

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

WILLIAM A. FORSYTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



CHRISTOPHER R. BECKER
CHIEF ASSISTANT



KENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

KENT COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE - 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Prosecutor's Office is to perform a variety of statutorily mandated services on behalf of the citizens of Kent County. These include appearances in all criminal proceedings involving charges brought on behalf of the People of the State of Michigan in the various District and Circuit Courts as well as appearances in delinquency, neglect/dependency, mental incompetency and adult guardianship proceedings in both the Probate Court and Family Divisions of the Circuit Court. Additionally, the Appellate Division initiates and responds to appeals resulting from cases in which the Prosecutor's Office has appeared. Further, the Family Law Division, by virtue of both statutory requirements and contractual obligations, is responsible for the establishment of paternity and the securing of child support payments in cooperation with the Department of Human Services.

WILLIAM A. FORSYTH----- **Prosecuting Attorney**

Christopher R. Becker----- Chief Assistant Prosecutor

Nadine Y. Schut----- Administrator

Editor:
Nadine Y. Schut

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March, 2016 - Grand Rapids, Michigan

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While we have provided you with our yearly statistics, we have also provided some comparisons between our office and the six largest counties in the state (excluding Wayne). We do so to demonstrate that not only is the staff of the Kent County Prosecutor's Office among the hardest working and most efficient in the state but that the taxpayers of Kent County get far more for their tax dollars than do the citizens of other jurisdictions.

The felony conviction rate was chosen for a variety of reasons: (1) the conviction rates are based on the most recent statistics from the Michigan Department of Corrections. As such, we are assured that we are comparing apples to apples. The data of the Department of Corrections is collected in a consistent format from county to county; i.e., there is no concern that the various counties count their cases differently.

The total number of assistant prosecutors per county was then divided into the number of felony convictions to show the average number of felony convictions per assistant, per county. This is, admittedly, somewhat misleading because not all assistants handle felony cases. For example, four are assigned exclusively to paternity and non-support cases, five handle nothing but juvenile delinquency and abuse and neglect cases, four are responsible for filing appeals and two are assigned solely to review police reports and to issue warrants. In addition, four assistants are assigned exclusively to the various district courts. As such, we only have fourteen assistants assigned to handle over 3,000 felony cases. While each county is required to utilize their assistants in a similar fashion, local practices and requirements vary dramatically and, as a result, make it difficult to get an accurate count as to the number of attorneys who actually are responsible for handling felony cases. Consequently, we simply divided the number of felony convictions by the total number of assistants.

	*Population	Budget	Assistants	Convictions	Convictions per APA
Oakland	1,210,145	\$22,405,341	86	5,195	60
Macomb	842,145	\$11,815,248	55	4,293	78
Kent	608,453	\$ 7,949,354	34	3,211	94
Genesee	422,080	\$ 7,310,000	30	2,054	68
Ingham	281,613	\$ 6,913,400	33	1,192	36
Kalamazoo	252,074	\$ 5,147,500	28	1,797	64

While these numbers are self-explanatory, three counties in particular show how efficiently we utilize staff: (1) Oakland, with almost exactly twice the population of Kent County, nearly 3 times the budget and 2 ½ times the number of assistants, had a felony disposition rate that was far less than double that of Kent's; (2) Genesee, with a budget very similar to that of Kent, had 1,157 fewer felony convictions; and (3) Ingham had only 1/3 the number of felony convictions, yet has the same number of assistants (i.e. Kent had 97 felony convictions per assistant as opposed to Ingham, which had only 36 per assistant).

William A. Forsyth
Kent County Prosecuting Attorney

* Statistics regarding population, budgets and staffing levels were obtained from the 2015 Annual Survey of the Prosecuting Attorney's Coordinating Council while conviction statistics are from the MDOC 2014 Statistical Report.

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ATTORNEY STAFF

HILARY BAKER, Calvin College, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D. **Started July 2015**

ELIZABETH A. BARTLETT, Grand Valley State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D. **Started August 2015.**

CHRISTOPHER BECKER, Michigan State University, B.A.; Valparaiso University Law School, J.D.; 20 years of prosecution experience.

JAMES K. BENISON, Michigan State University, B.A.; University of Chicago, J.D.; 18 years of prosecution experience.

GREGORY T. BOER, Calvin College, B.A.; University of Iowa, J.D.; 26 years of prosecution experience.

LAWRENCE BOIVIN, McGill University, M.A.; B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 9 years of prosecution experience.

KEVIN M. BRAMBLE, Western Michigan University, B.S.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 29 years of prosecution experience.

TRACEY E. BROWER, Michigan State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 10 years of prosecution experience.

STEVEN R. BURCH, Michigan State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 31 years of prosecution experience. **Retired December 2015.**

LAURA A. CLIFTON, Michigan State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 13 years of prosecution experience.

TRAVIS J. EARLEY, Grand Valley State University, B.S.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 9 years of prosecution experience.

ALICIA M. EDWARDS, Howard University, B.A.; George Washington University Law School, J.D.; 1 year of prosecution experience.

ROBIN D. ESLINGER, University of Illinois, B.A.; Northern Illinois University College of Law, J.D.; 20 years of prosecution experience.

GERARD E. FABER, Chaminade University, B.S.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 11 years of prosecution experience.

ALICIA M. FABIANO, Michigan State University, B.A.; Michigan State University-Detroit College of Law, J.D.; 11 years of prosecution experience. **Left June 2015**

ALEX T. GRIMES, University of Michigan, B.A.; Michigan State University College of Law, J.D., 3 years of prosecution experience.

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DANIEL J. HELMER, Michigan State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 4 years of prosecution experience.

T. LYNN HOPKINS, Michigan State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 23 years of prosecution experience.

JOSEPH D. JACKSON, Grand Valley State University, B.A.; Michigan State University College of Law, J.D.; 5 years of prosecution experience.

MONICA M. JANISKEE, Wayne State University, B.A.; Detroit College of Law, J.D.; 18 years of prosecution experience.

JEFFREY C. KEMPERMAN, Grand Valley State University, B.A.; Michigan State University College of Law, J.D.; 1 year of prosecution experience.

KELLEE A. KONCKI, University of Missouri-Columbia, B.A.; St. Louis University School of Law, J.D.; 23 years of prosecution experience.

JOSHUA J. KUIPER, University of Michigan, B.A.; Wayne State University School of Law, J.D.; 11 years of prosecution experience.

BLAIR T. LACHMAN, University of Rhode Island, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 13 years of prosecution experience.

KIMBERLY M. MANNS, Hope College, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 10 years of prosecution experience.

GARY A. MOORE, University of Michigan, B.A.; Wayne State University School of Law, J.D.; 15 years of prosecution experience.

DANIEL J. O'HARA, Grand Valley State University, B.A.; Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley law School, J.D. **Started December 2015**

BONNIE L. PREVETTE, Michigan State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 10 years of prosecution experience.

ROSEMARY PRINCE MORT, Aquinas College, B.S.; Wayne State University, J.D.; 25 years of prosecution experience.

KIM RICHARDSON, Hope College, B.A.; Valparaiso University School of Law, J.D.; 15 years of prosecution experience.

VICKI L. SEIDL, Central Michigan University, B.S.; Southern Illinois University of Law, J.D.; 20 years of prosecution experience.

MICHELLE C. SMITH-LOWE, Grand Rapids Baptist College, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 13 years of prosecution experience.

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JAY W. STONE, University of Michigan, B.A.; University of Toledo Law School, J.D.; 32 years of prosecution experience.

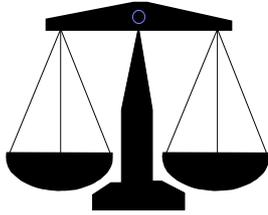
B. SCOTT VANDERKOLK, Grand Valley State University, B.S.; Michigan State University-Detroit College of Law, J.D.; 13 years of prosecution experience.

MARK A. VERMEER, Calvin College, B.A.; Valparaiso Law School, J.D.; 27 years of prosecution experience.

RACHEL M. WUSTMAN-FASBENDER, Grand Valley State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 4 years of prosecution experience.

The average seniority for attorney staff in the Kent County Prosecutor's Office is 15 years per attorney.

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CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Criminal Division handles the prosecution of State law violations in Kent County Circuit Court, 61st District Court, 62nd District Court-Divisions A & B, 63rd District Court, and 59th District Court.

SUPPORT STAFF

Lori Watson ----- Office Administrator
Tanisha Baker ----- Clerk Typist II
Amber Blamer/Kathryn Koski-----Clerk/Typist II
Suzanne Dewey -----Legal Clerk
Dawn Duncan ----- Clerk III
Kara L. Ferris ----- Paralegal Assistant
Debra Makuski----- Paralegal Assistant
Joni Mehl -----Legal Clerk
Carol Parsaca ----- Clerk III
Elaine Pellerito----- Clerk III
Katie Perlmutter----- Clerk III
Lindsey Pruitt -----Legal Clerk
Rachael Traxler ----- Clerk III
Kathy Vazquez ----- Clerk III
Terri Lynn Walker -----Legal Clerk

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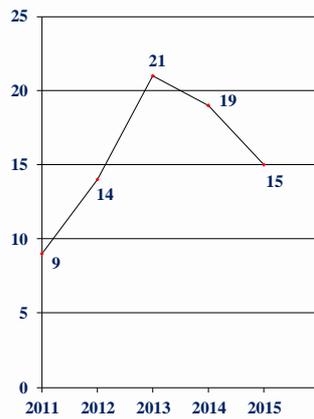
Kent County has seventeen law enforcement agencies that submit charging/warrant requests to the Kent County Prosecutor's Office for review. Two Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys are responsible for thoroughly reviewing warrant requests, including incident reports, witness statements, and the suspect's criminal history before a charging decision is made. Other Assistant Prosecutors may also review warrant requests, particularly if the case involves an allegation of criminal sexual conduct, child abuse, or homicide. Additionally, both attorney and support personnel are in the office on weekends/holidays for warrant review and production since felony lockups require arraignment within 24 hours of arrest.

WARRANTS AUTHORIZED								
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Felony	4,597	4,596	4,072	4,206	4,020	3,911	3,858	3,984
High Misdemeanor	3,793	3,087	2,540	3,160	3,150	2,591	2,542	2,487
Small Misdemeanor	1,411	1,509	1,557	1,653	1,635	1,446	1,410	1,367
Total	9,801	9,192	8,169	9,019	8,805	7,948	7,810	7,838

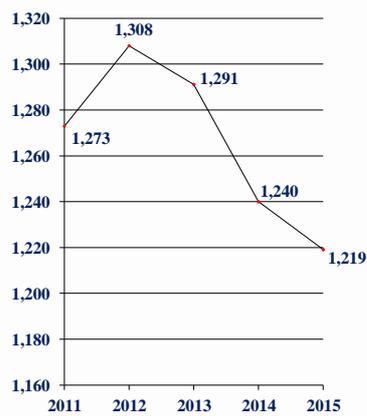
WARRANTS DENIED								
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Felony	605	701	665	682	694	719	661	763
High Misdemeanor	337	350	383	360	351	411	428	542
Small Misdemeanor	1,375	1,559	1,460	1,433	1,366	1,337	1,282	1,393
Total	2,317	2,610	2,508	2,475	2,411	2,467	2,371	2,698

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HOMICIDE CHARGES

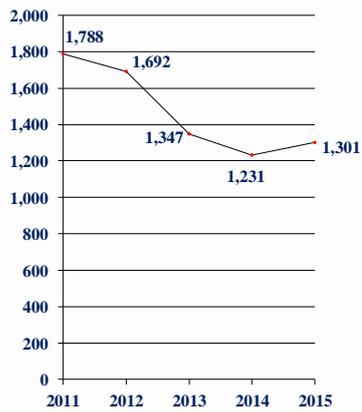


DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CHARGES

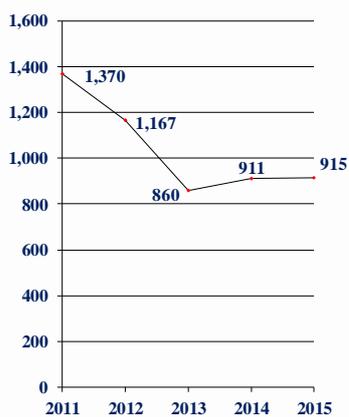


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CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE CHARGES

