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# Medina County Juvenile Court

## 2014 Annual Report

Judge Kevin W. Dunn is one of the four judges of the Common Pleas Court. He began his tenure on the Bench on August 5, 2013. Judge Dunn's elected six-year term will begin February, 2015.

The Medina County Probate and Juvenile Courts, wherein Judge Dunn presides has jurisdiction over all cases involving persons under age 18, categorized as delinquent, traffic offenders, unruly and abused, neglected and dependent children.

In addition to being the Juvenile Judge, Judge Dunn presides over all Probate matters, including but not limited to estates, guardianships, and trusts.

### Greetings from Judge Kevin W. Dunn

I am pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report of the Medina County Probate/Juvenile Court. The Court's staff and service providers are zealously committed to protecting children, correcting delinquent juveniles, reducing recidivism, and directing parents to their responsibilities. Further, in the Probate Court, the protection of those who cannot protect themselves is of paramount importance. In a continuing effort to provide services to the community, the Court is actively engaged in improving its programs.

The Court is grateful to a multitude of collaborative partners in the community including the members of law enforcement, schools, social services agencies, mental health agencies, healthcare and others who have assisted the court in its important mission.

### Juvenile Court Programming



**Judge Kevin W. Dunn**

\* To view a copy of the annual report online visit the downloads section of our website at [www.medinajuvenile.org](http://www.medinajuvenile.org)

\* Printed in-house at an estimated cost of \$0.33 per copy.

### Community Relations

The Juvenile Court is involved in various boards/groups in Medina County including the Medina County Police Chiefs Association, Family First Council, Intersystems Community Assessment Teams (ICAT), Share Cluster, Collaborative Family Treatment Program, Medina County Coalition for Suicide Prevention, Medina County Historical Society, MCDAC, and MCPAL. The Court has a Drug Court Advisory Board and a Programming Citizens Advisory Board.

### Community Service

Over 5,992 service hours were performed by youth to benefit numerous local agencies and charities. The Build-A-Bear project, for example, benefited children either in foster care or attending the Achievement Center.

### Juvenile Traffic Night Court

By hearing cases in the evening it becomes more convenient for both parents and teens to attend court. Students avoid absence from classes and extra-curricular activities by coming to Juvenile Traffic Night Court. 127 of the 481 Juvenile traffic cases were handled through Night Court in 2014.

### Parent Project

A program for parents with difficult or out-of-control adolescents. Parents learn and practice strategies for dealing with destructive behaviors such as truancy, alcohol and drug use, gangs and other criminal behavior, running away, violence and suicide. In 2014, 40 families participated in Parent Project.

### Marriage Ceremonies

In addition to annual Valentines' Day ceremonies, Judge Dunn performs weddings once a month. A total of 39 marriage ceremonies were performed in the Probate Court in 2014.



### Drug Court

The mission of Drug Court is to stop children from using alcohol and drugs. Drug Court is a coordinated effort between counseling and court services. Drug Court includes 2 Probation Officers, home-based therapy and Equine Assisted Psychotherapy. There were 23 graduates from the program in 2014.

### Specialized Dockets

Medina County Juvenile Court earned final certification from Ohio Supreme Court's Commission on Specialized Dockets in November of 2014 for its Drug Court. Specialized Dockets are courts that are dedicated to specific types of offenses or offenders and use a combination of different techniques for holding offenders accountable while also addressing the underlying causes of their behavior.

### Teen Court Program

Teen Court is an intervention program that offers first-time misdemeanor-offending youth the opportunity to be heard by a jury of their peers. Under the supervision of the Court, local teens serve as attorneys, jury members and bailiffs. In 2014, 8 youth participated in Teen Court.

### Camp Integrity

Combating idleness and lack of supervision for court-involved youth during the critical hours of 3pm to 9pm, Camp Integrity consists of academic study, physical activity, group discussions, life skills and social responsibility training. 18 youth completed the program in 2014.

### Family Resource Court

Family Resource Court helps to reduce the need for court intervention. Unruly and truancy cases are targeted for Family Court. Assessments identify individual and family barriers. Through intensive probation supervision, case management and a team approach, the Court improves community safety and helps to build healthy families. 27 families participated in Family Resource Court in 2014.

### COPPER Program

The COPPER (Costs of Probation and Programming Expense Reimbursement) program was created to recoup part of the cost of court services. In 2014, this program collected over \$40,000.



## Risk Screening—Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS)

Risk screening assists the Court in identifying the appropriate sanction, program, or referral for each youth. 243 OYAS risk screenings were completed in 2014.

