

FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE AND
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
ANNUAL
STATISTICAL
REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 2003
JULY 2002 TO JUNE 2003

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Dranesville District

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County Executive

Verdia Haywood
Deputy County Executive
for Human Services

4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, Virginia 22030

For general Court information call:
703-246-3176 or 703-246-3177

PREFACE

This Annual Statistical Report for FY 2003 reviews the activity of the Court and the work of its 348 State and county employees. The number of complaints brought to the Court was lower in FY 2003 than it was in FY 2002 (20,636 compared to 20,896). The number of placements in secure detention decreased by 7.5 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 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 adult offenders, very young offenders, and intensive supervision services.

Special appreciation for the writing and production of this report is extended to the Court's research analysts, Carissa Pappas and Katherine Williams, and to research assistant, Tina Casper from the Chief Judge, Charles Maxfield and Court Directors, Madeline Arter and Jim Dedes.

The Court and its services continue to grow and change as staff face the future. 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

JUDGES

4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 703-246-3367

Charles J. Maxfield, *Chief Judge*

Michael J. Valentine, *Judge*

Jane P. Delbridge, *Judge*

David S. Schell, *Judge*

Gayl Branum Carr, *Judge*

Teena D. Grodner, *Judge*

Kimberly J. Daniel, *Judge*



Judges (back left to right) Judge Kimberly J. Daniel, Judge Jane P. Delbridge, Chief Judge Charles J. Maxfield, Judge David S. Schell, Judge Michael J. Valentine, (front seated) Judge Gayle Branum Carr, and Judge Teena D. Grodner.

CLERK'S OFFICE

4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-3367

Jennifer W. Flanagan, *Clerk of Court*
Emelin M. Beach, *Chief Deputy Clerk*

COURT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-3343

James S. Dedes, *Co-Director*
Madeline Arter, *Co-Director*

PROBATION SERVICES

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

James S. Dedes, *Director for Probation Services*
Bill Goodman, *Probation Supervisor*

NORTH COUNTY SERVICES

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

Rice Lilley, *Unit Director*
Tracey Chiles, *Assistant Director*

HIGH SCHOOL AREAS SERVED:

Chantilly Herndon Oakton South Lakes
Westfields

EAST COUNTY SERVICES

2812 Old Lee Highway, Suite 100 Fairfax, VA 22030
703-204-1016

Dave Rathbun, *Unit Director*
Vicki Goode, *Assistant Director*

HIGH SCHOOL AREAS SERVED:

Falls Church Madison Langley McLean
Marshall Stuartl Annandale

SOUTH COUNTY SERVICES

8350 Richmond Hwy, Suite 119 Alexandria, VA 22309
703-704-6004

Roxanne Tigh, *Unit Director*
Jack Chapman, *Assistant Director*

HIGH SCHOOL AREAS SERVED:

Edison Hayfield Lee Mount Vernon
West Potomac

CENTER COUNTY SERVICES

10426 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030
703-383-1391

Robert A. Bermingham, *Unit Director*
Bob Smith, *Assistant Director*

HIGH SCHOOL AREAS SERVED:

Centreville Fairfax Lake Braddock
Robinson West Springfield W. T. Woodson

SPECIAL SERVICES

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

James McCarron, *Unit Director*
Tom Jackson, *Parole Supervisor*

FAMILY SYSTEMS COUNSELING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSESSMENT

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

Nanette M. Hoback, *L.C.S.W., Director*
Reen Lyddane, *L.P.C. LMFT, Assistant Director*

JUVENILE INTAKE SERVICES

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

Dennis Fee, *Unit Director*
Theo Vaughn, *Assistant Unit Director*

DOMESTIC RELATIONS SERVICES

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

Laura Harris, *Unit Director*
Jerry Rich, *Assistant Director of Intake Services*
Frank Sedei, *Assistant Director/Adult Probation Services*

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

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

Madeline Arter, *Director for Residential Services*

GIRLS PROBATION HOUSE

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

Mary Brantley, *Director*
Myrna Brown-Wiant, *Assistant Director*

BOYS PROBATION HOUSE

4410 Shirley Gate Road Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-0171

Lorraine Peck, *Program Director*
Mitchell Ryan, *Assistant Director*

SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES

4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2200

Scott Warner, *Supervisor*
Susan Schiffer, *Assistant Unit Supervisor*

LESS SECURE SHELTER

10650 Page Avenue Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2900

Peter Roussos, *Program Director*
Ivy Tillman, *Assistant Director*

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

10650 Page Avenue Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2844

George Corbin, *Superintendent*
Karen Bisset, George Corbin, and David Grabauskas, *Assistant Superintendents*

JUVENILE COURT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Janet Muldoon, *Braddock District, Chair*

HUNTER MILL DISTRICT

Patricia Brandon
Bryon G. Wong

CITY OF FAIRFAX

George A. Ashley
John J. Harold

DRANESVILLE DISTRICT

Elizabeth K. Ramage
Deborah D. Piland

AT-LARGE

Doreen S. Williams
Amelia Gomez

LEE DISTRICT

Jenna M. Mehnert

MASON DISTRICT

Deborah Foreman

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Joseph Beale
Jennifer Flanagan
Alene Grabauskas
Mary Guice
Tom Harrington
Andrew Kersey
Marsha Kiser

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Keil S. Green
Lesley Persily

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT

Judith Isom, *Vice Chair*
Cindy Joy-Rogers

SULLY DISTRICT

Caroline Kerns

MT. VERNON DISTRICT

Frederick M. Joyce

HONORARY

Helen Hester

STAFF RETIREMENTS

ANN DAY left the court in February 2003. She worked for the county from June 1977 through February 1988 with breaks in service. She continued her career from February 1988 until her retirement as Judge Maxfield's clerk in February 2003.

FRAN DELOATCHE announced her retirement after 25 years of service with the court. She began her career in 1979 at Girl's Probation House as the Family Counselor/Food Services Counselor. From there she moved to the Juvenile Detention Center where one of her responsibilities was that of Night Supervisor. In 1989, Fran moved to Juvenile Intake where she worked as an Intake Officer. The accomplishment closest to Fran's heart was the Parents' Support Group, which she helped to organize. The group, in its 14th year, meets weekly, informing and assisting parents in the court process. Fran continues to run the Parents' Support Group on Tuesday evening.

DEBORAH GROVES began her career with the court 25 years ago, when the entire court consisted of state employees. Soon afterwards, the positions at Intake became county positions, and this is where Debbie spent the rest of her career. For 15 of her 25 years, Debbie was responsible for running the front desk on the overnight shift. After her retirement, Debbie planned to spend some of her well-deserved retirement relaxing in the local coffee shop, accompanied by a pile of books.

ELIZABETH "LIBBY" KEPHART began her 29-year career with the court in December 1973, when she was hired as a Clerk Typist II in Docketing. In October 1974, Libby took a clerical position with the new Center County probation unit. She then transferred to the South County office. When an opening in Administration became available around 1980, Libby got the job and has been there ever since. Libby was actively involved in the transition from paper to computer files (JUVARE). In the 1990's, Libby's position was transferred to the Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS). Though officially a DAHS employee, Libby's job and work location remained in

Administration. With her position as Office Service Manager, Libby was involved in all aspects of personnel-related issues. Staff members learned that Libby was the person to go to for answers.

WARDLEE LIBERTI came to Boys Probation House (BPH) in August 1984 after starting with the county in 1982. During her career, Wardlee has seen many changes. She has worked with over 70 staff and 4 directors. She has seen nearly 600 residents come through the doors of BPH. She watched the program grow from a 12 bed facility with 12 staff to a 22 bed facility with 28 staff. After 18 years of service, Wardlee retired from her position at BPH on August 22, 2003.

REEN LYDDANE arrived at the court in 1978, with a master's degree in guidance and counseling. Her first job was with Outreach Detention, a new, grant-funded program. After a year, Reen took a probation officer position at South County. In 1980, she transferred to the Family Systems Counseling Unit. Reen was named Assistant Director of that program in 1998. Reen's duties included coordinating the Interdisciplinary Team, and from 1999-2000, she served as Acting Director of the Maximize Attendance Program. During her career with the court, Reen earned her L.P.C. (Licensed Professional Counselor) and L.M.F.T. (Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist) licenses. She left this agency in July 2003, after 25 years of service, to begin her own family counseling practice.

TED VAUGHN, JR. began his 28-year career with the court in September 1975, as a Probation Officer in the Support Enforcement Unit. In July 1977, he transferred to Central Intake as an Intake Officer. In October 1982, Mr. Vaughan was promoted to Assistant Director at the South County Office. In July 1985, Mr. Vaughan returned to Central Intake as Assistant Director and remained in that position until his retirement in October 2003. Mr. Vaughan accepted a position as an Adult Probation and Parole Officer for the Virginia Department of Corrections in Arlington, Virginia.



DAY



DELOATCHE



GROVE



KEPHART



LIBERTI



LYDDANE



VAUGHN



Court holiday picture sent to Judge Michael Valentine while on military duty in Kosovo.

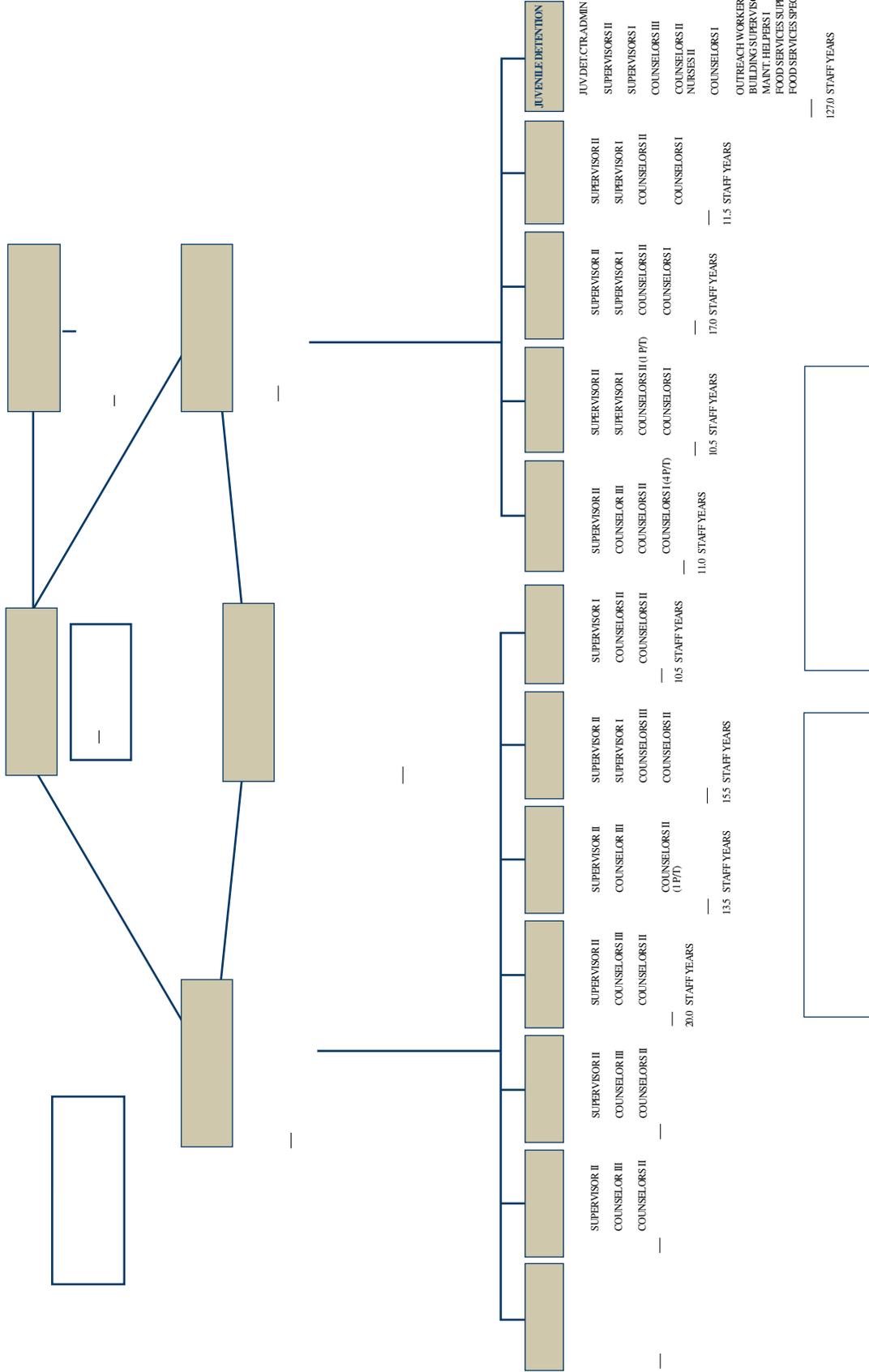
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FIGURE 1



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 and status offenders 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 1981, five full-time judges were hearing cases. In FY 1993, a sixth judge was approved by the state; and in FY 1994, a seventh judge was approved.

A 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. This position is responsible for supervising all state clerks. Court recorders became state employees in 1980. Court services remained a local responsibility. The Court Services Unit is one of three local court service units in the state.

County-funded Court staff were reorganized in FY 1980. Three divisions were established: Probation Services,

Residential Services, and Administrative Services. The Probation Services Division has four juvenile probation offices throughout the county. The Division also includes separate juvenile and domestic relations intake offices as well as a special services and a family counseling unit located in the courthouse. The Residential Services Division oversees the Juvenile Detention Center, the Less Secure Shelter, the Girls and Boys Probation Houses, and Supervised Release Services. Figure 1 shows the FY 2003 organizational chart for the Court.

The development of special programs to augment traditional probation services has been particularly important to the Court's development. Specialized programs include the Informal Hearing Officer Program, Community Services, Family Counseling, Diagnostic Team, the Volunteer Learning Program, School Probation Officer Program, Traffic School, the Maximize Attendance Program, the Less Secure Shelter, the Juvenile Detention Center, Supervised Release Services, two Probation Houses, and six alternative schools. Several of these programs were initially funded through Federal and state grant funds and were subsequently funded by the County.

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

BUDGET AND PERSONNEL

In FY 2003, expenditures for the Court Service Unit totaled \$16,943,154, a .5% increase from the year before. Personnel costs accounted for 86% of expenditures with operating costs making up the remaining 14% (Figure 2). During this fiscal year, the Court operated with 348 staff year equivalents. This total included 7 judges and 35 state clerks supported from state funds and 306 local Court Service Unit staff. The Court generated \$4,367,090 in non-County revenue in FY 2003. The majority of these funds represent state reimbursement for the operation of residential facilities.

