2008 Annual Report
ABOUT THE COVER:

ON THE FRONT COVER IS A COLOR PHOTOGRAPH OF THE JOHN HARRIS/SIMON CAMERON MANSION LOCATED ON SOUTH FRONT STREET IN HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA. THE LIMESTONE MANSION, BUILT BETWEEN 1762 AND 1766, SITS A FEW BLOCKS FROM THE DAUPHIN COUNTY COURT HOUSE ALONG THE MAGNIFICENT SUSQUEHANNA RIVER. DURING THE MANSION’S OVER 245 YEAR HISTORY, IT HAS HAD MANY PROMINENT TENANTS INCLUDING SIMON CAMERON, PRESIDENT LINCOLN’S FIRST SECRETARY OF WAR; THOMAS ELDER, A LOCAL ATTORNEY; AND THE REVEREND BEVERLY WAUGH, WHO BEGAN THE PENNSYLVANIA FEMALE COLLEGE THERE. IN 1941, THE MANSION WAS DONATED TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DAUPHIN COUNTY (FOUNDED IN 1869), WHICH CONTINUES TO OCCUPY THE RESIDENCE, PROVIDE TOURS, AND HOLD SOCIAL FUNCTIONS. THE MANSION IS CONSIDERED A MUSEUM OF UNITED STATES, PENNSYLVANIA, AND HARRISBURG HISTORY.
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FOREWORD

The ninth Annual Report is submitted for your review. It is made available to the citizens of Dauphin County as a booklet that records the proceedings of 2008 and cites statistical information regarding the court’s business.

Our Court continues to innovate to deliver prompt and efficient services to our citizens despite budgetary constraints. This report will provide you with the most recent information on our many successful judicial programs, including our Drug Court Program. Also included are two feature articles on Magisterial District Justice Rebecca Margarum’s new headquarters as well as the “Plug in the Poke” local artist’s event in historic Shipoke.

Thank you to our court department directors for bringing together their reports and statistical information concerning their various offices. Our court would not run as efficiently and effectively without the hard work and dedication of its staff; our appreciation goes out to each of them. We would also like to thank the Information Technology Department for technical assistance. A special thank you to Smith-Young, Inc. for their patience during multiple revisions and for a fantastic final printing!

As noted in past annual reports, reader’s suggestions are always welcome.

Tracey E. McCall
Tracey E. McCall
Annual Report Editor

Dauphin County Court Mission Statement

To assure equal access, fair treatment and the peaceful and efficient resolution of disputes for all citizens asserting their rights under the law.
Dear Citizens of Dauphin County,

On behalf of the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin County, I am pleased to present our 2008 Dauphin County Court Annual Report, prepared by Tracey E. McCall, Dauphin County Law Librarian. Tracey has served as editor of our annual reports for the past four years, and has with this edition produced another great publication. Tracey, thank you.

The year 2008 was a year of personnel change in the Dauphin County Court system. Three key court department heads—Terry Davis (Adult Probation), Robert Hawley (Deputy District Court Administrator – MDJs), and Kerry Stackhouse (Acting Director – Work Release Center) retired. Michael Potteiger, a former Dauphin County Adult Probation Officer and director of the Northumberland County Adult Probation Department, was appointed as head of Dauphin County Adult Probation. Troy Petery, our current Deputy District Court Administrator – Criminal, will be transferring to the Magisterial District Justice Administrator spot, and the criminal administrator position will be filled by Victor Riley, Esquire. Matthew Miller, a Work Release Supervisor, was appointed acting director of Dauphin County Work Release.

Two Magisterial District Justices (MDJ’s) Steven Semic and Raymond Shugars also retired; both are serving as senior judges until their positions are filled in this year’s election. We thank them for their years of faithful service. They will be missed.

On a sad note, former Judge Richard B. Wickersham died in April of 2008. Sitting on the Dauphin County bench from 1971-80, Judge Wickersham left our Courthouse to serve the entire Commonwealth on the Pennsylvania Superior Court. He returned to private practice in 1987 and assisted this bench with his work as an arbitrator and mediator. Judge Wickersham was a powerful force in the legal profession; he too will be missed.

Next to personnel changes, MDJ issues took center stage this year. A completely new office was built for MDJ William Wenner, and MDJ Rebecca Margerum’s office was given a total overhaul. These new facilities are vast improvements on their predecessors and will allow judges and staff members to provide services to constituents more effectively and efficiently.
MDJ Shugars’ office had an unexpected makeover. Early this year staff members complained of headaches and nausea. When symptoms persisted, professionals were brought in to examine the building. The experts discovered a water drainage issue with the building, which sits in an area dug into the side of a hill. To correct the problem, new drainage pipes, gutters, and an enhanced ventilation system were installed. The building was then refurbished with new carpet, tile, and paint. During the period of exploration/correction, the judge and his staff were relocated to several nearby MDJ offices; they set up shop for an extended period at the offices of MDJ Barbara Pianka. We are grateful to all of the MDJs for helping out in this extreme situation, and special thanks go to Judge Pianka and her crew.

All of the court departments—Adult Probation, Bureau of Fines and Costs, Court Administration, Domestic Relations, Jury Administration, Juvenile Probation, Law Library, MDJ’s, and Work Release, as well as the Court itself—had an exceptional year in terms of doing the work they are tasked to do. From increasing security and accountability at Work Release to increasing availability of assistance at the courts Self-Help Center, our departments continued to undertake new initiatives and expand/improve old ones. In this difficult economic time, their ambition and drive is commendable.

On a final note, District Court Administrator Carolyn Thompson and I would like to thank the employees of the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas for the fine jobs they do to keep our justice system working. We would also like to thank the citizens of Dauphin County for the support, trust, and confidence that they place in us.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Lewis
President Judge
Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas
MEMBERS OF THE BENCH

12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DAUPHIN COUNTY COURT

OF COMMON PLEAS

Standing (left to right): President Judge Richard A. Lewis, Judge Joseph H. Kleinfelter, Judge Lawrence F. Clark, Jr., Judge Jeannine Turgeon, Judge Todd A. Hoover, and Judge Bruce F. Bratton. Missing from this picture are Judge Scott Arthur Evans and Judge John F. Cherry.
MEMBERS OF THE BENCH
DAUPHIN COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS


THE HONORABLE JEANNINE TURGEON, Judge. First Elected Woman Judge of Dauphin County November 1991. Retained November 2001. Born March 19, 1953, in Ephrata, PA. Graduate of Central Dauphin East High School (1970); Chatham College (B.A. 1974) and University of Pittsburgh Law School (J.D. 1977 Class President). Master’s Candidate, National Judicial College (Judicial Studies). Law Clerk to the Hon. Genevieve Blatt, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania (1977-1979); associate of Nauman, Smith, Shissler & Hall from 1979-81; partner in Campbell, Spitzer, Davis, & Turgeon (ultimately Davis & Turgeon) until her election to the bench. Vice Chair, Pa. Supreme Court Suggested Civil Jury Instruction Committee (2000-date); Member, Pa. State Sentencing Commission (2003-2009); Vice-Chair, Judicial Security Committee (2005-date); Zone Representative-Executive Committee PA Conference State Trial Judges (2008-2009); Member, PPA Parenting Coordination Task Force (2007-2008); Member, Community Action Commission (2008-date); former Member (Chair 2002-2003) Pa. Supreme Court Domestic Relations Rules Committee (1997-2003); former Chair, Family Law Section, Pa. Trial Judges Conference (1996-2000); former Vice Chair, Tri-County Alliance for Youth (1998-2003). Currently is Co-chair, Central PA Judges and Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers and Judges (LCL); Chair, Dauphin County Meet Your Judges. Adjunct Professor at Widener School of Law and Penn State University; frequent lecturer for Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Pennsylvania State Trial Judges Conference, and other legal, civic, and community organizations. She is currently serving as Dauphin County's Domestic Relations Judge in addition to Civil and Criminal cases.


THE HONORABLE LAWRENCE F. CLARK, JR., Judge. Elected to bench November 1995. Retained November 2005. Born March 17, 1943, in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Attended Wilkes College and Harrisburg Area Community College. Graduated from Pennsylvania State Police Academy, Northwestern University Traffic Institute and Indiana University, Indianapolis Law School. Former Pennsylvania State Trooper, retired with 20 years of service, and was first Pennsylvania State Trooper to become an attorney and then a judge. Also served as Pennsylvania Assistant Attorney General, State Police Chief Counsel, and State Police Academy Legal Advisor. Private practice of law, 1985-95. Past special consultant to the Pennsylvania Senate. Past elected member of Derry Township Board of Supervisors (Chair, 1993). Member, Hershey Rotary Club, Executive Board of Keystone Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and other professional organizations. Eagle Scout. Currently serving as the Asbestos Litigation Oversight Judge, Lottery Disposition Judge, Motor Vehicle Appeals and Summary Appeals Judge, Civil Calendar Judge, Arbitration Judge, and Trial Judge for Civil and Criminal cases. Member St. Joan of Arc Church, Hershey.

THE HONORABLE JOHN F. CHERRY, Judge. Elected to bench November 1999. Born April 14, 1951, in DuBois, PA. Graduate of DuBois High School, Gannon University, and Dickinson School of Law. Served as teacher, coach, and assistant high school principal at Elk County Christian High School, St. Mary’s, PA. Dauphin County Deputy District Attorney; Deputy Attorney General, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; partner at Goldberg, Katzman & Shipman. Appointed District Attorney in December 1993; elected District Attorney of Dauphin County 1994-99. Adjunct Professor, Widener University School of Law and Dickinson College. Currently serving as Juvenile Court Delinquency Judge; Civil and Criminal cases.

“PLUGS IN THE POKE”

Historic Shipoke, one of Harrisburg’s first urban neighborhoods, is located at the city’s originally established southern boundary along the Susquehanna River. It is also the site of the original John Harris ferry, tavern, and trading post. Circa 1766, John Harris Jr. (1716-1791), considered the founder of Harrisburg, built a limestone mansion north of his father’s original homestead. In 1784, John Harris Jr. began the Harrisburg Academy in one of the rooms of his home. Simon Cameron, Lincoln’s Secretary of War, and a U.S. Senator also occupied the mansion.

Shipoke, the name derived from a bird, is characterized by architecture from the mid-19th century to the present. Restored Victorian town homes are located at well-known Pancake Row. This tight knit and picturesque community had several famous residents including Brigadier General Joseph F. Knipe (resident 1860) who commanded troops defending Harrisburg when it was threatened by Confederate troops in 1863, and later became Harrisburg’s postmaster. Historical lore still abounds in this quiet, charming, and affluent community.

