

Annual Report

December 31

2009

Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department FY 2009 Annual Report
for the City of Gallipolis.

Probation
Report

Welcome to the Probation Department's Annual Report for fiscal year 2009. It contains a comprehensive overview and detailed information about the Department and its progress, accomplishments and challenges. The successes reflect the combined efforts of our dedicated employees and committed partners, and the support of the Court. This year, the Gallipolis Municipal Court was the successful recipient of two ARRA grants, one grant targeting intake of probationers and the other grant targeting general supervision of probationers.

The probation department partnered with Woodland Centers in 2009 to provide training to treatment providers for MRT (Moral Reconciliation Therapy) for probationers. Moral Reconciliation Therapy is an evidence based cognitive behavioral treatment approach designed to change how probationers make decisions and judgments by raising moral reasoning. This group approach is utilized for probationers with substance abuse issues. MRT has been cited by the National Drug Court Institute as proven to reduce recidivism. The Probation Department and some treatment providers currently run weekly MRT groups.

The Probation Department also incorporated a new computerized assessment tool called the COMPAS. The COMPAS assessment gives the department a tool to identify probationers that are high risk and have issues with substance abuse and other social problems. The Probation Department has made a commitment to incorporate these types of evidence based practices into most of the Probation Department functions.

The Probation Department House Arrest program had again great success for the year. The house arrest program is currently using GPS and RF house arrest equipment. The program incorporated alcohol detection devices (SCRAM) toward the end of the year and is still currently evaluating the effectiveness of the devices for future uses.

The Probation Department created an intake probation officer position in October with the help of State grant money from the Office of Criminal Justice Services. This position will help with the effectiveness of assessing defendants referred into probation and referring them to the appropriate services that they might need. The Probation Intake Officer completes all paper work with the new probationer and then assigns them to a probation officer for supervision.

The probation department also incorporated an automated phone reporting system for offenders that have completed intensive probation or offenders that need to report but are low risk offenders. Offenders call a phone number on an assigned report date and answer a battery of questions. Probation staff are notified of any problems and can address potential issues as they arise. The automated reporting saves probation staff time.

Our primary commitment is to public safety. We offer the highest level of professional service to the Courts and, the community. We are guided by our values and code of ethics

in the fulfillment of our duties. This annual report is compiled from records of the probation department which are available for examination. Should you have any question about the report, please feel free to contact the probation department.

