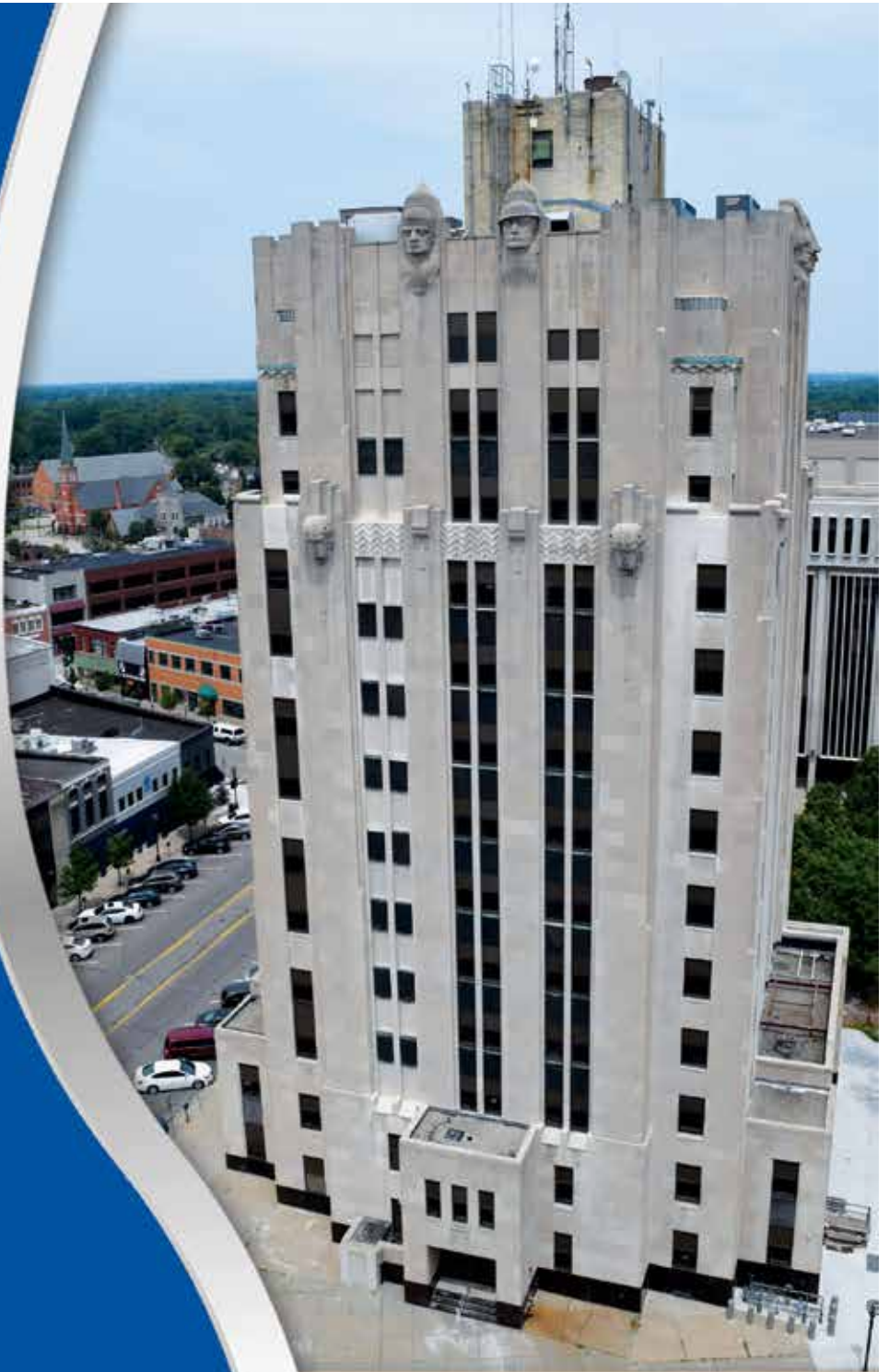


2017

ANNUAL REPORT



16th Judicial Circuit,
Macomb County Probate
and 42nd District Courts



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This sculpture of Recorder is carved in limestone on the Old County Building above the front doors that face Main Street.



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We would like to thank the following people and departments for their contributions to this report:

The judges and administrators of the 16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate and 42nd District Courts.

Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development, for producing this annual report and supplying various photographs that appear throughout.

The Macomb County Executive and Board of Commissioners for their support with this annual report.

Mission Statement

“Our mission is to serve the public by providing a fair, expeditious, and impartial forum for the resolution of civil and criminal matters through the rule of law.”

This sculpture of Justice is carved in limestone on the Old County Building above the front doors that face Main Street.

A Message from the Chief



I am happy to submit the 2017 Annual Report for the 16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate, and 42nd District Courts. 2017 brought several great additions to the 16th Judicial Circuit and Macomb County Probate Court Benches. Specifically, we welcomed Judges Carl Marlinga, Rachel Rancilio, and Michael Servitto to the 16th Judicial Circuit Court Bench and Judge Sandra Harrison-Suratt to the Macomb County Probate Court Bench. Each of these talented judges have made, and will undoubtedly continue to make, wonderful contributions to the Macomb County court system.

2017 also brought many other exciting developments to the Courts. The Juvenile Drug Court has been replaced with a new Intensive Substance Abuse Treatment Program. In addition, our Specialty Courts have received grants that will enable them to continue to provide the specialized services that many residents of Macomb County need. The 16th Judicial Circuit Court began utilizing MiFile, Michigan's Statewide e-filing program. This has made filing and accessing court documents more uniform throughout the state.

We thank you for taking the time to review this report and hope that you find its contents informative. You will find more detailed information regarding the topics address above, as well as statistical information for our court system.

I am honored to have been given the opportunity to serve Macomb County's residents in my role as Chief Judge. The judges and staff of the 16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate, and 42nd District Courts make tremendous efforts on a daily basis to improve this County's court system. I hope that this report provides you with insight into those efforts and some of our accomplishments in 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Biernat, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

James M. Biernat, Jr.,
Chief Judge
16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate and
42nd District Courts

Circuit Court Overview

16th Judicial Circuit Court
40 North Main Street,
Mount Clemens, MI 48043
circuitcourt.macombgov.org

The 16th Judicial Circuit Court is a trial court of general jurisdiction, which means that it handles all types of cases except those given by state law to another court. Under the Michigan Constitution, the Court system constitutes one of the three separate branches of government. The Civil Division handles civil cases involving more than \$25,000 and cases in which the parties seek equitable relief. The Criminal Division handles all Macomb County felony cases and some serious misdemeanor cases. The Family Division handles all domestic relations and juvenile matters, including delinquency, abuse, neglect, and adoption cases. Circuit Court judges are elected to six-year terms on a non-partisan ballot.



Circuit Court
Administration Team



Chief Judge James
M. Biernat, Jr.
speaking at State of
the Court Address

Circuit Court



In front of the Circuit Court building, is a bronze statue of General Alexander Macomb, a hero of the War of 1812, from whom Macomb County received its name. Governor Cass proclaimed Mt. Clemens the county seat and Christian Clemens donated land for the construction of a “public building.” While the building was being constructed, newly-appointed Judge Clemens held Court in his home.

