



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

PICKAWAY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

The Juvenile Court's mission is to provide children involved in the system with the opportunity to become productive, fulfilled adult citizens; and avoid involvement in the adult Criminal Court and the pain of any continuing abuse and neglect. The Court endeavors to build stronger families for the benefit of all our children.

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OPEN LETTER

Dear Pickaway County Citizens and Pickaway County Commissioners:

In accordance with Section 2151.18 of the Ohio Revised Code, I submit to the Pickaway County Commissioners the 2024 Pickaway County Juvenile Court Annual Report, which provides not only statistical information, but also descriptions of the various programs offered by our Court for juveniles and their families during calendar year 2024. We hope that this information will prove to be valuable and insightful. Moreover, we commit to continuing our efforts to meet the needs of the citizens of our county to attain the goal of our Juvenile Court Mission Statement:

TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM FOR PICKAWAY COUNTY YOUTH AND FAMILIES WHICH WILL PROMOTE A COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL NURTURE CHILDREN TOWARD GROWTH INTO PRODUCTIVE, LAW-ABIDING ADULTHOOD.

At Pickaway County Juvenile Court, we fully recognize the enormous responsibility and commit ourselves to continue to work with children and families to address multi-faceted problems.



Shelly R. Harsha
Pickaway County Juvenile Judge
January 17, 2025

COURT STAFF

JUDICIAL

Shelly R. Harsha, Juvenile & Probate Judge
Carrie Charles, Magistrate

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Stacy L. Planck, Court Administrator
Brenda Cassidy, Fiscal/Grant Administrator

CASA

Cindy Ramey, CASA Director
Kellie Cornett, CASA Volunteer Coordinator

JUVENILE CLERK SERVICES

Destiny Binkley, Deputy Clerk
Stacey Ewing, Deputy Clerk
Dodie Radcliff, Deputy Clerk

COURTROOM SERVICES

Stephen Gaines, Bailiff
Nicklus Booher, Bailiff
Sheila Stump, Bailiff

PROBATION & DIVERSION STAFF

Stephen Gaines, Probation Supervisor
Tobias Brown, Probation/Diversion Officer
David Stevens, Probation/Diversion Officer
Terry Leasure, Community Work Hour Coordinator

FAMILY TREATMENT COURT SERVICES

Rachelle Cooksey, MSW, LISW, LICDC

INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Court is a Court of Records and is a division of the Common Pleas Court. The purpose of the Juvenile Court, as defined in Chapter 2151.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, is as follows:

- A. To provide for the care, protection, mental and physical development of children subject to Chapter 2151 of the Revised Code, whenever possible, in a family environment, separating the child from the child's parents only when necessary for the child's welfare or in the interests of public safety.
- B. To provide judicial procedure through which Chapters 2151 and 2152 of the Revised Code are executed and enforced, and in which the parties are assured of a fair hearing, and their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and enforced. Under Chapter 2152, the purposes of these Code Sections are stated as follows:

The overriding purposes for dispositions under this Chapter are to provide for the care, protection, and mental and physical development of children subject to this Chapter, protect the public interest and safety, hold the offender accountable for the offender's actions, restore the victim and rehabilitate the offender. These purposes shall be achieved by a system of graduated sanctions and services.

Dispositions under this Chapter shall be reasonably calculated to achieve the overriding purposes set forth in this Section, commensurate with and not demeaning to the seriousness of the delinquent child's or the juvenile traffic offender's conduct and its impact on the victim, and consistent with dispositions for similar acts committed by similar delinquent child and juvenile traffic offenders. The Court shall not base the disposition on the race, ethnic background, gender, or religion of the delinquent child or juvenile traffic offender.

The real test and value of the Juvenile Court lies in the nature of legal treatment. Each form of treatment may vary with individual needs. It depends on the legal restrictions, the availability of facilities, and other circumstances. Social, physical, and psychological diagnosis assists in determining these needs. Each child and his environment reveal this information. A guardian ad litem, probation officer, psychologist, other interested parties, and judge may create a constructive treatment plan.

