

Miami County Juvenile Court

2009 Annual Report



Judge W. McGregor Dixon, Jr.

Court Administrator:
Charlene Prestopino

Magistrates:
Gretchen K. Beers
Rebecca Hall
Katherine Kemp-Severt

May 1, 2010

To the citizens of Miami County:

On behalf of the administration and staff of the Miami County Juvenile Court, I am please to present a copy of the 2009 Annual Report. This summary provides a brief overview of the activities of the court for calendar year 2009. It also details certain activities of the court concerning programs to enhance the juvenile justice system. The report also shows the number of cases, kinds of case, and disposition of cases coming before the court for the preceding year.

Miami County Juvenile Court continues to engage in a vigorous quest for excellence by constantly searching for ways to improve services in these financially-strapped times, while building upon the history of evidence-based practices to maintain a strong system of understanding.

The employees of the Court are committed to serving justice to the troubled youth who come before them. Everyone is treated with dignity and respect in order to achieve a safer and better community

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely

W. McGregor, Jr.
Judge

Our Purpose

The Juvenile Court of Miami County is a division of the Miami County Common Pleas Court. Our purpose is to protect the Miami County community from juvenile crime, assist the victims of that crime, counsel and rehabilitate youth who commit crimes, protect children from abuse, neglect, and dependency and provide allocation of parental rights for children whose parents were never married.

Juvenile Court becomes involved in the lives of our children under 18 who:

- ❖ Do not obey their parents, school officials, and other custodians
- ❖ Do not attend school, who violate curfew, who drink alcohol and use drugs
- ❖ Commit violations of traffic laws
- ❖ Commit criminal acts
- ❖ Are victims of abuse, neglect or dependency
- ❖ And who's circumstances require orders of paternity, visitation, and child support

The Court also hears cases of adults who contribute to the unruliness or delinquency of a minor. Consistent with our purpose to provide safe and appropriate homes to the children of Miami County, Juvenile Court handles paternity, child support, and child custody and visitation cases.

The Court protects the interests and rights of our children and the public by rehabilitating and holding youth and their families accountable for their actions. The Court strives to strengthen the family and empower parents to actively provide the balance of love, structure, supervision, and responsibility so that their children will develop the self-control and independence needed to become productive, self-sufficient, law abiding adults.

Referrals reach the Court through various channels, including parents, school officials, law enforcement authorities, neighbors, Children Services representatives, and the Prosecutor's office.

Under the direction of Judge W. McGregor Dixon, Jr. and with the support of two full-time and one part-time magistrate, the Court provides a broad range of community based, residential treatment and prevention services. This report is intended to help you understand the children we serve and give you an overview of the services we provided in 2009.

The Youth We Serve

Juvenile Delinquency

In Ohio, a juvenile delinquent is defined as "... any child who violates any law of this state, the United States, or any ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision of the state, which would be a crime if committed by an adult; except that any child who violates any traffic law, ordinance, or regulation shall be designated as a juvenile traffic offender." This definition also includes any child who violates any lawful order of the Juvenile Court. Each year the Court handles many types of delinquency charges, some are considered misdemeanors and others are felonies. The following is a summary of some of the 2009 charges:

Delinquency Charges	2009
Abusing Harmful Intoxicants	3
AntiNoise	2
Assault (Misdemeanor & Felony)	77
Breaking & Entering	17
Burglary/Aggravated Burglary	16
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	5
Chronic Truancy	23
Contempt of Court Order	63
Criminal Damaging	103
Criminal Mischief	35
Cruelty to Animals	2
Discharging Air gun/BB/Pellets/Firearm	3
Discharging/Possession Fireworks	1
Disobeying Police Officer/Resisting Arrest/Fleeing	9
Disorderly Conduct	99
Domestic Violence	40
Drug Abuse	54
Drug Paraphernalia	45
Drug Possession	10
Drug Trafficking	6
Escape	7
Failure to report a crime	1
Falsification	7
Fish/Hunt w/o license	1
Forgery	4
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor	4
Inducing/Inciting Panic or Violence	1
Littering	7
Making False Alarms	5
Menacing/Aggravated Menacing	27
Obstructing Official Business/Justice	34
Open Container	3
Parole Violation (from Dept. of Youth Services)	9
Possession of Alcohol/underage consumption	184

Possession of Criminal Tools	9
Probation Violation	121
Public Indecency	4
Rape	18
Receiving Stolen Property	23
Robbery/Aggravated Robbery/ complicity	12
Sexual Battery	2
Sexual Imposition & Gross Sexual Imposition	21
Skateboards	1
Tampering with Evidence/Property	3
Telephone Harassment	12
Theft/Grand Theft Auto/Misuse of Credit Card/Identity Theft	178
Trespassing/Criminal Trespassing	43
Unauthorized swimming	26
Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle/Property	13
Vandalism	7
Vehicular Assault	1
Weapon on school grounds	1
Total Delinquency Charges	1402
Total Delinquency Cases Filed or Reactivated	1187

The Court has many options when dealing with a delinquent child including:

- ◆ Place the child on probation supervision
- ◆ Commit the child to the Ohio Department of Youth Services (felony only)
- ◆ Commit the child to West Central Rehabilitation Center or any CCF (felony only)
- ◆ Place the child in foster care or in a residential center
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific community program
- ◆ Require the child to complete community service and make restitution
- ◆ Order the child to attend a specific treatment program
- ◆ Impose a fine and court cost
- ◆ Make any order the judge finds will benefit the child

Last year, the Court entered final dispositions in 1196 delinquency cases.

Unruly Child

An unruly child is defined as any child who does not subject himself to the reasonable control of his parents, teachers, guardian or custodian, is habitually truant from home or school; departs himself as to injure or endanger his health or morals; attempts to enter marriage without consent; is found in a disreputable place, or engages in an occupation prohibited by law. Unruly offenses include behaviors such as truancy at school, running away, and incorrigibility; these behaviors would not be considered a crime if committed by adults. The following is a summary of the 2009 unruly charges:

2009 Unruly Charges Filed

Unruly Charges Filed	2009
Truancy	8
Curfew Violations	136
Incorrigible	68
Behavior that injures health or morals	6
Tobacco Law Violations	33
Total Charges	251
Total Unruly Cases	237
Truancy	
Chronic Truant (delinquency)	23
Habitual Truant	8
Total Truancy	31

The Court has many options for dealing with an unruly child and they are:

- ◆ Counseling for the child and/or parent
- ◆ Make an order of mandatory school attendance and have the order monitored by court officers
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific program that the child could benefit from such as community service or attend a therapeutic program
- ◆ Place the child in a non-secure facility or with a relative
- ◆ Place the child on probation or prevention supervision
- ◆ Impose costs of the case against the juvenile
- ◆ Or, whatever the judge finds will benefit the child

In 2009, the Court entered final disposition in 258 unruly cases.

Juvenile Traffic Offender

The Court has jurisdiction over all traffic offenses committed by juveniles. These cases in 2009 included:

Traffic Charges	2009
Bicycles Violations	1
Disregarding Traffic Control Device (Sign/Lights)	39
Drag Racing	2
Driving on closed street	2
Driving Under Influence & Related	10
Driving Under Suspension	22
Fail To Control/Reckless Operation	62
Fail To Yield	30
Failure to Maintain Distance	58
Fictitious/Expired/Missing Plate/Registration/insurance	24
Improper Backing, Turn or Lane Change	26
Leaving the Scene	11
No OL/Permit/Allowing Unlicensed Driver to Drive	31
No head or tail lights	10
Other Moving Violations	7
Parking violation	1
Passing a school bus	4
Probationary or temporary license restriction	9
Seatbelt/Child Restraint	78
Speeding	320
Squealing Tires/Noise Ordinance	2
Railroad violations	3
Vehicle Related Infractions	4
Total Traffic Charges	756
Total Traffic Cases	683

The Court has a variety of options for dealing with a juvenile traffic offender including:

- ◆ Suspending a license for any time period up to age 21
- ◆ Place child on probation
- ◆ Impose fines or costs
- ◆ Place child in Detention (for persistent offense or serious violations)
- ◆ Order child to attend CARTEENS or a Driver's Improvement Program
- ◆ Order restitution
- ◆ Have the child attend a specific program, such as community service or attend a therapeutic program

In Ohio, a juvenile has a probationary license. With this license, a juvenile is subject to additional penalties imposed by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to which adults are not subject. In 2009, the Court entered final dispositions in 688 traffic cases.

