

Judiciary Budget Presentation



Michigan House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Judiciary Tuesday, March 12, 2019



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Today's Agenda



- **Judiciary Themes**
- **Complicated Structure of Michigan's Judiciary**
- **State Court Administrative Office Responsibilities & Initiatives**
- **Accomplishments**
 - High public satisfaction with Michigan courts
 - Judicial reductions save nearly \$30 million
 - Videoconferencing saves DOC more than \$34 million
 - E-filing statewide rollout
 - Michigan Legal Help
- **New Proposals**
 - Cybersecurity – preventing hacks and protecting personal information
 - Pretrial Reform – increasing safety and saving money
 - Online dispute resolution – adding services and expanding availability statewide



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KEY THEMES

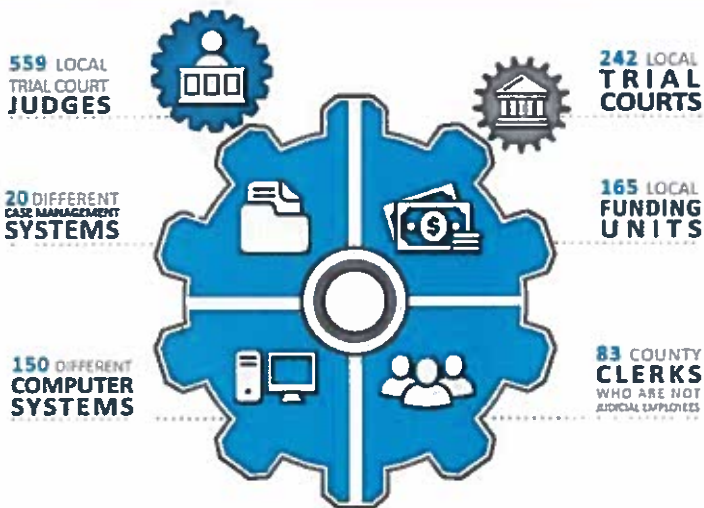


- **INDEPENDENT** – The people want an independent judiciary, free from political pressure, making decisions that are transparent, accountable, and based on the law.
- **ACCESSIBLE** – Our court system must be accessible to every Michigan citizen, whether or not they can afford a lawyer.
- **ENGAGED** – Michigan judges should be engaged and responsive to the problems and concerns of local communities.
- **EFFICIENT** – Our branch of government must be efficient and prudent with public resources and focused on providing the best possible customer service to individuals, families, businesses, and governments alike.



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Michigan's Complicated Judiciary



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Michigan Judiciary Annual Caseloads

Supreme Court	2,000 cases
Court of Appeals	5,000 to 6,000 cases
Probate Court	70,0000 cases
Circuit Court	250,000 cases
District Court	3,000,000 cases



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State Court Administrative Office Responsibilities and Initiatives

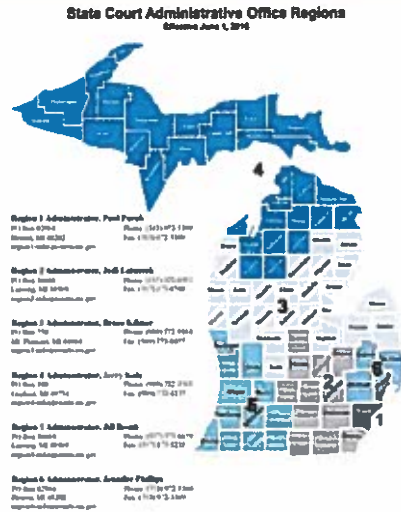


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State Court Administrative Office Team



- **Milton L. Mack, Jr.**
State Court Administrator
- **Dawn Monk**
Chief Operating Officer
- **Tom Clement**
General Counsel, Legislative Liaison
- **Ed Zobeck**
Chief Administrative Officer
- **Larry Royster**
MSC Clerk & Chief of Staff
- **John Nevin**
Communications Director

