
Superior Court

Mission Statement:

- Adjudicate all cases, both criminal and civil, in a just and timely manner
- Assure due process and equal protection under the law
- Promote access to justice to all persons

Functions:

The Superior Court is a general jurisdiction court. It has the responsibility of adjudicating matters coming before it over which it has original or appellate jurisdiction, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Washington. This includes felony criminal, civil, juvenile, domestic relations, adoption, guardianship, paternity, probate, domestic violence and mental illness cases. The court is charged with resolving cases in an accessible and expeditious fashion.

Long Term Goals:

- Provide continuous training and education to staff and judges to ensure a high level of competency and efficiency
- Provide a secure courtroom for the processing of criminal and civil cases that protect litigants, witnesses, spectators and court personnel
- Management of limited resources in the current budget. and planning for future shrinkage projections

Short Term Objectives:

- Continue to secure on-going Drug Court Funding
- Expand use of video conferencing for Family Court appearances to minimize travel from outlining areas
- Management of limited resources in the current budget climate.

Accomplishments in 2009:

- Courtroom I updated with JAVS, digital recording system.
- Reduced the number of domestic cases pending resolution from 147 cases at the end of 2007 to 92 cases at the end of 2008 in spite of increased case filings.
- Reduced the number of civil cases pending resolution from 148 in 2007 to 115 in 2008 in spite of increased filings.
- LIFT (family therapeutic court) started August 6, 2008 for families. In the first year of operation, 3 participants have successfully graduated with their dependency cases dismissed, eight children returned home and two drug free babies were born to LIFT Court participants.
- The court received an extension of an Interagency contract with the Administrative Office for the Courts to reimburse Guardian ad Litem costs on indigent dissolution matters.

- Continued consolidated Pay or Appear Program through Superior and District Court for efficiency and shared resources. In 2008, \$313,118 Superior Court Fees were collected. In the first six months of 2009, \$138,610 Superior Court Fees were collected.
- The Superior Court Drug Court Facilitator facilitates the State's first high risk DUI Drug Court in District Court, Adult Drug Court and Juvenile Drug Court sharing limited resources.
- Since Adult Drug Court began in October 1999, 200 participants have successfully graduated. and 10 drug-free babies were born to participants. With an estimated cost of \$250,000 for each baby born addicted to methamphetamine, the savings to our community is significant.
- Since Juvenile Drug Court's beginning in 1997, 94 minors have successfully graduated.
- Continued access to courts and improved efficiency of resources through implementation of video teleconferencing for Juvenile new arrests and Clallam Bay Correctional Center inmates.
- Continued use of Special Report Mental Health Calendar reducing jail resources and recidivism among mentally managed offenders.
- Collaboration with the Clallam County Sheriff's Department to decrease jail population through Promise to Appear Programs and EHM.
- In 2008, the Court Security Officer took 239 persons into custody, responded to 65 reported incidents, 188 requests for stand-by assistance and 30 weapon/knives were confiscated by security.
- Reduced backlog of criminal and civil cases.
- Increased court facilitators hours through coordinated hours with the Family Juvenile Court Improvement Program Coordinator (State funded grant position).

Performance Indicators:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual
Jury Trials (total for all case types)	29	52	16
Non-Jury Trials (total for all case types)	82	55	20
Criminal only Jury Trials	31	48	13
Guilty Plea (disposition without trial)	150	211	105

Staffing Level:

Superior Court and Drug Court	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Budget
Full Time Equivalents	6.33	9.61	9.61	9.61

Workload Indicators:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Estimate
Cases Filed:				
Criminal	589	554	266	
Civil	1,267	1232	707	
Domestic	390	444	231	
Probate/Guardianship	400	346	238	
Adoption/Paternity	164	142	64	
Mental Illness	7	11	7	
Juvenile Dependency	721	622	323	
Juvenile Offender	325	404	150	
TOTAL CASES FILED	3,863	3755	1986	3,809
Non-Trial Proceedings				
Criminal	10,026	9,248	4,713	
Civil	1,070	1,099	552	
Domestic	1,755	1,761	292	
Probate/Guardianship	476	472	280	
Adoption/Paternity	604	653	273	
Mental Illness	2	6	9	
Juvenile Dependency	3351	2,969	1,939	
Juvenile Offender	3134	3,940	1,973	
TOTAL NON-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS	20,418	20,148	10,032	20,283

Superior Court Operating Budget

Revenues:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	49,611	45,058	17,385	46,793
Charges for Goods and Services	1,385	6,200	9,855	1,000
Fines and Forfeits	579	0	190	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	826	44,124	31,814	88,142
Non-revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	0	50,000	38,000	50,000
General Tax Support	979,085	1,151,230	586,497	1,061,860
TOTAL	\$1,031,486	\$1,296,612	\$683,741	\$1,247,795

Expenditures:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Salaries and Wages	514,663	671,614	355,284	716,737
Personnel Benefits	100,691	133,287	73,245	142,155
Supplies	14,255	18,738	4,631	14,050
Other Services and Charges	401,827	472,973	250,551	374,853
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	50	0	30	0
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$1,031,486	\$1,296,612	\$683,741	\$1,247,795

Drug Court Operating Budget

Revenues:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	4,124	8,162	11,128	12,406
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	0	0	0	0
Charges for Goods and Services	33,222	36,643	10,475	25,000
Fines and Forfeits	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	0	0	0
Non-revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	0	0	5,000	5,000
General Tax Support	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$37,346	\$44,805	\$26,714	\$42,406

Expenditures:

	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	6/30/09 Actual	2010 Budget
Salaries and Wages	9,795	11,676	5,336	12,240
Personnel Benefits	869	1,017	478	1,287
Supplies	967	1,600	447	1,200
Other Services and Charges	12,982	13,325	6,661	1,825
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	5,299	3,269	3,327	3,550
Capital Outlay	0	5,755	0	0
Ending Fund Balance	7,434	8,163	10,465	22,304
TOTAL	\$37,346	\$44,805	\$26,714	\$42,406

Agency Structure:

