2006 Annual Report



The Akron Municipal Court







JUDGE LYNNE S. CALLAHAN

Presiding /Administrative Judge for 2006

A word from Administrative/Presiding Judge Lynne S. Callahan

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as the Administrative/Presiding Judge in 2006. Our court continues to be a national leader in providing progressive, cost effective, alternatives quality and incarceration and litigation. Two highlights for 2006 include our court being named a national mentor court by the U.S. Bureau of Justice, and the securing of a federal grant to allow for the creation of a DUI Specialty Court. Our Mental Health Court will serve as a mentor court for other courts throughout the country to observe. The DUI Court grant will allow the court to create its fourth specialty court, this one focusing on 2nd and 3rd time DUI offenders.

Akron Municipal Court has already in place a Family Violence Court, Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Driver's Intervention license Program, Mediation Program an Diversion Program. We operate more specialty courts than any other court in the State of Ohio. Our goal in managing these specialty courts is to aggressively address the needs and problems of the offenders while providing the best possible service and protection to the citizens of the Akron Municipal Court District.

Once again, it was a very busy year for the staff of the court. In 2006, 16,043 criminal cases were filed with the court. There were 15, 872 criminal cases disposed. There were 24, 647 traffic cases filed. There were 24,556 traffic cases disposed. There were 15,099 civil cases filed with the court. There were 15,304 civil cases disposed. In 2006, \$60,763 in restitution monies were collected by the court, an increase of nearly 30 percent over the 2005 collections.

The judges of the court continued their efforts throughout the year to work with council and the city administration to address security and facility issues that negatively impact on the ability of the judges to perform their duties and to protect the citizens that they serve. The judges presented an in depth power point to city council focusing on the security and safety issues plaguing the court.

It is my hope that this annual report gives you a quick view of the court and our activity for the last year. If you want additional information please do not hesitate to visit our web site or call us for additional information.





Violence



The Judges

The Court's six judges are attorneys and are required by Ohio law to have practiced law at least six years prior to becoming a judge. The judges are elected on a nonpartisan basis and serve six-year terms. Their role is to supervise the administration of justice in their respective courts and insure that all trials, court hearings, and administrative procedures are fair and just.





JUDGE LYNNE S. CALLAHAN

is a graduate of the University of Akron and the University of Akron School of Law. She has served as an Akron police officer, an Assistant Director of Law and an Assistant Summit County Prosecutor. She was

appointed Judge in May 1997, and elected to the bench in November 1997. She was re-elected to the bench in 2003.



JUDGE ALISON McCARTY

graduated from Wheaton College and Wake Forest University School of Law. She served as an Assistant Summit County prosecutor handling felony criminal cases. She was appointed Judge in May, 1999, and

elected to the bench in November, 1999. She was re-elected to the bench in 2005.



JUDGE JOHN E. HOLCOMB

is a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College and the University of Akron School of Law. In the past, Judge Holcomb served as Director of Law for the City of Akron and also served as a member of

the Ohio State Board of Education as well as the Akron Board of Education.



JUDGE EVE V. BELFANCE

is a native of Akron. Judge Belfance attended the Akron Public Schools and graduated from Firestone High School. She is a graduate of Yale University and Case Western Reserve School of Law, where she served as an associate editor

on the Law Review. Judge Belfance began the practice of law in 1990. Prior to taking the bench, she served as a federal judicial clerk in Washington, D.C. and as an attorney in private practice. Judge Belfance currently serves on the Ohio Judicial Conference Specialized Dockets Committee and the Ohio Judicial Conference Library of Reasoned Orders Editorial Committee.



JUDGE ANNALISA S. WILLIAMS

graduated from Kent State University with an undergraduate degree in political science, and received her masters degree in urban studies. She received her law degree from the University

of Akron Law School. The judge has served on the bench since December 2003.



