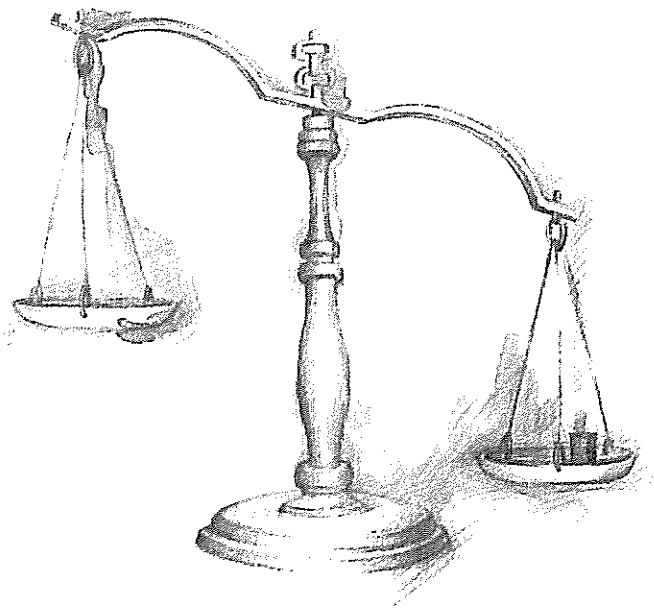


**HOLMES COUNTY
JUVENILE COURT
2012 ANNUAL REPORT**



JUDGE THOMAS C. LEE

1 East Jackson Street
Suite 201
Millersburg, Ohio 44654

PROBATE: (330) 674-5881
JUVENILE: (330) 674-5841
FAX: (330) 674-5820



Glennis R. Menuez
Court Administrator

The Court of Common Pleas

PROBATE & JUVENILE DIVISIONS

HOLMES COUNTY, OHIO
THOMAS C. LEE, Judge

May 29, 2013

To the Citizens of Holmes County:

On behalf of Holmes County Juvenile Court and its staff, I am pleased to present the 2012 Annual Report. This Report is prepared pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.18(B) and contains information on the Court's cases, as well as the services and programs offered by the Court to Holmes County families and children.

It is my sincere desire that the Court provide quality assistance to Holmes County families and children. If you have questions or suggestions as you read this Report, please feel free to contact me. I value your input.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Lee
Juvenile Court Judge

This Annual Report of the Holmes County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, for the calendar year 2012 is prepared pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.18(B).

COURT PERSONNEL

Judge	Hon. Thomas C. Lee
Court Administrator Grant Administrator	Glennis R. Menez
Bailiff	Bradley S. Conn
Deputy Clerk	Christine Jenkins/ Megan Hoxworth
Deputy Clerk	Sonya Baker
Deputy Clerk/Probation Office Secretary	Shelley Venis Barbara Jean Spencer
Chief Probation Officer Probation Officer	David Williams, L.S.W. Janice Shroyer, L.S.W.
K.L.A.S. (Knights Learning Alternative School) Office Clerk/Teacher Assistant	Judith Winegar
Connections Mentoring Program Coordinator	Rebecca McKelley

PURPOSE OF THE COURT

Ohio Revised Code Section 2152.01 sets forth the purpose of the Juvenile Court as follows:

- (A) To provide for the care, protection, and mental and physical development of children subject to Chapter 2152 of the Revised Code;
- (B) To protect the public interest and safety;
- (C) To hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions, restore the victim, and rehabilitate the offender through a system of graduated sanctions and services;
- (D) To provide judicial procedures through which Chapters 2151 and 2152 of the Revised Code are executed and enforced, and in which the parties are assured of a fair hearing, and their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and protected.

MISSION STATEMENT

Holmes County Juvenile Court exists to foster the development of a healthy community for children and families through the timely administration of justice and the delivery of quality services in a cost-effective, courteous and professional manner.

JURISDICTION

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction under Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.23 to hear the following types of matters:

Delinquent Child – Those who commit an offense, prior to their 18th birthday, that would be a crime if committed by an adult.

Unruly Child – Those who commit an offense that only applies to someone under the age of 18.

Juvenile Traffic Offender – Those who commit a traffic offense prior to attaining the age of 18.

Abused Children – Children who have been physically or sexually abused by parents, guardians, or another adult.

Neglected Children – Those children who are not properly cared for or are abandoned by their parents or guardians.

Dependent Children – Those children who are without proper care or support through no fault of their parents or guardians.

Adults – Criminal charges against adults who have contributed to the delinquency or unruliness of a child.

Paternity – Actions to determine the father of a child born out of wedlock.

Custody – Actions to determine the custody of any child not a ward of another Court of this State.

JUVENILE COURT DOCKET

The following cases were filed in Juvenile Court in 2012:

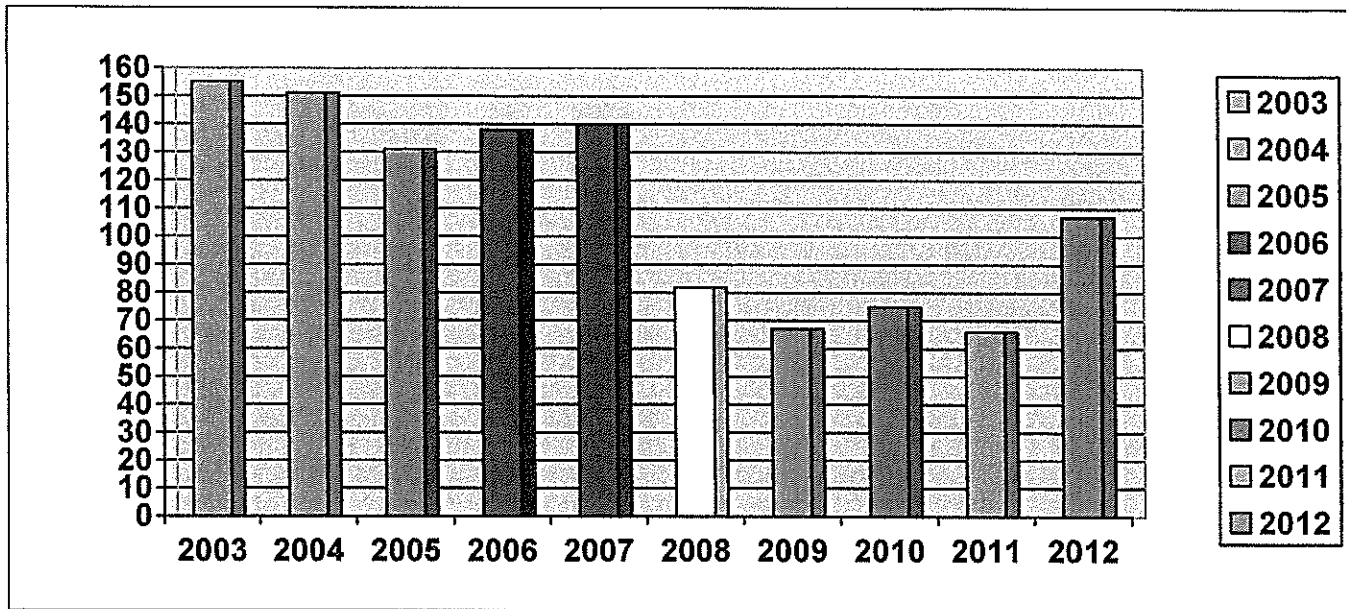
Delinquency	107
Traffic (For details see Page 13)	112
Dependency, Neglect & Abuse	53
Unruly	23
Adult Cases	0
Permanent Custody	2
Custody/Visitation	72
Child Support	93
Paternity	4
U.I.F.S.A. (Uniform Interstate Family Support Act)	0
Others	<u>3</u>
TOTAL:	469

NOTE: Fifty-eight (58) juveniles who were first-time offenders were referred to the Diversion Program, thus reducing the number of cases brought formally before the Court. Of the 58 juveniles, 47 were males and 11 were females.

Following are graphic illustrations comparing case-type filings for the years 2003 through 2013:

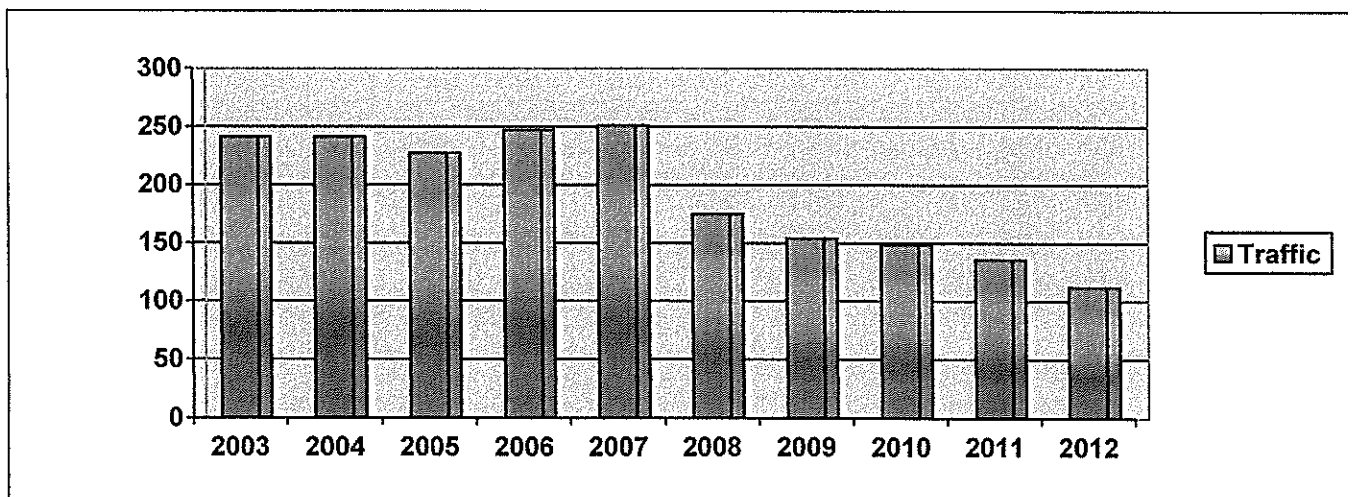
Delinquency

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
155	151	131	138	140	82	67	75	66	107



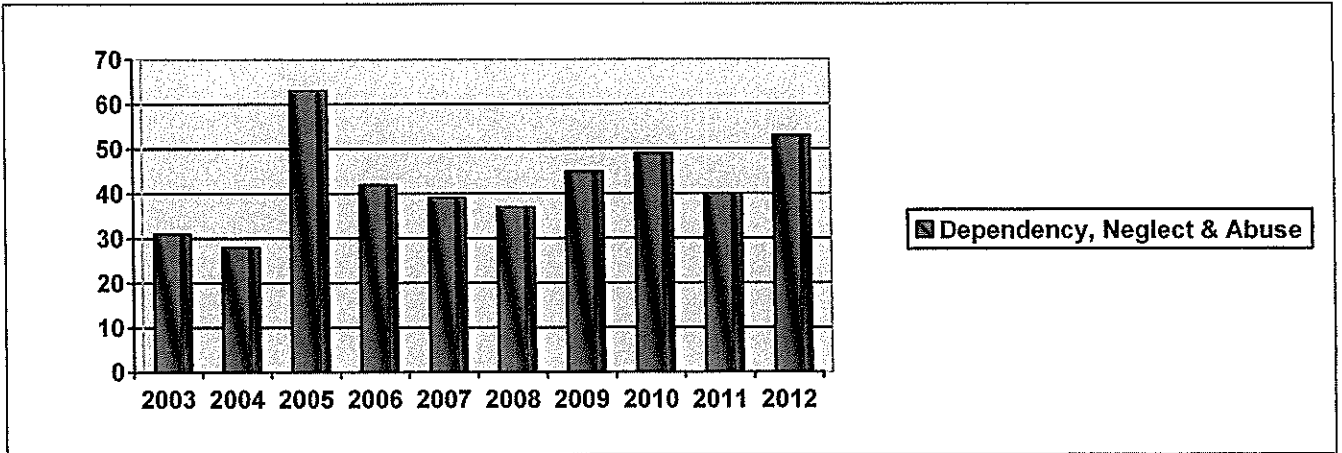
Traffic

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
241	241	227	247	251	175	154	149	136	112



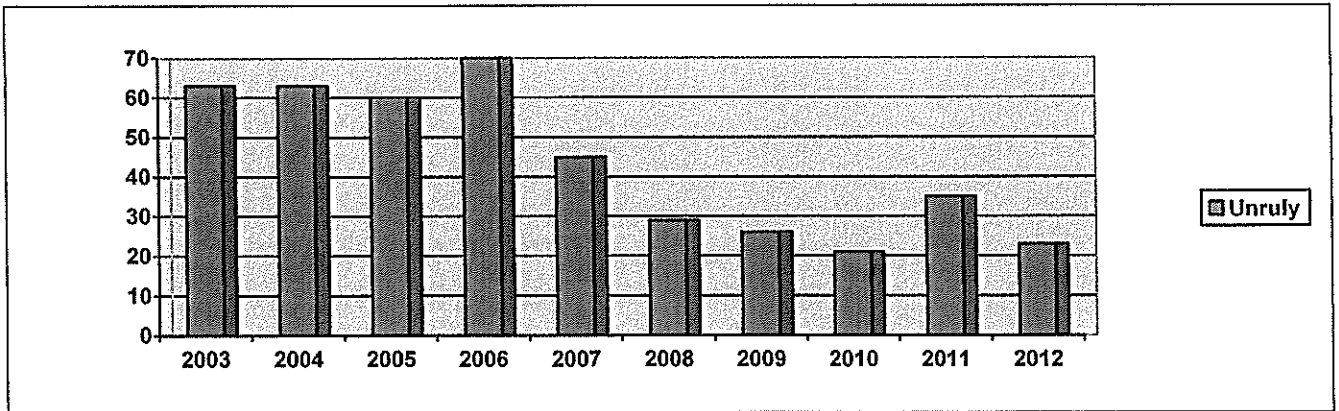
Dependency, Neglect & Abuse

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
31	28	63	42	39	37	45	49	40	53



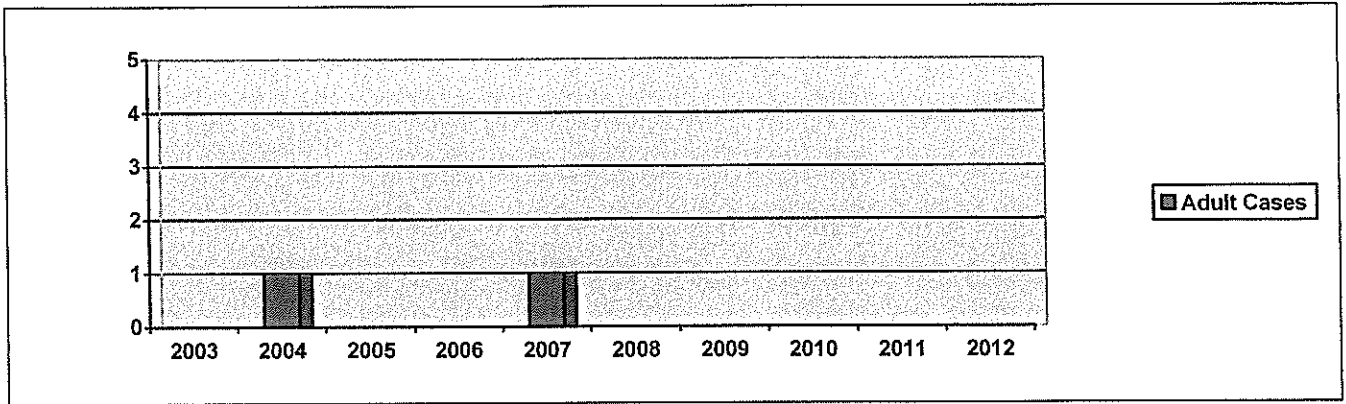
Unruly

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
63	63	60	70	45	29	26	21	35	23



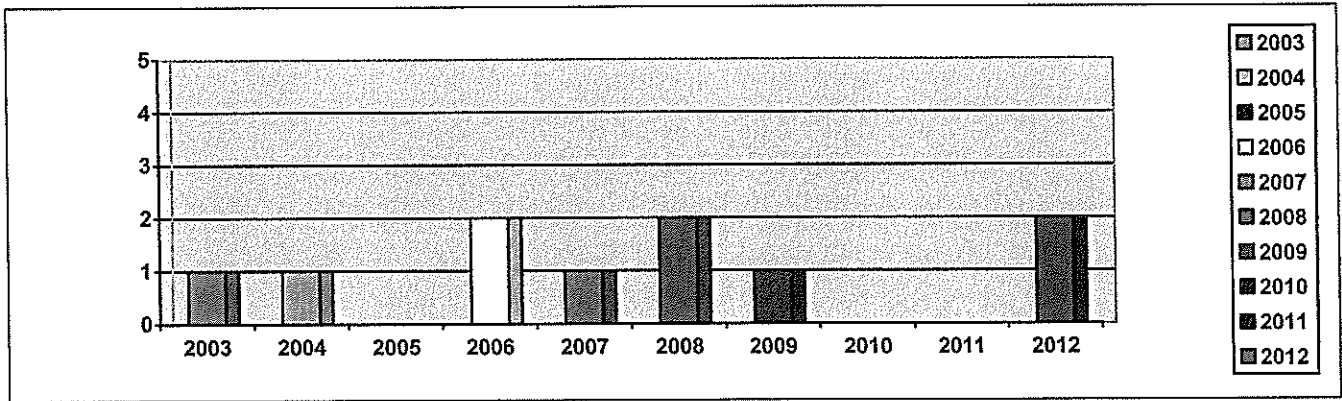
Adult Cases

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0



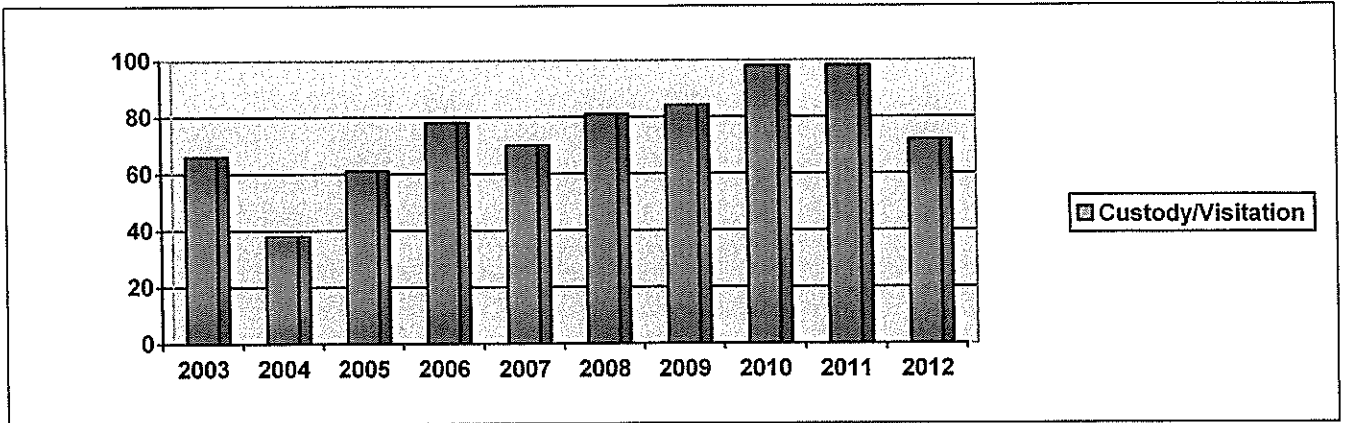
Permanent Custody

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1	1	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	2



