

89TH DISTRICT COURT

2014 Annual Report

*Cheboygan County
Maria I. Barton
District Court Judge
P.O. Box 70
County Building
Cheboygan, MI 49721*

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Mission Statement

The 89th Judicial District Court will serve the public in an informed, efficient manner, with equal treatment for all, according to the law. Employees strive to work as a team with a common goal of public service.

Judge Maria I. Barton – Judge Maria I. Barton was elected to the 89th District Court in 2008 and took office in 2009. Prior to her election, Judge Barton served as the Straits Area Narcotics Enforcement Prosecutor for 16 years. Judge Barton received the Prosecutors Service Award in 2008 in recognition of her 15 years of public service. In 2008, Senator Carl Levin recognized her as “Crime Fighting Mom of the Year” for her service to fighting crime in Northern Michigan. After graduating from Ohio University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, she completed her law degree at the University of Toledo, College of Law. Judge Barton lives in Indian River with her husband David and daughter Cassie.

Court Administrator/Court Clerk Jodi Barrette – Jodi Barrette was hired in March 1989 as Criminal Clerk for the 89th District Court. In 1993 she became a State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator and received her State of Michigan Certificate for Electronic Recording in April of 2001. She was appointed Court Administrator/Judicial Secretary in June of 2005. In May 2009, Ms. Barrette graduated from Michigan State University with a certificate in Judicial Administration. She is a State of Michigan Certified Notary. She is a member of the Michigan Court Administrators Association.

Deputy Criminal Clerk Deborah Keller – Deborah Keller was hired part-time in December of 1989 and became a full-time Traffic Clerk in June of 1990. In February of 1994, she was assigned to the position of Criminal Clerk. Ms. Keller also serves as the Jury Clerk for the 89th District Court. In April 2001, Ms. Keller received her State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator certificate. She is also a State of Michigan Certified Notary and is also PBT Certified. Ms. Keller graduated from North Central Michigan College with an Associate’s Degree in Business.

Deputy Civil Clerk Tracy Lindsay – Tracy Lindsay began employment in February 1994. In April 2001, Ms. Lindsay received her State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator certificate and was appointed Deputy Court Recorder in June 2005. In February 2006, Ms. Lindsay received her State of Michigan Certificate for Electronic Recording. Recently, she was appointed to the Civil Clerk position. Ms. Lindsay graduated from Marquette University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism

Court Recorder/Deputy Civil Clerk Christine Hartman –Christine Hartman began employment in October 2001 as the Criminal Clerk for the 89th District Court. In 2011 she was appointed Court Recorder/Deputy Civil Clerk. She is a State of Michigan Notary Public. In October of 2003, Ms. Hartman received her State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator certificate and her State of Michigan Certificate for Electronic Recording in 2006.

Magistrate Liz Stankewitz – Liz Stankewitz began employment with the 89th District Court in January 2009 as Deputy Civil/Traffic Clerk for the 89th District Court. Prior to her employment in District Court, she had served as the Officer Manager for the Cheboygan County Prosecutor’s Office for five years. In July 2009 she was appointed as full-time Magistrate/Traffic Clerk. Ms. Stankewitz is a member of the Michigan Association of District Court Magistrates. Ms. Stankewitz is a Certified Electronic Operator in the State of Michigan and is also PBT Certified.

Probation Officer Kim Youngs – Kim Youngs began employment with the 89th District Court in January 2009 as Probation Officer. Ms. Youngs has become certified through Redwood Toxicology Laboratory for collections of specimens for drug testing purposes and is also PBT Certified. Prior to her employment in the District Court, Ms. Youngs was the Victims Advocate for the Cheboygan County Prosecutor for five years. Ms. Youngs is a member of the Michigan Association of District Court Probation Officers. In May of 2011, Ms. Youngs received her State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator certificate.

Deputy Criminal Clerk Mellisa LaLonde – Mellisa LaLonde began employment in September 2009 as a part-time Traffic/Civil Deputy Clerk. In October of 2011, Ms. LaLonde received her State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator certificate. She is a State of Michigan Certified Notary. She is currently the Deputy Clerk in the Criminal Division working full-time.

Part-Time Court Officer/Assistant Magistrate Dale Selin – Dale Selin began employment in October 2010. His duties include the transportation of inmates to/from the jail for court hearings, Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) coordinator/trainer for the court, as well as working with the Sheriff's Department to provide court security. In December 2010, Mr. Selin was appointed as Assistant Magistrate completing all training in March 2011. In May of 2011, Mr. Selin received his State of Michigan Certified Electronic Operator certificate. Mr. Selin served as Lt. Commander of the Cheboygan Post and SANE drug team before retiring from the Michigan State Police after 32 years of service.

Part-Time Office Assistant Aimee Faggion – Aimee Faggion joined the staff in October of 1993 through the Lamplighters Activity Center. She works seven hours per week. Ms. Faggion is responsible for copying, filing and assisting court staff as needed.

The 89th District Court achieved many accomplishments in 2014 as summarized below. The court's overall operations, as well as its service to the public, have been enhanced by these accomplishments.

Commitment to Efficient Use of Public Resources

- The 89th District Court recognizes its responsibility to be fiscally responsible with the use of public resources. In 2014, District Court's budget was \$560,153.00 which was an increase of \$28,815.00 from the 2013 budget. Much of this increase was due to the rise in health care costs. In 2014, the 89th District Court total expenditures were \$20,018.68 less than budgeted. District Court has come in under budget every year from 2009 through 2014 for a total savings of \$159,855.60 to the county.

Michigan Department of State Clearances

- The 89th District Court was asked by the Michigan Department of State to be a pilot court for their new Direct Access programming. This new programming allows courts to instantly clear a license suspension from an individual's driving record upon payment in full of fines and costs. This program has been an effective tool as it provides a more efficient option for resolution of license suspensions for the individual, the court and the Michigan Department of State. To date there are 29 courts on MDOS Direct Access with eight courts in the process of signing up.

Operational and Procedural Improvements

Judge Barton and staff have focused on maintaining a high standard of public service by increasing productivity through internal operational and procedural improvements.