JUDGE KATHRYN MICHAEL

graduated from the University of Akron School of Law in 1986. She has served our community as a trial attorney, mediator, part-time magistrate and as a volunteer on many non-profit boards, committees,

and commissions. She was elected as judge in November of 2005.

ardee, L.S1920 - 1923	Zook, A.D1944 - 1959	Maxson, R1983 - 1993
larsh, F.G1920 - 1923	McRae, C.B1951 - 1963	Stubbs, H.K1987 - 1989
'Neil, A.F1920 - 1925	Victor, W.H1950 - 1959	Bond, J1989 - 1991
esiger, E.E1924 - 1927	Price, T.R1960 - 1969	Moore, C.D1989 - 2004
Inderwood, A.B1924 - 1925	Koplin, N1960 - 1963	Bayer, E1991 - 1991
avies, G1926 - 1931	Riddle, J.P1962 - 1969	Shapiro, M.A1991 - 2003
loyt, C.C1926 - 1931	Reed, E.J1964 - 1967	Stormer, E.M1991 - 2004
ox, J.E1928 - 1931	VanBerg, H.N1964 - 1975	Callahan, M1993 - 1995
mmons, C.V.D1931 - 1942	Roulhac, J.D1968 - 1987	Carr, D1995 - 1998
oderick, O.M1931 - 1961	Hartnett, R.B1970 - 1981	Holcomb, J.E1996 - present
olopy, S1932 - 1937	McFadden, D.B1970 - 1978	Callahan, L.S1997 - present
/erner, H1932 - 1935	Colopy, R.H1972 - 1995	Unruh, B1998 - 1999
arvey, F.H1932 - 1935	Winter, J.P1976 - 1983	McCarty, A1999 - Present
sham, D.P1935 - 1943	George, J.J1976 - 1983	Stormer, B2003 - 2003
/atters, R.B1936 - 1937	Spicer, W.F1979 - 1981	Williams, A.S2003 - present
avies, G1938 - 1939	Murphy, J.E1980 - 1982	Culver, K2005 - 2005
elly, C.M1938 - 1950	Schneiderman, T1981 - 1991	Boyle, E2005 - 2005
owers, T.M1939 - 1971	Mack, M1983 - 1997	Michael, K2006 - present
acks, C1943 - 1949	Williams, J.R1983 - 1989	Belfance, E.V 2006 - present
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History of Court

In 1910 the legislature established a police court in Akron vested with jurisdiction over offenses under the ordinances of the city and all misdemeanors committed within the limits of Summit County. It was made a court of record and was presided over by an attorney duly admitted to practice in this state.

In 1919 the legislature established the Akron Municipal Court with three sitting judges elected for four-year terms. In 1930 two judgeships were added to the court. In 1939 the legislature reduced the number of judges from five to four. A fifth judge was again made a member of the court in 1967 and the sixth judgeship

was created in 1975. The judges now serve six-year terms.

The court now serves a jurisdiction which includes the cities of Akron and Fairlawn; the townships of Bath, Richfield, and Springfield; the villages of Lakemore and Richfield; and that part of Mogadore in Summit County.

In 1966 the court moved into the City-County Safety Building which was renamed the Harold K. Stubbs Justice Center in 1991 located in downtown Akron. The sitting judges are Judge John E. Holcomb, Lynne S. Callahan, Alison McCarty, Annalisa S. Williams, Kathryn Michael and Eve V. Belfance.



SECURITY

The Supreme Court Review 1 Year Later.

- 1 year has passed since the Supreme Court of Ohio Issued the Physical Security Assessment in which 25 recommendations were made to increase court security.
- Very few of the recommendations have been implemented.
- In August of 2006, Chief Michael Matulavich advised Judge Lynne S. Callahan that he would like to do away with police responsibility for the court security detail.

What We Do Not Want to See in Akron



Different Points of View



"I find it amazing the court has not expanded to meet the basic security requirements for the safety of the COURT, EMPLOYEES, DEFENDANTS, and VISITORS."

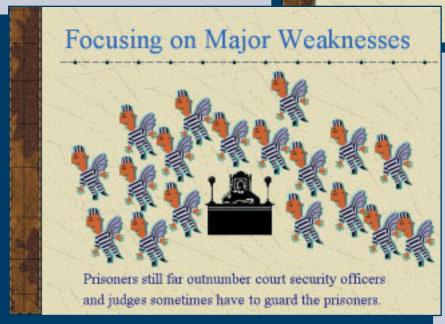
Sum Ciochino, Security Services Manager, Supreme Court of Ohio



