



---

## MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

### 2006 Annual Report

---

DALE H. CHASE, JUDGE

NANCY L. ABBOTT, CLERK

---

**MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT  
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

**MARCH 31, 2007**

Medina City Council & Mayor  
Medina County Commissioners

The following is the yearly report of operations for the Medina Municipal Court as required by Ohio Revised Code Sec. 1901.14.

The Court received new filings of 16,730 cases and terminated 16,350 cases.

These cases generated \$4,561,362.28 of disbursements, which include bond and civil judgments.

<b>TOTAL D.U.I. CASES FILED</b>					
Year	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Cases	770	851	1146	947	747

The Brunswick Mayor's Court, which is within the Court's jurisdiction, submitted the following information:

<b>CASE TYPE</b>	<b>CASES FILED</b>	<b>CASES TRANSFERRED TO MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT</b>
Traffic	3,328	131
DUI	99	18
Criminal	879	106
TOTAL	4,306	255

## **PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

Marirose Power, Chief Probation Officer

The Probation Department employs three full-time general supervision probation officers, a part-time officer supervising a specialized caseload of drug offenders and select intensive supervision cases, a full-time intensive supervision officer, a full-time chief probation officer, and three part-time clerical staff. State of Ohio grant funds cover the salary and benefits of the part-time probation officer, the full-time intensive supervision officer, one full-time probation officer and a part-time secretary.

The department completed 807 pre-sentence investigations and 585 abbreviated pre-sentence investigations on first and second offense D.U.I. cases for a total of 1,392 pre-sentence investigations. The department also completed 86 sealing-of-records investigations. The department reviewed 274 traffic cases prior to sentencing.

Seven hundred seventy-eight new offenders were placed on probation. Of these, 55% were convicted of a D.U.I. offense, 9% for underage alcohol offenses, 8% for drug offenses, 5% percent for theft, 4% for domestic violence and 2% for assault. The remaining 17% represented a variety of criminal offenses such as telecommunication harassment, falsification, criminal damaging, obstructing official business, disorderly conduct and cruelty to animals.

The caseload averaged 864 throughout the year and slightly over 4,000 reporting appointments were held. Drug screens totaled 2,155 for the year. Nearly all of those under supervision were required to participate in substance abuse and/or mental health counseling. Underage alcohol consumers and petty theft offenders completed offense-specific educational programs. Fifty-five probationers completed over 1,300 hours of community service. The probation department also assisted in enrolling and monitoring 86 offenders ordered to complete terms of electronically monitored home arrest.

One hundred five individuals were formally charged with violating one or more conditions of probation.

## **ALCOHOL TREATMENT FUNDS AND JAIL COSTS**

The Court collected \$21,626 in fines for the Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Act (IDATA) in 2006. These fines can be used to pay for treatment of indigent defendants. The Court also collected \$43,392.50 for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol jail costs, which was paid to the Medina County Auditor. The Court disbursed to townships, cities, Medina County and the State of Ohio a total of \$20,449.00 from fines collected under the Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol Act. These funds may be used by the arresting agencies for equipment, training, and enforcement of driving under the influence of alcohol laws.

## **BAILIFF'S OFFICE**

Bill Saus, Bailiff

The Court employed a Bailiff and four Deputy Bailiffs. The Bailiff supervises all Court Security Officers who operate the walk-through metal detector and screen people entering the building.

The Bailiff's Office assists the Judge and Magistrates with management of jury trials, bench trials, and other court proceedings. The Bailiff's Office assists the Court Reporter to maintain a record of all proceedings in the Court using the electronic court reporting system.

The Bailiff's Office serves civil and criminal papers and subpoenas and maintains the Courts L.E.A.D.S. computer terminal.

The Bailiff's Office assists with court security planning in conjunction with the Court's Security Committee. In 2006, based on the Committee's recommendations the Court installed an improved closed-circuit camera system and a new building access control system.

The Bailiff's Office enforces warrants issued by the Court and publishes and distributes the Medina Municipal Court's "Most Wanted" posters to allow the community to assist the court with resolving these warrants.

The activity of the warrant enforcement bailiffs is reflected in the following report:

TOTAL NUMBER OF WARRANTS RESOLVED:	657
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS:	636
WARRANTS RESOLVED BY ACTION TAKEN:	
Executed By Arrest:	119
Came to Court After Home Visit:	125
Came to Court After Phone Contact:	294
Came to Court After Warrant Block Letter:	114
Resolved Via Most Wanted Poster Program	48
NUMBER OF HOME VISITS MADE:	849

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

All judicial seminars are through the Judicial College of the Supreme Court of Ohio unless otherwise noted.

### **Judge Chase is an active member of the Ohio Association of Municipal/County Court Judges**

Judge Chase attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- February 2006 – Northern Ohio Municipal Judge’s Association Winter Meeting
- February 2006 – Ohio Association of Municipal/County Court Judge’s Winter Meeting

### **Magistrates Dougherty, Lawrie and Leggett are active members of the Ohio Association of Magistrates.**

Chief Magistrate Lawrie attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- April 2006 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference: *Technology and the Courts, Peer Roundtable Discussion; Bankruptcy; Traffic Law – DUS and OVI; and Non-hearsay Evidentiary Issues*
- July 2006 – *Annual Faculty Course Planning Meeting & Seminar*
- September 2006 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Fall Conference: *OVI/DUS/Forcible Entry & Detainer Case Law Update; Judicial Wellness*

Chief Magistrate Lawrie presented the following seminar:

- June 2006 – *Computer Assisted Legal Research, Court Website Design*

Magistrate Leggett attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- September 2006 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Fall Conference: *Ethics, Professionalism, Substance Abuse; OVI/DUS/Forcible Entry & Detainer Case Law Update; Judicial Wellness*
- September 2006 – *Media and the Courts*

Magistrate Dougherty attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- April 2006 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference – *Courthouse and Personal Security; Contempt; Ethics, Professionalism, and Substance Abuse; Technology and the Courts, Peer Roundtable Discussion; and Non-hearsay Evidentiary Issues*

## **COMPUTER DEVELOPMENTS**

Rich Armstrong, Management Information Specialist

The court employs a Management Information Specialist to coordinate all technology applications. The current equipment in place consists of 44 printers and 42 PC's and 3 servers. All systems are standardized to the Office 2000 Professional version and the Enterprise version of Norton Antivirus. The installed value of computers and software is approximately \$380,000, of which zero dollars came from the City of Medina general fund.

The probation department continued scanning historical records into the imaging database during 2006. This imaging database allows documents to be stored in digital format and printed on demand. This increases the efficiency of the department, prevents misplaced files, saves probation officers time in retrieving files, and reduces the space required to store files.

The technology department continued the process of upgrading all Windows 98 SE PC's to Windows XP. Thirty-five PC's were involved in the upgrading process. The Court's website was upgraded in 2006 to an advanced case lookup system allowing more search options and increased response speed.

An extensive analysis of all available computer systems for Court Case Management was performed during 2006. This involved many site visits and discussions with various vendors and users throughout the state. The court staff attended state conferences and vendor demonstrations of available computer systems and software. As a result of the analysis, the Court elected to continue its relationship with Civica CMI for its information technology needs. The installation of the new software will be completed in 2007.

## **INTERNET SITE**

[www.medinamunicipalcourt.org](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org)

Since its debut in 1998, the Court website has been accessed over 500,000 times. In 2006, the website was accessed an average of 3,749 times per week. This is a 60% increase from 2005.

The Online Court Access feature on the home page allows users to inquire via the Internet about cases that have been filed in the court. Certain items of information are not available (social security numbers, for example) due to privacy concerns. However, online users should be able to view information about any case filed since 1987. This is a popular feature, used not only by the general public, but also by attorneys, paralegals, legal secretaries, law enforcement officers, jurors, and witnesses.

Brochures that explain the Court's services, including the Online Court Access, are available in the main lobby of the courthouse.

