



MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

DALE H. CHASE, JUDGE

NANCY L. ABBOTT, CLERK

**MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT
2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

MARCH 31, 2017

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 11,771 cases and terminated 11,780 cases.

These cases generated \$4,079,227.38 of disbursements, which include bond and civil judgments.

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					
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
FELONIES					
Cases Filed:	210	204	265	195	204
Cases Terminated:	216	206	264	197	198
MISDEMEANORS					
Cases Filed:	1,693	1,820	2,000	1,831	1,734
Cases Terminated:	1,666	1,773	1,928	1,779	1,733
O.M.V.I. (DUI)					
Cases Filed:	464	526	563	575	536
Cases Terminated:	459	517	565	553	527
TRAFFIC					
Cases Filed:	6,869	8,086	8,136	7,503	7,200
Cases Terminated:	6,932	8,148	7,951	7,437	7,088
CIVIL & SMALL CLAIMS CASES					
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
PERSONAL INJURY/PROPERTY DAMAGE					
Cases Filed:	1	7	7	6	29
Cases Terminated:	6	4	10	13	27
CONTRACTS					
Case Filed:	1,030	1,018	1,228	1,116	1,607
Cases Terminated:	1,031	1,039	1,073	1,350	1,405
F.E.D. (Forcible Entry and Detainer)					
Cases Filed:	397	391	409	445	430
Cases Terminated:	407	443	445	415	502
OTHER CIVIL					
Cases Filed:	634	865	755	818	780
Cases Terminated:	771	783	676	760	914
SMALL CLAIMS					
Cases Filed:	473	228	257	274	299
Cases Terminated:	292	241	269	273	314
TOTAL CASES FILED:	11,771	13,145	13,620	12,763	12,819
TOTAL CASES TERMINATED:	11,780	13,154	13,181	12,777	12,708

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

AGENCY	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Brunswick City	450	450	482	429	550
Brunswick Hills Township	966	1,033	1,062	362	400
Bureau of Criminal Investigation	0	0	0	1	0
Chippewa Lake Constable	0	0	0	0	0
Chippewa Lake Zoning	1	0	6	2	4
Division of Watercraft Safety	0	0	1	2	3
Division of Wildlife	10	40	49	17	45
Granger Township Constable	0	0	0	1	0
Hinckley Township	302	374	587	414	558
Lafayette Township	10	18	6	7	31
Litchfield Township	24	27	29	19	35
Liverpool Township	15	21	10	18	20
Lodi	0	0	0	0	0
Medina City	2,246	2,548	2,517	1,777	1,485
Medina City Building Department	4	6	5	5	22
Medina City Zoning	4	3	12	3	2
Medina County Drug Task Force	62	41	90	70	23
Medina County Parks	3	4	3	10	5
Medina County Sheriff	560	513	481	595	673
Medina County SPCA	4	6	14	10	3
Medina Dog Warden	0	0	0	2	1
Medina Township	582	834	951	1,168	945
Medina Township Zoning	0	0	0	0	0
Medway Enforcement Group	0	0	3	1	0
Metro Parks	8	8	10	30	76
Montville Township	767	743	846	1,032	687
North Royalton	0	2	5	3	3
Ohio Bureau of Workers' Comp	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio Department of Agriculture	0	0	0	0	1
Ohio Department of Transportation	6	6	5	8	0
Ohio Investigative Unit	1	9	5	5	8
Ohio State Patrol	2,667	3,573	3,425	3,744	3,612
Private Citizens	13	8	9	4	18
Spencer Village	48	67	80	92	186
State of Ohio	5	2	2	1	3
Strongsville	3	2	0	2	3
Zoning Violations	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	8,761	10,339	10,696	9,834	9,402
Reactivated Cases	<u>475</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>268</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>272</u>
TOTAL	9,236	10,636	10,964	10,104	9,674

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

AGENCY	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Brunswick City	60	69	74	53	68
Brunswick Hills Township	20	34	12	13	23
Hinckley Township	25	30	35	39	41
Lafayette Township	0	0	0	0	1
Litchfield Township	0	1	1	0	0
Liverpool Township	0	0	0	0	2
Medina City	90	110	131	88	96
Medina County Sheriff	36	27	32	33	38
Medina Township	32	35	48	71	31
Metro Parks	0	0	0	0	1
Montville Township	50	62	63	91	43
North Royalton	0	1	0	0	1
Ohio State Patrol	137	145	148	171	163
Spencer Village	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>
TOTAL	451	518	545	562	519
Reactivated Cases	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>17</u>
TOTAL	464	528	563	575	536

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

AGENCY	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Brunswick City	198	215	207	214	262
Brunswick Hills Township	773	879	930	279	302
Chippewa Lake	0	0	59	0	0
Chippewa Village Constable	0	0	0	0	0
Division of Wildlife	0	1	0	0	0
Granger Township Constable	0	0	0	1	0
Hinckley Township	238	303	432	322	449
Lafayette Township	10	18	6	7	30
Litchfield Township	23	26	27	19	35
Liverpool Township	15	21	10	18	18
Medina City	1,505	1,590	1,519	953	722
Medina County Sheriff	308	292	261	385	397
Medina Township	409	621	665	843	743
Metro Parks	3	2	3	11	18
Montville Township	571	535	607	721	527
North Royalton	0	1	5	3	1
Ohio State Patrol	2,437	3,317	3,194	3,474	3,373
Spencer Village	42	49	67	72	143
State of Ohio	1	0	1	1	2
Strongsville	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	6,536	7,872	7,993	7,325	7,025
Reactivated Cases	<u>333</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>175</u>
TOTAL	6,869	8,084	8,136	7,503	7,200

The Brunswick Mayor’s Court, which is within the Court’s jurisdiction, provided the following information:

CASE TYPE	CASES FILED	CASES TRANSFERRED TO MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT
Traffic	3,304	125
OVI	150	16
Criminal	755	77
Tax	627	---
Dog	22	---
Building	19	---
TOTAL	4,877	218

**CLERK OF COURT
NANCY L. ABBOTT**

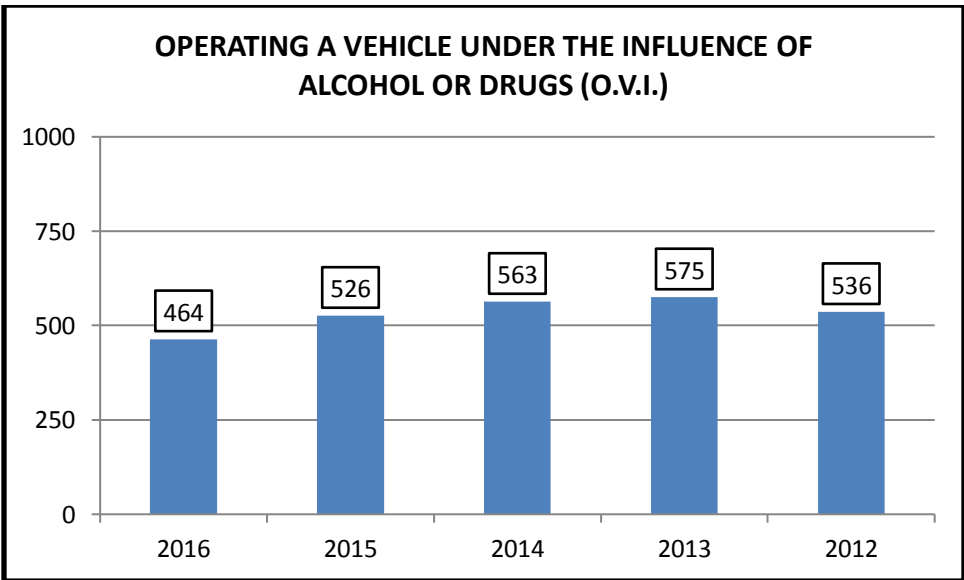
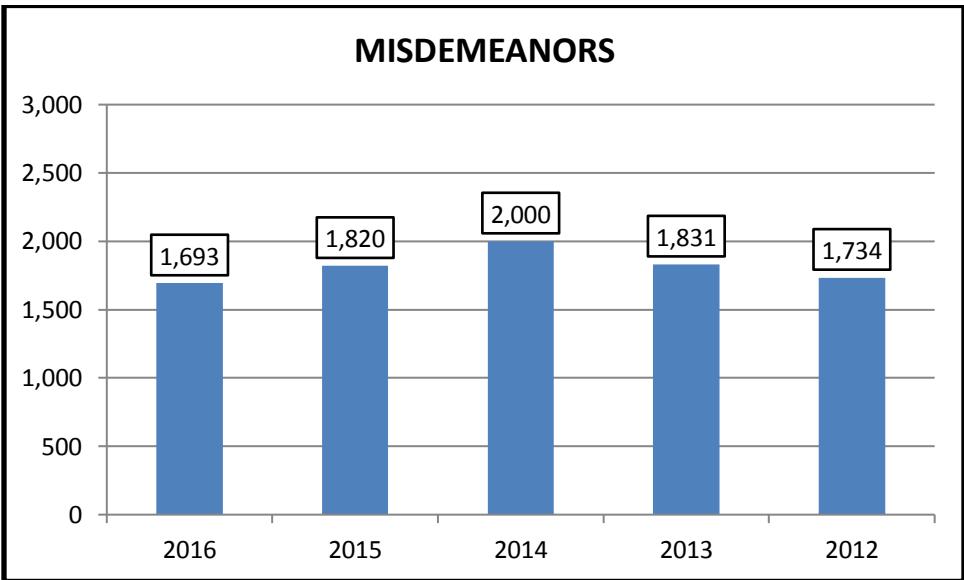
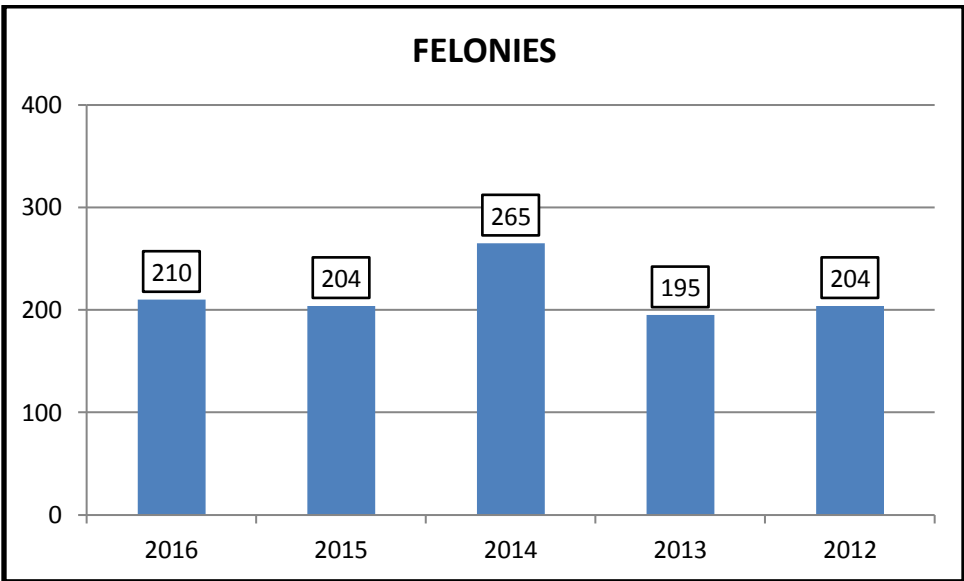
The following is a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Medina Municipal Court for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

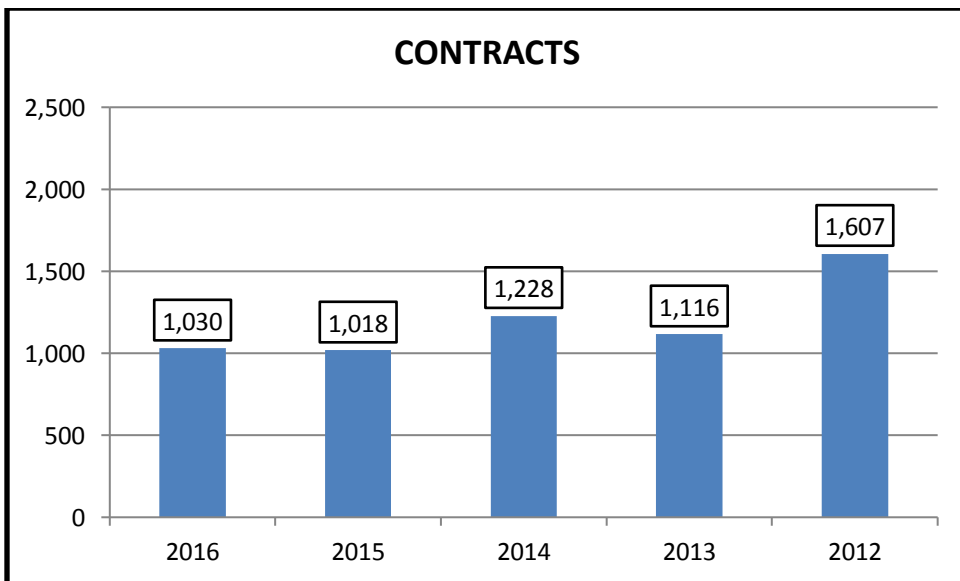
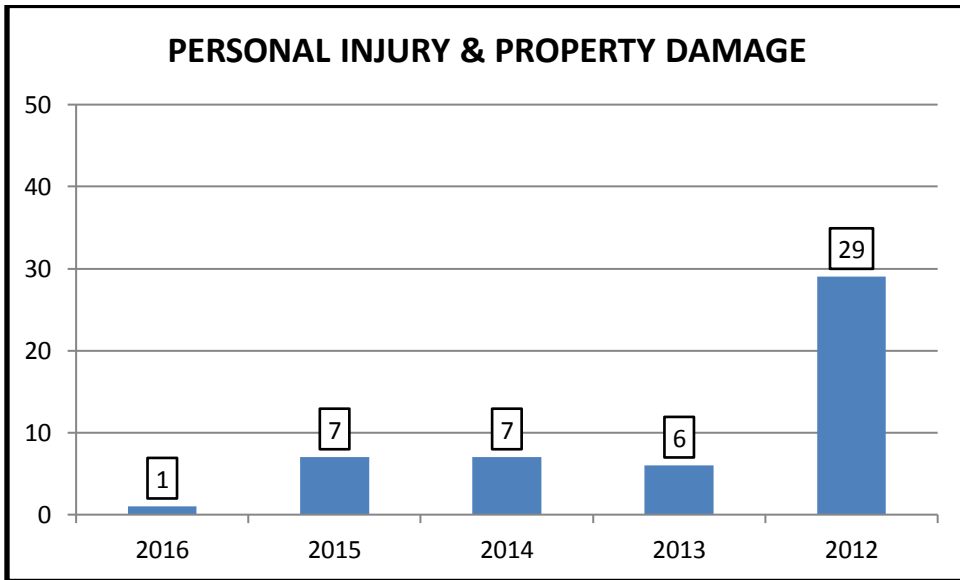
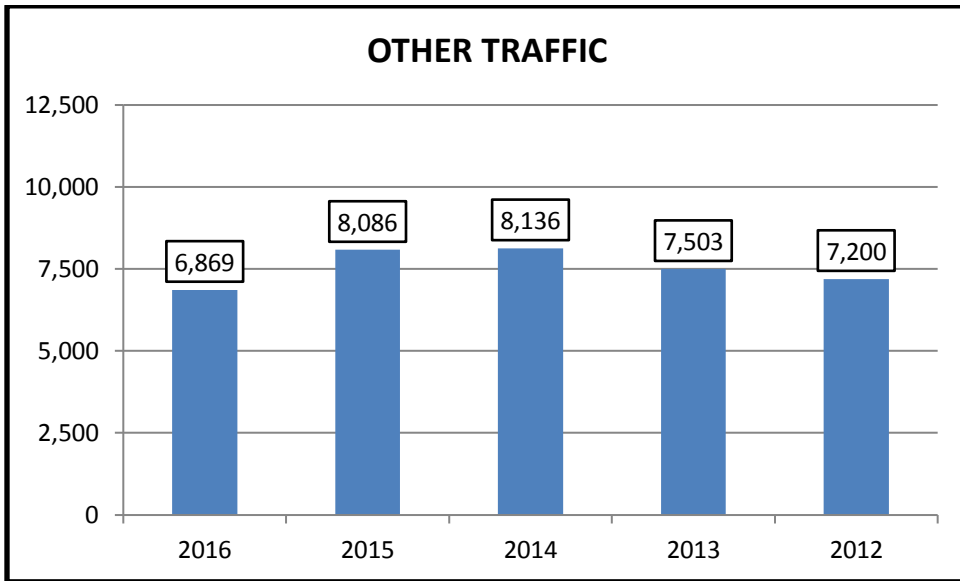
BOND ACCOUNT		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2016		123,337.72
Total receipts for 2016		432,842.38
Unclaimed Funds		4,663.42
Disbursements:		
Total disbursements for 2016		435,279.11
Indigent Defense State Fund (IDSF)		26,727.50
Balance as of December 31, 2016		98,836.91
CIVIL / LANDLORD-TENANT / TRUSTEE DIVISION		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2016		143,213.04
Cash Receipts		1,463,336.21
Disbursements:		
City of Medina		
Bailiff Fees		7,574.50
Bank Processing Fee		4,076.00
Case Management		8,404.00
Computer Legal Research Service Fee		7,510.00
Computer Capital Improvement Fund		25,000.00
Court Administrative Fee		580.11
Court Costs		230,121.42
Special Project Fund		50,000.00
Special Project Fund (FF&E)		17,507.00
State of Ohio		57,430.89
Miscellaneous		
Foreign Sheriff Fees		0.00
Jury and Witness Fees		0.00
Judgments, Returns & Transfers		1,104,138.12
Adjustments (voided checks, unclaimed funds, etc.)		<u>-7,309.05</u>
Total Civil Disbursements		1,505,032.99
Balance as of December 31, 2016		101,516.26
CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC ACCOUNT		
Cash Receipts:		
Balance as of January 1, 2016		0.00
Total CR/TR Receipts for 2016		2,112,187.78

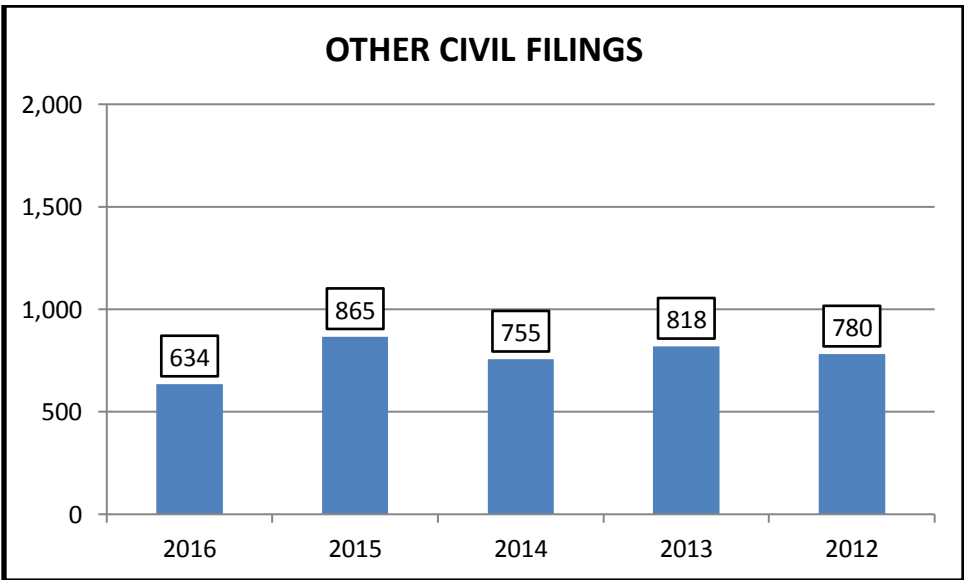
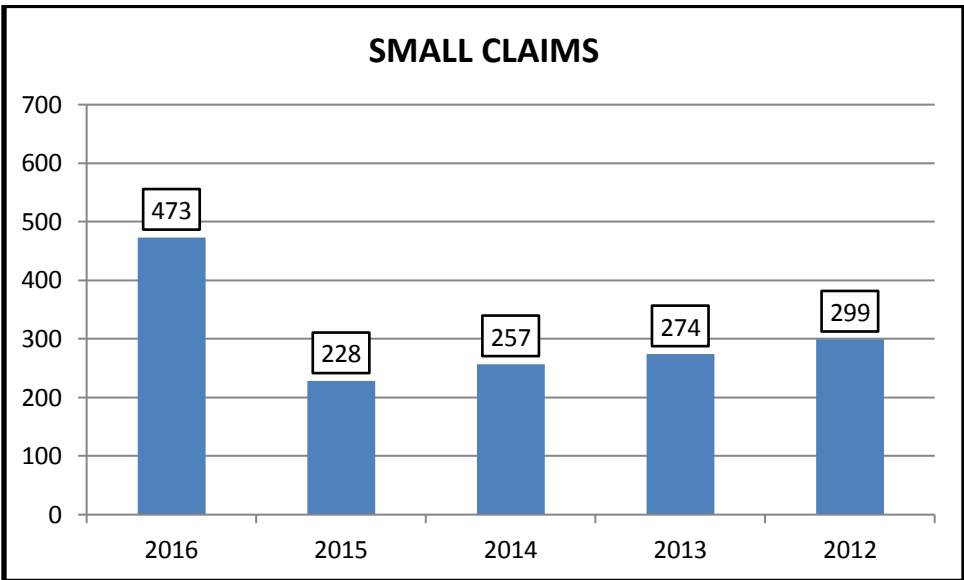
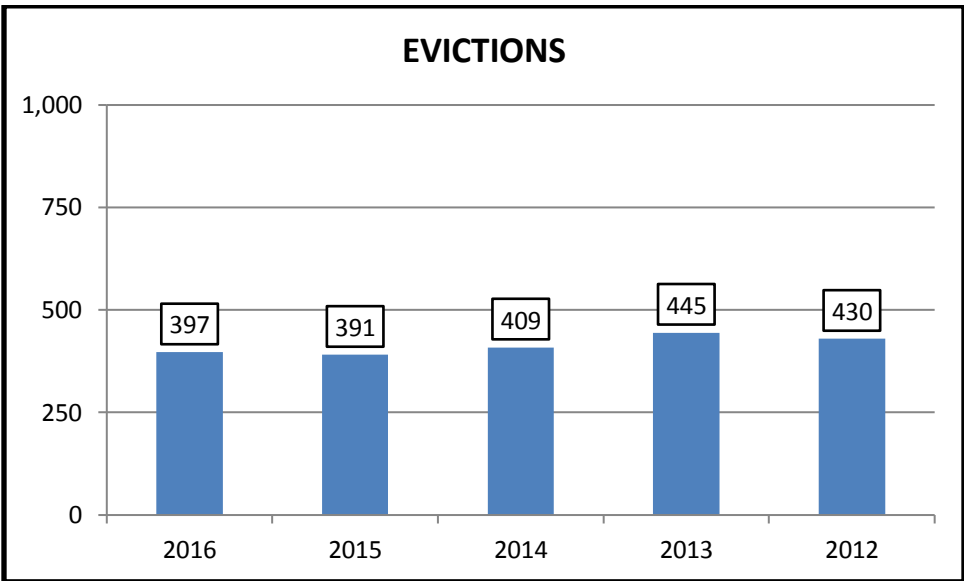
City Disbursements: City of Medina Finance Director		
	Bank Processing Fee	2,842.00
	10% Bond Fee	13,642.50
	Building Code Fines	200.00
	Case Management Fund	34,011.00
	City Police Fines	65,169.50
	Community Service Fee	280.00
	Computer Capital Improvement Fund	74,594.42
	Computer Legal Research Fund	22,413.10
	Court Costs	401,765.25
	Court Reporter Costs	30,331.31
	Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Act	23,110.30
	Indigent Interlock Fund	18,801.50
	Medina City Drug Enforcement Act	0.00
	Medina City DUI Enforcement Act	2,215.50
	Medina Street Maintenance	2,492.00
	Pre-sentence Investigation Fee	8,082.50
	Probation Service Fund	141,940.51
	Reimbursed Jury & Witness Fees	3,037.00
	Sealing of Record Fee	2,797.00
	Special Project Fund	174,569.45
	Special Project Fund - FF&E	51,493.00
	State Highway Patrol Fines	78,585.37
	Zoning Fines	100.00
Total Criminal Disbursements to Medina City:		1,152,473.21
State Disbursements: Treasurer, State of Ohio		
	Child Safety Act	870.00
	Drug Law Enforcement Fund	23,420.95
	Expungement Fees	2,456.00
	Indigent Defense Support Fund	213,540.40
	Seat Belt Fines	11,772.00
	State Highway Patrol DUI Enforcement	3,015.00
	State Highway Patrol Fines	98,230.02
	State Highway Patrol Safety Fund	10.00
	Victims of Crime	60,116.00
Total State Distribution:		413,430.37
Miscellaneous County Distributions:		
	Expungement Fees	1,620.00
	Indigent Application Fees	11,405.38
	Highway Maintenance Fund	1,789.00
	Jury & Witness Fees	2,498.00
	Miscellaneous Court Costs	10.00
	Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation	0.00
Total Miscellaneous County Distributions:		17,322.38

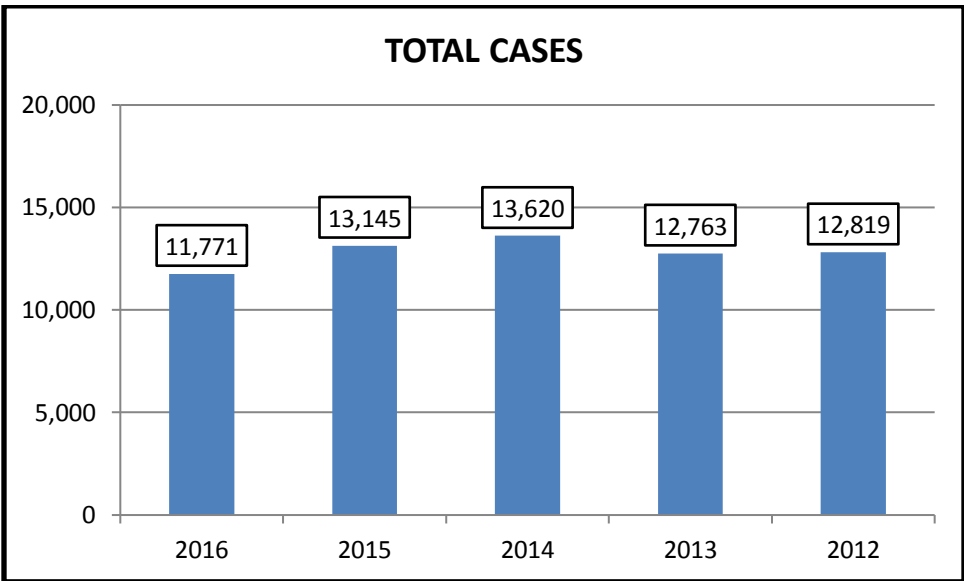
County Disbursements: Treasurer - County of Medina		
Brunswick City Police Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	9,146.00
	All Other Sections	3,072.50
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	2,500.00
Brunswick Hills Township Police Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	21,223.00
	All Other Sections	9,446.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	15,865.15
Hinckley Township Police Fines	4511-4513 Sections	55,403.00
	All Other Sections	4,420.50
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	2,435.00
Lafayette Constable Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	625.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	200.00
Litchfield Constable Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	1,775.00
	All Other Sections	25.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	200.00
Liverpool Constable Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	1,165.00
	All Other Sections	200.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	100.00
Medina City Police Fines - State Code:	4511-4513 Sections	31,391.50
	All Other Sections	16,388.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	32,183.00
Medina Township Police Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	30,894.50
	All Other Sections	5,036.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	8,321.90
Montville Township Police Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	48,581.00
	All Other Sections	5,345.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	19,555.80
Ohio State Patrol - 10%:	4511-4513 Sections	17,734.22
	All Other Sections	679.20
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	1,232.74
Spencer Township Police Fines:	4511-4513 Sections	725.00
	All Other Sections	200.00
	Aud. Cir. 81-5	463.00
Total County Distributions:		346,532.01

MISCELLANEOUS DISTSRIBUTIONS:	
Medina County - Sheriff - Fees:	5,819.50
Medina County - Sheriff Fines:	44,917.81
Medina County - Sheriff DUI Enforcement:	555.00
Medina County DUI Jail Costs:	26,038.50
Brunswick City - Fines & Costs:	36,016.50
Brunswick City - DUI Enforcement:	1,634.00
Brunswick Hills Police Fees:	4,000.00
Brunswick Hills DUI Enforcement:	536.00
Chippewa Village Zoning Fines:	200.00
Cleveland Metro Parks - Fines:	100.00
Hinckley Police Fines:	1,455.00
Hinckley DUI Enforcement:	815.00
Litchfield Township DUI Enforcement:	25.00
Medina Township Police Fines:	2,430.00
Medina Township DUI Enforcement:	823.00
Montville Township Police Fines:	3,254.00
Montville Township DUI Enforcement:	1,180.00
Montville Township Resolution Fines:	50.00
North Royalton Police Fines:	0.00
Spencer Village Fines:	2,058.00
Spencer Village DUI Enforcement:	50.00
Capital Recovery Collections:	25,662.59
Cuyahoga County Sheriff:	137.91
Medina County Treasurer - Law Library:	7,000.00
Ohio Board of Pharmacy:	15,719.00
Ohio Department of Natural Resources:	1,770.00
SPCA Fines:	183.00
Wayne County Sheriff:	<u>0.00</u>
Total Miscellaneous Distributions:	182,429.81
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Total Criminal and Traffic Disbursements:	2,112,187.78









PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Marirose Power, Chief Probation Officer

The probation department employs three full-time general supervision/presentence investigation officers, a part-time officer, a full-time intensive supervision probation officer, a full-time chief probation officer, and three part-time clerical staff. A grant from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction funds the position of the intensive supervision officer and one of the clerical staff. The grant funded program serves both the Medina and Wadsworth Municipal Courts.

The department completed presentence investigations in 917 cases and 175 sealing-of-records investigations. Additionally, 280 traffic cases were reviewed and prepared for sentencing and 280 victim impact statements were processed.

Four hundred three offenders were placed on probation. Of these, 63% were convicted of an OVI or closely related offense, 6% were convicted of domestic violence or threatening domestic violence (a reduced charge that originated as domestic violence), 6% were convicted of theft or property crimes, 3% committed assault (an act of violence), 3% had aggravated menacing/menacing charges and another 3% were convicted of underage alcohol charges. Protection order violators totaled 2%. The remaining 14% had a broad range of offenses such as telecommunications harassment, falsification, possessing drug abuse instruments and disorderly conduct.

Reporting appointments for the year totaled 2,542 and 1,255 drug tests were completed. The probation department also supervised persons ordered to bond reporting and electronically monitored house arrest and/or transdermal alcohol monitoring. All intervention in lieu of conviction candidates were monitored by probation officers, as were 38 individuals assigned to complete over 1,800 hours of community service. Seventy-two individuals were formally charged with violating conditions of probation.

ALCOHOL TREATMENT FUNDS AND JAIL COSTS

The Court collected \$28,033.30 for the Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Act (IDATA) in 2016. These funds can be used to pay for treatment of indigent defendants. The Court collected \$26,038.50 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 \$10,848.50 from funds 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

Current staffing of the Court's Bailiff's office consists of the Bailiff, four full-time and two part-time Deputy Bailiffs (who work as security officers manning the Court's metal detector at the Court's public entrance). Bailiffs remain responsible for Courtroom and building security, attending to the Court's electronic recording system, as well as overseeing the activities of all people using the Court and its facilities. The bailiff also supervises six additional part-time security guards who operate the Court's metal detector.

One Deputy Bailiff is responsible for the service of subpoenas and other Court papers throughout the Court's jurisdiction. This includes executing evictions and Court ordered sales of property. In 2016 the Bailiff's Office scheduled and executed 155 Writs of Restitution (eviction orders), conducted one Property Attachment, and one Replevin Action per Court order.