FIGURE 2

COMPLAINTS, BUDGET AND PERSONNEL
FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE AND
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
FY 2000-FY 2003

	FY00		FY01		FY02		FY03	
	NO.	%±	NO.	%±	NO.	%±	NO.	%±
COMPLAINTS	30,968	-2.8	31,346	1.2*	20,896	-33.3	20,636	-1.2
Juvenile	22,803	2.2	21,560	-5.5	12,320	-42.9	12,183	-1.1
Adult	8,165	-14.4	9,786	19.9	8,576	-12.4	8,453	-1.4
APPROVED FISCAL PLAN	\$14,306,470	6.6	\$16,069,265	12.3	\$17,295,035	7.6	\$17,193,875	-6
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	\$14,547,751	7.4	\$16,078,096	10.5	\$16,853,944	4.8	\$16,943,154	.5
Personal Services	12,240,790	7.9	13,612,426	11.2	14,369,624	5.6	14,640,575	1.9
Operating Expenses	2,58,540	7.9	2,444,578	8.2	2,447,737	0.1	2,295,835	-6.2
Capital Equipment	48,421	-57.2	21,092	-56.4	36,583	73.4	6,744	-81.6
ACTUAL NON-COUNTY REVENUE	\$7,289,143	11.4	\$7,138,395	-2.1	\$10,618,355**	48.7	\$4,367,090	-48.5
Federal – USDA	131,573	1.4	141,951	7.9	144,765	2.0	108,192	-25.3
State – DJJ Reimbursement/VJCCCA	1,459,737	6.9	1,541,921	5.6	1,551,459	0.6	1,547,452	-0.3
State – Residential	5,348,984	13.5	5,126,783	-4.2	6,392,697**	93.2	2,369,523	-62.9
Local Fines/Penalties	156,244	7.6	162,891	4.3	140,096	-14.0	122,003	-12.9
Agency – User Fees	192,605	2.5	164,849	-14.4	177,025	7.4	219,920	24.2
STAFFING LEVELS	344.0	2.4	352.0	2.3	352.0	0.0	355.0	0.9
(staff year equivalents)								
State Positions – Judges	7.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	7.0	0.0
State Positions – Clerk Staff	35.0	0.0	35.0	0.0	35.0	0.0	42.0	20.0
LOCAL CSU POSITIONS	302.0	2.7	310.0	2.6	310.0	0.0	326.0	5.2
Professional Staff	249.0	0.0	259.0	4.0	259.0	0.0	278.0	7.3
Support Staff	53.0	17.8	51.0	-3.8	51.0	0.0	48.0	-5.9
GRANT POSITIONS	6.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	6.0	0.0
Grant Awards	\$412,903	62.4	\$378,654	-8.3	\$671,784	77.4	\$624,000	-7.1
TITLE IV-E POSITIONS	—	—	—	—	12.0	0.0	12.0	0.0
Title IV-E Award	—	—	—	—	\$814,344	—	\$614,492	-24.5

*The data for FY 2001 is based on new cases on the docket from the State Supreme Court.

**The Court received reimbursement funding in FY 2002 from the State for construction of the Juvenile Detention Center.

FIGURE 3

STATISTICAL TRENDS
FY 1984-FY 2003

1984	660,500	81,100	5,227	.064	3,764	.006
1985	689,100	80,970	5,207	.064	4,675	.007
1986	699,900	81,830	5,800	.071	4,330	.006
1987	715,900	81,452	5,333	.066	4,260	.006
1988	739,200	78,882	5,805	.074	4,776	.006
1989	785,000	78,351	5,903	.075	4,573	.006
1990	832,346	77,580	6,010	.077	4,633	.006
1991	843,995	74,902	6,714	.090	5,262	.006
1992	862,700	78,754	7,569	.096	5,617	.007
1993	871,500	79,818	7,423	.093	6,490	.007
1994	885,900	81,298	8,209	.100	6,391	.007
1995	899,500	81,512	7,647	.094	6,643	.007
1996	911,700	82,764	8,254	.100	7,126	.007
1997	933,700	84,038	8,497	.101	5,425	.006
1998	948,800	89,013	7,567	.085	6,399	.007
1999	980,300	91,060	6,442	.071	6,728	.006
2000	991,249	93,452	6,417	.069	6,182	.006
2001	1,020,071	95,414	8,021	.084	9,786*	.010
2002	1,037,333	97,785	5,744	.059	8,576*	.008
2003	1,040,700	99,683	5,165 ⁺	.052	8,453*	.008

* New cases are based on the Supreme Court Case Management System (CMS) Reports.

⁺ Cases based on Juvenile Tracking System (JTS) Reports.

a. Includes Fairfax City. Source: Fairfax County Department of System Management for Human Services.

b. County-wide Membership History and 10 year projections, grades 5-12, including special education. Source: Fairfax County Public Schools Facilities Planning.

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

FIGURE 4

DOCKETED COURT TRANSACTIONS FY 1984-FY 2003

FISCAL YEAR	COURT DAYS	NON-TRAFFIC TRANSACTIONS	DAILY AVERAGE	TRAFFIC TRANSACTIONS	DAILY AVERAGE	TOTAL TRANSACTIONS	DAILY AVERAGE
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
1999	246	49,838	202.6	8,347	33.9	58,185	236.5
2000	248	52,249	210.7	8,760	35.3	61,009	246.0
2001	248	51,823	209.0	9,713	39.2	61,536	248.1
2002	248	51,228	206.6	9,195	37.1	60,423	243.6
2003	248	46,383	187.0	8,249	33.3	54,632	220.3

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.



II. AGENCY MISSION

FIGURE 5

FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT COURT SERVICES UNIT

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES STATEMENT

VISION

To be a leader among the nation's juvenile and domestic relations courts, improving the lives of the youth, adults, and families we work with, enhancing public safety, in partnership with our community.

MISSION

To provide efficient and effective probation and residential services which promote positive behavior change for those children and adults who come within the Court's authority consistent with the well-being of the client, his/her family, and the protection of the community.

VALUES

We believe that we must conduct ourselves responsibly in order to demonstrate professionalism in dealing with each other and the community. We will hold ourselves accountable for our actions and for the expectations of the agency.

We understand the trust placed in us by the public and our colleagues is essential for the performance of our duties. We are committed to honest, lawful and ethical behavior.

We are committed to continuous education and training that enhances professional development. We believe a broad base of current knowledge will help meet our clients' needs and promote implementation of the highest quality services for the community.

We believe healthy relationships with colleagues and clients are critical for successful performance. We are dedicated to building well-functioning, empowering relationships.

We believe effective, open communication is essential to the cohesiveness and performance of our organization. We strive to promote clear and accurate exchange of information, while seeking out and valuing the opinions of others. We also recognize the need to maintain the confidentiality of our clients.

We strive to be fair and objective in all of our interactions. We seek to deliver the appropriate balance between the rehabilitative and authoritative functions of the agency.

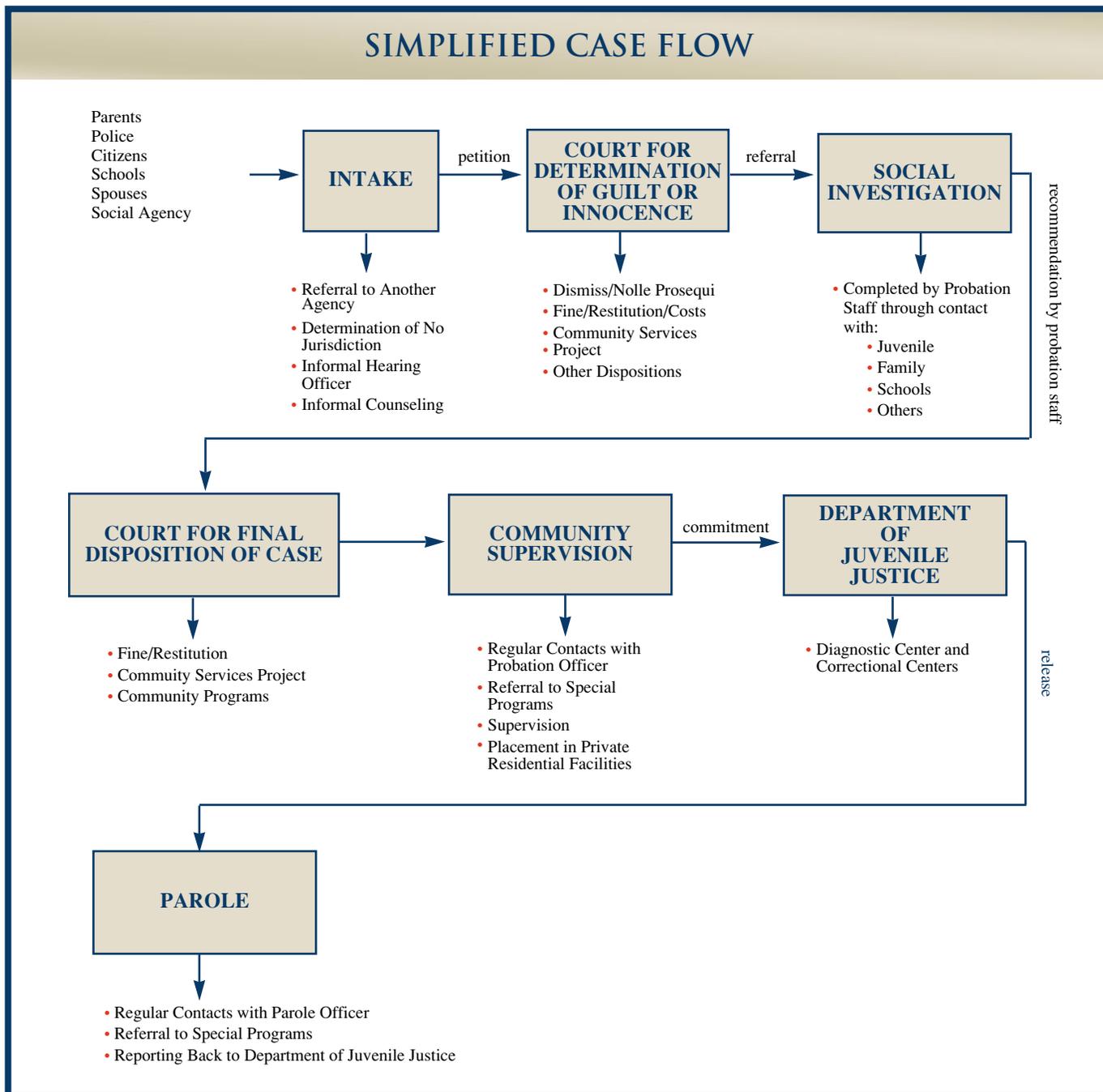
We recognize that clients are often under stress when utilizing our services. We endeavor to perform our work with compassion and understanding.

We respect the diversity, values and opinions of our partners and the community we serve. We will do our utmost to ensure that our services respond to the diversity of our community and are delivered in an equitable and professional manner.

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



INTAKE

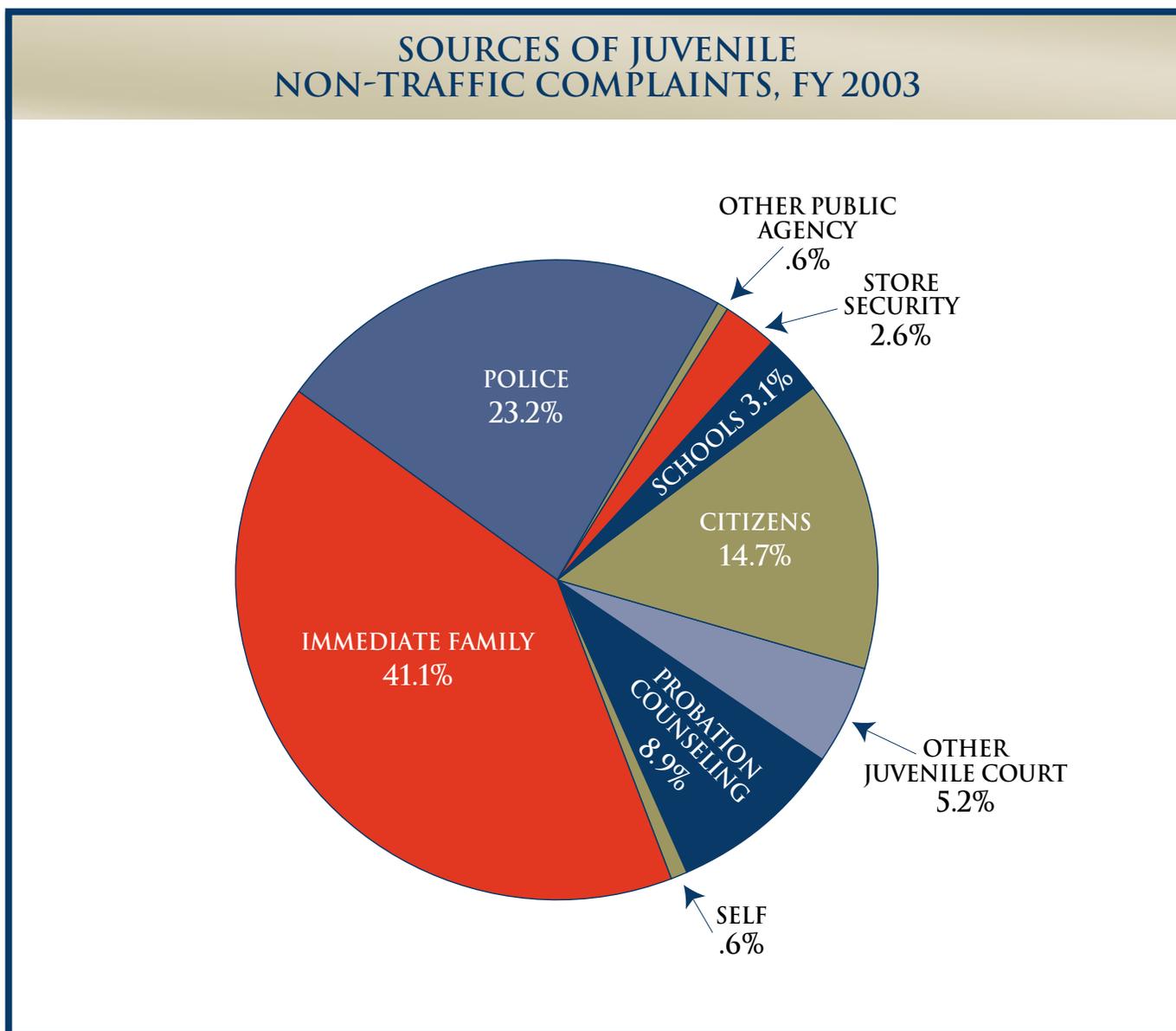
Juveniles thought to have committed offenses which are under the purview of the Juvenile Court are brought into the judicial system either by a police officer witnessing or responding to an alleged criminal offense, or by citizens, families, or other agencies.

