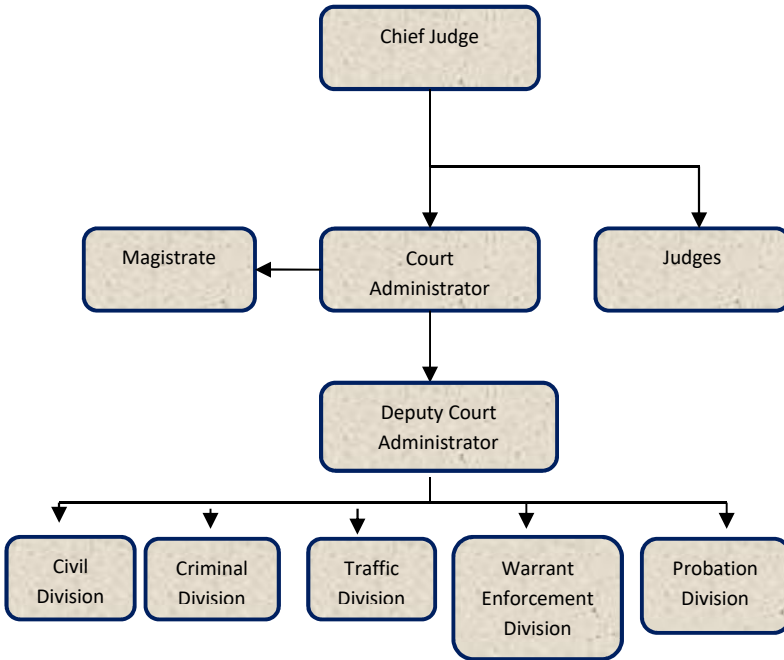


## 12<sup>th</sup> District Court



### Activities

There are five divisions of 12<sup>th</sup> District Court: Civil, Criminal, Warrant Enforcement, Probation and Traffic.

The District Court processes civil lawsuits, performs weddings, and processes all statute and ordinance misdemeanors.

The District Court is also responsible for processing felony matters up to the preliminary examination stage.

We collect current and delinquent fines and costs owed to the court, and execute criminal bench warrants.

Additionally, we conduct presentence investigations; supervise individuals on probation, and process traffic, marine, snow-mobile, conservation, animal control, and come parking violations.

Lastly, we operate two specialty courts – Mental Health and Domestic Violence.



# Mission Statement

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The 12th Judicial District Court is dedicated to dispensing equal justice in all matters under the court's jurisdiction, providing the highest quality of professional services in a prompt and efficient manner, and recognizing and respecting the individual dignity of all people served by the court.

# Programs

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[Specialty Court Programs](#)

[Mental Health Court](#)

[Aggression/Domestic Violence Court](#)

## 12<sup>th</sup> District Court Program

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### Strategic Plan Impact

✓ Safe Community

The 12th District Court plays an important role in providing Jackson County residents with a safe community. Through the adjudication process, we hope to create an environment where residents peacefully coexist and participate in all aspects of life. The District Court has two specialized courts for increased focus and attention on areas of concern, which are Domestic Violence/ Aggression Court and Mental Health Court. Both courts are fully functional and are proving beneficial for community safety. Our probation department has an Alternative Sentencing Division created in October of 2017 to provide alternatives to incarceration and to provide a practical alternative to resolving fine and cost issues; this is achieved through the use of court authorized monitoring programs and assignments to community based improvement initiatives. Video arraignment technology provides added security benefits when arraigning individuals currently housed at the County Jail and /or Department of Corrections, eliminating the need to remove the offender from the secured location.

