

HENRY COUNTY FAMILY COURT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Judge Denise Herman McColley

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**HENRY COUNTY FAMILY COURT
JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISIONS**

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

JUDGE DENISE HERMAN MCCOLLEY

I am pleased to present the 2010 Annual Report of the Henry County Juvenile Court for your information and use. This report includes information about the programs offered by the Court and Juvenile Probation Department to the youth of your county as well as statistical information regarding number and type of cases filed. I hope you find this report informative and useful.

Several new programs were developed and implemented during 2010. These include the STAR Mentoring Program, the Choices and Promised Program, as well as the addition of a Community Service Coordinator and expansion of the Community Service Program.

The Henry County Family Court continued to enjoy the dedication and experience of Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys, Richard A. Fisher and Amy C. Rosebrook, defense attorneys, the staff of the Henry County Department of Human Services, the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program, and the law enforcement agencies of Henry County including the Henry County Sheriff's Office, the Napoleon Police Department, and the Ohio State Patrol.

The Court would also like to thank the following for their assistance and cooperation in helping the Court and juveniles of Henry County: The school administrators, teachers, and staff of Napoleon Area City Schools, Holgate Local Schools, Liberty Center Local Schools, Patrick Henry Local Schools, and Independence Education Center, counseling agencies, numerous foster parents and group homes, the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training and Rehabilitation Center, the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio, and the Ohio Department of Youth Services.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Court and Juvenile Probation staff for their continued service and dedication. With the support of our partners and the Court staff, we have been able to continue providing the children and families in Henry County with the highest quality services.

I hope that you find this report informative and useful and I welcome any questions or comments.

Respectfully Submitted

Denise Herman McColley, Judge

Family Court Staff

Richard L. Altman is the Magistrate for the Court. Prior to this position he was the Mediation Coordinator of the Northwest Ohio Court Mediation Services. He has worked extensively as an attorney and mediator in the areas of Civil Law, Domestic Relations, Parenting Issues, and Criminal Matters. Magistrate Altman has been a frequent presenter for organizations such as the Ohio Supreme Court, The Ohio Judicial College, the Wisconsin Association of Mediators, and the Association of Family Conciliation Courts. He presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Family Conciliation Courts as Treasurer. He is also a member of Ohio State Bar Association where he has served as Chair of the Dispute Resolution Committee and is a member of several local bar associations.

Pam Thompson has worked as the Court Administrator and Assignment Commissioner since 1/1/2005. Prior to that she served as the First Director of the Henry County CASA (GAL Program) and in interior design services. She completed the Ohio Supreme Court Management Program in 2010

Dawn Bischoff began with Henry County Juvenile Court in June of 1998 as Deputy Clerk. In 2006, Henry County added the Family Court, which is when Dawn became the Chief Deputy Clerk of the Juvenile Division. Dawn is responsible for any new filing of custody and dependent/neglect/abuse cases. Dawn also compiles the Supreme Court report, and is responsible for general operations and function of the Juvenile Clerks office. In the fall of 2011, Dawn will earn her certificate of completion of the CMP Program from the Supreme Court of Ohio, Judicial College.

Erin Walker was hired in 2008 as our Juvenile Deputy Clerk. She is responsible for filing and docketing traffic, delinquent/unruly, adult contributing, paternity/child support, and failure to send children to school cases. She is also in charge of running the BMV report. Erin has an Associate's Degree in Graphic Communication Technology with a certificate in Desktop Publishing from Columbus State Community College.

Juvenile Probation Staff

Chief Probation Officer Joyce Beck has been employed with the Henry County Juvenile Probation Department since July 1985. Joyce is responsible for the management of the staff and operations of the Juvenile Probation Department. She is also the Grant Administrator for grants received from the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Joyce was previously employed at the Maumee Youth center, a Department of Youth Services institution, as well as with Northwest Ohio Community Action Commission as a case worker. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green State University majoring in Sociology and Psychology.

Probation Officer Elissa Carrizales has been with the Juvenile Probation Department since May 1995. Elissa came to the court from Northwest Community Action Commission, Head Start Program, where she served as a Family Service Specialist. Elissa graduated from Northwest State Community College in 1994 with an Associate's Degree in Human Services. Elissa supervises a caseload of youth on probation in addition to attending Court hearings and conducting unofficial unruly conferences.

