

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

GARY F. WERNER

presiding Judge &

administrative judge

joseph f. salzgeber

CLERK of Courts

135 North Elmwood Avenue

Medina, Ohio 44256

*Proudly serving the communities of Brunswick Hills Township, Brunswick City, Chatham Township, Chippewa Lake Village, Granger Township, Hinckley Township, Lafayette Township, Litchfield Township, Liverpool Township, Medina City, Medina Township, Montville Township, Spencer Township, Spencer Village, York Township, in addition to the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District, Medina County Sheriff and the Ohio State Patrol*

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## MARCH 31, 2022

Medina City Council & Mayor

Medina County Commissioners

The following is the 2021 annual report of operations for the Medina Municipal Court as required by Ohio Revised Code Sec. 1901.14.

The Court received new filings of 10,697 cases and terminated 11,415 cases.

These cases generated $3,966,106.67in receipts, which included bond, criminal, traffic and civil judgments.

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

COURT STAFF LISTINGS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Judicial Staff | |
| Gary F. Werner | Judge, Administrative/Presiding |
| Linda Leggett | Chief Magistrate |
| Charles T. Lawrie | Magistrate |
|  |  |
| Administrative Staff |  |
| Cindy Lastuka | Court Manager |
| Jacki Ols | Judicial Assistant |
| Jon Mazanetz | Senior IT Technician |
| Shari McKee | Assignment Commissioner |
|  |  |
| Bailiffs |  |
| Ryan Nagy | Chief Bailiff |
| Patty Lavery | Deputy Chief Bailiff |
| Dave Ellinger | Bailiff |
| Nathan Janus | Bailiff |
| Steve McBride | Bailiff |
| Bob Gabriel | Bailiff |
| Ray Bulka | Bailiff |
|  |  |
| Probation Department |  |
| Matt Esterle | Chief Probation Officer |
| Gene Merinar | Deputy Chief Probation Officer |
| Molly Kafer | Probation Officer |
| Angela Kiss | Probation Officer |
| Amy Darr | Probation Officer |
| Melanie Stroup | Probation Officer (P/T) |
| Noelle Hayes | Probation Officer/Support Staff (P/T) |
| Renee Thomas | Probation Secretary (P/T) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

CLERK OF COURT STAFF LISTINGS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Supervisory Staff |  |
| Joseph Salzgeber | Clerk of Court |
| Leah Monschein | Chief Deputy Clerk |
|  |  |
| Criminal Traffic |  |
|  |  |
| Cynthia Kolosky | Deputy Clerk |
| Nichole Galante | Deputy Clerk |
| Doris Sidwell | Deputy Clerk |
| Christine Green | Deputy Clerk |
| Megan Pierce | Deputy Clerk |
| Tracy Wasmer | Deputy Clerk |
| Tammy Miller | Deputy Clerk |
|  |  |
| Civil/Small Claims |  |
| Kate Cather | Deputy Clerk |
| Laura Riegelsberger | Deputy Clerk |
| Allison Delsanter | Deputy Clerk |
| Michele Sloan | Deputy Clerk (P/T)/Bookkeeper |



CASE FILINGS AND TERMINATION STATISTICS

Cindy Lastuka, Court Manager

The following is a report of the Medina Municipal Court 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 submitted monthly to the Ohio Supreme Court.



The following breaks down total traffic and criminal cases based upon the originating state, county, municipal, or township arresting agency.