Abused, Neglected and Dependant Children

An abused child includes any child that exhibits evidence of any serious physical or emotional injury inflicted other than by accidental means or is the victim of sexual activity. A neglected child is one who is abandoned or lacks parental care because of the faults, habits, and indifference of the parents or custodians. A dependant child lacks proper care or support through no fault of the parents or custodian. The juvenile court has the responsibility to hear such cases and make a finding or adjudication. The Court may make orders altering legal custody or redefining the parental rights and responsibilities to protect the child. These cases are very complex and require close cooperation with Miami County Children Services Board, law enforcement, and other social agencies.

2009 Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Filings

Abuse, Neglect and Dependency	39
Motion for Permanent Custody	19

The Court believes that when a child's physical, mental and emotional health is at stake and when the child's needs are not being met, that the child needs an advocate. Therefore in a majority of these cases the Court appoints a guardian ad litem either through CASA/GAL of MIAMI COUNTY or a private attorney. Based on the complaint before it and by considering the best interest of the child, the Court may use a variety of options for dealing with abused, neglected, and dependant children including:

- ◆ Order protective supervision by Miami County Children Service Board
- ◆ Remove the child from the home on a temporary basis and give custody to Children Services during which time the parties can work on a plan for reunification.
- ◆ Give legal custody to a relative
- ◆ Place the child in long-term foster care when the parent is not able to assume care
- ◆ Award permanent custody to Children Services, so that the child can be adopted

Last year, the Court entered final disposition in 40 abuse, neglect, and dependency cases and 19 permanent custody cases.

Paternity, Custody, Child Support, and Visitation

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction in cases of children whose parents were never married. Sometimes, this involves determining who the father of a child is. It can also involve deciding which parent gets custody of a child and the amount of child support and visitation the child can have with a parent. The Court also deals with requests from people other than parents, such as relatives or friends who want custody of a child. These cases often involve working with the Miami County Child Support Enforcement Agency.

2009 Filings

Filings	2009
Custody or Visitation	892
Support Enforcement/Modifications	1775
Parentage	66
Total	2733

Last year the court entered final disposition in 1694 support enforcement or modification cases, 880 custody or visitation cases, and 52 parentage cases.

Adult Misdemeanor Cases

The Juvenile Court also has jurisdiction in misdemeanor cases against adults charged with acts against children. This includes contributing to the delinquency or unruliness of a minor, and contempt of court from orders made by the Juvenile Court.

2009 Adult Charges and Cases

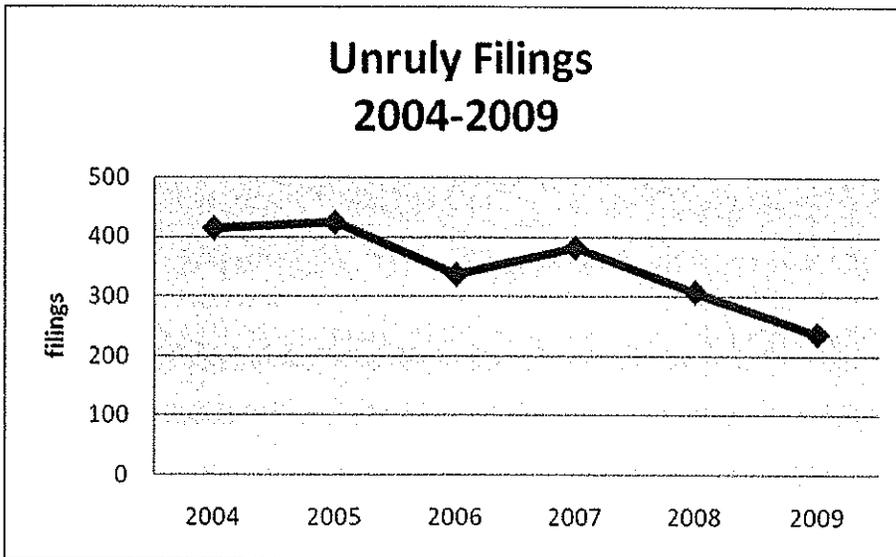
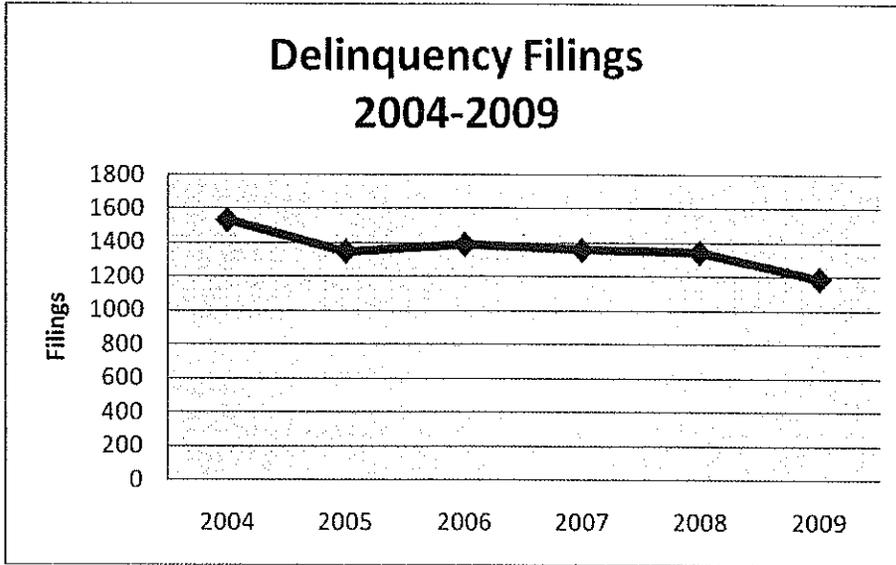
Adult charges and Cases	2009
Child Endangering	1
Contempt of Court	38
Contributing to the Delinquency or Unruliness of a Minor	58
Failure to send to school	23
Illegal use of minor in nudity oriented material	0
Total filed	120
Total Adult Criminal Cases	117

Last year, the court entered final disposition for 109 adult cases.

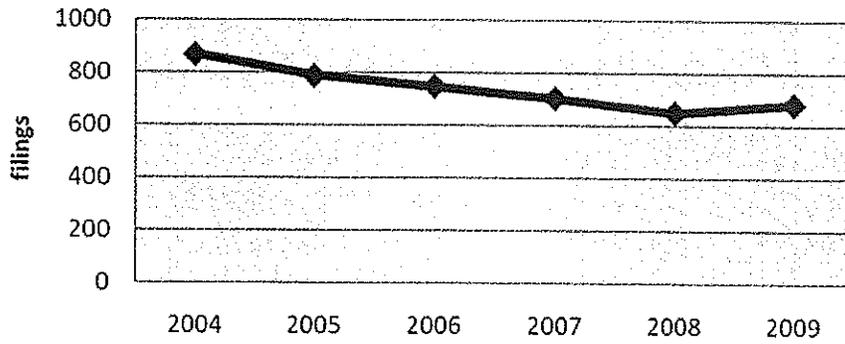
Miscellaneous Cases

The Court hears a number of cases that do not fall into any particular category. These include such issues as applications for a marriage license by an underage child, hospitalization of a mentally ill minor, and certain kinds of consents for medical treatment. Last year, the court handled 0 such case.

