PREFACE

This Annual Statistical Report for FY 1998 reviews the activity of the Court and the work of its 341 State and county employees. The number of complaints brought to the Court was only slightly higher in FY 1998 than it was in FY 1997 (29,750 compared to 29,449). The number of youths held in secure detention increased by 9.4 percent.

With changes in the demographic characteristics of Fairfax County and its increasing urbanization, changing family structures, and the impact of a number of other local, regional, and national trends, the Court and its staff finds itself dealing with increasingly complex and difficult case problems. Although the total volume of cases coming to the Court's attention, with the exception of juvenile traffic offenses, has remained relatively stable, the serious problems these cases present to the Court and its staff stretch its resources. Grant funding has provided some additional resources for work with domestic violence and truancy cases.

Special appreciation for the writing and production of this report is extended to the Court's research analysts, Marcia Cohen and Katherine Williams, and to volunteer Jim Jenkins, and to research assistant, Carissa Pappas.

The Court and its services continue to grow and change as staff face the future. Staff have been projecting its space and staffing needs to meet growth in the county. Its effectiveness is in great measure a credit to the quality of the dedicated judges, clerks, and service staff who must balance the need to protect the community with the need to provide for the protection and well-being of the youths and families who come within its jurisdiction.

JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT

FY 1998 STAFF

JUDGES

4000 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • 703-246-3367

David S. Schell, *Chief Judge*
Gayl B. Carr, *Judge*
Jane P. Delbridge, *Judge*
Gaylord L. Finch, *Judge*
Teena D. Grodner, *Judge (s 4/98)*
Kathleen H. MacKay, *Judge (r 12/97)*
Charles J. Maxfield, *Judge*
Michael J. Valentine, *Judge*
Jan Remick, *Secretary*

COURT DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

4000 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • 703-246-3343

John William Outlaw,* *Network Telecommunications Analyst (s 4/98)*
Calvin Williams,* *Computer Systems Analyst*
Letha Braesch, *Management Analyst*
Angie Carrera, *Coordinator, Volunteer Sponsor Program*
Marcia Cohen, *Research Analyst*
Carol Coile, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Maria Kirlin, *Secretary/VSP*
Regina Morris, *Secretary*
Ron Schmidt, *Research Assistant*
Sandy Sood, Ph.D., *Training Coordinator*
Katherine Williams, Ph.D., *Research Analyst*
Rodney Williams, *Technical Support Analyst*

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • 703-246-3410

David Bartee, *Financial Analyst*
Jane Beard,* *Personnel Specialist (r 6/98)*
Marcella Chambers, *Public Information Clerk*
Pat Dellastatious,* *Clerical Specialist*
Adene Hill,* *Assistant Buyer*
Elizabeth Kephart,* *Office Service Manager*
Catherine Randall,* *Account Clerk*
Rae Ann Stein, *Records Manager*
Mony Thaivalappil, *Records Clerk*
Ann Todd, *Account Clerk II*
Nuria Trigueros-Zepeda, *Public Information Clerk*

** Human Services Administration assigned to Juvenile Court*

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CLERK'S OFFICE

4000 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • 703-246-3010

Barbara J. Daymude, *Clerk of Court*

Deputy Clerks:

Stephanie Adams *(s 11/97)*
Blanche F. Bailey
Patricia Berry
Paula Brunette *(s 1/98, r 4/98)*
Sharon Childs
April Colon
Shannon Conroy
Ann Day
Richard Ditch *(r 8/97)*
Christine Dumphy
Sue Finch
Jennifer Flanagan
Gisele Foulks *(r 10/97)*
Yolanda Guyton
Deborah Hammer *(r 8/97)*
Jason Holdsworth
Mary Howard
Judith Lanham *(s 6/98)*
Pauline Lyon
Claudia Malenich
Cecilia Miller
Catherine Payne
Rhonda Ponzelli
Kimberly Reavy *(s 8/97)*
Janice Remick
Vivian Rigney *(s 10/97)*
Jody Ryder *(r 11/97)*
Astrid Soletto
Dianne Spencer
John Stone *(s 10/97)*
Kathy Stone
Debbie Thomas
Sheila Tingen *(s 10/97)*
Debbie Toland
Marilyn Weeks
Madge Weese
Mary Wimmer *(s 6/97)*

PROBATION SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • 703-246-3343

James S. Dedes, *Director for Probation Services*
Robert Bermingham, *Probation Counselor (MAP Program)*
Tracy Dugdale, *Probation Counselor (MAP Program)*
Steve Spero, *Probation Counselor (MAP Program)*

NORTH COUNTY SERVICES

1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Suite 400
Reston, Virginia 22090 • 703-481-4014

Keith True, *Unit Director*
Carol Benedict, *Secretary (part-time)*
Evelyn Hamilton, *Secretary (part-time)*
Susan Smoot, *Secretary (r 6/98)*

Counselors:

Dorothy Bock
Tracy Chiles *(ti 9/97)*
Tracey Dugdale *(to 9/97)*
Bill Goodman
John Howlin
Lynne Koval
Elaine Lassiter
Ed Nies
Mary Waller
John Wrightson

High School Areas Served:

- Chantilly
- Herndon
- Langley
- Madison
- Marshall
- McLean
- Oakton
- South Lakes

SOUTH COUNTY SERVICES

8305 Richmond Highway, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22309 • 703-360-1001

David Rathbun, *Unit Director*
John Chapman, *Assistant Director*
Diana Harrison, *Secretary*
Charlotte McFarland, *Secretary (r 11/97)*
Kimberlee Edmond-Williams *(s 6/98)*

Counselors:

Bradford Berce
Kenneth Brown
Frank Gory
Tracy Guard
West Johnson
Daniel Lanham *(s 10/97)*
Natalie Salera
Michael Smith
Lori Winter

High School Areas Served:

- Edison
- Hayfield
- Lee
- Mount Vernon
- West Potomac
- West Springfield

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CENTER COUNTY SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-3211

Eric T. Assur, *Unit Director*
Joyce White, *Clerical Specialist*
Millie Hamilton, *Clerk Typist (part-time)*
Lucinda Ross, *Clerical Specialist*

Counselors:

Frank Fonte
Ronald Hutchison
Gerald Jackson
Ellis Roby
Michelle Rodriquez
Robert Smith
John Thompson
Gene Whitlock
Erlinda Work

High School Areas Served:

- Annandale
- Centreville
- Fairfax
- Falls Church
- Jefferson
- Lake Braddock
- Robinson
- Jeb Stuart
- W. T. Woodson

SPECIAL SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-2343

Cynthia Kelley, *Unit Director*
James McCarron, *Parole Supervisor*
Michelle Grimsley, *Secretary*
Tina Beck, *Administrative Aide (s 11/97)*

Counselors:

Johanna Balascio-Russell, *Community Services Project Counselor (ti 9/97)*
Tracey Chiles, *Community Services Project Counselor (to 8/97)*
Fran Davison, *Parole Counselor*
Lisa Downing, *Community Services Project Counselor*
Kris Eckard, *Parole Counselor (ti 7/97)*
Martha Estell, *Psychological/Special Placements Counselor*
Stacie Houck, *Community Services Project Counselor (s 8/97)*
Jennifer Le, *Parole Counselor (s 6/98)*
Beverly Miller, *Work Training Program Counselor*
Dennis Mondoro, *Parole Counselor (ti 4/97)*
Peter Roussos, *Diagnostic Team/Special Placement Counselor*
Dwight Smith, *Parole Counselor (s 3/97)*
Steve Spero, *Community Services Project Counselor (to 9/97)*
Roxanne Tigh, *Parole Counselor (to 6/98)*

FAMILY SYSTEMS COUNSELING

4000 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-2204

Nanette M. Hoback, *L.C.S.W., Director*
Reen Lyddane, *L.P.C. LMFT, Assoc. Director*
Margaret Reichardt, *Secretary*

Counselors:

Myrna Brown-Wiant
Lisa D. Locke *(part-time)*
Phyllis Robinson
Maritzabel Rodriguez, *L.C.S.W.*
Patricia A. Rostkowski *(part-time)*

DOMESTIC RELATIONS SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-3040

Laura Harris, *Unit Director*
Jerry Rich, *Assistant Director of Intake Services*
Frank Sedei, *Assistant Director/ Adult Probation Counselor*
Paulette Abbou, *Clerk Typist*
Kathryn Scully, *Clerk Supervisor*
Anne Phillips, *Secretary*

Counselors:

Fran Blumenkrantz, *Intake Officer*
Lisa Bell, *Adult Probation Counselor*
Linda Bozoky, *Intake Officer*
Linda Cecca, *Intake Officer*
Wendy DeAbreu, *Probation Counselor* (r 11/97)*
Lois Duncan, *Probation Counselor **
William Montez Gray, *Intake Officer*
Maurine Houser, *Intake Officer*
Lyn Jagger, *Custody Investigator*
Tom Kitsoulis, *Adult Probation Counselor*
Rachael Navatta, *Custody Investigator (part-time)*

**DCJS grant-funded*

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JUVENILE INTAKE SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-2495

Kenneth McLaughlin, *Unit Director*
Linda Schnatterly, *Supervisory Clerk*
Sheila Coffin, *Intake Clerk (part-time)*
Betsey Curilla, *Intake Clerk*
Debbie Groves, *Night Intake Clerical Specialist*
Geraldine Lee, *Intake Clerk*
Julie Smith, *Intake Clerk (part-time)*
Pam Williams, *Intake Clerk (part-time)*

Counselors:

Libby Burge, *Night Intake Counselor (part-time)*
Fran Deloatche, *Intake Counselor*
Dan Devers, *Night Intake Counselor (s 5/98)*
Vickie Goode, *Intake Counselor*
Kate Hannah, *Intake Counselor (s 6/98)*
Nancy Heacock, *Night Intake Counselor (s 6/98)*
John Miller, *Hearing Officer*
Phyllis Robinson, *Night Intake Counselor (part-time)*
Theo Vaughan, *Intake Counselor*

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RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-3416

Joseph D. Fedeli, *Director for Residential Services*
Amber Perrin, *Secretary*

GIRLS PROBATION HOUSE

12720 Lee Highway
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-830-2930

Mary Brantley, *Director*
Myrna Brown-Wiant, *Assistant Director*
Gwen Richardson, *Clerical Specialist*

Counselors:
Ron Barr
Michelle Harmon
Christine Krohl
Virginia Struyk *(part-time)*
Greg White
Sandra Whitacre, *Cook*

BOYS PROBATION HOUSE

4410 Shirley Gate Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
591-0171

Rice Lilley, *Program Director*
Roxanne Tigh, *Assistant Director (ti 6/98)*
Wardlee Liberti, *Clerical Specialist*

Therapeutic Unit Counselors:
Lynn Baird
Jeff Hurlich
Rachel Kindell, *(overnight)*
Dorthy Kress-Bullock, *(overnight)*
Julie Mayer *(ti 10/97)*
Duane Miller
Marlon Murphy
Frank Pierce *(r 1/98)*
Karen Roberts
Mitch Ryan
Ivy Tillman
Sher Singh, *Cook*

Transitional Unit Counselors:
Tom Hastings
Aaron Hughes

Family Counselors:
Kim Sykes
Teresa Athing

SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-2200

Lee McCormack, *Supervisor (r 7/98)*
Dorthea Madsen, *Supervisor*
Scott Warner, *Supervisor*
Tina Beck, *Secretary (to 11/97)*
Millie Hamilton, *Secretary (s 4/98)*

Counselors:
Terri Anderson *(r 5/98)*
George Ashley *(s 6/98)*
Johanna Balascio-Russell *(to 9/97)*
Tara Eberhart
Kris Eckard *(to 7/97)*
Betsy Harris *(s 6/98)*
Marion Mills
Julius Reynolds *(ti 8/97)*
Natalie Salera *(to 6/98)*
Susan Schiffer
Lisa Sibinek
Timothy Smith
Melissa Sorensen

LESS SECURE SHELTER

10650 Page Avenue • Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-246-2900

Lucy Masterson, *Program Director*
Gwen Robinson, *Assistant Director*
LaVerne Hovley, *Secretary*

Counselors:
George Corbin *(to 10/97)*
Harry Fulwiler
Greg Harper
Michelle McPhatter
Michael Miracle
Calvin Robertson *(r 8/97)*
Karen Roessler
Alisa Ware

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JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

10650 Page Avenue • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • 703- 246-2844

David Marsden, *Superintendent*
Madeline Arter, *Assistant Superintendent*
Dennis Fee, *Assistant Superintendent*

Stephanie Adams, *Child Care Specialist (s 5/98)*
Raymond Anderson, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Jamaine Arvin, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
George Ashley, *Transportation Supervisor (to 6/98)*
Robin Bader, *Child Care Specialist*
Brad Barnett, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Patricia Beamer, *Cook (ti 10/97)*
Karen Bisset, *Policy & Training Manager*
Ray Brown, *Child Care Specialist*
Charles Brown, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
John Brown, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Theresa Brown, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Gabriel Caldera, *Account Clerk*
Nina Chillari, *Child Care Specialist (s 5/98)*
Denise Clark, *Child Care Specialist*
George Corbin, *Shift Administrator (ti 10/97)*
Andrea Curry, *Food ServiceSupervisor (s 11/97)*
Macy Dennis, *Child Care Specialist (s 5/97)*
Joe Diseati, *Child Services Coordinator*
William Dunn, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Reginald Earl, *Cook (s 5/98, r 6/98)*
Jonathan Ellis, *Child Care Specialist (s 8/97, r 1/98)*
Victor Escobar, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Timothy Ferrell, *Operations Manager*
Carl Fogle, *Shift Administrator*
Emily Franko, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Sam Gaddy, *Child Care Specialist*
Bruce Games, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Freddie Gaskins, *Child Care Specialist*
Mike Gerber, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Jamie Gestrich, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Sanchez Glover, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
David Grabauskas, *Operations Manager*
Ronald Graham, *Child Care Specialist (s 8/97)*
David Groce, *Child Care Specialist*
Erik Grow, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Jody Guerrette, *Cook (r 5/98)*
Aaron Hamlett, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Chris Hardmon, *Child Care Specialist*
Pam Harney, *Operations Manager*
James Harrison, *Shift Administrator*
Chris Harvey, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97, r 5/98)*
Howard Harvey, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Chris Helmick, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Kevin Heman, *Child Care Specialist (s 2/97)*
Mike Holder, *Building Supervisor*
Steven Holmes, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Jason Houtz, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Bobby Huntley, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Motisola Inge, *Child Care Specialist*
Craig James, *Child Care Specialist*
Jim Jindra, *Child Care Specialist*
Donald Jones, *Child Care Specialist*
Mark Jones, *Child Care Specialist*
Robert Joumas, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Ruffm Joyner, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Linda Kems, *Supervisory Clerk*
Jane Kim, *Cook (s 6/98)*
Robert Kim, *Cook*
John King, *Child Care Specialist*
Kacey Kirkland, *Child Care Specialist (s 3/98)*
Keith Kirven, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Timothy Korab, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Michael Lane, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Travis Larkins, *Maintenance Trade Helper*
Randy Lassiter, *Operations Manager*
Gregory Lewis, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Tarya Lewis, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
De Dra Liddle, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Steve Logan, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Brad Maas, *Child Care Specialist (r 5/98)*
Richard Manley, *Child Care Specialist*
Jamila Mannie, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Ray Matthew, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Greg McKnight, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Thomas McLachlan, *Food Service Specialist*
George Morita, *Child Care Specialist*
Marion Murphy, *Child Care Specialist (to 8/97)*
Edith Murray, *Child Care Specialist*
Rana Natour, *Secretary I (s 3/98)*
Vincent Newby, *Child Care Specialist*
Hally Nguyen, *Laundress*
Paula Palmer, *Child Care Specialist*
Ronald Pannell, *Child Care Specialist*
Hilton Patrick, *Child Care Specialist*
James Pawlak, *Child Care Specialist*
Graham Perkovich, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*

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Tom Petruzzi, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Wade Powell, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Barbara Quach, *Cook*
Kathleen Raidy, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Bob Rankin, *Operations Manager*
Jennifer Rathjen, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Julius Reynolds, *Child Care Specialist (to 7/97)*
Ted Reed, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Richard Roberts, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Cathleen Robertson, *Nurse (s 3/98)*
Joy Roby, *Child Care Specialist*
Mitchell Ryan, *Operations Manager (ti 10/97)*
Mike Sharp, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Mike Shelby, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Joao Silva, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Kristy Simpson, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Sharon Spates-Miller, *Child Care Specialist*
Iris Speed Batts, *Child Care Specialist*
Dan Stanton, *Child Care Specialist*
Sonja Stephens, *Child Care Specialist (s 11/97)*
Enio Tapia, *Child Care Specialist*
Christina Taylor, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Richard Taylor, *Child Care Specialist (s & r 11/97)*
Chavis Teal, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
William Teel, *Child Care Specialist (s & r 6/98)*
Joyce Terry, *Nurse (r 12/97)*
Henley Thomas, *Child Care Specialist*
Paul Thompson, *Child Care Specialist (r 10/97)*
Matt Thompson, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Katharine Traeger, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Wyatt Trumbo, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Reginald Tucker, *Child Care Specialist*
Dave Victor, *Child Care Specialist (s 6/98)*
Lisa Washington-Mora, *Nurse (s 12/97)*
Bill Whildin, *Post-D Coordinator (s 11/97)*
Sheman White, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Mike Wiener, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Larry Wiley, *Ass't. Operations Manager*
Julius Williams, *Child Care Specialist (s 10/97)*
Rodney Williams, *Child Care Specialist (s 8/97)*
William Willis, *Child Care Specialist*
Mark Wilson, *Child Care Specialist*
Elizabeth Wood, *Child Care Specialist (s 9/97)*
Bemard Young, *Cook (t 5/98)*

JUVENILE COURT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Janet Muldoon, ***Braddock District***, *Chair*

Hunter Mill District
Robert Hill

Mt. Vernon District
Thomas Gallahue

Providence District
Elinor Light

City of Fairfax
Altonette Stone
John J. Harold

Lee District
Jeffrey Dion, *Vice Chair*

Springfield District
Judith Isom

Dranesville District
David Karmol

Mason District
Thomas Horton

Sully District
Vacant

At-Large
Ann Calhoun

Court Appointee
Mary Guice
Rodney Leffler

Honorary
Helen Hester

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I. GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court is responsible for adjudicating juvenile matters, offenses committed by adults against juveniles, and family matters except divorce. The Court offers comprehensive services for delinquent youngsters under the legal age of 18 who live in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the towns of Herndon, Vienna, and Clifton. In addition, the Court provides services to adults in these jurisdictions who are experiencing domestic and/or familial difficulties that are amenable to unofficial arbitration, counseling, or legal intervention. The Court also provides services required in adult criminal complaints for offenses committed against juveniles unrelated to them.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prior to 1956, all juvenile and domestic relations cases were heard by a County Court judge and all probation and investigation functions were handled by the County's Department of Public Welfare. In 1956, the County Board of Supervisors established a separate probation office for the Court with a Chief Probation Officer, three probation officers and two clerical staff. Court was in session one day a week with the Judge of the County Court presiding.

In 1962, the Court expanded hearings to three days a week, with each County Court judge sitting for one day. In 1965, the first full-time Juvenile Court Judge was appointed and Court met daily. By FY 1980, five full-time Judges were hearing cases. In FY1993, a sixth judge was approved by the State, and in FY 1994, a seventh judge was approved.

The development of special programs to augment traditional probation services has been particularly important in the Court's development. Many of these innovations were made possible by the availability of federal grant funds and have subsequently been funded by the county. Specialized programs include the Informal Hearing Officer Program, the Work Training Program, the Community Services Project, Maximize Attendance Program, Family Counseling, the Diagnostic Team, Supervised Release Services, the Less Secure Shelter, the Juvenile Detention Center, five different alternative schools, the Volunteer Learning Program, two Probation Houses, the School Probation Officer Program, and Traffic School.

ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Due to space limitations in the Courthouse and a desire to provide more readily accessible services to the community, the Court decentralized its services throughout the county. A branch office opened in the northern part of the county in the spring of 1973 to provide intake, investigation, and probation functions. A second branch office with the same responsibilities was opened in the southern part of the county in late 1973. At the same time, Center County services were divided into two units. All probation and investigation services were organized into one unit while intake and support services were combined into another unit. An additional unit, Special Services, was established in the summer of 1973 to operate established programs such as group homes, family counseling, the work training program, probation houses and volunteer services.

The increase in complaints, approved fiscal plans, expenditures, revenues, and staffing levels for the past 7 years are shown in Figure 1. Figure 2 shows the trends in population levels and selected activity counts over the past 20 years. The significant increase in juvenile complaints in FY 1974 was largely a result of a change in the Code of Virginia which required the hearing of all traffic cases in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court beginning in September, 1973, rather than splitting the cases between the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court and the General District Court. Some of the increase shown in FY 1977 may be attributable to the implementation of an automated information system, which resulted in more accurate counting procedures. Figure 3 shows the increase in daily court transactions from FY 1977 to FY 1998. During this period, daily court transactions have increased from an average of 93.4 per day in FY 1977 to an average of 220.0 per day in FY 1998.

FIGURE 1

COMPLAINTS, BUDGET AND PERSONNEL
FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
FY 1992-FY 1998

	FY92		FY93		FY94		FY95		FY96		FY97		FY98	
	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%
COMPLAINTS	**29,090**	**3.2**	**28,612**	**(1.6)**	**29,534**	**3.2**	**31,862**	**7.9**	**33,201**	**4.2**	**29,449**	**(11.3)**	**29,750**	**1.0**
Juvenile	22,107	1.5	20,534	(7.1)	21,568	5.0	23,496	8.9	24,148	2.8	21,535	(10.8)	20,831	(3.3)
Adult	6,983	9.3	8,078	15.7	7,966	(1.4)	8,366	5.0	9,053	8.2	7,914	(12.6)	8,919	12.7
APPROVED FISCAL PLAN (excludes grants)	**$8,558,966**	**(5.5)**	**$8,185,436**	**(4.4)**	**$8,986,855**	**9.8**	**$9,524,611**	**6.0**	**$10,211,853**	**7.2**	**$10,974,777**	**7.5**	**$13,007,418**	**18.5**
Personal Services	7,174,239	0.1	6,777,049	(5.5)	7,628,760	12.6	8,052,479	5.6	8,286,964	2.9	8,998,978	8.6	11,016,735	22.4
Operating Expenses	1,380,727	(25.3)	1,408,387	2.0	1,358,095	(3.6)	1,464,207	7.8	1,914,907	30.8	1,799,442	(6.0)	1,974,683	9.7
Capital Equipment	4,000	(91.1)	0	(100.0)	0	(0.0)	7,925	>100.0	9,982	26.0	176,357	>100.0	16,000	(>100.0)
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	**$8,339,804**	**(2.2)**	**$8,472,775**	**1.6**	**$8,850,106**	**4.5**	**$9,656,305**	**9.1**	**$10,051,990**	**4.1**	**$10,532,845**	**4.8**	**$12,416,674**	**17.9**
Personal Services	6,994,714	2.4	7,047,454	0.8	7,481,524	6.2	8,161,423	9.1	8,186,110	.3	8,655,811	5.7	10,079,030	16.4
Operating Expenses	1,338,686	(12.3)	1,415,873	5.8	1,356,743	(4.2)	1,473,967	8.6	1,710,085	16.0	1,719,756	0.5	2,217,707	29.0
Capital Equipment	6,404	(96.3)	9,448	47.5	11,839	25.3	20,915	76.7	155,795	644.9	157,278	.9	119,937	(23.7)
ACTUAL REVENUE/GRANTS	**$3,424,264**	**(2.9)**	**$3,060,032**	**(10.6)**	**$3,329,011**	**8.8**	**$2,962,034**	**(11.0)**	**$3,139,447**	**6.0**	**$5,070,230**	**61.5**	**$4,839,636**	**(4.5)**
VA Dept. of Juvenile Justice	3,096,172	(4.2)	2,725,049	(12.0)	3,034,807	11.4	2,638,521	(13.1)	2,722,395	3.2	4,655,139	71.0	4,388,451	(5.7)
Fines and Costs	134,768	(20.1)	125,324	(7.0)	107,015	(14.6)	122,707	14.7	137,476	12.0	150,735	9.6	146,009	(3.1)
User Fees	88,807	(3.3)	98,484	10.9	98,586	0.1	82,973	(15.8)	111,989	35.0	124,567	11.2	118,320	(5.0)
Federal-USDA	78,522	122.5	48,353	(38.4)	88,603	83.2	117,833	33.0	105,603	(10.4)	108,311	2.6	112,383	3.8
Grants	25,995	100.0	62,822	141.7	63,672	1.4	64,479	1.3	61,984	(3.9)	31,478	(49.2)	74,473	(>100.0)
STAFFING LEVELS[1]	**241.0**	**0.8**	**242.0**	**0.4**	**245.5**	**1.4**	**249.0**	**1.4**	**248**	**(.4)**	**335.5**	**35.3**	**335.0**	**(2.1)**
Judges	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	6.0	20.0	7.0	16.7	7.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	7.0	0.0
Professional	164.0	0.0	165.0	0.6	170.0	3.0	169.5	(.3)	168.5	(.5)	249.5	48.0	245	(1.8)
Clerical and Maintenance	72.0	2.9	72.0	0.0	71.5	.7	72.5	1.4	72.5	0.0	77.0	9.0	83	5.1

[1]All staffing level figures relate to Staff Year Equivalents (SYE).

[2]Increase in personal services due to the addition of 10.0 employees at the Juvenile Detention Center in mid-year 1991, and 25 additional employees in FY 1991.

FIGURE 2

STATISTICAL TRENDS
FY 1977-FY 1998

FISCAL YEAR	TOTAL COUNTY POPULATION (a)	COUNTY JUVENILE POPULATION (b)	DELINQUENCY AND CHINS COMPLAINTS (c)	JUVENILE COMPLAINTS PER JUVENILE POPULATION	NON-SUPPORT ACCOUNTS (d)	DRIVERS LICENSES ISSUED	ADULT COMPLAINTS (e)	ADULT COMPLAINTS PER TOTAL POPULATION
1977	583,800	87,950	5,307	.060	2,168	12,994	2,617	.004
1978	591,800	86,280	6,326	.073	2,286	13,653*	2,556	.004
1979	605,800	85,130	6,179	.073	2,513	11,984	2,724	.004
1980	614,800	83,620	5,839	.070	2,760	11,902	3,036	.005
1981	632,800	85,240	6,152	.072	3,014	13,665	3,215	.005
1982	641,300	83,300	5,589	.067	3,290	10,822	3,620	.006
1983	651,000	82,100	5,260	.064	3,633	11,387	3,731	.006
1984	660,500	81,100	5,227	.064	4,055	9,319	3,764	.006
1985	689,100	80,970	5,207	.064	4,429	9,401	4,675	.007
1986	699,900	81,830	5,800	.071	3,814	12,000	4,330	.006
1987	715,900	81,452	5,333	.066	523	13,691	4,260	.006
1988	739,200	78,882	5,805	.074	—	14,019	4,776	.006
1989	785,000	78,351	5,903	.075	—	10,668	4,573	.006
1990	832,346	77,580	6,010	.077	—	12,256	4,633	.006
1991	843,995	74,902	6,714	.090	—	10,825	5,262	.006
1992	862,700	78,754	7,569	.096	—	11,251	5,617	.007
1993	871,500	79,818	7,423	.093	—	10,040	6,490	.007
1994	885,900	81,298	8,209	.100	—	10,172	6,391	.007
1995	899,500	81,512	7,647	.094	—	11,069	6,643	.007
1996	911,700	82,764	8,254	.100	—	10,728	7,126	.007
1997	933,700	84,038	8,497	.101	—	9,391	5,425	.006
1998	948,800	87,249	7,567	.087	—	9,068	6,399	.007

a. Includes Fairfax City. Source: Fairfax County Office of Research Statistics.

b. September public school memberships, grades 5-12, including special education.

c. Juvenile complaints excluding traffic, custody, rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, record inspection requests, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing intake counselor.

d. As of June 30, 1986 responsibility for support enforcement was transferred to the Division of Child Support Enforcement, a state agency. Support collection figures for Fairfax County will no longer be reflected in this report.

e. Adult complaints excluding rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing intake counselor.

Another major change in the Court's organization resulted from the Court Reorganization Act of 1973. As of July 1974, all judges and those clerical personnel who performed jobs directly related to judicial rather than probation functions became state employees and the responsibility of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court. A separate Clerk of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court was appointed in the fall of 1974, and all state clerks became responsible to her. In FY 1980, the Chief Judge decided that the court recorders would also become state employees, effective July 1, 1980. That portion of the Court staff composed of county employees also underwent reorganization in FY 1980, with the establishment of three divisions: Counseling Services, Residential Services, and Administrative Services. The position of Deputy Director of Court Services was created to head the Counseling Services Division. Domestic Relations Services was formed, consolidating adult probation, custody investigations, and support enforcement. Figure 4 shows the FY 1998 organization of the Court.

FIGURE 3

DOCKETED COURT TRANSACTIONS
FY 1977-FY 1998

Fiscal Year	Court Days	Non-Traffic Transactions	Daily Average	Traffic Transactions	Daily Average	Total Transactions	Daily Average
1977	249	13,767	55.3	9,501	38.2	23,268	93.4
1978	251	13,175	52.5	10,441	41.6	23,616	94.1
1979	245	16,159	66.0	9,976	40.7	26,135	106.7
1980	245	15,355	62.7	10,020	40.9	25,375	103.6
1981	238	17,105	71.9	10,210	42.9	27,315	114.8
1982	239	17,429	72.9	11,247	47.1	28,676	120.0
1983	243	22,377	92.1	9,591	39.5	31,968	131.6
1984	235	23,059	98.1	8,718	37.1	31,777	135.2
1985	235	24,609	104.7	9,460	40.3	34,069	145.0
1986	240	25,801	107.5	10,338	43.1	36,139	150.6
1987	239	24,172	101.1	13,205	55.3	37,377	156.4
1988	240	24,619	102.6	13,907	57.9	38,526	160.5
1989	239	25,205	105.5	13,705	57.3	38,910	162.8
1990	240	26,004	108.4	11,307	47.1	37,311	155.5
1991	248	28,539	115.1	11,151	45.0	39,690	160.0
1992	246	32,567	132.4	10,656	43.3	43,223	175.7
1993	229	35,953	145.0	8,852	35.7	44,805	180.7
1994	245	38,573	157.4	8,394	34.3	46,967	191.7
1995	247	43,251	175.1	8,888	36.0	52,139	211.1
1996	244	39,116	160.3	8,141	33.4	47,257	193.7
1997	245	41,813	170.7	8,663	35.4	50,476	206.0
1998	247	45,974	186.1	8,360	33.8	54,334	220.0

Note: The State Supreme Court Uniform Docketing System was begun in 1976 and hearings began to be counted uniformly throughout Virginia. Each complaint heard is counted as one hearing. Therefore, if five complaints are heard at one time, the Uniform Docketing System counts them as five hearings.

An automated information system, JUVARE (Juvenile and Adult Recording Evaluation System), was implemented in June 1976. This system provides on-line computer capabilities both in the courthouse and in branch offices for all case processing. It also generates management reports. In FY 1996, the Court began the process of integrating the State Supreme Court's Case Management System (CMS) with JUVARE.

On July 1, 1977, significant revisions to the Virginia Juvenile Code took effect. Among other things, these revisions provided distinct rules and procedures at all stages of the court process for dealing with CHINS (Children in Need of Services, previously called status offenders), delinquents, neglected and abused children, and children whose custody requires determination.

In 1975, the Court opened its first residential facility to implement a shift toward community corrections. The Girls Probation House, which offers a structured program of school, rehabilitative treatment, and recreation as an alternative to state commitment began operating in October 1975. In FY 1980, the Virginia Department of Corrections and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved funds for a corresponding facility for boys, the Boys Probation House. A structure was purchased in October 1980, and after redesign and renovation, the facility opened in April 1982.

The Court instituted an Outreach Detention program in 1978, providing intensive in-house supervision to children who might otherwise require pre-dispositional holding.

A 5-year Department of Criminal Justice Services grant enabled the establishment of the Detention Release and Services Program (DRS) which was taken over by the Court when grant funding ended. DRS and Outreach Detention were merged into Supervised Release Services in FY 1997.

In January 1980, the Less Secure Shelter opened as a holding facility for CHINS offenders who, according to the revised Virginia Code, cannot be kept in a secure facility longer than one court day. When the grant funding for this facility terminated on October 31, 1980, with the county assuming its costs, it marked the first time in

FIGURE 4

FY 1998 JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT

JUDICIAL

1 CHIEF JUDGE (S)
6 JUDGES (S)
7 POSITIONS
7 STAFF YEARS

CLERK OF THE COURT

1 CLERK OF THE COURT (S)
1 CHIEF DEPUTY CLERKS (S)
33 CLERKS
35 POSITIONS
35 STAFF YEARS

PROBATION SERVICES

1 DIRECTOR
1 SECRETARY III
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
1.5 PROBATION COUNSELOR II (GRANT)
4.5 POSITIONS
4.5 STAFF YEARS

COURT ADMINISTRATION

1 MANAGEMENT ANALYST III
2 MANAGEMENT ANALYST II
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
1 COMPUTER MANAGER*
1 COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST*
2 VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS
1 ARCHIVES TECHNICIAN
1 ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE*
1 ASSISTANT BUYER*
3 ACCOUNT CLERK II*
1 SECRETARY I (PT)
2 CLERICAL SPECIALIST (I*)
2 INFORMATION CLERKS
19 POSITIONS
18.5 STAFF YEARS

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

1 DIRECTOR
1 SECRETARY II
1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR
3 POSITIONS
3 STAFF YEARS

NORTH COUNTY CENTER

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
8 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
2 SECRETARY I
12 POSITIONS
12.0 STAFF YEARS

SOUTH COUNTY CENTER

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
7 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
2 SECRETARY I
11 POSITIONS
11.0 STAFF YEARS

CENTER COUNTY CENTER

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
8 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
1 CLERICAL SPECIALIST SECRETARY
1 POSITIONS (1 PT)
12.0 STAFF YEARS

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
2 PROBATION COUNSELORS III
9 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
1 SUPERVISORY CLERK
3 SECRETARY I
16 POSITIONS
16.0 STAFF YEARS

INTAKE

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
2 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
1 HEARING OFFICER
1 PROBATION COUNSELORS II (1 P/T)
1 SUPERVISORY CLERK
1 CLERICAL SPECIALIST
4 SECRETARY I
16 POSITIONS
15.5 STAFF YEARS

SPECIAL SERVICES

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR I
2 PROBATION COUNSELORS III
10 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
1 ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE
1 SECRETARY I
16 POSITIONS
16.0 STAFF YEARS

FAMILY COUNSELING

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR I
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
3 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
1 SECRETARY (P/T)
6 POSITIONS
5.5 STAFF YEARS

SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES

2 PROBATION SUPERVISOR I
3 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
8 PROBATION COUNSELORS I (4 P/T)
1 SECRETARY I
14 POSITIONS
12.0 STAFF YEARS

GIRLS PROBATION HOUSE

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR
4 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
3 PROBATION COUNSELOR I
1 CLERICAL SPECIALIST
1 COOK
11 POSITIONS
11.0 STAFF YEARS

BOYS PROBATION HOUSE

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR
6 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
5 PROBATION COUNSELORS I
2 OUTREACH WORKERS II
1 CLERICAL SPECIALIST
1 COOK
17 POSITIONS
17.0 STAFF YEARS

LESS SECURE SHELTER

1 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
1 PROBATION COUNSELOR III
2 PROBATION COUNSELORS II
5 PROBATION COUNSELORS I (1 PT)
1 SECRETARY I
1 COOK
11 POSITIONS
10.5 STAFF YEARS

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

1 JUV.DET.CTR.ADMIN
2 PROBATION SUPERVISOR II
5 PROBATION SUPERVISOR I
8 PROBATION COUNSSELOR III
7 PROBATION COUNSELOR II
2 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE II
20 PROBATION COUNSELORS I
1 ADIN. ASSISTANT
71 OUTREACH WORKERS II
1 SUPERVISORY CLERK
1 BUILDING SUPERVISOR
1 MAINT. HELPER I
1 LAUNDRY WORKER
1 FOOD MANAGER
1 FOOD SPECIALIST
5 COOKS
1 ACCOUNT CLERK II
1 SECRETARY I
130 POSITIONS
130 STAFF YEARS

* DENOTES POSITIONS THAT REPORT TO THE OHSA
(S) DENOTES STATE POSITIONS
(PT) DENOTES PART-TIME POSITIONS

over a decade that the Court was not receiving grant funding for any of its programs or placements. In April 1982, the Less Secure Shelter moved into a separate wing of the new Juvenile Detention Center, where it could also house delinquent offenders not requiring secure detention.