Probation Officer Tricia Gerken has been with the Juvenile Probation Department since September 2002. Tricia came to the Family Court from the Henry County Sheriff's Office where she served as a Deputy Sheriff. Tricia manages a caseload of youth on probation. Tricia is a graduate of Owens Community College with an Associate's degree in Law Enforcement and is a certified Peace Officer.

Leigh Trauthwein began with the Probation Department in September of 2010. She is the administrative assistant to the Magistrate as well as to the Probation Department staff. Her responsibilities include a variety of clerical duties as well as docketing cases for the Magistrate. She also assists the Grant Administrator with maintaining ledgers for the Department of Youth Services Grant.

PROBATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Henry County Juvenile Probation Department employs a Chief Probation Officer, two Probation Officers, a Probation Secretary, and a part-time Community Service Coordinator.

Intake

Upon the filing of a complaint by law enforcement, a determination is made whether the case should be scheduled for an Official Hearing before the Judge or Magistrate or scheduled for an Unofficial or Diversion Hearing. In general, first time offenders who have committed a misdemeanor offense may be eligible for an Unofficial Hearing. All felony offenses and drug-related offenses are scheduled for Official Hearings.

Other responsibilities required during the intake process include information gathering by contacting the schools for attendance, grades, and disciplinary reports, investigating the amount of restitution due to the victims, and referring the cases to the Victim Advocate when required.

Unofficial Hearings

An Unofficial Hearing is scheduled for the youth and his/her parent(s) before the Magistrate of the Court. The youth must be willing to admit his/her involvement in the offense. Youth are given a variety of consequences which may include curfews, community service hours, Substance Abuse Education Program, Theft Offenders Program, apology letters, and operator's license suspensions. If the youth successfully completes his requirements, the case is closed and the youth is deemed not to have a formal juvenile record.

Official Probation

One of the most common dispositions in the Juvenile Court is probation. In 2010, 96 juveniles were supervised on probation. Probation Officers attended a total of 430 Court hearings and 54 Probation Violations or Motions to Revoke were filed.

Probation Officers are responsible for supervising youth that are placed on probation by the Court and monitoring the youth's compliance with Court orders. Supervision is provided through home visits, school visits, and office visits. Officers also visit youth who are placed outside the home in foster care, residential placements, or incarcerated at the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Center. Probation Officers maintain regular contact with parents, school personnel, and service providers. Probation Officers attend IEP and other school meetings, case plan and semi-annual review meetings with the Henry County Department of Job and Family Services as well as Wraparound and Service Coordination Meetings.

A Probation Officer attends each scheduled Court hearing regarding a youth. They are responsible for providing the Court with recommendations regarding disposition as well as progress made by the youth. At the request of the Court, a pre-dispositional report will be completed by interviewing the parents, youth, school personnel, and other service providers. All three Probation Officers are certified in the Ohio Youth Assessment which was developed by the University of Cincinnati. This assessment determines the youth's risk level, areas needing

treatment, and also measures progress. The assessment is complete on each youth placed on probation and can also be used as a pre-dispositional tool.

All probationers are subject to random drug screens. A positive rapid drug screen completed in the office is confirmed by laboratory analysis. Probation Officers may take a variety of actions as a result of a positive drug screen including referral for treatment or a probation violation being filed with the Court.

The Probation Department provides an on-call officer, available 24 hours a day, for law enforcement to contact when severe juvenile related matters occur. A Probation Officer can authorize a youth's incarceration at the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Center or assist in determining an alternative placement pending a Court hearing.

Unruly Conferences

Probation Officers will also conduct an informal conference with an unruly juvenile at the request of parents, school officials, and law enforcement officers. Probation Officers advise the youth and parents of possible consequences should the undesirable behavior continue as well as make appropriate referrals for services that may be helpful to the youth and family.

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

There are some youth in Henry County who require placement outside of their home either in a secure or non-secure facility. The decision to remove a child from his home is never taken lightly and is used as a last resort when community based services have been exhausted.

Ohio Department of Youth Services

The Ohio Department of Youth Services is the state correctional system for juvenile offenders ages 10-18 who commit felony level offense. The commitments range from a minimum period of 6 months to a maximum period of the youth's 21st birthday. The Department provides treatment and educational programming to meet each youth's needs. A Parole Officer is assigned to the youth upon release to assist their transition from the institution back into the community. Henry County Juvenile Court committed one youth to the Department of Youth Services in 2010.

Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio

The Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio located in Bowling Green, Ohio is a secure 42 bed treatment facility for male youth adjudicated of a felony offense. The Juvenile Residential Center is used as an alternative for youth who may have otherwise been placed at the Department of Youth Services. The facility offers numerous treatment options that are supported by research and practice. Individualized treatment is based upon a youth's specific needs and families are included in counseling sessions. The close proximity of the facility makes family involvement realistic. Three youth were placed at the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Residential Center in 2010.

Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Center

Henry County Juvenile Court utilizes the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training, and Rehabilitation Center located in Stryker, Ohio for short term incarceration of youth who have been adjudicated a delinquent child, youth in pre-trial status that are not safe to be released to the community pending adjudication, and youth awaiting transport to another facility. Henry County Juvenile Court contracts for 6 beds in the facility. In 2010, 48 different youth were placed at the detention center. However, 18 of those same youth were detained on more than one occasion.

Youth are provided with many services while incarcerated at the Juvenile Detention Center. Mental Health services and evaluations are provided to youth by Four County Family Center. Alcohol/drug assessments and treatment are provided by Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio. Many other groups such as Life Skills, Strategies for Anger Management, Conflict Resolution, Girls Circle, and Boys Council are facilitated by staff employed by the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training, and Rehabilitation Center.

Foster Care/Residential Treatment

The Court is occasionally faced with a youth on probation that for a variety of reasons cannot be maintained in their home and a secured facility is not appropriate or necessary. Community based and in home services provided to the family have not been effective. In these cases, the Court places the youth in the custody of the Henry County Department of Job and Family Services for placement in a foster home, group home, or residential placement. The goal is continued involvement with the youth's family and eventual reunification or in the case of older youth, independent living. During 2010, three youth were in the Department of Job and Family Services' custody.

Restitution and Community Service

New to the Probation Department in 2010 is the addition of a Community Service Coordinator. Sixty youth were ordered to complete Community Service as a part of their disposition. A grant obtained from the Ohio Department of Youth Services enables the Probation Department to provide youth the opportunity to complete Community Service to pay restitution owed to a victim. A total of five youth were able to pay restitution to victims in the amount of \$1, 811.63 through this program. Community Services is completed at public worksites such as the Henry County Humane Society, Henry County Landfill, schools, and area churches. In addition, youth working the Litter Control covered 132 miles of county roads and collected 1.28 tones or 2,560 pounds of litter during 2010.

Court Provided Treatment Services

- **Choices and Promises**

Choices and Promises is a weekly group program for both parents and child which began in 2010. The goal of the program is to help teens and parents both understand their respective roles, talk to each other in a manner that works, and to recognize the value of authority as well as the positive power of parenting. Topics of discussion include the purpose of rules, substance use and abuse, effective communication skills and conflict resolution, cyber-internet safety and many more. The program is provided at no cost to the family. Fourteen families attended Choices and Promises in 2010.

- **Court Assessments**

In some cases, determining appropriate custody, placement and treatment can be a very difficult and complex task. A Court Evaluator is available to the Court through funding provided by the local Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board. A master level therapist gathers information and interviews all parties involved in the case before submitting a written recommendation to the Court.

- **Mediation Services**

Court Mediators are available to both parents and schools for truancy issues as well as to establish behavior contracts. In addition the youth offender and victim may be referred to mediation to determine an appropriate amount of restitutions to be paid.

- **S.T.A.R. Mentoring Program**

New to the Henry County Juvenile Court in 2010 is the creation of the Supporting Teens to Achieve Results Mentoring Program. The program is funded by the Henry County Family Court and Local ADAMhs Board. The mission of the program is to create, nurture and support meaningful relationships between children and volunteers that will encourage each child to grow into an assertive, capable, and compassionate adult. The goal is to provide these youth with a positive adult role model. In the first year of the program, six mentors were trained and five mentor and youth matches were made.

- **Theft Offender Program**

The Theft Offender Program is proved to the Court by Interchange. Youth adjudicated of a theft related charge are referred the program. A parent must attend the four hour session with the youth. Thirteen youth completed the program during 2010.

REFERRAL AGENCIES

- **AJA Behavioral**

AJA Behavioral provides mental health counseling as well as alcohol/drug treatment to youth and their families. Numerous treatment modules are offered including Adolescent Correctional Counseling, Coping with Anger, Responsible Living, Rules are Made to be Followed, and Something for Nothing among others.

- **Center for Child and Family Advocacy**

The Center for Child and Family Advocacy is the area's leading agency in providing sex offender treatment. The agency also specializes in the treatment of victims of sexual and physical abuse. They also provide traditional individual and family counseling.