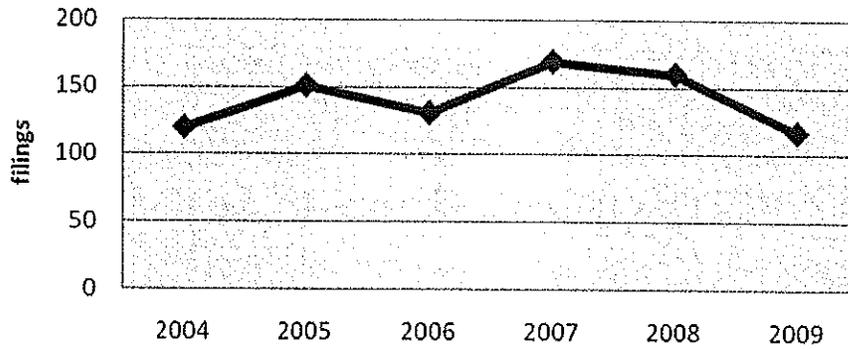
Filing Trends 2004-2009



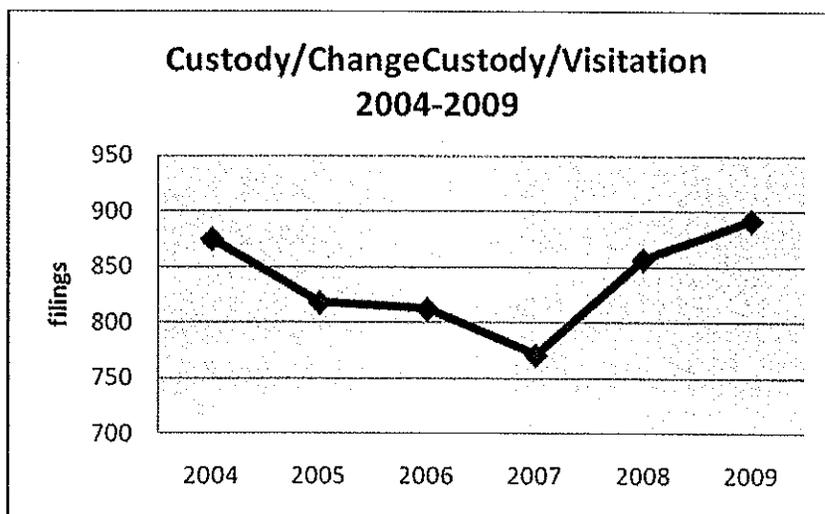
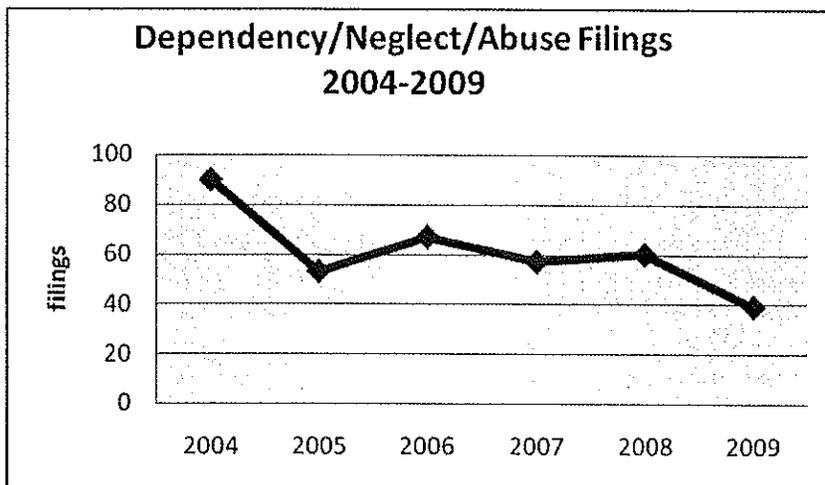
Traffic Filings 2004-2009



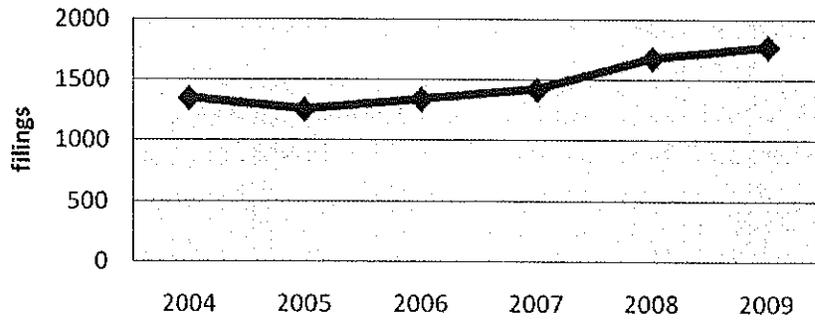
Adult Filings 2004-2009



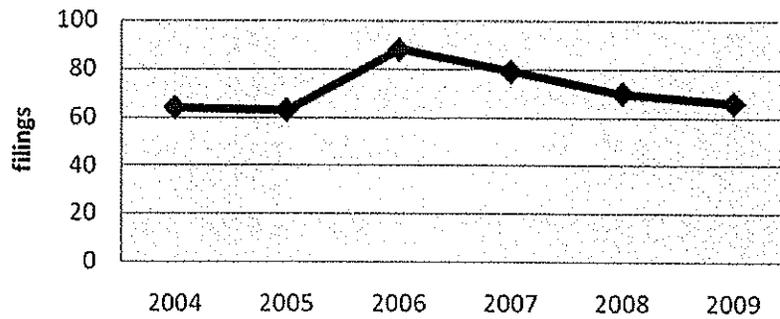
Filing Trends Civil Cases 2004-2009



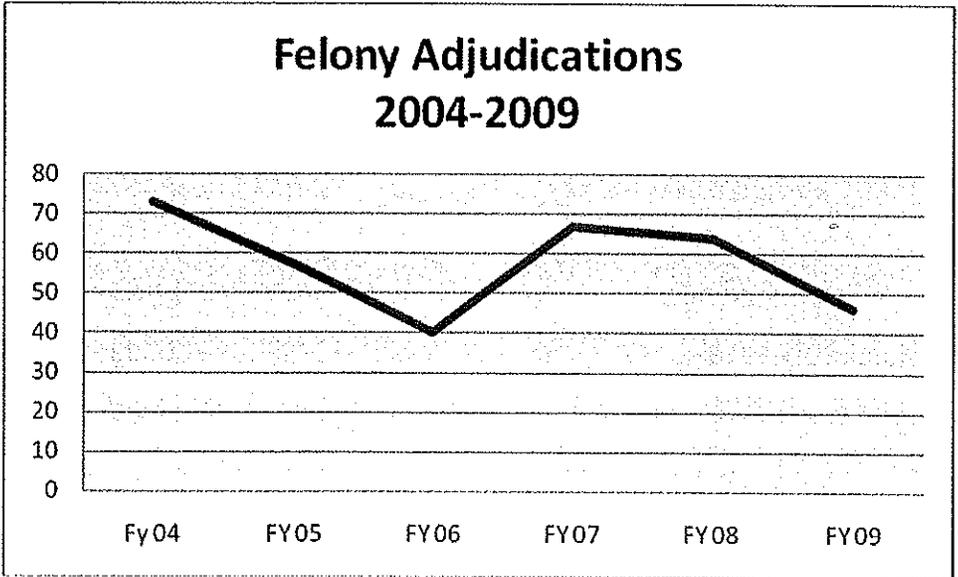
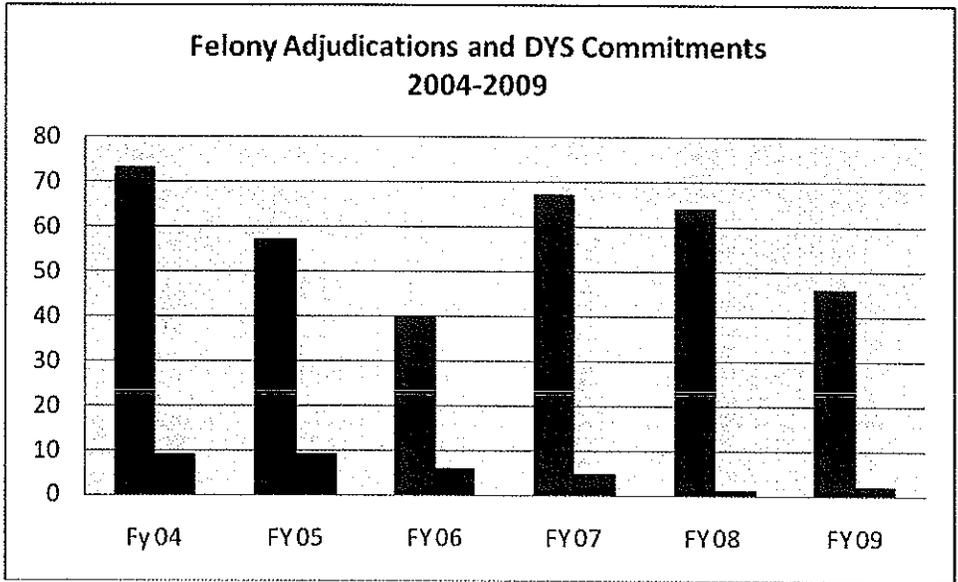
Support Enforcement/Modifications 2004-2009



