



Franklin Municipal Court

Annual Report

2023

Judge Ronald W. Ruppert
1 Benjamin Franklin Way
Franklin, OH 45005

Introduction

Ronald W. Ruppert was elected Judge of the Franklin Municipal Court and began serving his first 6 year term on January 1, 2018.

Judge Ruppert was re-elected in 2023 to serve another 6 year term as Judge of the Franklin Municipal Court beginning January 1, 2024.

Our Mission

The Mission of the Franklin Municipal Court is to provide fair and impartial justice, enforce the rule of law, ensure public safety, protect the rights of individuals and to provide the residents of Franklin, Franklin Township and Carlisle a forum to resolve matters fairly and impartially.

Forward

The Court serves the communities of the City of Franklin, Franklin Township and the City of Carlisle. In 2023 the Court processed 9,815 cases. The Court employs a Magistrate, Court Administrator, Clerk of Court, 6 Deputy Clerks of Court, 3 Probation Officers, Chief Bailiff and a Deputy Bailiff.

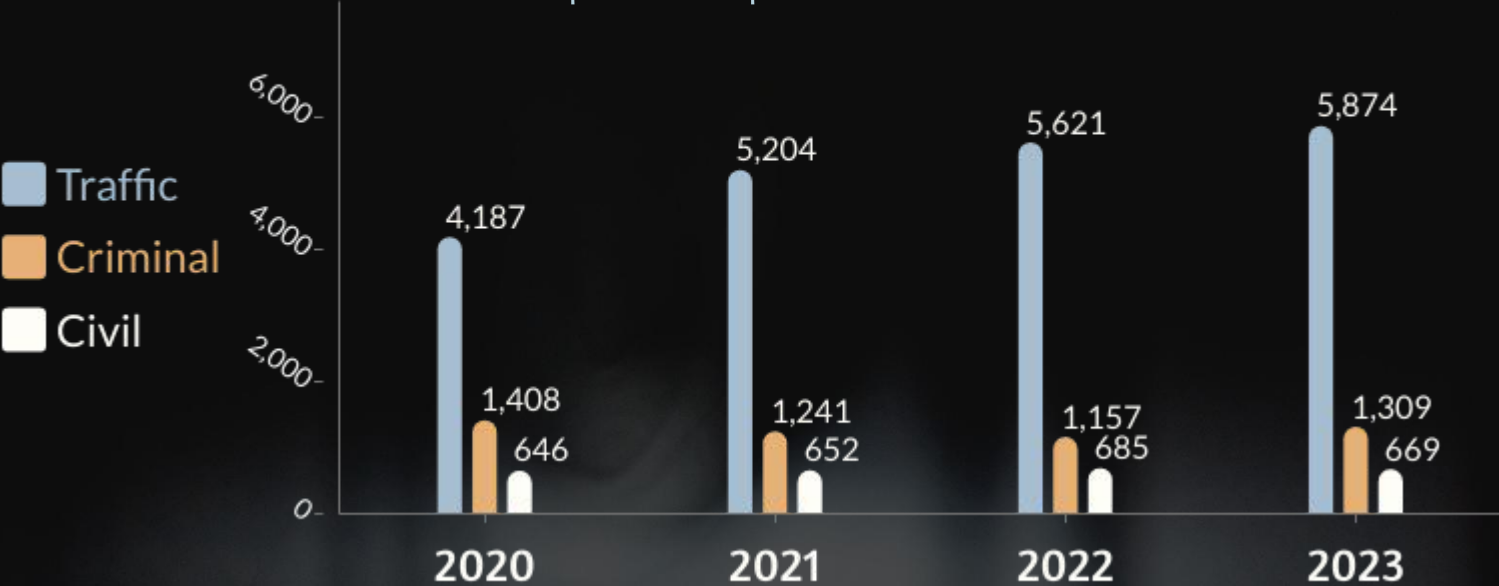
In 2023 the Court continued improvements to better and more efficiently serve the public. The Court added an electronic kiosk to assist individuals with court appearances as well as a monitor to display the Courts docket. The Court also implemented new software providing for the electronic storage of documents thereby moving toward paperless record retention. Next, the Court implemented the use of a motor vehicle to provide for transport of individuals in custody by Probation Officers. In 2023, Court Administrator Amanda Weist completed the second year of a three year program to become a certified Court Management Professional. The program is conducted by the Supreme Court of the State of Ohio.

