

2024 JUVENILE TRAFFIC REPORT



Stop Sign
Violations
2 citations

Speed
32 citations



Assured Clear
Distance
Ahead

Prohibited Use
of Handheld
Electronic
Device
1 citation



Failure to Wear
Safety Belt
12 citations



Failure to
stop for School
Bus
1 citation



Failure to
Control / Reckless
Operation
8 citations



Right of Way
7 citations



Red Light
Violation
1 citation

No Valid Operator's
License
9 citations



Plate / Registration
Violations
7 citations



Establishing
Hazard Zones
1 citation



Total Juvenile
Traffic Cases
Filed

97



Adjudication /
Dispositions

82

Transferred to
County of
Residence

22

In 2024, the Court had 60 drivers go through the Ready-Assess self-guided virtual driving test.

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by helping me understand the things I need to work on to prevent accidents in the future."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by teaching me the importance of being attentive and aware of my surroundings at all times. I know the consequences of distracted drivers and ways to keep focus on the road. They taught me driving techniques like maintaining a safe following distance and anticipating potential hazards. The videos also taught me speed management and how to not be so jerky with the car. Lastly, I learned how to scan around me before making turns or switching lanes."



"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by helping me understand the importance of knowing my surroundings."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by teaching me about speed management, lane changing, intersections and pedestrians at crosswalks... I will add what I learned to my driving since they would make situations safer for me and others."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by teaching me there are many unpredictable things that can happen when I am driving."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by knowing that anything can happen at any time and I need to be ready."



"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by learning to relax and not grip the wheel so hard so every little movement doesn't turn the car... looking in my rear view mirrors more and paying more attention to stopping points."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by helping me understand the importance of always being aware of my surroundings and how it only takes a second for things to change. It's also a reminder to watch my speed... as well sometimes by maintaining a safe speed might give you a better chance of correcting a mistake. The main thing I will walk away with is just being more aware of what's happening all around, double checking before I turn, my speed, and the space around me and my car."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by learning all hazards that could happen in any situation if you don't pay attention or follow all rules. Being aware of the other drivers on the road with you because they are unpredictable. Like having a car pull out in front of me in the simulator just because you are following the rules doesn't mean others are."

"I feel this has helped me be a better driver by helping me realize I'm not the best driver and I need a lot of practice!!"



In 2022, the Court began ordering Juvenile Traffic Offenders who committed moving violations to complete a self-guided virtual driving test after adjudication.