Jury Costs

- The 89th District Court continues to address the issues of trials and preliminary hearings in an effort to improve the timeliness of cases and to reduce the time, effort and cost in subpoenaing police officers and other witnesses (prosecutor expenses). These efforts result in more cases being settled before the day of trial, reducing witness fees for the Prosecutor's Office, overtime costs to the police agencies and jury costs in District Court. Below are the jury costs incurred since 2009.
 - 2009 jury costs were \$ 6,566.57
 - 2010 jury costs were \$ 2,264.37
 - 2011 jury costs were \$ 0.00
 - 2012 jury costs were \$ 2,923.68
 - 2013 jury costs were \$ 3,861.91
 - 2014 jury costs were \$ 864.76

Operational and Procedural Improvements Continued

Collections

- The court continues to pursue the collection of fines and costs at the time of sentencing. In 2009, the District Court focused on improving our collections by ordering that fines, costs and fees are due in full at time of sentencing per Michigan Court Rules. The court notifies the defendant of the amount of the fine at the time of plea. Additionally, the notice of sentencing contains information regarding the amount of the fine. As a result, more defendants are paying fines at the time of sentencing, thereby reducing staff time required to pursue collection after sentencing. The court continues to routinely address outstanding fines and costs through show causes where defendants are ordered into court to address their outstanding obligations. In 2011, the court began garnishing tax returns for individuals with outstanding fines and costs to help reduce the outstanding receivables. To date, the court has collected approximately \$44,426.56 on cases where garnishments were sent but the individual came in and paid prior to the garnishment being processed by the Department of Treasury. An additional \$6,649.20 has been collected via garnishments that were issued and processed by the Department of Treasury.

Polycom (State of Michigan Courts Video Project)

- In September 2012, the State of Michigan installed approximately \$50,000.00 worth of electronic video equipment into all three courtrooms in Cheboygan. This project was spearheaded by Jodi Barrette, District Court Administrator in conjunction with the State of Michigan Courts Video Project. When defendants are lodged in other counties or in prison, the court can resolve the case via a video Polycom proceeding thereby saving the costs of transportation and/or overtime to local police agencies to have the defendant brought to Cheboygan. The Polycom system reduces prisoner transportation costs for local police agencies, overtime compensation for police officers and Department of Corrections, increases public safety, reduces costs for Michigan State Police Forensics and increases productivity. The District Court utilizes this equipment whenever possible in order to make the most efficient use of time for the court, staff, police agencies, Department of Corrections and assigned judges. We believe this equipment will prove to be a very effective cost saving project as well as provide further safety to the citizens of Cheboygan County. In 2014, the District Court through the use of the Polycom helped the county save an estimated \$4,710.78 in prisoner transportation and visiting judge costs. We have saved approximately \$10,353.11 for 2013 and 2014 combined.

Magistrate's Use Cell Phones while On-Call

- The 89th District Court has one full-time Magistrate and one part-time. Magistrates are responsible to be on-call after hours and on weekends/holidays to address individuals who have been arrested, review new charges and set bonds. In order to improve efficiency the Magistrates are electronically processing paperwork through the use of cell phone technology. Magistrates are now able to immediately address questions while on call from anywhere in the State.

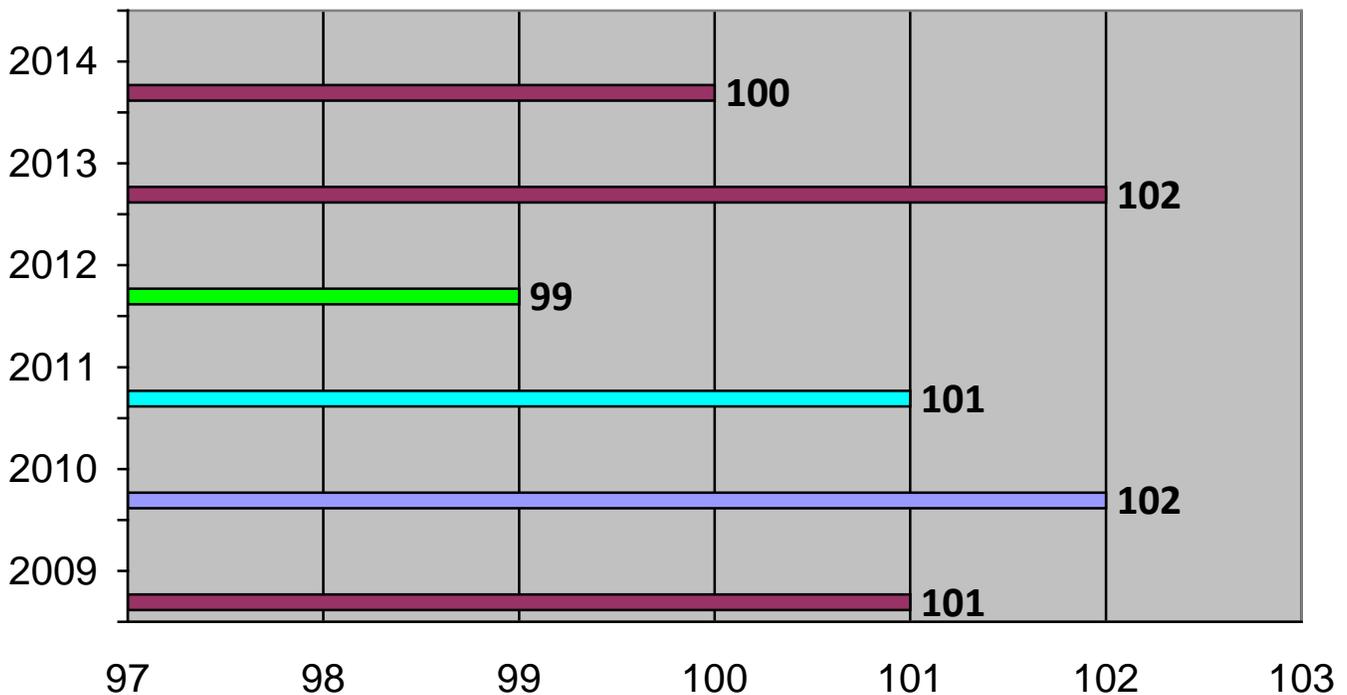
IyeTek (Michigan State Police Electronic Citations)

In January 2014, the 89th District Court began accepting electronic citations from the Michigan State Police. Although the exact costs savings cannot be determined by the court, there would be a significant savings for the State Police in mileage and time. The court has noticed increased efficiency in processing these citations from State Police, as the court electronically receives the citations the following morning, and they are automatically uploaded to the court’s case management system. This is a significant time savings to the court, as these citations do not need to be entered by the court; and information can be given right away when individuals call about their ticket. Additionally, the court is able to provide information to other departments such as the Prosecutor’s Office, police agencies, and the Cheboygan County Jail. The court is pleased to announce that we are currently working with C.C.E. Central Dispatch Authority to start accepting electronic citations from the Cheboygan County Sheriff Department.