Mission Statement

Mission

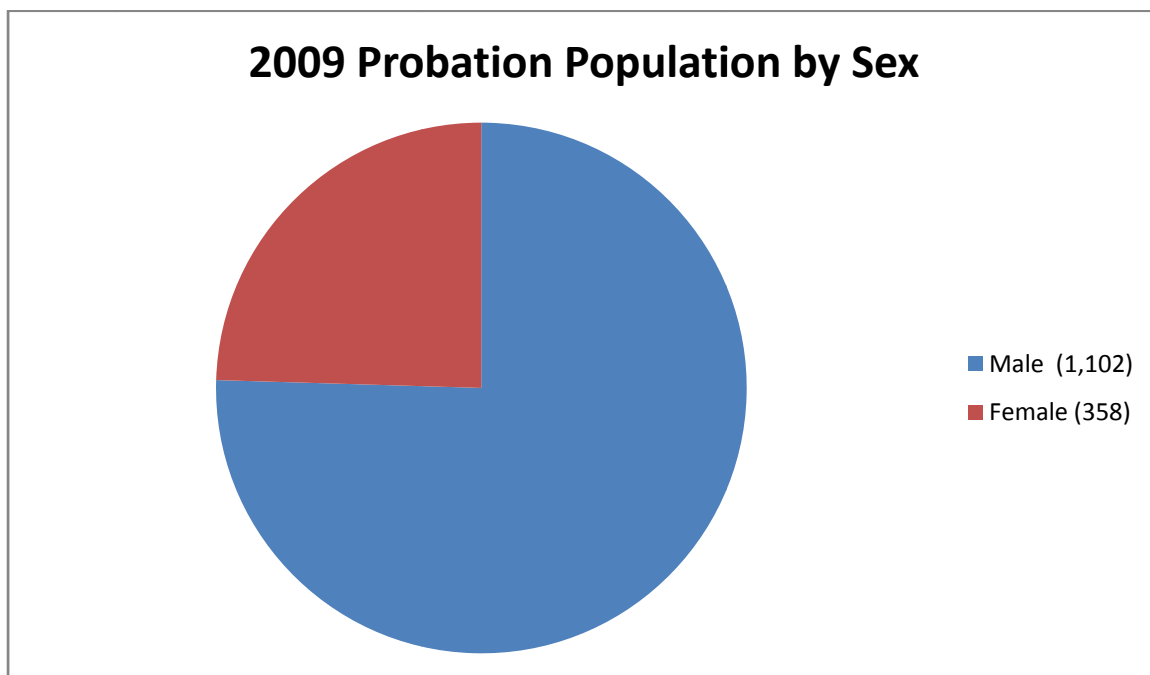
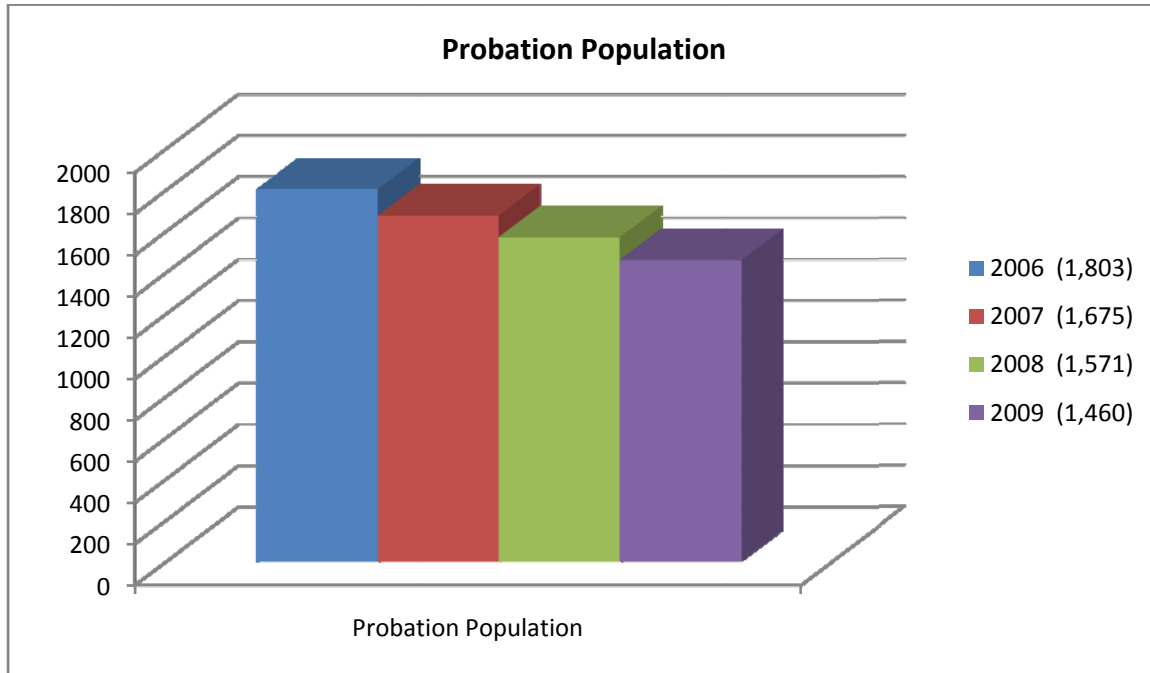
The mission of the Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department is to provide necessary service to the offender toward reducing criminal behavior while balancing the needs of and ensuring the safety of the community. Probation is a profession that requires fundamental knowledge of the law, sentencing alternatives, human service, and community protection.

Goals

- The Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department will pro-actively manage its offender population to enhance the safety and security to the public.
- The Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department will provide service and programs to address offender needs to facilitate the successful reintegration into society, as well as social accountability.
- The Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department will continue to seek opportunities for expanding the involvement of community, victims and private agencies in improving the effectiveness of services.

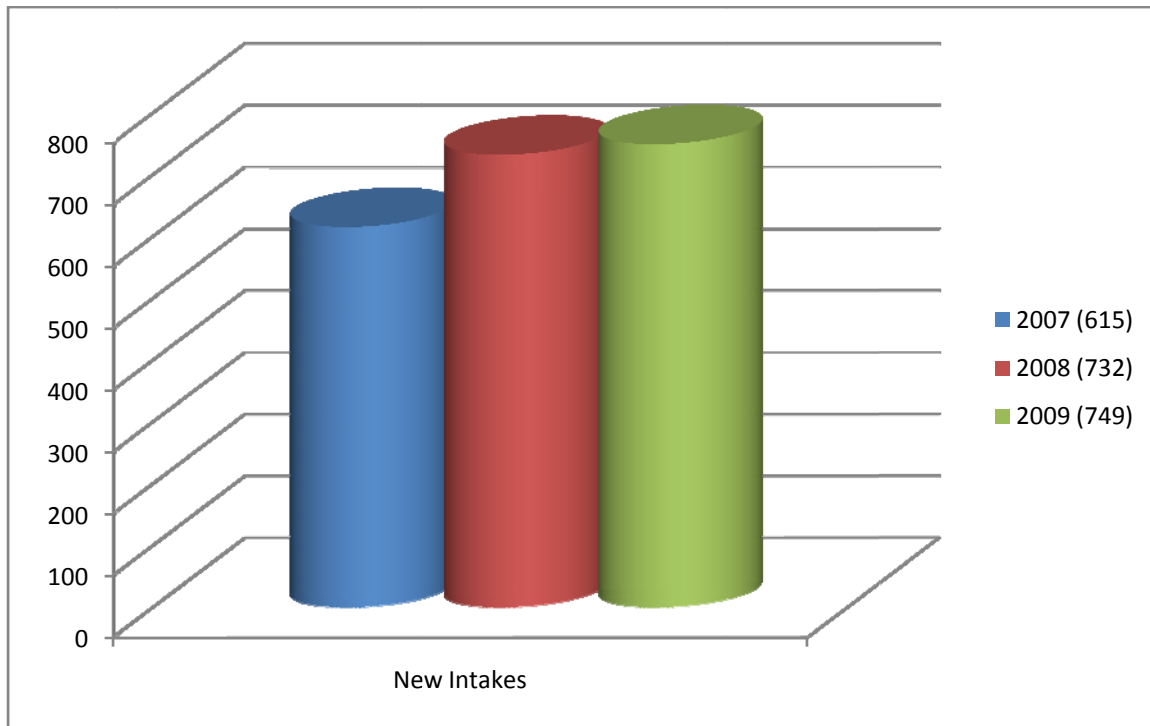
Probation Population

On December 31, 2009 the Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department was supervising 1,460 cases of probation. This reflects a 7% reduction in probation cases from 2008 and a 13% reduction in probation cases since 2007.



Probation Intake

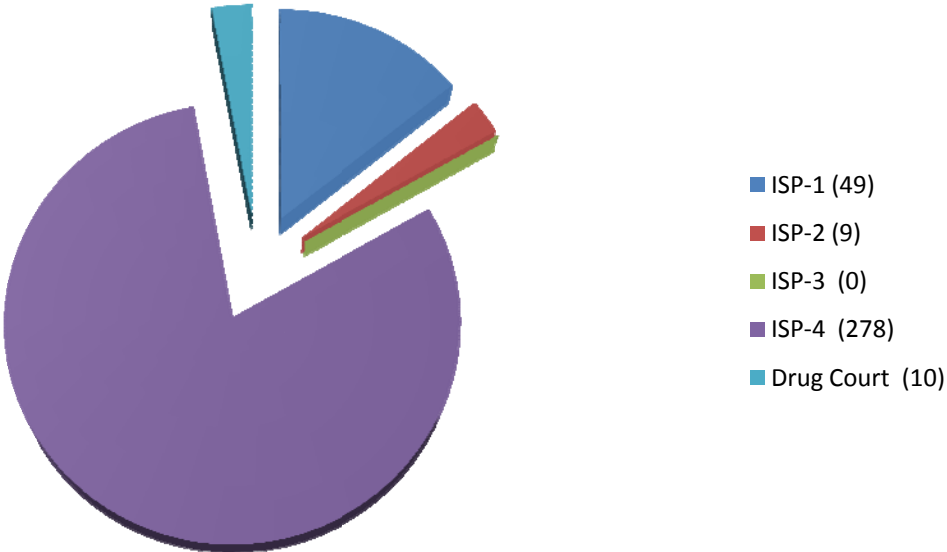
The Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department enrolled 749 new probation cases in 2009 which was a 3% increase from 2008 and an 18% increase since 2007. The new case load is increasing while the department has also seen an increase in termination of probation in some cases. (See probation population section).



Intensive Supervision

The probation department currently has four levels of intensive supervision being level 1 through 4. The probation department also supervises drug court participants. Level 1 is the most restrictive with contact weekly to level 4 which only requires contact once a month. During Intensive Supervision the officers monitor the conditions of probation, referrals to community agencies for appropriate treatment, conduct drug testing and monitor payments on fines and restitution. On December 31, 2009, there were 49 offenders on ISP-1 probation and 9 offenders on ISP-2 probation. There were a total of 278 offenders on ISP-4 probation. There were a total of 10 offenders in drug court on December 31, 2009.

