

# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

## CHIEF MAGISTRATE ALAN G. DAVIS



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

Change is a word that people either love or hate to hear. Change can be difficult and intimidating, however, it can also be efficient and rewarding. The Justice of the Peace Court is no stranger to change and Fiscal Year 2015 was no exception, bringing many of the good changes that we all hope to see in furthering our efforts to improve the Court and its service to the public.

### Structured Training Programs

We are providing support to our staff by improving training opportunities through refocusing resources and starting to develop structured training programs. Building upon our long-term success with the judicial Basic Legal Education program, we established the first series of Clerk training classes designed to teach newly hired staff basic job functions. This initial training is presented in a central location focusing on standardized procedures during a six week development series. Upon completion, new staff members are better prepared to perform their duties and provide improved service to the public. All of our new training programs are being developed with more interactive features relevant to our clerks, security staff, managers, and our Judicial officers.

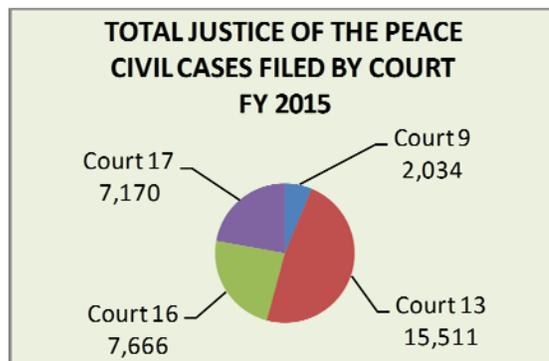
### Drug and Psychological Testing

In an effort to enhance safety for employees, the public and court users, effective July 25, 2014, all new uniformed services employees are re-

quired to be screened for the use of alcohol/controlled substances and psychological impairment prior to a full offer of employment. This policy also affects all uniformed services employees who were employed at the time of implementation by establishing a random drug testing process and incident-based testing should circumstances warrant. Due to the nature of the work performed by uniformed services personnel, the Justice of the Peace Court believes that both drug testing and psychological evaluation of these employees helps to ensure the safety of everyone around them.

### Information Center

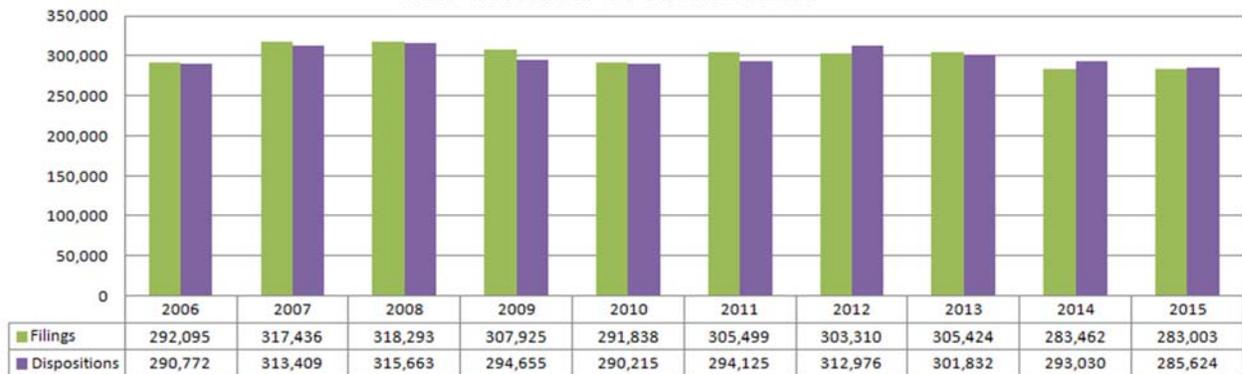
The Justice of the Peace Court has established a centralized call routing system. Much more than a call center, we have dubbed this enterprise our Information Center. This group, working out of our Voluntary Assessment Center, is being positioned to answer all incoming Justice of the



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# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT CIVIL & CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS BY FISCAL YEAR\***



\*Criminal filings & dispositions are by defendant.