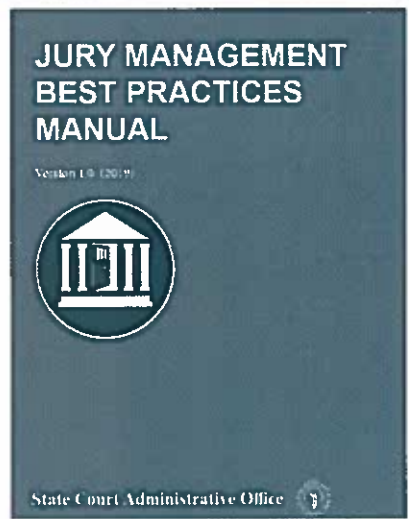


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Jury Management Saves \$4 Million



- Rate of jurors responding rose 3.6 percent.
- Rate of jurors qualified & able to serve rose 5.2 percent.
- Trial courts summoned 20 percent fewer jurors.
- Nearly 5,000 fewer people had to report for jury duty, saving \$4 million in lost wages/productivity.

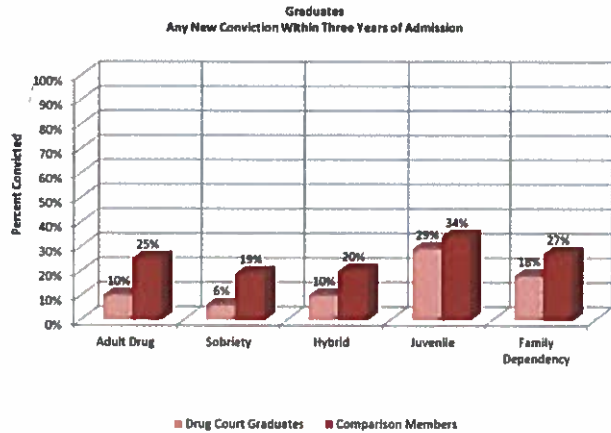


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Treatment Courts Solve Problems, Save Lives



- As of January 1, 2019, there were 188 problem-solving courts statewide, including:
 - 128 drug treatment/DWI sobriety courts
 - 58 hybrid drug treatment/DWI sobriety courts
 - 31 DWI sobriety courts
 - 9 adult and 13 juvenile drug treatment courts
 - 8 family dependency courts
 - 9 tribal drug treatment/DWI sobriety courts)
 - 1 adult and 1 family dependency court in planning stages
 - 33 mental health courts (27 adult + 6 juvenile)
 - 2 adult mental health courts are in planning
 - 27 veterans treatment courts



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SCAO Responsibilities



- Friend of the Court Bureau assists judges and staff who work with 750,000 families involved in custody, parenting, and child support.
- Michigan Judicial Institute provides critical training to judges and court staff to stay current with legislation and court rules. Most recently provided training on “civil treatment” for leaders to make sure all personnel are treated with dignity and respect.
- Statistical Research Division collects and analyzes data to assist in court administration and also oversees the Judicial Data Warehouse.



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Community Dispute Resolution Program



- 55,000 individuals served in FY 2018
- 18,000 cases.
- Agreement reached about 75 percent of the time
- On average, cases are opened and closed in just 23 days



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Judicial Information Systems



Docket Display Boards help litigants navigate the courthouse

Text reminders increase appearance rates and boost payments.



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Michigan's Judiciary Accomplishments



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2018 Public Satisfaction Survey results:



- **84 percent** agreed or strongly agreed that the way their case was handled was fair. 10 percent were neutral. 6 percent disagreed.
- **86 percent** either agreed or strongly agreed that they were able to get their business done in a reasonable amount of time. 8 percent were neutral, and 6 percent disagreed.
- **90 percent** said the judge/magistrate/referee treated everyone with courtesy and respect. On this question, 6 percent were neutral, and 4 percent disagreed.