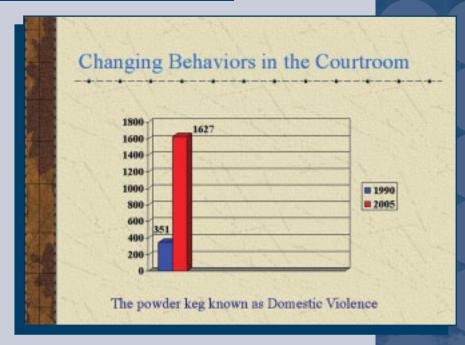
CONCERNS

Municipal Court Security Review

"In our country, courthouses belong to the public and have always been perceived as safe havens. We must preserve this confidence the public has long held in its courts and we must continue to work to ensure that the perception that courthouses are safe havens is a reality. Mr. Mary McQueen, Prendent of the National Center for State Counts, November 2005



Fall 2006
Judges meet
with City
Council
Members to
discuss
Security
Concerns



Drug Court



AKRON MUNICIPAL DRUG COURT PROGRAM

SANCTIONS

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Judge Alison McCarty is the Akron Municipal Drug Court Judge. The Akron Municipal Drug Court began in 1995 and is the longest running specialty court in Akron. Akron's Drug Court continues to serve as a model program for many Drug Courts across

the state. It is a collaborative effort between the Akron Municipal Court, Akron Police Department, Akron City Prosecutor's Office, Public Defender's Office, Akron Municipal Probation Department, Summit County Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Board, and Oriana House, Inc.

The Drug Court philosophy promotes court-ordered, judicially supervised treatment. The participants are male and female offenders originally charged with felonies, either possession of cocaine or methamphetamine.

All prospective offenders are initially screened by the Oriana House admissions Department to determine eligibility. Police and prosecutors must also approve the offender for admission into the Drug Court program.

The program requires that the offender come to court and plead guilty to a reduced, misdemeanor charge of attempted drug abuse. A six-month jail sentence is then imposed, but suspended. During the course of the next year, the participant will undergo assessment and treatment. The level of treatment is determined by the seriousness of the offender's addiction. At a minimum, each offender will meet with a caseworker at least once a week, must attend AA meetings and undergo frequent drug testing.

The program is based on a reward. Sanctions begin model: if a participant stays sober and performs well in the program, he or she will receive rewards. If the offender relapses with new drug use, or fails to comply with other aspects of the program, he or she will face graduated sanctions. Beginning with courtroom observation or a few days in jail, leading up to the final sanction for noncompliance, is termination from the program and six months in the Summit County Jail.

The Drug Court is a successful method of treatment for offenders, and a major component of its success is the close supervision and involvement of the judge.

"Drug court can truly change lives."

> —Judge Alison McCarty

Family Violence Court



The family Violence Court was implemented in April of 1998, in response to the growing number of domestic violence cases. The need to provide a sanctioning option to reduce jail crowding, the desire to address both victim and offender needs, and the desire to enhance probation supervision and to protect the public safety.

Akron's Family Violence Court is a domestic violence diversion program, the only one of its kind in Ohio, and one of very few throughout the country. The actual program is the combined brainchild of the Oriana House, Inc., the Akron Municipal Court and its probation department, Akron's prosecutor's office and police department, the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, Victim Assistance, the Battered Women's Shelter, and the Public Defender's Office. The program provides increased supervision of the offender as well as increased coordination of services. Judge Lynne S. Callahan presides over the Family Violence Court. Offenders who enter the Family Violence Court Program are required to complete a twenty-six week violence cessation program, case management, one year of probation, drug and alcohol testing and counseling if needed, and employment counseling if needed. Victims are urged to attend the Early intervention Program and Stop the Cycle at the Battered Women's Shelter. They have access to a victim advocate through every step of the proceedings.



Mental Health Court



Judge Williams and Mental Health Court team.

One of the goals of the Mental Health Court is to end the cycling of the mentally ill offender through the local jail and the state hospital

The Akron Mental Health Court was the first of its kind in Ohio and remains one of a handful in the United States. The Mental Health Court was formed, in part, as a response to the overwhelming number of mentally ill offenders being seen by the Akron Municipal Court.

This program is a collaborative effort between the Summit County ADM Board, Community Support Services, and the Akron Municipal Court. Residential treatment is provided by Oriana House, Inc., Sharp Program. The program is envisioned as a diversion program with a significant jail reduction component in the short and long term. The model follows the drug court model with intervention and stable release into the community with multi-year intensive probation and frequent court appearances. Prior to the Mental Health Court, mentally ill

offenders who were not stable on medications, were waiting in jail for up to six weeks before a competency evaluation was completed. This diversion court reduces the time spent in jail to less than two weeks. One of the goals of the Mental Health Court is to end the cycling of the mentally ill offender through the local jail and the state hospital.