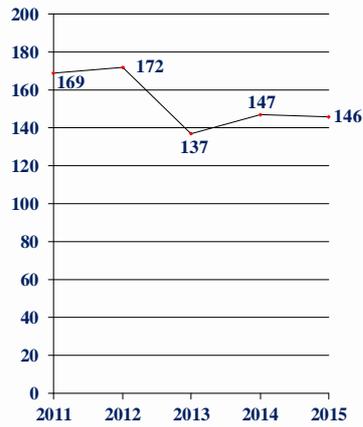


OUIL/OWI CHARGES

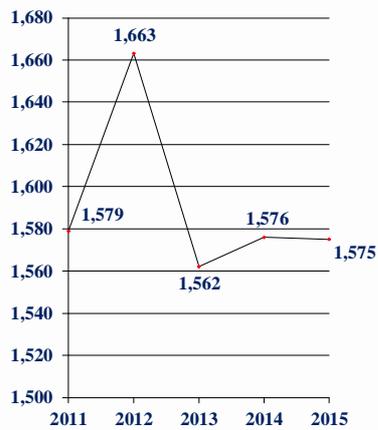


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ROBBERY CHARGES

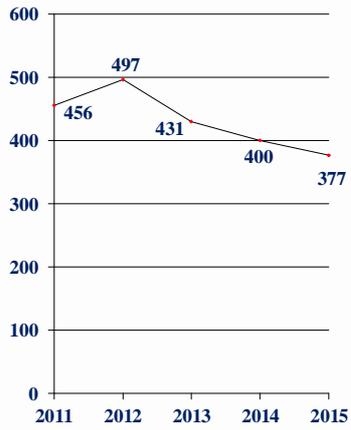


RETAIL FRAUD/ LARCENY CHARGES

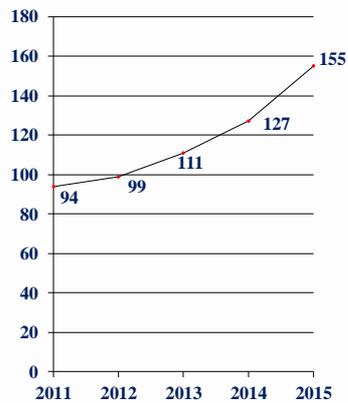


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BURGLARY CHARGES

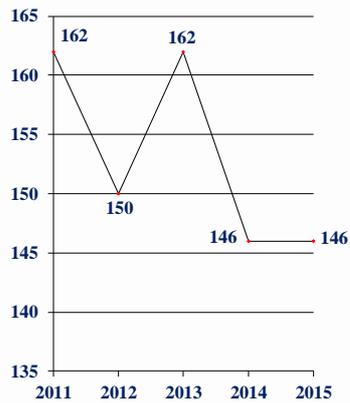


EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGES

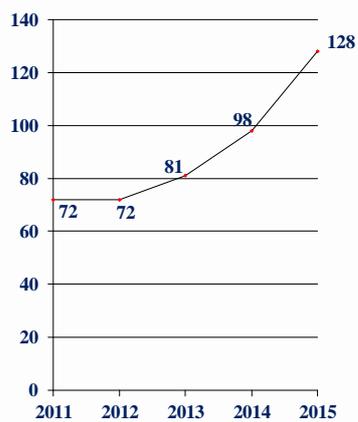


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CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT CHARGES



CHILD ABUSE CHARGES



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CONTESTED FORFEITURES

In an effort to reduce the financial incentive to commit drug offenses, the State Legislature gave police agencies the ability to seize and forfeit money, vehicles, or other property which are the direct result of drug trafficking. Police may seize property based on probable cause that it is the proceeds of illegal drug trafficking. If the owner does not contest the seizure within 20 days, the property is automatically forfeited to the seizing police agency. If the owner does contest the seizure, the case is reviewed by the Prosecutor's Office for possible civil filing with the Circuit Court.

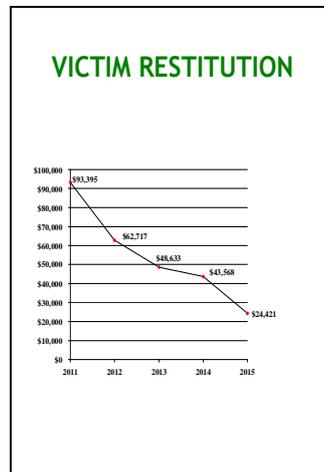
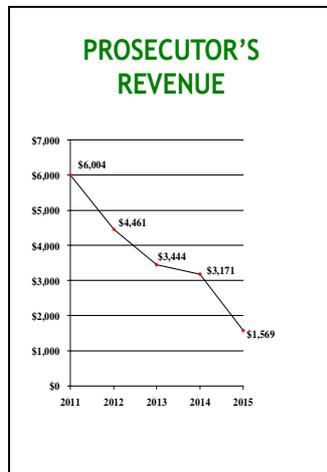
CASH/VEHICLES FORFEITED

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
KCSD					
Forfeitures Filed	0	8	4	3	3
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	0/\$0	3/\$7,956	2/\$16,921	1/\$4,402	1/\$85,766
GRPD					
Forfeitures Filed	13	12	17	15	5
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	5/\$97,670	1/\$37,455	3/\$31,516	11/\$63,408	3/\$16,212
MET					
Forfeitures Filed	3	5	4	6	5
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	1/\$1,542	2/\$5,237	0/\$34,522	0/\$18,304	3/\$98,365
KANET					
Forfeitures Filed	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	0/\$1,323	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0
MSP (Rockford)					
Forfeitures Filed	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0
LOWELL PD					
Forfeitures Filed	0	0	0	1	2
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0
KENTWOOD PD					
Forfeitures Filed	4	2	1	5	0
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	0/\$3,431	0/\$60,458	0/\$2,042	0/\$20,464	0/\$3,715
WYOMING PD					
Forfeitures Filed	1	0	0	0	0
Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	0/\$841	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0	0/\$0
Total Forfeitures Filed	21	27	26	30	15
Total Vehicles/Cash Forfeited	6/\$104,807	6/\$111,106	5/\$85,001	12/\$106,578	7/\$204,058

Judgments for forfeited money and property may not necessarily occur in the same year as a contested forfeiture filing. Cases may be filed in one year and not reach resolution until the following year. Hence, cash and vehicles forfeited are not always directly related to the specific filings for that year. Additionally, often there are miscellaneous items forfeited (e.g., jewelry, stereo equipment, cell phones, etc.) that are not reported in this publication.

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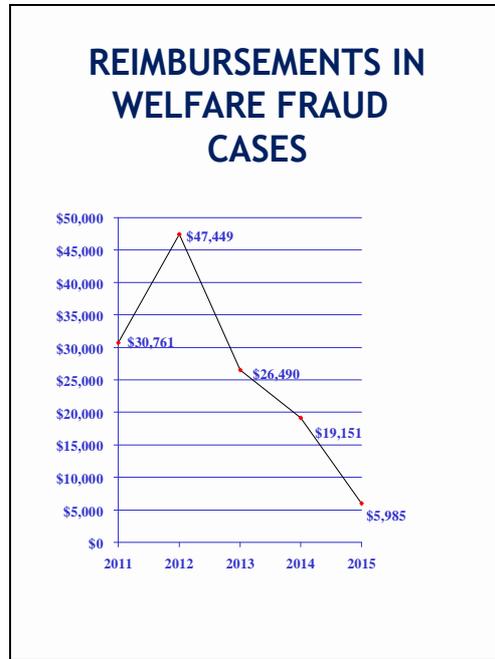
Bad Check Program



Year	Prosecutor's Revenue	Victim Restitution	Class Attendance	Check Volume
2011	\$6,004	\$93,395	332	1,940
2012	\$4,461	\$62,717	207	1,664
2013	\$3,444	\$48,633	176	1,550
2014	\$3,171	\$43,568	135	1,339
2015	\$1,569	\$24,421	67	511
TOTALS	\$18,649	\$272,734	917	7,004

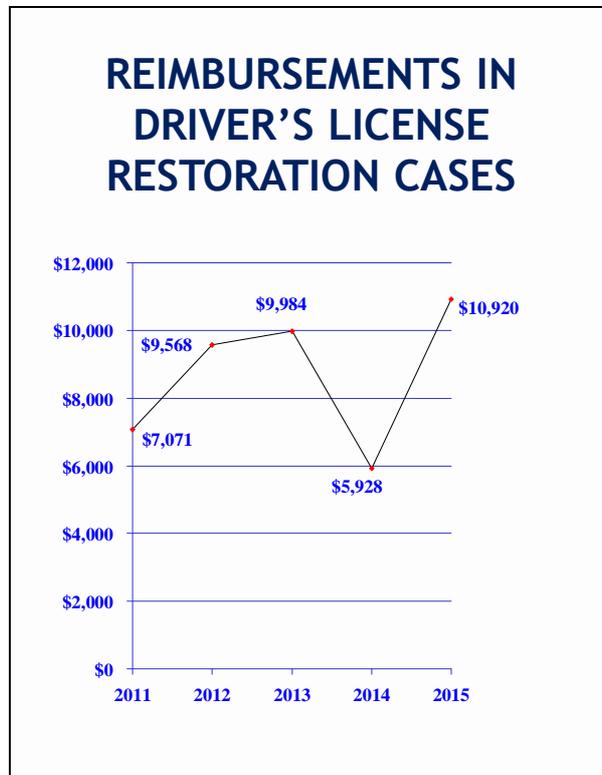
A bad check restitution program was initiated in November 2006. The program was implemented in an effort to assist local merchants with losses stemming from bad checks and to help ease the burden of check enforcement on local law enforcement agencies. In lieu of police agencies devoting precious resources to investigate non-sufficient fund and/or closed account check complaints, merchants are referred to the check program. The primary goal of the program is to obtain full restitution for the victim without adding to the financial burden of the criminal justice system and it operates at no cost to the county or taxpayers. First time bad check offenders are given the opportunity to avoid criminal prosecution by attending a mandatory intervention class, in addition to paying restitution. The benefits of the program are multi-faceted: (1) merchants receive restitution (2) law enforcement is relieved of the responsibility of having to investigate thousands of bad check complaints (3) offenders avoid criminal prosecution and are offered a course in money management in an effort to provide them the skills to avoid future difficulties, and (4) an already busy court system is freed from the burden of additional cases and the costs attendant to such cases. Total victim restitution since the program's inception is \$1,014,835.