The Bailiff's office maintains and operates the Court's Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) terminal. The Court once again passed the triennial performed by LEADS, and remains in compliance with all LEADS and NCIC regulations. Of note, the LEADS auditor specifically complimented the Court for zero errors noted when conducting criminal history background checks (which are routinely performed by the Court's bailiffs and probation officers).

The Bailiff's office continues to actively pursue defendants who have failed to appear at the Court, or have otherwise ignored Court orders. During 2016 the Court's bailiffs physically arrested 49 defendants, and cleared a total of 265 warrants.

The Bailiff's office administers the Court's program of entering the Court's probationers into the National Crime Information Center's (NCIC) Supervised Release File. These entries allow law enforcement agencies across the nation (as well as Canada and Mexico) to identify people they have come into contact with who are on probation to this Court. These agencies may then contact the Court's probation staff for additional information as necessary (e.g. individuals being screened for a firearms purchase or being screened by ICE). This allows the Court's Probation Department to better monitor those defendants on probation. At the end of 2016 the Court listed 419 probationers in the Supervised Release File. During 2016 the Court recorded 124 contacts with various law enforcement agencies dealing with the Court's probationers.

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 43 printers, 3 printer/copier/fax systems, 53 desktop and 5 laptop PC's. Two Dell Power Edge VRTX Servers handle the case management system, document storage and online Court access. A Meraki firewall appliance was installed to comply with requirements from the Ohio LEADS organization. The Antivirus protection was upgraded on all systems.

The Court works with Technology Engineering Group in cooperation with the City of Medina to improve hardware and software programs. This year, extensive server software upgrades were installed to coincide with the E-Ticket installation.

The case management system now is integrated with the Ohio State Patrol E-ticketing system. This allows the tickets to be automatically uploaded from patrol vehicles to our system. This reduces the data entry time and increases the accuracy of information entered. This system can be expanded to other law enforcement departments to share the system, if they desire.

Court records are backed up continually to the Barracuda Cloud system which is maintained off site. The Court data contains records back to 1980. The audio is recorded in both Courtrooms by software from FTR systems and stored on multiple computers. Backups are made for each Courtroom and stored offsite and on multiple pc's within the building allowing quick recovery for Court staff, attorneys and clients

Two LEADS computer systems are used by the Court allowing timely lookup of data for the Court processing as well as reducing the workload for the Medina Police Department. The LEADS systems were upgraded to the newest release allowing much faster access to the information.

The website is hosted by Blue Domino. The website allows lookups based on case scheduling for both Criminal and Traffic as well as Civil cases.

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 meeting:

- January 2016 – Association of Municipal/County Court Judges of Ohio 2016 Winter Conference.

Magistrate Lawrie and Magistrate Leggett are active members of the Ohio Association of Magistrates.

Chief Magistrate Lawrie serves on the Court Technology Committee of the Ohio Judicial Conference (www.ohiojudges.org). The committee “explores new development in Court technology and policies related to it, and serves as a resource to help Ohio judges effectively use technology.”

Chief Magistrate Lawrie attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- April 2016 – Ohio Association of Magistrates 2016 Spring Conference – *The Language of Poverty; the Middle Class Rules and Assumptions of our Court System; Advice from the Bend – Providing Access to the Court for All; My Journey from Poverty to the Bench. Anatomy of a Case: Opening; Pretrial Basics; Dispositive Motions; ex Parte Trials and Default Hearings; Integration of a Case from Commencement through Pretrial. Constitutional Law Refresher.*

Magistrate Lawrie prepared and participated in presentations for the Ohio Judicial Conference Court Technology Conference – April 2016.

Magistrate Leggett attended the following association meetings and seminars:

- September 2016 – Ohio Association of Magistrates 2016 Fall Conference – *Report on the Judiciary; Judicial Conduct: Judicial Ethics, Promoting Professionalism; Protecting the Record: Writing for the Appellate Bench; Appellate Judge Panel; Traffic Trial Basics; Legislative Rules and Case Law Updates; Art of Accepting a Plea; Ohio Courts Update; Everything to Know about Driving Under Suspension; Ohio’s Drug Problem & the Formation of Specialized Drug Courts; Misdemeanor Sentencing & Ability to Pay; Building Organizational Success through Emotional Intelligence.*

FOREIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING SERVICES

The Court maintains interpreting services for defendants who do not speak English and require assistance in their native language to understand Court proceedings. The Supreme Court of Ohio contracts with Language Line Services of Monterey, California and offers their services to Ohio Courts to provide language translation for short Court proceedings (approximately 5 to 10 minutes in length). Monarca Language Services, a Medina business, is used by the Court for other translation services.

WEDDINGS

Judge Chase performed 71 weddings in 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

MARCH 31, 2017

DALE H. CHASE, JUDGE

NANCY L. ABBOTT, CLERK