



MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

2007 Annual Report

DALE H. CHASE, JUDGE

NANCY L. ABBOTT, CLERK

**MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT
2007 ANNUAL REPORT**

MARCH 31, 2008

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 17,393 cases and terminated 16,713 cases.

These cases generated \$4,919,329.09 of disbursements, which include bond and civil judgments.

TOTAL O.V.I. CASES FILED *					
Year	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Cases	713	770	851	1146	947

* Operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs

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

CASE TYPE	CASES FILED	CASES TRANSFERRED TO MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT
Traffic	3,882	115
OVI	106	19
Criminal	787	92
TOTAL	4,775	226

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 probation officer (ISP), a full-time chief probation officer, and three part-time clerical staff. State of Ohio grant funds cover the salary and benefits of the full-time ISP officer, one part-time secretary and a portion of the part-time intensive supervision officer.

The department completed 1,345 pre-sentence investigations, 77 sealing of records investigations and reviewed over 300 traffic cases prior to sentencing.

Of the 669 new offenders placed on probation 58% were convicted of an O.V.I. offense, 10% of underage alcohol offenses, 8% of drug offenses, 6% of offenses of violence, and 3% of a theft offense. The remaining 15% represents various other criminal and traffic offenses.

The department conducted nearly 3,500 reporting appointments and required 1,696 drug tests. 56 offenders served terms of electronically monitored house arrest. 119 individuals were charged with violating conditions of probation.

ALCOHOL TREATMENT FUNDS AND JAIL COSTS

The Court collected \$20,194.26 in fines for the Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Act (IDATA) in 2007. These fines can be used to pay for treatment of indigent defendants. The Court also collected \$38,127.50 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 \$16,475.00 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

Carl Meding, Bailiff

The Bailiff's Office employs one Bailiff, and three full-time and one part-time Deputy Bailiffs. Bailiffs are responsible for courtroom and building security, attending to the Court's electronic recording system, and overseeing the activities of all individuals present in the building. The Bailiff's Office oversees four part-time security personnel who operate the Court's metal detector and screen all persons entering the building.

The part-time Deputy Bailiff is responsible for the service of subpoenas and other court papers throughout the Court's jurisdiction, including executing evictions and Court ordered sales of property. In 2007, the Bailiff's office supervised 139 evictions, a 24% increase over 2006. (See Table #1)

The Bailiff's Office maintains and operates the Court's Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) and recently received its second straight excellent rating during the 2007 biennial state audit.

The Bailiff's Office actively pursues people who have failed to appear at Court or have otherwise ignored Court orders. During 2007, the Court's Bailiff Office physically arrested 95 defendants and cleared a total of 556 warrants by all means. (See Table #2) The enforcement of warrants for fines and costs resulted in payments of \$108,005.65. This warrant activity also includes the publication and distribution of the Court's Most Wanted Posters. This allows the community to assist the Court in resolving outstanding warrants.

A unique program administered by the Bailiff's Office is the entry of information on certain convicted defendants into the Federal National Crime Information Center's (NCIC) Supervised Release File. This file helps track those convicted defendants who have been placed on probation. This program began in April 2006 and currently remains the only program authorized at the municipal court level in Ohio to independently enter these defendants in NCIC. At the end of 2007, this Court maintained 493 entries into NCIC. Such data entry allows the Court, and its Probation Department, to better monitor those defendants in their charge for the greater good of the community.

In 2007, the Court recorded 101 contacts with other law enforcement agencies by these entered defendants. These contacts include relatively minor traffic citations, and involvement in serious incidents such as OVI, felony drug charges, felonious assault (with firearm), and gross sexual imposition. Twelve defendants were found to have left the state without permission in violation of probation conditions. Nine contacts came as a result of probationers attempting to leave the country, as reported to the Court by the United States Border Patrol.

TABLE #1		
EVICITION ACTIVITY		
(FORCIBLE ENTRY AND LOCK CHANGE)		
YEAR		NUMBER OF EVICTIONS
2003		108
2004		113
2005		116
2006		112
2007		139

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

TABLE #2		
TOTAL NUMBER OF WARRANTS RESOLVED:		556
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS:		527
WARRANTS RESOLVED BY ACTION TAKEN:		
	Executed By Arrest:	95
	Came to Court After Home Visit:	120
	Came to Court After Phone Contact:	209
	Came to Court After Warrant Block Letter:	89
	Resolved Via Most Wanted Poster Program	63
NUMBER OF HOME VISITS MADE:		716

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 2007 – Ohio Association of Municipal/County Court Judge's Winter Conference
- October 2007 – 10th National Court Technology Conference

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 2007 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference
- July 2007 – Faculty for Ohio Judicial College
- October 2007 – 10th National Court Technology Conference

Chief Magistrate Lawrie presented the following seminar:

- June 2007 – *Electronic Legal Research, Power Point*
- August 2007 – *Small Claims/Pro Se Litigants in Municipal and County Courts* (Note: "Pro Se Litigants" are people who appear in court without an attorney representing them)
- August 2007 – *Electronic Legal Research, Court Website Development*

In July 2007, Magistrate Lawrie participated in the Supreme Court of Ohio's Judicial College Annual Faculty Planning Meeting. At this meeting, about 65 judges and magistrates plan the courses that the Judicial College will present in 2008 to judges, magistrates, and court personnel.

Magistrate Leggett attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- April 2007 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference
- April 2007 – Ohio Judicial College: *Hearsay, Ethics, Professionalism, Substance Abuse; Electronic Legal Research & Decision Writing; Magistrate Writing*

Magistrate Dougherty attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- October 2007 – Ohio Association of Magistrates Fall Conference
- October 2007 – Ohio Judicial College: *Bridges Out of Poverty*

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 40 printers and 45 PCs. A set of Dell 2900 servers hold the court records, and two IBM X Series servers handle the *Online Court Access* and protect the system as a firewall. The installed value of computers and software is approximately \$400,000, none of which came from the City of Medina general fund.

The Court is upgrading to a new computer system and software from Civica Systems of Englewood, OH. The upgrade will take approximately two years to complete. New software was installed for the criminal/traffic division, probation, and document scanning. The civil division will convert to the new operating system in 2008. Court records are backed up daily to a tape drive and stored offsite.

The probation department continued scanning historical records into the imaging database during 2007. 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 Court's website was upgraded in 2007. A link was added to allow jurors to confirm the date and time of the trial for which they were selected.

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

www.medinamunicipalcourt.org

The Court's Annual Reports are available online:

2000 Annual Report: www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2000ann.htm

2001 Annual Report: www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2001_annrpt.pdf

2002 Annual Report: www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2002_annrpt.pdf

2003 Annual Report: www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2003_annrpt.pdf

2004 Annual Report: www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/2004_annrpt.pdf

2005 Annual Report: www.medinamunicipalcourt.org/pdf/2005_annrpt.pdf

2006 Annual Report: 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 71 weddings in 2007.

CASE FILINGS AND TERMINATION STATISTICS

Lori A. Henry, Court Administrator

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

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
FELONIES					
Cases Filed:	184	217	186	185	165
Cases Terminated:	181	224	184	179	183
MISDEMEANORS					
Cases Filed:	1,981	1,877	1,872	1,860	1,695
Cases Terminated:	1,864	1,818	1,799	1,782	1,592
D.U.I.					
Cases Filed:	713	770	851	1,146	947
Cases Terminated:	696	777	847	1,086	906
TRAFFIC					
Cases Filed:	10,912	10,696	10,969	10,876	13,183
Cases Terminated:	10,799	10,605	10,848	10,866	13,312

CIVIL CASES

PERSONAL INJURY/PROPERTY DAMAGE					
Cases Filed:	46	31	58	79	88
Cases Terminated:	43	45	67	79	89
CONTRACTS					
Cases Filed:	1140	790	557	638	652
Cases Terminated:	919	625	544	760	574
F.E.D. (Forcible Entry & Detainer)					
Cases Filed:	517	500	473	494	475
Cases Terminated:	470	474	503	471	475
OTHER CIVIL					
Cases Filed:	1,528	1,445	1,478	1,524	1,404
Cases Terminated:	1,366	1,394	1,463	1,518	1,258
SMALL CLAIMS					
Cases Filed:	372	404	478	532	552
Cases Terminated:	375	388	479	561	512
TOTAL FILED:	17,393	16,730	16,922	17,334	19,161
TOTAL TERMINATED:	16,713	16,350	16,734	17,302	18,901

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

Agency	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Brunswick Hills Twp.	1,367	1,195	1,531	1,732	1,519
Brunswick City	606	510	546	680	624
Chippewa Lake	0	0	4	6	1
Division of Wildlife	39	50	54	42	43
Hinckley Twp.	696	535	587	647	578
Lafayette Twp.	52	158	356	534	446
Litchfield Twp.	169	115	178	41	0
Liverpool Twp.	22	23	21	23	35
Medina City Bldg. Dept.	4	1	4	3	5
Medina County Parks	8	9	20	11	6
Medina Co. Drug Task Force	8	0	4	15	4
Medina Dog Warden	1	11	5	5	10
Medina City	3,438	3,320	2,872	2,264	2,104
Medina City Fire Dept.	0	1	1	0	0
Medina City Water Dept.	1	0	0	1	0
Medina City Zoning	1	0	0	0	0
Medina Sanitation Dept.	6	0	0	0	0
Medina Twp.	839	744	1,104	798	740
Medway Enforcement Group	0	13	0	0	0
Metro Parks	40	17	51	37	25
Montville Twp.	923	700	745	809	733
North Royalton	1	1	1	3	0
Ohio Bureau Workers' Comp	0	0	1	2	1
Ohio Investigative Unit	12	8	7	0	0
Dept. of Agriculture	0	0	0	0	2
Ohio Dept. Liquor Control	0	0	0	0	5
Ohio State Patrol	3,976	4,588	4,091	4,774	7,171
Private Citizens	21	6	1	20	59
Sheriff Dept.	754	729	929	841	1,048
S.P.C.A.	3	6	2	0	0
Spencer Village	149	260	151	151	140
State of Ohio	7	1	25	0	0
Strongsville	0	0	0	0	0
Zoning Violations	1	0	0	1	2
Chippewa Lake - Zoning	1	0	0	0	0
EPA	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	13,146	13,001	13,291	13,440	15,301
Reactivated Cases	<u>644</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>689</u>
Total	13,790	13,560	13,878	14,072	15,990

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

Agency	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Brunswick Hills Twp.	22	48	69	95	50
Brunswick City	83	62	53	91	105
Chippewa Lake	0	0	2	0	0
Hinckley Twp.	42	27	42	30	25
Lafayette Twp.	9	7	27	44	36
Liverpool Twp.	0	0	0	1	1
Medina City	123	123	119	100	72
Medina County Parks	1	0	0	0	0
Medina Twp.	69	36	39	26	38
Metro Parks	1	1	0	1	0
Montville Twp.	50	64	64	62	45
North Royalton	1	0	0	1	0
Ohio State Patrol	254	340	377	601	462
Sheriff Dept.	41	34	25	37	42
Spencer Village	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>16</u>
Total	698	743	825	1096	892
Reactivated Cases	<u>15</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>55</u>
Total	713	770	851	1146	947

CASE LOAD COMPARISON BY ARRESTING AGENCIES
TOTAL OTHER TRAFFIC CASES

Agency	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Brunswick Hills Twp.	1,256	1,055	1,348	1,535	1,393
Brunswick City	332	214	256	353	297
Chippewa Lake	0	0	2	6	1
Division of Wildlife	0	0	0	0	1
Hinckley Twp.	592	471	495	574	511
Lafayette Twp.	23	84	261	386	357
Litchfield Twp.	169	115	178	41	0
Liverpool Twp.	22	23	21	22	34
Medina City	2,486	2,451	2,102	1,567	1,469
Medina County Parks	0	3	2	0	0
Medina Twp.	632	580	948	660	553
Metro Parks	14	6	15	11	10
Montville Twp.	761	512	536	599	553
North Royalton	0	1	1	2	0
Ohio State Patrol	3,645	4,113	3,605	3,960	6,634
Sheriff Dept.	425	449	675	585	730
Spencer Village	5	246	127	122	110
State of Ohio	3	0	6	0	0
Strongsville	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	10,365	10,323	10,578	10,423	12,653
Reactivated Cases	<u>417</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>530</u>
Total	10,782	10,696	10,969	10,904	13,183