Online Court Access is available via the Court's website:

[www.medinamunicipalcourt.org](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org)

The Court's Annual Reports are available online:

- 2000 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2000ann.htm](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2000ann.htm)
- 2001 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2001\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2001_annrpt.pdf)
- 2002 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2002\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2002_annrpt.pdf)
- 2003 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2003\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2003_annrpt.pdf)
- 2004 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2004\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2004_annrpt.pdf)
- 2005 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/pdf/2005\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/pdf/2005_annrpt.pdf)
- 2006 Annual Report: [www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/pdf/2006\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/pdf/2006_annrpt.pdf)

### **FOREIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING SERVICES**

The Court continues to see an increase in the number of criminal and traffic cases involving defendants who do not speak English and require assistance in their native language to understand the court proceedings. The Court contracted with Language Line Services of Monterey, California to provide language translation for short court proceedings (approximately 5 to 10 minutes in length) and with Monarca Language Services, a Medina business, for all other translation services.

### **WEDDINGS**

The Judge performed 67 weddings in 2006.

## **CASE FILINGS AND TERMINATION STATISTICS**

The following is a report of the Medina Municipal Court on cases filed and terminated for each case type as established by the Ohio Supreme Court. The information provided is taken from the Administrative and Individual Judge Reports of the Ohio Supreme Court.

### **CRIMINAL & TRAFFIC CASES**

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>FELONIES</b>					
Cases Filed:	217	186	185	165	167
Cases Terminated:	224	184	179	183	157
<b>MISDEMEANORS</b>					
Cases Filed:	1877	1,872	1,860	1,695	1,675
Cases Terminated:	1818	1,799	1,782	1,592	1,768
<b>D.U.I.</b>					
Cases Filed:	770	851	1,146	947	746
Cases Terminated:	777	847	1,086	906	722
<b>TRAFFIC</b>					
Cases Filed:	10,696	10,969	10,876	13,183	12,939
Cases Terminated:	10,605	10,848	10,866	13,312	12,953

### **CIVIL CASES**

<b>PERSONAL INJURY/PROPERTY DAMAGE</b>					
Cases Filed:	31	58	79	88	68
Cases Terminated:	45	67	79	89	50
<b>CONTRACTS</b>					
Cases Filed:	790	557	638	652	565
Cases Terminated:	625	544	760	574	551
<b>F.E.D. (Forcible Entry &amp; Detainer)</b>					
Cases Filed:	500	473	494	475	458
Cases Terminated:	474	503	471	475	440
<b>OTHER CIVIL</b>					
Cases Filed:	1,445	1,478	1,524	1,404	802
Cases Terminated:	1,394	1,463	1,518	1,258	748
<b>SMALL CLAIMS</b>					
Cases Filed:	404	478	532	552	510
Cases Terminated:	388	479	561	512	586
<b>TOTAL FILED:</b>	<b>16,730</b>	<b>16,922</b>	<b>17,334</b>	<b>19,161</b>	<b>17,930</b>
<b>TOTAL TERMINATED:</b>	<b>16,350</b>	<b>16,734</b>	<b>17,302</b>	<b>18,901</b>	<b>17,975</b>



**CASE LOAD COMPARISON BY ARRESTING AGENCIES**  
**TOTAL TRAFFIC AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED**

Agency	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Brunswick Hills Twp.	1,195	1,531	1,732	1,519	1,481
Brunswick City	510	546	680	624	853
Chippewa Lake	0	4	6	1	15
Division of Wildlife	50	54	42	43	64
Hinckley Twp.	535	587	647	578	648
Lafayette Twp.	158	356	534	446	207
Litchfield Twp.	115	178	41	0	1
Liverpool Twp.	23	21	23	35	19
Medina City Bldg. Dept.	1	4	3	5	6
Medina County Parks	9	20	11	6	10
Medina Co. Drug Task Force	13	4	15	4	0
Medina Dog Warden	11	5	5	10	12
Medina City	3,320	2,872	2,264	2,104	3,120
Medina City Fire Dept.	1	1	0	0	1
Medina City Water Dept.	0	0	1	0	0
Medina Twp.	744	1,104	798	740	537
Metro Parks	17	51	37	25	86
Montville Twp.	700	745	809	733	676
North Royalton	1	1	3	0	1
Ohio Bureau Workers' Comp	0	1	2	1	0
Ohio Investigative Unit	8	7	0	0	0
Dept. of Agriculture	0	0	0	2	0
Ohio Dept. Liquor Control	0	0	0	5	11
Ohio State Patrol	4,588	4,091	4,774	7,171	5,762
Private Citizens	6	1	20	59	45
Sheriff Dept.	729	929	841	1,048	1,108
S.P.C.A.	6	2	0	0	0
Spencer Village	260	151	151	140	116
State of Ohio	1	25	0	0	0
Strongsville	0	0	0	0	1
Zoning Violations	0	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	13,001	13,291	13,440	15,301	14,781
Reactivated Cases	<u>559</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>689</u>	<u>746</u>
Total	13,560	13,878	14,072	15,990	15,527

