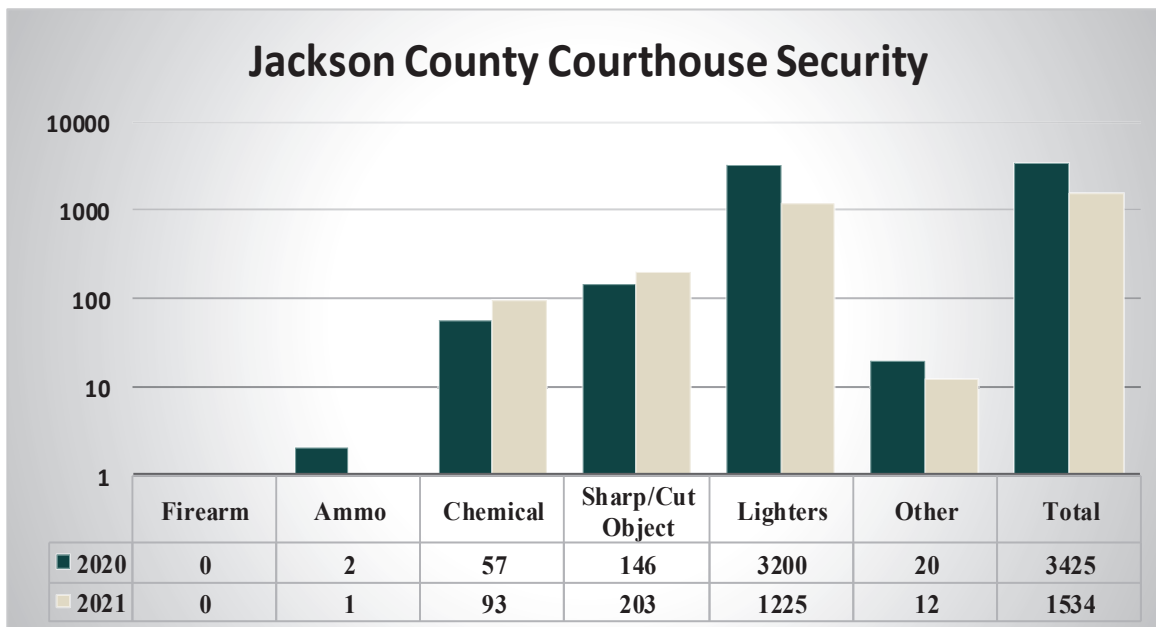
With Covid-19 still playing a major part in our society and the court system, the arrest and lodging of offenders was significantly reduced due to continuous outbreaks of the virus in our jail. There were restrictions and several other factors that played a role, but the use of this technology aided in clearing over 2000 warrants issues by the District Court.

## Adjourn to Pay/Warrant Enforcement

Two thousand twenty-one was the first year that the Collection Department was dissolved. Collection efforts were transferred to court officers to oversee a caseload and an additional warrant officer was added. The four Court Officers had a combined total of just over \$1,000,000 in collected fines and costs. The two Warrant Officers added an additional \$200,000 in collected fines and costs, arrested 558 individuals, and cleared 2158 warrants.

## Security and Weapons Screening

In 2021, no major incidents occurred at the Jackson County Courthouse. Each month, Securitas, who provides security personnel for the courthouse, submits a monthly report tallying certain items that members of the public have attempted to bring into the courthouse. These items are categorized within the monthly reports and summarized in a year-end security report. The report below summarizes weapons identified by security in 2021.





# OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## 2021 Financial Reports

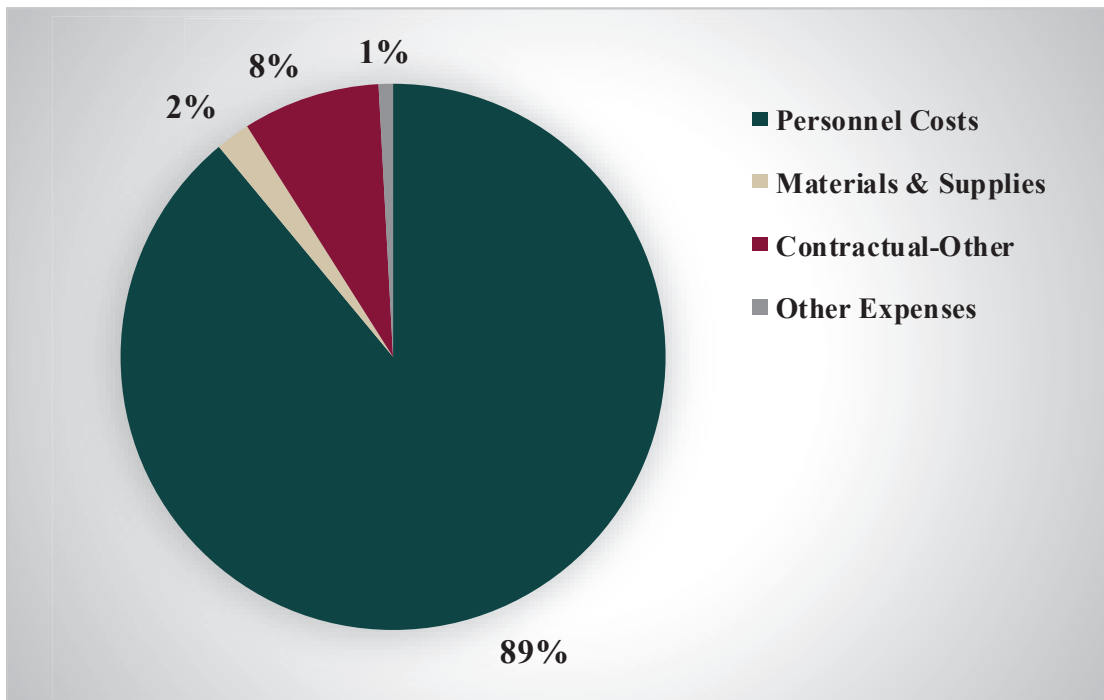
### General Fund Revenue

REVENUE	2021	2020	DIFFERENCE
Probation Oversight	\$160,666	\$143,069	\$17,597
Probation Pre-Sentence Fees	\$66,005	\$59,819	\$6,186
Probation Screening & Assessment	\$49,989	\$47,763	\$2,226
Tether & Community Service Fees	\$83,060	\$99,466	-\$16,406
Civil Fees	\$311,228	\$294,589	\$16,639
Miscellaneous Fees	\$302,424	\$294,629	\$7,795
Bonds Forfeited	\$5,500	\$12,650	-\$7,150
Ordinance Fines & Costs	\$360,098	\$355,238	\$4,860
Court Costs	\$1,033,046	\$939,707	\$93,339
G2G Electronic Payments	\$29,875	\$25,886	\$3,989
ID Cards	\$895	\$905	-\$10
Fingerprint Fees	\$6,983	\$5,170	\$1,813
Pre-Trial Services	\$49,003	\$53,094	-\$4,091
Drug Tests (Reimbursed)	\$1,077	\$1,797	-\$720
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2,459,849</b>	<b>\$2,333,782</b>	<b>\$126,067</b>