Franklin Municipal Court 2023 Case Statistics

Total Incoming Cases by Type

2020-2023

Data is as reported from Supreme Court Data Dashboard

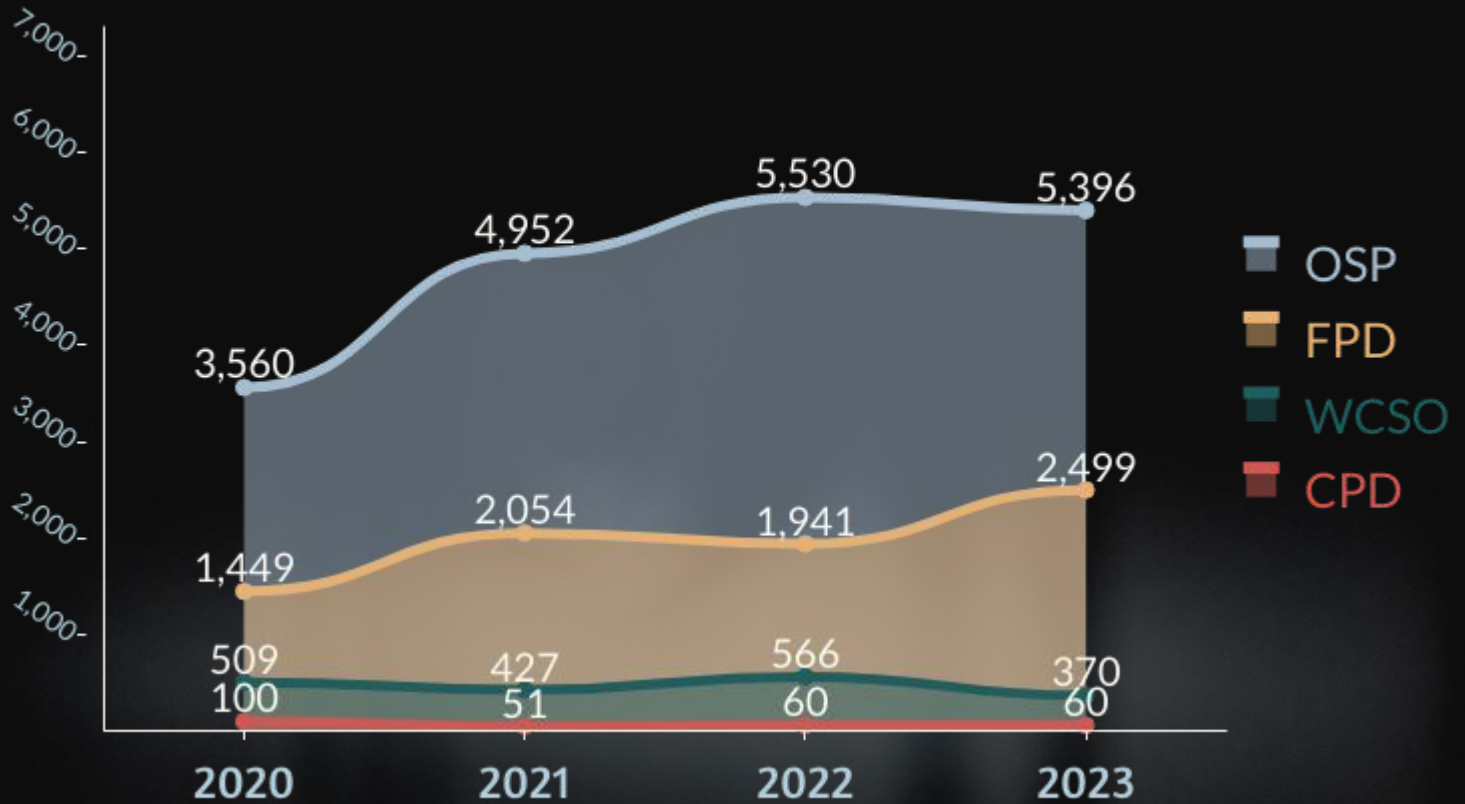


2023 Warren County Municipal Courts Case Comparison

Court	New Cases Filed	Indictments from Warren County Common Pleas and Reactivations	Total Cases Heard	Court Judge Count	Cases Completed
Franklin MC	7,852	1,963	9,815	1	9,740
Mason MC	6,573	1,151	7,724	1	7,690
Lebanon MC	4,733	1,002	5,735	1	5,758
Warren CC	4,600	1,108	5,708	2	5,619

Offenses by Agency

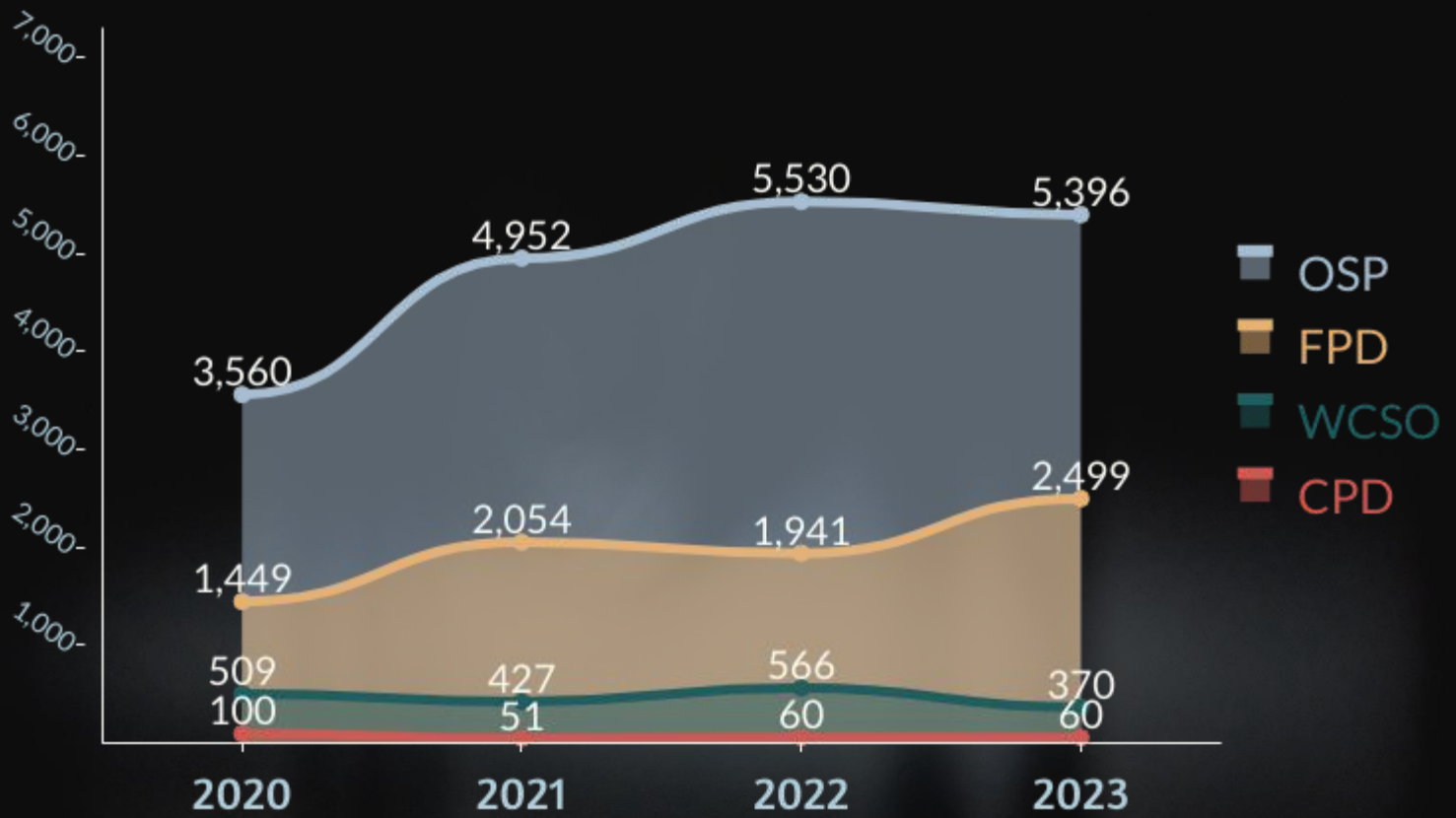
Total Offense Trend by Agency
2020-2023



Ohio State Patrol	
Offenses of Violence/Firearms	21
Offenses Involving Controlled Substance	125
OVI	159
Traffic	5,063
Other	28
Total Offenses 5,396	