An essential consideration in the disposition of cases and treatment is the welfare of the child. The Court prescribes the remedial measures for the child. It administers them through probation officers or other agents authorized by law. Intelligent administration of treatment and its actual success in saving the child justifies the existence of the Juvenile Court.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the various programs outlined in this report is to prevent and correct the problems associated with the youth and families involved in our Court. Some of the programs attempt to prevent problems or encourage early intervention before problems become more serious. Other programs attempt to aid in correcting and changing decisions and patterns of living that cause problems for youth and their families. We hope to meet the needs of the community by being used as a preventative and rehabilitative correctional agency.

These programs are possible because of the cooperation of many community agencies and their professional staff. We wish to express our gratitude to Pickaway County Educational Service Center, Circleville City Schools, Logan Elm School District, Teays Valley School District, Westfall School District; Pickaway County Job and Family Services, Pickaway County Family and Children First Council, Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health Center, Integrated Services, Pickaway County Commissioners, Ohio Department of Youth Services, Hope Valley Recovery, PICCA and Pickaway Area Recovery Services. These organizations have provided invaluable support to the Court to make these programs possible. Together we can make a positive difference in the lives of Pickaway County Youth.

DEFINITIONS

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES

Section 2152.02(E)(1)(2)(3)(4) defines "delinquent child" to include any of the following:

1. Any child, except a juvenile traffic offender, who violates any law of this state or the United States, or any ordinance of a political subdivision of the state, that would be an offense if committed by an adult.
2. Any child who violates any lawful order of the Court made under this Chapter, including a child who violates a Court order regarding the child's prior adjudication as an unruly child for being a habitual truant.
3. Any child who violates any lawful order of the Court made under Chapter 2151. of the Revised Code other than an order issued under Section 2151.87 of the Revised Code.
4. Any child who violates division (C) of Section 2907.39, Division (A) of Section 2923.211, or Division (C)(1) or (D) of Section 2925.55 of the Revised Code.

JUVENILE TRAFFIC OFFENDER CASES

"Juvenile Traffic Offender" means any child who violates any traffic law, traffic ordinance, or traffic regulation of this state, the United States, or any political subdivision of this state, other than a resolution, ordinance, or regulation of a political subdivision of this state the violation of which is required to be handled by a parking violations bureau or a joint parking violations bureau of Chapter 4521 of the Revised Code.

JUVENILE UNRULY CASES & TRUANCY CASES

Section 2151.022 defines an unruly child as any child:

1. Any child who does not submit to the reasonable control of the child's parents, teachers, guardian, or custodian, by reason of being wayward or habitually disobedient.
2. Any child who is a habitual truant from school.
3. Any child who behaves in a manner to injure or endanger the child's own health or morals or the health or morals of others.
4. Any child who violates a law, other than division (C) of Section 2907.39, Division (A) of Section 2923.211, division (C)(1) or (D) of Section 2925.55 or Section 2151.87 of the Revised Code, that is applicable only to a child.

DEFINITIONS

As defined in Section 2151.27(G): Complaint Involving Child

1. Upon the filing of a Complaint that a child is an unruly child that is based solely on a child being an habitual truant, the Court shall consider an Alternative to Adjudication, including actions that constitute a method to divert the child from the Juvenile Court System, using the Rules of Juvenile Procedure, or by any other means if such an alternative is available to the Court and the child has not already participated or failed to complete one of the available alternatives. The court shall consider the Complaint only as a matter of last resort.

As defined in Section 2151.18: Court Records-Annual Report-Copies for Distribution

1. The Juvenile Court shall maintain records of all official cases brought before it, including, but not limited to, an appearance docket, a journal, and records of the type required by Division (A)(2) of Section 2151.35 of the Revised Code. The parents, guardian, or other custodian of any child affected, if living, or the nearest of kin of the child, if the parents would be entitled to inspect the records but are deceased, may inspect these records, either in person or by counsel, during the hours in which the Court is open.
2. Not later than June of each year, the Court shall prepare an Annual Report covering the preceding calendar year showing the number and kinds of cases that have come before it, the disposition of the cases, and any other data pertaining to the work of the Court that the Juvenile Judge directs. The report shall specify the number of children placed in Alternatives to Adjudication under Division (G) of Section 2151.27 of the Revised Code, the number who successfully completed Alternatives to Adjudication, and the number who failed to complete Alternatives to Adjudication and were adjudicated unruly. The Court shall file copies of the report with the Board of County Commissioners and the Supreme Court.

