

***WASHINGTON COUNTY
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS***

Probate-Juvenile Divisions



2015 Annual Report—Revised

Washington County, Ohio

Honorable Timothy A. Williams

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Letter from Judge Williams</i>	1
<i>Probate-Juvenile Court Personnel</i>	2
<i>Probate-Juvenile Court</i>	3
<i>Probate Court Jurisdiction</i>	4
<i>Probate Court Actions Filed</i>	5
<i>Juvenile Court Jurisdiction</i>	6
<i>Juvenile Court Actions Filed</i>	7
<i>Breakdown of Delinquent Charges by Offense Level and Gender</i>	8
<i>Breakdown of Delinquent and Unruly Complaints by Gender and Race</i>	9
<i>10 Year History of Delinquent and Unruly Charges Filed</i>	10
<i>Top 20 Delinquent Offenses</i>	11
<i>Top 15 Traffic Offenses</i>	12
<i>Probation Department</i>	13
<i>Community Service</i>	14
<i>Restitution</i>	14
<i>Washington County Juvenile Center Administrative Personnel</i>	15
<i>Washington County Juvenile Center Mission</i>	16
<i>Washington County Juvenile Center Program Highlights</i>	17
<i>Washington County Juvenile Center</i>	18
<i>Placement of Youth Removed from Home</i>	19



I present to you the 2015 Annual Report of the Washington County Court of Common Pleas, Probate-Juvenile Divisions.

This report contains information on the Court's cases, services, and programs provided to the citizens of Washington County.

If you have any questions concerning any information contained in this report, please feel free to contact Rae Ward, Court Administrator.

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Williams, Judge



WASHINGTON COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Probate-Juvenile Divisions

COURTHOUSE ANNEX

205 Putnam Street

Marietta, Ohio 45750

Telephone No. 740.373.6623

Fax No. 740.376.7425

E-mail: probate-juvenile@wcgov.org

PERSONNEL

Hon. Timothy A. Williams Judge
 Mark Kerenyi Magistrate
 Rae A. Ward Court Administrator
 Pam Richards Fiscal Officer
 Pat Ralston Deputy Clerk/Probate
 Trish Whiteley Deputy Clerk/Probate
 Rachel Davis Deputy Clerk/Probate
 Stacy Hall Deputy Clerk/Probate
 Lisa Burkhart Deputy Clerk/Juvenile
 Jill Roach Deputy Clerk/Juvenile
 Judy McAtee Deputy Clerk/Juvenile
 Melody Zimmerman Probation Officer
 Kristi Offenberger Probation Officer
 Justin Gregory Probation Officer
 Matt Tullius Probation Officer

PROBATE – JUVENILE COURT



Judge Timothy A. Williams serves as the Probate-Juvenile Judge for Washington County. The position is an elected, non-partisan office with a six-year term. He was first elected in February 1997.

Judge Williams is a 1984 graduate of Ohio Northern University law school. He served as an associate editor of the Ohio Northern University Law Review. After graduation, he entered private practice from 1984 through 1997. From 1989 to 1997 he also served as a part-time Juvenile Court Magistrate for Washington County.

Judge Williams appointed Attorney Mark Kerenyi to serve as a part time Magistrate for the Juvenile Court on March 1, 2004, to help handle the caseload of the Court. He is a 1990 graduate of Cleveland Marshall College of Law.

As Probate Judge for Washington County, Judge Williams presides over both the Probate Court Division and the Juvenile Court Division.

PROBATE COURT JURISDICTION

The Probate Court handles the following types of cases: estates, guardianships, trusts, adoptions, mental commitments, wrongful deaths, minor settlements and name changes. The Court also issues all marriage licenses for Washington County.

While most Probate Court records are open to the public, Ohio law closes records pertaining to mental illness and adoptions.

The Court maintains the following records that are open to the public during business hours:

- Estates, Guardianships, Trusts, Misc. 1789 to present
- Marriage 1789 to present
- Birth and Death 1867 to 1908

The Judge and his staff are dedicated to serving the public in a professional manner. While the staff of the Probate Court is prevented from practicing law, all efforts are made to help the public within the constraints of the law.