Offenses by Agency

Total Offense Trend by Agency
2020-2023

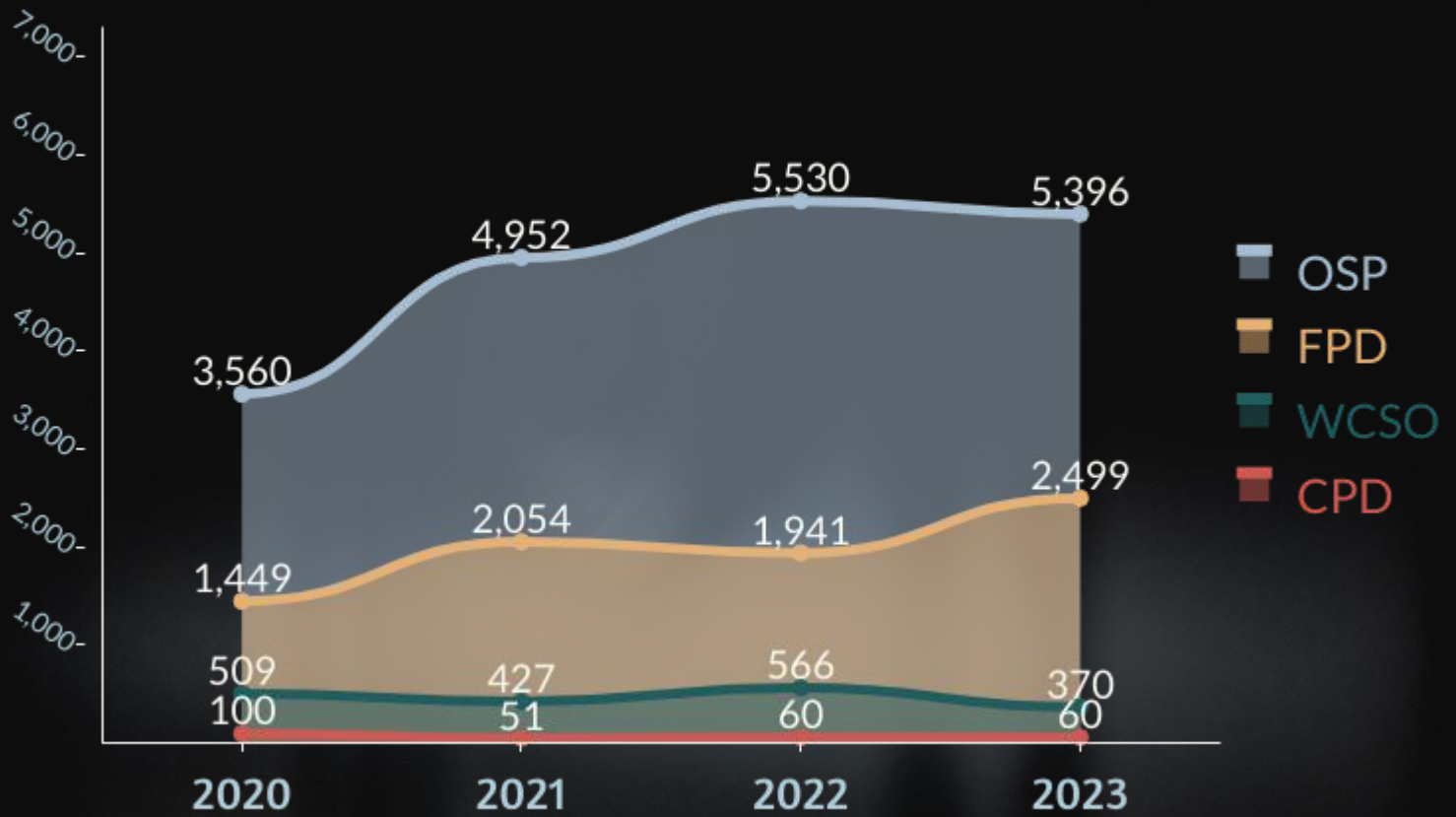


Franklin Police Department

Offenses of Violence/Firearms	195
Offenses Involving Controlled Substance	192
OVI	99
Traffic	1,430
Other	583
Total Offenses 2,499	

