Report on the Business of the Court of Common Pleas
Of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

2014

Court of Common Pleas
Of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

President Judge:	**Honorable Richard E. McCormick, Jr.**
Associate Judges:	**Honorable Debra A. Pezze**
	Honorable Rita D. Hathaway
	Honorable Anthony G. Marsili
	Honorable Christopher A. Feliciani
	Honorable Michele G. Bononi
	Honorable Christian F. Scherer
	Honorable Meagan Bilik-DeFazio
	Honorable David A. Regoli
	Honorable Harry F. Smail, Jr.
Senior Judges:	**Honorable Daniel J. Ackerman**
	Honorable William J. Ober
	Honorable John J. Driscoll
	Honorable John E. Blahovec
	Honorable Alfred B. Bell

OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

District Court Administrator:	**Amy Mears DeMatt, Esq.**
Deputy Court Administrator:	**Tami Silvis, MSJA**

MISSION STATEMENTS

COURTS

To provide judicial services to the citizens of Westmoreland County in all areas of the law including civil, criminal, family, juvenile, and orphans' court and to respond to changing societal needs by an appropriate allocation of resources.

COURT ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

To support the Westmoreland County courts and court departments in all administrative areas, and to coordinate Judicial Branch operations in the Tenth Judicial District of Pennsylvania.

TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

This report covers the operations of the Tenth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, the local operation of the Unified Judicial System located in Westmoreland County consisting of:

1. The Court of Common Pleas of Westmoreland County with Eleven Court of Common Pleas Judges and Staff
2. Seventeen Magisterial District Courts and Judges
3. The Office of the Court Administrator
4. The Westmoreland County Adult Probation and Parole Department
5. The Westmoreland County Domestic Relations Section
6. The Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Department
7. The Westmoreland County Citizens' Law Library

CIVIL COURT

President Judge Richard E. McCormick, Jr.
Judge Anthony G. Marsili
Judge David A. Regoli

Civil cases, estates, and guardianship cases are assigned on a rotational basis. Each judge maintains an individual calendar. The judge's personal staff schedules most case events; the Deputy Court Administrators schedule civil trials, estate audits, and arbitration; assist with the administration of all Orphans' Court matters; and purge civil cases. The following are key statistical indicators:

CIVIL STATISTICS

CIVIL STATISTICS	2012	2013	2014
New Civil Cases Docketed	2004	1572	1553
Arbitration Awards	91	76	86
Beginning Year Balance of Civil Cases	3315	4229	4396
Civil Cases Disposed	1180	1038	4578
Total Civil Pending at End of Year	4139	4763	1371

In the Spring of 2014, the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania asked Court Administrators across the state to review the pending civil caseload and conclude data clean-up efforts including administrative purges pursuant to Rule of Judicial Administration 1901 by June, 2014. The civil division of the Court Administrator's office worked diligently to review and dispose of almost 4,600 cases due to inactivity. A new computer program was developed to help track cases that are two years and older from the date of filing. Civil Judicial Law clerks in coordination with

the Civil Court Administrator are monthly reviewing cases for inactivity and ensuring that cases progress to their conclusion on a timely basis.

ESTATE AND GUARDIANSHIP STATISTICS

ORPHANS' COURT ESTATES	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	163	101	114	110	103
New cases	336	278	267	244	243
Cases Disposed	398	265	271	251	229
End of Year Balance of Cases	101	114	110	103	117

ORPHANS' COURT GUARDIAN	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	71	69	80	83	85	57
New cases	93	72	85	67	88	69
Cases Disposed	95	61	82	65	116	78
End of Year Balance of Cases	69	80	83	85	57	48

The Estate and Guardianship statistics have remained fairly consistent over the past five years.

CRIMINAL COURT:

Judge Debra A. Pezze
Judge Rita D. Hathaway
Judge Christopher A. Feliciani
Judge Meagan Bilik-DeFazio

Judges assigned to hear criminal matters are scheduled cases geographically. Trial-ready cases are assigned from a pool of available cases. Homicides are assigned individually on a rotational basis. Court arraignments, and fast track pleas and ARD's are scheduled by the magisterial district judges. Other events are scheduled by the court administrator.

CRIMINAL COURT STATISTICS

CRIMINAL FILINGS	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
New cases bound over to C.P.	4697	4882	5013	5219	5815
Fast Track Pleas and ARDs Disposed	2988	3538	2367	3372	3966
Fast Track DUIs Scheduled	503	568	575	569	643

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Jury Trial	37	31	34	20	22
Non Jury Trial	25	23	27	19	32
Guilty Plea	2957	3464	3548	3585	4177
Dismissal Rule 586	21	30	38	63	60
Dismissed	102	106	128	128	118
Dismissed Speedy Trial	1	1	0	1	2
Nolle Pros	267	266	241	169	176
ARD	959	806	1027	975	1239
Declared Inactive	403	415	430	444	603
Other/Uncategorized Dispositions[1]	38	470	67	63	35
Summary Appeals Disposed	436	484	498	590	
Total Cases Disposed	5246	5661	5540	5467	5866
End of Year Cases Pending	2317	1997	2241	2505	2439

In the face of a minimal increase in filings, the number of cases pending at the end of the year increased minimally over the 5 year period between 2010 and 2014. There has also been a shift in dispositions away from trials and relying more heavily on negotiated pleas.

[1] "Uncategorized" dispositions are cases that have been disposed where there has been a case processing error in categorizing the disposition. For report and caseload purposes, these cases are disposed and are no longer included in the pending Common Pleas criminal caseload.

COLLECTIONS

The Clerk of Courts is responsible in Westmoreland County for collecting Restitution, Fines, Fees, Costs, and other revenues associated with criminal cases. The following table includes most collections by the Clerk of Courts in 2012 and 2014.

CLERK OF COURTS' COLLECTIONS

	2013	2014
Restitution	1,498,007	1,196,238
Fines	506,809	462,389
Electronic Monitoring Fees	556,277	564,904
Supervision Fees (State)	493,525	552,445
Supervision Fees (County)	497,637	536,172
ARD Fees	177,558	188,357
Drug Education Fee	106,478	107,695
Sheriff Costs	30,105	30,307
MDJ Costs	67,983	71,829
Constable Costs	12,854	11,521
Appeals	17,737	20,028
Local Computer Surcharge Fee	13,980	14,702
Judgment Filing Fee	31,447	29,001
Expungements	15,945	17,017
Licenses	4,135	5,963
Pre-Trial Services Fees	12,244	12,248
Judgment Satisfactions	6,845	6,493
Extradition Fees	6,985	4,672
Juvenile EM Fees	2,441	3,596
District Attorney Costs	1,143	1,510
Witness Fees	1,469	1,318
Miscellaneous Revenues	2,670	3,496
Interest	0	0
Record Checks	674	642
Domestic Violence Fee	185	508
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	4,065,133	3,843,051

A Committee, under the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Chaired by Bryan Kline, the Westmoreland County Clerk of Courts, recommended a program to improve collections. Collection hearings were held monthly in 2014. The increased emphasis on collection has resulted in a significant increase in overall collections and specifically in the area of restitution.

