

# 46th District Court

26000 Evergreen Road  
Southfield, MI 48076

[www.46thdistrictcourt.com](http://www.46thdistrictcourt.com)

2013

Annual Report





STATE OF MICHIGAN  
46<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT

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Dear Citizens:

We are very pleased submit the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court's 2013 *Annual Report* to you. This report, published annually since 1987, documents the activities and accomplishments of the Court during the past year and provides you with useful information about court operations in general. We understand our responsibility to be accountable to those we serve and have found our annual report to be an excellent way to report our activities and accomplishments.

We feel that it is particularly important to emphasize our commitment to using taxpayer dollars wisely. Over the years, the Judges and staff of the 46th District Court have focused on maintaining a high standard of public service by increasing productivity through internal operational and procedural improvements. These improvements have allowed us to handle significant increases in caseload and workload over the years without increasing the number of judges and staff. Compared to 36 years ago, the 46th District Court is now handling more than twice the number of cases per year with the same number of judges and the fewer total court staff. We feel this level of performance is extraordinary for any organization--public or private.

As always, we extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the entire staff of the 46th District Court. Their commitment to public service, professionalism and teamwork has created an organizational culture that supports continuous improvements and allows us to function as a high-performing court.

We fully understand and accept our responsibility to uphold the highest standard of public service, ensure the efficient and effective use of public funds and increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the administration of justice. We look forward to working together for the continued fair, efficient and effective administration of justice in our community.

Very truly yours,

		
William J. Richards Chief Judge	Shelia R. Johnson District Judge	Debra Nance District Judge

## *Judges of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court*



**Judge Shelia R. Johnson** was elected in November 2002 and is the first African American to serve as Judge in the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court. In November 2008, she was re-elected for an unopposed second term. Judge Johnson was also selected as a 2012 Democratic nominee for candidacy for Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Prior to assuming the bench, Judge Johnson was an attorney with over 18 years of legal experience in both State and Federal Courts. Judge Johnson was in private practice in Southfield where she specialized in both civil and criminal litigation.

Among her many community and civic affiliations are: the Southern Oakland Chapter of the NAACP, where she serves as an Executive Committee member; founding member, Southfield Community Foundation Women's Fund; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Task Force, Inc.; and the National Congress of Black Women. Additionally, she is a member of Hope United Methodist Church where she has served as vice-chair and chair of the "Church and Society Ministry." She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Southfield Alumnae Chapter. Judge Johnson believes mentoring youth is of paramount importance and she has established a "Court in Schools" Program, where court sessions are held at local schools with the goal of deterring youth from criminal behavior and inspiring them toward positive career choices. She also works as a "Community Partner" with Southfield Schools.

Judge Johnson is the recipient of numerous professional and community service awards, including the 2013 "Women of Excellence" Award from the Michigan Chronicle Newspaper; 2013 "Trailblazer Award" from the D. Augustus Straker Bar Association; 2013 "Wings of Justice Award" from the Oakland County Democratic Party; 2005 Phenomenal Woman "Torch Award" for outstanding legal leadership and community service by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Southfield Alumnae Chapter; 2006 "Member of the Year Award" from the Southern Oakland County NAACP for her work as chair of the "Health Committee"; 2008 "Powerful Woman of Purpose Award" in the Legal Profession from the Rhonda Walker Foundation; and the 2009 "Mattie Belle Davis Award" from the National Association of Women Judges. She has also been recognized in Who's Who Publishing Company's volume of "Black Judges in America."

Judge Johnson is a member of the State Bar, Michigan District Judges Association, Oakland County District Judges Association, Association of Black Judges of Michigan, D. Augustus Straker Bar Association, Wolverine Bar Association, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, Black Women Lawyers Association of Michigan and the National Bar Association. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Michigan District Judges Association (MDJA) and is the editor of the MDJA newsletter, "Benchmarks." She is a former member of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association and the Equal Access Initiative of the Committee on Justice Initiatives of the State Bar of Michigan. Judge Johnson is also a former President of the Association of Black Judges of Michigan and former Vice President of Publications and board Member of the National Association of Women Judges, where she was editor of the national newsletter "Counterbalance."

Judge Johnson is a former law clerk to the Honorable Benjamin F. Gibson, United States District Court, Western District of Michigan. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Michigan Law School, where she was the first African American elected President of the Law School Senate and delivered the commencement address to her graduating class. She has been a resident of Southfield for 27 years.

