

# **HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT**



## **2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

**JUDGE THOMAS R. LIPPS**

**JUDGE KARLA J. GRADY**

## **ABOUT THE COVER**

The art teacher at Hillcrest Training School, Marla McMath, was contacted and asked to have her students submit artwork for this year's Annual Report. A selection committee was appointed to narrow the numerous submissions to five entries. These entries were posted on the Court's intranet site and voted on by the Juvenile Court staff. The entry that received the most votes was placed on the front cover. The entry that received the second most votes was placed on the back cover. The Juvenile Court Advisory Council graciously provided prizes for the five entries that were chosen by the selection committee.

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## OVERVIEW

Hamilton County Juvenile Court has the responsibility to hear and determine all cases and issues concerning children in Hamilton County. Additionally, the Juvenile Court administers programs and facilities providing for the custody, care and rehabilitation of youth within its jurisdiction.

The types of cases appearing before the Juvenile Court include:

- Delinquency cases in which a youth is charged with what would be a crime for an adult.
- Dependency cases in which it is alleged that a child has been abused or neglected by a parent or other person.
- Paternity/Child Support cases to determine parentage and collect support.
- Traffic cases in which a juvenile is charged with violating traffic law.
- Custody cases in which the parties disagree concerning with whom the child should live or visit.
- Adult cases in which there is an issue of contribution to a child's delinquency or failure to send a child to school.
- Various other cases which impact the best interests of children.

Two judges direct the work of the Court. In 2004, those judges were Administrative Judge Sylvia Sieve Hendon and Judge Thomas R. Lipps. As the year ended, and having been elected to the First District Court of Appeals, Judge Hendon relinquished her Juvenile Court responsibilities, leaving a distinguished record of accomplishment. Veteran Juvenile Court Judge Lipps assumed the responsibilities as Administrative Judge. Judge Karla J. Grady was appointed by Governor Bob Taft to fill the resulting vacancy, bringing with her many years of judicial experience in Municipal Court

The judges, along with the Court Administrator, Mark H. Reed, oversee all Court operations, including:

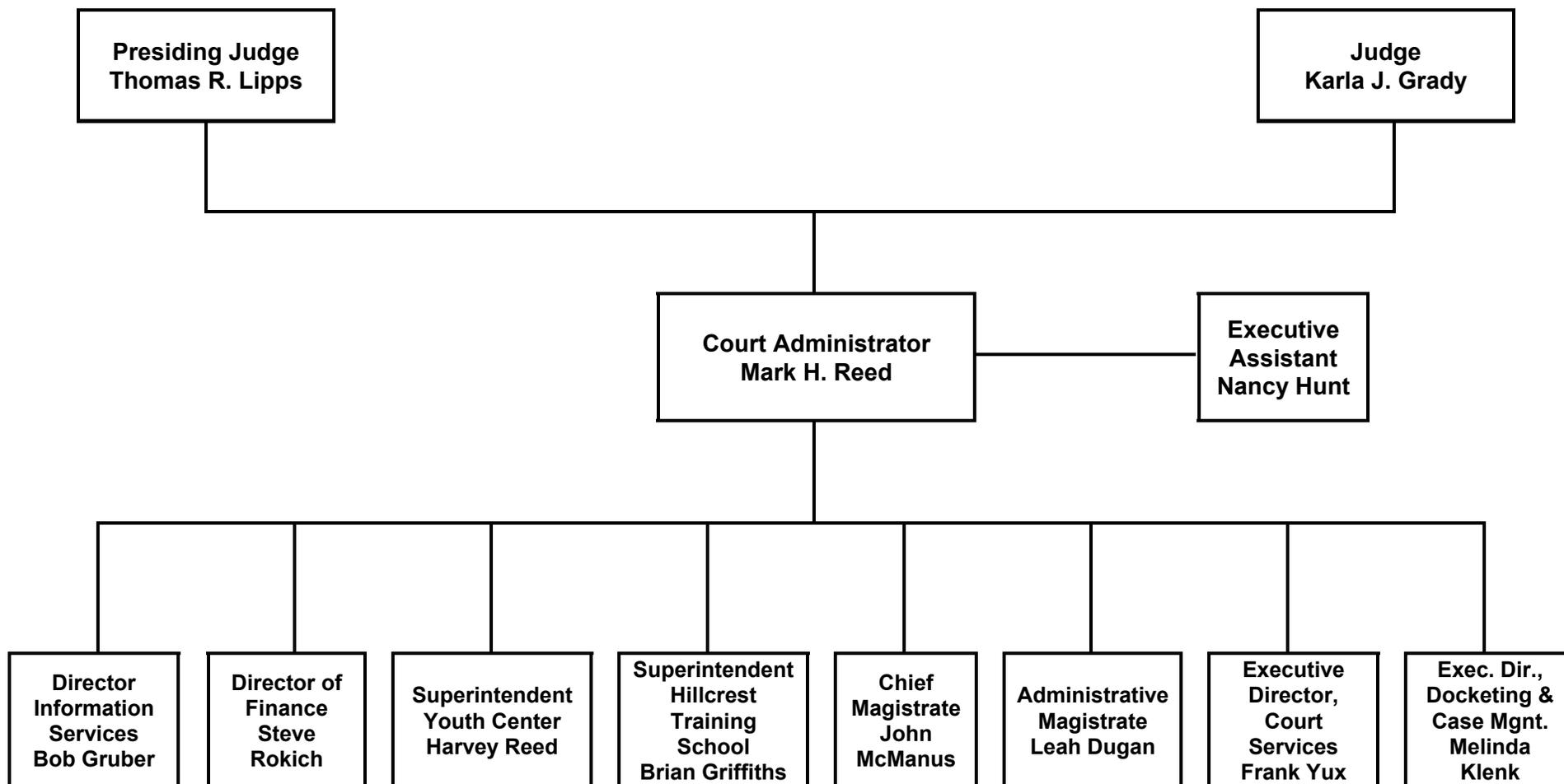
- Department of Docketing and Case Management, comprised of the Clerk's Office and Docketing Departments.
- Magistrates Department, comprised of 26 magistrates who hear a large volume of cases in various jurisdictional areas.
- Department of Court Services, comprised of the Probation Department, Intervention Unit, and Work Detail.
- The Youth Center, a 160-bed secure detention center, housing youth in secure custody pending court hearings.
- Hillcrest Training School, a 142-bed residential treatment center for youth court-ordered into the program for violating the law.
- Various administrative departments encompassing the office of court administrator, administrative magistrate, personnel, finance, information services, operations, training, and security.

The Court also contracts with various placement and program services offered by child care agencies, including inpatient secure diagnostic services, shelter care housing children, custodial drug treatment centers, youth counseling programs, etc. Further, the Juvenile Court along with other official entities, have formed the Family and Children First Council to consolidate efforts, increase efficiency and improve service to families and children.

The Juvenile Court is fortunate to enjoy the services of many volunteers who give their time, expertise and money for the enhancement of children. Volunteer programs include over 30 community unofficial hearing officers where members of the legal profession deal with minor infractions, diverting the case from official charges. Volunteer chaplains provide spiritual guidance to youth held in the custody of the Court. An Advisory Council composed of citizens in the community directs services and funds to enhance court programs which cannot be funded by tax revenue to provide needy children with clothes and positive life experiences.

The National Council of Juvenile Court and Family Court Judges designated the Hamilton County Juvenile Court as the nation's first model court. Hamilton County programs are praised by the national judicial and correctional associations and in published reports. Judges and officials from around the nation and across the world have traveled to Cincinnati to observe our Court.

# Hamilton County Juvenile Court





**Judge Thomas R. Lipps**  
**Administrative Judge**



**Judge Karla J. Grady**



**Court Administrator**  
**Mark H. Reed**

# JUVENILE JURISDICTION

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## TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS FILED

TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS FILED IN 2003..... 7,295

TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS FILED IN 2004..... 6,810

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Licensing of Motor Vehicle	138	115
Driver License Law	918	239
Financial Responsibility	3	0
Operation of Vehicle	4,337	4,061
Equipment and Loads	549	423
Motor Vehicle Crimes	109	108
Local Ordinances	1,241	1,864
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,295</b>	<b>6,810</b>

## UNRULY COMPLAINTS FILED

UNRULY COMPLAINTS FILED 2003 ..... 1,508

UNRULY COMPLAINTS FILED 2004 ..... 1,635

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Runaway	690	710
Incorrigible	73	113
Incorrigible Out of County	19	26
Unruly Tobacco	40	33
Unruly	33	52
Curfew Violation	502	492
Unauth. Transaction of a Motor Vehicle	0	1
Habitual Truancy	151	197
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>1,635</b>

## DELINQUENT COMPLAINTS FILED

<b>HOMICIDE</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>OBSCENITY</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Aggravated Murder	3	7	Dissem. Material Harmful to Juvenile	0	2
Attempt Aggravated Murder	1	1	Illegal Use of Minor in Nudity Material	0	11
Murder	3	5	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>
Attempt Murder	1	1			
Involuntary Manslaughter	0	1	<b>ARSON &amp; RELATED OFFENSES</b>		
Vehicular Manslaughter	0	1	Aggravated Arson	26	60
Vehicular Homicide	1	0	Attempt Aggravated Arson	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	Arson	48	20
			Complicity Arson	1	0
<b>ASSAULT</b>			Attempt Arson	2	0
Felonious Assault	125	182	Disrupt Public Service/Comm/Trans	11	5
Felonious Assault with Firearm	5	0	Vandalism	132	58
Felon. Assault Peace Officer	3	9	Complicity Vandalism	6	0
Complicity Felonious Assault	3	1	Criminal Damage	573	630
Attempt Felonious Assault	0	1	Complicity Criminal Damage	7	1
Aggravated Assault	13	9	Criminal Mischief	155	198
Aggravated Vehicular Assault	0	1	Vehicular Vandalism	1	13
Vehicular Assault	1	0	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>987</b>
Assault	957	1097			
Assault Teacher, Admin, Bus Driver	92	117	<b>ROBBERY</b>		
Assault Corrections Officer	6	12	Aggravated Robbery	177	183
Assault Peace Officer	37	39	Aggravated Robbery - Firearm	16	0
Complicity Assault	1	5	Complicity Aggravated Robbery	16	6
Attempt Assault	0	1	Attempt Aggravated Robbery	4	0
Negligent Assault	1	1	Robbery	144	203
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>1,475</b>	Complicity Robbery	8	12
			Attempt Robbery	0	3
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>407</b>
<b>MENACING</b>					
Aggravated Menacing	187	184	<b>BURGLARY</b>		
Complicity Aggravated Menacing	1	0	Aggravated Burglary	15	20
Menacing	200	227	Aggravated Burglary - Firearm	1	0
Menacing By Stalking	4	1	Complicity Aggravated Burglary	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>412</b>	Attempt Aggravated Burglary	1	1
			Burglary	275	196
<b>HAZING</b>			Complicity Burglary	6	12
Hazing	0	3	Attempt Burglary	5	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	Break and Enter	226	164
			Complicity Break and Enter	2	4
<b>KIDNAPPING</b>			Attempt Break and Enter	3	7
Kidnapping	5	8	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>414</b>
Abduction	2	1			
Unlawful Restraint	2	8	<b>TRESPASS</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	Criminal Trespass	410	403
			Aggravated Trespass	11	4
<b>SEXUAL OFFENSES</b>			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>407</b>
Rape	72	102			
Complicity Rape	0	1	<b>SAFECRACKING</b>		
Attempt Rape	1	3	Safecracking	14	4
Sexual Battery	1	3	Tamper With Coin Machine	6	3
Gross Sexual Imposition	71	49	Complicity Tamper W/Coin Machine	2	0
Sexual Imposition	14	12	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>
Voyeurism	2	4			
Public Indecency	24	14	<b>THEFT</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Importuning – Under 13	2	0	Theft	1031	1279
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>188</b>	Grand Theft	120	64
			Complicity Theft	41	33
<b>PROSTITUTION</b>			Complicity Grand Theft	13	9
Soliciting	3	9	Attempt Grand Theft	25	20
Loiter to Engage in Prostitution	3	5	Attempt Theft	15	12
Prostitution	1	1	Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	64	75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	Unauth. Use Veh. – Elderly/Disable	1	3
			Unauth. Use Vehicle -Felony	2	2
			Comp Unauthorized Use Vehicle	0	1

<b>THEFT (cont.)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Comp Unauthorized Use Vehicle	0	1
Auto Theft	74	56
Unauthorized Use of Property	1	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,563</b>

<b>PASSING BAD CHECKS</b>		
Passing Bad Checks	4	0
Passing Bad Checks Felony	0	1
Take Identity of Another	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>MISUSE OF CREDIT CARDS</b>		
Misuse of Credit Cards	8	16
Attempt Misuse of Credit Card	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>

<b>FORGERY</b>		
Forgery	31	37
Complicity – Forgery	1	1
Criminal Simulation	2	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>41</b>

<b>FRAUD</b>		
Personating An Officer	3	0
Tamper with Records	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>RECEIVING</b>		
Receive Stolen Property	328	360
Receive Stolen Property - Over	56	44
Receive Stolen Property - Felony	139	3
Attempt Receive Stolen Property	1	0
Complicity Receive Stolen Prop	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>407</b>

<b>GAMBLING</b>		
Public Gaming	7	6
Gambling	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>

<b>OFFENSES AGAINST PEACE</b>		
Inciting to Violence	0	4
Aggravated Riot	2	5
Riot	9	1
Riot with Four or More	1	1
Failure to Disperse	2	6
Telecommunication Harassment	37	38
Inducing Panic	38	51
Making False Alarms	47	34
Disorderly Conduct	1300	1367
Disorderly Conduct - Intoxicated	35	24
Misconduct at Emergency	2	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>1,532</b>

<b>OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY</b>		
Endangering Children	11	7
Contrib. To Unruliness/Delinquency	1	0
Domestic Violence	576	503
Domestic Violence Felony	80	76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>586</b>

<b>OFFENSE AGAINST JUSTICE</b>		
Bribery – Public Official	0	1
Intimidation	8	4
Intimidating Victim, Witness	2	9
Retaliation	1	0