FAMILY COURT

Judge Michele G. Bononi
Judge Chris Scherer
Judge Harry F. Smail, Jr.
Senior Judge John J. Driscoll

2014 Family Court Assignments included the following: Judge Bononi heard delinquency cases; Judges Scherer and Smail heard dependency, termination of parental rights, and adoptions; Judge Smail and Sr. Judge Driscoll heard Protection From Abuse matters; and all Family Assignment Judges, including Senior Judge Driscoll, heard divorce, child custody, and child support matters. Westmoreland County employs a one-judge/one-family assignment system for divorce, child custody, and child support matters. Cases are assigned alphabetically based on the defendant's last name. Dependency cases heard by a Master are assigned to a judge based on the last name of the oldest child on the petition. The following was the alphabetical distributions for divorce, custody, support, and adoption matters:

A – Fa	Judge Scherer
Fb – K	Judge Bononi
L-Ri	Judge Smail
Rj – Z	Senior Judge Driscoll

Family Court hearings are scheduled by a variety of departments: delinquency cases by the juvenile probation department; abuse, neglect, and juvenile status offenses by the children's bureau; termination of parental rights and adoptions by the court administrator; child support hearings by the domestic relations section and chambers; and custody hearings by the court administrator and judicial chambers. In addition to judges, the family court uses a variety of masters, hearing officers, and conciliators. The court will also appoint private counsel as divorce masters when requested. The following are key family court statistics:

FAMILY COURT DELINQUENCY	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	91	125	127	148
New cases	532	514	502	499
Cases Disposed	498	512	481	488
End of Year Balance of Cases	125	127	148	159

The above figures show that the numbers of new and disposed delinquency cases have stayed relatively constant in the past 4 years. In 2014, the delinquency caseload began to be managed through the state common pleas case management system (CPCMS) with a delinquency module that was rolled out in early 2014 to counties. This will allow for standardized tracking and processing of the delinquency caseload.

FAMILY COURT – DEPENDENCY (ABUSE & NEGLECT)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	75	6	32	12	4
New cases	111	201	149	153	134
Cases Disposed	180	180	169	161	130
End of Year Balance (cases)	6	27	12	4	8

FAMILY COURT – DEPENDENCY (STATUS OFFENSES[2])	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	0	9	7	1
New cases	52	39	50	59
Cases Disposed	48	41	56	38
End of Year Balance of Cases	4	7	1	22

FAMILY COURT – DIVORCE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	3396	3433	2644	2700	2770
New cases	1089	1041	1002	970	906
Cases Disposed	1052	1830	946	900	910
End of Year Balance of Cases	3433	2644	2700	2770	2766

Court Administration plans a review of the Divorce pending caseload in 2015 to determine whether any cases will be purged due to inactivity pursuant to a local rule that is under development.

FAMILY COURT – CUSTODY	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	647	682	745	767	847
New cases	1151	1243	1371	1383	1161
Cases Disposed	1116	1180	1349	1303	1641
End of Year Balance of Cases	682	745	767	847	367

[2] Status offenses include truancy and incorrigibility.

All disputed custody claims first pass through a custody conciliator who prepares either a consent or temporary order. Appeals are scheduled for a judicial conference. The judge schedules any custody matter not resolved at the judicial conference for a bench trial. A review of pending cases was done early in 2014 to address the large number of cases reported pending. The number of pending cases significantly decreased as a result this review and an adjustment in the process for getting dispositional orders to the Family Court Administrator. We schedule "Pro Se Days" to screen and provide conciliation to self-represented litigants. Pro Se Day provides more scheduling certainty and resolves cases proceeding without attorneys.

FAMILY COURT – PROTECTION FROM ABUSE	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	179	158	40	5	41
New cases	837	860	976	928	832
Cases Disposed	858	978	1011	892	740
End of Year Balance of Cases	158	40	5	41	133

Besides temporary orders, permanent orders, and indirect criminal contempt proceedings presided over by a common pleas judge, protection from abuse can also involve emergency action before a magisterial district judge. Protection from abuse cases were heard in 2014 by Judge Smail and Senior Judge Driscoll. New case filings have remained consistently in the upper 800-900 case range. In 2014, the AOPC PFA report began to be generated by the Prothonotary's JEMs computer system. This has resulted in greater accountability in caseload statistics.

ORPHANS' COURT – TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	58	59	49	55	48
New cases	151	178	232	212	171
Cases Disposed	150	188	226	219	160
End of Year Balance of Cases	59	49	55	48	59

ORPHANS' COURT – ADOPTIONS	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Beginning Year Balance of Cases	10	21	6	15	10
New cases	119	125	149	144	99
Cases Disposed	108	140	140	149	100
End of Year Balance of Cases	21	6	15	10	9

FAMILY DRUG COURT

A major obstacle to reuniting parents and children is drug addiction. The "Accelerated Permanency Treatment Program (APTP), presided over by Judge Scherer, is designed to reunify children separated from their parents when the Children's Bureau has already intervened and the future of the family, as an intact unit, has been threatened by alcohol or substance abuse.

COURT AND COURT ADMINISTRATOR BUDGET

Most revenues generated by the court, such as fines, costs, and fees pass through and are accounted in the court's records 'offices. The following are the combined expenses and revenues attributable to the court and court administrator's office cost centers for the past five years.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
EXPENSES	5,367,779	$5,372,275	5,581,590	5,683,624	5,765,638.63
REVENUES	933,818	$968,258	1,029,917	1,083,432	1,109,816.73
NET COST	4,433,961	4,404,017	4,551,673	4,600,192	4,655,821.90

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD

Currently chaired by Judge Debra Pezze, the Board membership includes each common pleas criminal and juvenile assignment judge, each county commissioner, the district attorney, the sheriff, the chair of the county's magisterial district judge association, the public defender, the district court administrator, the deputy court administrator, the special courts administrator, the chief probation officer, representatives of service providers, the president of the county's chief of police association, the JNET point of contact, county information representatives, service providers, representatives from the University of Pittsburgh (Greensburg), and various others. The CJAB operates under adopted bylaws, and maintains an operational plan. CJAB meets quarterly and operates through various subcommittees. CJAB has recently accomplished a goal of expanding electronic booking to transmit defendants' identification to the Pennsylvania State Police Central Repository. The committee's goal was to improve the identification process in order to increase officer safety and to ensure compliance with Pennsylvania law.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY
ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE DEPARTMENT
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

President Judge:	**Honorable Richard E. McCormick, Jr.**
Administrative Judge:	**Honorable Rita D. Hathaway**
Chief:	**Bruno A. Mediate**
Deputy Chief:	**Sharon L. Bold**

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Westmoreland County Adult Probation and Parole Department is a department of the County Court of Common Pleas (Tenth Judicial District). The Chief Probation Officer is appointed by and responsible to the President Judge, the Administrative Judge, and administratively to the District Court Administrator. As Chief, he/she is charged with the operation of the department. The Deputy Chief and Supervisors help manage the operation and have primary responsibility for training. Probation Officers have the major responsibility of carrying out the day-to-day activities to meet the department's mission. Support staff provides clerical support for all activities. In 2014, the Westmoreland County Adult Probation/Parole Office consisted of eighty two (82) full-time employees. More specifically, in addition to the Chief and Deputy Chief, there were seven (7) Supervisors, one (1) Office Supervisor, one (1) Fiscal Assistant, twenty seven (27) Probation Officer IIs, twenty four (24) Probation Officer Is, twelve (12) Probation Officer Aides, six (6) Legal Secretaries and two (2) Department Clerks. As of December 31, 2014, the total number of offenders under the supervision of the Westmoreland County Adult Probation/Parole Office was 7,578. Of that total, 5,392 were male and 2,186 were female.

Adult Probation Officers are responsible for the following:

- Supervising ARD, Probation Without Verdict (PWV), probation, parole, Intermediate Punishment and pre-trial cases.
- Conducting investigations and reports, such as: pre-sentence investigations, sentencing guideline computations, parole applications, Intermediate Punishment and pre-trial assessments, and violation reports.
- Aid in sentencing and release decisions.
- Issuing conditions of supervision.
- Conducting risk and needs assessments and developing case plans.
- Monitoring and facilitating compliance with the conditions of supervision.
- Making referrals for evaluation, treatment, employment, and education.
- Preparing victim impact statements in pre-sentence investigations.
- Enforcing the collection of restitution, fees, fines, and costs.
- Providing for DNA and Megan's Law registration.
- Responding to complaints and requests for assistance and information.

SERVICES/SUPERVISION TYPES/PROGRAMS

1. Pre-sentence Investigations and Sentencing Guidelines
2. ARD, PWV, Probation and Parole Supervision
3. Administrative Cases
4. Intermediate Punishment (including electronic monitoring)
5. Pre-trial Services and Institutional Parole Program
6. Day Reporting Center
7. Alcohol Highway Safety School (AHSS)

PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATIONS AND SENTENCING GUIDELINES

A presentence investigation report (PSI) includes the following: information regarding the circumstances of the offense; the defendant's prior criminal history; the defendant's family and marital history; education and employment information; drug and alcohol history; emotional and physical health status; financial information, and; a victim impact statement. Seventy Seven (77) presentence investigations were ordered by the Court in 2014.

The sentencing judge is required to consider the sentencing guidelines in determining the appropriate sentence for offenders convicted of felonies and misdemeanors. During 2014, 3,821 sentencing guideline requests were received from the District Attorney's Office. All sentences were reported electronically to the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing via SGS Web.

ARD, PROBATION AND PAROLE

All Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD), Probation Without Verdict (PWV), probation, and parole cases are supervised by five (5) field supervision units.

2014 CASELOAD STATISTICS

Unit	Probation	Parole	IP	ARD/PWV	Total
Unit 1	**480**	**120**	**125**	**43**	**768**
Unit 2	**490**	**247**	**194**	**44**	**975**
Unit 3	**351**	**112**	**181**	**1,225**	**1,869**
Unit 4	**209**	**94**	**95**	**0**	**398**
Unit 5	**259**	**64**	**237**	**59**	**619**
Totals	**1,789**	**637**	**832**	**1,371**	**4,629**

In 2014, 84 early ARD releases were granted.

2014 OFFENDER REPORTING

Report Place	In Person	By Mail	Pre-Trial	TOTAL
Main Office	7,589	8,930	824	**17,343**
DRC (Greensburg)	13,782	0	0	**13,782**
New Ken. Sub-Office	3,391	0	504	**3,895**
Monessen Sub-Office	1,783	0	148	**1,931**
TOTALS	**26,545**	**8,930**	**1,476**	**36,951**

In 2014, web reporting was available to some offenders placed on ARD, PWV and low level supervision. The criteria consisted of: the offender being employed; offender having access to the Internet, and; offender having an existing email. Those offenders who reported via the Web Portal were required to pay a fee of $8.00 per month – $6.00 of which was retained by CCAP and $2.00 which was sent to Westmoreland County Adult Probation. In 2014, the amount collected and sent to Adult Probation was $5,234.00.

2014 EXPUNGEMENTS

ARD	**459**
PWV	**126**
TOTAL	**585**

2014 DRUG TESTING

Place	Drug Tests Conducted
DRC and RIP/ATS	5,881
Field	1,322
Greensburg (Main Office)	1,971
Monessen Sub Office	550
New Kensington Sub Office	1000
WCP	38
Pre-Trial	446
TOTAL	**11,208**

Adult Probation also conducted 379 drug tests for Family Court.

ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

The administrative unit supervises offenders who are sentenced in Westmoreland County but reside in other counties or states. Felony and some misdemeanor cases may be transferred to other states through the interstate compact, but ARD cases cannot be transferred to another state. Felony, misdemeanor, and some ARD cases may be transferred to other counties through the inter-county transfer process with the approval of the receiving county. The number of active administrative cases as of December 31, 2014 was 1,936.

2014 TRANSFER CASES

New Cases Transferred to County of Residence	**555**
New Cases Transferred to State of Residence	**8**

2014 CO-OP CASES

Requests Received to Supervise Cases from Other Counties	**486**

COUNTIES MAKING THE MOST REQUESTS:

Allegheny	203
Fayette	55
Washington	57
Indiana	45
Armstrong	16

INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT

Intermediate Punishment (IP) is a community-based sentencing alternative available to the court for eligible offenders who would otherwise be sentenced to confinement in a county correctional facility. Most offenders sentenced to Intermediate Punishment are ordered to serve a period of time on electronic monitoring. In 2014, the equipment used to monitor those offenders was leased or rented through BI, Incorporated.

2014 INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT SUMMARY

Number of Offenders Placed on Electronic Monitoring as a Result of Direct Sentences to IP, Sentences of Intensive Supervision with Electronic Monitoring and Parole/ Re-parole to Electronic Monitoring.	656
Number of Offenders who were Ineligible for IP	41
Average Length of Stay on Electronic Monitoring (Days)	141
Number of IP Cases Transferred to Other Counties for Supervision	60
Number of Offenders who Successfully Completed Electronic Monitoring	569
Number of Offenders who were Unsuccessfully Discharged from Electronic Monitoring	63
Total Jail Days Saved	55,131
Electronic Monitoring Fees Collected	$642,762

IP PROGRAM TRENDS

	2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Pending	197	155	140	148
Average Length of Stay (Days)	145	145	144	141
Number of Offenders Placed on Electronic Monitoring	650	660	643	656
Average Total Caseload	378	386	394	328
Monthly Average – Electronic Monitoring Cases	285	267	251	223

RESTRICTIVE INTERMEDIATE PUNISHMENT ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT SERVICES PROGRAM (RIP/ATS)

The RIP/ATS Program provides a sentencing alternative for the Court for offenders who would otherwise be sentenced to the county jail or state prison under Levels 3 and 4 of the Sentencing Guidelines. Offenders, who are placed on house arrest with electronic monitoring, undergo intensive treatment while involved in a partial hospitalization program. After completing the partial program, Offenders receive intensive outpatient therapy (and other services) through the Day Reporting Center.

RIP/ATS SUMMARY

	2012	2013	2014
Sentenced to RIP/ATS	19	24	17
Successful Completions	27	12	16
Unsuccessful Discharges/Revocations	4	6	3
Total Jail Days Saved	3,846	2,886	2,948

PRE-TRIAL SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONAL PAROLE PROGRAM

Pre-trial cases involve offenders released on bail. Approximately ¾ of all pre-trial cases are supervised by one Probation Officer II. Some pre-trial cases that include electronic monitoring are supervised by Intermediate Punishment Officers and the remaining ¼ of the pre-trial cases are supervised by general Probation Officers throughout the office because the offender already has existing cases.

Westmoreland County Adult Probation has one Institutional Parole Officer who is responsible for verifying parole release plans, processing parole applications, investigating requests for re-parole, and coordinating the placement of inmates into inpatient drug and alcohol treatment.

PRE-TRIAL SUMMARY

	2013	2014
Average Daily Caseload – Non Electronic Monitoring	145	168
Average Daily Caseload – Electronic Monitoring	24	27
New Pre-Trial Cases Received – Electronic Monitoring and Non Electronic Monitoring	253	258
Pre-Trial Electronic Monitoring Fees Collected	$12,244.54	$12,244.68

INSTITUTIONAL PAROLE OFFICER

	2013	2014
Parole Applications Processed/Release Plans Verified	266	258
Re-Parole Investigations/Special Investigations	90	148
Inpatient Drug and Alcohol Evaluations and Treatment Coordination	198	91
Nominal Bond Investigations	44	63

DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION – 1543(b)

2014 DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION (DUS) SUMMARY

Number of Offenders Sentenced to IP for DUS	133
Number of Offenders Placed on Electronic Monitoring for DUS	93
Number of Offenders found Ineligible	16
Number of Offenders on the Pending List as of 12-31-14	24

2014 OVERALL STATISTICS

NEW CASES AND RELEASES

3,883 new offenders and 4,770 new cases were added to Adult Probation's system during the 2014 calendar year. During that same time period, 3,515 offenders were released from supervision.