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 Department at one of the four locations throughout the county. If the police do not wish to detain the juvenile, they may release the child to the custody of the parents and file a petition at Intake at a later date. A parent or other adult bringing a complaint against a juvenile also files the complaint at one of the Intake offices.

Figure 7 shows the sources of juvenile non-traffic complaints in FY 2003. The trends in sources and complaints for the past five years are given in Figure 8.

FIGURE 7



Although they accounted for 23.2% of the juvenile non-traffic complaints during FY 2003, the police were responsible for 95.8% of all complaints alleging drug offenses, 67.5% of all complaints alleging crimes against

persons, 67.1% of all complaints alleging property offenses, and 84.4% of all complaints alleging crimes against the public peace. Immediate family members brought 60.4% of all complaints involving domestic relations issues.

FIGURE 8

SOURCES OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS, FISCAL YEARS 1996-2003

SOURCE	FY 1996 %	FY 1997 %	FY 1998 %	FY 2000 %	FY 2002 %	FY 2003 %
Police	27.7	32.5	36.5	32.1	30.3	23.2
Immediate Family	25.6	24.6	26.4	36.1	35.3	41.1
DHD	5.8	6.1	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Probation Counselors	7.0	6.7	6.4	0.4	10.5	8.9
Private Business/Store Security	3.5	4.3	3.5	3.7	3.0	2.6
Citizens	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.0	11.5	14.7
Other Relative	3.8	3.4	4.1	4.4	0.0	0.0
School	1.5	1.9	1.5	2.4	3.4	3.1
Other Juvenile Court	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.2	0.3	5.2
Other Public Agency	.3	0.5	0.3	7.8	4.3	0.6
Self	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.6
Other/Not Recorded	19.7	15.9	9.9	9.8	0.8	0.0
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

* The data for Source of Complaint for FY 1999 and 2001 was unavailable due to changes in the court's data system.

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. The Intake Officer 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) family abuse has occurred and a protective order has been sought.

When a child is alleged to be abused, neglected, in need of services, in need of supervision, or delinquent and the intake officer believes that probable cause does not exist, the authorization of a petition will not be in the best interest of the family or juvenile, or the matter may be effectively dealt with by some agency other than the court, authorization for filing a petition may be refused.

Should a request for a petition in a felony or Class 1 misdemeanor case be refused, the complainant may appeal to a magistrate who might issue a warrant for the child to appear in Juvenile Court.

The FY 2003 complaints received against juveniles by race and sex are given in Figure 9.

FIGURE 9

JUVENILE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY RACE AND SEX, FY 2003

	WM	NWM	WF	NWF	TOTAL
PROPERTY COMPLAINTS					
Petit Larceny	128	228	102	142	600
Grand Larceny	161	183	52	57	453
Vandalism	212	138	52	22	424
Trespassing	93	77	23	13	206
Breaking and Entering	87	71	13	4	175
Fraud	45	49	26	30	150
Arson	62	19	3	1	85
SUBTOTAL	788	765	271	269	2,093
% of Total Property Complaints	37.6%	36.6%	12.9%	12.9%	100%

COMPLAINTS AGAINST PERSONS					
Simple Assault	177	234	67	113	591
Aggravated Assault	25	40	10	16	91
Sex Offenses	23	20	2	1	46
Robbery	9	29	2	3	43
Kidnapping	2	13	0	0	15
Extortion	2	3	2	9	16
Murder	0	1	0	0	1
SUBTOTAL	238	340	83	142	803
% of Total Property Complaints	29.6%	42.3%	10.3%	17.7%	100%

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE PUBLIC					
Weapons Offenses	65	97	8	3	173
Disorderly Conduct	74	56	5	22	157
Obstruction of Justice	9	15	8	22	54
Abusive and Insulting Language	7	5	4	2	18
Telephone	6	3	1	5	15
Other	12	13	4	5	34
SUBTOTAL	173	189	30	59	451
% of Total Complaints Against the Public	38.4%	41.9%	6.7%	13.1%	100%

DRUG AND ALCOHOL COMPLAINTS					
Alcohol Complaints	167	51	65	19	302
Drug Possession	220	90	25	9	344
Drug Distribution	46	53	9	2	110
Driving While Intoxicated	40	11	12	1	64
Drunk in Public	24	16	7	1	48
Other Drug	2	0	0	0	2
SUBTOTAL	499	221	118	32	870
% of Total Drug and Alcohol Complaints	57.4%	25.4%	13.6%	3.7%	100%

	WM	NWM	WF	NWF	TOTAL
STATUS/CHINS COMPLAINTS					
Truancy	85	120	50	84	339
Runaway	35	43	71	119	268
Status Offenses/CHINS Supervision	61	54	42	59	216
Buy Tobacco	52	16	15	3	86
SUBTOTAL	233	233	178	265	909
% of Total CHINS Complaints	25.6%	25.6%	19.6%	29.2%	100%

CUSTODY COMPLAINTS					
Custody	417	974	373	932	2,696
Visitation	337	762	324	690	2,113
Abuse and Neglect	61	73	54	99	287
Foster Care	8	60	12	37	117
SUBTOTAL	823	1,869	763	1,758	5,213
% of Total Custody Complaints	15.8%	35.9%	14.6%	33.7%	100%

'OTHER' COMPLAINTS					
Parole and Probation Violations	264	292	103	126	785
Contempt of Court	98	130	48	77	353
Failure to Appear	25	52	13	22	112
Psychiatric Inpatient Treatment	10	6	7	6	29
Juvenile & Domestic Court Other	236	200	79	50	565
SUBTOTAL	633	680	250	281	1,844
% of Total Other Complaints	34.3%	36.9%	13.6%	15.2%	100%

TOTAL COMPLAINTS	3,387	4,297	1,693	2,806	12,183
% of Total Complaints	27.8%	35.3%	13.9%	23.0%	100%

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

Figure 10 gives the distribution of general complaint categories by age and sex for FY 2003. 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 2003, 6,800 different juveniles had at least one complaint. The average number of complaints per alleged offender in FY 2003 was 1.8.

FIGURE 10

TYPE OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS BY SEX AND AGE, FY 2003														
OFFENSE TYPE	MALE							FEMALE						
	<i>Less Than</i>						<i>Over</i>	<i>Less Than</i>					<i>Over</i>	
	13	13	14	15	16	17	17	13	13	14	15	16	17	17
Offense Against Property	75	155	215	276	351	447	30	31	52	72	163	105	105	11
Offense Against Persons	46	56	94	91	118	154	19	10	15	43	44	56	54	3
Offense Against the Public and Morality	20	48	64	53	86	119	3	3	13	16	24	15	19	5
Status	17	24	60	83	125	154	2	17	42	78	99	126	77	0
Drug and Liquor	5	13	34	76	183	352	16	1	3	5	12	49	69	3
Custody	2,217	103	107	89	85	85	1	2,030	103	112	96	99	69	2
Other	33	53	115	227	278	440	169	12	20	71	113	143	138	39
Subtotal	2,413	452	689	895	1,226	1,751	240	2,104	248	397	551	593	531	63
Subtotal by Sex	Males: 7,666 (63.1%)							Females: 4,487 (36.9%)						
GRAND TOTAL 12,153													

* The total number of complaints displayed in this table is different from Table 9 because age data was incomplete.

Figure 11 shows the changing distribution of juvenile complaints by race and sex since FY 1998. Overall, during this period, the percentage of complaints brought against

white males and females decreased while complaints against non-white males and non-white females have increased.

FIGURE 11

JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS* RACE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION TRENDS FY 1998-FY 2003						
	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001*	FY 2002	FY 2003
White Male	33.3%	31.3%	30.9%		28.6%	28.2%
White Female	16.0%	16.5%	16.5%		13.6%	13.9%
Non-White Male	32.1%	31.6%	31.9%		34.8%	34.9%
Non-White Female	18.6%	20.6%	20.7%		23.0%	23.0%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%
n	16,239	16,898	15,992		12,320	12,183

* The data for FY 2001 is unavailable due to changes in the court's management information system.

Figure 12 shows the change in juvenile complaints, both traffic and non-traffic, from FY, 1998 thru FY 2003.

FIGURE 12

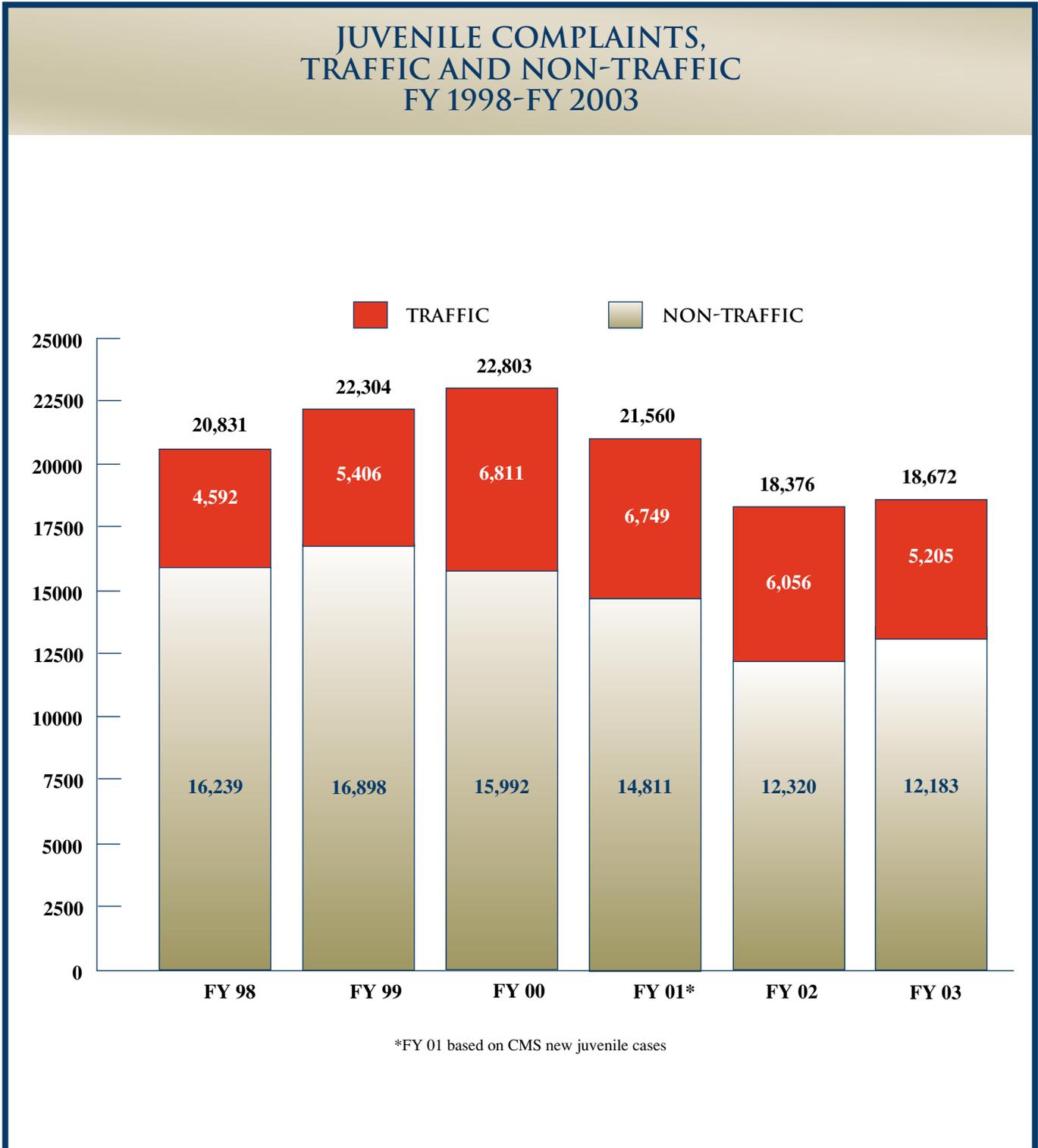
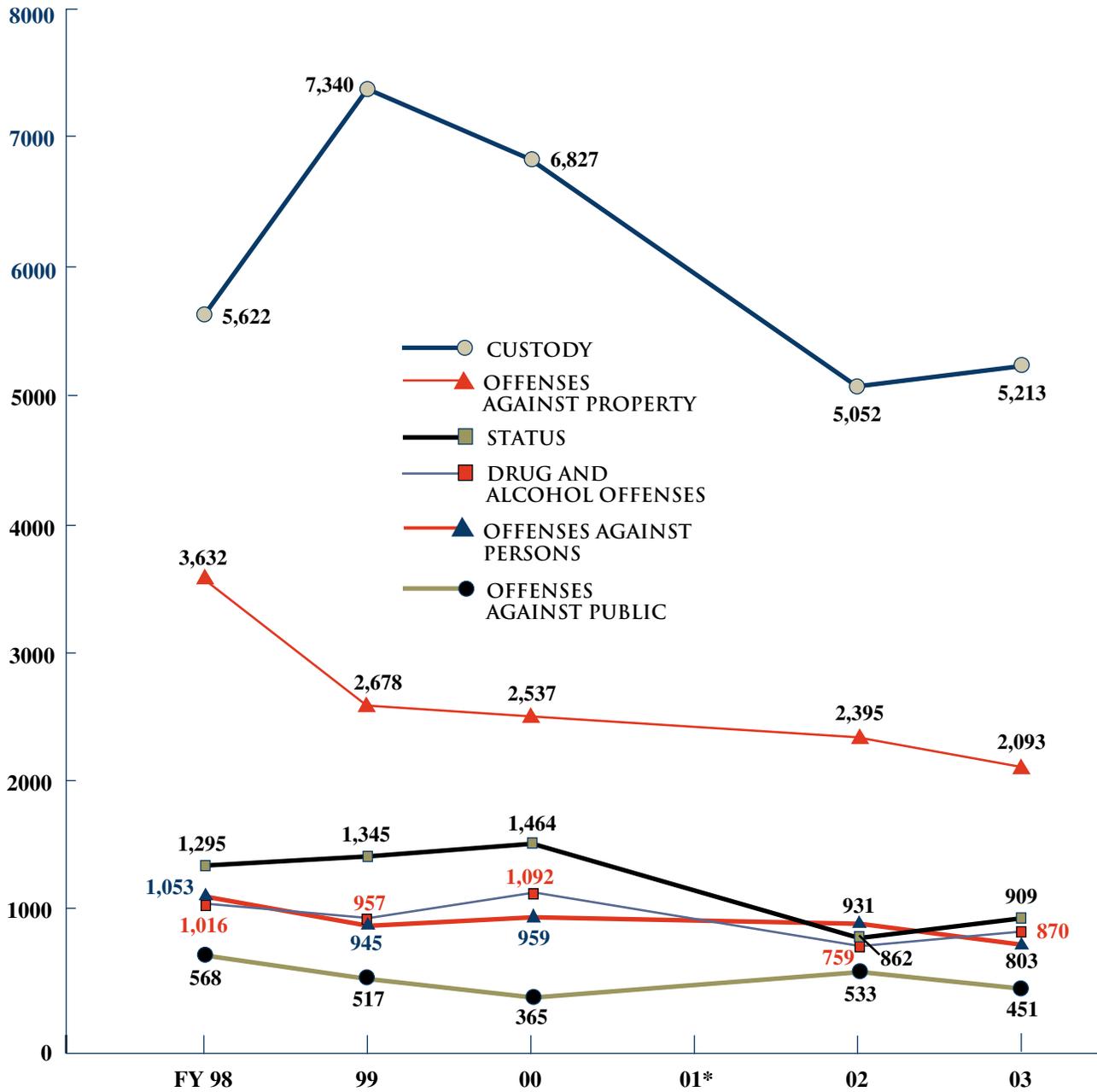


Figure 13 graphs the changes in the categories of juvenile complaints since FY 1998.

