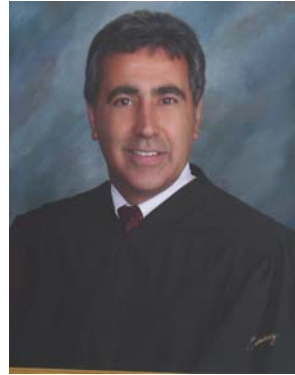


MONTGOMERY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

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MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Court of law dedicated to the task of upholding the Constitution and administering the laws of our land in a just and equal manner. We must strive to provide individualized justice for our children and protect our community, carefully balancing the interests of both. We believe there must be consequences for violation of the laws and that treatment begins with legal consequences. These consequences are intended to teach one responsibility and accountability for their actions; yet our goal is not to punish but to rehabilitate whenever rehabilitation can be effected without endangering the community.

Goals:

We are a Juvenile Court, and although protecting children is everyone's responsibility, we must be the catalyst in rallying the entire community toward that end through the following:

- Be a leader in the effective and cost-efficient utilization of community resources for the treatment of children and families;
- Provide for the protection of the community through just and speedy consequences;
- Be sensitive and responsive to individual victims and their families;

- Provide individualized justice for the offenders;
- Protect the abandoned, neglected and abused and assess and seek treatment for children in need;
- Hold those accountable who fail to meet their obligations as parents, guardians or custodians;
- Demand high professional standards for ourselves and make every effort possible to demand the same standards from other government agencies and service providers.

We must pursue these goals vigorously and honestly with the utmost respect for the rights of all our citizens.

JUVENILE COURT ORGANIZATION

The Juvenile Court division has two Judges and their bailiffs, court reporters, case coordinators, 13 magistrates, judicial technicians, the Court Administrator and court administration staff. Court administration includes Legal Services, which provides support services to the Court in maintaining case flow and the daily judicial processing of cases; the Clerk Office; Finance; Human Resources; Data Processing Operations; Caseflow Management; Grants Management; Psychological Services; Reclaiming Futures; Adult Probation; the Citizens Review Board, which monitors permanency planning efforts for children in out-of-home placements and under ordered protective supervision by the Court; and the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program, which provides volunteer Guardians-ad-Litem for neglected, dependent and abused children; the Start Right Program and the Drug Court Program. Court Administration is also responsible for overseeing the operation of the 5 major departments (highlighted in bold).

The Start Right Program is under the direction of Judge Nick Kuntz. It is designed to facilitate and monitor all cases referred to the Court for parental failure to send and contributing to educational neglect for cases arising out of excessive absenteeism of children in grades kindergarten through fourth grade.

The Drug Court Program, under the direction of Judge Anthony Capizzi, provides intensive intervention and supervision of those adjudicated youth at risk of having alcohol and drug problems. This program closely monitors the Drug Court participants with a comprehensive approach to breaking the cycle of addiction.

The **Detention Services Department** operates a 66-bed detention facility and a 24-bed, short-term correctional treatment facility at the Dora Lee Tate Youth Center. 2,296 boys and girls were detained in 2004. 498 boys and girls were also placed at Dora Lee Tate Youth Center.

The **Intervention Center** is a single point of entry for court service for all unruly and delinquent youth, providing convenient access for local law enforcement. The Center conducts comprehensive assessments on youth brought into the Court's custody and

provides electronic monitoring for youth released back to their home. The Center also houses the Care Coordination Team, which works closely with families of children 10 years of age and younger.

The **Nicholas Residential Treatment Center for Youth (NRTC)** provides a 24-bed, nonsecure residential treatment center for boys ages 11 to 17. 60 boys received needed treatment at NRTC during 2004.

The **Center for Adolescent Services (CAS)** is a secure community residential corrections facility, which provides residential treatment for up to 34 boys and 10 girls from ages 12 to 17 who have been adjudicated delinquent. The period of placement is usually 6 to 9 months, depending upon the youth's attainment of behavioral and academic goals.

The **Probation Services Department** provides a well-established probation supervision program, community service and restitution through its Work Program; the Resource Planning Program, which assists existing probation staff in establishing treatment plans and supervises out-of-home placements; and the Community Based Services Program, which provides work therapy and monitoring for youth; and houses the Residential Alternatives Program (RAP), an early intervention home-based program. During 2004, 1,200 boys and girls were active under Probation Supervision. This Department also houses the Drug Court's Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) supervision component and the Fisher Chemical Abuse Program (F-CAP) urinalysis component.