Caseflow Management

Efficient Case Processing – Clearance rates are a way to measure caseflow management and efficiency of a court. Clearance rates indicate the extent to which a court is keeping up with incoming caseload. Clearance rates above 100% indicate that a court is reducing a backlog. A clearance rate of 100% indicates the court is keeping up with its current caseload and maintaining the size of any pending caseload. The higher the percentage, the more efficient the court is in handling its caseload.

In 2014, the 89th District Court’s clearance rate was 100% with 4,315 new or reopened cases and 4,331 disposed cases.



Sobriety Court

The 89th District Sobriety Court was started in August of 2012 after the team attended the 2012 DWI Court training with the National Highway Safety Administration in late June. The Sobriety Court team includes:

Honorable Maria I. Barton, District Judge
Jodi Barrette, DWI Coordinator
Kim Youngs, Probation Officer
Dale Selin, Research Expert
Aaron Gauthier, Assistant Prosecutor
Ronald Varga, Defense Counsel
Mike Brege, Detective Lieutenant – Cheboygan County Sheriff Department

In addition to the above team, Kathy Mason from Catholic Human Services plays a significant role in our program.

The mission of Sobriety Court is to help substance abusers achieve sobriety by providing a structural framework within which to be successful and to help facilitate change in addictive behaviors. The Sobriety Court focuses on holding individuals accountable through the team approach.

The 89th District Court revised workload and job responsibilities within the court to be able to operate the Sobriety Court without additional personnel or costs to the county. Participants in the program are responsible for paying their fines and costs, a participation fee of \$20.00 per month for each month in sobriety court, fees for drug testing, fees for alcohol monitoring systems, and counseling. The Sobriety Court budget is comprised of funds the 89th District Court receives annually from the State of Michigan for Drunk Driving and Drug cases filed. The court receives an average of \$9,000.00 to \$12,000.00 annually.

In 2012, the Sobriety Court accepted a total of 8 participants into the program, in 2013 accepted 11 participants and in 2014 accepted 11 participants into the program. Due to non-compliance, six of these individuals were discharged, one individual was transferred to another court and eight were discharged after successful completion of our program. With the additional three individuals who were accepted into the program in 2015, we now have 18 participants in our program.

Jail Savings

- Based upon the charges of the individuals that have participated in this program and possible jail sentence, the Sobriety Court program saved approximately \$19,900.00 in 2012, \$24,600.00 in 2013 and \$54,400.00 in 2014 in jail costs for Cheboygan County. This figure is based on \$20.00 a day per inmate.

Community Service

- In 2014, the Sobriety Court participants completed 1370 hours of community service in lieu of employment hours and for sanctions.

Sobriety Court Budget

The Sobriety Court budget was \$7,500.00 for 2014.

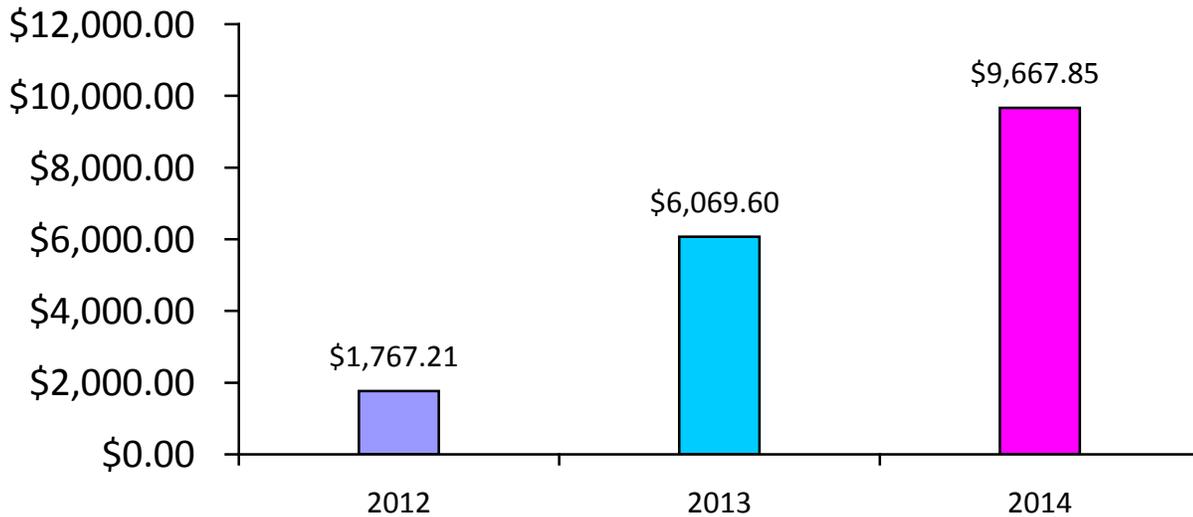
Expenditures:

Description	2014 Amended Budget	YTD Activity 2014	Available Balance
Expenditure Control	200.00	0.00	200.00
Contractual Services	1,000.00	10.00	990.00
Consul/Ind Provider	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Incentives/Supplies	2,300.00	2,287.05	12.95
Travel/Lodging/Meals etc.	1,000.00	706.79	293.21
Employee Training	1,000.00	295.00	705.00
Tether/Drug Testing Fees	1,000.00	721.02	278.98
Total Expenditures	\$7,500.00	\$4,019.86	\$3,480.14

Revenue:

In 2014, the Sobriety Court’s revenue was \$9,667.85. Revenue is comprised of a \$5.00 portion of every filing fee from civil cases (\$4,050.00), sobriety court fees (\$4,886.15) and District Court costs (\$731.70).