The Juvenile Detention Center opened as a 33-bed facility in October 1982. The JDC space expanded to 44 beds in April 1991, and 55 beds in October 1992. Construction began in FY1996 to expand to 121 beds and was completed in June 1998. The recent expansion has allowed for the development of two 11-bed sentencing units in the detention center.

In the late 1980's a major staff and county effort was expended toward renovating the county courthouse for Juvenile Court use. The entire interior of the courthouse was renovated to accommodate Court and Court service staff who had been located in a number of rented buildings in Fairfax City. The building was renovated in two phases: the first phase was completed in the summer of 1989, and the second phase was completed in August 1991.

Due to the increasing number and complexity of domestic relations cases, a separate Domestic Relations Unit was established to provide all domestic relations services from intake to probation supervision. Staffing for this became available when the state's Division of Child Support Enforcement assumed responsibility for support collections, formerly the responsibility of this unit.

On July 1, 1989 revisions in the Virginia Code made significant changes in the handling of CHINS complaints (truancy and runaway) by the Court. Adjudicated CHINS cases are reviewed by an Inter-disciplinary Team to evaluate the child's service needs before final disposition, and complainants bringing CHINS charges must now demonstrate to the intake officer that they have exhausted available community resources before the complaint will be forwarded to the Court.

The trend in Court and probation services clearly has been to provide a graduated sanctions continuum that delivers a range of correctional programs to its offender population. It is anticipated that this trend will continue, with the Court significantly focusing in the coming years on research to help determine which services are most appropriate for specific offenders.

II. AGENCY MISSION

It is important for any organization to have in place a stated mission to serve as a guide for itself and to enable it to develop performance objectives. Figure 5 displays the mission statements adopted for the Court as a whole, its two major sub-missions, and functional responsibility of each division of the Court Services.

FIGURE 5

AGENCY, SUB-AGENCY, AND DIVISION MISSION STATEMENT

AGENCY MISSION:

The mission of the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court is to provide efficient, effective and equitable judicial and court service programs which promote positive behavioral change for those children and adults who come within the Court's authority, to act in conformance with orders of the Court, the provisions of law as contained in the Code of Virginia of 1950 as amended, caselaw, and Department of Juvenile Justice's Minimum Standards, consistent with the well-being of the client, his/her family, and the protection of the community.

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION MISSION:

To provide efficient and effective judicial services for those children and adults who come within the Court's authority to act, in conformance with the provisions of law as contained in the Code of Virginia of 1950 as amended, caselaw, State Supreme Court policies, and the protection and well-being of the community.

COURT SERVICE MISSION:

To provide efficient and effective Court Service Programs for those children and adults who come to the attention of, or are referred to the unit, in conformance with orders of the Court, the provisions of law as contained in the Code of Virginia of 1950 as amended, caselaw and Department of Juvenile Justice's Minimum Standards, consistent with the well-being of clients, their families and the protection of the community.

- **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION SUB-MISSION:**
  To receive, process, complete and evaluate all fiscal, financial, budgetary, personnel and data management activity as required for the efficient operation of Court services.

- **PROBATION SERVICES DIVISION SUB-MISSION:**
  To provide to children, adults and families in the Fairfax County community, social, rehabilitative and correctional programs and services that meet Department of Juvenile Justice's Standards and statutory and judicial requirements.

- **RESIDENTIAL SERVICES DIVISION SUB-MISSION:**
  To provide efficient, effective, accredited residential care programs and services to those youths and their parents who come within the Court's authority to act and who require such services.

III. JUVENILE CASE PROCESSING

Juvenile cases that progress through the entire juvenile system undergo the following sequence of processing stages, as represented schematically in the simplified case flow given in Figure 6: intake, adjudication, social investigation, disposition, court supervision, commitment, and after-care supervision. Cases do not necessarily go through all stages.

FIGURE 6

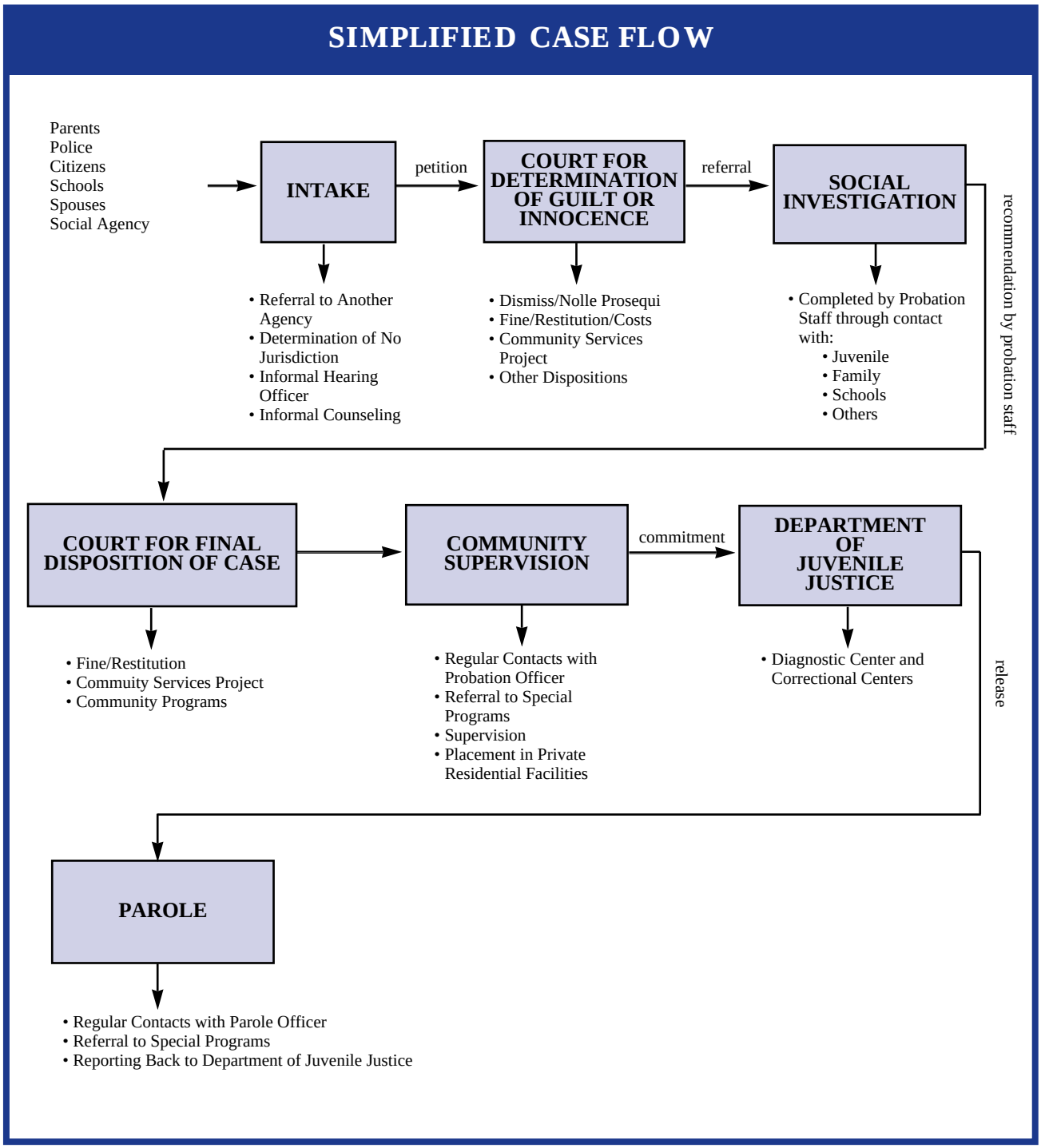


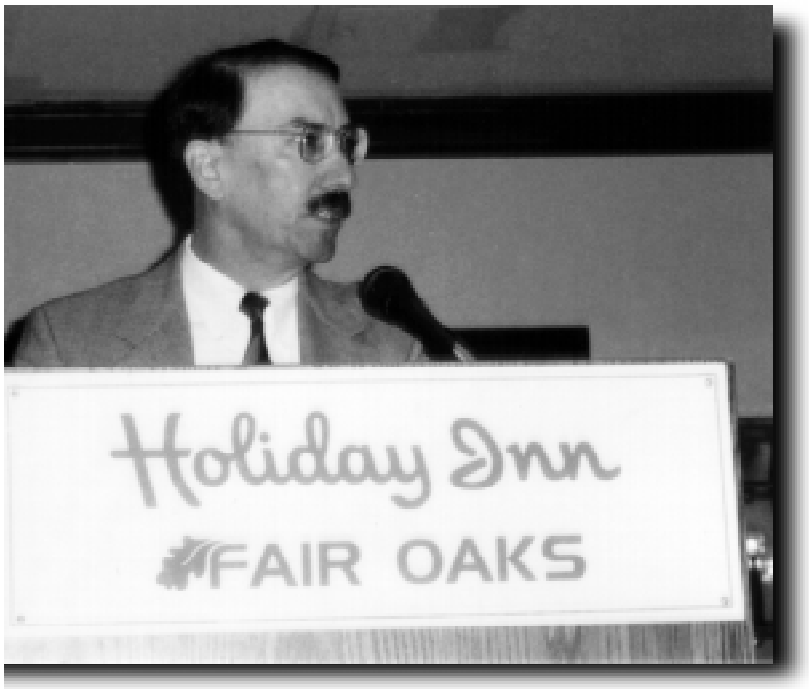
Figure 7 shows the average time required to process juvenile non-traffic complaints through these sequential stages.

FIGURE 7

AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME (CALENDAR DAYS) FOR JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS FY 1994-FY 1998

PROCESSING STAGE	RELEVANT SUBGROUP OF CASES	FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
Alleged offense to intake (delinquency complaints only)	Complaints that specify date of alleged offense	25.0	24.7	24.9	27.2	32.2
Intake to first hearing	Complaints set for Court more than 3 days after intake	55.2	59.3	*	*	*
Assignment of social investigation to hearing on report	Cases in which judge orders investigation	93.7	83.2	82.8	97.5	125.3
Start to end of supervision	Cases assigned for supervision	322	332	318	302	326.2

*Data unavailable



The Honorable David S. Schell, Chief Judge, addresses the Court's Annual Day of Training, December 18, 1998.

INTAKE

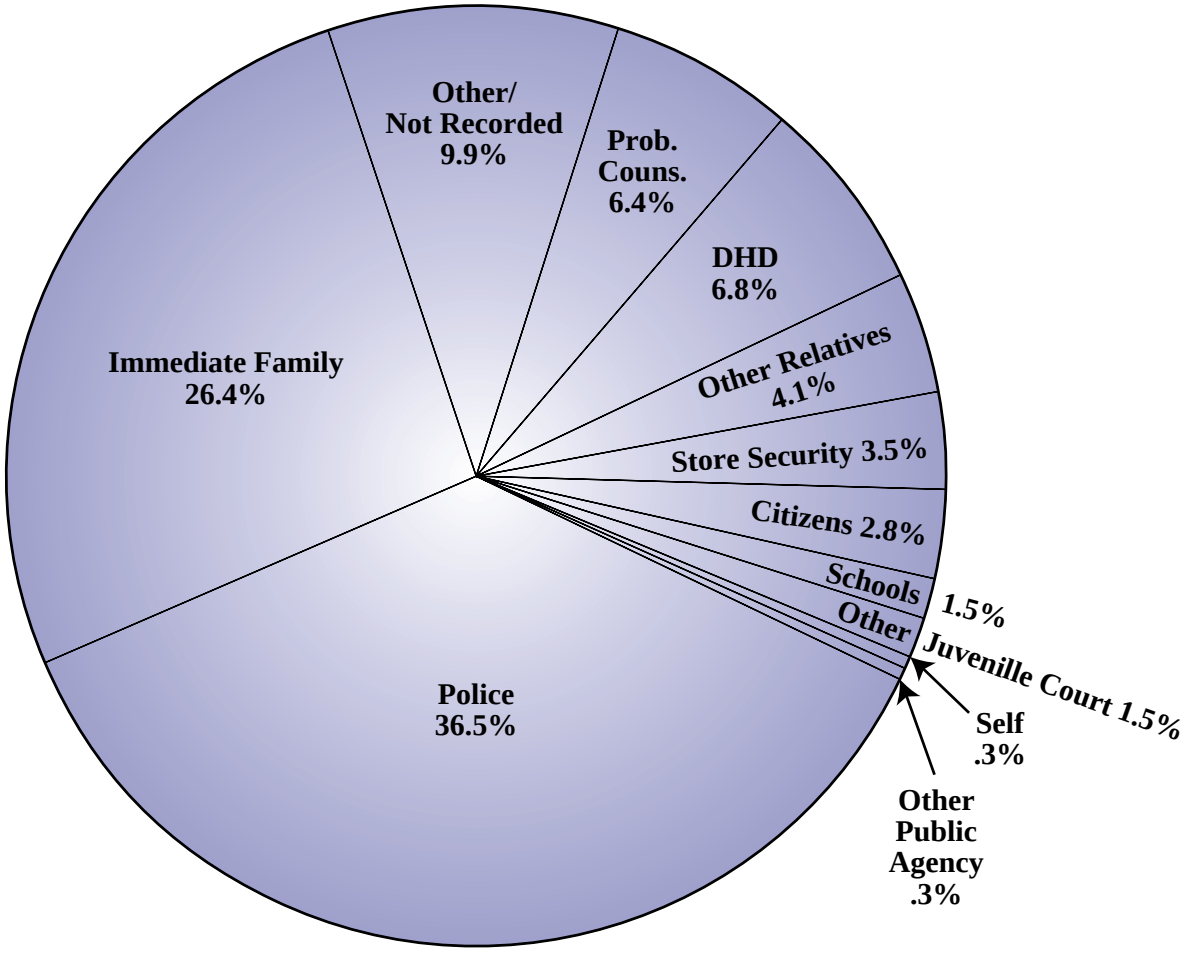
Juveniles thought to have committed offenses which are under the purview of the Juvenile Court are brought into the judicial system either by a police officer witnessing or responding to an alleged criminal offense, or by citizens, families, or other agencies.

When the police are called to the scene of an offense alleged to have been committed by a juvenile, the police officer verifies that an offense has occurred and completes an investigative report. If the suspected violator has been apprehended during Court hours, the police officer may bring the juvenile to the Intake section at either the courthouse, the North or South County Services offices, or the Falls Church office. If the police do not wish to detain the juvenile, they may send the child home and come to Intake to file a petition. A parent or other adult bringing a complaint against a juvenile also files the complaint at one of these offices.

Figure 8 shows the sources of juvenile non-traffic complaints in FY 1998. The trends in sources and complaints for the past five years are given in Figure 9.

FIGURE 8

SOURCES OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS, FY 1998



Although they accounted for 36.5% of the juvenile non-traffic complaints during FY 1998, the police were responsible for 96.7% of all complaints alleging drug offenses, 60.6% of all complaints alleging crimes against persons, 73.6% of all complaints alleging property offenses, and 92.3% of all complaints alleging crimes against the public peace. Immediate family members brought 31.1% of all complaints that alleged status or CHINS offenses (offenses involving behavior that would not be considered criminal if committed by adults), and 51.3% of all complaints involving custody issues. Ninety-six percent of all alcohol complaints were brought by the police. Of the complaints brought by private citizens, 42.2% alleged offenses against persons and 13.7% alleged offenses against property.

FIGURE 9

SOURCES OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS, FISCAL YEARS 1993-1998

SOURCE	FY 1993 %	FY1994 %	FY 1995 %	FY 1996 %	FY 1997 %	FY 1998 %
Police	21.7	24.8	26.0	27.7	32.5	36.5
Immediate Family	26.5	27.8	25.0	25.6	24.6	26.4
DHD	4.8	4.4	5.6	5.8	6.1	6.8
Probation Counselors	5.9	6.7	7.1	7.0	6.7	6.4
Private Business/Store Security	4.1	4.6	4.1	3.5	4.3	3.5
Citizens	2.8	2.3	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.8
Other Relative	5.0	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.4	4.1
School	3.0	2.5	2.2	1.5	1.9	1.5
Other Juvenile Court	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.5
Other Public Agency	1.1	1.0	.7	.3	.5	.3
Self	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.3	.1	.3
Other/Not Recorded	21.6	18.4	19.3	19.7	15.9	9.9
TOTAL	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

After a complaint has been filed with an intake clerk, each complainant is interviewed by an intake counselor. Intake counselors review cases to determine whether the Court has jurisdiction and the charge meets Virginia Code requirements for the offense. According to the revised Code, Intake may not refuse petitions that allege:

(a) controversy over a child's custody, visitation or support;

(b) a violation of the support laws;

(c) the right of either a child or his parents to treatment or services required by law; or

(d) the commission of an offense which, if committed by an adult, would be a felony or Class 1 misdemeanor.

According to the law, however, Intake does have the discretion to refuse other complaints. Complainants whose petitions have been refused may appeal to a magistrate who may issue a warrant for the child if probable cause is found in the commission of a felony or Class 1 misdemeanor.

The FY 1998 complaints received against juveniles by race and sex are given in Figure 10.