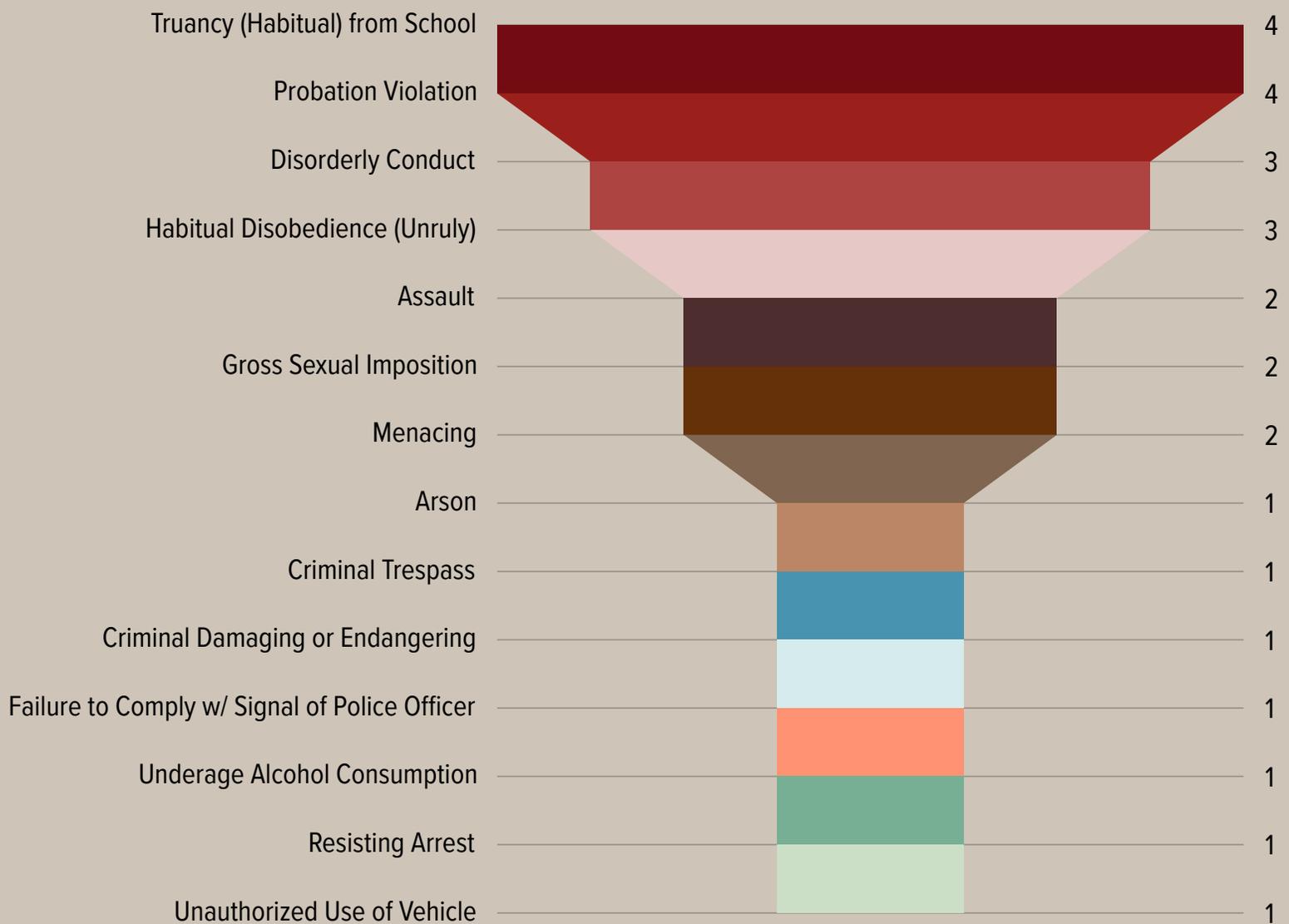
The test is taken at the Court and takes about 15 minutes to complete. The Ready Assess test combines a predictive driver assessment with personalized feedback and targeted intervention to improve their driving skills.

The juvenile must pay for the assessment and watch the suggested safe driving videos. A written response back to the Court of what they learned through this assessment must be filed within 90 days of the Court Order.



DELINQUENT & UNRULY ADJUDICATIONS

When a complaint is brought before the Court, the juvenile and parent are to appear at an initial hearing. The next step would be a pretrial hearing and then a trial could be held. At any time during this process, the juvenile may admit to the charge or may be found to be a Delinquent or Unruly child at the trial.



The Juvenile Court had twenty-seven (27) Delinquent and/or Unruly adjudications in 2024.

Two (2) of those adjudications were at the felony level:

Gross Sexual Imposition (F-3) and Failure to Comply with the Signal of a Police Officer (F-3).

Both felony adjudications were of male youth.

In 2024, fifteen (15) habitual truancy complaints or referrals were received.

TRUANCY

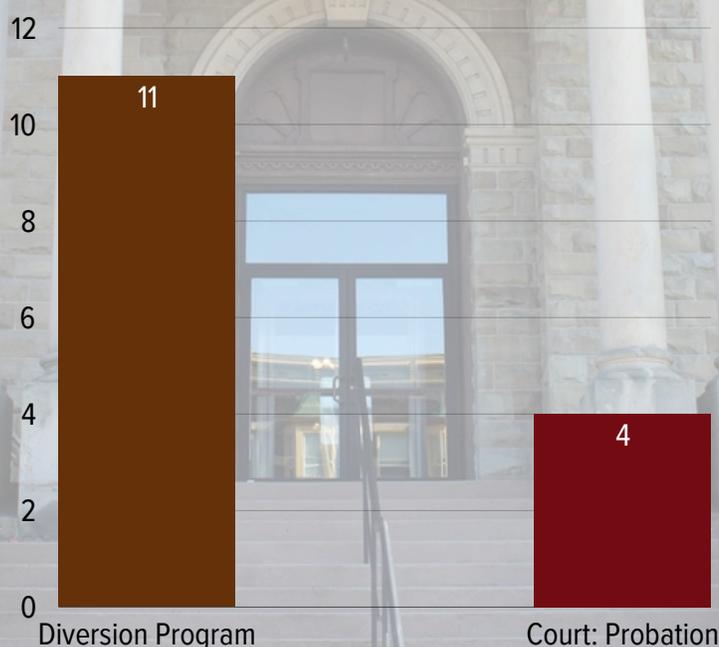
House Bill 410 was passed by the General Assembly and became effective April 6, 2017.

