

Cleveland Heights Municipal Court

2014

ANNUAL REPORT



A. Deane Buchanan
JUDGE

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To: Council of the City of Cleveland Heights
Cuyahoga County Executive

Re: Cleveland Heights Municipal Court's Annual Report for 2014



The Cleveland Heights Municipal Court continues to place a premium on providing efficient and courteous delivery of quality service to all persons who appear before the court. In addition, we have continued to improve courtroom security and collection procedures by improved diligence in these areas. In this, the court's 2014 Annual Report, I would like to bring to your attention the following matters:

- This year the court remitted over \$1,989,145 of revenues from all divisions to the City of Cleveland Heights. This year's remittances are about \$189,986 less than the 2013 remittances of funds to the city.
- In 2013, the number of traffic charges handled by the court was 26,456, in 2014 that number decreased to 22,246 charges processed. The number of charges for persons driving under suspension or without valid drivers licenses decreased; in 2013, there were 5,172 such charges. In 2014, that number decreased by 5% to 4,074. The number of speeding charges processed through the court decreased from 10,865 in 2013 to 7,480 in 2014.
- In the criminal division, the number of cases heard by the court in 2014 was 3,020 which was slightly less than the previous year. Our Probation Department continues its excellent work of supervising over 993 active cases.
- The court continues to make significant progress in its efforts to collect monies owed to the court. The court's strict enforcement of the policy that "all fines and costs are due on the day imposed", has resulted in an improved collection rate of fines imposed. The Court continues to refer some persons who are unable to pay fines and costs imposed to the Public Works Department of the City of Cleveland Heights, to perform community service for the city. The 33 individuals referred to Public Works performed a total of 1,023 hours of community service saving the city approximately \$19,917 in labor costs.
- The Probation Department supervises criminal defendants who have home detention in lieu of serving time in jail. Such defendants are required to pay a registration fee of \$25.00 and a daily fee of \$13.00 while wearing an ankle bracelet and are monitored 24 hours each day by an outside vendor. This is an alternative to jail and saves significant costs to the Cleveland Heights Police Department for not having to feed and monitor these persons in its jail or to pay other jail facilities to house its prisoners.
- The Court technology upgrade is yielding benefits in many ways. Starting in March through October 2013, the Court conducted 43 remote arraignments of defendants incarcerated in county and prison facilities throughout the State of Ohio. We have been able to resolve many cases while seeing and speaking with prisoners while they remain incarcerated. Police officers do not have to transport prisoners to and from facilities, a significant savings in transport costs and allowing officers to spend more time patrolling city streets.

We look forward to further improving the level and quality of services provided in the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court.

Respectfully submitted,
A. Deane Buchanan, Judge



CASE FILINGS IN 2014

MONTH	FELONIES	MISDEMEANORS	O.M.V.I.	TRAFFIC	PER INJURY	CONTRACTS	F.E.D	OTHER CIVIL	SMALL CLAIMS
January	29	144	5	1,151	0	23	43	0	69
February	35	143	14	1,286	3	8	36	0	7
March	24	129	9	1,396	1	37	38	1	70
April	22	148	14	1,175	0	41	29	5	13
May	25	282	9	1,024	1	29	69	1	73
June	37	188	9	813	2	46	56	5	15
July	27	116	10	951	0	23	53	2	34
August	22	184	7	855	1	37	46	0	53
September	36	175	14	1,001	0	21	53	3	56
October	36	287	9	1,159	1	30	47	3	96
November	23	156	11	787	0	66	40	1	2
December	17	118	14	1,208	0	34	34	1	110
TOTAL	333	2,070	125	12,806	9	395	544	22	598
Re-Activated	98	890	34	2,812	0	1	2	0	0
Case Total	431	2,960	159	15,618	9	396	546	22	598

These statistics are from the monthly reports submitted to the Supreme Court of Ohio required under Superintendence Rule 12. Multiple charges filed against an individual as the result of the same act or a series of acts are ONE CASE. Individual criminal and traffic charges appear elsewhere in this report. Reactivated cases are those brought back to the current docket when the Court regains jurisdiction over a defendant such as an arrest on a warrant or license forfeiture.



TRAFFIC OFFENSES BY INDIVIDUAL CHARGE FOR 2014

Assured Clear Distance	254	Bicycle/Toy Vehicle	57	Child Restraint	50	Display of License	208
Display of Plates	401	Driving on Sidewalk	34	Driving Under Suspension	1,937	Expired License<6months	240
Expired Plates	1,214	Failure to Control	239	Failure to Yield	227	Fictitious Plates	69
Fleeing	11	FRA Suspension	1,409	Hit Skip/Leave Scene	66	Improper Lane Change	75
Improper Passing	38	Improper Turn	385	Improper use of Electronic Device	19	Left of Center	43
No Operator's License	1,897	Operation without Title	28	Other License Violations	692	Other Moving Violations	269
One Way Street	19	OVI/Alcohol/BAC	240	Parking Complaints	854	Pedestrian Violations	87
Reckless Operation	56	Seat Belt Violation	1,018	Speeding Violations	7,480	Stop Sign Violations	246
Traffic Control Lights	338	Traffic Control Device	36	Turn Signal Violation	166	Unattended Vehicle	11
Unlawful Entrustment	17	Unlawful/Illegal Plates	79	Unsafe Vehicle Violation	672	Vehicle Light Violation	1,065

TOTAL CHARGES FOR 2014 22,246

PREVIOUS YEARS:

- 2013 26,456
- 2012 25,464
- 2011 19,622
- 2010 26,198
- 2009 28,466



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CRIMINAL OFFENSES BY INDIVIDUAL CHARGE FOR 2014

Aggravated Robbery/Burglary	33	Arson	2	Assault	144	Barking Dog	14
Breaking and Entering	26	Building	4	Burglary	56	Business Requirements	107
Carrying Concealed Weapon	10	Child Endangering	55	Contempt of Court	9	Criminal Damaging	7
Criminal Mischief	16	Criminal Tools	19	Criminal Trespass	69	Disorderly Conduct	271
Dog/Cat/Animal Offenses	56	Dog Vicious	8	Domestic Violence	89	Drug Instrument	67
Drug Possession	202	Drug Trafficking	19	Falsification	27	Felonious Assault	31
Firearms	19	Housing	354	Housing/Occupancy	380	Intoxication	70
Kidnapping/Unlawful Restraint	21	Menacing/Stalking	43	Murder/Attempt Murder	10	Obstructing Official Business	134
Open Container	75	Park Regulations	12	Passing Bad Checks	20	Receive Stolen Property	72
Riot	16	Robbery	5	Search Warrant/Probable Cause/Extradition	90	Sexual Offenses	20
Solicitation	11	Telephone Harassment	4	Theft/Petty Theft	185	Unauthorized Use MV/Property	10
Unlawful Conduct with Minor	1	Unreasonable Noise	90	Underage Possession/Consumption	12	Vandalism	12
Violation of Protection Order	13						

2014 3,020

TOTAL CHARGES:

- 2013 3,310
- 2012 3,334
- 2011 2,805
- 2010 2,919
- 2009 3,123



RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR 2014

RECEIPTS:

City of Cleveland Heights	2012	2013	2014
Local Costs	777,173.00	717,710.90	32,845.40
Computer Fund	96,161.00	92,825.00	76,990.50
Indigent Fund	22,046.49	21,927.00	19,400.69
Special Projects Fund	161,163.00	155,038.00	128,486.00
Fines	1,105,279.00	1,114,549.00	938,535.50
Sub-Totals	<u>2,161,822.49</u>	<u>2,102,049.90</u>	<u>1,796,258.09</u>
Cuyahoga County			
CRIS	68,350.00	66,009.00	53,202.00
Crime	1,952.50	1,569.00	1,442.00
Sub-Totals	<u>70,302.50</u>	<u>67,578.00</u>	<u>54,644.00</u>
State of Ohio			
Indigent Defense Support Fund	443,697.00	426,862.50	358,726.00
General Revenue	790.00	653.00	634.00
Victims Crime	134,788.50	129,514.00	107,004.50
Sub-Totals	<u>579,275.50</u>	<u>557,029.50</u>	<u>466,364.50</u>
Other Receipts			
OVI Fines	10,597.00	13,937.00	19,090.00
Miscellaneous	28,243.20	22,525.55	15,885.50
Sub-Totals	<u>38,840.20</u>	<u>36,462.55</u>	<u>34,975.50</u>
GRAND TOTALS	<u><u>2,850,240.69</u></u>	<u><u>2,763,119.95</u></u>	<u><u>2,352,242.09</u></u>





**RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR
2014**

DISBURSEMENTS;

City of Cleveland Heights

	2012	2013	2014
Fines	948,686.41	970,045.90	812,106.40
Costs	777,172.96	718,341.25	632,860.42
Housing	5,290.50	2,993.50	4,000.00
Computer Fund	96,161.00	92,825.00	76,990.00
Special Projects Fund	161,163.00	155,038.00	128,486.00
Indigent Fund	22,101.00	21,924.50	22,280.15
Drug Fines	0.00	200.00	350.00
Other Cost	2291.70	883.70	1,346.64
Visa Convenience Fee	13,870.50	13,474.86	6,454.00
Sub-Total	<u>2,026,737.07</u>	<u>1,975,726.71</u>	<u>1,684,873.61</u>

Cuyahoga County

Regular Fines	48,291.50	40,200.75	34,436.00
Uniform Traffic Fines	82,500.50	86,543.50	78,639.50
CRIS Fund	68,350.00	66,009.00	53,202.00
Crime Stop	1,952.50	1,569.00	1,442.00
1/2 Liquor Fines	649.00	342.00	337.50
Public Defender	212.00	2,102.00	1,118.00
Reimburse/Witness/Jury	1,563.00	522.00	804.00
Sub-Total	<u>203,518.50</u>	<u>197,288.25</u>	<u>169,979.00</u>

State of Ohio

RRF/Victims Fund	134,788.50	129,514.00	107,004.50
Indigent Defense Support Fund	443,697.00	426,862.50	366,857.00
GRF/General Fund	790.00	653.00	-
Seat Belt	21,047.50	16,275.00	11,770.00
Expungements	1,830.00	1,590.00	1,740.00
1/2 Liquor Fines	649.00	342.00	337.50
BMV Fees	370.00	195.00	75.00
Pharmacy Board (Drug)	755.00	600.00	460.00
Sub-Total	<u>603,927.00</u>	<u>576,031.50</u>	<u>488,244.00</u>

Other Disbursements

DUI Housing Fund*	3,605.00	4,230.00	6,514.00
DUI Arrest Agency*	1,595.00	1,837.00	2,646.00
Sub-Total	<u>5,200.00</u>	<u>6,067.00</u>	<u>9,160.00</u>

GRAND TOTALS

<u>2,839,382.57</u>	<u>2,755,113.46</u>	<u>2,352,256.61</u>
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*Money from these two funds goes directly into accounts for the Cleveland Height Police Department for future D.U.I education and enforcement.

**CIVIL/SMALL CLAIMS BRANCH
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR 2014**

RECEIPTS:

City of Cleveland Heights	2012	2013	2014
Local Costs	154,871.00	165,116.00	160,423.00
Computer Fund	11,604.00	12,084.00	12,174.00
Special Projects Fund	19,340.00	20,140.00	20,290.00
Sub-Total	185,815.00	197,340.00	192,887.00
State of Ohio Legal Aid	27,970.00	30,642.00	30,914.00
Judgements & Refunds	375,929.66	262,392.40	323,115.17
Bailliff Fee	288.10	386.95	209.15
Miscellaneous Receipts	2,150.00	2,600.00	2,920.00
Sub-Total	406,337.76	296,021.35	357,158.32
	592,152.76	493,361.35	550,045.32

GRAND TOTAL

DISBURSEMENTS;

City of Cleveland Heights	2012	2013	2014
Costs	154,871.00	165,116.00	160,438.03
Computer Funds	11,604.00	12,084.00	12,174.00
Bailliff Fees	288.10	386.95	209.15
Marriage Fees	2,150.00	2,600.00	2,920.00
Special Projects Fund	19,340.00	20,140.00	20,290.00
Sub-Totals	188,253.10	200,326.95	196,031.18
State of Ohio Legal Aid	27,970.00	30,642.00	30,604.86
Judgements & Refunds	375,929.66	262,392.40	323,115.17
Sub-Totals	403,899.66	293,034.40	353,720.03
	592,152.76	493,361.35	549,751.21

GRAND TOTALS

**CIVIL/LANDLORD-TENANT BRANCH
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR 2014**

RECEIPTS:

Rent Deposits January 1, 2014	3,071.37
Deposits in 2014	33,546.00
	<hr/> 36,617.37

DISBURSEMENTS:

2014

City of Cleveland Heights	627.51
To Landlords	13,763.06
To Tenants	3,209.50
Repair/Maintenance/Other	0.00
Paid by Court Order	0.00
TOTALS	<hr/> 17,600.07

Rent Deposits on Hand December 31, 2014	<hr/> <hr/> 19,017.30
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Probation Office, 2014



I. PRE-SENTENCE INVESTIGATION/PROBATION VIOLATION, 2014

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Presentence Investigation Reports	497	515	483	650
Probation Violation Reports	4	6	4	9
Expungement Reports	50	61	60	45
Reviews	135	169	154	124

II. SUPERVISION CASELOAD, on December 31, 2014

	12-31-11 Caseload	12-31-12 Caseload	12-31-13 Caseload	12-31-14 Caseload
Active (Supervised)	444	416	426	322
Inactive (Non-Supervised)	585	571	508	444

Supervision caseload, per Probation officer (3) on December 31, 2014

On 12-31-11	On 12-31-12	On 12-31-13	On 12-31-14	% DECREASE
148	139	142	107	11%

III. **SUPERVISION, 2014 inclusive**
 2013, 2012 and 2011 numbers provided for comparison

		2014	2013	2012	2011
Total active probation cases, supervised, Jan.-Dec.2013 inclusive		993	1,141	1,267	1,430
Driving Under Suspension cases Jan-Dec.2013, inclusive count & % of cases		260/22%	322/29%	481/38%	667/47%
Total inactive probation cases, Jan.-Dec. 2013, Inclusive		1186	1,373	1,579	1,895
New active probation cases added in 2013:		615	730	810	845
New inactive probation cases Added in 2013:		751	811	980	1,068
2014 146	2014 35%	Number of active probation cases on 12-31-2013, Whose sentences included jail time, with % of caseload		145	34%
Number of probation cases (active/inactive), on 12-31-13, whose sentences also included jail time, with % of caseload		324	327	323	367
Percentage		41%	36%	35%	34%



IV. MAJOR OFFENSES OF PROBATIONERS on supervision, Dec. 31, 2014

	2014 Cases/%	2013 Cases/%	2012 Cases/%	2011 Cases/%	2010 Cases/%
Driving Under Suspension	77/23%	91/22%	111/27%	174/39%	294/51%
Petty Theft	69/21%	103/25%	102/25%	109/25%	109/19%
Domestic Violence	9/3%	11/2%	25/6%	24/5%	30/5%
Assault	34/11%	44/10%	39/9%	37/8%	38/7%
OVI	86/27%	63/15%	26/6%	40/9%	38/7%
Menacing/Harassment	2/1%	9/2%	13/3%	29/7%	35/6%
Trespassing	2/1%	4/1%	23/5%	4/1%	14/2%
Other	43/13%	94/23%	77/19%	27/6%	20/3%

V. **RESTITUTION/COMMUNITY SERVICE, 2014 inclusive** (2013, 2012, 2011, and 2010 total year numbers provided for comparison)

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Restitution transferred to victims,	\$1,500	\$4,186	\$1,230	\$1,306	\$3,825
Community Service referred by Court to CCS	0	2	8	48	57
Total Community Service hours worked in Cleveland Heights non-profit agencies through CCS by all courts in county area.	8,656	8,279	4,313	4,845	7,003
Total additional Community Service hours worked in Cleveland Heights, CCS Work: Crew litter collection.	326 268	353 353	329 329	239 239	361 361

Community Service/Public Works Referrals 2014

- As of December 31, 2014 the court referred **33** individuals to the Cleveland Heights Public Works Department. A total of **1,023** hours were completed saving Public Works **\$19,917.81** in labor cost.
- As of December 31, 2013 the court referred 131 individuals to the Cleveland Heights Public Works Department, (60) successfully completed their assigned community service hours. Twenty two (22) completed partial hours and (49) never showed up to work. A total of 3,378.5 hours were completed saving Public Works **\$62,502.25** in labor cost.

Alternative to Jail/Home Detention Referrals:

- As of December 31, 2014, 14 defendants were referred to the Home Detention Program Sponsored by COURTMON. Each defendant paid a \$25.00 registration fee. Total fees collected **\$350.00**. These funds are used to assist in supporting indigent defendants referred to this and other community control based service providers.



CLEVELAND HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL COURT
IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY DURING 2013

A. Deane Buchanan, Judge
Georgeann Schmidt, Magistrate
Juanita Bryant, Court Administrator/Chief Bailiff
Sandra Draper Berry, Clerk

Mabel Jasper, Assigned Judge

Russell Baron
Alan Kraus
Mark L Hoffman
Dennis Niermann
Acting Judge

Lincoln Scott, Housing & Special Projects Coordinator
Richard Baker, Court Security

Lawrence Jasper, Deputy Bailiff
Cassandra Jones, Deputy Bailiff
Virginia Journee', Deputy Bailiff
Rashawn Morrison, Court Information Tech Specialist

Valinda Garner, Chief Probation Officer
William Gibson, Chief Probation Officer
Ernest Jones Jr., Probation Officer
Ashley Simmons, Probation Officer
Clovice Ramsey, Probation Administrative Assistant

Karen Szekely, Chief Deputy Clerk
Arlene Frierson, Deputy Clerk
Andrea Galbraith, Deputy Cler
Sarena Hudson, Deputy Clerk
Jae Johnson, Deputy Clerk
Antionette Jones, Deputy Clerk
Elaine Kessler, Deputy Clerk
Carole Motyka, Deputy Clerk
Samira Parker, Deputy Clerk
Kimberly Rudolph, Deputy Clerk
Jane Shaveyco, Deputy Clerk
Lisa Walker, Deputy Clerk

