



2012
Erie County
Court of Common Pleas
Annual Report

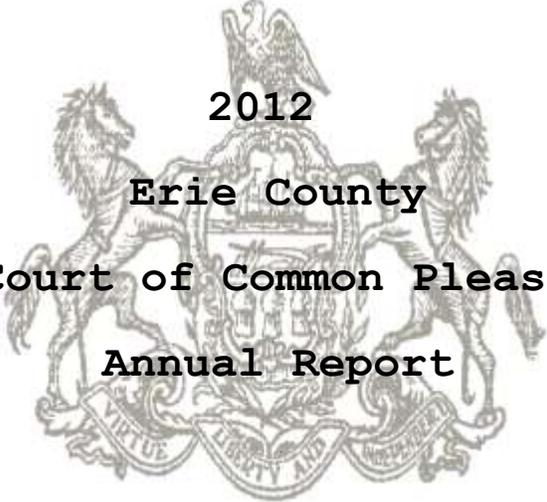


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JUDGE'S CHAMBERS

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ERIE, PA 16501

ERNEST J. DISANTIS, JR.
PRESIDENT JUDGE

My Fellow Citizens:

The Court of Common Pleas of Erie County continued to operate effectively during 2012. Although not necessarily representative of trends, certain developments are noteworthy.

The Family/Orphans' Court Division saw a decrease in custody complaints (approximately 1%) and an increase in custody trials (approximately 16%). Adoption petitions were at their lowest level since 2001. Juvenile delinquency petitions were down over 15% and divorce cases decreased by approximately 14%.

The Trial Division saw an overall increase in criminal cases (approximately 6%), which is interesting given that violent crime in Erie County decreased. Jury and non-jury trials remained relatively the same. The number of civil cases (including jury and non-jury trials) has remained stable, consistent with the five-year average. This appears to be the result of alternative dispute resolution, including arbitration and mediation.

There is a legal maxim that "justice delayed is justice denied". However, that is not the case in Erie County. Due to the diligence of your judges and court personnel, there is no case backlog in any division of this Court. In addition, the Court's decisions in most cases are accurate as reflected by the fact that few are reversed on appeal.

On a financial note, the Court operated well within its allocated budget for the 15th consecutive year. We have continued to work cooperatively with the County Executive and County Council on budget and other government related matters.

In conclusion, the citizens of Erie County have every reason to feel confident in their judicial system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr.
President Judge

**Members of the Bench
Erie County Court of Common Pleas
Sixth Judicial District**

**HONORABLE ERNEST J. DiSANTIS, JR.
(President Judge)**



Born June 15, 1948, the son of Mary Grace Letizia DiSantis and the late Ernest J. DiSantis. Education: Gannon Univ. (B.A.), 1970; Univ. of Akron School of Law (J.D.), 1974. Experience: 1995 of counsel, Elderkin Law Firm; 1989-1994 Asst. U.S. Atty. (W.D., PA) (Chief of the Erie Division); 1983-1989 Asst. District Attorney (Erie County); 1980-1983 Deputy Attorney General (PA Bureau of Consumer Protection); 1978-1980 Chief Contract Administrator, Allegheny County Dept. of Aviation; 1975-1977 Director of Employee Relations, United Way of Allegheny County; Former Adjunct Professor of criminal law and procedure, Gannon University (1989-2001); Pa Criminal Jury Instruction Committee; Commissioner, Pa. Commission for Adult Offender Supervision; Graduate, USMC Platoon Leaders Class Program (1969); U.S. Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve (1970-1976); elected Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Nov. 7, 1995, Retained, 2005; President Judge 2010-present; married Elizabeth Smith; 3 Children.

HONORABLE SHAD CONNELLY



Born Feb. 16, 1945, in Erie, the son of Prosper F. (dec.) and Rose P. Vendetti Connelly (dec.). Graduate of Univ. of Va. (B.A.); Edinboro St. Univ. (M.A.); Duquesne Univ. (J.D.). Served in the U.S. Navy, 1965-69. Member of the Pa., Am. and Erie Co. Bar Assns. and Phi Alpha Delta, legal fraternity. Asst. Public Defender, 1975-76; Asst. District Attorney, 1976-85. Appointed to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, Small County Advisory Committee, by the Honorable Carolyn Engel Temin, President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, 1993-95, and Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) by Governor Mark S. Schweiker from 11/1/02 – 11/1/06. Roman Catholic; Democrat; former instructor, law, Erie Bus. Ctr. and Mercyhurst Coll.; P.I.A.A. basketball and football official; elected judge, Court of Common Pleas, Nov. 1985; retained 1995; retained again 2005; married Sheila Ann Fratus; 4 children: Erin Colleen, Correy Lynne, Shad Anthony and Shane Patrick.

HONORABLE STEPHANIE DOMITROVICH



Born in 1954, in Rochester, PA; Carlow Univ. (B.A.), 1976, summa cum laude; Duquesne Univ. School of Law (J.D.), 1979; Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy in Judicial Studies) in 2006 from the University of Nevada at Reno (U.N.R) and the Nat'l Judicial College (N.J.C); M.J.S. (Master of Judicial Studies in Trial Judge major) in 1993 from U.N.R and N.J.C ; M.J.S. with Juvenile and Family Court Judges major in 1998 from U.N.R and Nat'l Council of Juv. and Fam. Court Judges (N.C.J.F.C.J.); Am., PA. and Erie Co. Bar Assns.; National Conference of State Trial Judges, Past Chair; PA Conf. of State Trial Judges, Past President; Nat'l. Assoc. of Women Judges; Am. Judges Assn.; Northwest PA. American Inn of Courts, President 1999-2001; Phi Alpha Delta Law Frat.; faculty member, N.J.C., 1993-present, and N.C.J.F.C.J.; instructor, Gannon University, pre-law and paralegals; Asst. Co. Solicitor, 1983-89; elected judge, Court of Common Pleas, Nov. 1989, retained Nov. 1999 and retained Nov. 2009, now serving in both Family/Orphans' Court Div. and Trial Court Division; married; children.

HONORABLE WILLIAM R. CUNNINGHAM



Born in 1956 one of twin sons of Ronald and Marilyn Cunningham. Graduate of Allegheny College (B.A.) and University of Pittsburgh Law School (J.D.). Admitted to all PA and federal courts. Private practice, 1981 to 1987. Served as District Attorney of Erie County from 1988 - 1995; Member of the Court of Common Pleas since January 1996. Served as President Judge 2000 to 2005. Adjunct instructor, Constitutional Law, Mercyhurst College. Instructor, Pennsylvania District Attorney Association. Instructor, Pennsylvania Constable Training Commission. Past President of Northwest Pennsylvania Inn of Court. Past President of the Pennsylvania Association of Drug Court Professionals. Member of the Statewide Task Force on Veterans and the Criminal Justice System. Member of the HR12 Mandatory Sentences Study Advisory Committee.

HONORABLE MICHAEL E. DUNLAVEY



Born December 12, 1945 in Buffalo, NY. The son of John Regis and Winifred West Dunlavey, deceased. Univ. of Notre Dame, B.A. 1967. Juris Doctor State Univ. of NY at Buffalo School of Law 1974. Admitted to all Courts in the Cmwth. of PA and State of NY including the Federal Courts for the Western Districts of NY and PA, as well as the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, the Court of Veterans Appeals, US Tax Court and US Court of Claims. Active duty – US Army 1967-71, 1990, 2001 – 2004 retired as a Major General in the United States Army. Partner – Orton, Nygaard, Dunlavey & Joyce 1974-88, Assistant District Attorney 1988-90. Partner – Dunlavey, Ward & Pagliari, 1992-99. Elected Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Erie County, November 7, 1999. Active duty September 2001 – April 2004. A strong proponent of Veteran's Treatment Courts.

HONORABLE ELIZABETH K. KELLY



Born Sep. 2, 1958, in Erie, PA, daughter of the late William and Joan Kelly; graduate of Georgetown Univ. (B.A., Cum Laude), 1980 and Univ. of Akron School of Law (J.D.), 1983 - Editorial Board, Akron Law Review, Chmn. Student Honor Code, Vice President/Student Bar Association. Admitted to all Courts of the Cmwth. of PA and State of OH, US District Courts for Western Dist. Of PA, US Dist. Court for Northern Dist. of OH, PA Bar Assn. (Family Law Comm.), Erie Co. Bar Assn. (Past Chmn Family Law Comm.), Northwestern PA American Inns of Court; Asst. City Prosecutor, Akron, OH 1983-84; Partner - Elderkin, Martin and Kelly, 1984-1999; PA State University and Mercyhurst College Adjunct Professor 1990-2009, Instructor (Family Law), 1990-98; member of the Court of Common Pleas since January, 2000. Judicial Ethics Committee 2001-2003. Juvenile Court Judges' Commission 2003 – 2012. President Judge 2005-2009

HONORABLE JOHN J. TRUCILLA
(Administrative Judge - Family Division)



Erie County Court of Common Pleas, 6th Judicial District; Elected November 6, 2001; Seated January 2, 2002; Administrative Judge-Family Division (January 2006 to Present); Born October 3, 1960 in Erie, Pennsylvania; Educated at the University of Dayton (B.A. Political Science) 1982; University of Dayton School of Law (J.D.) 1985; Admitted to all Pennsylvania Courts and the United States Supreme Court, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania; judicial law clerk to the Honorable Shad Connelly, January 1986-January 1988; Assistant District Attorney, Erie County, Pennsylvania, January 1988-April 1990; United States Department of Justice, Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, April 1990-January 2001 (Chief of the Erie Division, 1994-2001); Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett, January 2001-June 2001; Assistant District Attorney, Erie County, Pennsylvania, Juvenile Prosecutor, June 2001-December 2001; Adjunct Professor of Law, Penn State University-The Behrend College, Erie, Pennsylvania (Criminal Law & Procedure, Constitutional Law) 1989-1996 and 2010-Present; Gannon University (Criminal Law & Procedure) January 2002-January 2004; Instructor, PA State Police Academy, Northwest Training Center, 1997-2001 (Presenter of local, state and federal seminars regarding miscellaneous topics involving criminal law); Member-Citizen Office of Children and Youth Oversight Committee-2006; Member-By-Laws Revision Committee of the PA Conference of State Trial Judges-2006; Member- Association of Trial Lawyers of America; Member-American Judges Association; Member-Juvenile Court Judges' Commission; Coordinator-Committee for PA's Roundtable for Children Initiative(2007); Member-Erie County Criminal Justice Coalition; Member-Erie Truancy Task Force(2007-Present); Chosen as Youth Leadership Institute 2011 Person of the Year; Co-Founder of Erie County's Parent Coordinator Committee; Selected as 2012 Honorary Chairperson of Global Youth Service Day for Erie County, April 21, 2012. Founder-"Juveniles on the Run for Success"; Married to Suzanne M. Uht; six (6) children: John, Luke, Marielle & triplets-Grace, Anne & James.

HONORABLE JOHN GARHART



Born September 30, 1946, in Sharon, Pa; Youngstown University, Youngstown, Ohio (B.A.); Rutgers School of Law (J.D.). Served in the United States Army Reserves 1969-1974. Admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in October 1974. Also admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Tax Court. Assistant District Attorney, Mercer County, Pennsylvania 1975-1976. Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania 1976-1982; Private Practice of Law 1982-

2004; Assistant District Attorney, Erie County, Pennsylvania 2004-2005. Included in *Best Lawyers in America* 1995-2005; Elected Judge of Erie County Court of Common Pleas in November 2005.

HONORABLE DANIEL J. BRABENDER, JR.



Born August 27, 1952, in Erie, PA, the son of Daniel J. Brabender, Sr. and Jane L. Austin Brabender, both deceased; Graduate of St. George Grade School (1966), Cathedral Prep High School (1970), University of Dayton (B.A., 1974) and University of Dayton School of Law (J.D., 1978); Former partner, Carney, Good, Brabender & Walsh (1978-2009); Admitted to all courts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and State of Ohio, United States District Courts for the Western District of Pennsylvania and Northern District of Ohio, and the Third Circuit for the United States Court of Appeals; Member of the Erie County, Pennsylvania

and American Bar Associations; Member of Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity and the University of Dayton School of Law Alumni Board of Trustees; Member of the Villa Maria Elementary Board of Directors; Varsity and JV soccer coach, Villa Maria Elementary; Member of the Erie Area Sports Commission; Past president of the Serra Club of Erie; Past president of the Cathedral Prep Alumni Association; Past member and chairman of the Cathedral Prep Advisory Board; Roman Catholic, St. George Parish; Elected Judge of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas (November 3, 2009); Married to the former Marci A. Corapi; Two Children: Alexis Jane Brabender (born October 19, 2000) and Rachel Mary Brabender (born March 31, 2002).

The Erie County Court of Common Pleas
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
1874-2012



John P. Vincent 1874-1876	Samuel J. Roberts 1952-1962	Shad A. Connelly 1986-Present
William A. Galbraith 1877-1887	Samuel Y. Rossiter 1953-1966	Michael T. Joyce 1986-1997
Frank Gunnison 1886-1897	Herbert J. Johnson 1963-1964	John Falcone 1989-1990
Emory A. Walling 1897-1916	James B. Dwyer 1964-1985	John A. Bozza 1989-2010
Paul A. Benson 1911-1915	Edward H. Carney 1966-1981	Stephanie Domitrovich 1990-Present
Uriah P. Rossiter 1915-1934	Thomas W. Barber 1966-1970	William R. Cunningham 1996-Present
Edward L. Whittelsey 1916-1920	Lindley R. McClelland 1967-1981	Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr. 1996-Present
William E. Hirt 1920-1939	William E. Pfadt 1970-1971; 1974-1989	Michael Palmisano 1998-1999
Henry A. Clark 1921-1931	George Levin 1972-1973; 1986-1995	Michael E. Dunlavey 2000-2012
J. Orin Waite 1932-1952	Fred P. Anthony 1972-2005	Elizabeth K. Kelly 2000-Present
Miles B. Kitts 1936-1944	Richard L. Nygaard 1981-1988	John J. Trucilla 2002-Present
Elmer L. Evans 1939-1967	Jessamine S. Jiuliante 1981-1995	John Garhart 2006-Present
Burton R. Laub 1946-1966	Roger M. Fischer 1983-1998	Daniel J. Brabender, Jr. 2010-Present

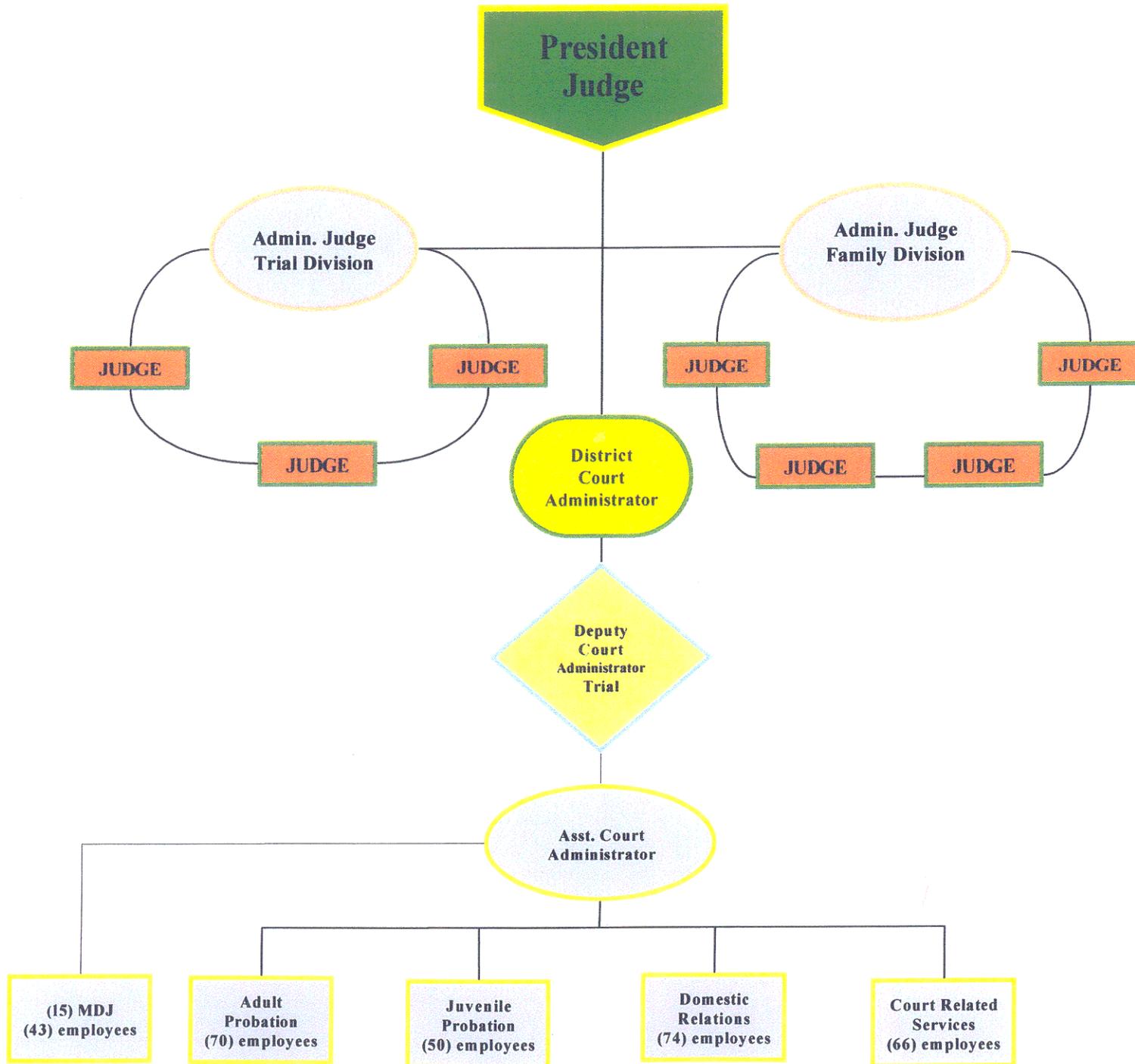
Erie County

Court of Common Pleas

President Judges

Honorable John P. Vincent	1874 - 1876
Honorable William A. Galbraith	1877 – 1886
Honorable Frank Gunnison	1886 – 1897
Honorable Emory A. Walling	1897 – 1916
Honorable Uriah P. Rossiter	1916 – 1935
Honorable William E. Hirt	1935 – 1939
Honorable Miles B. Kitts	1939 – 1944
Honorable Elmer L. Evans	1944 – 1967
Honorable Edward H. Carney	1967 – 1981
Honorable James B. Dwyer	1981 - 1985
Honorable William E. Pfadt	1985 – 1989
Honorable Jessamine S. Jiuliante	1989 – 1994
Honorable John A. Bozza	1994 – 1999
Honorable Michael M. Palmisano	1999 – 2000
Honorable William R. Cunningham	2000 – 2005
Honorable Elizabeth K. Kelly	2005 – 2009
Honorable Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr.	2010 - Present

ERIE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



ERIE COUNTY



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

The Court of Common Pleas of the Sixth Judicial District is organized into two (2) administrative divisions: the **Trial Division** which encompasses all civil and criminal matters and the **Family Division** which includes all family matters, juvenile matters and Orphans' Court. An administrative judge, in collaboration with the judges assigned to each respective division, coordinates the work within each division.