## Expenditures: General Fund, Capital Equipment & Projects, Public Defender

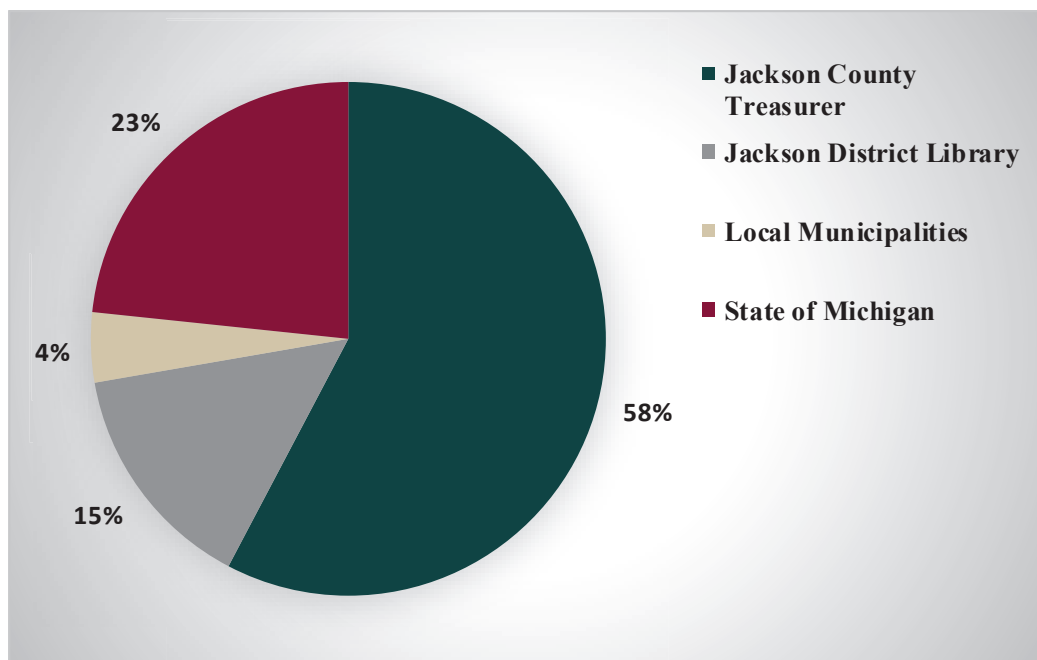
EXPENSE	2021	2020	DIFFERENCE
Personnel Costs	\$3,167,154	\$3,160,754	\$6,400
Materials & Supplies	\$72,540	\$85,481	-\$12,941
Contractual - Other	\$290,045	\$265,259	\$24,786
Other Expenses	\$30,307	\$26,132	\$4,175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,560,046</b>	<b>\$3,537,626</b>	<b>\$22,420</b>





## Disbursement of Revenue Collected by the Court

AGENCY	AMOUNT		DIFFERENCE
	2021	2020	
<b>Jackson County Treasurer</b>	\$2,559,410	\$2,423,698	\$135,712
<b>Jackson District Library</b>	\$645,923	\$443,390	\$202,533
<b>Local Municipalities</b>	\$195,187	\$190,402	\$4,793
<b>State of Michigan</b>	\$1,035,000	\$979,506	\$55,494
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,435,520</b>	<b>\$4,036,996</b>	<b>\$398,524</b>





## Disbursement of Revenue to the State of Michigan

<b>REVENUE CATEGORY</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
<b>Civil Filing Fund</b>	\$212,360	\$194,218	\$18,142
<b>State Court Fund</b>	\$16,345	\$15,400	\$945
<b>Justice System Fund</b>	\$478,374	\$469,109	\$9,265
<b>Juror Compensation</b>	\$38,867	\$34,099	\$4,768
<b>Crime Victims Rights</b>	\$185,001	\$178,068	\$6,933
<b>Judicial Electronic Filing</b>	\$53,420	\$49,035	\$4,385
<b>MI State Police Reimbursement</b>	\$1,508	\$1,852	-\$344
<b>Conservation Fees</b>	\$8,626	\$2,820	\$5,806
<b>Secretary of State - Clearance</b>	\$40,447	\$34,643	\$5,804
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,034,948</b>	<b>\$979,244</b>	<b>\$55,704</b>



## Disbursement of Monies Collected by the Court to Local Municipalities

<b>TOWNSHIPS</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
<b>Blackman Township</b>	\$43,572	\$47,093	-\$3,521
<b>City of Jackson</b>	\$85,304	\$79,666	\$5,638
<b>Columbia Township</b>	\$13,277	\$9,795	\$3,482
<b>Concord Village</b>	\$18	\$162	-\$144
<b>Grass Lake Township</b>	\$313	\$0	\$313
<b>Grass Lake Village</b>	\$252	\$679	-\$427
<b>Henrietta Township</b>	\$465	\$1,321	-\$856
<b>Leoni Township</b>	\$16,578	\$19,318	-\$2,740
<b>Napoleon Township</b>	\$5,451	\$9,949	-\$4,498
<b>Norvell Township</b>	\$4	\$0	\$4
<b>Parma Township</b>	\$765	\$638	\$127
<b>Rives Township</b>	\$1,381	\$88	\$1,293
<b>Sandstone Township</b>	\$972	\$1,267	-\$295
<b>Spring Arbor Township</b>	\$1,850	\$1,893	-\$43
<b>Springport Township</b>	\$14,397	\$4,979	\$9,418
<b>Summit Township</b>	\$10,499	\$13,493	-\$2,994
<b>Tompkins Township</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Waterloo Township</b>	\$89	\$54	\$35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$195,187</b>	<b>\$190,395</b>	<b>\$4,792</b>