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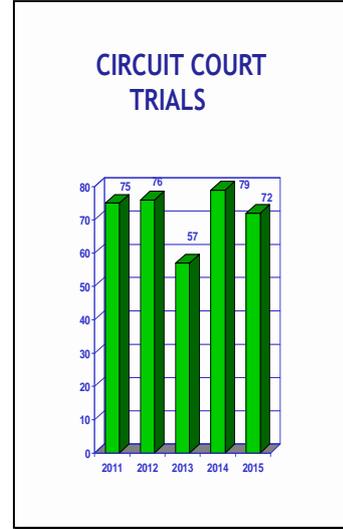
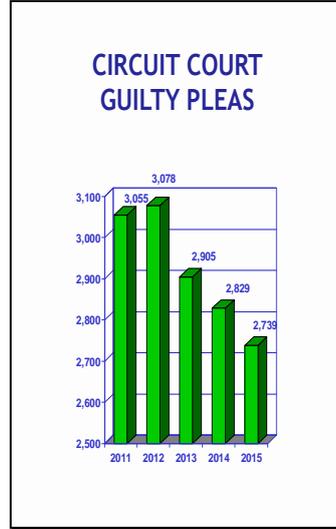
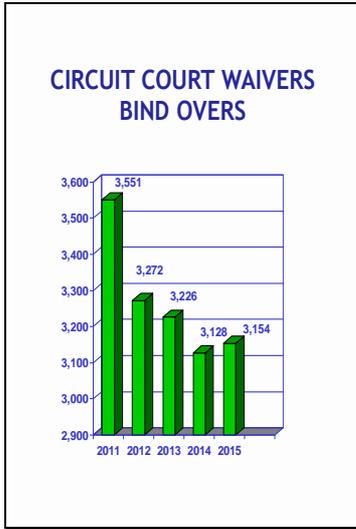
Pursuant to US Code: Title 7, Section 2025(a), the Secretary is authorized to pay to each State agency an amount equal to 50 percent of all administrative costs involved in each State agency's operation of the food stamp program, which costs shall include, but not be limited to, ... (7) food stamp program investigations and prosecutions. The State then reimburses the County a portion of what it costs to prosecute cases where an offender has been charged with food stamp fraud.

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Pursuant to MCL 257.323, the Prosecuting Attorney represents the Secretary of State in response to a petition filed in circuit court for judicial review of a revocation or suspension of a driver's license imposed by the Secretary of State. The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney receives reimbursement for representing the State in these cases.

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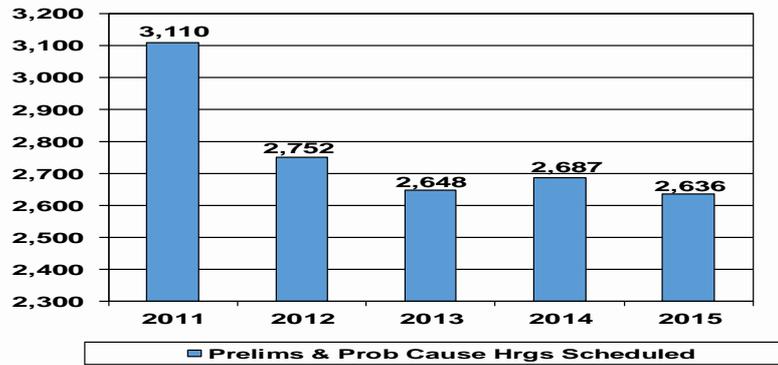


CIRCUIT COURT

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases Waived or Bound Over	3,551	3,272	3,226	3,128	3,154
Guilty Pleas					
Capital	143	128	161	125	138
Non-Capital	2,912	2,950	2,744	2,704	2,601
Total	3,055	3,078	2,905	2,829	2,739
Trials	75	76	57	79	72

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61ST DISTRICT COURT

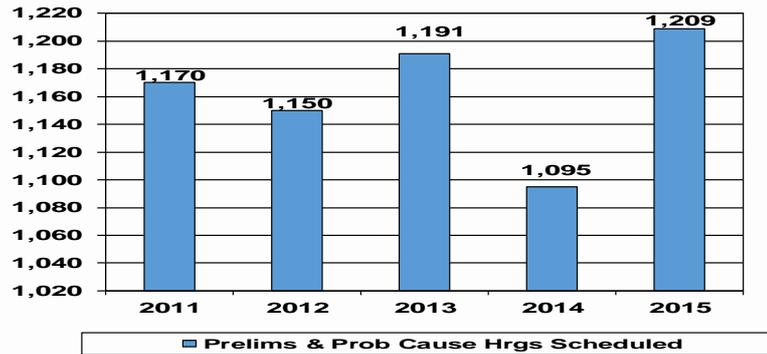


	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Probable Cause Hrgs Scheduled	*	*	*	*	1,996
Preliminary Exams Scheduled	3,110	2,752	2,648	2,687	640
Total PCH & PE's:					2,636
Waived - PCH/PE	1,674	1,553	1,430	1,505	1,089/239
Bound Over - PCH/PE	154	141	159	170	38/105
Misdemeanor Pleas - PCH/PE	551	305	313	274	277/80
Felony Pleas - PCH/PE	142	111	95	47	57/19
Adjourned	415	459	473	475	303
Nolle/Dism (By Court or Pros)	(28-Drug Ct)	(46-Drug Ct)	(56-Drug Ct)	(57-Drug Ct)	(59-Drug Ct)
	91	88	82	106	74
Defendant FTA	48	49	38	47	45
Pre-Trials	1,502	1,424	1,043	1,027	819
Jury Picks	385	405	420	412	325
Settlement Conferences	1,870	1,896	1,679	1,525	1,460
Formal Hearings	29	34	30	25	14
Trials Scheduled	198	230	229	216	135
Motions	78	77	94	67	106

* Effective January 1, 2015 legislation went into effect requiring a person arraigned on a felony charge be scheduled for a probable cause conference (rather than a preliminary examination). If a plea agreement is not reached and/or the defendant does not waive a preliminary exam is then scheduled.