**CASE LOAD COMPARISON BY ARRESTING AGENCIES**  
**DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL CASES**

Agency	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Brunswick Hills Twp.	48	69	95	50	19
Brunswick City	62	53	91	105	65
Chippewa Lake	0	2	0	0	0
Hinckley Twp.	27	42	30	25	11
Lafayette Twp.	7	27	44	36	13
Liverpool Twp.	0	0	1	1	1
Medina City	123	119	100	72	115
Medina Twp.	36	39	26	38	16
Metro Parks	1	0	1	0	0
Montville Twp.	64	64	62	45	18
North Royalton	0	0	1	0	0
Ohio State Patrol	340	377	601	462	343
Sheriff Dept.	34	25	37	42	57
Spencer Village	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>6</u>
Total	743	825	1096	892	664
Reactivated Cases	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>83</u>
Total	770	851	1146	947	747

**CASE LOAD COMPARISON BY ARRESTING AGENCIES**  
**TOTAL OTHER TRAFFIC CASES**

Agency	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Brunswick Hills Twp.	1,055	1,348	1,535	1,393	1,402
Brunswick City	214	256	353	297	590
Chippewa Lake	0	2	6	1	13
Division of Wildlife	0	0	0	1	0
Hinckley Twp.	471	495	574	511	608
Lafayette Twp.	84	261	386	357	168
Litchfield Twp.	115	178	41	0	1
Liverpool Twp.	23	21	22	34	18
Medina City	2,451	2,102	1,567	1,469	2,292
Medina County Parks	3	2	0	0	0
Medina Twp.	580	948	660	553	416
Metro Parks	6	15	11	10	45
Montville Twp.	512	536	599	553	573
North Royalton	1	1	2	0	1
Ohio State Patrol	4,113	3,605	3,960	6,634	5,356
Sheriff Dept.	449	675	585	730	843
Spencer Village	246	127	122	110	80
State of Ohio	0	6	0	0	0
Strongsville	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	10,323	10,578	10,423	12,653	12,407
Reactivated Cases	<u>373</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>528</u>
Total	10,696	10,969	10,904	13,183	12,935