ADULT CASES

The county prosecutor determines the initiation of adult complaints in Juvenile Court. These cases primarily involve the offense of "Failure to Send a child to school," Contributing and Child Endangerment as more fully described below. Additionally, the Juvenile Court has jurisdiction to hear Complaints filed against parents for Parental Educational Neglect, which is a crime in the State of Ohio.

OTHER CASES

The Juvenile Court is also responsible for handling cases that arise out of parentage actions (formerly known as paternity cases). These cases may involve the determination of child support and custody/companionship/visitation issues. Additionally, the Juvenile Court handles private "custody only" cases as well as child custody cases duly certified to it from another jurisdiction. The Court is also responsible for the enforcement of Child Support orders issued pursuant to these cases.

DEFINITIONS

CONTRIBUTING TO THE DELINQUENCY OR UNRULINESS OF A MINOR

As defined in Section 2919.24, no person, including a parent, guardian, or other custodian of a child, shall do any of the following:

1. Aid, Abet, Induce, Cause, Encourage, or Contribute to a child or a ward of the Juvenile Court becoming an unruly child, as defined in Section 2151.022 of the Revised Code, or a delinquent child, as defined in Section 2152.02 of the Revised Code.
2. Act in a way tending to cause a child or a ward of the Juvenile Court to become an unruly child or a delinquent child, as defined in Section 2151.022 of the Revised Code, or a delinquent child, as defined in Section 2152.02 of the Revised Code.
3. Act in a way that contributes to an adjudication of the child as a delinquent child based on the child's violation of a Court order adjudicating the child an unruly child for being a habitual truant.
4. If the person is the parent, guardian, or custodian of a child who has the duties under Chapters 2152 and 2950 of the Revised Code to register, register a new residence address, and periodically verify a residence address, and, if applicable, to send a notice of intent to reside, and if child is not emancipated, as defined in Section 2919.121 of the Revised Code, fail to ensure that the child complies with those duties under Chapters 2152 and 2950 of the Revised Code.
5. Whoever violates this Section is guilty of contributing to the unruliness or delinquency of a child, a misdemeanor of the first degree. Each day of violation of the Section is a separate offense.

ENDANGERING CHILDREN

As defined in Section 2919.22:

1. No person, who is the parent, guardian, custodian, person having custody or control, or person in loco parentis of a child under eighteen years of age or a mentally or physically handicapped child under twenty-one years of age, shall create a substantial risk to the health or safety of the child, by violating a duty of care, protection, or support. It is not a violation of a duty of care, protection, or support under this Division when the parent, guardian, custodian, or person having custody or control of a child treats the physical or mental illness or defect of the child by spiritual means through prayer alone, in accordance with the tenets of a recognized religious body.
2. No person shall do any of the following to a child under eighteen years of age or a mentally or physically handicapped child under twenty-one years of age:
 - a. Abuse the child.
 - b. Torture or cruelly abuse the child.
 - c. Administer corporal punishment or other physical disciplinary measures, or physically restrain the child in a cruel manner or for a prolonged period, which punishment, discipline, or restraint is excessive under the circumstances and creates a substantial risk of serious physical harm to the child.

DEFINITIONS

- d. Repeatedly administer unwarranted disciplinary measures to the child, when there is a substantial risk that such conduct, if continued, will seriously impair or retard the child's mental health or development.
 - e. Entice, coerce, permit, encourage, compel, hire, employ, use, or allow the child to act, model, or in any other way participate in, or be photographed for, the production, presentation, dissemination, or advertisement of any material or performance that the offender knows or reasonably should know is obscene, is sexually oriented matter, or is nudity-oriented matter.
 - f. Allow the child to be on the same parcel of real property and within one hundred feet of, or, in the case of more than one housing unit on the same parcel of real property, in the same housing unit and within one hundred feet of, any act in violation of Section 2925.04 or 2925.041 of the Revised Code when the person knows that the act is occurring, whether or not any person is prosecuted for or convicted of the violation of Section 2925.04 or 2925.041 of the Revised Code that is the basis of the violation of this Division.
3. No person shall operate a vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley within this state in violation of Division (A) of Section 4511.19 of the Revised Code when one or more children under eighteen years of age are in the vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may be convicted at the same trial or proceeding of a violation of this Division and a violation of Division (A) of Section 4511.19 of the Revised Code that constitutes the basis of the charge of the violation of this Division. For purposes of Sections 4511.191 to 4511.197 of the Revised Code and all related provisions of law, a person arrested for a violation of this Division shall be considered to be under arrest for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them or for operating a vehicle with a prohibited concentration of alcohol, a controlled substance, or a metabolite of a controlled substance in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine.

