

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.


The Declaration of the States of America

2007 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

of the 13th Judicial Circuit

Thou shalt not covet
Thou shalt not bear false witness
Thou shalt not kill
Thou shalt not steal
Thou shalt not commit adultery
Thou shalt not worship other gods
Thou shalt not have other gods before me
Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image
Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I, the Lord thy God, am a jealous God, punishing the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, and showing mercy unto thousands of the righteous for evermore.
I am the Lord thy God: thou shalt not have other gods before me.
Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for thou shalt not use the name of the Lord thy God to the end of making oaths, or vows, or promises, or the like, which thou art not minded to perform.
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Six days hath the Lord made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and all that in them is: and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed: therefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and made it holy.
Honor thy father and thy mother: for this is the first commandment, which is the first promise, that if thou doest this, it shall go well with thee, and thou shalt prosper.
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first and great commandment.
Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: this is the second commandment, which is the second promise, that if thou doest this, thou shalt prosper.
These two commandments are the sum of all the law, and the prophets.
Thou shalt not be afraid of them which kill the body, but cannot kill the soul: rather shalt thou love the Lord thy God: for this is the first commandment, which is the first promise, that if thou doest this, it shall go well with thee, and thou shalt prosper.
Thou shalt not be afraid of them which kill the body, but cannot kill the soul: rather shalt thou love the Lord thy God: for this is the first commandment, which is the first promise, that if thou doest this, it shall go well with thee, and thou shalt prosper.

Attest
John C. ...
John C. ...

A photograph of a courtroom. In the foreground, several people are seated at a long, dark wooden table. From left to right, there is a man in a white uniform with a patch on his sleeve, a woman in a black dress holding papers, a woman in a white striped shirt, a woman in a black blazer, a woman in a red top, and a woman in a white uniform. They are all looking towards the right. In the background, a woman in a white uniform is standing and speaking. The room has a patterned carpet and a wall with large, dark-framed panels.

IF WE DO NOT LAY OUT
OURSELVES IN THE SERVICE
OF MANKIND WHOM SHOULD
WE SERVE?

ABIGAIL ADAMS



In the newest drug court division - Family Dependency Treatment Court, the judge's main goal is to hold parents accountable to meet their treatment goals. The Drug Court Team in this division gives the parents every opportunity to succeed, as resources will allow.

THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PROFILE

The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit is one of the busiest of the State of Florida's twenty circuit courts. It has been in continual operation since the early days of statehood. The case load has changed over time as it grows along with the population of Hillsborough County. In fact, citizens in this county are served by the fifth largest trial court jurisdiction in the state, which has a population of more than 1.1 million in over 1,000 square miles. The Florida Legislature has currently allocated 45 circuit and 17 county judges in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit.

In both the circuit and county trial courts, factual disputes are resolved, either by jury trials or where a judge decides the issues in the case. In the circuit courts, major criminal (felony), civil disputes over \$15,000, family, juvenile and probate matters are heard.

Specific jurisdiction is detailed in Florida Statute 26.012. There are currently 52 circuit divisions within the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and over 70,000 cases were filed in 2007.

In the county courts of limited jurisdiction (sometimes called the "people's courts") minor criminal (misdemeanor), civil disputes under \$15,000, and traffic violations are heard. Specific jurisdiction is detailed in Florida Statute 34.01. There are 19 county divisions within the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, including an Emergency division that is designed to streamline court functions related to First Appearances in both circuit and county criminal divisions. Nearly 70,000 county criminal and civil cases were filed in 2007 with over 320,000 traffic cases filed in 2006.



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Courtroom 1

Vision

The Vision of the Administrative Office of the Courts, 13th Judicial Circuit, is to foster an environment for the accessible, efficient, and effective administration of justice.

Values

Diversity/Access

We acknowledge, encourage, reflect, and connect with the ever-changing face of our community. We provide new avenues to improve access to the court.

Case Resolution

We support the independent constitutional role of the judiciary by managing non-judicial court functions and providing supporting resources, allowing the judges to focus on the advancement of cases to a resolution.

Resource Management

We inspire public trust by adhering to the highest standards in the use of public resources and the delivery of service.

A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JUDGE MANUEL MENENDEZ, JR. AND COURT ADMINISTRATOR MIKE BRIDENBACK



Chief Judge Manuel Menendez Jr.



Court Administrator Mike Bridenback

State budget cuts have impacted the court system; and like other organizations, the courts are faced with the challenge of conducting daily operations with reduced resources. Since 2004, our Supreme Court has certified, and the Florida Legislature has increased, the number of judges almost 20 percent; yet the total number of cases in this circuit has increased more than 30 percent. Prior to this year, state funding has increased 18 percent and Hillsborough County 17 percent; and this year we faced unprecedented fiscal threats.

Despite the uncertainty of the court's ability to offer comprehensive services, the overall goals of the courts have not changed. The 13th Judicial Circuit strives to deliver justice by both resolving cases and providing alternatives to traditional court. Our role may be to adjudicate, mediate, arbitrate, or connect to social services.

One of our continuing goals is to expand meaningful access to the courts through

prevention and education initiatives. This year Truancy Court was established as a specialized division to prevent juvenile delinquency and redirect children to return to school. We continue to educate the public regarding court processes and services through court television programs, spotlighting each of the areas of our courts and court programs.

The Performance Management Report is prepared on an annual basis to describe the Circuit and document its progress. This progress is demonstrated in a variety of ways – from meeting the volume of citizen demands to completing important projects.

A focus on performance informs court operations decisions in a difficult economy, and the courts continue to respond to the needs of the community. Please use this Report and our website, www.fljud.13.org, to learn more about justice in our community, where you will find a more complete list of goals, objectives and outcome measures for our court programs.

THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT 2007 BUDGET

Program	State of Florida	Hillsborough County	Totals
Judges & Judicial Assistants	\$14,727,281	-	\$14,727,281
Court Administration	-	-	-
Central Office	294,440	153,837	448,277
Court Operations	187,224	-	187,224
Court Personnel	331,849	73,145	404,994
Court Programs	181,507		181,507
Fiscal Affairs	87,571	182,719	270,290
Office of Public Information	557,673	137,196	694,869
Court Communications & Technology Services	233,959	5,009,345	5,243,304
Court Facilities	146,436	1,038,479	1,184,915
Case Management	990,462	-	990,462
Court Interpreters	459,511	-	459,511
Court Reporting	2,835,178	-	2,835,178
Children's Justice Center	79,174	351,634	430,808
Domestic Violence	-	440,000	440,000
Drug Court	193,794	608,484	802,278
Elder Justice Center	-	152,191	152,191
Expert Witnesses/Child Custody	676,598	-	676,598
Juvenile Diversion Programs	80,723	439,109	519,832
Legal Department	937,453	430,474	1,367,927
Mediation	1,026,711	301,376	1,328,087
Magistrates & Hearing Officers	1,526,245	100,000	1,626,245
Senior Judges	159,600	-	159,600
Totals	\$25,713,389	\$9,417,989	\$35,131,378



CIRCUIT GENERAL CIVIL
FILINGS INCREASED
MORE THAN 50% IN 2007,
PRIMARILY DUE TO
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES

GEORGE

WARNING
WEAPONS PROHIBITED



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you agree to search

DIVISIONS OF THE 13TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Felony

Division Description

Jurisdiction includes felonies and all misdemeanors arising out of the same circumstances as a felony. These offenses include capital murder, noncapital murder, sexual offenses, drugs, robbery, burglary, theft, forgery, fraud, and worthless checks, and other crimes against persons or properties that are classified as felonies.

There are fifteen judges assigned to this division,

which includes two judges in trial divisions as well as judges in specialized divisions in Drug Court, Post Conviction Relief, Violation of Probation, and Sex and Child Abuse Offenses.

Honorable J. Rogers Padgett is the Administrative Judge of the Felony Division. Honorable Ronald N. Ficarrota and Daniel L. Perry serve as Associate Administrative Judges.

Felony | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	19,082	20,289	6.3% Increase
Disposed	19,625	20,707	5.5% Increase
Clearance Rate	1.03	1.02	< 1% Decrease

Circuit Criminal | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	225,259	233,359	3.6% Increase
Disposed	219,325	232,259	5.9% Increase
Clearance Rate	.97	1.00	3.1% Increase

General Civil

Division Description

Jurisdiction of this court division includes professional malpractice, products liability, real property, foreclosure, auto negligence, eminent domain, condominium, contract and civil indebtedness and other civil matters in excess of \$15,000. In addition, jurisdiction includes appeals from final administrative orders of local government code enforcement boards and the majority of appeals from county court.

There are twelve judges assigned to this division, which includes a trial division and two specialized divisions: Complex Business Litigation and Jimmy Ryce Act.

Honorable James M. Barton, II is the Administrative Judge.

General Civil | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	12,075	18,485	53.1% Increase
Disposed	9,607	10,715	11.5% Increase
Clearance Rate	.80	.58	27.5% Decrease

Circuit Civil | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	182,430	302,916	66% Increase
Disposed	154,520	187,572	21.4% Increase
Clearance Rate	.85	.62	27.1% Decrease

Unified Family Court: Domestic Relations | Family Law

Division Description

Jurisdiction includes domestic relations, adoptions, domestic violence, dissolutions of marriage, child support, custody, alimony, visitation and related matters. One party must file a petition initially, which identifies them as the petitioner and the other party is the respondent. The parties may or may not be represented by legal counsel.

There are nine judges, three full time general magistrates, and two child support hearing officers assigned to this division.

Honorable Herbert Baumann, Jr., is the Administrative Judge for Unified Family Court. Honorable Scott Stephens is Associate Administrative Judge.

Family Law | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	20,639	20,145	2.4% Decrease
Disposed	21,620	20,622	4.6% Decrease
Clearance Rate	1.05	1.03	1.9% Decrease

Circuit Domestic Relations | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	269,588	270,321	< 1% Increase
Disposed	265,051	257,208	3% Decrease
Clearance Rate	.98	.95	3.1% Decrease

Unified Family Court: Juvenile Dependency

Division Description

Judges must make decisions regarding the custodial placement of children and determine issues related to the “best interests” of the child before the court. Jurisdiction includes matters concerning children who have been allegedly abandoned, abused, neglected or surrendered for adoption. The Office of the Attorney General represents the Department of Children & Families. Parents are also entitled to legal representation; they may secure a private attorney or the court may appoint legal counsel on their behalf. In addition, the Guardian ad Litem volunteers, as a party to the proceedings, “speak up for children”

involved in these cases.

There are six judges and two general magistrates in this division, which includes an Independent Living and Dependency Drug Court specialized divisions.

Honorable Katherine G. Essrig is the Associate Administrative Judge. Honorable Herbert Baumann, Jr. is Associate Administrative Judge for the Independent Living specialized division. Honorable Jack Espinosa, Jr. is Associate Administrative Judge for the Dependency Drug Court specialized division.

Juvenile Dependency | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	1,110	873	21.4% Decrease
Disposed	1,115	1,014	9.1% Decrease
Clearance Rate	1.00	1.16	16% Increase

Juvenile Dependency | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	14,374	11,833	17.7% Decrease
Disposed	13,724	12,280	10.5% Decrease
Clearance Rate	.95	1.04	9.5% Increase

Unified Family Court: Juvenile Delinquency

Division Description

Delinquency matters include juveniles who have committed a felony or misdemeanor, been found in contempt of court or violation of a local ordinance other than a traffic offense. The State Attorney's Office files charges against the juvenile, alleging a criminal offense has occurred. Entitled to legal counsel, a private attorney or the Public Defender advises the juvenile throughout the legal proceedings.

The Department of Juvenile Justice provides case management services.

There are three judges assigned to this division.

Honorable Herbert Baumann, Jr. is the Administrative Judge for Juvenile Delinquency Division.

Juvenile Delinquency | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	4,590	4,682	2.0% Increase
Disposed	8,228	5,332	35.2% Decrease
Clearance Rate	1.79	1.14	36.3% Decrease

Juvenile Delinquency | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	72,786	72,601	<1% Decrease
Disposed	71,291	68,337	4.1% Decrease
Clearance Rate	.98	.94	4.1% Decrease

Guardianship, Mental Health, Probate & Trust

Division Description

Petitions alleging incapacity are filed in this division; judges must then make decisions regarding the need for and extent of guardianship. Guardians assist incapacitated people in meeting the essential requirements for their physical health and safety, in protecting their rights, in managing their financial resources and in developing or regaining their abilities to the extent possible. The probate process

involves collecting a decedent's assets, liquidating liabilities, paying necessary taxes and distributing properties to heirs.