The Akron Municipal Court Probation Staff



Members of the Probation Department.

Listed below are some important departmental statistics for 2006

5156	offenders were referred by the judges and the traffic magistrate for various
	correctional services and specialized court services.

- **124** Presentence Investigation referrals were received.
- 410 Summary Presentence Investigation referrals were received.
- **518** persons were placed on traditional probation.
- **\$60,763** was collected and disbursed by the Restitution Coordinator.
 - **2,851** community service placements were made.
 - **88** defendants entered the Family Violence Court, with a retention rate of 86%.
 - defendants entered the Drug Court with a retention rate of 83%.
 - **504** were found to be eligible and approved, with a retention rate of 76%.

Chief
Probation
Officer
Tony Ingram

Deputy Chief Probation Officer

Jeff Sturmi

Director of Specialty Courts and Programs Jill Forster

To Contact *330-375-2760*



The Akron Municipal Court Service Bailiff's Staff

Chief Service Bailiff *Helen Hurlburt* 330-375-2592



Some members of the Service Baillif's Office.

The Service Bailiffs' Office is comprised of 6 Service Bailiffs, 1 Court Secretary/ Court Records Officer, and the Chief Bailiff. This office is charged with the responsibility to perform Evictions, Levies, Replevins, conduct Bailiff Sales, remove clubs, and provide personal service of all court documents generated by The Akron Municipal Court that require individual service. Unlike the courtroom bailiffs who perform their duties in the courtroom, the Service Bailiffs go out into the community to do their job.

The Outside Bailiffs travel throughout Summit County, into virtually every segment of society to serve Bank Aids, F&D's, Garnishments, Mandatory Orders, Show Causes, Small Claims, Subpoenas, and Summons. They also perform Evictions, Levies, Replevins, conduct Bailiff Sales, and remove clubs from vehicles immobilized by Akron, Richfield, Bath, Fairlawn, Lakemore, Springfield and Cuyahoga Falls Police Departments.

Small Claims Division



Sophie Albrecht

Small claims magistrates handle many different types of cases. They hear evictions, small claims, rent deposits, garnishments/executions, mandatory orders, contempt/show cause, replevin and revivor hearings.



Belinda Hinton

The office is staffed by two part-time magistrates and support staff. The magistrates are Sophie Albrecht and Belinda Hinton. The support staff is Melissa Briggs.

Small Claims
Magistrates
Sophie Albrecht
Belinda Hinton
330-375-2285

Traffic
Magistrate
Katarina Cook
330-375-2005

Traffic Division

In 2005 the traffic court staff handled 5,907 cases. 116 of those cases were for DUI offenses, 2,131 were for DUS offenses, 3,321 MM, and 2,586 M1-M4 cases. Pictured left are Mick Williams, Traffic Safety Officer, Kathy Wheeler, Jim Contiand seated is Katarina Cook Traffic Magistrate.



Traffic Magistrate Katarina Cook

Akron Municipal Court Website



The Akron
Municipal
Court
website offers
another means
of providing
additional
information
for the people
it serves.



Arraignment Court

Arraignments of misdemeanor and felony prisoners are heard in the mornings in the arraignment room. This courtroom is usually one of the busiest courtrooms on any given day. Video equipment allows the Judge to see and hear the defendant while the defendant remains in the county jail.

Clerk of Courts



Jim Laria has been elected municipal Clerk of Courts since 1997, being re-elected in 1999 and 2005. With 26 years of court management experience, Jim Laria's court career started as a bailiff in 1979 when all court records were done by hand. Today, the Akron Municipal Court is a modern computer network providing immediate on-line services at courts.ci.akron.oh.us. More than 1 million visitors have accessed court information. Jim Laria has protected the court's annual \$10,000,000 in gross receipts with 8 years of clean audits.

Recognized around Ohio as an innovative leader in court management, Jim Laria is President of the state's municipal clerks association after serving 6 years as Educational Chair. An elected member of the Akron School Board in 1995, Jim is a proud graduate of Akron Public Schools and the University of Akron in Education. Laria additionally graduated from the National Judicial College on Court Management.

Jim Laria and staff were busy in 2005 during implementation of House Bill 30, which Laria championed in our General Assembly. Effective March 31, 2005, the bill allows for D.E.T.E.R. holds - preventing renewal of license plates or driver licenses - on all handicap parking tickets. Computer imaging of all civil pleadings began on our website. Deputy clerks work daily with more than fifteen police agencies, prosecutors, judges and citizens to provide the efficient and effective delivery of court services in a unique office that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, year-round.