# 12<sup>th</sup> District Court Awards

## *Employee of the Year*



Annually, the 12<sup>th</sup> District Court celebrates two employees; one as the Employee of the Year and the other as the ‘Sparkplug’ employee. Fellow employees submit Employee of the Year nominations of their co-workers that highlight D12’s values: Professionalism, Customer Service, Attendance/Punctuality, Internal/External Activity Participation, Teamwork, and Professional Development.

Court Administration then evaluates the nominations and selects the finalist. This year, Probation Officer Jim Hunt was selected as Employee of the Year! Jim is a 21-year veteran with the District Court, having worked as an Intensive Supervision Probation Officer and currently as the Alternative Sentencing Officer. The first to arrive in his department, Jim is extremely knowledgeable in his job, actively lends a hand, and offers help to whomever needs it. Jim builds great relationships with co-workers

as well as those ordered to Community Service and/or Tether. Jim is also actively involved with Michigan Center athletics, where his kids attend school. Thank you, Jim, for representing D12’s values!

Employee of the Year Nominees include: Tiffany Scott, Kimberly Colligan, Pam Nebelung, Jaislyn Williams, Jamie Paksi, Julie Williams, Kourtney Hubbert, and Beth Stroup

## *Spark Plug Award*

Additionally, Court Administration selects one employee who has demonstrated that ‘spark’ within the team throughout the previous year. This year’s Sparkplug recipient was Chuck Brant. Chuck has been a police officer for over 20 years with the City of Jackson and Springport Township. He joined D12 almost 3 years ago as a court officer. Currently, Chuck is back on the road as a Warrant Officer. Chuck is D12’s undercover friendly giant! He is always looking for ways to engage fellow employees with his humor, knowledge of pop culture, songs of the 80’s, brawn, height, and the occasional smile or chuckle. Having the late shift for Warrant Enforcement, Chuck ensures that any staff working late get to their vehicles safely. Thank you Chuck for being that ‘spark’ for team D12!



# COURT DIRECTORY

## *JUDGES*

*Honorable Daniel A. Goostrey, Chief Judge*

*Honorable Michael J. Klaeren, Chief Judge Pro Tem*

*Honorable Allison Bates*

*Honorable Joseph S. Filip*

---

## ***ADMINISTRATION***

Tamara J. Bates, Court Administrator

Jeremy Burns, Deputy Court Administrator

Cynthia Southworth, Administrative Services Manager

Kelly Weeks, Administrative Services Manager

Kathleen C. Ellis, Court Services Manager - Traffic/Criminal Dept.

Eva Paluck, Court Services Manager - Civil Dept.

