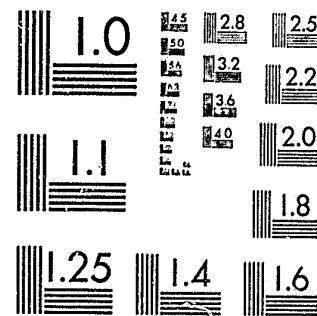


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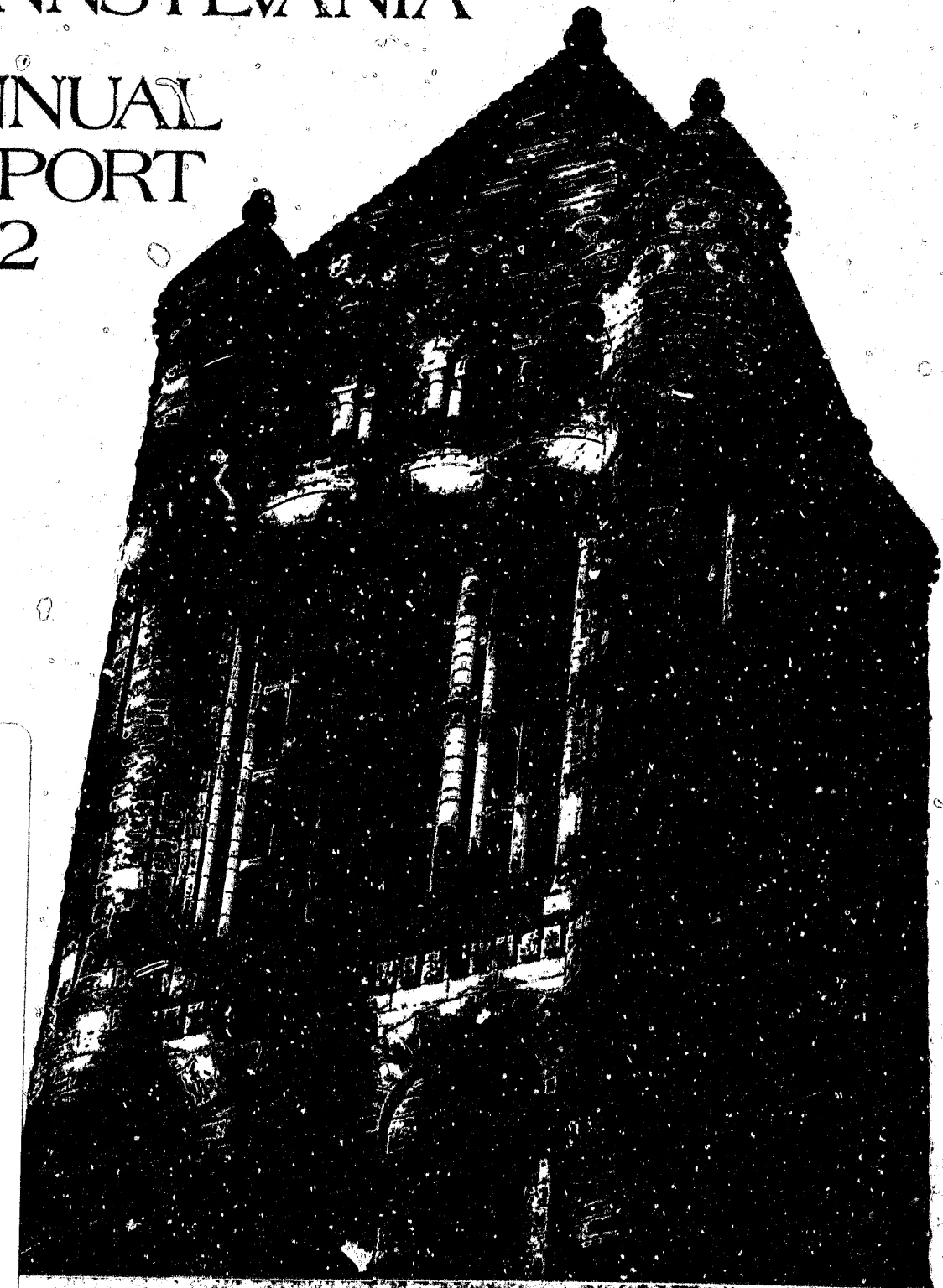
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United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20531

10/6/83

CR-sent 9-9-83

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS ALLEGHENY COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

ANNUAL REPORT 1982



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Common Pleas

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About the cover

Sun shining through cloud formations casts a variety of shades and illuminations on the face of the tower of the Allegheny County Courthouse which houses the Court's Criminal Division and separate offices of the Civil and Family Divisions.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15219

TO: President Judge Michael J. O'Malley and the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, all Court personnel and the Citizens of Allegheny County.

The Court's activities for the year 1982 having been completed, it is with pleasure that I submit the NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania.

This accounting of the Court's activities during the previous year is presented in both statistical and narrative form so as to give a clear and accurate assessment of activity and accomplishments.

The Judges, their staffs, and the directors and personnel of the various Court offices have assisted in the preparation of this information. We are grateful for their generous cooperation.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Starrett, Jr.
Court Administrator

1500
NCJRS

ACQUISITIONS

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Ever-increasing burdens don't impede Court's achievements

by Michael J. O'Malley
President Judge



During the year of 1982 the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County has continued to maintain its record of efficiency. Indeed, our growing national reputation has produced calls from numerous jurisdictions, both within Pennsylvania and outside the state, requesting information concerning our procedures.

We are happy to share with others what we have learned through the years in installing innovative methods and various operational refinements. However, what we cannot impart to them is the dedication of our Bench. Without the consistency of a maximum effort of our Judges, our record for 1982 would not have been as good as 1981. It now appears that we have reached the saturation point in our judicial workload and may have difficulty maintaining our good record unless we receive additional judicial manpower.

Cases in each division of the Court have increased in line with the general increases experienced by most metropolitan jurisdictions throughout the country. A recent study completed by the National Center for State Courts shows that Pennsylvania had 1.3 million more cases in 1981 than it did in 1980. That trend of more case filings is increasing each year.

In 1982 the Legislature passed an act requiring a mandatory sentence of at least five years where a crime was committed and a gun was involved. Also, an act requiring a

mandatory 48 hour incarceration for conviction of Driving Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance became effective in January of 1983. Both of these acts will increase the demands for jury trials, resulting in at least a threefold increased demand for judicial time.

The growth in the number of Mental Commitment cases (which are now over 3,000 per year and partially resulting from current economic conditions) and in Protection from Abuse cases has intensified the pressure on the Court. So has the ever-increasing number of support cases in our Family Division.

We intend to continue to rely upon the services of the six Senior Judges to deal with these mounting burdens, but we cannot expect them to continue full-time schedules. Thus, the only alternative is our request to the Legislature to supply additional judgeships for Allegheny County.

The Court system belongs to the people. It is a vital part of our society, and our community could not function without it. We Judges, who are only the trustees of the system, are always aware of that fact.

Therefore, the citizens of Allegheny County can be assured that we will do our utmost to maintain our preeminent position as an efficient and progressive tribunal of which we all can be proud.

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY

HONORABLE MICHAEL J. O'MALLEY, PRESIDENT JUDGE

CIVIL DIVISION

Hon. Nicholas P. Papadakos, Administrative Judge

Hon. Ralph H. Smith, Jr.	Hon. I. Martin Wekselman
Hon. Silvestri Silvestri	Hon. S. Louis Farino
Hon. Robert A. Doyle	Hon. Joseph A. Del Sole
Hon. Marion K. Finkelhor	Hon. Stephen A. Zappala
Hon. Bernard J. McGowan	Hon. Leonard C. Stalsey
Hon. Richard G. Zeleznik	*Hon. Hugh C. Boyle
Hon. Francis A. Barry	*Hon. Maurice Louik
Hon. Emil E. Narick	*Hon. Frederic G. Weir
Hon. Raymond L. Schelb	

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Hon. Robert E. Dauer, Administrative Judge

Hon. Joseph H. Ridge	Hon. George H. Ross
Hon. Patrick R. Tamilla	Hon. Gerard M. Bigley
Hon. Henry R. Smith, Jr.	Hon. Ralph J. Cappy
Hon. John W. O'Brien	Hon. Bernard L. McGinley
Hon. Thomas A. Harper	*Hon. Loran L. Lewis
Hon. James F. Clarke	*Hon. Samuel Strauss
Hon. James R. McGregor	

FAMILY DIVISION

Hon. R. Stanton Wettick, Jr., Administrative Judge

Hon. Livingstone M. Johnson	Hon. John L. Musmanno
Hon. Eugene B. Strassburger, III	Hon. Raymond A. Novak
Hon. Lawrence W. Kaplan	Hon. William L. Standish

ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

Hon. Paul R. Zavarella, Administrative Judge

Hon. J. Warren Watson	Hon. Nathan Schwartz
Hon. Eunice Ross	*Hon. William S. Rahauser

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Charles H. Starrett, Jr. Court Administrator	Robert V. McCarthy Deputy Administrator
*Senior Judge	

The Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County serves the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Fifth Judicial District which consists of the City of Pittsburgh and 129 surrounding municipalities.



Judge Paul R. Zavarella
Administrative Judge

Civil commitment
caseload still
on the increase



Judge Eunice Ross



Judge Nathan Schwartz



Judge J. Warren Watson



Judge William S. Rahauser

Increasing reliance on the courts for the appointment of guardians in incompetency matters was responsible for the most significant increase in the work of the Orphans' Court Division during 1982.

There also was more activity in estate and adoption matters, but the additional 494 civil commitment petitions presented in 1982 and the 1,030 increase in total commitment decrees ordered are the most dramatic evidence of the growing caseload in the Orphans' Court Division.

The increase in the number of civil commitment petitions continues a pattern which became apparent in 1981 when the number of petitions was up 160 from the previous year. That was an increase of 6.7 percent. The increase in 1982, however, was 19.5 percent.

Even the decline in the number of incompetency proceedings (from 643 in 1981 to 417) represents only a return to the norm of prior years (before the Vecchione decision of Federal District Court in Philadelphia which required the appointment of guardians for all long-term residents of State hospitals).

There were 226 fewer incompetency petitions presented in 1982 and the number of orders entered declined from 1,488 to 1,204.

Judge Paul R. Zavarella, Administrative Judge of the Orphans' Court Division, reports that while there were more incompetency proceedings to dispose of in the past because of the Vecchione decision, the Court became current in meeting these federal requirements during 1982.

The number of hearings in estate matters increased by 129 in 1982. The most significant growth involved hearings on claims of creditors against estates, exceptions to accounts and questions of distribution. A total of 261 of these hearings were held in 1982 as compared to 179 in 1981.

In adoption-related matters the total number of adoption petitions filed increased by 142, there were 90 more hearings and 141 more decrees for adoptions, voluntary relinquishments, involuntary terminations and petitions to confirm consent.

In addition, 136 hearings on voluntary relinquishments and 146 hearings on involuntary terminations were conducted in Orphans' Court in 1982. Contested adoption matters increased from 20 to 32.