The two divisions enable the Court to better respond to changes in caseloads and continuity with case assignments.

The two (2) divisions are comprised of:

- Trial Division**
- President Judge Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr.
 - Judge Shad Connelly, Administrative Judge
 - Judge Stephanie Domitrovich
 - Judge Michael E. Dunlavey
 - Judge John Garhart

- Family Division**
- Judge John J. Trucilla, Administrative Judge
 - Judge Stephanie Domitrovich
 - Judge William R. Cunningham
 - Judge Elizabeth K. Kelly
 - Judge Daniel J. Brabender, Jr.

During 2012, the Trial Division Judges and Family Division Judges presided over the following:

Criminal

106	Criminal Jury Trials
21	Criminal Non-Jury Trials
220	Indirect Criminal Contempt Hearings
1,971	Criminal Pleas
2,571	Criminal Sentencings
489	Probation/Parole Revocation Hearings
859	ARD Hearings
160	Summary Appeal Hearings
2,669	Miscellaneous Motions and Hearings

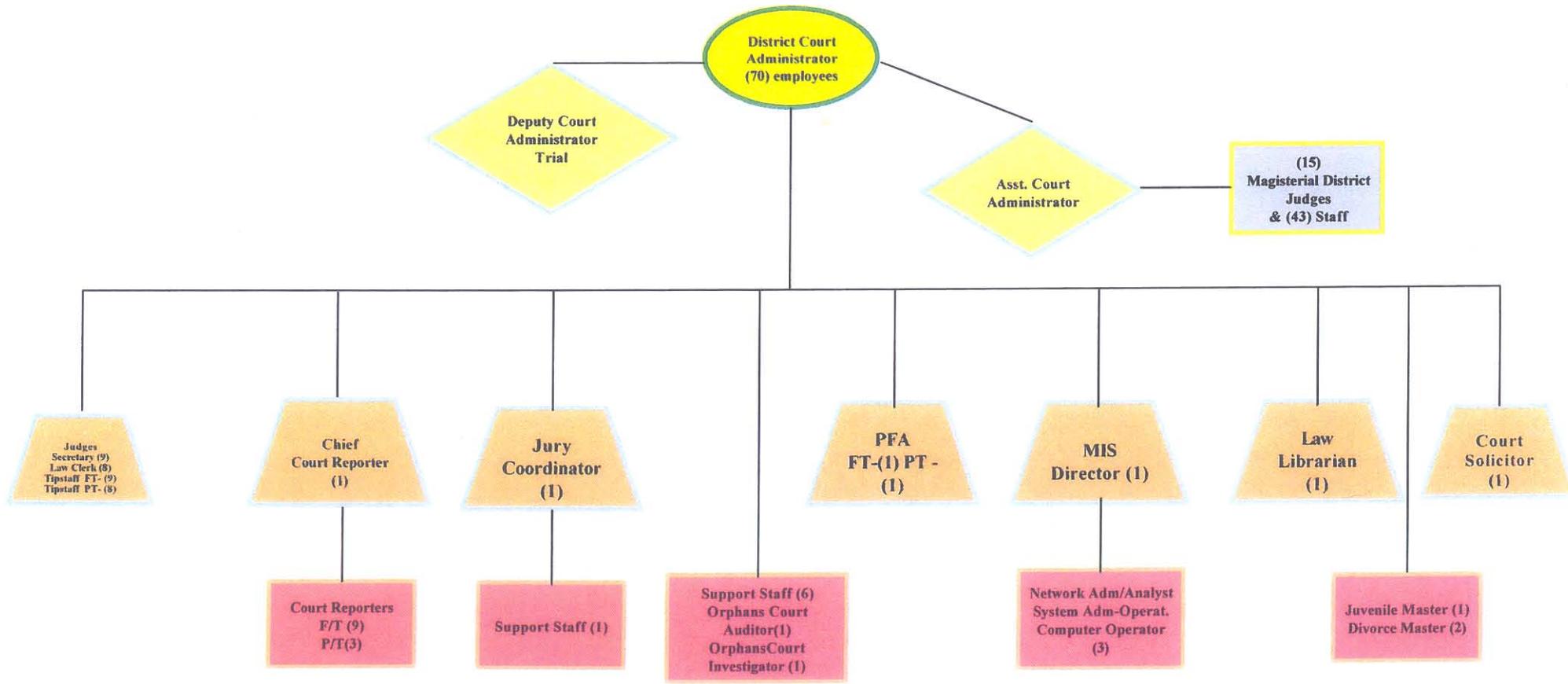
Civil

13	Civil Jury Trials
10	Civil Non-Jury Trials
62	Status/Settlement Conferences
98	License Suspension Hearings
29	Summary Judgment Hearings
22	Preliminary Objections Hearings
8	Certification II Hearings
279	Miscellaneous Motions and Hearings

Family

170	Custody Trials
179	Custody Contempt Hearings
977	Delinquency Hearings
623	Dependency Hearings
1,037	Divorce Hearings
918	Temporary PFA Hearings
474	Final PFA Hearings
339	Support DeNovo Hearings
1,768	Support Contempt Hearings
35	IVT Trials/ Hearings
61	Adoptions
313	Orphans' Court Hearings
698	Miscellaneous Family Motions and Hearings

ERIE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS COURT ADMINISTRATION



I. COURT ADMINISTRATION

Thomas C. Aaron – District Court Administrator
Total Staff – 66 Employees



The District Court Administrator manages the day-to-day operations of the Court of Common Pleas, which includes the overseeing of all Court departments – Court Administration, Law Library, Computer Bureau, Court Reporters, Adult Probation, Domestic Relations, Juvenile Probation, Office of Custody Conciliation, the Protection From Abuse Office and the Jury Coordinator's Office. The 2012 objective of the

Court Administrator was to promote administrative and policy cohesiveness by coordinating the individual energies within all Court departments in pursuit of common objectives and effective interaction with the other branches of government. The Court Administrator also serves as the Court representative on the County Automation Steering Committee, Criminal Justice Coalition, the Security Committee, the (COOP) Continuity of Operations Plan Committee, Constable Task Force, the Video Conference Task Force Project and Long-Range Planning Committee. In addition, the Court Administrator and the Court Solicitor have instituted semi-annual staff training for all court supervisors and department heads.

Responsibilities of the Court Administrator include:

- ❑ Provides administrative support to the Court and its judges
- ❑ Prepares the Court-wide Operational Budget
- ❑ Prepares the Court's Capital Improvement Budget
- ❑ Monitors monthly Court department expenditures vs. Budget
- ❑ Coordinates activity within the Trial Division and the Family/Orphans' Division
- ❑ Handles all Court personnel issues for 311 Court Employees
- ❑ Serves on several committees as the representative of the Court
- ❑ Acts as liaison with the County Administration and County Council
- ❑ Manages the Court staff in all daily activities
- ❑ Acts as liaison with the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts

The Office of Court Administration statistically tracks and monitors all Court activity to determine accurate levels of judicial involvement, workload and time. These statistics enable the Court to assess the demands on the Court and enable the Court to most efficiently and effectively utilize all available resources to administer justice in Erie County.

A. OFFICE OF THE COURT SOLICITOR
Heather Purcell, Esquire – Court Solicitor

The Court Solicitor represents and advises the Court and its departments in a variety of legal matters.

The functions of the Court Solicitor include:

- Performs the function of law clerk
- Assists all Court departments to ensure compliance with statutory, regulatory and general legal requirements
- Represents the Court in litigation in its official capacity
- Drafts and/or reviews all Court related contracts
- Provides legal support to the County District Justices
- Provides advice, guidance and assistance to Court management on various personnel and administrative issues
- Assists in the revision and standardization of departmental forms to ensure compliance with general legal requirements

B. COMPUTER BUREAU
Keith R. Breter - Information Systems Manager



The Court Computer Bureau provides a broad range of information technology service and support for Court and Court related offices. It is responsible for the acquisition, installation, configuration, maintenance, management, and troubleshooting of all Court technology systems and equipment. This includes desktop and laptop computers, servers, mid-range systems, infrastructure, videoconferencing, remote connectivity and the high-tech courtroom. The Court Computer Bureau is directly responsible for nine offices/departmental areas – Adult Probation, Juvenile Probation, Court Administration, Judges and their staff, Court Reporters, Custody Conciliation, Protection from Abuse, Law Library and Orphans Court. In addition, it assists with Domestic Relations, Sheriff, District Attorney, the ROW offices, Records Management and the Magisterial District Judges.

One of the major projects during 2012 was County-wide e-mail consolidation. Maintaining multiple departmental e-mail servers was not cost effective – both from financial and time resource standpoints. The County chose to benefit from economy of scale and consolidate e-mail on a new server at the main Courthouse facility. A single e-mail server allowed for a single maintenance contract and the corresponding time and resources necessary to manage one enterprise class server. This was in contrast to the requirements needed for multiple departmental e-mail servers. In some

instances, it was necessary to upgrade older existing e-mail applications to facilitate the migration process. A side benefit of e-mail consolidation was a standard County e-mail address. Gone are the days of trying to determine an employee's correct e-mail address based on their building or physical location.

To provide the necessary foundation for a County-wide e-mail solution, the decision was made to utilize virtual server technology. Using virtual machines increases IT flexibility agility while reducing complexity and cost. It also saves data center space and provides highly efficient use of hardware resources. The virtual environment is a classic example of the local county government standard "doing more with less". The e-mail consolidation project was on-going throughout the 2012 calendar year.

Some of the Court Computer Bureau accomplishments during 2012 included:

- **Adult Probation:** assist with PC relocation, install new PCs, assist with evaluation of alternative software applications, provide remote network access for CVC, assist with PASORT/SORNA implementation
- **Court:** assist with implementation of courtroom audio recording application, facilitate webcam videoconferencing with Erie County Prison, research, acquire, and implement new dictation system for Judges and staff, install updated PCs for Court offices, research and obtain replacement technology courtroom touchscreen monitor, install color AIO for Court Administrator support staff, continue installation of Microsoft Office suite, update courtroom conference application software, test and verify operational status of technology courtroom equipment and peripherals
- **CPCMS:** assist with CPCMS version upgrade, research and implement CPCMS download reporting procedure using Microsoft Office suite
- **E-mail:** acquire and implement additional virtual machine hardware and software, assist with County-wide e-mail consolidation, acquire and implement network attached storage devices, compile comprehensive e-mail address list for employee self-service attendance system
- **Jury:** prepare file update process overview, process and print monthly summons, checks, and reports, provide alternative interface solutions for jury assembly large screen display, install updated PCs for Jury office
- **Juvenile Probation:** assist with migration of Juvenile Probation application from local to state server, continue installation of Microsoft Office suite, assist with LiveScan and Identix transitions, assist with PASORT/SORNA implementation, assist with installation of new dictation equipment
- **MDJs:** assist with office relocation, facilitate staff access to employee self-service attendance application, investigate paperless requisition processing, install new routers to facilitate videoconferencing and Internet access, assist

with postage machine installation, complete installation of laptop memory upgrades

- **Miscellaneous:** provide integrated e-mail support for Apple devices, assist with JNet circuit transition, update operating system for IBM mid-range system, research and resolve PC performance problems, assist with configuration and implementation of mobile data manager appliance, research and improve cell reception for loading dock and data center areas, identify and correct PC memory mismatch, research, acquire, and modify PFA camera power supply, migrate Law Library application to Windows 7 environment
- **ROW Offices:** assist with transaction based copy print accounting software update, continue installation of Microsoft Office suite, resolve scanner configuration and operational issues, install new office workgroup printer, assist with installation and configuration of Prothonotary office label writers, install new PCs for Prothonotary office
- **Sheriff:** assist with LiveScan and Identix transitions, provide social media interface for Sheriff's office, install new PCs, assist with County Suite installation and management, monitor and manage server\database disk space utilization
- **Videoconference:** provide webcam videoconference support for local law enforcement agencies, test and implement Skype as an alternative webcam videoconference solution, debug firewall related videoconference issues, transition large screen stationary videoconference unit to public IP address, test and implement new PC based webcam videoconference software

C. LAW LIBRARY

Max Peaster – Law Librarian

The County Law Library's purpose is to build a collection and to provide services to support the research needs of both the legal and general communities that it serves. Historically, the law library has been an integral part of the judicial system by making available legal information to court personnel, attorneys and county officials. In recent years, the law library has



witnessed a significant growth in the number of patrons coming from the general public who utilize the library's collection. A large number of public patrons are interested in representing themselves or proceeding *pro se* in legal actions. Similarly, other public members want to better understand their legal rights. The law library is challenged with the task of providing resources and service to this growing patron

group as well as continuing to support the traditional user base.

The Law Library maintains a comprehensive collection of current Pennsylvania primary and secondary legal material as well as selective Federal and National legal resources in print form. In addition, the library has three computer workstations that provide online access through Westlaw, a computer-assisted legal research system, to case, citation services, legal periodicals and a collection of secondary or analytical titles.

The Law Librarian's activities include reference service, collection development, managing the library's budget, participating in library networks and administering other library operations.

D. OFFICE OF JURY COORDINATOR
Pam Zysk - Jury Coordinator

There were twelve (12) trial terms during 2012 with 31,601 jury summons being mailed to the citizens of Erie County by random sampling of the computer. Of those, 6,532 potential jurors appeared, while 5,525 of them participated in voir dire (jury selection). There were 1,611 actual jurors sworn into duty to serve on trials and perform their civic responsibility. The Jury Coordinator's Office is also responsible for the preparation of documentation to reimburse jurors for service to the Court.



During 2012, the cost to Erie County for reimbursement to jurors, based on the State mandated fee of \$9.00 per day for the first three (3) days of juror service and \$25.00 per day thereafter, was \$78,568.00 with \$9,178.00 reimbursed by the State.

The Erie County Court of Common Pleas instituted its One Day/One Trial Jury System in January of 1988. Although the One Day/One Trial system requires more jurors to be called for jury service, the cost to the County has been greatly reduced. Jurors in Erie County typically serve slightly over one day when selected as a juror. As of December 31, 2012 we have had 163,245 jurors serve on the One Day/One Trial system.

During June of 2005, we were able to make available an online Jury Questionnaire for all summoned jurors. The Questionnaire can be filled out and submitted electronically through the Internet, which saves time and the cost of return postage. As of December 31, 2012, 59,102 have responded electronically, an increase of 7,182 over last year. This has saved us \$2,973.35 in postage in just one year.

E. COURT REPORTERS
James Muscarella - Chief Court Reporter

The official court reporters office of nine (9) full-time and three (3) part-time reporters is responsible for creating an accurate, verbatim, shorthand record of legal proceedings conducted by the judges and a juvenile master. They are also responsible for the timely distribution of transcripts of those proceedings to the Court and other interested parties, careful maintenance of their stenographic notes and assistance to others to obtain specific references from the record. The utilization of computerized translation provides for the timely delivery of transcripts for appeal purposes. In 2012, the office furnished approximately 641 transcripts and a reporter was present at over 10,000 various hearings. As of January 2012 they are now working in conjunction with a new digital recording system installed in all the courtrooms.

Court Accomplishments:

- **Court Budget:** During 2012, the Court's Budget for all related departments (Court Administration, Computer Bureau, Law Library, Adult Probation, Domestic Relations, Juvenile Probation and District Justices) was \$19,988,672. Through effective monitoring and cost containment, the Court ended the year spending \$19,402,133 or \$586,539 **under** budget. All Court Departments were successful at coming in under budget for the year ending December 31, 2012. This represents the 15th consecutive year that the Court was able to operate within the appropriate resources. Of the \$586,539 under budget, \$477,513 was directly the result of containing salaries and benefits. This was a result of delaying new hires when possible. All departments were effective in the effort.