During the summer of 2008, the Shipoke Neighborhood Association coordinated with the Art Association of Harrisburg (AAH) to enhance the Shipoke district. Local artists were asked to transform the fire hydrants throughout Shipoke into works of art with the guidance of the Harrisburg Fire Department.

Artists were asked to submit designs for more than one dozen fireplugs located throughout the district. The contestants used their own supplies unless a sponsor was found to donate $250.00 or more in cash, or donate $250.00 worth of their services. Eleven individuals and two pairs were chosen for their submitted designs to paint a plug.

Winners were chosen by a panel of judges selected by the Shipoke Neighborhood Association and the AAH during the annual Kipona Festival and received cash prizes for first, second, and third place. Honorary awards were presented to the other artists. Participants included Lisa and Christina Pepper who received second place for Pokey the Pup, Nancy and Jason Heisler, Meghan Greene, Julie Neal, Leena Shanoy, Rocky Woodling, Laurie Viozzi, Erica Kozlovac, Terry Croteau received first place for Waterworld, Eric Olson, Theresa Bell-Mowery, Judy Dosch, and Mary Lou Dallam who received third place for Tea for Two.

Throughout this report, you will find photographs of the many fireplugs painted as part of the “Plugs in the Poke” project. Kathy and Glen Dunbar, Walter Diehl, and Brook Lauer organized this community art event. Observe all the vibrant plugs by taking a stroll through tree-lined Shipoke before visiting “restaurant row” in Harrisburg for entertainment and dining. The city of Harrisburg will unite in this beautification project during the summer of 2009 and adorn their fireplugs with ‘works of art’.

“GENERAL KNIFE HOUSE” BY JUDY DOSCH

“MOUNTAIN LAUREL” BY ROCKY WOODLING
ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE

Report from Michael C. Potteiger, Director

The overall mission of Dauphin County Adult Probation & Parole is to protect the community and enhance public safety in addition to rehabilitating offenders.

In March of 2008, President Judge Richard A. Lewis appointed me Director of Dauphin County Adult Probation and Parole, after the previous director’s, Terry Davis, retirement (see feature article in 2007 Annual Report). This department enforces the courts orders and direct offenders under our supervision to services, which enable them to become lawful and productive citizens. By creating new programs that focus on protecting the community, reducing recidivism, and reunifying families coupled with increased communication between social service agencies and the court, we can achieve our mission of protecting the community and rehabilitating offenders making them productive members of society.

Adult Probation currently supervises approximately 4,800 offenders. The team consists of probation officers assigned to geographical areas and specialized caseloads. The specialized caseloads include Drug Court, sex offender, Mental Health/Mental Retardation (MH/MR), electronic monitoring, Intensive Drug Unit, Power Shift police program, Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition Program (ARD), and DUI program. Additionally, four (4) adult probation officers have been assigned to provide services to Upper Dauphin County, located in the new Northern Dauphin Human Services Building, 295 State Drive, Elizabethville, Pennsylvania.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• Drug Court was established in July of this year, placing non-violent offenders with a drug/alcohol addiction into a program that utilizes structured supervision and intensive treatment. To date 39 offenders have participated in the program (see feature story in this report).

• Total collections for the year exceeded $5,800,000.00 million dollars, one of the highest rates in the state, which is a testament to the probation officers who work evenings, weekends, and some holidays with uncooperative offenders to ensure the community is protected. We are proud of the dedication and work that our probation officers do on a daily basis.

• Adult probation continues to take part in the Weed and Seed Program, which is a two-pronged approach that aims to prevent, manage, and decrease violent crime, gang activity, and drug abuse in targeted high-crime neighborhoods. First law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" criminals who participate in violent crime and drug abuse, attempting to stop their return to the same neighborhood. Second is "seeding" that brings human services to the neighborhood to provide prevention, intervention and treatment, and neighborhood revitalization.

• This office is a strong advocate for and a serious participant in the National Night Out Program, which was held on August 5, 2008 throughout Harrisburg and Dauphin County townships and boroughs.
• Adult Probation participated in and is now a member of the newly formed H.A.C.C. Safety and Security Committee.

• This office works closely with the Office of Inspector General to insure that offenders are not violating their housing conditions or policies and are permitted to reside in these areas.

• Adult Probation is currently involved with the implementation of a “Gang Task Force”. This special task force will assist us in identifying offenders actively involved in an organized gang, hate group, or activist organizations. Other agencies involved include the Harrisburg Police, the FBI, Attorney General’s Office, Juvenile Probation, and the Dauphin County Prison.

• Staff participated in the Annual Multi-Cultural Festival in Allison Hill and the Community Outreach Program hosted by the YWCA.

• Adult Probation and Parole began a program at Harrisburg School District Pre-K and Head Start to work closely with offenders and their Pre-K children.

• We work closely with community outreach programs and have our offenders actively participating in these community service programs. We started a new community service project with the Firm Foundation and the YWCA on April 21, 2008 and continue to work closely with them in the community.

**PARTICIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

Details are multiple law enforcement agencies working together targeting specific high crime areas.

**SEVEN (7) DAILY DETAILS WITH OPERATION FALCON, U.S. MARSHAL’S, FBI, HUD, PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE, AND NUMEROUS OTHER AGENCIES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warrants: 55 served</th>
<th>Vicodin: 111 tablets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Probation Warrants: 15 served</td>
<td>Cocaine: 3.5 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seized: 2 firearms</td>
<td>Oxycontin: 10 tablets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crack Cocaine: 10.5 grams</td>
<td>Cash Seized: $4,685.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana: 5.5 ounces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIVE (5) DAILY DETAILS WITH OPERATION DRUG SWEEP, HARRISBURG CITY VICE, AND DEA**

• 56 arrests, developed information that led to the arrest of two suspects wanted for homicide!

**FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL DETAILS WITH HARRISBURG VICE DRUG SWEEP IN OCTOBER RESULTING IN:**

• 45 arrested individuals on felony drug charges.
CONDUCTED TWO SEARCH WARRANTS:

• Seized three handguns
• $4,000.00 in currency
• 20 bags of heroin
• 55 grams of cocaine
  (street value $5,700.00)

24 SATURATION DETAILS THAT INVOLVED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FROM STEELTON,
LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP, SWATARA TOWNSHIP, PENBROOK, AND MIDDLETOWN.

NUMBER OF OFFENDERS UNDER SUPERVISION AS OF 12/31/08:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>2,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parole</td>
<td>971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Punishment</td>
<td>663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARD/non DUI</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARD/DUI</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,765</td>
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NUMBER OF REPORTS FOR THE COURT AS OF 12/31/08:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARD Reports</td>
<td>857</td>
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<tr>
<td>Court Reporting Network</td>
<td>1,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Parole</td>
<td>613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Sentence</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intakes</td>
<td>3,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal History Reports</td>
<td>3,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>10,096</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADULT PROBATION STAFF

- Director
- 1 Deputy Director
- Accountant
- 60 Field Probation Officers
- 8 Clerical Staff
- 8 Supervisors
- Clerical Supervisor
- Maintenance Supervisor
- 1 Lab Technician

WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THE FOLLOWING WITH OUR OFFENDERS PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE IN
THE ALLISON HILL AREA OF HARRISBURG, PA

- Hours served: > 700 hours
- Number of male and female participants: 62
- Served by CEEED (Center for Employment, Education, and Entrepreneurial Development): 15
- Trash removed: > 20 tons
DRUG COURT PROGRAM

Drug Court is a problem solving court, but you cannot solve drug problems by incarcerating offenders. These offenders have addiction problems, substance abuse problems — an illness. Conditions such as these need resolved through programs where offenders receive a second chance to rehabilitate themselves through counseling at a level they need, intense supervision by probation officers, and frequent monitoring by the court.

Although there are certain program, it is a far cry better for most effort on the part of the participants such as finding and keeping a job, drug court, finding suitable housing, community service, regular urine addressing their legal problems.

It is an idea that began in the 1980’s and is rapidly spreading throughout the country. In 2006, The Honorable Richard A. Lewis, President Judge, District Attorney Ed Marsico, and Stephen Libhart, Criminal Justice Administrator in the D.A.’s office began the preliminary work of introducing a Drug Court into Dauphin County. The Drug and Alcohol Restrictive Intermediate Punishment Program began and ran effectively for several years. Stephen Libhart stated, “Though the qualifications for program acceptance were similar, the program was much less intensive than drug court.” Drug Court also requires a significant commitment from a county judge. After visiting some other established Drug Court programs in Pennsylvania, Stephen was directed by President Judge Lewis to implement a more demanding program in Dauphin County by July of 2008. Our Drug Court was up and running by July 24, 2008.

President Judge Lewis explained:

Drug Court is not for the faint of heart. It is a program of intense supervision with a number of hurdles for the participants to clear, including frequent drug testing and the ever-constant supervision by a team of very dedicated probation officers. We make every attempt to instill in our Drug Court clients that they possess the strength and courage to cure their addiction and that they are tough enough to survive the rigors of this special program. They are justifiably proud when they succeed and we are just as proud of them.

Many individuals and offices must cooperate for the continued success of Drug Court. The team includes President Judge Richard A. Lewis; Stephen Libhart; Shannon Kerwin Sprough, Esquire and Jenni Henley Allen, Esquire from the District Attorney’s Office; Deanna Muller, Esquire and Greg Mills, Esquire from the Public Defenders Office; Victor Riley, Esquire, District Court Administrator for Criminal Matters; Mike Potteiger, Director of Adult Probation; Erica Baum and John Spanyberger from Dauphin County Drug and Alcohol; Mike Shrauder from the Dauphin County Adult Probation Department, Tracey Clements and Randy Mumma, adult probation officers for Drug Court, representatives from Mental Health, and DeWitt Miller from “It Takes a Village”.

DA Ed Marsico and Adult Probation Director Mike Potteiger attend Commissioners Hearing to discuss Drug Court.

Photo courtesy of Diane McNaughton.
The program is currently cost free to Dauphin County. It is funded through a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, as are most other county drug court programs in Pennsylvania. Applicants who are accepted into the program must pay a one-time $500.00 fee.