Mediation Program



Judicial Associate Laura Killian (center), heads the mediation program.

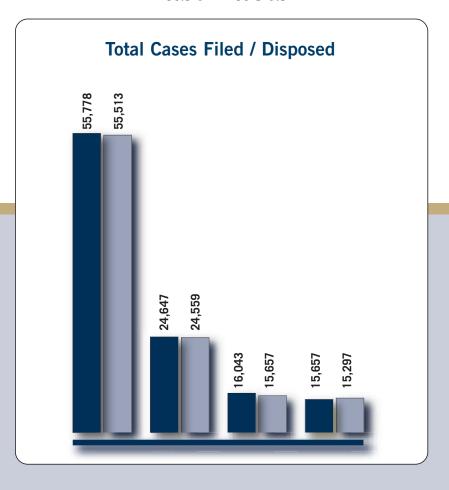
Visiting Judges

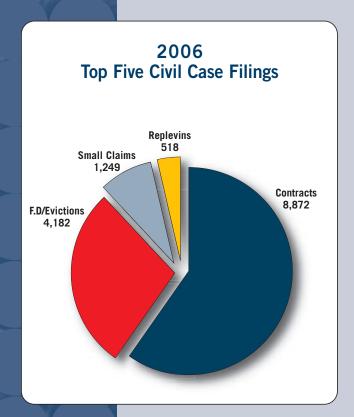


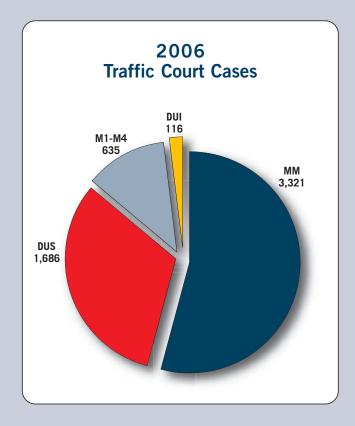
Court Administrator Kenneth Kuckuck and Executive Assistant Cynthia Caprez Present Award to Judge Dickinson

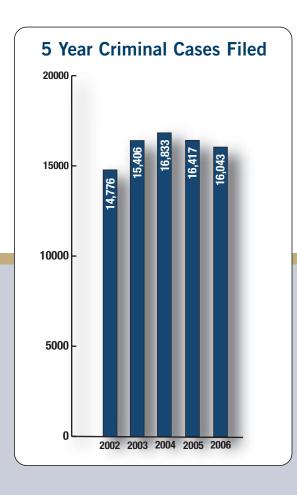
The Court is fortunate to have several retired judges available to sit when a conflict arises. The municipal judges maybe attending a training seminar, conference, or need a vacation day. Currently, Judge William Pike, Judge Perry Dickinson, Judge Monte Mack, Judge Ted Schneiderman, Judge Joyce George, and Judge James Williams serve the court as visiting judges.

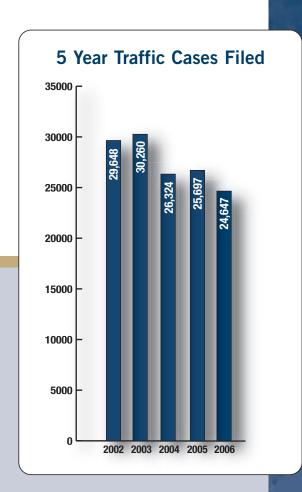
Fast Facts

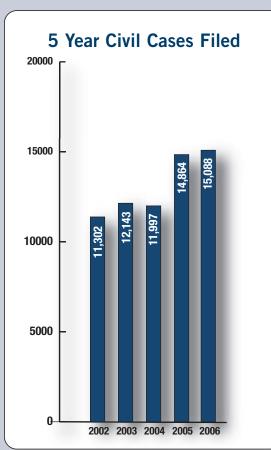


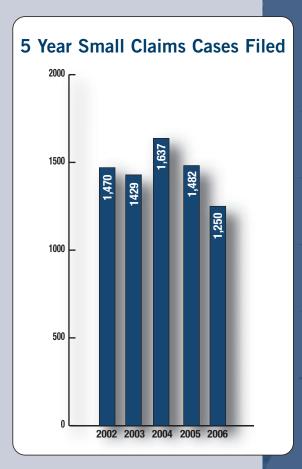














Report of Akron Municipal Court for Year 2006 as Required by OHIO REVISED CODE, SECTION 1901.14(A)(4)

