

PREBLE COUNTY
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUVENILE DIVISION



ANNUAL REPORT
2025

JENIFER K. OVERMYER
JUDGE

K. BRENT COPELAND
MAGISTRATE

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In accordance with the directive contained in Section 2151.18 Revised Code of Ohio, submitted herewith is the annual report of the Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division of Preble County, Ohio for the calendar year 2025.

A MESSAGE FROM JUDGE JENIFER K. OVERMYER

It is my pleasure to present the 2025 Annual Report for the Preble County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division. Each year, this report provides an opportunity to reflect on the work of the Court and to recognize the many people and community partners who help support children, families, and individuals throughout Preble County.

The work of the Juvenile Court extends far beyond the courtroom. Through programs such as CASA, SAFE, Diversion, ADAPT, and evidence-based probation services, the Court strives to meet youth and families where they are, connect them with meaningful resources, and encourage accountability, stability, and positive growth. These efforts are made possible through the dedication of our court staff, volunteers, service providers, schools, law enforcement partners, county agencies, and many others who share a commitment to the well-being of our community.

I am especially grateful for the continued support of our stakeholders. Your collaboration strengthens the Court's ability to respond thoughtfully to the needs of children and families, promote public safety, and build pathways toward healthier futures. The progress reflected in this report belongs not only to the Court, but to the broader network of people who give their time, expertise, and care to Preble County.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to serving with fairness, compassion, and responsibility. Thank you for your partnership, your trust, and your investment in the youth and families of Preble County. We are honored to share this report with you.

Sincerely,
Jenifer K. Overmyer
Judge

COURT STAFF

Judicial

Judge

Magistrate

Jenifer K. Overmyer

K. Brent Copeland

Administration

Court Administrator

Fiscal Officer

Kassie Proffitt

Dawna Simpson

Deputy Clerks

Chief Deputy Clerk Juvenile Court

Probate Court

Juvenile & Probate Court

Juvenile Court

Marian Schmidt

Elizabeth Sizemore

Amy Renner

Troy Skiles

Juvenile Probation Department

Diversion Officer

Probation Officer

Probation Officer

Probation Officer

ADAPT Program Probation Officer

ADAPT Program Probation Officer

Michelle Shafer

Joseph Betscher

Julie Evans

Teresa Leyes

Jody Betscher

Ashleigh Cravens

SAFE Program

Clinical Supervisor

Family Preservation Case Manager

Kelli Ott

Jayne Strine

CASA Program

Program Director

Volunteer Coordinator

Debbie Huff

Kayla Bennett

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Throughout the year, court staff extended their work beyond the courtroom by actively engaging with the community through a variety of outreach and awareness events. Staff participated in events like Senior Day at the senior center, the National Trail Career Fair, and Track-N-Treat just to name a few.



Senior Day at the Senior Center



Court staff and volunteers place pinwheels for Child Abuse Awareness Month



Probation Office School Supply Tree:
Probation staff donated school supplies
for probation youth in need

Special Recognition

CASA program volunteers and staff attend multiple community events throughout the year to recruit new volunteers and share awareness of the CASA program. The CASA Program and volunteers attended the 30th Annual Celebrate Kids! Conference. At this conference, Preble County Juvenile Court Probation Officer Ashleigh Cravens was named Ohio CASA's 2025 Child Welfare Professional of the year!



Special Recognition Continued...

Judge Overmyer was recognized for her work in the community in 2025. She was awarded the Friend of 4-H Award for her unwavering support and longstanding contributions to the 4-H program, the CARTEENS program, and Pre-Fair Judging.

She was also recognized as the 4 Avenues of Service Award winner for 2025 by the Eaton Rotary!



CASA PROGRAM

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children) are local volunteers serving as the voice of children who are in the Juvenile Court system because of abuse, neglect, or dependency. These advocates investigate by visiting with the child and interviewing foster parents, parents, and other adults involved in the child's life. They monitor the child's and parents' involvement with Children's services, attend Juvenile Court hearings, and recommend placement and services for the child through written reports.



Volunteers

Debbie Huff (Director)

Kayla Bennett (Volunteer Coordinator)

Amber Brady

Marcia Garrison

Lisa Goecke

Sarah Ile

Cassie Manning

Breanna Orre

Kim Petry

Gary Pemberton

Deborah Ray

Maria Rodeffer

Mary Ruff

Cathy Spencer

Joyce Tuthill

Dawn White



2025 STATISTICS

- ❖ 21 active volunteers
- ❖ 3 new sworn in
- ❖ Over 700 hours of combined service
- ❖ Average wait for a CASA: 3.6 days
- ❖ Average case life: 17.4 months
- ❖ 87 children served
- ❖ 49 cases closed:
 - o 12 adoptions
 - o 5 aged out
 - o 10 legal custody
 - o 18 reunifications
 - o 4 non-custodial parent

SAFE PROGRAM

The Strength-Based Alternatives in the Family Environment (SAFE) Program is an intensive family-centered intervention service that is delivered in the home and designed to stabilize family functioning. SAFE preserves the safety of the child, family, community and maintains the child in the home. SAFE provides alternative behavior choices to the child and family. Families are not required to participate. It is completely voluntary. SAFE uses a variety of age-appropriate activities to encourage behavior change and improve family communication. Some of these activities include making calm down boxes and other visual emotional regulation crafts.

What families are saying....

"My child was able to open up and better communicate his feelings."

"We have more patience and more understanding and learned how to be more on my son's level and understanding more of his needs."

2025 Statistics

Referrals received: 32

Referral sources:

Mental Health Provider- 20

School- 8

Juvenile Court Programs- 4

Cases opened: 21

Cases closed: 22

Children remaining in the home at the end of services: 22



PROBATION SERVICES- DIVERSION

The Court Diversion program is an early intervention and prevention program. Its mission is to give youth who commit status and specific criminal offenses an alternative to becoming involved in the court system and acquiring a criminal record. Youth complete a variety of activities which may include a written essay, behavioral change assignments, community service hours, donating items to local food banks or animal shelters, and writing letters of apology.

Diversion utilizes Court Solutions online courses with nearly all youth. These courses address several issues including alcohol awareness, anger management, life skills, and decision making.

2025 Statistics	Total	Male	Female
Intakes	79	41	38
Terminations	85	49	36
Successful	74	43	31
Unsuccessful	11	6	5
Neutral	0	0	0

Truancy Data

Pursuant to ORC 2151.18, HB 410 data regarding habitual truancy is required. Specifically, under ORC 2151.28(G), the data shall include:

1. The number of children placed in alternatives to adjudication: 14
2. The number who successfully completed alternatives to adjudication: 11
3. The number who failed to complete alternatives to adjudication and were adjudicated unruly: 1

Note: While the number of program completions in 2025 appears higher than new placements, this reflects the inclusion of youth who were enrolled in the program in late 2024 and completed it in the current year.

PROBATION SERVICES- ADAPT

The ADAPT program (Alcohol and Drug Addiction Prevention and Treatment) is a behavioral change program that utilizes evidence-based programming and connection to appropriate services to guide youth toward a drug-free lifestyle. Youth may be referred to the ADAPT program if they had a drug related offense or presented with a high risk of substance abuse.

While youth are on probation with the ADAPT program, they work through behavioral change guides based on their needs, learn substance abuse awareness and prevention, coping skills, problem solving, decision making, emotional regulation, communication skills, and conflict resolution.

2025 Statistics	Total	Male	Female
Intakes	9	7	2
Terminations	20	14	6
Successful	19	13	6
Unsuccessful	1	1	0
Neutral	0	0	0

Note: While the number of program completions in 2025 appears higher than new placements, this reflects the inclusion of youth who were enrolled in the program in late 2024 and completed it in the current year.

EVIDENCE-BASED PROBATION

Youth who are placed on probation who do not present a need for drug or alcohol services are placed on Evidence-Based Probation. Like the other probation programs, these youth are provided with behavior change programming aimed at reducing their risk of recidivism.

Coaching is used throughout the youth's probation term to empower them to develop leadership skills, self-discipline, self-awareness, personal accountability, and prosocial decision-making.

2025 Statistics	Total	Male	Female
Intakes	26	22	4
Terminations	29	17	12
Successful	26	16	10
Unsuccessful	1	1	0
Neutral	2	0	2

Note: While the number of program completions in 2025 appears higher than new placements, this reflects the inclusion of youth who were enrolled in the program in late 2024 and completed it in the current year.

*Youth in all probation programs have the opportunity to earn incentives which may include return of lost privileges, permission to attend activities previously not permitted, candy, snacks, toiletries, stress relievers, or hobby items.

JUVENILE COURT CASES FILED

CASE TYPE	NUMBER OF CASES
DELINQUENT	173
TRAFFIC	89
ABUSE/NEGLECT/DEPENDENT	47
UNRULY	19
ADULT	15
PERMANENT CUSTODY	10
CUSTODY/VISITATION	101
SUPPORT	170
PARENTAGE	4
UIFSA	2
MISCELLANEOUS	0
TOTAL CASES	630

JUVENILE COURT CASES CLOSED

	Dispo By Judge	Dispo By Magistrate	Dismissal	Unavailable Party	Transfer To Other Court	Other Disposition	Totals
Delinquent	23	77	26	28	6	0	160
Traffic	20	1	48	4	17	5	95
Abuse, Neglect, Dependent	28	0	6	0	0	3	37
Unruly	4	11	5	0	0	1	21
Adult	0	7	3	1	0	0	11
Permanent Custody	7	0	0	0	0	2	9
Custody/ Visitation	2	41	11	0	4	57	115
Support	2	50	44	0	0	114	210
Parentage	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
U.I.F.S.A.	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	86	189	143	33	27	184	662