2014	NEW OFFENDERS	NEW CASES	← Program of these new cases.						RELEASED OFFENDERS
			ARD	INC	PAR	PRO	PWV	IP	
JAN	**340**	**428**	85	34	57	167	34	51	**339**
FEB	**215**	**273**	71	23	26	109	7	37	**349**
MAR	**323**	**363**	72	31	55	138	26	41	**315**
APR	**79**	**136**	54	13	9	40	9	11	**90**
MAY									
JUN	**842**	**1009**	257	66	118	386	71	111	**653**
JUL	**348**	**410**	129	35	37	154	23	32	**339**
AUG	**293**	**374**	84	41	43	140	25	41	**270**
SEP	**334**	**403**	108	17	38	158	29	53	**289**
OCT	**447**	**537**	124	41	57	204	33	78	**246**
NOV	**300**	**378**	94	26	25	156	27	50	**318**
DEC	**362**	**459**	117	44	50	177	22	49	**307**
TOTALS:	**3883**	**4770**	1195	371	515	1829	306	554	**3515**

NOTE: Reports from April 14, 2014 to June 9, 2014 are not available. The offender data was entered into a different case management system (UCM) and is not available for retrieval. Upon conversion back and re-entry of data into the AS400 system, reports

were completed for that time period.

Violations and Revocations Filed (Cases)	1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014
Filed for ARD Violation Hearings in Court	669
Filed for Probation, Parole, or IP Violation Hearings in Court	4044
TOTAL	**4713**

DAY REPORTING CENTER

The Day Reporting Center (DRC) is a joint effort between the Westmoreland County Adult Probation Office and SPHS Behavioral Health. The DRC is located at 203 South Maple Avenue in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Eligible individuals are those who are involved with the Westmoreland County Court System and the Westmoreland County Adult Probation Office. Furthermore, individuals must be at least eighteen years old and have a substance abuse, mental health or co-occurring disorder.

In 2014, the DRC was staffed by two full-time Probation Officer IIs and two Probation Officer Aides. Also on site was one full-time Deputy Sheriff. SPHS staff included one Supervisor to oversee the DRC, several therapists and two case managers. The canine officer from the Westmoreland County Prison and the canine officer from the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office continued to conduct random searches of the DRC.

Probation staff provided intensive supervision and monitoring. The Officers and Aides conducted random but frequent drug tests, breathalyzer tests and offender searches. The Deputy Sheriff focused on safety and surveillance. It should be noted that in addition to on-going drug/alcohol treatment and mental health counseling, all support services (parenting classes, life skills, education and employment) have continued.

ALCOHOL HIGHWAY SAFETY SCHOOL

Since July 2013, Alcohol Highway Safety School (AHSS) has operated out of the Westmoreland County Adult Probation Office. The fee for each AHSS class cycle is $300.00.

2014 AHSS SUMMARY

Number of Alcohol Highway Safety School Class Cycles	43
Number of Offenders who Completed Classes	958
Total AHSS Fees Collected (this Includes Individuals who Paid in Advance and have yet to Enroll/Complete Classes)	$291,905.40
Instructor Wages Paid	$39,167.04
Net Revenue	$240,478.71

DNA TESTING

Offenders incarcerated or under supervision for felonies and other specified offenses are required to provide a DNA sample prior to release from prison or county supervision.

DNA Samples Drawn	**2014**
Adult Probation Office	172
County Prison	110
Field	0
New Kensington Sub-office	54
Monessen Sub-office	25
DRC	0
Total	**361**

COLLECTIVE SERVICE NEEDS OF OFFENDERS
REFERRALS FOR TREATMENT

Most referrals for treatment and human services are made to the following:

2014 Referral Type	Number of Referrals
Drug and Alcohol	4,328
Alcohol Highway Safety School	2,600
Mental Health	470
Community Service	31

BUDGET EXPENSES AND REVENUES

EXPENSES

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Personnel, Fringes	$4,519,232.95	$4,902,480.60	$5,048,331.10	$5,379,411.84	$5,430,574.95
Operating Expenses	$1,355,916.93	$1,205,235.24	$1,235,220.53	$1,186,434.27	$1,444,499.58
Capital	$5,202.18	$31,823.53	$28,409.80	$26,188.37	$23,118.26
TOTAL	**$5,880,352.06**	**$6,139,539.37**	**$6,311,961.43**	**$6,592,034.48**	**$6,898,192.79**

REVENUES

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Grant-In-Aid	$576,184	$576,184	$564,500	$522,363	$512,603
Supervision Fees	$862,390	$840,071	$968,774	$991,161	$1,072,855
Electronic Monitoring Fees	$517,617	$544,646	$657,580	$622,660	$642,762
Grant (IP, RIP/ATS, DRC)	$135,045	$133,254	$187,563	$207,864	$200,726
ARD Administrative Fees	$50,909	$47,984	$50,137	$50,911	$58,705
Miscellaneous	$1,305	0	$8,502	$291.62	$1,330
TOTALS	**$2,143,450**	**$2,142,139**	**$2,437,056**	**$2,395,250.62**	**$2,488,981**

ELECTRONIC MONITORING FEES

During the past 5 years, Adult Probation has collected and turned over to the county $2 ,985,265 in electronic monitoring fees.

SUPERVISION FEES

Legislation requires 50% of the offender supervision fees to be deposited in a County Supervision Fee Fund under the control of the President Judge and 50% to be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. It has been the policy of the Pennsylvania Board to return to each county the exact amount that has been deposited in the State Supervision Fee Fund for that county. It has been the policy of the Westmoreland County Court to transfer all money under the control of the President Judge to the county's general fund to offset the cost of running the department. Westmoreland has been one of only a few counties which turn over 100% of supervision fees to the general fund.

It should be noted that on May 1, 2013, offender supervision fees were increased from $35.00 per month to $40.00 per month. Also, in December 2013 an order was signed to increase supervision fees to $45.00 per month effective January 1, 2014. The fees remain at $45.00 per month.

5-YEAR SUMMARY OF SUPERVISION FEE COLLECTIONS AND DISBURSEMENT

Total Supervision Fees Collected				
2010	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
$863,390.09	$840,071.12	$968,773.67	$991,161.59	$1,072,855.68

County Portion of Supervision Fees Transferred to County General Fund				
$430,416.43	$452,027.61	$484,141.22	$497,636.71	$536,172.26

State Portion of Supervision Fees Returned to County General Fund				
$410,439.77	$463,148.50	$471,706.11	$493,524.88	$536,683.42

In Summary, during the past 5 years, $4,736,252.15 in supervision fees was collected. During the same time period, the President Judge released $2,400,394.23 to the county general fund and the state returned $2,375,502.68 to the county general fund for a total of $4,775,896.91 released to the general fund.

NOTE: According to Warden John Walton, in 2014, Westmoreland County earned $21,254.40 in revenue by renting out space to other facilities at a per diem rate of $78.00. The space was available as a result of offenders being placed on electronic monitoring, those ordered to the Day Reporting Center and other sentencing alternatives.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

President Judge:	**Honorable Richard E. McCormick, Jr.**
Administrative Judge:	**Honorable Michele G. Bononi**
Master:	**John Casario, Esq.**
Master:	**Monique Mears, Esq.**
Department Head:	**Adeline Beighley, MSAJ**

MISSION

To provide supervision and rehabilitation to youth and families while providing Community Protection, Victim Restoration and Youth Redemption

VISION

We will strive to reduce harm and in doing so will continuously work to create safer and stronger communities, fewer victims, reduce delinquency rates, and improve confidence in the juvenile justice system. We will enhance our juvenile justice system by employing evidence-based practices, collecting and analyzing data to measure these efforts and using the data to continuously improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of the system.