The following breaks down total operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or a drug of abuse (“OVI”) cases based upon the originating state, county, municipal, or township arresting agency.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
| CASELOAD COMPARISON BY ARRESTING AGENCY | | | | | |
| DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE CASES | | | | | |
| TOTAL CASES 2021-2017 | | | | | |
| AGENCY | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Brunswick City | 44 | 57 | 48 | 39 | 59 |
| Brunswick Hills Twp. | 30 | 23 | 52 | 47 | 31 |
| Chippewa Lake | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hinckley Twp. | 11 | 20 | 22 | 42 | 21 |
| Lafayette Twp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Litchfield Twp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Liverpool Twp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Medina City Police | 60 | 56 | 78 | 105 | 99 |
| Medina County Parks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Medina County Sheriff Dept. | 29 | 18 | 22 | 27 | 32 |
| Medina Twp. | 22 | 33 | 29 | 28 | 35 |
| Metro Parks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Montville Twp. | 24 | 22 | 26 | 33 | 39 |
| North Royalton | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ohio State Patrol | 195 | 114 | 203 | 240 | 184 |
| Spencer Village | 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 416 | 345 | 484 | 562 | 505 |
| Reactivated Cases | 52 | 50 | 73 | 15 | 16 |
| Total | 468 | 395 | 557 | 577 | 521 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BRUNSWICK MAYOR'S COURT 2021 CASE FILINGS | | | |
| Type | # Filed | Transferred to Medina Municipal Court | Transfer % |
|
| Traffic | 2159 | 100 | 4.63% |
| OVI | 81 | 12 | 14.81% |
| Criminal | 383 | 57 | 14.88% |
| Tax | 592 | 1 | 0.17% |
| Dog | 12 | 0 | 0.00% |

The Brunswick Mayor’s Court, which is within the Court’s jurisdiction, provided the information to the left for this 2021 Annual Report.

The following breaks down total “Other Traffic” cases based upon the originating state, county, municipal, or township arresting agency.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT | | | | | |
| CASELOAD COMPARISON BY ARRESTING AGENCIES | | | | | |
| OTHER TRAFFIC CASES | | | | | |
| TOTAL 2021-2017 | | | | | |
| AGENCY | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Brunswick City | 171 | 341 | 170 | 176 | 180 |
| Brunswick Hills Twp. | 514 | 314 | 991 | 1019 | 977 |
| Chippewa Lake | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chippewa Lake Zoning | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chippewa Village Constable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Division of Wildlife | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Granger Township Constable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hinckley Twp. | 182 | 241 | 370 | 256 | 439 |
| Lafayette Twp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Litchfield Twp. | 4 | 4 | 7 | 15 | 12 |
| Liverpool Twp. | 1 | 3 | 11 | 10 | 11 |
| Medina City Building | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Medina City Zoning | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Medina Police Department | 942 | 1005 | 2290 | 2374 | 1766 |
| Medina County Parks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Medina County Sheriff Dept. | 332 | 221 | 261 | 262 | 328 |
| Medina Twp. | 265 | 221 | 306 | 339 | 350 |
| Metro Parks | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Montville Twp. | 378 | 326 | 324 | 425 | 436 |
| North Royalton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Ohio Dept of Liquor | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ohio Investigative | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ohio State Patrol | 3009 | 3198 | 3388 | 3501 | 3023 |
| Private Citizen | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Spencer Police Dept | 122 | 138 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Spencer Village | 1 | 3 | 159 | 62 | 90 |
| State of Ohio | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Strongsville | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Zoning Violations | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 5923 | 6017 | 8279 | 8,448 | 7,626 |
| Reactivated Cases | 530 | 448 | 308 | 339 | 215 |
| Total | 6453 | 6465 | 8587 | 8,787 | 7,841 |

The following several pages graphically display caseloads by case type over the last five years, with trend lines superimposed to convey case filing trends. The total annual cases comparison is the last graph displayed.