There is one judge and 1.5 full-time general magistrates assigned to this division.

Honorable Claudia R. Isom is the Administrative Judge.

Probate | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	5,860	5,645	3.7% Decrease
Disposed	5,877	5,726	2.6% Decrease
Clearance Rate	1.00	1.01	1% Increase

Probate | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	108,242	103,699	4.2% Decrease
Disposed	99,228	94,405	4.9% Decrease
Clearance Rate	.92	.91	1.1% Decrease

Emergency | First Appearance

Division Description

Florida statutes mandate that inmates have the right to appear before a judge within twenty-four hours of their arrest. A fiber optic link connects the jails and the courthouse via closed circuit television. These hearings are conducted through the use of the Court Video Network enabling inmates to appear in court without having to leave the secure confines of the jail, avoiding transportation costs and reducing the security risks.

First appearance conducts live two-way video preliminary presentations on all criminal cases, bond and ROR motions, arraignment hearings for incarcerated defendants, misdemeanor violation of probation hearings for incarcerated defendants and other emergency criminal matters.

There is one judge assigned to this division.

Honorable Walter R. Heinrich is the Administrative Judge.

Emergency | First Appearance | 13th Judicial Circuit

Bond Hearings	7,845
Adversary Preliminary Hearings	803
First Appearing Attendance (estimate)	47,020

County Criminal

Division Description

Jurisdiction includes misdemeanor cases, including domestic violence-related misdemeanors heard in a specialized division, criminal traffic offenses and county ordinance/municipal violations.

There are seven judges in this division, including one judge assigned to Domestic Violence Division.

Honorable James V. Dominguez is the Administrative Judge.

County Criminal | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	31,991	29,696	7.2% Decrease
Disposed	35,063	28,839	17.8% Decrease
Clearance Rate	1.10	.97	11.5% Decrease

County Criminal | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	516,868	515,771	< 1% Decrease
Disposed	480,969	478,008	< 1% Decrease
Clearance Rate	.93	.93	No Change

Criminal Traffic | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2005	2006	% Change 2005-2006
Filed	50,325	54,263	7.8% Increase
Disposed	36,490	40,821	11.9% Increase
Clearance Rate	.73	.75	2.7% Increase

Criminal Traffic | Statewide

	2005	2006	% Change 2005-2006
Filed	594,245	636,578	7.1% Increase
Disposed	428,220	458,944	7.2% Increase
Clearance Rate	.72	.72	No Change

County Civil

Division Description

Jurisdiction includes civil actions, matters in equity, and landlord-tenant disputes in which the matter in controversy does not exceed \$15,000. In addition, two specialized divisions are dedicated to Domestic Violence civil orders of protection (temporary and permanent domestic and repeat violence injunctions).

There are nine judges and one Civil Traffic Hearing Officer assigned to this division, which also includes two Civil Traffic Divisions and a Non-Criminal Non-Traffic Division.

Honorable Cheryl Thomas is the Administrative Judge.

County Civil | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	35,455	39,620	11.7% Increase
Disposed	31,172	35,020	12.3% Increase
Clearance Rate	.88	.88	No Change

County Civil | Statewide

	2006	2007	% Change 2006-2007
Filed	507,063	576,047	13.6% Increase
Disposed	438,462	495,504	13.0% Increase
Clearance Rate	.86	.86	No Change

Civil Traffic | 13th Judicial Circuit

	2005	2006	% Change 2005-2006
Filed	266,739	266,359	< 1% Decrease
Disposed	209,098	221,104	5.7% Increase
Clearance Rate	.78	.83	6.4% Increase

Civil Traffic | Statewide

	2005	2006	% Change 2005-2006
Filed	4,172,080	4,461,095	6.9% Increase
Disposed	3,464,300	3,631,709	4.8% Increase
Clearance Rate	.83	.81	2.4% Decrease

Plant City | East County

Division Description

To meet the needs of citizens within specific boundaries, the East Division of the Circuit Court was established in 1979. The courthouse is situated in the northeastern corner of Hillsborough County in Plant City.

Cases are generally assigned to this division if associated with the portion of Hillsborough County that is located east of Highway 301, or the cause of

action occurred in this area, or the property is located in the area.

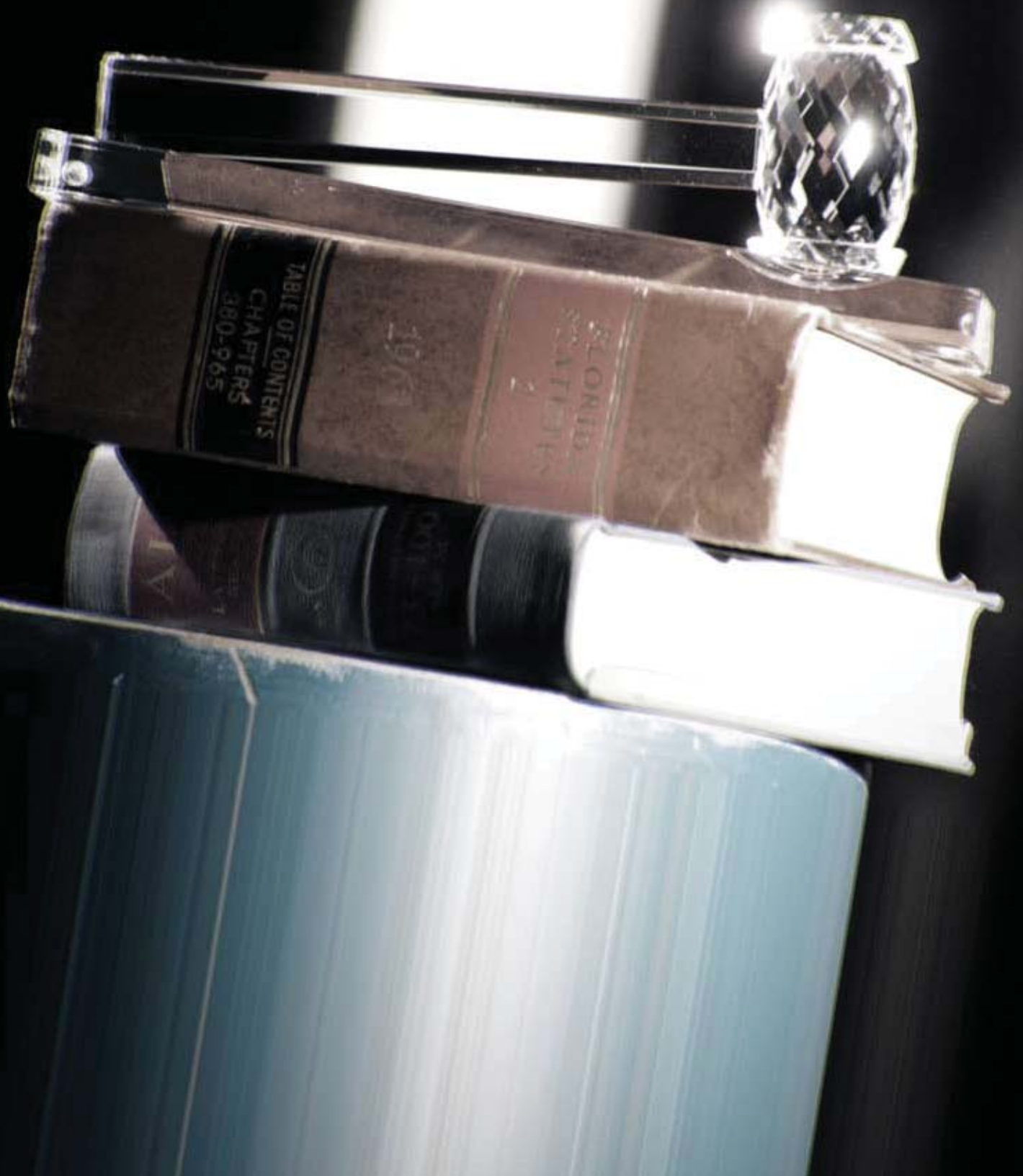
There are three judges assigned to this division (one circuit judge and two county judges).

Honorable Susan Sexton is the Administrative Judge for Circuit Court, and Honorable Christine K. Vogel is the Administrative Judge for County Court.

* Note: For Statewide statistics, missing data for Circuit and County Criminal, Desoto and Suwannee Counties (January – December 2007) and Monroe County (October – December, 2007) at time of report run date.

IT IS THE SPIRIT AND NOT
THE FORM OF LAW THAT
KEEPS JUSTICE ALIVE.

EARL WARREN



CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIARY



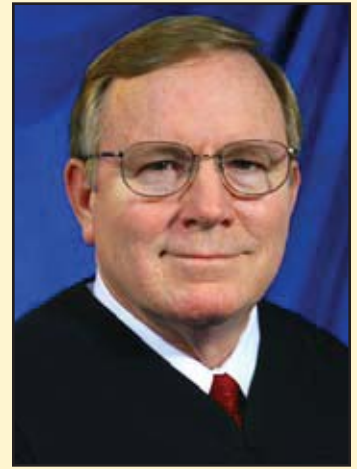
James D. Arnold



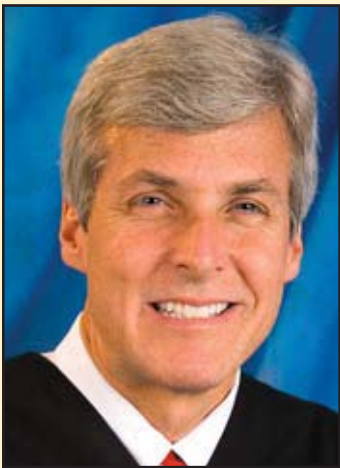
Rex M. Barbas



James M. Barton, II



E. Lamar Battles



J. Kevin Carey



Martha J. Cook



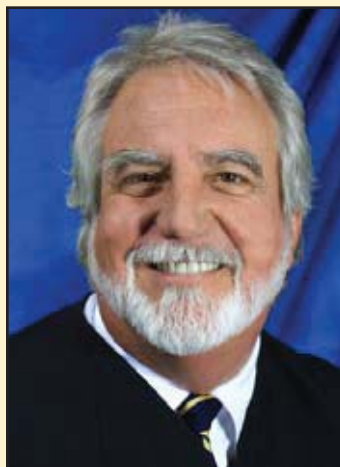
Vivian T. Corvo



Marva L. Crenshaw



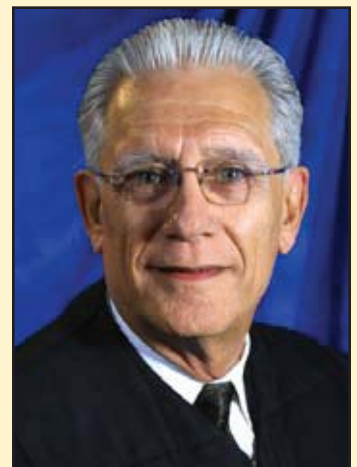
Barbara Fleischer



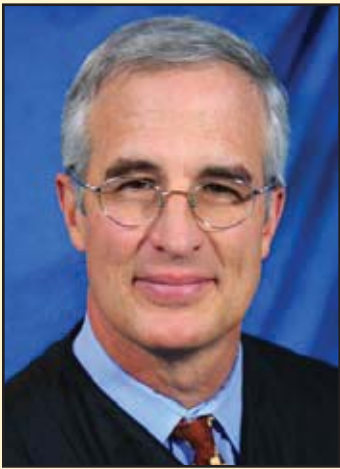
Robert A. Foster, Jr.



William Fuente



Frank A. Gomez



Herbert Baumann, Jr.



Debra K. Behnke



Charles Ed Bergmann



Anthony K. Black



Jack Espinosa, Jr.



Katherine G. Essrig



Kimberly Fernandez



Ronald Ficarrota



Gregory P. Holder



Charlene E. Honeywell



Claudia R. Isom



William P. Levens

CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIARY



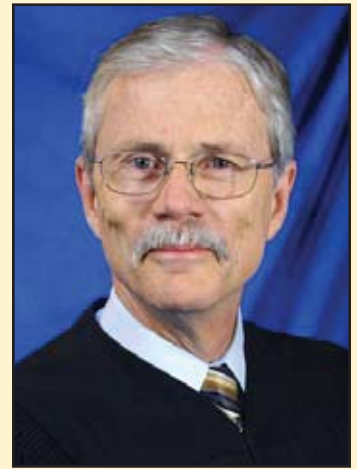
Manuel A. Lopez



Manuel Menendez, Jr.