NEGLECT CASES

Section 2151.03 of the Ohio Revised Code defines "neglected child" as a child:

1. Who is abandoned by the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.
2. Who lacks adequate parental care because of the faults or habits of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.
3. Whose parents, guardians, or custodians neglects the child or refuses to provide proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical or surgical care or treatment, or other care necessary for the child's health, morals, or well-being.
4. Whose parents, guardians, or custodians neglect the child or refuse to provide the special care made necessary by the child's mental condition.
5. Whose parents, legal guardians, or custodians have placed or attempted to place the child in violation of Sections 5103.16 and 5103.17 of the Revised Code.

DEFINITIONS

6. Who, because of the omission of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian, suffers physical or mental injury that harms or threatens to harm the child's health or welfare.
7. Who is subjected to out-of-home care child neglect.

ABUSE CASES

Section 2151.031 an "abused child" includes any child who:

1. Is the victim of "sexual activity" as defined under Chapter 2907 of the Ohio Revised Code, where such activity would constitute an offense under that Chapter, except that the Court need not find that any person has been convicted of the offense in order to find that the child is an abused child.
2. Is endangered as defined in Section 2919.22 of the Revised Code, except that the Court need not find that any person has been convicted under that Section in order to find that the child is an abused child.
3. Exhibits evidence of any physical or mental injury or death, inflicted other than by accidental means, or an injury or death which is at variance with the history given of it. Except as provided by Division (D) of this Section, a child exhibiting evidence of corporal punishment or other physical disciplinary measures by a parent, guardian, custodian, person having custody or control, or person in loco parentis of a child is not an abused child under this Division if the measure is not prohibited under Section 2919.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.
4. Because of the acts of his parents, guardian, or custodian, suffers physical or mental injury that harms or threatens to harm the child's health or welfare.
5. Is subject to out-of-home care child abuse.

DEPENDENCY CASES

As defined in Section 2151.04 a "dependent child" includes any child whom:

1. Who is homeless or destitute or without adequate parental care, through no fault of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.
2. Who lacks adequate parental care by reason of the mental or physical condition of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.
3. Whose condition or environment is such as to warrant the state, in the interests of the child, in assuming the child's guardianship.
4. To whom both of the following apply:
 - a. The child is residing in a household in which a parent, guardian, custodian, or other member of the household committed an act that was the basis for adjudication that a sibling of the child or any other child who resides in the household is an abused, neglected, or dependent child.
 - b. Because of the circumstances surrounding the abuse, neglect, or dependency of the sibling or other child and the other conditions in the household of the child, the child is in danger of being abused or neglected by that parent, guardian, custodian, or member of the household.

PROGRAMS

RESTITUTION

If a juvenile commits a delinquent offense that damages property or injures persons, the Court orders the juvenile to pay restitution to the victim. The Court notifies a potential victim of a pending juvenile case in hopes of collecting information concerning the victim's loss.

With the cooperation of the Juvenile Victim Witness Program through the Pickaway County Prosecutor's Office, the Juvenile Court expanded its restitution program. A systematic notice to victims has been implemented for the collection of monetary, out of pocket expenses that are due to victims of juvenile crime.

A total of \$5096.51 was collected through the Court in 2024.

PICKAWAY COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES COLLABORATION

A very important agency, which interacts with the Court, is Pickaway County Job and Family Services. Their Child Protective Services Unit is frequently involved with the Court for a variety of cases. Thus, the Court holds periodic meetings with agency case workers to exchange procedural information and provide updates of new Court policies or changes in the law.

The Court has also provided Letters of Support for additional funding opportunities (grants) for Children Services particularly in the battle against drug addiction. The Court has also entered into partnership relationships with PCJFS in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding to implement programs on behalf of the agency.