CASE ACTIVITY

The Montgomery County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, is charged with the responsibility of handling cases regarding delinquent and unruly children as well as those youth charged with traffic violations. The Court must also make judicial determinations relating to dependent, neglected and abused children.

In 2004, the Juvenile Court received 20,681 referrals on juveniles. The breakdown is as follows:

8,664 Delinquency,
4,799 Unruly,
4,732 Traffic,
855 Abuse, Dependency and Neglect,
253 Tobacco, and
1,378 Other Miscellaneous Referrals.

The Court also has jurisdiction over certain civil complaints and motions on adults. This authority includes determining parentage of and establishment, modification, enforcement and termination of support for a child. This also includes the Uniform

Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA), which pertains to out-of-state support collections. In 2004, the Court received 1,131 Parentage, 2,203 Support and 93 UIFSA complaints and motions.

Lastly, the Court oversees misdemeanor complaints involving adults in offenses against a juvenile or with a juvenile. These cases can include incest, physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, contributing to unruliness or delinquency, failure to send to school, and contributing to the neglect of a child, etc. The Court received 345 such referrals in 2004.

2004 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Groundbreaking occurred in August and construction began for the new Juvenile Justice Center (JJC). The original plan was to include primarily the Court's Detention Facility, Corrections and Intervention Center. To meet the growing space needs of other county agencies; Montgomery County Commissioners approved the expansion of the JJC to house all of the Juvenile Court's functions except Probation Services. Construction is expected to be complete on the JJC by the end of 2006.

The Court received reaccreditation by the American Correctional Association (ACA) for three of its departments: the Nicholas Residential Treatment Center, Detention Services and the Probation Services Departments. ACA auditors review programs every three years based upon the standards they set to ensure a high level of care and services in the criminal/juvenile justice system. These departments continue to receive almost perfect compliance, reaffirming the Court's commitment to excellence.

The Reclaiming Futures Project is a national initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Montgomery County is one of only 10 sites in the nation to be chosen for a 5-year \$1.25 million grant to help teens overcome drugs, alcohol and crime. Montgomery County Juvenile Court was proud to become the lead agency for this initiative in June 2004. The mission of this project's coalition is to improve justice and treatment outcomes for substance-abusing youth and to ensure that no child or family slips through the cracks. This coalition is working toward a coordinated, seamless system of care, which includes Natural Helpers (volunteers who provide support and encouragement to youth and families and connect them with opportunities and services to bring about positive life changes), a comprehensive system of substance abuse treatment and intervention for youth engaged in Drug Court. 20 new Natural Helpers were trained, bringing the total to 31. During 2004, 21 Drug Court youth were linked with Natural Helpers.

The Court received a supplemental grant award from the Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) to set up and operate the girls' unit at the Center for Adolescent Services (CAS). Previously, low-level felony female offenders had to be committed to ODYS institutions because no community correction option existed as it does today.

Under administrative direction, the Probation Services Department has developed a planning focus for the upcoming years. Several initiatives have been instituted including the establishment of a strengths-based approach in working with youth and their families, a strong commitment to staff training and development, and the creation of additional quality control measures to assist in day-to-day operations.

The Juvenile Court will be featured as one of the 10 Juvenile Sanction Center (JSC) sites selected for technical assistance grants by JSC in a National Satellite Broadcast. The JSC has been selected by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) as a program to be featured nationally for a satellite teleconference downlink broadcast. To be selected for this type of national exposure is a strong indication that the work of the JSC is vitally important to the overall programming goals of OJJDP.

The Clerk Office of the Juvenile Court sent over 65,000 pieces of mail and issued more than 2,100 warrants and capiases. The office lowered mailing costs in day-to-day regular and certified mailings as well as through established procedures of bulk mailing, providing a savings of over \$8,500 to the Court.

JUVENILE COURT PHONE NUMBERS

A recorded job-line is maintained to allow 24-hour access to employment opportunities available within the Juvenile Court. The Job Line phone number is (937) 496-6882.

Other important numbers include:

Court Administration	225-4267
Clerk's Office	225-4198 or 225-4199
Ancillary Services/Legal	225-4250
Center for Adolescent Services	687-9427, Extension 222
Detention Services	496-7324
Intervention Center	225-4141 or 496-6559
Nicholas Residential Treatment Center	496-7196
Probation Services	225-4163