FIGURE 10

JUVENILE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY RACE AND SEX, FY 1998

	WM	WF	NWM	NWF	TOTAL
Property Offenses					
Petit Larceny	272	165	284	194	915
Vandalism	388	59	173	19	639
Grand Larceny	192	51	165	50	458
Trespassing	194	44	167	39	444
Breaking and Entering	195	17	208	18	438
Auto Larceny	97	37	124	31	289
Fraud	70	49	42	44	205
Forgery	22	25	18	29	94
Stolen Property	43	13	25	6	87
Arson	40	3	18	2	63
Subtotal	**1513**	**463**	**1224**	**432**	**3632**
% of Total Property Offenses	41.7%	12.7%	33.7%	11.9%	100.0%
Offenses Against Persons					
Assault	262	123	254	108	747
Aggravated Assault	46	5	74	6	131
Robbery	28	2	55	1	86
Sex Offense	43	4	34	1	82
Forcible Rape	2	0	3	0	5
Murder	2	0	0	0	2
Subtotal	**383**	**134**	**420**	**116**	**1053**
% of Total Persons Offenses	36.4%	12.7%	39.9%	11.0%	100.0%
Offenses Against the Public					
Weapons Offense	193	6	126	8	333
Disorderly Conduct	40	6	42	22	110
Curse and Abuse	26	19	16	3	64
False Alarms	15	4	6	5	30
Other	11	8	12	0	31
Subtotal	**285**	**43**	**202**	**38**	**568**
% of Total Public Offenses	50.2%	7.6%	35.6%	6.7%	100.0%
Drug and Alcohol Offenses					
Purchase Alcohol	197	69	89	13	368
Marijuana Possession	206	35	84	8	333
Drunk in Public	97	16	52	2	167
Drug Distribution	39	4	23	1	67
Distributing at School	20	1	9	1	31
Other Drug	16	1	9	0	26
Other Alcohol	5	11	7	1	24
Subtotal	**580**	**137**	**273**	**26**	**1016**
% of Total Drug and Alcohol Offenses	57.1%	13.5%	26.9%	2.6%	100.0%

	WM	WF	NWM	NWF	TOTAL
CHINS Offenses					
Buy Tobacco	348	79	140	17	584
Runaway	48	122	50	106	326
Behavior, Conduct, and Condition	54	52	35	29	170
Truancy	45	40	35	29	149
Disturbing Schools	23	10	24	9	66
Subtotal	**518**	**303**	**284**	**190**	**1295**
% of Total CHINS Complaints	40.0%	23.4%	21.9%	14.7%	100.0%
Custody					
Custody	627	558	1063	1012	3260
Visitation	268	221	308	328	1125
Foster Care	82	101	193	188	564
Abuse and Neglect	69	91	144	146	450
Other	49	40	71	63	223
Subtotal	**1095**	**1011**	**1779**	**1737**	**5622**
% of Total Custody Complaints	19.5%	18.0%	31.6%	30.9%	100.0%
Traffic Complaints	**892**	**367**	**2246**	**1087**	**4592**
% of Total Traffic Complaints	19.4%	8.0%	48.9%	23.7%	100.0%
Other					
Probation or Parole Violation	310	109	314	88	821
Motions	249	147	185	137	718
Rule, Capias	189	76	251	72	588
Intake Counselor seen for information	106	88	64	61	319
Requests for Courtesy Investigations or Supervisions	33	13	64	26	136
Other	146	73	157	95	471
Subtotal	**1033**	**506**	**1035**	**479**	**3053**
% of Total Other	33.8%	16.6%	33.9%	15.7%	100.0%
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	**6299**	**2964**	**7463**	**4105**	**20831**
% of Total Complaints	30.2%	14.2%	35.8%	19.7%	100.0%

WM ..... White Males
WF ..... White Females
NWM .... Non-White Males
NWF ..... Non-White Females

Figure 11 gives the distribution of general complaint categories by age and sex for FY 1998. As it is possible for a single juvenile to be the subject of several different complaints, the number of complaints reported differs from the number of alleged offenders. In FY 1998, 9,147 different juveniles had at least one non-traffic complaint.

FIGURE 11

TYPE OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINT BY SEX AND AGE, FY 1998

	MALE							FEMALE						
Offense Type	**Less Than 13**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**	**Over 17**	**Less Than 13**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**	**Over 17**
Offense Against Property	183	185	428	539	687	701	14	50	82	145	175	203	239	1
Offense Against Persons	82	95	111	147	168	199	1	27	22	57	41	57	46	0
Offense Against the Public and Morality	36	36	87	88	122	117	1	4	8	15	12	22	18	2
CHINS	36	28	104	176	260	198	0	20	25	91	124	143	90	0
Drug and Liquor	19	26	54	141	257	354	2	1	6	18	31	53	54	0
Custody	2,339	110	102	109	120	90	4	2,207	100	105	106	120	108	2
Other	361	64	169	343	436	496	199	295	47	115	186	162	140	40
Sub Total	3,056	544	1,055	1,543	2,050	2,155	221	2,604	290	546	675	760	695	45
Sub Total by Sex	Males: 10,624 (65.4%)							Females: 5,615 (34.6%)						
GRAND TOTAL	**16,239**													

Figure 12 presents trends in the number of non-traffic offenders from FY 1995-FY 1998 as well as the changing proportions of first offenders to repeat offenders, and of first offenders to Intake for new criminal charges within the fiscal year to first offenders who do not return.

FIGURE 12

JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC OFFENDER COUNTS AND RECIDIVISM TRENDS, FY 1995-FY 1998

	FY 1995	**FY 1996**	**FY 1997**	**FY 1998**
Alleged offenders in given year *with* complaints in previous year	3,470 (37.9%)	3,678 (39.8%)	3,319 (34.5%)	3,079 (33.7%)
Alleged offenders in given year *without* complaints in previous year				
• who *do return* to court that year	551 (6.0%)	553 (5.9%)	765 (8.0%)	767 (8.4%)
• who *do not return* to court that year	5,148 (56.1%)	5,027 (54.3%)	5,536 (57.5%)	5,301 (57.9%)
TOTAL	**9,169 (100%)**	**9,258 (100%)**	**9,620 (100%)**	**9,147 (100%)**
Average number of complaints per alleged offender in given year	1.80	1.90	1.7	1.7

Figure 13 shows the changing distribution of juvenile complaints by race and sex since FY 1993. Overall, during this period, the percentage of complaints brought against white males decreased while complaints against non-white males and females have increased slightly. Percentages of white females have declined.

FIGURE 13

JUVENILE COMPLAINT* RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION TRAFFIC AND NON-TRAFFIC FY 1993-FY 1998

	FY 1993	FY1994	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
White Male	45.0%	44.2%	42.4%	41.5%	31.6%	30.2%
White Female	22.8%	22.2%	22.6%	21.0%	14.6%	14.2%
Non-White Male	21.1%	21.2%	22.7%	23.6%	35.6%	35.8%
Non-White Female	9.5%	12.4%	12.3%	13.9%	18.2%	19.7%
TOTAL	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**
n	**18,987**	**20,253**	**22,143**	**22,905**	**20,486**	**20,831**

* Excluding rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, record inspection requests, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing an intake counselor.

Figure 14 shows the changing distribution of juvenile complaints, excluding traffic complaints, by race and sex since FY 1993.

FIGURE 14

JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINT* RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION TREND FY 1993-FY 1998

	FY 1993	FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
White Male	37.9%	36.8%	35.7%	35.9%	34.5%	33.3%
White Female	19.9%	18.8%	20.1%	18.2%	16.5%	16.0%
Non-White Male	26.8%	27.4%	28.1%	28.2%	32.1%	32.1%
Non-White Female	15.4%	17.0%	16.1%	17.7%	16.9%	18.6%
TOTAL	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**
n	**12,226**	**13,215**	**15,169**	**16,358**	**15,065**	**16,239**

* Excluding rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, record inspection requests, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing an intake counselor.

Figure 15 graphs the changes in the categories of juvenile complaints since FY 1993. The changes in all categories of juvenile complaints combined are graphed in Figure 16.

FIGURE 15

TRENDS IN TYPES OF JUVENILE COMPLAINTS, FY 1992-FY 1998

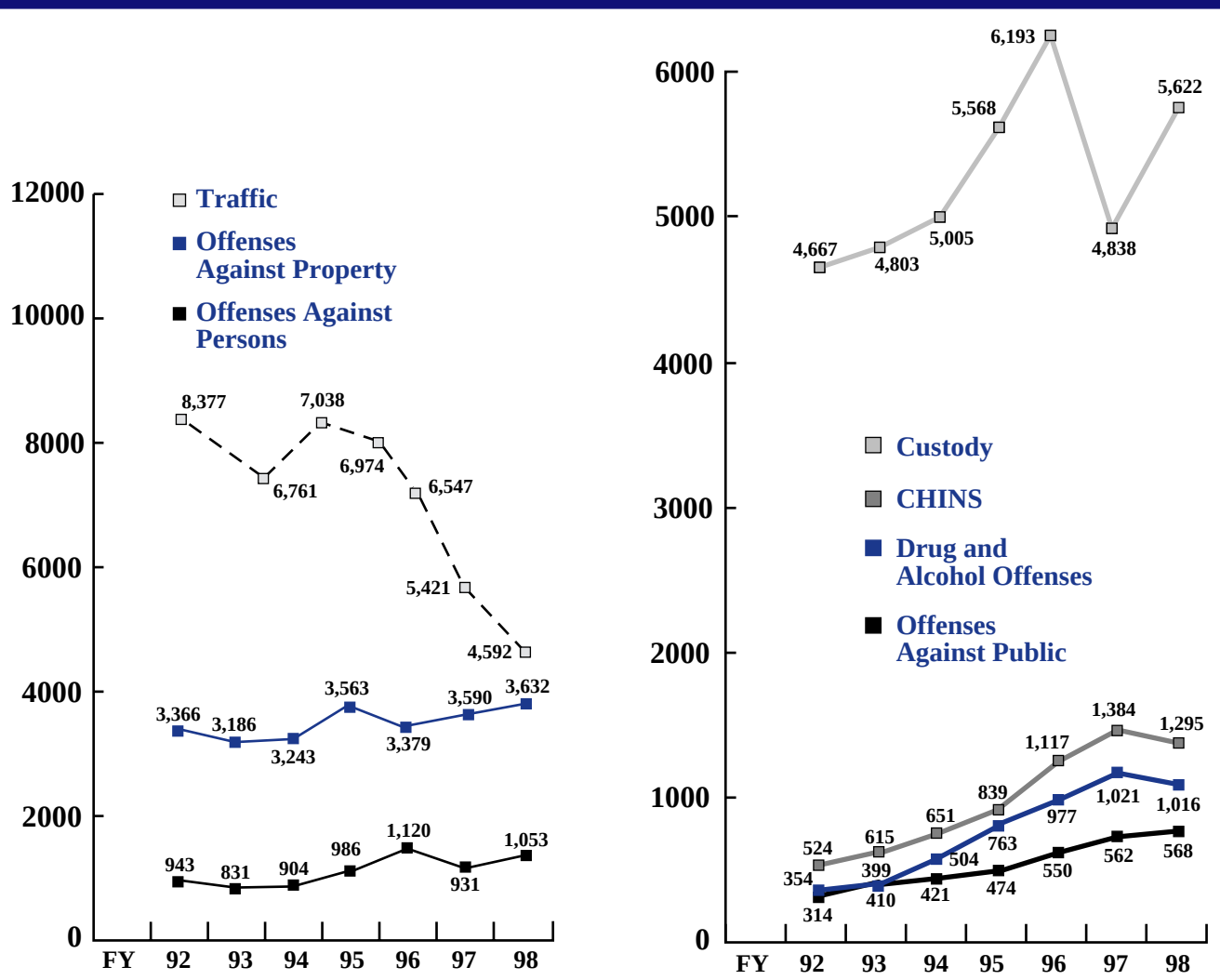
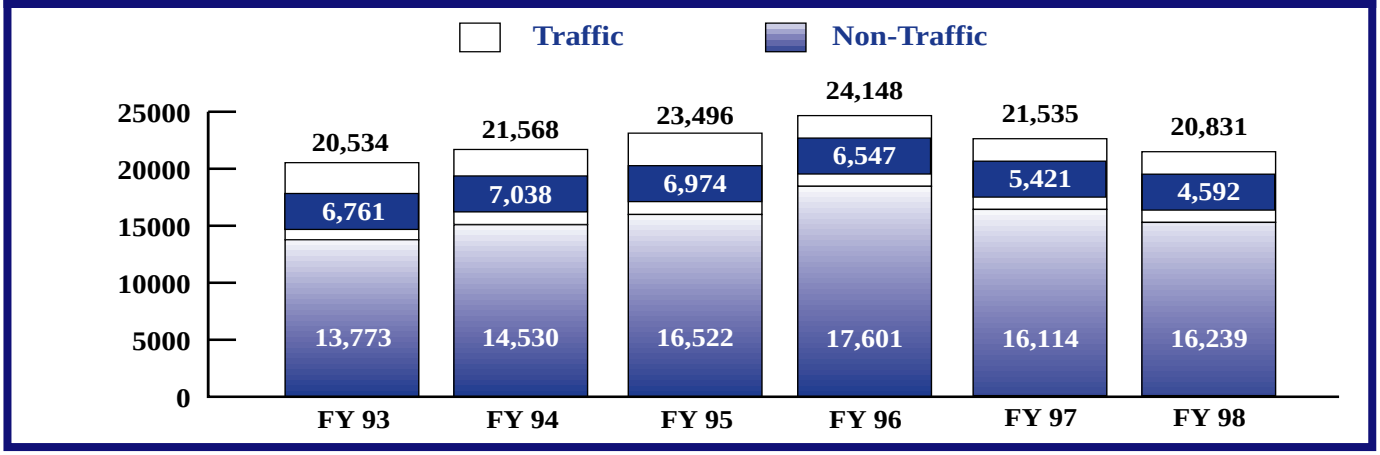


FIGURE 16

JUVENILE COMPLAINTS, TRAFFIC AND NON-TRAFFIC FY 1993-FY 1998



The tables in Figures 17 and 18 display the changing distribution of juvenile complaints by offense type since FY 1993. The first chart refers to all juvenile complaints, including traffic complaints; the next chart refers to juvenile complaints excluding traffic complaints.

In FY 1998 court staff received 15,517 intakes on juvenile non-traffic complaints. Some intakes involve more than one complaint; there was an average of 1.04 complaints per juvenile non-traffic intake in FY 1998, almost the same as last year. In FY 1998, Intake set for Court 83.6% of all juvenile non-traffic, non administrative complaints received.

FIGURE 17

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF TYPES OF JUVENILE COMPAINTS* RECEIVED 1993-1998, INCLUDING TRAFFIC CASES

	FY 1993 N=18,987	FY 1994 N=20,253	FY 1995 N=22,143	FY 1996 N=22,905	FY 1997 N=20,486	FY 1998 N=20,831
Offenses Against Property	17.2%	16.1%	16.1%	14.7%	17.5%	17.4%
Offenses Against Persons	4.5%	3.8%	4.5%	4.2%	4.5%	5.1%
Offenses Against Public	2.2%	1.7%	2.1%	2.1%	2.7%	2.7%
Drug and Alcohol Offenses	2.2%	2.5%	3.4%	4.3%	5.0%	4.9%
CHINS Offenses	3.3%	3.2%	3.8%	4.9%	6.8%	6.2%
Custody and Neglect	25.9%	24.7%	25.2%	27.0%	23.6%	27.0%
Traffic	36.5%	34.8%	31.5%	28.6%	26.5%	22.0%
Other	8.2%	13.2%	13.4%	14.2%	13.4%	14.7%
TOTAL	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

* Excluding rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, record inspection requests, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing an intake counselor.

FIGURE 18

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF TYPES OF JUVENILE COMPLAINTS* RECEIVED 1993-1998, EXCLUDING TRAFFIC CASES

	FY 1993 N=12,226	FY 1994 N=13,215	FY 1995 N=15,169	FY 1996 N=16,358	FY 1997 N=15,065	FY 1998 N=16,239
Offenses Against Property	27.1%	24.7%	23.5%	20.6%	23.8%	22.4%
Offenses Against Persons	7.1%	5.9%	6.5%	5.9%	6.2%	6.5%
Offenses Against Public	3.5%	2.6%	3.1%	2.8%	3.7%	3.5%
Drug and Alcohol Offenses	3.4%	3.8%	5.0%	6.0%	6.8%	6.3%
CHINS Offenses	5.2%	4.9%	5.5%	6.8%	9.2%	8.0%
Custody and Neglect	40.8%	37.8%	36.7%	37.9%	32.1%	34.6%
Other	12.9%	20.3%	19.6%	20.0%	18.2%	18.8%
TOTAL	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

* Excluding rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, record inspection requests, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing an intake counselor.

Figure 19 shows percentages of complaints set for court by Intake, by offense type, for FY 1995 through FY 1998.

FIGURE 19

INTAKE DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC OFFENSE, FY 1995-FY 1998

Offense Type	FY 1995 No. of Complaints[1]	FY 1995 Percent Set For Court	FY 1996 No. of Complaints[1]	FY 1996 Percent Set For Court	FY 1997 No. of Complaints[1]	FY 1997 Percent Set For Court	FY 1998 No. of Complaints[1]	FY 1998 Percent Set For Court
Offense Against Property	3,563	73.8	3,379	74.2	3,590	80.0	3,659	83.9
Offense Against Persons	986	71.0	1,120	67.2	931	71.0	1,166	84.9
Offenses Against the Public	474	63.7	550	72.5	562	75.4	422	90.8
Drug and Alcohol	763	85.8	977	92.3	1,021	92.3	1,016	93.5
CHINS	839	29.9	1,117	53.0	1,384	61.4	1,293	69.7
Custody	5,568	82.3	6,193	82.4	4,838	90.4	5,627	84.0
TOTAL	**12,193**	**81.8**	**13,336**	**77.0**	**12,326**	**82.1**	**13,183**	**83.6**

[1]Excluding rules, capiases, and others.

INFORMAL HEARING OFFICER

Juvenile Intake Services includes the Hearing Officer program which was developed in 1970 to hear minor misdemeanant cases that may be resolved by informal arbitration and sanctions. The Hearing Officer is used most frequently in trespassing, minor property, and alcohol cases.

The Hearing Officer states the nature of the hearing to the juvenile, the parents and/or complainants, and discusses the situation with all involved. Depending on the problem and the nature of the responses, the Hearing Officer decides on the course of action. Most often, community service or restitution is assigned, or the case is continued for a period of time and closed if the juvenile commits no further offenses. A petition may be filed for formal processing if new offenses are committed.

Figure 20 shows that 564 informal hearings were held in FY 1998.

FIGURE 20

HEARING OFFICER ACTIVITY, FY 1983-1998

Fiscal Year	Number of Hearings	Fiscal Year	Number of Hearings
1983	758	1991	684
1984	635	1992	777
1985	466	1993	771
1986	394	1994	714
1987	321	1995	812
1988	451	1996	693
1989	554	1997	816
1990	506	1998	564

JUVENILE INTAKE

SUMMARY OF FY 1998 HIGHLIGHTS

- The overall volume of complaints decreased by 3.3 percent during FY 1998. The Juvenile Court received 20,831 juvenile complaints in FY 1998, compared to 21,535 complaints received in FY 1997.

- About one-fifth (22 percent) of all complaints received were for traffic offenses. Traffic complaints continued to decrease - down 15.3 percent from last year, from 5,421 in FY 1997 to 4,592 in FY 1998.

- Custody and neglect complaints composed the largest category (34.6 percent) of non-traffic juvenile complaints. Property offenses continued to be the most common criminal offense among juveniles (22.4 percent of non-traffic complaints), followed by offenses against persons (6.5 percent), drug and alcohol offenses (6.3 percent), and offenses against the public (3.5 percent). CHINS offenses represent 8.0 percent of non-traffic juvenile complaints. "Other" types of complaints, such as probation and parole violations, motions, etc., represent 14.7 percent of total juvenile non-traffic complaints.