The following table stretches over several pages. It summarizes all receipts and disbursements, alphabetically arranged by recipient, which the Clerk’s office made during the referenced 12-month period in 2021.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Civil Account Balance Listing | | | | | | | | | |
| 01/01/2021 To 12/31/2021 | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Account | | | | Beginning  Balance | Receipts | Agency  Checks | Checks | Ending  Balance | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Disbursement | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BOND DEPOSIT CIVIL | | | | 0.00 | 225.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 225.00 | |
| CIVIL AGENCY CHECK | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| CIVIL EOM ADJUSTMENT | | | | (3,997.79) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | (3,997.79) | |
| CIVIL HOLDING ACCOUNT DEPOSIT | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| CIVIL REFUNDS | | | | 0.00 | 5,195.41 | 0.00 | 5,195.41 | 0.00 | |
| GARNISHMENT CHECK PAYOUT ACCOUNT | | | | (14,879.95) | 1,332,237.60 | 0.00 | 1,265,419.71 | 51,937.94 | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MEDINA CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR | | | | | | | | | |
| 1% ADMINISTRATIVE FEE | | | | 21.83 | 605.83 | 593.43 | 0.00 | 34.23 | |
| 10% BOND - CIVIL | | | | 0.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| CASE MANAGEMENT FUND | | | | 12,425.00 | 14,492.14 | 14,256.54 | 0.00 | 12,660.60 | |
| CIVIL UNCLAIMED FUNDS | | | | 0.00 | 1,671.08 | 921.08 | 0.00 | 750.00 | |
| CLERKS COMPUTER IMPROVEMENT FU - CIVIL | | | | 24,860.00 | 28,984.28 | 28,513.08 | 0.00 | 25,331.20 | |
| COMMUNITY SERVICE SPECIAL PROJ | | | | 1,235.52 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,235.52 | |
| COMPUTER LEGAL SERVICES FUND | | | | 7,455.00 | 8,695.28 | 8,553.92 | 0.00 | 7,596.36 | |
| COURT'S SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND CIVIL | | | | 2,080.00 | 57,968.62 | 56,988.62 | 0.00 | 3,060.00 | |
| MEDINA CITY BAILIFF FEE - CIVIL | | | | 834.86 | 20,760.06 | 20,437.92 | 0.00 | 1,157.00 | |
| MEDINA CIVIL COURT COSTS | | | | 15,272.56 | 301,310.80 | 299,249.33 | 5.80 | 17,328.23 | |
| SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND CV- DRUG TESTING | | | | 0.00 | 5,830.00 | 5,065.00 | 0.00 | 765.00 | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TREASURER STATE OF OHIO | | | | | | | | | |
| BOND SURCHARGE - CIVIL | | | | 0.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| CIVIL STATE FEE | | | | 2,161.04 | 59,978.29 | 58,750.56 | 0.00 | 3,388.77 | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Holding | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FOREIGN SHERIFF | | | | 540.00 | 875.00 | 0.00 | 1,415.00 | 0.00 | |
| NEWSPAPER ADS | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| SECURITY FOR COSTS | | | | 1,575.00 | 1,527.00 | 0.00 | 1,602.00 | 1,500.00 | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTALS | | | | 49,583.07 | 1,840,406.39 | 493,379.48 | 1,273,637.92 | 122,972.06 | |









MAGISTRATES’ OFFICE 2021 REPORT

LINDA A. LEGGETT – CHIEF MAGISTRATE

CHARLES T. LAWRIE – MAGISTRATE

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

JUDICIAL SEMINARS

*(All seminars are through the Judicial College of the Supreme Court of Ohio unless otherwise noted*)

Magistrate Leggett attended the following seminar(s):

February and March 2021: Veterans Treatment Court Foundational Training (Provided by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals E-Learning Center)

*Drug Courts and MAT: The Legal Landscape; Interpretation of Drug Testing Results in MAT; Long-Term Opioid Therapy and Chronic Pain; Medication Assisted Therapies; Primary Components of Evidence-Based Treatments for Addictions; Pros and Cons of MAT; Strategies to Reduce Diversion of Abusable Medications; Veteran Mentor Coordinator; Veterans and Trauma; What are Substance Abuse Disorders; What is Medication-Assisted Treatment*

March 9 - 11, 2021: Veterans Treatment Court Foundational Training (provided by the Bureau of Justice Assistance U.S. Department of Justice Foundational Training)

*Why Have a Veterans Treatment Court; Know Your Role: What Do You Do and What You Share; Selecting the Right Participants; Identifying the VTC Population; Developing the Entry Process; One Thing You Learned Yesterday; Equity and Inclusion; Defining Treatment and Continuum Care; Supervising the Veteran; A Blueprint for Phases; Defining Phases; Responses to Client Behavior; Funding Opportunities; Developing Your Action Plan and Follow-Up Schedule*

April 2021: Ohio Association of Magistrate’s 2021 Spring Conference

*Civil Rule Changes; Virtual Proceedings in Common Pleas Court; Working with Self-Represented Litigants; Cell Phone Forensics and Cellular Location Evidence: The Challenge of Spoofed, Faked, and Manipulated Messages and Automated Software Acting as an Expert; Bankruptcy Issues in Trial Court; Judicial Decision Writing – Protecting the Record for Appeal; Governor’s Task Force on Warrants; Bail Reform/PSA Court; Immigration Issues in Municipal Court; Ohio’s Cannabis Law; Lessons Lawyers Can Learn from Dr. Seuss*

