

Medina County Juvenile Court

2006 Annual Report

Judge John J. Lohn is one of four judges of the Medina County Common Pleas Court. Judge Lohn began his term in February 2003. The Medina County Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over all cases involving persons under age 18, including those categorized as delinquent, traffic offenders, unruly, abused, neglected, or dependent. In addition to serving as our County's Juvenile Court Judge, Judge Lohn is also the Medina County Probate Judge.

Greetings From Judge Lohn

I am pleased to present the 2006 Annual Report of the Medina County Juvenile Court. The Court, its staff and our service providers are committed to protecting helpless children, correcting delinquent juveniles and directing parents to their responsibilities.

This report documents the Court's efforts to enhance services and programs for the youth and families of Medina County in 2006. The Court is grateful to the many members of the law enforcement community, the schools, social service agencies and parents who have assisted the Court in its important mission.



Judge John J. Lohn

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Lohn".

Juvenile Court Programming...

Drug Court

The mission of the Drug Court is to stop children from using alcohol and drugs. Drug Court is a coordination of efforts between alcohol and drug counseling and court services. For addicted children, Drug Court is the last and best hope for sobriety and a productive life. Drug Court expanded to include 2 Probation Officers, home-based therapy and Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (see EAP). 31 youngsters graduated from the program in 2006.

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are conducted on every youth charged with a delinquent or unruly offense. This risk assessment assists the Court in identifying the appropriate sanction, program, or referral for each youth. In 2006, 1,028 risk assessments were completed.

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP)

In October the Court contracted with Trinity Horse Farms. EAP is a rapidly growing field where horses are utilized as therapy partners to improve the emotional, behavioral and mental lives of families.



EAP Team

Left to right: Catherine Poland, Amy Kathe, Tiffany Shelton

ID-21

This 21-hour intensive detention program held at the Juvenile Detention Center targets parental education, drug and alcohol education and improves family relationships. In 2006, 114 juveniles completed this program.

Juvenile Traffic Night Court

By hearing cases in the evening it becomes more convenient for both parents and teens to attend court. Students avoid absence from classes and extra-curricular activities by coming to Juvenile Traffic Night Court. There were 1,104 Juvenile traffic cases filed in 2006.

Truancy Program

To encourage consistent policies throughout the County and reduce truancy the court hosts an annual truancy meeting. Present are representatives from all eight school districts as well as the Prosecutor's Office, Job and Family Services, and the Ohio State University Extension Office. In 2006, 98 truancy cases were filed.

Camp Integrity

Combating the idleness and lack of supervision for court-involved youth during the critical hours of 3pm to 9pm, Camp Integrity consists of academic study, physical activity, group discussions, life skills and social responsibility training. In 2006, 78 youth completed the program.

COPPER Program

Judge Lohn instituted the COPPER (Costs of Probation and Programming Reimbursement) program to recoup part of the costs of court services. In 2006, this program collected nearly \$113,000.

Probation Department

Probation officers investigate all aspects of the Juvenile's case and make recommendations to the court to protect public safety and to achieve a permanent improvement in a child's behavior. In 2006, 163 youth were placed on probation.



Probation Department
Left to right: Nicole Vale, Stephanie Yockey, Jodi Smith (Chief PO), Jamie Leonard, Jamie Thomas

Community Service

Nearly 8,250 hours were donated to benefit numerous local agencies and charities.

Community Relations

The Juvenile Court has been recognized by the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission and is involved in various boards/groups in Medina County including the Medina County Police Chief's Association, Family First Council, Intersystems Community Assessment Teams (ICAT), Share Cluster, Collaborative Family Treatment Program, Medina City Schools Technology School and 2-1-1 Call for Help Initiative. The Court has a Drug Court Advisory Board and a Programming Citizens Advisory Board.

Juvenile Detention Center...



The Medina County Juvenile Detention Center is a maximum-security, 30 bed facility. The 26,000 square foot facility is comprised of 30 individual detention cells, two holding cells, three classrooms, dining hall, medical office with attached examination room, gymnasium, library, a multi-purpose room and a secured outdoor recreation area. Residents are required to attend school daily, year round.

Detention is used as a last resort for youth who have committed serious offenses and/or are a risk to themselves or the community. 507 youth were admitted to the Juvenile Detention Center in 2006.

Upon admission, all residents receive a mental health screening which is critical to their own safety, court staff and other juveniles. The Detention Center is not a treatment facility, but it is our philosophy that everyone coming in contact with our residents should do the most that they can to make a positive impact on the youth in hopes of diverting them from further trouble.