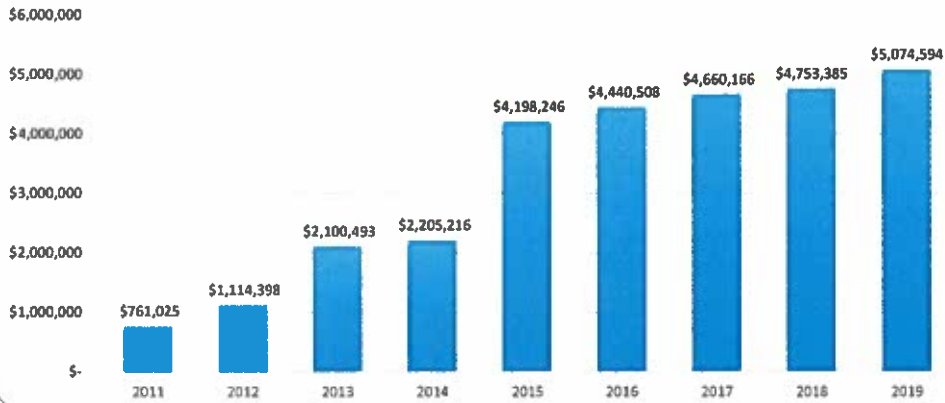


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Judicial Reductions Cumulative Savings 29.3 million (2011 – 2019)



Annual Savings from Judicial Reductions



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Videoconferencing Cumulative Savings \$34.1 million (FY 2011 – FY 2019)



Videoconferencing Annual Savings



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Locals saving even more than State w/ video conferencing

Total Savings Since 2011

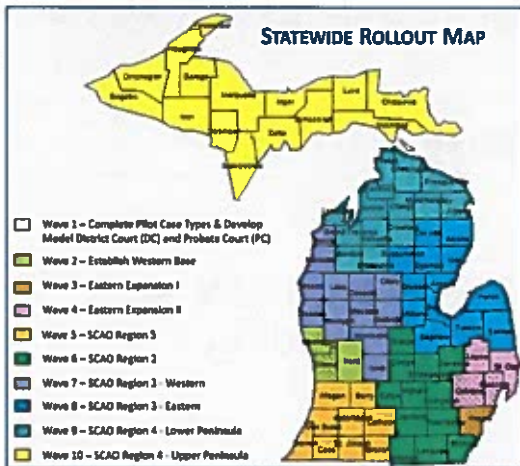


Judicial Reductions	\$29.3 million
Videoconferencing	\$34.1 million
<u>TOTAL SAVINGS</u>	<u>\$63.4 million</u>

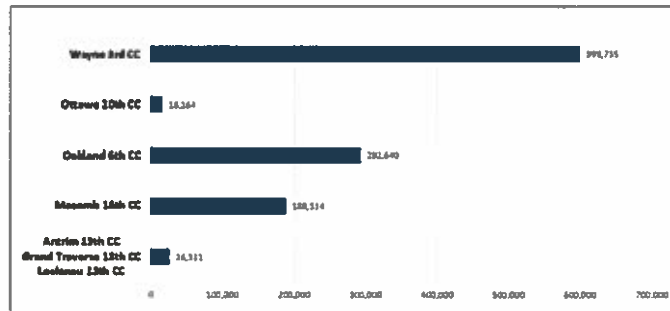


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More than 1.1 Million E-filings



E-Filings as of 2/28/19



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Judiciary Budget Proposals





CYBERSECURITY – preventing hacks and protecting personal information



PRETRIAL REFORM – increasing safety and saving money



ONLINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION – adding services and expanding availability statewide

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Cybersecurity



Preventing Hacks and Protecting Personal Information

- “One Court of Justice” website must be protected from hackers
 - 9.5 million users in 2018 accessed case information, court forms, legal self-help tools, and other important data
 - Last updated in 2012
- Hackers must be prevented from accessing personal information about judges and court staff
- Website lags in user experience
 - Site navigation is complex and load times are slow
 - Information difficult to find



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Cybersecurity – Proposal and Results



PROPOSAL – Implement same security enhancements as Michigan.gov

- \$1.475 million one-time funding to:
 - Redesign and update courts.mi.gov
 - Purchase and deploy content management software
 - Replace customer relationship software
- \$454,100 ongoing funding to:
 - Provide for cloud-hosting and software licenses
 - Fund 2 FTE positions (web developer & content manager)

RESULTS

- ✓ Website secure from threats, protecting integrity of judicial data, and maintaining public access
- ✓ Public and court staff can find information more quickly and easily
- ✓ Mobile enhancements increase public access
- ✓ Virtually zero downtime for updates and upgrades