1998	-	\$289,740	under budget
1999	-	548,991	under budget
2000	-	665,793	under budget
2001	-	451,752	under budget
2002	-	464,960	under budget
2003	-	809,664	under budget
2004	-	1,535,506	under budget
2005	-	591,610	under budget
2006	-	457,920	under budget
2007	-	626,159	under budget
2008	-	474,597	under budget
2009	-	363,514	under budget
2010	-	749,364	under budget
2011	-	490,437	under budget
2012	-	586,539	under budget
TOTAL	-	\$9,076,546	under budget

- **Video Conferencing:** The Court continued in its utilization of video conference equipment throughout the Court. During 2012, more than 42 hearings were conducted via video conference from around the state. Video conference sites include the Erie County Prison, State Correctional Institutes (SCI) from across the state, Juvenile Placement facilities and miscellaneous hospitals. The equipment was used to conduct arraignments, bail review hearings, dependency hearings, delinquency review hearings, client evaluations, adult probation collection interviews and competency hearings. It was also used extensively with the county magisterial district Judges for night duty and regular duty with the local police agencies that are not included in this number. The Court is estimating that through the use of this equipment, the cost of constable transports will be reduced by at least 20 percent. This necessitated the earlier acquisition of IP based polycom video-conferencing equipment. The AOPC was instrumental in providing a mobile unit for the Court. In addition, we acquired similar polycom technology and refitted for large 72" screen for stationary use.

This equipment has enabled the Court to expedite hearings, save prisoner transport costs and ensure the safety of all involved. This continues to be a valuable resource for the Court and the County. During 2012 most Erie County Police Agencies used video-conference technology with the local Magisterial District Judges, as well as the Erie County Prison, this proved to be a very cost effective and a safer way to deal with prisoner transport. It is estimated that thousands of dollars have been saved through the utilization of the video conference equipment.

- **Criminal Justice Coalition:** The Erie County Criminal Justice Coalition continues to serve as the primary collaborative board for local criminal justice practitioners and follows governance guidelines set forth from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. The collaborative group consists of membership from various community entities, including county level and magisterial district courts, court administration, public defender's office, district attorney's office, public safety, county and state level probation/parole departments, local police bureaus, service providers and case management, victims groups, sheriff's departments, local colleges and government leaders. The Erie County Criminal Justice Coalition continues to be presided over by President Judge Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr. Staff of the Mercyhurst University Civic Institute offer facilitation and planning services for the coalition, as well as various other services.

During the 2012 calendar year the Erie County Criminal Justice Coalition moved forward on facets of their strategic plan which was developed in 2011.

One component of the plan that continued to move forward was the development and conducting of a Sexual Offender Containment Committee. The workgroup for this initiative has been developed to address the problems that often come with this specific offender population. Though the committee meets at various times throughout the year, much of the work is conducted at smaller multi-disciplinary work teams, where greater detail can be paid to individual cases.

The results of the strategic plan also saw two work groups combine to form a Mental Health in Corrections committee (formerly Prison Population and Corrections committees). The primary purpose of this was to oversee and complete a long-awaited Cross Systems Mapping exercise for Erie County. The issue of diverting individuals with mental illnesses away from the criminal justice system, how to best work with this group while under correctional supervision, and re-entry, have been at the forefront of discussion between local practitioners and administrators. The Cross Systems Mapping workshop was held on July 11th and 12th, 2012 and was facilitated by the Pennsylvania Mental Health and Justice Center of Excellence. Over 50 representatives from various sectors attended the event to offer input into the process and helped:

- Develop a comprehensive picture of how people with mental illness move through the local criminal justice system, and the sequential intercept points which they may encounter
- Identify gaps, resources and opportunities at various intercept points for those in the target population
- Develop priorities for activities designed to improve the systems and service level responses

Outcomes of the two days of planning led to a list of 13 top issues facing those involved in the target population. From this, the attendees narrowed the issues down to four priorities.

1. Expand Crisis Services
2. Better diversion prior to incidences that are called into 911
3. Improve communication between initial detention/initial court hearings, jails and courts, re-entry programming, and community corrections/support
4. Explore more affordable housing options for individuals with forensic backgrounds

Volunteers from the attending agencies continued to meet and are in the process of developing strategies to address each of the priority issues. More thorough objectives and goals will be established by Spring of 2013.

- **Department Financial Summary:** Court Administration operated during 2012 with a budget of \$4.84 million. Of that amount, \$829,801 was generated through State reimbursements and the collection of costs, while the County funded 82.3% or \$3.86 million of the operating budget.

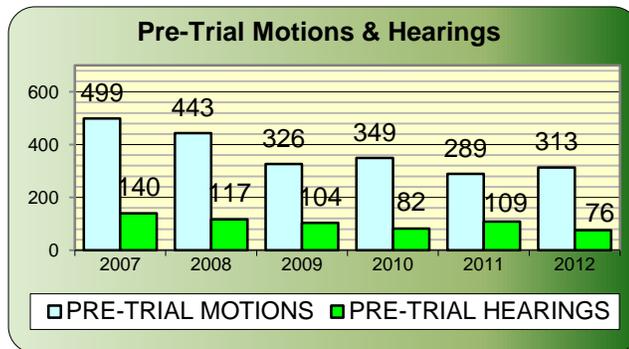
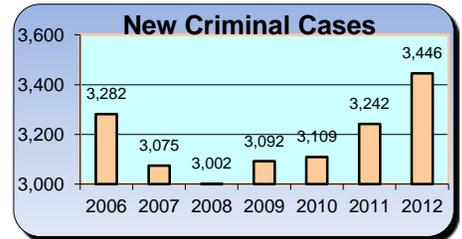
II. TRIAL DIVISION

Judge Ernest J. DiSantis, Jr., President Judge
Judge Shad Connelly, Administrative Judge
Judge Stephanie Domitrovich
Judge Michael E. Dunlavey
Judge John Garhart

Peter E. Freed – Deputy Court Administrator

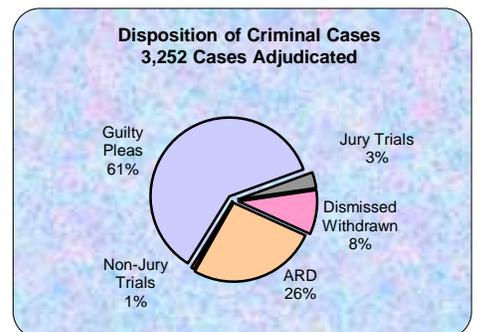
The Trial Division of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas is comprised of five judges that handle all criminal and civil filings on a proportionate basis. Civil cases are handled on an individual calendar basis up to and including trial. Criminal cases are handled using a hybrid system with individual assignment up to the point of trial.

- A. Criminal Caseload:** During 2012, 3,446 cases were bound over to Court. This is the eighth year in a row of over 3,000 new cases, and an increase of 204 from last year or an increase of 6.2 percent, up 10.5% in two (2) years.



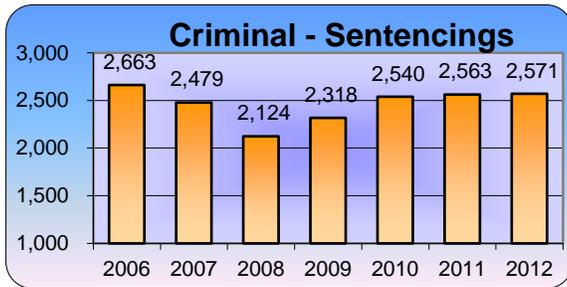
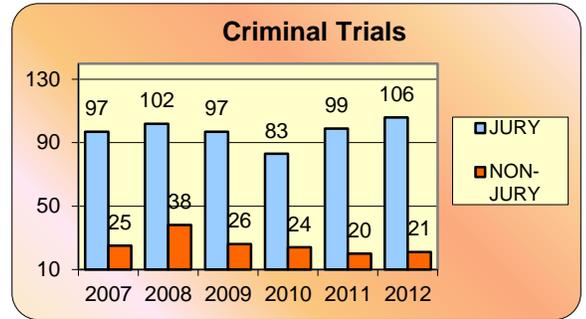
Pre-Trial Motions and Hearings: Pre-Trial Motions filed increased to 313 in 2012. Seventy six (76) pre-trial hearings were held, 24% of that amount were filed.

Consistent with prior years, the overwhelming majority of cases were disposed of either with a plea of guilty or by referral to the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program. Only 3% of all criminal cases are disposed of by going to trial. The number of trials has remained approximately the same even as caseloads have risen by 10.5%. The number of cases withdrawn by the Commonwealth or dismissed by the Court accounted for 8% of the cases disposed.



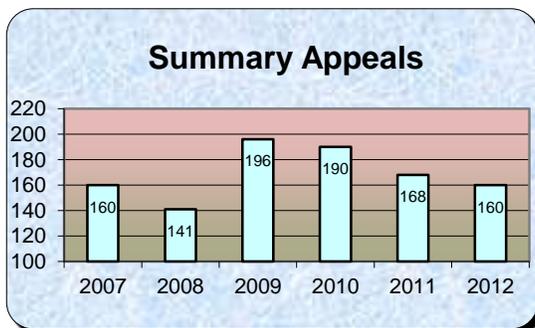
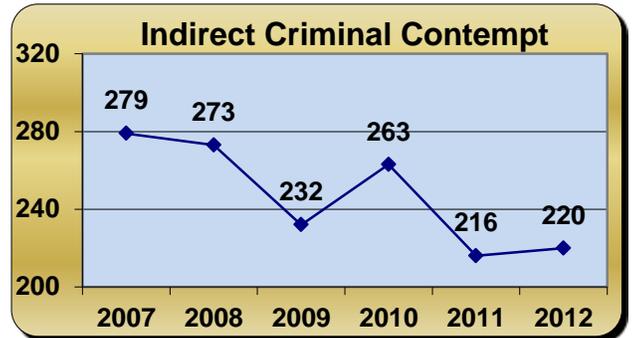
Jury Trials: Disposition by jury trials represented only 3% of all dispositions. It should be noted, however, that jury trials require approximately 40% of Trial Division time and resources. The number of jury trials has been relatively flat over the last six years.

Non-Jury Trials: The number of non-jury trials represents less than 1% of the total dispositions for 2012.



Criminal Sentencings: During 2012, criminal sentencings again remained consistent with 2,571. Of the total sentencings, 42% (1,073 cases) were sentenced at time of plea.

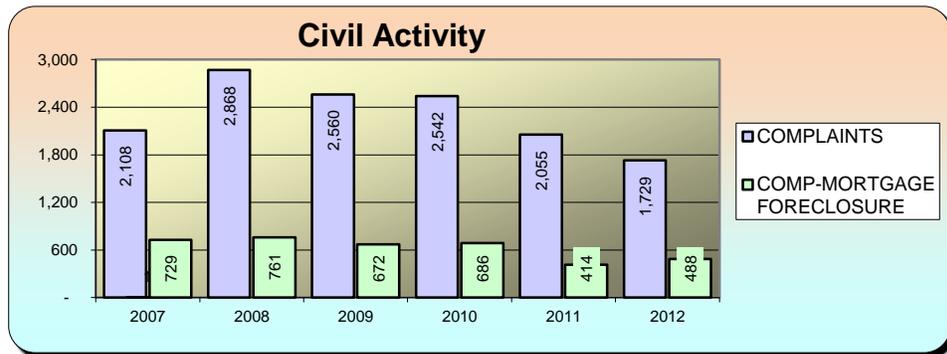
Indirect Criminal Contempt Cases: The Trial division is responsible for the adjudication of cases involving defendants who are alleged to have violated a Protection From Abuse Order. During 2012, the Court responded to 220 contempt complaints, which was the same as 2011, but lower than anytime during the past six years.



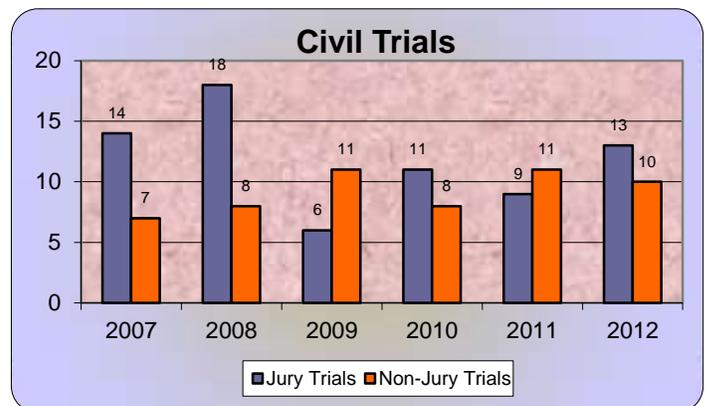
Summary Appeals: Cases involving summary offenses are initially resolved before a Magisterial District Judge. A defendant may appeal the summary offense conviction to the Common Pleas Court. The case is then reheard in its entirety by a Common Pleas Judge. In 2012, the Division heard 160 summary appeals.

B. Civil Caseload: The Court's civil caseload includes lawsuits where a party is seeking financial compensation or one of a number of non-monetary remedies. Currently, when a case is filed, it is assigned to a judge who handles the case until completion. Case management orders are issued by Court Administration. The assigned judge is responsible for setting all schedules, encouraging settlement where appropriate and ensuring all motions are heard prior to the case's placement on the trial list. If a case is not resolved after sixty days of the filing of the complaint, a trial term is assigned which generally is 12 – 14 months after the filing of the complaint for newly-filed cases.

New Cases: During 2012, the number of civil filings was 2,217 cases. Our civil filings have remained relatively consistent over the past several years, with the exception of last year, when a new system was implemented to count all civil pleadings.



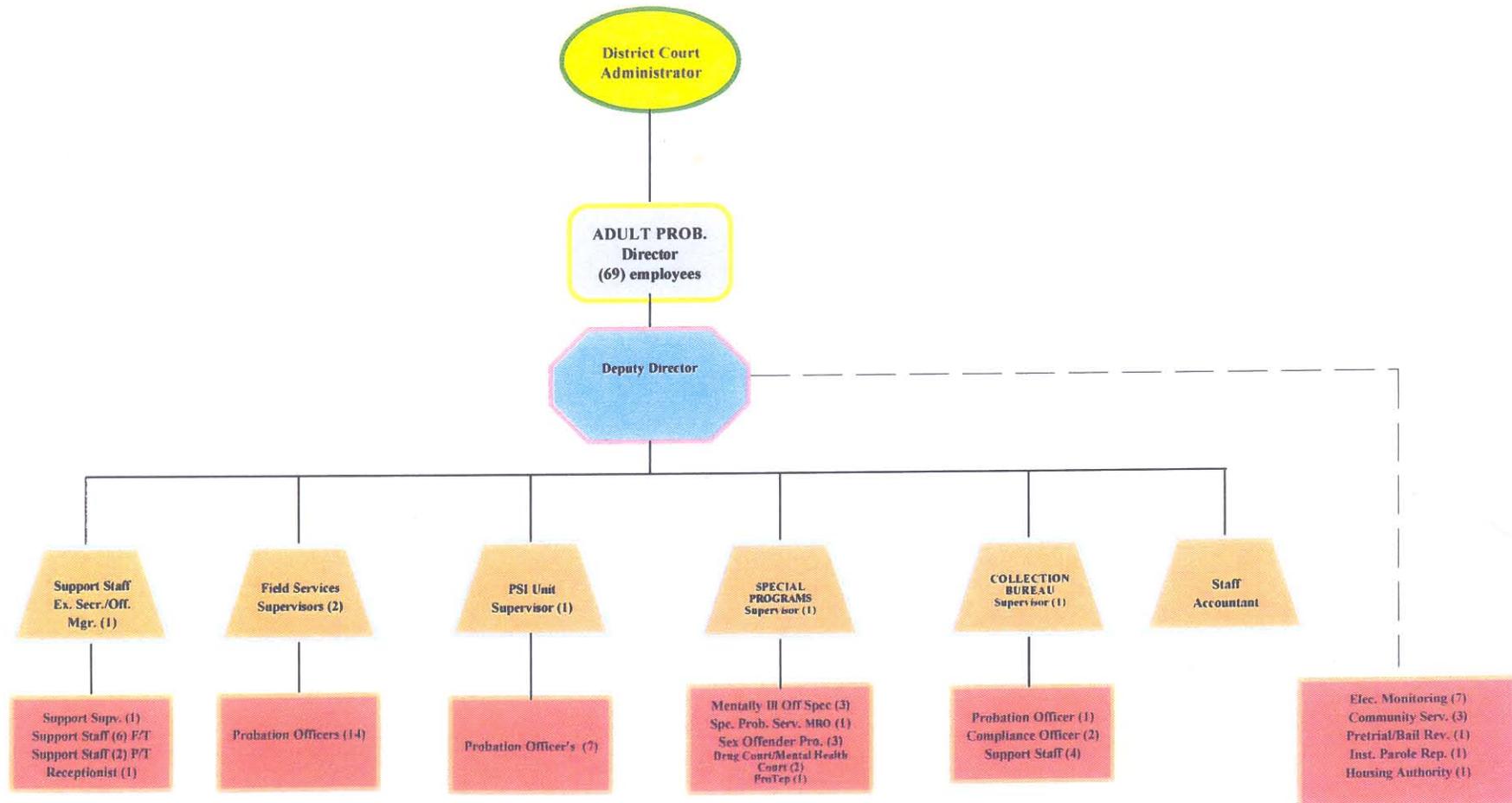
Cases Ready for Trial: In the civil process, a case must be designated as “trial ready” before a trial is scheduled. Sixty-two (62) cases were certified as ready for trial in 2012. Twenty-four percent (24%) of these cases were scheduled for trial, resulting in 13 jury and 10 non-jury trials for the year.