June 2021: Criminal Justice Information Services Security Awareness Training

Magistrate Lawrie attended the following seminar(s):

June 2021: Criminal Justice Information Services Security Awareness Training

October 2021: Ohio Association of Magistrate’s 2021 Fall Conference

*Limited Scope Representation; Legislative and Rules Updates; Rule 11 and Frivolous Conduct; Attorney Fee Issues in Civil Litigation; Costs in Civil Actions; Mobile Home Law; Sealing the Record in Evictions; Subsidized Housing and Equity in Evictions; Driving Privileges, License Suspensions, and Distracted Driving*

December 2021: Continuing Legal Education (On Demand Self Study)

*Substance Use and the Courts; Legal Writing for the Judicial Writer; Advanced Hearsay: Admissions; Everything You Need to Know About Electronics Administration; Handling Contempt Situations; The Language of Justice: Ensuring Access to Ohio Courts; Personal Security for Judicial Officers; Harassment Prevention for Judges and Supervisors; Advanced Hearsay: Exceptions; Hearsay Basics; Implicit Bias and the Judiciary; Procedural Fairness for Judicial Officers and Court Personnel; Public Access and Records Retention; Fundamentals of Caseflow Management and Statistical Reporting*

PROBATION DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Matt Esterle-Chief Probation Officer/Valor Court Program Coordinator

Gene Merinar-Deputy Chief Probation Officer

Amy Darr-Probation Officer/JRIG/CCA Grant Coordinator

Robert Gabriel-Bailiff/Hybrid Probation/Community Service

Noelle Hayes-Probation Officer/Sealing of Records

Molly Kafer-Probation Officer/Valor Court Probation Officer

Angela Kiss-ISP Probation Officer

Melanie Stroup-Probation Officer

Renee Thomas-Department Secretary

2021 was a year of adaptation, overcoming adversity, and a new beginning in the Adult Probation Department. In early 2020, the COVID-19 crisis/pandemic altered the course of business dramatically with closures and shut-downs, stay at home orders, mask mandates, etc. The Court was not immune to this and changes in normal procedures and protocol were initiated. The Probation Department obtained a $28,614.91 grant from the Ohio Supreme Court Remote Technology Grant that was used to purchase seven (7) laptop computers as well as a new case-management tool, i.e., Ohio Community Supervision System (OCSS). The acquisition of this equipment and computer management tools allowed the Probation Department to seamlessly transition away from a model of strictly in-person reporting. Operational procedure shifted to permit officers to maintain contact with defendants by monitoring them through telephonic check-ins and virtual reporting. Supervision appointments, Interviews, and Compliance Verification were all handled virtually.

These changes permitted officers to maintain their supervision responsibilities and to lessen foot traffic in the building and probation office, while still holding defendants accountable for serving their sentences and completing court ordered directives. This action also reduced potential exposure to coronavirus, increased staff safety, and decreased community spread. Additionally, text notifications and alerts to notify probationers of their scheduled appointments, drug testing requirements, and communication with their assigned officer show a marked increase in compliance to court orders, reporting requirements, and satisfying sentencing directives.

In 2021, the probation department completed 725 Pre-Sentence Investigations (PSI) for the court including 148 defendants incarcerated in the Medina County Jail. A Pre-Sentence Investigation is a report prepared by a court's probation officer on request by the court. It is the report of the investigation conducted to find out the history including the educational, criminal, family, and social background of a person convicted of a crime. It summarizes for a court the background information needed to determine the appropriate sentence.

The probation department completed 78 Sealing of Records investigations for applicants seeking relief and sealing of prior records. Record sealing is the practice of sealing or, in some cases, destroying court records that would otherwise be publicly accessible as [public records](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_record). The term is derived from the tradition of placing a [seal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seal_(device)) on specified files or documents that prevents anyone from reviewing the files without receiving a [court order](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Court_order). The modern process and requirements to seal a record and the protections it provides vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and even between civil and [criminal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criminal_law) cases.