“Habitual Truancy” means any child of compulsory school age who is absent without legitimate excuse from the public school the child is supposed to attend for :

- Thirty (30) or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse.
- Forty-two (42) or more hours in a school month without a legitimate excuse.
- Seventy-two (72) or more hours in a school year without a legitimate excuse.

This constitutes the offense of Unruliness, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.022(B).

TRUANCY COMPLAINT OUTCOMES



House Bill 410 requires the Juvenile Court, upon the filing of a complaint that a child is unruly based on the child’s habitual truancy, **to consider an alternative to adjudication**, and provides that the court must consider the complaint only as a matter of last resort. The bill requires the juvenile court to provide notice of any adjudication related to a child’s truancy to the school district and school in which the child was enrolled when the complaint was filed.

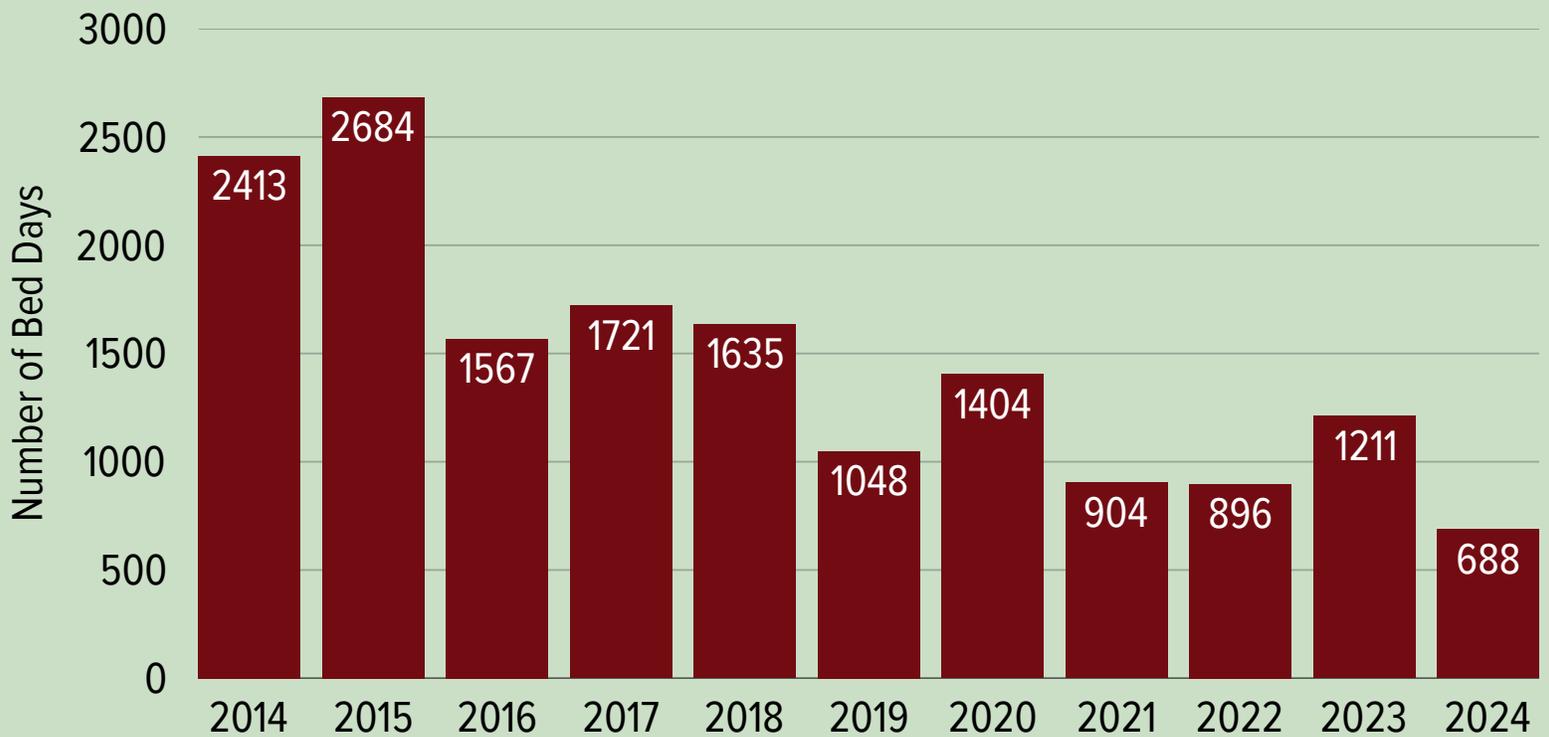
The Juvenile Court, when adjudicating a child unruly for truancy, must warn the parent, guardian, or custodian, that the child’s violation of a court order regarding the child’s designation as an unruly child for being a habitual truant, may result in a criminal charge against the parent, guardian, or custodian.