MEDICAL MALPRACTICE DATA: For the past eight years, Erie County has been working with the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and the other 67 Counties to gather relevant information regarding Medical Malpractice cases. During 2012, thirty-four (34) cases were filed which represents a decrease from the base years (2000-2002) of 54 case filings. "These numbers continue to reinforce the value in the requirements adopted by the courts for filing medical malpractice claims in an effort to balance access and fairness in the state court system," Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Ronald D. Castille said. "This represents another example of the history of collaboration and cooperation among the three branches of state government in addressing what, just a few years ago, was one of the Commonwealth's more vexing challenges."

	MEDICAL MALPRACTICE FILINGS						JURY VERDICTS		
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	01/01/12 – 12/31/12		
							DEFENSE	PLAINTIFF	TOTAL
Allegheny	262	275	263	326	286	281	9	1	10
Berks	23	24	37	30	19	26	0	0	0
Bucks	66	58	55	56	50	55	0	0	0
Chester	35	40	21	33	25	37	7	0	7
Crawford	0	6	1	5	7	5	1	0	1
Dauphin	51	46	41	40	51	34	5	2	7
Delaware	34	38	22	51	59	47	6	2	8
Erie	36	24	21	49	37	34	3	0	3
Lackawanna	30	36	33	37	36	30	3	1	4
Lancaster	34	13	17	12	25	35	0	0	0
Lehigh	62	62	63	38	41	38	3	2	5
Luzerne	46	54	48	37	48	30	4	1	5
Montgomery	103	81	102	66	66	95	19	0	19
Northampton	2	3	18	15	21	26	1	0	1
Philadelphia	586	553	491	381	418	389	14	13	27
Westmoreland	18	19	12	14	1	52	1	0	1
York	23	23	39	31	16	16	1	1	2
State Total	1,617	1,617	1,533	1,221	1,528	1,508	106	27	133

ERIE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS ADULT PROBATION



C. **ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

Jeffrey A. Shaw - Chief Probation Officer

Paul A. Markiewicz - Deputy Chief

Total Staff - 70 Employees



The mission of the Erie County Adult Probation and Parole Department includes:

- **Community-based supervision and programs for adult offenders that keep our community safe.**
- **The preparation of pre-sentence investigations and other court-related and internal reports.**
- **The provision of related (support) services to the Court's Trial Division.**
- **The collection of court-imposed fines, fees, costs, and restitution from adult offenders.**
- **Reducing recidivism for adult offenders on supervision.**

The **Adult Probation and Parole Department** serves under the immediate direction of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas. The six bureaus contained within Adult Probation provide a variety of Court services. Supervision includes parole, probation, intermediate punishment (electronic monitoring and intensive supervision), Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition and Probation Without Verdict. The Collection Bureau enforces collection of all court-ordered costs, fines, supervision fees, and restitution.

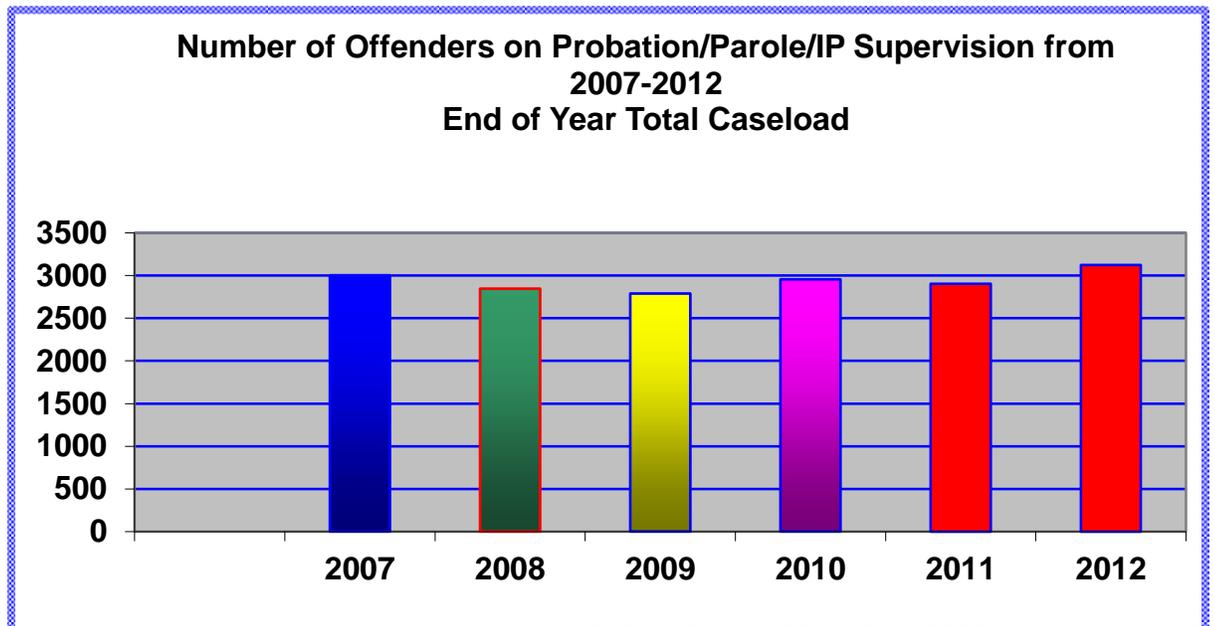
The department is composed of the following seventy (70) member staff: Director, Deputy Director, five (5) Supervisors, forty-three (43) Probation Officers, one (1) Therapist, two (2) Collections Compliance Officers, one (1) Community Service Work Crew Leader, one (1) Staff Accountant, one (1) Executive Secretary/Office Manager, twelve (12) full-time Clerical Support Personnel, and two (2) part-time Clerical Support. All of these staff work in the courthouse.

The department continues two (2) other off-site locations (Intellectually Disabled Program and Housing Authority Program) as well as four (4) monthly satellite offices that are staged in outlying areas of the county. The satellite offices are located in North East, Edinboro, Corry and Girard.

The average length of service for staff probation officers is 13.25 years. In 2012, we had 2 staff retirements and 3 resignations.

The department provides offender supervision through various units. Units within Adult Probation include: Field Services, Pre-Sentence Investigation

Unit, the Special Probation Services Program for the Intellectually disabled, Intermediate Punishment for supervision of electronic monitoring, intensive supervision and community service cases, the Mentally Ill Offender Program, the Sex Offender Program, the Probation Training, Education and Employment Program (Job Club), Community Service, the Housing Authority Program, and Treatment Court (Drug Court/ Mental Health Court). In 2012, the entire department made approximately 67,020 offender-related contacts, an increase of 1.66% from 2011.



The entire department's offender caseload as of the end of 2012 was 3,023 offenders. This was a 4.06% increase from 2011. The last 4 months of the 2012 caseload, was above 3,000 offenders. This is the first time this has occurred since 2007.

To optimize offender accountability, the majority of offenders are supervised under the Court's Sanction Certainty II policy. The Sanction Certainty II policy continues to hold offenders responsible for violations of the conditions of supervision and imposes immediate sanctions for delinquent activity. During 2012, Sanction Certainty II continues to be monitored and studied by the Mercyhurst Civic Institute.

In 2012, the department conducted 779 arrests of adult offender probation/parole violators (this is a 3.7% decrease over 2011). During 2012, the department presented 464 revocation matters to the Court, which represents an increase of less than 1% from 2011. The breakdown as to the basis for the revocations were 305 technical violations, 113 new

criminal offenses only and 46 both technical violations and new charges.

FIELD SERVICES: As of the end of December 2012, the Field Services Unit had 2,130 offenders under their supervision, 70.45% of the entire department's caseload. The unit is composed of two (2) Supervisors and 15 Probation Officers. During 2012, each field service officer had an average caseload of approximately 141 offenders. To determine the level of supervision, each offender is evaluated using a risk inventory. The higher the risk of re-offending, the higher the classification level, thus the higher the number of contacts required. Compared to 2011, the 2012 entire field services unit caseload increased by 0.14%.

PRE-SENTENCE INVESTIGATIONS: There were 837 Pre-sentence Investigations conducted by the entire department in 2012 for the Court, a 0.23% reduction in comparison to 2011. The PSI Unit conducted all but 109 of those investigations. For 2012, the department completed 1,887 sentencing guidelines. Each misdemeanor and felony count on each docket subject to sentencing by law requires a sentencing guideline be submitted to the state. Also, this unit secured over 1,247 criminal history backgrounds from the NCIC database.

In addition to conducting Pre-sentence Investigations and sentencing guidelines, the PSI Unit covers pleas, sentencings, and pleas to immediate sentencings. There were 1,003 pleas to immediate sentencings in 2012. This was an 11.69% increase from 2011 (this is almost a 16% increase for 2011-2012). The plea to immediate sentencing procedure eliminates a second court appearance for all parties and was established to help relieve the sentencing calendar.

INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT ELECTRONIC MONITORING/INTENSIVE SUPERVISION: During 2012, the Intermediate Punishment Unit supervised a monthly average of 123 offenders on Electronic Monitoring. This represents an 2.5% increase from 2011. This unit also supervised a monthly average of 47 intensive supervision cases, this monthly average increased 23.68% from 2011. Both IP programs, electronic monitoring and intensive supervision, reduce the number of offenders who would normally be incarcerated in the Erie County Prison.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: The Community Service Program coordinates the performance of service hours ordered by the Court. Presently, there are 380 Erie County agencies (governmental and not-for-profit organizations) that have been approved by the Court to receive Community Service workers. Under the agreements with these

agencies, offenders performed 29,839 hours of court-ordered community service, which is a decrease of 12.35% during 2012. A total of 2,118 offenders performed some length of community service for 2012. Using the minimum wage as a guide (\$7.25 per hour), the monetary value of the total hours worked was nearly \$217,000.

INSTITUTIONAL PAROLE REPRESENTATIVE: Located within the Erie County Prison, the Institutional Parole Representative conducted 490 pre-parole interviews in 2012. This was a 15.02% increase from the previous year. The Institutional Parole Representative reports on inmate status and also monitors inmate completion of certain conditions imposed by the Court at sentencing. The Institutional PO prepares parole plans/re-entry plans on certain offenders and submits those to the sentencing Judges as required under Act 81-84 of 2008. Additionally, this probation officer works with the prison to coordinate the Early Release Program.

PRE TRIAL PROGRAM: The Pre-trial program conducted 404 interviews with inmates who are on a pre-trial status in the Erie County Prison during 2012. As a result of these interviews, 139 bond reductions were requested with 130 bond reductions granted which resulted in release from confinement. This program helps reduce the number of Pre-Trial detainees who are awaiting trial in the county prison.

THE PROBATION TRAINING, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (JOBCLUB): The probation officer in this position, in cooperation with the supervising officer, assists offenders that have targeted needs. They are referred to the program to address issues of chronic unemployment, lack of education and those who are under skilled. Emphasis is placed on obtaining their GED or high school diploma, skilled certificate training and an active job search campaign.

As an extension of this program, an offender "job club" was continued in 2012 in conjunction with our partners, the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole and Federal Probation. The offender must undergo an extensive evaluation process which determines their specific strengths, barriers, educational, vocational and employment needs. The Offender Workforce Development Program was implemented to address and reduce revocation rates associated with unemployment and underemployment of ex-offenders on probation, parole or supervised release. The goal of the program is to reduce recidivism by promoting job readiness and meaningful employment opportunities. Participants are expected to have a positive attitude, and willingness to learn and work within a group. Absenteeism and tardiness are not accepted. Respect of others and courtesy will also be

expected of all participants. The program utilizes cognitive behavioral groups from NCTI's Jobtec Program. The offenders also are enrolled with Career Link and experience a recorded mock interview. Referrals are then made to community partner agencies to assist with educational and vocational needs.

TREATMENT COURT: In Erie County, Treatment Court is comprised of a Drug Court and a Mental Health Court component. Erie County Drug Court for adult offenders began in 2000. Throughout 2012, the Drug Court team supervised a monthly average of 19 addicted offenders. As part of that active caseload, the Drug Court team of two (2) Probation Officers also supervises on the average 29 "graduate" offenders each month in 2012 who were serving the balance of their supervision time after successful graduation from Drug Court.

The intensive supervision given to Drug Court offenders focuses on absolute compliance with treatment objectives with judicial oversight. It is a program goal that the outcome of continued drug/alcohol recovery will result in law-abiding behavior.

The Erie County Drug Court is a joint program between the Erie County Court, the Erie County District Attorney's Office, the Erie County Public Defender's Office, the County Drug and Alcohol Office and various treatment providers. Erie County is one of over 2,600 Drug Courts in operation in the United States today. In Pennsylvania, there are now over 100 problem-solving courts. The Erie County Drug Court is a member of both the National and Pennsylvania Association of Drug Court Professionals.

This unit also works with identified military veterans. In 2012, 56 veterans received assistance in the area of behavioral health. This was a new program for 2012 that was initiated by the court.

MENTAL HEALTH COURT: This program started in 2002. In 2012, the Mental Health Court had an average monthly caseload of 8 offenders who are serious and persistently mentally ill. Our partners in the Mental Health Court are the Erie County District Attorney's Office, Erie County Public Defender's Office, Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Erie County Care Management, Erie County Office of Children and Youth, and Stairways Behavioral Health.

THE MENTALLY ILL OFFENDER (MIO) PROGRAM: At the end of 2012, the Mentally Ill Offender Program (consisting of 4 probation officers) supervised offenders who are seriously and persistently mentally ill. This program

supervises and manages these offenders so that they can receive more specific mental health services. For 2012, this caseload saw an increase of 3.8%. The MIO program is a cooperative partnership with Erie County Care Management and Stairways Behavioral Health. As a unit, they received 331 new cases for 2012 which resulted in an average monthly caseload for the 4 MIO officers of 96 offenders.

The number of adult offenders with mental illness continues to be an intense challenge to the probation system. Our partnership with Stairways Behavioral Health Forensic Outpatient Clinic has improved mental health services for this population. All of the MIO probation officers are on-site at the forensic clinic on a regular basis during the week in office space that is provided by Stairways.

INTEGRATED ADULT SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM (IASOP): At the conclusion of 2012, IASOP had an active caseload of 98 sex offenders, which was a 15.29% increase from 2011. Staff members of this unit include two (2) Probation Officers, two (2) Sex Offender Therapists, and a part-time support staff member. Along with supervision strategies specifically designed for this offender population, the offenders receive weekly group and individual therapy structured to reduce the incidence of sexual inappropriateness. The ultimate goal is enhancing community safety. Additionally, IASOP conducts assessments and polygraph exams on all offenders who are placed into the program. This program is a collaborative effort that includes Stairways Behavioral Health, the Erie County Office of MH/MR and the Crime Victim Center of Erie County. The IASOP Program started in 2001.

SPECIAL PROBATION SERVICES: Special Probation is a program designed to provide individualized and specialized services to offenders who are intellectually disabled and have received an Erie County Court sentence. As of the end of December 2012, Special Probation Services was supervising 42 intellectually disabled offenders which is a 16.21% increase from the previous year.

The Special Probation Services program is a joint venture between the Adult Probation Department and Erie County Care Management. As part of this partnering relationship, the Court provides the PO and Erie County Care Management provides a support coordinator. Thus, the program offers the structure and the support of the Court simultaneously with the expertise of the mental retardation system at an offsite location. This program is the oldest specialty program in Adult Probation. It started in 1985 and continues to be based at the Masonic Temple Building.

HOUSING AUTHORITY PROGRAM: For 2012, the Adult probation officer supervised an average monthly caseload of 70 adult offenders who resides within or near Erie City Housing Authority properties. Included in these residential sites are the John E. Horan Garden Apartments (Franklin Terrace), Harbor Homes, Harbor Homes Annex, Eastbrook and Westbrook Apartments, Lake City Apartments, and other scattered housing authority sites throughout the city. The program is a cooperative agreement between the Erie City Housing Authority, Erie County Juvenile Probation, the Quebec Unit of the Erie Police Department, and Erie County Adult Probation. This highly visible, unique community-based cooperative program has yielded successful results in reducing crime within the Housing Authorities properties. The efforts of this program have also been instrumental in community development within the Housing Authority sites. For 2012, this program experienced a 22.80% increase in number supervised in this program. The Housing Authority probation officer is stationed in the John Horan Garden Apartments at 2110 A East 10th Street.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Since 2010 three new programs have been developed and implemented by the Court. The goal of all three programs is to help control the jail population and process cases through Criminal Court in a timely manner.

FAST TRACK REVOCATION: This program targets offenders who have been detained for committing a new crime(s) while on supervision. When the new charge results in a plea of guilty, the probation officer prepares a fast track revocation summary for the Court. At the time of the plea, the Court has an option to accept the plea for the new charge, revoke the probation/parole and sentence on both matters.

For the last seven (7) months of 2012, 94 fast track revocations were submitted to the Court. Twenty-six resulted in revocation (27.6%) and 68 were not processed (72.3%).

DETAINDER RELEASE PLAN: This program targets offenders who have been detained for committing crime(s) while on supervision. Within five (5) working days after the detainer is placed, the probation officer in charge of the case has a staffing with a supervisor. At the staffing, the case is reviewed looking at several established factors. If a decision is made to recommend that the individual be released from detainer pending the outcome of the new charge, it is submitted to the Court for their review and approval/disapproval. Typically a plan covers several areas, including drug and alcohol/mental health treatment or other services and a more intensive level of supervision.