Parentage 2004-2009



Adjudication Trends

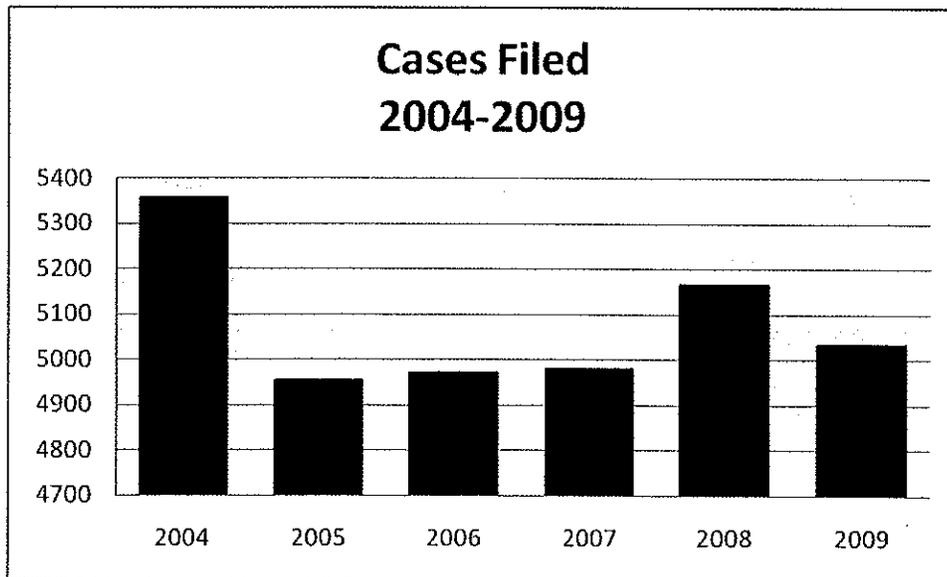


Court Services - Clerk's Office

The clerk's office is responsible for handling all the paperwork related to any court case. They accept the filings, schedule hearings, certify all orders, process all the paperwork, act as court reporters and generally maintain all case record. Under the direction of Chief Deputy Clerk, Beverly Bell and with the help of six full-time and two part-time clerks, the office serves all the clients of the Court.

Court Activity 2009

	2009
Total Cases Filed	5032
Total Charges Filed	5320
Total Cases with Disposition	4951



Juvenile Probation

The Miami County Juvenile Probation Department's mission is to encourage youth to behave responsibly and ensure community safety through the enforcement of court orders and terms of probation. The probation department uses sanctions such as electronic home monitoring, direct supervision, and social services to solve family problems and change youth behavior. The Probation Department routinely networks with schools, law enforcement, and other human services agencies to serve the needs of probationers. The department utilizes a number of contracted services to meet the therapeutic needs of the youth.

To achieve the mission the department maintains the following components:

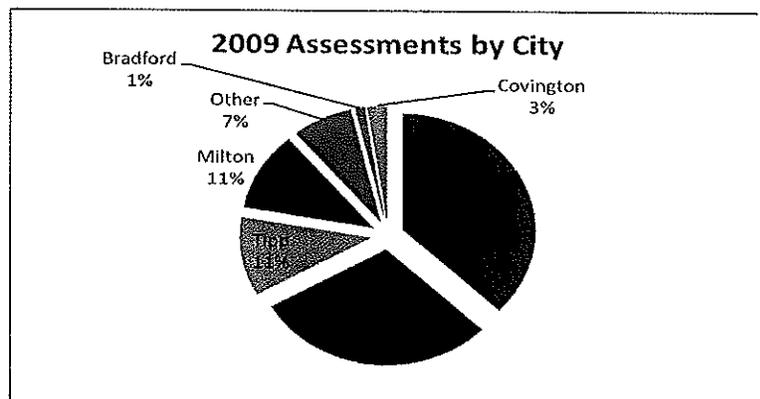
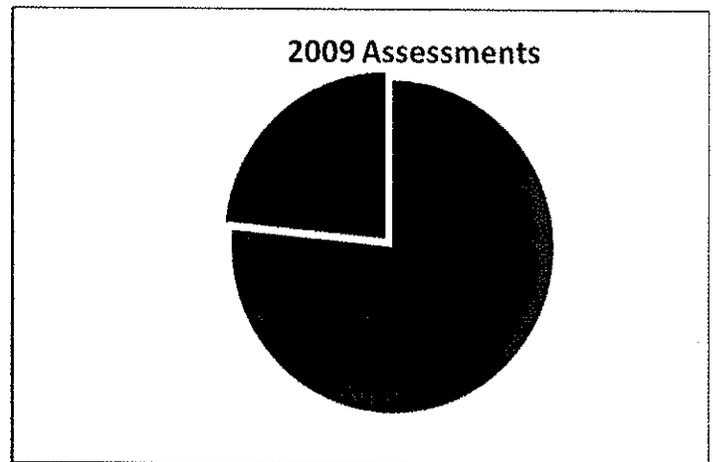
- A Diversion/Prevention unit for first time offenders, which includes The Family Diversion Program, Court ordered Prevention Services with an array of education and mental health services. A Tobacco Violators Program, The Curfew Violators program and The Mediation Program.
- An assessment officer assesses the youth's level of risk and makes recommendation for an individualized treatment plans using multiple modes of intervention.
- A specialist probation officer who supervises sex offenders and youth in specialized out-of-home probation
- An Intensive Probation officer who supervises youth released from West Central Rehabilitation, Miami Valley Rehabilitation Center and other Community Corrections Facilities, and David L. Brown Youth Center and youth placed in Drug Court.
- Generalist probation officers who:
 - Concentrate on changing behavior and improving pro-social skills through individualized treatment planning and using community resources.
 - Focus on problem solving with both juveniles and their families by partnering with families through the use of treatment plans.
 - Use a highly structured and intensive intervention through a standardized probation level system
 - Hold youth accountable by monitoring their behavior and making them face the consequences of their behaviors.
 - Are visible in the community by working some weekend and evening hours

- Drug Court – a joint project with the Recovery Council, which includes intensive probation supervision and substance abuse treatment.
- House Arrest Monitoring Program which supervises youth placed on house arrest.

Under the direction of Julie K. Harmon, Chief Probation Officer, the probation department has one full time intake officer and five full time probation officers who work directly with youth placed on probation. The Diversion/Prevention Program is an adjunct to the probation department and works with first time status offenders. This division has a coordinator, mediation coordinator and two full time officers.