Sobriety Court Revenue

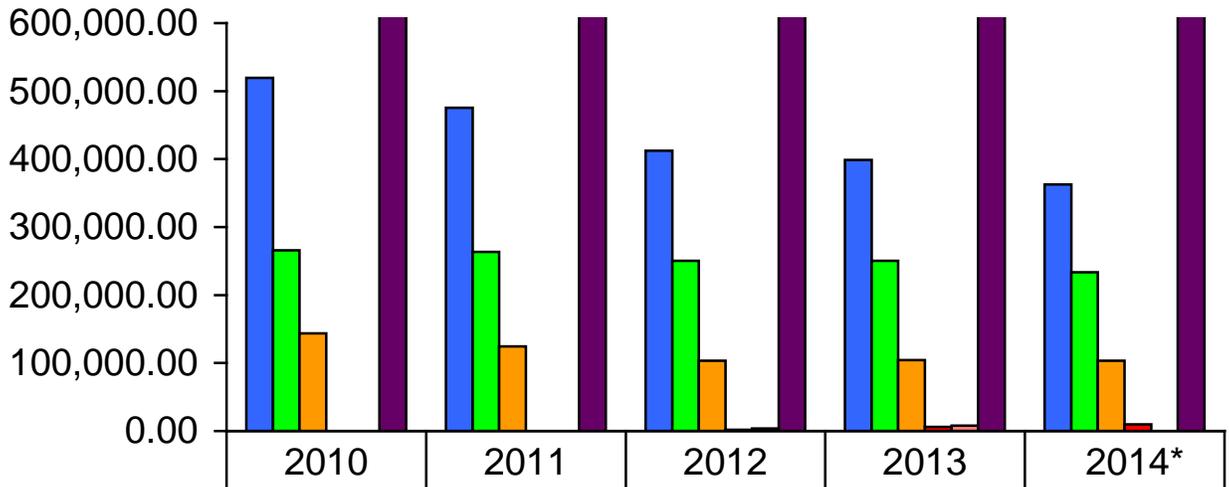


Timely Case Disposition

The 89th District Court is meeting or exceeding most of the guidelines specified by the Michigan Supreme Court.

89th District Court 2014 percentage	Michigan Supreme Court Time Guidelines
98%	90% of General Civil and Miscellaneous Civil cases adjudicated within 273 days from case filing
100%	98% of General Civil and Miscellaneous Civil cases adjudicated within 455 days of filing
100%	95% of Summary Civil cases without jury demand, including small claims, landlord/tenant, and land contract actions adjudicated within 126 days from case filing
100%	65% of Summary Civil cases with jury demand, including landlord/tenant and land contract actions adjudicated within 154 days from case filing
97%	90% of Civil Infraction cases, including traffic, non-traffic and parking cases adjudicated within 35 days from case filing
100%	98% of Civil Infraction cases, including traffic, non-traffic and parking cases adjudicated within 84 days from case filing
93%	85% of Misdemeanor cases, including misdemeanor drunk driving and misdemeanor traffic adjudicated within 63 days of first appearance
100%	95% of Misdemeanor cases, including misdemeanor drunk driving and misdemeanor traffic adjudicated within 126 days of first appearance
66%	60% of Preliminary Examinations including extradition/detainer cases held within 14 days of arraignment
88%	75% of preliminary examinations including extradition/detainer cases held within 28 days of arraignment

Revenue



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*
General Revenue	519,652.38	475,433.21	412,220.82	398,717.20	362,799.98
Trust & Agency	265,824.24	263,567.15	250,268.70	250,246.86	233,367.12
Penal Fine	143,447.94	124,303.43	103,314.40	104,497.99	103,638.11
Sobriety Court			1,767.21	6,069.60	9,667.85
Coll/Not Earned/Other			3,570.00	7,830.00	
Total	928,924.56	863,303.79	771,141.13	767,361.65	709,473.06

In 2014, the 89th District Court’s revenue was \$709,473.06, down \$57,888.59 from 2013. The reduction in revenue is due to a decrease in misdemeanor traffic and criminal cases as well as a decrease in the general civil and small claim cases. Of the \$709,473.06 collected, \$362,799.98 was given to the Cheboygan County general fund.

Pursuant to statute and local ordinance, \$233,367.12 from the Trust and Agency account was distributed to the Police Agencies, DNR Fish/Game Fund, and Secretary of State, Crime Victim Fund, State Court Fund, Convicted OUIL Assessment, Juror Compensation, Civil Filing Fee Fund, Justice System Fund and Victim Restitution. Money assessed by the courts for penal fines is dispersed to public libraries per statute. In 2014, \$103,638.11 was dispersed to Cheboygan, Indian River, and Mackinaw City, Presque Isle, Topinabee and Wolverine libraries. Sobriety Court revenue totaled \$9,667.85.

In 2014, the District Court had additional revenue of \$190.00 that was collected for other departments used for a specific purpose which included \$75.00 to the road commission and \$75.00 to the Sheriff Department per a local ordinance and \$40.00 to the courthouse preservation fund. These amounts are not included in the figures in the above chart.

*Unaudited Data

Expenses

District Court's budget was \$560,153.00 for 2014. District Court was under budget by 3.57% in 2014.

Description	2014 Amended Budget	Ending Balance 2014	Available Balance
Judge Standard Payment	40,039.00	40,039.00	0.00
County Supplement Judges Salary	5,685.00	5,685.00	0.00
Fringe	179,040.00	177,557.63	1,482.37
Full Time	258,801.00	258,644.21	156.79
Part Time	26,315.00	25,639.10	675.90
Year End Salary Adjustment	0.00	2,126.20	(2,126.20)
On Call/Reimbursement	8,241.00	8,241.00	0.00
Office Supplies	4,679.61	4,598.85	80.76
Uniforms	70.00	16.25	53.75
Transcripts	1,500.00	59.45	1,440.55
Jury Fees	2,500.00	864.76	1,635.24
Contractual Services	500.00	56.95	443.05
Legal-Court Appointed Attorneys	1,500.00	382.44	1,117.56
Visiting Judges	200.00	44.80	155.20
Membership & Subscriptions	2,300.00	1,919.52	380.48
Telephone	1,500.00	933.98	566.02
Cell Phone	1,080.00	1,080.00	0.00
Travel/Lodging/Meals etc.	1,600.00	448.61	1,151.39
Employee Training	700.00	200.00	500.00
Caseflow Assistant Grant	7,473.00	0	7,473.00
Tether/Drug Testing Fees	1,500.00	236.85	1,263.15
Fees	800.00	288.00	512.00
Office Equipment & Furniture	5,479.39	5,479.39	0.00
Computer-Hardware/Software/Maintenance	8,650.00	5,592.33	3,057.67
2014 Total Expenditures *	* \$560,153.00	* \$540,134.32	* \$20,018.68