<b>OFFENSE AGAINST JUSTICE (cont.)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Retaliation Against Crime Victim	0	1
Perjury	1	0
Falsification	130	170
Tampering with Evidence	14	21
Obstructing Official Business	653	681
Obstructing Justice	10	10
Assault Police Dog / Horse	1	0
Resisting Arrest	232	201
Flee and Elude Police Officer	8	17
Fail to Comply with Police	8	8
Fail to Comply with Police - Felony	40	18
Fail to Report Crime	0	5
Impersonate Officer	2	0
Escape	18	20
Attempt Escape	1	1
Convey Drug/Weapon into Detention	1	3
Harassment by an Inmate	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>1,171</b>

<b>ATTEMPT, COMPLICITY, CONSPIRACY</b>		
Conspiracy	2	0
Attempt	15	14
Attempt Felony	1	1
Complicity	31	27
Complicity Felony	2	3
Complicity Attempt	0	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>

<b>WEAPONS CONTROL</b>		
Carrying Concealed Weapon	114	113
Carry Concealed Weapon Felony	4	5
Have Weapon Under Disability	21	18
Use Weapon while Intoxicated	1	0
Weapon in School Safety Zone	28	8
Possess Object Indist from Firearm	3	4
Discharge Firearm Habitation/School	0	8
Possess Criminal Tools	101	69
Complicity Poss Criminal Tools	1	0
Dangerous Ordnance	3	1
Firearm Transport Loaded	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>301</b>

<b>DRUG OFFENSES</b>		
Corrupt with Drugs	1	0
Trafficking Drugs	19	17
Trafficking Drugs Near School	14	18
Attempt Drug Trafficking	1	0
Complicity Drug Trafficking	1	2
Drug Trafficking Marijuana	41	30
Drug Traff Marijuana Near School	15	12
Drug Trafficking Cocaine	50	40
Drug Trafficking Cocaine Near School	32	23
Drug Trafficking Heroin	1	2
Drug Trafficking Heroin Near School	0	4
Illegal Cultivation of Marijuana	3	1
Preparation of Drugs for Sale	1	0
Possess Dangerous Drug	8	0
Aggravated Possession of Drug	4	8
Possession of Drug	29	36
Possession of Hashish	2	1
Possession of Cocaine	129	149
Possession of Heroin	10	13
Possession of Marijuana	567	590
Drug Abuse	20	10
Possess Drug Abuse Instrument	0	2

<b>DRUG OFFENSES (cont.)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Permit Drug Abuse	1	0
Possess Drug Paraphernalia	183	133
Deception to Obtain Dangerous Drug	5	0
Tampering With Drugs	0	1
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	1	1
Possess Counterfeit Cont. Substance	26	20
Traff Counterfeit Controlled Substance	2	1
Traff Count Cont Subs – School	1	1
Attempt Sell Count Cont Subs	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>1,116</b>

**MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES**

Illegal Dist of Cig or Tobacco Product	1	1
Desecration	1	0
Ethnic Intimidation	12	3
Complicity Ethnic Intimidation	0	1
Contaminate Substance-Human Use	3	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>

**FIREWORKS VIOLATIONS**

Discharge Fireworks	1	1
Possess Fireworks	4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

**NUISANCES**

Littering	7	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>

**LIQUOR CONTROL**

Consume Possess Liquor in Veh	2	1
Purchase/Consume	256	283
Possession	15	8
Underage Person	10	1
Misrepresent to Obtain Alcohol	1	1
Furnish Alcohol to a Minor	2	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>303</b>

<b>OHIO WILDLIFE VIOLATION</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Cruelty to Animals	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

**DRIVER LICENSE LAW**

Fictitious License, ID Card	1	1
Display Improper Driver's License	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

**HABITUAL / CHRONIC TRUANCY**

Chronic Truancy	937	626
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>626</b>

**VIOLATIONS**

Violation of Court Order	29	26
VCO Incurigible	667	660
VCO Probation	912	1037
VCO Placement	689	706
VCO Runaway	824	966
VCO Truancy	808	770
VCO Tobacco	25	26
VCO Work Detail	467	504
VCO Stay Center	295	360
VCO EMU	70	117
VCO Curfew Violation	373	561
Parole Violation	331	263
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,490</b>	<b>5,996</b>

**MISCELLANEOUS/LOCAL CODES**

Miscellaneous Codes	73	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>85</b>

**CRIMES AGAINST ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED**

The following report, mandated by section 2151.18 of the Revised Code, reflects the number of complaints filed with the court, that allege that a child is a delinquent child, in relation to which the court determines under division (D) of section 2151.27 of the Revised Code that the victim of the alleged delinquent act was sixty-five years of age or older or permanently and totally disabled at the time of the alleged commission of the act.

<b>TYPE OF OFFENSE</b>	<b>PROPERTY</b>	<b>THEFT</b>	<b>VIOLENT</b>
DELINQUENT COMPLAINTS FILED	10	9	52
ADJUDICATIONS	0	5	22
ADJUDICATION & RESTITUTION	0	2	4
COMMITTED TO AN INSTITUTION	0	0	0
TRANSFERRED FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION	0	0	1

# ADULT JURISDICTION

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## DEPENDENCY, NEGLECT AND ABUSE

The Dependency Department is responsible for all complaints filed by public and private agencies alleging a child to be dependent, neglected, and/or abused. If a child is placed in the care of an agency, the dependency department must approve and monitor the implementation of the agency's plan for each child. The goals of the statutes that define the operation of the department are to protect children, to respect the rights of parents, and to obtain permanent homes for children in a timely fashion.

	2003	2004
NEW FILINGS	452 cases 810 children	417 cases 712 children
FILINGS DISMISSED	133 children	118 children
INITIAL DISPOSITIONS		
Direct Custody to Individual	51 children	45 children
Protective Supervision	95 children	141 children
Temporary Custody	345 children	360 children
Permanent Commitments	82 children	83 children
Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	42 children	47 children

During 2004, in addition to the 83 children permanently committed as an initial disposition, 64 children were modified from temporary commitments to permanent commitments.

During 2004, in addition to the 47 children placed in planned permanent living arrangements as an initial disposition, 62 children were modified from a temporary commitment to planned permanent living arrangement.