Ashley B. Moody



Richard A. Nielsen



Denise Pomponio



Christopher C. Sabella



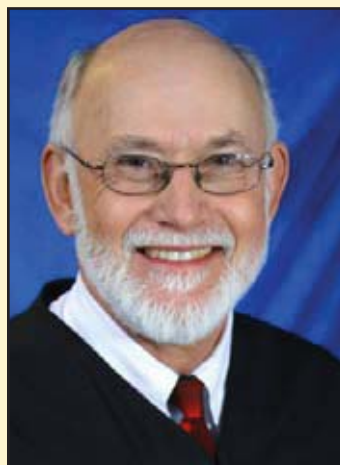
Susan Sexton



Tracy Sheehan



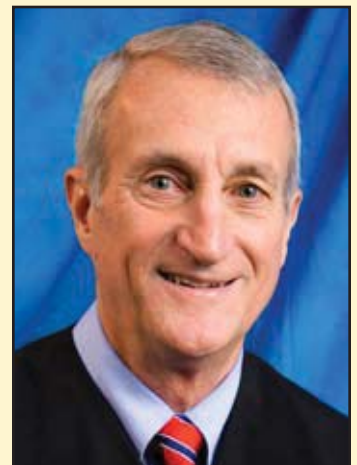
Scott Stephens



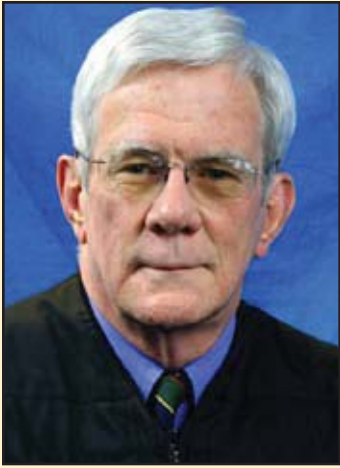
Ralph C. Stoddard



Chet A. Tharpe



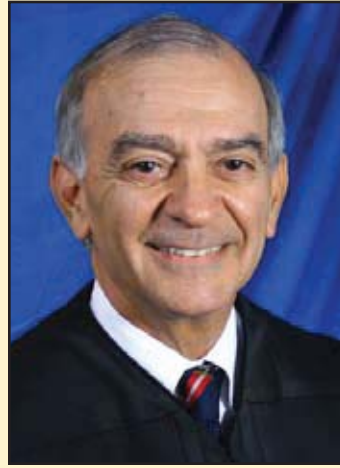
Wayne S. Timmerman



J. Rogers Padgett



Emily A. Peacock



Sam D. Pendino



Daniel L. Perry



Monica L. Sierra



Bernard C. Silver



D. Michelle Sisco



Daniel H. Sleet



Mark W. Wolfe

COUNTY JUDICIARY



Charlotte Anderson



Tom Barber



Margaret T. Courtney



Walter R. Heinrich



Paul L. Huey



Lawrence M. Lefler



Joelle Ann Ober



Raul C. (Sonny)
Palomino, Jr.



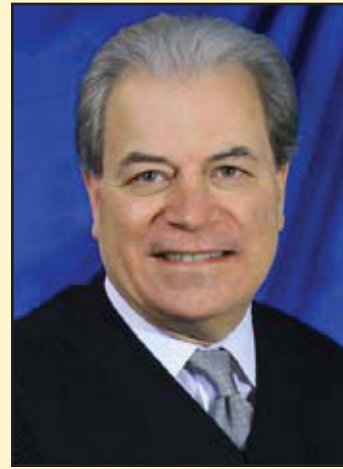
Elizabeth G. Rice



John N. Conrad



James V. Dominguez



Gaston J. Fernandez



Art McNeil



Eric R. Myers



Nick Nazaretian



Cheryl K. Thomas



Christine K. Vogel

GENERAL MAGISTRATES



Sean O. Cadigan



Mary Lou Cuellar-Stilo



Jon Johnson



Joan Montagno



Martin D. Proctor



Vicki L. Reeves



Richard A. Weis

HEARING OFFICERS



Michael Coffee



William J. Foster



Lila Stello

THE GOOD WE SECURE FOR OURSELVES
IS PRECIOUS AND UNCERTAIN UNTIL
IT IS SECURED FOR ALL OF US AND
INCORPORATED INTO OUR COMMON LIFE.

JANE ADDAMS



THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

| DESCRIPTION

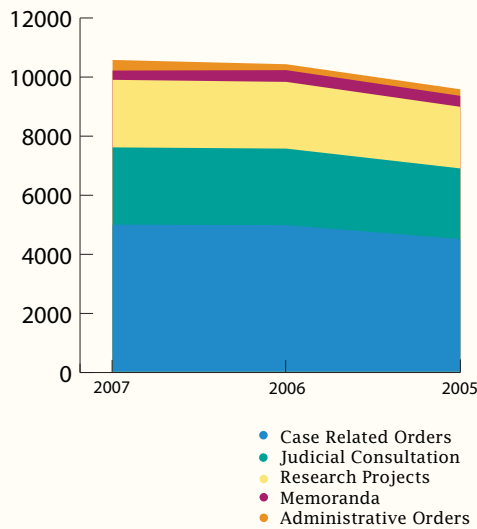
Attorneys are assigned to judges and various divisions to research legal issues, draft legal memoranda, attend evidentiary hearings, and draft proposed final orders. In addition, they review all post conviction relief motions filed by defendants and draft or review all administrative orders.

| GOAL

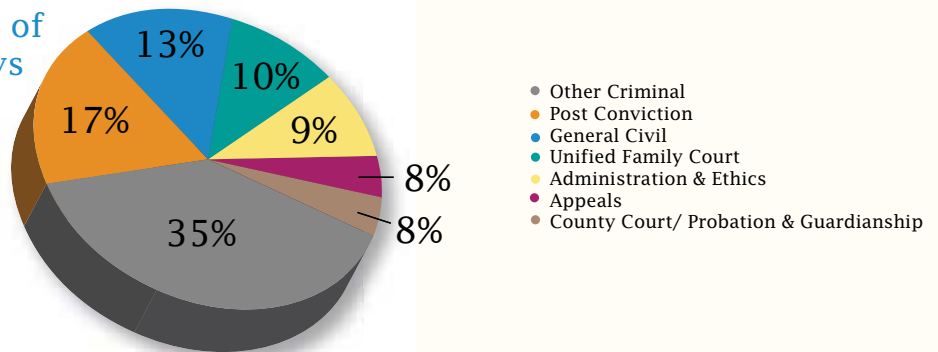
Provide legal advice, counsel, and research to members of the Judiciary and the Administrative Office of the Courts for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit.

| SERVICE VOLUME

2007 Workload

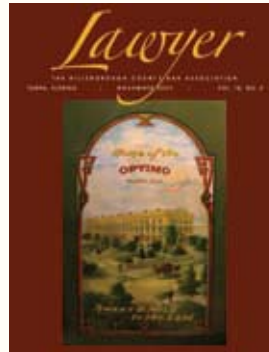


2007 Distribution of Judicial Attorneys



| FEATURED IN LAWYER MAGAZINE

Even Judges Need Legal Assistance



by: David A. Rowland,
Court Counsel
13th Judicial Circuit
November 2007

How do judges in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit cope with the voluminous caseloads and novel legal issues presented to them on a daily basis? In addition to the clerical and case management personnel assigned to assist the judges with their dockets,

judges also have professional legal assistance at their fingertips... These judicial staff lawyers, often confused with still-in-law-school clerks, are full-fledged members of The Florida Bar and assist the court with review of motions and drafting of orders... Last year these lawyers assisted with researching and drafting over 5,000 case-related orders and legal memoranda. Judicial staff counsel also advises the judiciary on whether proposed conduct is consistent with Florida's Code of Judicial Conduct... Judicial staff lawyers are also responsible for drafting or reviewing all administrative orders entered by the chief judge... Over 50% of judicial staff lawyer resources are spent on criminal matters... The length of service of the judicial staff lawyers of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit varies from less than one year to more than 17 years... This varied experience provides the judiciary and Administrative Office of the Courts with both a fresh perspective and an institutional memory on legal and administrative issues that resurface over time. With their practical experience working for the court, judicial staff attorneys are often competitively recruited by law firms and other governmental entities... "Our staff lawyers," stated Chief Judge Manuel Menendez Jr., "are invaluable assets to the court system. Their work allows judges to spend more time hearing and resolving cases in a timely manner. They are, indeed, an essential element to our disposition function."

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| STAFF BY DEPARTMENT

Department	State of Florida	Hillsborough County	Totals
Central Office	3	1	4
Court Communications & Technology Services	2	3	5
Court Facilities	2	9	11
Court Operations	2	0	2
Court Interpreters	9	0	9
Court Reporting	14	0	14
Drug Court	2	8	10
Magistrates, Hearing Officers	18	1	19
Court Personnel	5	1	6
Court Programs	2	0	2
Case Management	19	0	19
Children's Justice Center	1	7	8
Elder Justice Center	3	2	5
Juvenile Diversion Programs	1	8	9
Mediation	11	4	15
Fiscal Affairs	2	2	4
Office of Public Information	6	4	10
Legal Department	20	5	25
Totals	122	55	177

CENTRAL OFFICE

| GOAL

Promote effective administrative policies and court management to support and develop contemporary court operations and serve as a foundation for successful intergovernmental and public-private relations.

| ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Represent the interests of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and participate in policy decisions impacting the court system.

COURT SECURITY

| OBJECTIVES

- Coordinate courthouse security for all law enforcement agencies at federal and local levels
- Emergency preparation and planning
- Coordinate judicial security
- Maintain or establish courthouse design to maximize security systems

| PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Network of security coverage, including Sheriff's Office, U.S. Marshall Service and County
- U.S. Marshall service security advisory
- Network of security coverage, including Sheriff's Office and County
- Video coverage in courthouse and parking area
- Magnetometers at central access points throughout courthouse complex
- Internal mail screening and process to investigate suspicious mail
- Security training for Judges, court staff and others
- Disaster plan to maintain essential court operations

| PLANNING

As part of emergency management planning, the COOP (continuation of operations) plan is continuously reviewed to ensure accurate contact information, include upgraded technology currently available, and include any changes in facilities and post emergency procedures.

Security planning includes extensive coordination with law enforcement agencies and various educational activities to decrease security risks, strengthen potential disaster prevention, mitigation and recovery responses.



A security officer monitors various vantage points within the courthouse

| QUALITY INDICATORS

Security Enhancements | Additional security cameras are being added to provide better coverage in hallways and exterior areas, courtrooms and public areas. Upgrades and additions will be completed to expand the console in the control room.

Emergency Preparedness | Hurricane supplies are made available in the courthouse for use in the event of a disaster that requires emergency operations from the facility. Supplies include overnight provisions in the event that vital court personnel are required to remain at the courthouse for several days.

Enhanced Communication | Send Word Now software is available to immediately provide vital information to court personnel through various forms of communication in the event of an emergency and routinely update contact information.

| OBJECTIVES

- Research and analyze information of value to organizational development
- Promote development, implementation, and maintenance of contemporary performance measures to document court statistics and satisfaction of court users and provide useful information to inform management decisions

| QUALITY INDICATORS

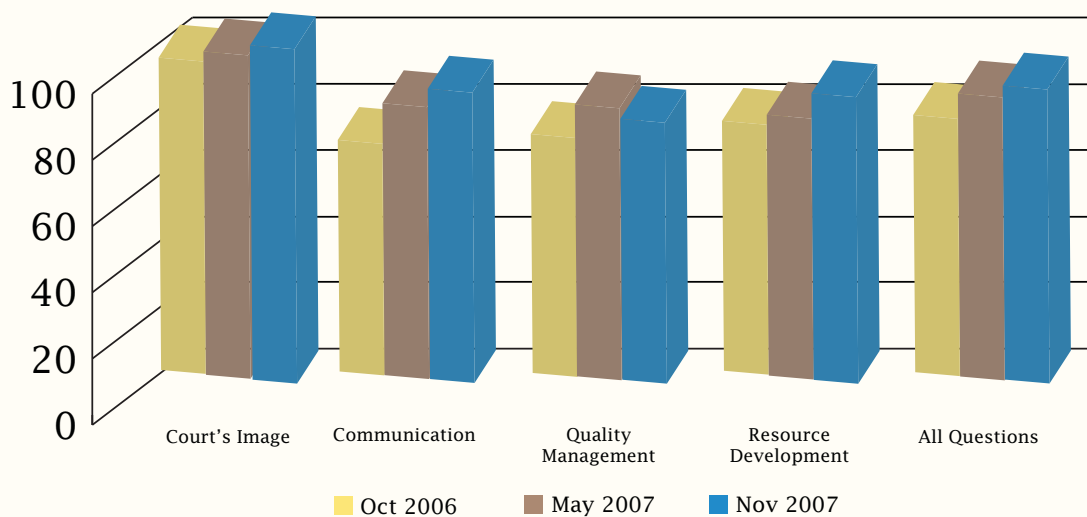
Judges Certification | Every year, new judgeships are requested from the Florida Supreme Court by preparing supporting justification, which includes increases in filings in various divisions of court. One new circuit judge and four county judges were certified for 2008-2009.