TRAFFIC COUNTS

ASSURED CLEAR DISTANCE	12
DISREGARD OF SAFETY	1
DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION	1
FAILURE TO CONTROL	10
FAILURE TO DISPLAY	1
FAILURE TO YIELD	8
FOLLOWING CLOSE	1
HIT/SKIP	1
LEFT OF CENTER	1
NO OPERATOR'S LICENSE	3
NO TEMPORARY PERMIT	1
OPEN CONTAINER	1
PARKING PROHIBITED	1
SEATBELT	3
SPEEDING	44
STOP SIGN	1
SCHOOL BUS	1
TURN SIGNAL	1
WRONGFUL ENTRUSTMENT	1
TOTAL	93

DELINQUENT & UNRULY COUNTS

Homicide and Assault	
Felonious Assault	1
Assault	10
Aggravated Menacing	6
Sexual Offenses	
Rape	3
Sexual Battery	1
Gross Sexual Imposition	2
Sexual Imposition	1
Public Indecency	1
Dissemination	2
Pandering	16
Arson and Related Offenses	
Vandalism	1
Criminal Damaging	8
Criminal Mischief	1
Robbery, Burglary, Trespass, and Safecracking	
Burglary	2
Criminal Trespass	9
Theft and Fraud	
Theft	12
Theft of a Motor Vehicle	1
Unauthorized Use	2
Misuse of a Credit Card	1
Receiving Stolen Property	2
Offenses Against the Public Peace	
Disorderly Conduct	13
Inducing Panic	3
Making False Alarms	4
Offenses Against the Family	
Domestic Violence	9
Violation of a Temporary Protection Order	3
Offenses Against Justice and Public Administration	
Obstructing	7
Failure to Comply	2
Resisting Arrest	3
Conspiracy, Attempt, and Complicity; Weapons Control; Corrupt Activity	
Attempted Breaking and Entering	2
Illegal Conveyance	1
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	1
Unlawful Transaction	1
Drug Offenses	
Drug Trafficking	1
Other Offenses	

Offense Involving Alcohol	5
Failure to Stop- Accident	1
Parole Violation	1
Tobacco Offense	4
Unruly/Disobedient	10
Unruly (Truant)	5
Violation of a Court Order	49
Adult Offenses	
Contempt	4
Nonsupport of Dependents	1
Contributing	8
TOTAL COUNTS	220

DETENTION STATISTICS

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Youth Detained	51	14	65
Days Served	600	165	765
Average Length of Stay	12	12	12

OFFICIAL CASES: FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

CASE TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
DELINQUENT	150	169	237	189	173
TRAFFIC	48	66	90	85	89
ABUSE/NEG/DEP	131	54	29	66	47
UNRULY	38	33	23	25	19
ADULT	20	14	18	19	15
PERM. CUSTODY	39	23	14	19	10
CUSTODY/VISITATION	112	91	113	101	101
SUPPORT	164	209	169	132	170
PARENTAGE	5	13	0	0	4
UIFSA	3	12	0	2	2
ALL OTHERS	0	2	1	0	0
TOTALS	710	686	694	638	630

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

CASE TYPE	2021 m/f	2022 m/f	2023 m/f	2024 m/f	2025 m/f
DELINQUENT	113/37	117/52	157/80	119/57	116/35
TRAFFIC	32/16	16/4	67/23	59/23	59/36
UNRULY	28/10	21/12	13/10	15/8	10/10

JUVENILE COURT FINES AND COSTS

COURT COSTS COLLECTED

Local Costs	\$11,148.81
Legal Research	\$567.00
Computer Fund	\$2,809.85
Sheriff Fees	\$1,805.00
Victims of Crime	\$867.00
CASA	\$3,266.79
Mediation	\$980.00
Indigent Alcohol	\$27.00
Magistrate	\$3,733.79
TOTAL	\$25,205.24

REIMBURSEMENT COLLECTED

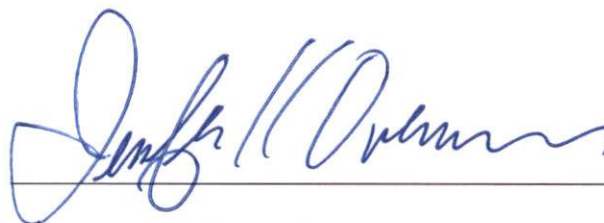
Restitution	\$1,046.00
Drug Testing	\$830.00
Electronic Monitoring	\$2,469.00
TOTAL	\$4,345.00

TRAFFIC FINES AND COSTS COLLECTED

Diversion	\$5,809.00
OSP State	\$150.00
OSP Law Library	\$75.00
OSP County	\$37.50
OSP Motor Vehicle Reg.	\$37.50
Other Law Library	\$125.00
Other Highway maintenance	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$6,334.00

NON-TRAFFIC FINES COLLECTED

OSP State	\$0.00
OSP Law Library	\$0.00
OSP County	\$0.00
OSP Motor Vehicle Reg.	\$0.00
Other Law Library	\$160.00
Tobacco/Law Library	\$0.00
Adult/Law Library	\$535.00
 TOTAL	 \$695.00
 TOTAL FINES COLLECTED	 \$36,579.24



Jenifer K. Overmyer, Judge

Juvenile/Probate Court Judge as of February 9, 2015