**CHILDREN UNDER AGENCY CUSTODY OR SUPERVISION AT YEAR END**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Protective Supervision	148 children	149 children
Temporary Commitments	409 children	399 children
Permanent Commitments	372 children	343 children
Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	414 children	365 children
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,343 children</b>	<b>1,256 children</b>

In addition to addition to addressing child abuse, neglect and dependency cases, the Dependency Department hears motions to modify prior dependency orders, as well as child custody cases that have been transferred from the Court of Domestic Relations. New filings of these cases are set forth below:

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
New motions to Modify Prior Dependency Dispositions	256 cases 377 children	235 cases 344 children
New Cases Transferred from the Court of Domestic Relations	7 cases 13 children	7 cases 13 children

## OTHER COMPLAINTS FILED

### ADULT MISDEMEANORS

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Failure to Send Child to School	1,950	1,637
Endangering Children	31	14
Tend to Cause Delinquency of a Minor	54	57
Contribute to Delinquency	18	12
Adult Probation Violation	6	8
Fail to Supervise Child	0	0
Interference with Custody	1	1
Failure to Report Child Abuse or Neglect	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,060</b>	<b>1,729</b>

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIP	1,110	1,319
SUPPORT	1,684	2,115
CUSTODY	1,310	1,185
VISITATION	136	93
HABEAS CORPUS	0	0
PERMISSION TO MARRY	1	0
PROBATE	0	0
PARENTAL BYPASS	1	2

## SOME MOTIONS FILED

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
CONTEMPT	5,389	6,403
MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT	1,160	1,322
ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION ORDER	490	477
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS	2,989	4,333

## HEARINGS CONDUCTED

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
TOTAL HEARINGS CONDUCTED	140,543	151,447
AVERAGE NUMBER OF HEARINGS PER FILING	3.25	3.29

## **PRE TRIAL & SPECIAL SERVICES**

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### **INTERVENTION UNIT**

The Hamilton County Juvenile Court Intervention Unit, a division of Court Services, serves families in crisis as the result of a child's rebellious or incorrigible behavior. Efforts are made to contact the family within 24 hours and schedule an appointment within 10 working days. If the parents or guardians are unwilling or unable to attend a session at the Intervention Unit, a family counselor will provide crisis intervention by telephone. It is the Intervention Unit's goal to provide this direct treatment services to at least 10% of all families referred.

The duration of single crisis-intervention session is typically 2-3 hours. Ongoing treatment sessions generally last 1-2 hours. Telephone interventions are provided to clients who do not utilize in-person services due to work schedules, transportation problems, lack of child care, disinterest in counseling, or improvement in the child's behavior. Such cases are monitored for 30 days or longer should problems arise again. Families are encouraged to maintain contact with the assigned counselor during this period; many call for advice after the case is closed.

The First Time Runaway Program provides ongoing case management from the initial filing of the charge through final disposition of the case. Regular phone contact is maintained with the parents or guardians. Counselors offer guidance and supportive counseling throughout the process.

1258 cases were referred to the Intervention Unit during 2004. Chemical dependency, physical and sexual abuse, and mental illness remain constant and significant factors affecting family functioning. Trends suggest that increasing numbers of children referred have had prior exposure to mental health services. Minority populations comprise 71% of youth referred; 54% of total referrals were female. Ages range from 5 to 17 years.

The Unit closed 1211 cases during 2004 and provided service to 72% of the families referred. Services included: First Time Runaway case management, single session interventions, ongoing treatment services, and telephone interventions. 16% of cases referred either did not schedule services or the youth's warrant remained active for over 3 months. 9% of families that scheduled a session failed to attend and did not reschedule. In many instances, counselors scheduled several appointments with clients prior to case closure, encouraging the families to utilize services.

PROGRAM EVALUATION/RECIDIVISM RATES

The Intervention Unit assesses the effectiveness of services based upon re-involvement with the Court. Recidivism is defined as any subsequent official Court contact for an unruly or delinquent offense. The results may be negatively skewed as counselors periodically encourage parents to pursue charges during treatment as a means of holding children accountable. To provide a meaningful appraisal of positive outcome, the population was drawn from closures dating from September 2001 through September 2004. A recidivism range of 3 months following case closure was used.

REFERRAL SOURCE	TOTAL CLOSED	NEW FILINGS	RECIDIVISM RATE
Dependency Court Magistrates	2	0	0%
First Time Runaway Program	1759	564	32%
Clerk's Office Unofficial Referrals	2244	455	20%
Probation Department	243	96	40%
Township Unofficial Dockets	17	4	24%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,746</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>27%</b>

TOTAL CASES DIVERTED FROM OFFICIAL JUVENILE COURT DOCKETS 3461  
 PERCENTAGE OF REFERRALS UTILIZING SOME FORM OF IU SERVICE 71%

## **VOLUNTEER REFEREE PROGRAM**

Two referee diversion programs exist in Hamilton County in an attempt to divert youth from official delinquent records.

Judge Benjamin S. Schwartz of Hamilton County Juvenile Court initiated the Volunteer Referee Program in 1958. It was the first program of its kind in the country. Attorneys were appointed by the Court as Volunteer Referees to hear unofficial cases of a minor nature within their own community. The program has continued with few modifications over the years, under Judges William J. Morrissey; Olive L. Holmes; David E. Grossmann; John P. O'Connor, Sylvia Sieve Hendon, Thomas R. Lipps, and Karla J. Grady.

Local businesses, schools, police and citizens refer cases. The advantage of the program is that cases are heard within the youth's own community. Generally the cases are heard in the evening, as it is more convenient for all parties to participate. There is high visibility of the child for enforcing house arrest, work details and other measures of discipline.

In 2004, there were 824 youth served by the Volunteer Referee Program. Of these, 91 youth were referred back to the police or school for further action. A total of 733 juveniles were handled unofficially and diverted from the official system.

## **CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE ON YOUTH PROGRAM**

In March of 1975 the City of Cincinnati's Citizen's Committee on Youth, Youth Services Bureau Program established a Court Liaison who serves as an unofficial hearing officer and referral agent to link unofficial unruly and minor misdemeanor youth to community services. Supervision of the program is handled jointly by the Citizen's Committee on Youth and the Executive Director of Docketing and Case Management Department, Hamilton County Juvenile Court.

During 2004, a total of 1,620 youth were served by the Unofficial Hearing Officer. A total of 25 juveniles were referred to the official docket. A total of 1,595 were diverted from the official system.

## **ATTENDANCE PROGRAM**

The Attendance Program is a collaborative effort between the Juvenile Court, Family Services of Cincinnati, Cincinnati Public Schools, and the St. Bernard School District. The primary goal is to reduce absences within the schools. The schools presently targeted include: Gamble Elementary, Schwab Elementary, Elmwood Place Elementary and St. Bernard Elementary. The Attendance Clerk and Visiting Teacher/Attendance Program Liaison identify students with poor attendance, and make efforts to address underlying issues effecting attendance without Court involvement. When these efforts fail to produce positive results, the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) are cited to Court. Such hearings are held on a weekly basis in the above targeted schools. The hearing process, be it informal or official, focuses on the root problems contributing to absenteeism. The ultimate goals are to

increase attendance, provide support to families, and interrupt the pattern that could lead to delinquency. The resources of the Court, school and the community are utilized to support families in their effort to correct the problem. The Case Manager, provided by Family Services, works closely with selected families by providing direct services and arranging for adjunctive programming. The Juvenile Court provides a Magistrate and Case Presenter for the hearings. All schools that participate in the collaboration have shown improved daily attendance and parent participation.