- The largest increase in delinquency complaints was in offenses against persons complaints, which increased 13.1 percent from FY 1997 to FY 1998, from 931 to 1,053. Seventy-one percent of these complaints involved simple assault offenses.

- Drug and alcohol complaints did not change remarkably. There were 1,021 drug and alcohol complaints in FY 1997 and 1,016 in FY 1998. The two most common complaints involved under-age purchase of alcoholic beverages and possession of marijuana.

- The number of property offense complaints also did not change remarkably. There were 3,590 complaints in FY 1997 and 3,632 in FY 1998, an increase of only 1.2 percent.

- "Other" types of complaints, which include violations of probation or parole, capiases, and seeing an intake counselor for information, decreased 19.4 percent, from 3,788 in FY 1997 to 3,053 in FY 1998.

- There was a 16.2 percent increase in custody complaints, from 4,838 in FY 1997 to 5,622 in FY 1998.

- There was a 30.9 percent decrease in the number of hearings held by the informal hearing officer, from 816 in FY 1997 to 564 in FY 1998.

- The total number of delinquency and CHINS complaints increased by 32.2 percent over the past five years, from 5,723 in FY 1994, 6,625 in FY 1995, 7,143 in FY 1996, 7,488 in FY 1997 to 7,564 in FY 1998.

- About 36.5 percent of all youths are brought to Court by the police and another 26.4 percent are brought by someone in their immediate family.

- The average age of a youth brought to court is 15 years.

Residential Pre-Dispositional Placements

In more serious cases that are not informally diverted, the intake counselor must decide whether the youth should be detained or placed outside of their home prior to a court hearing or whether they can be released to parents or a guardian. If holding is necessary, the Fairfax County Juvenile Court operates two pre-dispositional placement facilities for juveniles — the Less Secure Shelter and the Juvenile Detention Center.

The decision by Intake to hold youth outside of their homes is made because the youth may present a danger to the community or to themselves, and the judge may decide to detain if it is determined that the youth is unlikely to appear for the court hearing. In all cases in which children are placed outside their homes pending a hearing, a judicial determination to continue detention must be made by a judge the next working day after a youth is first detained to ensure that continued detention is appropriate. As of FY 1985, the Code of Virginia prohibited the detention of CHINS offenders in secure facilities except out-of-state runaway youth. However, revisions to the Code on July 1, 1989 allow for the secure detention of CHINS offenders who are in violation of a court order.

LESS SECURE SHELTER — The Less Secure Shelter is a nonsecure, residential facility for pre-and post-dispositional juveniles. Most of the youths held in this facility are children in need of services and supervision. However, some placements are for delinquent offenders. The Less Secure Shelter opened on January 28, 1980, funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) federal grant. In December, 1991 it moved into a facility adjacent to the new Juvenile Detention Center. This program was revised in FY 1991 to provide an intermediate treatment component for those youth who did not require a year-long residential program but who did require intensive, intermediate residential programming for approximately four months. Numerous long-term, costly residential placements have been averted by placing youths in the intermediate program. Teachers from Fairfax County Public Schools provide a year-round academic curriculum.

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER — The JDC is a secure pre-dispositional holding facility originally opened in October 1982 with a capacity for 33 boys and girls. The facility expanded to a capacity of 44 beds in April 1991, and 55 beds in October 1992. It was expanded again in 1998 to 121 beds. It is designed both architecturally and programmatically to reduce stress for the residents while providing control and safety. Security is maintained through physical surveillance and personal contact between staff and detainees, rather than through electronic equipment; the extensive use of internal windows facilitates surveillance without being obtrusive. A glass-lined circulation corridor surrounds an open inner courtyard with small-group living areas — each organized as a set of 11 bedrooms opening onto a common dayroom — replace the traditional cellblock. The building provides specialized single-purpose space for schooling, arts and crafts, physical exercise, dining, intake, reception, and administration. Special attention is paid to screening medical needs, and to providing a balanced low-sugar diet. The program has received numerous facility and employee awards for outstanding performance. New, as of 1998 are two, 12-bed units dedicated to post-dispositional sentencing and treatment.

SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES — Supervised Release Services (SRS) is the new name for the program that encompasses the Outreach Detention Program and the Detention Release and Services (Electronic Monitoring) Program. It provides highly structured supervision, monitoring, and services to juveniles who are awaiting adjudication or final disposition of charges, and might otherwise be detained at the Juvenile Detention Center or placed at the Less Secure Shelter. Judges may release juveniles to SRS at a detention hearing or an adjudicatory hearing on the condition that they follow rules established by the Court in conjunction with SRS staff. SRS staff have caseloads of up to 12 juveniles each. SRS staff meet with the assigned juveniles immediately after their release to SRS, or within 24 hours, to establish SRS rules as required by State minimum standards. Staff also orient juveniles to other expectations, such as frequency and place of visits, and sanctions for rule violations. SRS staff visit juveniles four times per week which include at least once every other day, weekdays, weekends,and holidays. Visits take place at a juvenile's home, place of employment, or school. Staff contact parents or guardians at least weekly.

Figures 21, 22 and 23 show numbers and lengths of juvenile stays in these various placements in FY 1998, as well as secure confinement trends since 1993. Figures 21 through 25 are based on juveniles released from placement during FY 1998.

These figures report numbers of stays, which exceed the number of juveniles confined since a single juvenile may be confined more than once in the same year. In FY 1998, 1,167 different juveniles were confined to a juvenile detention home (all at the Fairfax Juvenile Detention Center). During the previous fiscal year, a total of 1,079 different juveniles were held in juvenile detention.

FIGURE 21

JUVENILES CONFINED IN SECURE DETENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES BY PLACE, RACE, AND SEX, FY 1998**

	Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center			Detention Release and Services		
Race and Sex	**No. Youth**	**No. Days**	**ALS***	**No. Youth**	**No. Days**	**ALS***
White Male	566	10,453	18.5	52	1,451	27.9
White Female	210	3,365	16.0	16	418	26.1
Non-White Male	692	13,372	19.3	78	2,349	30.1
Non-White Female	183	2,527	13.8	14	334	23.9
TOTAL	**1,651**	**29,717**	**18.0**	**160**	**4,552**	**28.5**
	Outreach Detention			**Less Secure Shelter**		
	No. Youth	**No. Days**	**ALS***	**No. Youth**	**No. Days**	**ALS***
White Male	159	6,092	38.3	45	1,031	22.9
White Female	82	2,579	31.5	83	1,249	15.1
Non-White Male	162	5,370	33.1	44	983	22.3
Non-White Female	56	2,365	42.2	65	1,973	30.4
TOTAL	**459**	**16,406**	**35.7**	**237**	**5,236**	**22.1**

*ALS = Average length of stay. **All figures are based on juveniles released during the fiscal year.

FIGURE 22

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY (DAYS) BY AGE AND PLACE, FY 1998

Age	Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center	Detention Release and Services	Outreach Detention	Less Secure Shelter
10 or under	—	—	—	—
11	5.0	—	34.7	2.0
12	10.6	15.0	19.5	17.0
13	15.2	36.8	40.1	24.6
14	17.6	29.3	33.3	28.1
15	18.2	23.3	33.6	26.9
16	18.2	27.7	42.5	17.4
17+	18.6	30.6	32.8	15.4

FIGURE 23

SECURE CONFINEMENT TRENDS, FY 1993-FY 1998*

	FY 1993	FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
Fairfax Juvenile Detention Center						
Number released	954	1,215	1,444	1,557	1,509	1,651
Child Care Days	24,747	27,475	30,352	33,253	31,166	29,717
Average Length of Stay	21.3	22.6	21.0	21.4	20.7	18.0

Figure 24 shows the changes in the number of days spent in detention or detention alternatives between FY 1993 and FY 1998. Figure 25 plots changes over the past six years in the average length of stay in various placements.

FIGURE 24

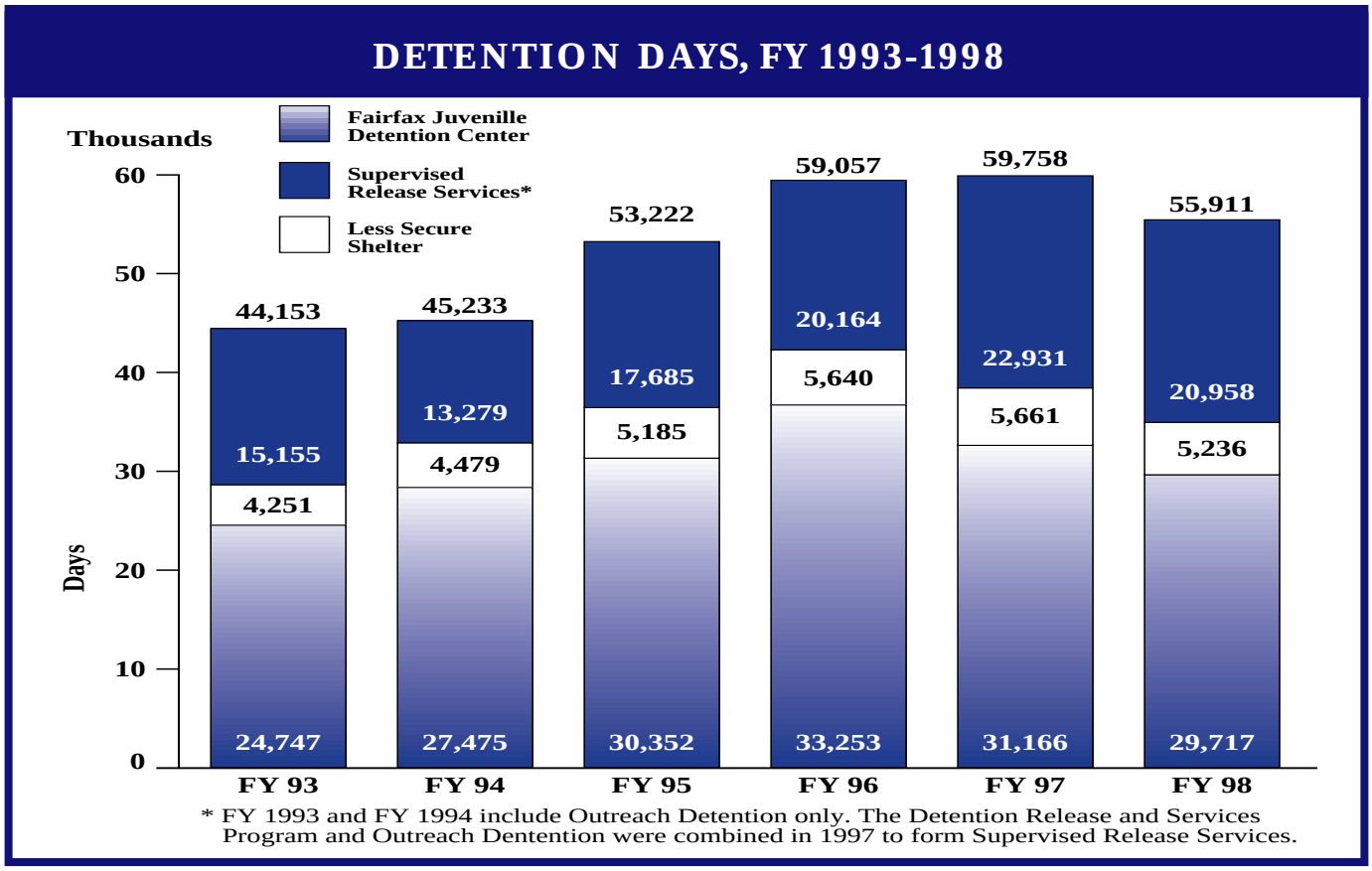
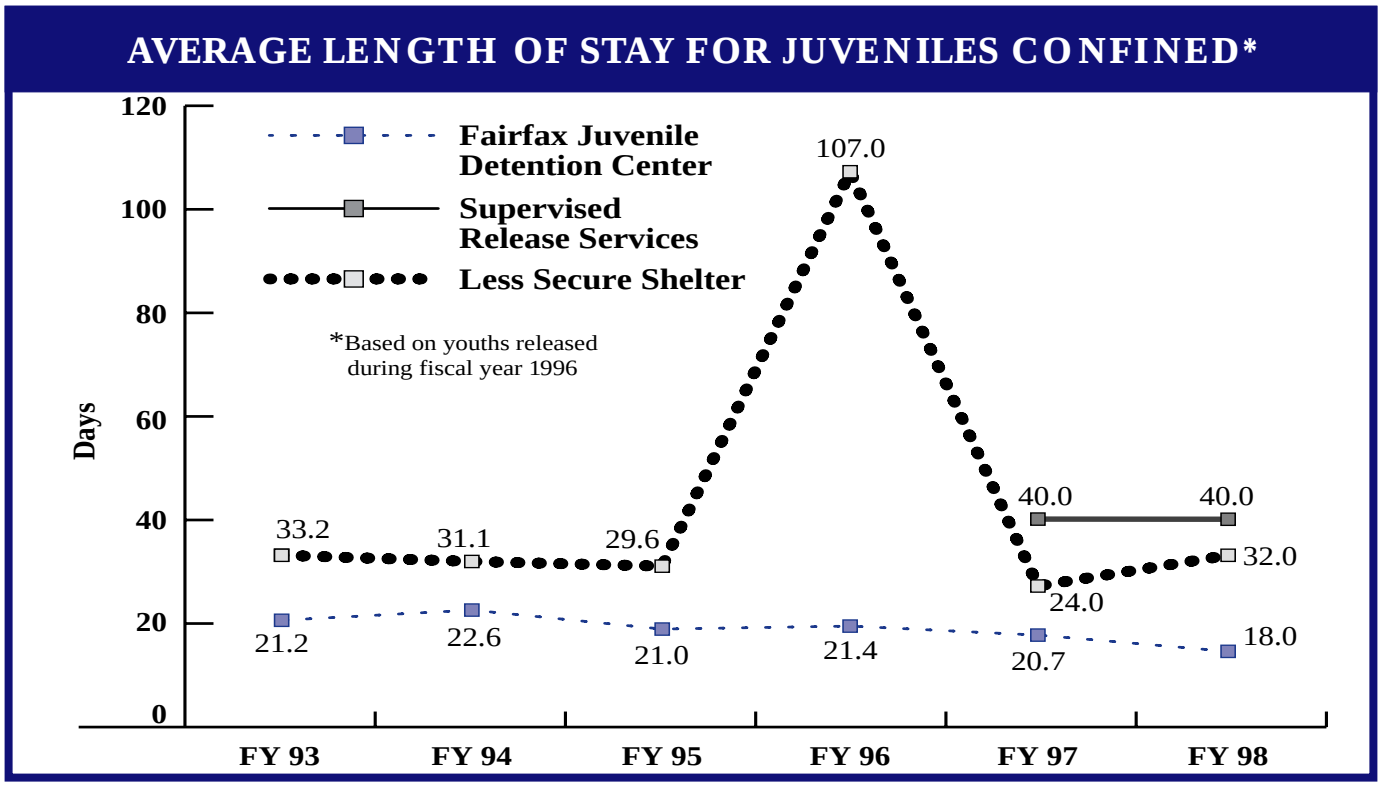


FIGURE 25



DETENTION

SUMMARY OF FY 1998 HIGHLIGHTS

- Total stays in secure confinement increased 9.4 percent over the last year from 1,509 in FY 1997 to 1,651 in FY 1998.

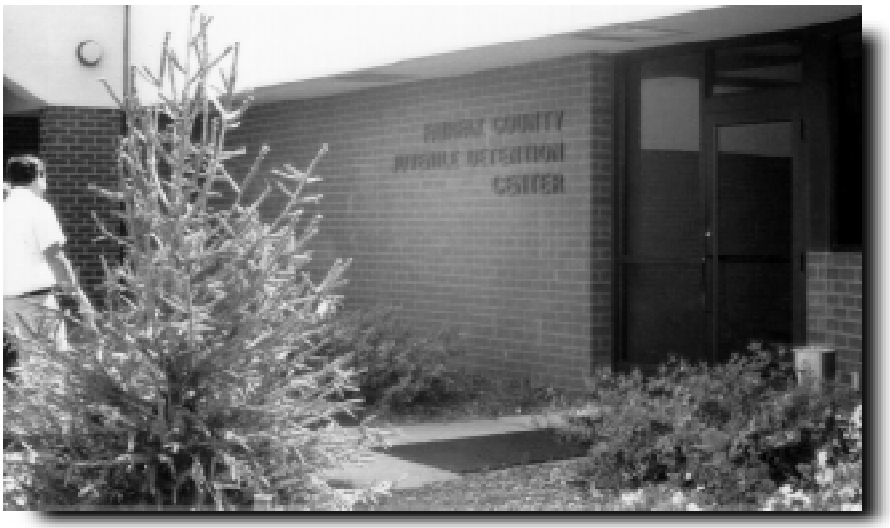
- All securely confined youth were placed at the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center. Currently, the Court is handling all of its detention needs in its own facility although the Northern Virginia Regional Detention Home remains a resource.

- There was an 8.2 percent increase in the utilization rate at the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center, from 146.9 percent of capacity in FY 1997 to 159 percent of capacity in FY 1998 (see Figure 32).

- The average length of stay at the JDC decreased from 20 days in FY 1997 to 18 days in FY 1998.

- The utilization rate of the Less Secure Shelter decreased from 129.2 percent in FY 1997 to 119.7 percent in FY 1998. (see Figure 32).

- The Supervised Release Service Program is composed of the Detention Release and Services Program and the Outreach Detention Program. Utilization in the program decreased from 139 percent in FY 1997 to 120 percent in FY 1998.



ADJUDICATION

If children are confined in a juvenile detention home, Less Secure or Adult Detention Center, their hearings are scheduled within 10 days of the detention hearing. Otherwise, the adjudicatory hearing is generally set by Intake three to four weeks after the filing of the complaint.

If the offense is one for which a child may lose his or her freedom, an attorney is provided by the Court or the juvenile is required to retain one, depending on the family's financial situation. At the hearing, the juvenile is informed by the judge of the alleged offense and is asked for a plea of innocent or guilty. The complainant explains the circumstance which led to the filing of the petition, the accused juvenile may respond to the charges, and any other witnesses are called. The judge then decides the disposition of the case. Options available to the judge at this point include, but are not limited to:

- commitment to the State Department of Juvenile Justice,
- placement in a Court Probation House,
- award of custody of the child to the Court for special placement in a certified residential institution,
- placement of the child under Court supervision,
- continuance for a social investigation to be conducted by a probation counselor to bring recommendations on appropriate dispositions to the judge at a later date,
- fine and costs or restitution,
- continuation of the case to be dismissed at a future date if there are no further offenses, or
- dismissal of the charge.