- **Four County Family Center**

Four County Family Center provides a plethora of services to youth and their families. Pharmacological management provides psychiatric assessment and monitoring services for those requiring medication. Functional Family Therapy is an evidence based model of treatment designed to improve family communication while decreasing negativity within the family. Services are provided in the home. Intensive Home Based Counseling provides counseling within the youth's home to provide the structure the help the family function at their highest level of ability. Out-patient counseling is provided for individuals and families to decrease personal issues many youth face due to stress, conflict, or life changes. Case management services provide support to families as well as linking to appropriate services in the community. Youth involved with multiple systems are referred for Service Coordination and Wraparound Services

- **Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio**

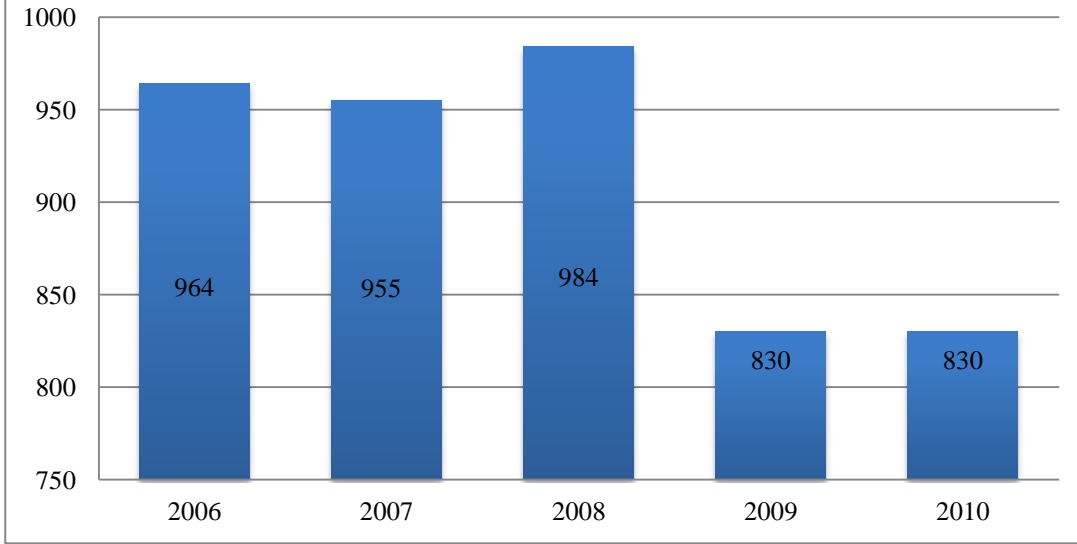
Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio provides counseling services to youth struggling with chemical dependency as well as prevention and education services. Youth who are charged with a first offense of Underage Consumption are referred to the Adolescent Education Program which is held weekly for four weeks. Parents are required to attend the final session.

Life Without Drugs Program is a 90 day treatment program provided by Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio and is housed at the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Training and Rehabilitation Center. Youth are placed at the detention center during the treatment period. Four youth were placed in Life Without Drugs Program in 2010.