## **FAMILY TREATMENT DRUG COURT**

### **MISSION**

The Hamilton County Family Treatment Drug Court is a collaborative effort to ensure timely permanence for children in custody of or under the supervision of the Hamilton County Department of Job & Family Services. The goal is to provide the most efficient substance abuse treatment for parents, as safe return to a sober parent is the most natural form of permanency the system can provide. This program avoids ineffective treatment, ill-informed court decision-making and repetitive litigation that impedes permanency.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

As a condition for admission to the Family Treatment Drug Court the parent stipulates to the admissibility of all Family Treatment Drug Court findings and treatment records in any dependency proceeding and waives any further cross examination or confrontation of the reporters to the Family Treatment Drug Court. In exchange for this waiver of rights, the parent receives the benefits of close judicial monitoring of treatment, efficient exchange of information among the collaborative agencies, and individualized case planning all of which are designed to effect the safe return of the child. Conversely, unsuccessful completion of the program will be documented in the findings of fact and conclusions of law issued by the Hamilton County Family Treatment Court and will be considered by the Dependency System for all purposes in the future. This voluntary program, at its core, protects the due process rights of the participants yet offers the treatment benefits associated with adult drug courts. As a separate tract to the Hamilton County Juvenile Court's model court, which is already conducting close monitoring of the child's case plan, the Family Treatment Drug Court achieves the goal of timely permanency for children within a context that does not unduly compromise parental rights.

### **STATISTICS**

The Family Treatment Drug Court began in September of 2002, and is funded through a three-year grant from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration. In 2004, 14 parents entered the program. The Program served 23 parents during 2004. The Family Treatment Drug Court served 40 children in 2004. The program is comprised of three phases, and the anticipated time for completion of the program is one year. Seventy percent of the participants demonstrated substantial compliance with their treatment goals and court orders that included the maintenance of sobriety. The Family Treatment Drug Court

discharged eleven participants in 2004. Six participants successfully completed the program in 2004. Two participants received a neutral discharge status due to medical or personal issues unrelated to treatment or program compliance. The Family Treatment Drug Court discharged three participants in 2004 for non-compliance with treatment and the repeated failure to maintain sobriety.

## **MEDIATION**

Mediation offers an effective alternative to traditional court process by using a non-adversarial conflict resolution process in an environment of collaborative problem solving. It provides a forum to parties that promotes the safe, guided exchange of information following simple rules that are clearly explained from the outset. Parties are permitted to explore any avenue of possible resolution unfettered by external restraints.

### **CUSTODY AND VISITATION MEDIATION**

The Court contracts with attorneys and social workers trained in family mediation and dispute resolution to mediate petitions and motions for custody and visitation. The magistrates referred 162 cases for mediation in 2004, following a pretrial hearing.

The parties reached an agreement in 51% of the cases mediated. There were 44 cases where the parties either failed to appear or refused mediation services.

### **CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATION**

The goal of the Child Protection Mediation Program is to create an atmosphere that values children and families through a reliable process that empowers families and generates reasonable and creative solutions resulting in permanency for children. The types of cases served by the Child Protection Mediation Program include the following: custody or visitation petitions; adjudications of abuse, neglect and/or dependency; dispositional and post-dispositional requests of protective supervision, temporary custody, planned permanent living arrangement and permanent custody; and disputes related to case plan services.

The magistrates referred 35 cases involving 73 children to mediation in 2004. The parties attended the mediation session in 89% of the mediated cases. The parties reached a full or partial agreement in 68% of the cases mediated. Of those cases in which the parties reached an agreement, 57% resulted in a full agreement while 43% resulted in a partial agreement. The magistrates approved all of the agreements reached by the parties in mediation.

## **DEPARTMENT OF COURT SERVICES**

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The Department of Court Services is charged with the implementation of a wide variety of Court orders and services directed at prevention, intervention and rehabilitation. There are five separate departments within Court services: the Intervention Unit, Community Service / Work Detail, Probation and Service Grants. Services and programs in each of these areas work collaboratively and independently to provide services to youth and their families. Court Services uses general funds and specialized grants to fulfill its mission.

The Intervention Unit utilizes strategic brief therapy for at-risk families prior to formal introduction into the court system. It also accepts referrals from Judges, magistrates and probation.

The Community Service / Work Detail program performs a wide range of community services. Youth are referred to the program as a result of their delinquent or unruly behavior. The City of Cincinnati Adopt-a-Block Program, the Cincinnati Zoo, schools and a variety of parks benefit from this program. The Community Service / Work Detail Program also collaborates with Hillcrest Training School to provide an educational component to assist youth in obtaining their General Education Diploma.

The Probation Department provides predisposition investigation reports and post-disposition probation services. The Department also provides specialized case supervision to address three specific categories of offenders, sex offenders, female probationers, and offenders requiring intense supervision. A Specialized Services team works closely with probation staff in locating services for youth who have unique mental health, substance abuse or mental disability problems.

The Services Grants department monitors and assists in the annual application of the RECLAIM Ohio Grant, which provides funding for both Court personnel and offender services in Court Services. In addition, this department assists in the research, development, application and monitoring of federal, state and private grants.

### **PROBATION**

#### **PROBATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

Probation and the work of the Department are defined under Section 2151 and 2152 of the Ohio Revised Code. It is the duty of all department officers to carry out the orders of the Court and serve to protect the interest of the community. It is the responsibility of Probation Officers to use all suitable methods to aid youth on probation to bring about improvement in their conduct. During 2004, the Probation Department was staffed by: The Chief Probation Officer, 2 Deputy Chief Probation Officers, 4 Probation Team Supervisors, 27 Probation Officers, 2 Probation Monitors, and 5 support staff. The Probation Department is accredited through the American Correctional Association. The department successfully achieved its first re-accreditation in May of 2003

In 2004 the Probation Department conducted 2051 investigations and supervised 1527 cases under community control.

## JUVENILE MAJOR OFFENDER PROGRAM

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Juvenile Major Offender Program (JMOP) began in September of 1998 as a collaborative effort between the Hamilton County Juvenile Court Probation Department and various Police Agencies within Hamilton County to identify serious offenders on Probation and Aftercare and hold them accountable for behavior ordered by the Court. Accountability is enforced through after-hour home visits conducted by two-person teams of Police and Probation Officers riding in Police vehicles. These teams provide curfew checks and warrant service.

Participating Agency	# of Rides	# PO Shifts	# of Checks	# Home	# Not Home	% Home	# No Answer	Warrant Attempts	Warrant Arrests	Other Arrests
Cincinnati	44	134	1585	1061	385	67%	139	115	10	1
Colerain	41	41	316	230	70	73%	16	16	4	0
Forest Park	23	23	124	83	34	67%	7	7	2	0
Springfield	39	39	385	304	62	79%	19	20	6	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>

### SPECIALIZED CASELOADS

In 2004 there were four specialized caseloads in the department, which are supervised by 10 officers and one monitor. Individuals assigned to these caseloads receive intensive supervision and programming that is designed to meet the unique needs of the assigned probationers.

### SEX OFFENDER SPECIFIC CASELOAD

Since 1989 the Hamilton County Juvenile Court Probation Department has been utilizing specialized assessments of adjudicated sexual offenders. This was part of continuum of care treatment approach that followed the youth through legal, treatment and aftercare settings. The objectives for providing such an approach were: 1.) To determine the general dangerousness of the behavior and threat to the community, current victim and potential future victims. 2.) To estimate the risk of re-offending. 3.) To evaluate the specific social, family, environmental and behavioral treatment strengths and needs of the adolescent offender. 4.) To determine specific recommendations regarding the ideal course of intervention and treatment along with secondary recommendations should the ideal course not be possible.

All youth adjudicated of a sexually oriented crime are assigned to the Sex Offender Specialist or to other specially trained probation officers

#### GENDER SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING (GEMS)

Girls Empowered and Motivated for Success (GEMS) is designed to address the specific needs of adolescent females who are on probation. Seven (7) probation officers and a supervisor manage the GEMS caseload. The caseload is set up in an effort to decrease the risk for re-offending among females on probation. Members of the GEMS Team continued to undergo female specific training and networking throughout 2004.

#### INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION

The Intensive Supervision Probation Unit is designed to provide increased structure, monitoring and supervision to selected youth who are 15 years of age or older, not amenable to traditional probation services and at risk of placement out of the home or facing the possibility of commitment to the Department of Youth Services. Youth are closely monitored for compliance with a rigidly constructed plan that includes four phases. Each phase allows for increased privileges and decreased contact. Youth begin the program with few privileges. Youth can increase privileges as they earn "credit days" for strict compliance with program expectations.

#### MENTAL HEALTH CASELOAD

This caseload, new to the department in 2004, was established to provide specialized supervision to youth with severe Mental Health Disorders and In need of intensive services for themselves and their families. This officer is part of a team of Court and community providers who work together to provide a seamless system of care, and whose goal is to reduce delinquent behavior, stabilize the family situation and transition the family back to less intensive services in the community.

#### DRUG TESTING

A component of Probation Supervision is drug testing. The department has trained its staff to collect urine on site in a specially designed test cup that will give instant results. In 2004, 495 tests were given resulting in 127 positive results. Other positives are reported by youth prior to the on site test being given.

## **COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES**

Youth who are involved with the Juvenile Court Probation Department often need additional services that involve community-based programs and/or out-of-home placement. Probation Officers are responsible for coordinating referrals and providing supervision for youth placed within these programs.

The following are facilities where youth are placed, or programs to which youth are referred for services, including a brief description of the program as well as the number of youth placed in/referred to that program in 2004.

### **YOUTH INC.**

Youth, Inc. is a local shelter care facility that accommodates up to 30 youth per day in three houses; one of which serves females. Youth are referred there from the Youth Center (Detention) when it is appropriate to use a less restrictive environment that can provide short term treatment and shelter care pending a longer-term placement or a return home. Total number of male youth placed into this program was 566. Total number of female youth placed was 204.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Alternatives is a 90-day residential drug and alcohol treatment program for youth aged 13-18. It is a division of the Talbert House. In 2004, the Juvenile Court contracted for 5 beds per month. Twenty-three youth were served in 2004 under this contract. Program youth are subsidized by funding sources above and beyond the Court's contracted amount. Youth who enter the program are admitting to a substance abuse problem and are willing to enter treatment. The program works with the families of the youth and provides step-down services in the form of intensive outpatient treatment and aftercare.

### **HILLCREST TRAINING SCHOOL (INTERMEDIATE PLACEMENTS AND DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENTS)**

Hillcrest Training School operates 142 correctional/treatment beds for adjudicated delinquent youth placed by the Court. The program primarily serves youth adjudicated of felony offenses and offers a wide range of services, which include an on grounds school, substance abuse and sex offender programming and psychological services to name a few. The probation department referred 236 cases to Hillcrest Training School in 2004. A total of 194 probation youth were eventually placed at Hillcrest during the year. Hillcrest Training school also provides a short-term diagnostic assessment program for male and female (new in 2004) offenders referred by the probation department. In 2004, (MAP) Multi-Dimensional Assessment Program assessed 341 male and 273 female adjudicated offenders referred by the probation department.

## PASSAGES

Passages, a division of Talbert House, is a residential treatment program for felony and chronic misdemeanor female offenders. Using a gender-sensitive approach, the Passages program utilizes techniques to address issues of personal/family relationships, accountability, victimization and substance abuse. The program has two components; a 90-day program for chronic status and misdemeanor offenders, and a 180-day program for felony offenders. Passages also offers Intensive Outpatient and Aftercare services for residents. The Juvenile Court contracts for a minimum of 17 beds per month. In 2004, 40 girls were served in residential programming.

## COMMUNITY PLACEMENTS

The Juvenile court periodically utilizes various residential placements in the local community to address the multiple needs of some of its client population. Usually these placements are shorter-term (four months or less) and satisfy a need that outpatient services cannot. This year, four different facilities including a local group home, independent living, and two residential facilities – were contracted with. A total of 6 youth were directly referred for placements at those 4 facilities in 2004. Other court youth received placement services through various providers as part of involvement in the Hamilton Choices program (described below).

## LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY PRESERVATION

Lighthouse Youth Services provides a family outreach component for juveniles on probation who could benefit from a time-limited, structured in-home therapy approach. Workers are on call 24 hours a day during the program and work with the entire family system to help strengthen the family unit. Thirty-two families benefited from these services in 2004.

## NORCEN SEXUAL OFFENDER GROUP

NORCEN Behavioral Health Systems, Inc. contracts with the Court to provide an ongoing Sexual offenders' group for youth adjudicated on sexual offenses who are able to be maintained in the community but who need intensive treatment for their behavior. The group can accommodate approximately 7-8 youth at any given time, due to the lengthy nature of the treatment and the slow turnover that occurs. The Court had 10 youth serviced during 2004. The court contracts separately with NORCEN and with therapist Randy Frost to provide some individual (and some group) work with several offenders whose level of functioning or youthful age precludes their participation in the NORCEN group.

## COMMUNITY OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS

Occasionally the Court contracts on a case by case basis with various local providers for various outpatient treatment services for probation youth. Some examples of this would include individual sexual offender treatment, group substance abuse treatment, mentoring, violence prevention program participation, theft prevention program participation, in-home therapy, and the like. Due to budget constraints during the year, only 1 youth was referred to and received outpatient services from a provider in 2004.

## HAMILTON CHOICES (FORMERLY CREATIVE CONNECTIONS)

This managed care concept wrap around program has been in existence since 1995 under several different vendors over the years. In November of 2002 it came under the auspices of Hamilton Choices. The overall mission and purpose, as well as service operations, are as follows: to purchase, evaluate, and monitor a wide variety of services directed to the County's most difficult to serve multi-system children and their families. Over the year there were approximately 60 Court youth being serviced by Choices. From the program's inception, a total of 292 Court juveniles have been (or are being) served. Twenty-six new youth were referred into the program in calendar year 2004. Youth receive a wide array of services ranging from community-based to residential, and remain in the program for a significant period of time (average of 18 months to 2 years) based on their issues and needs.

## THE BRIDGE

This secure facility combines a strong behavioral management milieu, cognitive-behavioral groups and interventions with sophisticated child and adolescent psychiatric expertise to address the needs of juvenile offenders who are diagnosed with a serious mental illness, who cannot be treated in the community. In 2004, the Probation Department contracted for 6 beds on a daily basis and had 10 youth placed in the program over the course of the year. Since its inception, 33 court youth have been served by the program.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES WORK DETAIL

The Work Detail program is a dispositional option for adjudicated youth in Hamilton County Juvenile Court. The program provides youth with a productive, short-term work experience as a consequence for delinquent behavior. Youth are given an opportunity to learn the principles of accountability and responsibility through various clean up and beautification projects in communities that have been affected by their delinquent behavior.