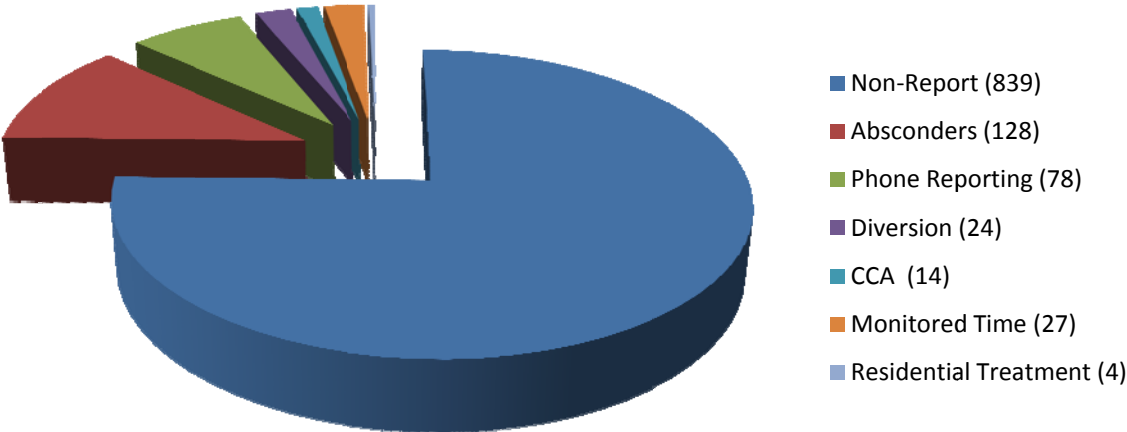
2009 Intensive Supervision (336)



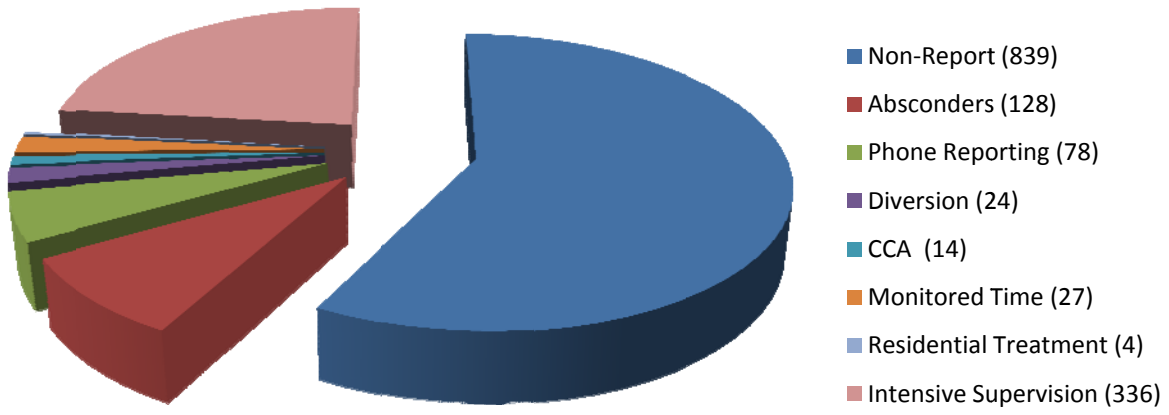
General Supervision

General Supervision is the largest population of offenders supervised by the probation department. Most of these offenders are not required to report, but have obligations that require supervision by probation staff. Those obligations include, drug treatment, community service, GED work, and other forms of treatment. On December 31, 2009 there were 1,114 cases under general supervision of the probation department.

2009 General Supervision (1,114)



2009 Supervised Cases (1,460)



Offense Status as of December 31, 2009

| Offense Status | Number |
|---|-------------|
| Domestic Violence (Includes abuse, cruelty, abandonment, or threat to a spouse, intimate or dependent child) | 72 |
| Sex Offense | 1 |
| Other Violent Offense (Assault, Aggravated Menacing, Menacing) | 43 |
| Property Offense (Theft, Passing bad checks) | 275 |
| Drug Law Violation (possession of Drugs, Drug Paraphernalia) | 92 |
| Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated | 324 |
| Other Traffic Offenses | 374 |
| Local codes | 279 |
| Total | 1460 |

Source: Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department

Programs

Drug Court

The Gallipolis Municipal Drug Court Program was established in May of 2006. The Drug Court is a voluntary program designed to emphasize treatment instead of incarceration. The program provides an opportunity for certain offenders to choose closely court monitored rehabilitation instead of Jail time.

Treatment of substance abuse and rehabilitation are the primary objectives. The goals of the program include:

- Reduce substance use and related criminal activity.
- Hold drug dependent offenders accountable for their actions and decisions.
- Provide resources and support to assist the drug dependent offender in the acquisition of skills necessary for the maintenance of sobriety.
- Reward positive life changes while maintaining accountability for negative conduct.

Program participants enter an intensive 4-phase treatment program scheduled to last a minimum of nine months and up to one year. Participants attend counseling groups, 12-step meetings, individual counseling, and case management sessions. They also have regularly scheduled court appearances and provide random urine samples. In most cases, upon successful completion of treatment, the participant will graduate from the program and either be removed from probation or the case will be dismissed. On December 31, 2009 there were 10 offenders in the drug court program.