Performance Management Report | Annually all performance measures are organized and published within the Performance Management Report, along with descriptive information about the courts and court programs.

Satisfaction Surveys | To assist in the collection of outcome performance measures, an automated survey software has been made available to various departments and programs; the software uses a designated link on the Internet to collect survey responses and calculate results.

Trial Court Issues Report | Research & Development initiated the quarterly preparation of the Trial Court Issues Report which discusses case trends, administrative issues, and research developments impacting the courts.

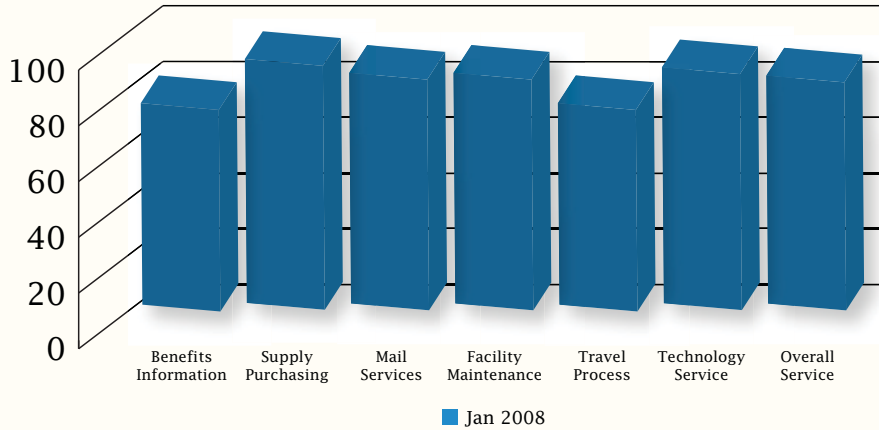
**2007 Employee Satisfaction Survey
for the Administrative Office of the Courts**
Percentage that Answered 'Agree' or 'Strongly Agree'



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

2007 Satisfaction Survey for the Administrative Office of the Courts Routine Services

Percentage that Answered 'Agree' or 'Strongly Agree'



FISCAL AFFAIRS

| DESCRIPTION

Fiscal Affairs supports the efforts of the Court Administrator and Chief Judge in providing the necessary resources to the judiciary to allow them to fulfill their constitutional duties through the timely planning of budgets, the prompt payment of approved billings, and the monitoring of expenditures to comply with State and County requirements and availability of funds.

| GOAL

Support the Court Administrator and Chief Judge in directing and overseeing the budget development, revenue, and disbursement process and maintain accounting records in compliance with County and State policies and professional standards.

| SERVICE VOLUME

County Cash Collections	
Receipts	984
Deposits	132
Deposit Amount	\$231,200

State Cash Collections	
Receipts	251
Deposits	13
Deposit Amount	\$34,314

Invoices	
Total Processed	860
Total Processed within 3 Days	66%

Auditing of Evaluation Invoices	
Evaluations	\$1,850
Evaluated Expenses	\$692,050

COURT PERSONNEL RESOURCES

| GOAL

Provide innovative, yet practical human resource solutions for the Judiciary and Employees of the AOC.

| OBJECTIVES

- Development of Training opportunities that enhance management skills
- Development of non traditional benefits in the workplace that add value to the work life of the staff and contribute to staff retention



Staff members are encouraged to participate in 'Bring Your Child to Work Day'. This annual event is facilitated by Court Personnel Resources

| SERVICE VOLUME

Attendance & Leave Transactions	2,157
County Benefit Actions	198
State Benefit Actions	425
County Open Enrollment Changes	77
State Open Enrollment Changes	1,819
Personnel Action Requests	175
Recruitment / Vacancies	32
New Hires	41
Total Applicants	728
Record Checks	227
Payroll Checks	3,649
Turnover Rate	12.89%

| QUALITY INDICATORS

Diversity Training | "... Florida Supreme Court Justice Fred Lewis entered an administrative order requiring all Florida judges to attend an educational program designed to address diversity... Chief Judge Menendez appointed (Judge Claudia Isom and) the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit's Personnel Director, Heather Thullbery, to head up this effort... the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit judiciary... has been educated and sensitized to this important issue... has now achieved 100% compliance. We look forward to using our knowledge and experience to improve the delivery of justice." "Diversity Training for the Judiciary," Florida Bar Review, by Honorable Claudia R. Isom

Exit Survey | An automated exit survey was implemented to review reasons for turnover when someone resigns. Information gathered from exit interviews is used to measure job satisfaction and target areas for improvement.

General Training | As part of a work/life initiative, a series of trainings was provided for court staff on various professional improvement and human interest topics, such as communication skills, ethics, creative problem solving, stress management, and conflict resolution.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

| GOAL

To enhance public access and understanding of the courts through diverse mediums.

| OBJECTIVES

Media | Serve as liaison between judiciary and local and national media

Video Productions | Educate through realistic but entertaining videos about court processes and programs, including a magazine show

Website | Maintain an accessible and useful website

| SERVICE VOLUME

Information Booth Referrals	99,058
Student Tours	446
Law Week Students	679
Website Hits	127,893
Media Requests	447
Response within 2 Hours	100%
Local Media Requests	99%
Video Productions	13
Minutes of Videos Produced	292
Information Requests	547
Response within 2 Days	91%



www.fljud13.org

| TOP 5 WEB PAGES

- Judicial Directory
- Forms
- Divisions of Court
- About Us
- Links

| QUALITY INDICATORS

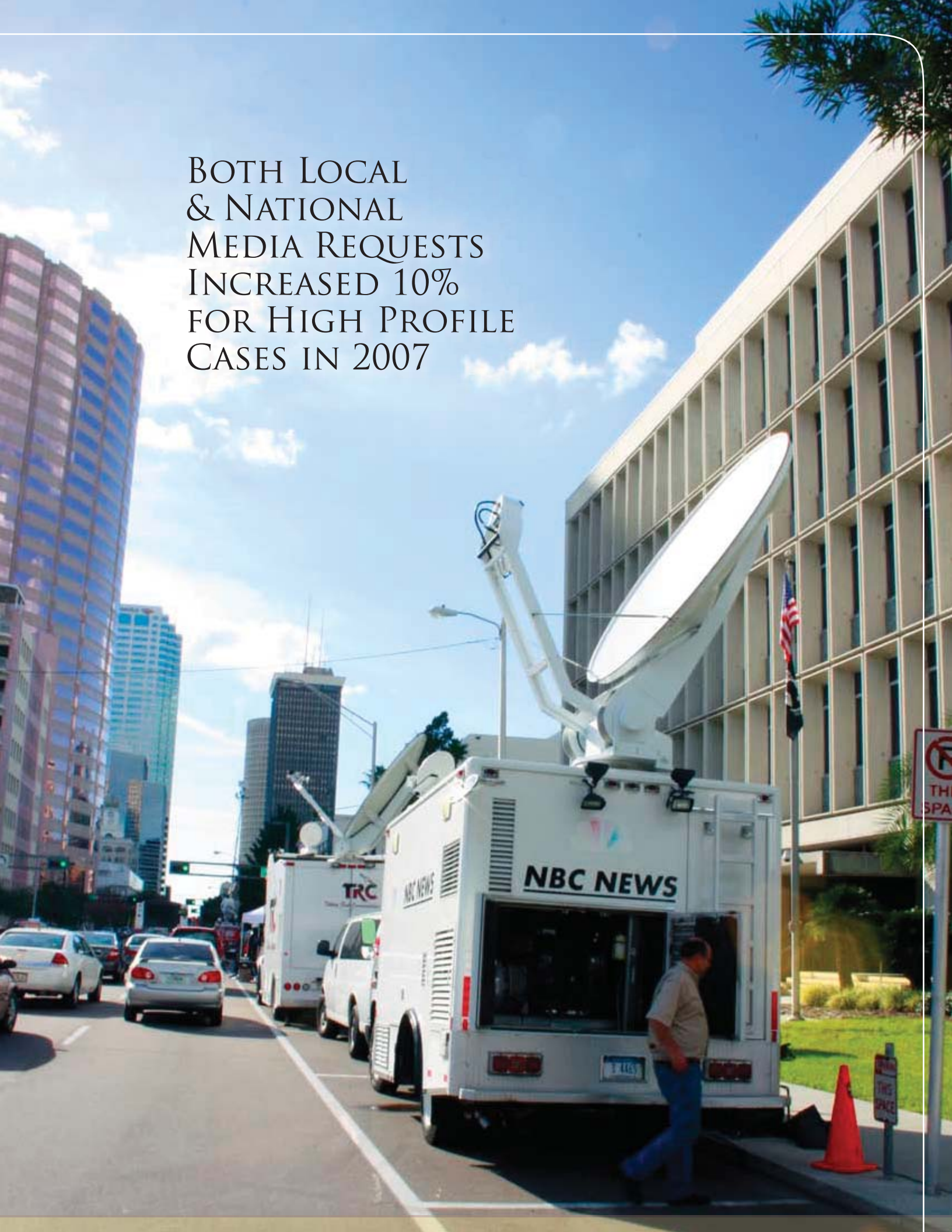
Public Service Announcements (PSA's) were produced using staff for the Justice Files FLA to profile jobs in justice.

Preproduction of first podcasting for Justice Files FLA was completed, Teen Court, moving towards the Internet to serve the court's constituency.



Judge Robert A. Foster, Jr. speaks with a group of children on a court tour guided by the Office of Public Information

BOTH LOCAL
& NATIONAL
MEDIA REQUESTS
INCREASED 10%
FOR HIGH PROFILE
CASES IN 2007



COURT FACILITIES

| GOAL

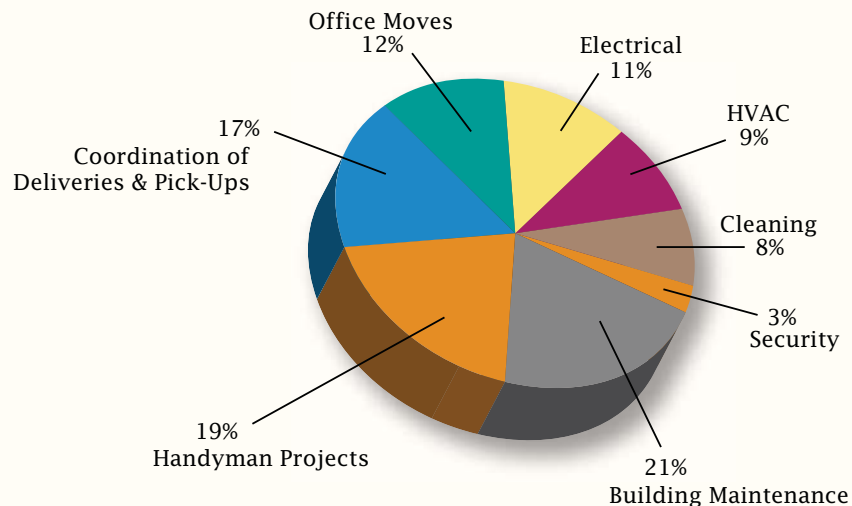
Provide appropriate court facilities maintenance to reduce costs, save energy, monitor safety conditions, and extend the life of property and facilities.

| OBJECTIVES

- To coordinate efficient building maintenance services in-house or in conjunction with the County Facilities
- To facilitate communication among court system professionals through interdepartmental coordination and efficient mail delivery services
- To facilitate space allocation by conducting well organized moves and efficient purchasing procedures
- To continue to address court system facility issues affecting the access to the courts for disabled citizens

| SERVICE VOLUME

2007 Work Orders



| QUALITY INDICATORS

Capital Improvement Projects | In the Edgecomb Civil/Family Courthouse Building, work accomplished in 2007 will provide new Dependency and County Civil courtrooms to become available in 2008; and additional Felony courtrooms will be opening in the Criminal Courthouse Annex. In 2008-2009, renovations to video courtroom, felony and misdemeanor courtrooms are planned.