**CLERK OF COURT
NANCY L. ABBOTT**

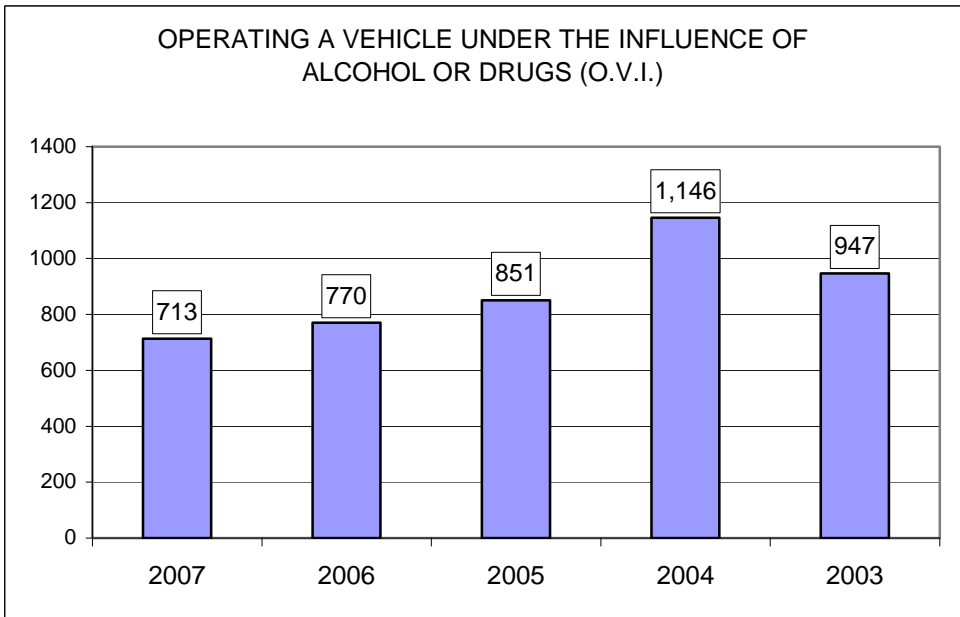
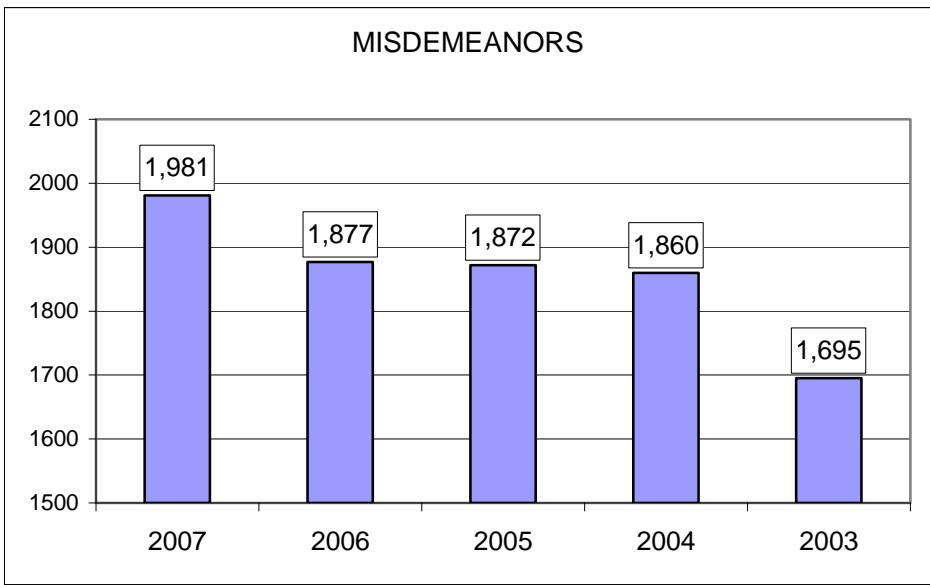
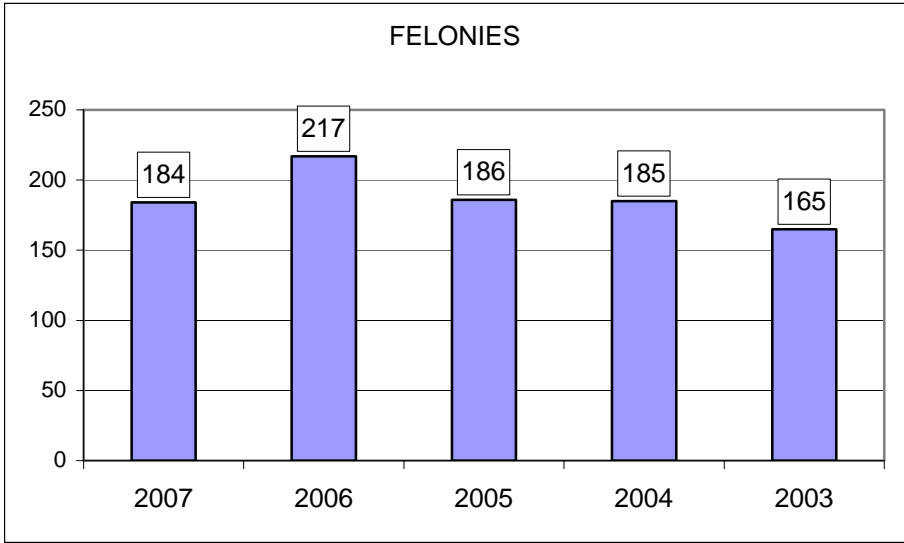
The following is a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Medina Municipal Court for the period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