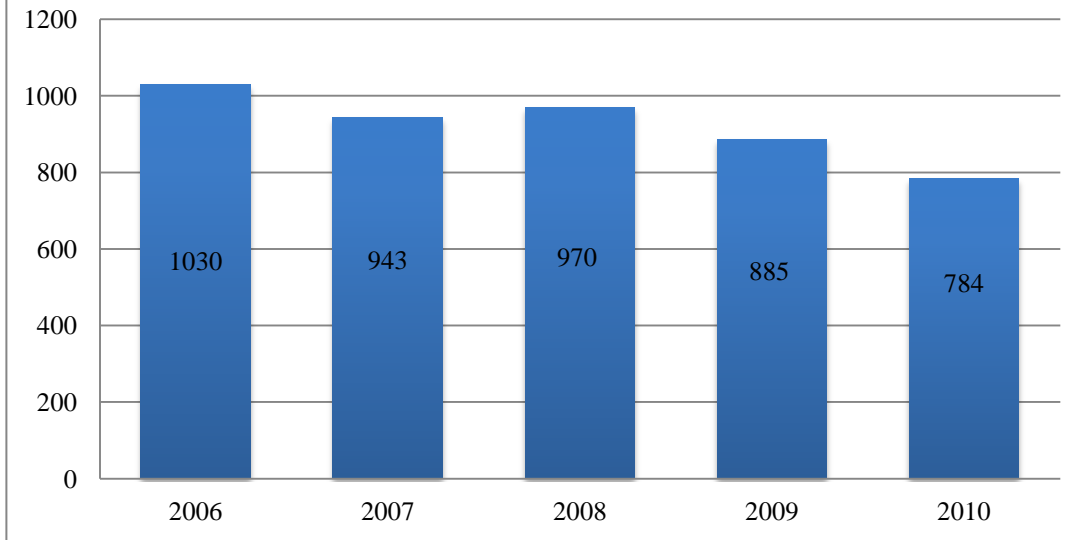
- **The Help Center**

The Help Center also provides a variety of services to youth referred by the Probation Department. Mental health counseling is provided as well as pharmacological management. The Help Center also provides alcohol/drug treatment through both group and individual sessions and random drug screens.

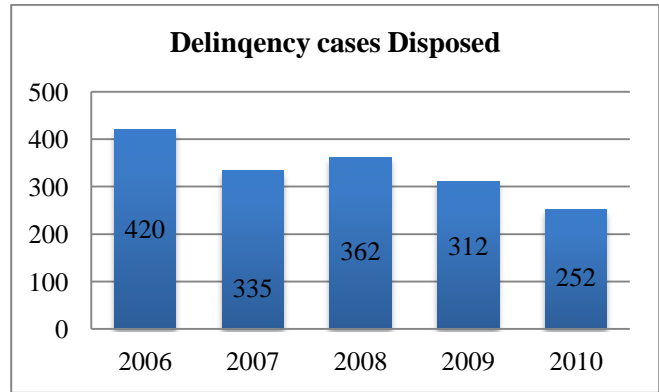
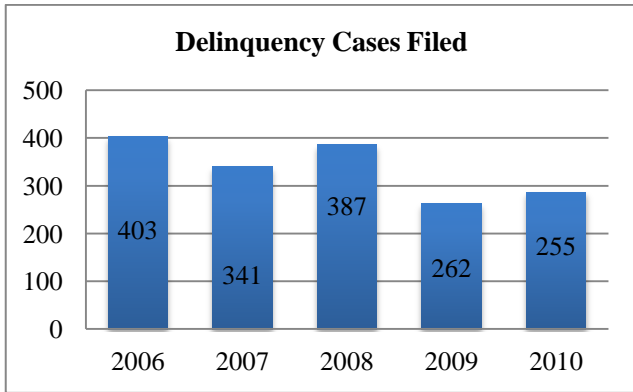
Juvenile Court Cases Filed & Reactivated



Juvenile Court Cases Disposed



DELINQUENCY CASES 2010



2152.02 (F) “Delinquent Child” defined:

“Delinquent child” includes any of the following:

- 1) Any child, except a juvenile traffic offender, who violates any law of this state or the United States, or any ordinance of a political subdivision of the state that would be an offense if committed by an adult.
- 2) Any child who violates any lawful order of the court made under this chapter or under Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code other than an order issued under section 2151.87 of the Revised Code.
- 3) Any child who violates divisions (C) of section 2907.39, division (A) of section 2923.211 or division (C)(1) or (D) of section 2925.55 of the Revised Code.
- 4) Any child who is a habitual truant and who previously has been adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant.
- 5) Any child who is a chronic truant

Official Cases File	182		
Unofficial Cases Filed	51		
Motions to Revoke	54	Nine	1
Total Cases Filed	287	Ten	1
		Eleven	1
Official Cases Disposed	157	Twelve	4
Unofficial Cases Disposed	47	Thirteen	15
Motions to Revoke	48	Fourteen	40
Total Cases Disposed	252	Fifteen	73
		Sixteen	73
Total Felony Offenses Filed	29	Seventeen	68
Total Felony Adjudications	12	Eighteen	10
		Nineteen	1
Total Commitments to DYS	1		
Total Commitments to Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio	2	Male	221
		Female	66

