

Tempe Municipal Court

2022 State of the Court Executive Summary



2021 continued to present incredible challenges for Court operations due to the pandemic. Nevertheless, we have remained open and have met all Court Mission commitments to the community. In addition, we have been able to implement significant enhancements to customer service. I am especially proud of the comprehensive electronic text and email reminders we now send to defendants of upcoming court obligations. This has been well received and has served to increase compliance. These enhancements align with the Court's 2020-2024 strategic agenda and specifically our continued efforts to fully automate court processes. Our successes are due, in significant part, to the dedicated court staff who have worked tirelessly during the unique challenges we have all been living through.

Kevin Kane, Presiding Judge
Tempe Municipal Court

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.

» 2021 Operational Efficiencies & Accomplishments «

- Continued coronavirus response by implementing additional enhancements to the Case Management System (CMS) and internal business processes to promote and maintain virtual proceedings.
- Collaborated with justice partners to enhance and expand digital interfaces (data sharing), to improve the delivery of justice to the public and help with case resolution.
- Implemented additional online service reminders, including additional payment options and email/text notification of court events.
- Worked with Tempe Human Services (Resource Navigators and CARE 7) to improve accessibility to community resources and provide information on ways to navigate through the justice system.
- Implemented emailing of summons and notices to court appointed attorneys, private attorneys, and the public.
- Improved court security protocols and measures to promote a safe environment for staff and the public.
- Produced a video to answer questions regarding jury service and implemented text notification to remind jurors to report for jury service.
- Implemented Legislative and AZ Supreme Court Rules mandates.

» 2021 Improving Public Access and Fostering Education «

- Presented at the Legal Competency & Restoration Conference for Mental Health Professionals.
- Recognized Law Day by creating and sharing a video with Tempe Kid Zone, Tempe schools and on the court website, as a way to communicate and cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession and the role of law in society for different youth groups in Tempe.

» 2021 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, the East Valley Regional Veterans Court served 350 veterans, including 126 with Tempe cases.
- Partnered with AHCCCS Complete Care Groups and Tempe Human Services to provide Mental Health Court services to 347 participants.
- Partnered with 49 courts in Maricopa County Regional Homeless Court, to help individuals address underlying issues, end their homelessness, and gain self-sufficiency.
- Collaborated with ASU to research opportunities related to restorative justice initiatives to improve Court programs.
- Participated in local, regional and statewide community and court improvement efforts, including:
 - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Limited Jurisdiction Courts Committee
 - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Leadership Institute of Arizona
 - ◊ ASU Homeless Legal Assistance Program
 - ◊ ASU School of Social Transformation
 - ◊ Tempe Homeless Solution Task Force
 - ◊ Tempe ADA Liaison Workgroup

» Looking Forward «

- Expand acceptance of E-complaint types filed in the Court CMS: Arizona Traffic Ticket and Complaints, Parking, and Zoning/Neighborhood violations.
- Evaluate electronic document management system to facilitate development and implementation of active case imaging, paper-on-demand environment and Bench automation.
- Evaluate business processes and needs to move towards remote in-custody proceedings.
- Continue advancement of the AZ Judicial Branch Strategic Agenda Goals, City of Tempe Values and Tempe City Council Strategic Priorities by way of the Court Strategic Agenda.

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, 12 Judges Pro Tempore and 35 staff positions.

Charges and Petitions Filed - FY 20/21, FY 19/20 and FY 18/19

Charge Types	FY 20/21 Charges	% of Total	FY 19/20 Charges	% of Total	FY 18/19 Charges	% of Total
Criminal Traffic and Misdemeanors	13,327	35%	14,012	28%	15,666	23%
Civil Traffic	10,634	28%	13,477	27%	18,082	27%
Parking	12,612	33%	19,001	38%	29,749	44%
Local Ordinances	1,072	3%	2,599	5%	2,683	4%
Total Protective Order Petitions Filed	802	1%	925	2%	1,171	2%
Total	38,447		50,014		67,351	

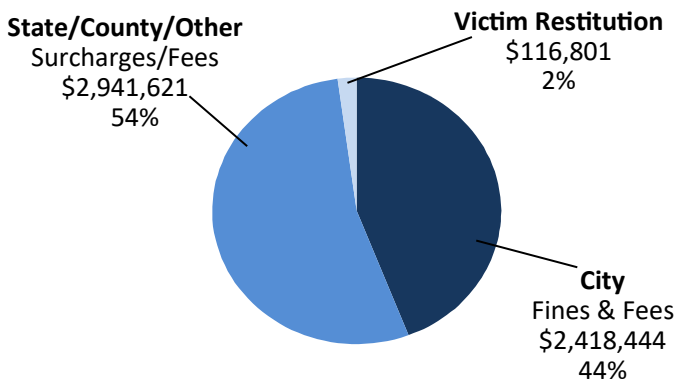
Customer Service - FY 20/21, FY 19/20 and FY 18/19

Measurement	FY 20/21	FY 19/20	FY 18/19
Court Visitors Screened through Security	30,135*	80,194*	109,722
Individuals Served at Public Window	1,129*	4,264*	34,781
Individuals Served over the Phone	60,121	55,589	58,144
Payments by Phone (IVR)	6,788	6,782	8,726
Payments by Website (IWR)	25,230	34,633	38,369
Mail Payments Processed	3,200	5,420	8,846
Correspondence Received/Filings Processed	24,817	24,357	28,087

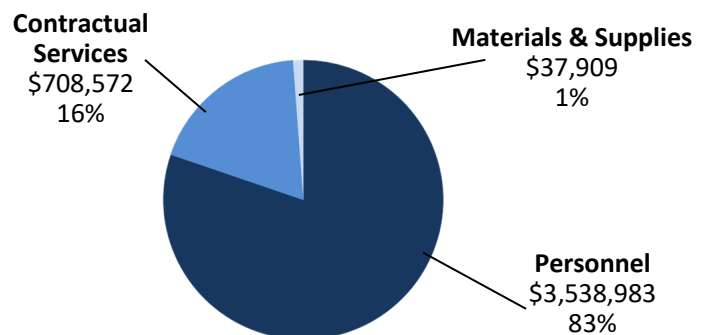
*Due to the spread of COVID-19 many court services were offered remotely, reducing the need for the public to appear in-person.

FY 20/21 Financial Information

Total monies collected by the Court in Fiscal Year 20/21 was \$5,476,866. Tempe Municipal Court operating budget from City general fund for Fiscal Year 20/21 was \$4,285,464 (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 FY2020/21; Administrative Office of the Courts' Quarterly Revenue Survey FY2020/21; Tempe Municipal Court Monthly Workload Indicators from Case Management System; PeopleSoft Financials.