YOUTH SERVICES AND RECLAIM GRANTS

Early in the 1990's the Ohio Department of Youth Services radically changed its policy with respect to the acceptance of youth committed for institutionalization. The State decided to "give" Juvenile Courts grant money for local rehabilitation programs for felony offenders, in lieu of placement with Youth Services institutions. However, the State in turn charges the Juvenile Court for each youth actually committed for institutionalization with the State. Juvenile Court needs to reapply for the ODYS Grant each fiscal year to receive funding from the State.

While recognizing that some juveniles must be committed for institutionalization, Pickaway County Juvenile Court still uses a substantial sum of State grant money to implement local rehabilitation programs. The following narrative describes the use of the State grant money for Pickaway County.

In 2024 the ODYS grant monies were used for the following programs: Family & Children First Counsel, Probation Salaries, miscellaneous supplies and Benefits, CASA Volunteer's Directors Salaries and benefits, Alternative School Program, 3rd Millennium.

PROGRAMS

ELECTRONIC MONITOR

Electronic monitors are an effective way to monitor the child's constant whereabouts and or movement and allow the officer to have constant tracking of the child. The cost for this device is \$10.00 per day and is covered by the DYS Grant. **There were 9 juveniles placed on an Electronic Monitor in 2024.**

HOCKING VALLEY COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL CENTER

The Hocking Valley Community Residential Treatment Center (HVRTC) is a facility, located in Nelsonville, and managed by a Board of Juvenile Judges in Southern Ohio. Pickaway County is a member of the consortium of counties, which comprise HVRTC's catchment area.

HVRTC is not a Department of Youth Services facility. Rather, it is a facility offering alternative approaches to rehabilitation instead of commitment to DYS. Pickaway County committed **1 youth to the facility in 2024**. The facility is a 24-hour, seven day a week residential program. A youth is generally assigned to the facility for four to six months. After receiving appropriate rehabilitative counseling and education, the youth is returned to the community, which has likewise been prepared for management of him upon return.

PERRY MULTI-COUNTY JUVENILE FACILITY

The Perry Multi-County Juvenile Facility (PMJCF) is a community corrections facility that provides youth with significant problems the opportunity to become well-adjusted individuals ready to return to their communities as responsible, productive, and law-abiding citizens instead of commitment to DYS. Pickaway had **2 youth committed during 2024**.

The facility is a 24-hour, seven day a week residential program. A youth is generally assigned to the facility for six months or more depending on the youth's progress. Each resident must progress through the individual level system, or a progressive 5 phase system to gain additional privileges and complete the program. After receiving appropriate rehabilitative counseling and education, the youth is returned to the community, which has likewise been prepared for management of him upon return.

DRIVER SAFETY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Most juvenile traffic offenders are required to attend a driver safety program. The Court provides two programs, which are supported by payment of enrollment fees by the youth.

PROGRAMS

COURT DRIVING PROGRAM

This program is a four-hour program and occurs once every other month. It is administered by a designated Court representative responsible for providing elements of safe driving practices. Students will view videos concerning drugs/alcohol and driving as well as dangers in traffic. The students will take quizzes, and discuss different safe driving practices in class, along with law enforcement visits, and handouts for the course.

The course is meant to be an interactive course between the instructor and juveniles. Discussions about safe driving tips and dangers in traffic are designed to provide the juvenile with better driving habits and hopefully lessen the chances of receiving another traffic citation.

This program served 87 youths in the year 2024.

SAFETEENS

This program, which is offered in several Ohio counties, is known as SAFETEENS.

The program is similar to our existing driver programs in some respects but is different in others. For example, the program will be coordinated and supervised by an adult, who has been trained and certified. Additionally, other adults, such as law enforcement officers, insurance representatives, accident victims and others, will participate at appropriate times.

This program will allow first time traffic offenders, with certain exceptions, to participate in SAFETEENS. Upon successful completion of the program and payment of Court costs, the traffic offense will be dismissed.

Topics in the program include drinking and driving, seatbelt safety, consequences of unsafe driving and tips for safer driving. The program's primary goal is to reduce the number of repeat juvenile offenders.

This program served a total of 15 children in the year 2024.

PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY WORK HOURS

The Court has developed a community work hour (CWH) program that allows the child to complete their Court ordered CWH. The coordinator, Terry Leasure, coordinates places for the juveniles to complete their hours and is responsible for completing the associated paperwork and compiling stats from the program. During the summer months, juveniles are taken out to clean up littered areas in the county. The Court noted this was a positive form of community service.

This program had 1,901 hours that were Court ordered in the year 2024.

2024 CASE FILINGS/OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

<u>NEW CASES FILED</u>	
Delinquent	163
Traffic	116
Abuse/Neglect/Dependent	49
Unruly	8
Truancy	28
Adult	42
Permanent Custody	0
Custody	29
Support	6
Parentage	31
Miscellaneous	1
GRAND TOTAL	473

<u>CASES TERMINATED</u>	
Delinquent	202
Traffic	144
Abuse/Neglect/Dependent	48
Unruly	30
Truancy	13
Adult	43
Permanent Custody	7
Custody	132
Support	29
Parentage	240
Miscellaneous	1
GRAND TOTAL	889

2024 OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS		
CASE TYPE	NUMBER OF YOUTH	FACILITY/STATUS
Abuse, Neglect, Dependency Cases	48	In Final Placement/ Awaiting Placement
Delinquent-Felony	1	HVCRC
Delinquent-Felony	1	Ohio Department of Youth Services
Delinquent-Felony	2	Perry Multi County Juvenile Facility

DETENTION DAY TOTALS

TOTAL DAYS SPENT IN DETENTION BY YOUTH FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024			
MISDEMEANOR	45	FELONY	157
FEMALE	2	FEMALE	0
MALE	8	MALE	10

Number of Males in Detention - Charges by Race												
RACE	UNCL.	UNRULY	MM	M1	M2	M3	M4	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5
AFRICAN AMERICAN											1	
CAUCASIAN	0	0	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	0	2	3
HISPANIC												

Number of Females in Detention - Charges by Race												
RACE	UNCL.	UNRULY	MM	M1	M2	M3	M4	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5
AFRICAN AMERICAN												
CAUCASIAN				1			1					
HISPANIC												

Charge Level/Description/Age of Child	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
Unclassified Probation Violation				7	1	1	1	10
Unruly Unruly								0
M1 Aggravated Menacing								0
M1 Assault						1		1
M1 Domestic Violence				1				1
Theft								0
F3 Robbery					1			1
Unauthorized Use of MV								0
F2 Kidnapping						1	1	2
F2 Felonious Assault								0
F1 Rape						1		1
F4 Terroristic Threats								0
F4 Improper Handling of Firearm				1				1
Receiving Stolen Property								0
MM Disorderly Conduct						1		1
F4 Receiving Stolen Property						1		1
F5 Vandalism				1				1
M4 Disorderly Conduct						1		1
TOTAL	0	0	0	10	2	7	2	21

TRUANCY – H.B. 410 EFFECTIVE 04/06/2017

In December 2016, Ohio lawmakers passed House Bill 410 in an effort to decrease the number of students who wind up in the criminal justice system for school-related absences. The bill, which took effect on April 6, 2017, made several changes to the law governing student truancy and discipline.

H.B. 410 changed the truancy definition to be based on instructional hours, rather than days of instruction.

DEFINITION OF TRUANCY AND EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

1. 'Chronic truant' is removed from the law;
2. Definition of 'habitual truant' changed from days to hours. The new definition is:
 - a. Absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse;
 - b. Absent 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse;
 - c. Absent 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse.
3. Includes 'excessive absences':
 - a. Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse: or
 - b. Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse.

January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024:

Juveniles Placed in Alternatives to Adjudication (2151.27(G))		Number who successfully completed Alternatives to Adjudication		Number who Failed/Dismissed to complete Alternatives to Adjudication	
Female	21	Female	21	Female	0
Male	50	Male	49	Male	1

PROBATION DEVELOPMENT

A portion of the probation department's salary is allocated through this grant to oversee truancy policies within the county. In addition, this program is used for training, salaries and benefits.