Circuit Court Judges



**Judge
James M. Biernat, Jr.**
Chief Judge, 16th Judicial Circuit,
Macomb Probate & 42nd District Courts
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-JamesBiernatJr](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-JamesBiernatJr)



**Judge
Matthew S. Switalski**
Chief Judge Pro Tempore
Family Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-MatthewSwitalski](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-MatthewSwitalski)



**Judge
Richard L. Caretti**
Presiding Judge,
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-RichardCaretti](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-RichardCaretti)



**Judge
Tracey A. Yokich**
Presiding Judge,
Family Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-TraceyYokich](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-TraceyYokich)



**Judge
Mark S. Switalski**
Family Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-MarkSwitalski](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-MarkSwitalski)



**Judge
Edward A. Servitto, Jr.**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-EdwardServitto](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-EdwardServitto)



**Judge
Diane M. Druzinski**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-DianeDruzinski](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-DianeDruzinski)

Circuit Court Judges



**Judge
Kathryn A. Viviano**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-KathrynViviano](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-KathrynViviano)



**Judge
Jennifer M. Faunce**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-JenniferFaunce](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-JenniferFaunce)



**Judge
James M. Maceroni**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-JamesMaceroni](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-JamesMaceroni)



**Judge
Joseph Toia**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-JosephToia](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-JosephToia)



**Judge
Carl J. Marlinga**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-CarlMarlinga](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-CarlMarlinga)



**Judge
Michael E. Servitto**
Civil/Criminal Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-MichaelServitto](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-MichaelServitto)



**Judge
Rachel Rancilio**
Family Division
[http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/
CircuitCourt-RachelRancilio](http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-RachelRancilio)

2017 16th Judicial Circuit Court Bench



Back Row Judges: James M. Maceroni, Michael E. Servitto, Diane M. Druzinski, Mark S. Switalski, Carl J. Marlinga, Edward A. Servitto, Jr., Jennifer M. Faunce

Front Row Judges: Tracey A. Yokich, Rachel Rancilio, Matthew S. Switalski, James M. Biernat, Jr., Richard L. Caretti, Joseph Toia, Kathryn A. Viviano,

Core Values of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court

- Honesty and integrity - telling the truth and fulfilling promises
- Principled decision making - guided by the rule of law and due process
- Independence of the judiciary
- Impartiality of the tribunal - free from bias and discrimination
- Reasonable access to justice - reasonable schedules, promptness and continuously striving to improve processes
- Courtesy and consideration for all
- Openness - our processes are open to public scrutiny and critical analysis
- Cost effectiveness

“No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man’s permission when we ask him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right, not asked as a favor.”

Theodore Roosevelt

New Circuit and Probate Court Judges

The Court was pleased to welcome Judges Carl J. Marlinga, Rachel Rancilio, and Michael E. Servitto to the 16th Judicial Circuit Court Bench and Judge Sandra Harrison-Suratt to the Macomb County Probate Court Bench in 2017.



Judge Carl J. Marlinga

Judge Carl J. Marlinga served on the Macomb County Probate Court from January 1, 2013, until he took office as a 16th Judicial Circuit Court Judge on January 1, 2017. Previously, Judge Marlinga was elected as Macomb County Prosecuting Attorney for five terms, beginning in 1984. Judge Marlinga also served as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Macomb County, an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, and a Special Trial Attorney with the U.S. Justice Department's Organized Crime Strike Force. As Assistant United States Attorney, he was awarded a commendation by the United States Attorney General for his work in white collar crime prosecutions involving frauds perpetrated on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Judge Marlinga is a 1968 graduate of the University of Detroit where he was awarded an A.B. degree, summa cum laude. He is also a 1971 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School.



Judge Rachel Rancilio

Judge Rachel Rancilio took office as a Judge of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court on January 1, 2017. Judge Rancilio was a partner in the law firm of Fischer, Garon, Hoyumpa & Rancilio in Mt. Clemens. For 14 years, she specialized in complex domestic, civil and criminal litigation, serving as attorney-of-record in more than two hundred cases at the 16th Judicial Circuit Court. While playing Division 1 Softball, Judge Rancilio attended the University of Detroit Mercy on an academic scholarship. During law school, she was a member of Wayne State University Law School's Law Review. She and her two children live in Shelby Township.



Judge Michael E. Servitto

Judge Michael E. Servitto graduated from Warren De La Salle Collegiate High School. He received a BA in Political Science from Michigan State University, and graduated magna cum laude from Michigan State University-Detroit College of Law. During law school, he was a member of King Scholars Program, and was elected Note and Comment Editor of the Law Review. Judge Servitto began his legal career as Clerk in the Tort Defense Division of the Michigan Attorney General's Office. He also worked as a Law Clerk for Judge Mark Switalski and for the Warren City Attorney. Judge Servitto worked for the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office from 2003 until his election to the Bench. At the Prosecutor's Office, he served as Principal Trial Attorney and as Chief of the Cold Case Unit and Chief of the District Court. He received the Most Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from the Macomb Bar Association, and was a Mount Clemens Planning Board Commissioner. Judge Servitto resides in Mount Clemens with his wife and two children.



Judge Sandra Harrison-Suratt

Judge Sandra Harrison-Suratt graduated from the University of Michigan in 1993, receiving a Bachelor of Arts, with a double major in English and Sociology. She went on to receive her Juris Doctor from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 1997. Judge Harrison-Suratt started her legal career at Salvatore D. Palombo & Associates, P.C., with practice areas including family law, estate planning, criminal and general civil. Prior to her appointment to the Probate Bench, she was an attorney with Simasko, Simasko & Simasko, P.C. for 15 years, where her primary areas of practice were family law, estate planning and probate litigation. Judge Harrison-Suratt is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and the Macomb County Bar Association. She lives in Shelby Township with her husband and three daughters. She and her family are members of St. John Vianney Church in Shelby Township.

Probate Court



Macomb County Jail on Elizabeth Road opened in 1954, with cellblocks containing 12 dormitory-style cells, 24 segregated cells for hardened criminals, plus two small apartments for the Sheriff and the matron. As the community grew, major additions to the jail were made in 1970, 1977 and 1983 to accomodate staff and prisoners.

Probate Court Judges



Judge

Sandra Harrison-Suratt

<http://probatecourt.macombgov.org/ProbateCourt-SandraHarrisonSuratt>



Judge

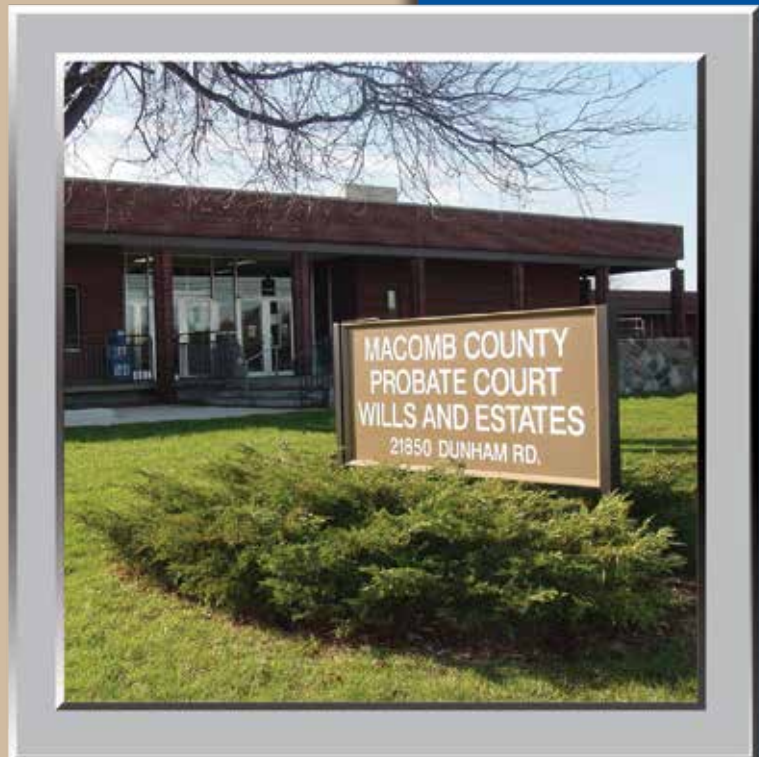
Kathryn A. George

<http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-KathrynGeorge>

The Macomb County Probate Court handles two main areas of law through two distinct divisions: the Mental Division and the Wills & Estates Division.

The Mental Division has jurisdiction over proceedings under the Mental Health Code. It handles matters relating to involuntary commitments for psychiatric treatment and guardianships of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The Wills & Estates Division has jurisdiction over matters relating to the settlement of decedents' estates; proceedings concerning the validity, internal affairs and settlement of trusts; the administration, distribution, modification, and termination of trusts; the declaration of rights involving trusts, trustees and beneficiaries of trusts; and matters involving guardianships and conservatorships.



42nd District Court



The Sheriff's Office and Jail in 1952, which was located on Main Street south of Cass Road. In 1954, the Sheriff's Office moved to where they are located now on Elizabeth Road, but with many additions from 1969 to 1983. The Jail currently has a prisoner capacity of 1,238.

