

DELAWARE MUNICIPAL COURT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Serving All of Delaware County



MARIANNE T. HEMMETER
Judge

KYLE E. ROHRER
Judge

CINDY DINOVO
Clerk of Court

Justice Center ♦ 70 North Union Street ♦ Delaware, Ohio, 43015
www.municipalcourt.org

IN THE DELAWARE MUNICIPAL COURT OF DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO

Justice Center • 70 North Union Street, Delaware, Ohio 43015 • Voice: 740.203.1570 • Facsimile: 740.203.1599 • www.municipalcourt.org

Marianne T. Hemmeter
JUDGE

Kyle E. Rohrer
JUDGE

March 31, 2024

Delaware City Council Members
City Hall
1 South Sandusky Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

The Board of County Commissioners
101 North Sandusky Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Dear Public Officials:

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1901.14(A)(4), the Annual Report of the Delaware Municipal Court for the year 2023 is hereby submitted for your consideration.

This Annual Report is compiled from original records of the Court, which are available for examination.

Should you have any questions about the report, please feel free to contact the Court.

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne T. Hemmeter
Administrative Judge

cc: Delaware City Manager
Finance Director of the City of Delaware
Delaware County Administrator
Delaware County Auditor

Serving Delaware County
Web Site Address: www.municipalcourt.org

MUNICIPAL COURT JUSTICE CENTER MAIN NUMBER: (740) 203-1500 • FAX LINE: (740) 203-1599
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS: (740) 203-1501 • JURY SERVICE NUMBER: (740) 203-1513 • OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CONTROL: (740) 203-1525
CLERK OF COURT: (740) 203-1550 • CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION: (740) 203-1570 • CIVIL/SMALL CLAIMS DIVISION: (740) 203-1560

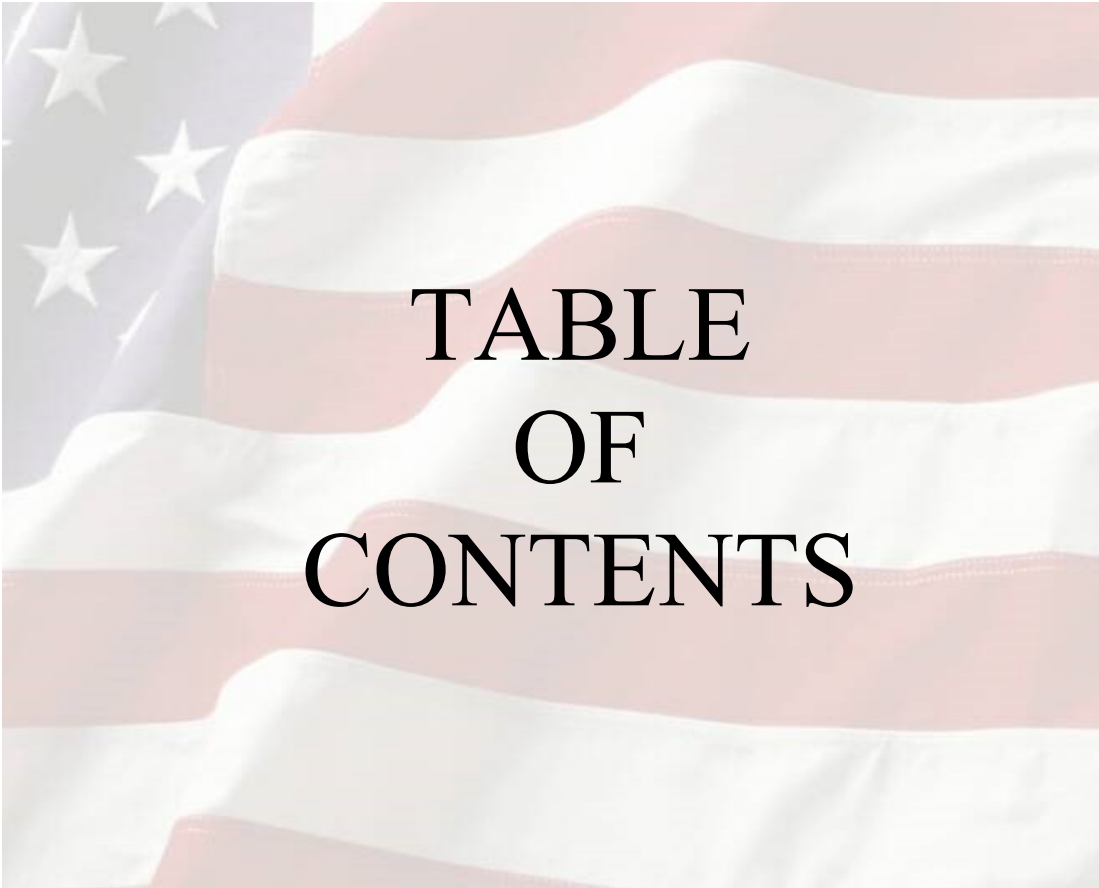
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DELAWARE MUNICIPAL COURT