For 2012, 47 detainer release plans were submitted to the Court, 42 were approved and 5 were not approved.

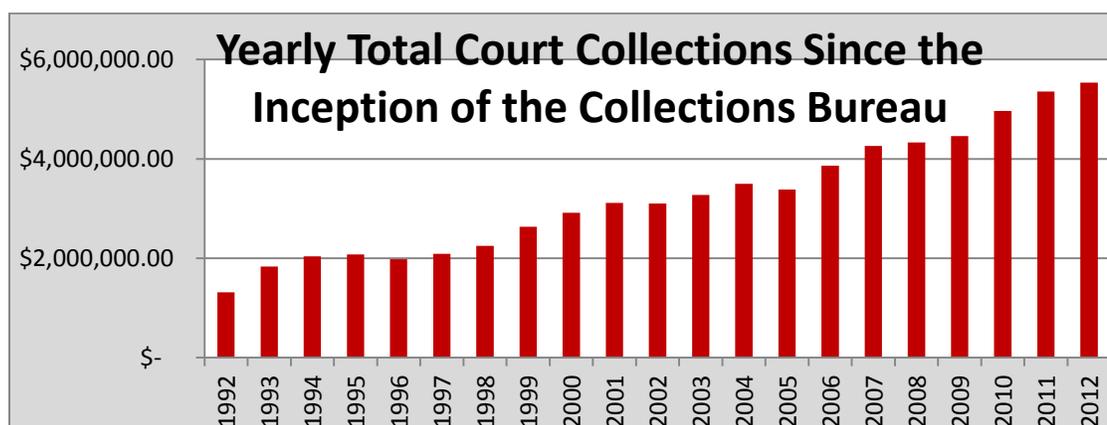
EARLY RELEASE OPPORTUNITY: This program came out of Acts 81–84 of 2008. The Act consisted of prison/jail programs targeted to reduce recidivism and facilitate successful re-entry back into the community. Also, it encourages and rewards good behavior while incarcerated and participation in jail programs. Eligible inmates who meet the criteria and are compliant have their sentence reduced by five days each month. Any noncompliance eliminates the inmate from early release.

For 2012, 124 sentenced inmates at the Erie County Prison were eligible for the early release opportunity, saving a total of 2,418 jail days.

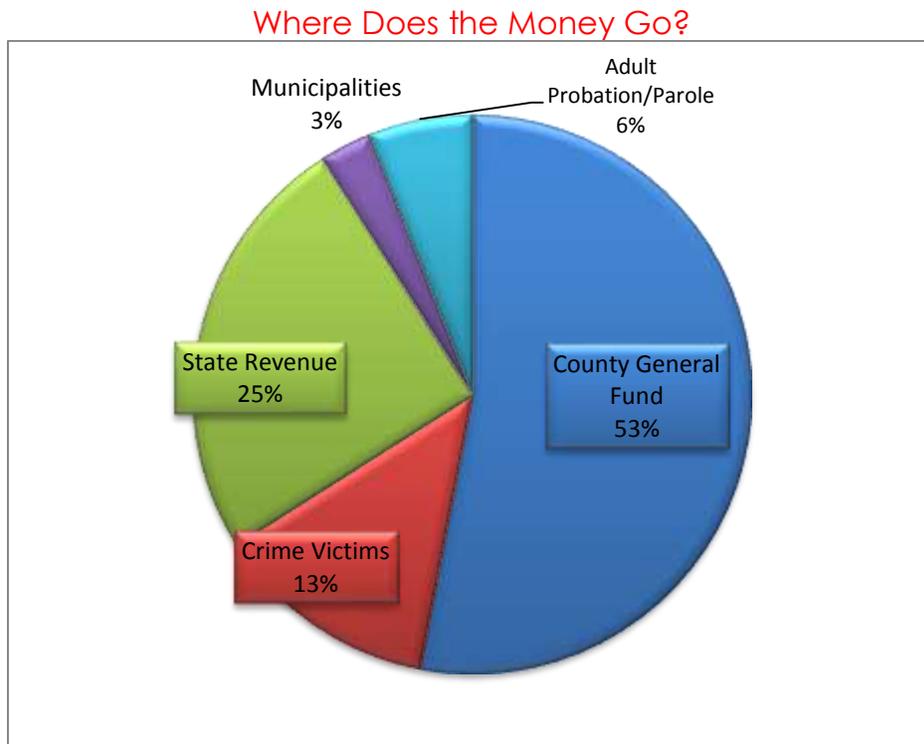
COLLECTIONS: Since 1992, the Collections Bureau has collected all the costs, fines, fees, supervision fees, and restitution ordered by the Court. The Collection Bureau bills offenders, establishes payment plans, and monitors enforcement of payments. Twenty years later, the collection rate has risen to \$5,535,227 which is a 202% increase since the Bureau's inception. The Collections Bureau works very closely with the Erie County Clerk of Courts and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.

In 2012, the Collections Bureau once again collected a record amount. A majority of the money collected, just over 90%, was allocated to 3 primary groups, Crime victims 13%, Erie County General fund 53% and the state of Pennsylvania 25%.

In 2012, the Bureau had an active collection population of over 7,000 offenders. On any given month in 2012, the collections bureau sent out approximately 1,000 31-day delinquency notices, 600 61-day delinquency notices and 400 91-day delinquent hearing notices.



2012 Total Court Collections in Erie County: \$5,535,227



The table below compares the fees collected from Erie County offenders for the past two calendar years.

	2011	2012	increase (decrease)	% of increase (decrease)
Restitution	666,582	713,893	+47,311	+7.0%
Fines & Costs &	3,232,386	3,334,344	+101,958	+3.1%
Supervision Fees	852,248	855,789	+3,541	+0.41%
Administrative Fees	358,800	356,386	-2,414	-0.67%
Electronic Monitoring Fees	191,476	206,277	+14,801	+7.7%
Community Service Fees	13,813	14,225	+412	+2.9%
Day Report Fees	214	84	-130	-60%
Interstate Transfer Fees	963	1455	+492	+51%
Sex Offender Fee	36,270	48,341	+12,071	+33.2%
Sex Assessment Fee	3,026	4388	+1,362	+45%
Total collected	5,355,778	5,535,182	+179,404	+3.34%

SUPERVISION FEES-Act 35-1991: Mandatory Supervision fees are assessed monthly to all offenders placed on probation / parole/ Intermediate Punishment. In 2012, the amount collected was \$855,789, an all-time record. The distribution of these funds is based on an agreement made between the court and county council/ county administration. 80% of the supervision funds go back directly into the county general fund. The remaining 20% is retained by the court to be used for improvement in Adult Probation Services.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY: In 2012, the Adult Probation Department began 2012 operating with a total budget of \$4,718,901. The entire Adult Probation Budget was 4.7% under budget for the year 2012.

The Grant-In-Aid award from the state of Pennsylvania for fiscal year 2012-2013 is \$463,230. This represents 32% of the salaries of eligible adult probation officer positions. Also, adult Probation was awarded state grant funds in the amount of \$150,000 for 2012-2013. This was from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). These funds were awarded to support the Erie County Intermediate Punishment Program.

SUPPORT STAFF: The support staff's contributions remain critical and vitally important to the successful operation of Adult Probation. Currently, the support staff consists of 8 full-time and 2 part-time employees. The Support Staff's responsibilities include: computer entry of sentence data; opening cases in the case management software; file preparation; maintenance of the department's file system; typing of PSI's, Revocation Summaries, and other required documents; processing and electronically submitting state 308 statistics; specialized record keeping dependant upon the staff member's assignment; and coordination of offender reporting areas.

The Staff Accountant assists the Director in the preparation and implementation, of the Department's budget grants and other fiscal matters. The Executive Secretary/Office Manager is responsible for a wide variety of administrative duties to assist the Director in the management of the agency, as well as coordinate the operation of the department's software system.

2012 Accomplishments and Other Activities

- A standards audit was conducted in August of 2012 by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. Compliance with standards is necessary for Grant-In-Aid funding. The standards are

adopted from the American Correctional Association Performance based standards for Adult Probation/ Parole (4th Edition). A total of 59 performance-based standards were reviewed in the audit. We were in compliance with all applicable performance-based standards.

- Deputy Director James Boyd retired in June of 2012 after 35 years of service. Mr. Boyd started his career in Juvenile Probation in 1977 and eventually transferred to Adult Probation in 1979. Known as "JB", he was a committed court employee who served with distinction through the years. He will be greatly missed by all of his colleagues in Adult Probation.
- Since a start date of June 2005, Adult Probation has collected DNA from 1,220 offenders. The count for 2012 was 53 offenders having DNA collected during 12 test dates. It takes 45 minutes to process each DNA test since the paperwork is extensive. In order to collect DNA, we use 10 staff, a coordinator and a co-coordinator.
- The expansion of Interstate Compact terms to orchestrate the submission of interstate compact supervision requests, for qualified offenders, in accordance with the ever-changing guidelines and regulations.
- Fine-tuning day-to-day issues that are connected to calculation of sentences and interpretation of sentencing structure and calculation of credit time.
- Continued implementation of the Court's Sanction Certainty II policy and research project being conducted by the Mercyhurst Civic Institute.
- Evidenced-Based Practices- Motivational Interviewing. 2 Probation Officers, Paul Foltz and Chris Kessler, completed entire departmental training in Motivational Interviewing. Both a basic and advanced training was completed in 2012. Also, probation officers submitted taped interviews using Motivational Interviewing. These tapes were reviewed and graded for MI compliance. Ongoing training and monitoring will continue in 2013.
- Held first annual professional development day for all employees.
- Major purchases made this year for departmental needs using supervision fee funds:
 - o Departmental Computer hardware, software and licenses
 - o 2 departmental vehicles
 - o Safety Supplies- ballistic vests
 - o Specialized Training for various programs
 - o Intoximeters for alcohol testing
 - o Replaced departmental chairs
 - o Communication radios for new vehicles
- PA Act 91-2012 (SORNA) Sex Offender Registration Notification Act. SORNA establishes a comprehensive national registration system for

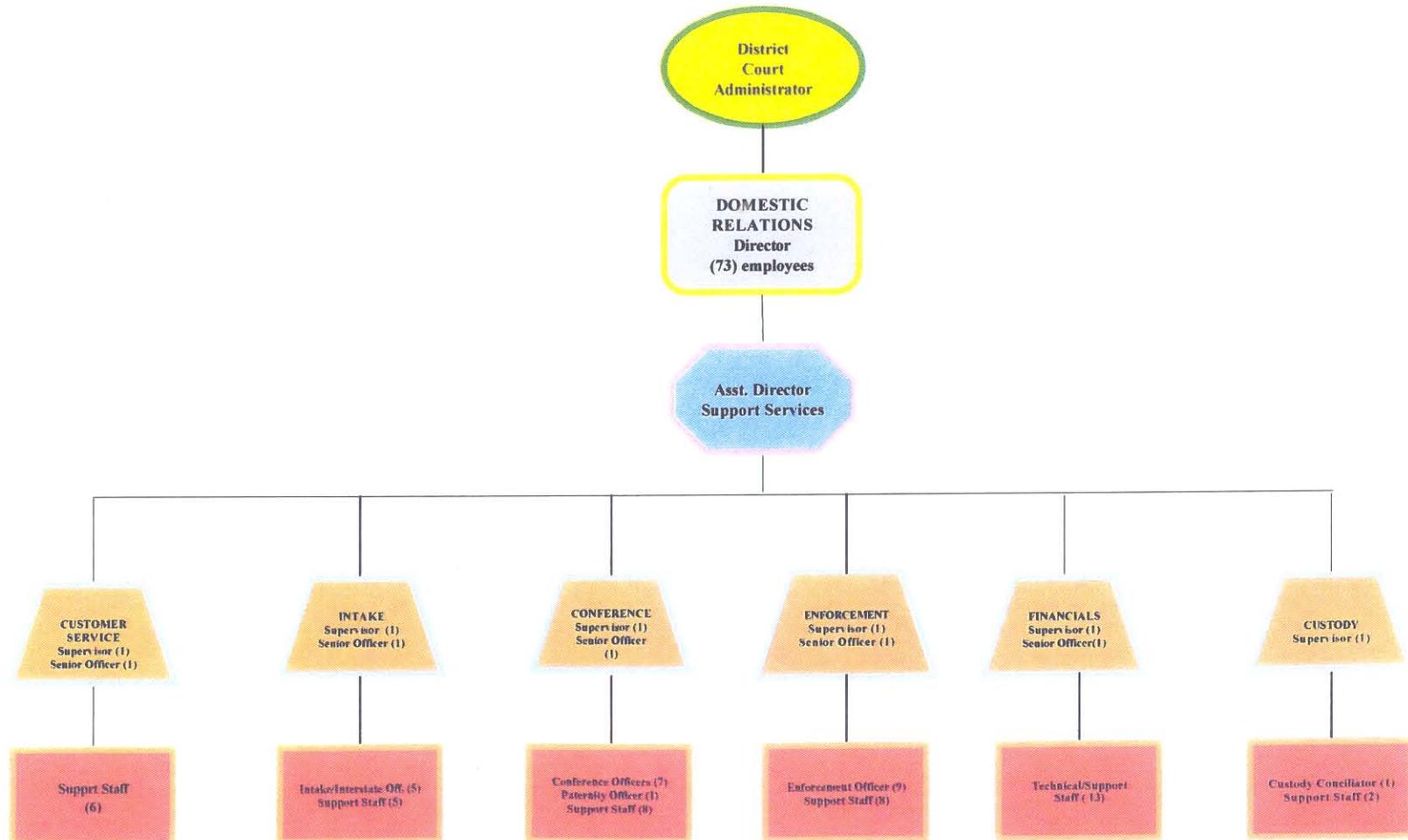
eligible sex offenders. This Act establishes new laws and procedures for sex offender registration. Much of 2012 was spent on planning and implementation of SORNA which became effective in December 2012.

- New emergency on-call system for after hour coverage. This procedure has been revamped, which has resulted in better communication and transferring of important information to staff.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2013.

- Erie County Adult Probation continues to embark upon a 4-year plan of adopting evidence-based practices and programs. The main program that will be implemented for 2013 will be training the entire staff on Cognitive Behavioral Techniques. This will be done in Cognitive Behavior change groups that are being used by thousands of probation/parole agencies throughout North America. We plan to use these techniques in a group setting that focuses on Sanction Certainty violators and high risk/high needs offenders.
- The offender case management system that we currently use will be moving towards a web-based program that we believe will be more efficient. We will be working with our vendor and other counties to implement the new program. Also, we have a need to improve computer generated statistical reports.
- Development and full implementation of a new risk/need assessment tool that will be administered to all offenders who are placed on supervision.

ERIE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS DOMESTIC RELATIONS



III. FAMILY/ORPHANS' DIVISION

A. DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Mark Causgrove – Director of Domestic Relations

Mickie Baiera – Deputy Director

Total Staff – 74 Employees

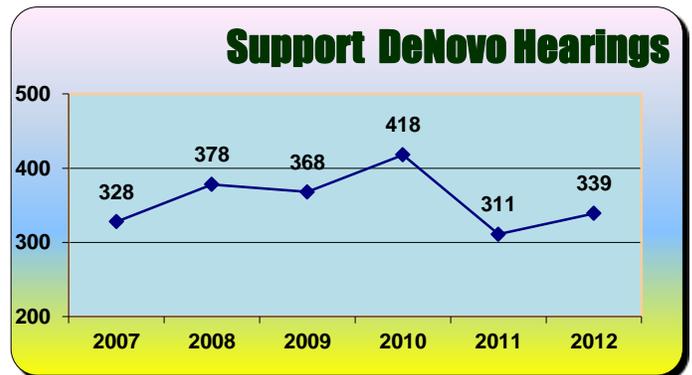
top left: Darlene Shaffer,
Debbie Knight, Diane Firch,
Amy Machinski, Carlo Fachetti,
bottom left: Director Mark
Causgrove, Deputy Mickie
Baiera



The Court's Domestic Relations Section is responsible for administering the Court's child and spousal support service and is the administrating agent for the Department of Public Welfare's Title IV-D Program in Erie County. The DRS staff works with clients in approximately 12,750 active cases.

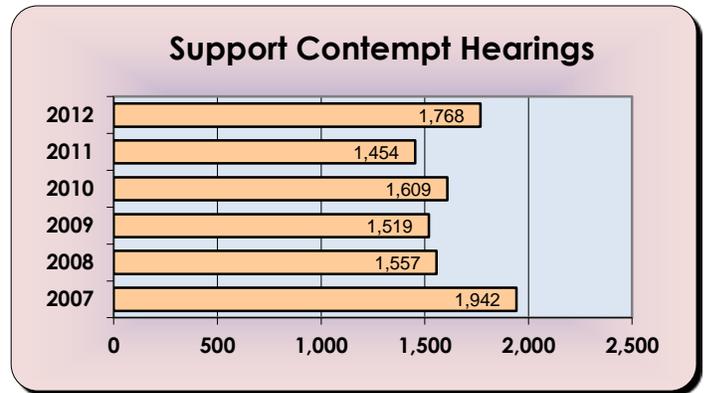
The Department continues to work with PACSES, the Pennsylvania Child Support Enforcement System, under the control of the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE), a division of the Department of Public Welfare. The goal of all the parties is to establish, enforce and collect child support for the citizens of Erie County. Working on a federally approved state computer system, the Domestic Relations Staff works hard to reach our performance goals in all categories.