(Continued on Page 8)

Orphans' Court
Division

AUDIT HEARINGS OF ACCOUNTS	1981	1982
Accounts filed by Executors, Administrators, Trustees and Guardians	2,533	2,283
Small Estates (\$10,000.00 or less)	605	629
TOTAL DECREES OF DISTRIBUTION:	3,138	2,912
HEARINGS:		
Hearings on claims of creditors against		
Estates, Exceptions to Accounts, and questions of distribution involving construction of testamentary writings	179	261
Appeals from Decrees of the Register of Wills in grant of Letters of Administration, Inheritance Tax Appraisals and Assessments	12	13
Annulment of spouses' election to take against the Will	5	8
Will Contests	13	6
Sales of Real Estate on Citation and Return day	31	19
Miscellaneous hearings, including presumed decedents, absentees, correction of birth and marriage records	32	12
Proceedings against Fiduciaries	83	131
Hearings on delinquent Transfer inheritance Tax due	246	280
TOTAL HEARINGS:	601	730



EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, guardians and trustees of estates, along with other interested citizens, wait to appear before a judge during Audit Hearing Week in the Orphans' Court Division for the presentation of estate

accounts. This occurs once each month in Orphans' Court when the administration of the estate's affairs are explained and claims against the estate are heard.

Orphans' Court hears 2,912 estate audits

Once every month in the Orphans' Court Division the Judges conduct Audit Hearing Week when fiduciaries (estate executors, administrators, guardians and trustees) appear in Court before an auditing judge and present records of their administration of the estate's affairs (called accounts).

In 1982 the Orphans' Court Judges conducted 2,912 of these hearings.

Personal representatives of the decedent's estate are appointed by the Register of Wills. They are called executors if the deceased died with a will or administrators if the individual dies without executing a will. The appointment obligates them to collect the assets, pay obligations and then distribute the balance either to those who are named in the will or intestate heirs when no will exists.

This account of all receipts and disbursements is filed in the Register of Wills office generally within a year of the decedent's death but not before at least four months have expired after the last complete advertisement of the estate.

(Continued on Page 8)

<u>PETITIONS FILED:</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Additional bonds	227	253
Appointment of Guardians of the Estates of Minors	45	45
Appointment of Guardians of the person of Minors	56	37
Lifting of suspensions of Distributions	88	71
Sale of Real Estate	187	262
Petitions and Citation against Fiduciaries to file accounts or to show cause why they should not be removed, etc.	89	131
Petition filed by the Attorney General and citations awarded against fiduciaries to show cause why they should file transfer inheritance tax inventories and/or pay transfer inheritance tax due (Figure included under HEARINGS)	246	280
Miscellaneous Petitions and Motions	899	796
TOTAL PETITIONS	1,837	1,875
<u>ARGUMENT LIST</u>		
Exceptions heard by Court en banc	73	66
<u>OPINIONS FILED</u>		
Opinions filed by the Court	81	63
<u>PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCES:</u>		
Docketed	149	169

Orphans' Court is journey's end for Adoptions



The human side of justice in the Court of Common Pleas is never more apparent than in the adjudication of adoption cases in the Orphans' Court Division.

It is here that the wordy phraseology of State statutes, the regimen of rules of procedure and stern formal surroundings of courtrooms and court offices blend together to provide the background for real life dramas in the care and love of children through adoption.

Over 400 adoption decrees were entered in Orphans' Court in 1982. For the most part these are the final chapters in the journeys these children and the adoptive parents must travel in search of one another.

Some of these adoptions involve children whose parents have voluntarily surrendered their parental rights (called Voluntary Relinquishments) because they are either unable or unwilling to care for the youngsters. Other adoptions are decreed over the objections of the natural parent or parents (Involuntary Terminations) when it is determined that adoption is in the children's best interests.

Still other proceedings involve Step-Parent Placements when a child is adopted by relatives or the spouse of one of the natural parents who remarries.

Whatever the circumstances of the adoption, however, the applicable laws and procedures of the Court are pursued for the purpose of protecting the best interests of the children, natural parents and adoptive parents.

The procedure begins in the Court with the filing on behalf of the proposed adoptive parents of a petition signifying Intent to Adopt. This report is required in agency and private placements but not Step-Parent Placements.

When the report is filed in private placements an Orphans' Court investigator visits the home of the prospective adoptive parents within 30 days. After the investigator files a report with the Court and the individual being adopted has resided in the home for a continuous period of six months, counsel for the adoptive parents files a petition for adoption.

If the petition is in order, a hearing date is set within 10 days.

When an agency is involved in the placement, the natural parents give the child up for adoption to an approved agency (such as Children's Home of Pittsburgh, Catholic Social Service or Allegheny County's Department of Children & Youth Services), which then places the child in the home of the proposed prospective parents.

If the adoption involves a Voluntary Relinquishment by the natural parents, a petition for a hearing can be filed within three days. If termination of the parental rights is involuntary, the hearing cannot be scheduled for at least six months.

The Court is obligated to appoint counsel for the child in adoption cases which involve involuntary terminations.

The Orphans' Court investigator visits the home of the proposed adoptive parents after the child has been placed there after the petition to adopt is filed and reports to the Court on that visit. In the case of private placements, this is the second such visit by the investigator.

The final action in the adoption process is the hearing before one of the Orphans' Court Judges when the Judge either grants or denies the decree.

Orphans' Court hears 2,912 estate audits

(Continued from Page 6)

The account is reviewed by the Register to make sure it has been properly filed. Later it is reviewed again by the decree clerks in Orphans' Court for accuracy and to determine if the receipts and disbursements are in order.

If the account is procedurally correct, the Orphans' Court Chief Clerk schedules the account for a

hearing during the next available Audit Hearing Week. Individuals who have claims or other interests in the estate may appear and approve or file objections to the account.

In those instances where objections are filed the judge schedules a hearing. If there are no objections the matter is referred to the

decree clerks for preparation of the final decree of distribution.

The decree is signed by the auditing judge. It becomes final after 10 days if no exceptions to the decree are filed. When exceptions are filed they are heard by a court en banc, which consists of all the judges in the Division.

Civil Commitment caseload still rising

(Continued from Page 5)

Judge Zavarella also reports that 1982's dispositions included several adoption cases which had been delayed the previous year due to questions concerning the appointment of counsel to represent the interests of the children under the new State Adoption Act. The requirement is restricted to involuntary terminations, but the original wording of the Act was not precise in assigning the financial responsibility for this legal representation.

The Act has since been amended, however, giving the Court discretionary authority in the appointment of this counsel.

"I believe we have successfully handled the problems caused by the new Adoption Act," declares Judge Zavarella, "and this Court is now able to process reasonably the anticipated 500 adoption decrees."

CIVIL COMMITMENTS			INCOMPETENCY PROCEEDINGS		
	1980	1981		1981	1982
Hearings involved in the entering of decrees*	2,926	3,287	Number of Petitions Presented	643	417
Petitions presented	2,529	3,023	Temporary Guardians Appointed	109	77
Petitions withdrawn, discontinued, dismissed or continued**	531	339	Permanent Guardians Appointed	278	263
Decrees ordered	3,101	3,895	Successor Guardians Appointed	81	25
Other orders***	282	210	Guardians Discharged	48	37
Miscellaneous	8	14	Cases Continued	145	144
TOTAL ORDERS OR DECREES	6,451	7,481	Cases Dismissed	50	67
			Adjudication of Competency		3
			Number of Allowances Entered	134	171
			TOTAL ORDERS ENTERED*	1,488	1,204

*283 of these were scheduled for Judges and 3,004 for the Mental Health Review Officers who also heard 38 Juvenile Court cases and 66 Criminal Court cases.

**These also include petitions dismissed by Orders of Court because of Voluntary Commitments, discharges of Respondents from hospitals or withdrawn by petitioner prior to hearing.

***These include Orders of Court continuing or postponing hearings, ordering transfers of patients from one facility to another, etc. These orders do not include, however, the Preliminary Order which is attached to each petition and which must be signed by a Judge to set it for hearing. Each order represents a meeting of a Judge of this Division with an attorney or a clerk of this Division.

Total Dispositions	566	470
Number of hearings in above cases	566	560

*Total orders include the Preliminary Orders on the petitions, the appointments of Temporary, Permanent and Successor Guardians, Allowances, Discharges and Dismissals.



Judge Robert E. Dauer
Administrative Judge

Individual Calendar proves efficiency

The first full year of the Individual Calendar System in the Criminal Division of Common Pleas Court produced the positive results the Judges were looking for when they adopted it in late 1981.

More cases were disposed of in less time, costs were reduced and there were fewer jury trials.

But clouds on the horizon as 1982 came to a close over new sentencing guidelines, mandated sentencing and the District Attorney's ban on plea bargains have raised considerable concern about the Court's ability to continue to cope with the increasing criminal caseload in the future.

The achievements under the Individual Calendar System, however, stand out despite any end of the year misgivings.

The Court's 9,640 felony and misdemeanor dispositions exceeded the previous year's dispositions by more than 1,000 cases.

The average number of days between arrest and trial dropped from 109 days in 1981 to 106 days despite the increased caseload.

A total of 773 Satutory Appeals were disposed of after March 1 when jurisdiction for Summary Conviction appeals were transferred from the Civil to the Criminal Division.

There were 92 less requests for jury trials in 1982 than there were in 1981.

The Division's performance in 1982 was achieved in spite of a significant increase in cases. Criminal complaints filed in 1982 totaled 10,491. This was a 17 percent increase over the 8,984 complaints filed in 1981.

Concerns that the new individual calendar system might cause problems under the 180 speedy trial rule failed to materialize. There were no dismissals under Rule 1100 during 1982 that could be attributed to the system.

According to figures provided by the Controller's Office, the Criminal Division last year saved \$87,562.75 in witness fees over the previous year because of savings achieved under this Calendar System. The savings were due to the more efficient procedure of scheduling witnesses.

The Personnel and Finance Officer of the Pittsburgh Police Department reported another \$500,000 in overtime payments to the Pittsburgh Police officers was avoided. The savings realized by the suburban police departments could not be determined, but reports from some of the boroughs and townships indicate they were substantial.

(Continued on Page 16)

Criminal Division



Judge John W. O'Brien



Judge Henry R. Smith, Jr.



Judge Joseph H. Ridge



Judge George H. Ross



Judge James F. Clarke



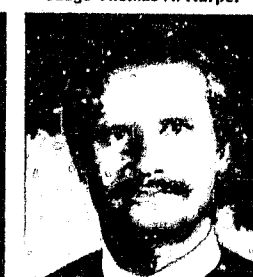
Judge Thomas A. Harper



Judge James R. McGregor



Judge Gerard M. Bigley



Judge Ralph J. Cappy



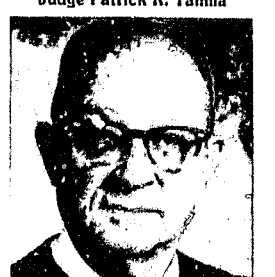
Judge Patrick R. Tamila



Judge Bernard L. McGinley



Judge Loran L. Lewis



Judge Samuel Strauss



New face on an old corner

REMODELING OF ROOM 533 on the fifth floor of the Allegheny County Courthouse into the new courtroom and chambers of Criminal Division Judge Bernard L. McGinley was one of the County's capital improvement projects in 1982. The work also included office facilities for the Judge's staff and a Criminal Division mini-library for the judges.



The Bail Agency of Allegheny County Common Pleas Court, which had its origin in 1972 as a Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Agency (LEAA) funded project, has developed into an essential arm in the local criminal justice system over the past 10 years.

Now totally financed by Allegheny County, the Agency in 1982 approved 7,736 bonds. In 1973, its first full year of operation, the Bail Agency approved 6,904 bonds.

In 1973, its first full year of operation, the Bail Agency was involved in 7,975 preliminary arraignments.

With a staff of 15 headed by Director David Brandon, the Bail Agency interviews individuals who are arrested in Allegheny County for misdemeanors, felonies and homicides; makes recommendations regarding bail to the Court; and monitors those who post bail to make certain they are abiding by the conditions of their bail.

Bail Agency holds key to freedom

Before the Agency was created, there was considerable dissatisfaction with bail procedures in Allegheny County. Few nominal bonds were permitted. Most individuals obtained bond by posting their own properties or resorting to the costly services of professional bondsmen.

The Court's original application for LEAA funds in 1971 introduced the somewhat revolutionary idea that

many individuals charged with a crime could be released from custody without posting a sizable amount of money as security and without being a threat to the community.

The Bail Agency's stated purpose is to reduce the role of the bondsmen and the number of individuals confined to the County Jail, while increasing the emphasis on supervision immediately following arrest rather than on remedial efforts after the defendant has forfeited his or her bail.

The Agency's first responsibility is to interview an individual after arrest to obtain background information that will help in determining the type and amount of bail which should be set by the issuing authority. The latter in most instances is the Pittsburgh magistrate or district justice in the community where the alleged offense occurred.

This report is needed at the preliminary arraignment when the individual is made aware of the specific charges placed against him by the arresting officer. The Agency's recommendation is followed in more than 80 percent of the cases by the issuing authority.

Exceptions usually occur on the basis of additional information provided by the arresting officers or other reliable sources.

Members of the Bail Agency staff follow Supreme Court guidelines on the type of bail to recommend. The options are: Released on Own Recognizance (ROR); Nominal (no money, but a signature of someone other than the defendant assuring presence in court on the day directed to do so); Cash Deposit (posting 10 percent of the value of the bail); Straight Bond (full amount of the bail in cash) or Property Bail (posting as collateral property owned anywhere in Pennsylvania as assurance of appearance).

The most common money bail granted amounts to \$1,000 or \$2,000, with the individual or family posting 10 percent of that figure. Nominal ROR Bond is 65 percent of the total bail posted.

In determining the type and amounts of bail to be recommended, the Bail Agency takes into account the individual's past criminal record (if any), his or her work record and their position in the community.

Once bail has been set and the individual is released, the Agency's Enforcement section monitors each case. It also makes recommendations to the Court on the revoking of bail when a violation of the conditions of the bail occurs.

BEHAVIOR CLINIC PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATIONS 1980-1981-1982

	1980	1981	1982
Remands*	111	84	126
Murder	188	150	141
Manslaughter	0	0	0
Robbery	64	55	52
Aggravated Assault	109	156	94
Minor Assault	100	104	77
Burglary, Breaking/Entering	67	44	44
Larceny	0	0	0
Auto Theft	10	7	1
Embezzlement/Fraud	0	0	0
Stolen Property	31	24	22
Forgery/Counterfeit	0	5	5
Rape	156	119	121
Commercialized Vice	0	0	0
Other Sex Offenses	206	196	182
Narcotics/Drug Laws	14	3	25
Deadly Weapons	0	0	0
Non-Support/Neglect	0	0	0
Liquor Laws	0	0	0
Driving Intoxicated	6	15	8
Other Vehicle Laws	8	15	3
Disorderly Conduct/Vagrancy	93	94	53
Gambling	0	0	0
Society of Peace	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	450	418	470
Commitments to Mental Hospitals	151	118	112
Administrative Cases	0	1	1
Court Orders for Discharge of Mental Prisoners	134	93	89
Violation of Parole/Probation	51	34	27
Rule 64	1	0	3
Arson	52	53	66
TOTAL	2,002	1,788	1,722

*NOTE: Convicted persons are remanded by the trial judge to the Behavior Clinic for psychiatric examinations prior to sentencing whenever it is deemed appropriate.

BAIL AGENCY BOND FORFEITURE
CASE STATUS REPORT

YEAR OF SUBPOENAED HEARING	FAILED TO APPEAR			APPREHENDED OR OTHERWISE CASE WENT TO TRIAL				REMAINING BOND FORFEITURES	
	TOTAL	SURETY	BAIL AGENCY	1979	1980	1981	1982	SURETY	BAIL AGENCY
1979	1,101	95	1,006	804	0	0	0	5	134
1980	1,364	162	1,202	132	1,104	0	0	5	94
1981	1,222	132	1,084	19	137	943	0	15	120
1982	875	115	760	7	24	144	635	24	216
TOTALS	4,562	510	4,052	962	1,265	1,087	635	49	564

Administrator lectures at Judicial College

A week as a faculty member in a college classroom last December closed out a busy year for the Allegheny County Court Administrator, Charles H. Starrett, Jr.

He was selected to serve on the faculty for the Court Administration specialty session at the National Judicial College on the campus of the University of Nevada-Reno.

The session, which attracted 44 judges and court administrators from 11 states and four foreign countries, is designed to train court managers on methods to improve court efficiency, to

expedite caseloads and to improve court-community relations.

In October of 1982, Mr. Starrett completed a year as President of the National Association of Trial Court Administrators, presiding at the Association's Annual Conference in Mobile, Alabama.

The year 1982 also saw Court Administrator Starrett elected to a three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts headquartered in Williamsburg, Virginia. He previously had served a one-year term on the Board.

BONDS POSTED IN 1982*

Bond Amount	Nominal/ROR	Property	Cash	10%	Surety	Total	Percentage
None	5,014	0	0	0	0	5,014	64.8%
\$500 or less	0	0	8	86	0	94	1.2%
\$501 - 1,000	0	1	42	778	97	918	11.9%
\$1,001 - 2,000	0	4	31	453	117	605	7.8%
\$2,001 - 5,000	0	13	69	523	332	937	12.1%
\$5,001 - 10,000	0	4	22	34	43	103	1.3%
\$10,001 - 20,000	0	8	5	2	7	22	.3%
\$20,001 or more	0	6	7	11	19	43	.6%
TOTAL	5,014	36	184	1,887	615	7,736	100.0%
Percentage	64.8%	.5%	2.4%	24.3%	8.0%	100.0%	

*These do not include the bonds on cases disposed of by District Justices or City Court.

2,247 enter ARD in 1982

The Criminal Division's Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program continued to be an efficient and economical means of handling first offenders of non-violent crimes during 1982.

A total of 2,247 defendants were accepted into the program.

Adopted by many other court jurisdictions in the Commonwealth, the Allegheny County ARD program was incorporated by the State Legislature into its 1982 Vehicle Code amendment pertaining to drunken driving.

ARD has been mandated in the new law as an alternative to 48 hours of imprisonment for first offenders.

MISDEMEANOR AND FELONY
COMPLAINTS DISPOSED
1982

Major Assault	629
Minor Assault	1,664
Rape	83
Other Sexual Offenses	212
Burglary	1,286
Robbery	318
Theft	2,071
Embezzlement & Fraud	283
Receiving Stolen Property	1,238
Forgery	739
Nonsupport & Neglect	10
Disorderly Conduct	867
Gambling	104
Commercialized Vice	15
Firearms	259
Driving While Intoxicated	2,965
Other Motor Vehicle Court Cases	1,051
Narcotics/Drug Laws	1,366
Liquor Law Violations (Court Cases)	141
Surety of the Peace	123
All Other Court Cases	3,643
TOTAL CASES	19,067
Cases Held for Court	10,352
Cases Dismissed	8,715

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF
TOTAL CASES DISPOSED*

1982	188,154
1981	167,698
1980	165,028
1979	145,677
1978	144,032
1977	134,533
1976	133,922
1975	140,754
1974	119,003
1973	85,209
1972	76,771

*Excludes cases handled in Pittsburgh Magistrate Court.

NOTE: Convicted persons are remanded by the trial judge to the Behavior Clinic for psychiatric examinations prior to sentencing whenever it is deemed appropriate.

Drunken driving leading offense

Driving while under the influence of alcohol continued to be the leading offense among the 19,067 felony and misdemeanor complaints disposed of by the District Justices of Allegheny County in 1982. There were 2,664 complaints filed.

This was 580 more than the total number of similar cases disposed of the previous year. This increase came despite the attention focused statewide on the problem of the drunken driver, including the State Legislature's enacting more severe penalties for persons convicted of drunken driving.

Theft was the next highest occurrence of criminal complaints disposed of by the Allegheny County Special Courts. They totaled 2,071, followed by 1,664 minor assaults, 1,366 violations of narcotics/drug laws, 1,286 burglaries, 1,238 receiving stolen property complaints and 1,051 motor vehicle cases other than drunken driving.

In addition to these criminal complaints, the district justices in 1982 disposed of 23,655 civil complaints, 14,933 summary cases, 107,995 traffic cases and 22,504 non-traffic cases.

Fines were imposed in 82,574 of the traffic complaints and 25,421 of these cases were dismissed. A total of 16,127 fines were imposed in non-traffic criminal cases and 6,377 cases were dismissed.

Fines also were imposed in 8,364 of the summary cases brought before the district justices, while 6,569 of these complaints were dismissed.

This activity resulted in a record number of cases being disposed of by the Minor Judiciary in Allegheny County in 1982. Dispositions totaled 188,154, representing a 12.5 percent increase over the 167,698 dispositions in 1981.

CRIMINAL DIVISION
STATUTORY APPEALS

	Transferred from Civil Division*	New Cases Filed	Dispositions	Cases Open 12/31/82
Summary				
Conviction	95	1,023	739	284
Appeals				

*The Criminal Division assumed responsibility for certain Statutory Appeals cases on February 1, 1982 in response to a Superior Court decision.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY DISTRICT JUSTICE CASE LOAD
1982

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED OF*

Type of Case	Fined	Dismissed	Total
Traffic	82,574	25,421	107,995
Non-Traffic	16,127	6,377	22,504
Summary	8,364	6,569	14,933
Civil			23,655
Criminal			19,067
TOTAL	107,065	38,367	188,154

*Excludes cases handled in Pittsburgh Magistrate Court.

A learning experience

Institutions of learning in the Western Pennsylvania area and the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County have found a common ground in an expanding internship program.

It involves both graduate and undergraduate students from area colleges and universities, and more recently students who are studying accounting at Duff's Business Institute.

The interns are assigned to various court operations on either a full-time or part-time schedule, depending on the nature of the internship, over a period of weeks or months and receive class credit for their efforts.

Primary purpose of the program is to provide on-the-job training, and with one exception, they receive no remuneration. That lone exception is the program the Allegheny County

internships in the Court

Law Library on the Ninth Floor of the City-County Building, where the librarian supervises a work study program.

The divisions of the Court involved in internship programs are the Civil, Criminal and Orphans' Court Divisions, the Adult and Juvenile Sections of the Family Division, Bail Agency and Court Administrative Office.

Extensive use of interns is made in the Court Bail Agency where during the past year 10 students from the University of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County Community College worked throughout the spring, summer and fall terms.

The Pitt students work 20 to 30 hours a week, while the Community College interns put in approximately 10 hours a week. They are assigned to work with the Agency's investigators, attend Night Court (in the Pittsburgh Public Safety Building) to observe those proceedings, to learn use of the filing systems and to answer inquiries about bail and bail procedures.

The Civil Division relies on Duquesne University Law School students during the spring and fall terms each year. The interns work flexible hours for the Civil judges for class credit. Assignments include work in the courtrooms, with dockets and files, and reviewing case papers.

During 1982 there were three interns in the Civil Division during the spring term.

Three law school interns also worked this year for Judge Eunice Ross of the Orphans' Court Division, a practice she follows annually, in the Criminal Division an intern was assigned during both the spring and fall terms. This also is an annual occurrence, with the University of Pittsburgh Law School providing the interns for both the Criminal and Orphans' Court Divisions.

A legal intern from Pitt also served in Judge Thomas Harper's Court during the 1982 summer months gathering data on battered women whose cases come before the Court.