During 2004 the Work Detail department continued its partnership with Cincinnati Public Schools in the school attendance program. Community Services Work Detail crew leaders were placed in two participating schools to assist in the attendance program and to supervise youth that were court ordered to perform work details in the school where they attend.

Daily Work Details	1,650
Saturday Work Details	1,711
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>3,361</b>

## RESTITUTION, PURGE PAYMENTS, FINES AND COURT COSTS

### RESTITUTION

In 2004, the total restitution collected was \$79,124.30

### FINES & COSTS COLLECTED

Fines	\$59,209.30
Court Costs	\$158,901.46
RRF & GRF	\$119,361.61
Computer Fees	\$60,639.20
Legal Research	\$18,014.17
Witness Fees	\$9,559.28
Delivery Fees	\$9,630.41
Work Detail Fees	\$1,273.05
Restitution Process Fee	\$1,525.25

## DISMISSALS

In 2004, 7,290 delinquent, unruly, and traffic cases were dismissed.

## OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

The number of youth committed to the Department of Youth Services decreased from 130 in 2003, to 125 in 2004. In 2004, the Court revoked parole for 54 juveniles, down from 60 juveniles in 2003.

## TRANSFERS

In 2004, 39 juveniles were transferred to the Court of Common Pleas, General Division to have their cases tried as adults. In addition, five juveniles were found to be Serious Youthful Offenders.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department, under the Administrative Services Division is responsible for the preparation, expense and monitoring activity of the Annual County Operating budget and various state grants. Another major responsibility is the maintenance of employee sick and vacation records and production of the bi-weekly payroll. In addition, court ordered restitution is disbursed to the victim and child support for youth in placement is monitored.

2004 General Fund	Revenue	Expense
General Fund Subsidy	\$14,814,275.05	
Judges' Office	\$5,202,890.89	\$11,633,782.67
Youth Center	\$1,662,995.39	\$11,033,098.56
Hillcrest	\$11,502,158.08	\$10,515,438.18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,182,319.41</b>	<b>\$33,182,319.41</b>
<b>Grants</b>		
Reclaim Ohio	\$3,419,209.60	\$3,419,209.60
Youth Services Grant	\$1,213,016.87	\$1,213,016.87
JCMS Extension	\$479,861.00	\$479,861.00
Family Treat Ct.	\$239,091.65	\$239,091.65
JAIBG	\$171,120.25	\$171,120.25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,522,299.37</b>	<b>\$5,522,299.37</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$38,704,618.78</b>	<b>\$38,704,618.78</b>

### HUMAN RESOURCES

In support of the mission of the Court, the Human Resources Department provides leadership in the development and the administration of policies and procedures that: (1) meet the needs of prospective and current employees; (2) adhere to federal and state labor laws and regulations; (3) maintain high professional and ethical standards; and (4) demonstrate proactive efforts in the recruitment and retention of a professional and dedicated staff.

The Human Resources Department provides services that are prompt, relevant, accurate, and courteous. In pursuit of the mission, the Human Resources team will:

- Treat all people with dignity and respect.
- Be fair and consistent.
- Work closely with other staff to ensure effective and efficient use of human resources.
- Contribute to employee development and creativity.
- Be accessible and make every effort to assist Juvenile Court staff and the public.

The department provides a range of services to the Court and its approximately 600 employees working in three divisions. Services include the recruitment, screening, and

referral of qualified applicants. Other primary duties and responsibilities include new employee hiring, creation and maintenance of personnel records, wage and salary administration, benefits administration and communication, employee relations and counseling, background investigations, new employee orientation, the employee service recognition program, unemployment and worker's compensation, and labor law compliance.

During the year of 2004, the Juvenile Court hired 108 new employees. The total number of employees within the three Court divisions is 594, which includes part-time and temporary staff. There are 215 positions at the Judges' Office at 800 Broadway, 185 at Hillcrest Training School, and 195 at the Youth Center.

### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

The Information Services Department is comprised of twelve full-time employees and three contractors. Staff are responsible for the design, development, and implementation and support of the Court's computer hardware and software systems.

### **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

The basic function of the Operations Department is to determine the equipment and supply requirements for the Juvenile Court, maintain an inventory of supplies commensurate with the requirements and place all necessary vendor orders. It is the department's responsibility to maintain control of Court equipment by proper record keeping, conducting an annual inventory and monitoring maintenance contracts. The Operations Department handles the majority of the purchasing for the Juvenile Court, therefore, the department is also responsible for authenticating all invoices for payment.

The Operations Department also maintains a Print Shop for the purpose of developing, duplicating and reproducing all the forms that the juvenile Court utilizes. The Operations Department is staffed with 2 full-time members. Along with the Operations Director, there is Supply Clerk/Printer.

### **SECURITY DEPARTMENT**

The Security Department is comprised of 13 full-time Law Enforcement Officers. These Officers have been certified by the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission and have received specific and advanced training. The Hamilton County Juvenile Court Security Department is the first and only juvenile court certified by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

The Security Department operates in compliance with the Supreme Court of Ohio, Court Security Standards. The Security Department is responsible for providing security and prisoner transports within Juvenile Court at 800 Broadway. They further provide security and prisoner transports to the courtrooms at the Youth Center, prisoner transportation to and from other jurisdictions and is responsible for providing security at the Community Services Work Detail Program.

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

The Training Department provides introductory orientation, continuing education, and other instructional opportunities to support Court staff in the discharge of their duties and the Court's mission. Professional development is key to the success of the individual employee, the various departmental initiatives, and performance improvement in all Court operations.

In support of its mission, the Training Department conducts periodic needs assessments, develops and modifies curriculum, maintains educational resources and equipment, and conducts or arranges for training courses on a wide array of topics. Traditional classroom and on-the-job training is supplemented by the use of other learning technologies including web-based and self-paced learning modules.

To assure the highest quality training experience, the training coordinators of the Court's three divisions actively solicit information from employees, managers, and trainers. The coordinators maintain professional competency in their fields of expertise and routinely collaborate with each other and with various county and community agencies to develop and maximize available training opportunities. In 2004, Juvenile Court employees received over 40,000 hours of training.

## CASE MANAGEMENT

### DOCKETING/CASE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

The Docketing and Case Management Department of the Juvenile Court is responsible for docketing and presenting all complaints filed, maintaining and updating all legal records, and maintaining audio cassettes for Magistrates' hearings. The department consists of 43 employees who handle cases involving Delinquency, Unruly, Custody, Visitation, Traffic, Adult Jurisdiction, Child Support, and Dependency. Jobs currently within the department include Docketing Clerks, Traffic Clerk, Warrant Clerk, Case Managers, Unofficial Hearing Officer, Receptionists, School Case Managers, and File Clerks.