Generally, record sealing can be defined as the process of removing from general review the records pertaining to a court case. However, the records may not completely disappear and may still be reviewed under limited circumstances; in most instances, it requires a court order to unseal records once they are sealed. In the United States, some states order records to be destroyed after they are sealed.

Once a record is sealed, in some states, the contents are legally considered never to have occurred and are not acknowledged by the state. The public policy of record sealing balances the desire to free named citizens from the burdens caused by the information contained in state records while maintaining the state's interest in the preservation of records that may be beneficial to the state or other citizens. In many cases, a person with a sealed record gains the legal right to deny or not acknowledge anything to do with the arrest and the legal proceedings from the case itself.

Victim impact statements are written or oral information from crime victims, in their own words, about how a crime has affected them. All 50 states allow victim impact statements at some phase of the sentencing process. Most states permit them at sentencing hearings and victim impact information is generally included in the pre-sentencing report presented to the judge. The probation department processed 271 victim impact statements during 2021.

The purpose of victim impact statements is to allow crime victims, during the decision-making process on sentencing, to describe to the court the impact of the crime. A judge may use information from these statements to help determine an offender's sentence. Victim impact statements may provide information about damage to victims that would otherwise have been unavailable to courts. Victims are often not called to testify in court, and if they testify, they must respond to narrow, specific questions. Victim impact statements are often the victims' only opportunity to participate in the criminal justice process or to confront the offenders who have harmed them. Many victims report that making such statements improves their satisfaction with the criminal justice process and helps them recover from the crime.

Victim impact statements may include descriptions of:

* + Physical damage caused by the crime.
  + Emotional damage caused by the crime.
  + Financial costs to the victim from the crime.
  + Medical or psychological treatments required by the victim or his or her family.
  + The need for restitution (court-ordered funds that the offender pays the victim for crime-related expenses).
  + The victim's views on the crime or the offender.
  + The victim's views on an appropriate sentence.

On January 1, 2021, the Department’s adult probation population was 262 individuals under court-ordered supervision. A total of 244 individuals were discharged from probation in 2021, 89% of which discharged individuals were considered successful releases. During 2021, 218 offenders were placed on probation. Of these, 54% were convicted of OVI or closely related offenses; 4% were convicted of Domestic Violence/Threatening Domestic Violence; 2% were convicted of property offenses; 12% were other violent offenses (assault); and the remaining 28% were convicted of various offenses including but not limited to drug law violations, sex offenses, and other traffic offenses. Reporting appointments for the year totaled 1080 and for the 5th straight year, over 1000 drug and alcohol screens were submitted. The probation department also supervised individuals ordered to pre-trial bond reporting and electronically monitored house arrest and transdermal alcohol monitoring.

In 2021, the Medina Municipal Court monitored 82 clients on a Continuous Alcohol Monitoring Device (CAM) for a total of 4615 days of monitoring. There were 12 confirmed alcohol consumption violations and 16 instances of tampering with the monitoring equipment. The MMC Probation Department reached a 99.5% “Sober Days” rating, meaning of the 4615 days’ clients were monitored, 99.5% of them were quantifiably abstinent. Nationally, in 2021, the average was 98.9%. Clients in the CAM Program participated for an average of 56 days.

In 2021, 15 MMC clients were monitored with Global Positioning (GPS) for a total of 366 days.

In 2021, 1991.25 Hours of Community Service Work was completed during the year on projects benefitting the citizens of this jurisdiction and representing a savings of approximately $19,912.00 USD to taxpayers.

VETERANS TREATMENT COURT ESTABLISHED IN 2021

Also in 2021, the Honorable Gary F. Werner, Judge of the Medina Municipal Court, established the State of Ohio’s 29th Veterans Treatment Court Program, otherwise known as Valor Court. Veteran’s Treatment Courts are specialized dockets dedicated to defendants with military experience who find themselves in the criminal justice system. It was established recognizing that many of our veterans return to civilian life with serious physical, substance abuse disorders and/or mental trauma. Too often, these conditions lead to their involvement with the criminal justice system.