Multi-Trades worker, Johnny Lopez, hangs a cabinet on the 6th floor of the North Tower, Annex

| GOAL

Provide up-to-date technology and information support to the Judiciary and staff in a timely, courteous and professional manner.

| ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW

CCTS is staffed by a core team which establishes policies and procedures, conducts outsourcing studies, coordinates procurement processes, plans for technology integration, coordinates technology projects with other agencies and resolves issues and prepares budgets and reports.

Help Desk requests for services are directed to a central area and are provided by the appropriate staff or contractors.

| OBJECTIVES

- To use innovative technology to increase citizens' access and convenience in addressing the courts and related services
- To expedite the court's ability to access factual and legal information through the most effective technical method
- To provide efficient technology resources and to maintain and improve existing programs, systems, and networks
- To advance court operational performance by providing consultation and training to expand best practice usage of technology tools
- To participate in the establishment of new court programs and services that implement the Circuit's vision
- To strengthen interagency relationships through communication and collaboration
- To maintain the security and integrity of information and plan for effective recovery in the event of disaster

| OUTSOURCING MODEL



Desktop Support | Presidio, a private organization, provides desktop support through liaison with the Core Team. This includes troubleshooting and ensuring that there are anti-viruses and personal firewalls active on the desktops.

Network Management | Presidio, Inc., a private company, provides maintenance of the network equipment, management of CISCO voIP telephones, VIPR teleconferencing, wireless technology, and network engineering and security, as well as project management services.



Extended Technology Service | Intellis media, a direct service provider of WUSF and subcontractor of Presidio, provides audio engineering services, video and audio technology, network operations, video teleconferencing operations, wiring and cabling for court infrastructure. WUSF also administers the contract for court reporting through a subcontractor, Record Transcripts, Inc.



Document Management Services and Call Center | Xerox provides document management and call center services, through the operation of the Court Business Center.

COURT COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

QUALITY INDICATORS

- New IVR for Facilities Project
- Completed Judicial and Staff Moves
- Extended Wireless Network to Plant City (Private and Public)
- E-Mail Archives Placed on Network Storage
- Completed Wireless Design for First Floor, Annex
- Support for New Help Desk Structure and Extended Helpdesk to WUSF at the Station
- Imaged and Configured New Court Reporter Laptops, New Voice Processors, Control Stations, and Loggers to improve monitoring, playback ability, and create redundancy for Centralized Court Reporting
- Expanded VIPR technology system connecting Judge Sierra's courtroom with jail inmates for child support proceedings saving transportation and security costs
- Docushare scanning for Judge Fuente's orders to allow electronic retrieval
- Completed Infocaster Phase 1 for Edgecomb and Annex Tower 4th floor, placing television screens and monitors to provide scheduling and educational information
- Consolidated servers from 58 to 48 to reduce maintenance costs and power consumption
- Implemented Veritas backup methodology for more efficient file restoration in daily operations and for disaster recovery

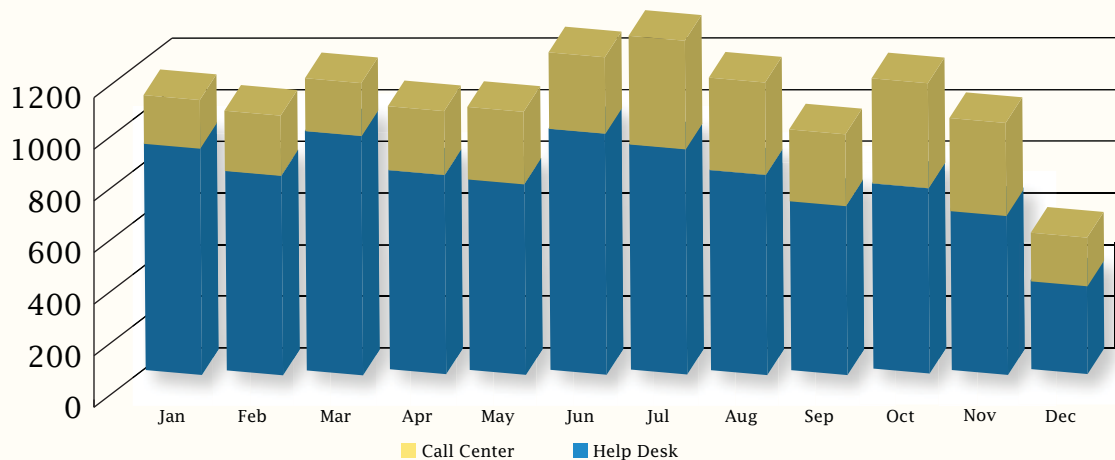
STRENGTHS & BEST PRACTICES

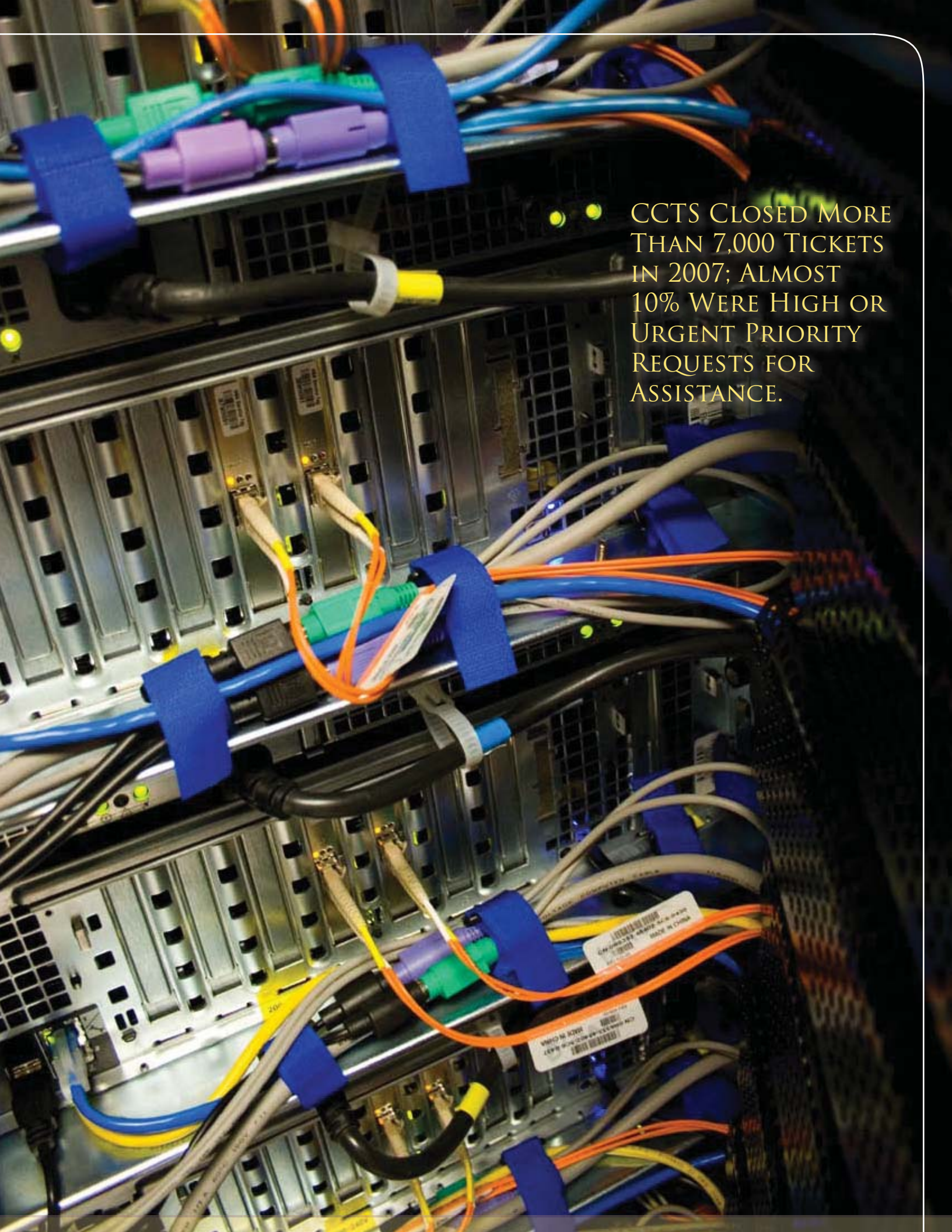
- Information available at the Bench (Laptop Computers with Network Connectivity)
- Remote Access to Email
- Video Court (Preliminary Presentation, Arraignments, Motions, Hearings between Jails & Courthouse, CJC Facility)
- Digital Court Reporting in all County Divisions, Juvenile Divisions, and six Felony Divisions
- Network Security and Monitoring
- Contract/Partnership Model
- End User Training (Tutoring, Classroom)

SERVICE VOLUME

2007 CCTS Help Desk & Call Center Tickets

Jcalendar	2005	2006	2007
Events Scheduled	16,825	110,295	298,105





CCTS CLOSED MORE THAN 7,000 TICKETS IN 2007; ALMOST 10% WERE HIGH OR URGENT PRIORITY REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.

COURT BUSINESS CENTER

| DESCRIPTION

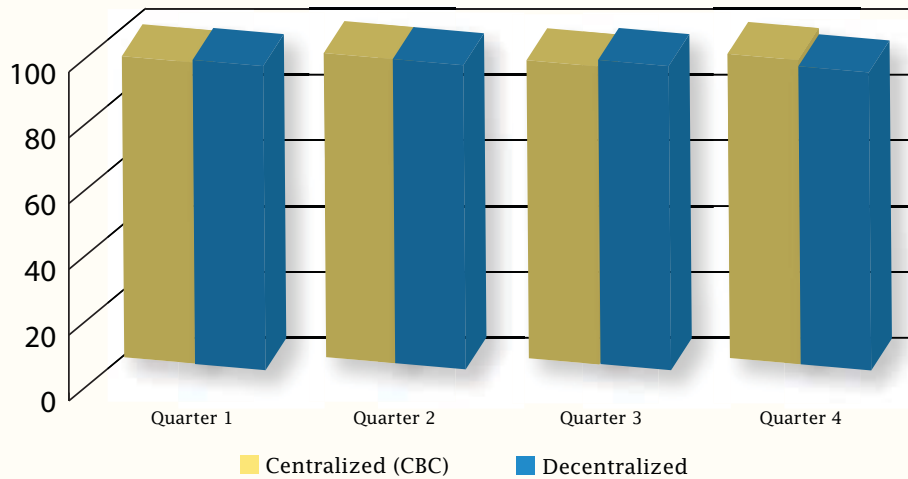
A public/private partnership between the AOC and a private vendor, this document management center maintains and services all copiers within the courthouse complex, as well as operating a full-service document production center. Services are generally available for both the public and court personnel.



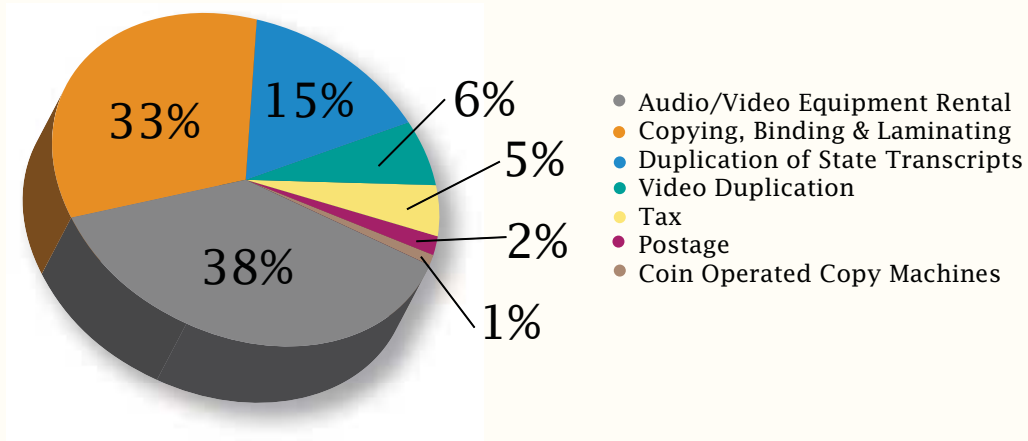
There are 25 decentralized copy machines located throughout the court's facilities

| SERVICE VOLUME

2007 Total Up Time for Copy Machines



2007 CBC Public Transactions



COURT OPERATIONS



An electronic court reporter monitors and indexes remote arraignment hearings from Orient Road & Falkenburg Road jails

| DESCRIPTION

Court Reporting in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit is a hybrid model consisting of an employee staff model providing traditional stenographic services (with real time transcription through computer-aided transcript) to cover nine felony divisions. A contractual model, provided by WUSF, as the general contractor, through its subcontractor Record Transcripts, Inc., directly provides digital court reporting and transcription services to 27 divisions (including Preliminary Presentation, Drug Courts, Juvenile, Domestic Violence, and County Criminal divisions). The contract between the University of South Florida and the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit was executed in July 2003.

| GOALS

- Meet the due process and direct court support needs of criminal and certain other courts through the most cost effective methods.
- Preserve judicial resources through the use of quasi-judicial, auxiliary judges, and criminal court diversion programs, for those cases not requiring any or all services of a presiding division judge.