The day-to-day operation of the Court, including supervision of all employees, is managed by the Court Administrator, Rae A. Ward. Ms. Ward holds a National Certificate in Court Management from the National Center for State Courts. If you have questions or concerns about the operation of the Court, please contact Ms. Ward at (740)373-6623 Ext. 252.

PROBATE COURT ACTIONS FILED

TYPE OF CASE	TOTAL
Admission/Filing Will Only (no estate)	13
Adoption of Adult	2
Adoption of Minor Child	21
Conservatorship	1
Full Estate Filings	177
Guardianship of Incompetent	33
Guardianship of Minor	2
Marriage Licenses Issued	492
Mental Illness	68
Minor's Settlement	11
Miscellaneous Filings	11
Name Change	17
Notice of Medicaid Status	27
Ohio Estate Tax Filings	12
Registration of Birth/Correction of Birth Record	1
Release of Estate	88
Search Warrants Issued	16
Summary Release of Estate	60
Transfer of Real Estate (No Estate)	2
Transfer of Structured Settlements	2
Trusts	2
Wrongful Death Settlements	5
TOTAL FILINGS FOR 2015	1063

JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION

Judge Timothy A. Williams as the Probate Judge also serves as the Judge of the Juvenile Division for Washington County.

The Juvenile Court hears the following types of cases: abused, neglected, dependent, unruly and delinquent children, juvenile traffic offenders, custody, visitation, parentage, child support actions, and cases charging adults with failing to send children to school and contributing to the delinquency or unruliness of children.

The Court has a juvenile probation staff consisting of four (4) full-time probation officers to monitor the behavior of the children that the Judge and Magistrate place on probation.

The Court also operates the Washington County Juvenile Center, a residential treatment and rehabilitation program for boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18, which lasts an average of 9 months. The Center can accommodate 25 children in the program.

The day-to-day operation of the Court, including supervision of all employees, is managed by Court Administrator, Rae A. Ward.

If you have questions or concerns about the operation of the Court, please contact Ms. Ward at (740)373-6623 Ext. 252.

JUVENILE COURT ACTIONS FILED

TYPE OF CASE	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
Delinquency (Juvenile Crimes – 229) (Truancy – 56)	201	84	285
Probation Violations	29	10	39
Unruly (School Truancy - 4) (Parental/School Unruly - 20)	13	11	24
Traffic	194	94	288
Tobacco Offenses	0	0	0
Abuse and Neglect	n/a	n/a	50
Custody/Visitation	n/a	n/a	104
Grandparent Power of Attorney	n/a	n/a	19
Permanent Custody	n/a	n/a	7
Permanent Surrender of Child	n/a	n/a	0
Civil Protection/Stalking Order	n/a	n/a	3
Paternity	n/a	n/a	4
Child Support	n/a	n/a	48
Juvenile Marriage	n/a	n/a	0
Complaints against Adults – Contributing	n/a	n/a	3
Complaint against Adults – Failure to Send Child to School	n/a	n/a	54
Search Warrants	n/a	n/a	18
TOTAL COMPLAINTS FOR 2015			946