PENNSYLVANIA'S JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

The state's Juvenile Justice System is governed in its operations by the "Balanced and Restorative Justice" (BARJ) principles adopted through Act 33. At the foundation of this philosophy is the concept that crime victims and the community, as well as juvenile offenders, should receive balanced attention and gain tangible benefits from their interactions with Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

COMMUNITY PROTECTION refers to the right of all Pennsylvania citizens to be and feel safe from crime.

ACCOUNTABILITY emphasizes that, in Pennsylvania, a juvenile who commits a crime harms both the victim of the crime and the community, and thereby incurs an obligation to repair that harm to the greatest extent possible.

COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT embodies the belief that juvenile offenders in Pennsylvania have strengths, are capable of change, can earn redemption, and can become responsible and productive members of their communities.

BALANCE as appropriate to each individual case, the juvenile justice system should provide balanced attention to the protection of the community, the imposition for accountability for offenses committed, and the development of competencies to enable juveniles to become responsible and productive members of their communities.

2014 OVERVIEW

DAILY OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) accepts delinquent juvenile complaints, and works with children between the ages of ten to eighteen years who are charged with committing a delinquent act.

Once a youth enters the juvenile system, the JPD may be involved with the youth until the age of twenty-one. While the court determines guilt or innocence and then establishes the sanction, it is the responsibility of the JPD to protect the community, develop the offender's competencies, and to assist the victim through the process of restoration. In Westmoreland County, the daily operation of the JPD includes Intake, traditional Probation, School-Based Probation, Community-Based Probation, Aftercare/Reintegration and the Youth Commission Program.

REFERRALS TO JUVENILE COURT

The JPD is responsible for allegations of juvenile delinquency. Police, parents, juvenile probation officers, magisterial district judges, and other courts may file charges through the Intake Unit.

	2010	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Total Referrals	797	715	655	687	686
Delinquency Placements	95	88	85	61	65
Total Placements	95	88	85	61	65
Total Dispositions	2661	2153	2340	2186	2167

COURT ACTIVITY

A master or judge hears juvenile charges. The court adjudicates delinquency and orders the disposition. Court hearings are held each week either by a master at the juvenile center or by a judge at the courthouse.

When a youth is placed in the Juvenile Detention Center, the intake officer schedules a detention hearing within 72 hours. The youth may either remain in the detention center or be released. If the youth is detained, the officer must file a petition within twenty-four hours. After filing the petition, the case is assigned to a probation officer. The adjudication hearing must occur within ten days of the filing of the petition.

Once a delinquent complaint is filed on a juvenile that is not detained, a hearing is scheduled. A hearing is heard approximately 12 weeks from filing. If the youth is adjudicated "delinquent" the court determines the disposition.

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

	2010	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Total No. of Hearings before Judges	596	522	642	684	708
Total No. of Hearings before Masters	941	556	1099	949	938
TOTAL	1,537	1,078	1741	1633	1746

SECURE JUVENILE DETENTION

When it is necessary to protect the community from the juvenile, the youth is placed in the Juvenile Detention Center. The JPD's intake staff is available twenty-four hours a day to accept youths referred to detention. 202 children were detained in the Juvenile Detention Center in 2014. The average length of stay was 16.04 days. The following is a breakdown by race, age and gender and a 10 year comparison of juveniles detained each year.

DETAINED IN 2014 BY RACE (202)													
WHITE		BLACK		HISPANIC		BIRACIAL		OTHER		NATIVE AMERICAN		ASIAN	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
85	20	53	6	0	0	29	6	3	0	0	0	0	0

DETAINED IN 2014 BY AGE (202)									
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	OTHER
0	1	1	6	12	25	31	63	41	22

10 YEAR COMPARISON									
2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
329	303	309	317	266	239	214	208	196	202

The average length of stay was 16.04 days.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

The Emergency Shelter is used as a least restrictive alternative to juvenile detention. The following is statistical information for 2014:

DETAINED IN 2014 BY RACE (90)													
WHITE		BLACK		HISPANIC		BIRACIAL		OTHER		NATIVE AMERICAN		ASIAN	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
38	15	6	9	1	0	12	9	0	0	0	0	0	0

DETAINED IN 2014 BY AGE (90)									
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	OTHER
1	0	2	13	12	16	27	16	3	0

10 YEAR COMPARISON									
2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
-	-	-	-	-	-	78	115	109	90

The average length of stay was 24.58 days.

JUVENILE JUSTICE GOALS

1. **Community Protection*:*** refers to the right of all Pennsylvania citizens to be and feel safe from crime.

   Of the cases closed in 2014:
   - 83% of Juvenile Offenders Successfully Completed Supervision
   - 76% Complied with their Conditions of Supervision

2. **<u>Accountability</u>:** emphasizes that a delinquent harms both the victim and the community, and thereby incurs an obligation to repair that harm to the greatest extent possible.

Of the cases closed in 2014:

- 92 % of juveniles completed assigned community service obligations
- 7,454 hours of community service were completed
- $41,727.37 of restitution was paid to victims
- 79% of juveniles made full restitution to their victim(s)

Advancing accountability requires purposeful attention to offender participation in a process whereby juvenile offenders understand and acknowledge:

- The wrongfulness of their actions
- The impact of the crime on the crime victim and the community
- Their responsibility for causing harm

In addition to helping juvenile offenders understand and take action to repair the harm, the JPD has responsibilities to victims including: upholding victims' rights, supplying accurate and timely information, and treating victims with dignity and respect.

- Victim Impact Statements and Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum are tools for increasing awareness and understanding.
- Juvenile offender apologies, crime victims' compensation fund, restitution, meaningful community service, and restorative justice practices are activities that repair harm.

3. **<u>Competency Development</u>**: embodies the belief that juvenile offenders in Pennsylvania have strengths, are capable of change, can earn redemption, and can become responsible and productive members of their communities.

Of the cases closed in 2014:

- 80% of juveniles were employed or in an educational or vocational activity
- 95% of juveniles successfully completed a competency development activity

PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY BASED MONITORING AND RESTORATION PROGRAM

The CBMR program has a capacity of 50 clients and is supervised by two juvenile probation officers. One officer is always on-call for immediate notifications of violations. Since the inception of the program, 841 referrals have been made to the CBMR Program including 25 in 2014. Client referrals can be made at pre-adjudication, pre-disposition, or disposition stages.

Typically pre-adjudication referrals arise from a detention hearing. In that event, the clients are transported home from detention and placed on electronic monitoring until further hearing. Referrals can also be made between the adjudication and dispositional hearings. In those cases, the clients are placed on electronic monitoring pending final disposition. In these pre-dispositional cases, the case is usually shared between the CBMR and referring officers.

Clients who are ordered to complete CBMR as a condition of probation are all transferred to the CBMR caseload. They are all placed on electronic monitoring, and unless otherwise ordered by the Court, will remain on monitoring for a minimum of 60 days. CBMR officers make regular contacts to make sure the juveniles are being compliant with monitoring, and all other conditions of their court order. Drug testing is conducted frequently, and clients must pass drug screens to have the electronic monitor removed.

Goals and objectives of the program include: providing an alternative for disposition other than placement, reductions of clients in detention, cost reduction, improved academic performance, and an increase in employment.

COMMUNITY-BASED PROBATION

A community-based officer is stationed at our satellite office in New Kensington, PA. This officer develops effective working relationships with community leaders, law enforcement, victim services, businesses, community agencies, churches and schools. In addition, intake interviews are also conducted at this location.

The basis of the work for this position follows the standards established by the JCJC standard for Community Liaison model. As such, this officer leads the Community Involvement Workgroup. This workgroup is leading the department in a more community centered approach to doing probation work, and is endeavoring to enhance the Service Matrix with local community resources, including agencies and community groups, that families can access when probation services are through. In addition to community services for specific issues, like housing, workforce development, clothing, and food, the Juvenile Probation Department is also developing a compendium of natural community supports for families and individuals such as

recreational groups, churches and civic organizations. This enhances not only work with individuals living at home, but strengthens the network available to those youth who are reintegrating into the community from placement.