Offenses by Agency

Total Offense Trend by Agency
2020-2023

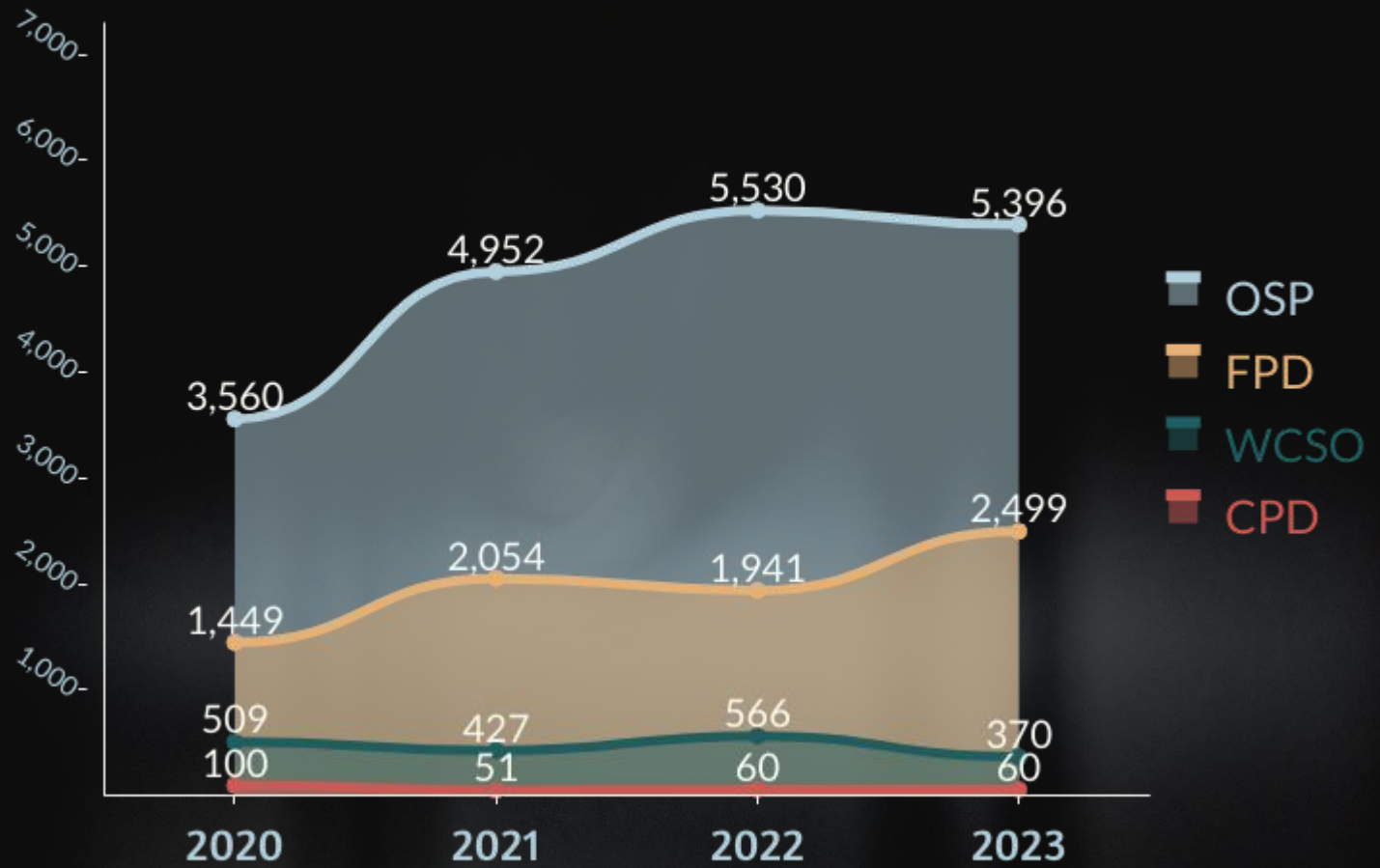


Warren County Sheriff	
Offenses of Violence/Firearms	69
Offenses Involving Controlled Substance	31
OVI	15
Traffic	155
Other	100
Total Offenses 370	

Offenses by Agency

Total Offense Trend by Agency

2020-2023



Carlisle Police Department

Offenses of Violence/Firearms	24
Offenses Involving Controlled Substance	3
OVI	3
Traffic	6
Other	24

Total Offenses 60

Fines, Cost and Fees Collected

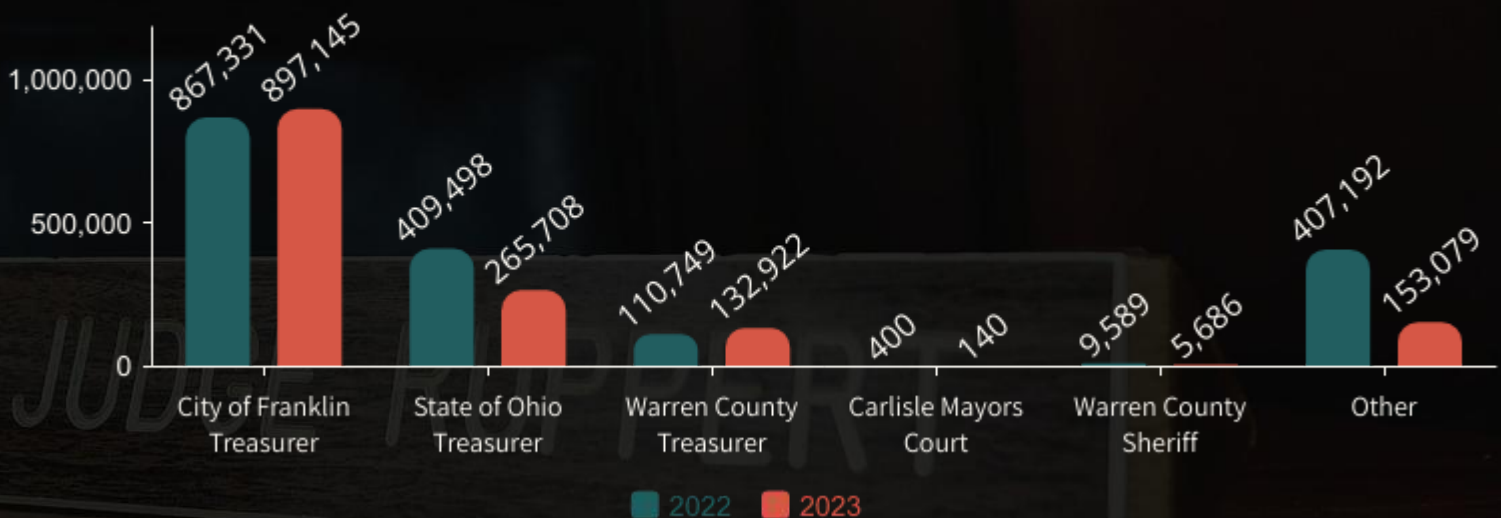
Franklin Municipal Court collects fines, court costs and fees. These funds offset operating costs and are distributed to the State of Ohio, Warren County, City of Franklin and Carlisle in accordance with state law. A small percentage of the collected funds are retained by the Court for funding special projects and other operational expenses.