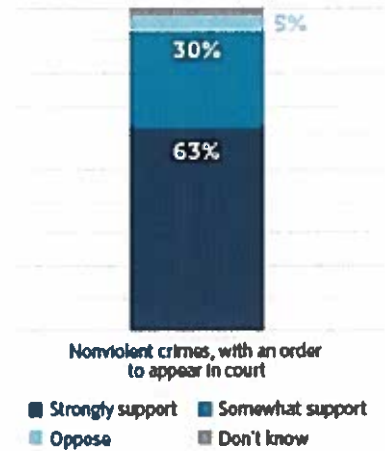


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Pretrial Reform – Increasing Safety, Saving Money



- **Expensive, overcrowded local jails filled with nonviolent defendants held only because they can't pay money bail.**
 - More than half of Michigan jail inmates are held pretrial.
 - Nationwide, cost to detain pretrial defendants is nearly \$75 a day, costing taxpayers \$14 billion.
 - Nonviolent offenders take up jail space that could have been used to hold violent or high-risk offenders who are under sentence.
- **Detaining nonviolent defendants reduces public safety by increasing recidivism.**
- **Detention of nonviolent offenders puts them at risk of losing jobs, housing, and child care, and increases the burden on taxpayers.**
- **93 percent of Americans support pretrial release for nonviolent or misdemeanor offenses (Pew, 2018).**

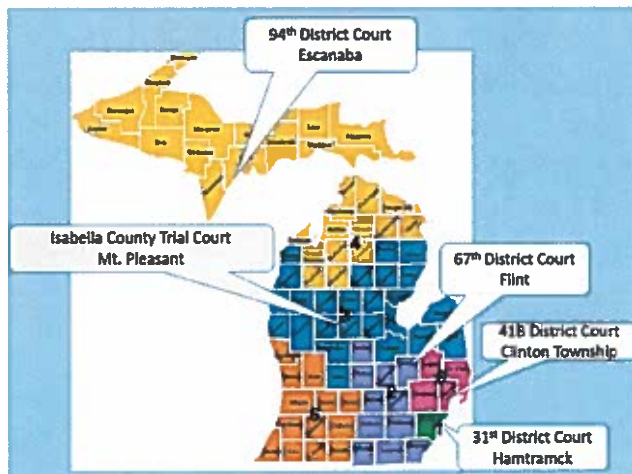


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Pretrial Risk Assessment



Pilot Courts



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Pretrial Reform – Proposal and Results



PROPOSAL – Continue improving pretrial practices

- \$325,700 in ongoing funding to:
 - Improve pretrial risk assessments
 - Collect, analyze, and interpret court data
 - Conduct training on best practices and constitutional compliance
 - Establish pretrial metrics and performance measures
 - Improve resources such as text message reminders and automated pretrial risk assessments

RESULTS

- ✓ Enhanced public safety
- ✓ Jail costs reduced
- ✓ Rights of defendants better protected
- ✓ Stronger families and communities



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Online Dispute Resolution



- Traditional court processes can be costly and inconvenient
 - At least one party is self-represented in 76 percent of civil cases
 - Average billing rate in Michigan is \$250/hour, making legal representation difficult for people filing or responding to claims, including domestic relations and evictions
 - In-person court appearances require participants to miss work and arrange child care
 - Mediation in small claims results in much higher payment rates



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Online Dispute Resolution – Proposal and Results



PROPOSAL – Expand availability and scope of online dispute resolution

- \$450,000 in ongoing funding to:
 - Expand availability of online dispute resolution for small claims and landlord/tenant cases statewide
 - Pilot online dispute resolution to resolve certain domestic relations cases, prevent evictions, and resolve youth-related issues
 - Collect and analyze ODR data to improve services

RESULTS

- ✓ Increase access to efficient and cost effective dispute resolution statewide
- ✓ Reduce case disposition time
- ✓ Increase affordability of resolving a dispute
- ✓ Decrease rental evictions
- ✓ Increase collectability of judgments
- ✓ Reduce number of youth in criminal justice system



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