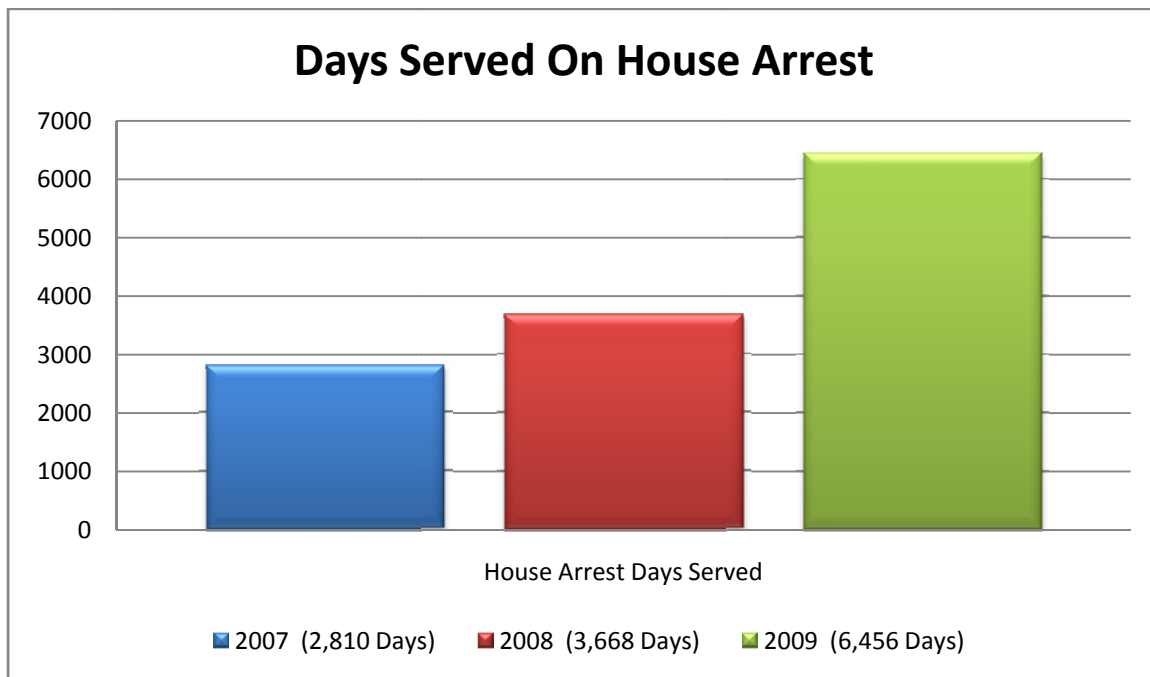
Electronic Monitored House Arrest

Electronic Monitored House Arrest (EMHA) is an intermediate sanction that uses radio frequency/GPS and computer technology to assist officers with offender control by way of twenty-four hour monitoring and immediate response to violations.

The offender is fitted with a continuous signaling radio frequency or GPS transmitter affixed to the ankle. The offender must wear the transmitter for the entire period of EMHA supervision. The transmitter is a battery operated, waterproof, non-shocking, tamper detecting device that does not prohibit or restrict personal activity and hygiene. Additionally, the offender is assigned a Home Monitoring Receiver Unit (HMRU). This unit is placed in the offender's residence, connected to the telephone line and to an AC power source. The HMRU receives the transmitter's signal within a defined radius, usually the offender's residence. By way of the telephone line, the HMRU reports the presence or absence of the transmitter signal and thus the offender to the host computer at the EMHA Reporting Center.

The Home Monitoring Receiver Unit (HMRU) has an internal backup power source along with microprocessor memory capacity as a safeguard for power and telephone line failures. Offender absences and returns, tampers, system tests, power and line failures are some of the messages reported by the equipment. Each time the HMRU calls the host computer, only a few seconds of actual telephone line time is required.

In 2009 the Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department supervised over 215 defendants on electronic monitored house arrest. A total of 6,456 days of house arrest were served in 2009 with an average stay in the program of 30 days. The cost of the EMHA program for 2009 was \$95,934.00, which covers personnel cost and the cost of the monitoring bracelets. The program revenue was \$94,832.73 coming from CCA grant of \$45,675.00 and \$49,157.73 in EMHA fees collected for 2009. The remaining expense of \$1,101.27 came from other probation fees collected throughout the year. The average daily cost of incarcerating a defendant in the Gallia County jail is \$45.00 a day. The house arrest program produces a savings of \$194,586.00 in jail cost in 2009.



SAM Program

SAM is a secure, automated call system that randomly selects participants for drug and alcohol testing and monitors compliance with abstinence. Daily calls to a toll-free telephone number connect participants to the automated call system. Participants are assigned a "calling window" and a "testing window" based upon their work schedule or other daily obligations. The system tells the offender when they are required to report to probation for a urine screen.