42nd District Court Judges



**Judge
William H. Hackel**

District Judge

[http://districtcourt.macombgov.org/
DistrictCourt-WilliamHackel](http://districtcourt.macombgov.org/DistrictCourt-WilliamHackel)



**Judge
Denis R. LeDuc**

Presiding District Judge

[http://districtcourt.macombgov.org/
DistrictCourt-DenisLeDuc](http://districtcourt.macombgov.org/DistrictCourt-DenisLeDuc)

District Court Summary

The 42nd District Court serves the citizens of northern Macomb County, with separate divisions located in Romeo and New Baltimore. The 42nd District Court has exclusive jurisdiction of civil litigation where the amount in controversy is \$25,000 or less. The District Court also handles garnishments, landlord-tenant matters, civil infractions, local ordinance violations, and misdemeanors where the maximum penalty does not exceed one year in jail. Additionally, the District Court conducts arraignments and preliminary examinations in felony cases, with the District Court judges determining whether there is sufficient evidence to bind the accused over to Circuit Court for trial. The 42nd District Court also includes a small claims division for civil cases where the amount in controversy is less than \$5,000, and where the parties waive certain rights in order to expedite the handling of the case.

**Judge William H.
Hackel reading to
children at Green
Elementary School**



Department Summaries



A sepia picture of the Old County Building, probably taken in the mid to late 1930's. The building project started in 1931, partially occupied in 1933, and was substantially finished in 1944, at the cost of \$605,000. The building suffered a fire in April of 2013, and was completely renovated and reopened in December of 2016.

Court Administration

Court Administration manages the 16th Judicial Circuit Court, Macomb County Probate Court and 42nd District Court personnel and business operations, including public relations and court policy issues. Court Administration departments include the Caseload Division, ADR/Case Evaluation, Specialty Court Services, Finance, Family Counseling Service, Friend of the Court, Research Department, Juvenile Division and Information Services Division. For more information visit: <http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/?q=CircuitCourt-Departments>.

Caseload Division

The Caseload Division manages and tracks the progress of a case from case initiation through disposition. The division is responsible for event scheduling, docket management, notice generation, dismissals for lack of progress, adjournment processing, tracking actions taken by each judge, disposal of cases pursuant to the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) caseload reporting requirements, and answering questions from the public. The Caseload Division is responsible for reporting statistical information to SCAO. Additionally, the Caseload Division is responsible for appointing counsel for indigent defendants, and appointing foreign language and American Sign Language interpreters.



Circuit Court employees

ADR/Case Evaluation

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) is a process in which the judge refers the parties to a mediator to help them resolve their dispute. Case Evaluation is a form of alternative dispute resolution, which requires most civil cases be evaluated by a panel of three experienced attorney evaluators who review written and oral presentations and evaluate the monetary value of each case. The Case Evaluation/ADR clerks are responsible for implementing the court rules, scheduling hearings, receiving written case summaries, and tracking and following up on evaluations.



Specialty Court Services

Specialty Court Services oversees the Adult Felony Drug Court, the Veterans' Treatment Court, the Mental Health Court, and the Business Court. Additionally, the department provides substance abuse assessments to the Bench for all drinking and driving convictions as mandated.

Department Summaries

Drug Court Graduation in July 2017 with Judge Joseph Toia

Finance Department

- **Judicial Aide Division**

Judicial Aide is responsible for collecting money from defendants ordered to repay fees assessed for court-appointed counsel, transcripts, and expert witnesses; working with defendants on payment arrangements and wage assignments; processing requests for information and return of cash bonds; performing financial reviews and making recommendations to the Court at sentencing and/or hearings; cashing and remitting restitution funds; and processing income tax garnishments and orders to remit prisoner funds.

- **Reimbursement Division**

The Reimbursement Division assists the Juvenile Division in reimbursement of court ordered assessments and the cost of care and service for youths in juvenile cases. The Reimbursement Division is responsible for interviewing responsible parties, reviewing financial information, preparing recommendations, preparing court orders, show causes, inputting costs, processing payments and reviewing delinquent accounts for further collection action.

Friend of the Court

The Friend of the Court (FOC) assists the Family Division of the Court. The FOC provides enforcement of Court orders relating to child support, health care, spousal support, parenting time and custody, and investigates, evaluates and submits recommendations to the

Court on any contested domestic relations matter. Additionally, The FOC provides alternative dispute resolution opportunities for litigants and the Court.



Research Department

The Research Department provides research and writing as requested by the judges of the Court. The Research Department also provides support for Court Administration, assists in the training of law clerks, operates the Court's law library and provides ancillary legal support services as directed.

Juvenile Division

The Juvenile Division handles cases related to juvenile delinquency, juvenile traffic matters, parental abuse/neglect, adoption, emancipations, juvenile guardianships and parental waivers. The Juvenile Division consists of a legal department, diversion unit, probation department, psychology and counseling unit, adoptions department and clerical services.

Information Services Division

The Information Services Division (IS Division) is responsible for managing and utilizing new technology initiatives to develop and maintain a state-of-the-art communication system for the Macomb County Circuit, Probate and District Courts. The IS Division acts as a liaison with the Macomb County Information Technology Department, technology vendors and other state and local government agencies to identify, advocate and implement court technology projects to enhance the operations of the Courts.

The IS Division assists both staff and litigants with court information systems such as case management, e-Filing and video conferencing. The IS Division prepares training and procedure manuals and other materials for Court staff and provides instruction regarding technology policies and procedures. The IS Division utilizes the Court's case management system and other resources to collect information and prepare reports internally and for the Michigan Supreme Court, State Court Administrative Office, State of Michigan and Macomb County.

The IS Division also maintains and updates the Court websites, produces multimedia presentations, coordinates mobile equipment and creates court forms. The IS Division's goal is to develop initiatives which will increase accuracy and efficiency while expanding the public's access to court programs and information.

Court Information Services employees



Highlights



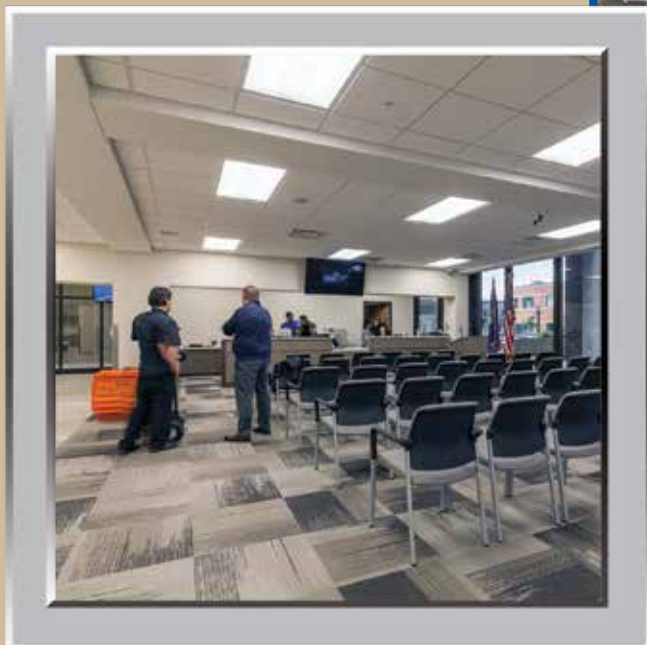
Macomb County Register of Deeds and Vital Records was located in the County Courthouse on the 1st floor for years. In 2017, they moved to the newly renovated Talmer Building located at 120 N. Main Street in Mount Clemens.

2017 Highlights

Campus Renovation Project

2017 saw significant progress in Macomb County's multi-year campus renovation project. The sixth floor of the County Courthouse reopened in 2017, following significant renovations. Two new courtrooms were installed on the sixth floor, along with offices for Court Administration, Case Management, the Specialty Courts, the Research Department, Case Evaluation, and the Information Systems Department. Additionally, a new and expanded Jury Room opened on the first floor of the Courthouse.

Renovations of the 6th floor of the County Courthouse were completed in 2017



Expanded Jury Room located on 1st floor of the Courthouse

2017 Highlights

Judge Yokich Sworn in as President of the MJA

Judge Tracey A. Yokich was sworn in as president of the Michigan Judges' Association (MJA) on August 21 at the Association's Annual Conference. The MJA is a professional organization for all Circuit Court and Court of Appeals' judges in the State of Michigan. Congratulations to Judge Yokich as she embarks on this new role.



**MICHIGAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION
NEW PRESIDENT**

- Appointed to the bench in 2003
- Member of Michigan Judges Association for 12 years
- Three-term legislator in the Michigan House of Representatives
- Served in Michigan Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve

JUDGE TRACEY YOKICH
MACOMB COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT



Veterans' Court Graduation Day in November with Judge Mark S. Switalski

(right) Veterans' Court Treatment Team

2017 High School Mock Trials

The Macomb County Bar Association conducted mock trials at the County Courthouse on Saturday, March 4. Our Courts were well-represented, with 16th Judicial Circuit Court Judges James Maceroni, Carl Marlinga, Rachel Rancilio, Joseph Toia, and Kathy Viviano acting as presiding judges, along with 42-2 District Court Judge William Hackel. The Mock Trials gave participating students a real taste of what it's like to argue a case in front of a real judge.



Friend of the Court Amnesty Program

In October 2017 Macomb County Friend of the Court partnered with Wayne County Friend of the Court and conducted a joint bench warrant amnesty program. Individuals with outstanding civil child support bench warrants had the opportunity to appear at an off-site venue or Friend of the Court office of their choice to resolve their warrants. These venues were deemed “arrest-free zones.” If payers brought in \$500.00, or otherwise qualified, the warrants were dismissed. The program ran for two consecutive weekends in October and throughout the week. Two off-site venues, one in Macomb and one in Wayne, were available on the weekends. It was a cooperative effort to find a way to better serve the families of both counties. The purpose was to help avoid the trauma that an arrest or warrant may present, and find a way to more positively engage with payers. In Macomb County alone, forty-four warrants were resolved and \$20,500.00 was collected for families.

2017 Friend of the Court Statistics

- A total of \$122,258,011.28 in support was distributed by the Friend of the Court.
- Friend of the Court processed 101,861 pieces of incoming mail, interoffice mail, facsimiles, Court pleadings and documents.
- 820 hearings were conducted by referees, they heard 2,793 motions and conducted 1,280 status conferences.
- The Custody Department completed 906 investigations.
- The Enforcement Division participated in 7,096 show cause hearings.

Constitution Day

The 16th Judicial Circuit Court and the Macomb County Bar Foundation held a Constitution Day event on Friday, September 15. The event highlighted the importance of the First Amendment, with approximately 100 students from Utica High School, Stevenson High School, and Henry Ford II High School participating. The students prepared oral arguments with the assistance of volunteer attorneys, which the students then presented to Circuit Court Judges. Chief Judge James Biernat, Jr., Judge Matthew Switalski, Judge Carl Marlinga, and Judge Kathryn Viviano all participated in the event. Professor Robert Sedler of Wayne State University Law School also addressed the students on the topic of the First Amendment.

**Constitution Day
with Judge Biernat,
Judge Viviano,
Professor Robert
Sedler of Wayne State
University Law School
and Judge Maceroni**



2017 Highlights

Mental Health Court Team with Judge Carl J. Marlinga



The project started in the summer of 2017, with an initial phase to convert 5 pilot courts to a new version of ImageSoft's TrueFiling e-filing system.

The 5 pilot courts are:

- 3rd Circuit (Wayne)*
- 6th Circuit (Oakland)*
- 13th Circuit (Grand Traverse, Antrim, Leelanau)*
- 16th Circuit (Macomb)*
- 20th Circuit (Ottawa)*

2017 Problem-Solving Court Grants

For the 2017 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017), the Circuit Court and 42-1 District Court were awarded a total of \$188,037.00 in grant money for the problem-solving courts. This money is mainly used to pay treatment and testing costs for participants in these programs, with smaller amounts being used for program incentives to participants, transportation assistance for participants and graduation ceremonies. The Fiscal Year 2017 award breakdowns are as follows:

Adult Drug Court	\$70,000
Mental Health Court	\$53,037
Veterans' Treatment Court	\$50,000
42-1 District Court Drug Court.....	\$15,000

MiFILE - Michigan's Statewide e-Filing Initiative

On December 6th 2017, the 16th Judicial Circuit Court's electronic filing program transitioned to MiFILE, Michigan's statewide e-filing program sponsored by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO). MiFILE utilizes TrueFiling, a 24x7 web-based e-File and e-Service solution for courts, law firms, attorneys, and self-represented filers.

All Circuit Court Judges are participating in the e-filing program with appeals, administrative, business, civil, and divorce without minor children case types.



Additional resources can be found at the Court's e-filing webpage by following this link <http://circuitcourt.macombgov.org/CircuitCourt-eFilingResources>.

MiFILE is being implemented to bring electronic filing to all of the Michigan Trial Courts. For further information about the history and background behind the MiFILE project, rollout strategy, and other frequently asked questions please visit this link: www.mifile.info.

Juvenile Division Intensive Substance Abuse Treatment Program

Many youth in the juvenile justice system abuse substances, even if that is not the charge that brought them to the attention of the Court. In 2017, the Juvenile Division started a new program to provide treatment to Court-involved youth who have a substance abuse disorder.

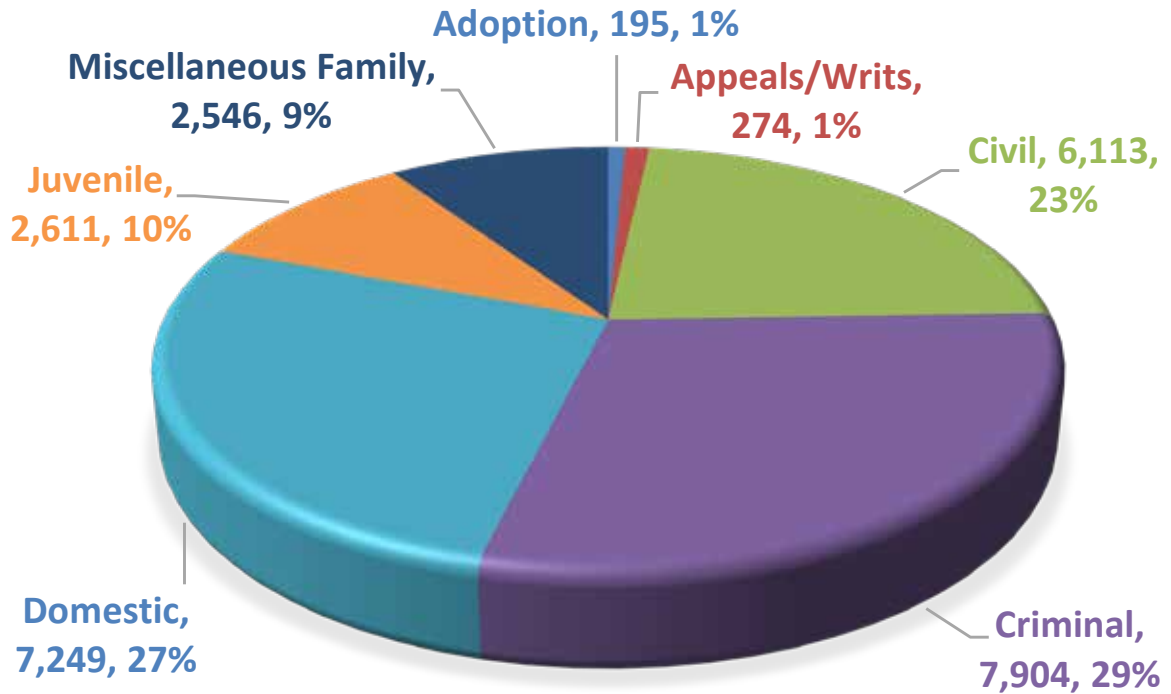
The Intensive Substance Abuse Treatment (ISAT) program has replaced the Juvenile Drug Court program. While the Drug Court had many successes, it was only available for youth with the most severe drug problems. Using an evidence-based assessment tool, the Juvenile Division is able to identify substance abuse issues much earlier in the court process, which has allowed it to transition to a more comprehensive program that provides substance abuse treatment services to more youth. Earlier identification and treatment is important in preventing youth from progressing deeper into the system. Participants in the program receive group, family and individual counseling services, intensive probation monitoring, and frequent random drug testing.



**Adult Drug Court
Graduation July 20, 2017,
with Judge Jennifer M.
Faunce**



16TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD BY CATEGORY FOR 2017



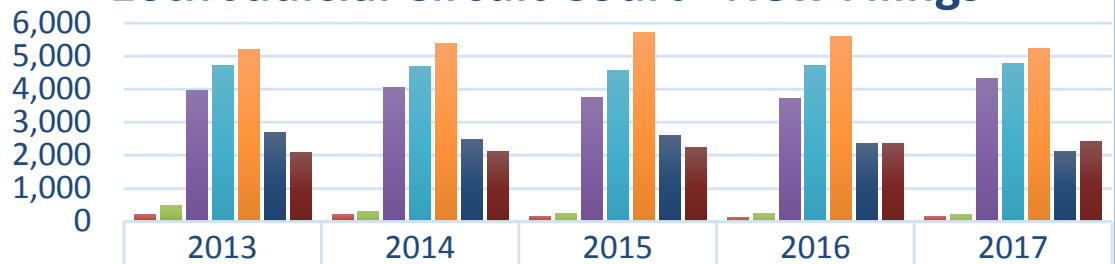
New filings increased from 19,149 in 2016 to 19,237 in 2017. Dispositions decreased from 20,173 in 2016 to 19,448 in 2017. Clearance rates also decreased in all categories except Criminal and Miscellaneous Family. The overall 2017 caseload, including existing cases and new filings, totaled 26,892.

The most significant increase in new filings was seen in the Civil category. New Civil filings in 2017 were 588 more than 2016, representing over 15% increase, while the most significant decrease in new filings was seen in the Domestic Relations category. Domestic Relations filing in 2016 were 376 less than 2016, representing a 7% decrease.

In 2017, there were 725 fewer dispositions than in 2016. The Domestic Relations category represented the most significant decrease of 619 fewer dispositions than 2016, a 10% decrease. The Civil category represented the most significant increase of 2017 more dispositions than 2016, a 6% increase.

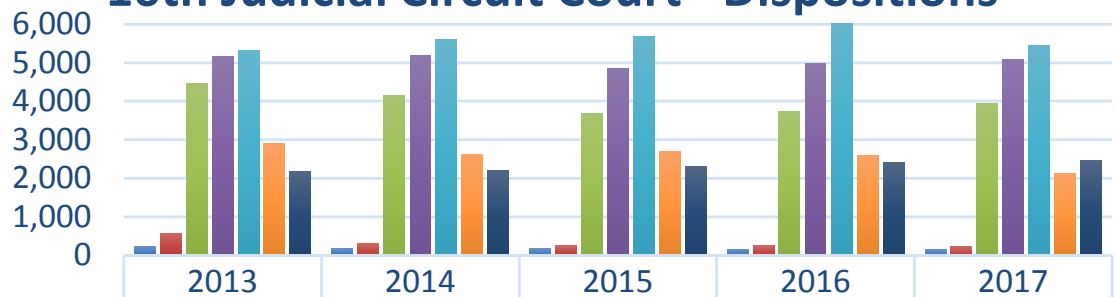
Caseload Information

16th Judicial Circuit Court - New Filings



Adoption	212	210	163	143	165
Appeals/Writs	493	306	250	234	216
Civil	3,957	4,037	3,758	3,723	4,311
Criminal	4,729	4,681	4,565	4,730	4,780
Domestic Relations	5,203	5,399	5,733	5,602	5,226
Juvenile	2,700	2,479	2,617	2,362	2,128
Miscellaneous Family	2,081	2,131	2,243	2,355	2,411

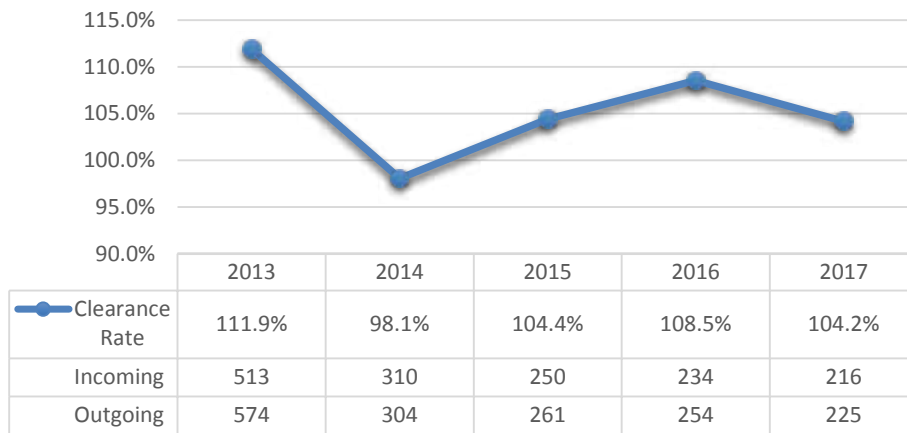
16th Judicial Circuit Court - Dispositions



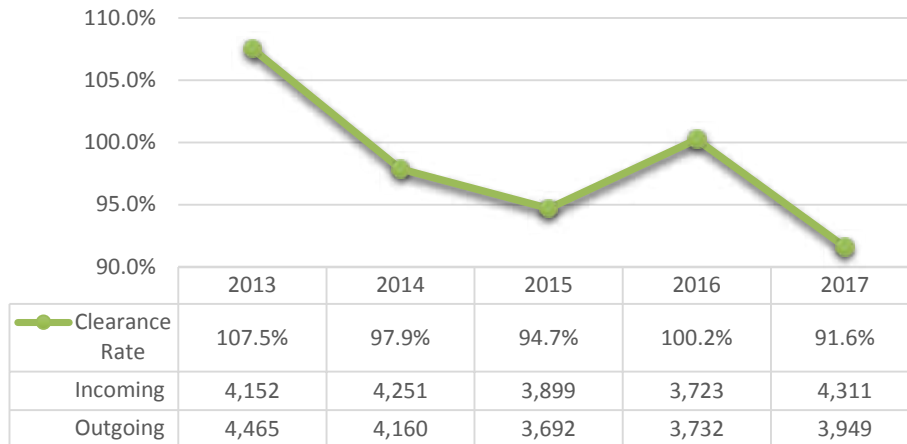
Adoption	236	186	177	158	153
Appeals/Writs	574	304	261	254	225
Civil	4,465	4,160	3,692	3,732	3,949
Criminal	5,153	5,188	4,859	4,979	5,079
Domestic Relations	5,315	5,609	5,670	6,066	5,447
Juvenile	2,904	2,619	2,691	2,591	2,121
Miscellaneous Family	2,173	2,189	2,316	2,393	2,474

Court Clearance Rates

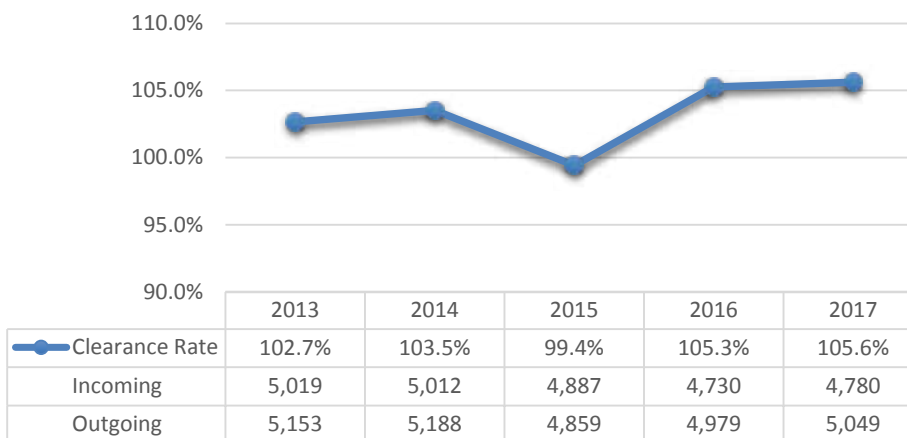
16th Judicial Circuit Court Appeals/Writs Clearance Rates



16th Judicial Circuit Court Civil Clearance Rates

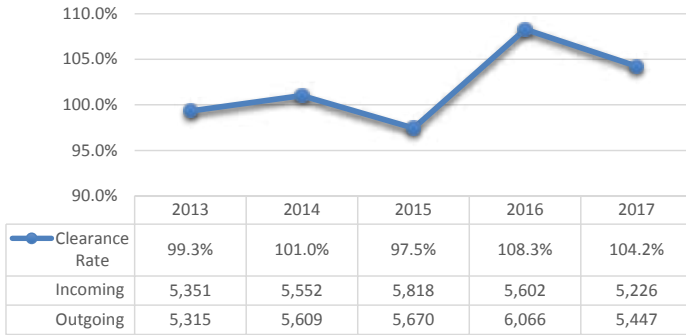


16th Judicial Circuit Court Criminal Clearance Rates

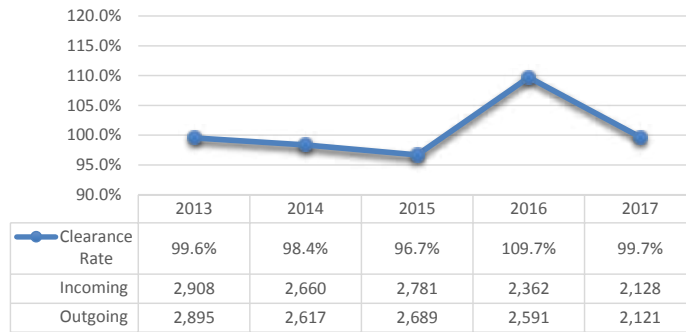


Court Clearance Rates

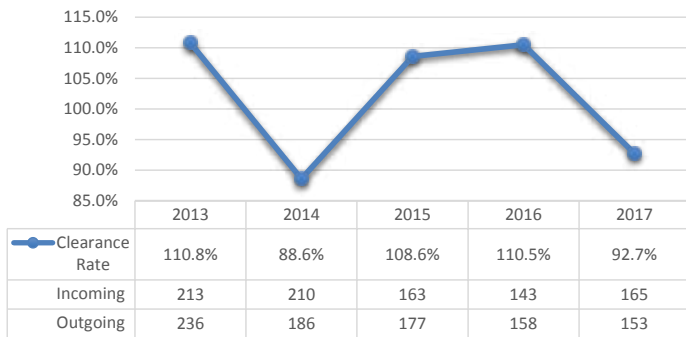
**16th Judicial Circuit Court
Domestic Relations Clearance Rates**



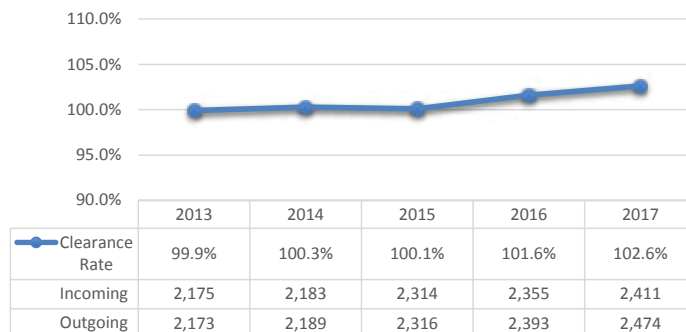
**16th Judicial Circuit Court
Juvenile Clearance Rates**



**16th Judicial Circuit Court
Adoption Clearance Rates**

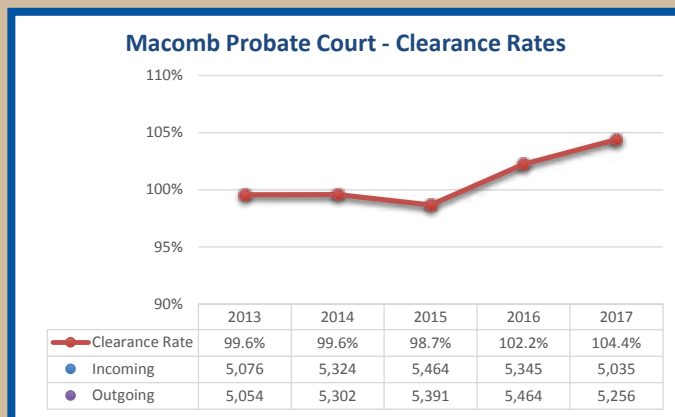
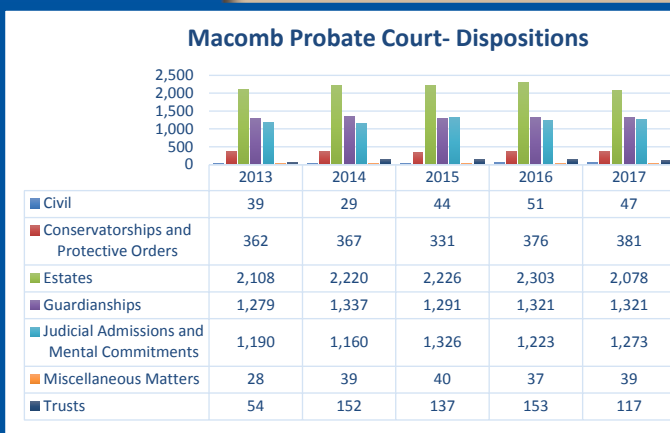
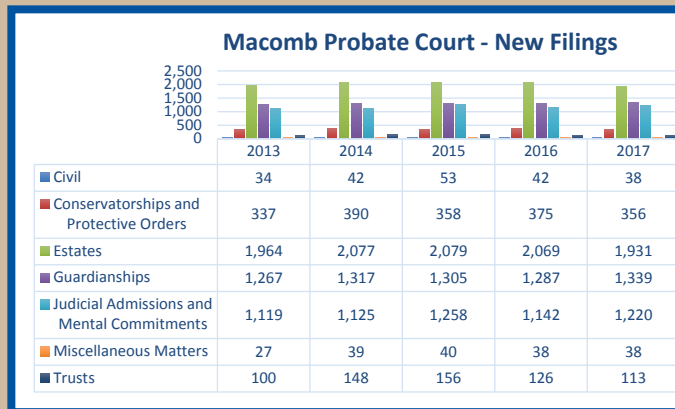
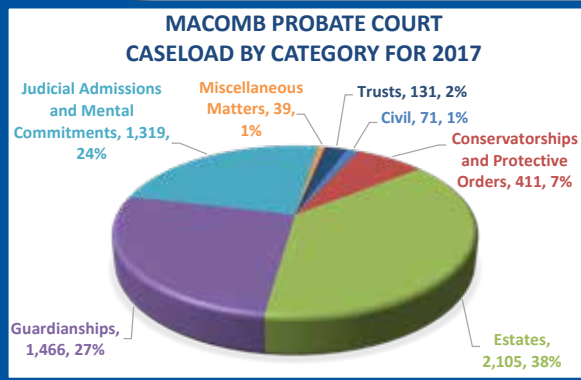


**16th Judicial Circuit Court
Miscellaneous Family Clearance Rates**

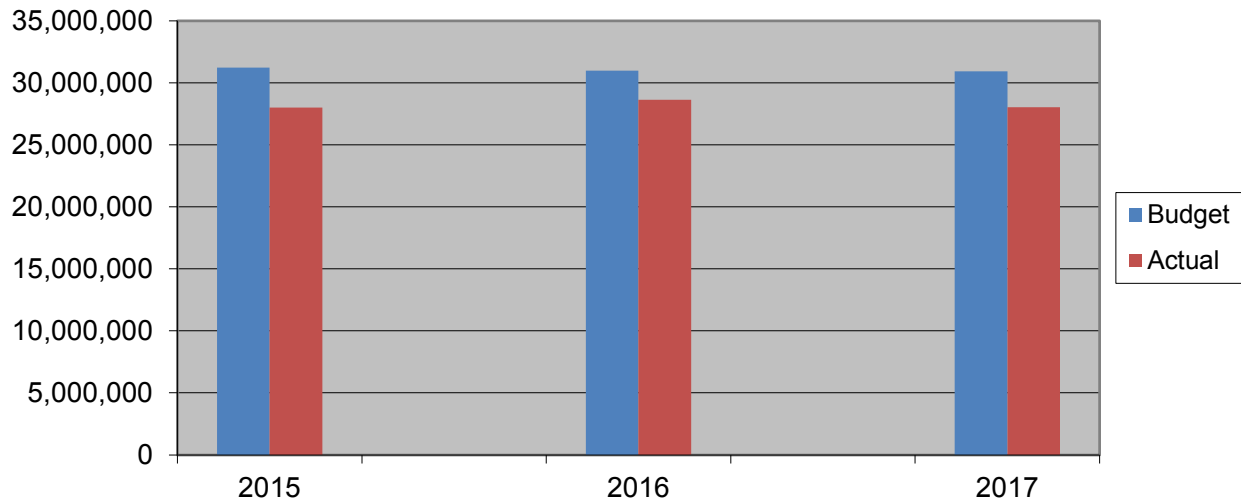


Probate Court Statistics

The Probate Court had a slight decrease in new filings and dispositions for 2017. New filings were down 44 matters (less than 1%) and there were 208 fewer dispositions than in 2016 (approximately 4%). Overall, the clearance rate for Probate increased from 102% in 2016 to 104% in 2017. These clearance rates reflect that the backlog of cases is being reduced with addition of the second Probate Judge.

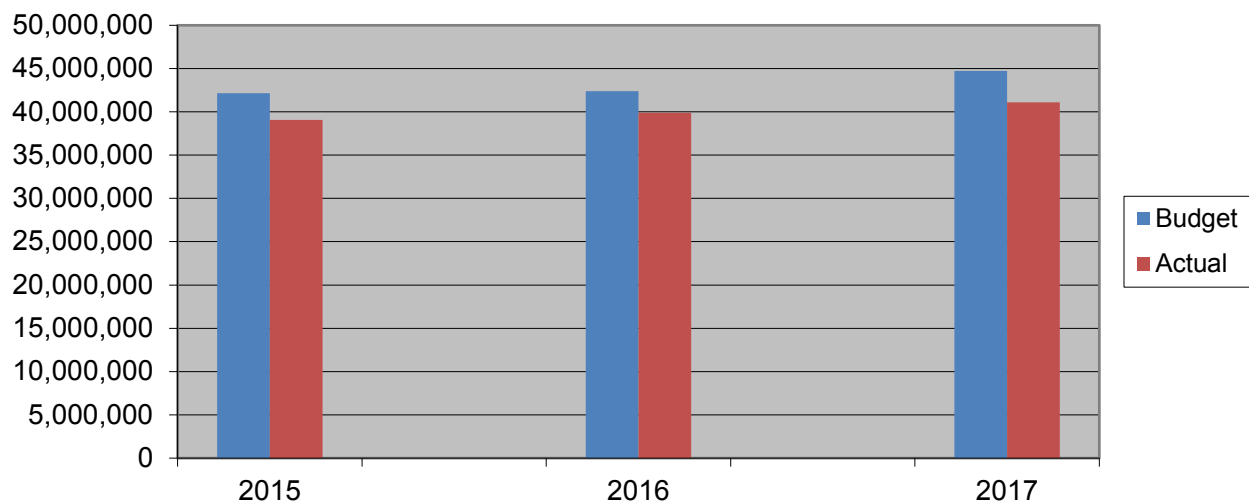


Revenue Budget to Actual



Total Revenues collected as a percentage of budget were 91% in 2017. Several revenues from the State of Michigan were deferred to the 2018 budget year due to the timing of the payments. Collections of attorney fees and court costs both increased slightly from 2016 to 2017.

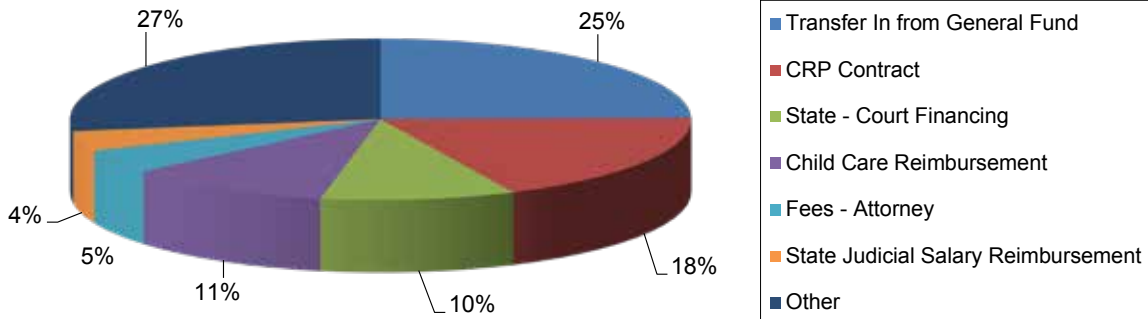
Expenditures Budget To Actual



The Circuit Court added two new Judges in 2017. This increased personnel expenses as well as other supplies and services costs associated with two additional courtrooms. The Court only spent 92% of the allocated budget amount for 2017, similar to prior years.

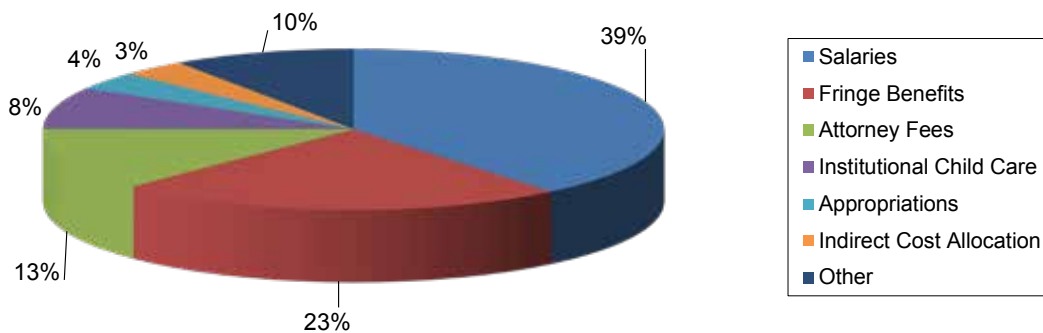
Fiscal Snapshots

**Circuit Court and Probate Court Financial Report
2017 Revenues: \$28,054,040**



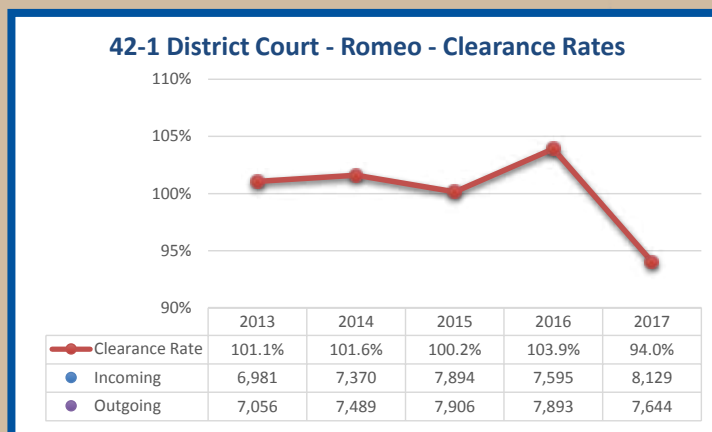
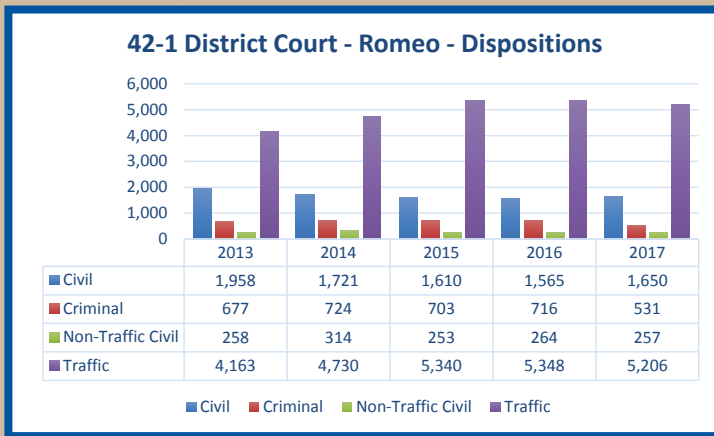
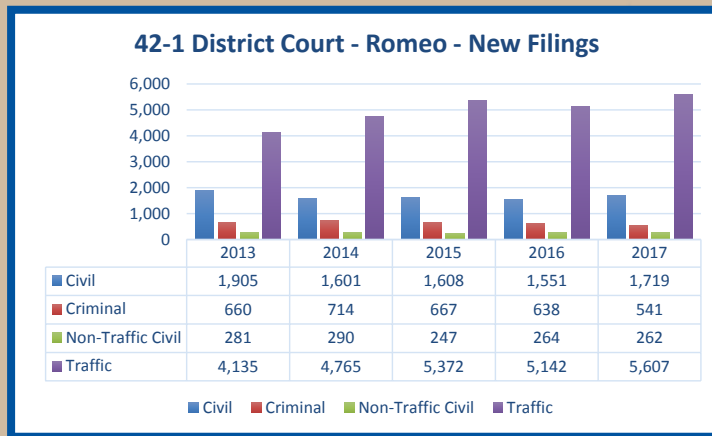
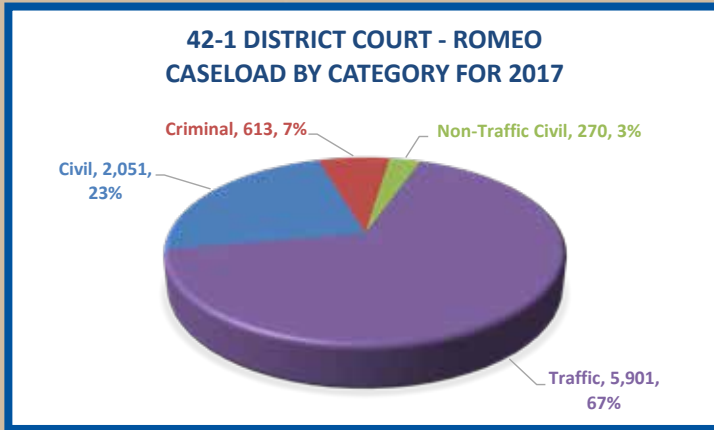
There was a slight increase in the Transfer in from the General Fund to the Courts from 2016 to 2017. Overall, the total court revenue was down 2% when compared to the prior year. The Court continues to utilize grants and other funding sources to lessen the impact to the General Fund.