Peace Court calls. The first steps in this effort started on March 16, 2015 with a transfer of calls from Court 7. Calls from the remaining 24-hour court locations – Courts 11 and 3 – soon followed. By May 26, 2015 the staff of the Information Center took their ten thousandth call. The Information Center staff has shown that they are consistently able to resolve 90% of questions without the need to involve staff at the court location the call was originally directed toward. This frees front-line court staff to complete court business without the incessant interruption of phone calls. With these initial steps, we are already seeing an improvement in service to the public as well as an improved quality of work product in each court location.

## Motor Vehicle Network (MVN)

We worked with a private vendor, Motor Vehicle Network (MVN), to install monitors in our court lobbies to display court information, news and features of interest to the public while waiting in our lobbies. MVN is a private company whose tools are also used at Delaware Motor Vehicle loca-

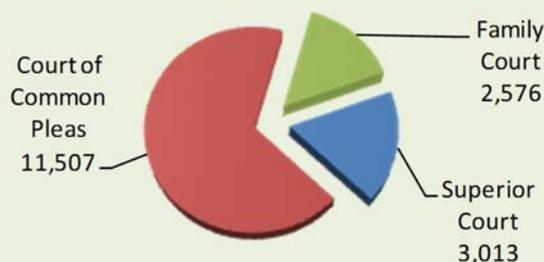
tions. In addition to paid advertising, the court also posts information on criminal and civil procedures and where to find helpful information for litigants and other court users. These monitors have helped to make our lobbies more comfortable and welcoming for the public.

## Court Recording Equipment

Other internal changes include installation of court recording equipment in every Justice of the Peace Court courtroom. While we are not required to keep an official record, having an audio record available for court proceedings will allow us to ensure that we have a clear record of what occurred in our courts. All judges will be required to record court sessions effective November 2, 2015.

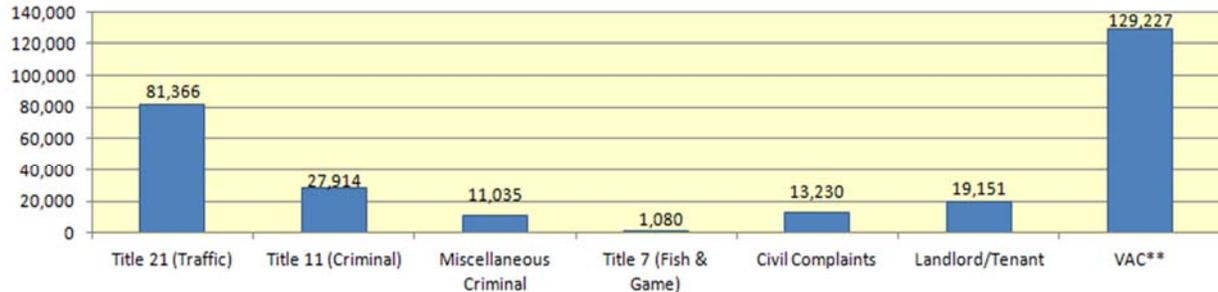
These changes are focused on providing improved service to the public and procedurally fair operations. The Justice of the Peace Court continually strives to improve operations and we look forward to continued change as we move into next year.

**CAPIASES CLEARED BY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT FOR OTHER COURTS FY 2015**



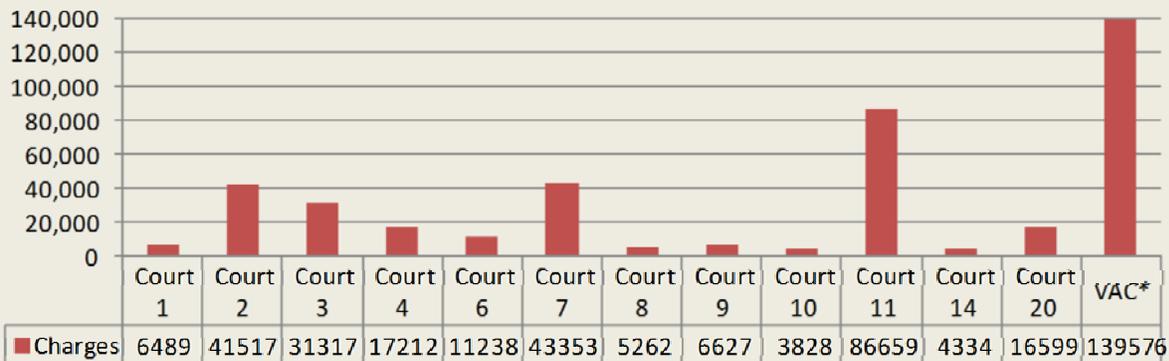
# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