Support Hearings: All support complaints are filed with the Domestic Relations Department and every case is scheduled for mediation before a conference officer. Of the 6,632 support conferences held, only 339 were referred to Court for a hearing in 2012. This figure represents that only 5% of all support hearings were unresolved at the conference level. This represented an increase of 28 cases that had to be resolved in Court from the prior year.



Support Contempt Hearings:

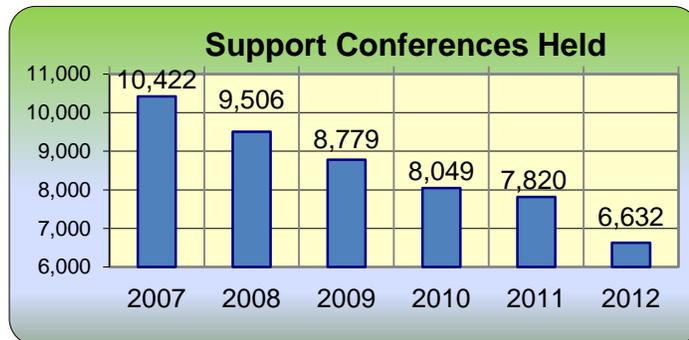
If a defendant fails to comply with the requirements of a child support order and other enforcement efforts have been unsuccessful in obtaining compliance, the case is referred to Court for a determination of whether the defendant shall be found in contempt. In 2012, 1,768



contempt hearings were held by the Court. This represents an increase of 314 cases, or 21.6% more cases sent to Contempt Court.

The Intake Unit: Is responsible for gathering and inputting information from the clients as well as corresponding with other Courts (within and outside of Pa). The Intake Unit experienced a decrease in new petitions for 2012, receiving 3,412; a decrease of 6%. Petitions for modifications to existing support orders were 1,851; which was a decrease of .05%.

The Conference Unit: Meets with both parties to mediate a support order



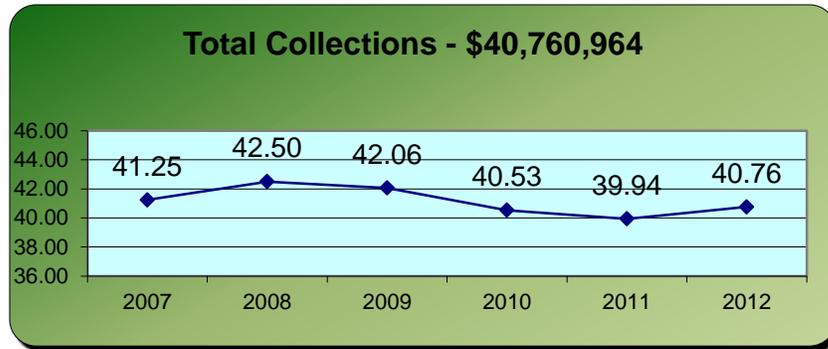
based on federally prescribed guidelines. The Conference Office conducted 6,632 support conferences during 2012, which is a decrease of 1,188 from 2011. Of these conferences, there were 6,293 orders entered by agreement of both parties and only 339

cases remanded over to Court. During 2012, the Conference Unit had a 95% settlement rate. There were 624 hearings held to establish paternity which resulted in 360 paternity acknowledgements and 264 cases that required buccal swab/DNA testing to prove parentage.

The Enforcement Unit: Is responsible for collecting past due support arrearages by actively pursuing delinquent defendants. There are a number of enforcement remedies available through the state system such as credit bureau reporting and drivers license suspension, to name a couple. To accomplish this, they meet with the defendants and attempt to establish a repayment agreement. If the defendant fails to uphold the agreement, they will be scheduled for Contempt Court. The number of Contempt Hearings increased from 1,454 to 1,768; an increase of 21.6%. The total Purge amount

ordered by the Court was \$562,044 during 2012 and \$589,920 was paid by delinquent defendants, an increase of 36% over 2011.

The Financials Unit: Accounts for the collection and disbursement of over \$40.7 million in support; an increase of \$800,000 from 2011. Of this amount, \$1.6 million represented repayment to the Department of Public Welfare for clients receiving Public Assistance, no change from 2011. The IV-E collection, which included monies collected for Juvenile Probation and the Office of Children and Youth, totaled \$291,000, an increase of 6.6% over 2011.



The Customer Service Unit: Provides information to clients so they better understand their case. In addition, they use the unique functions of PACSES such as the locate subsystem, the prison lists, the bench warrant list, daily batch processing and data clean-up, to make each case as current as possible. Two major responsibilities of the Customer Service Unit are the monitoring and issuing of Bench Warrants and also the establishment and enforcement of Medical Support Orders. The following is a comparison of Warrants and Medical Support Orders from 2009 to 2012:

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Bench Warrants Issued	1,251	1,267	1,139	1,360
Bench Warrants Served	610	619	494	638
Bench Warrants Lifted	378	365	342	440
Total Purge Amounts Ordered	\$586,801	\$425,908	\$509,900	\$562,044
Total Purge Amounts Paid	\$505,354	\$276,770	\$263,972	\$589,920
Percentage	86%	65%	52%	105%
Medical Support Enforcement Ratio	78.78%	87.45%	93.65%	87.08%
Medical Support Establishment Ratio	92.35%	93.36%	88.45%	94.78%

Accomplishments: Below are several events that occurred during 2012 that affected Domestic Relations of Erie County.

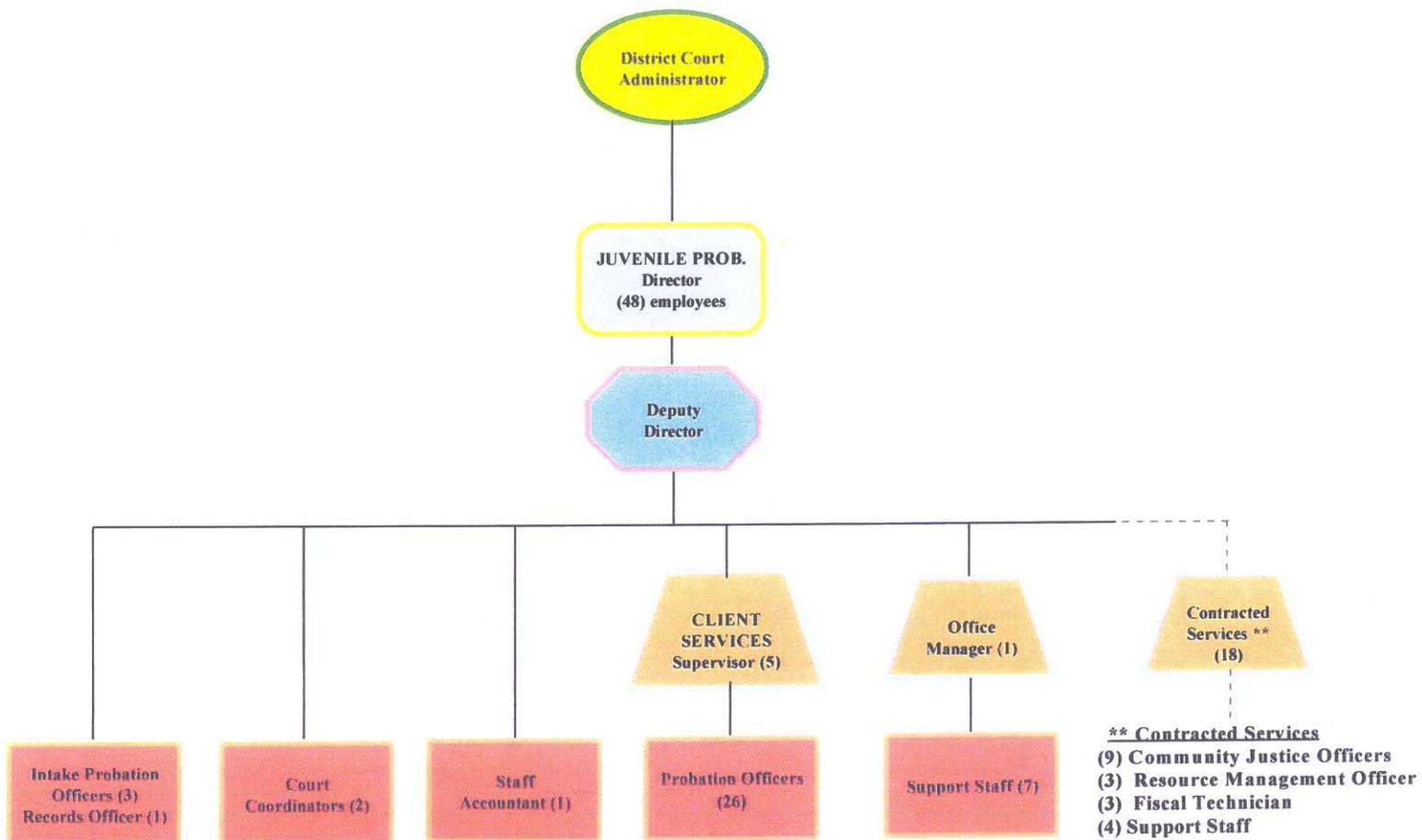
- Domestic Relations entered into an agreement with NCourt, a Dallas-based company that began to accept child support payments on our behalf on-line. The child support payments are wire transferred the next day to our bank account in Erie County. There is no cost to the DRS and a fee is charged to the client, this represents a savings to the tax payers of Erie County of between \$500 to \$1,000 a month. This service is available 24/7.
- In 2012, Domestic Relations developed and produced a comprehensive Policy and Procedure Manual that encompasses all facets within the Department. This will give a clear understanding to all employees of the processes they must go through to better serve the clients.
- Domestic Relations is subject to periodic audits from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and during 2012, the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE) completed both a Procedural and Financial Audit. We are pleased to announce that both audits were passed with no exceptions.
- Domestic Relations worked diligently to achieve the six (6) mandated goals of the Cooperative Agreement with the Department of Public Welfare in order to earn the maximum incentives. The requirement is to attain an 80% performance rating in: order establishment, paternity establishment, current collections, arrears collections and medical establishment and enforcement. The federal fiscal year ended in September 2012, and the unaudited performance measures are as follows:

Order Establishment	92.25%	Paternity Establishment	110.69%
Current Collections	82.89%	Arrears Collections	82.50%
Medical Establishment	94.10%	Medical Enforcement	91.40%

This is the fifth straight year that Erie County Domestic Relations achieved 80% plus in all measures. Because of the hard work of the staff, Domestic Relations was able to achieve these goals.

Financial Summary: The Domestic Relations Department operated during 2012 with a total department budget of \$4.96 million. Federal and State reimbursements accounted for \$3.29 million. Only 32.3% or \$1,567,255 was funded by the County.

ERIE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS JUVENILE PROBATION



B. JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

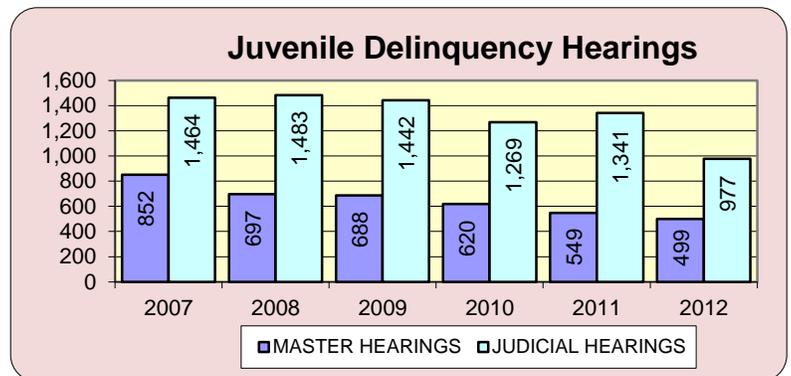
Robert J. Blakely – Director of Probation Officer
Thomas Kern – Deputy Director
Total Staff – 50 employees
18 Contracted Employees

Top left: Thomas Kern, David Gianoni, Chief Probation Officer Robert Blakely, John Fox;
Bottom left: Deputy Chief Kathleen Smith, Deborah Goodlet, Kirk Brabender



The Court's Juvenile Probation Department is charged with the responsibility of administering the Court's juvenile justice process and providing traditional probation services consistent with the requirements of the law. Through its intake section, the office receives and reviews complaints alleging delinquency and prepares and files delinquency petitions with the Court. Probation officers work with the District Attorney's Office in preparing cases for adjudication, provide Court summaries for the judges in dispositional and other hearings and supervise juveniles placed on probation or pursuant to consent decrees. Probation officers also monitor the progress of juveniles who are placed in residential or other placement settings.

Juvenile Delinquency Hearings: For 2012, the number of hearings heard by the Master totaled 499, which included Detention Hearings, Misdemeanor and Adjudication Hearings, Revocation Hearings and Restitution Hearings. The number of Judicial Hearings total 977.



**Erie County Court of Common Pleas
Juvenile Probation
Caseload Summary**

Juvenile Probation	Average Monthly Caseload	Probation Officers	Average Cases Per Officer
Standard – Street Cases	573	25	23
– Placement Cases	121	20	6
Pending Intake Cases	49	2	24.5
Total Juvenile Probation Caseload	697	25	28
School Based Probation (cases included in total caseload)	93	3	31
Electronic Monitoring (cases included in total caseload)	20	*	*

* handled by all Juvenile Probation Officers

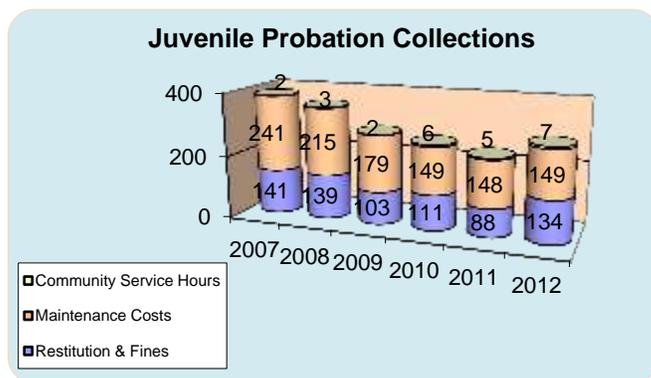
Juvenile Court Hearings

In 2012, the Juvenile Court heard a total of 1,828 hearings. This breaks down as follows:

Hearings before the Master	499
Hearings before Juvenile Court Judges	977
Arraignments	352

Juvenile Probation: had 589 Intake cases in 2012. Of the 589 cases referred to the Juvenile Probation Department, 980 petitions were filed. A total of 2,156 delinquency allegations were processed, which broke down to 466 felony, 1,525 misdemeanor and 165 summary offenses.

During 2012, the department collected a total of \$320,547 less \$2,070 in refunds, which breaks down as follows: Restitution and Fines - \$133,904, Maintenance Costs - \$149,147 and Payment in Lieu of Community Service Hours - \$6,781. This \$34,852 was donated to the Victim Review Board and Carl Anderson Fund to help pay victim and juvenile's



special needs. We also collected \$1,591 in Motor Vehicle Violation Fines, State Computer Fees of \$12,968 and Crime Victims Fees of \$14,023 and Extradition Fees of \$60.

In 2012 the Department was able to continue the stabilization of delinquent youth placement numbers with an average of 121 juveniles in placement per month. The Juvenile Court System has made a concerted effort to control placement numbers without jeopardizing community protection.

The Juvenile Court takes pride in a number of collaborative initiatives to serve the youth within the juvenile court. Some of these 2012 initiatives are:

- **Juvenile Probation Outcome Measures:** We have implemented a statewide initiative that gives the Juvenile Court better data regarding outcomes of the clientele going through our courts. Some of the significant findings are as follows;
 - 86.6%** successfully complete their supervision without receiving a new offense resulting in a consent decree or an adjudication of delinquency
 - 97.8%** of juveniles received assigned community service hours and completed 31,246 hours in 2012
 - 90.6%** of all juveniles made full restitution to their victims in 2011, paying \$83,845
- **Housing Authority Probation Officers:** We continue to partner with the City of Erie Housing Authority and the Adult Probation Office to provide on-site probation services within all Housing Authority properties.
- **Community Justice Centers:** We continue to operate one satellite site within the City of Erie to facilitate our community oriented probation program. The site is located at the Trinity Center, 460 West 18th Street on the west side. These sites are staffed by probation officers, community justice officers and school based probation officers. Our team approach to supervision has allowed our department to become more efficient in processing/supervising cases in a more expedient manner. The department's dramatic drop in average total caseloads from 1,475 in January of 1999 to 704 in December of 2012 is indicative of this collaborative effort.
- **Summer Earn and Learn Program:** This work experience program runs for six weeks, from the end of June until mid-August, to provide employment opportunities for delinquent youth to complete community service hours

and/or pay restitution to victims of juvenile crime. In 2012, thirty (30) youth completed 632.5 hours of community service and twenty-three (23) youth returned a total of \$6,827.80 in restitution to their victims. Of those clients, twelve (12) paid restitution in full. In addition, 2,577 pounds of produce was donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank from our greenhouse/garden project. The Summer Earn and Learn Program, since its inception in 1996, has collected \$172,499.00 in restitution for victims of juvenile crime.

- **Resource Management Team:** In 2012, the Resource Management Team continued to help stabilize and reduce juvenile placement numbers and costs. By employing managed care concepts such as care management, quality assurance and quality improvement, the juvenile probation department is in a better position to control costs and assure quality care. The Resource Management Team staffed 317 cases for potential dispositions of residential placement. The standards for consideration are the least restrictive environment, community safety, accountability and the specific needs of the child/family.
- **School Based Probation:** The juvenile probation department continues to partner with the following six (6) schools to provide probation services within the schools to prevent delinquency and to promote academic success within our clientele. An average of 93 juveniles/month are being supervised within the school settings. We believe that this proactive approach is very effective in reducing truancy, behavioral problems and helping to keep the community safe.