FIGURE 13

TRENDS IN TYPES OF JUVENILE COMPLAINTS
FY 1998-FY 2003



*Data by type of complaint for FY01 is unavailable due to changes in the court's management information system.

Figure 14 displays the changing distribution of juvenile complaints by offense type since FY 1998. The

chart refers to all juvenile complaints excluding traffic complaints.

FIGURE 14

OFFENSE TYPE	FY 1998 N=16,239	FY 1999 N=16,898	FY 2000 N=15,992	FY 2001*	FY 2002 N=12,320	FY 2003 N=12,283
Offenses Against Property	22.4%	15.8%	15.8%		19.4%	17.1%
Offenses Against Persons	6.5%	5.6%	6.0%		7.6%	6.6%
Offenses Against Public	3.5%	3.1%	2.3%		4.3%	3.9%
Drug and Alcohol Offenses	6.3%	5.7%	6.8%		6.2%	7.0%
Status Offenses	8.0%	8.0%	9.2%		7.0%	7.4%
Custody and Neglect	34.6%	43.4%	42.7%		41.0%	42.5%
Other	18.8%	18.4%	17.2%		14.5%	15.5%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%

*Data by type of complaint for 2001 is unavailable due to changes in the court's management information system.

In FY 2003 court staff received 9,136 intakes on juvenile complaints. Some intakes involve more than one complaint; there was an average of 1.3 complaints per juvenile non-traffic intake in FY 2003, almost the same

as last year. In FY 2003, Intake set for Court 87.3% of all juvenile non-traffic, non administrative complaints.

Figure 15 shows percentages of complaints set for court by Intake, by offense type, for FY 1999 through FY 2003.

FIGURE 15

INTAKE DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE OF JUVENILE NON-TRAFFIC OFFENSE, FY 1999-FY 2003								
OFFENSE TYPE	FY 1999		FY 2000		FY 2002		FY 2003	
	No. of Complaints	Percent Set For Court	No. of Complaints	Percent Set For Court	No. of Complaints	Percent Set For Court	No. of Complaints	Percent Set For Court
Offense Against Property	2,685	80.8	2,538	78.4	2,398	80.6	2,093	76.8
Offense Against Persons	947	82.9	959	83.4	893	85.1	803	85.3
Offense Against the Public	518	85.1	365	86.6	609	89.8	488	84.0
Drug and Alcohol	961	94.6	1,092	94.2	704	89.6	822	88.3
Status	1,348	67.8	1,464	74.0	774	55.0	904	60.4
Custody	7,365	94.6	6,836	93.1	7,312	93.7	5,217	92.1
“Other”							1,858	94.6
TOTAL	13,824	88.2	13,254	86.8	12,690	84.6	12,185	86.5

*Data by type of complaint for 2001 is unavailable due to changes in the court's management information system.

INFORMAL HEARING OFFICER

Juvenile Intake Services includes the Hearing Officer program which was developed in 1970 to hear minor misdemeanor cases that may be resolved by informal arbitration and sanctions. Section 16.1-227 and Section 16.1-260 of the Code of Virginia describes the purpose and intent of the juvenile court to divert when possible, consistent with the protection of public safety, those cases that can be handled through alternative programs. The Hearing Officer is used most frequently in trespassing, minor property, petty theft, and alcohol cases where the juvenile acknowledges his/her involvement in the offense.

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. Other sanctions which are used with this process include STOP (Shoplifter Theft Offender Program), SAFE (Substance Abuse Focused Education Program), Firestop Program, and contributions to charitable organizations.

The successful completion of an informal hearing by the juvenile does not result in any conviction to their record. However, if the juvenile fails to complete informal sanctions, a petition may be filed for formal processing.

Figure 16 shows that 458 informal hearings were held in FY 2003.

FIGURE 16

HEARING OFFICER ACTIVITY, FY 1989-2003			
FISCAL YEAR	NUMBER OF HEARINGS	FISCAL YEAR	NUMBER OF HEARINGS
1989	554	1997	816
1990	506	1998	564
1991	684	1999	431
1992	777	2000	478
1993	771	2001	442
1994	714	2002	402
1995	812	2003	458
1996	693		



JUVENILE INTAKE

SUMMARY OF FY 2003 HIGHLIGHTS

The overall volume of complaints decreased by 1.1 percent during FY 2003. The Juvenile Court received 12,183 juvenile complaints in FY 2003, compared to 12,320 complaints received in FY 2002.

Non-contested custody and neglect complaints composed the largest (42.8 percent) of non-traffic juvenile complaints. Property offenses continued to be the most common criminal offense among juveniles (17.2 percent of non-traffic complaints), followed by status offenses (7.5 percent), drug and alcohol offenses (7.1 percent), and offenses against persons (6.6 percent). Offenses against the public represent 3.7 percent of non-traffic juvenile complaints. "Other" types of complaints, such as probation and parole violations, motions, etc., represent 15.1 percent of total juvenile non-traffic complaints.

The largest increase in delinquency complaints was in drug and alcohol offense complaints, which increased 14.6 percent from 759 in FY 2002 to 870 in FY 2003.

Offenses against persons complaints decreased by 13.7 percent. There were 931 offenses against persons complaints in FY 2002 and 803 in FY 2003. The two most common complaints involved simple assault and aggravated assault.

The number of property offense complaints continued to decrease. There were 2,395 complaints in FY 2002 and 2,093 in FY 2003, a decrease of 12.3 percent.

"Other" types of complaints, which include violations of probation or parole, capiases, and seeing an intake counselor for information, increased by 3.1 percent, from 1,788 in FY 2002 to 1,844 in FY 2003.

There was a 3.2 percent increase in custody complaints, from 5,052 in FY 2002 to 5,213 in FY 2003.

There was a 13.9 percent increase in the number of hearings held by the Informal Hearing Officer, from 402 in FY 2002 to 458 in FY 2003.

The total number of delinquency and status complaints decreased by 6.5 percent between FY 2002 and FY 2003, from 5,480 in FY 2002, to 5,126 in FY 2003.

In FY 2003, 41.1 percent of all youth were brought to Court by someone in their immediate family and another 23.2 percent were brought by the police.

The average age of a youth brought to court for delinquency or status offenses is 16 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 pre-dispositional nonsecure, residential facility for juveniles. Most of the youth 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 90-day treatment program for those youth who did not require a year-long residential program. Due to overcrowding at the facility, the intermediate program was suspended in 2001. Teachers from Fairfax County Public Schools provide a year-round academic curriculum.

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER — The Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is a secure pre- and post-dispositional, 121-bed holding facility that houses both male and female residents. It originally opened in 1982 with a capacity for 33 residents, it was expanded to 55 beds in October 1992, and then was increased in 1998 to its current capacity of 121 beds. The facility is designed both architecturally and programmatically to reduce stress for the residents while providing control and safety. Security is maintained primarily through physical

surveillance and personal contact between staff and residents in conjunction with electronic equipment. The extensive use of internal windows facilitates surveillance without obtrusiveness. Glass-lined corridors border two open inner courtyards that are surrounded by small group living areas. Each living area includes eleven bedrooms that open into a common dayroom that replaces the traditional cellblock. The building also provides specialized single-purpose space for schooling, art therapy and crafts, physical exercise in the form of a gym, a dining hall, an area for intakes and visiting, a medical office and exam room that is staffed by two full-time nurses and a part-time attending physician, and a reception and administrative area. Special attention is given to screening the medical and mental health needs of the residents and providing a balanced, low-sugar diet. The addition of a licensed psychologist and a mental health therapist in September 2002 has helped facilitate the management of residents with mental health concerns. In 1998, JDC established a post-dispositional unit where residents are sentenced for as long as six months. Residents assigned to this 15-bed unit are provided mental health and alcohol and drug services through a grant acquired by the local Community Service Board (CSB). Individual, group, and family counseling are also a part of the post-dispositional program. The Juvenile Detention Center has received numerous facility and employee awards for outstanding performance.

SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES — Supervised Release Services (SRS) encompasses the Outreach Detention and Electronic Monitoring Programs. 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 adjudication or dispositional hearing, on the condition that they follow the rules established by the Court in conjunction with the SRS program. SRS staff meets 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 and parents to other expectations, such as frequency and place of visits, and sanctions for rule violations. SRS staff visits juveniles four times per week, which include at least once every other day, weekdays, and weekends. Visits take place at a juvenile's home, place of employment, or school. Staff contact parents or guardians at least weekly.

Figures 17, 18 and 19 show numbers and lengths of juvenile stays in these various placements in FY 2003, as well as secure confinement trends since 1998. Figures 17 through 21 are based on juveniles released from placement during FY 2003.

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 2003, 874 different juveniles were confined to a juvenile detention home (all at the Fairfax Juvenile Detention Center). During the previous fiscal year, a total of 1,014 different juveniles were held in juvenile detention.

FIGURE 17

JUVENILES CONFINED IN SECURE DETENTION AND DETENTION ALTERNATIVES BY PLACE, RACE, AND SEX, FY 2003						
RACE AND SEX	FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER			SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES		
	Placements	No. Days	ALOS*	Placements	No. Days	ALOS*
White Male	387	7,541	19.5	170	6,224	36.6
White Female	132	2,604	19.7	89	2,905	32.6
Non-White Male	524	13,536	25.8	200	7,386	36.9
Non-White Female	155	2,538	16.4	105	3,880	36.9
TOTAL	1,198	26,219	21.9**	564	20,395	36.2
LESS SECURE SHELTER						
	Placements	No. Days	ALOS*			
White Male	71	617	8.7			
White Female	89	1,063	11.9			
Non-White Male	77	753	9.8			
Non-White Female	102	965	9.5			
TOTAL	339	3,398	10.0			

*ALOS = Average length of stay. **Average length of stay is for predisposition only.

FIGURE 18

AGE	FAIRFAX COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER	SUPERVISED RELEASE SERVICES	LESS SECURE SHELTER
11	*10.2	35.7	—
13	*22.9	36.5	8.9
15	*19.3	34.0	12.6
17+	*23.5	34.8	10.1

*Average length of stay is for predisposition only.

FIGURE 19

SECURE CONFINEMENT TRENDS, FY 1998-FY 2003						
FAIRFAX JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER*	FY 1998*	FY 1999*	FY 2000*	FY 2001*	FY 2002**	FY 2003**
Number Released	1,651	1,430	1,475	1,344	1,365	1,198
Child Care Days	29,717	36,222	31,493	24,339	25,420	26,219
Average Length of Stay	18.0	25.3	21.3	18.1	18.6	21.9

*Includes both predispositional and sentencing programs.
** Predispositional only.

Figure 20 shows the changes in the number of days spent in detention or detention alternatives between FY

1998 and FY 2003. Figure 21 plots changes over the past six years in the average length of stay in various placements.