JUDICIAL STAFF

Marianne T. HemmeterJudge
Kyle E. Rohrer.....Judge
Amanda D. Bunner.....Magistrate
Kevin L. PelandaMagistrate - Part-Time

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Court Administration

Justin Kudela..... Court Administrator / Magistrate
Pat Dattilo Assignment Commissioner / Interpreter Coordinator
Blythe Boger Assignment Commissioner / Jury Commissioner
Nicholas Sanctis..... Mission Court Mentor Coordinator - Part-Time

Court Security Office

Darren Smith..... Chief Bailiff
Bruce Orlov..... Bailiff
Elliott Goff..... Bailiff
John Thompson..... Bailiff
Kolton Snyder Bailiff
Pat Yankie..... Bailiff
Bob Wery Bailiff - Part-Time

Community Control Office

Lindsey Blue Chief
Kurt Olson..... Deputy Chief
Adam Garloch..... Officer
Andrew Conway Officer
Elliot Lagendyk..... Officer
Jessica Scholz..... Officer
Nathaniel Elliott..... Officer
Carrie Mattox Bond Intake Officer

The following is a list of Judges who have served, or who are presently serving at the Delaware Municipal Court:

DELAWARE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

Henry W. Wolf	01/01/54 - 04/01/55
John R. Anderson	04/02/55 - 08/15/58
Franklin Wright	08/16/58 - 12/31/59
Peter Vatsures	01/01/60 - 12/31/65
Thomas C. Clark	01/01/66 - 12/31/71
Nino Sferrella	01/01/72 - 12/31/77
William Taylor	01/01/78 - 12/31/83
Everett Krueger	01/01/84 - 12/31/93
Jeffrey Burkam	01/01/94 - 12/31/95
Michael Hoague	01/01/96 - 12/31/01
David P. Sunderman	01/01/02 - 12/31/19
David M. Gormley	01/02/08 - 02/06/15
Marianne T. Hemmeter	02/17/15 - 01/01/2026
Kyle E. Rohrer	01/01/20 - 12/31/2025

MISSION STATEMENT

- ❖ To fairly and properly administer justice throughout Delaware County and serve those persons who come before the Court in a courteous and professional manner.
- ❖ To assure that all persons coming before the Court are treated equitably.
- ❖ To provide a forum through which persons can have their disputes resolved.

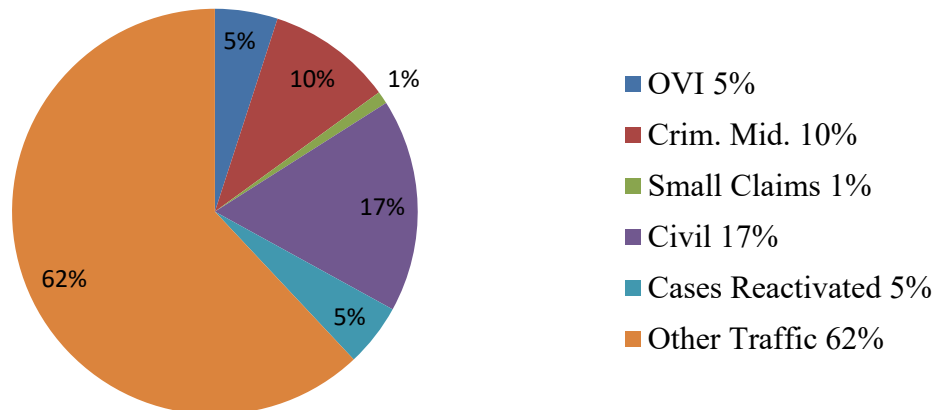
AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION

The Delaware Municipal Court was created by the Ohio General Assembly in 1952. The Court hears cases from throughout Delaware County, and it has the authority to hear the following kinds of cases:

Misdemeanor Cases	- Through Final Determination
Traffic and Parking Violations	
Civil Actions	- Up to \$15,000.00
Small Claims Actions	- Up to \$6,000.00
Administrative Appeals	- BMV Cases

The judges preside over civil, criminal, and traffic cases and conduct jury and non-jury trials. In jury trials, the judges interpret the law and the jury determines the factual matters. In non-jury trials, by far the more common, the judges have the dual role of interpreting the law and determining the facts. The judges conduct criminal arraignments; set bond on criminal charges; issue search warrants; and impose sentence when a defendant is found guilty of a traffic or criminal charge. The judges hear civil cases where the amount in controversy is \$15,000.00 or less. In addition, the judges perform civil wedding ceremonies.

Summary of 2023 New and Reactivated Cases



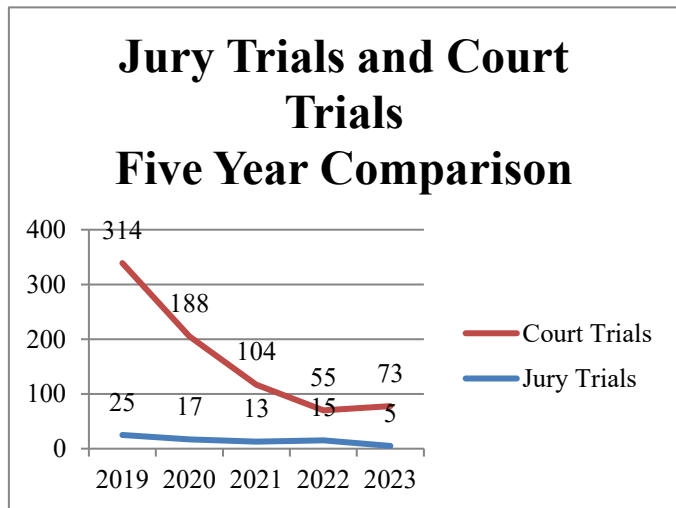
SEARCH WARRANT HEARINGS

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
196	221	221	270	310	394	423	358	363

STATISTICS

2023 STATISTICS

Jury Trials	5
Court Trials	73
OVI Cases (State/City/Village Codes)	652
Total New Cases Filed	13,329
Total Cases Resolved	14,216



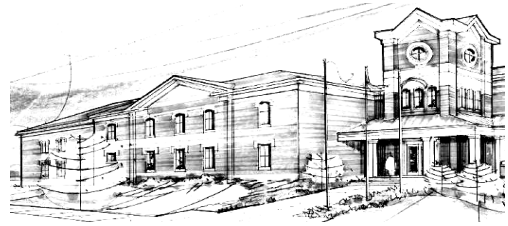
WEDDINGS

Judges Rohrer and Hemmeter are authorized to conduct marriage ceremonies in Delaware County. One of the parties must be a Delaware County resident. The parties must obtain their marriage license from the Delaware County Probate Court prior to the ceremony. In 2023, a total of 51 marriage ceremonies were performed at the Delaware Municipal Court.



**CLERK OF
COURT**

DELAWARE MUNICIPAL CLERK OF COURT OFFICE
CINDY DINOVO
CLERK OF COURT
DELAWARE MUNICIPAL COURT
70 N. UNION ST.
DELAWARE, OHIO 43015



March 31, 2024

Delaware City Council Members
City Hall
1 S. Sandusky Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

and

The Board of County Commissioners
101 N. Sandusky Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Dear Public Officials,

The following pages contain the case activity, financial receipts, and disbursements for 2023. Pursuant to 1901.31 O.R.C. two of the main duties my office is responsible for is maintaining the public records and receipting and disbursing all monies collected.