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

The Court strives to achieve its purpose while keeping a child in a family environment, separating the child from his or her parents **only** *when necessary* for his or her welfare or in the interests of public safety.



In 2024, the Court utilized Residential Treatment Centers for a total of **688 bed days** for placements.

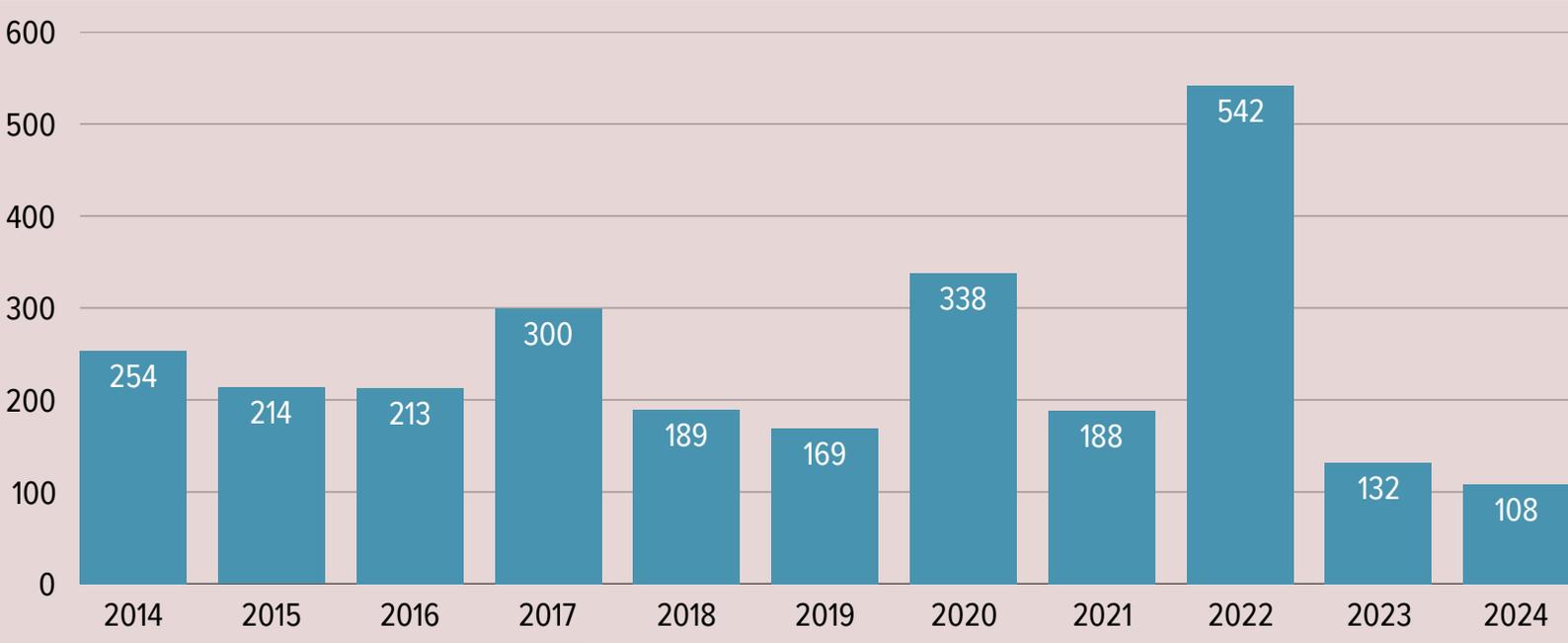


Ohio Department of Youth Services Facilities (ODYS) - ODYS is the Juvenile corrections system for the State of Ohio. It is statutorily mandated that only **felony** offenders, ages 10 to 21, who have been adjudicated, can be committed to ODYS by one of Ohio's 88 county Juvenile Courts. Commitment is at the discretion of each Court's Judge.

No Juveniles from Holmes County were committed to an ODYS Facility in 2024.

DETENTION