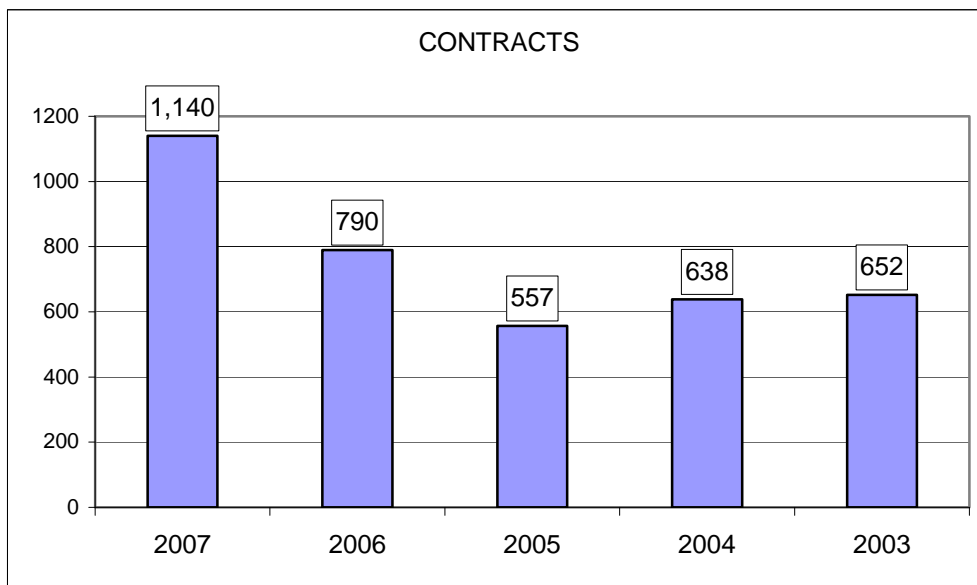
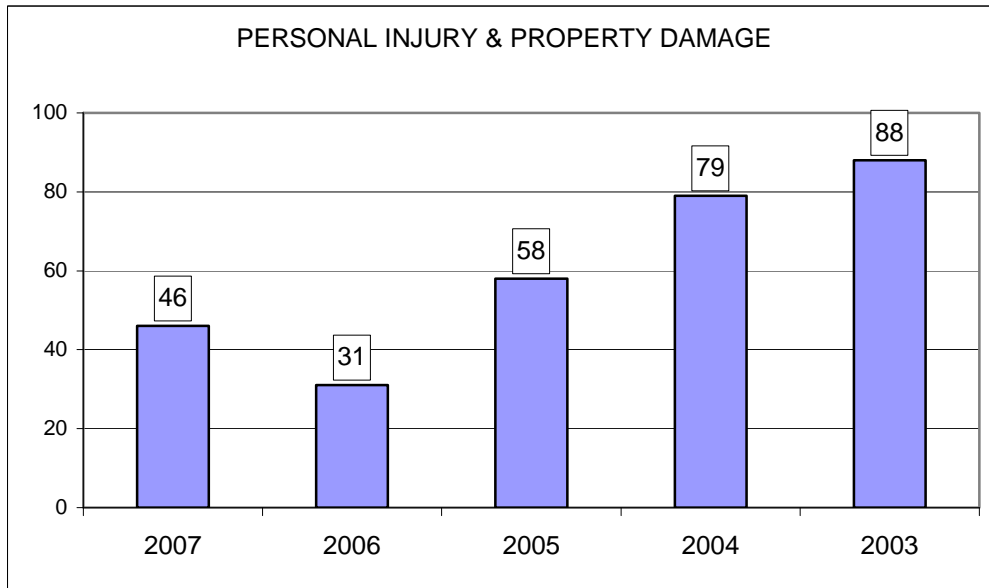
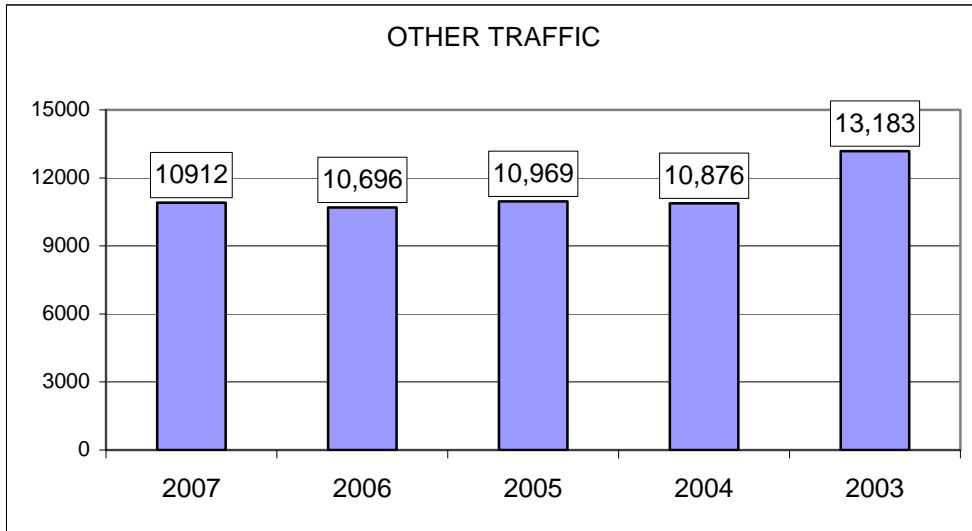
BOND ACCOUNT		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2007		174,692.48
Total receipts for 2007		617,324.73
Disbursements:		
Total disbursements for 2007		653,942.12
Adjustments		4,003.98
Balance as of December 31, 2007		142,079.07
CIVIL / LANDLORD-TENANT / TRUSTEE DIVISION		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2007		71,502.57
Total receipts for 2007		1,375,098.97
Disbursements:		
Court Costs		238,098.89
Bailiff Fees		7,881.00
Computer Legal Service Fee		10,356.00
Computer Capital Improvement Fund		34,520.00
Court Administrative Fee		756.09
Bank Processing Fee		528.00
Special Projects Fund		69,040.00
Paid Judgments & Adjustments		875,282.17
Returned Security for Costs		31,746.50
Medina Sheriff Fees		70.50
State Fees		83,294.91
Foreign Sheriff Fees		402.71
Miscellaneous		10,308.48
Total Civil Disbursement to Medina City		361,179.98
Total Other Civil Disbursements		1,001,105.27
Balance as of December 31, 2007		84,316.29
CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC ACCOUNT		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2007		0.00
Total CR/TR Receipts for 2007		2,898,059.84
Bank Interest (Sweep Account)		9,045.86
Total Receipts 2007		2,907,105.70