### Accomplishments

- ✓ 2020 was a challenging year given COVID-19. Court staff were forced to re-think how court is conducted. Training in Zoom, virtual waiting rooms and remote fillings occupied a lot of staff's time early in the state's lock down to establish policies and procedures to keep judicial functions operating
- ✓ 2020 was the first full year using G2G. Due to the stay at home orders and SCAO's restricted return to full capacity guidelines, in person services were greatly impacted. Processing online and phone credit card payments resulted in heavy G2G usage which resulted in a revenue of almost \$26,000 and cost avoidance (paying credit card fees) of over \$50,000.
- ✓ Specialty Courts are still a high priority for District Court. The Aggression Court (Domestic Violence) completed its fifteenth year. This specialty court is dedicated to reducing the number of domestic violence incidents in Jackson County through a coordinated effort, which focuses on safety and accountability. This year the court successfully graduated 64 defendants, making 1,297 successful graduates since inception. In addition to domestic

violence offenses, the Aggression Court handles all other assault, stalking, child abuse, malicious destruction of property, and resisting and opposing cases. Aggression cases are referred to the probation department for a presentence investigation. Once these offenders are referred, the fast-track begins. The department has two dedicated officers to manage the caseload. Offenders sentenced to probation are typically sentenced to at least 15 months and are required to attend and successfully complete a batterer's intervention program. While success ultimately depends on the offender's willingness to change, these batterer intervention programs are the court's foundation. Program length ranges from 26 to 52 weeks, depending on offenders needs.

- ✓ The Jackson County Mental Health Court (MHC) held its first court session in July 2008. This specialty court is devoted to improving public safety, reducing recidivism, and enhancing the quality of life among mentally ill defendants. This is a grant funded program is administered by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), to provide courts and community mental health service programs funding to plan and implement this specialty court. During 2020 the MHC discharged 17 participants. Of those discharged, 47% were successful, 53% non-compliant. The average participant age was 33 and males represented 65% of the participants. In 2020, 47 cases were referred to MHC and the D12 probation department referred 41% of those new cases.

The Michigan Mental Health Court Grant Program (MMHCGP) is administered by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) to provide courts and community mental health service programs funding to plan and implement these specialty courts. If an offender meets the program requirements and is willing to participate, a formal mental assessment is conducted. An assessment report is generated and reviewed by a "Treatment Team." The Treatment Team is comprised of the Judge, Prosecuting Attorney, Defense Attorney, Allegiance Hospital representative, two Lifeway's representatives, City Police representative, Social Worker, District and Circuit Court Probation Officers, and the Program Coordinator. The Treatment Team meets bi-weekly to discuss new applications and current participants.

- ✓ For 2019, 307 defendants were sentenced to the community service program resulting in \$30,825 jail bed savings. A total of 95 referrals were made for SCRAM and 9 referrals to GPS tether, which led to a jail bed savings of \$591,030.
- ✓ 2020 saw many changes in the collection division. The staff of three collection officers was reduced to just one, as a long-time employee retired and another was re-assigned to a different position within the court. As COVID-19 occurred and with the uncertainty in created, the two vacant positions were not filled during 2020. Additionally, 2021 budget