Figure 26 reports the number of commitments to the State Department of Juvenile Justice since FY 1987.

FIGURE 26

COMMITMENTS TO STATE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE FROM FAIRFAX COUNTY, FY 1987-1998

Fiscal Year	Number of Commitments
1987	79
1988	72
1989	92
1990	92
1991	74
1992	97
1993	92
1994	86
1995	107
1996	125
1997	103
1998	105

SUPERVISION

If juveniles are placed under Court supervision, they are assigned a probation counselor in their area of the county. Rules for probation are prepared, signed by the judge, the juvenile, the juvenile's parents and the probation counselor and are given to the youth. Figures 27, 28, and 29 show the race, sex, and ages by court center of juveniles under different types of supervision during FY 1998.

Some juveniles come under several different types of supervision during the same year. For example, first they have a social investigation, then are put on probation, and then may be on parole. The number of supervisions reported above, therefore, exceeds the number of different juveniles under some form of supervision. The total number of juveniles under supervision was 2,386 in FY 1998, compared with 2,283 in FY 1997, 2,310 in FY 1996, 2,424 in FY 1995, and 2,152 in FY 1994.

FIGURE 27

AGE AND SEX OF JUVENILES RECEIVING PROBATION SERVICES DURING FY 1998
(BY COURT UNITS)

MALE

Age	Center	North	South	Special Services	Dom. Rel.	Total No.	Percent
Under 13	6	14	11	6	69	106	3.6
13	42	42	36	4	2	126	4.3
14	76	93	76	19	4	268	9.1
15	155	163	148	33	2	501	17.1
16	224	243	155	92	5	719	24.5
17	205	218	180	107	3	713	24.3
Over 17	109	122	90	121	60	502	17.1
Sub Total	817	895	696	382	145	2,935	100.0

FEMALE

Age	Center	North	South	Special Services	Dom. Rel.	Total No.	Percent
Under 13	2	0	5	0	46	53	6.6
13	12	9	10	1	4	36	4.5
14	24	35	8	1	1	69	8.5
15	47	41	50	7	2	147	18.2
16	69	61	48	7	5	190	23.5
17	56	76	50	21	0	203	25.1
Over 17	26	42	18	12	12	110	13.6
Sub Total	236	264	189	49	70	808	100.0
Grand Total	**1,053**	**1,159**	**885**	**431**	**215**	**3,743**	

FIGURE 28

RACE AND SEX OF JUVENILES RECEIVING PROBATION SERVICES DURING FY 1998

	Center		North		South		Special Services		Domestic Relations		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White Male	475	45.1	535	46.2	311	35.2	123	28.5	75	34.9	1,519	40.6
White Female	137	13.1	170	14.7	88	9.9	24	5.6	27	12.6	446	11.9
Non-White Male	332	31.5	348	30.0	378	42.7	258	59.9	54	25.1	1,370	36.6
Non-White Female	96	9.1	84	7.2	97	11.0	25	5.8	31	14.4	333	8.9
Sex or Race Unknown	13	1.2	22	1.9	11	1.2	1	.2	28	13.0	75	2.0
TOTAL	**1,053**	**100.0**	**1,159**	**100.0**	**885**	**100.0**	**431**	**100.0**	**215**	**100.0**	**3,743**	**100.0**
% of Total	28.1%		31.0%		23.7%		11.5%		5.7%		100%	

FIGURE 29

TYPE OF PROBATION SERVICES DURING FY 1998
(BY COURT UNITS)

	Center	North	South	Special Services	Domestic Relations	Total	Percent Total
Probation	651	701	543	—	382	2,277	45.8
I & R	371	495	299	—	25	1,190	23.9
Pre-dispo. Supervision	520	117	145	—	—	782	15.7
Custody I & R	—	—	—	—	141	141	2.8
Committed Offender	—	—	—	187	—	187	3.8
Courtesy Supervision	34	35	38	—	—	107	2.2
Parole	—	—	—	223	—	223	4.5
Unofficial Probation	10	0	17	—	—	27	0.5
Courtesy I & R	2	6	16	—	—	24	0.5
Visitation I & R	—	—	—	—	16	16	0.3
TOTAL	**1,588**	**1,354**	**1,058**	**410**	**564**	**4,974**	100.0%
% of Total	31.9%	27.2%	21.3%	8.2%	11.3%	100.0%	

SUPERVISION

SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of supervisions increased 1.4 percent, from 3,607 in FY 1997 to 4,974 in FY 1998.
- The proportion of supervisions by unit was distributed as follows:

  Center County: 31.9 percent
  South County: 21.3 percent
  North County: 27.2 percent
  Special Services: 8.2 percent
  Domestic Relations: 11.3 percent

- The total number of youths under supervision in FY 1998 was 2,386, up 1.0 percent from FY 1997 when 2,283 youths were under supervision.
- Over three-quarters (78.4 percent) of the youths supervised were male, 21.6 percent were female (see Figure 27).
- Nearly half (48.8 percent) of all youths under supervision were between 16 and 17 years old; 16.4 percent were over 17 years old.
- Girls who received court services were younger than boys — 19.6 percent of the girls were 14 years old or younger compared with 17.0 percent of the boys. Forty-one percent of the boys were 17 or older at the time of service compared with 38.7 percent of the girls.

COURT PROGRAMS

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

The effective reduction of future offenses by juveniles brought to its attention is of critical importance to the Court. Consequently, many specialized services have been developed to enhance court intervention. In FY 1998 these included diagnostic services; work, education, and family counseling programs; coordination of volunteer activity; and direct court placement.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES — Judges may order psychological evaluations, usually as part of social investigations, for juveniles within the purview of the Court. Probation counselors also may request such evaluations during the course of social investigations to aid in the formulation of treatment plans. Although private doctors and psychologists perform some of these evaluations, emergency cases are performed by staff psychologists from the Community Services Board assigned to the Court. The Court has used psychological support services since the fall of 1970; it contracts with a private service provider for all other needed evaluations.

DIAGNOSTIC TEAM — Coordinated by a probation counselor assigned to the Special Services Unit, the Diagnostic Team is an interagency group whose membership includes a psychologist assigned to the Court, a family counselor from the Court staff, and, according to the particular case under consideration, representatives from the Health Department, the Department of Family Services (DFS), the Fairfax County Public Schools, Alcohol and Drug Services , and other agencies. The group reviews especially difficult cases referred by judges or probation counselors, and reports its recommendations to the judges. DFS counselors occasionally refer cases of Court-involved juveniles. Most juveniles whose cases come before the team have failed to respond to prior treatment efforts. The team considers a range of specialized diagnostic evaluations about each juvenile it sees, and facilitates collaboration among the different agencies whose cooperation is required to implement recommended treatment plans. Special emphasis is placed on checking whether community resources have been exhausted before recommending the removal of any juvenile from the community. The team has operated since 1974.

FAMILY COUNSELING PROGRAM — The Family Counseling Program, developed in 1970, provides ongoing family counseling services to families involved with the Court. The counseling is designed to assist families who are experiencing problems with a child's behavior, custody visitation, or support matters, or marital difficulties. The goal of the program is to aid family members in understanding the development and maintenance of the problems in order to develop more thoughtful and effective problem-solving methods. Referrals to the program are made by Court service staff and judges. The program also prepares evaluations for the Court's Diagnostic Team and offers training and consultation to other Court staff.

JUVENILE TRAFFIC SCHOOL — Traffic Safety Seminars approved by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles are offered to youthful traffic law violators to teach and encourage safe driving behavior. The course consists of nine hours of classroom time and five hours of driving time, and requires the attendance of at least one parent. Perceptive driving skills are emphasized. Youths who successfully complete the course are awarded five safe driving points and may also have their citations dropped or the charges reduced.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES — Volunteers from Fairfax County and the region participate in the delivery of Court services in numerous ways. They assist as probation and parole aides, court aides, restitution aides, program aides, administrative aides, aides at residential facilities, as Court companions for victims of domestic violence, as interpreters to the Court, family counseling interns, domestic relations interns, community service supervisors and special activities leaders. The Volunteer Services Coordinator recruits and screens volunteers, orients them to the Court system, and places them with the staff members they assist. The Coordinator acts as a liaison between the Court and local colleges, community organizations, the Volunteer center for Fairfax County, and concerned citizens.

VOLUNTEER INTERPRETER PROGRAM — Created through the efforts of the Fairfax Bar Association and the Juvenile Court, the Volunteer Interpreter Program (VIP) assists staff working with individuals for whom English is a barrier. This helps clients and visitors to access appropriate court services as well as court staff to more effectively process clients. The program currently provides only Spanish language interpretation, although some other languages are available upon request. Volunteer interpreters are available for all units and facilities. However, courtroom service is limited to civil status hearings. Interpretation services consist of

face-to-face interpretations between staff and clients as well as telephone interpretations. Translation services for written documents are also available. The Volunteer Program Coordinator coordinates the program.

COURT COMPANION PROGRAM — As a service of the Domestic Relations Unit, volunteer Court Companions are available to assist victims of domestic violence. A magistrate or an intake worker of the Domestic Relations Unit may arrange for a Court Companion if a family abuse warrant or a preliminary protective order has been issued. The client is called in order to determine eligibility, that is, whether or not the client has legal counsel or any support service (such as from a shelter or the Victim Witness Program). Arrangements are made for the Court Companion to meet the client before the hearing. Once there, the Court Companion provides information about the courtroom setting and process; reviews important details of the petition with the client and helps the client focus on his/her desired outcomes. The Court Companion sits behind the client during the hearing and afterward escorts the client to Room 1300 to read and understand the order as issued. The Volunteer Services Coordinator coordinates the program.

SPECIAL PLACEMENTS/SERVICES — In July 1993, in accordance with the implementation of the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA), funds for the purchase of residential placements and for non-residential services for Court youths were transferred from the State level to the local government level. Five Family Assessment and Planning Teams review the need for services and are responsible for ensuring that existing local resources have been utilized prior to approval of out-of-home placements. When a placement is approved, the team's emphasis is on selecting the least restrictive placement while still meeting the needs of the youth. The Court's two placement coordinators assume casework responsibilities for placements and provide probation/parole supervision to those youths. They visit youths in placement, work with the placement in achieving treatment goals, and work with parents toward changes that will ensure the youth's successful return to the community. Supervision continues for a minimum of six months once a youth returns home. Placement coordinators are also responsible for administrative functions (e.g., billing and encumbrances) for non-residential services approved under the CSA.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM — Section 16.1-278.5 of the Code of Virginia necessitated the establishment of an interagency team to review and make recommendations on youth adjudicated to be Children In Need of Supervision (truants and runaways), prior to the Court making a final disposition. Members of the Interdisciplinary Team include: mental health, public schools, alcohol and drug services, Court Services staff and the Department of Human Development. The team is coordinated by the Assistant Director of Family Systems Counseling unit. The purpose of the team is to evaluate a youth's individualized service needs for the Court's consideration in its dispositional findings. Due to the interagency approach and early intervention strategies, the team is able to address a multitude of problems faced by the youth and families.

WORK PROGRAMS

WORK TRAINING PROGRAM — Work training began in November 1973 and is targeted specifically at juveniles on probation, 14 to 18 years of age. The work training counselor places trainees in county government and non-profit agencies, maintaining periodic contact with the on-site work supervisors and counseling trainees about job-related problems. Trainees usually work from 10 to 20 hours a week, depending upon their school schedules and the needs of the employing agencies, for periods of up to six months. They are paid strictly for hours worked; the Court handles all payroll administration. Although a judge can order a juvenile to get a job, no one can be ordered to participate in this program and no punitive Court action occurs solely as a result of a youngster's failure in the program. Trainees are treated on the job as regular employees; employers are free to fire them without advance approval from the Court.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT — The Community Service Project (CSP) serves as a resource for the informal hearing officer program and for the judges in sentencing delinquents. Originally, the program was designed to serve first and second time misdemeanants. However, the program is now utilized for more serious felony offenders as well, including violations of probation. The program assigns youngsters to work without pay in a governmental or non-profit agency. Youth are assigned a certain number of hours to perform according to the seriousness and number of offenses for which they are adjudicated not innocent. Those who fail to complete their hours are subject to a show cause order for contempt of court. The program also offers mini-CSP sites that operate on weekends under the supervision of court volunteers to probation violators who are referred for an informal sanction by their probation counselor.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Court and the Fairfax County Public Schools' School Board collaborate in operating or supporting a variety of alternative schools for youngsters who are unable to benefit from the ordinary public school experience. Four of these schools were created by joint action of the Court and the School Division. These are: Falls Bridge School in Reston, Hillwood School in Falls Church, Sager School in Fairfax City, and Gunston School in Mount Vernon.

The Court provides facilities and administrative support, and the Fairfax County Public Schools' School Division provides full-time teachers, books and supplies for each school. Each school has the capacity to handle from eight to ten students under probation supervision by the Court who have experienced behavior and/or attendance problems in school. Students are referred by their probation counselors who closely monitor their attendance in the alternative schools. Students receive individualized remedial instruction, designed to enable them within a year to either return to a regular school, obtain a high school equivalency diploma, or enroll in a vocational or work-study program. Sager School opened in the fall of 1974, Falls Bridge School in September of 1977, Gunston School (formerly South County School) in November of 1977, and Hillwood School in September of 1985.

ENTERPRISE SCHOOL — The Enterprise School is a private, nonprofit school that provides a therapeutic learning environment for up to 23 juveniles of average and above-average intelligence whose emotional and behavioral problems have prevented them from coping effectively in regular public schools. Students are enrolled in a six-credit academic program that stresses addressing individual needs within a small group instructional setting. In addition, students participate in weekly group counseling and are required to participate in biweekly multiple-family group counseling sessions with their parents. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Department of Special Education provides one full-time and one half-time teacher while the Court provides the remaining financial support to the program. The Enterprise School is planning to expand its enrollment in FY 2000.

VOLUNTEER LEARNING PROGRAM — The Volunteer Learning Program is an individualized tutoring program available to all residents of the county. In addition to the Fairfax County Public Schools which provides one full-time coordinator and three part-time assistants, and the Court, which provides office space, the program is also sponsored by the Fairfax County Public Library, which provides space for the tutoring. The program coordinators recruit, train, and supervise volunteers who serve as tutors for persons needing remedial assistance to pass the High School Equivalency Test. The coordinator and her assistants also diagnose individual educational needs and match appropriate tutors to learners or make referrals to Adult Learning Centers. Tutors and learners meet one-on-one twice weekly, usually in a library, to work towards a selected academic goal. Tutors are also assigned to FCPS and Court Alternative Schools. Nearly one-eighth of the learners are court-referred. Other referrals come from the public schools, other agencies, and other program participants. The program started in the fall of 1975.

INDEPENDENT STUDY — In 1992, the Court and Fairfax County Public Schools' School Board developed the Independent Study Program to work with youth on probation or parole. The program is designed to address the educational needs of youths who have been unable to benefit from traditional classroom instruction or alternative school programs. The program's four teachers serve youths who may be pending expulsion, or who may have been expelled but permitted to attend the specialized program by the School Board. The Independent Study Program has educational and work components. Youths meet with teachers twice each week for school assignments and individual instruction. They are required to find employment to supplement their education. The Court Work Training Program offers job placements to youth enrolled in the program. Program participants may earn high school credit, or prepare for the GED Test.

SCHOOL PROBATION OFFICER PROGRAM Jointly sponsored by the Court and the School Division, teachers in high schools are designated as part-time probation counselors. They attempt to handle student problems through counseling and referral either before or after the students become involved with the Court. The program started in 1973.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

GIRLS PROBATION HOUSE — The Girls Probation House program began operations in October, 1975. It has a capacity for 12 residents ranging in age from 14 to 17 years. It is a family oriented, long-term treatment facility that serves girls placed there by judicial disposition to reduce chronic acting-out delinquent behavior. The program does not treat those youth with severe emotional problems nor those with heavy involvement with drugs. Rather the program offers services for those youth who have failed to respond to previous treatment efforts and those youth who have a suspended commitment to the State Department of Juvenile

Justice. The program provides a structured environment that emphasizes the acceptance of personal responsibility by residents through means of a five-level program of behavior modification, positive peer culture and individual, group, and intensive family counseling sessions and bi-weekly parent group. All treatment is designed to facilitate the resident's return to her home and community. An educational and counseling day program has been added for graduating residents who can complete a semester at GPH. The Fairfax County Public Schools provide a teacher and a teacher's aide who address the educational needs for all residents in a daily program.

BOYS PROBATION HOUSE — The Boys Probation House is a community based, multi-program facility providing non-secure residential treatment to adolescent male offenders with the goal of reducing chronic, acting -out behavior. Two distinct programs are offered. The first is a long-term (9-12 months) therapeutic program that works intensely with the boys and their families to identify and facilitate the changes in behavior necessary for successful return to the home and the community. This program has a capacity of sixteen residents between 14 and 17 years of age. The underlying premise for this program was that less intensive methods of intervention had proven unsuccessful so the establishment of a highly structured, peer-accountable approach was a final intervention before incarceration. The program emphasizes the acceptance of personal responsibility through means of staff supervision, behavior modification, role-modeling, individual, group and family counseling as well as public health education, the use of community mental health centers and local substance abuse treatment services.

The other program offered is the Transition Living Program, which exposes residents to the demands and difficulties of independent living. This is a five to six month program that requires residents to work full time in the community while pursuing their education and while learning the curriculum associated with living on their own. The program has a capacity of six residents who are between 17 and 18 years of age and living at home is no longer an option.

The Fairfax County Public Schools provide two teachers and an aide to conduct year-round classes or G.E.D. instruction in a daily program to address the educational needs for all residents. Physical education is also a requirement for the residents.

Figures 30, 31, 32, and 33 provide activity indicators for the Court's specialized and education programs and residential facilities, as well as utilization rates and costs for the residential facilities.