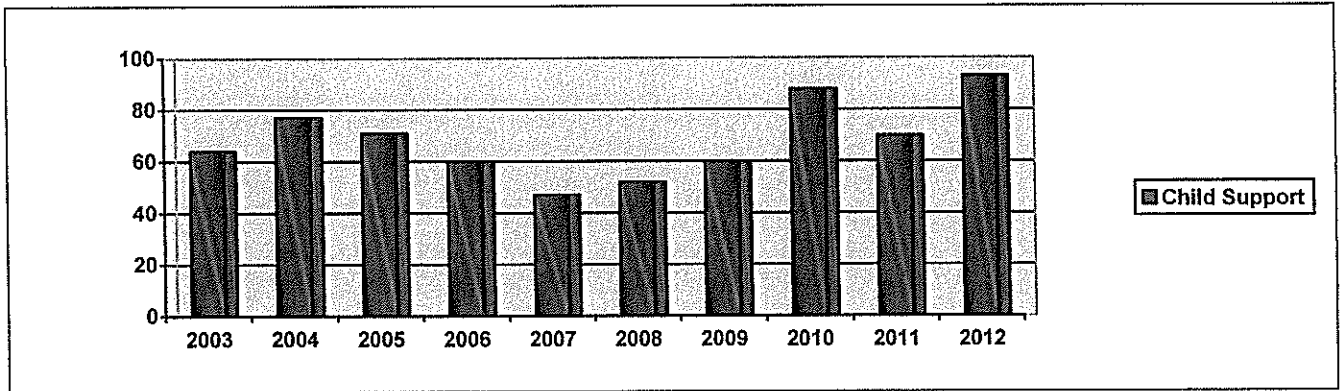
Custody/Visitation

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
66	38	61	78	70	81	83	98	98	72



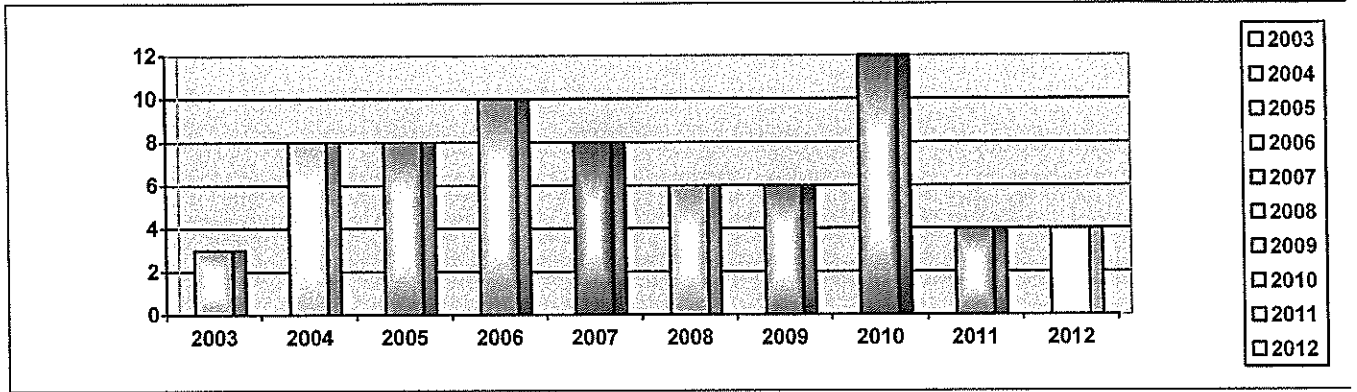
Child Support

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
64	77	771	60	47	52	60	88	70	93



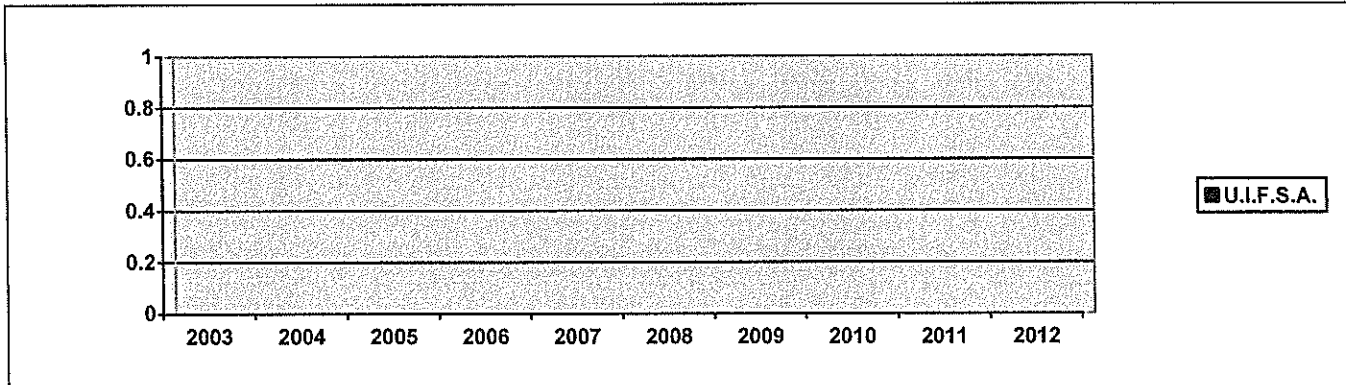
Paternity

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3	8	8	10	8	6	6	12	4	4



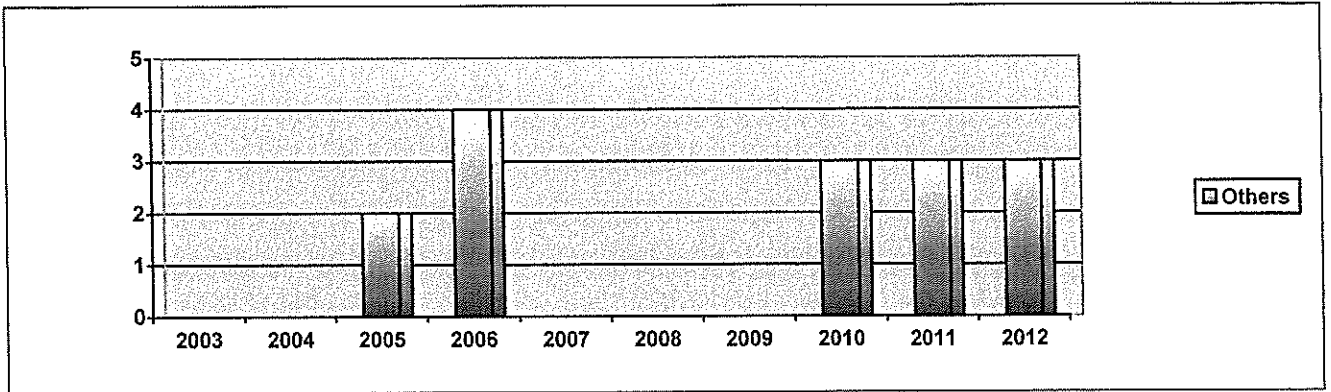
U.I.F.S.A.

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



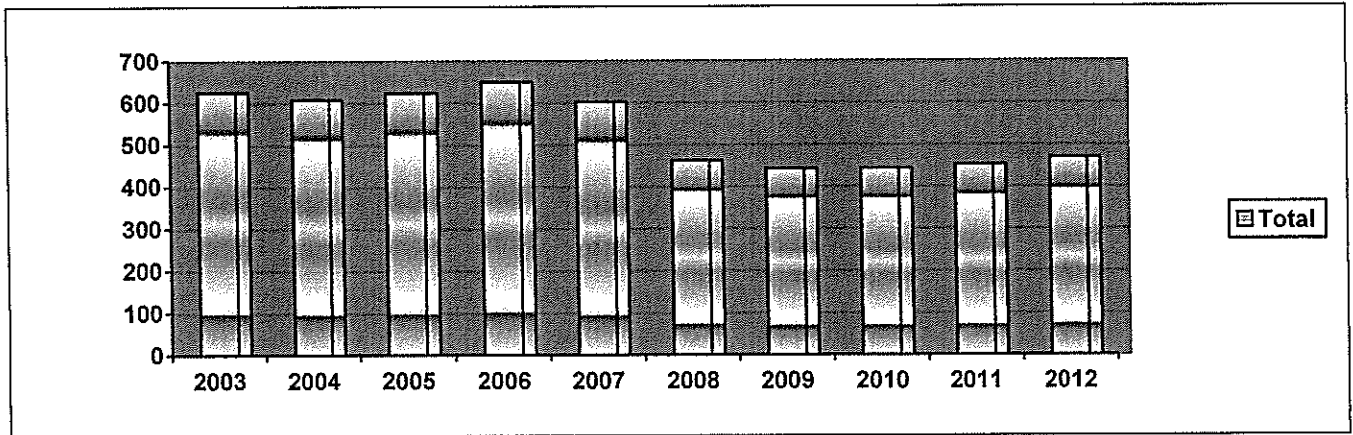
Others

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
0	0	2	4	0	0	0	3	3	3



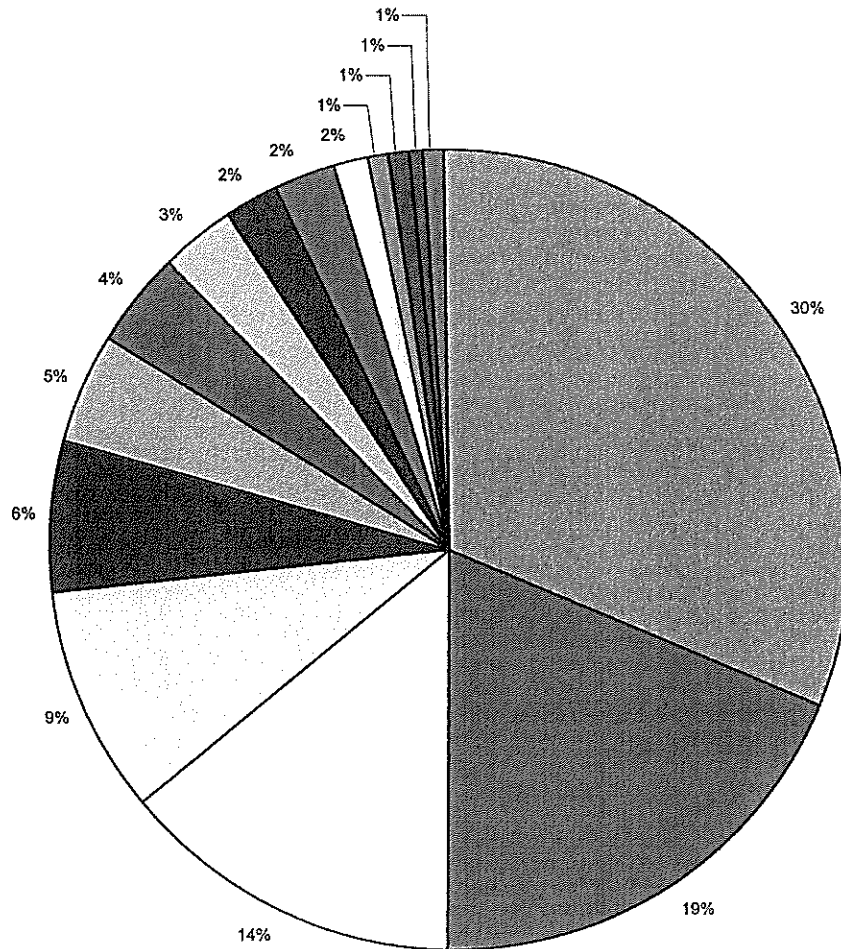
Total

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
625	607	623	649	601	462	442	443	452	469