FIGURE 20

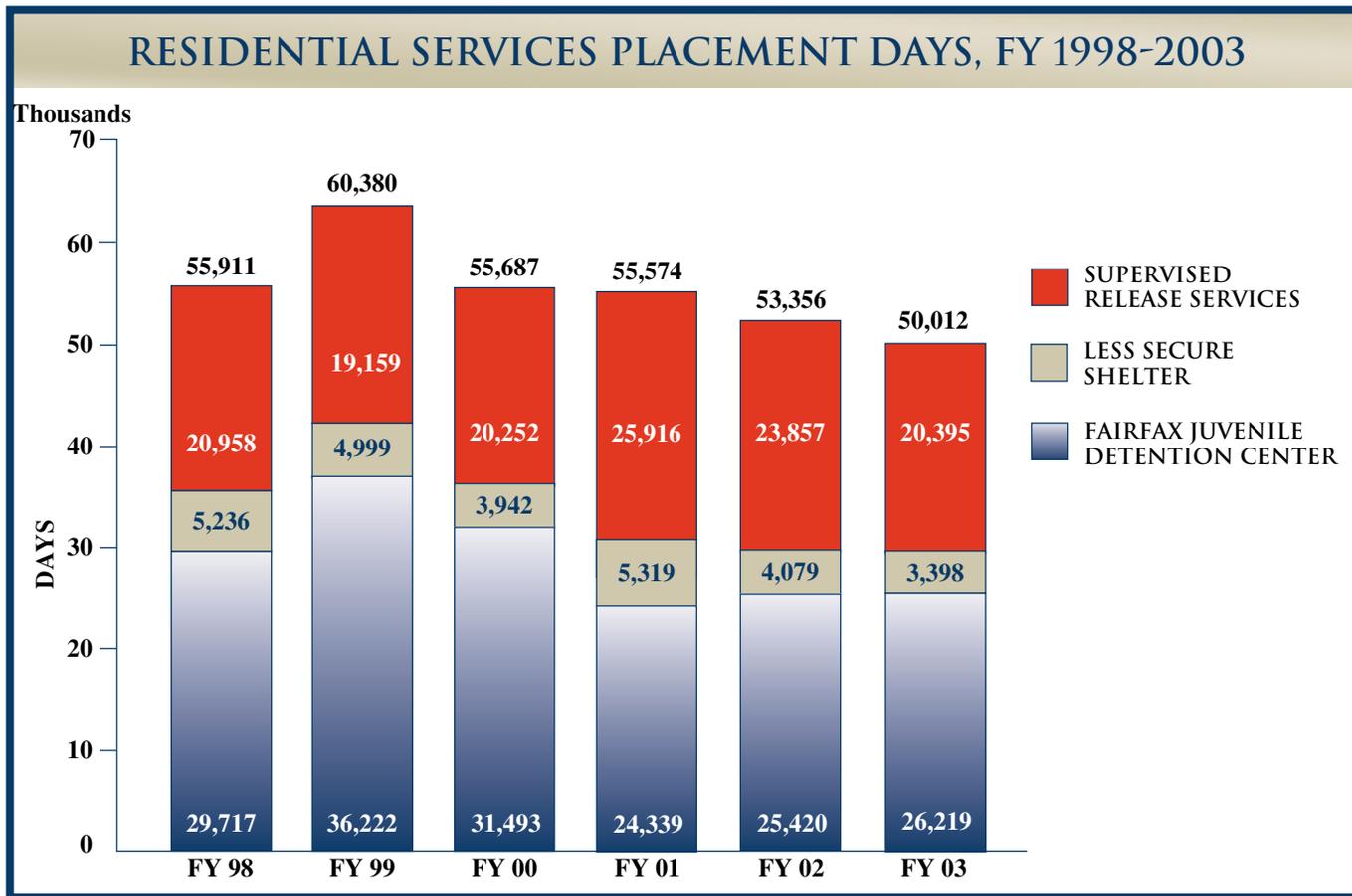


FIGURE 21

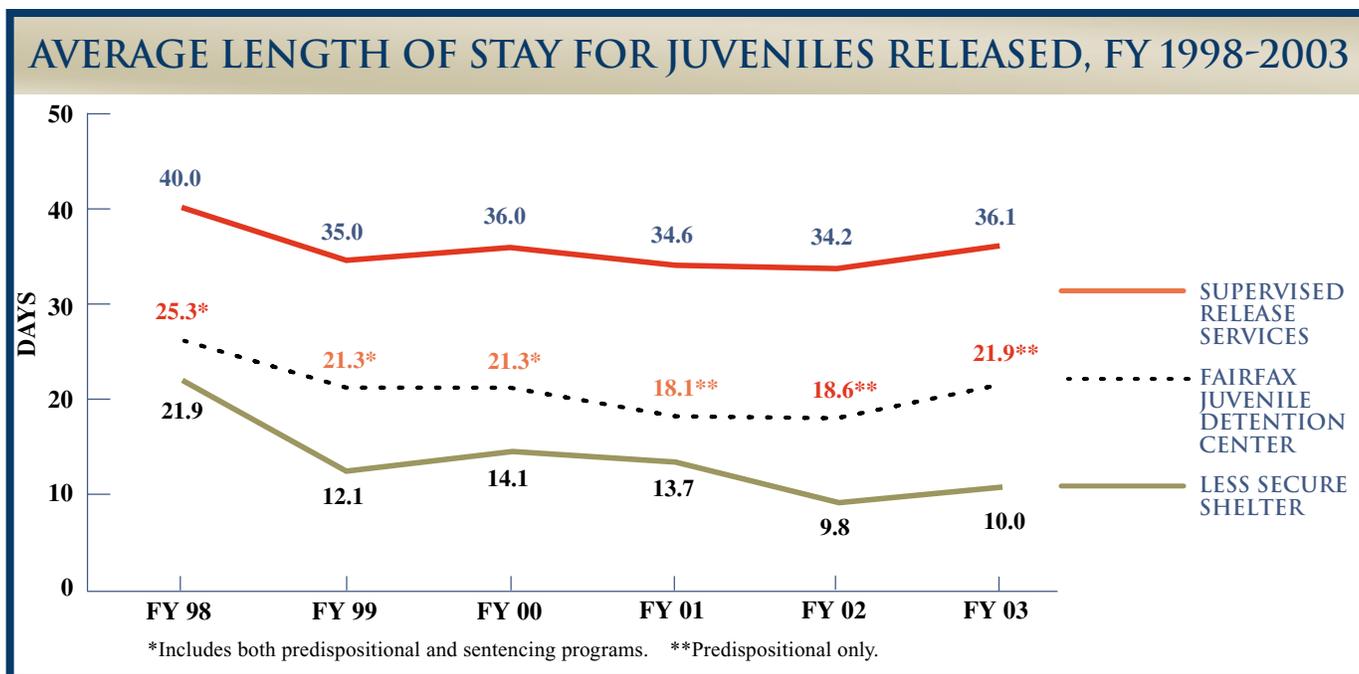
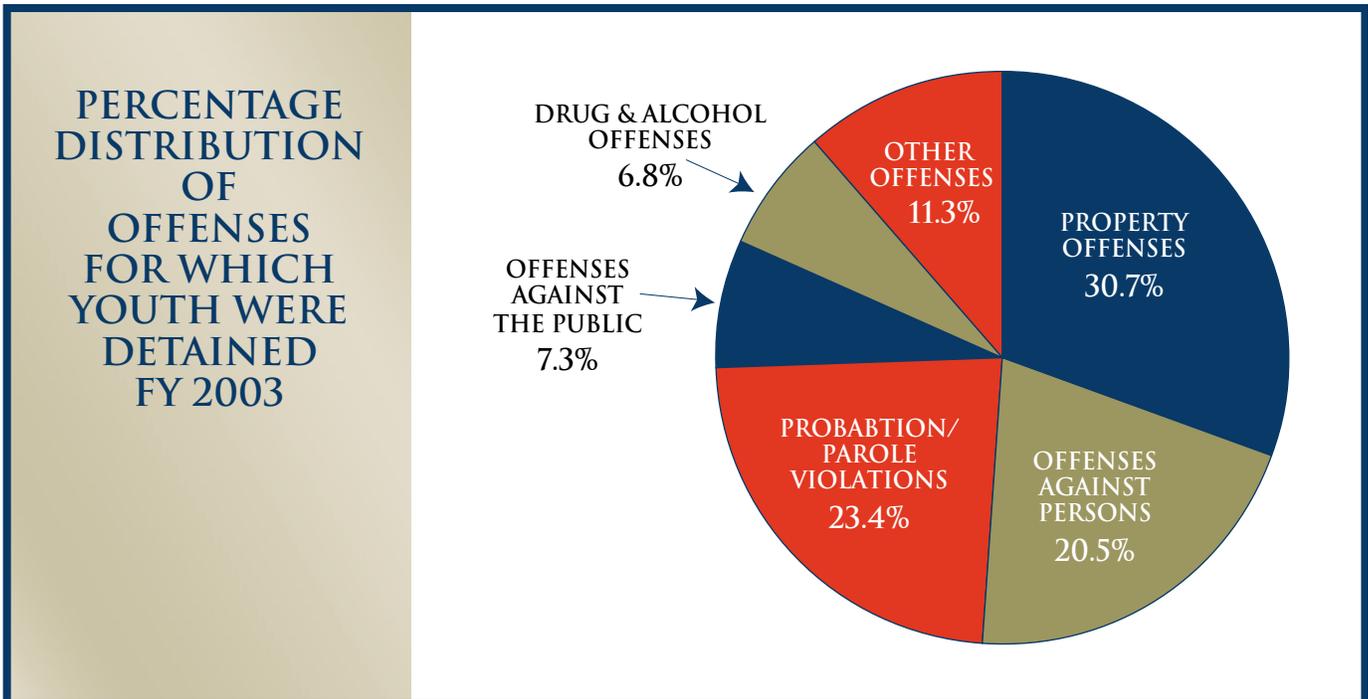


FIGURE 22

DETENTION PLACEMENTS BY COMPLAINT TYPE, FY 2003					
OFFENSE TYPE	COMPLAINTS	% OF TOTAL	OFFENSE TYPE	COMPLAINTS	% OF TOTAL
PROPERTY OFFENSES			DRUG AND ALCOHOL OFFENSES		
Larceny	165	31.1%	Purchase Alcohol	37	31.4%
Vandalism	125	23.5%	Drug Distribution	35	29.7%
Auto Larceny	82	15.4%	Drug Possession	32	27.1%
Breaking and Entering	83	15.6%	Drunk in Public	4	3.4%
Fraud	37	7.0%	Other Drug Offenses	10	8.5%
Trespassing	24	4.5%	TOTAL	118	100.0%
Arson	15	2.8%	OTHER OFFENSES		
TOTAL	531	100.0%	Parole/Probation Violations	406	67.4%
OFFENSES AGAINST PERSONS			Contempt of Court	98	16.3%
Assault	267	75.4%	Failure To Appear	47	7.8%
Robbery	44	12.4%	Other Offenses	51	8.5%
Sex Offenses	21	5.9%	TOTAL	602	100.0%
Extortion	13	3.7%	TOTAL OFFENSES*		
Kidnapping	8	2.3%		1,732	100.0%
Murder	1	0.3%	*Youth may have been placed in detention for more than one offense. However, only the most serious offense is listed in the database.		
TOTAL	354	100.0%			
OFFENSES AGAINST THE PUBLIC					
Disorderly Conduct	55	43.3%			
Weapons Offenses	37	29.1%			
Abusive Language	6	4.7%			
Other	29	22.8%			
TOTAL	127	100.0%			

FIGURE 23



DETENTION

SUMMARY OF FY 2003 HIGHLIGHTS

Total stays in secure confinement decreased 12.2 percent over the last year from 1,365 in FY 2002 to 1,198 in FY 2003.

The majority of juveniles held in the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center were detained for property offenses (30.7 percent), followed by parole and probation violations (23.4 percent), while 20.5 percent were held for offenses against persons. A little over 7.0 percent of youth were detained for offenses against the public and 6.8 percent were held for drug and alcohol offenses. Finally, 11.3 percent of youth were detained for “Other” offenses (see Figure 22 for a detailed listing of offenses).

There was a decrease in the utilization rate at the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center, from 74.3 percent of capacity in FY 2002 to 69.2 percent of capacity in FY 2003.

The average length of stay at the JDC increased from 18 days in FY 2002 to 21 days in FY 2003 (see figure 31).

The utilization rate of the Less Secure Shelter decreased from 92.6 percent in FY 2002 to 83.2 percent in FY 2003 (see Figure 31).

The Supervised Release Service Program is composed of the Electronic Monitoring Program and the Outreach Detention Program. Utilization in the program decreased from 137.6 percent in FY 2002 to 119.3 percent in FY 2003.

ADJUDICATION

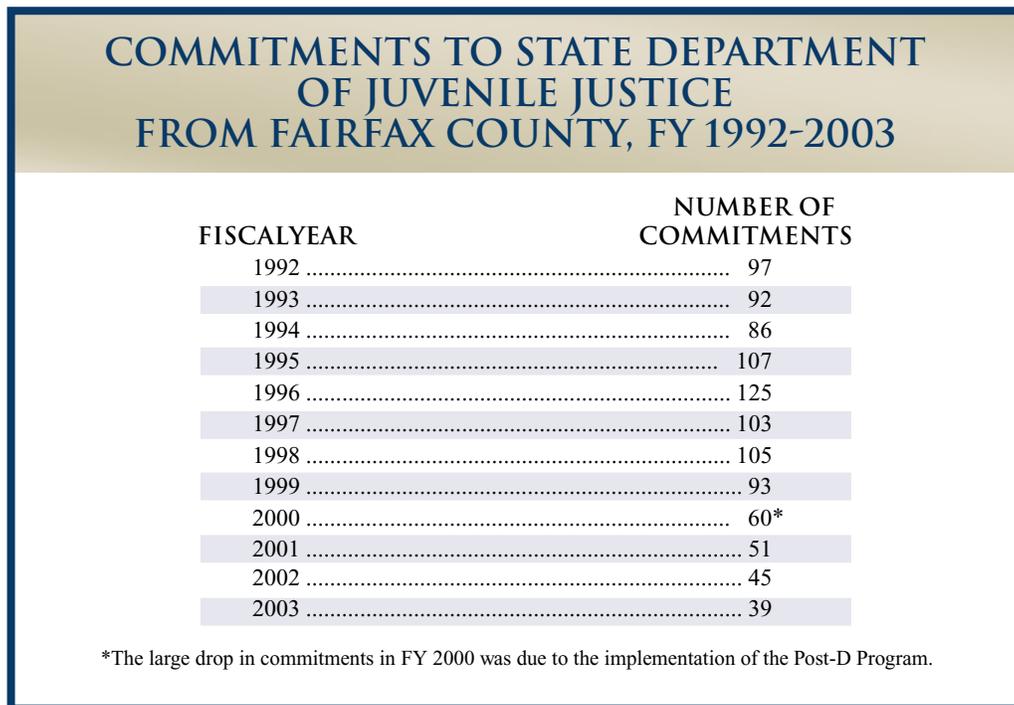
If children are confined in a juvenile detention home, Less Secure or Adult Detention Center, their hearings are scheduled within 21 days of the detention hearing. Otherwise, the adjudicatory hearing is generally set by Intake three to four weeks after the filing of the complaint.

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 24 reports the number of commitments to the State Department of Juvenile Justice since FY 1992.

FIGURE 24



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 juvenile, the juvenile’s parents and the probation counselor and are given to the youth. Figures 26, 27, and 28 show the race, sex, and ages by court center of juveniles under different types of supervision during FY 2003.