Richard Dase, Chief Probation Officer

## ***JUDICIAL SUPPORT DIVISION***

Fred Bishop, Magistrate

Teresa Heisler, Court Recorder

Shellie Sanders, Court Recorder

Kelly Purucker-King, Court Recorder

Kamari Scott, Court Recorder

## ***TRAFFIC/CRIMINAL DIVISION***

Jami Paksi, Deputy Clerk

Julie Wartella, Deputy Clerk

Jessica Tucker, Deputy Clerk

Sara Woodard, Deputy Clerk

Linda Chamberlin, Deputy Clerk

Taneshia Tanner, Deputy Clerk

Kourtney Hubbert, Deputy Clerk

Angela Warnsley, Casual File Clerk

LaToya Scroggins, Casual Records Clerk

Sarah Beadenkopf, Casual Deputy Clerk



## ***CIVIL DIVISION***

Lori Pratt, Deputy Clerk

Julie Williams, Deputy Clerk

Luanne Mehelich, Deputy Clerk

Jaislyn Williams, Deputy Clerk

Beth Stroup, Deputy Clerk

Karen Tucker, Casual

## ***ENFORCEMENT/SECURITY DIVISION***

Chuck Brant, Warrant Officer

Chris Johnston, Warrant Officer

Karmen Haney, Casework Coordinator

Lynn Cavanaugh, Court Officer

Kayla Ward, Court Officer

Robert Noppe, Court Officer

Shane Trudell, Court Officer

Barb Patterson, Casual

## ***PROBATION DIVISION***

Lisa Harms, Deputy Clerk

Pam Nebelung, Deputy Clerk

Cary Brant, Deputy Clerk

James Hunt, Alternative Sentencing Officer

Scott Vitale, Probation Officer

Kimberly Colligan, Probation Officer

Tiffany Scott, Probation Officer

Jason Crawford, Probation Officer

Joe Hankis, Mental Health Court Grant Mgr.



# APPENDIX

---

Probation Pre-Sentence Report

Caseload Totals

Community Service

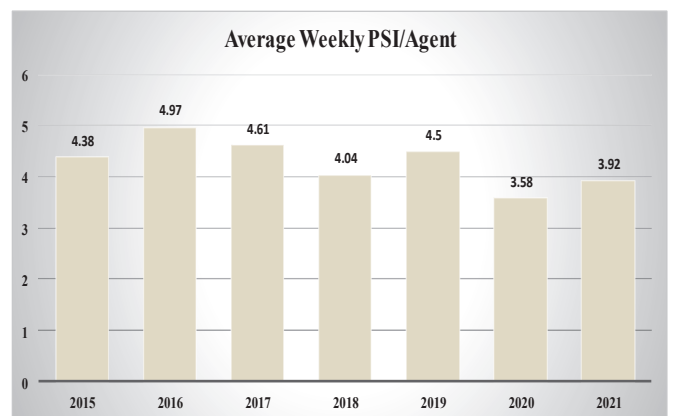
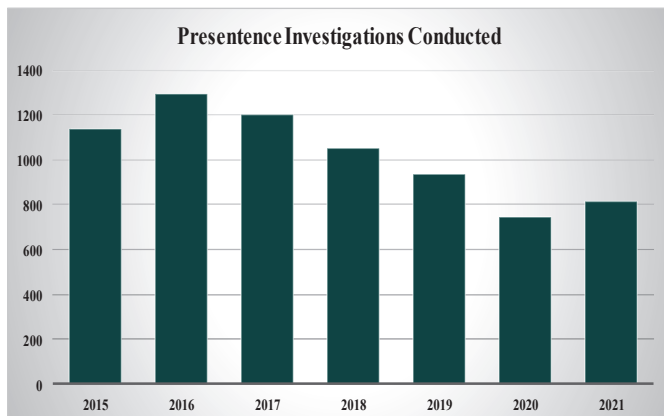
SCRAM

GPS Tether Report



## 12th District Court Probation Presentence Investigations

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>% Diff</u> <u>'20-'21</u>	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Case/Agent</u>
<b>Jan</b>	85	110	86	121	79	77	65	-15.58%	16.25
<b>Feb</b>	85	108	79	81	78	63	62	-1.59%	15.50
<b>Mar</b>	100	136	113	81	72	94	89	-5.32%	22.25
<b>Apr</b>	96	111	104	102	88	46	65	41.30%	16.25
<b>May</b>	72	128	107	79	86	3	78	2500%	19.50
<b>Jun</b>	108	136	124	95	77	54	75	38.89%	18.75
<b>Jul</b>	114	85	86	84	81	59	53	-10.17%	13.25
<b>Aug</b>	93	140	121	81	73	78	56	-28.21%	14.00
<b>Sep</b>	104	93	96	78	76	62	78	25.81%	19.50
<b>Oct</b>	108	91	110	121	86	87	64	-26.44%	16.00
<b>Nov</b>	79	94	119	80	70	71	72	1.41%	18.00
<b>Dec</b>	95	61	54	48	70	50	58	16%	14.50
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1139</b>	<b>1293</b>	<b>1199</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>815</b>		





