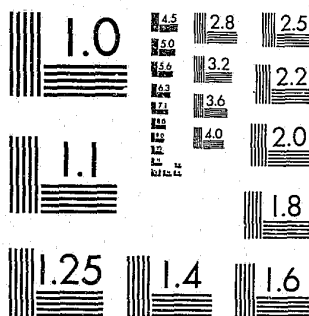


NCJRS

This microfiche was produced from documents received for inclusion in the NCJRS data base. Since NCJRS cannot exercise control over the physical condition of the documents submitted, the individual frame quality will vary. The resolution chart on this frame may be used to evaluate the document quality.



MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS-1963-A

Microfilming procedures used to create this fiche comply with the standards set forth in 41CFR 101-11.504

Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the author(s) and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531**

DATE FILMED

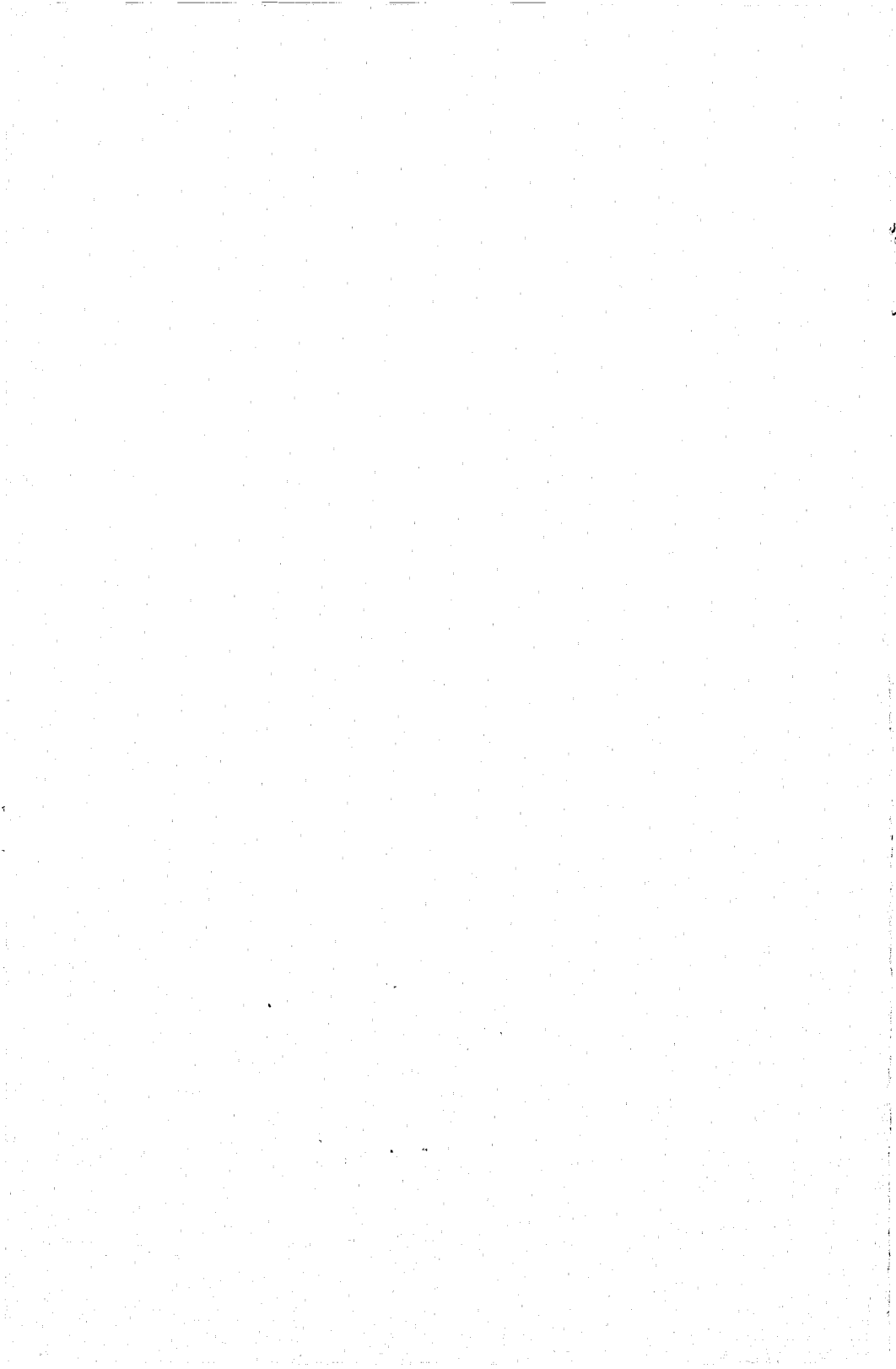
08/11/78

1976 ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Prosecuting Attorney
of Pierce County, Washington