**CLERK OF COURT  
NANCY L. ABBOTT**

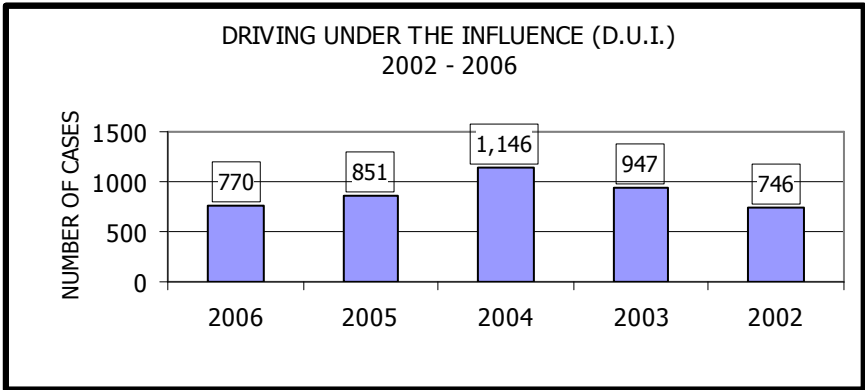
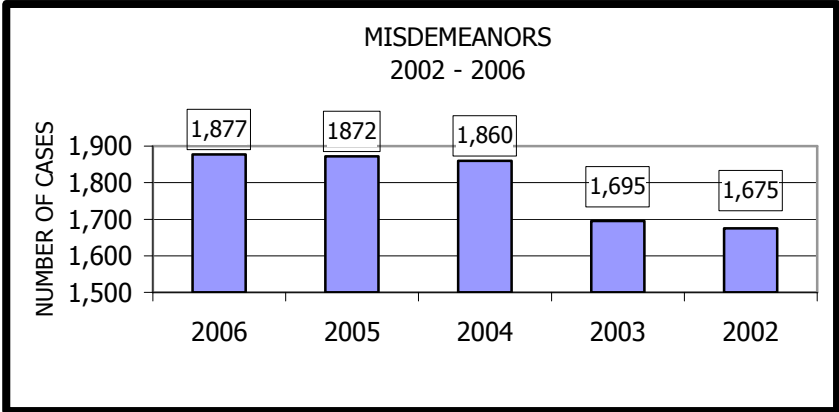
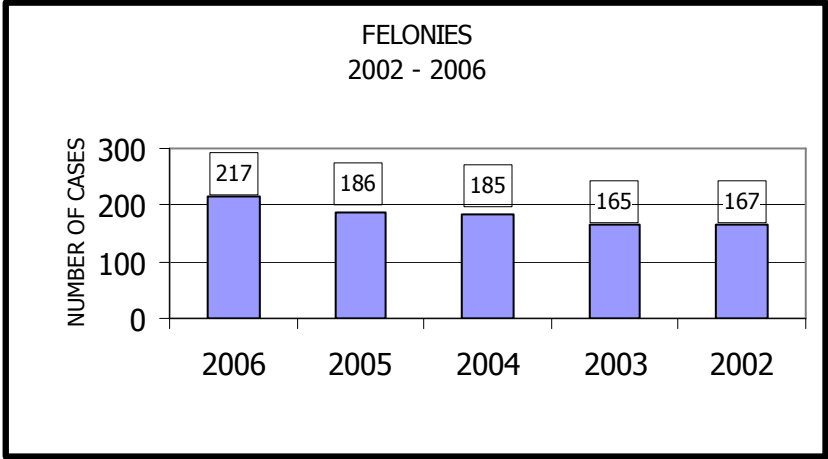
The following is a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Medina Municipal Court for the period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