During one recent session, the participants, who must attend Drug Court each week, were called one at a time to the bench where President Judge Richard A. Lewis asked them a series of questions and reviewed progress reports received from probation officers. Probation officers may check participants “Sleeptime” before Drug Court begins. “Sleeptime” is a small monitor worn by each participant that notifies probation officers whether a participant has used drugs/alcohol. If an alert is received, probation officers administer urinalysis to determine the specific substance and amount of use. Participants, during this particular drug court week, ranged from being in the program three to 21 weeks. The absolute minimum length of time in the program is 18 months and the likely average will fall between 24 and 30 months according to Stephen Libhart. Participants job status was reviewed, living arrangements, counseling sessions, and then a check on their drug/alcohol status. Drug Court participants are exposed to many organizations that assist citizens in their struggles with drugs and/or alcohol including the YWCA, Genesis House, and Day Star. If all is in order, President Judge Lewis wishes them continued “good luck” and “good work”. Participants go through several phases in this program and receive awards for success and sanctions, even the possibility of jail time, for failures. Stephen Libhart also stated that this year there were 84 referrals, 41 accepted candidates, one unsuccessfully discharged, one administratively discharged, and 43 denied entrance into the program.

The program goals are to reduce recidivism among Dauphin County offenders, reduce the number of inmates housed at the prison; and most importantly, offer offenders the opportunity to live a life free of the substance abuse/addiction that leads to criminal behavior, thereby enabling them to rejoin the community as productive citizens. To succeed, participants must first accept responsibility for their actions and be willing to make a commitment to a drug free life.

To find out more information on this program or to learn the qualifying and disqualifying criteria, please log onto our website at http://www.dauphincounty.org/criminal-justice/drug-court.
BUREAU OF FINES AND COSTS

Report from Mariann T. Lawrence, Director

This bureau acts as the receiving, accounting, and disbursing unit for money collected from court-ordered fines, costs, and restitution. The bureau also collects restitution and electronic monitoring fees in juvenile cases. This year was our third year utilizing the Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS).

Enforcement of court-ordered fines, costs, and restitution is the direct responsibility of Dauphin County Adult Probation and Parole. Adult probation and this office have been working together to streamline the collection process by putting almost all money into CPCMS from adult probation, i.e. the electronic monitoring fees. In 2009, adult probation will be online and able to put payments directly into CPCMS.

This year the bureau was able to bring on board a new employee, Christina Pollard, Account Clerk III, to assist with all the varied aspects of collections. We now have a full complement including Marie Young, Account Clerk III and Jamie Moon, Account Clerk III.

2008 COLLECTIONS BREAK DOWN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restitution collected:</td>
<td>$846,015.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision fees:</td>
<td>$476,256.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug and alcohol fines:</td>
<td>$8,613.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance abuse education costs:</td>
<td>$50,901.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automation fees:</td>
<td>$22,731.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile electronic monitoring:</td>
<td>$87,168.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff’s costs:</td>
<td>$118,897.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison DUI:</td>
<td>$7,943.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult electronic monitoring:</td>
<td>$17,671.78 (started in October)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County fines and costs:</td>
<td>$2,155,496.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sent to the state:</td>
<td>$1,808,951.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sent to police departments:</td>
<td>$250,219.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total collections for 2008:</td>
<td>$5,841,681.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the last week of July, retired President Judge Warren G. Morgan and his friend, John Bauer, were fishing in the scenic and popular freestone Clark’s Creek just north of the town of Dauphin. Martin Scott Wilson of Florida was hiking the Appalachian Trail close to where it crosses Clark’s Creek with a female companion and he was in dire need of medical attention. He had developed a debilitating infection. The two anglers drove him to a Halifax clinic. Wilson told the two rescuers that he would include them in a book he was writing about the Appalachian Trail in a chapter entitled, “Trail Angels.” Judge Morgan hoped his “youngsters” would be treated the same if they were found in a similar predicament.

“BELLA FIORE”

BY THERESA BELL MOWERY
COURT ADMINISTRATION

Report from Carolyn C. Thompson, Esquire, District Court Administrator

The Court of Common Pleas consists of:

♦ Eight judges each with a judicial assistant, law clerk, court reporter. Six court criers.
♦ The district court administrator with a support staff of four deputies, one part-time asbestos/guardianship attorney, two paralegals, one clerk, four administrative assistants, one information technology specialist, and one jury administrator.
♦ One administrative assistant and a ‘floater’ court reporter in the court reporters office.

The Court also includes:

♦ 16 Magisterial District Judges and staff
♦ 4 Senior Magisterial District Judges
♦ Adult Probation Office
♦ Bureau of Fines and Costs
♦ Domestic Relations Office
♦ Juvenile Probation Office
♦ Jury Staff (tipstaff and court clerks)
♦ Law Library
♦ Work Release Center

The Court has oversight of approximately 500 staff and administered a budget that exceeded $33 million dollars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>2008 BUDGET</th>
<th>2008 EXPENDITURES</th>
<th>OVER/(UNDER)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Probation</td>
<td>5,820,283</td>
<td>5,961,353</td>
<td>141,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs &amp; Fines</td>
<td>221,847</td>
<td>214,892</td>
<td>(6,955)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courts</td>
<td>5,520,286</td>
<td>5,231,868</td>
<td>(288,418)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Relations</td>
<td>5,644,827</td>
<td>5,282,837</td>
<td>(361,990)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Probation</td>
<td>5,498,307</td>
<td>5,333,273</td>
<td>(165,034)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Library</td>
<td>545,669</td>
<td>546,874</td>
<td>1,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magisterial District Judges</td>
<td>6,489,364</td>
<td>6,181,940</td>
<td>(307,424)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Release</td>
<td>4,113,941</td>
<td>3,518,925</td>
<td>(595,016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS:</strong></td>
<td><strong>33,854,524</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,271,962</strong></td>
<td><strong>(1,582,562)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It was another very productive year for the court. On the criminal side, Troy Petery and his staff implemented a new miscellaneous court system, which increased from one day per month to three days per month. This helps to keep cases moving efficiently through the system. Two new judgeships, which are needed to help with the criminal case backlog were approved by the legislature this year; the judges will be elected by the citizens of Dauphin County in 2009 and begin work in January of 2010.
The Drug Court Program, which began in late July is an extremely successful program initiated by President Judge Richard A. Lewis, District Attorney Ed Marsico, and Stephen Libhart from the District Attorneys Office (please see the special report within this report). We are very proud of the success achieved in such a short period with this program, which provides treatment for offenders who accept responsibility for their actions.

Civil administrator Deb Freeman, Esquire continued to process our civil caseload (civil trials, miscellaneous motions, assignments to divorce masters/custody conference officers/judges). She also is a major contributor to the Self-Help Center in the Dauphin County Law Library. Deb’s writes the majority of forms and co-chairs the centers committee. Tracey E. McCall, the county law librarian, supervises the extremely successful center which provides efficient and expedited service to the citizens of Dauphin County.

Barbara Lundgren, our OC/Wills Administrator, and The Honorable Todd A. Hoover, our Orphans’ Court Judge, continue to provide significant support for the new computerized docketing system. Barb continues to manage the Pro-Bono Guardianship Monitoring Program that was created by Judge Hoover to aid in his oversight of all adjudicated incapacitated individuals. Using attorneys in a pro bono capacity was positively received by and received the blessing of the Dauphin County Bar Association. We are very proud that Judge Todd A. Hoover received the 2008 Pennsylvania Bar Association Pro Bono Judge’s Award.

Magisterial District Judges were active with the completion of renovations on MDJ Shugar’s “sick” building and the completion of MDJ Margerum’s new office in Upper Dauphin (see feature article within this report). MDJ Wenner’s new office was also finished this year. The revamping of Central Court procedures last year continues to be successful as all Harrisburg MDJ’s have a dedicated time slot and hold the majority of preliminary hearings at the Dauphin County Prison.

Our jury administrator, Joseph Cherry, implemented a computerized jury system in 2007 to smooth out the jury process as well as realize a monetary savings for taxpayers using the more effective electronic system as opposed to the old paper system. After working out a few inevitable kinks, 2008 became the first full year utilizing the much more efficient system, making jury duty easier for the juror and the jury staff.

In closing, I note with sadness that we lost the most honorable and gentlemanly former member of the Dauphin County bench this year. The Honorable Richard B. Wickersham, who served the court and people of Dauphin County as Judge from 1971 until 1980, died on April 30, 2008, after valiantly fighting, for many years, a serious medical condition. Judge Wickersham sat on the Pennsylvania Superior Court (1980 – 1987) and served with great distinction before retiring to join private practice. His family, friends, and colleagues shall always remember him as the finest gentleman, opera lover, and optimist who would take on difficult challenges in all facets of his life using balance and compromise. He will be sorely missed by the members of the legal community.
CIVIL COURT

Report from Deborah S. Freeman, Esquire, Deputy District Court Administrator - Civil

The civil court administrator is responsible for the preparation of the civil jury trial list and the assignment of cases for trial during the civil jury terms, the monitoring of custody cases, the administration of petitions and motions, the assignment of non-jury hearings, and requests for conferences.

ARBITRATION HEARINGS

The Board of Arbitration conducts hearings once a month. Three attorneys serve on each board with one serving as the chairperson. All actions in which the amount in controversy is $50,000.00 or less are to be submitted to the Board of Arbitration. The only exceptions are cases that involve title to real estate. This year 219 cases were listed for arbitration. The number of cases that were resolved either by award, settlement or other resolution was 158.

THE FOLLOWING CHART REPRESENTS THE DISPOSITION OF CASES BY THE BOARD OF ARBITRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Cases listed</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>219</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Settlements</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Cases Stopped or Continued</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Plaintiff Awards</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Defendant Awards</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Dispositions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range of Awards</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$9500.00-$45,900.00</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>88.89%</td>
<td>78.57%</td>
<td>91.67%</td>
<td>87.50%</td>
<td>81.25%</td>
<td>85.71%</td>
<td>65.64%</td>
<td>35.71%</td>
<td>65.00%</td>
<td>62.50%</td>
<td>65.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Cases Reached</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Number of cases appealed | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 31 |
| Percentage of cases appealed | 40% | 0% | 25.77% | 26.56% | 36.36% | 33.33% | 20% | 10% | 10% | 11.11% | 30.77% | 25% | 19.05% | 26.43% |

Thirty-two of the 121 arbitration awards were appealed. Therefore, 73.55 percent of the cases heard reached a final disposition before the Board of Arbitration.