In 2024, Holmes County used **108 detention bed days**.



Beginning June 1, 2017, the cost for detention at the Richland County Juvenile Detention Center increased from \$85.00 per day to \$100.00 per day.

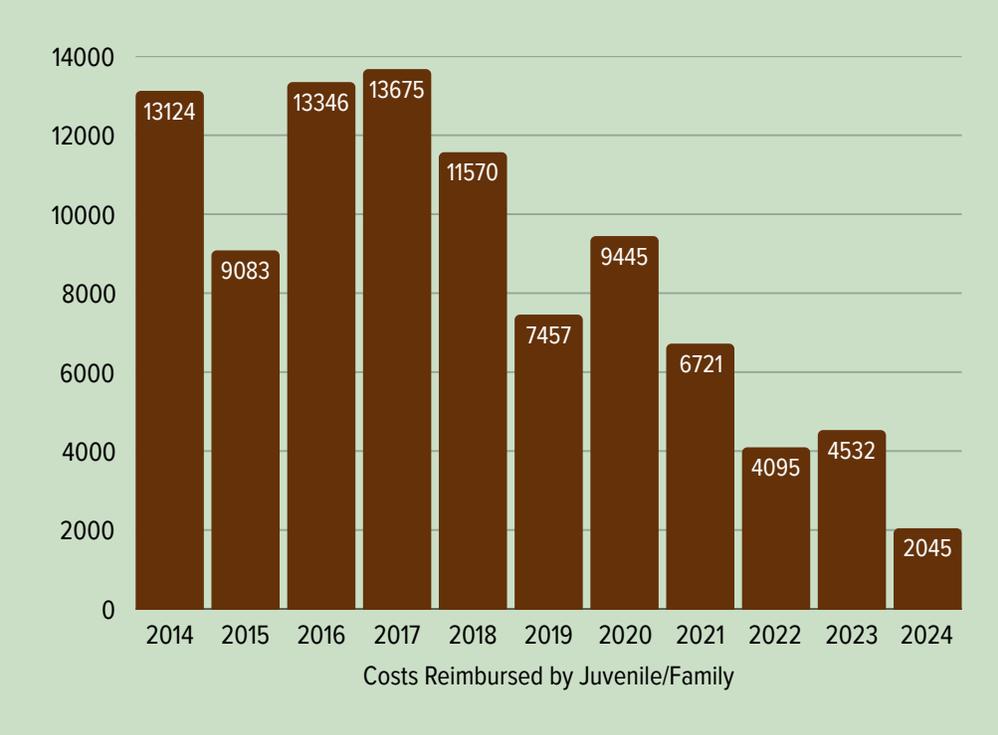
The parents/legal custodians of the juveniles are ordered to pay the costs of detention.

The Juvenile Court pursues collection of these costs and reimburses the county from money collected. Detention costs may be waived or reduced after a review of the parent(s)/custodian(s) finances.

Collection of costs for detention reimbursement began in 2011.

As of the end of 2024, **the county has been reimbursed a total of \$119,261.56** towards said detention costs.

The detention costs collected in 2024, which amount to **\$2,045.00**, represent the reimbursement of approximately 20 detention bed days.