Valor Court provides an evidenced-based alternative to traditional sentencing methods, using a non-adversarial approach to addressing criminal offenses. It is structured to assist the veteran with access to programs, treatment and interaction with mentors, in a collaborative initiative to enhance their chances of sustained success. Its rewards and sanctions are designed to incentivize rehabilitation, to anticipate and deter relapse, and to restore participants to functional decision making and relationships.

Valor Court is supervised by an Advisory Committee of community stakeholders and is operated by volunteers from the court, relevant government agencies and the community. Prior to implementing the program, and to ensure effective operation of the program, the court, its staff, and various community treatment providers attended various training courses. The courses included 3-days of intensive in-person training, as well as over 25-hours of virtual training. The training was provided by the United States Department of Justice / Office of Justice Programs, in collaboration with the Justice for Vets/National Association of Drug Court Professionals.

Judge Gary F. Werner and the Valor Court received preliminary certification from the Supreme Court of Ohio in August 2021 granting permission to begin operations. In December 2021, Supreme Court Staff attended/observed and evaluated the Valor Court Program. Certification is granted when the written materials submitted by each court and observations made during the site review demonstrate compliance with the certification standards under Ohio Supreme Court’s Rules of Superintendence, Rules 36.20 through 36.26. Valor Court received Final Certification December 16th, 2021. To date: Four (4) individuals have elected to participate in Valor Court since program inception. Upon Final Certification, Valor Court received grant funding ($150,000.00) from the Ohio Department of Mental Health/Addiction Services (OMHAS) to be used for the operation of the Valor Court Program through fiscal year 2023.

Goals for the probation department in 2022 include; expanding access to the Veterans Treatment Court specialized docket to assist and address justice involved veterans. Increasing success rates of individuals placed on probation while reducing jail overcrowding and increasing access to support systems and substance abuse treatment programming including medication assisted therapy (MAT) by working with local treatment providers. Obtaining a vehicle for the use of the probation department as well as a Community Supervision Unit wherein probation officers will be conducting home visits and meeting defendants in the community to verify and support adherence to sentencing directives. This is to expand the dynamic work occurring within the department and the court in general.

BAILIFF'S OFFICE 2021 YEARLY REPORT

Ryan Nagy Chief Bailiff

Patty Lavery Deputy Chief Bailiff

Dave Ellinger Deputy Bailiff

Nathan Janus Deputy Bailiff

Steve McBride Deputy Bailiff

Bob Gabriel Deputy Bailiff

Ray Bulka Deputy Bailiff

Current staffing of the Court's Bailiff's Office consists of the Chief Bailiff, six full-time Deputy Bailiffs. Bailiffs remain responsible for courtroom and general building security, attending to the Court's audio recording system, assisting the Clerk of Court's operation by way of in court operation of the Benchmark Case Management System, and assisting the Court's Probation Department by conducting field visits. The Chief Bailiff also supervises four additional part-time security guards who operate the Court's metal detector at the Court's security checkpoint.

In regard to the court security function, the Bailiff's Office handled five (5) extraordinary incidents in the Court. A synopsis of these incidents is listed in the accompanying attachment.

One Deputy Bailiff is responsible for the service of subpoenas and other court documents throughout the Court's jurisdiction. This includes executing evictions and Court ordered recovery/sales of property. During 2021, the Bailiff's Office scheduled and executed 83 Writs of Execution (eviction orders). (See Table #1) Also, one (1) Replevin action and three (3) Court ordered auctions were conducted during 2020.

The Bailiff's Office continues to pursue defendants who have failed to appear at the Court, or otherwise ignored court orders. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, along with other contributing factors, during 2021 the Court’s Bailiffs did not physically respond out to serve warrants. Bailiff’s office cleared a total of 234 warrants by all means. This compares to the 11 defendant's arrested, and 251 total warrants cleared in 2020 by the Bailiff's Office. This is a decrease of 7% in the total number of warrants cleared when compared to the preceding year

It should be noted that the number of evictions executed, as well as the pro-active warrant service activity, were all significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. All normal Court activity was hampered by the necessity of adhering to state and local guidelines which affected the ability of the Bailiff's Office to go into the community and conduct normal operations. For example, the various Federal moratoriums on evictions forestalled a number of evictions that would have normally been carried out. Likewise, restrictions put in place at the Medina County Jail severely limited the number of defendants that could be accepted into the facility, thus necessarily curtailing the pro-active attempts to locate and arrest individuals with active warrants. Overall, this was offset to some degree by increasing telephone contacts with these individuals, and convincing them to voluntarily come to the Court to resolve their warrant issues without the specter of jail incarceration being likely.