CIVIL JURY TRIALS

There are six sessions of civil jury trials per year. Dauphin County has no backlog of civil cases; once a case is certified ready for trial, the case will be listed for the next civil court term in accordance with the
annual court calendar. Trial lists, juror lists, and updates about the status of the trial list during the civil court term are provided to all parties who request to be on our civil e-mail list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>January</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Cases Listed on</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Trial List</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Verdicts</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlements; Discontinuance;</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonsuit; Other Disposition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Cases Stricken</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Cases Reached</td>
<td>63.64%</td>
<td>90.91%</td>
<td>91.67%</td>
<td>88.89%</td>
<td>72.73%</td>
<td>66.67%</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During Term</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Plaintiff Verdicts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Defense Verdicts</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Jury Awards</td>
<td>.00</td>
<td>$4789.49</td>
<td>$63,740.00</td>
<td>$2,251,150.20</td>
<td>$1,475,000.00</td>
<td>$100,509.70</td>
<td>$3,895,189.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Plaintiff Verdict</td>
<td>.00</td>
<td>$4789.49</td>
<td>$53,740.00</td>
<td>$2,216,150.20</td>
<td>$1,225,000.00</td>
<td>$100,509.70</td>
<td>$2,251,150.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Percentage of Total Jury</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>84.31%</td>
<td>98.45%</td>
<td>83.05%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>57.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of cases listed on the final trial lists for 2008 decreased by only four cases compared to the number listed in 2007. Generally, this decline in the number of cases listed for trial can be attributed to the increase in the amount required for compulsory arbitration and the requirement that the parties in each case must certify that they have mediated the case or have carefully considered the option of mediation before they list a case for trial.

**CIVIL MOTIONS**

All civil motions are filed with the Prothonotary’s Office and forwarded to the court administrator’s office for review and assignment. The civil paralegal, Deborah Zook-Tome, logs and reviews all motions. The motions are forwarded to the “Motions Judge.” The position of “Motions Judge” is rotated on a monthly basis. In 2008, 1135 civil motions were processed by our office and assigned to the “Motions Judge.” There were 1555 divorces and motions related to divorce actions handled by the “Motions Judge.” In 2008, there were 751 uncontested divorces finalized by the “Motions Judge.”

GRAPH ILLUSTRATES THE NUMBER OF MOTIONS HANDLED BY THE “MOTIONS JUDGE” FROM 2000-2008

**CUSTODY**

When a custody complaint, a request for modification, or a petition for contempt is filed, it is immediately assigned to a conference officer. The conference officers meet with the parties, their attorneys and in some cases, the child(ren), to try to work out a custody agreement. If an agreement cannot be reached during the conference, the case is assigned to a judge for a hearing.

This year, there were 604 new custody complaints filed and 395 petitions for the modification or contempt of an existing custody order, for a total of 999 cases. Of the 999 cases, 902 cases were referred to
the conference officers. 97 stipulations were entered simultaneously with the filing of a custody complaint or petition for modification. The conference officers resolved 70.44 percent of the cases.

THE FOLLOWING CHART ILLUSTRATES THE DISPOSITION OF CUSTODY CASES ASSIGNED TO THE CONFERENCE OFFICERS FROM 2000-2008

There were 214 petitions for emergency relief or petitions for special relief filed in 2008. These petitions are immediately referred to Judge Bruce Bratton who is assigned to handle emergency custody matters or to the judge who was previously assigned this case (under the court’s “one family-one judge policy”).

THE FOLLOWING CHART ILLUSTRATES THE NUMBER OF PETITIONS FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF OR PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL RELIEF FILED FROM 2000-2008
DIVORCE MASTER PROGRAM

The Divorce Masters (see inside back page) conduct hearings and conferences in cases where parties are unable to reach a resolution on economic issues. Masters also make findings of fact concerning the date of separation or the issue of indignities. Litigants who are unsatisfied with the master’s decision may file exceptions to the Master’s Report. The matter is then assigned to a judge for a decision. This year 79 cases were referred to a master. Exceptions were filed in six of these cases; therefore, approximately 92% of the cases were resolved by Divorce Masters. The Dauphin County Bar Association’s Family Law Section under the direction of David Tamanini, Esquire, indexes the Divorce Masters’ Reports and the reports are available in the Dauphin County Law Library.

NON-JURY ASSIGNMENTS

Requests for conferences, hearings, or non-jury trials are directed to our office for assignment. Examples of non-jury assignments are license suspension appeals, minor settlements, applications for status conferences, discovery conference requests, zoning appeals, non-jury trials, petitions for name change, petitions for special relief in divorce, motions for summary judgment, preliminary objections, and tax assessment appeals. Also, contested motions and all petitions as defined by the Rules of Civil Procedure are assigned to a judge for disposition. In 2008, there were 2337 non-jury assignments.

PROTECTION FROM ABUSE (PFA)

The Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) provides counseling to litigants desiring to file a PFA petition. The PFA petitions are filed with the Prothonotary and submitted to the assigned PFA judge (Judge Kleinfelter in 2008). Temporary orders are either granted with a hearing scheduled within ten days, denied without a hearing, or denied with a hearing scheduled within ten days. Of the 590 petitions filed by VWAP in 2008, 410 temporary petitions were granted, two petitions were denied without a hearing, 178 temporary petitions were denied but a hearing was scheduled to determine if a final order was merited. Dauphin County continues to be a member of the PFAD (Protection From Abuse Database) network.

After VWAP obtains a temporary order, the petitioner is advised of the resources available for legal representation including Mid Penn Legal Services, the YWCA, and the private bar.

THE FOLLOWING CHART ILLUSTRATES THE COMPARISON OF DISPOSITIONS IN PFA CASES IN 2000-2008
Violations of PFA orders may result in arrest on a charge of indirect criminal contempt. These cases are presented by the District Attorney’s Office and, on conviction, carry a maximum sentence of up to six months in jail. In 2008, 114 indirect criminal contempt petitions were filed.

**TERMINATION OF INACTIVE CASES**

The Prothonotary’s office conducts a review of the civil dockets to determine the cases in which there has been no docket activity for the previous two years. This year, there were 973 cases on the final inactive or “purge” list. Notices of Proposed Termination were mailed or, where undeliverable, published in the Dauphin County Reporter. Statements of Intention to Proceed were received in 157 cases. A total of 753 cases were terminated for inactivity. Sixty cases were settled or discontinued and three (3) cases were improperly placed on the purge list.

**BELOW: JOHN HARRIS SR. GRAVE SITE. LOCATED AT SOUTH FRONT STREET, SHIPOKE.**

**Upper Plaque:** Near this spot in 1719, John Harris the first settler of Harrisburg built his log cabin home.

**Lower Plaque:** In memory of John Harris Pioneer native of Yorkshire England, his son John Harris 2nd was the founder of Harrisburg. This tablet is erected by the Dauphin County Committee of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America.

“TEA FOR TWO” BY MARY LOU DALLAM RECEIVED THIRD PLACE.
The criminal division of court administration is ultimately responsible for the efficient operation of the criminal court system. This is accomplished by ensuring that the caseload is disposed of in a timely fashion by tracking cases as they progress through the system. Cases are received electronically into CPCMS (Common Pleas Case Management System) via the Magisterial District Judge offices, and include an arraignment date. Defendants arrive for their formal arraignment, make their initial plea, and are given a court date. This office then schedules and tracks the case until a disposition is reached.

It is the responsibility of this office to monitor the number of new cases being filed as well as the number of cases being disposed of to ensure that our backlog does not grow to an unmanageable number. We are also responsible for reviewing and assigning all motions and petitions that are filed, permanently attaching cases to judges for disposition, and the very arduous task of compiling various criminal related statistics.

The majority of cases are disposed of during terms called miscellaneous court. A new format for miscellaneous court was introduced this year in an effort to increase the efficiency of the courts. It is now held for three days per month instead of once per month. New cases (1,000 – 1,200 cases during three-day period) are arraigned directly into a miscellaneous court term and continue to be listed either until it is disposed of or until all parties involve agree that the case is trial ready (see further information later in this report).

Court sessions are held at the Dauphin County Prison (DCP) each Monday of miscellaneous court (approximately 100 cases each month). Only one judge, on a rotating basis, who is primarily responsible for taking guilty pleas for those incarcerated defendants represented by the Public Defenders office, conducts DCP court. This alleviates the need to transport prisoners in for hearings, and realizes time and cost savings.

Another method in which cases can be disposed is through the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) Program. ARD is typically reserved for defendants that are first time, non-violent offenders. These defendants are usually willing to cooperate with law enforcement and are willing to take responsibility for their actions. The District Attorney’s office reviews the cases and they have the final say on whether a case is appropriate for this program. Successful completion of the program allows the offender to have his/her record expunged from their criminal history.

The court utilizes a court calendar that, in addition to other useful information, lists 11 one-week criminal jury terms during which time criminal jury trials are held. All eight judges are expected to participate in court weeks and to preside over trials. In preparation for these court weeks, criminal court administration is charged with the duty of assigning cases into the various courtrooms and notifying counsel involved in the cases. Criminal court administration is responsible for assigning new cases to the judges each day during this week to ensure that we remain productive until all cases have been called.

There were 6,309 new files created in 2008, an increase of 467 cases from 2007. In 2008, we disposed of more cases than in any of the previous five years. Even with a record number of cases being closed out, we still witnessed a little over 700 more new filings than dispositions.
CRIMINAL CASES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filings*</td>
<td>4,932</td>
<td>5,437</td>
<td>6,099</td>
<td>5,842</td>
<td>6,309</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dispositions</td>
<td>4,940</td>
<td>4,802</td>
<td>5,166</td>
<td>5,193</td>
<td>5,606</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The totals include both court case filings and summary appeal convictions.