In the Juvenile Section of the Family Division Pitt, Penn State and Indiana University of Pennsylvania regularly provide interns. These usually are graduate students, although the Court will assign college seniors who are majoring in the behavioral sciences or the administration of justice.

These interns generally are assigned to one of the community-based offices as an assistant probation officer where they get an opportunity to observe the system in operation and to visit with the young people who are the Court's responsibility. Eventually they are given a chance to manage a small caseload.

During 1982 there were 13 interns from Pitt, Penn State, Indiana University, Georgetown and Mansfield State.

The Court internship program was expanded in 1982 to include students from Duff's Business Institute. These are accounting students who work in the Court

(Continued on Page 15)

Internships in the Court

(Continued from Page 14)

Administrative Office and the Family-Juvenile and Family-Adult offices. This experience generally is the student's first in an office setting, and they work in all phases of accounting on a full-time basis.

Students in the Law Library's Work Study project receive no college credit, but they gain experience in library clerical procedures and have an opportunity to work on a project in law history or genealogy which the Library may publish.

In 1982 there were three work study students from Penn State University and Gannon College. In previous years they have been from Allegheny College in Meadville, Duquesne, Pitt and Bryn Mawr. The students work on a full-time basis for 12 weeks.

CRIMINAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	1981	1982
1. Defendants Pending - January 1		
(a) Defendants Awaiting Pre-Trial Conference	780	838
(b) Defendants Awaiting Trial	1,875	2,136
(c) Defendants Awaiting Sentence	451	419
TOTAL DEFENDANTS PENDING FIRST OF YEAR	3,106	3,393
2. Defendants Transcripts Received (Complaints Filed)	8,984	10,491
3. Adjustments	-199	-80
4. Active Defendants in Calendar Year	11,891	13,804
5. Pre-trial Dispositions		
(a) ARD	1,829	2,247
(b) Disposition in Lieu of Trial	1	2
(c) Information Quashed	3	8
(d) Nolle Prossed	1,456	1,402
(e) Dismissed	243	230
TOTAL PRE-TRIAL DISPOSITIONS	3,532	3,889
6. Disposed Through Trial and Sentenced		
(a) Guilty by Jury	327	279
(b) Guilty by Court	427	496
(c) Guilty Plea or Nolo Contendere	3,774	4,495
(d) Probation Without Verdict	162	152
(e) Acquitted by Jury	154	154
(f) Acquitted by Court	72	65
(g) Demurrer Sustained	50	52
TOTAL TRIAL DISPOSITIONS	4,966	5,693
7. Defendants Pending - December 31		
(a) Defendants Awaiting Pre-Trial Conference	838	744
(b) Defendants Awaiting Trial	2,136	2,756
(c) Defendants Awaiting Sentence	419	722
TOTAL DEFENDANTS PENDING END OF YEAR	3,393	4,222

DISTRICT COURTS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY 1980* - 1981* - 1982*

Cash Receipts and Expenses From District Courts

	1980	1981	1982	1981-1982 Increase or Decrease
VIOLATION CASES				
Municipalities	\$1,966,454.48	\$2,049,607.72	\$2,153,559.27	\$103,951.55
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	2,568,469.70	2,632,810.41	2,845,431.07	212,620.66
County of Allegheny	629,431.20	628,555.84	673,744.59	47,188.75
Other Funds Held in Escrow	112,883.00	152,305.28	309,407.21	157,101.93
TOTAL RECEIPTS - VIOLATION CASES	\$5,277,238.38	\$5,463,279.25	\$5,982,142.14	\$520,862.89
CIVIL CASES				
County of Allegheny	344,714.70	374,650.74	389,080.88	14,430.12
Other Funds Held in Escrow	1,589,367.44	1,597,130.69	1,705,093.90	107,963.21
TOTAL RECEIPTS - CIVIL CASES	\$1,934,082.14	\$1,971,781.43	\$2,094,174.76	\$122,393.33
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	\$7,211,320.50	\$7,435,060.68	\$8,076,316.90	\$641,256.22
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY				
Receipts - Violation Cases	629,431.20	628,555.84	673,744.59	47,188.75
Receipts - Civil Cases	344,714.70	374,650.74	389,080.88	14,430.12
Fines	126,322.16	105,947.07	143,086.28	37,139.21
Postage	20,844.21	98,753.80	115,538.84	16,785.24
Adjustments	(344.10)	(64.60)	(125.00)	(69.50)
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS (FINES & COSTS)	\$1,120,978.17	\$1,205,842.75	\$1,321,325.57	\$115,482.82
EXPENSES OF DISTRICT COURTS				
Salaries	\$1,044,195.00	\$1,282,652.00	\$1,413,500.00	\$130,848.00
Fringe Benefits	295,504.00	295,504.00	359,814.00	64,310.00
Miscellaneous Services				
(Rent, Telephone, Postage, Etc.)	443,459.00	526,323.00	686,881.00	140,558.00
Supplies, Printing, Duplicating	38,453.00	31,508.00	65,138.00	33,630.00
Repairs	4,516.00	3,710.00	4,751.00	1,041.00
Equipment (Office Furniture & Fixtures)	34,346.00	38,881.00	35,720.00	(2,961.00)
Travel, Insurance, Accounting, Etc.	6,647.00	13,488.00	16,832.00	3,444.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,574,316.00	\$1,898,360.00	\$2,582,714.00	\$370,850.00
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(453,337.83)	(690,617.25)	(1,241,388.43)	(255,367.18)

*NOTE: Base figures were provided by the Allegheny County Controller's Office.
**Fringe benefits have been added to the 1981 and 1982 figures, but were not available for 1980.

ADULT PROBATION OFFICE 1982

	Probation	Parole	Total
Total cases January 1, 1982	5,796	745	6,541
Received from Court during 1982	2,978	679	3,657
Discharged during 1982	2,283	514	2,797
Total cases December 31, 1982	6,491	910	7,401
ARD Total cases January 1, 1982	4,390	-	4,390
ARD Received from Court during 1982	2,288	-	2,288
ARD Discharged during 1982	954	-	954
ARD Total cases December 31, 1982	5,724	-	5,724
State Supervision cases January 1, 1982	2,071	238	2,309
State cases Received from Court during 1982	451	123	574
State cases Discharged during 1982	485	125	610
State Supervision cases December 31, 1982	2,037	236	2,273

Caseload Breakdown as of December 31, 1982

	PROBATION/PAROLE		ARD	
	Cases	No. of Officers	Cases	No. of Officers
Administrative Unit	2,608	5	2,822	1
Special Service Unit	453	6	-	-
East Liberty Field Office	917	5	475	2
McKeesport Field Office	620	4	434	2
North Side Field Office	1,093	6	699	3
Oakland Field Office	740	5	307	1
South Hills Field Office	970	6	993	3
Investigation Reports for 1982				
	Total			
Presentence Investigation Reports	1,211			
Judge's Special Reports	32			
Parole Applications	15			
Violation Reports	1,110			
Other Reports	0			

1,877 seek bail reduction

The Criminal Division received 1,877 petitions for modification of bail in 1982. The Court's Bail Agency presented 1,528 of these petitions and 1,176 (or 77 percent) were modified.

Sixty-five percent of the individuals apprehended in Allegheny County on criminal charges in 1982 were released from custody on nominal bond and another 24.5 percent were released on court bail (10 percent of the face value of the bond).

Another eight percent were released on surety bail provided by commercial bondsmen.

At the request of the County Prison Board, the Criminal Division judges, with the assistance of the Bail Agency, reviewed each week the lists of individuals incarcerated in the County Jail for the purpose of reducing overcrowding at this institution whenever possible.

CRIMINAL DIVISION DETAILED CASE SUMMARY

Offense Category	PRE-TRIAL DECISIONS*					1982 VERDICTS RETURNED														
	Complaints Filed	Information Filed	Information Filed Charged Modified**	Nolle Prossed Requested	ARD	Disposition In Lieu Of Trial	Information Quashed	Nolle Prossed No Information Filed	Nolle Prossed Information Filed	Dismissed	Probation Without Verdict	Demurrer Sustained	Acquitted By Jury	Acquitted By Court	GUILTY By Jury	GUILTY By Court	GUILTY Plea or Nolo Contendere	Probation	Institutionalized	Suspended/ Costs/ Fine Only
Criminal Homicide	73	73	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	8	1	23	7	21	11	18	32
Robbery	618	442	137	35	1	0	1	36	65	16	0	1	25	4	64	51	372	107	194	164
Aggravated Assault	359	170	143	37	4	0	0	37	47	8	0	3	25	5	27	50	125	100	40	46
Simple Assault	453	229	117	111	34	0	0	113	45	10	0	3	14	8	15	36	157	121	17	60
Burglary	1,234	1,000	162	77	73	0	0	79	35	25	0	4	10	4	38	52	781	315	171	312
Theft	1,622	1,197	221	146	219	0	0	153	67	47	1	18	16	6	22	67	821	417	177	255
Auto Theft	27	19	8	4	5	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	15	11	2	3
Embezzlement, Fraud	188	102	46	34	42	0	0	37	12	14	0	3	0	4	3	4	54	41	6	12
Forgery/Counterfeit	410	195	120	60	54	0	0	62	30	17	0	0	4	3	4	13	242	136	34	63
Rape	120	80	24	14	1	0	0	13	11	2	0	0	18	0	23	10	27	19	19	32
Commercialized Vice	69	67	2	2	2	1	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	5	64	35	10	25
Other Sex Offenses	89	78	8	4	25	0	0	4	5	5	0	0	2	0	2	11	45	40	3	14
Narcotics/Drug Laws	794	603	136	40	19	0	0	35	42	14	132	2	3	6	9	48	358	244	47	80
Offensive Weapons	253	163	69	19	14	0	0	18	10	7	2	1	1	3	13	31	119	93	15	41
Liquor Laws	27	15	4	8	5	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	5	2	0	3
Driving Intoxicated	2,664	2,485	63	55	1,571	0	5	49	22	20	0	3	5	5	12	53	691	628	31	88
Other Vehicle Laws	108	48	7	37	13	0	0	36	4	5	0	1	2	1	0	2	22	16	2	7
Disorderly Conduct	157	66	19	60	22	1	0	68	4	5	1	0	2	1	1	5	37	29	0	12
Gambling	158	150	9	2	0	0	0	1	2	4	0	2	0	5	1	8	140	6	1	148
All Other Offenses	1,068	705	129	192	143	0	2	192	49	25	16	8	19	6	22	40	399	238	73	132
TOTAL	10,491	7,887	1,424	938	2,247	2	8	948	454	230	152	52	154	65	279	496	4,495	2,609	860	1,529

CRIMINAL DIVISION CASE FILINGS - RACE AND SEX ANALYSIS
1980-1981-1982

SEX	1980	1981	1982
Male	7,138 (80%)	6,905 (76.9%)	8,076 (77.0%)
Female	1,000 (12%)	1,096 (12.2%)	1,291 (12.3%)
Unknown	795 (8%)	983 (10.9%)	1,124 (10.7%)
TOTAL	8,933 (100%)	8,984 (100%)	10,491 (100%)
RACE			
Black	3,097 (35%)	3,011 (33.5%)	3,467 (33.0%)
White	5,025 (56%)	4,976 (55.4%)	5,880 (56.0%)
Unknown	811 (9%)	997 (11.1%)	1,144 (11.0%)
TOTAL	8,933 (100%)	8,984 (100%)	10,491 (100%)

Individual Calendar

(Continued from Page 9)

Perhaps the most significant savings, however, were in the elimination of the non-productive use of time of the individuals involved in criminal proceedings, including the prosecuting and defense attorneys, victims and witnesses. Police officers whose presence was required in court also were able to return to their duties sooner because of the elimination of delays.

Criminal Division Judges also believe the Individual Calendar System is responsible for 92 less jury trials despite an increase in dispositions of more than 1,000 cases. It was one of the goals at the time the system was adopted that with the inception of pre-trial conferences between the judge and lawyers, and the knowledge early on about which judge would try the case, there would be more non-jury trials and even pleas.

The average jury trial, according to Judge Dauer, is six times longer than a non-jury trial and 100 times longer than a plea. Of course, it also eliminates the cost of a jury.

Another reduction in jury costs occurred through the new practice of not sequestering juries overnight in most cases, but sending them home under orders to return and resume deliberations the following day. Cost of lodging for jurors was \$16,983 in 1982 as compared to \$25,181 in 1981.

One unavoidable increase was the cost of juror meals due to inflation. It was \$31,288 in 1982 as compared to \$19,652 in 1981.

There is cause for grave concern in the Criminal Division as it looks to the future. Active cases pending disposition increased from 3,393 at the end of 1981 to 4,222 at the end of 1982. Cases awaiting trial increased from 2,136 to 2,820.

These increases are due in part to the number of cases coming into the system. Not to be overlooked, however, is the impact of the new Sentencing Guidelines and Mandatory Sentencing laws. Increases in requests for jury trials and pre-trial conferences have resulted. The loss of plea bargaining as an alternative also has resulted in jury trials in cases which formerly would have been resolved through guilty pleas.

The effects of these changes, which occurred late in 1982, will likely become more apparent during the latter part of 1983. There also is expected to be a great increase in jury trials due to the new drunken driving law in Pennsylvania. It remains to be seen whether this law will result in safer driving conditions, says Judge Dauer. He is fearful that the same number of arrests will occur, however, and that mandated jail sentences for drunken drivers will aggravate the crowded conditions in the County Jail.



29,000 answer



JURORS SERVING in the Criminal Division file through the courtroom and into the jury box where they will view the trial proceedings.

The system of justice in Allegheny County relies to a considerable extent on the judgment of approximately 29,000 citizens who are summoned every year to serve as jurors.

Selected at random by a computer system which is intended to produce a wide cross section of citizens from varied ethnic, social and economic backgrounds, the jurors serve in the trial divisions of the Court under the One Day/One Trial program.

In 1982 the Criminal Division of the Court summoned 15,877 jurors and 498 juries were impaneled. A total of 13,309 jurors were called in 1982 in the Civil Division and 608 juries were selected.

The One Day/One Trial program began in 1978, replacing the traditional two-week jury service obligation with a more efficient and economical system for County taxpayers and a more convenient system for jurors. Under this procedure a prospective juror is excused after the first day of jury service if he or she has not been selected for a jury.

In the past it was a not infrequent experience for citizens to serve on jury duty for an entire two-week period without being selected on a jury. During the last year of that system

(1977) 8,845 jurors served on 339 juries in all divisions of the Court.

Under One Day/One Trial the number of jurors and juries tripled over 1977, while the cost of jury service in Allegheny County declined considerably. In 1980, despite the increase in the number of jurors selected and juries impaneled, the cost of jury service decreased by \$252,195.57 from the 1977 total.

Costs escalated somewhat in 1981 and 1982 because the State Legislature increased juror fees after the third day of trial from \$9 to \$25 per day and hiked the mileage reimbursement from 7 cents to 17 cents a mile. The County, however, is reimbursed by the Commonwealth for 80 percent of this cost. The net cost of the One Day/One Trial system for the County taxpayers, therefore, still is less than it was under the old system.

Initial selection of jurors is the responsibility of the County Jury Commission. Computer tapes containing names from the County voter registration lists, telephone company residential lists and the Commonwealth's driver license lists are entered into a master list in the court's computer operation. Between 60,000 and 65,000 names are selected at random from that list every year.

These individuals receive questionnaires from the Jury Commission advising them of their pending service and requiring them to respond with information that is needed to determine eligibility to serve. Eligibility is based on age, citizenship status, disabilities which would inhibit service and undue physical or financial hardship. Commission investigators visit these homes to determine the validity of these claims.

Once the eligibility list is determined the computer is used once again to make random selections from this list and to generate the appropriate number to receive jury summonses.

The Criminal Division needs approximately 75 regular jurors and 100 alternate jurors daily, while the Civil Division requires almost 100 jurors and 85 alternates on a daily basis during its jury trial terms.

The summons specifies the date the juror is to report. Those designated as alternates also are assigned a date and a court telephone number to call the day before they are scheduled to report to learn if their service is needed. The names of those alternates whose service is not required are returned to the computer for possible selection in future months.

jury duty call



AT THE COMPLETION of the trial the jurors retire to a deliberation room where they reach their decision on the case that has been presented to the Court.

Once selected to a jury, the juror remains as a member of that panel until the conclusion of the trial, regardless of length, unless the juror is excused by the trial judge for an emergency. Most jury trials last three days or less.

Jurors who report for service fulfill their jury duty obligation for a minimum of three years. Alternates who do not have to report and individuals who are excused are subject to be called again within the three-year period.

More work for Probation staff

The increase in criminal case filings also increased the work of the Adult Probation Office during 1982. There were 1,211 pre-sentence investigations requested as compared to 1,021 in 1981. Probation violation reports increased from 762 to 1,021.

In anticipation of more jury trials and a corresponding increase in demands for pre-sentence investigations, the Judges of the Criminal Division have authorized the use of a shortened version of the pre-sentence report in the future.



JUDGE J. WARREN WATSON (second from right) of Orphan's Court presides at the December, 1982 Jury Draw when thousands of names were selected from the County computer for jury service in the Court's Criminal and Civil Divisions. Assisting Judge Watson is Common Pleas Court Jury Coordinator Karen Kurtanich (left) and Allegheny County Jury Commissioners Jean A. Milko and James R. Spirko. The jury service eligibility list is composed of names from voter registration, residential telephone and drivers' license lists.



Judge Nicholas P. Papadakis
Administrative Judge

For Civil Judges

Busy year in case dispositions

Judges of the Civil Division in 1982 had their busiest year since 1975 in disposing of cases placed at issue. A total of 4,317 case dispositions were recorded. This represents an increase of 911 cases over 1981.

This also resulted in the lowest number of year-end pending cases at issue (4,469) since 1975 when the Civil Division ended the year with 4,204 cases pending. The year-end figure for 1982 was 1,328 less than the cases at issue which were pending at the end of 1981.

This is a tribute to the dedication and hard work of the Civil Division Judges during 1982. The Judges also credit the members of the Allegheny County Bar Association whose cooperation has been essential to the expeditious flow of cases through the Civil Division.

The reduction in inventory coincides with a marked decrease in the average age of cases from date of filing to disposition. The average dropped from 24 months in 1981 to 19.4 months in 1982. The decline in the average age of cases from date of issue to disposition was from 17.4 months to 16.9 months.

Among the other accomplishments in the Civil Division in 1982 was the scheduling of the balance of the medical malpractice cases transferred to this Court

Civil Division

in late 1981 by the Pennsylvania Medical Malpractice Board. This involved 271 cases, 105 of which were disposed of in 1981.

After the 1981 high water mark of 672 tax assessment appeals, the number of such appeals declined to 629 in 1982.

Nevertheless, the 1982 filings amounted to a 174 percent increase over the number of cases filed in 1980 and continue for the most part to reflect the changes in the County's property assessment program.

A final decree was entered in 1982 terminating the Green Tree Borough cases in which the assessment practices of Allegheny County were first challenged. Those original filings led to the Court's direct involvement in the administration, practices and procedures of the County's Department of Property

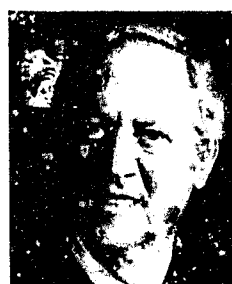
(Continued on Page 22)



Judge I. Martin Wekselman



Judge Bernard J. McGowan



Judge Raymond L. Scheib



Judge Robert A. Doyle



Judge Francis A. Barry



Judge Silvestri Silvestri



Judge Ralph H. Smith, Jr.



Judge Marion K. Finkelhor



Judge Joseph A. Del Sole



Judge Emil E. Narick



Judge S. Louis Farino



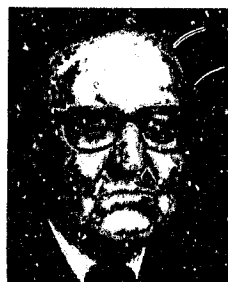
Judge Leonard C. Staisey



Judge Richard G. Zeleznik



Judge Stephen A. Zappala



Judge Frederic G. Weir



Judge Maurice Louik



Judge Hugh C. Boyle



WELCOMING A ROOMFUL of citizens who were summoned for jury service on the first day of the Fall jury term in the Civil Division is Judge Stephen A. Zappala. During 1982, 13,309 jurors were summoned for Civil Division jury service and 608 juries were seated.

JUDGE LEONARD STAISEY of the Civil Division receives congratulations for his selection to the National Handicapped Hall of Fame in Allentown, Pa. The award is made annually in recognition of individuals who have overcome being handicapped and have dedicated themselves to working in behalf of the handicapped. It was presented to Judge Staisey during the International Year of the Disabled by the Home of the Good Shepherd in Allentown. Congratulating Judge Staisey are: Good Shepherd Director Reverend Dale Sandstrom (right) and Director Emeritus Reverend Conrad Raker.





HIS EXPERIENCE as a juror in Common Pleas Court was such a positive one that Pittsburgh Post-Gazette columnist Joe Browne was inspired to write a complimentary column about it. Photo enlargements of that column have since been framed and displayed on the walls of both the Civil and

Criminal Juror Lounges. Mr. Browne (second from right) returned to the Court earlier in 1982 to join Civil Division Administrative Judge Nicholas P. Papadakos (left) and President Judge Michael J. O'Malley (right) to see his treatise on jury service displayed in jumbo size type.

Busy year in case dispositions

(Continued from Page 20)

Assessment, Appeals and Review.

Assessments now are based on 25 percent of fair market value. The revisions also included new guidelines for the conduct of property assessment hearings.

In 1982 the decision was made to assign all of the increasing number of Asbestos-Silica toxic substance cases to one judge as the most efficient method of disposing of these cases.

These toxic substance cases began increasing in number four years ago, and now the Asbestos-Silica cases are among the more frequent filings. There have been only 57 filings to date in Allegheny County. No accurate estimate can be made on how many more will be filed locally.

It is expected that it will be the turn of the century or beyond before Common Pleas Court in Allegheny County sees the last of these case filings because it requires from 20 to 30 years before symptoms of these toxic infections begin to show up in the human body.

Industry stopped using the material in building construction, cars and ships in the early 1970's when medical authorities determined that inhaling these fibers could be a cause of pulmonary disease.

There was another significant change in 1982 when the summary conviction Statutory Appeal cases were transferred to the Criminal Division in March in response to a decision of the State

Superior Court. Statutory Appeal filings in the Civil Division dropped because of this order from 1,629 to 897. Another 773 summary case appeals were filed in the Criminal Division after February.