While at the JDC, youth are provided with programming and voluntary participation in pro-social activities. Speakers from various county agencies provide education and informative information to the residents. Programming and services include: Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Social Services and Recreation.

Ohio Department of Youth Service...

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) is the state agency responsible for youth incarcerated by local juvenile courts. Juvenile courts receive annual allocations from DHS for the local treatment of youthful felony offenders.

8 boys and 1 girl were committed to DHS. Felony offenses are displayed to the right where an F-1 is the most serious of felony offenses.

Level	Number	Percent
F-1	5	4%
F-2	7	6%
F-3	23	20%
F-4	22	19%
F-5	61	52%

Supreme Court Statistics...

This statistical summary meets all of the statutory requirements of accounting for the number, type and disposition of cases that came before the Judge and/or Magistrate in calendar year 2006. These statistics are compiled and maintained pursuant to the Rules of Superintendence of the Supreme Court.

	Delinquency	Traffic	Dependency, Neglect, or Abuse	Unruly	Adult Cases	Motion For Permanent Custody	Custody or Visitation	Support	Parentage	U.I.F.S.A	All Others	Total
Cases Filed	1194	1219	60	213	9	7	243	828	68	12	17	3870
Cases Terminated	1005	1151	51	170	6	7	158	666	42	12	13	3281

Court Collections...

The Juvenile Court assesses and collects the same costs as the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas does for similar services. Court costs are assessed against juveniles found to be delinquent, truant, traffic offenders, or unruly. The fines and costs collected by the Court are distributed to the state, county, and to local government.

	Judge Lohn's COPPER Program	Court Costs	Fines	Total
Total	\$112,926.77	\$160,803.30	\$47,760.03	\$321,490.10

Probate Court Update...

Volunteer Guardianship Program (VGP)

In 2005, Judge Lohn initiated the VGP to address the increasing need for court-appointed guardians for our elderly. Since the inception of the program 28 trained volunteer guardians have served a total of 25 indigent wards.



VGP Board

Top left to bottom right: Mary Vantz, Connie Hanzlicek, Sharon Danko, Michelle Hearn, Kathe Shook, Betty Gabriel, Judge John J. Lohn, Laura Toth, Sherry Barylak, Joyce Giles

Probate Court Collections

The Probate Court assesses and collects the same costs as the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas does for similar services. Court costs are assessed against all Probate cases, which include estates, guardianships, adoptions and trusts. Costs collected by the Court are distributed to the state, county, and to local government. In 2006, the Probate Court collected nearly \$190,000.

Annual report generated by and a special thanks to:

- Clint M. Fauss
- Juvenile Clerk Staff
- Probate Clerk Staff
- Programming Staff
- Lynn M. Stover
- Juvenile Probation
- Medina County JDC



Sharon M. Danko
Court Administrator



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* For a copy of the entire annual report visit the downloads section of our website at www.medinacountyjuvenileprobatecourt.com

What to look for in 2007...

Cutting Edge Electronic Monitoring

One of many projects on the table for the Juvenile Court is instituting a reliable and powerful Electronic Monitoring program. Combined with state-of-the-art GPS and cellular technology the new ankle bracelets enable the Court to monitor many forms of potential violations including but not limited to: alcohol consumption, bracelet tampering and physical location. Court personnel can receive instant notification upon any violation. Technology of this caliber is not only more effective, it is also a means of providing safety to our community.

Family Court Model

The Court plans to expand the Drug Court model in order to

assist families with their drug and alcohol addictions and/or diagnosed mental health disorders.

Parent Project

The Parent Project is a comprehensive, award-winning model that provides hope for families and communities by offering specific, no-nonsense solutions to the problems parents face today with out-of-control adolescents.

GIFT Program

The Probate Court has teamed with the University of Akron to offer voluntary mental health assessments to family members working through the establishment of a guardianship. The Guardians, Incompetents, and Families Together program, or GIFT, is expected to begin in the fall of 2007.

Guardianship Training

The Probate Court will begin a quarterly training of all appointed guardians to explain court expectations and paperwork that must be filed in each guardianship case.

Probate Forms Made Available Online

The Probate Court plans to make many commonly used Probate forms available online. These forms are pre-configured to contain text boxes using Adobe Reader®. By visiting our website (www.medinacountyjuvenileprobatecourt.com) the public will be able to access and fill-out printable forms online.