Additionally, this group is deeply involved in the work with Bridges Out of Poverty, and the Circles® Initiative operated by Westmoreland Community Action. The department has been instrumental in not only the startup site in Jeannette, but also in the development of two of three additional sites in the New Kensington and Latrobe areas.

Further, this officer promotes restorative practices by conducting peace circles and wisdom circles by invitation and by request around the county. The most notable group has been a peace circle conducted at the JAYS afterschool program in Jeannette for the past 9 years.

Recognizing the impact of behavioral health of clients (sometimes including victims, families, and juveniles) within the juvenile justice system, we have worked with the Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) since 2006 to bring Crisis Intervention Training to law enforcement here in the county. This training was conducted in 2013 and was successful. It included several law enforcement agencies.

Goals for the upcoming year are:

- Continue to develop the Service Matrix
- Develop partnerships with more institutions of higher education and help probationers obtain training in areas where jobs are available
- Develop partnerships with employers who are willing to apprentice or sponsor probationers
- With CJAB expand training for CIT (this also applies to the PTSD position)

Further, in keeping with the current research in juvenile justice, the School Based Officers have been designated as Community Based Officers/Community Supervision Model and they will continue to service victims, juveniles, and families in the community.

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK

One Juvenile Probation Officer coordinates this program and provides juvenile offenders the opportunity to perform meaningful community service work for the benefit of their community, to hold the child accountable for their actions, and to increase competency development skills. The program provides needed services to 100 non-profit organizations and local governmental agencies where the juvenile lives and commits the offense. It furnishes a tangible consequence to probation, and a possible alternative to restitution and fines. Juveniles are ordered into this program.

Community Service Work Data					
	2010	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Male Youth Assigned Community Service Work	186	161	174	191	204
Female Youth Assigned Community Service Work	63	52	47	58	60
Total Assigned	249	213	221	249	264

Total Hours Worked in Communities		
Total Hours Worked in Communities	Year	Hours
	2010	9,751
	2011	7,474
	2012	6,983
	2013	8,823
	2014	7,457
Total		40,488

VICTIM SERVICES

In May of 2012, the Juvenile Office enhanced its services by adding a Juvenile Court Victim Advocate to its staff component. This position serves to orient the victim to the work and objectives of the juvenile justice system. The advocate encourages the victim's input and concerns as their case is addressed by the juvenile court master and moves through the system.

In the past, victims did not appear at the juvenile's Detention Hearing; now they are invited to attend. In regard to Pre-Adjudication Conferences, it is helpful for the Juvenile Court Victim Advocate to speak with the victims prior to the Conference to obtain input from the victim in regards to: community service work, restitution, and having contact in the future. Victims are often asked whether they would object to having the charges reduced to a lesser offense and if they are not in agreement, this must be taken into consideration at the time of the hearing. With the victim's consent, the juvenile is often given the opportunity to be placed on a Consent Decree.

When the cases are scheduled before the court master, the Juvenile Court Victim Advocate escorts the victims to the Victim Waiting Room where they can discuss the case, their role in the hearing, and clarify uncertainties. In the court room, the Advocate accompanies the victim for support during the proceeding.

If a juvenile is placed outside of the home in a juvenile facility, the victim is empowered by having the option to receive regular notification of the juvenile's progress, when releases are being considered for a home pass, and when the juvenile is discharged from custody.

In the near future, the Juvenile Probation Department plans to work with the Private Industry Council in assisting juveniles earn restitution through a work program. This could include juveniles from all ends of the county to work in non-profit jobsites such as a local public library, a recreation center, or a municipal building. This program would also teach the youth how to compose a skills resume and how to search for employment in the future.

With the addition of the Juvenile Court Victim Advocate in court master hearings, the victims will have a better understanding of their role in the process and an ongoing opportunity for input.

YOUTH COMMISSIONS

Mission - Our mission is to connect youth and family to community.

Vision – We envision a community where all children and youth have good mentors at every stage of development.

In the 1960s, the first Youth Commission was established in Pennsylvania by the Westmoreland County Juvenile Court. Its original purpose was to allow first time youthful offenders the opportunity to avoid a juvenile court record and encourage community involvement. Based upon the long term success of these efforts, and our commitment to restorative practices, we have expanded the program to include a reintegration component in which the community is instrumental in aiding a youth's successful transition from placement to home, or giving that extra support to a probationer who needs it. We recognize the importance of assisting victims, individuals, and families within their own communities as when the system is gone; community is still present to provide support and direction.

The Youth Commission is comprised of dedicated community volunteers who provide new and better opportunities for youth to learn, readjust, and conform to the laws of our society. It also is charged with helping the youth take responsibility for his/her actions and repair the harm caused to the victims and/or community.

DIVERSION CASE

Youth Commission Volunteers comprise a local diversionary program that is able to closely supervise a first time offender and allow him or her to repair the harms to a victim and community locally while also providing youth the opportunity to avoid fines and a permanent court record.

> *Crime creates social and spiritual separation from the community. For youth who have created harm in the community, mentoring helps them repair the harm and gain or regain a sense of self-worth and acceptance that allows them to be fully reintegrated into the community.*

REINTEGRATION CASE

Youth Commission volunteers will assist the youth in pursuing employments, recreation, and other positive community based activities.

Crime creates social and spiritual separation from the community. For youth who have created harm in the community, mentoring helps them repair the harm and gain or regain a sense of self-worth and acceptance that allows them to be fully reintegrated into the community. This applies to both first time offenders and repeat offenders. In most instances youth remain in the community; however, in a small percentage of cases, it is necessary to place youth outside of the home. Placement creates physical separation of youth from her or his family, school, and community. For youth returning from placement meaningful connections to unpaid community members provides a critical link that allows youth the opportunity to gain trust, understanding, and redemption. The Commission is also positioned to assist families dealing with the struggles associated with a youth's return home. The ultimate goal is to provide the youth and their families a level of service, care, compassion and connection to the community that is conducive to success. This dramatically decreases the opportunities for re-arrest.

Referral Source: Juvenile Court ONLY

- The Juvenile Court Judge may refer a youth at any time.
- A Probation Officer may refer a youth at any time after disposition of the case following approval by a Probation Supervisor.

PENNSYLVANIA'S POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) PROJECT

Westmoreland County has been the demonstration site, and is now the permanent home to Pennsylvania's PTSD Project. This project began as an initiative to bring much needed female centered services to youth being served in the juvenile justice system. The program has since expanded from specialized Residential Treatment Curriculum (RTC) training and providing specialized care within placement agencies, to include PTSD Aftercare services, both provided in partnership with Adelphoi Village. Although the curriculum started out as gender-specific programming for girls, it has been found to be an effective treatment for boys as well.

Additionally, the PTSD Project provides monthly training opportunities at the Juvenile Service Center in Greensburg, and it also provides on-site training for many placement agencies, juvenile detention centers, other probation offices, schools, and Children and Youth agencies. The PTSD Project offers a variety of one day trainings that address PTSD, mental health issues, stress management for youth, and stress management for professionals. The PTSD Project is proud to announce that it has recently developed and is currently piloting two new trainings. The

first training is "Awareness of PTSD in Emergency Responders," and the other one is "Signs and Symptoms of Urban Violence Traumatic Response Syndrome." All of our trainings have been updated to include the most current research, as well as to reflect all of the changes from the DSM V. Members of the PTSD Project are also significantly involved in the Southwest Regional CIT team, which is a group that provides a 40 hour training in crisis intervention and mental health issues for local police officers, probation officers, security personnel, and corrections officers. The coordinator of the project, Gary Lewis, also provides a weekly PTSD Treatment group at a local group home for girls, and he also works with the Jeannette After-School Program on a weekly basis.