Some juveniles come under several different types

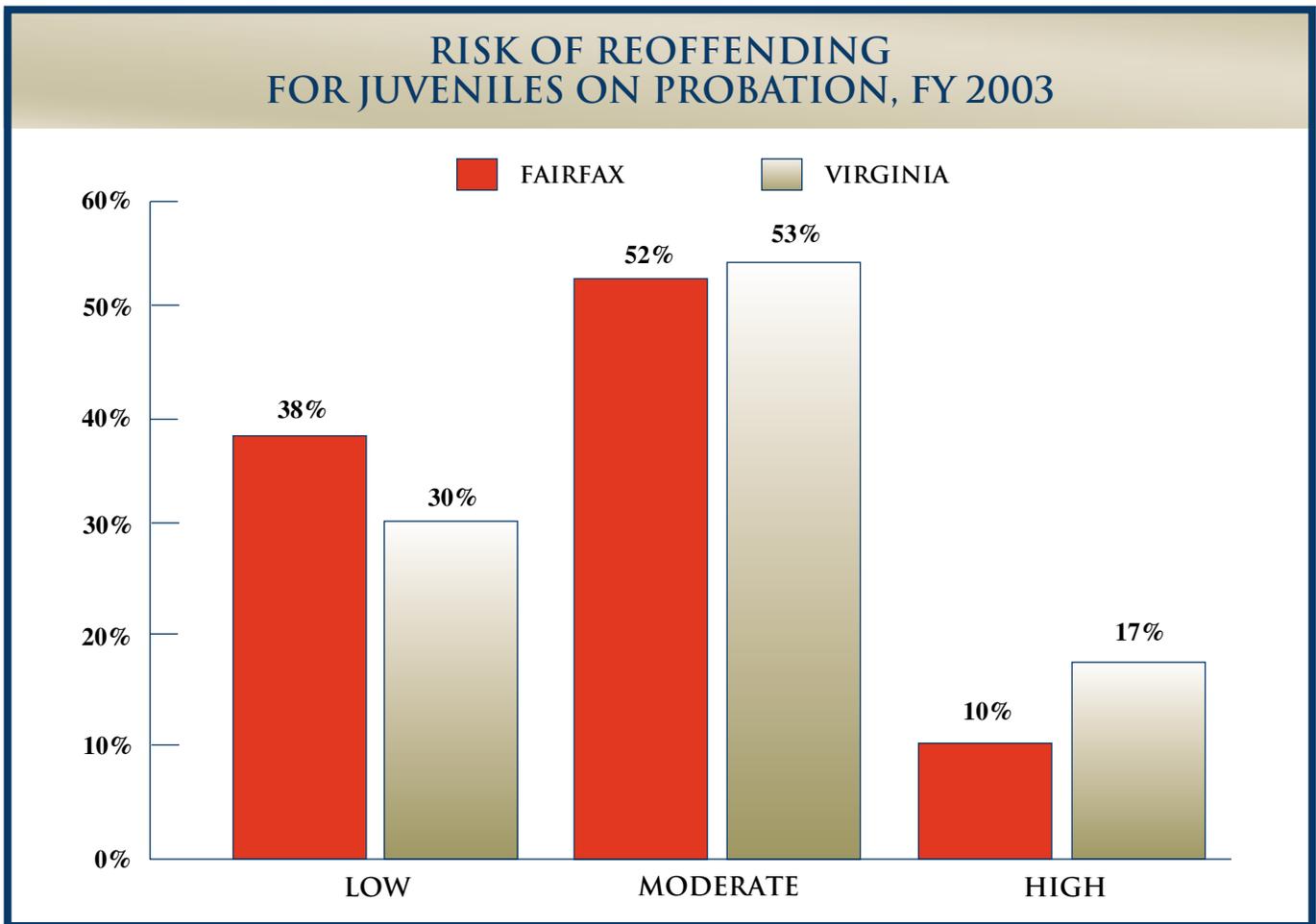
of supervision during the same year. For example, first they have a social investigation, then are put on probation, and then may be on parole. The number of supervisions reported above, therefore, exceeds the number of different juveniles under some form of supervision. The total number of juveniles under supervision was 1,752 in FY 2003, compared with 2,179 in FY 2002, 2,225 in FY 2000, 2,598 in FY 1999, and 2,386 in FY 1998.



Juvenile Detention Center, Fairfax

JUVENILE PROBATION RISK OF REOFFENDING

FIGURE 25



In FY 1999 the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice developed and implemented a risk assessment instrument for youth on probation supervision. The one page, 12 item instrument is designed to determine the risk of reoffending. The Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court probation staff began using the instrument in July 2000. Figure 25 provides the overall risk of reoffending of youth who were assessed during FY2003.

In addition to the overall risk level, the instrument provides a description of the youth on supervision on a number of individual dimensions. These indicators allow the Court Service Unit to more accurately plan for programs that meet specific needs. In FY2003 the items on the Risk Assessment show that for the youth under supervision:

17% were age 13 or younger when they were first referred to the Court

3% had three or more petitions for violent offenses in their history with the Court

26% had problematic use of alcohol and/or other drugs

15% had dropped out or been expelled from school

21% had mostly delinquent peers

66% had some delinquent peers

25% had a history of running away from home or escaping from residential facilities

8% had been victims of abuse and/or neglect

20% came from families with major disorganization in functioning

16% had a parent and/or sibling who had been incarcerated or on probation during the past three years.

FIGURE 26

**AGE AND SEX OF JUVENILES RECEIVING PROBATION SERVICES DURING FY 2003
(By Court Units)**

MALE

AGE	CENTER	NORTH	SOUTH	EAST	SPECIAL SERVICES	TOTAL NO.	PERCENT
Under 13	15	13	23	14	29	94	2.9
13	43	37	43	30	58	211	6.5
14	98	66	142	85	16	407	12.5
15	154	118	186	122	48	628	19.3
16	217	153	195	172	91	828	25.5
17 and over	313	180	225	177	187	1,082	33.3
Sub Total	840	567	814	600	429	3,250	100.0

FEMALE

AGE	CENTER	NORTH	SOUTH	EAST	SPECIAL SERVICES	TOTAL NO.	PERCENT
Under 13	2	3	3	4	13	25	2.3
13	15	7	12	10	23	67	6.1
14	45	37	38	42	11	173	15.7
15	63	49	66	58	8	244	22.1
16	84	65	83	50	16	298	27.0
17 and over	99	60	63	61	14	297	26.9
Sub Total	308	221	265	225	85	1,104	100.0

GRAND TOTAL 1,148 788 1,079 825 514 4,354

FIGURE 27

RACE AND SEX OF JUVENILES RECEIVING PROBATION SERVICES DURING FY 2003

	CENTER*		NORTH		SOUTH		EAST COUNTY		SPECIAL SERVICES		TOTAL	
	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%
White Male	450	39.3	318	40.4	365	33.9	292	35.4	163	31.7	1,588	36.5
White Female	174	15.2	98	12.4	107	9.9	98	11.9	46	8.9	523	12.0
Non-White Male	387	33.8	249	31.6	446	41.4	308	37.3	266	51.8	1,656	38.1
Non-White Female	134	11.7	123	15.6	158	14.7	127	15.4	39	7.6	581	13.4
TOTAL	1,145	100.0	788	100.0	1,076	100.0	825	100.0	514	100.0	4,348	100.0
% of Total	26.3%		18.1%		24.8%		19.0%		11.8%		100%	

*Includes MAP program cases

FIGURE 28

**TYPE OF JUVENILE PROBATION SERVICES DURING FY 2003
(By Court Units)**

	CENTER	NORTH	SOUTH	EAST COUNTY	SPECIAL SERVICES	TOTAL	PERCENT TOTAL
Probation	510	486	574	429	229	2,228	51.2
I & R	324	225	340	258	57	1,204	27.7
Pre-dispo. Supervision	254	36	67	75	20	452	10.4
Committed Offender	—	—	—	—	80	80	1.8
Courtesy Supervision	19	10	49	29	6	113	2.6
Parole	—	—	—	—	107	107	2.5
Inactive Probation	41	31	49	34	15	170	3.9
TOTAL	1,148	788	1,079	825	514	4,354	100.0%
% of Total	26.4%	18.1%	24.8%	18.9%	11.8%	100.0%	100.0%

JUVENILE SUPERVISION

SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS

The total number of juvenile supervision services increased 25.2 percent, from 3,477 in FY 2002 to 4,354 in FY 2003.

The proportion of supervision services by unit was distributed as follows:

- Center County 26.3 percent
- South County 24.8 percent
- North County 18.1 percent
- East County 19.0 percent
- Special Services 11.8 percent

The total number of individual youth under supervision in FY 2003 was 1,752, down 2.1 percent from FY 2002 when 2,179 youths were under supervision.

About three quarters (74.6 percent) of the youth supervised were male, 25.4 percent were female (see Figure 26).

Almost a third (31.7 percent) of all youth under supervision were 17 years old and over; while 25.9 percent of all youth under supervision were 16 years of age.

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 2003 these included diagnostic services; work, education, and family counseling programs; coordination of volunteer activity; direct court placement; and restitution.

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), 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 court. 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 UNIT — The Family Systems 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. Two eight-hour seminars are offered about five times a year: The Impact of Separation and Divorce on Families Seminar (ISDV) and Family Anger Management Seminar (FAM). The program also prepares evaluations for the Court's Inter-disciplinary and Diagnostic Team and offers training and consultation to other Court staff. This unit also provides substance abuse screening, evaluations, education groups and substance abuse counseling by certified substance abuse counselors.

VICTIM SERVICES — The State of Virginia enacted the Virginia Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act (19.2-11.0 Code of Virginia) circa 1995 to address the needs of victims. In response, the Victim Services Program was developed to aid victims who have been victimized by juvenile offenders. Victim referral forms are completed by the complainant during the intake process and are forwarded to Victim Services by the Juveniles Intake staff. The victim, adult or juvenile, is contacted and afforded the choice to actively participate, with appropriate assistance, in all stages of the criminal justice process. Services provided to the victim include but are not limited to emotional support, advanced notice of court proceedings, preparing the victim for court, home visits, assistance in writing Victim Impact Statements and filing Restitution Claim Forms, arrangement of victim/offender meetings, resource referrals for counseling, medical or psychological services, assistance in obtaining compensation through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund and notification of offender status. Victim services staff advocate on behalf of the victim to the Commonwealth's Attorney, in cooperation with probation staff, to insure their rights to participate in an offender's sentencing and to have

knowledge of any plea bargain being offered to the court. In addition, probation staff may call upon Victim Services to obtain information from the victim when preparing an Investigation and Report for the court or to request a probation meeting, with a probationer, for the purpose of victim impact education.

JUVENILE TRAFFIC SCHOOL — The Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court offers a program of driver improvement for youth who have been cited and come to court due to a traffic law infraction. This program, The Youth /Parent Perceptive Driving Seminar, requires that a parent or legal guardian attend and participate with the youth. The course utilizes the parent’s experience in helping their son or daughter to correct and improve any driving behaviors which could lead to other infractions or possible traffic accidents. The parents are also provided with “tools” which aid them in assessing what further skill development is needed on the part of their youth.

The Youth/Parent Perceptive Driving Seminar involves nine hours of classroom time and at least five hours of driving practice outside of class with the parent at home. Youth who successfully complete the seminar will receive a Certificate of Completion and may have their citations dropped or charges reduced by the court.

Effective July 1, 1998 any youth, under the age of 18 is required to attend a driver improvement program if they are convicted of a traffic law violation. Youth under the age of 18 are no longer permitted to receive safe driving points. The parent attending with his/her son or daughter can receive safe driving point credit or have participation noted on their driving record for insurance premium reduction purposes.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES — Volunteers from Fairfax County and the region participate in the delivery of court services in numerous ways. They assist as court aides, restitution aides, courtroom assistants, court companions for victims of domestic violence, community service supervisors, and interpreters for the court and special activities leaders. Students from regional universities earn college credits through the court by assisting with probation and parole, in the Family Systems Counseling Unit, in Domestic Relations Services, and other programs. The volunteer services coordinator recruits and screens the volunteers and interns, works with the training coordinator to orient them to the court system, and places them with the staff members they will be assisting. The coordinator acts as a liaison between the court and the 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 Spanish language interpretation, and some other languages are available upon request (Portuguese, French, Italian and Korean). 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 Language Access 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. Placement Coordinators also serve as standing members of the Family Assessment and Planning Teams, representing the Juvenile Court.

INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM — The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP), which is part of Special Services, was developed in June 1999 and is funded by a federally sponsored Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant. This program provides evening and weekend supervision to youth identified as serious or habitual offenders through SHOCAP and youth on parole/probation who have been identified as high-risk to reoffend through a risk assessment. Three ISP probation officers (2.5

positions) work rotating shifts so that at least one probation officer is monitoring the behavior of these youth in the community each night of the week. They conduct home visits to confirm adherence to curfews and administer urine screens and Breathalyzer tests. These probation officers provide crisis intervention counseling to families (if needed), submit progress reports to the supervising probation officers, share information with local police departments, and carry portable police radios.

The Intensive Supervision Program will utilize the concept of graduated sanctions in response to non-compliance with probation/parole rules. Depending on the severity of the violation, the probation officers have the option of extending the period of supervision, imposing house arrest with voice verification to monitor compliance through “the Warden” telephone program, and utilizing immediate detention orders with recommended short stays in detention. It is the goal of this program to reduce recidivism while keeping juveniles in the community. Every youth identified as a serious or habitual offender will receive intensive supervision for at least forty-five to ninety days upon their entry into the community or nomination to SHOCAP.

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.

MAXIMIZE ATTENDANCE PROGRAM (MAP) — In 1997 MAP was developed with grant funds from the Department of Criminal Justice Services to address a correlation between juvenile crime and truancy. Juveniles in this program are supervised by probation officers who monitor their compliance with school attendance requirements and probation rules. Appropriate referrals to the Maximize Attendance Program are juveniles who attend schools supervised by the Center County office, are enrolled in grades seven through twelve, have been identified by the court as habitual truants, have completed

some part of the Interdisciplinary Team process, and have been ordered to participate in the program by a judge. Juveniles are placed in the program for six months to a year; the timeframe may be revised depending on the compliance of the juvenile and his/her family. Clients are expected to review, sign, and follow all probation rules and court orders. Lack of compliance may result in the juvenile being returned to court for further sanctions or penalties. Parent participation in the Maximize Attendance Program is important. They are expected to review, sign, and file the Parent Responsibility Form. Additionally, a parent group is available to them.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM — The Community Service Program (CSP) serves as a resource for the informal hearing officer program and for the judges in sentencing delinquents and Children in Need of Supervision clients. 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. Four probation counselors serve as staff for CSP.

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. Five of these schools were created by joint action of the Court and the School Division. These are: Falls Bridge School in Reston, Sager School in Fairfax City, Gunston School in Mount Vernon, and Hillwood School and Elizabeth Blackwell School in Merrifield.

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 in November of 1977, and Hillwood School in September of 1985.

ELIZABETH BLACKWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL — Elizabeth Blackwell was created in November 2001 to serve the growing population of middle school students involved in the court system. A part of the Interagency Alternative Schools, Elizabeth Blackwell has a capacity to include twelve students and is located in the East County Probation Office in Merrifield along with the Hillwood School. The program offers all the core subjects, including remedial work in all four areas. Placement is the joint decision of a parent or guardian and court officers.

ENTERPRISE SCHOOL — The Enterprise School is a private, nonprofit school that provides a therapeutic learning environment for up to 40 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 seven-credit academic program that stresses addressing individual needs within a small group instructional setting. In addition, students participate in biweekly group counseling and are required to participate in monthly multiple-family group counseling sessions with their parents. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Department of Special Education provides six full-time teachers.