2013 Total Expenditures	\$531,338.00	\$513,612.76	\$17,725.24
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2012 Budget	\$512,668.00	\$511,917.18	\$750.82
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2011 Budget	\$522,084.90	\$499,407.14	\$22,677.76
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2010 Budget	\$558,726.00	\$516,730.99	\$41,995.01
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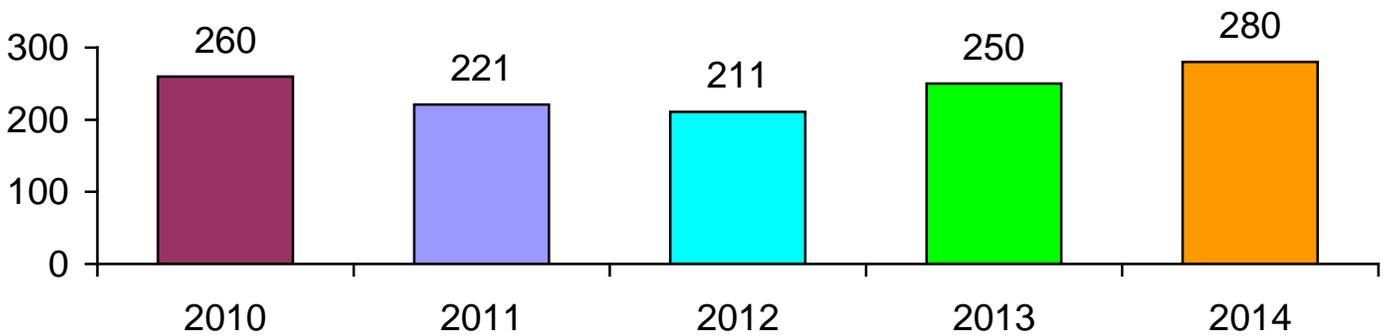
2009 Budget	\$570,325.40	\$513,637.31	\$56,688.09
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*Unaudited Data

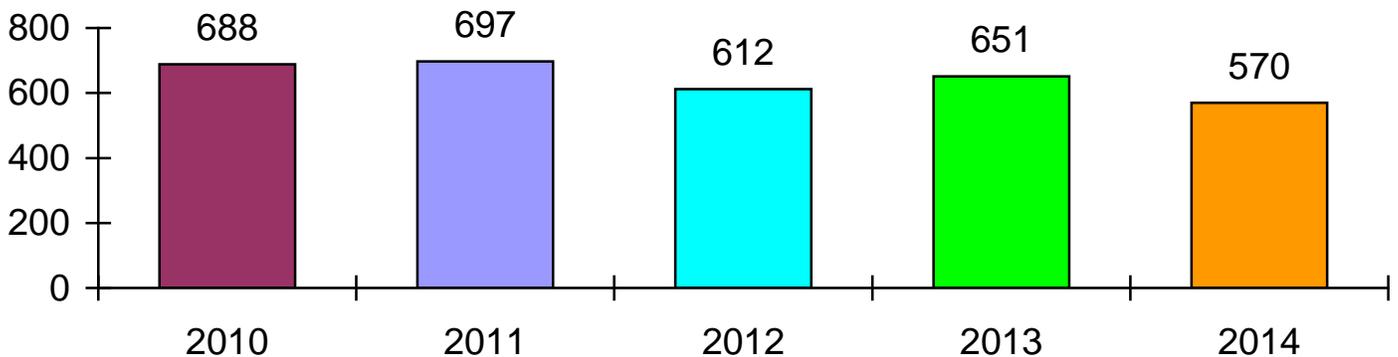
The 89th District Court is divided into three divisions – criminal, civil and traffic. All criminal cases whether misdemeanor or felony, begin in District Court. The Criminal Division of the District Court handles a wide range of criminal proceedings including misdemeanor offenses for which the maximum possible sentence is one year or less. Examples of District Court misdemeanor offenses include drunk driving, use or possession of marijuana, shoplifting, domestic violence, assault and battery, and driving while license suspended. In misdemeanor cases, Judge Barton arraigns the defendant, sets bond, takes pleas, conducts the trial and sentences the defendant.

In addition to issuing misdemeanor complaints, the District Court also issues all felony complaints, sets bond and conducts preliminary hearings for felony cases. If at the preliminary hearing, the prosecutor establishes by probable cause that a crime has been committed and the defendant committed the crime, the case is transferred to Circuit Court for trial. The Criminal Division of the court is also responsible for issuing search warrants, scheduling all hearings and trials for misdemeanors, receipting and maintaining all criminal bonds, keeping records of all criminal matters, reporting information to state agencies including Secretary of State for motor vehicle violations and notifying Michigan State Police of criminal convictions.