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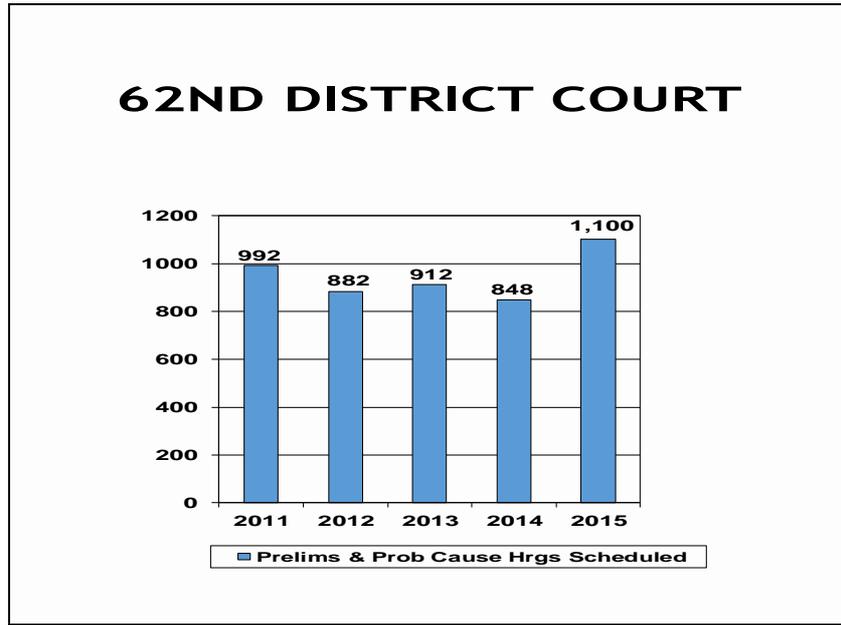
63RD DISTRICT COURT



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Probable Cause Hrgs Scheduled	*	*	*	*	916
Preliminary Exams Scheduled	1,170	1,150	1,191	1,095	293
Total PCH & PE's					1,209
Waived - PCH/PE	698	636	673	606	629
Bound Over - PCH/PE	53	28	38	49	42
Misdemeanor Pleas - PCH/PE	117	177	175	170	169
Felony Pleas - PCH/PE	13	26	36	25	28
Adjourned	246	203	233	200	90
Nolle/Dism (By Court or Pros)	27	23	38	31	30
Defendant FTA	7	9	9	7	20
Pre-Trials	3,454	4,238	4,442	4,409	5,005
Jury Picks (As of 2014 jury picks were scheduled day of trial.)	1,178	1,024	1,067	483	71
Formal Hearings	119	66	66	66	61
Trials Scheduled	510	389	308	208	264
Motions	108	117	119	103	86

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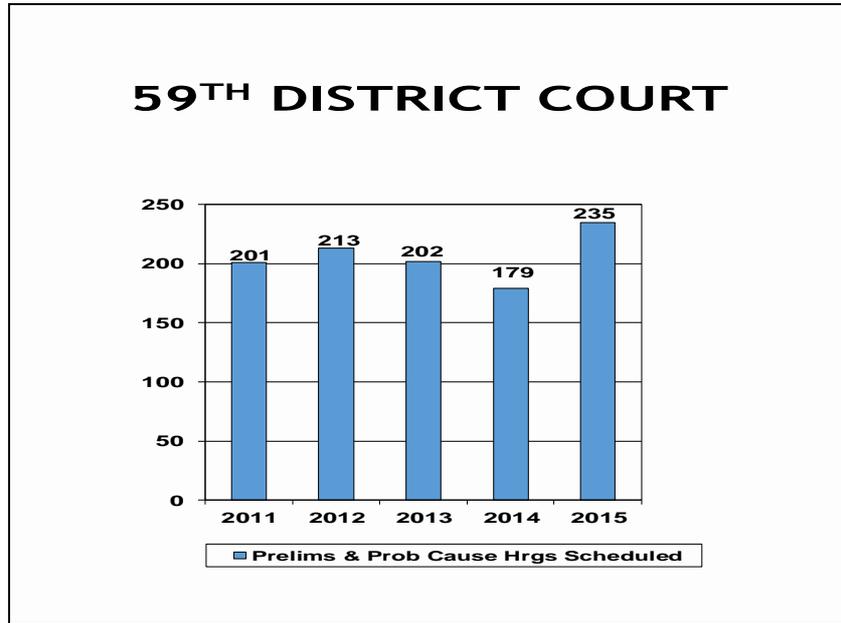
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	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Probable Cause Hrgs Scheduled	*	*	*	*	891
Preliminary Exams Scheduled	992	882	912	848	209
Total PCH & PE's:					1,100
Waived - PCH/PE	568	512	546	521	644
Bound Over - PCH/PE	29	36	40	35	42
Misd Pleas - PCH/PE	100	116	119	113	125
Felony Pleas - PCH/PE	21	21	19	9	17
Adjourned	128	164	149	130	99
Nolle/Dism (By Court or Pros)	21	22	24	26	27
Defendant FTA	12	9	12	13	19
Pre-Trials	962	956	1,005	998	1,258
Jury Picks	152	125	138	134	217
Formal Hearings	4	4	6	2	2
Trials Scheduled	305	222	278	290	435
Motions	24	15	25	20	11

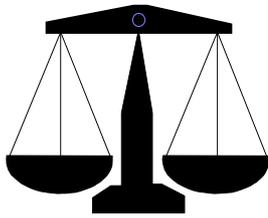
* Effective January 1, 2015 legislation went into effect requiring a person arraigned on a felony charge be scheduled for a probable cause conference (rather than a preliminary examination). If a plea agreement is not reached and/or the defendant does not waive a preliminary exam is then scheduled.

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	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Probable Cause Hrgs Scheduled	*	*	*	*	196
Preliminary Exams Scheduled	201	213	202	179	39
Total PCH & PE's:					235
Waived - PCH/PE	124	124	124	129	148
Bound Over - PCH/PE	9	8	6	8	10
Misd Pleas - PCH/PE	26	24	24	19	36
Felony Pleas - PCH/PE	12	15	21	7	3
Adjourned	25	31	20	15	8
Nolle/Dism (By Court or Pros)	5	10	3	1	4
Defendant Failed to Appear	0	1	4	0	2
Pre-Trials	396	410	366	444	403
Jury Picks	0	4	0	0	0
Formal Hearings	11	5	3	46	2
Trials Scheduled	15	10	3	11	12
Motions	17	18	9	8	3

* Effective January 1, 2015 legislation went into effect requiring a person arraigned on a felony charge be scheduled for a probable cause conference (rather than a preliminary examination). If a plea agreement is not reached and/or the defendant does not waive a preliminary exam is then scheduled.



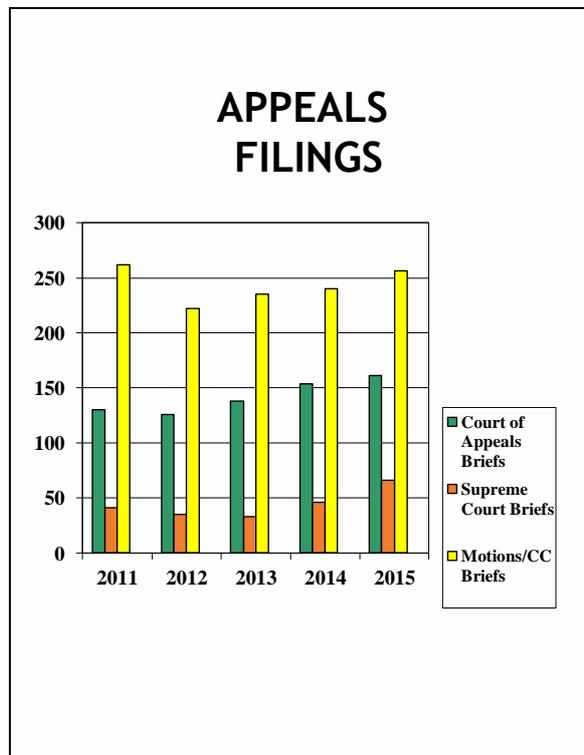
APPELLATE DIVISION

The primary responsibilities of the Appellate Division involve initiating and responding to appeals resulting from cases in which the Prosecutor's Office has appeared as counsel.

The majority of appeals arise from convictions or court rulings in criminal prosecutions. Jurisdiction over these appeals may be in the Circuit Court, Court of Appeals, the Michigan Supreme Court, or in the federal court system. The appellate attorneys' function is to handle all procedural and substantive matters relative to these appeals, from brief writing to oral argument. If an appeal is denied and a conviction upheld, it is also the appellate staff's responsibility to see that the imposed sentence is executed.

In addition to the aforementioned appellate work, the attorneys provide legal advice and research assistance to attorneys in all divisions of the office.

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APPELLATE DIVISION STATISTICS

Briefs Filed	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Court of Appeals	130	126	138	154	161
Supreme Court	41	35	33	46	66
District/Circuit Ct Pleadings/Briefs	262	222	235	240	256
TOTAL	433	383	406	440	462

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BOND FORFEITURES

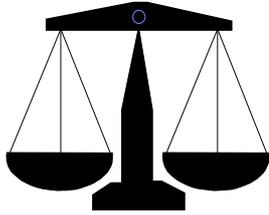
In 2004 we began to actively file bond forfeiture motions for defendants' failure to appear at hearings. The benefits of this are two-fold: (1) Additional revenue for the County. The County Clerk's Office receives any bond monies forfeited as a result of our filings and; (2) Sureties have become more aggressive in trying to track down defendants who have failed to appear and bring them in for court appearances. Once an order is entered, the Surety has 28 days in which to bring in the defendant to avoid judgment after bond forfeiture. Under limited circumstances, the Surety can later obtain relief from the judgment provided that 1) defendant has been returned to custody, 2) the ends of justice have not been thwarted, and 3) the county has been repaid its costs for apprehending the person. MCL 765.28.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bond Forfeitures Filed	32	38	31	17	26

ORDERED			COLLECTED							
Year	Originally Ordered	Dismissed Per Court Order	Net Total Ordered	Year	Total Collected	Refunded Per Court Order*	Court Costs	Extradition Fees	Actual Revenue > 1 Year	Deferred Revenue < 1 Year
2011	138,300	(47,000)	91,300	2011	61,055	(5,350)	650	-	6,254	
2012	88,700	(6,750)	81,950	2012	9,875	(48,000)	2,000	-	11,255	
2013	75,000	(32,500)	42,500	2013	24,096	(1,250)	-	-	7,201	
2014	22,500	(28,750)	(6,250)	2014	17,188	(10,000)	-	-	15,521	
2015	42,000	(7,700)	34,300	2015	25,251	(3,900)	-	-	14,028	
Total	\$366,500	(\$122,700)	\$243,800	Total	\$137,465	(\$68,500)	\$2,650	\$0.00	\$54,259	\$24,511

*Refunded Per Court Order = Judgments Set Aside

VICTIM/WITNESS UNIT



The Victim/Witness Unit of the Kent County Prosecutor's Office is located in the Kent County Courthouse at 180 Ottawa, Suite 5400. Under the Crime Victim's Rights Act, P.A. 87 of 1985, MCL 780.751 *et al.*, the Prosecutor's Office is mandated to provide certain services for victims of crime. This office provides the following mandated services:

Victim Assistance

1. An explanation of the criminal justice system and a victim's rights within the criminal justice system.
2. Contact with the victim from arraignment to disposition of the case.
3. Assistance with applying for Crime Victim's Compensation.
4. Provide case status information.
5. Link victims and families with other personnel, such as the police or prosecutor.
6. Assist with the return of property.
7. Referrals to other agencies for special needs.
8. Crisis intervention

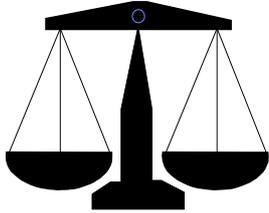
Witness Assistance

1. Notify witnesses of court appearances and provide instructions.
2. Answer questions about the criminal justice system.
3. Notify witnesses of changes, delays, and times to appear.
4. Inform witnesses of case dispositions.
5. Assist in resolving conflicts (vacation, illness, reluctant employer, threats/harrassment, etc.).
6. Greet witnesses, update witness information, and obtain information for witness fee processing.
7. Escort witnesses from waiting area to offices and/or courtrooms as needed.

Pretrial Services

1. Assist the service officer when service information is outdated, incorrect, or incomplete.
2. Monitor service and service problems and assist in attempts to locate missing/uncooperative witnesses.
3. Arrange testimony when necessary for special hearings on missing witnesses.
4. Arrange for special services such as travel, accommodations, interpreters, cabs, Ambucabs, etc.

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VICTIM/WITNESS UNIT STAFF

Rita Caruth -----Victim Witness Coordinator

61st District Court

Noemy Aguilar ----- Victim Witness Advocate
Vicki Plowman ----- Victim Witness Advocate
Sarah Smith ----- Victim Witness Advocate

63rd District Court

Kristine Andrus ----- Victim Witness Advocate

62A (Wyoming), 62B (Kentwood), 59G (Grandville) & 59W (Walker) District Courts

Briana Krepps ----- Victim Witness Advocate

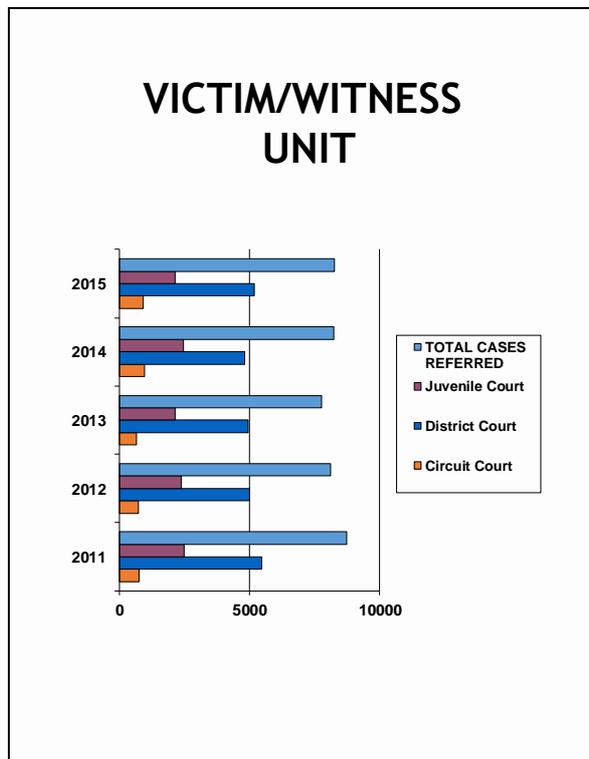
Juvenile/Family Court

Sandy Kaufman - Delinquency Cases ----- Victim Witness Advocate
(Retired December 2015)

Clerks

Tasha Broy ----- Clerk II
Monica Eerdmans ----- Clerk II

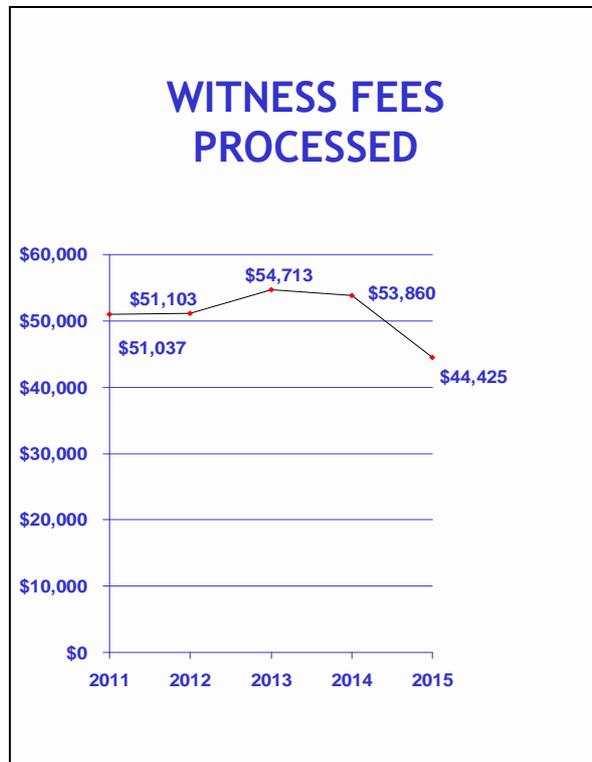
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VICTIM/WITNESS UNIT

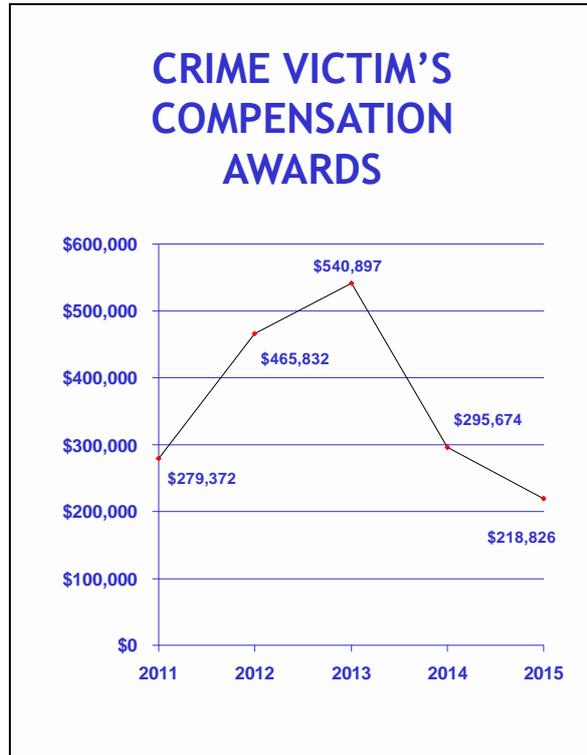
Cases Referred	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Circuit Court	766	741	662	981	934
District Court	5,473	4,997	4,953	4,809	5,180
Juvenile Court	2,492	2,381	2,146	2,459	2,154
TOTAL	8,731	8,119	7,761	8,249	8,268

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Witnesses Subpoenaed	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Police					
Adult Cases	12,805	12,400	11,701	14,570	12,560
Juvenile Cases	160	107	165	240	147
Civilians					
Adult Cases	8,567	8,823	8,726	10,051	8,231
Juvenile Cases	949	927	1,146	1,128	1,021
TOTAL					
Adult Cases	21,372	21,223	20,427	24,621	20,791
Juvenile Cases	1,109	1,034	1,311	1,368	1,168
Witness Fees Processed					
Adult Cases	\$38,179	\$36,803	\$38,881	\$40,988	\$33,828
Juvenile Cases	\$12,858	\$14,300	\$15,832	\$12,872	\$10,597
TOTAL	\$51,037	\$51,103	\$54,713	\$53,860	\$44,425

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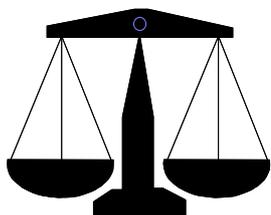
VICTIM/WITNESS UNIT

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Crime Victim's Compensation					
State Awards to Victims	\$279,372	\$465,832	\$540,897	\$295,674	\$218,826
No. of Victims Assisted with Crime Victims Compensations Claims	428	358	364	520	452

The Michigan Crime Victim Compensation Act of 1976 may provide financial assistance to crime victims who are injured, or who lose earnings or support because of a crime committed in Michigan. Section 18.351 of the Michigan Compiled Laws governs the Michigan Crime Victims Compensation Board. Members of the Victim/Witness Unit assist victims in applying for this compensation when applicable.

The Department of Community Health's Crime Victim Services Commission provides grant monies each year to prosecuting attorney offices throughout the state in an effort to ensure victims are provided assistance. In 2014, a \$142,000 grant was awarded to Kent County to help fund the work the Victim/Witness Unit performs on behalf of crime victims.

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FAMILY LAW DIVISION

Through both statutory and contractual arrangements, the Prosecutor's Office is responsible for the establishment of paternity and the securing of child support orders. The objective of the cooperative reimbursement program is to secure child support payments from those legally responsible and financially able to provide for their children; thereby shifting the burden for the support of minor children from the Department of Human Services to the responsible parent. Furthermore, legal representation is provided to any Kent County resident seeking assistance with the establishment of paternity and/or child support. In return, the county receives an incentive of all monies collected.

Mark A. Vermeer-----**Senior Assistant Prosecuting Attorney**
Tracey E. Brower -----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Rosemary Prince Mort-----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
B. Scott VanderKolk-----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

Lisa Costen-----**Caseworker Supervisor**
Beth Vogt -----Caseworker
Sherri Foster-----Caseworker
Kristina Huber-----Caseworker
Belinda Lopez-----Caseworker Assistant

Brandy Johnson-----**Office Administrator**
Marisa Alvarado-----Clerk Typist II
Tina Gillhooley-----Clerk III
Anne Jetzer-----Clerk III
Chelsey Mallekoote-----Clerk II
Ashley Morey-----Clerk III
Tamara Ring-----Clerk Typist II
Cheryl Stanard-----Clerk Typist II
Jolene VanMalsen-----Clerk III
Emily Watson-----Clerk Typist II

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COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Fiscal Year is October 1 to September 30

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
Personnel	19	19	19	19	19
Approved Budget	1,765,172	\$1,804,990	\$1,859,762	\$1,811,280	\$1,949,095
State Funds Expended	\$1,139,920	\$1,174,225	\$1,165,235	\$1,159,497	\$1,187,813
County Funds Expended	\$587,231	\$604,904	\$600,273	\$597,316	\$611,903
Actual Budget	\$1,727,151	\$1,779,129	\$1,765,508	\$1,756,813	\$1,799,716
Cases Opened	2,742	3,466	3,283	3,943	3,865
Cases Continued	1,954	1,352	1,820	1,704	2,018
Cases Closed	3,344	2,998	3,399	3,865	4,053
Cases Pending	1,352	1,820	1,323	1,782	1,830
Judgments	2,827	2,327	2,670	2,889	2,812

The rules governing case closure require us to keep a case in “locate” (i.e. pending) for up to three (3) years if we have a social security number for the father, or one (1) year if a social security number is unknown. Additionally, if the mother is non-cooperative, we are required to keep the case open indefinitely while the Office of Child Support attempts to resolve the non-compliance issue. Consequently, these rules restrict what we can do to reduce or limit the number of “Cases Pending”.

IN-OFFICE SERVICE

Non-custodial parties (NCP's) in paternity and support cases must be personally served with a Complaint and Summons once the case is filed with the court. The average cost to serve an NCP is around \$28.00, but can be more, especially if they live or work outside of Kent County. In May 2014, a process for scheduling dates for the NCP to appear in the office for service in lieu of sending cases to a process server for personal service was implemented. Not only does this save money, it offers an opportunity for service to be done privately (not at work or home), allows them an opportunity to file an Answer right away, and if appropriate, for genetic testing to be done the same day. This provides for speedier processing and resolution of the case.

2015 Statistics:

- 1,305 NCP's were scheduled to come in for service. 605 (46%) appeared and were served resulting in approximately \$16,940 in savings.
- 535 (88%) of those served filed an Answer the same day and avoided default.
- 178 genetic tests were completed the same day the NCP was served and filed an Answer, freeing up timeslots for other parties to be scheduled for testing sooner.

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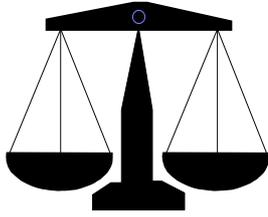


	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Support Ordered Monthly	\$275,788	\$231,357	\$297,326*	\$446,829*	\$441,167*
Support Ordered Annually	\$3,309,456	\$2,776,284	\$3,567,912*	\$5,361,948*	\$5,294,004*
Cost Per Positive Disposition	\$611	\$765	\$661	\$608	\$640
Cases Completed w/i 6 months from Service Date	98%	95%	96%	96%	97%
Cases Completed w/i 12 months from Service Date	97%	95%	96%	96%	96%
Cases w/Support Orders Entered	80%	80%	80%	80%	82%
Cases w/Paternity Established	97%	96%	97%	95%	100%

Objectives

- Complete 75% of cases within six (6) months from service date and 90% within twelve (12) months from service date as required by federal regulations.
- Enter support orders in 80% of cases and establish paternity in 90% of cases as required by federal regulations.

*The amount of monthly and annual support has increased over the past two years for a number of reasons: (1) an increase in caseload; (2) more efficient case processing; (3) an increase in the state's minimum wage from \$7.40 to \$8.15 and; (4) effective in June 2013, the Office of Child Support began to generate reports that combine the support ordered through the Family Law Division with support ordered through the Friend of the Court's support review and modification process.



JUVENILE DIVISION

The staff of the Juvenile Division has three primary areas of responsibility: delinquency, child protective proceedings, and mental incompetency hearings. In addition, the attorneys are statutorily mandated to represent those who have filed a petition with the Circuit Court seeking the issuance of a PPO (i.e. Personal Protection Order). Staff also acts as a resource for the many social service, counseling, and youth programs associated with the juvenile justice system. Everyday responsibilities include providing legal advice to virtually everyone involved in child welfare: police, probation officers, and social workers.

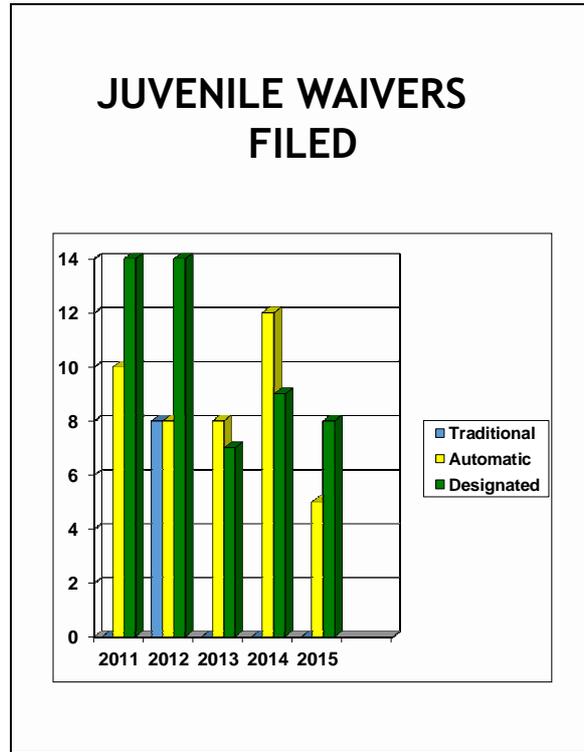
Vicki L. Seidl -----Senior Prosecuting Attorney
Hilary L. Baker -----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Laura A. Clifton -----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Alicia M. Edwards -----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Joseph D. Jackson-----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Michelle Smith-Lowe -----Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Sue Barfelz -----Clerk/Typist III
Shonnie Plasman-----Clerk/Typist III

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JUVENILE DIVISION STATISTICS

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
DELINQUENCY					
Delinquency Trials	19 NJT = 14 JT = 5	12 NJT = 12 JT = 0	16 NJT = 15 JT = 1	20 NJT = 15 JT = 5	13 NJT = 11 JT = 2
Delinquency PTCs	733	847	661	646	613
Delinquency Pleas	791	793	611	701	674
Delinquency Jury Demands	273	300	345	459	506
Disposition Hearings	272	329	290	354	321
Review Hearings	279	338	330	361	265
Delinquency Petitions Authorized	2,492	2,381	2,146	2,459	2,154
Delinquency Petitions Denied	192	181	220	238	279
<u>NEGLECT</u>					
Neglect Conferences	207	244	291	303	325
Termination Confs Petitions Authorized	136	100	131	139	125
Contested Neglect Hearings	600	575	755	835	871
Contested Termination Hearings	334	295	322	318	326
Other Neglect Hearings	127	227	159	164	89
Motions and OTSC Hearings	113	103	138	94	83
Personal Protection Order Hearings	86	61	80	80	83
Incompetency Hearings	682	606	596	630	597

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	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Traditional Waivers Filed	0	8	0	0	0
Traditional Waivers Granted	0	8	0	0	0
Automatic (Direct) Waivers Filed	10	8	8	12	5

There are three types of waivers. The first two allow a juvenile to be placed in the adult system. An “automatic” waiver (sometimes called a direct waiver) automatically transfers jurisdiction of the juvenile to the adult system and is based on the severity of the crime committed. A “traditional” waiver (also referred to as a two-phase waiver) is based on the juvenile’s criminal history rather than simply the severity of the crime committed. It is utilized only if all rehabilitation/treatment avenues have been exhausted within the juvenile system. When the juvenile commits a new crime, the Prosecutor’s Office petitions the Juvenile Court to waive the offender to the adult system for prosecution.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Designated Waivers	14	14	7	9	8

A **designated** waiver results in an adult conviction but allows the judge the discretion to sentence the offender as a juvenile.