

Tempe Municipal Court

2024 State of the Court Executive Summary



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.

As we begin year 2024, the Tempe Municipal Court continues to be a state-wide leader in the limited jurisdiction court community. I am focused on the Court's 2020 - 2024 Strategic Agenda to ensure we meet our goals and chart a course going forward. Despite the challenges we have all faced these last several years, I am proud to report we are still on course to accomplish our five-year goals. This year we will be hyper focused on implementation of electronic document management, which will reduce manual paper processing, data entry challenges, and ultimately provide the highest possible level of customer service and efficiencies for all court participants.

Kevin Kane, Presiding Judge
Tempe Municipal Court

» 2023 Operational Efficiencies & Accomplishments «

- Collaborated with Tempe Community Development Department — Community Enhancement and the Administrative Office of the Courts to implement use of the Digital Evidence Portal. The portal provides an efficient and digital solution to share exhibits among judges, attorneys, and litigants during virtual or in-person court hearings.
- Evaluated electronic document management system to facilitate development and implementation of active case imaging, paper-on-demand environment and Court automation.
- Collaborated with the Tempe Police Department to install hardware and evaluated business needs to move towards remote in-custody proceedings.
- Implemented the Fines/Fees and Restitution Enforcement (FARE) Program. FARE is an Arizona Judicial branch initiative that assist AZ courts with compliance of monetary court orders.
- Implemented Legislative and AZ Supreme Court Rules mandates.

» 2023 Improving Public Access and Fostering Education «

- Hosted a delegation of Kenyan Parliamentarians and discussed judicial responsibilities, justice system, and court processes as a cultural exchange.
- Administered an Access and Fairness Public Survey.
- Partnered with Tempe Kid Zone, History Museum and schools to present annual Law Day program, art contest, and awards with approximately 900 students participating.
- Continued ASU Law School Summer Externship Program.
- Collaborated with ASU School of Social Transformation to research opportunities related to restorative justice initiatives.

» 2023 Community Collaboration «

- Partnered with six courts, the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Tempe Human Services, Gilbert Youth & Adult Resources, Scottsdale Youth & Family Services and others, to lead the East Valley Regional Veterans Court and served 347 veterans, including 119 with Tempe cases.
- Collaborated with Community Health and Human Services and the United Way to offer services to individuals experiencing or nearing homelessness during a Project Connect event.
- Partnered with AHCCCS Complete Care Groups and Tempe Community Health and Human Services to provide Mental Health Court services to 359 participants.
- Partnered with 49 courts in Maricopa County Regional Homeless Court, to help individuals address court obligations while also addressing their homelessness to gain self-sufficiency.
- Participated in local, regional and statewide community and court improvement efforts, including:
 - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Data Standards Steering Committee
 - ◊ AZ Criminal Rules Workgroup
 - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Limited Jurisdiction Courts Committee
 - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee
 - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Inmate Release Court Program

» Looking Forward «

- Develop and implement additional court automation: active case imaging, paper-on-demand environment and Court automation.
- Expand acceptance of E-complaint types filed with the Court: Arizona Traffic Ticket and Complaints, Parking, and Zoning/Neighborhood violations.
- Continue collaboration with Tempe Police Department to implement remote in-custody proceedings.

FAST FACTS:

- ⇒ Tempe Municipal Court is one of 167 limited jurisdiction courts in Arizona.
- ⇒ The Court conducts business seven days per week, 365 days per year.
- ⇒ The Court has 3 Judges, 2 Commissioners, 13 Judges Pro Tempore and 35 staff positions.

Charges and Petitions Filed - FY 22/23, FY 21/22 and FY 20/21

Charge Types	FY 22/23 Charges	% of Total	FY 21/22 Charges	% of Total	FY 20/21 Charges	% of Total
Criminal Traffic and Misdemeanors	15,809	36%	15,096	37%	13,327	35%
Civil Traffic	13,691	30%	10,903*	27%	10,634	28%
Parking	13,141	30%	13,253	33%	12,612	33%
Local Ordinances	896	2%	319	1%	1,072	3%
Total Protective Order Petitions Filed	912	2%	944	2%	802	1%
Total	44,449		40,515*		38,447	

*Statistical data correction made to numbers published in the 2023 annual report.

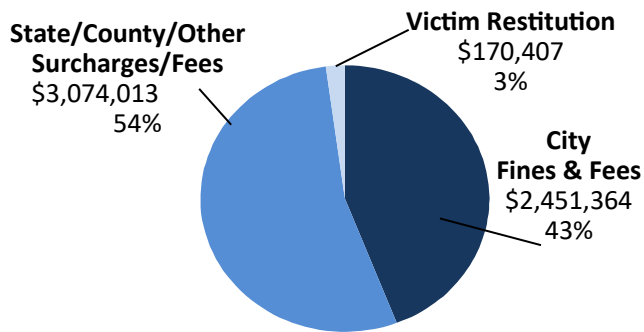
Customer Service - FY 22/23, FY 21/22 and FY 20/21

Measurement	FY 22/23	FY 21/22	FY 20/21
Court Visitors Screened through Security	66,713	54,481	30,135
Individuals Served at Public Window	17,004	14,115	1,129
Individuals Served over the Phone	43,503	41,530	60,121
Payments by Phone (IVR)	5,978	6,855	6,788
Payments by Website (IWR)	27,008	23,151	25,230
Payments made off-site (PayNearMe)**	19	N/A	N/A
Mail Payments Processed	3,025	2,704	3,200
Correspondence Received/Filings Processed	30,135	27,330	24,817

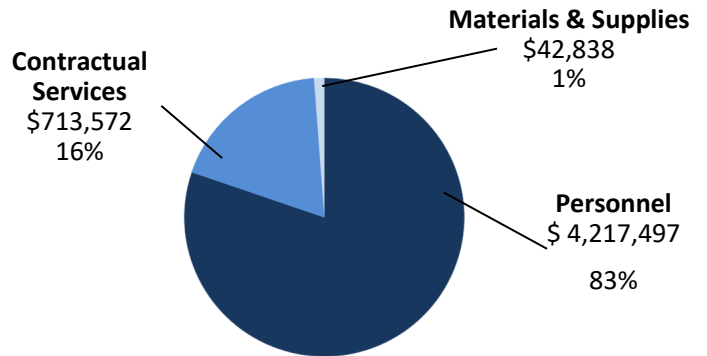
**New payment option

FY 22/23 Financial Information

Total monies collected by the Court in Fiscal Year 22/23 was \$5,695,784. Tempe Municipal Court operating budget from City general fund for Fiscal Year 22/23 was \$4,973,907 (excludes City Internal Services budget).



Receivables: What the Court Collects



Expenditures: What the City Budgets for Court Operations

Sources: Administrative Office of the Courts' Case Activity Report FY2022/23; Administrative Office of the Courts' Revenue Survey FY2022/23; Tempe Municipal Court Monthly Workload Indicators from Case Management System; PeopleSoft Financials.