A database records the time of all calls, confirms that the participant is aware that he / she must report for a drug or alcohol test, monitors the participant's compliance with required testing and reports results of tests.

The fifteen-second call each day informs participants that they "Have" or "Have Not" been selected to test. Participants are unable to anticipate when they will be selected for testing. The call system extends the agency's supervision through structured, daily contact. Upon selection for testing, participants are required to report to the probation department within a time period determined by the agency.

Twenty-nine defendants were assigned to the SAM program in 2009 from the Gallipolis Municipal Court.

MRT

Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) is a systematic treatment strategy that seeks to decrease recidivism among criminal offenders by increasing moral reasoning. Its cognitive-behavioral approach combines elements from a variety of psychological traditions to progressively address ego, social, moral, and positive behavioral growth. MRT takes the form of group and individual counseling using structured group exercises and prescribed homework assignments. The MRT workbook is structured around 16 objectively defined steps (units) focusing on seven basic treatment issues: confrontation of beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors; assessment of current relationships; reinforcement of positive behavior and habits; positive identity formation; enhancement of self-concept; decrease in hedonism and development of frustration tolerance; and development of higher stages of moral reasoning. Participants meet in groups once or twice weekly and can complete all steps of the MRT program in a minimum of 3 to 6 months.

Currently FACTS, Spectrum Outreach and Woodland Centers along with the probation department are providing MRT groups to defendants. In 2009, 50 defendants participated in the G.M.C.P.D's MRT group.

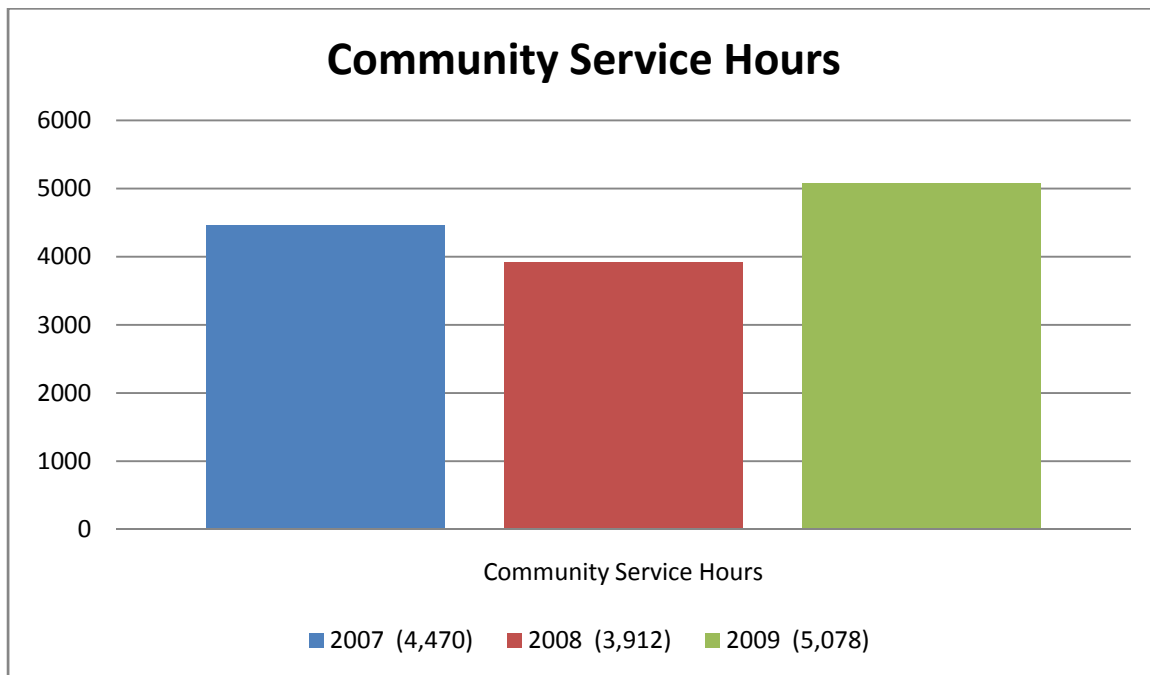
Community Service

The purpose of the Gallipolis Municipal Court Community Service Program is to have offender(s) benefit community projects by working assigned hours and realize an immediate consequence to certain negative behaviors in lieu of jail time.

This program is designed to serve the offender(s) who have been ordered to perform a designated number of community service hours. These hours must be completed at a non profit public service work site, and the offender(s) receives no monetary compensation.

The number of hours is normally determined by the severity of the offense. Orders for community service hours come from the Court.