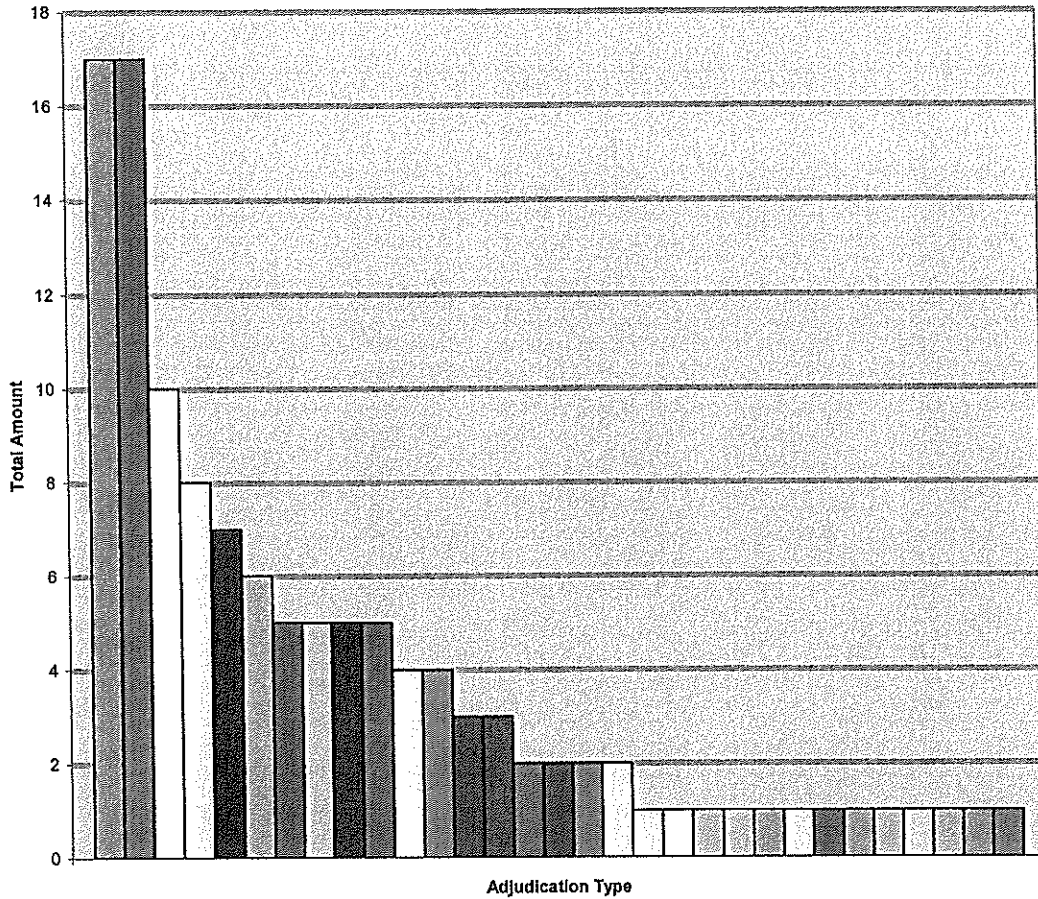


2012 Traffic Violations

41: Speed	25: Transfers
18: Failure to Control	12: Seat Belt
8: ACDA	6: Probationary License Violation
5: Stop Sign	4: Reckless Operation
3: Failure to Yield	3: No Operator's License
2: Expired Plates	1: Improper Lane Change
1: Leaving the Scene	1: Left of Center
1: Traffic Control Device	



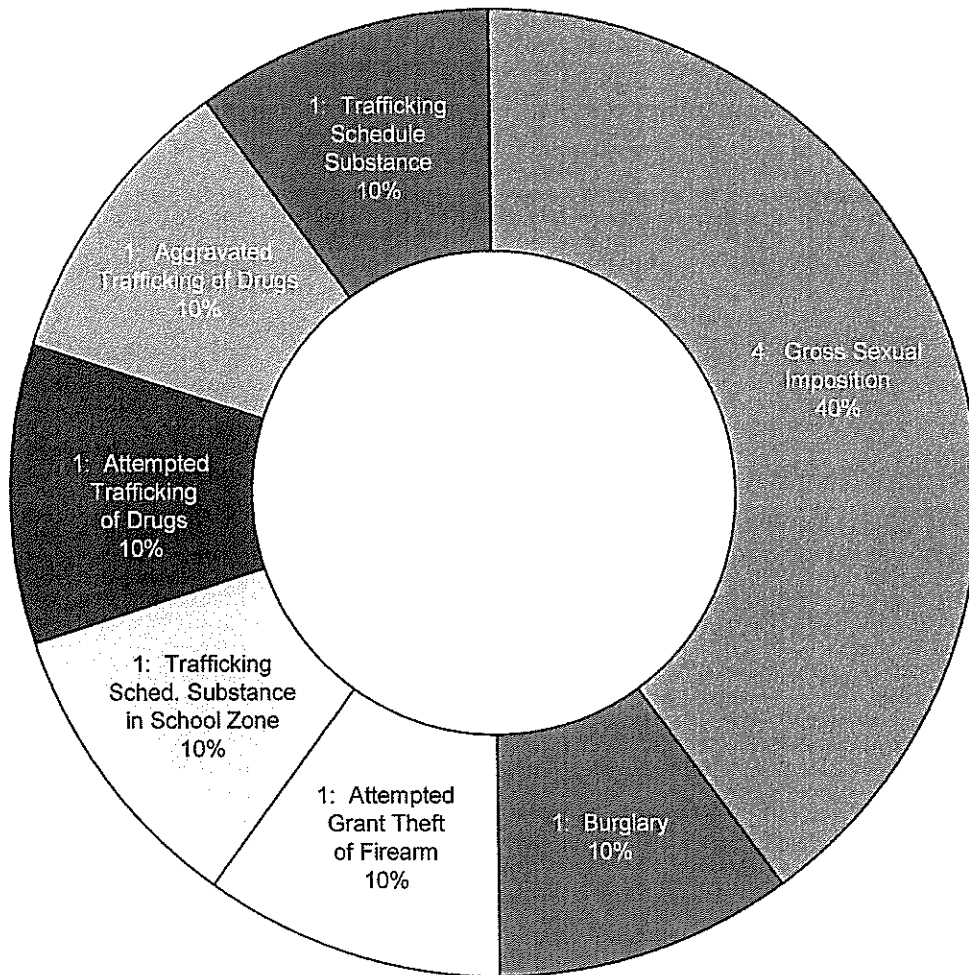
**2012 Delinquent & Unruly
Adjudications**



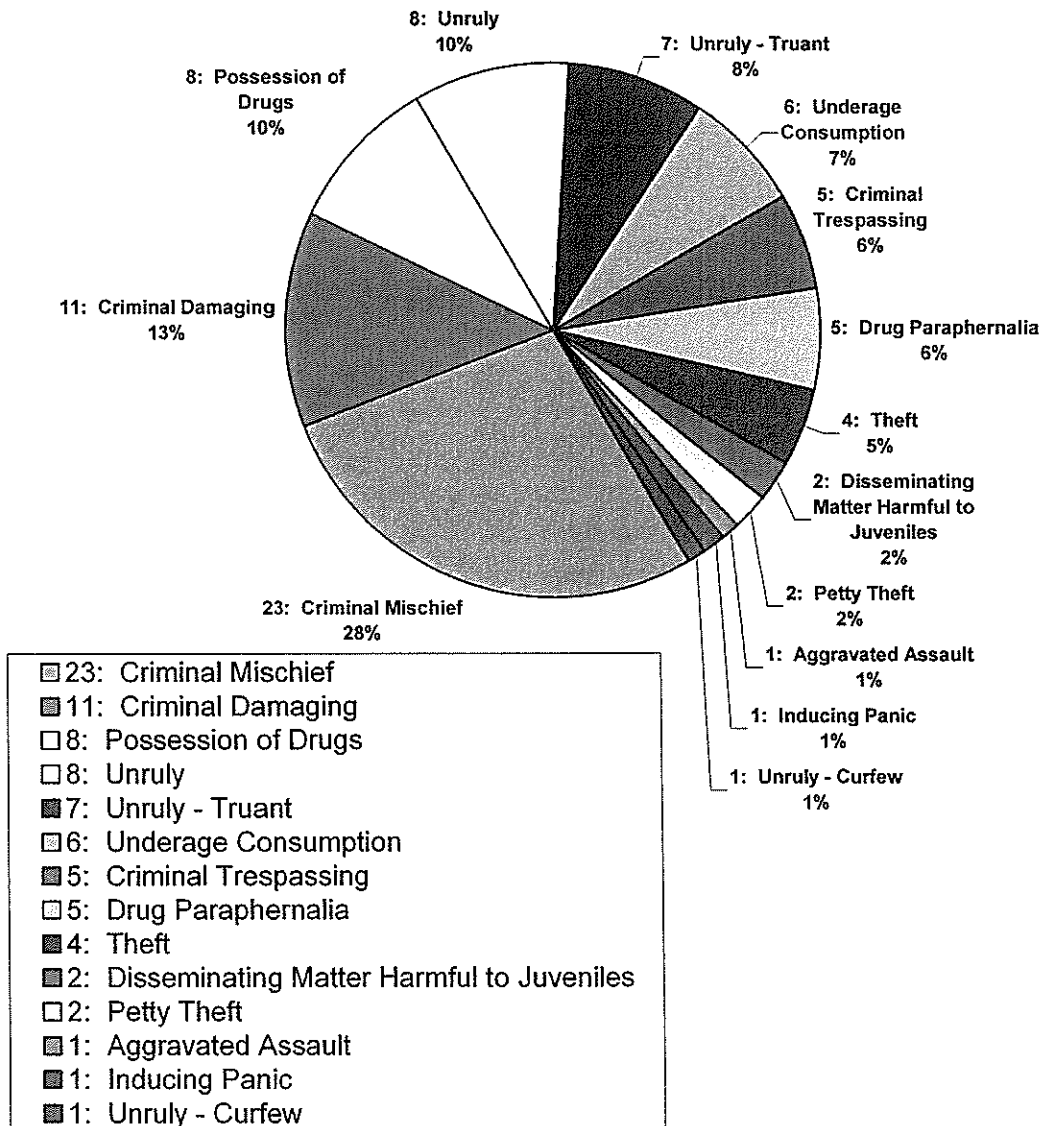
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ■ 17: Underage Consumption | ■ 17: Unruly/Truant |
| □ 10: Disorderly Conduct | □ 8: Domestic Violence |
| ■ 7: Trafficking Marijuana/Drugs | ■ 6: Gross Sexual Imposition |
| ■ 5: Abuse of Harmful Intoxicants | □ 5: Assault |
| ■ 5: Menacing | ■ 5: Theft |
| □ 4: Criminal Trespassing | ■ 4: Unruly/Disobedient |
| ■ 3: Criminal Mischief | ■ 3: Drug Paraphernalia |
| ■ 2: Burglary | ■ 2: Criminal Damaging |
| ■ 2: Obstruction of Official Business | □ 2: Receiving Stolen Property |
| □ 1: Attempted Grand Theft | □ 1: Attempted Trafficking |
| ■ 1: Breaking & Entering | ■ 1: Complicity to Commit GSI |
| ■ 1: Discharge Firearm | □ 1: Disrupting Public Service |
| ■ 1: Possession of Deadly Weapon | ■ 1: Promote Drug Abuse |
| ■ 1: Sexual Imposition | □ 1: Telecommunication Harrassment |
| ■ 1: Unauthorized Use of Vehicle | ■ 1: Unruly/Curfew |
| ■ 1: Vehicular Homicide | |