#### COMPLAINTS AND SOME MOTIONS FILED

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
DELINQUENT & UNRULY	22,307	20,713	19,914	19,141	19,803
TRAFFIC	8,070	6,859	7,332	7,296	6,810
PATERNITY & SUPPORT	3,148	3,766	3,221	2,797	3,536
CONTEMPT MOTIONS	3,078	4,766	4,586	5,389	6,403
MODIFICATION OF SUPPORT	1,131	1,092	1,318	1,160	1,062
MOD. OF SUPPORT - CSEA					260
ADMIN. PATERNITY HEARINGS					237
ADMIN. MODIFICATION ORDER	582	536	601	490	477
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT	1,784	2,197	3,152	2,989	4,333
DEPENDENCY, NEGLECT & ABUSE	609	585	461	601	618
CUSTODY, VISITATION & HABEAS CORPUS	1,274	1,220	1,422	1,383	1,239
MISCELLANEOUS	2	0	2	2	2
ADULT MISDEMEANOR .	1,328	2,257	1,815	2,060	1,730
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>43,313</b>	<b>43,991</b>	<b>43,822</b>	<b>43,308</b>	<b>46,510</b>
HEARINGS CONDUCTED	130,390	132,866	140,959	140,543	151,447
HEARINGS PER CASE	3.00	3.00	3.22	3.25	3.26
HEARINGS PER DAY	521	531	564	562	606
DELINQUENT FILINGS	19,710	19,197	18,408	17,630	18,166
FELONY FILINGS	2,967	3,218	3,036	3,037	2,881
JUVENILES PC TO DYS	197	166	167	130	125
JUVENILES BOGJ	75	65	61	48	39
JUVENILES SYO	N/A	N/A	4	2	5

#### CLERK'S OFFICE

In Hamilton County Juvenile Court, Judge Thomas R. Lipps and Judge Karla J. Grady are Ex Officio Clerks of the Court. All cases filed are processed through either the Clerk's Office at 800 Broadway, or at the Youth Center Intake Department. The Clerk's Office at 800 Broadway consists of the Chief Deputy Clerk and 13 employees who screen, process and image new complaints and motions; send service to notify parties of court dates; prepare mandated, and internal statistical reports; establish restitution accounts; and process financial transactions for restitution, fines, court costs, purges, bond, and other ordered fees.

## **MAGISTRATES**

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There are twenty-six Magistrates in Juvenile Court. The Magistrates are appointed by the Juvenile Judges to preside over the daily case management in Juvenile Court. The powers of a Magistrate are similar to those of a Judge, however, their decisions are subject to review and approval by the assigned Juvenile Court Judge. In Hamilton County, Magistrates determine delinquency, unruly, dependency, custody, paternity and child support matters in Juvenile Court.

Eight Magistrates are assigned to preside over cases involving allegations of dependency, neglect and abuse of children. They are responsible for deciding the temporary and permanent placement of children. The primary goal of the dependency process is to protect the best interest of the child.

The remaining Magistrates preside over delinquency, unruly, traffic, custody, paternity and child support. In delinquency, unruly and traffic matters, Magistrates preside at the plea and trial hearings and determine appropriate dispositions.

Juvenile Court has jurisdiction of paternity, custody and child support when a child is born out of wedlock, or when married parents have not filed for divorce. The Magistrates oversee proceedings to establish the proper parent/child relationship. In addition to establishing paternity, the Magistrates also set child support orders. A Magistrate has the authority to hold a parent in contempt of court and place them before the assigned Judge for imposition of a jail term for failure to pay child support. The Magistrate also decides custody and visitation matters in Juvenile Court. Custody and visitation decisions determine who shall be the residential parent, or custodian of a child and provides for the visitation schedule of a child.

# **HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT YOUTH CENTER**



## YOUTH CENTER

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The Hamilton County Juvenile Court Youth Center provides short term secure placement for youth awaiting trial or placement. The Youth Center is accredited by the American Correctional Association.

In 2004, 6,257 youth were admitted to detention, while 4,419 youth were diverted from detention after arrest.

### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

The Medical Department provides medical, dental, drug/alcohol assessments, psychological and psychiatric services to all admitted youth. These services are delivered by staff physicians provided by Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. The Youth Center is accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

Medical Screenings performed	5,706
Full Physical Examinations	1,340
Sick Call Examinations performed (nurse practitioner or physician)	1,035

### PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The purpose of the Psychology Clinic is to provide mental health evaluations for the Juvenile Court System at the request of judges, magistrates, probation officers, and both prosecuting and defense attorneys. The evaluations are to determine whether juvenile offenders are competent to stand trial, appropriate for waiver, and to assist in dispositional planning. Occasionally, referrals from the dependency docket request clinic staff to assist in custody matters. The Court requested services in 2004 were:

CLINIC SERVICES	TOTAL
Psychological Evaluations	420
Mental Health Court Assessments	57
Psychiatric Evaluations	20
Evaluations for Waiver	35
Competency to Stand Trial	311
Emergency Hospitalizations	1
Job Applicants	101
Emergency Referrals	2,740
Detention High Risk Assessments	1,575

**HAMILTON COUNTY JUVENILE COURT**  
**HILLCREST TRAINING SCHOOL**



# HILLCREST TRAINING SCHOOL

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Hillcrest School is located at 246 Bonham Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215. The program primarily serves youth that have committed felony offenses. The age of youth in residence ranges between twelve and eighteen. Hillcrest has dual accreditation by the American Correctional Association by meeting both the "Training School" Standards and "Aftercare Services" Standards. The facility is handicapped accessible and meets all ADA standards. In addition, Hillcrest maintains National Commission on Correctional Health Care Services Accreditation. Hillcrest is also certified by the American Association of Suicidology. During 2004, Hillcrest operated 118 residential treatment beds and 24 assessment beds. Aftercare services were also provided for all youth successfully completing the residential portion of the program.

In January, the 12-bed Multidisciplinary Assessment Program (MAP) for girls was opened. Like the boy's assessment unit, this unit is designed to provide a comprehensive psychological and criminological assessment for girls referred by the Court. During 2004, 327 assessments for males and 265 assessments for females were completed.

During 2004, emphasis was placed on enhancing educational services by focusing on technology, intervention, literacy and North Central Accreditation. A newly selected leadership team for the school was named in July. Dennis Johnson serves as Principal and Terry Meinking as Assistant Principal.

Facilities improvements during the year included the installation of windows in the living units that comply with all safety and fire codes, outsourcing of landscaping and grounds maintenance, the installation of a computer lab in the school and the complete remodeling of the school library, including updating library materials.

A comprehensive study was designed and implemented to examine intermediate and long-term outcomes with the assistance of the Executive Service Corps and the Cincinnati Consulting Consortium. Initial results have been very favorable.

In May the National Commission on Correctional Health Care conducted a site survey resulting in a 100% compliance score. The American Association of Suicidology site visit also occurred in May resulting in a very favorable rating. In October the American Correctional Association conducted the facility's fourth reaccreditation audit. We were found to be in compliance with over 500 training school and aftercare standards and achieved a final score of over 99%, the highest in the history of the facility.

RESIDENTIAL CARE	
Referrals	247
Admissions	197
Terminations	210
Number of Youth Served	315
Average Length of Stay (Days)	298
Days of Care Provided	32,350



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