DISPOSITION BREAKDOWN:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guilty Plea</td>
<td>3,480 (70.45%)</td>
<td>3,349 (69.74%)</td>
<td>3,715 (71.90%)</td>
<td>3,746 (72.14%)</td>
<td>4,028 (71.85%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARD</td>
<td>785 (15.89%)</td>
<td>828 (17.24%)</td>
<td>753 (14.58%)</td>
<td>777 (14.96%)</td>
<td>910 (16.23%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nolle Prosequi (Dismissal)</td>
<td>252 (5.10%)</td>
<td>123 (2.56%)</td>
<td>253 (4.90%)</td>
<td>224 (4.31%)</td>
<td>279 (4.98%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jury Trial</td>
<td>115 (2.33%)</td>
<td>108 (2.25%)</td>
<td>97 (1.88%)</td>
<td>73 (1.41%)</td>
<td>94 (1.68%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-jury Trial</td>
<td>33 (.67%)</td>
<td>43 (.90%)</td>
<td>27 (.52%)</td>
<td>26 (.50%)</td>
<td>21 (.37%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary Appeal</td>
<td>236 (4.77%)</td>
<td>337 (7.02%)</td>
<td>314 (6.08%)</td>
<td>330 (6.35%)</td>
<td>265 (4.73%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>39 (.79%)</td>
<td>14 (.29%)</td>
<td>7 (.14%)</td>
<td>17 (.33%)</td>
<td>9 (.16%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In January of 2008, we hosted a jury from Lycoming County to hear a homicide case, which involved going to Williamsport to select the jury early, and setting up transportation and lodging for that sequestered jury during the February trial term. Many thanks to the Dauphin County sheriff’s department and court staff for making their stay as comfortable as possible. A number of visiting jurors noted how “at home” they felt.

We are proud to say that a drug court has been implemented in Dauphin County. Our drug court team went to a number of state sponsored trainings as well as onsite visits to witness how drug court is handled in other counties. Drug court is an extremely difficult program that requires a great deal of commitment and motivation by the participants. Statistics show that individuals who complete a drug court treatment program have a significantly lower rate of recidivism.

22
The biggest change in Dauphin County was the implementation of a new miscellaneous court system. As can be seen in the statistics on the previous page, roughly 70% of all new cases are disposed of through guilty pleas in any given year. Due to the increase in filings over the years, we felt it necessary to increase the amount of time that the court is available to hear the number of cases coming through the system. To increase the efficiency of the court, we decided to focus on that method of disposition and explore ways of giving both the attorneys and their clients more opportunity to negotiate plea agreements. The decision was made to expand miscellaneous court to three days each month instead of one as in the past. Under this new system, all cases are listed for a miscellaneous term and stay in that mode until certified ready for trial. Under the old system, a substantial number of cases were continued from month to month with little judicial intervention. Defendants are now required to appear, with their attorney, on a monthly basis to have their case called in front of a judge. The result is more communication among all the parties involved in the case, which means reaching a disposition in a shorter length of time.

“WATER WORLD” BY TERRY CROTEAU (1ST PLACE)

CONGRATULATIONS TO DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATOR CAROLYN C. THOMPSON - RECOGNIZED AS A 20-YEAR HONOREE BY PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF COURT MANAGEMENT.
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGES

Report from Carolyn C. Thompson, Esquire, District Court Administrator

It was a busy year for MDJ’s, both with respect to our personnel and our buildings. We oversaw the construction of new office space for MDJ William Wenner. Judge Wenner’s space heretofore had been cramped and less than ideal. The new offices, located off Linglestown Road, are professional and spacious. We also oversaw the complete renovation of Judge Rebecca Margerum’s office space. Her space, too, was inadequate for the proper operation of the office. Both sites now have conference rooms for attorneys/clients, camera surveillance and panic buttons, and separate entrances/holding cells for prisoners. Cost for the two construction projects: $958,797.69 for Judge Wenner’s and $737,757.09 for Judge Margerum’s construction.

We also undertook an unexpected renovation at the office of MDJ Raymond Shugars. Early in the year, employees began to experience physical ailments—coughs, headaches, nausea. When the symptoms did not subside but instead grew more intense, we retained Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic, Inc., an engineering firm, to ferret out the issue. While the building was sound, a significant drainage issue was exacerbated by a rainy spring. To remediate the building, new gutters and drainpipes were installed outside and a ventilation system was installed in the flooring. All old carpet and tile were removed, and the old adhesive was ground off the floor. Once all of the remediation was complete, the building was spruced up with new carpet, tile, and paint. Staff, who had relocated to various other MDJ offices for months (and particularly to Judge Pianka’s office), returned to their offices in the fall.

Our MDJ offices were busy this year, handling 114,190 filings. This is a 1.4% increase over 2007, and a five-year increase of 16.2%. The city offices finished their first full year of conducting preliminary hearings at Dauphin County Prison. While this arrangement makes for some hectic days, it increases efficiency of disposition; it enhances security, as incarcerated defendants do not leave the prison site for their hearings.

The MDJ system employs approximately 115 full time staff members (including MDJ’s) and one part-time staff member; it operates with a budget of $7,227,121.00. Despite the unexpected expense of reclaiming Judge Shugars’ facility, at a cost of $103,863.15, we ended the year $307,424.00 under budget.

On December 3, 2008, the court hosted a Landlord/Tenant Seminar for MDJ’s, office managers, and lead staff. The seminar presented by Steve Krone, Esquire (Mid-Penn Legal Services); Jordan
Cunningham, Esquire; Steve Farina (Dauphin County Prothonotary); MDJ David Judy, Esquire; and Carolyn Butcher (Judge Judy’s office manager); provided valuable information on common problems/practices in the landlord/tenant area. Of particular value was the ability of participants to interject questions as the session was held, making it more helpful to them.

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE SYSTEM: TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Robert Jennings, III</td>
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<td>LaVon A. Postelle</td>
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*office was not opened until Aug. 1, 2006

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<td>101,069</td>
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The end of 2008 saw the retirement of two of our MDJ’s, Judge Raymond Shugars, and Judge Steven Semic, both veteran MDJ’s with twenty or more years of service. Both MDJ’s are currently helping us as senior judges.

The year 2008 also saw the retirement of a long-term court employee, Robert P. Hawley, Deputy District Court Administrator for MDJ’s. Bob worked for the courts for over 30 years, it was his lifeblood, and his wealth of experience will be hard to replace; however, we have great hope in our pick to succeed Bob. Troy Petery, who has been our criminal administrator for several years, will be taking over the MDJ administrator job. We have every confidence that Troy will do a great job.

One final note: we were without an MDJ administrator for nine months, and while I was honored to handle some of the MDJ issues that came up, the bulk of the day to day administration was handled by our MDJ staff—Britt Klouser, Jennifer Brasmer, and Sue Davis. Ladies, thank you so much for your efforts, far and away beyond the call of duty.

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COLONEL ROBERT P. HAWLEY RETIRES FROM COUNTY SERVICE

On April 8, 2008, Colonel Robert P. Hawley retired after 31 years of service to the County of Dauphin. Bob worked in court administration, for many years as the court administrator for criminal matters, and then in 2004 he transferred to court administrator for Magisterial District Justices. The luncheon was held in the Lawyer’s Lounge where Marie of Marie’s Court House Café, courtesy of the Dauphin County Commissioners, served a delicious meal. Two of Bob’s brothers, his niece, and his son, Matt, were there to support him.

Bob previously received a Proclamation from Senator Jeffrey Piccola’s Office, which was presented to Bob at one of the Senator’s Town Meetings. Bob also received a plaque from the eight common pleas judges that was presented by President Judge Richard A. Lewis. In addition to these honors, Bob received a Proclamation from the Dauphin County Commissioner’s honoring his more than 30 years of service and over 40 years of service in the National Guard. MDJ Dave Judy read the proclamation aloud; it stated that the 253,000 residents of Dauphin County also thanked him for his dedication and service. MDJ Dave Judy also thanked Bob on behalf of all the MDJ’s and said they appreciated what he had done for them. Bob was always sincere and looking out for their best interests. The Commissioners proclaimed April 8, 2008 Bob Hawley Day in Dauphin County.

President Judge Richard A. Lewis thanks the Colonel

President Judge Richard A. Lewis spoke briefly about Bob saying he had gone to high school with him; therefore, had known him even before he started working for the county. Bob, a.k.a. “Bullet” Hawley was one of six Irish Catholic boys who went to school and played football at Bishop McDevitt. He enlisted in the military, serving active duty and in the National Guard (retired), and he spent some time teaching social studies to students at Cedar Cliff High School. Judge Lewis stated that Bob never hesitated when given an assignment and that he always put his heart and soul into it. Judge Lewis also said that Bob’s service as a Colonel in the National Guard influenced him greatly and that Bob believed everything needed to be in order and orderly and it reflected in his work. The Judge thanked Bob for his help, friendship, and sound advice around the courthouse and with regard to different offices in the county.

Bob reflects back on his years of service to Dauphin County

After the recognitions and presentations, Bob spoke “briefly” of his years at the courthouse. He thanked everyone for being there to support him after 31 years of service, including his family. He thought back to when Uncle Sam called after he was laid off from Cedar Cliff School and how he went active duty, until he came to work for the Court. He reflected about sitting in former President Judge Lee F. Swope’s chambers at 6 p.m. on certain evenings to discuss rudimentary things like computerizing the jury rolls. He recalled assisting with the Bureau of Costs and Fines until they found a Director. He
remembered other staff he worked with in the past, how enjoyable they were, and how enjoyable his current staff and co-workers are to work with.

Bob’s final thoughts were with the citizens of Dauphin County whom he hoped would continue to receive the effective and efficient assistance they currently receive. He hoped government, someday, would be simplified so the citizens could avail themselves to help in a simpler more streamlined way. Bob thanked everyone from the bottom of his heart.

**Office of County Commissioner**
Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

Proclamation

We, the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners, are honored to applaud the legendary Robert Hawley for over 30 years of service to the people of Dauphin County, for his leadership and patriotic service to this great nation for over 40 years in the Pennsylvania National Guard, and to recognize with both joy and sadness his richly deserved retirement from county service;

Whereas, since assuming the role as Dauphin County Deputy Court Administrator in March 1977, Bob has worked tirelessly on behalf of the courts and, most recently as Deputy District Court Administrator for Magisterial District Judges, this exceptional, enthusiastic leader has successfully assisted and coordinated various administrative duties for district courts. He will be greatly missed by employees and those who have the pleasure of knowing him;

Whereas, in addition to his impressive years of government service, Bob also influenced many young lives as a social studies instructor at Cedar Cliff High School, coach of the freshman football team at Trinity High School and as a DUI instructor for over a decade. With the utmost conviction, Bob served his community and without question has made an indelible impact on many young, impressionable lives;

Whereas, a dedicated professional and humanitarian, Bob has actively served the Dauphin County community as a member of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church Parish, the Harrisburg Optimist Club, Harrisburg Jaycees, Moose Lodge 145, American Legion Post 1001, the National Guard Association and the Pennsylvania Association of Court Management, among many other distinguished organizations;

Whereas, besides his significant contributions to the county’s court operations, Bob remains a dynamic, devoted community leader, husband, and father of three, who has served his country throughout his adult life – demonstrating humanitarianism, diligence and resilience. His caring demeanor and enthusiasm to help the less fortunate has not gone unnoticed;

Therefore, we join the 253,300 residents of Dauphin County in honoring Robert Hawley for his courageous, dedicated excellence in service and evident leadership; we thank and commend him for a lifetime of outstanding achievements; we congratulate him most warmly on his well-earned retirement and wish him continued health and happiness in the years to come; and in grateful recognition thereof, we do hereby proudly proclaim April 8, 2008 as “Robert Hawley Day” in Dauphin County.