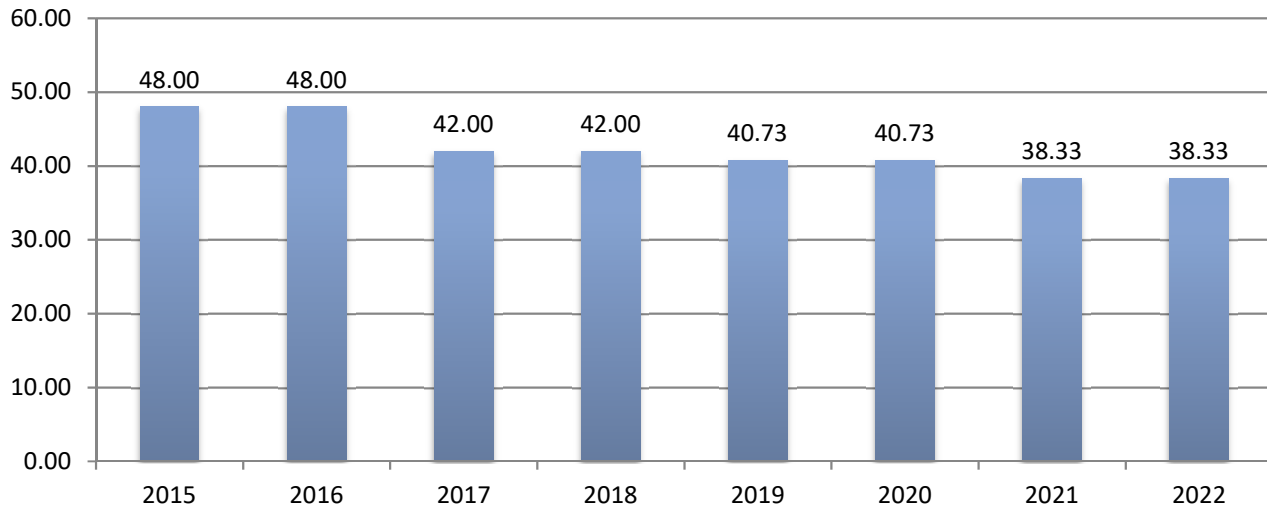
## 12<sup>th</sup> District Court

cuts resulted in the court's decision to eliminate the collections positions and transition these responsibilities to the court officers.

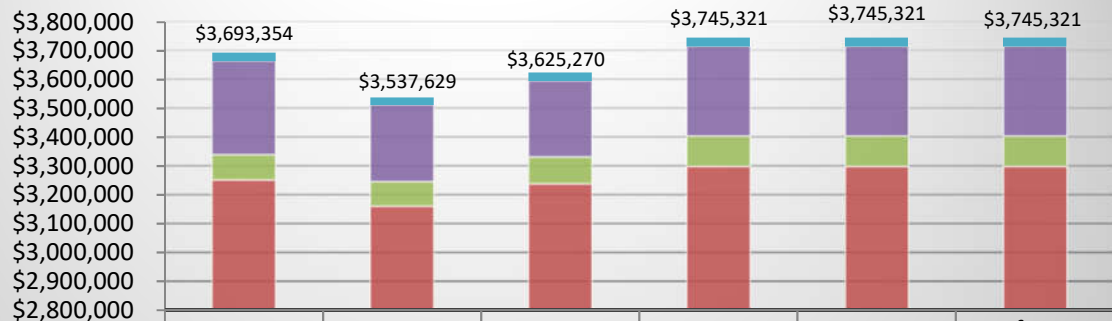
- ✓ Our Probation team works very hard to assist offenders in trying to get their lives back on track after being charged with an offense. Probation is a sentence that allows offenders to live in the community under the supervision of a probation officer. The sentencing judge makes this decision after careful study of the defendant's background, behavior, and potential for success is evaluated. Our probation department conducted 744 pre-sentence investigations in 2020. As of 12/31/20, there were 571 individuals placed on probation; 33% of that population was offenses for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, 35% for Domestic Violence, 12% Property/Theft offenses, 3% for Controlled Substance, 8% Assault, and 9% Disorderly Conduct/Other.
- ✓ The Criminal team processed 3415 criminal cases in 2020; 411 drunk driving cases, 1531 misdemeanors, and 1473 felonies. Magistrate Bishop handled over 1,000 Video Arraignments, which has significantly decreased the number of inmates requiring transportation to and from the courthouse by law enforcement, thereby increasing security at both the courthouse and the Jackson County Jail.
- ✓ For a number of months, local law enforcement we not conducting routine traffic stops which resulted in a significant decrease in traffic citations. In 2020 we processed approximately 12,267 electronic traffic citations. The Secretary of Stats suspended its timeliness requirements as they worked on implementing a new program, known as the Customer and Automotive Records System (CARS). Magistrate Bishop also conducted 629 informal hearings.
- ✓ The Civil team may have experienced some of the more difficult changes due to COVID-19. SCAO outlined civil proceedings as low priority and both federally and state mandates suspended action on evictions. The Civil team is still working through a backlog of almost 600 landlord/tenant cases due to these restrictions. In total, the Civil team processed 5,070 filings; 3093 General Civil cases, 469 Small Claims, 1444 Landlord Tennant, and 38 Summary Proceedings.