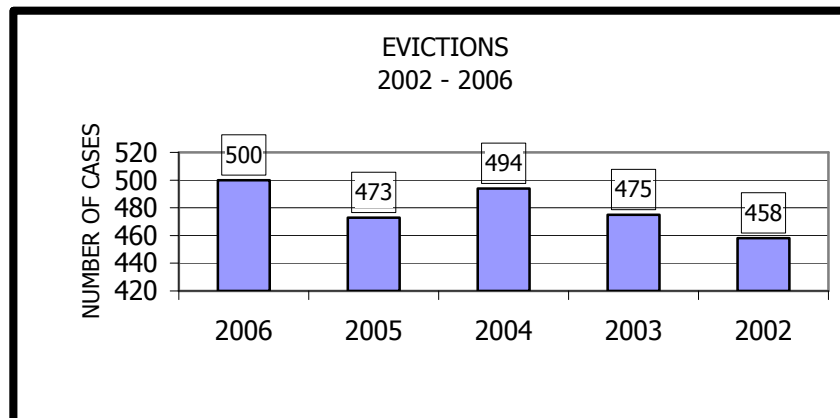
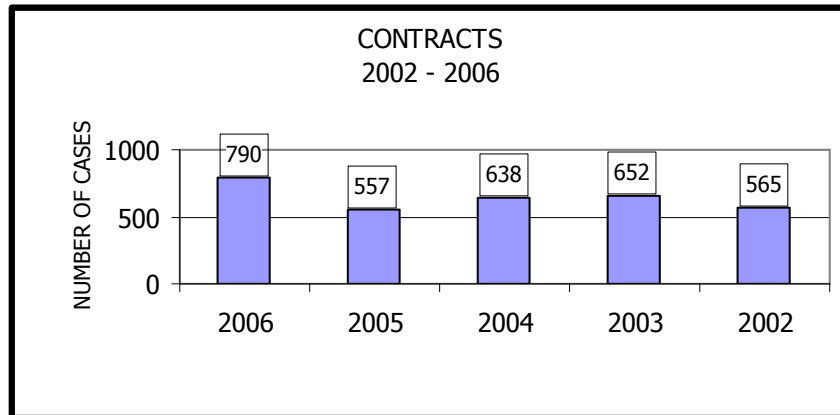
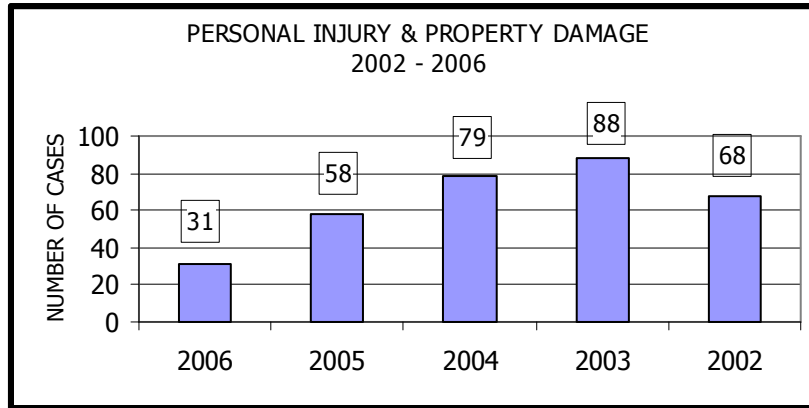
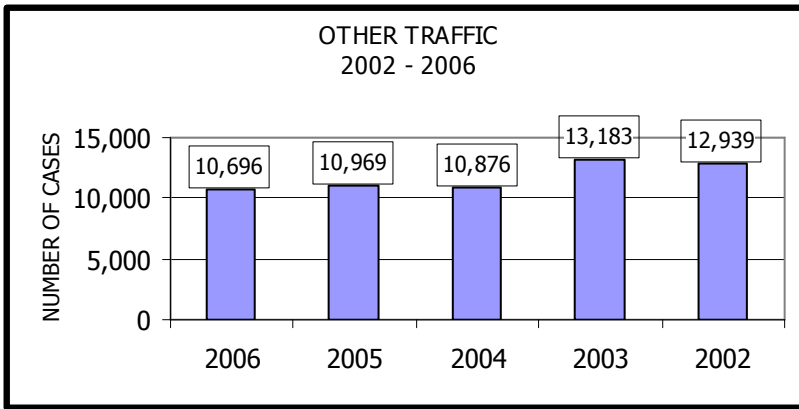
<b>BOND ACCOUNT</b>		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2006		169,318.08
Total receipts for 2006		696,158.08
Disbursements:		
Total disbursements for 2006		690,783.68
Balance as of December 31, 2006		174,692.48
<b>CIVIL / LANDLORD-TENANT / TRUSTEE DIVISION</b>		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2006		73,337.22
Total receipts for 2006		1,016,543.51
Disbursements:		
Court Costs		199,393.00
Bailff Fees		7,360.50
Witness and Jury Fees		7.20
Returned Security for Costs		34,156.08
Paid Judgments & Adjustment		600,584.18
Foreign Sheriff Fees		528.70
Computer Legal Service Fund		9,294.00
Medina Sheriff Fees		60.50
State Fees		74,074.00
Computer Capital Improvement Fund		30,980.00
Special Projects Fund		61,940.00
Total Civil Disbursement to Medina City		308,974.70
Total Other Civil Disbursements		709,403.46
Balance as of December 31, 2006		71,502.57
<b>CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC ACCOUNT</b>		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2006		0.00
Total CR/TR Receipts for 2006		2,852,210.44
Bank Interest (Sweep Account)		7,541.41
Total Receipts 2006		2,859,751.85