If you have any questions regarding the information, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Dinovo, Clerk". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cindy Dinovo
Clerk of Court

Serving Delaware County
Website Address: www.municipalcourt.org

CIVIL (740) 203-1560

CRIMINAL (740) 203-1570

FAX (740) 203-1599

The background of the page is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the United States flag, showing the red and white stripes and the blue field with white stars. The flag appears to be waving or draped. Centered over this background is the text "CASE ACTIVITY" in a bold, black, serif font.

CASE ACTIVITY

CASE ACTIVITY

CASE ACTIVITY - CASE LOAD SUMMARY

Five Year Comparison

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	% Increase or Decrease
Cases Pending Start of the Year	2,154	2,119	1,078	1,306	1,678	28.5%
<u>New Cases Filed</u>						
Felony	253	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Criminal Misdemeanor	2,580	1,649	1,634	1,458	1,420	-2.6%
OVI	922	727	886	707	652	-7.8%
Other Traffic	15,832	10,157	9,387	8,006	8,721	8.9%
Civil	2,360	1,805	2,011	2,075	2,333	12.4%
Small Claims	243	204	195	211	203	-3.8%
Total New Cases Filed	22,190	14,542	14,113	12,457	13,329	7.0%
Old Cases Reactivated	2,076	1,634	1,812	796	682	-14.3%
Total Cases Open During Year	26,420	17,627	15,925	14,559	15,689	7.8%
<u>Terminations by:</u>						
Court Trial	314	188	104	55	73	32.7%
Jury Trial	27	17	13	15	5	-66.7%
Waiver	11,738	7,327	5,250	5,535	6,020	8.8%
Other Means	12,222	9,017	7,960	7,276	8,118	11.5%
Total Terminations	24,301	16,549	13,327	12,881	14,216	10.4%
Cases Pending End of Year	2,119	1,078	2,598	1,678	1,473	-12.2%

**FILINGS PER AGENCY
Criminal Division 2023**

**FILINGS PER AGENCY
Criminal Division YEAR**

Agency Breakdown	Criminal	OVI	Traffic	Other ¹	Total Filings	% of Total
Ashley Police Department	9	0	31	0	40	0.36%
Attorney General; BCI&I	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
County Dog Warden	27	0	0	0	27	0.24%
Columbus Police Department	0	0	0	6	6	0.05%
Columbus State Police Dept.	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
Delaware Code Enforcement	2	0	0	0	2	0.02%
Delaware Co. Drug Task Force	0	0	0	4	4	0.04%
Delaware Co. Humane Society	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
Delaware Co. Prosecutor	5	0	0	0	5	0.04%
Delaware City Police Dept.	430	67	1100	144	1741	15.57%
Delaware City Prosecutor	1	0	0	0	1	0.01%
Dept. of Public Safety	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
Division Of Parks & Watercraft	51	0	40	4	95	0.85%
Delaware County Sheriff	473	202	1388	148	2211	19.77%
Dublin Police Department	3	0	0	3	6	0.05%
Fairfield County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
Genoa Township Police Dept.	53	23	350	16	442	3.95%
Grove City Police Department	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
Metro Parks	3	0	0	0	3	0.03%
Miscellaneous ²	1	0	2	16	19	0.17%
Ohio Dept Of Public Safety	15	0	0	0	15	0.13%
Ohio Department Of Taxation	5	0	0	0	5	0.04%
Ohio State Highway Patrol	152	305	5612	8	6077	54.35%
Ostrander Police Department	0	0	1	0	1	0.01%
Powell Police Department	32	13	110	8	163	1.46%
The Preservation Park District	13	0	0	0	13	0.12%
Reynoldsburg Police Dept.	0	0	0	1	1	0.01%
Shawnee Hills Code Enforce	1	0	0	0	1	0.01%
Shawnee Hills Police Dept.	7	3	22	0	32	0.29%
Sunbury Police Dept.	23	6	6	20	55	0.49%
Westerville Police Department	83	33	59	4	179	1.60%
Division Of Wildlife	31	0	0	0	31	0.28%
Total	1,420	652	8,721	388	11,181	100.00%

¹ Other includes bond hearings, extraditions, parking tickets, search warrants, and miscellaneous.

² Miscellaneous includes other agencies for bond transfers, search warrants, etc.