In witness thereof, we have hereunto set our hand and caused the seal of the Commissioners of Dauphin County to be affixed this 8th day of April, 2008.

**Board of Commissioners:**
Jeffrey T. Haste, Chairman
Dominic D. DiFrancesco, II, Vice Chairman
George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary
Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk

* Copy of Proclamation courtesy of Amy Richards, Dauphin County Commissioner’s office.
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUSTICE REBECCA MARGERUM’S GALA

On a blustery Tuesday, October 21, 2008 outdoor ceremony with the wind howling, swirling, and blowing from 21 to 25 miles per hour and after months of planning, months of construction, and the inevitable delays that occur in all building projects, Magisterial District Justice Margerum officially celebrated the opening of her newly renovated office in Upper Dauphin County. MDJ Margerum, Dale Hair who is with KD3 Design Studio’s, James “Bull” Watson, and President Judge Richard A. Lewis spoke to a shivering crowd before the flag was raised and dignitaries, family, co-workers, and well-wishers moved to the ribbon cutting ceremony, and then to the inside reveal and delicious appetizers.

Above: MDJ Rebecca Margerum at the soon to be finished bench in her new courtroom.

Pictures courtesy of Carolyn Thompson, Britt Clouser, and Tracey McCall.

Above: MDJ Margerum, wearing her hardhat for safety. The renovations are going well outside and inside the “green” building. The ribbon is cut and congratulations are given all around on this special occasion.
ORPHANS’ COURT

Report from Deputy District Court Administrator for Orphans’ Court, Barbara Lundgren

The Orphans’ Court Judge has the ever-challenging duty of safeguarding the well-being of adjudicated incapacitated persons. He has judicial oversight of the 202 active guardianship cases in Dauphin County. Title 20 Pa. C.S.A. §§ 5142 and 5521(c) requires an inventory and an annual report from those individuals appointed as guardians of incapacitated persons. To aid in its oversight, Judge Todd Hoover has enlisted attorneys to act as guardians of incapacitated persons under the umbrella of the Dauphin County Pro-Bono Guardianship Monitoring Program.

The wards and guardians are visited annually by the pro-bono monitors. The monitors report back to the court on forms provided and all are reviewed for any issues that need to be addressed. The court’s direct intervention occurred in six cases when the monitors themselves recommended court action. When the monitor reports indicated a need that did not require court action, court administration provided aid to approximately twenty-five guardians by sending letters with information about various agency assistance, and with information addressing the guardian’s proper responsibilities and duties.

The program is into its second year and 55 attorneys are currently serving with two cases each. All indicators point to the continued success of the program and its ability to strengthen the judge’s oversight and ability to ensure that these adjudicated individuals are not neglected and not victims of elder abuse, both personal and financial. In addition, Judge Hoover again commends all of those attorneys who serve in this capacity and thanks them for their dedication and commitment in making the program so successful.

Orphans’ Court continues to see an increase in the children and youth parental rights termination cases. The challenge has been to recruit a sufficient number of attorneys to represent these parents in the contested proceedings. Counsel are called on a regular basis, and in some instances, the request is made less than a week before the hearings. The court’s current group of appointed attorneys has been instrumental in meeting the continuing demand.

ESTATES

| Accounts filed by executors, administrators, trustees, and guardians. | 46 |
| Small estates ($25,000 or less). | 5 |

TOTAL DECREES OF DISTRIBUTION 55

HARRISBURG, March 4, 2008 — The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania today announced the appointments of the Hon. Anne E. Lazarus and Neil E. Hendershot, Esq., to the Orphans’ Court Procedural Rules Committee. The committee was established in 1939. Lazarus, a Philadelphia Common Pleas Orphans’ Court judge, and Hendershot, of Dauphin County, both were appointed to terms expiring Dec. 31, 2010. From an AOPC news release.
PETITIONS FILED AND DISPOSITIONS MADE

Sale of Real Estate. 8
Appoint guardian of the estate and/or person of a minor. 17
Approval of Settlement of Minor’s Claims (those filed in Orphans’ Court). 30
Other Miscellaneous Petitions (i.e., Remove Personal Representative, Withdraw as Counsel, Election Against Will, Special Needs Trusts, Trust Termination, Substitute Trustee/Guardian, Compel Accounting, Wrongful Death/Survival, Invade Principal, Disclaimers, Revoke Letters, Bond Approval, Purchase Real Estate, and Status Conference). 330

A FUNCTION OF THE ORPHANS’ COURT IS TO MONITOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF PA.O.C.R. 5.6 NOTICE TO BENEFICIARIES AND INTESTATE HEIRS AND THE PA.O.C.R. 6.12 STATUS REPORT BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<td>Pa. O.C.R. 5.6 Delinquent Notices Sent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pa. O.C.R. 5.6 Sanction Hearings Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pa. O.C.R. 6.12 Delinquent Notices Sent</td>
<td>396</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pa. O.C.R. 6.12 Sanction Hearings Required</td>
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Guardianship Proceedings – Incapacitated Persons

Number of guardianship petitions presented. 37
Emergency guardians appointed. 4
Permanent guardians appointed. 34*
Guardians discharged. 0
Adjudication of full capacity. 0
Independent medical evaluations. 0
Court appointed counsel. 3
Fees paid to counsel – none (all appointed Counsel for Wards are paid from the assets of the incapacitated person’s estate).

*Includes cases carried over from 2007

ADOPTIONS

Miscellaneous petitions (i.e., Publication, Appoint Counsel, Withdraw Petitions, Amend Decrees and Request Copy of Final Decree). 139
Adult adoptee requests for non-identifying information. 3
### Adoptions

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<tr>
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<th>WITHDRAWN/DISMISSLED</th>
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<td>Adoptions</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>123*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign adoptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relinquishments/Terminations</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>117* **</td>
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* These numbers include cases filed in 2007 and decreed in 2008.
** These numbers appear to be less than 2007; however, the reporting is now for number of cases and not number of Parental Terminations.

There were 32 contested Involuntary Termination cases. **Fourteen were appealed to the Pennsylvania Superior Court.

There were 50 court appointed counsels for representation of parents in contested Involuntary Terminations. Fees paid to counsel were $43,204.31.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- Gestational carrier. 8
- Marriage license three-day waiting period waiver. 34
DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Report from Kim S. Robison, Director

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE DOMESTIC RELATIONS OFFICE

Our mission is to serve the public by providing child and spousal support services as authorized by law and local rules of the court.
We will establish, modify, and enforce orders of support and provide support collection services for children and families in an effective and efficient manner, making prudent use of public resources.
We will perform our duties with honor and professionalism and treat our clients with respect and dignity.

Establishing and enforcing child and spousal support orders is our primary responsibility. We are fortunate to have dedicated staff members who provide this service with compassion, diligence, and efficiency. Additionally, we are appreciative of our Family Court Judge Jeannine Turgeon for her continued assistance and guidance in meeting this goal.

STAFFING CHANGES

In 1991, Deborah Stuber began her career with our office as a department clerk. During her 18 years of service, she was promoted to enforcement clerical supervisor in 1993, to fiscal manager in 2002, and recently to operations manager in 2008. Deborah’s extensive child support knowledge and strong supervisory experience made her natural selection and good fit for her new position.

On May 5, 2008, Jacquelyn Mills was promoted to a team supervisor. Jackie has been with our office since 1993. She began her career as a department clerk and was subsequently promoted to a client service representative and then an enforcement officer. Jackie also served as ASFCME Union President. While in these positions, she gained a wealth of knowledge and invaluable experience that has proven beneficial in her new supervisory role.

Another employee, Amanda Brown, was promoted on May 5, 2008, to team supervisor. Amanda has been with our office since December 2006. She began her career as an enforcement officer before being promoted to her current supervisory position. She received her Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Pittsburgh. Amanda continues to enhance her supervisory skills and progress in her supervisory role.

WORK RELEASE OUTREACH

On October 31, 2008, our office began a client outreach program at the Dauphin County Work Release Center (WRC). We visit the WRC once a week to answer questions and concerns of the residents regarding their support cases and obligations. We also provide information on programs that are available with the objective of securing regular support payments.
Since the program’s initiation, 94 contacts were made with clients. The program will continue in 2009 and will be expanded to include the Female Work Release Program at the Woodside Family Center.

**PROJECTS**

In our continuing efforts to collect support and promote client outreach programs, our office created an Amnesty Project and a $5 Arrears Project. These projects targeted defendants with suspended driver’s licenses, issued arrest warrants, or no payment made on support arrears in the past 12 months. Both projects gave defendants the opportunity to make a payment and discuss their support case. These combined projects resulted in support payments of $13,598.67.

**COLLECTIONS**

The DRO collected more than $2.5 million in support for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or welfare cases. For non-TANF cases, the office collected more than $42.5 million. The office also collected $827,823.00 for children in placement through Dauphin County Social Services. To assist with collections, the courts scheduled 25 contempt court dates and 20 appeal court dates.

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>$46,903,492</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>$45,369,193</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>$45,239,167</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>$44,948,841</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>$44,255,018</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>$44,136,912</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>$42,732,101</td>
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Through various enforcement remedies, the DRO collected:

- $ 2,339,842.00 - IRS offset.
- $ 126,899.00 - State income tax offset.
- $ 1,465,572.00 - Unemployment compensation.
- $ 31,868,330.00 - Wage attachments.
- $ 2,779,597.00 - Out-of-state enforcement.
- $ 202,626.00 - Financial Institution Data Match program.
- $ 7,120,626.00 - Collection from other sources (purges, self-employed payments, defendants’ voluntary payments, workers’ compensation, personal injury, and lottery).
Pennsylvania state constables served 156 personal services. Effective service of process has improved support order establishment and enforcement activities.

The Dauphin County Sheriff’s Office served 470 arrest warrants and other agencies served 300 arrest warrants that ordered non-paying defendants to appear before the court.