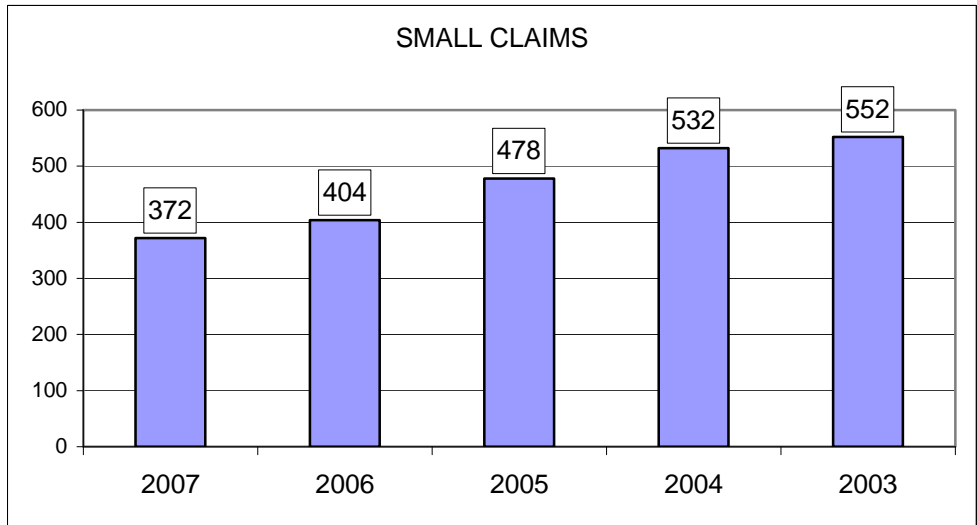
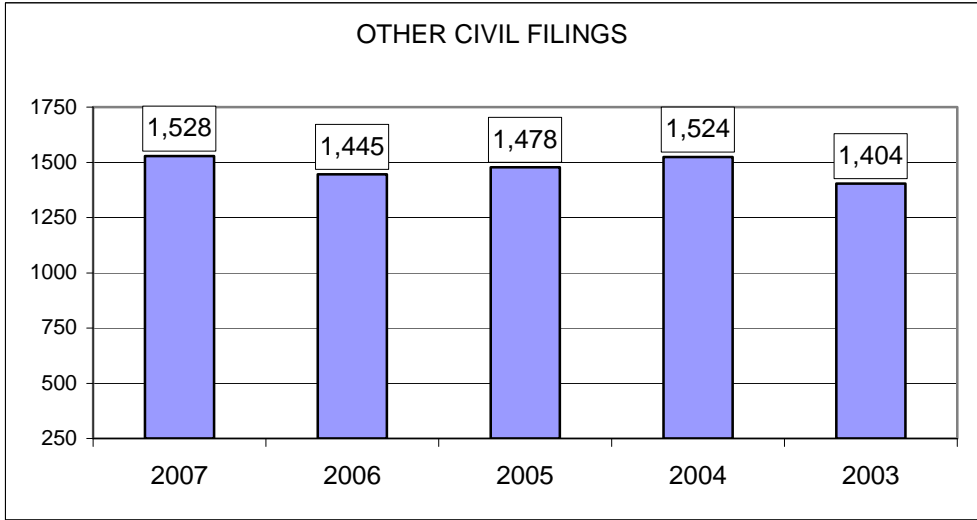
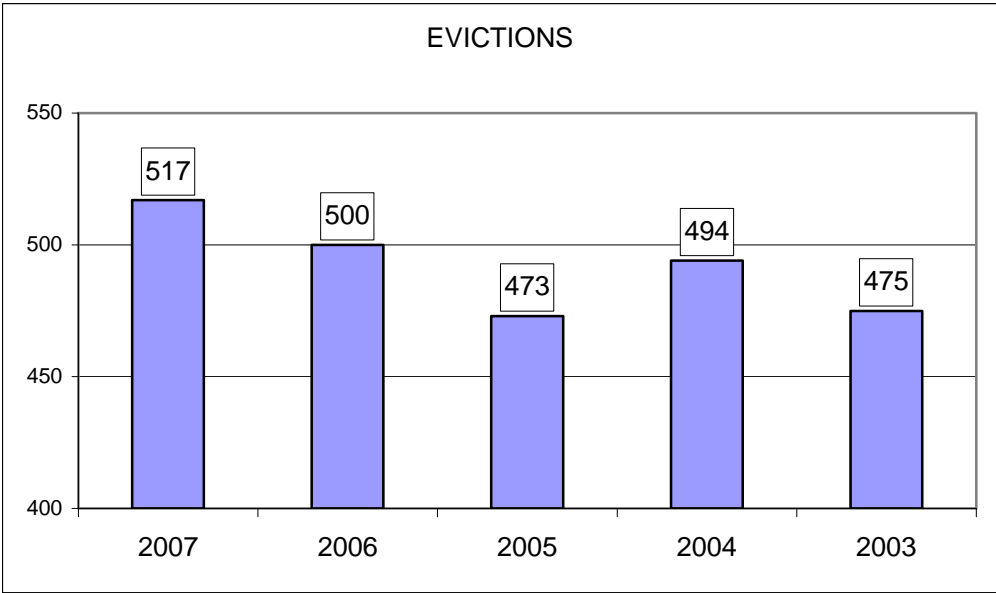
City Disbursements: City of Medina Finance Director	
City Police Fines	132,832.50
State Highway Patrol Fines	132,407.64
Parking Meter Fines	8,844.00
Building Code Fines	50.00
Zoning Fines	0.00
Medina Street Maintenance	5,933.00
Reimbursed Jury & Witness Fees	647.00
Expungement Fees	0.00
Court Costs	551,321.41
Court Reporter Costs	47,551.00
Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Act	20,194.26
Computer Legal Service Fund	41,971.66
Medina City DUI Enforcement Act	2,993.00
Medina City Drug Enforcement Act	5,573.00
Probation Service Fund	187,159.61
Computer Capital Improvement Fund	139,729.00
Special Projects Fund	291,499.24
Bank Processing Fee	5,834.00
Interest - Sweep Account	9,045.86
Total Criminal Disbursements to Medina City	1,583,586.18
County Disbursements: Treasurer - County of Medina	
Brunswick City Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	22,170.00
All Other Sections	9,108.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	18,517.48
Medina City Police Fines - State Code:	
4511-4513 Sections	52,371.00
All Other Sections	28,990.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	42,579.00
10% Ohio State Patrol Fines	
4511-4513 Sections	30,746.78
All Other Sections	242.11
Aud. Cir. 81-5	2,097.41
Brunswick Hills Police Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	74,776.50
All Other Sections	8,550.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	8,641.98
Cleveland Metro Parks	
4511-4513 Sections	50.00
All Other Sections	0.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	0.00
Hinckley Police Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	86,968.00
All Other Sections	4,448.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	4,953.00
Lafayette Police & Constable Fines:	
4511-4513 Sections	3,840.50
All Other Sections	2,637.00
Aud. Cir. 81-5	253.00