The background of the image is a stylized, semi-transparent American flag. The stars and stripes are visible but faded, creating a watermark-like effect behind the text.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DELAWARE MUNICIPAL COURT - 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SUMMARY

Criminal Division	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
City of Delaware	0.00	1,600,631.74	1,600,631.74	0.00
Delaware County	0.00	384,827.71	384,827.71	0.00
State of Ohio	0.00	487,582.84	487,582.84	0.00
Other Municipalities	0.00	19,029.37	19,029.37	0.00
Other Agencies	0.00	3,206.00	3,206.00	0.00
Collection Fees	0.00	66,546.52	66,546.52	0.00
Bond	206,923.07	728,895.73	758,964.27	176,854.53
Juror/Witness	2,931.65	19,227.39	17,231.77	4,927.27
Restitution	12,415.77	51,700.59	58,403.10	5,713.26
Subtotal	222,270.49	3,361,647.89	3,396,423.32	187,495.06

Civil Division	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Civil	868.93	1,363,822.91	1,326,611.79	38,080.05
Rent Escrow	3,302.04	16,953.22	12,155.76	8,099.50

CRIMINAL DIVISION 2023

(Receipts + Adjustments)

City of Delaware	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Ordinance Fines	0.00	24,057.63	24,057.63	0.00
Ordinance Costs	0.00	49,550.30	49,550.30	0.00
Patrol Fines	0.00	85,884.62	85,884.62	0.00
State Costs	0.00	762,954.95	762,954.95	0.00
Computer Fees	0.00	120,088.12	120,088.12	0.00
Credit Card Convenience Fee	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
Diversion Fee	0.00	8,039.00	8,039.00	0.00
Delaware City Police OVI Fees	0.00	489.00	489.00	0.00
Delaware City Police Drug Fees	0.00	1,839.00	1,839.00	0.00
Indigent OVI Fund	0.00	10,763.55	10,763.55	0.00
Special Projects Fund	0.00	226,439.87	226,439.87	0.00
Special Projects Fund Indigent Immob.	0.00	16,328.50	16,328.50	0.00
Special Projects Fund Interlock SCRAM	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
Community Control Fees	0.00	242,774.71	242,774.71	0.00
Indigent Alcohol Treatment	0.00	16,681.65	16,681.65	0.00
Immobilization Reimbursement	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Copies	0.00	1,223.55	1,223.55	0.00
10% Bonds	0.00	10,860.00	10,860.00	0.00
Total	0.00	1,578,344.45	1,578,344.45	0.00

CRIMINAL DIVISION 2023

(Receipts + Adjustments)

Delaware County	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Patrol Fines	0.00	18,050.06	18,050.06	0.00
State/County Fines	0.00	198,137.66	198,137.66	0.00
Delaware Sheriff Fees	0.00	9,096.04	9,096.04	0.00
Roads/Bridges Fines	0.00	51,381.20	51,381.20	0.00
Genoa Township Police Fines	0.00	12,418.00	12,418.00	0.00
Witness Fee	0.00	3,950.02	3,950.02	0.00
Jury Fee	0.00	2,129.82	2,129.82	0.00
Dog & Kennel Fee	0.00	1,698.00	1,698.00	0.00
Alum Creek State Park Fines	0.00	30.00	30.00	0.00
Expungement Fee	0.00	2,280.00	2,280.00	0.00
Liquor Control	0.00	1,594.00	1,594.00	0.00
County Handicapped Parking	0.00	9.00	9.00	0.00
Law Library	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
Delaware Sheriff OVI Fees	0.00	3,604.00	3,604.00	0.00
Delaware Sheriff Drug Fees	0.00	950.00	950.00	0.00
OVI Housing Fund	0.00	23,257.25	23,257.25	0.00
Public Defender Indigent App. Fee	0.00	14,430.80	14,430.80	0.00
State Park Fines	0.00	874.00	874.00	0.00
Total	0.00	358,889.85	358,889.85	0.00

CRIMINAL DIVISION 2023

(Receipts + Adjustments)