Case Filings and Dispositions		
CIVIL DIVISION		
CASES FILED 2006* Property Damages/Personal Injury Contracts Transfers & Replevins F.D. and Money (Evictions) Small Claims Trusteeship Cases # Landlord Tenant Cases	268 8,873 509 4,182 1,247 11 9	
TOTAL CIVIL CASES FILED	15,099	
CASES DISPOSED 2006*	15,304	
CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006	5,950	
CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION		
CASES FILED 2006* Traffic Criminal	24,647 16,043	
TOTAL CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC CASES FILED	40,690	
CASES DISPOSED 2006* Traffic Criminal	24,556 15,872	
TOTAL CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC CASES DISPOSED	40,428	
CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006 Traffic Criminal	11,309 5,731	
TOTAL CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC CASES PENDING	17,040	
PARKING DIVISION		
CASES FILED 2006* Parking Civil Parking Criminal	23,636 15	
TOTAL CASES FILED	23,651	

CASES DISPOSED 2006* Parking Civil Parking Criminal	21,181 14	
TOTAL CASES DISPOSED	21,195	
*Filed and Disposed figures reflect only new filings & final terminations, thus do not correspond with figures supplied on Supreme Court Report.		
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
CLERK OF COURT JUDICIAL	2,958,445.63 3,222,532.62	
TOTAL	6,180,978.25	
2006 RECEIPTS		
Filing Fees AMCIS ** Judgments, Deposits Trusteeship Payments Landlord/Tenant Rent Payments Special Project Fee	1,743,531.92 144,832.54 3,875,139.63 22,759.89 21,105.00 206,116.40	
TOTAL RECEIPTS - CIVIL DIVISION	6,013,485.38	
CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION		
Fines, Costs, & Fees AMCIS** Bonds Collected Sweep Account CD Interest Special Project Fee	3,521,624.87 161,194.00 1,275,290.20 23,632.71 212,972.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS - CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION	ON 5,194,713.78	
PARKING DIVISION Parking Penalties-Civil Parking Penalties-Criminal Bath SCSO D.E.T.E.R.	362,492.60 0.00 440.00 14,877.60 11,470.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS - PARKING DIVISION	389,280.20	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$11,597,479.36	





2006 DISBURSEMENTS

TO CITY OF AKRON

CIVIL DIVISION

Filing Fees	1,245,905.98
AMCIS **	147,340.30
Trusteeship	505.20
1% Landlord/Tenant Cost	177.33
Jury Fees	800.00
Unclaimed Checks	3,418.85
Special Project Fee	209,684.63

TOTAL DISBURSED TO AKRON - CIVIL DIVISION 1,607,832.29

CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION

Fines, Costs, Fees	2,189,820.67
AMCIS **	160,827.00
Indigent Drivers Training Program	3,377.00
Akron DUI/Drug Fines	41,241.55
10% Bonds- 10% to city	40,304.30
Sweep Account CD Interest	0.00
Unclaimed Bonds	4,285.00
Special Project Fee	210,434.60