VOLUNTEER LEARNING PROGRAM — The Volunteer Learning Program (VLP) was established in 1975. Sponsored jointly by Fairfax County Adult and Community Education, Fairfax County Juvenile Court, and the Fairfax County Public Library System, it is a tutorial program designed to meet the needs of Fairfax County juveniles and adults who are withdrawn from public school. Consistent with the mission of the Fairfax County Adult and Community Education to provide programs to meet specific educational needs of the adult community, the VLP's goal is to advance the knowledge and skills of its learners as they strive to complete a high school (or equivalent) program. Through participation in one-to-one tutoring sessions, learners acquire increased competency in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, and science. As they achieve their academic goals, learners develop self-confidence and increased motivation to obtain high school credential, which most

often is the GED. The co-sponsors of the VLP share project support. The program is staffed by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) with one full-time coordinator, two part-time placement counselors, and one part-time clerical assistant. In addition, FCPS provides educational materials and supplies. Fairfax County Juvenile Court furnishes the office space, and Fairfax County Public Library provides space for tutoring. VLP staff supervises the tutoring program. Volunteers are recruited, trained, and provided with instructional plans and materials. Learners are interviewed, assessed, and then counseled regarding their educational goals. Tutors and learners meet once a week at a local library and work together to achieve specific goals. In addition to assignments to individual learners, tutors are also assigned to FCPS and Court Alternative Schools. Approximately one-eighth of the learners are court-referred; other referrals come from the public schools, other county agencies, and other program participants. Fairfax County's Volunteer Learning Program is a nationally unique and innovative program which combines the resources of community education, juvenile court, and public libraries in order to provide free tutoring services for a diverse population of students. It has been extremely popular with both tutors and learners and enjoys ongoing support from its founding partners.

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 Fairfax County Public Schools, teachers in high schools are designated as part-time probation counselors. They work to handle student problems through counseling and referral either before or after the students become involved with the Court. Court probation officers work closely with school staff to assist them in supervision of youth placed on probation.

GIRLS PROBATION HOUSE (GPH) — provides an individualized, structured, and rehabilitative treatment program in the local community for court-involved adolescent females who exhibit chronic behavior problems. With a capacity to serve twelve residents, the target population for GPH are those juveniles whose behavior has brought them to the attention of the court through both CHINS and criminal offenses. Ranging in age from 13 to 17 years old, residents learn, through a point and level behavior modification system, to alter negative, destructive behaviors and adopt more open and positive interactions with their families, peers, and communities.

Two programs are currently being offered at GPH. The Variable Stay Program (with a three- to six-month length of stay) teaches personal responsibility and the value of working together in a group in a positive peer culture. Residents participate in weekly individual, group, and family counseling that is designed to give them maximum support for interrupting a cycle of dysfunctional behavior and trying out new behavior and healthier interactions. Parents are vital partners for their daughters and their families in the change process and must be willing to invest and participate fully in family counseling, a parent group, and program activities. All treatment is designed to facilitate a resident's return to her home and community. The Shelter Care Program varies in length and intensity based upon the needs of shelter care residents, who are placed in the program under judicial order and are often transferred to the Variable Stay Program.

Education is highly valued at GPH; two educators from the Fairfax County Public School System provide the residents with individually tailored instruction. Most residents are able to view themselves as successful students — often for the first time in their school history. An educational day program offers program graduates the opportunity to complete a semester or school year before returning to their base schools.

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 is that less intensive methods of intervention have proven unsuccessful so the establishment of a highly structured, peer-accountable approach is the 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 Transitional Living Program, which exposes residents to the demands and difficulties of independent living. This is a five to seven 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 Program Coordinator provides aftercare for each resident. Supervision and supportive services will be given to the residents for 60 days following their completion of the program.

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



Juvenile Detention Center courtyard.

Figures 29, 30, 31 and 32 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 29

FAMILY COUNSELING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSESSMENT UNIT STATISTICS FY 2003				
TYPE OF CASE	COURT-ORDERED	VOLUNTARY	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
JUVENILE - CASES ASSIGNED				
Delinquent/Chins	37	12	49	35.0%
Interdisciplinary Team Evaluations	86	0	86	61.4%
Diagnostic Team Evaluations	5	0	5	3.6%
TOTAL CASES ASSIGNED	128	12	140	100.0%
DOMESTIC RELATIONS - CASES ASSIGNED				
Adult	15	8	23	38.3%
Custody/Visitation	16	21	37	61.7%
TOTAL CASES ASSIGNED	31	29	60	100.0%
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES				
Screenings	233	24	257	73.6%
Assessments	92	0	92	26.4%
TOTAL CASES ASSIGNED	325	24	349	100.0%
SEMINARS				
Impact on Separation and Divorce on Families Seminar*	61	8	69	100.0%
TOTAL SEMINARS	61	8	69	100.0%
TOTAL # FAMILIES SEEN FOR FAMILY COUNSELING FY 2002 212				
TOTAL # FAMILIES RECEIVING OTHER SERVICES 509 (Family Systems evaluations, seminars, substance abuse screenings, and assessments, IDT staffings)				
*Reflects number of cases, not number of people. In some cases 1 parent attends, in other cases 2 parents attend.				

FIGURE 30

VOLUNTEER SERVICES, FY 1997-2003							
	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY2003
COURT VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS							
No. of volunteers	398	336	360	394	320	346	220
No. of volunteer-hours	25,203	21,879	18,226	21,962	15,472	18,256	13,659
VOLUNTEER LEARNING PROGRAM							
No. of volunteer tutors	233	231	222	173	183	159	169
No. of volunteer-hours	9,143	9,242	9,115	9,468	9,977	9,054	9,280

FIGURE 31

UTILIZATION AND COSTS OF RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES, FY 2003

FACILITIES	CHILD CARE DAYS	AVG. LENGTH OF STAY FOR THOSE RELEASED	UTILIZATION RATE	COST PER CHILD CARE DAY
Girls Probation House	3,226	85.9	73.7%	\$266.00
Boys Probation House	5,439	157.7	67.7%	\$225.00
Less Secure Shelter	3,643	10.0	83.2%	\$251.00
Juvenile Detention Center ¹	30,556	21.9	69.2%	\$256.00
Supervised Release Services	20,897	36.1	119.3%	\$43.00

¹ Usage by Fairfax County cases only. Placements of youths from other jurisdictions are not included. (Child Care Days, Utilization Rate, and Cost based on pre and post dispositional programs. Average Length of Stay for pre-dispositional only.)

FIGURE 32

CASELOADS OF PROGRAMS AND RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES
FY 1998-2003

COURT PROGRAMS	NUMBER OF CASES ¹						
	SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY2003
Psychological Evaluation (<i>Court Psychologists</i>)		368	425	482	508	529	551
Diagnostic Team		11	74	79	104	119	66
Interdisciplinary Team		116	120	152	199	186	186
Work Training Program		236	198	196	201	191	42*
Community Service Project		1,173	1,163	1,213	1,278	1,437	1,545
Family Counseling Program		334	411	537	269	242	210
Substance Abuse Services (<i>screenings and assessments</i>)					306	397	349
Special Placements Program		46	40	32	98	55	75
Juvenile Traffic School ²		1,145	1,184	972	1,200	1,051	962
Victim Services						185	223
Volunteer Interpreter Program		1,010	901	1,336	1,602	1,973	2,678
EDUCATION PROGRAMS							
Falls Bridge School		19	13	16	19	14	16
Hillwood School		11	12	10	8	13	27
Sager School		34	34	12	36	40	36
Gunston (South County) School		35	17	19	22	19	19
The Enterprise School ³		41	32	28	39	44	43
Volunteer Learning Program ⁴		220	226	169	139	155	167
Independent Study Program		98	97	101	100	90	50
Elizabeth Blackwell							12
PLACEMENTS							
Boys Probation House		79	67	50	45	45	40
Girls Probation House		43	25	29	29	36	33
Supervised Release Services		501	572	634	800	736	618
Less Secure Shelter		249	238	350	397	420	348
Juvenile Detention Center		1,767	1,529	1,584	1,472	1,472	1,295

¹ The "number of cases" refers to all cases active on July 1, plus all new cases during the fiscal year.

² Number represents juveniles only. A parent also attends with each child

³ Includes Court-referred and non-Court-referred learners.

⁴ Includes Fairfax County cases only.

*Program budget reduced due to county budget cuts.

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.

Domestic Relations Services (DRS) handles all adult criminal offenses and family (contested custody, support, visitation and family 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 six adult probation officers who provide pre-sentencing investigations 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. In FY 2003, the Domestic Relations Unit supervised 352 new adult misdemeanants.

The complaints received against adults in FY 2003 appear in Figure 32. The numbers of new adult complaints from FY 2000-FY 2003 are presented in Figure 33.

FIGURE 33

NEW DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES FY 2003		
NEW COMPLAINTS	NEW CASES	% OF TOTAL
Civil Support	2,797	33.1%
Capias/Show Cause Rules	1,608	19.0%
Misdemeanors	2,311	27.3%
Spousal Abuse	926	11.0%
Felonies	612	7.2%
“Other”	199	2.4%
TOTAL	8,453	100.0%

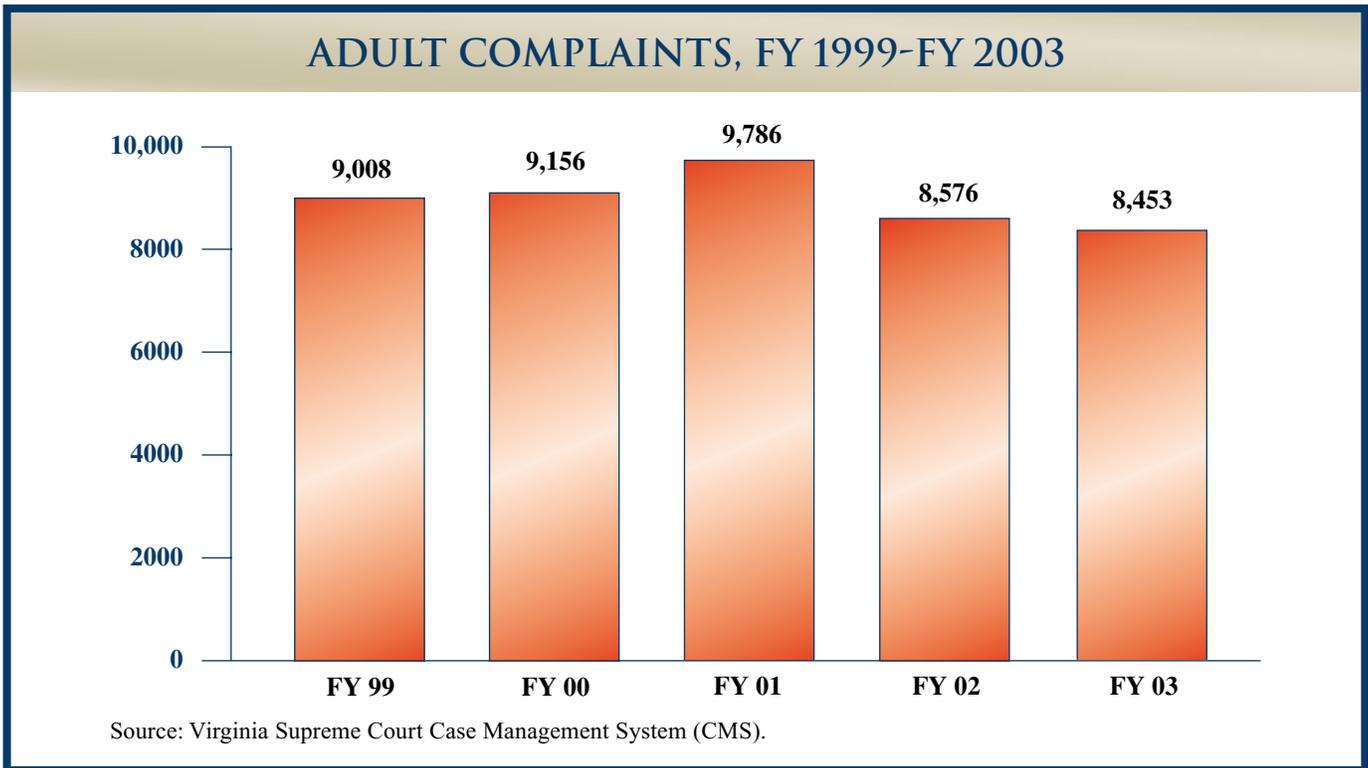
Source: Virginia Supreme Court Case Management System (CMS).

FIGURE 34

NEW COMPLAINTS	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Misdemeanors	3,321	3,304	1,500	2,311
Felonies	552	598	549	612
Capias/Show Cause	1,738	1,753	2,007	1,608
Support	2,705	3,123	3,328	2,797
Spousal Abuse	840	1,008	1,192	926
Other	—	—	—	199
TOTAL	9,156	9,786	8,576	8,453

Source: Virginia Supreme Court Case Management System (CMS).

FIGURE 35



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.

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.

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

FIGURE 36

DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT ADULT PROBATION FY 2001- FY 2003			
	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Average number of new cases per month	26.0	13.8	29.3
Total number of new cases served	308	166	352
Total number of cases closed	239	436	103
Total number of cases closed successfully	225 (94.1%)	420 (96.3%)	84 (81.6%)

ADULT COMPLAINTS

SUMMARY OF HIGHLIGHTS

The Court began using data from the Virginia Supreme Court Case Management System (CMS) in FY 2002. This switch caused significant drops in some types of adult complaints.

The Court received a total of 8,453 adult complaints in FY 2003, an increase of 1.4 percent over the 8,576 complaints received in FY 2002.