### ID-21

This 21-hour intensive detention program held at the Juvenile Detention Center targets parental education, drug and alcohol education, and improves family relationships. 42 juveniles completed this program in 2014.

## Probation Department

Probation officers investigate all aspects of the Juvenile's case and make recommendations to the Court to protect public safety and to achieve permanent improvement in a child's behavior. 105 youth were placed on probation in 2014.



Medina County Juvenile Court Probation Department

## Medina County Juvenile Court Implements New Intake Department in 2014

The Intake Department Officer is responsible for providing information, such as mental health history, drug and alcohol history, school attendance, grades and social history to the Court through interviews with juvenile offenders and their parents prior to their first appearance hearing. "The Intake Department will help us expedite the process of identifying appropriate programs and services to meet the needs of at-risk youth sooner," Judge Dunn said.

## Supreme Court Statistics

This statistical summary meets all of the requirements of accounting for the number, type and disposition of cases that came before the Judge and/or Magistrate in calendar year 2014. These statistics are compiled and maintained pursuant to the Rules of Superintendence of the Supreme Court.

	Delinquency	Traffic	Dependency, Neglect, or Abuse	Unruly	Adult Cases	Motion For Permanent Custody	Custody or Visitation	Support	Parentage	U.I.F.S.A	All Others
<b>New Cases Filed</b>	617	481	46	100	9	0	38	0	0	0	18
<b>Cases Terminated</b>	660	482	41	115	9	0	45	15	0	0	19

## Juvenile Detention



Ronald V. Stollar  
Superintendent

The Medina County Juvenile Detention Center undergoes several inspections and audits annually. These inspections by the Ohio Department of Youth Services, Medina County Health Department, and the National School Lunch Program among others. The detention center, as in previous years, was in 100% compliance in each of these inspections.

Our mental health clinician conducted 364 hours of mental health assessments along with 126 counseling hours, 48 crisis intervention hours, and 37 case management hours.

A total of 466 youth were admitted to the detention center in 2014. Approximately 60% required some type of mental health service and approximately 40% required substance abuse treatment. About 56% required some type of medical treatment (not including daily medications).

Local agencies provided approximately 240 hours of religious services and spiritual counseling.

Through a grant from United Way of Medina County, Solutions Behavioral Healthcare began conducting a Resiliency Program with detained youth. The goal is to help youth in grades 6-12 develop skills, using six core concepts, to persevere through adversity. This program is conducted weekly in a group setting.

The Testify Youth Choir from Charlotte, NC, area visited our facility. This assemblage of 50 high school students delivered a positive, uplifting message on the topic of forgiveness through drama, song, and a skit to our detained youth.

## Ohio Department of Youth Services

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) is the state agency responsible for delinquents incarcerated by local juvenile courts. Juvenile courts receive annual allocations from DYS for the local treatment of youthful felony offenders.

80 felony cases were handled in 2014, F-1 being the most serious level of felony. Felony offenses are displayed to the right.

Level	Number	Percent
F-1	8	10%
F-2	8	10%
F-3	10	13%
F-4	25	31%
F-5	29	36%

## Court Collections

The Juvenile Court assesses and collects the same costs as the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for similar services. Court costs are assessed against juveniles found to be delinquent, truant, traffic offenders, or unruly. The fines and costs collected by the Court are distributed to state, county and local governments.

	COPPER Program	Court Costs (Including COPPER)	Fines
<b>Total</b>	\$40,077.37	\$211,303.34	\$20,713.24

## Probate Court Update

### Volunteer Guardianship Program (VGP)

This Program continues to help incompetent, indigent adults in Medina County. Currently there are 36 trained volunteer guardians and 26 wards actively being served.

### Probate Court Collections

Probate Court assesses and collects court costs in a manner similar to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas. Court costs are assessed in all probate cases, which include estates, guardianships, adoptions and trusts. Costs collected by the Court are distributed to state, county, and local governments. In 2014, the Probate Court collected over \$280,000.



Volunteer Guardianship Board Members Sharon Danko, Nicki Shook, Louise Brown, Gail Houk, Lori Betz, Judge Kevin W. Dunn (Not pictured: Joyce Giles)

Annual report generated by and a special thanks to:

- Juvenile Staff
- Probate Staff
- Programming Staff
- Michael R. Stiles
- Juvenile Probation
- Medina County JDC



**Sharon M. Danko, CCE Court Administrator**