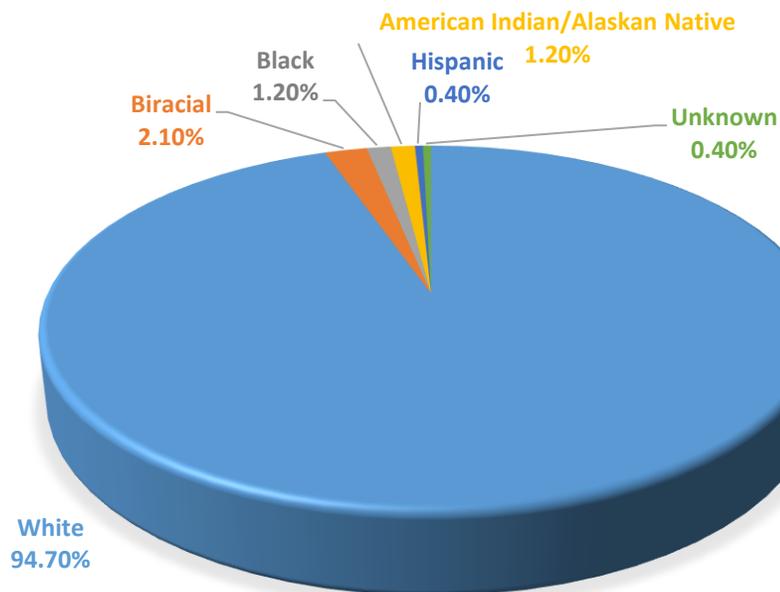
BREAKDOWN OF DELINQUENT CHARGES BY OFFENSE LEVEL AND GENDER

LEVEL	BOYS	GIRLS
Felony 1	7	0
Felony 2	10	0
Felony 3	13	0
Felony 4	9	0
Felony 5	11	5
Felony Subtotal	50 (91%)	5 (9%)
Misdemeanor 1	51	26
Misdemeanor 2	12	0
Misdemeanor 3	9	0
Misdemeanor 4	24	3
Minor Misdemeanor	30	19
Misdemeanor Subtotal	126 (72%)	48 (28%)
Total Felony and Misdemeanor	176 (77%)	53 (23%)