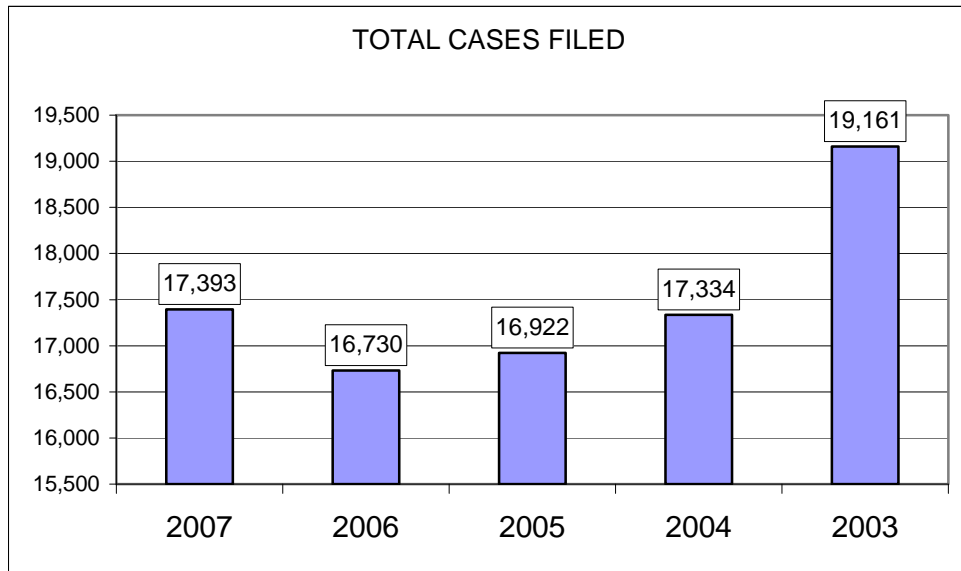
Litchfield Constable Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	9,394.55
	All Other Sections	0.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	1,350.00
Liverpool Township and Constable Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	1,070.00
	All Other Sections	0.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	575.00
Medina Township Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	45,245.61
	All Other Sections	9,467.50
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	19,746.13
Montville Township Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	64,315.00
	All Other Sections	12,155.50
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	16,496.00
Spencer Village Fines:		
	4511-4513 Sections	120.00
	All Other Sections	1,050.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	125.00
Expungements:		
		1,060.00
Indigent Application Fee:		
		15,371.00
Medina County Dog Warden Fines:		
		135.00
Highway Maintenance Fund:		
		16,115.00
Jury & Witness Fees:		
		697.00
Medina County Park Fines:		
		305.00
Medina County Liquor Fines:		
		553.00
Medina County Sheriff Fines		
		77,731.33
STATE DISBURSEMENTS:		
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources - Fines:		
		5,319.00
Treasurer, State of Ohio:		
	OSP Fines	165,369.10
	OSP DUI Enforcement	6,466.00
	Victimes of Crime	93,487.50
	General Fund	155,691.50
	Expungements	1,590.00
	Seat Belt Fines	38,943.79
	Drug Fines	200.00
	Board of Pharmacy	16,013.80
	Liquor Fines	553.00
	Child Safety Act	685.00

