

## **DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION 36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)**

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is to administer justice with fairness, equality and integrity, resolve matters before the court in a timely manner with trained and motivated staff, and provide courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires public trust and confidence.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is a limited jurisdiction court serving the City of Detroit. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction in all litigation up to \$25,000 and handles small claims and landlord/tenant proceedings. The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court handles a large volume of civil infraction traffic violations, drunk driving, misdemeanor and felony arraignments, and some parking violations, among various other court responsibilities. Criminal jurisdiction includes all misdemeanor criminal offenses and preliminary examination of felony offenses. Annual case filings exceed 450,000, the majority of which are handled in the Traffic and Ordinance Division. Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court has 31 judges, 6 magistrates, and over 400 employees at a single location in downtown Detroit. The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation. On a monthly basis more than 160,000 citizens conduct business at the court and in excess of 65,000 telephone inquiries are received.

### **MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FY 2006-07**

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court's main focus this fiscal year is on obtaining sufficient funding to maintain the court at full operation, fill current vacancies, purchase technologies that will improve court operations, provide speedy and efficient service to the public,

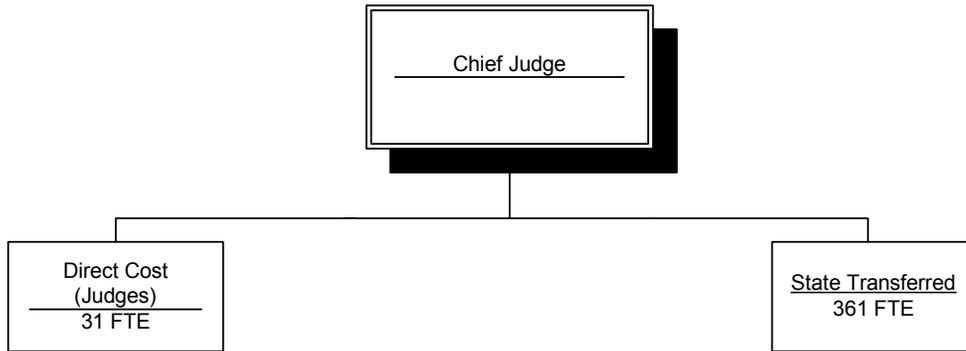
and meet the Michigan Supreme Court's Administrative Order 2003-7 time guidelines for the adjudication of cases. For the past several years, the Court has experienced the challenge of continuing court operations while facing significant reductions in appropriations. As a result, the court has instituted a hiring freeze, eliminated all but essential overtime and postponed the purchase of new technologies.

### **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE FOR FY 2007-08, FY 2008-09 and BEYOND**

In the future, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court would like to introduce new technologies that improve the timeliness and effectiveness of court operations. Two of these new technologies include imaging equipment and interactive voice response (IVR) system. Imaging equipment improves court operations by providing the Court with the means to electronically scan traffic tickets into the computer system. This would improve the Court's effectiveness and reduce costs by eliminating the need to manually enter each ticket into the database. Once the ticket information has been imaged into the system, the public would be able to access the IVR system twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, to obtain ticket information, schedule a court date, or pay a ticket.

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court continues to hold its vision of becoming nationally recognized as a leader in providing innovative, cost effective and efficient administration of justice. One of the most cost effective ways to materialize this vision is through the use of technology. By using technology, the Court will not only enhance internal processes but also provide better services to the community.

**DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION  
36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)**



**PERFORMANCE GOALS, MEASURES AND TARGETS**

<b>Type of Performance Measure:</b> List of Measures	<b>2005-06 Actual</b>	<b>2006-07 Projection</b>	<b>2007-08 Target</b>
<b>Output: Units of Activity directed towards Goals</b>			
Felony	11,723	12,309	12,430
Misdemeanor	64,664	67,897	68,570
Civil Infractions	3,835	4,026	4,060
Misdemeanors and Civil Infractions	185,218	194,479	196,400
Operating under the Influence of Liquor (OUI/OWI)	3,945	4,142	4,183
General	49,304	51,769	52,280
Small Claims	7,391	7,760	7,830
Real Estate	<u>37,995</u>	<u>39,895</u>	<u>40,290</u>
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>364,074</b>	<b>382,277</b>	<b>386,043</b>

**DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION  
36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)**

**EXPENDITURES**

	2005-06		2007-08			
	Actual	2006-07	Mayor's	Variance	Variance	
	Expense	Redbook	Budget Rec		Percent	
Salary & Wages	\$ 18,838,914	\$ 18,019,461	\$ 18,019,461	-	0%	
Employee Benefits	10,099,347	11,271,741	12,905,464	1,633,723	14%	
Prof/Contractual	4,145,924	2,102,520	2,161,050	58,530	3%	
Operating Supplies	535,053	465,812	500,000	34,188	7%	
Operating Services	10,299,538	9,963,579	10,206,985	243,406	2%	
Capital Equipment	669,415	67,000	67,000	-	0%	
Other Expenses	1,317,498	859,499	886,573	27,074	3%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 45,905,689</b>	<b>\$ 42,749,612</b>	<b>\$ 44,746,533</b>	<b>\$ 1,996,921</b>	<b>5%</b>	
POSITIONS	420	392	392	-	0%	

**REVENUES**

	2005-06		2007-08			
	Actual	2006-07	Mayor's	Variance	Variance	
	Revenue	Redbook	Budget Rec		Percent	
Fines/Forfeits/Penalties	\$ 6,968,113	\$ 12,570,000	\$ 10,700,000	\$ (1,870,000)	-15%	
Grants/Shared Taxes	758,147	829,475	826,578	(2,897)	0%	
Sales & Charges	11,813,460	10,756,127	11,506,377	750,250	7%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 19,539,720</b>	<b>\$ 24,155,602</b>	<b>\$ 23,032,955</b>	<b>\$ (1,122,647)</b>	<b>-5%</b>	

**DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION  
36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)**

**This Page Intentionally Blank**