

3B District Court Annual Report 2016

3B District Court Staff:

Judges: Jeffrey C. Middleton-Chief Judge (*Term expires: 2021*)

Robert K. Pattison, Judge (*Term expires 2019*)

Court Administrator/Magistrate: Tabitha Wedge (*hired 1987*)

Magistrate: Mark Books (*hired 2009*)

Probation Officer/Magistrate: Autumnne Keifer (*hired 2014*)

Probation Officers: Gina Wagner (*hired 2009*),

Daniel Frazine (*hired 2015*)

Judicial Secretaries/Court Recorders: Sue Eickhoff (*hired 2003*),

Lori Rumsey (*hired 1991*)

Deputy Clerks: Cindi Labencki (*hired 1991*),

Patricia Ellis (*hired 1997*),

Sally Hippen (*hired 2001;resigned April*)

Vilma Taylor (*hired 2002*),

Cynthia Custard (*hired 2005*),

Dorine Channey (*hired 2005*),

Michelle Baker (*hired 2013*),

Lori Miller (*hired 2013; resigned September*)

Kristi Meabon (*hired 2015*)

Trena Bailey (*hired 2016*)

Cathi Bell (*hired September; resigned February 2017*)

3B District Court Highlights

The Unexpected:

- ◆ Deputy Clerk, Sally Hippen, resigns after 15 years in April.
- ◆ Deputy Clerk, Trena Baily, hired May.
- ◆ Deputy Clerk, Lori Miller, resigns after 3 years in September.
- ◆ Trena Bailey transfers from criminal department area to civil department effective September.
- ◆ Deputy Clerk, Cathi Bell, hired September.

Continued Technology Focus:

- ◇ Poly Com system purchased and implemented to update the existing jail arraignment equipment between the District Court Magistrates and the Sheriff Department.
- ◇ District Court Website continues to provide user friendly links of interest, form access and Answers to FAQ.
- ◇ Continued active use of PDF Forms for electronic flow between court office and Sheriff Booking office.
- ◇ Review of the OnBase Image system begins to be researched for the Court as a 2017 projection.
- ◇ New Jury System is activated with County Clerks Office.

- Chief Judge title is modified in January to Jeffrey C. Middleton with appointment by State Court Administrators Office
- Judge Pattison (with assistance from Probation Officer, Autumnne Keifer) continues to conduct the "Courts in Schools" program: It blends actual court cases involving defendants who have pled guilty to alcohol and/or drug related offenses by conducting the sentencing at a school location. A presentation follows to focus on critical life choices that students and young adults make daily.
- Judge Pattison and Probation Officer, Dan Frazine work with the Veterans Administrator, Stoney Summey, on specialized probation for select veterans.
- Judges and Administrator continue to participate in regular Regional meetings.
- Judge Middleton and Judge Pattison had service assigned to other courts upon disqualification requests through SCAO.
- Tabitha Wedge continues to serve on the Michigan Court Administrator's Association (MCAA) Board.
- Judges, Administrator, Magistrates, Probation Officers and Clerks continue to take advantage of the trainings and networking opportunities available through yearly Association related conferences, State Court Administrator and Michigan Judicial Institute trainings.
- Judge Middleton, Judge Pattison and Gina Wagner continue as active participants with the Community Corrections Advisory Board.
- Probation Officers, Gina Wagner, Autumnne Keifer and Dan Frazine assist with the Community Mental Health Substance Abuse Taskforce.
- Vilma Taylor, receives Spanish interpreter certification qualification with State Court Administrator's office.

3B District Court Caseload Dashboard

Non-Traffic Case Filing 2014-2016

Case Type	2014	2015	2016
Felony	691	804	1015
Misdemeanors	1136	1129	1313
Civil Infractions	1177	1267	1501
Totals	3004	3200	3829

Traffic Case Filing 2014-2016

Case Type	2014	2015	2016
Misdemeanor & Civil	8472	11556	11626
Parking	36	41	11
OWI	150	179	246
Totals	8658	11776	11883

Civil Case Filing 2014-2016

Case Type	2014	2015	2016
Civil	1402	1425	1282
Small Claims	227	262	247
Summary	690	565	583
Totals	2319	2252	2112

2016 Warrant Activity

Search Warrants Issued: 196

Criminal Arrest Warrants Issued: 986

Felony: 433 Misdemeanor: 553

Bench Warrants Issued: 913



Wedding Activity-2016

By statute the Court charges a \$10.00 fee for each marriage performed. This fee is deposited into the county's treasury providing it as a source of revenue generated at the District Court Office.

85 Weddings were performed by the 3B District Court.

Sobriety Court

“One of the most successful types of specialty courts is the Sobriety Court”...the most recent studies and literature would indicate that there is a better way known as “the judicial therapeutic approach”.

The main purpose is to reduce recidivism among repeat drunk drivers using court and community resources. The tools include: intensive supervision, individualized treatment, personal accountability, and frequent judicial review. The goals include: improved public safety and substance-free, sober lives for participants.

In 2016, program participants took 3730 alcohol/drug tests, of which only 148 were positive, 3 were excused and 3579 were negative results.

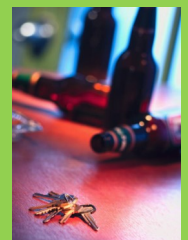
Status as of December 31st:

<i>Phase One-Stabilization/Treatment</i>	<i>7 enrolled</i>
<i>Phase Two-Healthy Living</i>	<i>8 enrolled</i>
<i>Phase Three-Maintenance of Recovery</i>	<i>7 enrolled</i>
<i>Phase Four-Sobriety Recovery/Giving Back</i>	<i>7 enrolled</i>

3B DISTRICT COURT-SPECIALTY (SOBRIETY) COURT:

Panel consists of:

Jeffrey C. Middleton, District Judge
 Gina Wagner-District Court Probation Officer
 Autumnne Kiefer-District Court Probation Officer/Magistrate
 Dan Frazine-District Court Probation Officer
 Timothy George-Assistant Prosecutor
 Mark Lillywhite-UnderSheriff
 Samantha Small-Day Reporting
 Spencer Price-Community Mental Health
 Erin Goff-Community Corrections Representative
 Matt Huff-Community Corrections Representative



3B District Court Financial Dashboard

2016 Revenue Collections

Caseflow Asst-OWI	\$13,740.74
Caseflow Asst-Drug	\$1,658.54
Victim Rights Program-DC **	\$14,895.95
Court Costs	\$381,575.47
Reimbursed Court Appt Attorney	\$61,362.00
Civil Fees (Various)	\$77,640.00
Civil Fees (Filing) **	\$54,228.70
Contempt Charges	\$2,109.10
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$10,100.00
Oversight Fees	\$102,050.00
Screening Fees	\$11,031.00
Bond Forfeitures	\$12,226.00
Ordinance Fines **	\$83,801.32
Interest CD	\$53.75
Cash Short/Over	\$16.15
County Booking Fee	\$3,992.00
State Booking Fee	\$822.00
DC Jury Fees	\$500.00
Yearly Total:	\$831,802.72

**Indicates money collected is different than the portion that is retained at the county. Note: Court revenue figures may differ slightly from County records as they are generated yearly from January-December and may reflect credits and/or necessary adjustments that have been made.

TOTAL FEES COLLECTED BY THE 3B DISTRICT COURT FOR 2016:

Fees: \$1,821,903.45
 Bonds: \$312,387.75
 Witness/Jury Received: \$2,827.74

2016 Total Monies handled through the Court: \$2,137,118.94

2016 Expenditures:

Amended 2016 Budget: \$1,136,497.00
 Expended: \$1,138,024.41

Distribution of Various Court Revenue

The **State of Michigan** receives the following revenues from court cases:

- \$40 from each traffic civil infraction.
- \$10 from each non-traffic civil infraction.
- \$50 costs and \$75 Crime Victim Rights fee on each misdemeanor (changed effective 4/1/12).
- 56% - 79% from each civil case filing fee (depending on the case value).
- \$10 from each \$20 motion fee.

The **County Library Fund** receives the penal fine portion of assessments on all cases written under state law.

Most other revenue collected is going to St. Joseph County.

Credit Card Revenue: The court uses Government Payment Services to accept credit card payments. Payments can be made either by the telephone or online 24 hours a day. While a service fee is required, many of our clients find this to be a more efficient and quicker method to handle their court business.

Jan	\$39,067.91
Feb	\$51,554.20
Mar	\$53,418.45
Apr	\$42,372.06
May	\$38,942.35
Jun	\$45,696.39
Jul	\$44,765.97
Aug	\$40,019.36
Sept	\$46,557.20
Oct	\$39,795.17
Nov	\$32,241.00
Dec	\$39,132.57

From 2015-2016, the court had an increase of 673 transactions and \$75,656.58 revenue collected.

3B District Court Probation 2016 Statistics:

Each Probation Officer is assigned individual clients resulting in direct supervision responsibilities. These include Alcohol/Drug testing orders, fees being paid, work history and meeting with probationers on a regular basis. Oversight fees are charged as an expense to monitor the defendant placed on a probation term. Screening fees are also a requirement for various Alcohol and Drug convictions. Both of these fees are not subject to a State Breakdown and the monies collected are 100% payable to the County Funding Unit.

Number of Probationers: Average: 486
Yearly Oversight fees collected: \$99,240.00
Yearly Screening fees collected: \$11,111.00



2016 Statewide Court Public Satisfaction Survey

Beginning in 2013, the Michigan Supreme Court and State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) began requiring individual courts to participate in an annual statewide public satisfaction survey process to help determine how the Michigan court system was meeting the needs of the public. The results of the survey are intended to help individual courts:

- Identify areas where service to the public can be improved and develop action plans accordingly.
- Identify high performing areas of service, commend those responsible, and share successful models across the system.
- Communicate results with funding unit representatives and the public to further public trust and confidence in the court.

The 3B District Court is extremely proud of the results of SCAO 2016 Public Satisfaction Survey, a few are listed below:

SCAO 2016 Public Satisfaction Survey Results	<i>3B District Court 2016</i>
I was able to get my court business done in a reasonable amount of time.	93%
As I leave the court, I understand what happened in my case.	82%
I was treated with courtesy and respect by court staff.	96%
The way the case was handled was fair.	85%