## *Judges of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court*



**Judge Debra Nance** was elected to the bench on November 6, 2012. She began a six-year term as Judge of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court on January 1, 2013. Judge Nance received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Detroit. She began her professional career as an Assistant Personnel Manager at the Hudson's Northland Store before serving as Personnel Superintendent for several other Hudson's Department Stores throughout Michigan. She has also worked in various Human Resource capacities in the automotive market prior to launching her legal career.

Judge Nance began her career as an attorney after obtaining a law degree from Wayne State University Law School. She worked on assignment to the Office of the General Counsel at Ford Motor Company, and gained invaluable experience while working in the Oakland County Prosecutor's Domestic Violence Unit and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Child & Family Abuse Bureau. In 2001, she went into private practice at the Kemp Klein Law Firm where she developed a successful litigation practice in the areas of Civil Litigation, Probate Litigation, Juvenile & Family Litigation and Adoption Law.

In service to the community, Judge Nance has volunteered in numerous projects. She worked to make legal information accessible to those in the community by volunteering at free legal aid clinics. She worked to educate our youth by participating in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* Project in Southfield Public Schools. She has supported organizations such as the Women's Survival Center of Oakland County and Creating Independence and Outcomes (CIAO) for foster care children. She worked as an "Election Protection Attorney" and poll watcher in a number of elections to ensure the fairness and integrity of the election process. Judge Nance has also worked as a Volunteer Attorney Mediator for small claims, consumer and commercial disputes, and landlord/tenant matters in District Court.

In service to the legal community, Judge Nance lectured to lawyers at the Institute of Continuing Legal Education, and has lectured to law students at Cooley Law and the University of Michigan Law School. Active in various bar associations, she served as a Board Member for the D. Augustus Straker Bar Association, was selected to serve on the Oakland County Bar Association Judicial Candidates Committee, and has been a long-serving member of the Adoption subcommittee of the Family Law Division of the Michigan State Bar Association. Prior to taking the bench Judge Nance was appointed to serve on the Michigan State Bar Character & Fitness Committee which reviews the suitability of law graduates seeking to obtain a license to practice in Michigan.

Judge Nance has lived in Southfield for over 30 years. She remains active in the community and looks forward to a term of continuing service.

## Judges of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court



**Chief Judge of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court, the Honorable Bill Richards** was appointed to the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court in 2007 by Governor Jennifer Granholm. In 2008, voters elected him to a two-year term. In 2010, voters re-elected him to a full six-year term.

Judge Richards is a longtime local resident with a distinguished career in government, teaching and private practice. He is the former Deputy Attorney General, the principal deputy to the Michigan Attorney General (1999-2002), and former Assistant U.S. Attorney (1989-1998), where he prosecuted public corruption and drug crimes. In the U.S. Attorney's Office, he served as ethics officer for nine years. Earlier, he was a staff attorney in the Federal Defender Office and law clerk to U.S. District Judge Cornelia Kennedy.

Judge Richards has taught advanced criminal procedure at Cooley Law School. He is the former President of Oakland-Livingston Legal Aid, where he helped provide free legal aid to the poor and seniors. Judge Richards is a member of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Task Force and a mentor in the Volunteers in Prevention – VIP – program for youth. He was a volunteer fundraiser for the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and served as a Judge in the National Black Law Students Association Annual Moot Court competition. He serves on the board for GreenPath, a non-profit credit counseling agency. He is a member of First Congregational Church.

Bill Richards earned both his bachelor's degree and his law degree from the University of Michigan. Judge Richards and his wife Joan have been married for 44 years and have two daughters, Jennifer and Kristin, and two grandchildren.

## Jurisdiction

**Geographical Jurisdiction** – The 46<sup>th</sup> District Court serves the Cities of Southfield and Lathrup Village, the Villages of Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms and Franklin and the Township of Southfield.

**Legal Jurisdiction** – District Courts were established by the Michigan Legislature in 1968 and are considered “Courts of Limited Jurisdiction.” The legal jurisdiction of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court is determined by statute and includes:

- **Civil** lawsuits in which the amount in controversy does not exceed \$25,000. A civil lawsuit is a non-criminal case which involves the claim of one party against another.
- **Criminal misdemeanors:** offenses punishable by fine or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both.
- **Arraignments:** the first court appearance in a criminal case where a defendant is advised of the charges and the potential penalties, bond is set with any applicable conditions, counsel is appointed if necessary, and future court hearings are scheduled.
- **Preliminary examinations** in all felony cases. A preliminary examination is a hearing at which the District Court Judge determines if there is probable cause to believe a crime has been committed and that the defendant committed the crime. If the Judge determines that there is probable cause, the case is “bound over” to the Circuit Court for trial.
- **Traffic misdemeanors and civil infractions**, including parking violations.
- **Small claims** cases in which the amount claimed does not exceed \$5,000 (increased from \$3,000, effective 9-1-12).
- **Landlord-tenant disputes**, land contract and mortgage forfeitures and eviction proceedings.