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR BOARD OF VIEWERS 1979 - 1982

	1979	1980	1981	1982
New Petitions				77
Views by Board	141	182	136	165
Hearings	246	349	261	293
Schedule of Benefits & Damages	12	17	29	8
Final Reports	79	141	104	116
Settled	15	18	4	39
Exceptions	0	19	39	9
Number of Properties Involved in Exception Hearings				128

CIVIL DIVISION CASES PLACED AT ISSUE AND DISPOSED Analysis Of Cases Placed At Issue

	1981				1982			
	Placed At Issue	%	Disposed Issues	%	Placed At Issue	%	Disposed Issues	%
Trespass - General	907	26.7%	778	23.0%	771	25.8%	1 103	25.5%
Trespass - Motor Vehicle	633	18.7%	856	25.1%	609	20.4%	965	22.4%
Assumpsit	636	18.7%	866	25.4%	611	20.4%	1,115	25.8%
Equity	94	2.8%	152	4.4%	112	3.8%	180	4.2%
Miscellaneous	1,123	33.1%	754	22.1%	886	29.6%	954	22.1%
TOTAL	3,393	100.0%	3,406	100.0%	2,989	100.0%	4,317	100.0%

Cases At Issue Pending	1/1/82	12/31/82	Percent of Change
Trespass - General	1,778	1,446	-18.7%
Trespass - Motor Vehicle	1,091	735	-32.6%
Assumpsit	1,316	812	-38.3%
Equity	226	158	-30.0%
Miscellaneous	1,386	1,318	- 4.9%
TOTAL	5,797	4,469	-23.0%

Analysis of Arbitration and Statutory Appeal Cases

	1981				1982			
	Filed	%	Disposed	%	Filed	%	Disposed	%
Arbitration	26	1.0%	40	1.5%	84	3.9%	65	3.6%
Arbitration Appeals	1,013	38.0%	979	36.2%	1,159	54.2%	853	47.8%
Statutory Appeals	1,629	61.0%	1,684	62.3%	897*	41.9%	867	48.6%
TOTAL	2,668	100.0%	2,703	100.0%	2,140	100.0%	1,785	100.0%

*23 cases reopened to inventory from previous years. These filings were reduced by 773 summary conviction appeals which were filed in the Criminal Division after February, 1982.

Statutory Appeals Open	1/1/82	12/31/82
	349	379

DISPOSED CASES FOR 1982

Method of Disposition	Number	Percent	Average Age by Month from Case Filing to Disposition	Average Age by Month from Date at Issue to Disposition
Transfer to Arbitration by Court Order	234	3.1%	13.7	5.3
Settled in Conciliation	276	3.7%	17.1	14.1
Non-Jury Trial, Case Reported Settled	111	1.5%	18.2	18.0
Non-Jury Trial, Case Settled by Court	219	2.9%	19.2	17.5
Non-Jury Trial, Findings by Court	307	4.0%	18.2	19.1
Jury Trial Cases Reported Settled	1,189	15.7%	29.2	19.6
Jury Trial Cases Settled by Court Before Trial	1,719	22.8%	30.4	20.3
Jury Trial Cases Settled Before Verdict	14	.2%	22.0	19.1
Jury Trial Cases Tried to Verdict	279	3.7%	30.3	22.3
Cases Not Yet Listed Settled by Court	1,061	14.1%	12.0	15.3
Cases Not Yet Listed Settled by the Parties	1,268	16.8%	12.1	12.1
TOTAL	6,677	88.5%		
Statutory Appeal Cases Disposed	867	11.5%		
GRAND TOTAL	7,544	100.0%		

The average age of all cases from filing date to disposition was 19.4 months. The average age of all cases from issue date to disposition was 16.9 months. These averages are separately calculated and are not merely the average of the individual figures above.



THE CIVIL ARBITRATION system in Allegheny County Common Pleas Court was the subject of a presentation at the Annual Conference of Minnesota Judges last December 10 in Minneapolis. Making the presentation (left to right) were President Judge Michael J. O'Malley, Civil Division Administrative Judge Nicholas P. Papadakos, Director of Arbitration Walter Lesniak and attorney David R. Cashman of the County Bar Association. With them (right to left) are Chief Justice Douglas K. Amdahl of the Minnesota Supreme Court and Chief Judge Harold Kalina of Minnesota District Court's Fourth Judicial District.

Two Allegheny County judges, a Court staff member and a Pittsburgh Lawyer have told the judges of Minnesota during a visit in December how to install and operate a successful compulsory arbitration system.

The four-man contingent was invited to Minneapolis on December 10 to make a three-hour presentation on the subject at

the Annual Conference of Minnesota Judges.

Selected because of Pittsburgh's national reputation for having operated a highly successful arbitration program, the Pittsburgh team was led by President Judge Michael J. O'Malley of the Court of Common Pleas.

ARBITRATION: Local judges tell Minnesota judiciary how it works

Also participating in the presentation was Judge Nicholas P. Papadakos, Administrative Judge of the Civil Division in Common Pleas Court; Walter P. Lesniak, Director of the Civil Division's Arbitration Section; and Attorney David R. Cashman, a practicing attorney in Allegheny County's Compulsory Arbitration program.

Initiated in 1959 for the purpose of accelerating the settlement of minor claims (under \$10,000), the Arbitration Section has achieved a national reputation for excellence. In a 1980 final report on case processing studies in the Allegheny and Philadelphia courts, the National Center for State Courts praised the Allegheny County Compulsory Arbitration system as "speedy and inexpensive."

During 1982 there were 9,379 cases filed in the Arbitration Section.

Panels of three attorneys are appointed to hear these cases and make awards, which are subject to appeal to trial by jury or by judge without a jury. They serve for one day at a time and the panelists are paid \$100 per diem. They hear several cases within a day's time.

In 1982 the average cost per case was \$38.83.

Minneapolis Court officials contacted the local Court Administrator, Charles H. Starrett, concerning the Pittsburgh program. Based on information supplied by Starrett, the Minneapolis judges decided to adopt the Pennsylvania system.

CIVIL DIVISION - ARBITRATION

	1981	1982
Pending on January 1	7,508	8,907
New Cases Filed	10,118	9,379
Transferred from Civil Division	399	463
Cases Disposed	9,118	12,860
Awards by Boards	3,823	4,061
Disposed by Court/Rule 229(e)*	2,000	754
Settlements, Non-Pros, etc.	1,995	6,825
Purged Cases*	1,300	1,220
Pending as of December 31 (Awaiting Trial)	8,907	5,889
Appeals Filed	1,010	1,166
Rate of Appeals	26.4%	28.7%
Number of Arbitration Boards Served (816) - Arbitrators	2,346	2,448
Arbitrators Fee Per Day	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Total Arbitrators Fee	234,600.00	244,800.00
Less Non-recoverable Appeal Fees Paid	77,923.00	87,098.00
TOTAL COST	\$156,677.00	\$157,702.00
Average Arbitrators Cost per Case	\$ 40.98	\$ 38.83

*Cases are closed every year without notification to the Court, but are discovered and removed from the active inventory count in an annual purge.

	CIVIL DIVISION STATUTORY APPEALS		1982		
	1981-1982 1981 Dispositions	Open Cases 12/31/81	New Cases Filed	Dispo- sitions	Cases Open 12/31/82
Workmen's Compensation	5	1	0	1	0
Zoning Board	123	35	123	103	55
Civil Service	24	6	20	12	14
Motor Vehicle Code Suspensions	282	57	386	329	114
Liquor Control Appeals	55	7	48	48	7
Summary Conviction Appeals	1,088	210	232*	308	134
Miscellaneous	107	33	88	66	55
TOTALS	1,684	349	897**	867	379
	1981	1982	Percent of Change		
New Cases Filed	1,629	897	-45.0%		
Dispositions	1,684	867	-48.5%		
Cases Pending	349	379	+8.6%		

The average disposition time for each appeal was 119.7 days from date of original filing to date of hearing and final disposition.

*773 summary conviction appeals were filed in the Criminal Division after February, 1982.

**23 cases added to inventory from previous years.

Industry aids Court in computer use

The Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County and the Pittsburgh corporate community have completed the first major joint effort in computer use and planning for the Court.

This precedent-setting endeavor is identified under the title of the Committee on Management for the Court (COMCourt).

COMCourt's first project, begun in 1982, involved the formulation of a master strategic plan for converting to modern computer operations in all Court divisions, and analysis of the proposed design of the new Civil Division case management system. Both reports were completed and have been presented to court management.

The strategic plan encompasses virtually all internal operations of the Court, projecting changes in automation through the year 1986. The Civil Division design details careful on-line control of every case in the system, a refinement not yet available to most courts of the nation.

Industry's participation in the Court's computer progress is the result of a request made by President Judge Michael J. O'Malley to the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce in which he solicited the assistance of Pittsburgh's business community.

COMCourt was formed after Chamber President Justin T. Horan secured the cooperation of representatives from United States Steel, Pittsburgh National Bank and Koppers Co.

John Madden of U.S. Steel was the project leader for this first COMCourt activity. He was joined in the project by James George, Director of the Common Pleas Court Information Systems, and Edward Kiely, Manager of Public/Private Cooperative Programs for the Chamber of Commerce.

In the future, according to Judge O'Malley, COMCourt is expected to continue to provide assistance in other areas of Court management.

PROTHONOTARY'S RECORDS CASE FILINGS PER YEAR

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Appeal Tax Assessments	53	77	130	672	629
Appointment of Viewers	89	143	131	125	75
Assumpsit	1,561	1,450	1,387	1,411	1,235
Change of Name	143	137	171	136	124
Declaration of Taking (Eminent Domain)	116	91	169	157	117
Ejectment:					
Amicable	128	94	45	55	52
Complaint	55	51	91	66	81
Equity	707	744	612	571	461
Foreign Attachment	8	19	8	4	3
Mandamus	42	23	40	24	34
Mechanics Lien Complaint	25	34	41	21	32
Mortgage Foreclosure	566	670	887	1,152	1,290
Petition:					
Amend Tax Lien	22	43	68	24	6
Strike Tax Lien	26	17	20	16	2
Quiet Title	69	66	87	28	40
Replevin	201	146	142	158	100
Rule to Show Cause	327	399	274	272	299
Trespass:					
Complaint	1,888	1,849	1,696	1,880	1,690
Writ of Summons	888	971	867	910	967
Assumpsit and Trespass	405	591	528	611	635
TOTAL	7,319	7,615	7,394	8,293	7,872

Support order enforcement gets results



Judge R. Stanton Wettick
Administrative

Family Division



Judge Eugene B. Strassburger



Judge Livingstone M. Johnson



Judge William L. Standish

Increased enforcement efforts in the area of parental responsibility for their families produced significant results in the Family Division's Adult Section during 1982.

The total of 32,211 support court orders reviewed was an increase of 6,431 over 1981.

There were 3,543 wage attachments issued as compared to 3,107 the previous year.



Judge Lawrence W. Kaplan



Judge Raymond A. Novak



Judge John L. Musmanno

An impressive total of \$33,676,511 was collected and disbursed by the Collection and Disbursement Office in court ordered support payments, an increase over the preceding year of \$4,203,950.

The Court began obtaining partial reimbursement for the cost of institutionalizing children from parents based on their ability to pay and collected \$65,887.82.

For the first time reimbursement for the costs of blood tests in paternity cases was obtained from fathers, totaling \$25,437.92.

These results reflect the Family Division's commitment to enforcement of these court orders through the assignment of more members of the staff to these functions.

The increase in enforcement activity also is evidence of the effects of the nation's depressed economy during 1982. The greater number of new support orders are due, to a large extent, to a change in the employment statistics. Where families with an absent parent managed to sustain themselves in the past on the income of the remaining parent, the loss of jobs now is frequently compelling these families to seek support from the absent parent.