TYPES OF DELINQUENCY OFFENSES

Aggravated Menacing	2	Importuning	1
Aggravated Trespassing	2	Littering	2
Assault (Misdemeanor)	9	Loud Noise Violation	1
Attempted Criminal Mischief	2	Menacing	3
Attempted Drug Paraphernalia	1	Motion to Revoke	47
Breaking and Entering	8	Obstructing Official Business	5
Burglary	1	Offenses Involving Underage	29
Chronic Truant	3	Possession Weapons at School	1
Complicity Tampering with Evidence	1	Probation Violation	6
Complicity to Criminal Damaging	2	Public Indecency	2
Complicity to Theft	2	Receiving Stolen Property	2
Contributing to Unruliness or Delinquency of Minor	11	Selling Dangerous Drugs	3
Corrupt Another with Drugs	4	Sexual Imposition	1
Criminal Damaging	15	Tampering with Evidence	2
Criminal Mischief	8	Telephone Harassment	1
Criminal Trespassing	8	Theft (Felony)	4
Disorderly Conduct	26	Theft (Misdemeanor)	16
Disseminate Harmful Matter	1	Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle	2
Domestic Violence (Misdemeanor)	14	Vandalism	2
Drug Paraphernalia	16	Vehicular Homicide	1
Drug Possession	13	Violated Court Order	2
Drug Trafficking	1		
Failure to Comply	1		
Falsification	3		

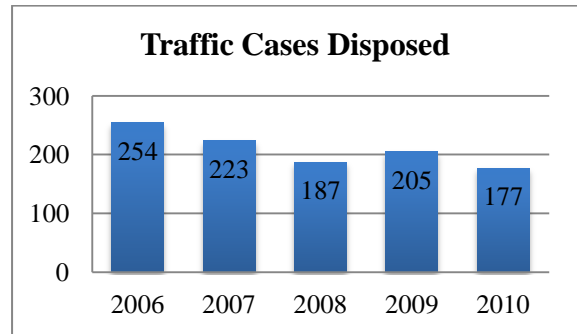
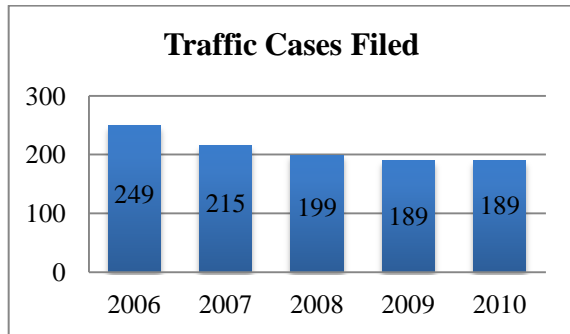
Total Offenses

287

TYPES OF DELINQUENCY DISPOSITIONS

DYS Commitment	1
DYS Commitment Suspended	7
Juvenile Residential Center of N/W Ohio	2
Probation	66
Detention/Jail	63
Detention/Jail Suspended	77
House Arrest/Electronic Monitoring	13
Curfew	53
Apology Letter	27
Community Service	57
Out of Home Placement	1
Custody Change to Relative/Other	1
Individual/Family Counseling	55
Alcohol/Drug Treatment	69
Residential Drug Treatment	4
Parenting Education Program	9
Sex Offender Treatment	2
Theft Offender Program	13
Operator's License Suspension	32
Operator's License Suspension w/Privileges	11
Restitution	17
Fine/Costs	118
Certified to Another County	16
Dismissed	44

TRAFFIC CASES 2010



2152.02(N) “Juvenile Traffic Offender” defined:

Any child who violates any traffic law, traffic ordinance, or traffic regulation of this state, the United States, or any political subdivision of this state, other than a resolution, ordinance, or regulation of a political subdivision of this state the violation of which is required to be handled by a parking violations bureau or a joint parking violations bureau pursuant to Chapter 4521. of the Revised Code.

Official Cases Filed	189		
Unofficial Cases Filed	0		
Total Cases Filed	189		
Official Cases Disposed	177		
Unofficial Cases Disposed	0		
Total Cases Disposed	177		
		Ages	
		Fourteen	2
		Fifteen	1
		Sixteen	72
		Seventeen	110
		Eighteen	4
		Male	115
		Female	74