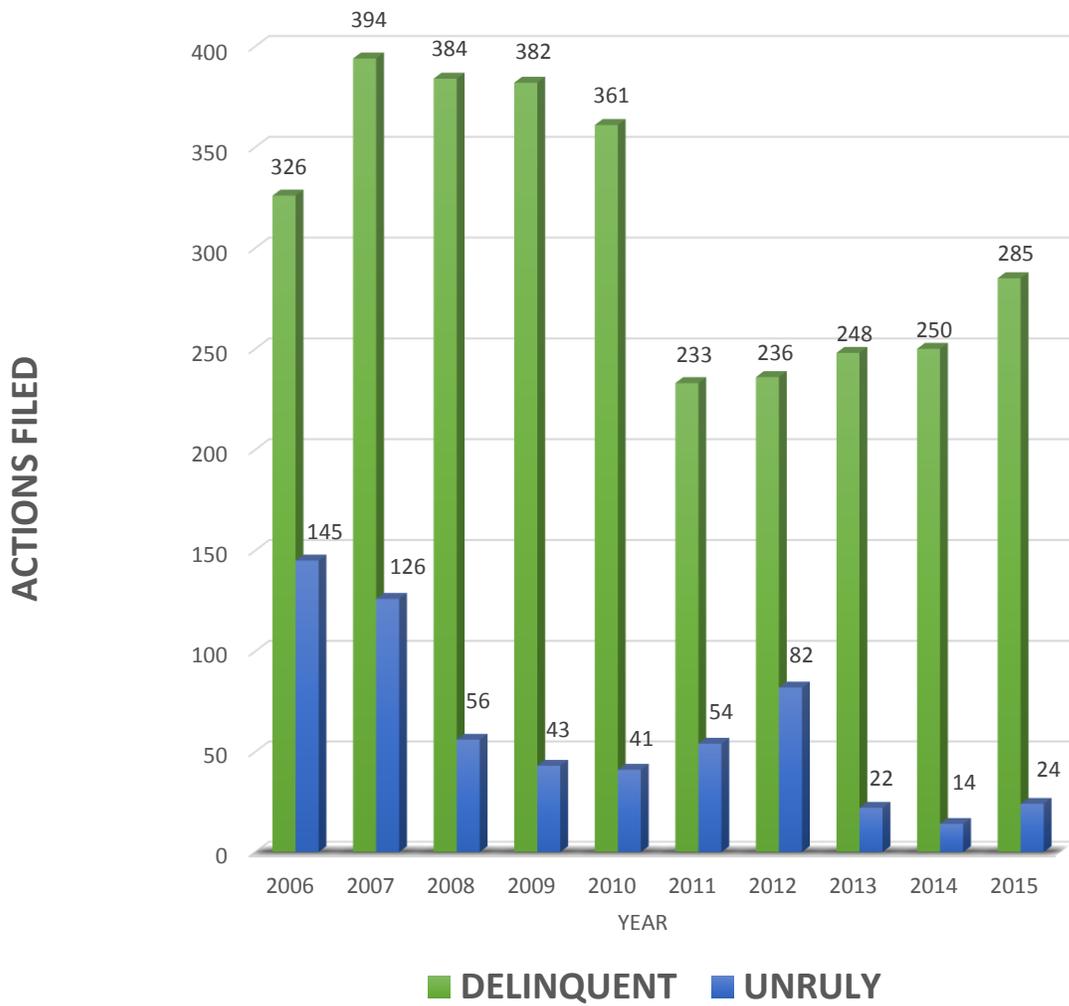
BREAKDOWN OF DELINQUENT AND UNRULY COMPLAINTS BY GENDER AND RACE

RACE	BOYS	GIRLS
White	139 (95.2%)	89 (93.6%)
Black	3 (2.1%)	0 (0%)
Hispanic	1 (0.7%)	0 (0%)
Biracial	1 (0.7%)	4 (4.2%)
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2 (1.3%)	1 (1.1%)
Asian	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Unknown	0 (0%)	1 (1.1%)

COMBINED GENDER BREAKDOWN BY RACE



10 YEAR HISTORY OF DELINQUENT AND UNRULY CHARGES FILED



TOP 20 DELINQUENT OFFENSES

NUMBER	TYPE OF CASE	TOTAL COMMITTED
1	Delinquent by School Truancy	56
2	Drug Offenses	34
3	Disorderly Conduct	33
4	Sex Related Offenses	25
5	Assault	20
tie	Underage Drinking	20
7	Theft	17
8	Domestic Violence	11
tie	Criminal Damaging	10
tie	Menacing	10
tie	Wild Life Violations	10
12	Breaking and Entering	5
13	Obstruction	4
tie	Criminal Trespass	4
15	Criminal Mischief	3
tie	Receiving Stolen Property	3
tie	Weapons Violation	3
tie	Escape	3
tie	Making False Alarms	3
20	Burglary	2

TOP 15 TRAFFIC OFFENSES

NUMBER	TYPE OF CASE	TOTAL COMMITTED
1	Speed	115
2	Failure to Control	43
3	No Seat Belt	36
4	No Operator's License/License Violation	24
5	Traffic Sign/Red Light Violation	17
6	Assured Clear Distance	16
7	Failure to Yield	8
8	Equipment Violation	6
9	Left of Center/Lane Violation	5
10	License Plates and Tag Violation	4
11	Turn Signal Violation	3
12	Following Too Closely	2
tie	Reckless Operation	2
14	Passing School Bus	1
tie	Hit Skip	1

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

The Probation Department monitors both children and adults placed under Court supervision. The department's goal is to provide a community based corrections program with consistent sanctions geared toward altering negative behavior. Probation officers make regular contact with the children, parents, schools, agencies and others involved with the children to assist them in making positive changes in their lives.

The department has four Probation Officers who ensure that Juvenile and Adult probationers comply with Court orders by assisting them in accepting personal responsibility for their actions.

Juvenile Probation

98 Youth were placed on probation during 2015

59 male: 60%
39 female: 40%

A total of 228 Youth were supervised on probation in 2015, including 130 from previous year

39 probation violations were filed in 2015

Adult Probation

3 Adults were placed on probation during 2015

2 male: 67%
1 female: 33%

A total of 9 Adults were supervised on probation in 2015, including 6 from previous year

1 probation violation was filed in 2015

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Community Service Program is a valuable and constructive dispositional option. The program has proven to be a positive way that juveniles can take responsibility for their actions. Youth are ordered by the Court to perform a specific number of community service work hours serving non-profit organizations in the community.

The Court monitors the progress of the children to ensure successful completion of court ordered community service hours.

In 2015, juvenile offenders provided a total of ***5,122 hours of volunteer work*** for various non-profit agencies in the community.

Based on minimum wage, the ***community received \$41,488*** in donated labor and services from these offenders.

RESTITUTION

The Juvenile Court requires that youth committing personal property crimes reimburse the victim for the cost of any damage by paying restitution. The Court's goal is to assure that responsibility for behavior rests with the youth.

In 2015, a total of ***\$5,227.08 was collected*** and paid out for past and present restitution.