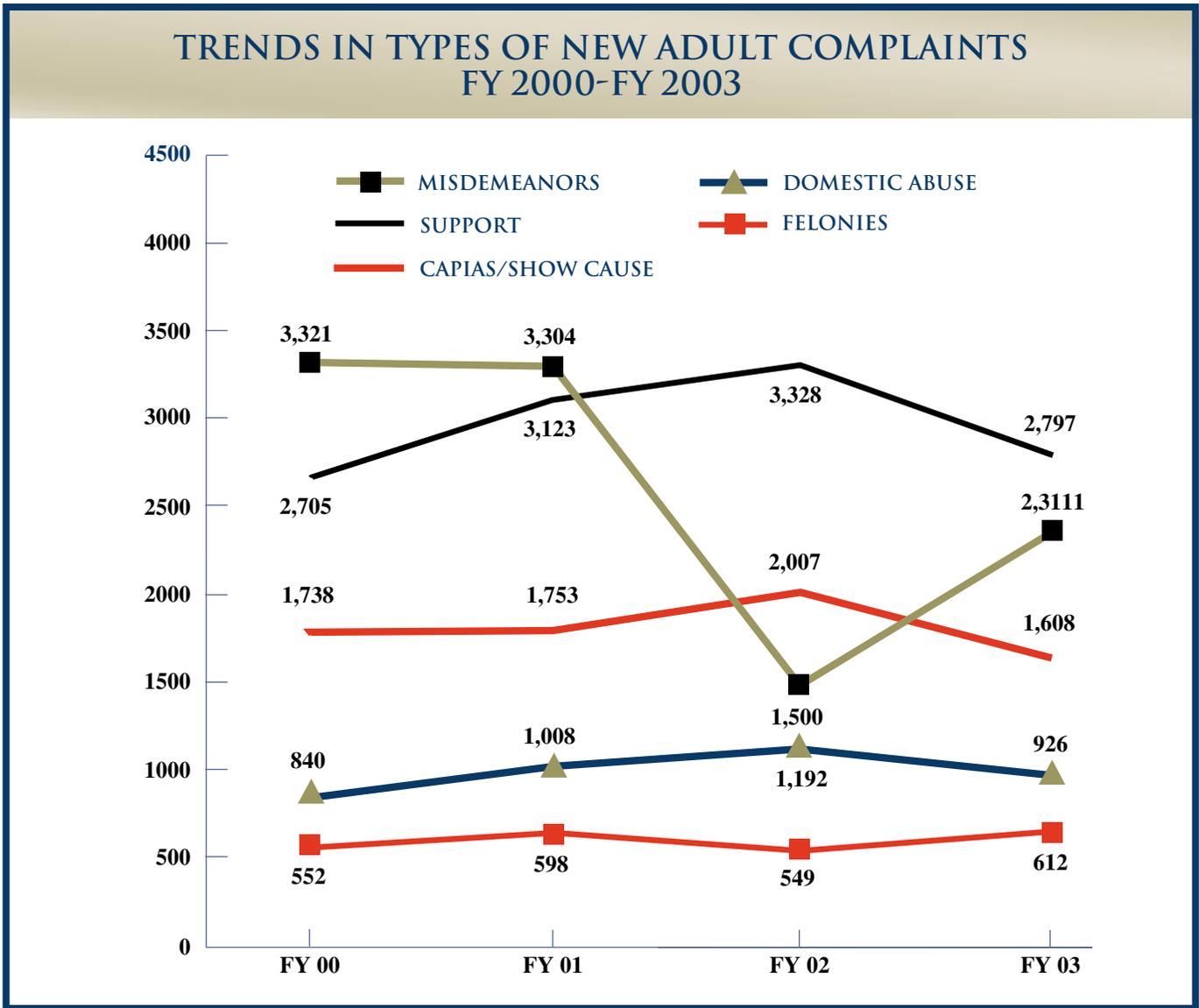
Support and spousal abuse complaints composed 44.0 percent of all adult complaints received.

Spousal abuse complaints decreased 22.3 percent from 1,192 in FY 2002 to 926 in FY 2003.

Misdemeanor complaints increased by 54.1 percent, from 1,500 in FY 2002 to 2,311 in FY 2003.

There was an 11.5 percent increase in the number of felony offense complaints this year, from 549 in FY 2002 to 612 in FY 2003.

FIGURE 37



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 and obtain a court date.

Outgoing and incoming UIFSA cases (Uniform Interstate Family 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 UIFSA child

support petitions. Domestic Relations Services processes out-going UIFSA spousal support petitions.

Support payments for all UIFSA 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.



Judge Jane Delbridge and her clerk Marie-Elaina Pence conducting the Drug Court Program.

FIGURE 38

SUPPORT ACCOUNTS AND AMOUNTS COLLECTED FOR SUPPORT, FINES, COSTS, AND RESTITUTION, FY 1990-2003

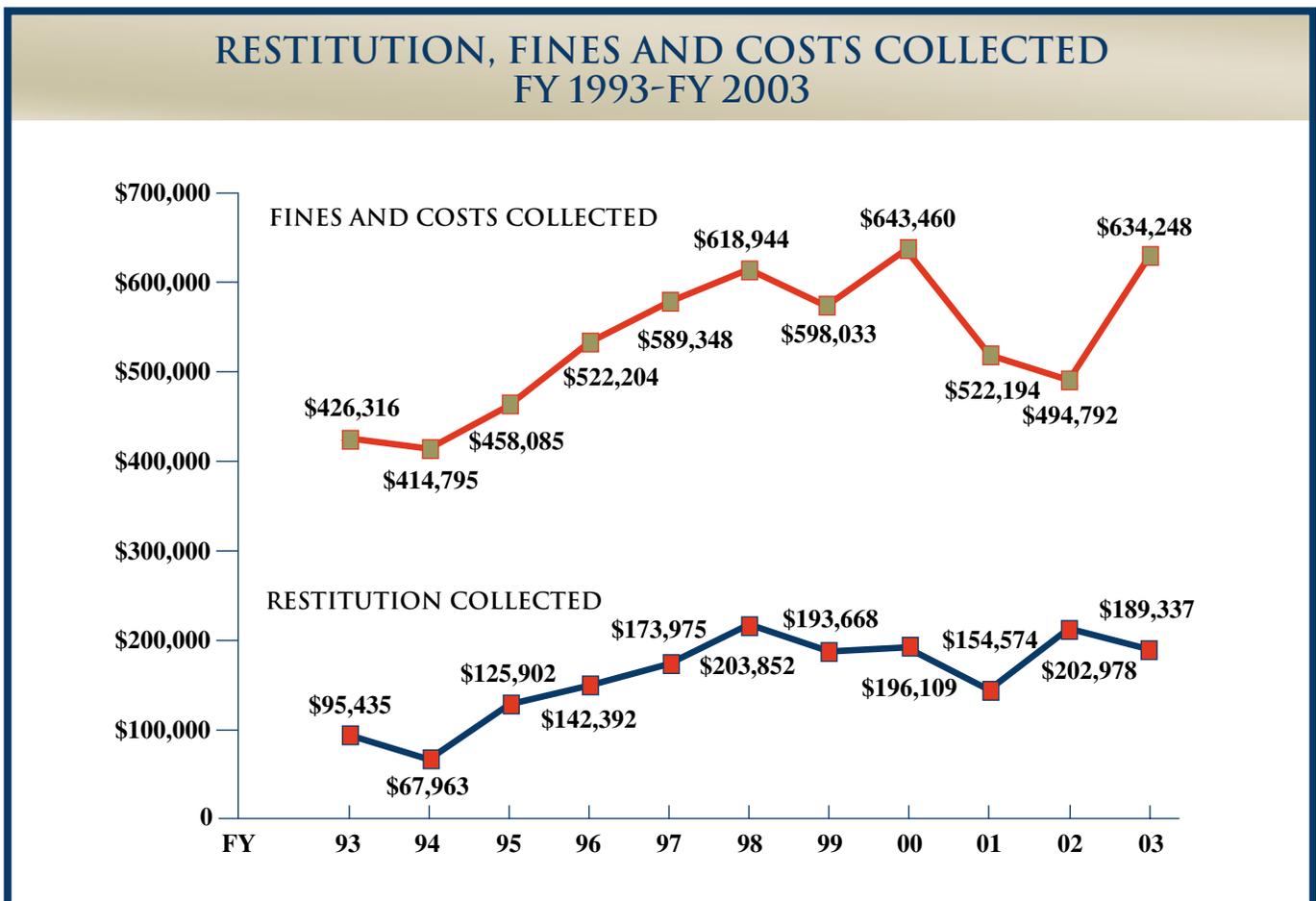
YEAR	RESTITUTION COLLECTED	FINES COLLECTED	COSTS COLLECTED	FINES & COSTS COLLECTED
1990	87,460.80	288,906.66	166,252.94	455,159.60
1991	95,284.00	324,808.90	175,803.02	500,611.92
1992	105,101.57	280,429.00	118,900.00	399,329.00
1993	95,435.39	263,085.66	163,229.86	426,315.52
1994	67,962.60	254,944.28	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
1999	193,668.17	333,311.83	264,721.38	598,033.21
2000	196,109.60	368,023.73	275,437.16	643,460.89
2001	154,574.00	316,686.39	205,507.74	522,194.13
2002	202,978.00	290,558.20	204,234.03	494,792.23
2003	189,336.86	252,173.21	382,074.98	634,248.19

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 counselors who specialize in assisting families who are experiencing domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Intake Officer does the intake work 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 39



V. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

JUVENILE COURT GRANTS

Court's research staff provided proposal development, reporting and evaluation support for several multi-year grants awarded by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). Three of the grant programs support specialized services for juveniles — the Young Offender Program, the Juvenile Sex Offender Program, and the Intensive Supervision Program for serious and habitual offenders. A joint grant to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and the General District Court from the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act provides supervision for adult offenders.

YOUNG OFFENDER PROGRAM

In FY 2002, the Court Services Unit received a five-year grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop an intervention program for adjudicated offenders age thirteen or younger who have been placed in detention or shelter care. Funds provide a case manager and a menu of short-term, contract treatment services.

The program is designed to provide in depth, timely assessment of both youth and family, to initiate immediate, age-appropriate interventions, and to link the youth and family to longer term services if necessary. Grant activities also help educate staff in the characteristics of child delinquents and their service needs.

JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

In October 2002, the Fairfax County Juvenile Court Services unit was awarded funds from the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to participate in the replication of a broad-based model for enhanced juvenile sex offender treatment that has been developed by Dr. John Hunter at the University of Virginia. The approach is based on the social-ecological perspective that emphasizes the importance of treating youth in the context of family and community. The program builds on existing services and adds intensive assessment, intensive supervision, small caseloads, and home-based family intervention. This program has been a significant addition to the Court's capacity to serve this population.

INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM

The Federal Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) program provides grants to States and units of local government to enhance their efforts to combat serious and violent juvenile crime and to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. A local JAIBG grant was awarded to the County in January 1999. The Court has used these funds to establish an Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) to address the increasing needs of the probation department to monitor high risk youth on probation.

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT (CCCA)

The Juvenile Court portion of the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act (CCCA) grant funds three Probation Counselor II positions. These counselors are responsible for supervising adult misdemeanor offenders ordered to complete anger management courses, and/or other community-based programs. All offenders are eligible for jail and are facing criminal charges.



*Court Staff at the day of Training.
(Left to right) Lorraine Peck, Karen Bisset,
Matt Thompson, and Madeline Arter.*

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 Department of Research and Development.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

The survey was designed collaboratively by the Research and Development Unit and the Domestic Relations Unit. The survey questions collected demographic information such as sex and race as well as the reason for the clients' visit. Questions attempted to measure how long clients had to wait for services and whether they were satisfied with their services. A total of 238 surveys were gathered between August and September of 2000 and between June 18, 2001 and July 12, 2001.

Overall, the results of the survey were positive. Most clients (98.7 percent) that visited the Domestic Relations Unit said they were satisfied with the services they received. In addition to being satisfied with services received, many clients (97.9 percent) also felt welcomed by the worker that handled their case. Reasons for client visits varied, 55.3 percent of respondents came to the Domestic Relations Office regarding custody issues, 54.9 percent for child support issues; 33.8 percent of respondents for visitation issues, 11 percent for protective orders, and 6.8 percent for general information.

JUVENILE INTAKE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

In FY 2002, the Intake units received approximately 8,343 complaints excluding court summonses. Due to the high volume of complaints received, the Research and Development unit developed and implemented a customer satisfaction survey to be distributed to parents/citizens who receive services from the Intake units. The purpose of the survey was to determine whether the parents/citizens who are served are satisfied with the services they receive and whether the intake process itself operates as effectively as possible. The survey questions collected demographic information such as sex and race as well as the reason for the clients' visit. Questions were designed to measure length of time clients spent waiting for services and whether they were satisfied overall with the services they received. The Intake offices gathered 254 surveys between June 10, 2002 and October 15, 2002.

Overall, the results of the survey were positive. Most clients (98.7%) that visited the Intake units said they were satisfied with the services they received. In addition to being satisfied with services received, many clients also felt welcomed by the worker that handled their case (98.7%). The results of this study seem particularly impressive given the high volume of intake complaints processed by the Intake office each year.



Court Staff at Day of Training. (Left to right) Hilton Patrick, Ailisa Ware, West Johnson, and Montez (Monty) Gray.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Beginning in September 2002, the Court Service Unit began a major strategic planning initiative. These efforts were part of an ongoing county-wide strategic thinking and planning process addressing organizational improvement. During the next several months staff at all levels participated in reviewing the agency's mission, vision and values, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and crafting a plan to improve the way we do business. The following three broad goals were identified as areas that needed to be addressed to improve agency operations:

★ **WORKFORCE:** To develop a diverse, highly qualified, well trained workforce capable of efficiently and fairly providing the services of the Court.

★ **COMMUNICATION:** To provide an internal and external exchange of information that is understandable, complete, accurate, timely and accessible.

★ **CASE MANAGEMENT:** To provide consistent, effective, and efficient case management guided by an underlying shared philosophy, incorporating thorough, timely, and accurate assessment, interventions, monitoring and/or aftercare based on best practices with manageable workloads.

These goals and the strategies for achieving them will be the focus of the agency's strategic planning efforts for the next three to four years. New and existing ongoing projects will be aligned to one of these three goals.

SUMMARY OF FY 2003 TRAINING AT JDRC

Training for residential and non-residential staff is mandated by different codes. The community probation mandate in 6VAC 35-150-90 requires professional probation staff to receive 40 hours of training annually and clerical staff 20 hours of training. Residential training as mandated by 6VAC 35-140-280 requires 40 hours of training annually for professionals, and includes many specific requirements. 100% of staff met their training requirements in FY03. The table below provides data on the training received per division.

Over 20,000 hours of training was received by JDRC staff during FY03, with an average of 55 hours per person. This is well beyond Virginia Code requirements and reflects the value the agency places on training. Based on an

agency-wide training survey completed by 219 staff in November 2002, staff value training on legal issues, sex offender training, peer or social relationship, gangs, mental health, conflict resolution and Spanish language skills.

In FY03 considerable effort was placed on inter-agency collaboration, with other Fairfax County agencies, neighboring court service units and the VA Department of Juvenile Justice. Also, in FY03, a massive computer training program was implemented in conjunction with the Office XP upgrade, with staff attending 343 person/ days of training for a total of 2,744 hours. The Day of Training in November 2002 addressed cultural diversity issues, with 185 participants and guest speakers Jose M. de Olivares and Juan Jose Callejas.

FIGURE 40

TRAINING HOURS BY DIVISION AND AGENCY			
UNIT NAME	TOTAL # OF STAFF	# TRAINING HOURS	AVERAGE # HOURS
Subtotal Residential	218	2,307	56
Subtotal Probation	122	6,520	53
Administration Services	26	1,462	56
AGENCY TOTALS	366	20,289	55



19TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS
DISTRICT COURT