CIRCUIT COURT REPORTING

| SERVICE VOLUME

Original Transcripts Pages Provided with Court Resources	
Judge or Court Staff	18,102
Private Party or Govt. Entity	15,560
State Attorney	11,294
Public Defender	92,751
Court Appointed Counsel	17,696
Indigent for Cost	2,640
Total	158,043

Number of Recording Hours	
Steno	7,278
Digital	24,113
Audio	4,813
Total	36,204

COURT INTERPRETER CENTER

| MISSION STATEMENT

As mandated by F.S. 90.606 to serve non-English speaking and hearing impaired by interpreting and translating in accordance

with due process, and to serve the judiciary with integrity, ethics, and professional skills.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Case Types	Spanish	Haitian-Creole	Other	Sign	Translations # of Pages
Circuit Criminal & Criminal Contempt	6,746	32	91	97	21
County Criminal & Criminal Contempt	11,580	17	67	41	0
Dependency/CINS/FINS	836	10	6	25	0
Delinquency	899	0	4	6	0
Baker/Marchman/Guardianship	8	0	0	4	0
Domestic Violence Injunctions	931	2	13	17	0
Magistrate/CSHO for Family Law, Title IV-D	429	5	3	19	0
Other Case Types	1	0	0	2	0
Total	21,430	66	184	211	21

Total Number of Interpreter Events - 21,912

DRUG COURT

| MISSION STATEMENT

Increase the public safety of Hillsborough County residents by reducing crime and costs of criminal activity by diverting

substance abuse offenders into community based treatment programs under extended intensive judicial supervision.

| GOALS

- Provide quality programs that offer judicial supervision and access to substance abuse treatment.
- Support the community goal of reducing substance abuse and its impact on the citizens of Hillsborough County.
- Educate parents and juveniles to recognize the initial signs of substance abuse and encourage them to provide information and structure.
- Empower juvenile substance abuse offenders to move forward with their lives to achieve positive individual goals.
- Assist adult substance abuse offenders to become drug and crime free productive citizens.
- Provide juvenile and adult offenders the opportunity to complete supervision and have their charges dismissed.

DRUG COURT

| FAMILY DEPENDENCY | MISSION STATEMENT

To establish a safe and nurturing environment for children by providing Court-enforced community-based services and specialized treatment to families impacted by substance abuse.

| FAMILY DEPENDENCY | GOALS

- Increase the number of children reunified in safe environments.
- Parents free of substance abuse.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Drug Court	
PTI Dispositions	194

Drug Division	
Evaluations	263
Updates	3,625
New Intakes	248
Successful Terminations	199
Unsuccessful Terminations	104

Juvenile Drug Court	
Average # of Offenders in Program per Month	229
Intakes	219
Successful Terminations	158
Unsuccessful Terminations	36
Referrals from Hillsborough School System	212



Drug Court Specialists, Jim Downum & Nickolle Lindo joined New York Yankee Derek Jeter (center) at the dedication ceremony for the opening of the Derek Jeter Center at Phoenix House

| QUALITY INDICATORS

Jim Downum is a consultant for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; all court staff are members of the National Association of Drug Court professionals, and most are certified drug counselors.

In the Family Dependency Drug Court, an initial research study was conducted by USF Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, Department of Mental Health Law and Policy. Client outcome data collected at the intake and six month follow-up shows an increase in employment, social connectedness, and housing stability as well as a decrease in substance use and criminal justice involvement during the past month.

% of Adults Receiving Services Who Had/Were	#	% at Intake	% at 6 Month
No Past Month Substance Abuse	19	58%	90%
Currently Employed or Engaged in Productive Activities	19	32%	42%
Socially Connected	19	79%	100%
No or Reduced Involvement w/ the Criminal Justice System	19	79%	95%
A Permanent Place to Live	19	39%	44%

SENIOR JUDGES



The Honorable Ralph Steinberg swears in a witness

| DESCRIPTION

Retired judges who wish to remain active and offer assistance to the circuit are approved for recall by order of the Florida Supreme Court. These senior judges are vested with all necessary powers to complete judicial assignments. They are used for lengthy trials and special category cases; educational, professional or personal absence of a presiding judge; vacancies and cases requiring out-of-circuit judges.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Days Allotted	451
Days Given to Other Circuits	25
Days Received from Other Circuits	30
New Allotment	456
Balance of Allotment	19

| SERVED IN 2007

Hon. Robert Beach
 Hon. William Blackwell
 Hon. James Case
 Hon. Crocket Farnell
 Hon. Daniel Gallagher

Hon. Thomas Gallen
 Hon. John Gilbert
 Hon. Roland Gonzalez
 Hon. Oliver Green
 Hon. Karl Grube

Hon. Perry Little
 Hon. Elvin Martinez
 Hon. Robert Michael
 Hon. Ralph Steinberg
 Hon. J. Tim Strickland

EXPERT WITNESSES

| DESCRIPTION

Expert witnesses, appointed by the courts, are paid pursuant to Florida Statute. An expert witness is a person who, by reason of his or her special knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education, is qualified to express an opinion or give expert testimony as required by the court.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Competency Evaluation Invoices Processed	
Circuit Criminal	1,322
County Criminal	81
Juvenile Delinquency	285
Baker/Guardianship	241
Juvenile Dependency	28
Family Court /All Other	64
Total	2,021

| DESCRIPTION

To leverage scarce judicial resources, and pursuant to Judicial Rules of Administration and Rules of Procedure, the Chief Judge may appoint magistrates and hearing officers to hear cases and make recommendations for judicial review.

Magistrates and hearing officers are quasi-judicial officers who conduct formal court hearings, take testimony and evaluate evidence. At the end of each hearing, he or she prepares a written report which contains recommendations as to what action the judge should take in the case. Either party may file written exceptions to reports within ten days. If no exceptions are filed, the court typically enters an order approving the recommendations.

The Chief Judge appoints a magistrate, pursuant to an administrative order, to hear and consider Baker Act and Marchman Act proceedings. These proceedings are related to involuntary placement for treatment based on a severe mental, emotional or behavioral disorder, or substance abuse. The Chief Judge also appoints magistrates, pursuant to Florida

Family Rules of Procedure, to hear and make recommendations on post-judgment family matters and specific prejudgment temporary relief family law matters. Magistrates also hear cases pursuant to Florida Rules of Juvenile Procedure related to dependency actions.

The Chief Judge appoints hearing officers for proceedings related under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act involving the establishment, modification and enforcement of support, foreign orders and determinations of arrears including those of assistance debt owed to the State. Additionally, hearing officers handle all civil traffic infractions, except those filed in conjunction with criminal traffic offenses or cases involving personal injury or death or cases transferred to a county judge pursuant to Florida Statutes.

General Magistrates and Hearing Officers serve at the pleasure of the Chief Judge of the circuit and perform their duties under the supervision of the administrative judge of their respective division.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Child Support Cases	Establishment	Modification	Enforcement	Total
Cases Referred	5,739	1,477	4,665	11,881
Hearings Held	5,753	1,705	5,591	13,049
Recommended Orders Signed	5,599	1,648	5,324	12,571

- Establishment – cases without a previous court decision relating to child support matters
- Modification – cases with a previous court decision relating to child support matters in which there is a request to modify a child support amount
- Enforcement – cases with a request to enforce a previous judgment or decision

Dependency Cases	
Hearings Held	7,500

GENERAL MAGISTRATES & HEARING OFFICERS



Hearing Officer, Lila Stello, swears in a defendant at a Child Support hearing using VIPR technology

| SERVICE VOLUME

Probate, Guardianship & Mental Health | Main Hearing Statistics

Clerk's Incapacity & Guardianship	109
Significantly Contested Incapacity & Guardianship	28
Emergency Temporary Guardian	21
Guardian Advocate	52
Minor Guardianship	7
Misc. Post Establishment Guardianship	80
Suggestion of Capacity / Restoration	5
Order to Show Cause / Case Management / Status	42
Order to Produce or Appear	182
Baker Act with Full Hearing / Reports	247
Baker Act with Brief Report	1,173
Coverage of Marchman Act, Tuberculosis & Adult Protective Hearings	16
Total Hearing	1,962

Probate, Guardianship & Mental Health | Non-Hearing Statistics

Guardian Fee Petitions	117
Inventories, Accountings and Plans	1,539
Conference Calls / Meetings	80
Files Forwarded / Reviewed / Action Taken	436
Total	2,172

Total Hearing & Non-Hearing - 4,134

COURT PROGRAMS

| GOAL

Develop and maintain model programs to assist with judicial responses when complex issues are presented involving children, elders, and families who are seeking alternatives to formal judicial processes or require connection to services designed to reduce recidivism, lower crime and rebuild lives among the courts' participants.

CASE MANAGEMENT UNIT

| TYPES OF CASES

- Dissolution of Marriage
- Temporary Legal Custody
- Name Changes
- Stepparent Adoptions
- Paternity
- Child Support and Alimony
- Visitation
- Emergency Motions
- Child Pick-Up Orders



Selena Schoonover, Yvette Boatwright and Christine Mukherjee review Case Management files

| DESCRIPTION

The Case Management Unit assists the judges within the Unified Family Court by identifying families in the court system that have more than one case active in the unified divisions, monitoring the progress of cases from initiation to disposition, and providing referral services to families that need immediate assistance in one or more aspects of their lives. Case management services are utilized in domestic relations divisions to focus on the pro se party, in dependency to provide assistance gathering information and providing coordination to increase the likelihood of meaningful hearings. These important services are in place with the ultimate goal of moving families, cases, and children through their often difficult court proceedings as smoothly and quickly as possible while preserving the integrity of the process.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Domestic Relations	
Attorney Filed Cases	4,311
Pro Se Filed Cases	4,109
Total Attorney & Pro Se	8,420
Total Cases Disposed	9,630
Total Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	3,410
% of Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	35%
Attorney Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	1,698
Pro Se Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	1,712
Total Attorney & Pro Se Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	3,410
% of Attorney Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	50%
% of Pro Se Cases Disposed 0 - 90 Days	50%

CASE MANAGEMENT

| PROCESS

The Case Management Unit is structured to serve specialized focus areas which include family law cases, dependency matters, and a new independent living court designed to assist juveniles age 16 or older. The presiding judge in all of the specialized focus areas may also address domestic violence issues.

The focus of each specialized area of the Case Management Unit follows specific guidelines to ensure that cases are addressed in a timely manner.

New family law cases are automatically set for an initial case management conference within 90 days. At the initial case management conference, the parties inform the judge on the status of the case. The judges can determine at that hearing what needs to be done to advance the case and also identify high conflict cases. The case managers review and prepare all files prior to the hearing and attend the hearings.

Family Court assists the judiciary with high conflict cases by coordinating family support services. These services raise awareness of the potential negative impact of divorce on children and reorient parents to focus on solutions and to act in their children's best interests.

In Dependency cases, the statutory mandate is to have every case reach permanency within one year of a child's removal from the home in which there have been allegations of abuse or neglect or when a child has been surrendered for adoption.