WASHINGTON COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER

1699 Colegate Drive
Marietta, Ohio 45750
Telephone No. 740.374.7453
Fax No. 740.374.3581
juvenilecenter@wccgov.org

Administrative Personnel

Stephanie Galati Superintendent
Nicole Burkhart Senior Case Manager
Leah Dobbelaer Case Manager
Jared Wittekind Case Manager
Pam Richards Fiscal Officer
Jennifer Buchanan Teacher
Gerald Steffen Teacher
Kendra Whittekind Teacher's Aide

WASHINGTON COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER

Mission

The Washington County Juvenile Center is a residential rehabilitation facility for youth committed by the Juvenile Judge. All young men and women in residence at the Center are between the ages of twelve and eighteen at the time of admission. The Center can accommodate 15 boys and 10 girls in the residential rehabilitation program.

The Center's mission is to provide a safe, structured environment where a delinquent youth receives professional help and support through a behavioral modification program to address the problems causing the negative behaviors. The Center challenges the residents to modify their behaviors by changing the way they think. The program emphasizes positive reinforcement and focuses on improving the child's behavior, academics, and emotional and mental well-being.

The Washington County Juvenile Center is operated under guidelines established by the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The Center is inspected by the Department each year and meets all state requirements.

WASHINGTON COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER

Program Highlights

- *Rehabilitation plan prepared by child and family team consisting of child, parents, probation officer, case manager, and counselor.*
- *3 case managers and 12 youth specialists work with the youth helping them achieve their rehabilitation plan.*
- *2 teachers and 1 teacher's aide employed through Marietta City Schools provide individualized classroom instruction on site.*
- *Individual and family counseling provided.*
- *Mental health services provided by Hopewell Health Centers, Inc.*
- *Weekly anger management by L & P Services.*
- *Drug and alcohol counseling provided by Hopewell Health Centers, Inc.*
- *Court ordered parenting program.*
- *Tutors that help youth with problem academic areas.*
- *Community Service performed by youth for nonprofit entities.*
- *Daily recreation provided on premises.*
- *Voluntary running club.*
- *Voluntary non-denominational church service offered.*
- *Medical, dental, and optical care provided by local providers.*
- *Menus planned by licensed dietitian.*

WASHINGTON COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER

REHABILITATION PROGRAM	SHELTER CARE PROGRAM	DETENTION PROGRAM
*****	*****	*****
ADMISSIONS: 2015 Admissions: 20 Males 11 Females 9 2014 Admissions still in Program during 2015: 9 Males 8 Females 1 Total Served 2015: 29 Males 19 Females 10	ADMISSIONS: 30 Males 19 Females 11 OFFENSES: Delinquent Children 30 Felonies 5 Misdemeanors 25 Unruly Children 0 MISCELLANEOUS: Average length of stay 32 days	ADMISSIONS: 20 Males 16 Females 4 OFFENSES: Delinquent Children 20 Felonies 6 Misdemeanors 14 Out of State Abscondee 0 MISCELLANEOUS: Average length of stay 18 hours
OFFENSES: Delinquent Children 29 Felonies 6 Misdemeanors 23 Unruly Children 0 Average days to complete program 271	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Community Service Hours Performed: 3,826</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">Based on minimum wage, the community received \$30,991 in donated labor and services from these probationers.</p>	

PLACEMENT OF YOUTH REMOVED FROM HOME

Department of Youth Services

(Juvenile Prison System)

7 Boys (5 White/1 Black/1 Biracial)
2 Girls (2 White)

Community Correction Facilities

New Lexington, Ohio 1 Boy (White)

Washington County Juvenile Center

(Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, Marietta, Ohio)

<u>Program</u>	<u>Shelter Care</u>	<u>Detention</u>
11 Boys (9 White/2 Black) 9 Girls (9 White)	19 Boys (19 White) 11 Girls (10 White/ 1 Biracial)	16 Boys (15 White/ 1 Black) 4 Girls (4 White)

Multi County Detention Center

(Detention Facility in Fairfield County)

19 Boys (18 White/1 Black)
5 Girls (5 White)

Foster Care with Washington County Children Services

2 Delinquent and Unruly children
38 Abused, Neglected and Dependent children

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Probate-Juvenile Court

205 Putnam Street

Marietta, OH 45750