2023 Net cost to the City of Franklin to operate Franklin Municipal Court:

Total Collected Funds	\$1,454,680.33
Operational Cost to City	\$1,189,758.49
Disbursement to City	(\$897,145.34)
County Reimbursement to City	(\$15,292.84)
Net Cost to City	\$277,320.31

Disbursements

2022-2023



Reimbursements to City of Franklin in 2023

Itemized Amounts Received and Paid to City of Franklin Treasurer

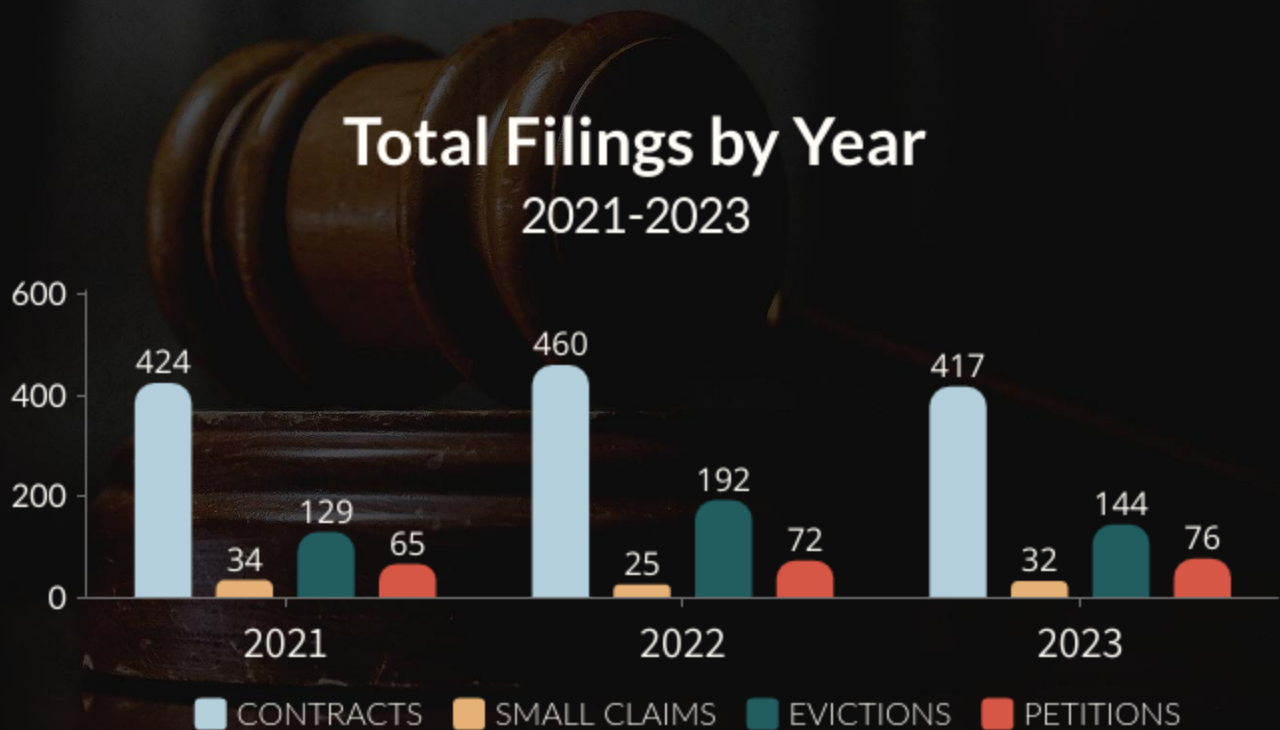
100% Fine Franklin City	\$52,782.00
40% City (OSP)	\$130,848.93
City Cost (SC)	\$1,430.00
City Costs	\$298,991.99
City of Franklin LEF Fund	\$1,697.00
Civil City Costs	\$82,930.50
Civil Clerks Fund	\$5,158.00
Civil Computer Research	\$927.00
Civil Court Improvement	\$20,945.00
Civil EMHA Fund	\$468.00
Clerks Fund	\$40,776.94
Clerks Fund (SC)	\$186.00
Club Fee	\$115.00
Computer Research	\$2,484.00
Court Improvement	\$184,777.48
Court Improvement (SC)	\$924.00
Drug Analysis	\$395.00
EMHA fund	\$5,506.00
FPD Drug fines	\$1,300.00
Franklin City Police Dept Fees	\$5,743.00
Indigent Alcohol	\$2,060.00
Indigent Drivers Interlock Alcohol Monitor	\$7,446.50
Indigent Drivers Interlock Alcohol - DUS	\$50.00
Probation Fees	\$46,889.00
PSI Fees	\$1,984.00
(SC) Additional Costs	\$10.00
(SC) Garnishment Personal Earnings	\$172.00
(SC) Personal Service	\$148.00
Total	\$897,145.34