**Circuit Court and Probate Court Financial Report
2017 Expenditures: \$41,106,400**

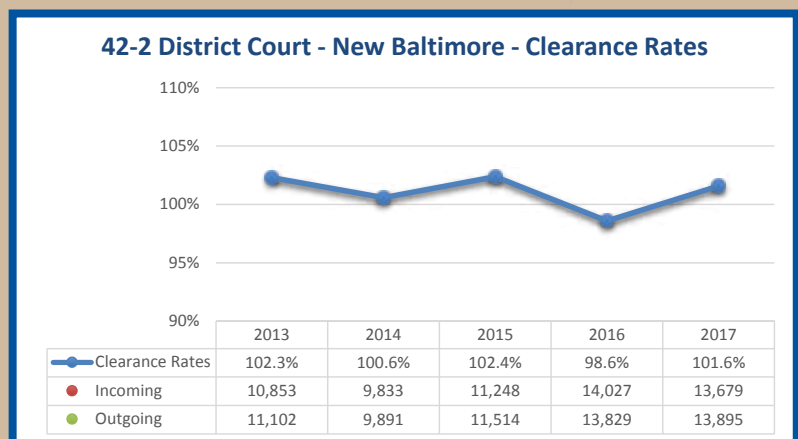
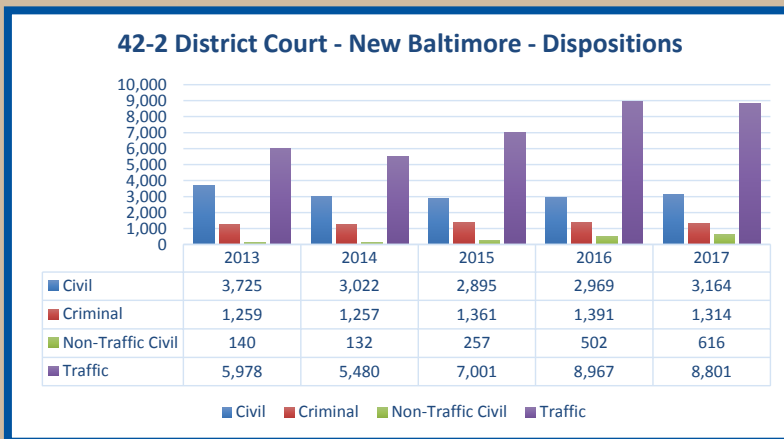
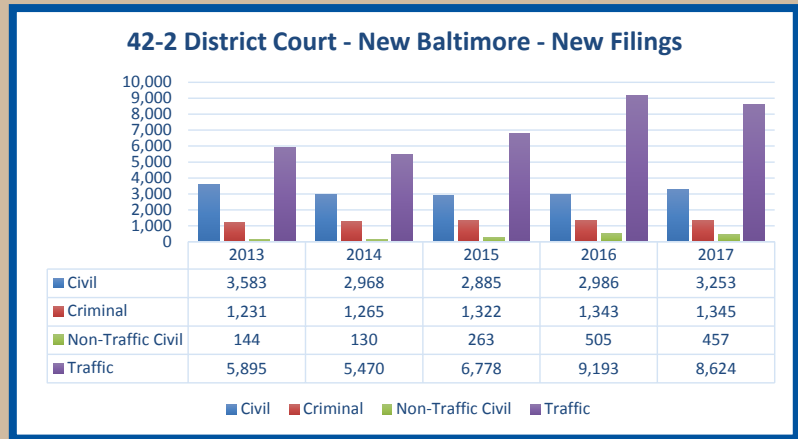
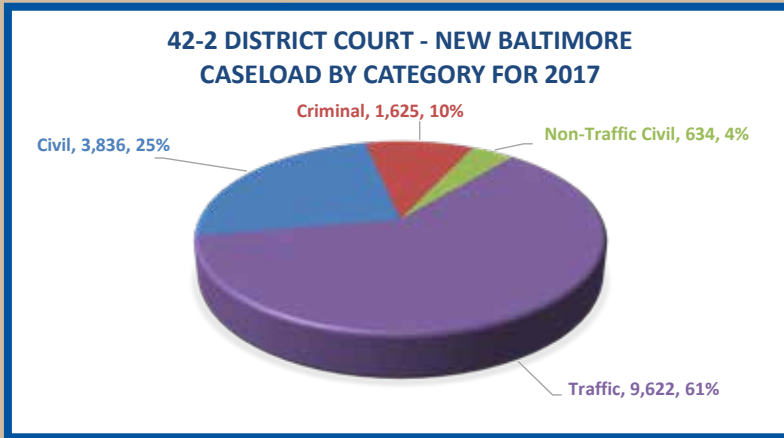


The addition of two new Judges to the Circuit Court in 2017 contributed to a 1% overall increase in salary and fringe benefit expenses. These two categories make up 62% of the total Court expenditures. Attorney fees also continue to increase each year, with a 6% increase in that expenditure from 2016 to 2017.

District Court Statistics - Romeo



District Court Statistics - New Baltimore





Mark A. Hackel
Macomb County Executive

Eric Smith
Prosecuting Attorney

Candice S. Miller
Public Works Commissioner

Lawrence Rocca
Treasurer

Karen Spranger
Clerk & Register of Deeds

Anthony Wickersham
Sheriff

Board of Commissioners

Bob Smith
Board Chair, District 12

Robert Mijac
District 5

James L. Carabelli
Vice-Chair, District 6

Don Brown
District 7

Elizabeth Lucido
Sergeant-at-Arms, District 9

Phil Kraft
District 8

Andrey Duzyj
District 1

Robert Leonetti
District 10

Marvin E. Sauger
District 2

Kathy Tocco
District 11

Veronica Klinefelt
District 3

Leon Drolet
District 13

Joseph V. Romano
District 4



**Macomb County
Administration
Building located on
One South Main
Street built in 1998
on the former site
of the Medea Hotel
and Bath House**

2018

16th Judicial Circuit Court

40 North Main Street
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

Judge James M. Biernat, Jr.

Chief Judge
16th Judicial Circuit, Macomb County Probate
and 42nd District Courts, Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Matthew S. Switalski

Chief Judge Pro Tempore
Family Division

Judge Richard L. Caretti

Presiding Judge, Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Tracey A. Yokich

Presiding Judge, Family Division

Judge Mark S. Switalski

Family Division

Judge Edward A. Servitto, Jr.

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Diane M. Druzinski

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Kathryn A. Viviano

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Jennifer M. Faunce

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge James M. Maceroni

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Joseph Toia

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Carl J. Marlinga

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Michael E. Servitto

Civil/Criminal Division

Judge Rachel Rancilio

Family Division



Macomb County Probate Court

21850 Dunham Road
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

Judge Kathryn A. George
Senior Probate Judge

Judge Sandra Harrison-Suratt
Probate Judge

Macomb County 42nd District Court

(Division I)

14713 33 Mile Road
Romeo, MI 48065

(Division II)

35071 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Judge Denis R. LeDuc
Presiding District Judge

Judge William H. Hackel
District Judge



Prepared by
Department of Planning &
Economic Development