Future goals for the Pennsylvania PTSD Project include:

- Making a new PTSD Training Video
- Updating the RTC Curriculum
- Partnering with a local organization to provide a training on LGBTQ Awareness
- Continue to provide regular trainings for professionals and paraprofessionals that serve youth in any capacity
- Continue outreach to community groups and organizations
- Develop a new training on "PTSD and Addiction"
- Utilize trauma informed care to enhance the services that the juvenile probation department provides to the community
- Complete our research study with the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg about the PTSD Aftercare Initiative

AFTERCARE/REINTEGRATION

Every child placed within the Juvenile Justice System must have the proper counseling and support needed to return home. Aftercare begins at disposition and is tailored to the needs and capacities of the individual youth. Residential treatment staff collaborates on developing an integrated Treatment and Aftercare plan prior to the youth leaving the facility. The post release plan that provides balanced attention to community protection, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed, and the development of competencies is completed. The plan outlines post release goals for the juvenile and how they may be attained.

Safe reintegration calls for an extended period of close supervision and strict contact requirements. Released juveniles should be engaged immediately in structured activities designed to reintegrate them into the community. Every effort is made to connect juveniles with community resources and to recruit community help in the reintegration process. In addition, substance abuse monitoring, treatment, mental health counseling and therapy, educational support, and job training or employment help are provided. Because it is necessary to closely monitor and respond to violations of aftercare conditions consistently and effectively, the courts and probation departments need an array of sanctions short of re-institutionalization.

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

A Message from the Director:

The Juvenile Probation Department of Westmoreland County has the unique and critical responsibility of shaping young lives as well as addressing and serving the needs of victim's communities.

This community report gives us an opportunity to share the exciting and innovative work that has been accomplished by our group of dedicated probation officers and support staff in the last year.

This year was a significant year as we continued to move toward utilizing evidence based practices in order to enhance our Westmoreland County Juvenile Justice System.

Through legislation, the purpose clause of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act now contains language that requires employing evidence-based practices with fidelity at every stage of the Juvenile Justice Process. Evidence-based practice simply means "applying what we know in terms of research to what we do in our work with youth, their families, and the communities in which we live." As a result, we will focus our efforts and begin to collect and analyze the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, we will strive to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services and programs. This use of research and our outcomes will allow our juvenile justice system to achieve and confirm the effectiveness of our Balanced and Restorative Justice Mission

Prior to this, Act 33 of 1995 amended the purpose clause of Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act to establish balanced and restorative justice as the philosophical and theoretical framework for the juvenile justice system. The statute clearly defined three goals for our system: 1) The protection of the community; 2) The imposition of accountability for offenses committed and 3) the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community.

In order to enhance and support these efforts, we are emphasizing the use of research-based evidence to guide our development of policy and practice in all aspects of Balanced and Restorative Justice and the application of evidence-based research to protect the community from further harm by reducing rearrests and recidivism rates for youth involved in the juvenile justice system through the process of behavioral change.

- In order to fulfill our mission "*to provide supervision and rehabilitation to youth and families while providing Community Protection, Victim Restoration and Youth Redemption"* our department continues to implement programs and protocols that move us in that direction.

- Family Engagement - We have continued to work toward engaging families whose children are involved in juvenile court in a much more meaningful way. We created a Family Satisfaction Survey and encourage families to complete it at Case Closing. The results of that survey have been positive. When children are involved in our system, involving families in case planning and all phases are critical to a successful outcome. We have made a commitment to continue our pledge and partner with communities to improve prevention and diversion services.

- We continued to use a Risk-Needs Assessment Instrument for all youth who enter the Westmoreland County's Juvenile Justice System. It is designed to assist our officers in making structured and consistent decisions. The results are used to develop a more comprehensive case plan for juveniles that focus on reducing identified risk factors and emphasizing youth's strengths. Research shows that youth whose services are matched with the correct interventions based on their needs assessment will have better outcomes and the recidivism rate of that youth will decrease.

- Our sub-office in New Kensington, PA continues in full operation. Intake interviews for families in that part of the county are regularly conducted at that office. This provides a convenience to families and communities in the northern part of the county who as a result do not need to travel to the county seat in Greensburg to meet with a probation officer.

- Bridges out of Poverty continues to be a major initiative and our staff works diligently in Westmoreland County communities to ensure its success. Our commitment to this is strong and staff is continuously encouraged to participate and enhance its mission which has forced us to try and understand poverty and how we can better connect with people in poverty.

- Our Community Involvement Workgroup continues to seek ways to partner and expand the concepts and principles of a Balanced & Restorative Justice System in communities and develop strategies that will increase positive outcomes for all those involved. They are continually exploring avenues in which our department may reach people in communities in positive ways.

- We developed a protocol and an educational component to assist others in understanding the ramifications of Sexting/Technology and Sexual Violence. We are conducting a Sexting Class for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and who appear before the Magisterial District Court. Our goal is to share this with parents and community members as an awareness and preventative method as well.

- Motivational Interviewing - Our staff has completed its second year of Motivational Interviewing. Motivational Interviewing is a communication skill that helps probation officers resolve their client's ambivalence to change. It also changes and strengthens their relationship with their probationers to one of a guide and helper. There are six Motivational Interviewing Coaches within the department. The Coaches are expected to work with our probation officers, review their conversations with their clients and provide positive and negative feedback to our officers.

- PTSD Project - We continue to offer a variety of trainings in this area for law-enforcement, probation officers, mental health workers, school teachers and administrators, juvenile detention and shelter personnel, children & youth caseworkers, private providers and others across the state of Pennsylvania. We continue to promote the importance of recognizing signs and symptoms of PTSD and the need to address trauma in youth.

- Juvenile Court Week - We celebrated Juvenile Court Week at the Westmoreland County Courthouse by providing the public with information on various resources and services available to them in their communities. In addition, two of our newest probation officers were officially sworn in by the Honorable Michele Bononi, Administrative Judge. She also recognized an employee from one of our private providers who demonstrated above and beyond in his work with youth.

- Youth Commissions and Reintegration - We worked diligently to expand our Youth Commission Program during the year. We introduced a new concept of our volunteers working with youth as mentors in the community and not just as a diversion from the system. Our commissions were assigned youth throughout the year and it was a positive experience. Many youth lack community support from their parents, families, neighbors, etc. The goal is to establish an on-going relationship between a youth and a commission member even after the case is closed in Juvenile Court.

  We had a very productive year moving forward in our Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy. Through continued training, our probation officers are mastering skills in evidence based practices. We will always work to continue to achieve PA's Juvenile Justice Goals: the protection of the community, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed, and the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community.