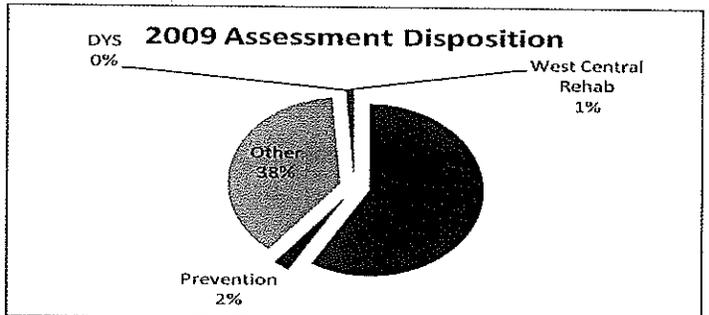
2009 Assessment Department Statistics

Assessment Statistics	2009
Total Ordered	81
Male	62
Female	19
Offense Type	
Misdemeanor	63
Felony	16
Unruly (First Time)	1
Unruly	0
Traffic	1
City of Residence	
Piqua	30
Troy	24
Tipp	9
Milton	9
Other	6
Bradford	1
Covington	2



Assessments by Charge	2009
Unruly	1
Contempt	3
Criminal Trespass	1
Criminal Damaging	3
Criminal Mischief	1
Unauthorized Use	4
Assault	7
Underage Consumption/Possession	6
Disorderly	9
Burglary	2
B & E	6
Receiving Stolen Prop	4
Theft	12
Menacing	1
Trafficking	1
Drug Abuse/Possession	4
Drug Paraphernalia	4
Domestic Violence	5
Weapon on School	2
Misuse Credit Card	2
Vehicular Homicide	1
Vehicular Assault	1
Abduction	1
Total	81

Disposition	
Probation	48
Prevention	2
Other	31
DYS	0
West Central Rehab	1
Jail	0
Total Referred to other	31
Number recidivated	2



2009 Probation Department

Probation Assignments	2009
Males	65
Females	24
Caucasian	78
African American	11
Other	0
Felony	29
Misdemeanor	59
Unruly	1
Traffic	0
Total Youth Ordered	89
Total Youth From Previous Year	197
Total Served	286

Probation by Age	2009
11-under	0
12&13	7
14&15	31
16 and up	51

Probation by City	2009
Piqua	33
Troy	31
Tipp	5
Milton	7
Bradford/Covington	5
Other	8

*includes youth sent to DYS or placed/transferred to another county

**Troy numbers include youth in custody of CSB, who may not be placed in Troy

School	2009
Troy High School	20
Troy Jr High	4
Piqua High School	23
Wilder Intermediate	0
Piqua Jr High	1
Tipp High	2
Tipp Central	2
Miami East High	5
Miami East Jr High	0
Upper Valley JVS	5
Milton Union Middle School	1
Milton Union High School	4
Bradford High School	1
Bradford Jr High School	0
Miami Valley Career Tech	2
Covington Middle School	0
Covington High School	1
Graduated/GED	6
Newton	1
Home schooled	3
Other	8

2009 Probation Department Statistics

Charges resulting in Probation	2009	Felony Charges	2009
Drug Trafficking	2	Rape	1
Drug/Alcohol Possession	11	Gross Sexual Imposition	3
Criminal Damage/Vandalism	1	Importuning	1
Agg Robbery/Robbery	3	Arson	0
Breaking Entering/Burglary	11	Burglary	4
Trespassing	1	Breaking Entering	7
Disorderly Conduct	11	Theft	1
Unruly	1	Aggravated Assault	2
Theft related	15	Domestic Violence	1
Contempt of Court	4	Forgery	0
Vehicular		Weapon on School	0
Manslaughter/Assault	1	Receiving Stolen Property	1
Assault	8	Vandalism	0
Domestic Violence	9	Drug Abuse	0
Menacing	1	Drug trafficking	2
Sex Offenses	5	Possession Criminal Tool	1
Possession Criminal Tools	1	Robbery	3
Tampering with Property	1	Vehicular Assault	1
Hit and Skip	0	Abduction	1
Inducing Panic	1		
Assault on Police Officer	1		
Abduction	1		
Total Charges	89		

Intensive Probation/Aftercare

The Probation Department provides intensive probation services to youth released from the Rehabilitation Center and David L. Brown Youth Center. A full time probation officer provides services to youth, parents, schools, and employers, to assure that the youth makes an appropriate readjustment to the community. The officer's hours are structured to be available during evenings and weekends, when you may encounter transition problems. This intensive supervision includes frequent visits with the youth and family, development and coordination of a youth's case plan, support and guidance to the youth, and probation sanctions as necessary. Youth remain in the program until they have completed treatment plans and paid fines, court costs and restitution.

2009 Intensive Probation Statistics

	2009
Total Served on ISP	47
Total Terminated:	22
Males	45
Females	2
Terminations	
Successful	8
Age 18	3
moved	3
Transferred	3
No Further Benefit	4
New Felony Charge	1
Average length of probation - successful	9.4 months
Average length of probation - unsuccessful	15.4 months

Drug Court

Drug Court was started in June 2000 in cooperation with the Miami County Recovery Council. This programs goal is to better coordinate and facilitate services for youth with substance abuse problems. Participating youth and their families engage in an intensive regimen of substance abuse therapy and probation supervision designed to encourage and support abstinence from substance use. The child and their parents attend semi monthly court hearings where their progress is reviewed and monitored. Participants advance through structured phases of programming with each phase bringing greater freedoms and fewer obligations. Successful completion requires a minimum of 9 months.

2009 Drug Court Statistics

Drug Court	2009
Total Carried from last year	8
Admitted this year	15
Total Participated in program	23
males	21
females	2
Caucasian	23
African American	0
Successful Graduations	6
Unsuccessful terminations	4
Other	3

Alternatives to Detention

House arrest and electronic home monitoring are two alternatives to secure Detention that allow a youth to remain in the community yet restrict a youth's movement within the community. These strategies allow a youth to continue to live at home and attend school, jobs, counseling and other approved activities. These programs serve as a short term sanction and remind juveniles that they need to pay attention to curfews and other court imposed expectations. House arrest is less restrictive and relies heavily on a youth's compliance, parental participation and monitoring. Electronic home monitoring uses an ankle bracelet technology that detects movement and alerts probation officers when a child is engaging in activity away from approved venues. Both approaches are used extensively by Probation Officers to enhance supervision.

Electronic home monitoring	2009
Males	48
Females	5
Caucasian	47
African American	5
Other	1
Felony	21
Misdemeanor	32
Unruly	0
Traffic	0
Terminated Unsuccessfully	5
Terminated Successfully	47
Total Youth Ordered	49
Total Youth Served	53
Average days on EMHA	32

House Arrest Monitoring Program

The House Arrest Monitoring Program was started through a grant. Once the grant ended, the probation staff elected to continue the programming. The Probation/Prevention department does random, unscheduled visits to the home of youth placed under an order of House Arrest by the Court in order to determine their compliance with the Court's orders. In addition to monitoring youth's compliance with the Court's orders this also allows the Probation/Prevention officers to be a more visible presence after "traditional Court hours", in the evenings and also on weekends.

2009 House Arrest Monitoring Statistics

House Arrest	2009
Males	276
Females	108
Caucasian	343
African American	39
Other	2
Felony	90
Misdemeanor	271
Unruly	23
Traffic	0
Terminated Unsuccessfully	84
Terminated Successfully	300
Total Youth Ordered	384
# of Compliance Checks done by PO's	1127
# of man hours PO spent doing checks after hours/weekends	169.75
Average length of time on HA	46 days

Piqua Office

Miami County Juvenile Court maintains a satellite office, located at 102 W. Ash Street in downtown Piqua. To reach the Piqua office call 615-0657. With initial funding from a grant and in partnership with the Piqua Police Department and Piqua City Schools, the need for a local presence was established. A physical presence in the community allows probation officer to see youth more frequently, and gives prevention and diversion officers access to more youth.