## *Special Programs and Services*

**Court Website** – The 46<sup>th</sup> District Court’s website gives citizens a closer look at the Court and the services it provides. The website provides information on hours and location; judges, magistrates and staff; jury duty; fines and costs; filing a small claims case; special programs offered by the Court and copies of our Annual Report. Please visit us on the web at [www.46thdistrictcourt.com](http://www.46thdistrictcourt.com).

**Public Satisfaction Survey** – In 2013, the State Court Administrative Office (“SCAO”) required all state courts to conduct a Public Satisfaction Survey. The Court conducted a survey on November 4, 2013, asking court users to rate the Court in various respects. We received overwhelmingly positive results. For example, over 90% of court users “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they were treated with courtesy and respect. Nearly 90% “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they were able to handle their court business in a reasonable amount of time. Over 80% felt that the judges and magistrates treated all parties with courtesy and respect, had the information necessary to make a decision in their case, and explained what was happening and what would happen next in their case.

**Small Claims Mediation Program** – The Court continues to provide Small Claims Mediation to assist the Court and the public in resolving small claims disputes. Unlike litigation, where one party wins and one loses, mediation helps parties reach their own mutually satisfactory resolution in a non-adversarial manner. The Court uses trained community volunteers from the Oakland Mediation Center to provide mediation services. The 46<sup>th</sup> District Court’s Mediation Program has been a model for other courts across the state. In 2013, the Oakland Mediation Center handled 299 small claims cases and resolved 142, or 47% of them.

**General Civil In Pro Per Mediation Program** – The Court also utilizes the Oakland Mediation Center’s mediation services in general civil cases where one or both parties are not represented by an attorney. In 2013, mediators from the Center handled 242 general civil cases and resolved 76, or 31% of them. The Oakland Mediation Center has also mediated landlord-tenant cases referred by the Court.

**Community Work Program** – The Work Program provides the Judges with a sentencing alternative. The Program allows low-risk misdemeanor offenders to perform manual labor instead of incarceration. The offenders pay the Court’s cost for supervision and are assigned to work projects in the City of Southfield’s Public Works, Code Compliance and Parks and Recreation Departments. Specific work projects include collecting trash on our community’s streets and highways and general maintenance projects. Twenty-nine (29) defendants participated in the Work Program in 2013, completing 1,216 hours of work.

**Community Service Program** – The Community Service Program provides the Judges with the opportunity to order offenders to work in the community as part of their sentence or instead of fines and costs, if they are indigent. Placements are found in governmental or community non-profit agencies and are supervised by the Probation Department. Lutrell Coleman is the Community Service Coordinator and is responsible for interviewing, placing and monitoring the probationers who perform community service. In 2013, 488 probationers completed 33,519 hours of community service.

**Security/Weapons Screening** – A Security/Weapons Screening Program checks individuals entering the Court, to ensure the safety of all court users and staff. In 2013, services were provided by G4S Secure Solutions, Inc. During 2013, 107,611 people went through the Court’s security screening system, an average of 441 people per day.

**Community Education Program** – The Court encourages the community to learn more about its operation and jurisdiction through special educational tours and visits. Visiting groups receive an orientation on local court operations, take a tour of the facility, observe courtroom proceedings and meet with the Judges, if time allows. Numerous community groups visited the Court in 2013, including local students from grade school through high school, several local college programs, and various community and civic organizations. For more information on court visits, please call 248-796-5800.