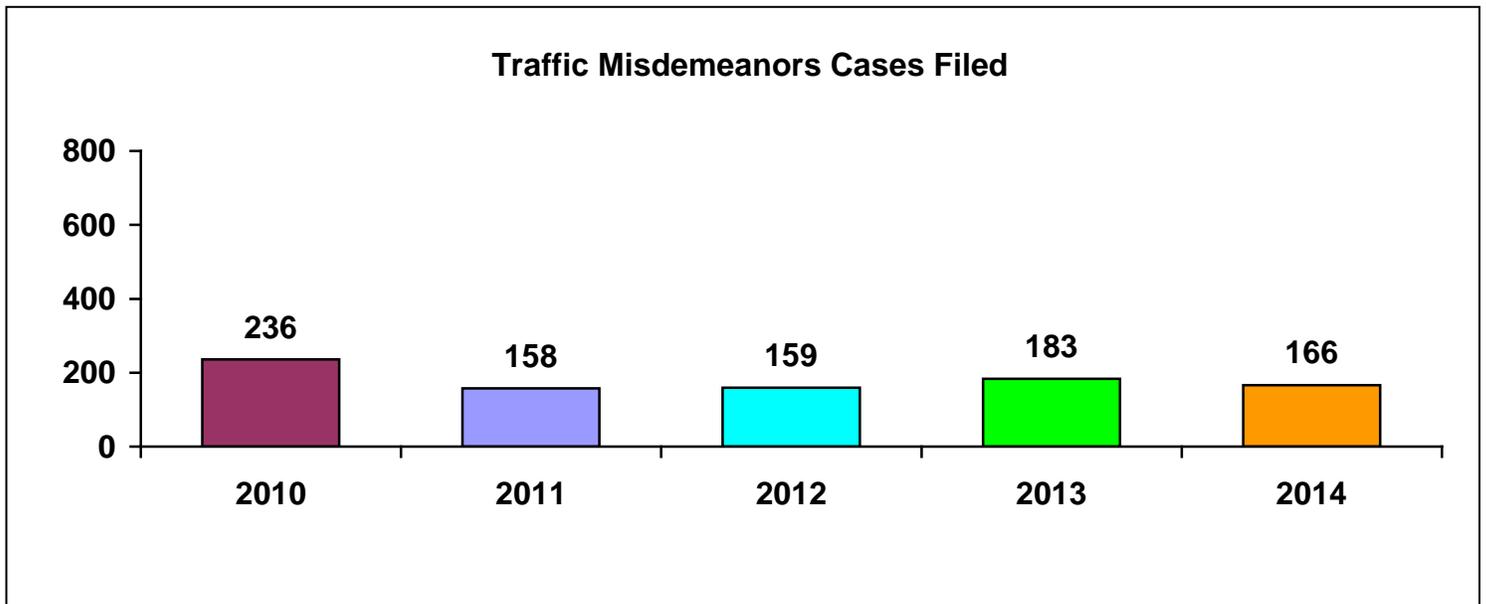
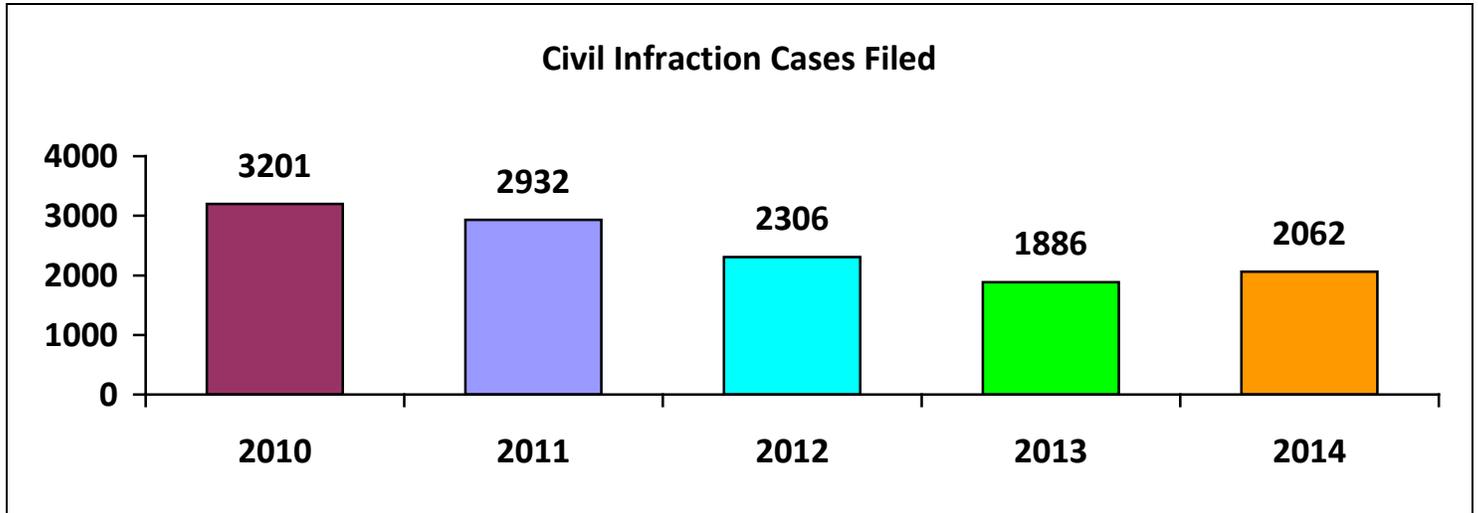
Felony Cases Filed



Misdemeanor Cases Filed



The Traffic Division processes all civil infractions, which include minor traffic matters, some Department of Natural Resource matters and certain misdemeanor cases. Speeding tickets, registration/plate violations, careless driving, parking, seatbelt violations, no proof of insurance, defective equipment and failure to stop or yield are examples of civil infractions handled by District Court. These civil infractions make up the majority of activity in the Traffic Division. Other cases handled in this division are misdemeanors such as failure to display valid operator’s license on person, expired plate violations, violation of restricted license as well as various hunting, camping, boating and fishing violations.

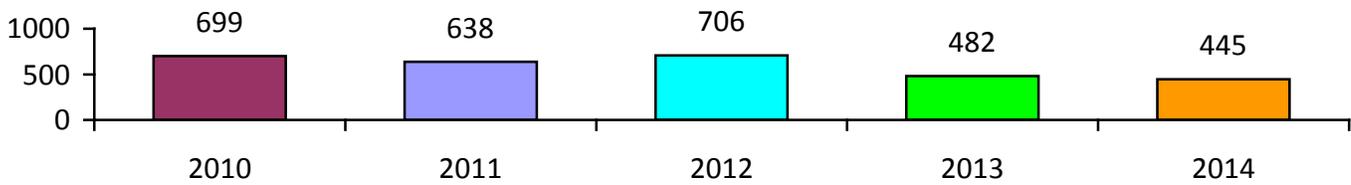


The Civil Division of the court has jurisdiction over all civil disputes where the amount in controversy is less than \$25,000, small claims and landlord tenant cases. General civil also includes cases for claim and delivery.

In small claims cases, the amount in controversy is \$5,500 or less. Litigants waive the right to be represented by an attorney, waive the right to a jury trial and the right to appeal the district judge’s decision.