Pennsylvania Act 75 regarding child support also went into effect last September, further increasing the filing of support claims. This new statute obligates potential State welfare recipients with minor children to file for support before receiving their welfare grant.

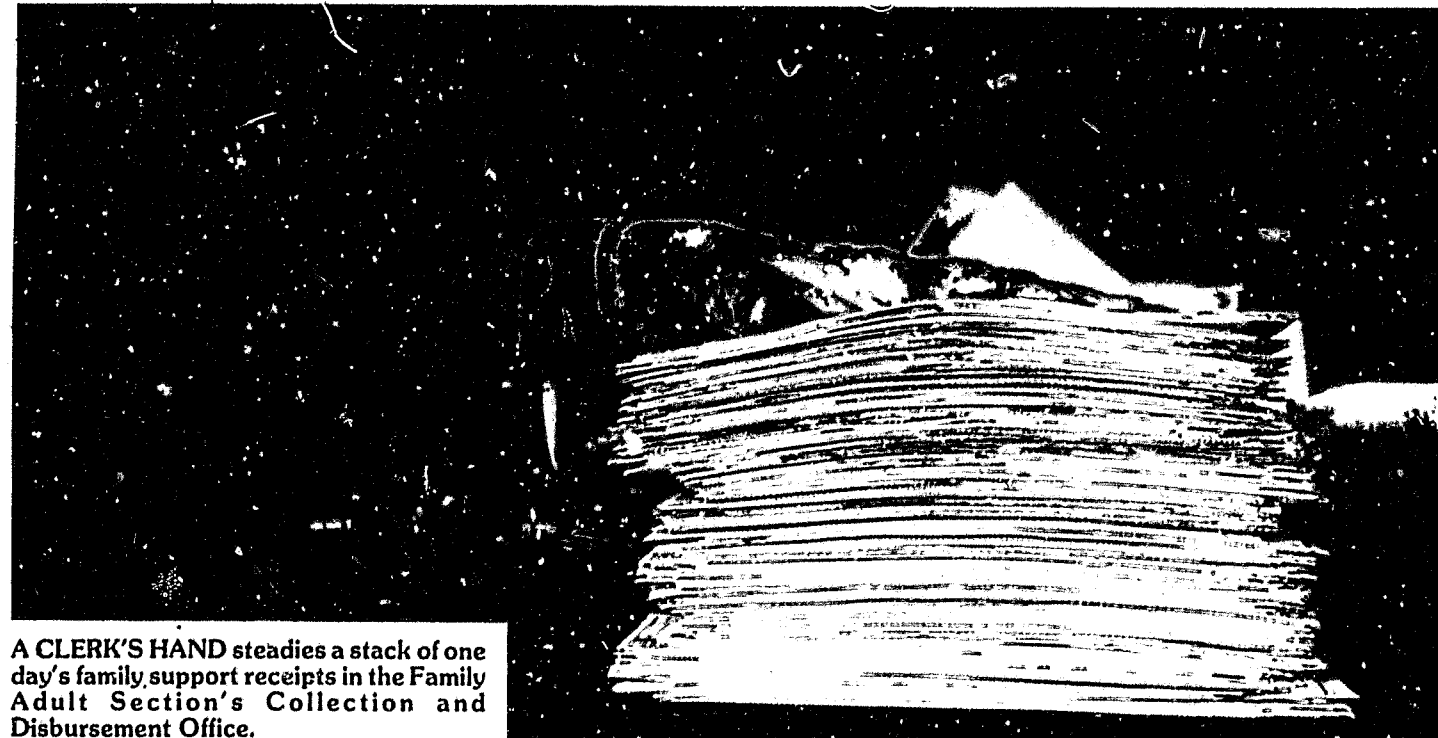
(Continued on Page 28)

COLLECTION AND DISBURSEMENT OF SUPPORT MONIES

	Total Received and Disbursed	Percentage Increase Over Prior Year
1982	\$33,676,511	14%
1981	29,472,561	17%
1980	25,105,515	11%
1979	22,532,679	11%
1978	20,325,679	14%
1977	17,828,893	8%
1976	16,510,637	11%
1975	14,889,485	18%

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

	1981	1982	Percentage Increase/Decrease
Support Orders Reviewed	25,780	32,211	+24.8%
Rule to Show Cause (Contempt)	3,165	3,766	+19.3%
Wage Attachments Issued	3,107	3,543 (\$7,716,167)	+14.0%
URESAs Arrears Letters to Other Courts	294	211	-28.2%
Dollar Amount Forwarded to DPW	\$2,947,644.78	\$2,943,635.00	



A CLERK'S HAND steadies a stack of one day's family support receipts in the Family Adult Section's Collection and Disbursement Office.

\$33,000,000 in support checks handled yearly

There is no more dramatic illustration of the increase in workload in the Family Division's Adult Section than the activity that occurs daily in the Collection and Disbursement Office.

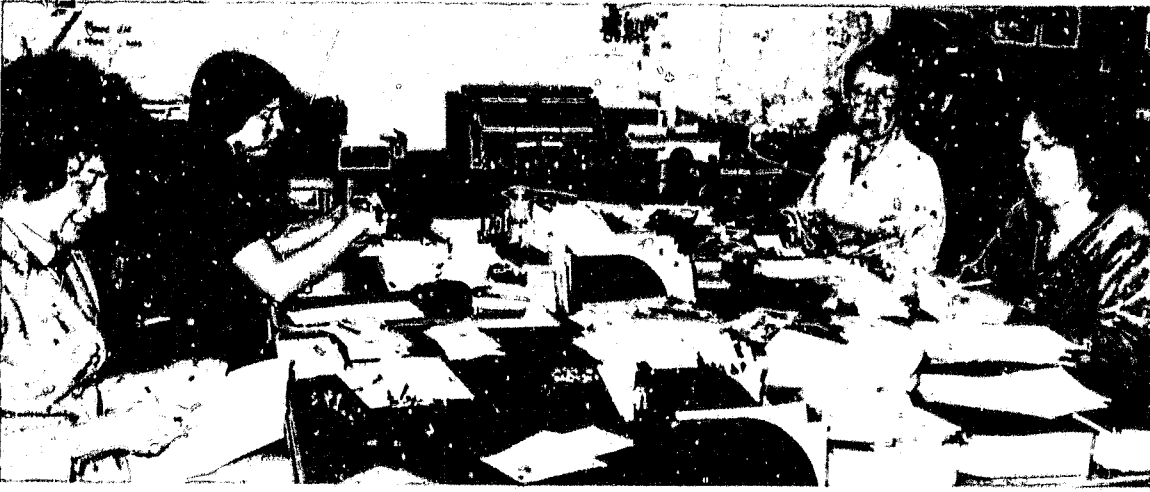
Located in Room 534 on the fifth floor of the Allegheny County Courthouse, the Collection & Disbursement Office in 1982 processed \$33,676,511 in support and alimony payments and reviewed 32,211 support orders.

It is estimated that these payments average \$136,896 daily.

Collections in this office have grown significantly each year. In 1977 the office collected \$17,828,893 in support and alimony payments. In six years time, therefore, there was a 94 percent increase in collections.

The checks received from parents who are obligated to make support payments under Family Division court orders are banked the day they are received. Then Allegheny County checks are printed for disbursement no later than the following morning.

A computer is an integral part of this daily operation and enables the staff to maintain an accurate record on arrearages.



THE DAILY AVERAGE of checks flowing through the office in 1982 was \$128,000. Performing this daily ritual with the arrival of each morning's mail are (left to right) Mary Schwartz, Anne Donahue, Bonny Wolfe and Joyce Pointer. The Collection and Disbursement Office received more than \$33,000,000 in support payments in 1982.

CASES FILED

	1981	1982	Percentage Increase/Decrease
New Support Alimony, URESA (Uniform Reciprocal of Enforcement of Support Act)*	10,210	12,396	+21.4%
Custody/Partial Custody	1,202	1,308	+08.8%
Protection from Abuse	747	763	+02.1%
Divorce	9,367	7,684	-17.9%
TOTAL	21,526	22,151	

*Does not include 3,454 DPW Referrals processed, but not filed because the parent was not located.

CASES DISPOSED

	1981	1982	Percentage Increase/Decrease
New Support Cases and Reviews of Existing Cases	12,408	9,312	-24.9%
Custody/Partial Custody	1,299	1,156	-11.0%
Protection from Abuse	874	699	-20.0%
Divorce	6,407	7,627	+19.0%
TOTAL	20,988	18,794	

CASES PENDING OR CONTINUED GENERALLY

	12/31 1981	12/31 1982	Percentage Increase/Decrease
Support	643	3,084	+379.6%
Custody/Partial Custody	80	152	+90.0%
Protection from Abuse	1	64	+6,300.0%
Divorce	300	57	-81.0%
TOTAL	1,024	3,357	

SCHEDULING CASES

The scheduling interval between the time a case is filed by the intake counselor and the date listed for a conference with a Domestic Relations Officer and/or the Court is as follows:

	1981	1982
Scheduling Interval Between Filing New Support Cases and Hearing Counselor and/or Court Hearing	8 Weeks	4 Weeks
Scheduling Interval Between Petitions for Modification of Custody Order and Court Hearing	4 Weeks	4 Weeks
Scheduling Interval for Custody/Alimony/ Equitable Distribution Claims	4 Weeks	4 Weeks
Scheduling Interval for Protection from Abuse	Immediately on Filing	Immediately on Filing
Scheduling Interval for Final Hearing on Protection from Abuse	Not More Than 10 Days	Not More Than 10 Days

Enforcement

(Continued from Page 26)

In the past the practice had been to begin welfare payments and then to seek the cooperation of the families in the filing of support claims against the absent parent. With the enactment of Act 75, daily filings of support claims in the Family Division increased from a daily average of 20 claims to 46 claims.

Efforts to obtain reimbursement for the costs of institutionalizing children began in September and required the cooperation of both the Family Division's Juvenile Section and the County's Department of Children and Youth Services.

After placement of a youth in detention (for delinquents) or a private or public care facility (for dependent or neglected children and status offenders) a parental support hearing involving the parents and a Family Division Counselor is held to determine their ability to pay. The parents have the right to appeal the decision to a hearing officer and ultimately to a Family Division Judge.

A total of \$40,276.82 was collected from the parents of children placed by Juvenile Court in full or partial payments and \$25,611 from parents of children placed by Children and Youth Services.

While filings and dispositions increased in several areas of operation within the Adult Section of the Family Division, there were some significant decreases.

Divorce filings dropped 17.9 percent, from 9,367 cases in 1981 to 7,684 in 1982. This was due for the most part to an order from the State Supreme Court requiring that divorce actions be filed in the county of residence of either the defendant or plaintiff.

This ended a steady increase in filings which had been occurring in Allegheny County from other counties in the Commonwealth because of the Court's low divorce filing fee of \$25 (since increased to \$36) and the Court's quick service in the processing of divorce filings.

As of April of 1982 out of county divorce filings no longer were accepted.

Another reduction occurred in the interval between the filing of a new support case and its hearing. During 1982 this time element was reduced from five weeks to four weeks. The latter is considered to be the minimum amount of time needed to assign cases and to conduct hearings.

1982

year of change, accomplishment

The year 1982 was one of both change and accomplishment for the Juvenile Section of the Family Division.

Changes included the consolidation of the district offices; installation and operation of a new computer system; and establishing a waiting area in the main office at 3333 Forbes Avenue for victims and witnesses which is separate from the area provided for juveniles who are awaiting hearings.