MISC. DISTRIBUCTIONS:	
Neil Hassinger, Medina County Sheriff - Fees:	15,616.22
Medina County Auditor - Sheriff DUI Enforcement:	605.00
Medina County DUI Jail Costs:	38,127.50
Brunswick City Clerk - Fines & Costs:	45,546.67
Brunswick City Clerk - DUI Enforcement:	1,916.00
Cleveland Metro Parks - Fines:	760.00
Cleveland Metro Parks - DUI Enforcement:	25.00
Lafayette Police Fees:	100.00
Lafayette DUI Enforcement:	75.00
Spencer Village Fines:	10,441.00
Spencer Village DUI Enforcement:	50.00
Hinckley Police Fees:	3,315.00
Hinckley DUI Enforcement:	920.00
Brunswick Hills Police Fees:	6,425.00
Brunswick Hills DUI Enforcement:	658.00
Montville Twp. Police Fees:	3,990.00
Montville Twp. DUI Enforcement:	1,792.00
Medina Twp. Police Fees:	3,292.00
Medina Twp. DUI Enforcement:	975.00
Medina Twp. Resolution Fines:	100.00
SPCA Fines:	200.00
Ashland County Sheriff:	121.92
Cuyahoga County Sheriff:	739.18
Erie County Sheriff:	8.89
Franklin County Sheriff:	186.49
Lorain County Sheriff:	203.42
Stark County Sheriff:	33.78
Summit County Sheriff:	454.71
Tuscarawas County Sheriff:	54.64
Wayne County Sheriff:	231.70
Misc. Medina County Sheriff Fees:	219.33
Medina County Treasurer - Law Library	7,000.00
TOTAL CRIMINAL & TRAFFIC DISBURSEMENTS:	\$2,907,105.70









Respectfully submitted:

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

MARCH 31, 2008

DALE H. CHASE, JUDGE

NANCY L. ABBOTT, CLERK