2012 Felonies

- 4: Gross Sexual Imposition
- 1: Burglary
- 1: Attempted Grant Theft of Firearm
- 1: Trafficking Sched. Substance in School Zone
- 1: Attempted Trafficking of Drugs
- 1: Aggravated Trafficking of Drugs
- 1: Trafficking Schedule Substance



2012 Diversion Cases



OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

The Court strives to achieve its purposes 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 2012, the Court utilized Treatment Centers and a Hospital for a total of:

2347 bed days for placements.



The following out-of-home placements were made in 2012:

Treatment Centers	11
Hospital	1

Additional Information Regarding Placements

Ohio Department of Youth Services Facilities – ODYS is the Juvenile corrections system for the state of Ohio. It is statutorily mandated to confine felony offenders, ages 10 to 21 who have been adjudicated and committed by one of Ohio's 88 county Juvenile Courts.

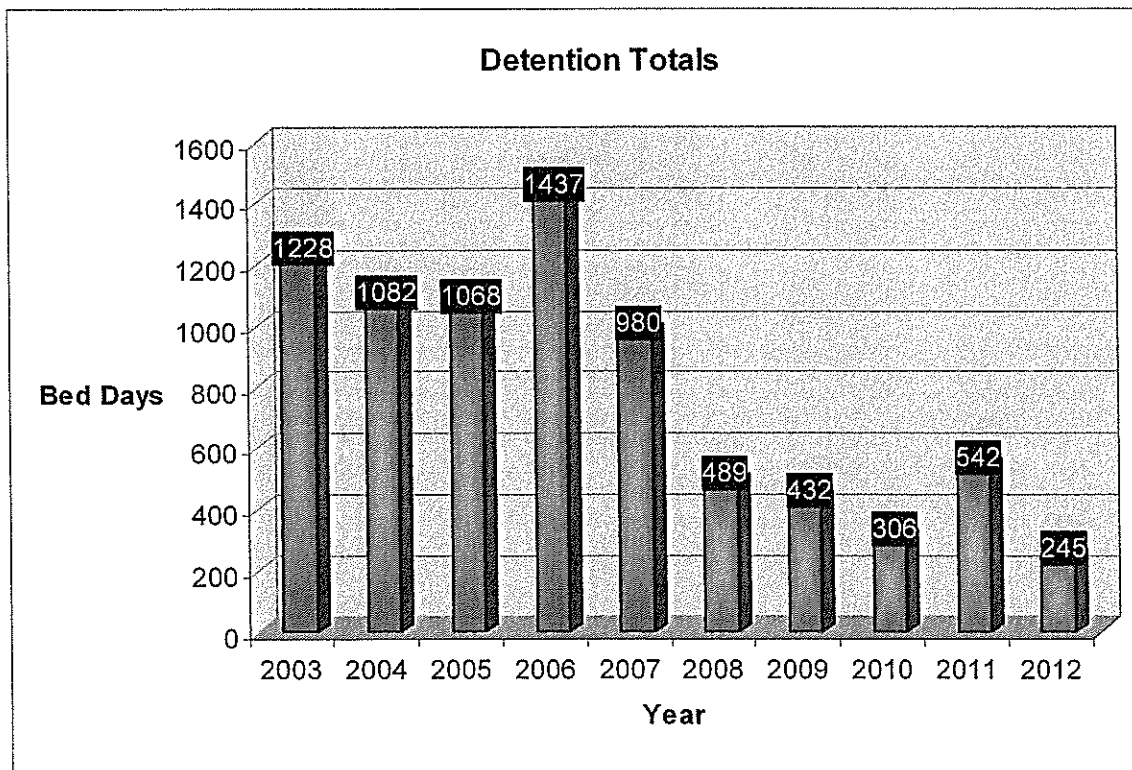
No Juveniles were committed to an ODYS Facility in 2012.

DETENTION

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. In 2012 Holmes County used 245 detention bed days at the Richland County facility. Following is a graphic illustration of detention bed day usage from 2003 through 2012. Please note that the detention usage from 2003 through 2010 was through Multi-County Juvenile Attention System.