42366





MICROFICHE

To The
HONORABLE DIXY LEE RAY
GOVERNOR
of
The State of Washington

As required by law, I herewith submit my
Annual Report as Prosecuting Attorney
of Pierce County, Washington, for the
year ending December 31, 1976.

DON HERRON
Prosecuting Attorney

NCJRS

JUL 13 1977

ACQUISITIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGES
PART ONE:	
INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW	4
STAFF	7
PART TWO:	
CRIMINAL DIVISION	
Criminal Charges Filed - Superior Court	8
Dispositions - Superior Court ..	12
Dismissal Analysis	13
Criminal Charges Filed - District Court	13
Criminal Appeals	14
Family Support Division	15
Business Fraud - Stolen Property Division	18
PART THREE:	
CIVIL DIVISION	
General, Miscellaneous	21
Opinions	21
District Court Actions	22
Superior Court Actions	22
Washington State Court of Appeals Actions	22
State Board of Tax Appeals	22
Washington State Supreme Court Actions	22
United States District Court Actions	23
Administrative Hearings	23
Juvenile Court Actions	23

OVERVIEW

During 1976, felony criminal caseloads in Pierce County did not rise, for the first time in years, a trend we hope will continue. This corresponds to preliminary statistics from the Pierce County Sheriff's Office, the Tacoma Police Department, and national statistics from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

To strengthen prosecution, the Prosecuting Attorney's Criminal Division has been organized into separate units, working together to try individual types of cases. The special unit handling rape and other cases of violent crimes involving women and children was again extremely successful, obtaining 18 rape convictions in 1976 which is another record for Pierce County. Other units within the office include Family Support Division, which has responsibility for enforcing delinquent child support orders and for trying paternity suits, and the Juvenile Justice unit which tries cases against juvenile defendants and acts as an advocate for children in abuse, neglect and termination of parental rights cases. Two deputy prosecutors and five full-time legal interns handle all misdemeanor and traffic cases in District Court, and misdemeanor and traffic appeals to Superior Court. Experienced deputy prosecutors handle the more serious felony cases, with concentration on the prosecution and conviction of dangerous repeat offenders, in an attempt to reduce "career criminals".

A Special Task Force was organized in 1976, operating under the control of the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office, to attack the problem of prostitution, as it related to the use of juveniles and drugs, and to combat organized vice activities in general. The Task Force was comprised of detectives from the Sheriff's Office and Tacoma Police Department, and one deputy prosecutor assigned full-time from the Prosecutor's Office. As a result of the Task Force, 21 cases were filed, resulting in 14 convictions, the majority of which were felony pimping convictions (the first obtained in Pierce County in over ten years), one deferred prosecution, one dismissal, and five trials pending. Much of the effort and effectiveness of the Special Task Force is not reflected, however, in the criminal conviction or filing record. It was found during the investigation that the majority of the juvenile prostitution problem stemmed from a combination of the availability of susceptible juveniles in certain group and foster homes in the City of Tacoma, and the proliferation of Sauna bath businesses throughout the unincorporated areas of

Pierce County, and the willingness of these businesses to risk employment of juveniles. By coordinating the Task Force with the other agencies in the county, such as the military, the State Department of Social & Health Services, the Health Department, etc., four group homes are no longer operating, and the number of sauna baths was reduced from 26 to 19 licensed saunas. There has been a corresponding marked reduction in the instance of juvenile prostitution, and to this extent, the Task Force has been successful in accomplishing the primary objective. The majority of the convictions, and the administrative actions taken, were accomplished due to the mutual efforts which crossed conventional jurisdictional lines. This experience has shown that combined efforts can effect prosecutions which would not otherwise occur, but that it is crucial that the element of investigative control be vested in the authority which ultimately has the responsibility for presenting the case to the court or jury.