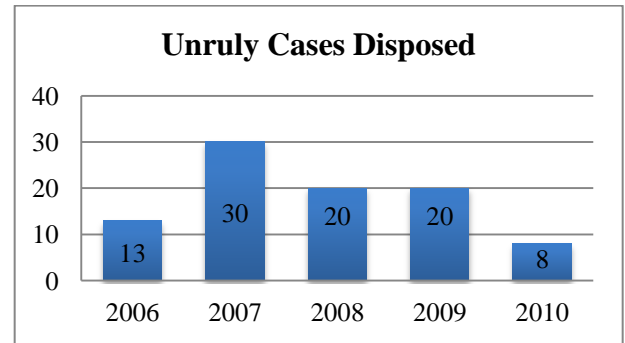
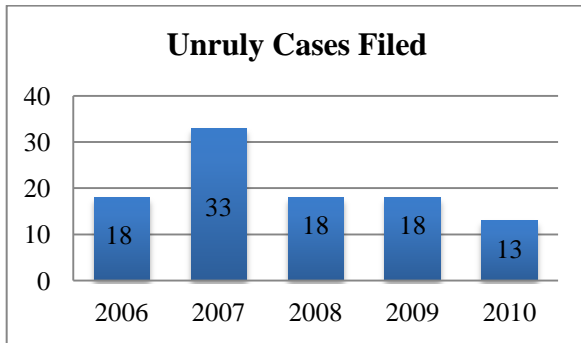
TYPES OF TRAFFIC OFFENSES

Assured Clear Distance	8	No OL for ATV	1
Cross Yellow Line	1	No Moped O.L.	1
DUS	2	No Operators Licens	11
Expired Plates	3	OVI	1
Failure to Control	12	Probationary License Violation	10
Failure to Yield	7	Reckless Operation	3
Following Close	1	Red Light	4
Headlight Violation	2	Seat Belt (Passenger)	5
Improper Backing	3	Seat Belt (Driver)	14
Improper Start	1	Speed	71
Improper Turn	1	Speed in School Zone	3
Leave Accident Scene	1	Stop Sign	15
Left of Center	3	Stopped School Bus	4
Marked Lanes	1		
		Total Traffic Offenses	189

TYPES OF TRAFFIC DISPOSTIONS

Operator's License Suspension	43	Fine/Cost	115
Operator's License Suspension w/ Privileges	24	Certified to Another County	32
Restitution	1	Dismissed	17

UNRULY CASES 2010



2151.022 “Unruly Child” defined:

As used in this chapter, “unruly child” includes any of the following:

- A) Any Child who does not submit to the reasonable control of the child’s parents, teachers, guardian, or custodian, by reason of being wayward or habitually disobedient.
- B) Any child who is habitual truant from school and who previously has not be adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant.
- C) Any child who behaves in a manner as to injure or endanger the child’s own health or morals or the health or morals of others.
- D) Any child who violates a law, other than division (C) of section 2907.39, division (A) of section 2923.211, division (C)(1) or (D) of section 2925.55, or section 2151.87 of the Revised Code, that is applicable only to a child.

UNRULY CASES 2010

Official Cases Filed	12		
Unofficial Cases Filed	1	Male	8
		Female	5
Total Cases Filed	13		
Ages:			
Official Cases Disposed	7	Twelve	2
Unofficial Cases Disposed	1	Fourteen	3
		Fifteen	2
		Sixteen	5
		Seventeen	1
Charges Filed By			
School	3		
Law Enforcement	10		

TYPES OF UNRULY OFFENSES

Curfew	9
School Truancy	2
Tobacco Offenses	1
Unruly Incurrigible	1

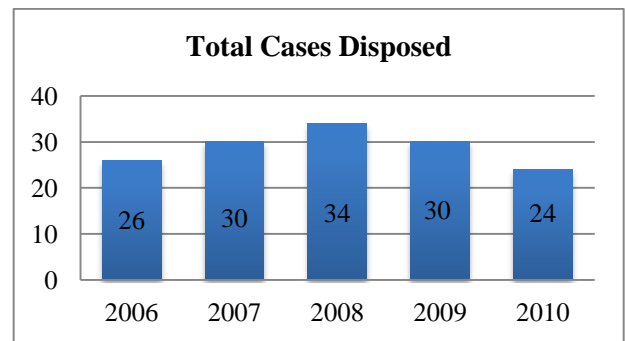
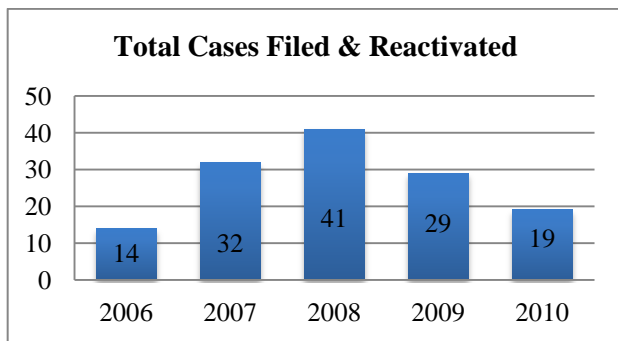
TYPES OF UNRULY DISPOSITIONS

