

# Tempe Municipal Court 2018 State of the Court Executive Summary



The 2018 Executive Summary covers my first full year as Presiding Judge. I am proud to report the Court continues to maintain the highest case-to-personnel ratio of the largest municipal courts in Maricopa County while achieving a 99 percent case clearance rate. This has been achieved before a backdrop of significant changes, ranging from personnel to business practices. We hired a new Deputy Court Administrator and the City Council appointed a new City Judge to fill an opening created by an unexpected retirement. We have implemented a Compliance Assistance Program designed to help individuals more easily address their court financial obligations while at the same time restore their driving privileges with the MVD. Our specialty courts for veterans and individuals with a serious mental illness continue to expand to connect participants with appropriate services and treatment to reduce recidivism. Looking forward, the Court will continue to adapt to provide the highest and most efficient level of service and fair justice to all.

Kevin Kane  
Presiding Judge  
Tempe Municipal Court

### FAST FACTS

- ⇒ Tempe Municipal Court is one of 172 limited jurisdiction courts in Arizona and is the fifth largest Municipal Court in the State in terms of case volume.
- ⇒ The Court has the highest case-to-personnel ratio of the largest Municipal Courts in Maricopa County.
- ⇒ The Court has three Judges, two Commissioners and 35 staff.

### Mission

*Tempe Municipal Court is committed to providing the community with an independent judiciary that serves the public by the fair and impartial administration of justice resulting in the enhancement of public trust and confidence in the court system.*

### » 2017 Operational Efficiencies & Accomplishments «

- Clearance Rate—99 percent, measured as the number of cases disposed compared to filed in FY16/17.
- Established Strategic Agenda to advance the AZ Judicial Branch Strategic Agenda and Tempe City Council Strategic Priorities.
- Collaborated with City Information Technology (IT) staff to meet new AZ Judicial Branch IT Minimum Security standards.
- Created Security and Emergency Preparedness Committee to govern implementation of AZ Court Security Standards.
- Continued to implement AZ Supreme Court Fair Justice for All Task Force recommendations, including creation of a Compliance Assistance Program (CAP) to help people resolve past due fines and fees on certain criminal violations, civil traffic, civil and parking. Assisted 902 people with 960 cases enter into 1,099 CAP time payment contracts 7/2017—3/2018.
- Reprogrammed Case Management System to comply with AZ Supreme Court directive for all courts to replace 1 monthly statistical report with 6 reports to provide more case details.

### » Community Outreach & Partnerships «

- Partner with Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care to provide Mental Health Court services to 204 participants in 2017.
- Coordinated The East Valley Regional Veterans' Court and served 504 veterans, including 295 with Tempe cases, in 2017. Partner with 6 courts, the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Tempe Human Services, Gilbert Youth and Adult Resources, and others. Funded in part by the AZ Dept. of Veterans' Services as made available through the AZ Veterans' Donation Fund.
- Partner with 48 courts in Maricopa County Regional Homeless Court, which served 186 people who were homeless in 2017.
- Participate in local, regional and statewide community and court improvement efforts, including:
  - ◇ AZ Supreme Court Limited Jurisdiction Courts Committee
  - ◇ AZ Supreme Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee
  - ◇ AZCourtHelp.org website content development workgroup
  - ◇ Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking & Drug Use
  - ◇ Tempe Homeless Coalition

### » Fostering Education; Learning; Improving Public Access «

- Partner with Tempe Kid Zone, History Museum and schools to present annual Law Day program, art contest, and awards.
- Participate in Teen Court's Law Day Celebration, Roosevelt School District.
- Present educational programs on-site and in classrooms.
- Host Tempe Leadership Government Issues Day.
- Awarded \$30,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to install additional automatic door openers to improve access and exceed ADA requirements.

### » Looking Forward «

- Continue to implement AZ Supreme Court Fair Justice Task Force recommendations, including current project testing effectiveness of reminder letters sent to people who fail to appear for civil traffic violations; goal is to help resolve civil traffic cases prior to default judgment and driver license suspension.
- Continue to develop improvements to the Case Management System Protective Order module.
- Continue to participate in City Facilities Master Plan Project.