FIGURE 30

FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES, FY 1998

Type of Case	Court-Ordered	Voluntary	Total	% of Total
Juvenile				
Delinquent/CHINS	70	107	177	44.3
Diagnostic Evaluation	43	NA	43	10.8
Adult				
Domestic Relations	81	55	136	34.7
Seminars	36	7	43	10.8
Total Services	**230**	**169**	**399**	**100.0%**
% of Total	57.6%	42.4%	100.0%	

FIGURE 31

VOLUNTEER SERVICES, FY 1993-1998

Court Volunteer Programs	FY 1993	FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
No. of volunteers	354	312	445	430	398	336
No. of volunteer-hours	17,610	15,049	19,504	21,764	25,203	21,879
Volunteer Learning Program						
No. of volunteer tutors	248	231	199	227	233	231
No. of volunteer-hours	10,642	9,854	9,094	9,296	9,143	9,242

FIGURE 32

UTILIZATION AND COSTS OF RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES, FY 1998

Facilities	Child Care Days	Avg. Length of Stay for Those Released	Utilization Rate[1]	Cost Per Child Care Day
Girls Probation House	3,863	132	88.2%	$115.00
Boys Probation House	6,622	102	82.5%	$119.00
Less Secure Shelter	5,248	22	119.8%	$98.00
Juvenile Detention Center[1]	31,862	18	158.7%	$131.00
Supervised Release Services[2]	20,942	32	119.5%	$28.00

[1] Usage by Fairfax County cases only. Placements of youths from other jurisdictions are not included.
[2] The Supervised Release Services Program began in 1997 and combines Outreach Detention and Detention Release Services.

FIGURE 33

CASELOADS OF PROGRAMS AND RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES FY 1993-1998

COURT PROGRAMS	Number of Cases[1]					
Specialized Programs	**FY1993**	**FY 1994**	**FY 1995**	**FY 1996**	**FY 1997**	**FY 1998**
Psychological Evaluations (Court Psychologists)	224	221	226	260	293	368
Diagnostic Team	47	38	38	25	26	11
Interdisciplinary Team[6]	91	56	81	61	120	116
Work Training Program	225	230	196	212	225	236
Community Service Project	695	821	859	861	1,067	1,173
Family Counseling Program[3]	328	351	346	298	333	334
Special Placements Program	73	84	64	58	41	46
Juvenile Traffic School	943	994	980	917	1,167	1,145
Volunter Sponsor Program [8]	25	26	25	18	14	18
Volunteer Interpreter Program[9]	-	-	29	134	1,078	1,010
Education Programs						
Falls Bridge School	14	21	17	19	22	19
Hillwood School	14	15	15	15	12	11
Sager School	23	30	29	28	38	34
Gunston (South County) School[5]	27	27	17	24	27	35
The Enterprise School[2]	36	35	36	36	21	41
Volunteer Learning Program[2]	267	256	189	173	195	220
Independent Study Program [7]	-	36	70	76	92	98
Placements[4]						
Boys Probation House	34	31	40	33	57	79
Girls Probation House	37	39	53	58	40	43
Outreach Detention	362	367	380	457	494	501
Less Secure Shelter	133	144	175	178	257	249
Juvenile Detention Center	954	1,215	1,444	1,557	1,595	1,767

[1] The "number of cases" refers to all cases active on July 1, plus all new cases during the fiscal year.
[2] Includes Court-referred and non-Court-referred learners.
[3] Includes only counseling cases, not diagnostic evaluations.
[4] Includes Fairfax County cases only.
[5] One teacher's aide added in FY 1990.
[6] Interdisciplinary Team established in FY 1990.
[7] Began in FY 1992.
[8] Began in FY 1993.
[9] Began in FY 1995.

IV. ADULT CASE PROCESSING

DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASE PROCESSING

In November, 1986, Fairfax Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court organized probation services into two separate "tracks": Juvenile Intake and Probation Services and Domestic Relations Intake and Services. These changes were implemented so people experiencing domestic problems could receive specialized services beginning at the intake level and continuing through the subsequent Court process.

Staff were available to provide these extra services because responsibility for support enforcement was transferred from the Court Service Unit to the Division of Child Support Enforcement, a state agency. This transfer was mandated by new federal and state laws.

Domestic Relations Services (DRS) handles all adult criminal offenses and family (custody, support, visitation and domestic violence) complaints.

ADULT CRIMINAL CASE PROCESSING

Crimes committed between members of a family and crimes committed by an adult against a juvenile are under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. These offenses are brought to the attention of the Court either by a police officer witnessing an offense or learning of it as a result of an investigation, or by a citizen or member of the family acting as complainant.

If a police officer determines that a crime has been committed between members of a family or by an adult against a juvenile, the adult offender is arrested and brought before the special magistrate. If a member of the family or citizen is acting as complainant, the victim must go before the special magistrate and swear that the person has committed an offense. If the special magistrate believes that there is probable cause that an offense was committed, a warrant is issued and the alleged offender is arrested.

Adult misdemeanor charges under the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court's jurisdiction are heard in their entirety in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Domestic Relations has two adult probation officers who provide pre-sentencing reports for the Court and who supervise misdemeanants who are placed on probation. Preliminary hearings are conducted for adult felonies and if the charge is reduced, the entire case is heard. If the charge is not reduced and the preliminary hearing reveals probable cause, the case is referred to the Grand Jury.

The complaints received against adults in FY 1998 by race and sex appear in Figure 34. The numbers of adult complaints from FY 1993-FY 1998 are presented in Figure 35. Figure 36 shows the number of adult offenders from FY 1996-FY 1998, as well as the changing proportions of first-offenders to repeat-offenders, and of first-offenders who return to Intake for new charges within the fiscal year to first-offenders who do not return. These figures refer to support and criminal cases.

FIGURE 34

ADULT COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY RACE AND SEX FY 1998

	WM	WF	NWM	NWF	TOTAL
PROPERTY OFFENSES					
Vandalism	21	2	44	7	74
Tresspassing	7	0	29	8	44
Grand Larceny	15	2	18	2	37
Fraud	11	5	9	11	36
Auto Larceny	8	3	19	5	35
Burglary	6	2	21	4	33
Other	2	2	20	2	26
Subtotal	**70**	**16**	**160**	**39**	**285**
% Of Total Property	24.6%	5.6%	56.1%	13.7%	100.0%
OFFENSES AGAINST PERSONS					
Simple Assault	249	45	675	146	1115
Contributing To Minor	25	6	138	41	210
Sex Offenses	28	5	92	3	128
Agrravated Assault	21	3	74	11	109
Stalking	18	0	13	0	31
Rape	7	0	13	0	20
Robbery	0	0	15	2	17
Murder	0	0	2	1	3
Other	2	1	5	1	9
Subtotal	**350**	**60**	**1027**	**205**	**1642**
% Of Total Offenses Against Persons	21.3%	3.7%	62.5%	12.5%	100.0%
DOMESTIC RELATIONS					
Non Support	1,057	144	1,932	195	3,328
Domestic Violence	323	34	607	104	1,068
Oother	17	5	38	16	76
Subtotal	**1,397**	**183**	**2,577**	**315**	**4,472**
% Of Total Domestic Relations Complaints	31.2%	4.1%	57.6%	7.0%	100.0%
OTHER					
Rule, Capias	578	96	912	238	1824
Pre-Trail Motion	148	24	215	40	427
See Intake Counselors For Information	5	0	12	0	17
Other	65	4	128	55	252
Subtotal	**796**	**124**	**1,267**	**333**	**2,520**
% Of Total Other Complaints	31.6%	4.9%	50.3%	13.2%	100.0%
TOTAL	**2,613**	**383**	**5,031**	**892**	**8,919**
% Of Total Complaints	29.3%	4.3%	56.4%	10.0%	100.0%

WM ..... White Males
WF ..... White Females
NWM .... Non-White Males
NWF ..... Non-White Females

FIGURE 35

ADULT COMPLAINTS, FY 1993-FY 1998

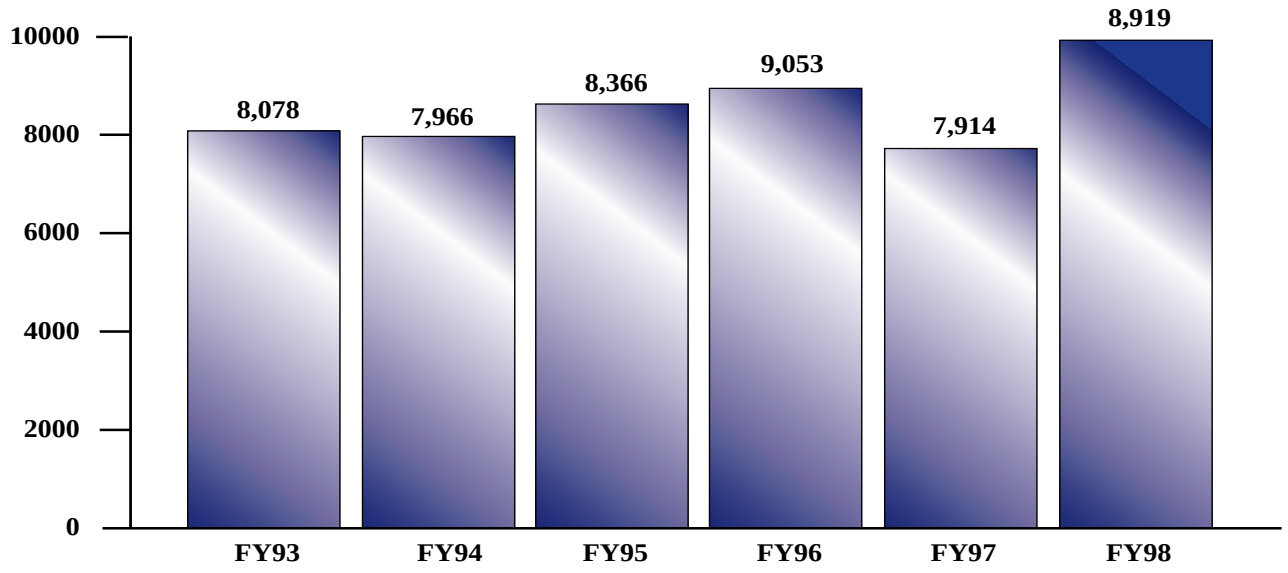


FIGURE 36

ADULT OFFENDER COUNTS AND RECIDIVISM TRENDS FY 1996-FY 1998

	FY 1996		FY 1997		FY 1998	
Alleged offenders in given year *with* complaints in previous year	2,134	(38.5%)	1,809	(34.2%)	1,647	(30.2%)
Alleged offenders in given year *without* complaints in previous years:						
• who *do return* to court that year	569	(10.2%)	622	(12.0%)	633	(11.6%)
• who *do not return* to court that year	2,846	(51.3%)	2,759	(53.1%)	3,170	(58.2%)
TOTAL	**5,549**	**(100.0%)**	**5,190**	**(100.0%)**	**5,450**	**(100%)**
Average No. of Complaints per Alleged Offender in Given Year	1.63		1.52		1.63	

Alleged adult offenders who are arrested early in the day are scheduled for an arraignment hearing the same day. At this hearing the defendant is formally charged, bond conditions are set or a determination regarding release on recognizance is made. The defendant is informed of the right to counsel, which provides for a Court-appointed attorney if the defendant cannot afford one. If the conditions of bond are met by the defendant or if the defendant is released on recognizance (r.o.r.), he or she is released from custody and instructed to appear before the Court at a later date. If the bond is not posted, the defendant remains in the Fairfax Adult Detention Center. If the arrest occurs when Court is not in session, the special magistrate sets bond or releases the adult on recognizance. If the bond is not met, the defendant is kept in the Adult Detention Center until the next working day, at which time the defendant is brought to Court for arraignment. If withdrawal of the charges is requested by the complainant, the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office must agree to the withdrawal.

Figure 37 shows average times required to process adult complaints through the various stages for each of the past three fiscal years.

Final dispositions available in adult cases include jail sentences and probation. In juvenile cases when a child is over 15 and treated as an adult in Juvenile Court, the same dispositions, including jail sentences, may be used. Figure 38 shows the changing distribution of adult complaints by race and sex since FY 1993.

Adults who are found guilty in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court are often referred to Domestic Relations Services for pre-sentencing reports and probation supervision.

FIGURE 37

AVERAGE PROCESSING TIMES (CALENDAR DAYS) FOR ADULT COMPLAINTS, FY 1996-FY 1998

PROCESSING STAGE	RELEVANT SUBGROUP OF CASES	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
Alleged offense to intake	Complaints which specify date of alleged offense	14.8	23.4	50.3
Assignment of social investigation to hearing on report	Cases in which judge orders investigation	74.9	60.0	70.9

FIGURE 38

ADULT COMPLAINT RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION TREND FY 1993-FY 1998

	FY 1993	FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
N=*	6,490	6,391	6,643	7,126	6,439	6,651
White Male %	44.7%	44.1%	43.4%	40.2%	27.7%	29.2%
White Female	6.5%	6.3%	6.5%	7.2%	4.2%	4.3%
Non-White Male	44.6%	44.0%	44.4%	45.9%	58.5%	56.5%
Non-White Female	4.2%	5.5%	5.7%	6.7%	9.6%	10.0%
TOTAL	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

* Rules, capiases, reviews, attorney appointments, pre-trial motions, seeing intake counselors for information, and leaving without seeing an intake counselor are not counted.

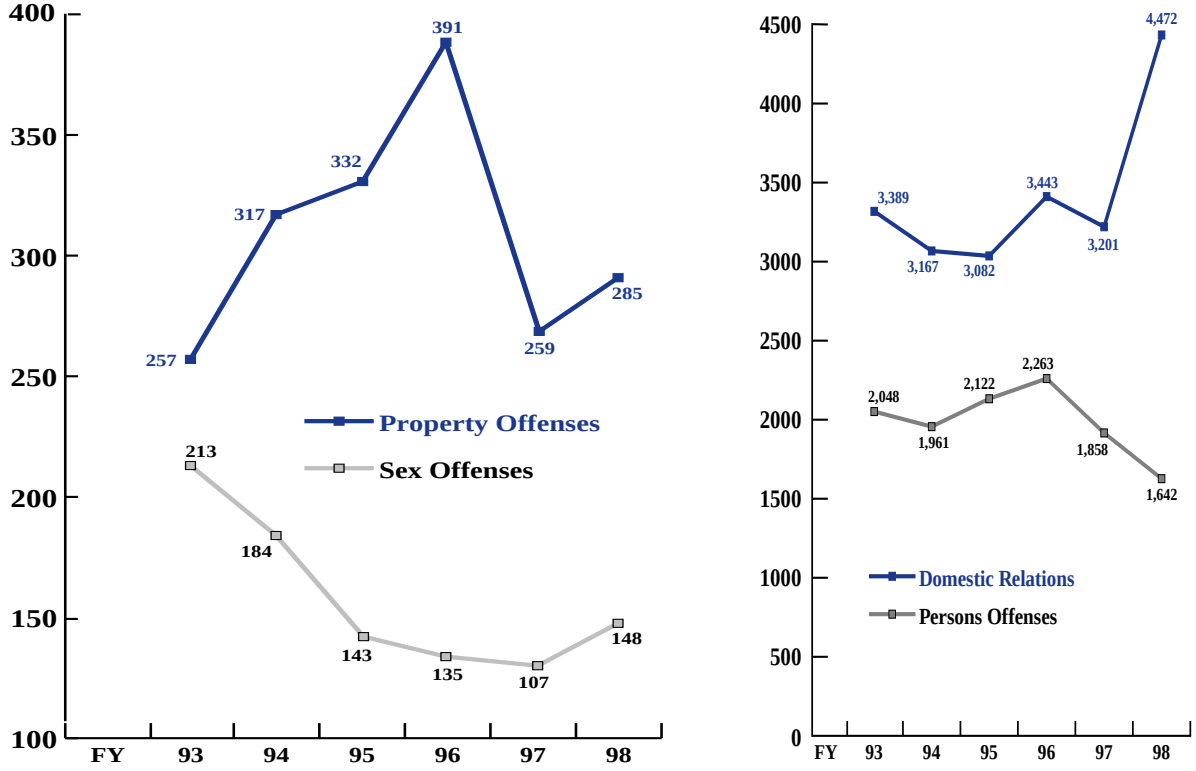
ADULT COMPLAINTS

SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS

- The Court received a total of 8,919 adult complaints in FY 1998, an increase of 12.7 percent over the 7,914 complaints received in FY 1997.
- Support and domestic violence complaints composed 50.1 percent of all adult complaints received.
- Offenses against persons complaints decreased 11.6 percent, from 1,858 in FY 1997 to 1,642 in FY 1998.
- Property complaints rose by 10 percent, from 259 in FY 1997 to 285 in FY 1998.
- There was a 38.3 percent increase in the number of sex offense complaints this year, from 107 in FY 1997 to 148 in FY 1998.
- Domestic relations complaints increased 39.7 percent from 3,201 in FY 1997 to 4,472 in 1998. There was a 1.2 percent increase in complaints for "other" types of events (primarily administrative, such as rules, capiases, and pre-trial motions).

FIGURE 39

TRENDS IN TYPES OF ADULT COMPLAINTS FY 1993-FY 1998



Support, Custody and Visitation Complaint Case Processing

The most common adult offense, and the one with the highest incidence of recidivism, is non-support. This is usually a civil matter rather than a criminal charge. Persons who need support from a spouse or the parent of their children, may file a petition for support through the Domestic Relations Services intake department. The intake officer will authorize a petition, obtain a court date, and schedule a pre-hearing conference where both parties will be present and the intake officer will attempt to mediate a settlement. If negotiations are unsuccessful, both parties receive assistance in preparing for the trial.

Outgoing and incoming URESA cases (Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act) are filed when the petitioner and respondent live in different states. In an out-going reciprocal, a petitioner will file for support against an individual in another state. The petitioner then appears before a judge to swear that the contents of the petition are true. The Court sends the petition to the court having jurisdiction where the respondent is in residence. If the respondent is located by the other court, that court has the responsibility for entering and enforcing an order. An incoming reciprocal is the opposite of an outgoing reciprocal. A petitioner in another state files against a respondent in Fairfax County. The Court sets a hearing at which time the respondent is placed under an order.

Division of Child Support Enforcement (D.C.S.E.), a State agency, processes all out-going URESA child support petitions. Domestic Relations Services processes out-going URESA spousal support petitions.

Support payments for all URESA cases are processed through D.C.S.E. and that agency is responsible for enforcement of the child support orders. The Commonwealth's Attorney's Office enforces spousal support orders.

Orders involving child or spousal support which are made in the Circuit Court as a result of divorce or pre-divorce actions can be delegated to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for enforcement and modification. Finally, support orders can result from a juvenile action when the custody of a juvenile is granted to someone other than the legal parents; the judge may order that the legal parents pay support for their child to the guardians, or to the residential facility where the child has been placed.

At the request of the petitioner or respondent, local orders may also require that payments be collected by D.C.S.E. A petitioner may also request enforcement services from that agency.