# 12<sup>th</sup> District Court

## 12th District Court FTE History



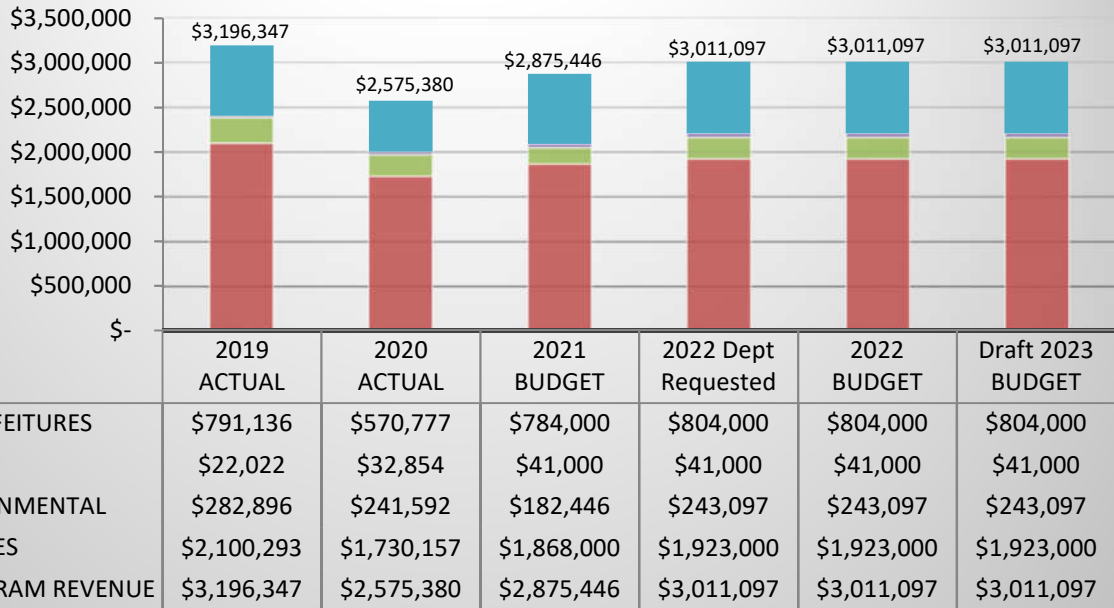
## 12th District Court Expenditures



	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 Dept Requested	2022 BUDGET	Draft 2023 BUDGET
OTHER	\$29,595	\$26,132	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000
CONTRACT SERVICES	\$324,532	\$265,261	\$263,000	\$310,500	\$310,500	\$310,500
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	\$88,141	\$85,482	\$93,300	\$105,800	\$105,800	\$105,800
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$3,251,086	\$3,160,754	\$3,237,970	\$3,298,021	\$3,298,021	\$3,298,021
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS</b>	<b>\$3,693,354</b>	<b>\$3,537,629</b>	<b>\$3,625,270</b>	<b>\$3,745,321</b>	<b>\$3,745,321</b>	<b>\$3,745,321</b>

# 12<sup>th</sup> District Court

## 12th District Court Revenues



## Strategic Outcomes

Indicator	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual
Presentence Investigations	1,192	1139	1293	1197	1051	940	744
Fees collected by Internal Collection Program	\$2,125,605	\$2,219,318	\$2,196,391	\$2,164,426	\$2,065,550	\$2,229,606	No data
Total Number of Cases Processed	43,926	42,704	41,994	39,220	36,158	37,232	28036

\* Four judges are budgeted for the District Court.

## Other Key Indicators

Indicator	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual
Number of Probation Agents processing PSI's	6	6	6	6	6	4	4
Number of Collection Officers	3	3	3	3	3	3	1
Number of Judges Processing cases	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Number of PSI's per agent	199	190	216	200	175	234	186
Number of cases per Judge	10,981	10,676	10,499	9,805	9,040	9,308	7,009



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