### Charges and Petitions Filed - FY 16/17, FY 15/16 and FY 14/15

Charge Types	FY 16/17 Charges	% of Total	FY 15/16 Charges	% of Total	FY 14/15 Charges	% of Total
Criminal Traffic and Misdemeanors	16,594	24%	16,849	24%	18,621	30%
Civil Traffic	22,199	31%	21,202	31%	23,140	37%
Parking	30,444	43%	29,337	43%	18,398	30%
Local Ordinances	955	1%	849	1%	1,164	2%
Total Protective Order Petitions Filed	1,020	1%	891	1%	821	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,212</b>		<b>69,128</b>		<b>62,144</b>	

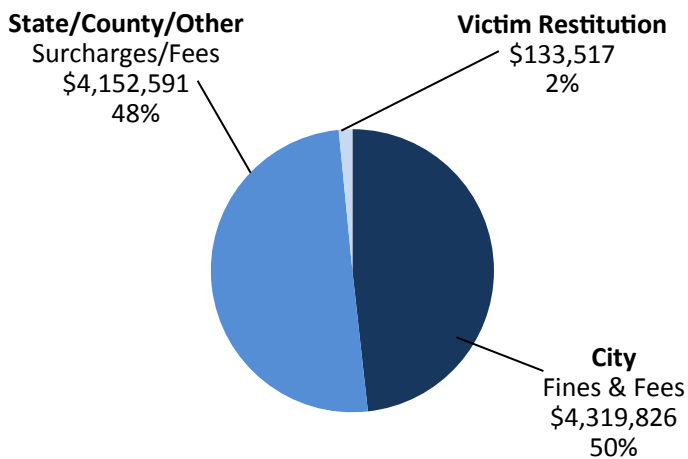
### Customer Service - FY 16/17, FY 15/16 and FY 14/15

Measurement	FY 16/17	FY 15/16	FY 14/15
Court Visitors Screened through Security	131,305	138,355	131,985*
Individuals Served at Public Window	42,415	48,687	57,876
Payments by Phone (IVR)	12,369	13,804	15,401
Payments by Website (IWR)	31,821	30,665	23,602
Mail Payments Processed	13,483	12,514	7,358
Correspondence Received/Filings Processed	28,229	28,840	30,130

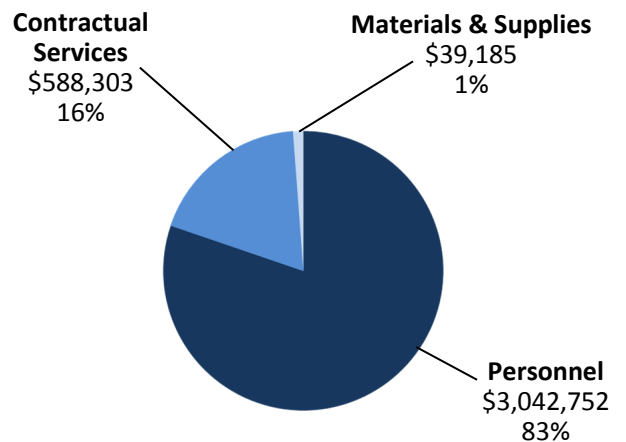
\*Calendar year 2015.

### FY16/17 Financial Information

Total monies collected by the Court in Fiscal Year 16/17 was \$8,605,934. Tempe Municipal Court operating budget from City general fund for Fiscal Year 16/17 was \$3,670,240 (excludes City Internal Services budget).



Revenue: What the Court Collects



Expenditures: What the City Budgets for Court Operations

Sources: Administrative Office of the Courts' Case Activity Report FY2016/17; Administrative Office of the Courts' Quarterly Revenue Survey FY2016/17; Tempe Municipal Court Monthly Workload Indicators from Case Management System; PeopleSoft Financials.