The Business Fraud-Stolen Property Division was created in early 1976 through a Law & Justice grant, and has been very effective in combating economic crime in Pierce County. Evaluation of the first 10½ months of operation demonstrated that this division greatly exceeded caseload expectations and reflected a 93% conviction rate. The Pierce County Law & Justice Office rated this division as one of the most ambitious, successful, and professional law enforcement units in Pierce County.

Project El Cid (precharge intervention program) continued to expand in the felony area. The project handled a total of 410 cases in 1976, 308 of which were misdemeanor offenses, and 102 were felony offenses. Project El Cid has resulted in a significant cost savings to the people of Pierce County, and has also done a fine job in deterring further criminal behavior by its clients. El Cid is presently operated by the Pierce County District Court Probation Department and is federally funded, but its clientele are totally controlled by the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney.

We have continued our voluntary programs to better inform the victims and witnesses of crimes, as to the operation of the criminal justice system in Pierce County, and their respective rights and responsibilities, by distributing brochures and letters insuring that all parties will be informed of the status and disposition of cases involving them or their property. We also actively aid them in pursuing restitution and in locating needed available

public services, such as victim compensation for personal injury, through the Washington Victim Compensation Law.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney is the hub of the criminal justice system in Pierce County, and is in constant contact with the law enforcement agencies and the judicial systems throughout Pierce County. As such, we shall continue to do our best to provide the people of Pierce County with the most efficient and effective criminal justice system possible. However, we must always keep in mind that even the most efficient criminal justice system will be unable to substantially reduce the crime rate until every citizen and family of this county recognizes that we all have a responsibility to join together in this battle against crime. We will effectively reduce the crime rate if we concentrate on the problems of the family units, the neighborhoods, the education of our children and the media, as well as improvement of the criminal justice system. This office looks forward to the continued opportunity of serving the people of Pierce County during 1977.



DON HERRON
Prosecuting Attorney
Pierce County, Washington

STAFF

(As of December 31, 1976)

DON HERRON PIERCE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

NINA J. ZEMEK
Administrative Assistant

CRIMINAL DIVISION

GARY E. CRONK, Chief Criminal Deputy

Senior Deputies

Ellsworth Connelly
Joseph Mladinov
Schuyler Witt

Deputies

Patrick Daly*
James Finnell
Carol Hanson
Karl Haugh*
Michael Johnson
Frank Loomis

Clyde Martin

Michael McNerthney
Tracy Rosellini
Terry Sebring*
Ralph Smith
Stanley Wagner

CIVIL DIVISION

LEROY C. BOYCE, Chief Civil Deputy

Deputies

Keith Black
Mark Bubenik
Mack Call
Stephen Causseaux

Terrence McCarthy
Donald Meath
Roger Miener

INVESTIGATORS

Edwin Lund*

James Melton

Richard West

CLERICAL AND STENOGRAPHIC STAFF

Maria Chantry*
Joyce Crawford
Lois Harris
Anna Hoy
Elinor Korsmo
Sharon Manning

Cindy Martinson*
Margaret McKee*
Arlene McDonald
Judy Obenour*
Mary Rey
Madge Rossick

Karen Stanton
Clarice Stubblefield
Eileen Talbott*
Lynn Wilhelm*
Donna Woodard*
Janice Zimmerman

*HIRED THROUGH STATE/FEDERAL FUNDS

CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Criminal Division represents the State and County in all criminal matters in the Pierce County District and Superior Courts, the State Court of Appeals, and the State Supreme Court. The Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys in the Criminal Division must prosecute all matters relating to the enforcement of criminal statutes and county ordinances, as well as instigate the maintenance and necessary reform of the criminal justice system in Pierce County. The Deputies are supervised by the Chief Criminal Deputy, and by three senior deputies, who also supervise the legal interns and specialize in criminal charging, trial preparation, and trial work.