Diversion and Prevention Services

The Court provides an array of interventions designed to cope with unruly behaviors and first time offenders. These interventions include diversion and court ordered programs. They include:

Diversion Services

- The Family Diversion Program
- The Tobacco Offender Program
- The Mediation Program
- The Curfew Violators Program

Court Ordered Prevention Services

- Prevention Supervision

The Family Diversion Program serves youth who have been formally cited as unruly children or who are first time offenders. Common examples of unruly offenses included school truancy, running away, and violating the rules set by their parents or school officials. These youth and their parents are offered corrective and educational groups as an alternative to appearing in court. When families complete the program, the original citation or complaint is never filed with the Court.

Family Diversion Program 2009 Statistics

Family Diversion	2009
Retained from Previous Year	26
Filed this year	102
Successfully Completed	87
Declined Services	0
Inappropriate for Service	11
Unsuccessful	16
Total Pending at end of year	15
Total Served	128

A number of unruly or first time offenders are deemed inappropriate for the Family Diversion Program. Some of these youth have previously been enrolled in the program and have failed to complete services, others have declined. These youth can be enrolled in Prevention Services through a court order. Prevention Services assists families in which a youth has been formally charged as an unruly child, a first time

offender or a youth who is very young. These youth have appeared in court and were ordered into prevention programming. The court monitors participation and a formal record is maintained.

Prevention Services 2009 Statistics

Prevention Services	2009
Retained from Previous Year	51
Filed this year	48
Successfully Completed	49
Unsuccessful	12
Total Pending at end of year	47
Total Served	99

Prevention by Charge	2009
Unruly	20
Truancy	9
Curfew	1
Contempt	0
Assault	1
Disorderly	4
Domestic Violence	4
Criminal Damaging	0
Drug Abuse	0
Arson	0
Menacing	1
Theft	3
No License	0
Underage Consumption	1
Criminal Mischief	2
Trespassing	1
Attempt Forgery	1
Total youth ordered on Prevention	48

Prevention Services by City	2009
Piqua	36
Troy	6
Tipp	4
Milton	4
Bradford	2
Covington	3

Prevention by Sex		Race	
	2009		2009
Males	29	Caucasian	41
Females	19	African American	7
Total	48	Other	0

Prevention by Age	
	2009
11-under	3
12 &13	16
14&15	16
16 and up	13

Curfew Diversion Program

The Court also offers a Curfew Diversion Program for first time offenders who received a curfew violation. The Coordinator meets with the youth and family and tailors a diversion program to address the issue. This year 72 youth were diverted from the court system. Many of these youth agreed to make food donations to area soup kitchens and food pantries totaling \$1120.00. These youth also volunteered over 680 hours in a local soup kitchen.

Tobacco Offenders Program

The Court maintains a diversion program for first time tobacco offenders. Possession and use of tobacco or related products is illegal for minors. Courts can outline specific consequences for youth cited under this code. Youth who agree to participate in a program are diverted from the Court. Upper Valley Medical Center offers smoking cessation groups to youth and their parent. In 2009, nine youth completed this program.

Mediation Program

This program offers eligible juveniles the opportunity to participate in a process designed to help the youth and complainant discuss and resolve issues in a mutually acceptable manner. Volunteer mediators with training in the mediation process meet with the youth and victim and guide them through a problem solving process. The program offers youth the opportunity to restore loss to the victim and take responsibility for one's own behavior.

The Goals of the Program are as follows:

- To resolve underlying conflicts
- To prevent problems from reoccurring
- To reach an agreement and avoid court involvement
- To enhance communication and improve relationships between individuals.

In 2006, the Court added a civil mediation program to include child custody, parental visitation and child support cases. This program uses paid mediators who have specialized training in child custody matters. If individuals qualify financially, the Court pays the mediator. Parents offer their own solutions and work out differences in a confidential environment, so that they can do what is best for their child. One of the program goals is to help parents to develop better communication skills for the future. In 2009, 7 cases were sent to civil mediation.

2009 Mediation Services

Mediations by Charge	2009
Disorderly conduct	18
Assault	6
Littering	4
Theft	6
Criminal Damaging	1
Unruly	1
Tampering with Property	2
Trespassing	5
Total	43

Delinquency Mediation	2009
Total Referred	43
Successful	42
Unsuccessful	1

Civil Mediation	2009
Number of cases referred	7
Successful	4
Unsuccessful	3

Community Service/Restitution

The Community Service Program is designed for youth that have been ordered by the Court to perform community service hours as a consequence for their behavior. The Restitution program allows youth to work restitution to reimburse victims for their losses. The purpose of the program is to hold juveniles accountable for their actions by requiring them to participate in a work program that gives back to the community. It is also intended to promote appropriate work and employment skills. Both youth on formal probation and those informally supervised by the Court can be enrolled in the program

Youth work at sites in the community and are supervised by part-time and seasonal court staff. Work is scheduled in late afternoon, weekends, and on school vacations. Efforts are made to enroll youth in sites within their home communities. The program has 31 sites including local nursing homes, city and county municipal buildings, and football stadiums.

In 2009, community service added a new project called "Crops for Change". This project was conceptualized in the winter of 2007 by Miami County Juvenile Court Magistrate Katherine Kemp Severt. With a new Judge and a new Chief Probation Officer and an agreement to use land at the David L. Brown Youth Center, ground was broken and the garden planted in the late spring of 2009. During the inaugural season, the garden was tended by an average of 5 juveniles and 1-3 adults. The juveniles were at-risk teens with Juvenile Court involvement. All were referred by his/her probation officer. Few, if any, had ever tended a garden before and most gave little thought to where their food comes from.

In 2009, the involved juveniles planted, weeded, watered, and harvested the crops. Participants grew a variety of vegetables including peppers, cabbage, and tomatoes. Each participant took some vegetables home to his/her family but the majority of the crops were donated to the local food pantry and soup kitchen. This experience helped the participating juveniles understand the growth cycle of plants, made them aware that food doesn't always come from the grocery, and also enabled them to see their hard work provide fresh, nutritious, locally grown vegetables to those families needing to seek assistance in our own community. Over 12 youth participated in this project.

Funding for the program comes from the Department of Youth Services Subsidy Grant. In 2009, 370 youth provided 4455 hours of service to the community. Cindy Petrofes coordinates the program. For more information call 440-5987.

2009 Community Service & Restitution

Program Admissions	
	2009
Males	255
Females	115
Total Served	370

Types of Charges	2009
Felony	15
Misdemeanor	268
Unruly	71
Traffic	16
Total	370

Program Release	
	2009
Males	240
Females	108
Satisfactory	339
Unsatisfactory	9
Total released	348

Partnerships that Strengthen Families and Protect Youth

Family Connections

The Court has a contract with Family Connections to provide a parenting programs for individuals sharing parenting responsibilities but who have never been married. Family Connections provides both individualized and group programs for court referred clients. Family Connections provides individualized parenting education during supervised visitation for parents involved in custody and visitation disputes. In 2009, this program served 43 clients. The Saturday Series is a group specifically designed to improve the quality of parental relationship for parents who have never been married and who may no longer be together. This program strengthens the family structure, allowing the child to love both parents and increasing the likelihood of keeping two parents active in the child's life. In 2009, 18 were served through this program.

Shared Placements

Placement services are provided for youth who have multi-problems and are involved with more than one agency including Children Services, Riverside (MRDD), Mental Health, or Juvenile Court. Juvenile Court assumes the lead to fund temporary out-of-home placement for some delinquent and unruly youth that have been assessed as appropriate for placement by an interagency team. Youth are placed in various types of settings including foster care, group homes, and residential treatment. Cases are reviewed every 90 days to assure that treatment goals are being met.

The cost for these placements is shared by funding from Title IV-E, State Cluster, Children Services, Juvenile Court, Mental Health, and MRDD. In 2009, Juvenile Court contributed in \$99,962.36 shared funding for the placement of 23 youth.

Guardian Ad Litem

Juvenile Court provides funding to CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY to provide advocacy services on behalf of abused and neglected children. The advocates, specially trained volunteers serving as Guardian ad Litem (GAL), represent the best interest of children involved in dependency, neglect, and abuse cases for which placement is being determined by the Court, and, any other case where permanent custody has been filed. CASA/GAL OF MIAMI COUNTY is a private non-profit agency. In 2009, 58 volunteers served 126 children.