Independent Living Court assists dependent children as they prepare to exit the foster care system. Court hearings are set for reviews, case planning, and any issues or problems the teen is having. Independent Living Court encourages a focus on the future, including continuing education.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Dependency	
Shelters	531
Dependency Petitions	419
Non-Shelter Petitions	50
Opened Cases in 2007	460
Total Cases Tracked Since 2002	5,340

| FAMILY LAW ADVISORY GROUP (FLAG)

The Family Law Advisory Group was established by Chief Judge Manuel Menendez, Jr. in December 2001. The Family Law Advisory Group consists of court staff, judges, members of the bar, social service providers, local community leaders and other interested persons or organizations. FLAG meets quarterly to enhance communication among stakeholders and to take advantage of resources within the community. Through the efforts of FLAG, the self help services for pro se parties have been improved. The cross-over divisions are coordinating families' cases that have more than one active case in court at the same time; and the community is working together, has identified and is focusing on some narrowed goals in Dependency.



A group reviews the Safety Focused Parenting Plan Guide developed by the Family Law Advisory Group

CHILD CUSTODY INVESTIGATIONS

| MISSION STATEMENT

To provide the court with a written report which entails family history, facts, and observations through which the judges and attorneys can become educated about the family dynamics. To allow custody issues to be analyzed and determine what will most benefit and protect the best interest of the minor child and assist in determining placement.

| SERVICE VOLUME

New Cases - Orders Requesting Investigation	96
Total Amount Billed	\$92,815
Total Amount Received	\$87,648
Collection Rate	94%
Closed Cases	79

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER

| MISSION STATEMENT

To serve the community by providing a neutral, child-friendly atmosphere to children who are exposed to an adult court system.



| GOALS

- To promote a safe environment for child victims who have entered the judicial system due to alleged victimization.
- To provide children and families with resources that can build and reinforce safe and protective factors.
- To educate, train and increase collaboration among professionals, law enforcement and court personnel to ensure quality services to children.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Forensic Interviews Completed	311
Visitations Completed	1,944
Tapes Released	256
Depositions Completed	289

| QUALITY INDICATORS

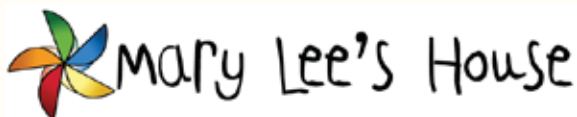
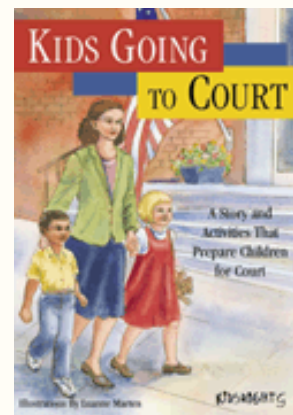
- Supervised Visitation Program staff developed and implemented a new child orientation process. New Program policies, procedures, and training tools were developed and implemented.
- Interagency Training - The CJC provided training to 107 DCF Child Abuse Investigators and Hillsborough County Police Officers on "How to Talk to Children" at the onset of an investigation. Out of the participants surveyed, 100% of the participants indicated that they learned something from the training that would help them while working with children in an investigation.
- The AOC has taken the lead role in coordinating justice system programs and ancillary programs related to dependency proceedings.
- Task Force members visited Child Advocacy Centers located in Miami, Orlando, Ocala, and Niceville, Florida.

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER

| QUALITY INDICATORS

- "Stop Child Abuse" License Plate | The tag generated \$2,500 in revenue for the Children's Advocacy Center Foundation in 2007.
- Kids Going to Court – A Story and Activities | The CJC continues to coordinate the Kids Going to Court – A Story and Activities that prepare children for court (Publisher KIDSRIGHTS) for children ages 3 – 10. The Children's Advocacy Center Foundation paid for the books through a grant from Citigroup Corporation. The books have been supplied to the State Attorney's Office Victim's Assistance Program.

Mary Lee's House | The AOC continues to be the lead agency for the planning and organization of the development of Mary Lee's House. Mary Lee's House will be the home to multi-disciplinary partners, where children with allegations of abuse can receive comprehensive assessments and services "under one roof." Fund raising by the Mary Lee's House Board of Directors continues. Groundbreaking occurred on October 30, 2007.



Chief Judge Manuel Menendez, Jr. with dignitaries at the groundbreaking of Mary Lee's House



Children's
**Justice
Center**
Supervised
Visitation Program

STAFF & CONTRACTORS SUPERVISED 1,944 VISITATIONS ORDERED BY DEPENDENCY & FAMILY LAW JUDGES IN 2007



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

| MISSION STATEMENT

To promote public safety by providing a program to offer treatment to domestic violence offenders and their victims.

| APPROVED DV SERVICE PROVIDERS

14 Week Program

Brandon Psychiatric Association
Intervention Enterprises, Inc.
Joni Stewart, L.C.S.W.
Western Judicial Services
Robert Wright, Ph.D. & Associates

26 Week Program

Brandon Psychiatric Association
James A. Haley, Veteran's Hospital at
MacDill Airforce Base
Intervention Enterprises, Inc.
Joni Stewart, L.C.S.W.
Western Judicial Services
Robert Wright, Ph.D. & Associates

52 Week Program

Intervention Enterprises, Inc.
Joni Stewart, L.C.S.W.
Robert Wright, Ph.D. & Associates

| SERVICE VOLUME

Probation & Diversion Assessments Ordered	861
Probation & Diversion Successful Terminations	464

| QUALITY INDICATORS

Quotes from Anonymous Client Evaluation Forms

What I Learned...

"Self control! You do have choices."
"Not to blame others for my mistakes"
"That my actions affect others"

The Teachers Helped...

"By giving examples and solutions for better outcomes in relationships"
"All that I thought I knew is nothing compared to what I learned. I learned not only from the teachers, but from the students as well."

What I Liked about the Program...

"At first nothing, but then I began to realize some of the ways I had been controlling. I learned how to react without controlling in a calm and fair fashion."
"I acquired coping skills that I can use not just for relationships but life in general."
"I hated group at first but it is now a lifesaver."

What Helped Me...

"I have broken the cycle of violence and have a chance of being loved."
"I never realized how I harmed my children until group."

What I Would Change...

"I wish I had an opportunity to learn DV skills while in high school so I would not have hurt my wife and kids."



| MISSION STATEMENT

To provide community-based alternatives to formal court handling of juvenile offenders and their families; to provide timely intervention with meaningful and accessible sanctions, designed to address the needs of each participant and the wellbeing of the community.

| GOALS

- To acknowledge and compensate victims and the community for monetary losses and other damages and reinforce the concept of accountability and good citizenship.
- To assist youths and their families in acting responsibly in the aftermath of an offense.
- To protect youths by educating them about real life consequences that can follow risky and criminal behavior.
- To improve school attendance and lower the number of disheartened youth.
- To contribute to the prevention of juvenile crime and prevent recidivism in first time offenders.
- To reinforce the parents' authority within the family when it has been challenged and to offer the family this opportunity to revisit behavior and discipline guidelines.
- To educate and mentor middle and high school student volunteers regarding citizenship and the court process through Teen Court hearings and mentoring.
- To help identify those youth requiring intensive mental health or criminal justice interventions.



Juveniles paint over graffiti as part of their restitution

JUVENILE DIVERSIONARY PROGRAMS

| SERVICE VOLUME

Cases Referred	
Juvenile Arbitration	739
Teen Court	357
Neighborhood Accountability Boards	297

Shock Education Referrals	
Graduated	87%
Failed	13%

Sanctions Completed by Youth / Family	
Substance Evaluations / Treatment	233
Random Drug Screening	117
Domestic Violence Program	55
Individual / Family Counseling	118
Anger Management	89
Derrick Brooks / Urban League	60
Restitution Collected	25,200
Service Hours Completed	8,052

Volunteer Hours	Individuals	Hours
Teen Court		
Pro Bono Attorneys	28	398
Middle / High Students	269	1,763
Neighborhood Acc. Boards		
Citizens	84	1,200

| QUALITY INDICATORS

There are currently 11 Hillsborough County NABs located throughout the community. Hillsborough County leads the state in longevity, number of neighborhoods involved, and number of conferences held.

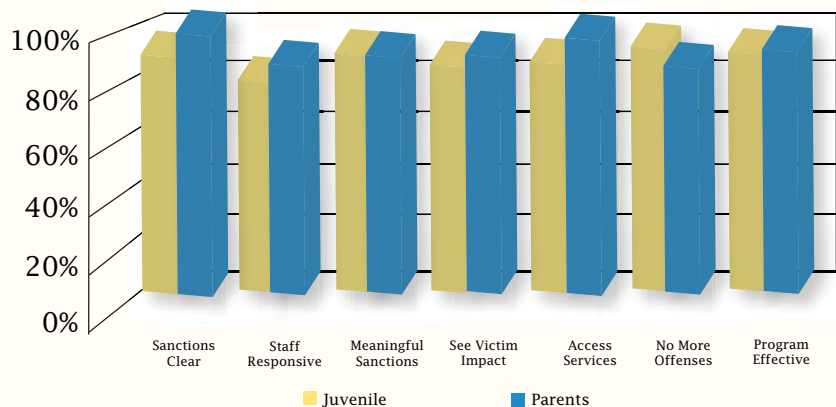


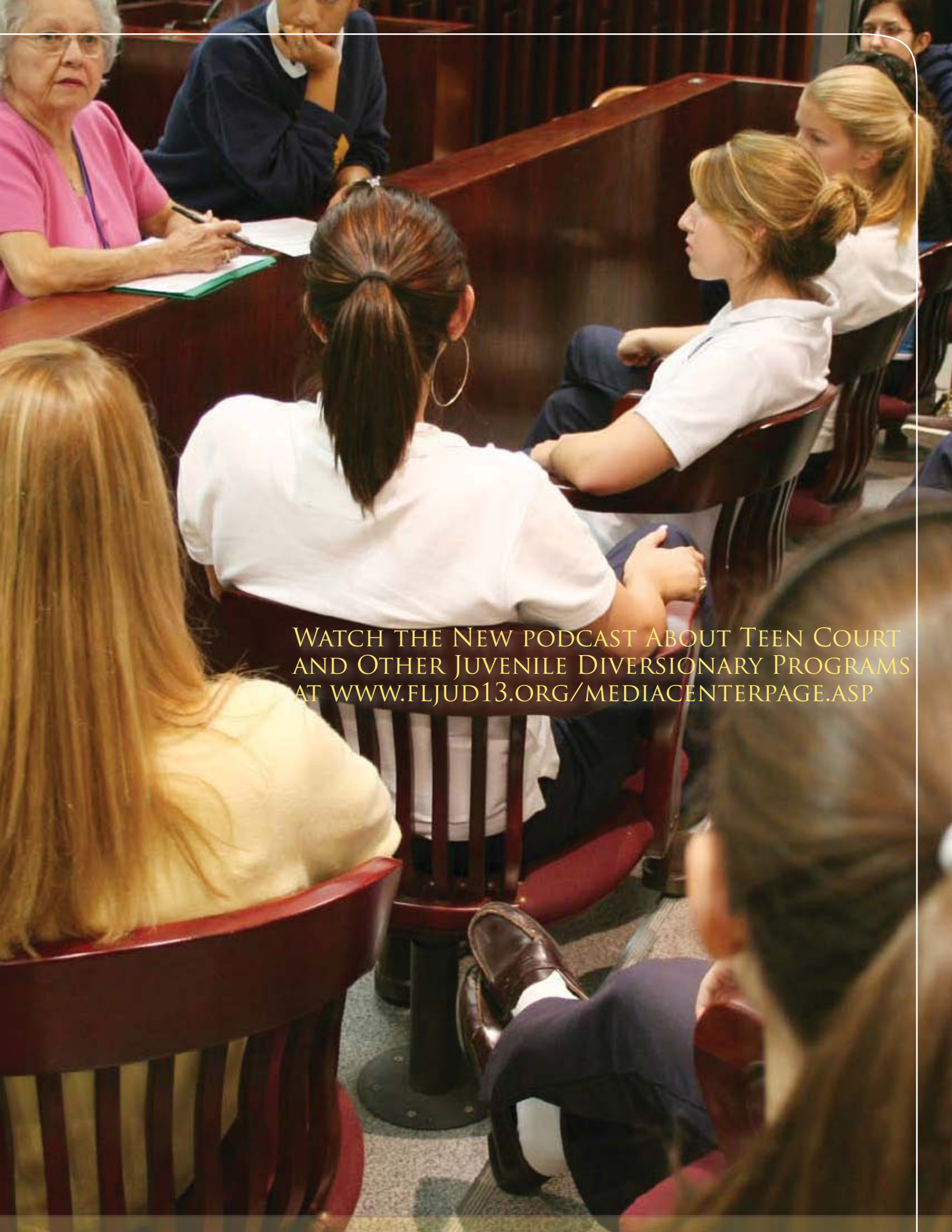
The article, "Neighborhood Accountability Boards – The 13th Circuit's Way," was published in Court Manager, a publication of the National Association for Court Management, Winter 2007 edition, subsequent to receiving the Justice Achievement Award in 2006.

