

# Medina County Common Pleas Court

## PROBATE AND JUVENILE DIVISIONS

93 PUBLIC SQUARE, ROOM 104, MEDINA, OHIO 44256

**Kevin W. Dunn**  
Judge

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### MEDIA RELEASE

November 22, 2013

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## Judge Dunn Hosts Medina County Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Panel

*Panel members from Medina County agencies attended the annual meeting to review the facility's statistics, improvements and programming.*



MEDINA – Community members from local schools, churches, the MCDAC board, attorneys and representatives in the health field met with Judge Kevin Dunn and Juvenile Detention Center administrators Thursday, November 21, 2013 for the JDC's annual advisory panel meeting.

Panel members reviewed the daily schedule of a resident housed at the detention center, the programming available to juvenile offenders, staff training and results of annual inspections of the facility, among other things.

Judge Dunn and Detention Center Superintendent Ron Stollar explained to panel members the goal of the Court is to transition a youth from juvenile offender to a productive member of society. That is why residents housed at the 30-bed facility have a strict and structured schedule from 6:00 a.m. to lights out at 9:00 p.m.

Attorney Michael Ash, who represents both juveniles and adults, said he believes the JDC's structure and programming helps decrease the rate of juveniles re-offending.

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To learn more about the Medina County Juvenile and Probate Court or court programs, visit our websites at [www.MedinaJuvenile.org](http://www.MedinaJuvenile.org) and [www.MedinaProbate.org](http://www.MedinaProbate.org).

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“It’s a very small number of juveniles I’ve represented that I now see in felony court,” Ash said. “I attribute that to the juvenile court programs and the detention center.”

Stollar said 438 youth were admitted to the JDC so far this year, 114 less than last year. The average daily population is 20 juvenile offenders with an average stay of 21 days.

Stollar also reports the detention center has passed every inspection of the facility, meeting state standards for documentation, fire safety, water, light levels and the National School Lunch Program, providing nutritionally balanced meals.

Stollar also boasted about the JDC staff’s response to resistance when a juvenile is combative.

“Staff is trained to handle with care,” Stollar said. “It’s amazing to see them shift gears from enforcer to nurturer if a resident needs assistance.”

Judge Dunn said while the JDC cosmetically looks new, he expects some facility improvements, such as installing more cameras and creating a website to provide parents with the expectations of the detention center, including rules and visitation times.

Judge Dunn said the website will also let the community know more about the facility and its function, even if they don’t have a family member detained there.

“This facility serves a great purpose for us,” Judge Dunn said. “It helps promote the idea of restorative justice for juveniles.”

“This place provides some things these kids may not get at home,” Ash added. “This facility provides three meals a day, counseling and structure. While they don’t like coming here, it’s a positive experience for them in the long run.”