If payments are made directly to the payee (instead of through D.C.S.E.), the petitioner is responsible for enforcing the order. To do this, motions for wage assignments, contempt proceedings and other enforcement mechanisms are filed through Domestic Relations Services.

Custody and visitation issues are processed in the same manner as local support matters, with an attempt made to mediate a settlement whenever possible. Any agreements reached in support, custody and visitation matters can be entered as an order of the Court in the form of a consent order. When custody or visitation problems go to trial, the judge sometimes orders a home study, which is an investigation of the physical, emotional and educational needs of the children and the ability of each parent to meet those needs. The custody investigator submits a report to the court prior to the dispositional hearing and testifies at the hearing. The Code of Virginia prohibits an intake officer from denying petitions for custody, support and visitation. However, an intake officer does point out jurisdictional and venue issues and explains options to the petitioners.

Family Abuse

Since 1984, persons who have been physically abused by a family member can obtain a civil protective order in Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. The victim of abuse discusses the problems with an intake counselor who then draws up an affidavit and petition. If the petitioner is in imminent danger of further abuse, the judge may sign a temporary protective order pending a full court hearing. Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court has a counselor, the domestic violence services coordinator (DVSC), who specializes in assisting families who are experiencing domestic violence. The DVSC does the intake work, monitors compliance with court orders, and provides other advisory and counseling services. In FY 1993, a Code change went into effect which broadened the definition of family when referring to domestic disputes to include non-related people living together.

FIGURE 40

SUPPORT ACCOUNTS AND AMOUNTS COLLECTED FOR SUPPORT, FINES, COSTS, AND RESTITUTION, FY 1985-1998

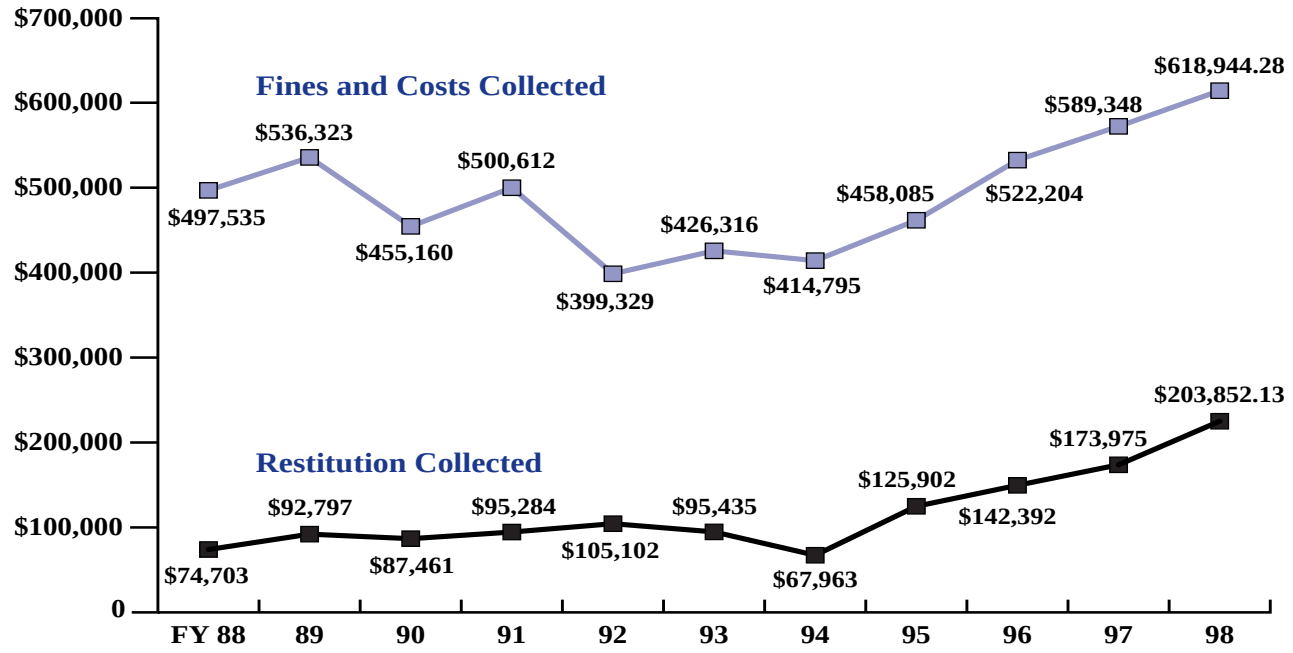
	No. of Support Accounts	Collection Rate Support Collected	Amt. Collected Amt. Due	Restitution Collected	Fines Collected	Costs Collected	Fines & Costs Collected
1985	4,429	7,176,192.96	77.9%	76,403.79	249,371.25	139,036.50	388,407.75
1986	3,814	7,277,405.69	71.4%	73,330.76	238,190.48	129,770.75	367,961.23
1987[1]	523	873,120.14	44.8%	74,028.78	328,295.57	180,319.35	508,614.92
1988	—	—	—	74,702.85	323,397.47	174,137.10	497,534.57
1989	—	—	—	92,797.60[2]	388,540.78	147,781.96	536,322.74
1990	—	—	—	87,460.80	288,906.66	166,252.94	455,159.60
1991	—	—	—	95,284.00	324,808.90	175,803.02	500,611.92
1992	—	—	—	105,101.57	280,429.00	118,900.00	399,329.00
1993	—	—	—	95,435.39	263,085.66	163,229.86	426,315.52
1994	—	—	—	67,962.60	254,944.28	159,850.35	414,794.63
1995	—	—	—	125,901.96	268,617.76	189,467.72	458,085.48
1996	—	—	—	142,392.33	308,109.06	214,095.32	522,204.38
1997	—	—	—	173,975.18	349,227.73	240,620.55	589,848.28
1998	—	—	—	203,852.13	373,242.60	245,701.68	618,944.28

[1] In 1986, responsibility for support enforcement was transferred from the court service unit to the Division of Child Support Enforcement, a State agency. Support collection figures for Fairfax County will no longer be reflected in this report.

[2] In FY 1989, collection of restitution was placed at Central Intake.

FIGURE 41

RESTITUTION, FINES AND COSTS COLLECTED, FY 1988-FY 1998



V. RESEARCH, INFORMATION AND TRAINING

JUVENILE COURT GRANTS

Court staff continued to work on three grants previously awarded by the Department of Criminal Justice Services — a Detention Release and Services (DRS) program grant, a research grant entitled, "Influences on Decision-Making at Intake," and Comprehensive Community Corrections Act funding for the Domestic Relations Unit.

Two new grants written in FY 1997 were awarded to the Court in FY 1998. The first, the Maximize Attendance Program (MAP), is a unit of services specifically targeted at and designed for youth who have been adjudicated as truant by the Court. The program is staffed by two probation counselors (1.5 SYE) and provides intensive supervision of truant youth with a graduated system of sanctions, monitoring of treatment services, expectation of parental involvement, and coordination with school system personnel. The program serves youth in the Center County area.

The second grant, funded by the V-STOP, Violence Against Women Act Program, is being used by the Court to provide a bilingual Victim Services Counselor to increase access to services and reduce victim's waiting time to have protection orders taken by taking protection orders in the evening. This has improved the Court's responsiveness towards limited-English speaking victims.

The DRS program, which ran from FY 1993, ended at the end of FY 1998 and was combined with the Outreach Detention Program to become Supervised Release Services. The program was developed to reduce the overrepresentation of minority youths in secure detention facilities and chronic secure detention overcrowding. Similar to house arrest, the program provides highly structured supervision to children who have been released from the Juvenile Detention Center and who are either awaiting trial or final outcome of their cases. Electronic monitoring was added in FY 1995. The grant, currently in its fourth year, funds two counselors who make unannounced visits to youths at home or in school four times or more per week. A Replication Guide, completed last year, includes detailed information on the goals of the program; organization and management; staffing patterns; operational design and procedures, including referral process, eligibility criteria, caseload size, work schedule, and services; informational materials, including program brochures in English and Spanish; and the evaluation plan. Findings from the second year evaluation of DRS are presented in the next section.

Over the past few years, the Court has experienced a doubling of domestic violence cases and the increased workload resulted in severe backlogs. The Juvenile Court Domestic Relations Unit, with funding from the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act, is providing supervision and monitoring services to a population of men and women under court order for monitoring in lieu of being ordered into probation. The grant provides funding for two Probation Counselor II positions, who are responsible for supervising adult misdemeanant offenders ordered to complete anger management therapy, substance abuse counseling, and/or other community-based programs. All offenders served are eligible for jail and are facing criminal charges. The monitoring service offered through the grant fills a major service gap. In FY 1998, the program served more than 500 offenders.

FINDINGS FROM RESEARCH STUDIES AND REPORTS

The Research Analysts in the Court Director's Office completed several studies and reports during the year. A brief description and highlights of findings follow. Copies of full reports are available upon request from the Research Analysts.

- **Review Team Assessment of the Supervised Release Services (SRS)**

  As part of an ongoing internal review, the Residential Services Division undertook an assessment of its Supervised Release Services program. The six-

member Review Team was composed of managers of the residential programs and the Court research analysts. Staff and youth were interviewed and probation counselors and judges were also surveyed. In addition, a focus group discussion was held with the Interdisciplinary Team. Findings showed judges, probation counselors, parents and youth held the program in high regard and provided positive feedback. Communications were reported to be clear and parents felt that the program staff treated them with dignity and respect. The program met or exceeded its process and outcome objectives. Several recommendations were made, including clarifying unit responsibilities, reclassifying SRS positions, multicultural training, and improvements in tracking systems.

- **Evaluation of the Juvenile Court Domestic Violence Monitoring Program.**

  This report evaluated the program operations, cases handled, and recidivism of cases processed by the Domestic Violence Monitoring Program, which serves a population of men and women under court order for monitoring in lieu of probation. This is a DCJS-funded program operated by the Domestic Relations Unit. In FY 1997, the program handled 385 carryover cases and an average of 28 new cases per month. Over 3 years, nearly 1000 person were served by the DVMP. Out of the 784 cases examined, 158(20%) were violated at some time for failure to comply with the conditions of their court orders, therefore, the objective that 80% of family violence defendants comply with the conditions of their court orders was achieved. Results also showed that 52 defendants (8.6%) were rearrested during the one year after they were ordered into treatment. Therefore, the objective to ensure that 80% of family violence offenders are not brought back to court for violations of orders for court-ordered treatment resulting from criminal charges up to one year after issuance was achieved.

- **Performance Measurement**

  At the direction of the County's budget office, research staff began working with other staff to develop a series of performance measures that reflect the work of the Court. Measures were developed for judicial services, intake and probation services, and residential services. Each of these areas include measures of input (resources used to carry out the work), output (the amount of services provided), efficiency (staff hours or cost per service unit), service quality and outcome. Once indicators were identified, research staff began to develop procedures for the systematic collection of data on each of the measures. Refinement of the indicators and the data collection procedures continues.

- **Maximize Attendance Program Evaluation**

  A six month evaluation was conducted of the Maximize Attendance Program (MAP) for the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The evaluation found that the program had a steadily growing caseload that grows as the program becomes more well-known among school personnel. The average age of program youth was 15.5 years; almost two-thirds were male. While a truancy problem is the major reason for referral to the MAP program, truancy is seldom the only difficulty for the youth in the program. More than half had substance abuse problems, 26% were identified as having learning disabilities, and one-fifth had delinquency involvement. In addition to MAP services, program participants were receiving substance abuse treatment, mental health services, and special education services. All of the program's objectives were either achieved or in the process of being achieved. Most clients in the program had improved their attendance, though, due to the relatively new nature of the program, longer-term data was not yet available. The truancy identification process in the schools was found to be needing improvement so that truants could receive more timely services.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

In June, 1976, the Court's automated information system JUVARE (Juvenile and Adult Recording and Evaluation System) was implemented. The system supports both Clerk of Court and Court Service Unit functions. These functions include complaint recording, hearing scheduling, order entry, defendant placements and the management of the delivery of probation, counseling, residential and other services. In addition to the case management and tracking functions, the automated database provides periodic management reports and serves as a resource for program evaluation and budget projections. Computer terminals and printers are available at all of the decentralized Court Service Unit locations as well as in the courthouse to provide system access to all Court staff.

A new docket subsystem was implemented in FY 1993, in conjunction with the County's Office of Research and Statistics. The new procedures were designed in response to several docket policy changes. The Court basically converted from a "master calendar" style system to a hybrid style that uses "master calendaring" for criminal cases and individualized dockets for civil cases.

The computer is responsible for distributing non-criminal cases equally to the judges' individualized dockets at the time of case filing. Each individualized case is set for a unique hearing time for a duration estimated by the case parties. Once assigned a case, a judge hears it through to its conclusion. This replaced a policy of having all cases appear at a set time and be heard as various parties were ready. This system did not provide for case continuity because several different judges could be involved in hearing various aspects of the case. Also, the Court began having one judge be assigned each week as the "chamber judge" to hear emergency matters not previously scheduled.

The new system maintains records of holidays, weekends, plus planned judge absences for vacations, meetings, conferences, etc. to prevent docketing on dates and times judges are not accessible. Additionally, the system provides cautions when attempts are made to schedule cases beyond the capacity of available judges. The new docket procedures are expected to reduce the wait period for civil case participants and generally improve the efficiency and control of all case scheduling issues.

In FY 1996, the Court began the transition from JUVARE to the State Supreme Court's Case Management System (CMS). This process separated the JUVARE case management system from the Supreme Court's CMS, requiring data entry clerks who enter court dispositions and court services staff to do duplicate data entry in both JUVARE and CMS. It is anticipated that this will be temporary until an integrated system can be developed.

The Honorable Gaylord L. Finch, Judge, and James S. Dedes, Director for Probation Services, present Janet Ball with the Donna Sykes Memorial Award for Volunteer Excellance on April 14, 1998.

TRAINING

The Juvenile Court and the County provided a vast array of training that the Court staff attended at no cost. There were several required training programs for the purposes of certification that were also arranged by the Court, such as, CPR, First Aid, Handle with Care and special training for kitchen workers.

The Court sponsored the Annual Day of Training for all Court staff on December 18. This was attended by court staff, Judges, and their Clerks. Approximately 250 people attended this event. Ron Culbertson, a nationally known speaker, presented the keynote speech on "Humor at Work." Workshops included: Anger Management, Verbal Judo, Gangs, Psychologicals and Interviewing techniques.

The Juvenile Court also sponsored the annual retreat for their management and support staff. Managers attended an all day training on "how to put some humor in your presentation." This event was attended by 54 managers. The Support staff training was on successful communication. It was attended by 45 support staff members from all parts of this agency.

A day long Conference on "Juvenile Sex Offenders, A Cognitive Behavioral Approach to Diagnosis and Treatment," was sponsored by the Court for both the Residential and the Probation Counselors.

Extensive training on computer software continued for the second year with a focus on Microsoft software such as WORD, EXCEL and ACCESS, both at the introductory and the intermediate levels. Training on WINDOWS 95 and PAGEMAKER were offered to a select group. The computer management staff attended training on Novell Intranetware while the accounting staff attended the County-sponsored training on the accounting and financial system to update their skills and knowledge.

In accordance with the objective of keeping the Court staff completely informed on all policy matters, a training session was held on changes in juvenile law in the current year and Y2K issues.

Joseph D. Fedeli, Director of Residental Services, speaking at the Volunteer Recognition Program.

VI. HONORS AND AWARDS

Over 330 professional and support employees of the court and 225 men and women volunteers provide a wide variety of services to Fairfax County's families and children. They are recognized in many ways for their special contributions to the mission of the Court by awards and honors.

County Outstanding Performance Awards (OPA) were given to Rice Lilley and Sher Singh from Boys Probation House. Millie Hamilton and Gene Whitlock from Center County Services and Cynthia Kelley from Special Services.

Letha Braesch received a Fairfax County Team Excellence Award for the interactive voice response phone system for the three courts. Angie Carrera received the National Association of Counties Award for the Volunteer Interpreter Program and Gerry Jackson from Center County Services received the Heath Onthank Award, the County's highest award, recognizing exemplary achievement in public service.

Paula Palmer and Henley Thomas received Juvenile Detention Center Employee of the Quarter Awards and Amber Perrin and Regina Morris from Administrative Services received certificates of appreciation from the Template Task Force.

The Honorable Gaylord Finch presents Cynthia Kelley, aka "The Amazing Varmac," Director of Special Services, with an award for nearly 20 years of service to the Court's Volunteer Program.

VII. COMMENTS ON THE DATA

The statistics presented in this report are primarily derived from the JUVARE system. They are as accurate as the system will allow. Since 1976, when the system was initiated, the Court's functions and procedures have expanded and there have been tremendous technological advancements in the computer industry. Over JUVARE's 20 year history, the system has experienced a continual expansion in scope and improvements in operational efficiency. In FY 1993, the Deputy County Executive for Human Services initiated a human services agencies redesign to provide for more coordinated and cost-effective services. Included in this initiative was an effort to centralize information technology (IT) support for all human service agencies and the development of an Information Strategy Plan. The plan focuses on the reallocation of IT resources to provide cross-agency benefits rather than address independent agency needs.

The data presented reflect not only the Court's activities but also the demographic characteristics of Fairfax County. Over the past several years, the County's population has increased to just under one million residents. During the 1980s the juvenile "at risk" population in the County (defined as youth in grades 5 through 12 in the Fairfax County Public Schools) had been decreasing, as it had throughout most of the country. Since FY 1991, this population has been increasing. The at risk population increased 3.8% between FY 1997 and FY 1998, going from 84,038 to 87,249 youth. This increase may have had some effect on CHINS and drug and alcohol offenses as well as offenses against the public all of which have also been rising during the same period.

On July 1, 1989, revisions in the Virginia Code made significant changes in the handling of CHINS complaints (truancy and runaway) by the Court. Adjudicated CHINS cases are reviewed by an interdisciplinary team to evaluate the child's service needs before final disposition, and complainants bringing CHINS charges must now demonstrate to the intake officer that they have exhausted available community resources before the complaint will be forwarded to the Court. Initially, these changes resulted in a dramatic drop in CHINS cases. However, they more than doubled between FY 1992 and FY 1998.

As the total county population continues to rise, the non-juvenile population has also grown. Corresponding shifts in types of complaints to the Court have occurred. Child support and custody complaints represented 35% of all adult and juvenile non-traffic complaints in FY 1998. Domestic violence and other adult simple assault complaints were 9% of the total. Juvenile delinquency and CHINs complaints accounted for 30% of the total non-traffic complaints in FY 1998.