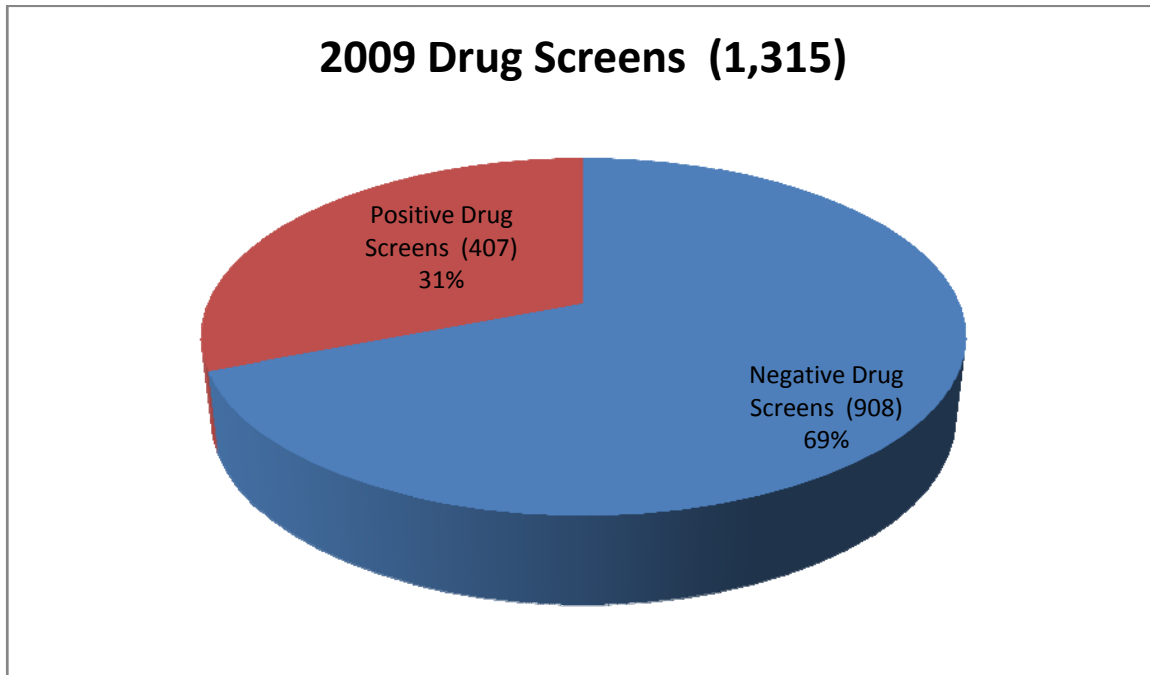
In 2009, the G.M.C.P.D. supervised a total of 5,078 hours of community service with a total value to the community of \$40,624.00.



Drug Testing

Drug and alcohol testing is an essential tool for identifying offenders abusing illicit drugs. This testing is conducted on-site and provides immediate results to assist probation officers in determining the most effective treatment and sanctions.

In 2009 the Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department conducted 1,315 drug screens on offenders with 407 of those screen being positive for illegal drugs.

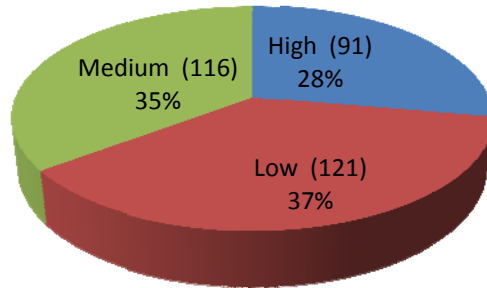


Assessments

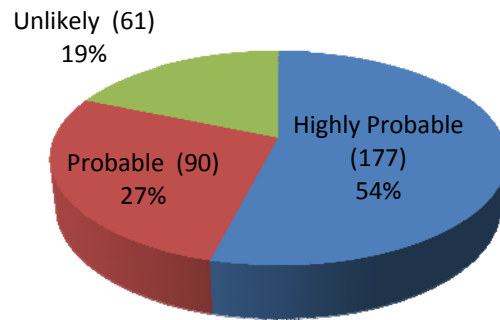
The Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department uses a computerized assessment tool called COMPAS. The COMPAS is a state-of-the-art risk and needs assessment tool, based on advanced statistical and psychometric methods. It guides community placement decisions by assessing risk for 22 criminogenic needs. Some of the assessed areas are: likelihood of violence, recidivism, failure to appear, substance abuse, cognitive behavioral ability, criminal involvement and criminal associates.

In 2009 the Gallipolis Municipal court probation department conducted 328 COMPAS assessments on offenders. The follow charts show a break down of those 328 assessments.