The monitoring of defendants not in custody, and under Court issued conditions of bond, remains an important function of the Bailiff's Office. The Bailiff's Office enters those defendants into the NCIC/LEADS Supervised Release File, which allows law enforcement to be aware of the status of these defendants should they have contact with them. This allows the Court to assist the county jail in reducing the jail population which is a critical need during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This in turn allows the release of more low risk defendants, and yet maintain some pre-adjudication control of these defendants by way of imposing certain conditions of bond which are fashioned to encourage compliance.

During 2021 the Bailiff's Office entered 213 defendants into the NCIC/LEADS Supervised Release File (with an additional 87 defendants already previously entered and active at the beginning of 2021). These entries produced 69 subsequent contacts with law enforcement agencies for a variety of reasons. Additionally, the Bailiff's Office conducted 218 random compliance checks in regard to these entered defendants. This was relatively equal to the 215 random compliance checks conducted during 2020. Defendants were found at home during 88 of these random compliance checks, during which 30 violations were discovered. The remaining 53 visits found the defendants in compliance with their conditions of bond. When combining the 69 law enforcement contact violations, and the 35 violations discovered by the Bailiff's Office, there were a total 104 violations recorded in relation to the 213 total defendant's entered in the Supervised Release File during 2021. This represents a 48.0% bond condition violation rate. Additionally, the Court issued 33 warrants for defendants who failed to appear for their court hearings.

In addition to the aforementioned defendants entered into the NCIC/LEADS Supervised Release File, the Court's Bailiff's Office also enters convicted defendants who are on probation with the Court. These entries allow law enforcement agencies across the nation to identify people they have come into contact with who are on probation with the Court. These agencies may then contact the Court's Probation Department for additional information as necessary, (e.g. individuals being screened by ICE, or individuals being screened for a firearm purchase). This ultimately allows the Court's Probation department to better monitor those probationers.

At the end of 2021, the Court listed 210 probationers in the Supervised Release File. During 2021 the Court received 29 notifications ("hits") relating to probationer's contacts with law enforcement. These contacts range from minor traffic violations, to more serious misdemeanor offences such as OVI, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and VIOLATING PROTECTION ORDERS, as well as felony violations including FELONIOUS ASSAULT, AGGRAVATED DRUG POSSESSION and VANDALISM. Furthermore the Bailiff's Office also assists the Probation department by conducting visits to probationer's residences at the request of their respective probation officers. These visits are performed in an effort to monitor the probationer and insure compliance with their conditions of probation. During 2021 the Bailiff's Office conducted 32 such visits (compared with 99 such visits in 2020). These visits resulted in seven (7) violations being found, and 30 visits where no violations were discovered. Probationer home visits were drastically reduced due to the COVID 19 pandemic, along with the Probation Department conducting more self-reporting, and virtual probation visits.

Bailiff

Ryan P. Nagy

2 March 2022

2021 SECURITY INCIDENT SYNOPIS

2-10-21

During a trial in the Magistrate’s Courtroom, the mother of the Def, and witness in the same trial, who was seated in the lobby began to complain about chest pains and wanted her daughter to take her to the hospital. When she was advised that that could not happen she began to become belligerent. LST was advised, and responded. While waiting for LST, the female continued to be belligerent along with demanding that the trial be stopped and her daughter be able to take her. Once LST arrived and evaluated the female it was determined that her blood pressure was elevated and the paramedics advised her she should be transported to the hospital. The female refused transportation and signed a waiver.

4-7-21

Bailiff advised that a bottle of “sanitizer” was located on top of the AED box in the lobby. A further inspection of the bottle determined it to be refined alcohol. Bailiff reported that the owner of the “sanitizer” was identified after the fact. No charges were filed.

5-12-21

Security checkpoint located a folding knife in a female’s purse. The knife was subsequently turned over to MPD for determination of charges since the knife was in the shape of a small semi-automatic pistol.