The Court also may provide an attorney to represent the child.

Custody Review Board

The Miami County Citizens' Custody Review Board is a group of volunteers who review the status of children in care or custody of a public or private agency. Volunteers determine that a plan for a permanent, nurturing environment exists and that the agency is working toward a plan. The board reviews cases monthly and makes recommendation to the Court about the appropriateness of the placement and plan. This on-going review process assures that Miami County children receive needed services in a timely manner and in the least restrictive environment possible.

In 2009, the citizen board members were Rita Hollenbacher, Rebecca Holthaus, William Riley, Randal Harvey, and Sandy Christian. Also attending are Magistrate Gretchen Beers, Children Services Representatives Kay Wheeler and Lori Rusnack. A member of the Court's clerk staff serves as secretary of the Board. In 2009, Angela Vanchure served in this capacity.

Financial Report

Miami County Juvenile Court receives funding from a variety of sources including the Miami County General Fund, the Department of Youth Services, and various federal and state grants.

2009 Court Budget

CALENDAR YEAR 2009 BUDGET		
	Appropriations & Carryover	Expenditures
General Fund - Juvenile Court	\$ 1,243,407.34	\$1,109,414.03
General Fund - Juvenile Probation	\$ 870,812.83	\$ 781,447.04
Felony Delinquent Care and Custody	\$ 644,031.66	\$ 400,283.17
Juv. Rehab Aftercare	\$ 29,340.00	\$ 26,032.49
Juvenile Computerization	\$ 30,961.16	\$ 14,017.92
Special Projects - General	\$ -	\$ -
Legal Research	\$ 10,519.94	\$ 5,393.39
Dispute Resolution	\$ 41,901.14	\$ 21,498.13
Indigent Driver Fund	\$ -	\$ -
S.P. Parenting Course	\$ 13,100.00	\$ 5,250.00
S.P. CASA	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,000.00
Totals	\$ 2,887,824.07	\$2,366,336.17

*Does not include Budgets of David L. Brown, West Central Detention, and West Central Rehabilitation Center

Fines and Court Costs

Fines and court costs are ways to hold youth and adults accountable for their behavior. Miami County Juvenile Court believes that these fines and costs should be assessed to youth and they are encouraged to pay their own costs. Adults who are convicted in this court are also assessed fines and costs. Juvenile Court has taken an aggressive stance in an effort to collect fines and court costs. Fines are assessed and collected immediately after court hearings. When individuals cannot pay immediately, a payment plan is established. Fines and costs are dispersed to the general fund and to other agencies as defined by law. Failure to pay fines can result in further court hearings.

2009 Fines and Court Costs Collected

COURT COSTS	\$ 50,094.59
COMPUTER FEES	\$ 17,512.11
LEGAL RESEARCH	\$ 4,492.96
SHERIFF FEES	\$ 4,591.86
LAW LIBRARY	\$ 1,250.00
COUNTY FINES	\$ 18,596.91
MOTOR VEHICLE FINES	\$ 3,257.33
COUNTY DRUG FINES	\$ 480.00
COPY SERVICE	\$ 139.15
WITNESS FEES	\$ 293.34
JUV. CT. MEDIATION	\$ 14,240.20
SPECIAL - CASA	\$ 3,232.00
SPECIAL - PARENTING	\$ 3,512.00
SPECIAL PROJECT - GEN	\$ 5,587.70
DRUG TESTING	\$ 576.25
P.D. APPLICATION FEE	\$ 3,071.50
P.D. RECOUP FEES	\$ 633.54
TOBACCO FEES	\$ 1,318.50
IDAT	\$ 355.50
STATE OF OHIO	\$ 31,285.21
BOARD OF PHARMACY	\$ 350.00
ARRESTING AGENCY	\$ 725.00
DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT.	\$ 423.50
SUNDRIES	\$ 1,737.40
BONDS RECEIVED	\$ 939.90
TOTALS	\$168,696.45

West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

The West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility is a state-of-the-art; secure residential facility for 36 juvenile male felons. Youth go through a rigorous re-socialization designed to correct flawed thought processes, which contributed to their criminal behavior. The program includes an individualized academic educational plan, family and individual counseling and intensive supervision. The average length of stay is seven months. Specialized vocational training in machine trades is offered to youth who qualify.

In 2003, a sex offender treatment program was added. This program uses a nationally recognized cognitive behavioral approach which helps a youth understand offense cycles and triggers while taking full responsibility for their actions. The average length of stay is 12-18 months.

The Center's 2009 budget was \$1,593,772.00. The Ohio Department of Youth Services provides funding. Local Counties are debited from their RECLAIM Allocation through the Ohio Department of Youth Services for youth placed at the center. Local school districts pay per school day to support educational programming.

Located on 25A in Troy, the West Central Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility serves Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Preble, Shelby, and Miami County providing Juvenile Judges a local alternative to committing youth to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Space is also provided to other adjacent or similar counties. Harry K. Russell is the Director.

2009 Population Statistics

County	Youth	Age at Admission	2009
Auglaize	6	12 years	1
Allen	0	13 years	2
Champ	2	14 years	8
Clark	10	15 years	8
Darke	5	16 years	12
Delaware	3	17 years	16
Greene	0	18 years	1
Marion	0		
Mercer	4		
Miami	11		
Preble	0		
Richland	0		
Sandusky	0		
Shelby	6		
Union	1		
Total	48		

2009 Offense Admissions to West Central Rehabilitation

Committing Offense

Committing Offense	<u>2009</u>
Aggravated Assault	3
Aggravated Robbery	0
Attempted Gross Sexual Imposition	2
Attempted Robbery	1
Breaking and Entering	4
Burglary and Attempted Burglary	6
Domestic Violence	1
Drug Trafficking	1
Failure to Comply	1
Felonious Assault	1
Gross Sexual Intimidation	3
Importuning	1
Possession of Drugs	3
Rape	9
Receiving Stolen Property	3
Robbery	1
Sexual Battery	1
Theft	6
Kidnapping	1

Committing Felony Level

Felony Level	<u>2009</u>
F-5	13
F-4	13
F-3	7
F-2	3
F-1	12

West Central Day Treatment

Day Treatment is a court ordered academic educational program for non-violent offenders. This program allows 13-17 year old male/female offenders on probation to attend school in a structured environment with individualized attention. West Central Rehabilitation operates two separate day treatment programs: one in Troy which serves Miami and Shelby Counties and one in Celina serving youth from the northern Counties (Auglaize, Mercer and Van Wert Counties).

Youth work on individualized educational plans completing G.E.D, or their regular courses needed for graduation by their home school. The school operates year round and transportation is provided. The average length of stay is 4-5 months. Youth participate in groups to correct flawed thinking. Funding is provided through the local school districts. Harry K. Russell is the director of this program.

In 2009, 129 students were enrolled in one of the two locations. Eight Students earned enough credits to obtain a graduation diploma from their high school.

2009 Day Treatment Population Statistics

Day Treatment South		Day Treatment North	
School District	2009		
Miami East	1	Celina	28
Piqua	31	Coldwater	3
Sidney	22	Ft. Recovery	1
Tipp City	1	St. Marys	5
Troy	16	Van Wert	8
Fairlawn	1	Waynesfield	1
Bradford	1	Wapakoneta	3
Covington	3	Total served in North	49
Ft. Loramie	1		
Houston	1		
Greenville	2		
Total Served in South	80		

2009 Day Treatment Population Statistics

Gender	2009	
	North	South
Males	37	66
Females	12	15

Age	2009	
	North	South
11 years		
12 years		1
13 years	1	1
14 years	1	2
15 years	8	3
16 years	9	21
17 years	13	25
18 years	16	23
19 years	1	4
	0	1

Outcomes	2009	
	North	South
Successful Release	32	40
Unsuccessful Release	1	31
GED		
Graduation	7	1

DAVID L BROWN YOUTH CENTER

The David L. Brown Youth Center is a program of the Miami County Juvenile Court. Under the Direction of Diana Karnehm, Executive Director and located on a farm setting, east of Troy, the Youth Center is a 24-hour residential treatment center for male youth ages 12-18. The primary purpose of the facility is to provide an environment in which youth can assume responsibility for their thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors. The Center uses Cognitive Behavior Therapy, a nationally recognized therapeutic treatment modality. Most of the youth are referred to the Center by a variety of Ohio County Juvenile Court systems, Children's Service agencies, and Family and Children's First organizations. The David L. Brown Youth Center provides Juvenile Courts with an alternative to incarceration and youth with the opportunity to receive a variety of intensive services in a safe therapeutic environment.

