

**A Relentless  
Pursuit....**

**Accessibility**

**Impartiality**

**Efficiency**

**Value**

**Accountability**

**Innovation**

**Focus**

**Professional**

**Skill**

**Integrity**

**Service**

**Justice**



# Municipal Court



**Fiscal Year 16 Report**

**John E. Hudson, Presiding Judge**

# CASE FILINGS

FY16

## Civil Protective Orders

Otherwise known as Orders of Protection and Injunctions Against Harassment. In FY16 the Court handled 719 petitions for protective orders. This was an increase of 4% from FY15.



## Civil Violations

Civil Violations include traffic offenses such as Speeding, Parking Violations and Non-Criminal Ordinance offenses such as violating park rules. In FY16 the Court received filings for 23,586 civil violations. This was an increase of 9% from FY15.

## Criminal Violations

Criminal Violations include traffic offenses such as DUI and Misdemeanor violations such as Shoplifting. In FY16 the Court received filings for 7,786 criminal violations. This was a decrease of 5% from FY15.



# COURT PERFORMANCE

FY16

## Access & Fairness

Access & Fairness refers to the impression the Court imparts on a customer based on the experience of the customer. The goal is not that the customer get what he or she wanted, but that the customer had an opportunity to tell his or her side of the story and that the experience was professional. In FY16 there were 27 respondents resulting in scores of 2.2 for access & 3.2 for fairness. The ideal score is 1.



## Clearance Rates

Clearance Rate refers to a court's ability to dispose incoming cases. The goal is to dispose at least as many cases as are received, or 100% or greater. In FY16 the Court achieved a clearance rate of 96%.



## *Courtools*



**Courtools** are a set of 10 performance measures established by the National Center for State Courts. The Gilbert Municipal Court focuses on 6 of the 10 metrics.

1. Access & Fairness
2. Clearance Rates
3. Time to Disposition
4. Age of Active Caseload
5. Trial Date Certainty
6. Reliability & Integrity of Case Files
7. Collection of Monetary Penalties
8. Effective Use of Jurors
9. Employee Satisfaction
10. Cost Per case



# COURT PERFORMANCE

FY16

## Age of Active Caseload

How old are the Court's cases, which are not on warrant status? The court's goal was to resolve, on average, at least 55% of active cases within 90 days. In FY 16 the Court resolved 70% of cases within 90 days.



## Reliability of Case Files

Can the Court quickly locate its case files and do those files contain accurate and complete information? With rare exceptions the Court was able to locate its case files in a timely manner and their contents were complete.

## Collection of Monetary Penalties

Does the Court make reasonable efforts to enforce the payment of fines, fees and restitution? In FY15 the Court collected \$4,195,944, or 53%, of the \$7,845,116 ordered. In FY16 the Court collected \$4,324,969, or 56% of the \$7,662,886 ordered. Total collections were \$7,607,907.



## Cost Per Case

Is the cost per case reasonable in comparison to the justice services delivered relative to similar Courts? In FY16 the court's cost per case was \$99.45 based on new complaints as well as probation revocation and contempt complaints.

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

FY16

## Court Education

In FY16 the Court presented 4 educational seminars attended by court personnel from our own court and courts through out the Phoenix Metropolitan area. The Court is committed to being best in class at presenting dynamic and relevant court education and enhancing the professionalism of court personnel .



Excellence in Court Education Series

## Specialized Courts



In FY16 the Court actively participated in specialized Courts by collaborating on specific cases with Maricopa County's Regional Homeless and Veteran's Courts. These Courts specialize in offering specialized services to their clientele in hopes of bridging the many gaps that may occur due their specific needs and limited resources. FY17 will see the launch of the long awaited East Valley Regional Veterans' Court.

## Teen Court

In FY16, as in previous years, the Court shared its facilities with Maricopa County's Teen Court program. Participants in this program are adjudicated teenagers and peer teenagers acting under the influence of criminal justice professionals. The objective is to impose constructive consequences aimed at positively changing behavior.



# INNOVATION

FY16

## Digital Signature

In FY16 the Court acquired digital signature technology to integrate with the electronic document management module for our case management system. As a result, the court now has the ability to create completely paperless court records in many of our cases.



## Body Worn Camera Video

In FY16 the Court improved justice processing by acquiring new technology to play back video evidence captured by police body worn cameras or other sources in trials. Litigants can play video evidence directly from their tables in the courtrooms or the judge can play the video for the courtroom.



# INNOVATION

FY16

## Electronic Citations

In FY16 the Court worked closely with the Gilbert Police Department, Gilbert Prosecutor's Office and Gilbert's Information Technology Department to implement electronic citations in our court. In FY16, the court received 6,269 Electronic Citations.



## Improved Access to the Court

In FY 16 the Court reorganized its personnel to better serve justice customers directly at our service counters and telephonically. Our mission is to expedite and improve the justice service experience by addressing issues at the first point of contact with court personnel whenever possible. Survey results suggest improvement in this area.



# GOALS FOR FY17

FY17

## Electronic Document Filing

The Court is committed to reducing costs, improving case processing and improving access through the implementation of technology and sound policy & procedure. In FY 17 the Court will work to expand its use of technology to enhance case processing by receiving filings electronically rather than by paper.



## Data Sharing

The Court is committed to cooperating with its justice partners in the sharing of criminal justice data to enhance the pursuit of justice. The Court will work to share relevant data with the Gilbert Prosecutor and Arizona Supreme Court .



# GOALS FOR FY17

FY17

## East Valley Regional Veterans Court

The Court will continue its work to ensure the success of the first Regional Veterans' Court through collaboration with its court partners in the east valley, justice professionals and the Veterans Administration. The program is set to launch in August 2016.



## Fairness & Justice

In FY16 Judge Hudson was appointed to Arizona Supreme Court's Task Force on Fairness and Justice. The Court contributed to best practices and is committed to providing access to a fair justice system and will work to implement reasonable best practices.

