
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 2008

- Clallam County's third Superior Court Judge S. Brooke Taylor was sworn into office. The addition of a third judge allowed the court to renovate the court's scheduling. In the first six months of 2008, criminal jury trials increased three fold.
- LIFT (family therapeutic court) started August 6, 2008 for families. Ten dependent children are involved, initially.
- The court received an Interagency contract with the Administrative Office for the Courts to reimburse Guardian ad Litem costs on indigent dissolution matters.
- In July of 2008, the Administrative Office of the Court awarded Clallam County Superior Court and Jefferson County Superior Court a joint Family and Juvenile Court Improvement grant.

- Continued consolidated Pay or Appear Program through Superior and District Court for efficiency and shared resources. In 2007, \$266,781 Superior Court Fees were collected. In the first six months of 2008, \$156,496 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, 179 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, 87 kids have successfully graduated.
- Family court has a ten-year average of settling 90% domestic cases through the settlement conference procedure.
- 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 2007, the Court Security Officer took 275 persons into custody, responded to 73 reported incidents and 139 requests for stand-by assistance.
- Reduced backlog of criminal and civil cases.

Performance Indicators:

	Jan 1 thru June 30, 2007	Jan 1 thru June 30, 2008
Jury Trials (all case types)	13	34
Non-Jury Trials (all case types)	37	29
Criminal only Jury Trials	11	32
Guilty Plea Judgment (No Trial)	148	178

Staffing Level:

Superior Court and Drug Court	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	6/30/08 Actual	2009 Budget
Full Time Equivalents	6.33	6.33	9.61	10.01

Workload Indicators:

	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	6/30/08 Actual	2009 Estimate
Cases Filed:				
Criminal	650	589	251	
Civil	1,231	1,267	618	
Domestic	394	390	223	
Probate/Guardianship	333	400	186	
Adoption/Paternity	150	164	78	
Mental Illness	14	7	5	
Juvenile Dependency	743	721	385	
Juvenile Offender	381	325	176	
TOTAL CASES FILED	3,896	3,863	1,922	Status Quo
Trials				
Civil Non-Jury Trial	40	44	16	
Civil Jury Trials	8	4	2	
Juvenile Offender	8			
Criminal Non-Jury Trials	11	38	10	
Criminal Jury Trials	31	25	32	
TOTAL TRIALS	98			Status Quo
Non-Trial Proceedings				
Criminal	10,432	10,026	4,535	
Civil	1,243	1,070	581	
Domestic	1,990	1,755	844	
Probate/Guardianship	333	476	266	
Adoption/Paternity	622	604	363	
Mental Illness	4	2	3	
Juvenile Dependency	2,449	3351	1932	
Juvenile Offender	4,353	3134	1922	
TOTAL NON-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS	21,426	20,418	10,446	Status Quo

Superior Court Operating Budget

Revenues:

	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	6/30/08 Budget	2009 Budget
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	25,685	49,611	151,133	46,196
Charges for Goods and Services	831	1,385	0	6,000
Fines and Forfeits	1,553	579	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,297	826	4,000	88,698
Non-revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	0	0	0	38,000
General Tax Support	1,003,406	979,085	978,124	1,088,349
TOTAL	\$1,032,772	\$1,031,486	\$1,133,257	\$1,267,243

Expenditures:

	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	6/30/08 Budget	2009 Budget
Salaries and Wages	476,620	514,663	626,532	719,045
Personnel Benefits	54,151	100,691	123,621	149,145
Supplies	10,871	14,255	13,456	15,100
Other Services and Charges	456,589	401,827	369,648	383,953
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	31,151	50	0	0
Capital Outlay	3,390	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$1,032,772	\$1,031,486	\$1,133,257	\$1,267,243

Drug Court Operating Budget

Revenues:

	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	6/30/08 Actual	2009 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	5,173	4,124	7,124	7,239
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	0	0	0	0
Charges for Goods and Services	27,316	33,222	29,000	29,000
Fines and Forfeits	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	0	0	0
Non-revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Financing Sources	0	0	0	5,000
General Tax Support	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$32,489	\$37,346	\$36,124	\$41,239

Expenditures:

	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	6/30/08 Actual	2009 Budget
Salaries and Wages	9,796	9,795	12,324	12,324
Personnel Benefits	749	869	1,017	1,102
Supplies	1,508	967	1,600	1,200
Other Services and Charges	12,690	12,982	13,325	13,825
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	3,622	5,299	3,269	3,327
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balance	4,124	7,434	5,237	9,461
TOTAL	\$32,489	\$37,346	\$36,124	\$41,239

Agency Structure:

