



CITY OF MILWAUKEE
MUNICIPAL COURT

951 North James Lovell Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

MEMORANDUM

To: Finance & Personnel Committee
Alderman Michael J. Murphy, Chair
Alderman Michael S. D'Amato, Vice Chair
Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.
Alderman Robert Donovan
Alderman Joe Dudzik

From: Kristine Hinrichs *KH*
Chief Court Administrator

Date: October 22, 2007

Subject: Municipal Court Budget Questions

During the Municipal Court's Budget Hearing, the Committee requested follow-up on payments received on DNS cases and on the types of traffic offenses most commonly cited by police officers.

We did generate a report that summarizes payments received for all DNS cases from January 1, 2003 through September 30, 2007:

2003	\$573,147
2004	\$704,492
2005	\$878,725
2006	\$778,094
2007	\$722,341 – through September 30

As you review this data, it is important to understand that these are gross payments and include all fees and surcharges paid to the State of Wisconsin and to Milwaukee County. Therefore, some portion of the increase over time is a result of increases in these fees and surcharges and in the 2006 increase in the local clerk fee.

Attached is a spreadsheet summarizing charges filed for both Municipal and Traffic offenses. The data represents filings through September 30 for each year from 2003 through 2007 and is for offenses that during any year represented one of the top 10 most frequently cited offenses. You can see that over that period, Municipal charges account for an increasing percentage of Municipal Court cases and that Traffic cases declined as a percentage of overall cases. You will note a significant increase in the cases filed for Operating After Revocation (OAR). This is a result of a change in state statute whereby the first OAR is filed with municipal courts.

I would be happy to respond to your questions regarding this information or to provide additional information concerning Court operations.

cc: Municipal Court Judges
Alderman Terry L. Witkowski
Staff Assistant Terry MacDonald

Charges Filed - 2003-07 September Year to Date

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2007	Change in % of
Ordinance Violations	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	Total 2003-05
Disorderly Conduct	6,908	6,571	6,153	6,237	6,028	6,028	5.9%	18.3%
Contested Parking	3,582	5,351	4,109	4,680	5,506	5,506	5.4%	108.4%
Retail Theft	3,053	2,779	2,404	1,673	1,598	1,598	1.7%	-29.0%
Resist/Obstructing Police Officer	2,623	2,801	2,355	2,357	1,952	1,952	1.9%	0.9%
Public Drinking	1,965	1,356	1,151	1,237	867	867	0.9%	-40.2%
B & Z Violations	1,954	894	1,122	1,532	1,205	1,205	1.2%	-16.4%
Loitering or Prowling	1,948	1,520	1,137	1,186	1,281	1,281	1.3%	-10.9%
Curfew	1,625	1,105	1,070	955	1,566	1,566	1.5%	30.6%
Assault & Battery	1,498	1,498	1,522	1,639	1,643	1,643	1.6%	42.0%
Truancy/Habitual Truancy	1,281	872	665	699	825	825	0.8%	-12.7%
Noise Nuisance	851	744	956	1,192	1,567	1,567	1.5%	149.6%
Vandalism	857	871	909	1,045	1,089	1,089	1.1%	72.3%
Possession of Marijuana	637	731	897	911	1,316	1,316	1.3%	180.1%
Trespassing	1,028	1,162	1,052	1,186	1,070	1,070	1.1%	41.1%
Total Ordinance September YTD	39,049	36,438	33,771	34,505	36,751	36,751	36.2%	27.6%
Total Cases September YTD	137,690	105,108	97,520	96,147	101,569	101,569		

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2007	Change in % of
State Statute Violations	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	Total 2003-05
Exceeding Speed Zones/Limits	21,282	17,113	13,858	13,440	15,584	15,584	15.3%	-0.7%
OAS	14,775	9,447	9,093	8,017	7,886	7,886	7.8%	-27.6%
Non-Registration of Auto, etc	8,979	5,078	5,118	5,115	5,356	5,356	5.3%	-19.1%
OAR	13	1	316	1,887	3,355	3,355	3.3%	34885.7%
Disregarding Official Sign	6,521	5,090	5,565	5,293	4,289	4,289	4.2%	-10.8%
Vehicle Oper Fail/Wear Seat Belt	5,127	3,106	2,709	2,543	2,362	2,362	2.3%	-37.5%
Operate w/o Valid License - 1st off	4,550	3,090	3,004	2,911	2,868	2,868	2.8%	-14.6%
Display Unauthor Veh. Reg. Plate	4,240	2,757	2,615	2,375	2,103	2,103	2.1%	-32.8%
Fail/Display Vehicle License Plates	3,309	1,490	1,181	1,452	1,669	1,669	1.6%	-31.6%
Operate Veh after Susp/Cancel of Reg	7,825	4,557	4,393	2,084	2,724	2,724	2.7%	-52.8%
Other Headlamp Equip. Violations	1,529	920	742	571	3	3	0.0%	-99.7%
Total State Stat. September YTD	98,642	68,670	63,757	61,642	64,818	64,818	63.8%	-10.9%
Total Cases September YTD	137,690	105,108	97,520	96,147	101,569	101,569		