<table>
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<td>Appeal Hearings Scheduled</td>
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<td>Denied/Dismissed</td>
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<td>Agreements</td>
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<td>Remanded for Conference</td>
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“FLOWER POWER” BY LEENA SHENOY

“THE GREAT WAVE” BY MARY LOU DALLAM
JURY ADMINISTRATION

Report from Joseph A. Cherry, Jury Administrator

Juror Appreciation Week
May 5 – 9, 2008

Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Ronald D. Castille issued a statement stating, “One of the fundamental rights of the American people is the right to a trial by jury. But to ensure that right, the people themselves must be willing to play a role in the justice system. They must occasionally be willing to set aside personal business and respond to the call to serve as jurors.”

“That is why this week we honor those Pennsylvania citizens who, by serving as jurors during the past year, have kept faith with the founders of our Nation and helped to keep the principles of Democracy alive.”

“This year, we expect more citizens than ever to be identified as potential jurors in Pennsylvania.” Data from a new statewide jury list will be made available to each county this fall by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.” “It is our hope that this program, by identifying more potential jurors in each county, will increase citizen participation and create greater diversity in jury pools throughout the Commonwealth.”

Citizens called for jury duty may feel apprehensive and intimidated but it is one’s civic duty and a vital service in the judicial system. Jury service is a privilege and a responsibility that should be accepted with dignity and satisfaction.

Jurors are summoned to appear for each of the seventeen weeks of court (six civil and eleven criminal) as well as special picks for capital murder cases and grand jury cases. Jurors meet in the jury assembly room located on the ground floor of the courthouse, their attendance is scanned making the process very efficient and cost effective; it also results in faster payment for service rendered.

The juror selection phase determines if one will sit on a jury panel or not; this is known as voir dire (initial examination of an individual to decide whether they are competent and fit to be a juror for a particular case). Those called for jury duty may or may not be chosen to sit on a panel. The duty of a juror is to listen to the judge, witnesses, and lawyers, to deliberate calmly and fairly, and to decide intelligently and truthfully. The decision must be made using the evidence presented in the courtroom.

At the end of jury service, a juror is discharged until the next time he/she is called to serve. Citizens over the age of 70 may make a written request to be permanently removed from jury service. A procedure implemented last year whereby jurors have the ability to take a one-time deferral, choosing a new date to appear within the next six months, no questions asked, continues to be very successful.
A “juror section” was recently launched on the county website whereby a juror may fill out the Juror Affidavit Questionnaire and send it in online as an option to mailing the qualification form. A juror must have his/her badge number and PIN number (both located on the form received in the mail) to access this site on the Internet. Also located within that part of the county website is a very helpful “frequently asked questions” segment.

**TO BE LEGALLY QUALIFIED FOR JURY SERVICE IN DAUPHIN COUNTY AN INDIVIDUAL MUST:**

- be a United States citizen and resident of Dauphin County;
- be at least 18 years of age;
- reside primarily in the judicial district for one year;
- be adequately proficient in English;
- have no disqualifying mental or physical condition;
- have not been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year and have not been granted a pardon or amnesty.

Presently our office has eight courtroom-designated clerks, two designated clerks for Protection from Abuse (PFA) Court, four assembly room clerks, six substitute clerks, three alternating jury office clerks, and thirty tipstaffs. Both clerks and tipstaffs aid the jury/courtroom for whatever is deemed necessary.

For more information on the jury system in Dauphin County, and to read The Juror’s Creed, please visit our website at http://www.dauphincounty.org/court-departments/jury-service.

Above: Old John Harris Mansion on South Front Street
JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICE

Report from Stephen J. Suknaic, Director

Mission Statement of the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office

The mission of the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office is to rehabilitate juvenile offenders by providing programs, services, and supervision designed to promote community protection, accountability for juvenile offenders, and competency development by juvenile offenders. The framework for this Balanced and Restorative Justice includes due process for juvenile offenders, the availability of juvenile programs and resources, the provision of rights and services for victims of juvenile crime, and the budgetary resources.

The year 2008 was our fourth year with the Honorable John F. Cherry as our Juvenile Court Judge. We are extremely appreciative of the judicial leadership and support of Judge Cherry during this very busy and challenging year. Employees worked hard and smart under Judge Cherry’s direction to achieve the legislatively mandated goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ): accountability, community protection, and competency development by juvenile offenders. The highlights of this work are as follows:

(1) There were 1415 juveniles arrested by the local police and referred to the Juvenile Probation Office (JPO). This is was a decrease of 9.3% and caused some to ask if this is a new downward “trend”. Although everyone was very pleased to see this decrease during 2008, it is probably premature to call it a “trend”. If you review the 30-year bar chart attached to this highlights section, you see that 12 of the last 30 years (40%) are, in fact, years of decrease. “Decrease Years” are a normal aspect of the “ebbs and flows” of the arrest of juveniles, or so it appears. This chart also shows that the arrest rates of juveniles during recent years are more than double the rates from the late 1970’s and early 1980’s. That big picture perspective is certainly enlightening!

(2) There were 3370 crimes committed by those 1415 juveniles. That total is lower than most recent years, but it is still an average of nearly 2.5 crimes per arrested juvenile.

(3) For the second consecutive year there was very good news related to juvenile gun crime arrests. During 2006, that category peaked at an all time high of 88 gun crime arrests by the police that were referred to the JPO. During 2007, due to the hard work of everyone involved in Dauphin County’s Juvenile Justice System, that number decreased to 74, which is a reduction of 16%. There was another significant reduction to 59 gun crime arrests this year. Over the two-year period, that is a decrease from 88 to 59 gun crime arrests, a 33% decrease! While everyone can share credit for this improvement, special
credit is extended to the Harrisburg Police Department, the Schaffner Youth Center, Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, and the juvenile probation officers of Dauphin County for their exceptional efforts.

(4) With the ongoing support of the Dauphin County Court and Commissioners, the JPO was able to maintain the utilization of 65 Global Positioning System Units (GPS). This GPS technology is the most sophisticated advancement of electronic monitoring as it provides the juvenile probation officer the exact location of a juvenile at all times in an effort to increase community protection and to aid in the success of juveniles on probation. In addition, the JPO continued the utilization of 120 Standard Electronic Monitoring Units. Standard electronic monitoring allows that juvenile probation officer to monitor when a juvenile enters or leaves his home, which affords the probation officer the opportunity to monitor the juveniles’ compliance with curfew or house arrest, measuring their compliance with rules directly related to community protection.

(5) The department’s Electronic Monitoring Program experienced an increase from 2007 in the utilization of traditional electronic monitoring and GPS, averaging 132 units per day. There were 639 juveniles placed on the Electronic Monitoring Program, and at the time of this writing, there have been 564 juveniles who have been discharged from the program. More importantly, 479 (85%) of the 564 juveniles successfully completed their term on electronic monitoring without technical violations or arrest for a new crime. The JPO also collected $87,168.00 in user fees, which is a 13% increase over 2007. This collection of user fees includes EM and GPS collections combined.

(6) The JPO continued to utilize 30 alcohol-monitoring units. There was a record high of 43 juveniles arrested for drunk driving by the police and referred to the JPO. The JPO supervised 94 juveniles on the Alcohol Monitoring Device (AMD) Program, and had almost 4,000 days of continuous monitoring for these juveniles. Of the 94 juveniles supervised on the alcohol monitoring program in 2008, only one juvenile tested positive for alcohol use. While this technology does not replace treatment and education in regards to alcohol use among juvenile probationers, it has proved to be an effective deterrent. Tampering with this technology by some juveniles is also an issue that is being examined by the JPO.

(7) Several new clinical technologies were introduced during 2008 to help empower families and strengthen parenting skills. These new programs are important because only 16.8% of our delinquent youth of 2008 were living with both biological parents at the time of their arrest. The first program is the nationally acclaimed Blue Print Program called Functional Family Therapy operated by VisionQuest. The second program is called Family Solutions and Dean Wolf operates it. Although it is too soon to cite statistics for these two innovative programs, we are optimistic that both programs will successfully treat our serious delinquent offenders and keep them with their families with very low rates of recidivism. Also, this year the JPO had 117 Family Group Conferences, which is an all-time
annual record. This family practice is also designed to engage and empower families and assist them in developing a network of support.

(8) Due to the high JPO caseloads, the court and commissioners created six new juvenile probation officer positions in early 2008. At that time, the average caseload for a JPO was 33 juveniles per officer. The increase in personnel has lowered the average caseload to 25 juveniles per officer. This has enabled the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Office to increase and improve their supervision of juvenile probationers so that the goals of Balanced and Restorative Justice can be accomplished and more juveniles can become successful and law-abiding citizens.

(9) During FY 2007-08, due to increasing juvenile crime rates and caseloads during 2007, there was an increase in costs for institutional and community based services to $19,936,041.00. Nearly one-fourth of that total ($4,805,097.00) was spent on secure detention at the Schaffner Center, and other detention centers when Schaffner was full. The good news is that in the spring of 2008 that circumstance began to reverse itself and the Schaffner Center had empty beds. These funds are a part of the Children and Youth Agency’s budget but they are spent as a result of the juvenile court decisions regarding delinquency.

(10) Under the supervision of various community agencies and the Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Officers, the juvenile probationers completed 63,992 hours of community service in all sectors of Dauphin County. Community service was completed for churches, schools, non-profit organizations, and many government agencies. During the summer, these probationers completed approximately 6,000 hours of landscaping for the senior citizens of Dauphin County who were unable to physically and financially care for their own properties. These efforts allowed the juvenile probationers to, in part “pay back” the community for the serious crimes that they committed.

(11) The Dauphin County Juvenile Probation Officers collected approximately $75,000.00 in restitution from the juvenile probationers. Given the limited financial resources of juveniles, this is quite an accomplishment! This restitution was then restored to the citizens who were victims of auto theft, burglary, assault, robbery, et cetera committed by juveniles. This amount is an accurate estimate but not a precise figure due to the court’s new automated data system.