**NUMBER OF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT FILINGS\* BY TYPE  
FY 2015**



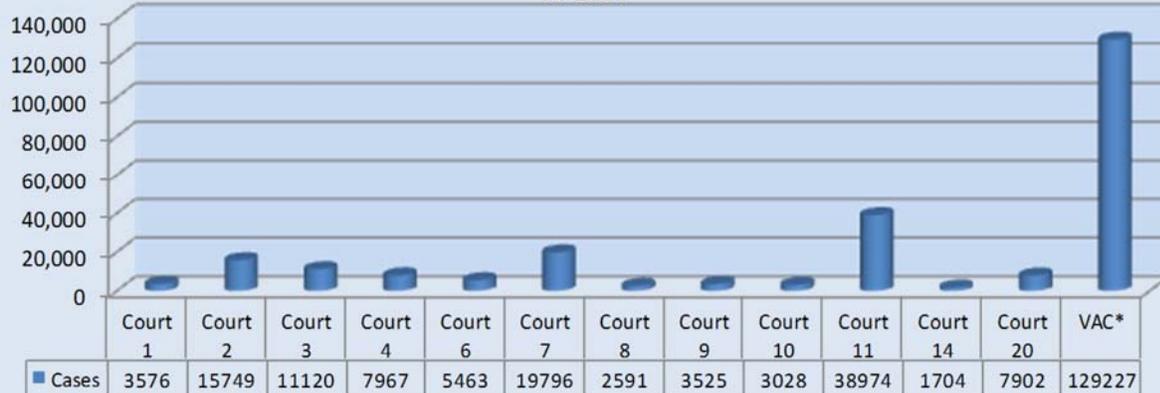
\*Criminal filings are by defendant.  
\*\*Voluntary Assessment Center.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT CRIMINAL & TRAFFIC CHARGES BY COURT  
FY 2015**



\*Voluntary Assessment Center.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT CRIMINAL & TRAFFIC CASES BY DEFENDANT BY COURT  
FY 2015**



\*Voluntary Assessment Center.

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# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

## NEW CASTLE COUNTY JUDGES



***Sitting (left to right):***

Cheryl Stallmann  
Katherine Ross  
Susan Ufberg  
Bonita Lee, Deputy Chief  
Magistrate  
Rosalie Rutkowski  
Kathy Gravell  
Marilyn Letts

***Middle row (left to right):***

Cheryl Mccabe-Stroman  
Nancy Roberts  
Deborah McNesby  
Nina Bawa  
Susan Cline  
Amanda Moyer  
Roberto Lopez  
Carman Jordan-Cox  
Sean McCormick

***Back row (left to right):***

William Moser  
William Young, III  
James Hanby  
Vincent Kowal  
James Tull  
Gerald Ross, III  
Christopher Portante  
Chief Magistrate Alan Davis

***Not Pictured:*** Thomas Brown, Emily Ferrell, Beatrice Freel, David Skelley,  
Vernon Taylor, Thomas Kenney

# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

## KENT COUNTY JUDGES



***Sitting (left to right):***

Dana Tracy  
Chief Magistrate Alan Davis  
D. Ken Cox  
Kevin Wilson

***Middle row:***

Alexander Montano

***Back row (left to right):***

Dwight Dillard  
William J. Sweet  
W. G. Edmanson, II  
Michael Sherlock  
James Murray

***Not Pictured:*** Ernst Arndt, Deputy Chief Magistrate, Pamela Darling

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# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

## SUSSEX COUNTY JUDGES



***Sitting (left to right):***

Stephani Adams  
Rochelle Knapp  
Jeni Coffelt  
Sheila Blakely, Deputy Chief  
Magistrate  
Deborah Keenan  
Michelle Jewell  
Jana Mollohan

***Standing (left to right):***

John McKenzie  
William P. Wood  
Larry Sipple  
Christopher Bradley  
James Horn  
John Martin  
Chief Magistrate Alan Davis  
John Adams  
John Hudson  
Nicholas Mirro

***Not Pictured:***

William Boddy, III  
Richard Comly  
Herman Hagan