## Caseload/Workload Overview

### Pending and Disposed Cases:

	Beginning Pending	New Filings	Reopened Cases	Disposed Cases	Pending at Year End
Total Caseload	8,371	57,293	3,096	60,742	8,018

**Filings:** In 2013, the Court continued to see an increase in new case filings; this was a 2% increase from the previous year and a 19% increase from five years ago. Following is a summary of new cases filed in 2013, by case type:

<b>Felonies</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>				
Criminal	658	593	490	488	464				
Traffic	31	25	29	17	26				
Drunk Driving	26	47	24	28	25	<i>1 Year Change</i>	<i>5 Year Change</i>		
Total	715	665	543	533	515	-18	-3%	-200	-28%

<b>Misdemeanors</b>									
Criminal	1,613	1,569	1,352	1,200	1,121				
Traffic	3,422	3,692	3,004	2,478	2,898				
Drunk Driving	292	433	324	273	275	<i>1 Year Change</i>	<i>5 Year Change</i>		
Total	5,327	5,694	4,680	3,951	4,294	+343	+9%	-1,033	-19%

<b>Civil Infractions</b>									
Traffic	21,042	22,487	17,780	17,639	19,410				
Non-Traffic	742	1,159	1,775	1,482	1,486	<i>1 Year Change</i>	<i>5 Year Change</i>		
Total	21,784	23,646	19,555	19,121	20,896	+1,775	+9%	-888	-4%

						<i>1 Year Change</i>	<i>5 Year Change</i>		
<b>Parking</b>	8,056	14,256	17,598	19,089	17,869	-1,220	-6%	+9,813	122%

<b>Civil</b>									
General Civil & Miscellaneous	5,388	5,269	4,985	5,467	5,629				
Landlord Tenant/ Land Contract	6,028	5,735	6,638	7,010	7,221				
Small Claims	1,036	899	937	809	869	<i>1 Year Change</i>	<i>5 Year Change</i>		
Total	12,452	11,903	12,560	13,286	13,719	+433	+3%	+1,267	+10%

						<i>1 Year Change</i>	<i>5 Year Change</i>		
<b>Grand Total</b>	48,334	56,164	54,936	55,980	57,293	+1,313	+2%	+8,959	+19%

**More Complex Civil Cases** - As noted above, civil case filings have increased by 10% over the past five years. In addition to the increased volume, the nature of the cases filed in the Court has become more complex. Many cases involve multiple litigants, cross claims, and counter-claims, with more hearings and more paperwork to process as a result. In the past few years, the Court has seen a dramatic increase in the number of no-fault provider cases. These cases typically involve numerous pre-trial motions, including both discovery motions and dispositive motions. Additionally, many more parties are demanding a jury trial. In just the past five years, the number of civil motions has increased by nearly 14%. There has also been more post-judgment activity with Orders of Eviction and Seizures of Property increasing by over 11% and the number of garnishments increasing by 7% over the past five years.

## Caseload/Workload Overview

**Probation** – A summary of the Probation Department’s 2013 activity is provided below.

<b>Probation Caseload and Workload Overview</b>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	% Change	
						1 year	5 year
Cases Pending	1,070	1,063	1,135	915	866	-5%	-19%
Number of Probation Officers	3.5	3.5	3.5	3*	3*	-0-	-0-
Average Caseload Per Probation Officer	306	304	324	305	289	-5%	-6%
New Cases	1,297	1,373	1,319	986	934	-5%	-28%
Investigative Reports	342	430	399	328	309	-6%	10%
Appointments	12,893	12,633	12,521	10,611	9,297	-12%	-28%
Violation of Probation Hearings Conducted	858	900	1,036	815	742	-9%	-14%

\*There are two probation officers who carry full-time caseloads and two probation officers who carry part-time caseloads, roughly the equivalent of three full-time probation officers.

## Major Accomplishments

The 46<sup>th</sup> District Court continues to strive to improve the Court’s overall operation, to increase the public’s understanding of the Court system, and ultimately, to improve service to the public. A summary of major accomplishments is provided below.

**Commitment to Efficient Use of Public Resources** - The Court has long recognized its responsibility for the efficient use of public resources. Judges and staff have focused on maintaining a high standard of public service by increasing productivity through internal operational and procedural improvements. This has allowed us to handle significant increases in caseload and workload without increasing staff.

Compared to 36 years ago, the Court handles more than twice the number of cases per year with the same number of judges and fewer court staff. This is remarkable, considering the increases in caseload and workload over the past 36 years due to new legislation, more complex procedures and new programs and services.

	<u>1977</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>% of Change</u>
New Cases Filed	24,324	57,293	+136%
Judges	3	3	0%
Court Staff	36.50	35.25	-3%
Average # of Cases Per Judge	8,108	19,098	+136%

Comparing our 2013 caseload statistics with other local three-judge courts, our number of cases per judge is, on average, 31% higher than comparable courts. This demonstrates the Court’s ability to efficiently and effectively handle our heavy caseload without increasing staff.

## Innovative Programs and Projects

- **Tax Garnishment Project** – In 2012, the Court launched a state income tax garnishment project to collect outstanding funds owed on civil infraction and misdemeanor cases. That year, the Court filed 1,200 garnishments, covering outstanding debt owed to the Cities of Southfield and Lathrup Village, the Villages of Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin and the Township of Southfield. As a result of the garnishments filed in 2012, the Court collected over \$76,000. In 2013, the second year of this project, the court filed nearly 3000 garnishments. The tax garnishment project was undertaken with minimal cost to the Court, no additional staff, and no overtime expenses.

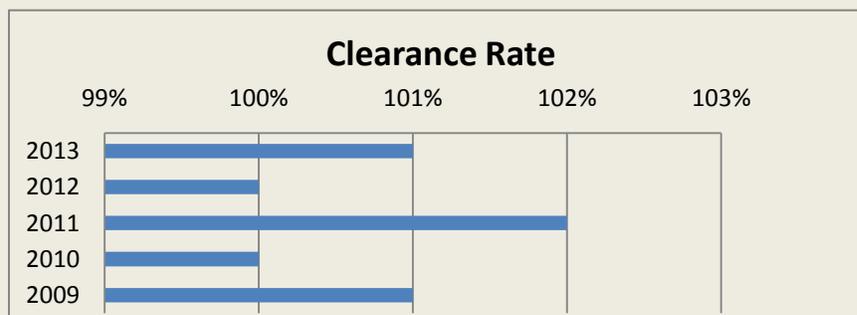
## Major Accomplishments

- **Intensive Domestic Violence Probation Program** – In response to concerns about the increasing number of domestic violence cases in the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court, and recognizing the unique risk of harm posed by such cases, the Court started an intensive domestic violence probation program in May of 2012. This 52-week program, called the HEAL program (“Helping Explore Accountable Lifestyles”), is a partnership with our Probation Department, the City of Southfield’s Department of Human Services, and private practitioners. A specially-assigned probation officer handles all domestic violence probationers, and the cases are subject to regular review by the assigned judge. The project started with a handful of defendants and two groups; it continues to grow, and at the end of 2013, there were 59 defendants participating in five different groups, each meeting once per week on various days and times. Five defendants have graduated from the program. It is hoped this intensive program of supervision and education will help break the cycle of violence.
- **Electronic Upload of Parking Tickets** – In December, 2013, the Court collaborated with the City of Southfield Parking Enforcement in launching a new parking ticket system. Tickets are issued by Parking Enforcement using hand-held electronic units, and then electronically uploaded to the Court’s JIS system. This eliminates the need for clerks to manually key parking tickets, resulting in a significant savings in terms of staff, time, and resources.
- **Electronic Ticket Payment Program** – The 46th District Court continues to use the Judicial Information Systems’ (JIS) electronic ticket payment program for traffic and parking tickets. The program provides citizens with a convenient and efficient method for paying tickets on-line so they do not have to come to court. It also provides the Court with a more efficient processing alternative because payments are automatically posted to the Court’s case management system, driver license suspensions are cleared and the case automatically disposed. This eliminates the need for staff to key the payment, clearance and disposition.
- **Collections Program** – In 2003, the Court launched the Collect program, to increase our collection rates. Reminder notices are sent to individuals with unpaid parking, traffic and civil infraction matters. In 2013, a total of \$686,352 was collected through these focused efforts. This brings the total amount collected since the program began in 2003 to \$6,503,553.

### Case Flow Management

- **Efficient Case Processing** – Clearance rates measure a court’s case flow management performance and efficiency. It indicates the degree a court is able to keep up with incoming caseload. A clearance rate of less than 100% means that more cases were filed than disposed and a clearance rate of more than 100% means that more cases were disposed than filed. Generally, the higher the percentage, the more efficient the court is in handling its caseload.

In 2013, the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court’s clearance rate was 101% with 60,389 new and reopened cases and 60,742 disposed cases. Over the past five years, the Court has continually had a clearance rate of 100% or greater:



## Major Accomplishments

- **Timely Case Scheduling** – Most traffic and criminal cases are scheduled for hearing and held within three weeks. Informal and formal hearings are scheduled two to three weeks from the date a hearing is requested and pre-trials are scheduled within three weeks of arraignment, unless the defendant is in custody. If the defendant is in custody, an expedited pretrial is scheduled within three to five days.