State of Ohio	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Patrol Fines	0.00	91,085.69	91,085.69	0.00
Victim of Crime	0.00	70,649.43	70,649.43	0.00
Board of Pharmacy	0.00	10,460.60	10,460.60	0.00
Liquor Control	0.00	1,597.00	1,597.00	0.00
Seat Belt Fines	0.00	13,598.00	13,598.00	0.00
Child Restraint Fines	0.00	1,351.00	1,351.00	0.00
Expungement Fee	0.00	3,440.00	3,440.00	0.00
Ohio State Highway Patrol OVI Fees	0.00	5,045.10	5,045.10	0.00
Ohio State Highway Patrol Drug Fees	0.00	4,433.00	4,433.00	0.00
BMV - Warrant Blocks	0.00	2,049.40	2,049.40	0.00
Indigent Defense Support Fund (from fines)	0.00	29,300.80	29,300.80	0.00
Indigent Defense Support Fund (from costs)	0.00	35,053.50	35,053.50	0.00
Indigent Defense Support Fund (from bonds)	0.00	176,932.27	176,932.27	0.00
Drug Law Enforcement Fund Costs	0.00	24,537.45	24,537.45	0.00
State OVI Interlock SCRAM Fee	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
Total	0.00	469,593.24	469,593.24	0.00

CRIMINAL DIVISION 2023

Other Municipalities	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Ashley Costs/Fines	0.00	650.00	650.00	0.00
Genoa Township Costs/Fines	0.00	13,043.78	13,043.78	0.00
Powell Costs/Fines	0.00	1,599.13	1,599.13	0.00
Shawnee Hills Costs/Fines	0.00	11.00	11.00	0.00
Sunbury Costs/Fines	0.00	1,033.00	1,033.00	0.00
Westerville Costs/Fines	0.00	2,692.46	2,692.46	0.00
Total	0.00	19,029.37	19,029.37	0.00

CRIMINAL DIVISION 2023

Other Agencies	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Humane Society of Delaware County	0.00	48.00	48.00	0.00
ODNR	0.00	2,952.00	2,952.00	0.00
Preservation Parks of Delaware County	0.00	206.00	206.00	0.00
Total	0.00	3,206.00	3,206.00	0.00

CRIMINAL DIVISION 2023

Collection Fees	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Capital Recovery Systems Inc.	0.00	33,194.97	33,194.97	0.00
Mann & Carducci	0.00	25,561.15	25,561.15	0.00
Law Offices of Robert Schuerger	0.00	7,790.40	7,790.40	0.00
Total	0.00	66,546.52	66,546.52	0.00

Bond	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Year Balance
Bond Account	206,923.07	728,895.73	758,964.27	176,854.53
Total	206,923.07	728,895.73	758,964.27	176,854.53

Details of Bond Disbursements

Bond Unclaimed Fund	3,045.26
Court Costs to City	10,860.00
Bonds Released	<u>745,059.01</u>
Total Disbursements	758,964.27

CIVIL DIVISION 2023

Civil	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements Adjustments	Ending Year Balance
Judgment to Creditors	-3,273.62	701,304.89	661,715.98	36,315.29
Refunds to Depositors	4,189.86	135,323.73	137,849.48	1,664.11
State Legal Aid	14.85	61,351.29	61,351.29	14.85
Computer Fees	0.00	32,448.00	32,438.00	10.00
Legal Aid to City	0.00	619.71	619.71	0.00
Special Projects Funds to City	0.00	62,400.00	62,400.00	0.00
Court Costs to City	-62.16	370,375.29	370,237.33	75.80
Total	868.93	1,363,822.91	1,326,611.79	38,080.05

Rent Escrow	Beginning Year Balance	Receipts	Disbursements Adjustments	Ending Year Balance
Rent Escrow	3,302.04	16,953.22	12,155.76	8,099.50
Total	3,302.04	16,953.22	12,155.76	8,099.50

CERTIFICATION

I, Cindy Dinovo, Clerk of Delaware Municipal Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing Financial Statements for the calendar year 2023 are prepared in accordance with usual and accepted sources, and the disbursements made thereof are as provided by law. I further certify that the details on the computations and calculations thereof are contained in records and ledgers which are part of the standard and recognized books of accounts in the office of the Clerk of Court.

The statements are prepared for submission to the members of City Council for the City of Delaware and to the Board of County Commissioners of Delaware County in compliance with Section 1901.14(A), Ohio Revised Code.

Completed this 31st day of March, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Dinovo, Clerk". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cindy Dinovo, Clerk of Court
Delaware Municipal Court