In January 2011, Holmes County withdrew from the Multi-County Juvenile Attention System. Since that time detention services have been contracted with Richland County through its Juvenile Detention Center in Mansfield, Ohio.

RECLAIM (Reasoned and Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors) is an Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) initiative that provides funding for juvenile courts to develop and implement local alternatives to detention, emphasizing community-based services and family involvement.



Youth Services Grant R.E.C.L.A.I.M.

Reasoned Equitable Community & Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors

The Youth Services Grant/RECLAIM are State subsidized programs designed to assist Juvenile Courts in the development of local service options for youthful offenders. The grant is administered on a fiscal year, beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th.

In Fiscal Year 2024
(covering the period of July 1,
2023, through June 30, 2024)
Holmes County Juvenile Court
received

\$233,686.47

with which to plan and provide
programs which meet the
requirements and standards set
by the Ohio Department of Youth
Services.



The amount received from the Department of Youth Services is based on a formula prescribed by **Ohio Revised Code Section 5139**. Factors included in that formula are the *number of felony adjudications* for the County and for the State over the past four-year period. The amount allocated to the County based on the prescribed formula is then debited by an amount based upon the *number of bed days which the County has used* in Department of Youth Services institutional and community correctional facilities.

Funds not expended during the fiscal year may be carried-over for funding of additional or continuing programs in coming years.

Grant Funded Programs

Juvenile Carey
Guide Probation

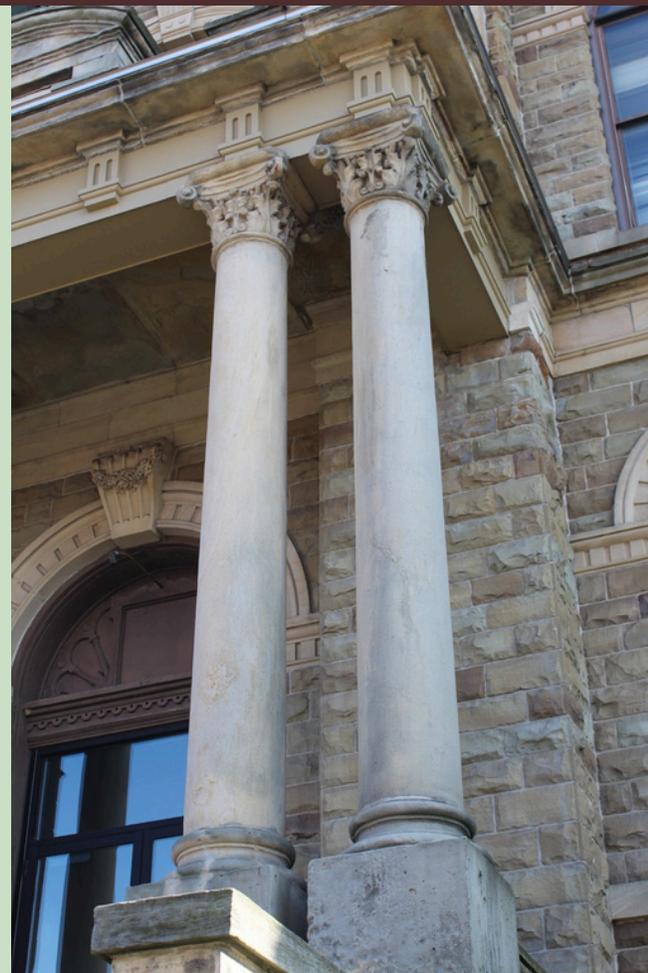
Juvenile Diversion

Connections
Mentoring Program

Parenting Mentoring
Program

Grant Administration

- Wages and benefits for two Probation/Diversion Managers and the Probation/Diversion Services Secretary
- Cellular phone service and equipment upgrades for Probation/Diversion Managers
- Digital Camera
- Drug Testing
- Youth Incentives
- Background Checks
- Advertising
- Office Supplies
- Contract Services
- Mileage Reimbursement
- Training and Conference Registration Fees
- Lodging, parking, etc. associated with trainings and conferences





BUDGET

General Fund
Special Projects Fund
Computer Fund



The Juvenile Court's Annual Operational Budget through the General Fund is approved by the Holmes County Commissioners. In 2024, the Budget for Juvenile Court was \$554,985.20. The Court also has Special Projects Funds and Computerization Funds with which it can utilize for new technology and projects needed for its daily operations.

