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MARIETTA MUNICIPAL COURT

MUNICIPAL COURT
MARIETTA, OHIO

WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

ANNUAL REPORT

-2014-



For the Period:
January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

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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

Building Lobby

The Court Administrator conducted outreach in the local community. Displays in 2014 included a photo display of East Coast Lighthouses, art displays from Frontier High School and Marietta Middle School, and designs from elementary school "Lego Engineers."

The Court Administrator, Probation Officer Ferrell and Marietta College interns collaborated on a Veterans project which displayed photos from City employees who are veterans as well as relatives of employees who are veterans. The resulting project remained displayed for two months. Many employees and their families, as well as members of the general public, witnessed the scope of commitment by City employees to their military heritage as shown by this display.

Capital Replacement Program and Technological Improvements

The Court again 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.

Planning for Public Safety

Chief Probation Officer Willson worked with the Marietta Police Development to implement the second phase of ALICE training. This phase involved training both Court and Law Director Staff.

Courtroom Upgrade

The bench in Courtroom B was originally finished with drywall and wood trim. Jeff Ferrell, husband of Probation Officer Melanie Ferrell, upgraded the bench in Courtroom B by installing paneling left over from the original renovation project.

Retired Law Director Roland W. "Chips" Riggs III presented a Scales of Justice Plaque to the Municipal Court. This Plaque was purchased by his father, the late Judge Roland W. Riggs II. Judge Riggs served as Marietta City Solicitor from 1958 to 1963 and as Common Pleas Judge from 1975 – 1985. This plaque is now installed behind the bench in Courtroom B.

Weddings

The Court officiated twenty-five weddings in 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Dyar Welch, Judge

CIVIL DIVISION

A. New Filings – Comparative Table

Type	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Civil	697	664	893	951	1,023
Small Claims	121	128	163	219	222

B. Hearings – Comparative Table

Held By:	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Judge	38	87	90	116	108
Magistrate Small Claims	69	88	102	155	149

C. Receipts and Expenditures

Payee	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
City – General	70,489.67	77,082.42	86,343.03	92,319.33	91,878.10
Court – Computer	6,384.00	6,080.00	8,168.00	9,192.00	9,645.61
Court – Capital Imp.	11,018.00	10,384.00	14,035.00	15,491.00	16,382.00
Ohio – Legal Aid	18,804.11	17,676.45	23,904.54	26,389.44	28,042.99
Total Disbursements:	106,695.78	111,222.87	132,450.57	143,391.77	145,948.70

CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION

A. New Filings – Five Year Comparative Table

Type Offense	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Felonies	376	381	409	352	343
Misdemeanors	1,550	1,717	1,823	1,795	1,836
OVI	264	330	372	365	334
Other Traffic	8,701	7,960	6,372	6,343	6,441
Total:	10,891	10,388	8,976	8,855	8,954

B. Trials

The Court conducted 71 preliminary hearings on felony cases, 46 court trials on contested traffic and criminal cases and 6 jury trials. These totals do not include motion hearings, probation violations, contempts, or restitution hearings.

C. Criminal/Traffic Receipts and Expenditures – Comparative Table

Payee	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
City of Marietta					
General Fund	477,033.67	450,498.17	400,754.50	400,008.22	416,120.54
Capital Improvement Fund	218,725.89	206,575.67	171,675.37	171,527.13	180,746.10
Court Computer	96,539.14	91,832.00	76,260.00	76,384.93	79,545.60
Indigent Alcohol Fund	16,078.50	16,008.33	15,068.67	16,107.75	14,561.25
City Subtotal:	808,377.20	764,914.17	663,758.54	664,028.03	690,973.49
General Fund	220,272.82	221,713.97	216,146.63	197,407.38	200,231.50
House Arrest	66,506.55	21,181.45	22,487.00	41,612.00	69,124.10
Probation Fees	109,973.85	126,056.45	139,406.83	142,858.20	155,462.05
Law Library	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00
Sheriff	12,063.13	13,962.10	13,938.55	14,880.40	16,490.20
State of Ohio*	604,375.12	596,735.76	524,250.52	527,196.55	506,770.43
Beverly	416.00	860.00	420.00	175.00	180.00
New Matamoras	770.00	355.50	1,237.00	449.00	401.00
Lowell	185.00	365.00	25.00	1,390.00	1,150.00
Macksburg	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Capital Recovery	34,674.18	32,043.12	28,310.26	33,927.68	32,612.78
Belpre	3,277.50	17,100.00	2,995.80	3,676.00	2,964.50
Belpre Police Sub	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
College Law Enf.	150.00	1,155.00	225.00	300.00	150.00
Common Pleas Court	11,891.22	11,514.80	19,260.75	11,821.19	16,003.10
Total Disbursements	1,878,432.57	1,803,457.32	1,637,961.88	1,645,221.43	1,698,013.15

* 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 \$398,489.23 for unpaid fines and costs imposed in calendar year 2014. 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, 2008 are deemed uncollectible but are subject to being reopened if the offender appears in court for another reason.