McDowell High School
McDowell Intermediate
Millcreek Learning Center
East High School
Strong Vincent High School
Wilson Middle School

- **Mental Health Screening/Assessment Project:** The Juvenile Probation Department continues to partner with the mental health system for further collaboration and system change to better address the mental health needs of youth in the community who are at risk of advancing deeper into the juvenile justice system. At any point in time, during a youth's involvement with the Juvenile Justice System, their behavior may indicate a need for a mental health and/or substance abuse assessment. The process for obtaining an assessment can occur in one of the following ways: Screening and Assessment (Detention and Shelter), Mental Health/Juvenile Probation Triage and/or Intake. During the year 2012, 1,210 youths were reviewed through the Mental Health/Juvenile Probation triage. Out of the 1,210 youth

reviewed, 312 received further mental health and drug and alcohol assessments.

- **Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Study:** Erie County Juvenile Probation is an active participant in a statewide initiative to improve Juvenile Justice Practice. To achieve this we are:
 1. Enhancing our purpose to achieve balanced approach to restorative trust goals by implementation of evidence based practices and services on going.
 2. Ongoing commitment to data collection, analysis and research to support decision making.
 3. Demonstrated commitment to continue quality improvement.
 4. Begin utilization a risk/need assessment in 2012, the Youth Level of Services/Case Management Inventory.

Financial Summary: The Juvenile Probation Department operated during 2012 with a budget of \$2,943,238. The net cost to the County of Erie for this year was \$2,479,615 or 84% of the Juvenile Probation Budget.

- C. **Adoption Hearings:** The number of adoption hearings decreased again in 2012 to a total of sixty-one (61). This was consistent with the prior year. This reflected a concerted effort to move these cases to permanency.
- D. **Involuntary Termination Hearings:** Termination of parental rights petitions decreased during 2012 to a total of eighty-five (85). This continues the trend for decreases over the past several years.
- E. **Guardianship Hearings:** When a person is alleged to be incapacitated, a hearing must be conducted for the purpose of determining whether a guardian should be appointed. Forty-six (46) guardianship hearings were conducted in 2012.
- F. **Divorce and Related Matters:** Once a divorce case is filed, it is brought to the attention of the Court only if the parties are unable to reach an agreement. During 2012, divorces decreased to a total of 688. All contested divorces and equitable distribution cases are referred for resolution to a master. During 2012, sixty-nine (69) cases were referred



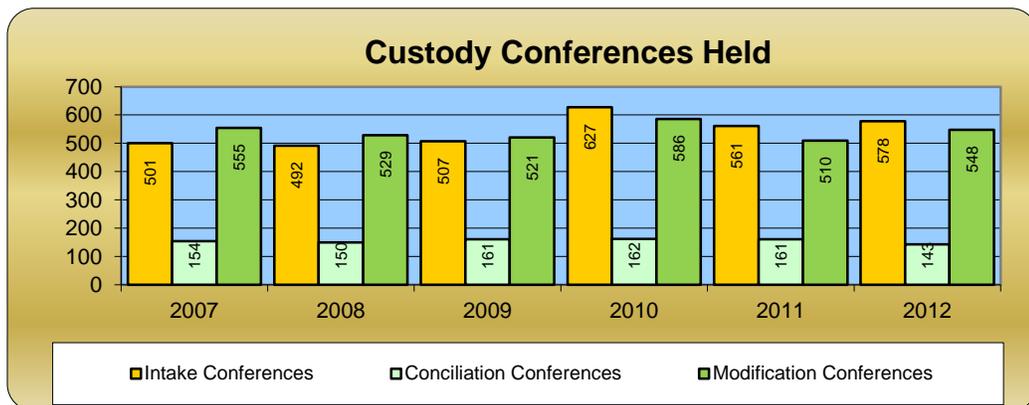
to the master. The Divorce Master actually conducted forty-five (45) hearings and twenty-eight (28) cases were resolved prior to a hearing.

G. Juvenile Dependency Hearings: The Office of Children and Youth is responsible for initiating a dependency action in Juvenile Court. “Dependent” children include those who are without proper parental care and supervision or who are “incorrigible,” as well as children who have been abused or neglected. The number of dependency petitions remained steady at 184 in 2012 and represented the third consecutive year of reductions to petitions. The Court conducted 623 hearings in dependency cases, which represented a reduction over the 2011 level.

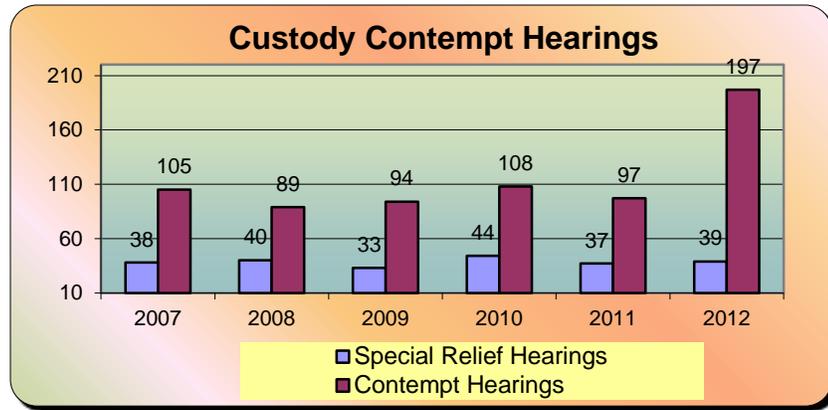
**H. OFFICE OF CUSTODY CONCILIATION
Karen Heberle – Supervisor**

The Court requires mandatory conciliation in every case where a complaint in custody or a petition for modification of a current custody order is filed. Conciliation involves a three-step process where the parties initially meet with an intake officer who attempts to resolve the parties’ differences expediently. If a matter is more complex and the parties have difficulty reaching an agreement, the case is referred to the custody conciliator for a more concerted effort at mediation. If the parties are unable to agree following the conciliation process, they may request a hearing before the Court.

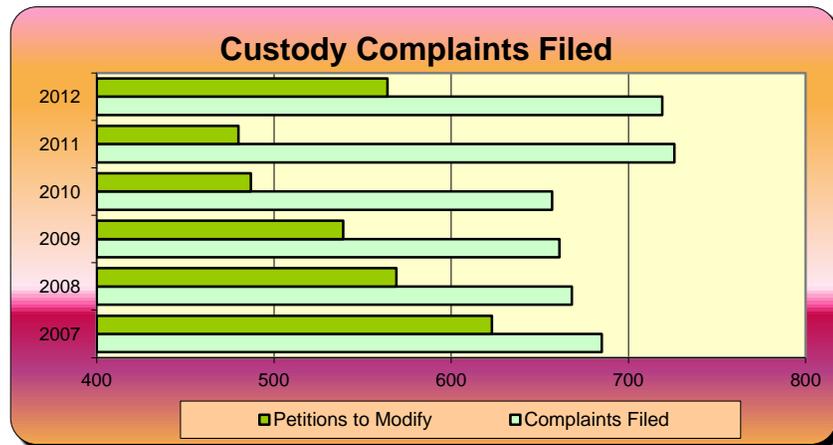
In 2012 there were 578 intake conferences conducted, 143 conciliation conferences conducted and 548 modification conferences conducted. Of the 1,269 conferences held, there were only 242 requests for an adversarial hearing. Through the Custody Conciliation efforts, 81% of all cases were resolved without the necessity of adversarial proceedings. It should be noted that of the 242 requests for trial, 72 requests were withdrawn prior to a trial with 170 cases going to trial.



Custody Hearings: In 2012 Special Relief Court Hearings, as in the prior years, has leveled off at thirty-nine (39) for the year. Contempt hearings increased to 179. During 2012, only 17% of all cases needed intervention by the Court.



In 2012, the Office of Custody Conciliation received 719 new petitions and 564 petitions to modify existing custody orders for a total of 1,283 filed. During 2012, the filings had increased 7%. Attorneys filed for 36% of the petitions, with 64% of the petitions being filed pro se.



In 1997, the Court of Common Pleas of the Sixth Judicial District adopted a fee policy with regard to modification petitions. Upon filing a petition for modification of a custody order, the moving party shall pay a conciliation fee in the amount of \$50.00 per session. A session shall not be more than one and one-half (1 ½) hours. In addition to the 564 petitions to modify, there were sixty (60) requests for additional sessions and sixty-four (64) fees were waived through In Forma Pauperis petitions. The funds generated by the modification filings totaled \$24,950.

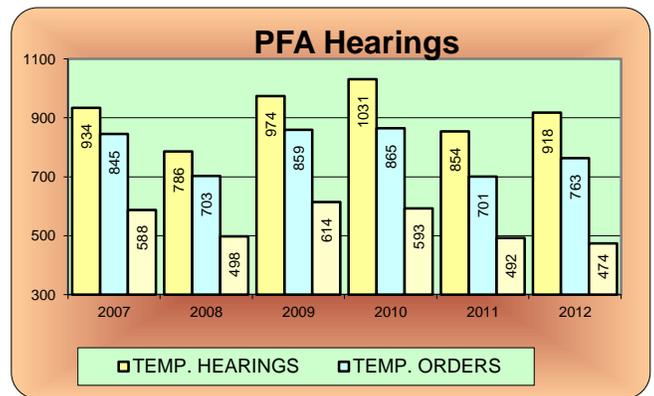
The process of conciliation utilized by the Family Courts is successful in providing a forum for parents to develop individual Court Orders that meet the best interest of their child(ren).

Beginning in 2005, the Custody Brochure and all custody forms were made available online for easier access to the clients that we serve.

I. PROTECTION FROM ABUSE OFFICE
Lisa Vik & Juliza Caban - PFA Coordinators

In 2012, the Protection From Abuse Office assisted over 742 individuals and provided information to all clients and many more that inquire about the process of filing a PFA.

The PFA Office schedules the Final PFA hearings and is available for administrative assistance to the Judges handling both Final PFA hearings and contempt hearings. Indirect Criminal Contempt (ICC) hearings which are criminal proceedings are heard before judges in the Trial/Criminal division. ICC hearings result from violations of a PFA, total of 198. The number of Temporary PFA hearings in 2012 total 918. Of the 918 filings, 474 became active Final Orders.



The PFA Task Force meetings have continued throughout 2012. The meetings include representatives from the court offices, county agencies and law enforcement that discuss and resolve concerns regarding Protection from Abuse Orders. By working together and problem solving, these meetings have greatly increased the effectiveness we have on our clients and the community.

Since 2005, Erie County has been processing all PFA actions through the states PFAD (Protection From Abuse Database). This process enables PFA orders to be available for review by all police agencies online.

During 2012, the Family Division continued in the effort to pursue collection of past due Protection From Abuse (PFA) costs. When a party files for a PFA, costs are assessed to the appropriate party at the time of the Final PFA Hearing. The Court has diligently tracked these costs and determined how much is owed. Payment plans are arranged with the Judge's approval and monitored by the Court staff. To date, the following costs have been collected for the County. In addition, during 2012, \$5,150 was collected in administrative fees to offset the cost of collections. This collection effort would not have been possible without the Family Division of the Court. Also, this past year, \$1,930 was collected for SafeNET that also works with PFA clients.

	Prothonotary	Sheriff	SafeNet
2001	22,437	25,596	
2002	16,417	14,930	
2003	4,825	3,837	
2004	7,596	5,419	
2005	16,194	10,734	
2006	31,040	19,815	
2007	33,453	18,029	
2008	21,582	11,434	
2009	28,708	14,799	
2010	38,991	18,983	5,310
2011	33,666	15,807	3,140
2012	29,037	13,743	1,930
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	303,297	198,327	10,380

J. ORPHANS' COURT AUDITOR
Patty Rougeux

The Orphans' Court Auditor performs all auditing functions requesting a formal accounting for the Orphans' Court division.

A monthly audit calendar is followed for submitting all First and Final Accounts and the deadline date for filing Objections. When the account is filed, the estate is put on an Audit list and a formal process has commenced.

The auditor reviews all First and Final Accounts filed with the Court by fiduciaries responsible for Decedent Estates as well as Estates of Incapacitated Persons, Minors, Testamentary Trustees and Trustee's for Revocable and Non-Revocable Inter-Vivos Trusts. The Auditor communicates with the attorney of record on any items required in order to complete the audit. To complete the formal process, a Petition for Adjudication must be filed, even if a Family Settlement Agreement has been reached during the course of the administration.

Audit Court is held every month to review accounts with the Orphans' Court Judge. Accounts in proper form to which no Objections are filed will be confirmed absolutely.

Accounts that are not in proper form continue to be followed by the Orphans' Court Auditor until the issues are resolved and the account is

confirmed absolutely. In the event that mandated documents are not filed in a timely manner, the Court may issue a Rule to Show Cause hearing on why the account should not be dismissed.

In the event that additional assets or debts are discovered after the Adjudication was issued, a supplemental Petition for Adjudication may be filed. Since this filing is a supplement to the original documents filed, it is not re-entered into the yearly statistical report but still remains part of the Orphans' Courts duties and responsibilities.

In the beginning of January 2012, there were twenty-seven (27) formal accounts carried over from the previous year. By the end of December 2012, this number decreased to fourteen (14) accounts which was great progress for the Orphans' Court Division. Several of these outstanding accounts filed were not confirmed due to a variety of issues occurring within the administration of the estate to include but not limited to, accounting errors, discrepancy and/or omission of required documents and objections being filed to the accounting.

Throughout 2012, a total of thirty-two (32) new accounts and zero objections were filed. Having no objections has kept the number of pending accounts down as they are able to move through the Audit process more quickly.

The Estate and Trust committee continues to meet regularly to review local rules and procedural issues. In addition, collaboration between the Orphans' Court Auditor and the Register of Wills Office has been ongoing in order to discuss any updates and future changes needed. Ongoing efforts continue in order to decrease the number of estates that have not been completed and where no formal accounts filed. The Register of Wills continues to send out reminder notices requesting when the administration will be complete.

Many of the Orphans' Court forms are available on the Internet through a section of the Pennsylvania Judiciary Web site (www.courts.state.pa.us) or by visiting the Erie County Website at (www.eriecountygov.org).

K. ORPHANS' COURT INVESTIGATOR
Carole Van Duzer

The Orphans' Court Investigator has the responsibility of serving all Petitions for Adjudication of Incapacity and Appointment of Guardianship. The petition may ask that the Court appoint a Guardian of Person and/or Estate and will be either limited or plenary. In some cases counsel may be appointed to represent the alleged incapacitated person. In the year 2011

the Court Investigator served seventy-five (75) petitions consisting of fifty-two (52) regular petitions and twenty-three (23) emergency petitions.

In June 1992, the Guardianship Act was amended to require all guardians newly appointed to file Annual Periodic Reports. A total of 398 Annual Periodic Reports were filed and reviewed in 2011. The Court Investigator reviewed an additional thirty (30) files that dealt with **delinquent** filing of Court Ordered reports and restricted accounts. The Court Investigator will investigate any matters of concern that result from delinquent filing of reports or inaccurate accounting reported in the Annual Report of the Estate. The court also monitors all Orphans' Court Orders that require a requisite record of receipt, accounting or other paperwork be filed with the court.

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Uniform Firearms Act, the Court Investigator sends notification to the Pennsylvania State Police and the Sheriff Department of any individual who has been adjudicated incapacitated or involuntarily committed to a mental institution for inpatient care and treatment.

In 2011, there were 538 open guardianships in Erie County, Erie, Pennsylvania. The Court Investigator conducted twelve (12) investigations concerning guardianships/restricted accounts, which may include Review hearings, Contempt of Court hearings, allegations reported to the court or concerns regarding the Annual Periodic Report(s).

On October 27, 2010, former Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell signed Senate Bill 1360, Printer's Number 2188, into law. This amendment to the Adoption Act, known as Act 101 of 2010, went into effect April 25, 2011. The amended Adoption Act had a far reaching effect on adoptions, the collection of information and accessing of information and records related to adoptions. The list of individuals who may access information from an adoption file is expanded, as well as the list of individuals who may be the subject of a request for information or contact. As a result of the amended Adoption Act, the court has seen an increase in the number of adoption searches that it conducts. An adoptee or various individuals (listed under Act 101 of 2010) in Pennsylvania may petition the court and pay a fee for the release of identifying or non-identifying information or contact, regarding an adoptee or birth parent. The court conducted thirty-one (31) Adoption Searches in the year 2011.

IV. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGES

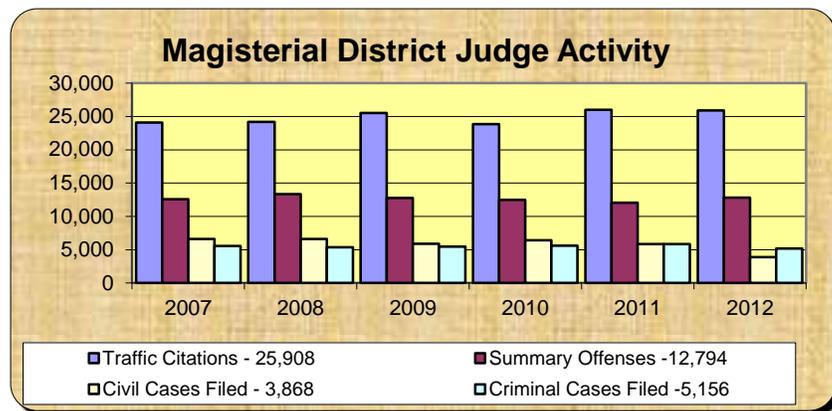
	<u>Magisterial District #</u>
Suzanne Mack	06-1-01
Paul G. Urbaniak	06-1-02
Thomas Carney	06-1-03
Joseph R. Lefaiver	06-1-04
Dominick D. DiPaolo	06-1-05
Thomas Robie	06-2-01
Paul Manzi	06-2-02
Brenda Nichols	06-2-04

	<u>Magisterial District #</u>
Mark R. Krahe	06-3-01
Scott Hammer	06-3-02
Susan Strohmeier	06-3-03
Carol Southwick	06-3-04
Brian McGowan	06-6-05
Denise Stuck-Lewis	06-3-06
Chris MacKendrick	06-3-08

Frank J. Abate, Jr.(Sr M.D.J.)
 John Vendetti (Sr M.D.J.)
 Joseph Weindorf (Sr. M.D.J.)