Civil cases are also scheduled in a timely manner. Landlord tenant cases are scheduled within three weeks of the case being filed; small claims trials are scheduled within two to three weeks of mediation and general civil pre-trials are scheduled within 30 days of the answer being filed.

- **Timely Case Disposition** – The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) sets timelines for adjudication of cases. The 46<sup>th</sup> District Court is substantially meeting or exceeding nearly all of the guidelines specified by SCAO. In 2013, the Court performed within the following guidelines:

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

### Michigan Supreme Court Time Guidelines

91%	90% of General Civil cases adjudicated within 273 days of filing
100%	98% of General Civil Cases adjudicated within 455 days of filing
99%	95% of Summary Civil cases without jury demand adjudicated within 126 days from case filing
74%	65% of Summary Civil cases with jury demand adjudicated within 154 days from case filing
99%	90% of Civil Infraction cases adjudicated within 35 days from case filing
99%	98% of Civil Infraction cases adjudicated within 84 days of filing
89%	85% of Misdemeanor cases adjudicated within 63 days of first appearance
96%	95% of Misdemeanor cases adjudicated within 126 days of first appearance
49%	60% of preliminary examinations held within 14 days of arraignment
64%	75% of preliminary examinations held within 28 days of arraignment [Note: the Guidelines do not take into consideration that a substantial number of defendants waive the 14 Day Rule because defense attorneys need more time for discovery.]

- **Outstanding Performance in Secretary of State Conviction Reporting** - The 46<sup>th</sup> District Court continues to have an exemplary record in this area. Over the past five years, the Court processed and reported 56,461 abstracts of conviction to the Secretary of State, of which 55,658 or 98.6% have been timely received within 10 days. This demonstrates the Court's ability to process extremely high volumes of cases with a high degree of accuracy and timeliness.

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<b>Total</b>
# Abstracts Reported	11,604	12,253	10,701	10,245	11,658	56,461
# Abstracts Reported Timely	11,340	12,098	10,544	10,144	11,532	55,658
Percent Timely	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98.6%

## Revenues, Distributions and Expenditures

Most citizens are not familiar with the court system. As a result, there are many widely-held misconceptions about the operation of the courts, particularly in the area of court revenues and budgets. To maintain the public's trust and confidence in our system of justice, it is important to address the most common misunderstandings.

- ***Courts are not businesses*** – The purpose of our court system is to provide a forum for the resolution of disputes in a “fair, efficient, effective, timely, unbiased and convenient manner.” The judicial branch of government, like all branches of government, exists to maintain order, provide necessary services and to serve the public; not to make a profit.
- ***Courts do not keep the revenue they generate*** – Courts are prohibited by law from keeping and using the money they collect from fines, costs and fees. All monies collected are distributed to either the state, the county or local units of government, according to statutory requirements. In addition, judges are full-time salaried officials. Their compensation is not linked to fines that are assessed or monies that are collected.
- ***The legislative branch of government approves court budgets*** – All monies received by courts to maintain their operation are reviewed and approved through a budget process and are authorized by the courts' funding unit.

The following is a summary of the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court's revenues, distributions, and budgeted expenditures for the past two years:

<b>REVENUES</b>	2012	2013
Fines, Costs, Fees	7,648,095	7,813,271

<b>DISTRIBUTIONS<sup>1</sup></b>		
State of Michigan	1,535,475	1,666,935
County of Oakland	113,420	119,488
City of Southfield	4,579,069	4,576,817
City of Lathrup Village	133,463	124,705
Village of Beverly Hills	63,505	58,144
Village of Bingham Farms	17,231	25,558
Village of Franklin	11,306	12,800
Township of Southfield	-	-
Escrow & Restitution	1,197,503	1,243,176
Escrow & Restitution, Prior Year Rollover	(2,876)	(14,353)
<b>Total Distributions</b>	<b>7,648,095</b>	<b>7,813,271</b>

<b>BUDGETED EXPENDITURES<sup>2</sup></b>	FY 11-12	FY 12-13
For Direct Operational Costs	3,382,945	3,092,004

<sup>1</sup> Formula for distributions is established by state law. These figures for calendar years 2012 and 2013 reflect how monies collected by the 46<sup>th</sup> District Court were distributed to the various governmental entities served by the Court.

<sup>2</sup> Based on actual expenditures for fiscal years ending in 2012 and 2013. Budgeted expenditures do not represent the total cost of the Court. Costs incurred by the City of Southfield – the Court's funding unit – for debt service, facility charges, insurance, telephone, printing and postage, etc., are not included.