In 2024 the Court implemented an option through its Case Management System to send text reminders to defendants in cases in an effort to *reduce failure to appear rates.*



By renewing its copier/printer lease in 2024, the Court was able to save about \$800.00 annually by reducing its monthly cost from \$344.91 / month to \$280.95 / month for 2 Xerox Copiers used in both Probate & Juvenile Court.

Special Projects Funds were used for the expenses related to the Court's therapy dog program. These expenses include training, grooming, veterinarian, medication, licensing and daily essentials such as treats, collar/vest and food.



Special Projects Funds were also used to remove and replace contents of an area in a small room on the 2nd floor of the Courthouse that had some plumbing issues. By making these improvements, the Juvenile Court office space is now more cleanly, functional and has more efficient space for record keeping.

COMPUTER FUND

Computer Funds in 2024 were used for:

- Purchasing a new laptop & monitor for a staff member.
- A portion of the Probation/Diversion Department's case management system annual licensing and support.
- Annual Zoom subscription for remote testimony and detention hearings.
- Support & Maintenance for the courtroom's recording system.
- Text Messaging Reminders for defendants.
- Microfilm storage costs as well as the service contract for maintenance on the equipment used.

GENERAL FUND

Juvenile & Probate Court General Fund monies are used for the majority of the Court's expenses:

- Employee/Officials salaries
- Case Management System annual support & maintenance services
- Copier/printer lease and copy expense
- Postage
- Registration fees for trainings and conferences
- Membership fees for Associations
- Cellular service and equipment upgrades
- Indigent expenses (psych evaluations, Guardian ad litem fees, Interpreter fees, etc.)
- Foreign Judge expense
- Attorney fees in Mental Illness cases
- Office supplies & equipment
- Microfilm supplies and shipping/handling
- Court pleading paper, stationary & envelopes
- Marriage License Certificates and accompanying documents
- Document destruction
- Printed legal materials
- Information Technology Services & Support
- Travel expenses (lodging, parking, tolls, meals & mileage reimbursement)
- Other misc.
- Pooled funding obligation
- Probation/Diversion Department equipment
- Vehicle maintenance & fuel

TRAINING & CONFERENCES

VALUABLE ASSET

A valuable asset is something or someone that is highly beneficial, useful, and holds significant worth to an individual, organization, or situation. It can be a tangible possession, a skill, a quality, or even a person themselves. The term "valuable asset" implies that the item or individual contributes positively to the overall success or well-being of the entity they belong to.



Staff are a valuable asset to the daily operations of the Court. The laws and rules in Ohio are continuously changing. Continuing legal education and training are essential to staying compliant with the most current Laws. Training is crucial for individual growth, skills, performance and overall success. It provides career advancement opportunities and boosts confidence and overall efficiency of the Court.

Conferences & Trainings in 2024:

- **Intercourt Conference (March 2024):**
Attended by Chief of Probation David Williams, Probation/Diversion Managers Brody Williams & Rachell Cornell and Magistrate Julie Dreher.
- **National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges Conference (March 2024):**
Attended by Magistrate Dreher.
- **Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference (April 2024):**
Attended by Magistrate Dreher.
- **Line Officer Training (May 2024):**
Attended by Chief of Probation David Williams and Probation/Diversion Managers Brody Williams & Rachel Cornell.
- **Ohio Association of Court Administration Conference (October 2024):**
Attended by Court Administrator Megan Hoxworth.
- **Ohio Judicial Conference Annual Meeting (September 2024):**
Attended by Judge Lee.
- **Law Enforcement Training (September 2024):**
Attended by Bailiff Conn & Chief of Probation David Williams.
- **Ohio Association of Magistrates Fall Conference (September 2024):**
Attended by Magistrate Dreher.



WEBINARS



Staff also participated in several online webinars and/or trainings throughout 2024. The Supreme Court of Ohio provides many trainings (both in person and online) for a variety of positions within the Court.