(12) Due to the concern about gun crimes, there was a significant emphasis on our police/probation partnership programs. We now have teams of probation officers and police officers from nearly every local police department in Dauphin County working to help provide community protection and accountability for juveniles on probation. In this process drugs, weapons, and other contraband are confiscated from juvenile probationers on a regular basis.
(13) The JPO and Dauphin County Children and Youth Agency held their *Seventh Annual Employee Recognition Day* on City Island on September 16, 2008. Awards were presented to employees and community partners and there were team-building exercises to promote the very important relationship between these two agencies.
LAW LIBRARY

Report from Tracey E. McCall, Law Librarian

The law library was established by Act 62 in 1865 approximately 80 years after Dauphin County was created from part of Lancaster County and named after Louis-Joseph, Dauphin of France. The law library has relocated within the courthouse and it is currently located on the fourth floor. The library staff oversees the main law library, four auxiliary libraries, our eight judges’ chambers libraries, and the court administrator’s library. We maintain approximately 38,000 volumes to provide free, equal access, and quality service to judges, attorneys, government employees, paralegals, students, and the citizens of Dauphin County. These volumes focus on statute and case law for Pennsylvania and the federal courts. The library contains the published opinions of our eight judges in the form of the Dauphin County Reporter. While considerably smaller since its relocation, the library has continually increased the number of patrons served. We assisted 4,872 patrons during calendar year 2008 - 550 more than in 2007. (See chart at the end of this report.)

The library is open to the public during normal courthouse hours and to members of the legal profession 24 hours a day/seven days a week. Laura Motter (pictured center) and Ellen Gladfelter (not pictured), assistant law librarians, are eager to assist patrons to enhance their legal research. Alisha Washington (pictured far right), resigned the last week of June to work in the district attorneys office as a paralegal. Pictured to the left is Tracey McCall, Librarian.

Seven computers provide access to LEXIS, Westlaw, other legal information web sites, PFAD (Protection from Abuse Database), the card catalog, and the self-help center forms and instructions. The law library houses Divorce Masters’ Reports indexed by David Taminini, Esquire.

The Dauphin County Self-Help Center is located in the law library (see feature article in the 2006 Dauphin County Court Annual Report). The center is open during normal courthouse hours although you may access the forms and instructions on the county Internet site (http://www.dauphincounty.org/court-departments/self-help) free of charge. The forms cannot be transmitted from the site; self-represented litigants should print and fill out the forms then file them at the Prothonotary’s office on the first floor of the courthouse. The staff strives to improve the ability of self-represented litigants to navigate the judicial system without crossing specific boundaries.

During our second full year of operation, we had approximately 1,029 requests for packets.

Further information on the law library is available on the Dauphin County website at http://www.dauphincounty.org, Court Departments, Offices and Departments, then Law Library.

LAW LIBRARY MISSION

The library mission is to acquire, store, retrieve, disseminate, and preserve legal information. The law library was created and is maintained, by law, to meet the informational needs of its patrons. Information and research are the lifeblood of legal practice and education. The library applies basic standards such as referencing, cataloging, and acquisitions to achieve our mission. We are committed to sound financial management and to the continued advancement and modernization of the library.
WE CURRENTLY HAVE THE FOLLOWING FORMS/INSTRUCTIONS PACKETS AVAILABLE FOR FIVE DOLLARS ($5.00) PER PACKET

* Divorce for parties who have been separated for two years and no property needs to be divided.
* Custody, partial custody, or visitation when there is no existing custody order.
* Modification of an existing custody order.
* Divorce where the parties consent and no property needs to be divided.
* In forma pauperis petition for use when you believe you cannot afford to pay the filing fees.
* Driver’s license suspension/registration appeal.
* Name change petition.
* Motion for declaration of ownership.

It should be noted that the self-help center staff and/or the staff in any court office may not give anyone legal advice. The information you receive in these packets does not substitute for legal advice. Dauphin County Court assumes no responsibility and accepts no liability for actions taken by visitors who choose to use these documents or rely on their contents. It is always suggested that you seek the advice of an attorney for all legal matters. The self-help center will provide you with a list of other helpful resources upon request.


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DAUPHIN COUNTY LAW LIBRARY PATRON COUNT 1-2-08 to 12-31-08

Court Administrators Office: 47
Public Defenders: 25
Interns: 670
District Attorneys Office: 30
Judges/Law Clerks: 186
Members of the Dauphin County Bar Association: 1289
PFAD: 1
Public visitors: 2494
Others – (city workers, paralegals, law enforcement, etc.): 131
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS

Report from Nativa P. Wood, Chief Court Reporter

The Dauphin County Official Court Reporters and per diem reporters that assist in covering the courts produced nearly 45,000 pages of transcripts. As in past years, the focus in our office was to effectively manage the many appeals and transcript requests so that an accurate product could be delivered in a timely fashion.

Technology continues to play a large role in the performance of a reporter’s duties. This year Blue Tooth technology was used to make real time more portable. Without the concerns of cabling, a reporter is able to set up his/her machine and laptop computer and provide a real time feed. Real time is the instantaneous translation from the reporter’s steno machine to the laptop. This may be used as a litigation support tool, or providing access to the courts for the hearing impaired, or to increase page production.

As more and more emphasis is placed on how rapidly a case can be moved through the judicial system and eliminating backlogs, the role of the reporter in that process continues to evolve. It may be as simple as a reporter being able to answer a question about a specific point by merely reading back from their electronic notes or providing a transcript within a day of a hearing so the Superior Court may review it and make a decision.

2008 CHART

![2008 Chart Image]
The Dauphin County Work Release Center began operation in 1996. It is a court supervised community corrections center with an incarceration capacity of 360 offenders. The program is designed to prepare offenders for successful integration back into society as viable and productive citizens. The WRC was separated from the adult probation department in 2007 and remains under the jurisdiction of the court. Under the court’s direction additional staff have been hired, the budget has been managed effectively, and the normal day-to-day operations of the work release program have continued.

Offenders are required to maintain full time employment of 37.5 hours and part time work, in addition to their full time employment, is encouraged to ensure payment of debts to society. This benefits the offenders by minimizing that debt when they are released. Offenders pay for their housing costs (rent) while incarcerated at the WRC. They are also responsible for purchasing and preparing their food, transportation costs to and from work, purchasing and cleaning their own clothing, and medical bills. This equates to a huge monetary savings for the taxpayers of Dauphin County.

An additional focus of the work release program is community relations and support. Many offenders are court ordered to complete a set number of community service project hours. They are encouraged and directed to support the community whenever the need arises. Completed this year were nearly 7,500 hours of community service projects. Work release offenders also assist the County’s bulk storage facility on a daily basis.

Life skills are highly emphasized. Work Release offenders learn how to clean, wash clothes, cook for themselves, follow rules and regulations, and generally support themselves in a structured and regimented environment associated with their incarceration in the center.

**FISCAL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK RELEASE PROGRAM**

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<td>FINES, COSTS, AND RESTITUTION COLLECTED</td>
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Incarcerated in the work release program this year were 1,363 offenders, an average of 283 residents per day.
COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL

ADULT CRIMINAL CONFLICT ATTORNEYS

Paul T. Kovatch, Esquire
Wendy J.F. Grella, Esquire
Dale E. Klein, Esquire
Jonathan W. Crisp, Esquire
Allen C. Welch, Jr., Esquire
Michael D. Rentschler, Esquire

ARBITRATORS

Robert F. Claraval, Esquire
William L. Adler, Esquire
Andrew Dowling, Esquire
David E. Lehman, Esquire
Terrance McGowan, Esquire
Craig J. Staudenmaier, Esquire
G. Thomas Miller, Esquire
Brigid Q. Alford, Esquire
James W. Evans, Esquire
Richard F. Maffett, Jr., Esquire
Lawrence J. Neary, Esquire
Lee C. Swartz, Esquire
Richard H. Wix, Esquire
Jeffrey R. Boswell, Esquire
Lacy Hayes, Jr., Esquire
Douglas K. Marsico, Esquire
Richard L. Placey, Esquire
Brett M. Woodburn, Esquire

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Michael S. Leonzo
Richard L. Placey, Esquire

CUSTODY CONFERENCE OFFICERS

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Herbert “Corky” Goldstein, Esquire
Sanford A. Krevsky, Esquire
Jennifer Lehman, Esquire
Gerald S. Robinson, Esquire

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Richard B. Druby, Esquire
Daniel L. Stern, Esquire

GUARDIANS AD LITEM

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Lawrence J. Rosen, Esquire
Kevin R. Helm, Esquire
Teresa McCormack, Esquire
Kathryn Slade, Esquire
Derek J. Cordier, Esquire
Heather L. Paterno, Esquire

JUVENILE CRIMINAL CONFLICT ATTORNEYS

Kelli J. Brownewell, Esquire
Thomas S. Lee, Esquire
Mark T. Silliker, Esquire
Jacob M. Jividen, Esquire
Wendy J. F. Grella, Esquire
Brian W. Perry, Esquire
Gail Guida Souders, Esquire
Bruce E. Wolbrette, Esquire
Elizabeth A. Hoffman, Esquire
Michael D. Rentschler, Esquire
Erin M. Zimmerer, Esquire

JUVENILE MASTERS

Bernard L. Coates, Esquire
Sanford A. Krevsky, Esquire
Joseph A. Curcillo, III, Esquire
Jeffrey B. Engle, Esquire
MENTAL HEALTH OFFICERS

James M. Petrascu, Esquire
George F. Shultz, Esquire
William M. Shreve, Esquire

ORPHANS’ COURT APPOINTMENTS

Wendy J. F. Grella, Esquire
William M. Shreve, Esquire
Joy Waters Fleming, Esquire
Jeremiah Underhill, Esquire
Byron Walker, Esquire

Elizabeth A. Hoffman, Esquire
Jennifer Bush Archer, Esquire
Emily Long Hoffman, Esquire
Bruce J. Warshawsky, Esquire

Teresa McCormack, Esquire
Kelly McNaNey Dick, Esquire
Dale E. Klein, Esquire
Stuart S. Sacks, Esquire

MINISTERS OF JUSTICE

William M. Shreve, Esquire
Jennifer Bush Archer, Esquire
Kelly McNaNey Dick, Esquire
Dale E. Klein, Esquire
Stuart S. Sacks, Esquire

PCRA COUNSEL

Jeffrey B. Engle, Esquire
Charles P. Mackin, Esquire

Elizabeth A. Hoffman, Esquire
William M. Shreve, Esquire

Courtney Kishel Powell, Esquire
Jonathan W. Crisp, Esquire

“POKEY THE PUP”
RECEIVED SECOND PLACE.
BY CHRISTINA AND LISA PEPPER

“FIRE AND WATER”
BY JULIE NEAL
“HOME SWEET HOME”
BY CHRISTINA & LISA PEPPER

ABOUT THE BACK COVER:


All photographs in this report are by the editor unless otherwise indicated.