City Disbursements: City of Medina Finance Director	
City Police Fines	121,577.00
State Highway Patrol Fines	154,195.65
Parking Meter Fines	23,830.50
Building Code Fines	25.00
Zoning Fines	0.00
Reimbursed Jury & Witness Fees	382.00
Expungement Fees	0.00
Court Costs	533,455.53
Court Reporter Costs	36,007.50
Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Act	21,626.00
Computer Legal Service Fund	43,807.01
Medina City DUI Enforcement Act	2,398.00
Medina City Drug Enforcement Act	5,250.00
Probation Service Fund	201,607.00
Computer Capital Improvement Fund	145,698.70
Special Projects Fund	290,204.97
Interest - Sweep Account	7,541.41
<b>Total Criminal Disbursements to Medina City</b>	<b>1,587,606.27</b>
County Disbursements: Treasurer - County of Medina	
Brunswick City Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	12,464.00
All Other Sections	8,145.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	16,761.00
Medina City Police Fines - State Code:	
4511-4513 Sections	44,615.00
All Other Sections	20,928.50
Aud. Cir. 81-5	43,673.61
10% Ohio State Patrol Fines	
4511-4513 Sections	36,124.05
All Other Sections	465.90
Aud. Cir. 81-5	1,941.25
Lafayette Police & Constable Fines	
4511-4513 Sections	8,694.50
All Other Sections	3,689.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	4,594.00
Montville Police Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	57,226.00
All Other Sections	9,598.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	14,002.00
Brunswick Hills Police Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	89,307.50
All Other Sections	7,256.50
Aud. Cir. 81-5	8,099.50
Highway Maintenance	13,707.16
Hinckley Police Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	40,814.00
All Other Sections	4,482.50
Aud. Cir. 81-5	10,526.00

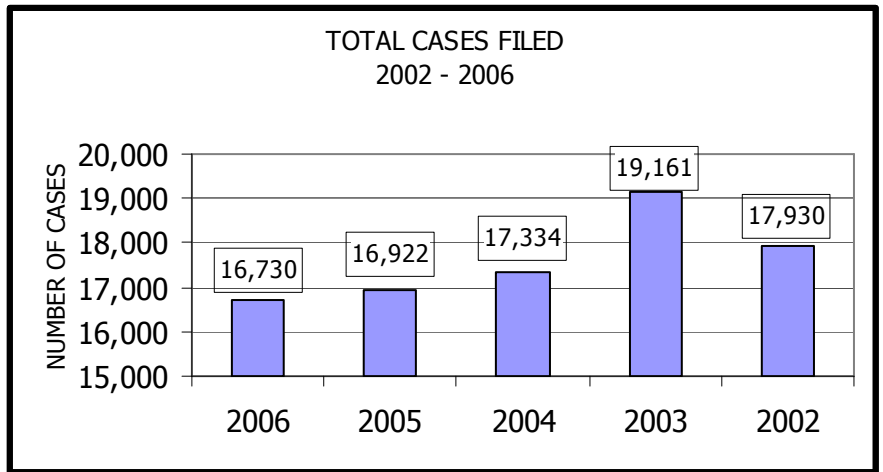
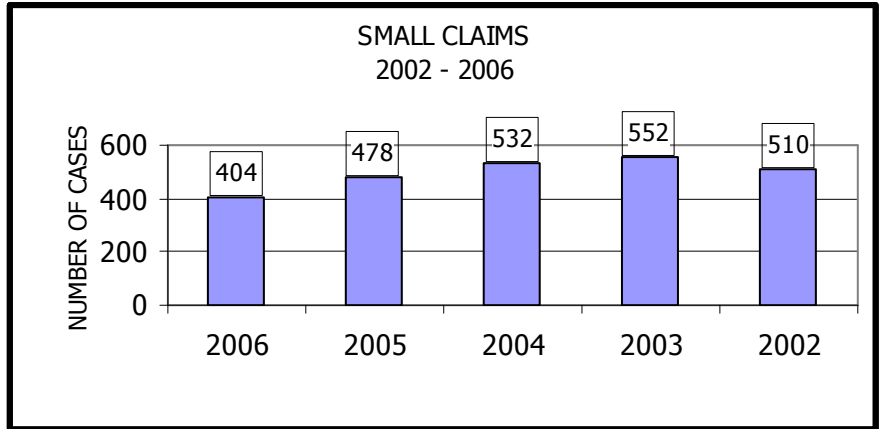
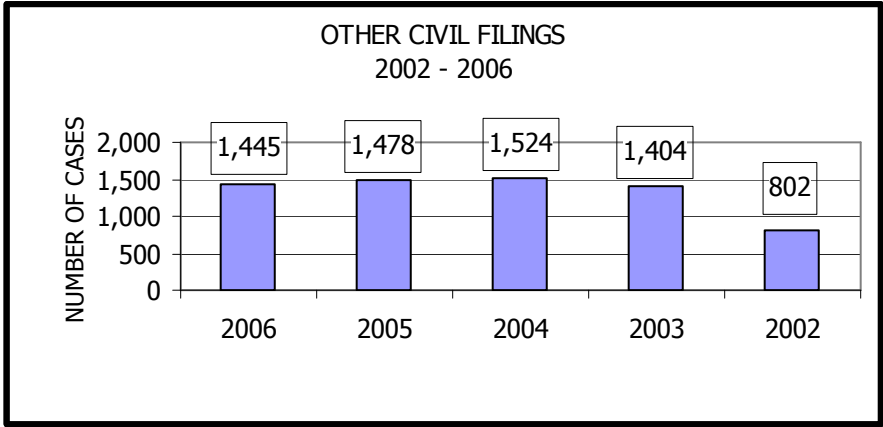
Medina Twp. Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	40,787.00
	All Other Sections	9,547.75
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	12,649.25
	Highway Maintenance	3,485.00
Spencer Village Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	14,085.00
	All Other Sections	450.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	1,720.00
Litchfield Twp. Constable Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	5,275.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	3,975.00
Liverpool Twp. Constable Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	1,815.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	200.00
Chippewa Village Fines:		
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	143.00
Chatham Twp. Fines:		
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	57.00
Granger Twp. Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	400.00
	All Other Sections	50.00
Cleveland Metro Park Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	235.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	115.00
Expungements:		
		1,340.00
Indigent Application Fee:		
		11,723.50
Medina County Dog Warden Fines:		
	Chippewa Lake	125.00
	Granger Twp.	50.00
	Lafayette Twp.	140.00
	Medina City	100.00
	Montville Twp.	50.00
Jury & Witness Fees:		
		908.00
Medina County Park Fines:		
		250.00
Medina County Liquor Fines:		
		175.00
Medina County Sheriff Fines		
		74,637.24
STATE DISBURSEMENTS:		
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources - Fines:		
		5,139.50
Treasurer, State of Ohio:		
	OSP Fines	192,585.15
	OSP DUI Enforcement	8,876.00
	Victimes of Crime	89,005.20
	General Fund	148,200.70
	Expungements	2,010.00
	Seat Belt Fines	43,603.00
	Drug Fines	225.00
	Board of Pharmacy	11,351.20
	Liquor Fines	175.00
	Child Safety Act	1,040.00
Bureau of Motor Vehicles - Reinstatement		
		15.00