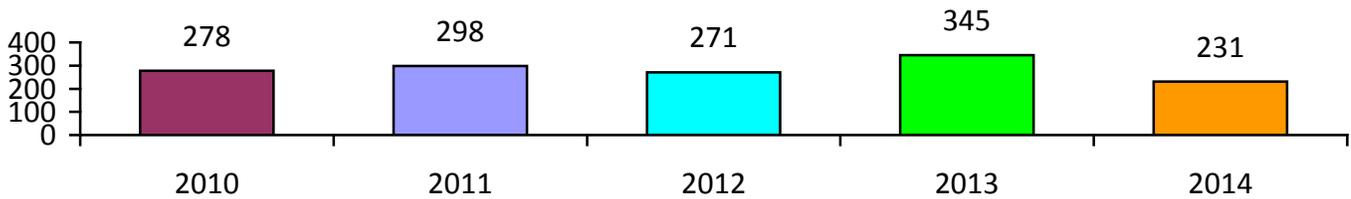
Landlord tenant cases are filed by landlords or land contract vendors when tenants or land contract vendees are not complying with the terms of the lease or contract. This area also includes summary proceeding matters.

General Civil Cases

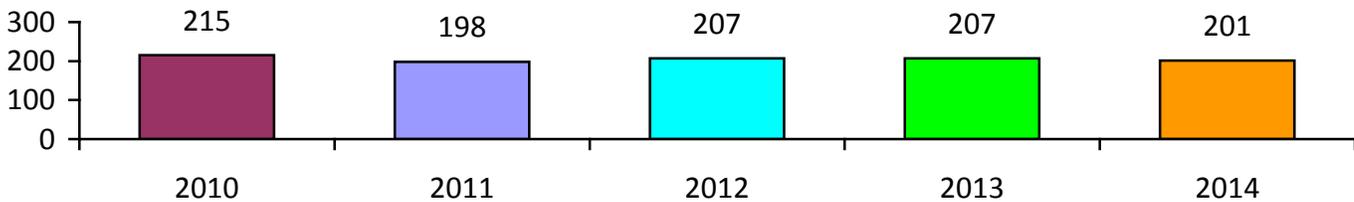


(The decrease in the general civil cases is believed, in part, to be due to the closing of Cheboygan Memorial Hospital.)

Small Claim Cases

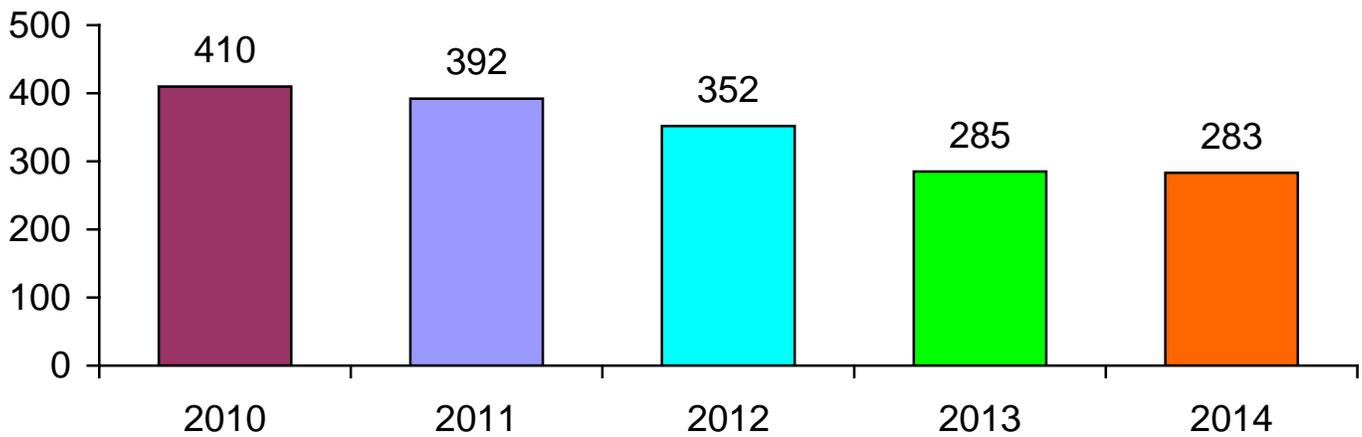


Landlord/Tenant Cases

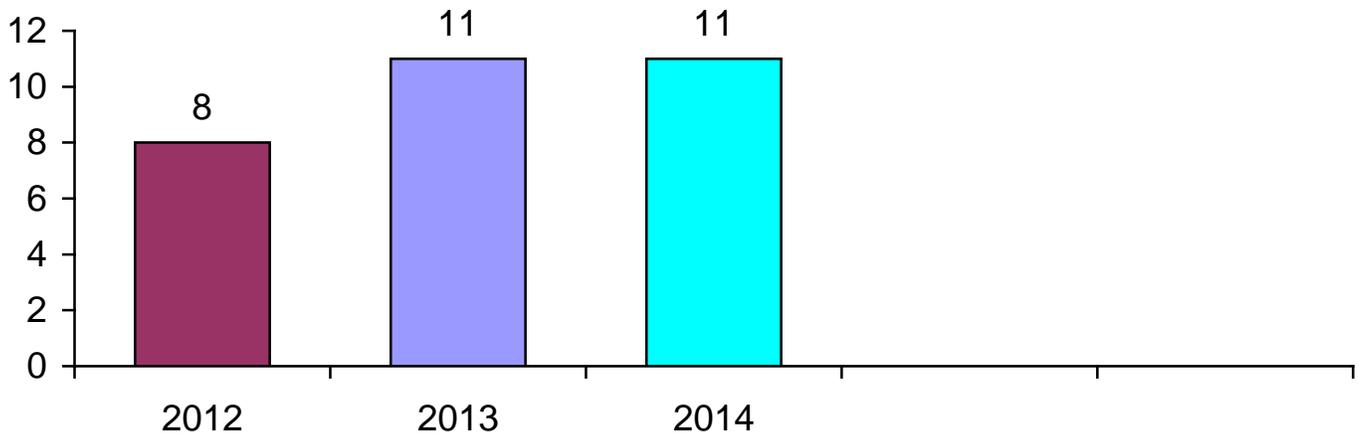


The Probation Department provides services to the judge, victims and probationers. The probation agent is responsible for the preparation of pre-sentence investigation reports and the supervision and referral to appropriate programs/services for defendants placed on probation. Monitoring probationers is necessary to restore victims and communities, protect the public, promote probationer accountability, and create a climate for probationers' rehabilitation. This includes the supervision of community service placements and those individuals referred to Community Corrections as alternatives to incarceration. The chart below reflects the total number of probationers placed on probation in each year to include non-reporting probation cases.