TOTAL DISBURSED TO AKRON-CRIM/TRAF DIVISION 2,650,290.12

PARKING DIVISION

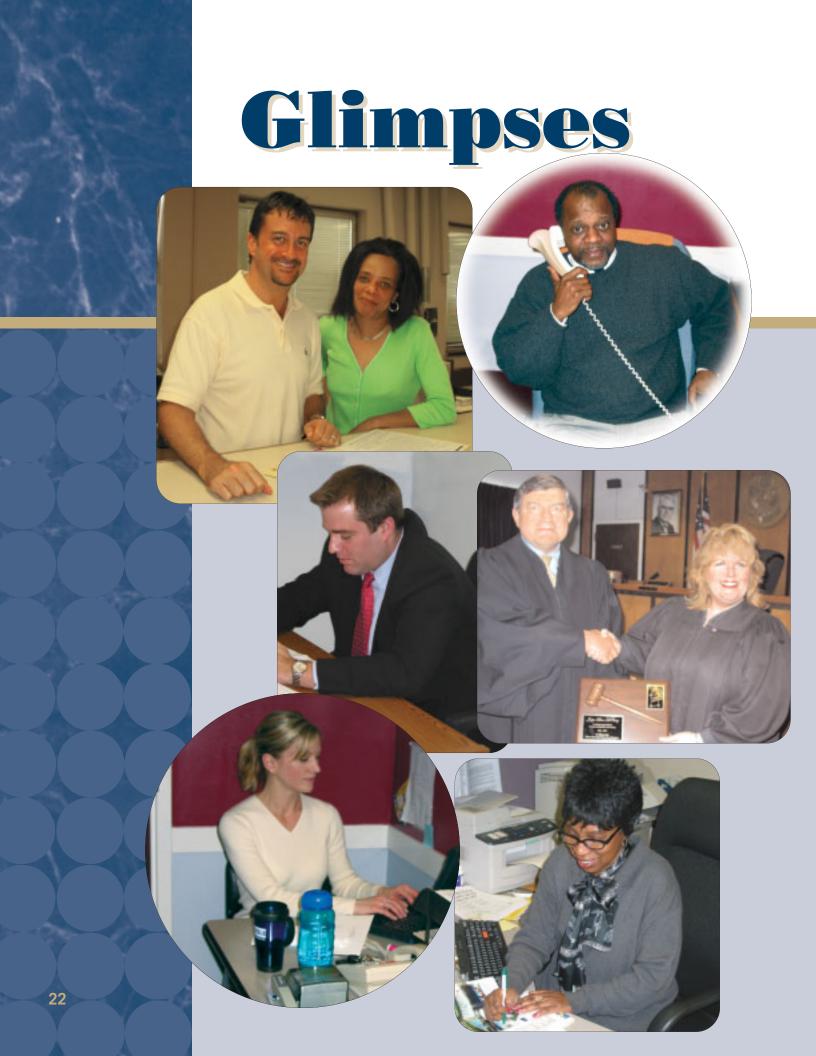
Civil Penalties	342,913.96
Criminal Penalties	322.50
Handicap - A.P.D.	17,734.82
Handicap - Education Fund	17,734.82

TOTAL DISBURSED TO AKRON - PARKING DIVISION 3 78,706.10

TOTAL DISBURSED TO CITY OF AKRON \$4,636,828.51

^{**}Restricted Account: to "computerize the court " and to "computerize the office of the clerk" per O.R.C. 1901.261 (A) (1) and (B) (1)

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$11,714,387.55	
TOTAL DISBURSED TO OTHERS	5,466,497.39	
Refunds to Tenants/3rd Parties Legal News Fees	3,410.35 166,902.39	
Trusteeship/Others Landlords	35.00 17,355.15	
Trusteeship/Creditors	19,133.87	
Bond Refunds Bond Transfers to Other Courts	457,709.70 711,113.00	
Foreign Service/Refunds Witness Fees/Deposits	15,751.46 16,720.00	
Civil Judgments	3,967,357.16	
Outside Law Enforcement Agencies (DUI/Di Restitution	rugs) 9,056.00	
Refunds-Penalties, Fines, & Costs	39,292.36	
TO OTHER AGENCIES AND INTERESTED PA		
TOTAL DISB TO OTHER CITIES/VIL/TWP	82,422.55	
Township of Richfield Township of Springfield	2,396.00 24,805.65	
Village of Mogadore Township of Bath	974.00 18,286.50	
Village of Richfield	1,213.00	
City of Fairlawn Village of Lakemore	29,979.40 4,768.00	
TO OTHER CITIES, VILLAGES, & TOWNSHIPS IN COURT'S JURISDICTION		
TOTAL DISBURSED TO SUMMIT COUNTY	377,708.05	
Crime Stoppers	3,113.50	
Jail Facilitiy Fees Law Library Association	3,896.00 53,395.65	
Penalties, Fines, Costs, & Fees	317,302.90	
TO SUMMIT COUNTY	1,100,001.00	
TOTAL DISBURSED TO STATE OF OHIO	1,150,931.05	
D.E.T.E.R Other Fines & Fees	11,150.00 191,622.21	
State Board of Pharmacy Legal Aid Fees	42,026.55 357,919.54	
Victim's Assistance Public Defender Fees	201,347.75 333,030.50	
BMV-OLF Fees	13,834.50	
TO STATE OF OHIO		





THE AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT

Harold K. Stubbs Justice Center 217 South High Street Akron, Ohio 44308 (7th, 8th and 9th Floors)