## Caseload History Report

### Year - 2021

Month	Criminal	Traffic	Civil	Totals
January	264	981	382	1627
February	223	897	407	1527
March	253	1466	509	2228
April	223	1224	468	1915
May	233	1069	412	1714
June	288	1587	463	2338
July	299	1310	438	2047
August	232	1392	542	2166
September	296	1275	427	1998
October	252	965	564	1781
November	257	1026	567	1850
December	278	1208	434	1920
<b>Year - 2020</b>	<b>3098</b>	<b>14400</b>	<b>5613</b>	<b>23111</b>

Month	Criminal	Traffic	Civil	Totals
January	332	1476	619	2427
February	258	1151	540	1949
March	187	759	198	1144
April	386	375	102	863
May	259	591	83	933
June	307	1010	226	1543
July	281	1277	326	1884
August	361	1338	409	2108
September	300	1382	385	2067
October	275	1178	444	1897
November	182	1166	372	1720
December	259	1084	553	1896
	<b>3387</b>	<b>12787</b>	<b>4257</b>	<b>20431</b>



## **COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT**

### **December 2021**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Judge YTD
<b>Klaeren</b>	2	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	13
<b>Goostrey</b>	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	8
<b>Bates</b>	2	2	2	1	2	2	4	1	2	2	0	1	21
<b>Filip</b>	9	3	10	0	8	20	7	8	5	2	2	0	74
<b>Circuit Court</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>116</b>

<b>HOURS/DAYS COMPLETED</b>		
	Month	Year
<b>Hours</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Days</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1,308</b>

<b>JAIL BED DAYS SAVED</b>	
<b>\$\$ CALCULATED AT \$45/DAY</b>	
Month	Year
<b>116</b>	<b>1,308</b>
<b>\$5,220</b>	<b>\$58,860</b>

<b>FINANCIAL BENEFIT</b>		
<b>\$\$ calculated at \$10 per/hour</b>		
<b>County</b>	<b>\$ 200</b>	<b>\$ 15,700</b>
<b>Non- profit</b>	<b>\$ 5,600</b>	<b>\$ 49,720</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 5,800</b>	<b>\$ 65,420</b>



**SCRAM REPORT**  
**December 2021**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Judge YTD
<b>Klaeren</b>	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	4	0	4	0	3	16
<b>Goostrey</b>	7	4	2	2	5	1	2	3	2	2	2	3	35
<b>Bates</b>	2	3	3	1	0	0	3	3	2	0	2	2	21
<b>Filip</b>	4	1	4	3	1	2	3	4	4	5	2	1	34
<b>Pre-Trial</b>	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	9
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>115</b>

<b>FINANCIAL</b>		
	Month	Year
<b>Expended</b>	<b>\$10,109</b>	<b>\$96,331</b>
<b>Collected</b>	<b>\$14,067</b>	<b>\$139,308</b>

<b>JAIL BED DAYS SAVED</b>	
<b>\$\$ CALCULATED AT \$45/DAY</b>	
Month	Year
<b>\$1,256</b>	<b>\$12,927</b>
<b>\$56,520</b>	<b>\$581,715</b>

<b>VIOLATIONS</b>		
	Month	Year
<b>Tamper</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Alcohol</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Abscond</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>COMPLETIONS</b>	
Month	Year
<b>8</b>	<b>116</b>



## *2021 GPS TETHER REPORT*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Judge YTD
<b>Klaeren</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Goostrey</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Bates</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Filip</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Pre-Trial</b>	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>FINANCIAL</b>		
	Month	Year
<b>Expended</b>	<b>\$1,917</b>	<b>\$12,690</b>
<b>Collected</b>	<b>\$1,812</b>	<b>\$62,010</b>

<b>JAIL BED DAYS SAVED \$\$ CALCULATED AT \$45/DAY</b>	
Month	Year
<b>213</b>	<b>1378</b>
<b>\$9,858</b>	<b>\$62,010</b>



---

## 12th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

312 South Jackson Street

Jackson, MI 49201

(517) 788-4260

[www.d12.com](http://www.d12.com)