District Court Probation Caseload



Sobriety Court Probation Caseload



The District Court had eight individuals enter our program in 2012, eleven in 2013 and eleven in 2014. In 2012, there were no individuals discharged, in 2013 there were four discharged as non-compliant and in 2014 there were eleven discharges, eight that successfully completed the program, two non-compliant and one that was transferred to another jurisdiction. To date, we have admitted three additional people into the program for a total of 18 individuals in our program.

Jury Fee Reimbursement

The Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund was created as of January 1, 2003, to provide a source of reimbursement funding to trial courts for legislated increases in juror attendance compensation. Beginning October 1, 2003, jurors were compensated at new, higher rates (see MCL 600.1344) and trial court funding units can claim reimbursement biannually from the fund for the increased expense. The figures below reflect the reimbursements to Cheboygan County (Circuit, District and Probate Courts) which are deposited into the county’s general fund.

Year	1 st Term	2 nd Term
2009	\$5,732.50	\$2,470.00
2010	\$2,600.00	\$2,610.00
2011	\$3,510.00	\$5,772.50
2012	\$1,765.00	\$2,505.00
2013	\$2,845.00	\$4,750.00
2014	\$1,395.00	\$ 372.50

Drunk Driving Caseload Assistance Fund

The Drunk Driving Caseload Assistance Fund was created by statute effective January 1, 1992. The fund was created to provide a source of funding for implementation of new case processing time guidelines which would promote the timely disposition of cases in which the defendant was charged with a qualifying drunk driving offense. Offenses can be charged under either state statute or local ordinance. Funds received are based on previous year’s caseload.

Year Received	
2009	\$ 10,076.08
2010	\$ 8,806.06
2011	\$ 9,107.71
2012	\$ 11,027.73
2013	\$ 8,994.90
2014	\$ 10,875.74

Drug Cases Information Management Fund

The Drug Case Information Management Fund was created by statute effective September 1, 1994. The fund was created to provide a source of funding for timely management and new reporting to the Secretary of State of specific cases. The case types include an attempt to violate, a conspiracy to violate, or a direct violation of the Public Health Code for drug-related offenses. Offenses can be charged under either state statute or local ordinance. Funds received are based on previous year’s caseload.

Year Received	
2009	\$ 433.05
2010	\$ 550.27
2011	\$ 655.56
2012	\$ 560.80
2013	\$ 565.95
2014	\$ 649.84

Community Service Program

This sentencing alternative provides the Court with the opportunity to allow certain indigent offenders to perform volunteer work as part of their sentence as credit against payment of fines and costs. Placements are located in government or community not-for-profit agencies and supervised by the Probation Officer. Paperwork must be completed on each referral, a suitable location selected, and supervision or oversight required.

In 2014, 3,679 hours of community service were completed by defendants assigned to the Community Service program. Community service hours resulted in \$27,952.95 being credited toward eligible fines, costs and fees.

Smart Start/Rancilio Home Confinement Services/House Arrest Services

Defendants who are sentenced to be on an alcohol monitor/tether are referred to any one of these agencies. These programs are utilized by the court to help monitor an individual’s alcohol intake and/or keep the defendant confined to his/her home and provide accountability to the un-incarcerated defendant. Other types of technology are also available to allow the court to monitor at different levels of security based on the seriousness of the offense such as Alcohol Tether w/GPS, Ignition Interlock with/without camera, and Vehicle Immobilization.

Williams House/Evangeline House

The Williams House and Evangeline House are structured transitional houses for recovering alcoholics/addicts. The Williams House is for men 18 or older, and the Evangeline House is for women 18 or older. The goal of the transition houses is to help people recover and maintain sobriety in a structured, drug-free environment so they can return to their families and jobs.

Community Mediation Services

The court utilizes this mediation program to assist the court and public in resolving small claim cases. Mediation allows parties an opportunity to resolve their cases in a non-adversarial manner while working with a trained mediator.

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
# of Referrals	1	5	8	6	7	0
# Cases Mediated	1	4	8	6	7	0
# Cases Mediated to agreement	1	4	8	5	5	0
# Cases Mediated without agreement	0	0	0	1	2	0
Overall Mediated to Agreement Rate	100%	100%	100%	83%	71%	0

Court Website

The 89th District Court’s website provides information about the court and its services. The site provides general information to the public about the district court and basic procedural guidelines to assist the public in understanding how the district court operates. Included on the website is information about location and hours of operation, court calendar, payment options, court dispositions, fines and costs, filing fees and other helpful links as well as information with regard to criminal, civil and traffic cases. Since 1994 through 2014, the District Court has collected \$1,724,055.42 in credit card payments. Our website address is www.89thdistrictcourt.org.

Impact Weekend

The Impact Weekend program educates defendants convicted of alcohol related driving offenses about the dangers of driving while under the influence of drugs and alcohol. It is a weekend residential program of intensive pre-treatment, education, and intervention. Defendants are sentenced to Impact Weekend as an alternative to incarceration.

Other Programs

The District Court also utilizes other programs such as Alcohol Highway Safety Education, Outpatient Counseling, Inpatient Treatment, Shoplifter's Alternative, Anger Management, and Domestic Violence Counseling.

Community Corrections Program

The Community Corrections program provides the District Court with sentencing alternatives for low risk, non-assaultive offenders. Defendants placed into the Community Corrections program assist nonprofit agencies and allow *incarcerated* offenders the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the community.

In addition to performing community service, offenders are given the opportunity to participate in rehabilitative programs such as residential substance abuse treatment, intensive outpatient counseling, anger management and obtaining a high school diploma. Defendants are given days off their sentence for successful completion of the rehabilitative services which results in a saving to the county.