The juvenile probation Department consists of 2 probation officers. The officers each average a client list of 25 juveniles. The probation officers' duties are as follows:

1. Prepares and files monthly reports.
2. Prepares and files reports and memos ordered by the Court.
3. Monitors the probationers' school attendance.
4. Monitors all Court orders.
5. Place on electronic monitor and track the child for the length of the Court order.
6. Face to face meetings with the child and or parents monthly, some kids weekly.
7. Work hand in hand with all Court related agencies.
8. Serve as a resource to parents and youth as a referral source for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

In the year 2024 there were 50 children placed on Probation:

Felony Male	7	Felony Female	0	Total Felony	7
Misdemeanor Male	26	Misdemeanor Female	17	Total Misdemeanor	43
Unruly Male	0	Unruly Female	0	Total Unruly	0
Truant Male	0	Truant Female	0	Total Truant	0
Total Male	33	Total Female	17	Grand Total	50

In the year 2024 there were 47 children released from Probation:

	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Felony Male	6	0	1	7
Misdemeanor Male	19	0	0	19
Unruly Male	0	0	0	0
Truant Male	0	0	0	0
	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Felony Female	2	0	0	2
Misdemeanor Female	19	0	0	19
Unruly Female	0	0	0	0
Truant Female	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
	46	0	1	47

DIVERSION DEVELOPMENT

The Juvenile Court Diversion Program is an alternative offered to first time alleged unruly or misdemeanor delinquent youth. The primary purpose of the Diversion Program is to prevent formal Court involvement for those youth that have no previous Court history.

If the youth successfully complete the Diversion Program, he or she will not have a juvenile record. If the youth does not comply with the Diversion Program, the complaint will be heard in formal Court before the Judge at which time further sanctions will be imposed.

In the year 2024 there were 72 children placed on Diversion:

Misdemeanor Male	37	Misdemeanor Female	14	Total Misdemeanor	51
Unruly Male	8	Unruly Female	3	Total Unruly	11
Truant Male	5	Truant Female	5	Total Truant	10
Total Male	50	Total Female	22	Grand Total	72

In the year 2024 there were 73 children released from Diversion:

	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Misdemeanor Male	35	0	0	35
Unruly Male	10	0	0	10
Truant Male	7	0	0	7
	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Misdemeanor Female	15	0	0	15
Unruly Female	2	0	0	2
Truant Female	4	0	0	4
GRAND TOTAL	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
	41	0	0	41

CASA

Pickaway County "Voices for Youth" CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program is a volunteer advocacy program in Juvenile Court. CASA's are trained community volunteers who investigate cases of abuse, neglect, and dependency. These volunteers represent the child's best interest before the Court. The volunteer investigates and prepares a written report to present to the Judge to give a better understanding of the child's life, and to help the Judge make a more informed decision. The Pickaway County CASA program is a non-profit organization that is funded by the Juvenile Court, Volunteers of America, and local donations. The CASA program is staffed by 2 full-time employees.

CASA STATISTICS FOR 2024

Budget:	\$138,000.33		
Employees	2 Full Time		
Volunteer Hours:	1235 Case Hours		
Training Hours:	486		
Volunteers:	29 plus 2 Staff		
Children Served:	91 involved with Abuse, Neglect, Dependency and 15 Delinquency		
106 Abuse, Neglect, Dependency:	Male	61	
	Female	45	
	Multi-Racial	3	Asian 2
	Caucasian	95	
	African American	6	

FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

Family Treatment Court Mission Statement

The mission of the Pickaway County Family Treatment Court is to provide judicially managed comprehensive community-based therapy and services, utilizing close supervision and recognized methods of recovery for participants who present drug and alcohol use issues.

Family Treatment Court was established in mid-December of 2017.

There were 9 participants enrolled in Family Treatment Court in 2024.

2 Male Participants

7 Female Participants

There were 9 participants released from Family Treatment Court in 2024.

4 Successful

3 Unsuccessful

2 Neutral Discharge

3 Rollover

FUTURE GOALS AND WEBSITE INFORMATION

Our Court will continue to try to find ways to make access to justice easier to understand and more user-friendly for pro se litigants in particular.

Our Court will continue to develop programs to respond to drug issues involving youth and families.

The Juvenile & Probate Court welcomes you to view our website at:

<http://www.pickawaycourt.com>