Civil Court

669 Total Civil Court Cases 2023

Civil, Insurance Claims and Damage Cases	417
Small Claims Cases	32
Eviction Cases	144
Driving Petition Filings	76

Magistrate Gregory Demos presides over the Civil Docket and hears cases involving contracts, property damage, landlord and tenant matters as well as many other types of claims.



Community Control

356 Total Probation Cases 2023

New Probation Cases	256
Pre-Sentence Investigations	28
Sealings (Expungements)	58
Community Correction Referrals	241
PreTrial Services Referrals	56
SCRAM (Alcohol Monitor)	13
Restitution Collected	\$22,845.65

Intensive Supervised Probation Docket

Magistrate Gregory Demos presides over the Intensive Supervised Probation Docket. The docket is designed to give criminal defendants with severe substance abuse disorders an opportunity to engage in drug and alcohol treatment while being closely monitored by the Probation Department and the Court. The goal is to have participants achieve long term sobriety; engage in employment and/or educational pursuits and become productive members of the community.

During the 2023 calendar year, seventeen (17) participants engaged in the Intensive Supervised Probation Docket known as Drug Court. Five (5) participants successfully completed the program and graduated. Four (4) participants were terminated from the program for non-compliance. Three (3) participants have absconded for which the Probation Department has requested arrest warrants and/or filed probation violations. Five (5) participants remain actively engaged in the program with additional participants being referred in 2024.

The Probation Department has issued warrants and/or filed probation violations for those that have absconded or were terminated from the program for non-compliance.



2023

Oath of Office

Judge Ruppert Re-elected

On November 7th, 2023, Judge Ronald W. Ruppert was re-elected to a second term serving as the Franklin Municipal Court Judge.

On December 29th, 2023, Judge Ruppert was sworn in by Common Pleas Court Judge Joseph Kirby at the Warren County Common Pleas Court.



Franklin Police Department

On October 30th, 2023, Eric Miller was sworn in by Court Administrator Mandy Weist as Franklin Police Department's newest patrolman.



Franklin Police Department

On November 20th, 2023, Cole Gudgell and Joshua Crowthers were sworn in by Judge Ruppert as Franklin Police Department's new patrolmen.



5th GRADE



COMMUNITY DAY COURT TOUR & LUNCHEON

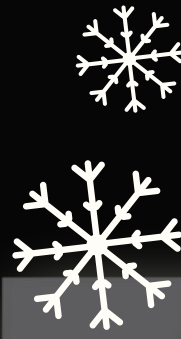
Every year, the Court hosts Anthony Wayne Elementary, recipients of the Ohio School Board Associations Innovative Program Award for Community Day.

On this day, Judge Ruppert educates students on the judicial branch of government and many processes of the Court.

Upon completion of the tour, students meet with a mentor from the Court, City, Franklin Police and Fire Departments along with elected officials to get to know one another and enjoy lunch.

The Court looks forward to Community Day each year.

Franklin Municipal Court 5th Annual *Christmas Sponsorship*



The Franklin Municipal Court participates in a yearly Christmas Sponsorship.

Each year the Court adopts a family in the Carlisle School District and Franklin School District.

Throughout the year, the Court raises money to prepare for the assigned families' wish list provided in cooperation with Carlisle and Franklin Schools.

In 2023, thanks to local attorneys, law enforcement, Court and City staff delivered Christmas joy to two families located in the Franklin and Carlisle communities.



Upgrades



To streamline efficiency and make access to Court easier on the public, the Court converted the old phone booth to a court kiosk for docket check in.

Along with the self check-in kiosk, a 50" digital display was added for the public to view their names and monitor where they are at in the hearing process.