7-16-21

Security checkpoint officer located a small baggie of suspect marijuana was located in a purse. MPD was advised, responded, and cited.

8-11-21

Female Def was being disruptive during arraignment court. Continually leaving the Courtroom to utilize her phone, and when asked to quiet down she became disruptive. After not complying with Bailiff’s orders to quiet down, Magistrate Leggett advised the Bailiff to remove her from the Courtroom. As the female was leaving the room she hollered “Bitch”. Magistrate Leggett ordered her to be brought back to the courtroom. The Def began to resist Bailiff attempting to bring her back into the courtroom. Def was handcuffed and brought back into the courtroom. MPD was advised and responded. Def was subsequently seen on direct contempt charges, and was transported to Medina County Jail by MPD.

12-15-21

Male Def became agitated and argumentative with Bailiff as Bailiff was attempting to inform him how to fill out the recognizance forms and additional paperwork. His anger began to escalate and was yelling in the lobby. Chief Bailiff was then advised that the male wished to speak to a supervisor. Chief Bailiff spoke with him and matter was resolved.

TABLE #1

EVICTION ACTIVITY

(FORCIBLE ENTRY AND LOCK CHANGE)

YEAR NUMBER OF EVICTIONS

2016…………………………………155

2017…………………………………132

2018…………………………………113

2019……….………………………..141

2020…………….……….……………73

2021…………………………………..83

TABLE #2

WARRANT ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

TOTAL NUMBER OF WARRANTS RESOLVED 234

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS 241

WARRANTS RESOLVED BY ACTION TAKEN

EXECUTED BY ARREST 0

CAME TO COURT AFTER HOME VISIT 0

CAME TO COURT AFTER PHONE CONTACT 171

CAME TO COURT AFTER WARRANT BLOCK 50

NUMBER OF HOME VISITS MADE 0

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Jon Mazanetz

The court employs a Management Information Specialist to coordinate all technology applications. The current equipment in place consists of 38 printers, 3 printer/copier/fax systems, 48 desktop workstations, 2 laptops. The court currently employs Scale Computing servers, which have replaced the two Dell Power Edge VRTX servers. These servers handle the case management system, segmented network storage, and online court access. The existing Dell server is now functioning as a backup of courthouse operations. A Meraki firewall appliance is installed to comply with requirements from the Ohio Leads Organization. For virus protection the court has Trend Micro running on all systems. Three Meraki access points are installed to allow employee and visitor access to the internet.

The court continues to work with Technology Engineering Group for guidance in hardware and software programs. They continue to be a highly valued asset to the courthouse for high level troubleshooting, maintenance, and implementation.

The court utilizes a case management system called Benchmark by Pioneer Technology Group of Sanford, Florida. The IT admin is heavily involved in the operation of the Benchmark software. The courthouse is looking to expand upon this software to add an E-Filing module as well as text notifications. This should provide more convenience as well as consistent reminders for scheduled appearances.

The court records are backed up to an Acronis cloud storage backup as well as local on our repurposed Dell VRTX servers.

Audio is recorded in both courtrooms by software from FTR systems and is stored on the network drives. This audio dates to 2003 and is also backed up to the Acronis backup system. This year, the courthouse has implemented the process of Zoom hearings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through additional grant funding, the courthouse will be implementing new A/V equipment in both the main courtroom and the Magistrate’s courtroom. The upgrades will provide a more modern workspace in the growing sector of remote hearings and meetings.

The technical staff attends various meetings each year to keep current on changes to the case management system as well as new trends in hardware and software development.

There are two Law Enforcement Automated Data System (“LEADS”) systems in use by the court allowing authorized users to look up data for court processing. This also reduces the workload for Medina Police Department. The system is secured by a Meraki firewall.

The website is hosted by Blue Domino. The site has the functionality to allow lookups based on case scheduling for criminal, traffic, and civil cases.

The court camera system is managed on through via a Paramount DVR with 16 total cameras, 3 IP cameras and 12 analog cameras.

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 Werner performed 32 weddings

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Respectfully submitted:

MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT

MARCH 31, 2022

Gary F. Werner Joseph Salzgeber

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GARY F. WERNER, JUDGE Clerk of Courts