Among the significant accomplishments in 1982 was the level of effectiveness that was attained in the supervision of difficult cases and the beginning of the day/evening care services for youths on probation at the Sleepy Hollow facility in South Park. The latter program is an alternative to institutionalization.

Consolidation of district offices reduced the number of these neighborhood facilities from nine to six. When one more consolidation takes place, there will be only five district offices.

The 1982 consolidations involved the mergers of the Penn Hills and East Liberty offices into a new Wilkinsburg facility; Northside and Ohio Valley offices into a new Northside office; and the Oakland and Shaler-Garfield offices into a new location in Garfield.

The McKeesport office will be retained under this consolidation plan, but the Castle Shannon and South Side offices are to be merged at some future date into a new South Side location.

Purpose of this reorganization is to achieve more efficient use of personnel and, ultimately, to reduce the Court's rental costs.

The new computer, which went into operation late in 1982, was

for staff in

Juvenile Section

obtained with funds from one of the final grants from the Law Enforcement Assistance Agency. It gives the Court control over the equipment required to forward case information directly to the information center of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.

The computer also will provide local Court personnel with the case information they need. Eventually, they also will be able to retrieve information from the computer about court-ordered juvenile restitution amounts owed and paid.

In previous years the Court purchased the computer service from the National Research Center for Family and Juvenile Court Judges. While this computer increases the capabilities of the Juvenile Court staff, it has not required the addition of more personnel.

Establishing separate waiting areas for victims and witnesses in juvenile cases was considered essential in providing adequate accommodations for these individuals who come to Juvenile Court to participate in its hearings.

The Juvenile Section of the Family Division won statewide recognition in 1982 for the effectiveness of the probation officers in the handling of difficult cases through the High Impact program.

The award was received from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission during Juvenile Court Week.

In this program five probation officers have volunteered to work with those juvenile referrals who require intensive supervision. These probation officers are assigned a smaller caseload (15 to 20 cases per person) in order to have more time to devote to each youngster. The program requires greater involvement in the lives of these youngsters and often demands that the probation officers work a schedule which frequently extends into the evening hours.

Use of the day/evening care service at Sleepy Hollow started on March 1. It provides the Judges a sentencing alternative in the adjudication of juvenile cases. Youths can be institutionalized for a shorter period of time and returned to their homes sooner to complete their placement terms at the day/evening care center.

The center is called Allegheny Academy and is operated by Community Specialists Corp. Its availability not only provides the opportunity to return a troubled youngster to his home after a shorter period of time in an institution, but the per diem cost per placement is no more than half and frequently less than it costs the Court to institutionalize a youth.

At the end of 1982 there were 170 Juvenile court referrals in this program at Sleepy Hollow.

Despite a reduction of 414 in the number of Court cases from the previous year (3,812 to 3,398), the Juvenile Restitution program revealed a three percent increase in restitution collections. Children coming before the Court in 1982 or their parents paid \$95,196.86 to the victims and the community.

In addition, the children or their families paid \$36,830.73 in fines to Allegheny County.

DIVORCE CASES DISPOSED DURING 1982

	1981	1982	Percentage Increase/Decrease
FAULT-CONTESTED (201-A)	8	10	+25%
FAULT-UNCONTESTED (201-A)	1,135	390	-66%
FAULT-UNCONTESTED-INDIGENT (201-A)	150	28	-81%
NO-FAULT (201-C and 201-0)	5,114	7,256	+42%
TOTAL	6,407	7,684	+20%

Women honor Judge Johnson for service

Judge Livingstone M. Johnson of the Family Division's Juvenile Section was honored in July by the independent Allegheny County League of Women Voters for his service to the juveniles who appear in his courtroom.

Judge Johnson received a plaque in recognition of what the League called his "...unusually fine performance in the line of duty at Juvenile Court."

In previous years the League of Women Voters Court Observation Committee has concentrated its observations in other divisions of the Court. Committee chairman Mrs. Lester K. Wolf and League President Mrs. J. Leo Sheran made the presentation.

Wording on the plaque reads:

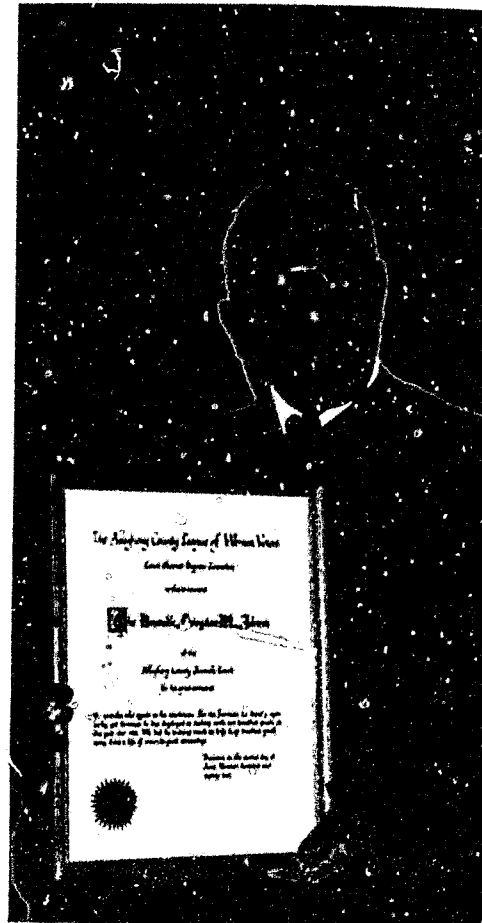
"The Allegheny County League of Women Voters wishes to commend the Honorable Livingstone M. Johnson of the Allegheny County Juvenile Court

for his great service to the juveniles that appear in his courtroom. For his fairness, his dignity, sympathy yet firmness he has displayed in dealing with our troubled youth in the year 1981-1982. We feel he is doing much to keep troubled youth away from a life of crime toward good citizenship."

Presented July 13, 1982.

Attending the presentation were Judge Michael J. O'Malley, President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; Judge Raymond A. Novak, Judge in the Juvenile Section; members of Judge Johnson's staff and members of the League of Women Voters.

Appointed to Common Pleas Court in 1973 by Governor Milton Shapp, Judge Johnson was elected to a 10-year-term in 1975. He served as a Judge in the Criminal Division until 1975 when he was assigned to the Juvenile Section of the Family Division.



1982 INFORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY INTAKE/PROBATION DEPARTMENT

	Number	Percent
Withdrawn	220	14%
Adjustment	658	41%
Warning Letters	10	-
Referral to Social Agency	46	3%
Referral to Other Authorities	199	12%
Intrastate Courtesy Supervision	11	-
To Court Without Petition	473	30%
TOTAL - INTAKE PROBATION	1,617	100%

1982 DISPOSITIONS AT FINAL COURT HEARINGS

	Number	Percent
Dismissed	821	29%
Discontinued	314	11%
Consent Decree	18	1%
Probation	673	23%
Informal Probation	294	10%
Suspended Commitment	79	3%
Commitment - Public Institution	205	7%
Commitment - Private Institution	256	9%
Commitment - Group Homes & Foster Homes	79	3%
Day Treatment	51	2%
Certified	7	-
Other	50	2%
TOTAL - FINAL COURT HEARINGS	2,847	100%
TOTAL - INTAKE/PROBATION	1,617	
TOTAL - 1982 DISPOSITIONS	4,464	

SEX AND RACE ANALYSIS OF DISPOSITIONS

SEX	1980	1981	1982
Male	4,743 (85%)	4,274 (84%)	3,759 (84%)
Female	868 (15%)	844 (16%)	705 (16%)
TOTAL	5,611	5,118	4,464

RACE	1980	1981	1982
Black	2,093 (39%)	2,086 (41%)	1,750 (39%)
White	3,518 (61%)	3,027 (59%)	2,692 (60%)
Other	—	5	22 (1%)
TOTAL	5,611	5,118	4,464

DELINQUENT AND DEPENDENT CASELOAD AS REPORTED BY THE PROTHONOTARY

Cases Pending - January 1, 1982	513
Awaiting Hearing	180
Continuations	211
Deferred Dispositions	122
New Cases Filed	3,280
New	1,978
Recurrent	1,302
Cases Disposed Of	3,355
Commitments	593
C & YS Supervision	408
Probation	533
Informal Probation	285
Suspended Commitment	89
Dismissed	1,036
Discontinued	363
Consent Decree	11
Transfer to Criminal Division	0
Transfer to Other County	27
Cases Pending - January 1, 1983	438
Awaiting Hearing	136
Continuations	174
Deferred Dispositions	128

REASON FOR REFERRALS

	Number
Murder	2
Involuntary Manslaughter	66
Aggravated Assault	15
Rape	21
Arson	632
Burglary and Criminal Trespass	129
Robbery	57
Purse Snatching	20
Unauthorized Use of Auto	492
Theft - Excludes Retail	438
Simple Assault	42
Sexual Offenses - Excluding Rape	63
Retail Theft	9
Possession of Weapons	130
Possession/Sale of Marijuana and Alcohol	27
Possession/Use/Sale of Narcotics	93
Disorderly Conduct	2
False Alarms	139
Receiving Stolen Property	141
Criminal Mischief	30
Malicious Use of Telephone	11
Resisting Arrest	50
Escape from Institution	69
Violation of Criminal Type Probation	170
Failure to Pay Fine	25
Terroristic Threats	58
Possession/Drinking Alcohol	39
Hit and Run	5
Other Traffic Offenses	7
Driving While Intoxicated	47
Reckless Driving	1
All Permissions	-
Supervising on Order of Another Court	-
Modified Orders	-
TOTAL	4,464
ALL OTHER REASONS	1,434

Care for Dependent and Neglected Children

DISPOSITIONS BY INTAKE DEPARTMENT

DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL
Withdrawn	29
Adjustment	95
Referral to Social Agency	133
Referral to Other Authority	12
Other	2
TOTAL - INTAKE	271

SOURCE OF ALL REFERRALS DISPOSED OF BY THE COURT

	TOTAL
Social Agencies	
Child Welfare	548
Other Agency	39
All other Sources	
Pittsburgh Police	16
Township/Boro Police	14
Parents/Relatives	165
Other Courts	5
Other Sources	35
TOTAL	822

TOTAL REFERRALS FOR THE COURT

	Delinquent	Dependent	Total
Unofficial Intake	1,617	271	1,888
Final Court Hearings	2,847	551	3,398
Total Referrals	4,464	822	5,286


Letters of recognition from around the nation

Williamsburg
Virginia

Dear Judge:

You and Judge O'Malley should be very proud of the exemplary performance of the Courts of Allegheny County. We at the Center always look forward to working in Pittsburgh to witness some of the most progressive and effective steps in the administration of justice seen anywhere in the nation.

Very truly yours,


Samuel D. Conti
National Center for State Courts

Los Angeles
California

Dear Judge:

As I mentioned to you in our recent telephone conversation, I have read with a great deal of interest the information which the Honorable Michael J. O'Malley President Judge of your court, sent to the Honorable David N. Eagleson, Presiding Judge, Los Angeles County Superior Court, relative to the Allegheny County One Day/One Trial Jury System.

I want to assure you of my sincere appreciation for answering my questions regarding the operation of your system.

Sincerely,



Raymond F. Arce, Director
Juror Services Division

Erie
Pennsylvania

Dear Judge:

About two months ago we spoke at length regarding the Allegheny County civil trial procedures. As a direct result of that conversation, the Erie County Court of Common Pleas adopted many of the procedures which you recommended and I am happy to report that, except for a few minor problems, the April civil term of Court was a great success.

Very truly yours,


Michelle M. Hawk, Esq.
Court Administrator
Civil Division, Erie, Pa.

END