Judicial Staff

Municipal Court Judge
Magistrate
Court Administrator
Chief Bailiff

Ronald W. Ruppert
Greg Demos
Amanda Weist
Frank Hensley

Clerk of Courts

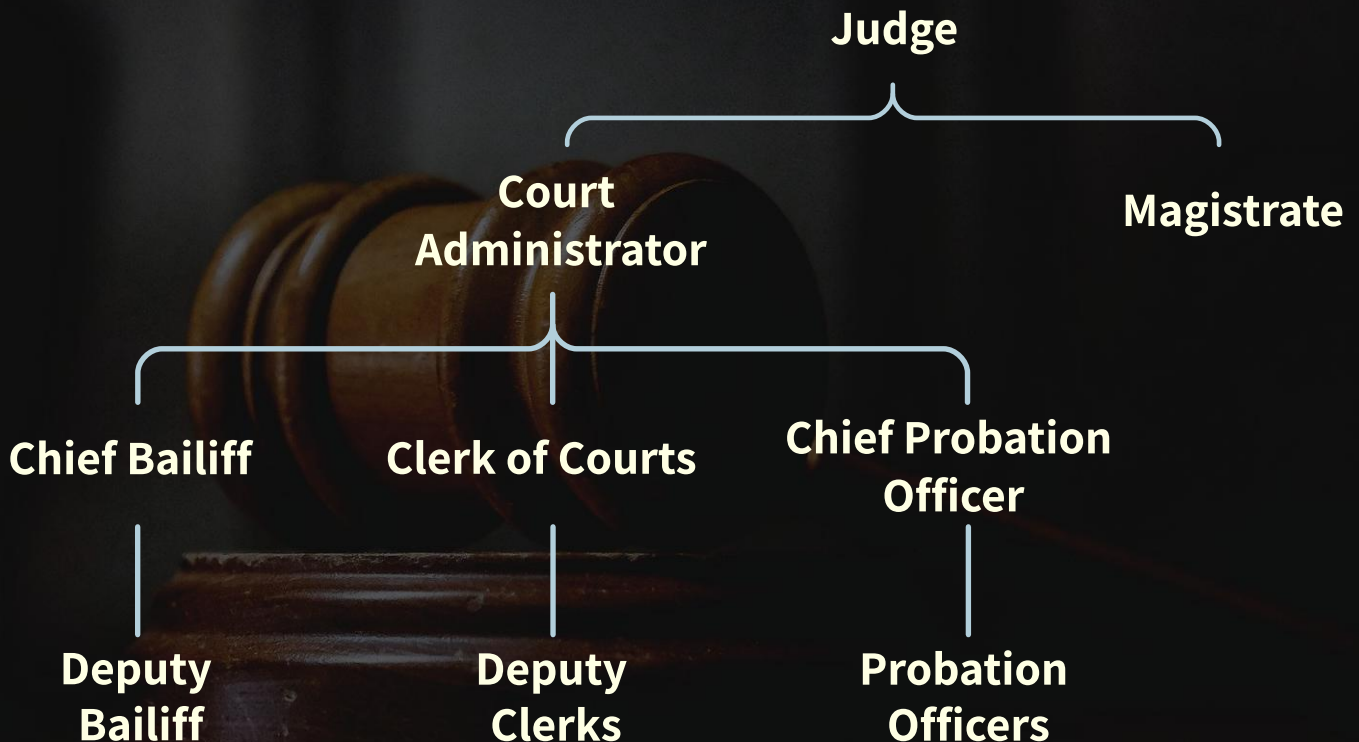
Clerk of Courts
Deputy Clerk
Deputy Clerk
Deputy Clerk
Deputy Clerk
Deputy Clerk
Deputy Clerk

Nikki Simpson
Guene Bushong
Alicia Figliola
Lori Raleigh
Sophie Kirby
Ashley Blevins
Brooke Thornsburg

Probation

Chief Probation Officer
Probation Officer
Probation Officer

Katie Perdue
Heaven Hoff
Steven Badger

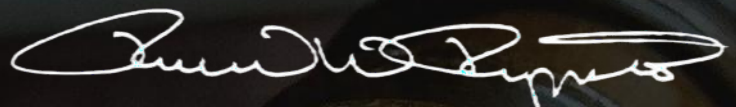


Conclusion

It has been a pleasure to serve as Judge over the past 6 years. I, with the help of my staff, have made many changes increasing the efficiency of the Court and service to our community. I look forward to the next 6 years and continuing to provide fair and impartial justice while improving the operations of the Court.

Beginning in January of 2024, the Court moved to a standardized Court schedule including uniform hours, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. The Court also implemented an arraignment docket for incarcerated individuals each Monday at 8:15 a.m. in addition to the regular arraignments of Tuesday and Friday.

Further plans for 2024 include continued implementation of a paperless records retention system, a streamlined process for accepting online payments and continued improvements in internal procedures to better serve the public.



Ronald W. Ruppert
Judge, Franklin Municipal Court