MENTAL HEALTH

During 2009, the Youth Center contracted with the Miami County Mental Health Center to provide two part time on-site master's level therapists to provide a wide range of therapeutic services. Youth referred to the David L. Brown Youth Center receive a complete mental health assessment and participate in an individualized treatment plan, which typically includes several of the following services:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| *Individual Counseling | *Family Counseling |
| *Group Therapy | *Leadership Training |
| *Coordination of Med-Somatic Services | *Case Management |

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

All youth referred to the David L. Brown Youth Center receive a complete substance use assessment and a corresponding treatment plan. The Center employs a Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor and utilizes a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor who is an employee of the Miami County Mental Health Center. The Youth Center offers a variety of treatment modalities designed to effectively intervene in substance use, abuse, or dependency:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| *Prevention Education | *Intervention Education |
| *Individual Counseling | *Family Counseling |
| *Group Counseling | *Intensive Treatment |

ACADEMIC

The David L. Brown Youth Center utilizes a variety of resources designed to provide educational opportunities to meet the individual needs of the youth. Collaborative efforts established with the Miami County Education Service Center

and the Upper Valley Joint Vocational School provides the Center with two full time licensed teachers. In addition, the center employs a licensed substitute teacher who works in the class room daily. The following is provided:

- *Individualized Learning Plans
- *GED Preparation and Pre-testing
- *Coordination of Academic
- *Agri-Science Program
- *Academic Case Management
- *Evaluation and Testing

HEALTH

The David L. Brown Youth Center provides a complete physical examination for each youth and meets their non-critical medical needs by utilizing Dr. William Ginn, M.D. and Susan Westfall, R.N.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

All youth who reside at the Youth Center participate in a physical education program and a variety of additional athletic activities.

- *Cardiovascular
- *Race Walking
- *Football
- *Basketball
- *Weight Lifting
- *Running
- *Softball
- *Volleyball

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The youth of David L. Brown are provided with opportunities to develop a sense of belonging and commitment to community in a variety of ways:

- *Bell Ringing with Salvation Army
- *Highway Litter Control
- *Community Service Overfield Tavern
- *Completing Court Ordered Community Service Hours

2009 BUDGET

The appropriated budget for David L. Brown Youth Center for fiscal year 2009 was \$784,548. The daily per diem rate is \$145.00 per day. School districts also pay a per diem to cover educational costs. In addition to the revenue received from sending agencies, the center received Federal Food Subsidy, Title XX for Miami County youth, and private donations.

2009 DAVID L. BROWN ANNUAL CENSUS BY COUNTY

2009 POPULATION STATISTICS BY COUNTY	
Miami County Juvenile Court	18
Montgomery County Juvenile Court	4
Clark County Juvenile Court	9
Darke County Juvenile Court	2
Shelby County Juvenile Court	1
Preble County Job & Family Services	0
Total	34

WEST CENTRAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center is a secure holding facility serving youth from Auglaize, Clinton, Darke, Mercer, Miami, Preble, Shelby and Van Wert Counties. The center can house up to 44 youth who will attend school year round, undergo counseling and psychological assessment as needed. All youth participate in a variety of treatment and education programming while detained.

The West Central Juvenile Detention Center opened in January 1993 as a twenty four-bed facility and later added 20-bed pod. The 2009 operational budget is \$1.9 million. All operational funding comes from the counties that use our facility with no money being utilized from the County General Fund.

West Central JDC provides youth with all the basic necessities. The residents receive three hot meals a day, they have structured gym exercise everyday and attend an on-sight school Monday through Friday. Youth must participate within group programs such as: anger management, substance abuse, health & hygiene, Planned Parenthood, life choices, and receive various topics from community leaders and motivational speakers. The youth have the option to participate in a Bible study program and to attend a Sunday morning service while at the center. There are visitation appointments for parents to visit three times per week. The residents may make phone calls at designated times and are provided all the necessary materials for writing letters to family.

The West Central JDC also provides a prevention program called STAR (Start Today Accepting Responsibility). This program is for "high risk" youth between ages 12 – 17 and the youth must be referred from a Juvenile Court to be eligible for the realistic tour of the detention center. At least one parent must attend the program with the youth and remain on site at West Central JDC for the 2-hour program. In 2009, 261 youth were referred with 190 completing the program. This program is free of charge to the courts under contract with West Central JDC.

The West Central JDC is located in the Miami County Government Complex at 2044 North County Road 25A, north of Troy. Mr. Lance Ray is the Superintendent of Detention.

2009 Detention Population Statistics

West Central Juvenile Detention Center 2009

County	WCJDC	Auglaize	Clinton	Darke	Mercer	Miami	Preble	Shelby	VanWert	Other
Male	872	154	81	66	69	246	90	112	41	13
Female	370	93	40	20	25	79	45	54	12	2
Intakes	1,242	247	121	86	94	325	135	166	53	15
Usage Days		1,901	1,284	2,233	857	3,487	823	2,200	617	513
Average Length of Stay Days	15.1	8.2	11.0	27.5	9.4	11.3	6.5	14.8	13.1	34.0

Miami County Juvenile Court
2009 Annual Report Statistical Summary

Cases Filed in 2009

Cases Filed/Transferred In	2009
Delinquent	1187
Traffic	683
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	39
Unruly	237
Adult	117
Permanent Custody	19
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	892
Support Enforcement/Modifications	1775
Parentage	66
UIFSA	17
Other	0
Transferred/Reactivated	
Total Cases Filed	5032

Cases Terminated in 2009

Cases terminated by Case Type	
Delinquent	1196
Traffic	688
Dependency/Neglect/Abuse	40
Unruly	258
Adult	109
Permanent Custody	19
Custody/Change of Custody/Visitation	880
Support Enforcement/Modification	1694
Parentage	52
UIFSA	15
Other	0
Total	4951

Types of Dispositions for Youth in 2009

Types of Dispositions for Youth 2009	2009
Bind over to Adult Court	0
Commitment to Department of Youth Services	2
Detention	325
David L. Brown Youth Center	12
West Central Day Treatment	41
West Central Rehabilitation Center	11
Miami Valley Greene County	0
Other CCF	1
Central Ohio Youth Center	3
Community Service	402
Probation	89
Prevention	52
Electronic Home Monitoring	53
House Arrest	384
Temporary Custody to Children Services	11
Protective Supervision to Children Services	47
Permanent Custody to Children Services	9
Jail Sentences (Adult)	128
Restitution	207
Cases with Fines Assessed	634
Cases with Costs Assessed	1101
Waived due to Indigency	421
Fines and Costs Collected	\$168,696.45

Miami County Juvenile Court Important Phone Numbers

Juvenile Court Clerks Office (general information)	440-5970
Chief Deputy Clerk - Beverly Bell	440-5972
Chief Probation Officer – Julie Harmon.....	440-5979
Community Service and Restitution – Cindy Petrofes	440-5987
Court Administrator - Charlene Prestopino.....	440-5990
Fiscal Officer - Angie Hubbard	440-5988
Prevention Services – Tom Bomhard	440-3515
David L. Brown Youth Center – Diana Karnehm (Director).....	339-1858
West Central Detention Center - Lance Ray (Director).....	440-5651
West Central Rehabilitation Center –Harry Russell (Director).....	440-5651

Please visit our web site at: www.miamicountyprobatejuvenile.org/

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