| QUALITY INDICATORS

2007 JDP Client Satisfaction Survey

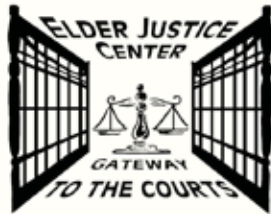
% that Answered 'Agree' or 'Strongly Agree'





WATCH THE NEW PODCAST ABOUT TEEN COURT
AND OTHER JUVENILE DIVERSIONARY PROGRAMS
AT WWW.FLJUD13.ORG/MEDIACENTERPAGE.ASP

ELDER JUSTICE CENTER



| MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure that the elderly in the circuit are accorded a fair and reasonable voice in, and access to, the courts; to remove barriers and enhance linkages between older adults, the court system, and medical, social and legal

| GOALS

- To provide a designated facility to respond to the needs of the older adults.
- To coordinate access to existing agencies who presently provide services to older adults.
- To provide public education for older adults and those who work with them regarding the role of the courts in assisting older adults.
- To provide, where needed, appropriate short-term case management services.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Total Referrals	367
Guardianship Cases Reviewed	2,288
Wards	1,623
Attendance at Presentations	996

| QUALITY INDICATORS

- The Elves for Elders Gift Drive (EJC and Aging Solutions) collected and distributed to elderly wards over 500 gift cards (ranging from \$5 to \$75), \$10,000 in case donations to the Ward's Gift Fund; and every ward under public guardianship was adopted by multiple elves.
- EJC became a member of the National Guardianship Association in 2007, providing the program with many new networking and educational opportunities. As a result, staff engaged and gleaned information from experienced guardianship professionals from all over the country, with expertise that directly relates to guardianship laws, cases, reporting requirements and monitoring.
- General Magistrate Sean Cadigan, director of EJC, started writing a regular Q & A column in the Hillsborough Chapter of the Florida Statewide Guardianship Association for the benefit of professional guardians, guardianship attorneys and the family guardians they represent.
- "Thank you! I've already had several people e-mail me to be sure they're on the mailing list. They've heard about the newsletter by word of mouth from the board of directors who have received a draft. I think your column is going to go a long way to helping us all do a better job." Joe Ellen Rowe, Board Member of the Hillsborough Chapter of the Florida Statewide Guardianship Association.



IT WAS ONCE SAID THAT THE MORAL TEST OF GOVERNMENT IS HOW THAT GOVERNMENT TREATS THOSE WHO ARE IN THE DAWN OF LIFE, THE CHILDREN; THE TWILIGHT OF LIFE, THE ELDERLY; AND THOSE WHO ARE IN THE SHADOWS OF LIFE, THE SICK, THE NEEDY AND THE HANDICAPPED.

HUBERT HUMPHREY

MEDIATION & DIVERSION SERVICES

| MISSION STATEMENT

To provide high quality, professional mediation services for Hillsborough County disputants, at a reasonable cost, in a cordial and comfortable environment. To serve the

court and the community in the resolution of disputes in a timely and efficient manner, and to instill confidence and satisfaction in all those we serve.

| SERVICE VOLUME

Total Mediations	
Referrals	8,913
Hearings	5,564
Settled	2,831
Percentage Resolved	51%

Circuit Civil	
Referrals	137
Hearings	98
Settled	43
Percentage Resolved	44%

Family	
Referrals	4,536
Hearings	2,797
Settled	1,634
Percentage Resolved	58%

County	
Referrals	3,374
Hearings	2,462
Settled	1,032
Percentage Resolved	42%

Community	
Referrals	431
Hearings	47
Settled	25
Percentage Resolved	53%

Southshore Community Justice Center	
Referrals	111
Hearings	26
Settled	19
Percentage Resolved	73%

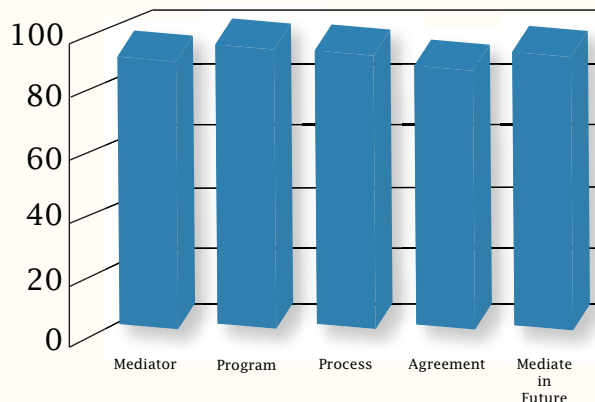
Juvenile Restitution	
Referrals	250
Hearings	109
Settled	76
Percentage Resolved	70%



| QUALITY INDICATORS

2007 Mediation Client Satisfaction Survey

% that Answered
'Agree' or
'Strongly Agree'



COMMUNITY

CONNECTION 13th



Wagner Pena and Olga Rocha guide Teen Court Jurors during the deliberation process

Judge Isom reviews a script with an "attorney" for a mock trial during 'Bring Your Child to Work Day'



Teen Court "attorneys" reflect on their upcoming arguments before the jury hears them



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Judge Cook pauses after uniting a family during Adoption Day



Judge Myers talks about his role as a judge to students from Progress Village Academy



Judge Lefler invites second grade students from St. Lawrence Academy to join him behind the bench



Judge Espinosa congratulates Shane, during Florida's statewide drug court graduation

My Graduation Speech by Shane, Drug Court Grad

In the beginning of this journey I was homeless and hopeless.

I was an empty shell of a person. I had no aspirations and I didn't want to change. Of course I wanted my children back and was prepared to do whatever it took but at first I was looking for ways to beat the system. Basically I wanted to keep using and get my children back. Thankfully, there were no ways that I could come with to beat this particular process.

After I finally resigned myself to the fact that I couldn't defeat, I was quickly caught up in and excited about my quest for recovery and a new way of life. Sure it was tough and there were policies, procedures, and beliefs that I didn't agree with but I bit my tongue and endured or as Judge Espinosa loves to say, stayed ever vigilant.

Thanks to Judge Espinosa and the entire assembled table, including the bailiffs, I have found a new way of life and I am continuously improving it. I believe I am a much improved father and person. I have always maintained a decent relationship with my children, but now I have a fantastic relationship with them. A prime example is that I no longer have to keep secrets or hide from them because I am too high to cope with them.

Through this process I have learned many things. Things about myself, dealing with other people, my children, addiction, vigilance, but most importantly I have been awakened to the fact that my actions will either benefit or harm my children. Every action, no matter how large or how small affects my children.

Friends, that is how I think of Judge Espinosa and everyone else working on my case. They have consistently shown that they truly care for me and my family and that they have our best interest at heart. That's a lot more than I can say for any friends I had before. They have inspired me. I want to give back. They are the reason that I plan to go back to school to become a drug court counselor.

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Judge Peacock and Bailiff Bowers greet students and answer questions during Law Week



A juvenile drug court graduate, Samuel, shows off his certificate of achievement

My Drug Court Essay by Samuel, Juvenile Drug Court Grad

The program has been excellent for me, it has helped me matured and even become more intelligent. I have learned a great deal of information that I couldn't even imagine. It has been very good for me.

The first two months I asked myself why do I have to do this (program) because I really thought that it won't go to help me at all, to me it was a waste of time. But as time passed I realized that it was all for the best, it was all about me and how well I would do in the future. Then I began to be more interested, I paid more attention and learned to appreciate it.

The groups are formed like in school, but smaller. I think it's marvelous because the smaller group makes it easier to learn and understand where I was wrong.

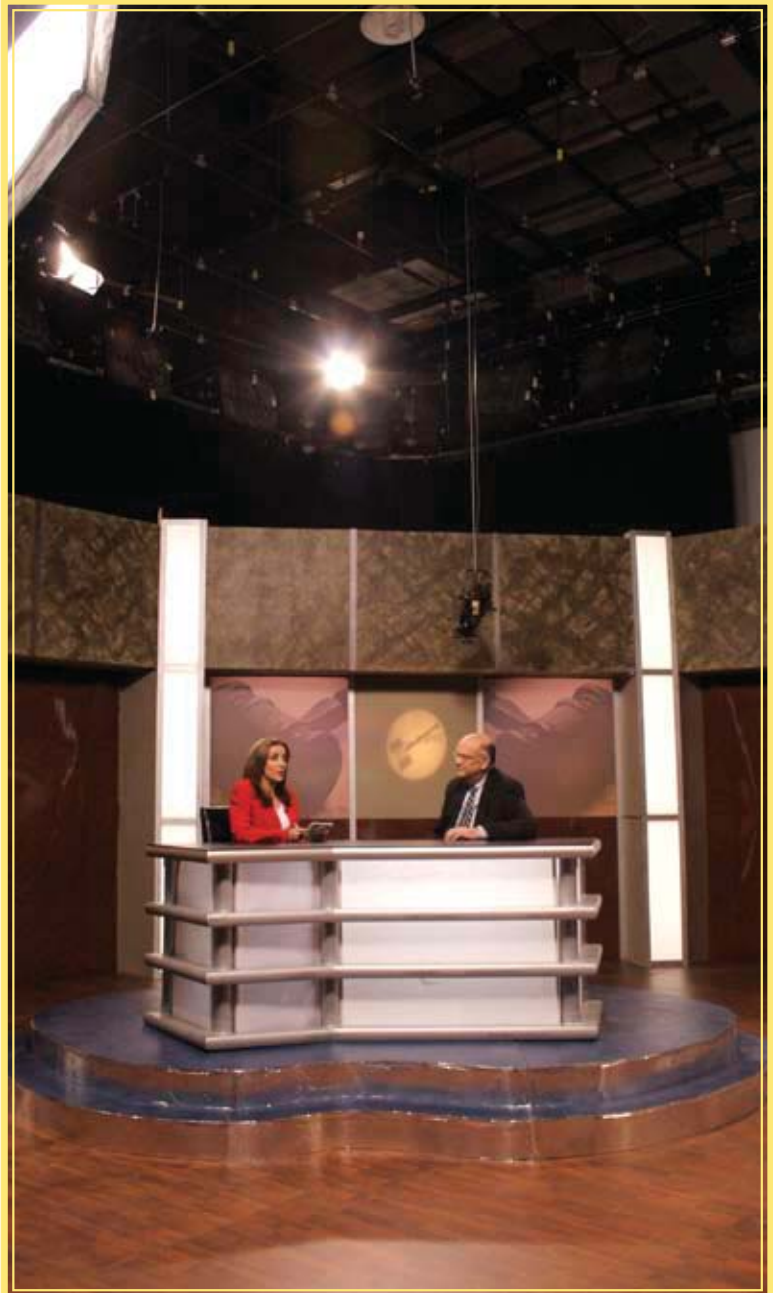
My counselor is excellent with all of us. She is strict but tender at the same time. She takes her time to make sure you understand and learn something new. She is awesome, she knows how to do her job and to me she's the best.

The U/A (urine analysis) testing is the easiest part of the program. As long as you are clean you feel so good about going in and knowing that there is nothing to worry about.

Thanks to this program, my counselor and the staff. I now see life clearly, different and better.



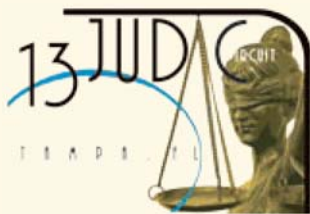
Chief Judge Manuel Menendez , Jr.
speaks at the unveiling of the
Lady of Justice statue



The *Justice Files FLA* television show provides a window into the 13th Judicial Court system, delivering programming that both informs and entertains. During this taping, host Pilar Ortiz interviews Judge Daniel L. Perry about Violation of Probation



Judge Kevin Carey speaks to a group
of Law Week students



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Cover Art | Blake High School for the Arts student, Matthew Young was awarded first place for the 2008 Law Day Art Contest sponsored by the Hillsborough County Bar Association.