Probation	3	Operator's License Suspension	1
Curfew	4	Fines/Costs	6
Community Service	3	Certified to Another County	1
Individual/Family Counseling	2	Dismissed	2
Alcohol/Drug Assessment	2		

CONFERENCES BY PROBATION OFFICERS

Truancy	6
Unruly	18

ABUSE/DEPENDENT/NEGLECT & PERMANENT CUSTODY



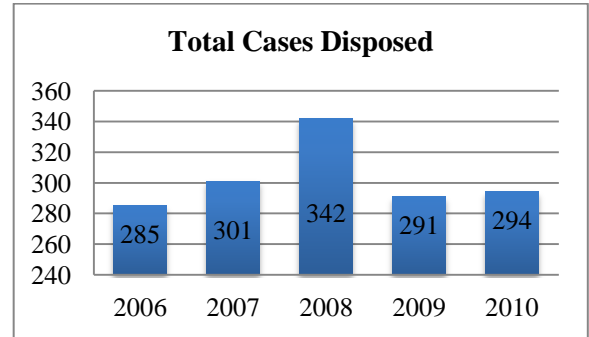
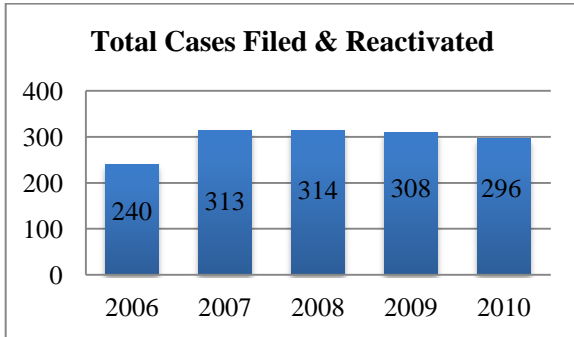
Types of Cases Filed

	<u>New Cases Filed</u>	<u>Reactivated</u>
Abuse/Dependent/Neglect	13	2
Permanent Custody	0	4
	Total Cases Filed	13
	Total Cases Reactivated	6
	Total	19

Types of Cases Disposed

Abuse/Dependent/Neglect	21	
Permanent Custody	3	
	Total Cases Disposed	24

CUSTODY/VISITATION/PATERNITY & SUPPORT



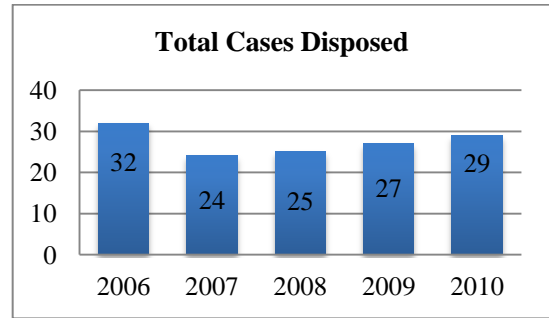
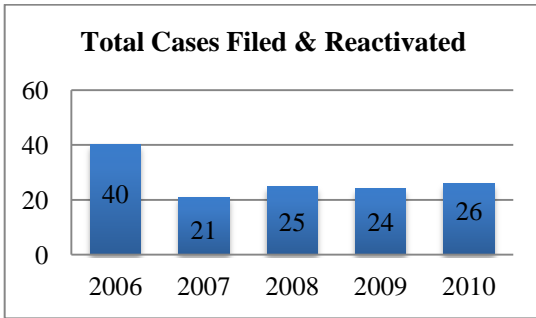
Types of Cases Filed

	<u>New Cases Filed</u>	<u>Reactivated</u>
Custody/Visitation	15	36
Support	42	152
Paternity	46	5
	Total Cases Filed	103
	Total Cases Reactivated	193
	Total	296

Types of Cases Disposed

Custody/Visitation	53	
Support	196	
Paternity	45	
	Total Cases Disposed	294

CONTRIBUTING CASES



Types of Cases Filed

	<u>New Cases Filed</u>	<u>Reactivated</u>	
Contributing Cases	24	2	
			Total Cases Filed 24
			Total Cases Reactivated 2
			Total 26

Types of Cases Disposed

Contributing Cases	29	
		Total Cases Disposed 29