Kathleen Yeager – Magisterial District Judge Administrator
Total Staff – 43 Employees

Erie County utilizes fifteen (15) magisterial districts within the County handling traffic citations, non-traffic and private summary offenses, preliminary hearings in misdemeanor and felony cases and civil cases.



MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE CASE ACTIVITY
BY CASE FILED
2012

<u>MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUSTICE</u>	<u>CRIMINAL</u>	<u>CIVIL</u>	<u>Lan/Tenant</u>	<u>SUMMARY</u>	<u>SUB-TOTAL</u>	<u>TRAFFIC</u>	<u>TOTAL CASES</u>
MDJ MANZI	479	396	137	1,382	2,394	3,423	5,817
MDJ STUCK-LEWIS	359	306	96	947	1,708	4,020	5,728
MDJ KRAHE	441	278	59	803	1,581	3,766	5,347
MDJ LEFAIVER	508	423	349	1,546	2,826	1,130	3,956
MDJ McGOWAN	352	142	82	477	1,053	2,845	3,898
MDJ MacKENDRICK	370	219	104	567	1,260	2,252	3,512
MDJ STROHMEYER	325	235	194	704	1,458	1,919	3,377
MDJ URBANIAK	575	92	426	873	1,966	901	2,867
MDJ DiPAOLO	573	299	284	977	2,133	689	2,822
MDJ MACK	330	110	571	1,070	2,081	533	2,614
MDJ HAMMER	167	187	51	545	950	1,462	2,412
MDJ SOUTHWICK	196	79	19	323	617	1,735	2,352
MDJ NICHOLS	302	112	26	1,227	1,667	404	2,071
MDJ CARNEY	275	129	293	602	1,299	572	1,871
MDJ ROBIE	237	105	246	751	1,339	257	1,596
TOTAL	5,489	3,112	2,937	12,794	24,332	25,908	50,240

Central Court: Central Court was started in 1994. Since that time, 55,519 cases have been heard by the City of Erie and Millcreek Magisterial District Judges. These eight District Courts handle 68% of the Erie County criminal caseload. Of the current year cases, 34% waived their preliminary hearing, 12% had a preliminary hearing, 26% were resolved at the Magisterial District Judge level, and 4% failed to appear and had warrants issued for their arrest. These percentages have stayed remarkably consistent through the years.

Central Court	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Inc/ (Dec)	% Inc (dec)
Total Cases Scheduled	3,771	3,811	3,643	3,418	3,796	3,948	3,927	(21)	(5.4%)
Preliminary Hrgs. Waived	1,309	1,300	1,231	1,164	1,229	1,330	1,327	(3)	(12%)
Preliminary Hrgs. Held	377	331	356	401	455	465	468	3	.7%
Cases Resolved	960	950	807	813	884	949	1,019	70	7.4%
Warrants Issued	198	192	160	118	146	144	159	15	10.4%
Cases Continued	927	1,038	1,089	922	1,071	1,060	954	(106)	(10%)

Central Court has provided the opportunity for the early review of cases by both prosecutors and defense attorneys resulting in more expedient resolution of cases.

Financial Summary: The Magisterial District Judges operated during 2012 with a budget of \$2.52 million. Of that amount, \$788,121 was generated through the collection of fines and costs, while 68.7% or \$1,734,289 of the operating budget was funded by the County.

2012 COURT FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Court's operating budget for 2012 was \$19.40 million, which includes the Common Pleas Court, Court Administration, Law Library, Court Computer Bureau, Magisterial District Judges, Adult Probation, Juvenile Probation and Domestic Relations. Through State and Federal reimbursements, grants, supervision fees, fines and court costs, the Court generated \$6.4 million, which offsets the total cost of Court operations.

Department	Income	Expense	Net County Cost
Court Administration	(829,801)	\$4,691,241	3,861,440
Adult Probation	(1,022,917)	\$4,497,426	3,474,509
Domestic Relations	(3,291,695)	\$4,858,950	1,567,255
Juvenile Probation	(463,623)	\$2,813,333	2,349,710
Magisterial District Judges	(788,121)	\$2,541,183	1,753,062
TOTAL	(6,396,157)	19,402,133	13,005,976

PERCENT OF COUNTY FUNDING

Department	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Court Administration	82%	80%	81%	81%	81%	82%	82%	83%	82%	82%
Adult Probation	46%	47%	58%	66%	67%	62%	55%	73%	77%	77%
Juvenile Probation	78%	61%	54%	76%	69%	79%	74%	72%	84%	84%
Domestic Relations	28%	17%	23%	22%	23%	33%	27%	27%	32%	32%
Magisterial District Judges	55%	49%	55%	61%	63%	66%	66%	69%	69%	69%
Total Court	56%	50%	54%	60%	60%	63%	59%	64%	67%	67%

In addition, the Court, through the efforts of the Adult Probation Collection Bureau, collected in excess of \$3.9 million in fines and costs. This additional revenue, collected by the Court, is included as income for other County departments and assists them in reducing operating costs, which ultimately saves money for the taxpayers.

ERIE COUNTY 2012 ACTUAL COMPARISON

	INCOME	EXPENSE	NET	PERCENT TOTAL
Council & Elections	(7,399)	1,173,879	1,166,480	2.43%
County Controller	-	354,458	354,458	0.74%
County Executive	-	218,931	218,931	0.46%
County Solicitor	-	150,144	150,144	0.31%
Economic Development	-	988,305	988,305	2.06%
Personnel Department	(110,685)	492,020	381,335	0.79%
Finance Department	(3,897,413)	4,127,309	229,896	0.48%
Operations Department	(1,270,454)	5,526,560	4,256,106	8.87%
Other General Government	(5,114,209)	6,904,868	1,790,659	3.73%
	(10,400,160)	19,936,473	9,536,313	19.88%
Courts	(829,449)	4,725,815	3,896,366	8.12%
Magisterial District Judges	(781,545)	2,543,051	1,761,506	3.67%
Clerk of Records	(3,094,997)	2,701,638	(393,359)	-0.82%
Sheriff	(1,109,234)	2,790,516	1,681,282	3.51%
District Attorney	(387,405)	2,706,112	2,318,707	4.83%
Coroner	(226,274)	603,135	376,861	0.79%
Public Defender	-	1,247,174	1,247,174	2.60%
	(6,428,904)	17,317,440	10,888,536	22.70%
Adult Probation	(2,194,008)	4,793,527	2,599,519	5.42%
Corrections	(1,201,348)	15,498,852	14,297,504	29.81%
Juvenile Probation	(568,542)	2,813,658	2,245,116	4.68%
	(3,963,898)	23,106,037	19,142,139	39.91%
Veterans Affairs	-	206,984	206,984	0.43%
Grants to other Organiz.	(2,204,008)	2,204,008	(0)	0.00%
	(2,204,008)	2,410,992	206,984	0.43%
Public Safety Fund	(7,536,953)	7,263,750	(273,203)	-0.57%
Capital Projects	(53,649)	8,653,931	8,600,281	17.93%
Chil. Serv./Placement Fund	(63,824,283)	63,824,283	-	0.00%
Debt Service	(22,882,794)	22,898,567	15,773	0.03%
Domestic Relations Fund	(4,884,647)	4,845,429	(39,219)	-0.08%
Drug & Alcohol Abuse Fund	(5,213,099)	5,213,099	-	0.00%
Gaming Fund	(11,773,797)	12,858,680	1,084,883	2.26%
Health Choices Fund	(81,923,153)	80,019,084	(1,904,069)	-3.97%
Health Benefits	(26,129,144)	27,418,612	1,289,468	2.69%
Library Fund	(6,029,883)	5,980,506	(49,377)	-0.10%
Liquid Fuels	(812,704)	683,716	(128,988)	-0.27%
MH/MR Fund	(25,765,436)	25,765,436	-	0.00%
Planning Fund	(3,503,535)	3,271,692	(231,843)	-0.48%
Public Health Fund	(6,758,837)	6,588,775	(170,063)	-0.35%
	(267,091,916)	275,285,560	8,193,644	17.08%
Total Erie County	(290,088,886)	338,056,503	47,967,617	100.00%
Real Estate Taxes	(69,042,578)			
Transfers		24,074,328		
	(359,131,465)	362,130,831	2,999,366	

ERIE COUNTY COMPARISON OF BUDGETS

2001 - 2012

TOTAL EXPENSES	2001 ACTUAL	2002 ACTUAL	2003 ACTUAL	2004 ACTUAL	2005 ACTUAL	2006 ACTUAL	2007 ACTUAL	2008 ACTUAL	2009 ACTUAL	2010 ACTUAL	2011 ACTUAL	2012 ACTUAL	CHANGE 2001-2012
TOTAL COURT	13,911,800	15,022,835	15,776,625	15,905,690	16,845,935	16,717,274	17,159,152	18,576,993	19,499,169	19,793,631	20,589,495	19,446,788	
PERCENT INCREASE		8.0%	5.0%	0.8%	5.9%	-0.8%	2.6%	8.3%	5.0%	1.5%	4.0%	-5.5%	39.8%
Finance Department	2,887,921	3,078,151	3,241,684	3,086,850	3,121,223	3,026,465	3,216,431	3,853,848	3,936,642	4,073,688	3,844,797	4,127,309	
PERCENT INCREASE		6.6%	5.3%	-4.8%	1.1%	-3.0%	6.3%	19.8%	2.1%	3.5%	-5.6%	7.3%	42.9%
Operations Department	3,070,526	3,275,709	3,451,714	3,816,268	4,026,720	3,996,296	4,712,688	4,287,991	5,742,376	5,214,031	5,620,263	5,526,560	
PERCENT INCREASE		6.7%	5.4%	10.6%	5.5%	-0.8%	17.9%	-9.0%	33.9%	-9.2%	7.8%	-1.7%	80.0%
Clerk of Records	1,888,347	2,220,372	2,575,429	2,576,253	2,457,497	2,604,431	2,513,174	2,791,481	2,384,453	2,597,900	2,883,811	2,701,638	
PERCENT INCREASE		17.6%	16.0%	0.0%	-4.6%	6.0%	-3.5%	11.1%	-14.6%	9.0%	11.0%	-6.3%	43.1%
Sheriff's Department	1,961,619	2,249,349	2,408,666	2,466,199	2,721,772	2,537,920	2,818,800	2,938,885	2,978,500	2,956,295	3,044,857	2,790,516	
PERCENT INCREASE		14.7%	7.1%	2.4%	10.4%	-6.8%	11.1%	4.3%	1.3%	-0.7%	3.0%	-8.4%	42.3%
Council/Elections	1,010,706	965,157	1,011,978	1,002,607	1,041,060	1,206,392	1,162,755	1,343,639	1,321,823	1,246,011	1,267,424	1,173,879	
PERCENT INCREASE		-4.5%	4.9%	-0.9%	3.8%	15.9%	-3.6%	15.6%	-1.6%	-5.7%	1.7%	-7.4%	16.1%
Controller	301,345	320,871	337,809	319,125	329,706	341,430	352,404	383,890	349,686	352,784	367,574	354,458	
PERCENT INCREASE		6.5%	5.3%	-5.5%	3.3%	3.6%	3.2%	8.9%	-8.9%	0.9%	4.2%	-3.6%	17.6%
Corrections	10,065,961	10,793,928	11,625,770	11,833,633	13,310,164	13,838,278	14,469,283	15,403,655	15,761,623	15,705,122	16,155,635	15,498,852	
PERCENT INCREASE		7.2%	7.7%	1.8%	12.5%	4.0%	4.6%	6.5%	2.3%	-0.4%	2.9%	-4.1%	54.0%
Library	5,304,071	5,594,796	5,284,671	5,225,781	5,145,042	5,346,182	5,738,664	6,038,630	5,936,489	6,140,781	6,140,497	5,980,506	
PERCENT INCREASE		5.5%	-5.5%	-1.1%	-1.5%	3.9%	7.3%	5.2%	-1.7%	3.4%	0.0%	-2.6%	12.8%
Public Safety Fund	5,126,819	5,678,588	6,435,078	6,182,453	6,432,460	6,904,378	6,525,722	5,907,744	6,441,195	5,905,590	6,331,128	7,263,750	
PERCENT INCREASE		10.8%	13.3%	-3.9%	4.0%	7.3%	-5.5%	-9.5%	9.0%	-8.3%	7.2%	14.7%	41.7%
County Executive	147,325	169,395	188,053	209,807	229,294	217,387	225,529	232,263	212,587	196,421	217,211	218,931	
PERCENT INCREASE		15.0%	11.0%	11.6%	9.3%	-5.2%	3.7%	3.0%	-8.5%	-7.6%	10.6%	0.8%	48.6%
Solicitor	149,663	97,060	111,345	138,884	130,911	133,740	146,918	151,343	155,901	136,999	140,426	150,144	
PERCENT INCREASE		-35.1%	14.7%	24.7%	-5.7%	2.2%	9.9%	3.0%	3.0%	-12.1%	2.5%	6.9%	0.3%
Personnel Department	282,485	382,963	355,951	330,825	327,814	334,579	317,346	311,445	292,078	347,681	346,882	311,129	
PERCENT INCREASE		35.6%	-7.1%	-7.1%	-0.9%	2.1%	-5.2%	-1.9%	-6.2%	19.0%	-0.2%	-10.3%	10.1%
District Attorney	1,860,109	2,009,119	2,545,266	2,101,171	2,017,291	2,160,246	2,365,197	2,665,558	2,748,029	2,615,681	2,718,761	2,706,112	
PERCENT INCREASE		8.0%	26.7%	-17.4%	-4.0%	7.1%	9.5%	12.7%	3.1%	-4.8%	3.9%	-0.5%	45.5%
Public Defender	1,023,028	1,046,195	1,122,068	1,141,378	1,137,912	1,260,709	1,215,210	1,304,455	1,359,074	1,370,124	1,298,828	1,247,174	
PERCENT INCREASE		2.3%	7.3%	1.7%	-0.3%	10.8%	-3.6%	7.3%	4.2%	0.8%	-5.2%	-4.0%	21.9%
Planning Department	2,227,808	3,864,531	3,334,485	5,073,234	3,666,191	4,237,914	3,254,298	3,517,303	2,730,167	3,118,641	3,675,252	3,271,692	
PERCENT INCREASE		73.5%	-13.7%	52.1%	-27.7%	15.6%	-23.2%	8.1%	-22.4%	14.2%	17.8%	-11.0%	46.9%
Coroner	429,735	442,683	450,636	463,133	505,975	555,787	533,985	545,489	577,202	558,499	580,210	603,135	
PERCENT INCREASE		3.0%	1.8%	2.8%	9.3%	9.8%	-3.9%	2.2%	5.8%	-3.2%	3.9%	4.0%	40.4%
Public Health Fund	1,339,986	1,478,534	1,758,697	2,618,536	1,732,023	5,477,252	4,235,123	7,788,634	8,157,158	7,096,401	7,038,317	6,588,775	
PERCENT INCREASE		10.3%	18.9%	48.9%	-33.9%	216.2%	-22.7%	83.9%	4.7%	-13.0%	-0.8%	-6.4%	391.7%
Economic Development	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,186,761	1,304,519	987,389	988,303	988,305	
PERCENT INCREASE		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.9%	-24.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Grants to other Organiz	5,560,551	2,774,481	4,964,845	3,528,138	3,828,432	3,395,495	2,915,621	3,087,444	1,423,986	3,667,327	1,476,935	2,204,008	
PERCENT INCREASE		-50.1%	78.9%	-28.9%	8.5%	-11.3%	-14.1%	5.9%	-53.9%	157.5%	-59.7%	49.2%	-60.4%
Other General Govt.	5,964,944	3,558,110	1,958,304	2,285,816	2,043,128	2,418,146	3,374,339	3,428,962	5,827,264	6,310,926	6,373,282	7,111,853	
PERCENT INCREASE		-40.3%	-45.0%	16.7%	-10.6%	18.4%	39.5%	1.6%	69.9%	8.3%	1.0%	11.6%	19.2%
TOTAL BUDGETS	64,514,749	65,022,827	68,939,074	70,305,781	71,050,550	76,710,301	77,252,639	85,746,413	89,139,921	90,391,922	91,099,886	90,265,514	
		0.8%	6.0%	2.0%	1.1%	8.0%	0.7%	11.0%	4.0%	1.4%	0.8%	-0.9%	39.9%
Court Budget/Total Budget	21.6%	23.1%	22.9%	22.6%	23.7%	21.8%	22.2%	21.7%	21.9%	21.9%	22.6%	21.5%	

ERIE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Appendix 4 2012 OPERATIONAL BUDGET