<b>MISC. DISTSRIBUTIONS:</b>	
Neil Hassinger, Medina County Sheriff - Fees:	15,912.12
Medina County Auditor - Sheriff DUI Enforcement:	620.00
Medina County DUI Jail Costs:	43,392.50
Brunswick City Clerk - Fines & Costs:	32,975.00
Brunswick City Clerk - DUI Enforcement:	1,560.00
Chippewa Lake DUI Enforcement:	25.00
Cleveland Metro Parks - DUI Enforcement	25.00
Lafayette Police Fees:	630.00
Lafayette DUI Enforcement:	373.00
Spencer Village Fines:	3,725.00
Spencer Village DUI Enforcement:	125.00
Hinckley Police Fees:	2,505.00
Hinckley DUI Enforcement:	808.00
Brunswick Hills Police Fees:	5,798.00
Brunswick Hills DUI Enforcement:	1,450.00
Montville Twp. Police Fees:	3,095.00
Montville Twp. DUI Enforcement:	1,558.00
Medina Twp. Police Fees:	3,275.00
Medina Twp. DUI Enforcement:	1,094.00
Ashland County Sheriff:	33.78
Ashtabula County Sheriff:	33.00
Columbiana County Sheriff:	6.39
Cuyahoga County Sheriff:	994.17
Erie County Sheriff:	135.26
Fairfield County Sheriff:	56.50
Huron County Sheriff:	55.60
Lake County Sheriff:	37.78
Lorain County Sheriff:	89.45
Marion County Sheriff:	50.39
Stark County Sheriff:	43.74
Summit County Sheriff:	395.42
Wayne County Sheriff:	195.02
Cleveland Metro Parks	245.00
Medina County Treasurer - Law Library	7,000.00
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL &amp; TRAFFIC DISBURSEMENTS:</b>	<b>\$2,859,751.85</b>









---

Respectfully submitted:

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

MARCH 31, 2007

---

DALE H. CHASE, JUDGE

---

NANCY L. ABBOTT, CLERK

---