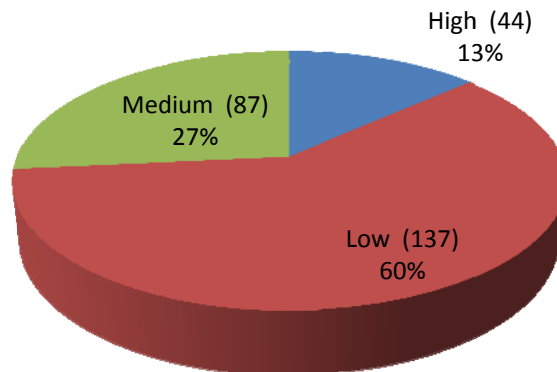
Risk of Recidivism



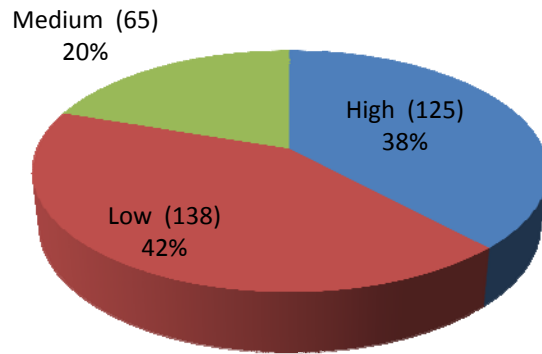
Substance Abuse



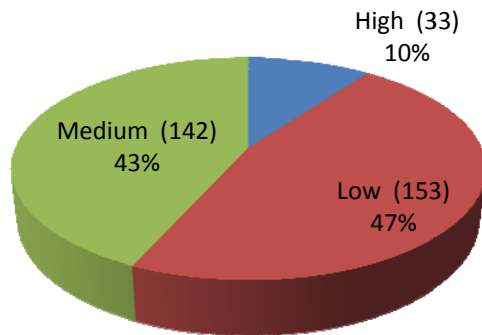
Risk of Violence



History of Non-Compliance

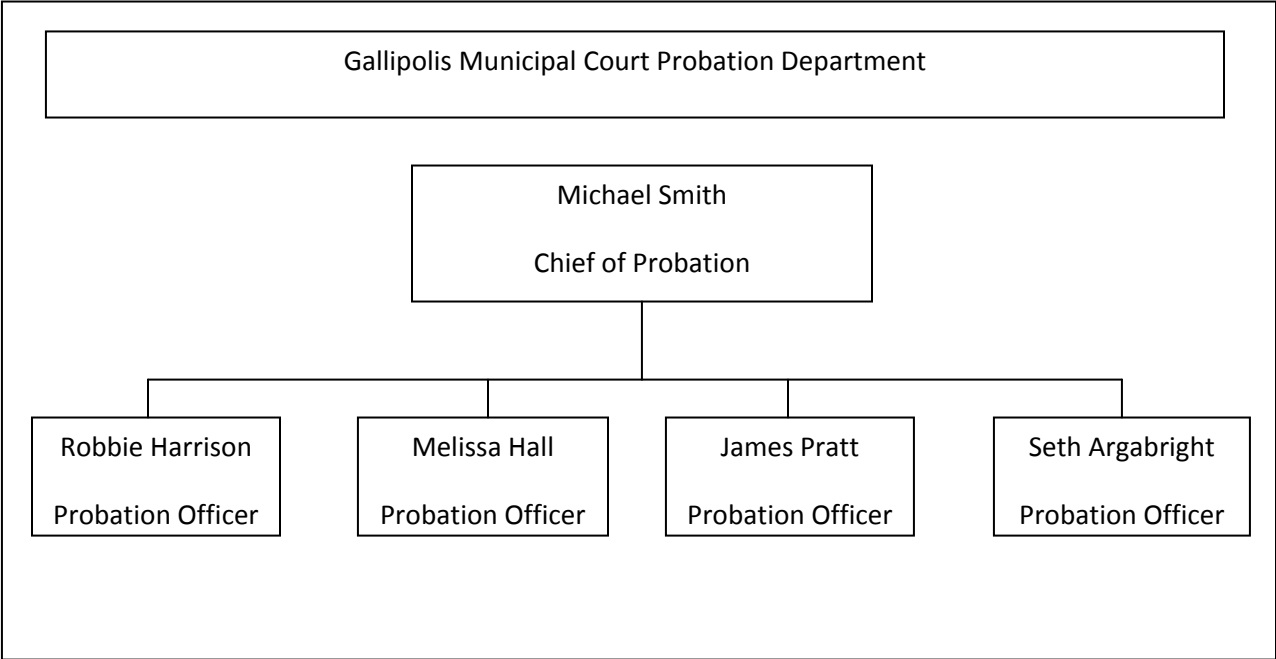


Recommended Supervision Level



Probation Fees

In 2009 the Gallipolis municipal court probation department collected \$39,862.05 in probation fees, and collected \$49,157.73 in house arrest fees for a total of \$89,019.78 in total collections.



Michael J Smith
Chief of Probation
Gallipolis Municipal Court Probation Department