REVENUES AND EXPENSES

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
EXPENSES	$11,508,010.94	$10,345,543.00	$8,186,558.44	$7,810,489.68	$7,444,557.00
REVENUES	$4,679,130.70	$4,679,130.70	$4,355,472.05	$3,987,085.39	$3,355,218.27

WESTMORELAND COUNTY LAW LIBRARY
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

President Judge: **Honorable Richard E. McCormick, Jr.**
Law Librarian: **Elizabeth Ward, MLS**

ORGANIZATION

Betty Ward; Law Librarian, Master of Library Science, Univ. of Pittsburgh
Cindy Woods; Library Assistant, Assoc. of Applied Science, Legal Assisting, WCCC

SERVICES

The Law Library provides:

- An up-to-date collection of approximately 25,000 law books and 450 CD's, with a strong emphasis on Pennsylvania practice materials. Attorneys and courthouse personnel may borrow materials for a 1 week period; the public must use materials on-site.
- Three public access computers used to search online legal information, such as, Westlaw, Shepard's, Lexis, Smart Litigator, etc. Information can be E-mailed upon request. The computers are also used to access the internet; court and county information, records, forms, and the library's CD-Rom collection. Computers are also used to type legal documents.
- Trained library staff to assist users in locating information and materials appropriate to their needs.
- A quiet, comfortable setting for people to study and conduct their research.
- A small meeting room for attorneys, clients and courthouse personnel to discuss legal matters in a private setting.
- Equipment including: copier, fax machine, and printer available to library users for a nominal fee.
- Wireless Internet Access (Wi-Fi) available for those with wireless capable laptop computers or devices.
- Interlibrary loan and document delivery services to provide materials not available at our library.
- Customized "in-house" databases and guides created to make our various collections more accessible and user friendly. Available for: local municipal ordinances, PBI collection, Pathfinder series (research guides), and local court opinions.
- Convenient hours for the public - the Law Library is open during regular courthouse hours with extended hours, until 7:30 PM, on Wednesday evenings
- Extended hours available for Westmoreland Bar Association members.

2014 EVENTS

- In early January, The Law Library sustained water damage due to broken pipes on the 4th floor and water seeping into the Reference Room. Books and ceiling tiles were damaged.
- In March, Family Court, Prothonotary's, and ProBono office, started sending people to the Law Library to print Divorce and Custody forms, resulting in an increased number of people visiting the Law Library.
- In November, a subscription to LexisAdvance was added to the Law Library's Online database offerings. This is a package containing Pa.specific content for one user. In addition to the standard Pa. research materials, it includes Shepard's Citations, Pa. Law Encyclopedia, Dunlap Hanna Forms and Bongiovani Transaction Guide.
- The Law Library's Computers were used to conduct 17,509 Westlaw transactions and 1,506 online Shepard's/Lexis transactions throughout the year. They were also used for thousands of other searches using the internet and our other licensed legal databases.
- Through our associate membership to the Jenkins Law Library in Philadelphia, our Law Library can offer access to over 20 licensed online products, including: LegalTrac, HeinOnline, LoisLaw Treatise Library, ProQuest Congressional, NewsBank, etc.
- The Law Library hosted several classes throughout the year: 6 sessions of the WCCC Legal Research course, 2 sessions of the WCCC Honors Class and, also visits by high school mock trial teams.
- Research assistance and materials were provided to Senior Judges.
- The Law Librarian participated in 2 "Bridge the Gap" seminars for the Westmoreland Bar Association.
- The Law Librarian attended the Pa. Library Association's annual conference in Lancaster, and several regional meetings.
- Library staff participated in training and online courses offered by the Western Pa.Law Library Association, Westlaw, Lexis, and the American Association of Law Libraries.
- An inventory of all books and CD's was completed
- 42 customized "Pathfinder" research guides (on frequently requested topics) were updated to assist our users in locating information available in our own library.
- The "in-house" directories and databases of local municipal ordinances and local court opinions were updated.

2014 STATISTICS

Total Visits/Contacts by those using the Law Library: 9,620

Attorneys	5,208
Court and County	1,502
Public	2,910

Reference/Research Assistance Provided: 10,420
(Includes phone and Email inquiries)

Materials Circulated (Books, CD's, Document Delivery): 5,842

Online Research Transactions - Licensed Products:

Westlaw -	17,509
Shepard's -	1,506
Smart Litigator and other licensed databases -	911

**Plus thousands of additional internet searches

Local Ordinances Filed: 103 (proposed, enacted & revised codes)

Photocopier: 17,083 copies (public, courthouse attorneys and library staff)
Printer: 16,566 pages (public, courthouse attorneys and library staff)

WESTMORELAND COUNTY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURTS
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

President Judge:	**Honorable Richard E. McCormick, Jr.**
Magisterial District Judges:	**James Albert**
	Mark Bilik
	Jason Buczak
	Charles M. Christner
	Charles Conway, Esq.
	Joseph Dalfonso
	Joseph DeMarchis
	Roger Eckels
	James Falcon, Esq.
	Helen M. Kistler, Esq.
	Michael R Mahady
	Mark Mansour, Esq.
	Charles Moore
	Frank Pallone, Esq.
	Cheryl Peck Yakopec, Esq.
	Denise Snyder Thiel, Esq.
	Douglas R. Weimer, Jr
	J. Bruce King, Sr MDJ
	Bernice McCutcheon, Sr MDJ
	Robert Scott, Sr. MDJ
District Court Administrator:	**Amy DeMatt, Esq.**
Deputy Court Administrator:	**Donald L. Heagy, Jr., MSOL**

The magisterial district courts are the initial level court of Pennsylvania's Unified Judicial System. There are 17 magisterial district courts in Westmoreland County. Magisterial District Courts' jurisdiction includes: summary offenses; ordinance cases; landlord tenant actions; civil claims, except those involving title to real property or a claim against a Commonwealth party, of $12,000.00 and under, issuing arrest, bench, and search warrants; setting bail; conducting arraignments; and presiding over preliminary hearings. Magisterial district judges also administer oaths and affirmations, take acknowledgments, solemnize marriages, and preside over emergency protection from abuse matters.

Magisterial district judges are assisted in their responsibilities by "magisterial district judge secretaries." The tenth judicial district employs 70 magisterial district judge secretaries. In 2014, Magisterial District Judge James Falcon retired and was granted Sr MDJ status to begin in 2015.

In 2014 there were 74,395 cases filed in the magisterial district courts of Westmoreland County. The following chart shows case filings for 2014 and grand totals for the last three years.

	TRAFFIC	SUMMARY	CRIMINAL	CIVIL	TOTALS		
	2014	2014	2014	2014	2012	2013	2014
10-1-01 DeMarchis	3937	672	456	335	2734	3273	5400
10-1-03 Dalfonso	1041	528	846	201	2670	2462	2616
10-1-04 Yakopec	2089	602	1024	388	4250	4721	4103
10-1-05 Pallone	648	817	1413	482	3223	3309	3360
10-2-01 Falcon	4975	315	498	265	5841	6527	6053
10-2-03 Kistler	2374	243	473	177	3075	2797	3267
10-2-06 Christner	3087	357	582	245	4295	4257	4271
10-2-08 Mahady	2148	253	694	313	3124	3410	3408
10-2-09 Weimer	2169	280	704	321	4516	4572	3474
10-2-10 Albert	4198	471	738	344	7158	7538	5751
10-3-01 Mansour	5689	100	721	268	7912	8714	6778
10-3-02 Conway	2825	180	396	258	3874	4160	3659
10-3-05 Buczak	3711	272	392	166	6392	4428	4541
10-3-08 Bilik	3898	470	413	204	4624	5049	4985
10-3-09 Thiel	4282	307	204	136	3217	3705	4929
10-3-10 Moore	3555	374	606	291	2498	3183	4826
10-3-11 Eckels	2403	117	232	222	3396	2872	2974
TOTAL	53029	6358	10392	4616	72799	74977	74395

After Hours Coverage

The Tenth Judicial District uses web-based video conferencing to conduct preliminary arraignments, handle emergency protection from abuse petitions and orders, and issue arrest and search warrants. Web-based video conferencing equipment is located in each of the 17 magisterial district courts, 30 police departments including 2 state police barracks, and the Westmoreland County District Attorney's office. The Westmoreland County Prison also has a video conferencing unit for preliminary arraignments held every morning resulting from arrests made after night court closes and as needed on weekends and holidays. Through state court funding, all magisterial district courts are equipped with new Polycom HDX4000 video conferencing units.

Magisterial District Court Expenses & Revenues (2010 – 2014)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Revenue	2,042,356	1,443,932	2,061,534	1,303,137	1,170,338
Expense	5,028,292	5,201,862	5,027,804	4,469,814	4,453,052