Bed Days

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Detention Totals	1228	1082	1068	1437	980	489	432	306	542	245



PROGRAMS

Probation Department

The Probation Department of the Juvenile Division of the Common Pleas Court of Holmes County is a very active department, consisting of a Chief Probation Officer, one Probation Officer and the Juvenile Probation Secretary/Clerk. Both probation officers have caseloads assigned to them in which they are actively involved. Additionally, all officers have the following required duties:

1. Filing Violation of Law/Court Orders through the Prosecutor's Office;
2. Testifying in Court hearings;
3. Attending ongoing education and training sessions;
4. Writing and filing reports;
5. Public speaking;
6. Monitoring those under Court supervision for probation or Court orders;
7. Utilizing arrest authority when appropriate.

Probation Officers work closely and regularly with the Prosecutor's Office, schools, police, community and the various support agencies in the county. Attempts are made to have personal "face to face" contact with not only those on probation, but all agencies with which this department has a business relationship.

It is the Probation Department's belief that in order to be an effective, knowledgeable operation, it is mandatory to be out in the schools, police departments and community as much as possible in order to properly supervise those on probation. It is also of utmost importance that the Probation Officers know the respective environments of those they supervise and to know the issues that the clients must face on a daily basis. This, we have found, is the reason people act as they do. An ongoing, ever escalating abuse of alcohol and other substances, deterioration in parental supervision and lack of home environment conducive to values are the primary reasons for more and more youth becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

It is paramount to the Court's position that rehabilitation of the juvenile offender is our objective through accountability, responsibility, treatment and supervision. However, the public safety and welfare must be of primary concern when deciding what is the appropriate action that is to be taken.

During calendar year 2012, forty-one (41) juveniles were placed on probation and 40 were removed from probation. Of those removed from probation, 31 were successful, 6 were unsuccessful, and 3 were considered "neutral" as a result of turning 18 or moving out of Holmes County.

The Probation Department also continued its duty of organizing and supervising Community Service performed by juveniles as part of their sentence. Community Service requires a child to perform work beneficial to the community without pay. The program provides youth with an opportunity to "repay" the community for the problems caused by the child's behavior, as well as provide the youth with valuable work experience.

In 2012, a total of 1976 hours were completed by juveniles for their community service commitment. At a minimum wage rate of \$7.70 per hour, those 1976 hours represent services valued at \$15,215.20 to the Holmes County community.

Youth Services Grant

The Youth Services Grant is a State subsidized program 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 1 and ending on June 30. In Fiscal Year 2012 (covering the period of July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012) Holmes County Juvenile Court received \$175,929.68 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, although for FY2012 the carryover limit was 25% of the total FY2010 grant allocations.

The following three (3) programs were totally or partially funded by the Youth Services Subsidy Grant in 2012:

1. Probation

The function of the Probation Department has been described elsewhere in this Report. This grant program provides the entire salary and benefits for our two full-time Probation Officers and 75% of the salary and benefits of the Probation Office Secretary. The maintenance portion of the program provides the Probation Officers with cellular phones in order to remain in contact with the Court and the Probation Office and funding for trainings and educational seminars the Probation Officers attend.

2. Alternative School

The Alternative School Program provides funds for the salary and benefits of the K.L.A.S. (Knights Learning Alternative School) Office clerk. KLAS began sharing staff and location with West Holmes eLearning program at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year. The students who are counted as KLAS students have been sent from their home school for behavioral issues, including disorderly conduct, tobacco violations, weapons violations, bullying, theft, drugs and at-risk behaviors. The numbers here are a reflection of those students and do not include eLearners unless they were laced in that program specifically for one of the above-stated reasons.

KLAS Attendance

KLAS accepts West Holmes students grades K-12. KLAS served 36 students for the period of July 2012 through March 2013:

11	Elementary School Students
4	Middle School Students
<u>21</u>	High School Students
36	

Of those students, 2 were minorities, 8 were female, and 17 were on probation (either juvenile or adult).

Periodic File Reviews

KLAS staff members meet each day before and after school to discuss student progress and to determine direction for the student's academics. Staff also maintain close communication with the West Holmes High School Administration when issues occur. Some KLAS students participate in the eLearning program and are monitored daily for progress and given direction as needed. Short term students who have

assignments from their home school are monitored throughout the school day to help them stay on task.

Observation of Group Activities

Case Manager Marty Griffith meets with the students either individually or as a group each week. Marty also evaluates and reports on students for the ODE Alternative Education Grant as they interact through group discussions and other activities.

KLAS staff circulate throughout the one-room classroom throughout the school day and evaluate student's progress in their studies. Students are also monitored by staff as they participate in community service projects on site at the neighboring Love Center Food Pantry, completing over 140 hours of community service for the period of July 2012 through March 2013.

External Evaluation

KLAS Alternative School is under the direct supervision of the West Holmes Administrators Superintendent Kris Perone and onsite supervisor Carrie Maltarich. Mrs. Maltarich and teacher Will O'Donnell are evaluated by the school administrators on a bi-yearly basis.

Holmes County Juvenile Court, through the Department of Youth Services Grant, provides funding for a secretary as support staff for the classroom. Secretary Judy Winegar works as a part of the staff team, offering clerical services as well as acting as a teacher's aide to students and monitoring community service activities. This staff position is under the supervision of David Williams, Chief Probation Officer of Juvenile Court, working in conjunction with the West Holmes School District administration.

The Ohio Department of Education conducts a yearly external evaluation to assess the use of Alternative Education funding by the program. ODE Alternative Education funding pays for a portion of case manager Marty Griffith's salary. Mrs. Griffith visits all the schools within the district on a weekly schedule, meeting with students individually, providing school support services, and visiting KLAS students every Friday.

3. Mentoring

The Court's Mentoring Program, "Connections," began recruiting mentors and matching them with juveniles in the grant's Fiscal Year 2009. The Program was initiated to address the problem of young people who lack positive adult role models. Many of these young people come from single-parent homes where the parent is overwhelmed with daily chores involved in maintaining a home and meeting the basic necessities

of their children. Such parents often do not have the time and energy needed to spend time with their children and model general life and decision-making skills. Connections matches these young people with adult volunteers who are trained by the Program Coordinator and are willing to commit to spending four to eight hours per month with the young person for a period of at least twelve months. It is the goal of the program to provide a relationship for the child with a caring adult who will assist them in reaching their highest potential as they grow into responsible adults.

The youth targeted for the mentoring program are elementary age through high school and include those adjudicated delinquent and unruly as well as those who are in the Court's Diversion Program or are simply at-risk.

Rebecca McKelley, the Program Coordinator, presents the program to the community in order to make the public aware of this Court Program, as well as to secure volunteers as mentors. She conducts training sessions for the adult volunteers. Ms. McKelley also meets with youth and their families to determine if the young person is a good candidate for the Mentoring Program and to facilitate good matches of youth to mentors.

Since 2009 more than 50 children have been matched with a mentor. These children are being actively served by the compassionate residents of Holmes County and are being exposed to learning new life skills, improved self-esteem, and a consistent example of positive family life. There are currently 28 active volunteer mentors. The program continues to seek new mentors and currently has a waiting list of over 12 children.