COST OF OPERATION

General Fund Budget

	2014	2013	2012	2011
General Fund Budget	\$924,166.00	\$873,532.00	\$778,720.00	\$849,798.00
General Fund Actually Spent	\$887,372.00	\$844,827.00	\$769,613.47	\$764,576.77
Amount Under Budget:	\$36,794.00	\$28,705.00	\$9,106.53	\$85,221.23

Payments to the General Fund

Payment from Fines and Cost	\$557,848.00	\$543,571.00	\$508,738.11	\$513,142.70
Payment from Probation Funding	\$176,481.00	\$249,226.00	\$229,230.90	\$218,128.00
Total:	\$734,329.00	\$792,797.00	\$737,969.01	\$731,270.70

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDS

In 2014 the Court expended \$14,240.00 and \$61,444.00 on Henschen Scanning 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.

2014 PROBATION REPORT

The Chief Probation Officer is responsible for building security at the Court Facility. He is aided by three part-time Court Security/Community Control Officers. The security staff screened 39,687 people in 2014, an average of 827 people a week. In addition, the Marietta Police Department and the Washington County Sheriff's Officer Security Division provide a welcome presence during the house of peak public presence.

Offenders worked 3046 hours of community service in lieu of jail for numerous departments, work which is valued at \$24,368.00. The Washington County Jail had 25 inmates work 1,853 hours of supervised community service totaling \$14,592.00 which was credited for court fines.

Case Mangement Services:

Of the 81 served 57 were referred to counseling, 10 were referred to inpatient treatment, 1 was referred to the suboxone program, 25 were referred to the ABLE program for their GED classes, 37 were referred for employment and 23 were referred to Thinking for a Change group.

Thinking for a Change:

Of the 23 people 14 women and 9 men graduated.

Training:

24 Hours training at the Adult Parole & Probation Association conference in Houston, TX.

20 Hours training at the Ohio Chief Probation Officer's In-Line training in Columbus, Ohio

14 Hours training in Effective Practices in Correctional Setting (Epics II) in Medina, Ohio

All Probation staff were re-certified on the Ohio Risk Assessment System for 3 years.

2014 Breakdown of Persons Sentenced to Probation

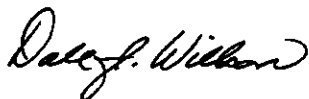
678 persons placed on probation. Probation Violations filed were 77 with 40 revoked.

Gender		Age		Race	
Male	470	18-21	138	White	651
Female	208	22-25	94	Black	24
		26-35	203	Hispanic	0
		36-45	131	Other	3
		46-55	69		
		56+	3		

Probationers by Officer		Conviction	Total
Ferrell	113	DUI	208
E. Brockmeier	122	Property	96
P. Brockmeier	123	Traffic	20
Community Control	320	Domestic Violence	61
		Other	181
Total:	678	Alcohol	55
		Violent/Crimes against Persons	45
		Drug	11
		Sex	1

4 Year Statistical Report

	<u>Year 2011</u>	<u>Year 2012</u>	<u>Year 2013</u>	<u>Year 2014</u>
Urine Test Performed	1083	616	370	396
Positive Urine Test	287	178	126	142
Electronically Monitored House Arrest	21	27	19	12
Jail Beds Saved on EMHA	0	0	381	241
Soberlink	0	0	19	71
SCRAM	46	36	17	
Driver Intervention Program Enrollment	194	170	170	130
Ignition Interlock Program Enrollment	20	22	21	22
Total New Probationers (All Levels)	832	902	719	678
Community Service Hours Worked	7,579	6,770	3,945	3046
Fines Credited for Community Service	\$36,270	\$43,983	\$34,233	\$24,368
Court Ordered for Community Service	2,330	4,920	6,141	5,696
Jail Beds Saved	3,906	3,678	2,414	2,448



Dale J. Willson, Chief Probation Officer