1976 - SUPERIOR COURT FILINGS BY CRIMINAL DIVISION

	CHARGES PENDING PRIOR YEAR	CHARGES FILED IN 1976	CONVICTIONS	REMANDED TO DISTRICT COURT FOR SENTENCING	ACQUITTALS	DISMISSALS	1976 CHARGES PENDING OR SET FOR TRIAL
Abduction	—	4	—	—	—	1	3
Aiming or Discharging Firearm	2	2	3	—	—	—	1
Appeals from District Court	70	121	77	37	3	15	59
Arson							
First Degree	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Second Degree	3	18	8	—	5	—	8
Attempted Arson							
Second Degree	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Assault							
First Degree	3	9	3	—	2	1	6
Second Degree	36	48	33	—	8	11	32
Third Degree	14	18	27	—	—	—	5
Simple	—	7	7	—	—	—	—
Auto Theft	9	49	24	—	2	2	30
Attempted Auto Theft	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Being an Accessory	12	11	22	—	—	1	—
Burglary							
First Degree	—	6	1	—	—	—	5
Second Degree	51	191	113	—	1	15	113
Attempted Burglary							
Second Degree	8	12	16	—	—	—	4
Making or Having Burglary Tools	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Carnal Knowledge	5	1	5	—	—	1	—
Carrying Concealed Weapon	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
Coercion	—	2	—	—	—	—	2

**SUPERIOR COURT FILINGS
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

	CHARGES PENDING PRIOR YEAR	CHARGES FILED IN 1976	CONVICTIONS	REMANDED TO DISTRICT COURT FOR SENTENCING	ACQUITTALS	DISMISSALS	1976 CHARGES PENDING OR SET FOR TRIAL
Kidnapping							
First Degree	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Second Degree	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Lewdness	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Malicious Mischief							
Second Degree	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Manslaughter	5	4	7	—	—	1	1
First Degree	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Second Degree	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Mischief to and Destruction of Property	5	8	12	—	—	—	1
Murder							
First Degree	1	9	7	—	—	1	2
Second Degree	8	7	11	—	1	—	3
Narcotics	160	437	253	—	2	82	260
Negligent Homicide	8	13	13	—	1	—	7
Obscene & Harassing Phone Calls	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Obstructing Justice	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Obstructing a Peace Officer	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Occupying a Motor Vehicle Without Permission	3	5	8	—	—	—	—
Pimping	1	21	7	—	—	—	15
Promoting Prostitution							
Second Degree	—	6	1	—	—	—	5
Possession of Firearm By Felon	—	5	4	—	—	—	1
Possession of Incendiary Device	—	2	1	—	1	—	—
Possession of Stolen Property							
First Degree	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Second Degree	—	45	4	—	2	3	36
Third Degree	—	4	3	—	—	—	1
Professional Gambling	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Conducting Illegal Gambling Activity	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Public Indecency	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Rape	3	1	—	—	3	1	—
First Degree	1	12	5	—	1	2	5
Second Degree	2	12	4	—	1	3	6
Third Degree	2	6	1	—	1	1	5

**SUPERIOR COURT FILINGS
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

	CHARGES PENDING PRIOR YEAR	CHARGES FILED IN 1976	CONVICTIONS	REMANDED TO DISTRICT COURT FOR SENTENCING	ACQUITTALS	DISMISSALS	1976 CHARGES PENDING OR SET FOR TRIAL
Attempted Rape							
First Degree	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
Second Degree	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Statutory Rape							
First Degree	—	9	1	—	—	—	8
Second Degree	—	6	3	—	—	—	3
Third Degree	2	9	3	—	—	1	7
Rendering Criminal Assistance							
First Degree	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Second Degree	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Resisting Arrest	2	5	7	—	—	—	—
Riding in Stolen Auto	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Robbery	25	35	45	—	4	5	6
First Degree	—	18	6	—	1	—	11
Second Degree	—	2	1	—	—	1	—
Attempted Robbery	—	4	3	—	—	1	—
Sodomy	3	1	3	—	1	—	—
Swindling	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Tampering with a Witness	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Theft							
First Degree	—	13	1	—	—	1	11
Second Degree	—	44	4	—	1	—	39
Third Degree	—	9	8	—	—	—	1
Attempted Theft							
First Degree	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Traffic - Moving Violations	15	38	38	1	—	—	14
Unlawful Imprisonment	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Unlawful Issuance of Bank							
Checks or Drafts	16	31	34	—	1	—	12
Unlawful Possession of Firearm	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Unlawful Possession of Fireworks	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Unlawful Possession of Marijuana	27	72	76	—	—	2	21
Vagrancy	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Total	718	1,928	1,375	38	48	217	968
Revocation Hearings Handled in Superior Court							392
Fugitive From Justice Cases Handled in Superior Court							110

CRIMINAL DIVISION

SENTENCE SUPERIOR COURT - 1976

DEFENDANTS SENTENCED TO:

Life	10
Penal Institution	262
Penal Institution, Suspended	34
Penal Institution, Suspended (Condition: Spend time in County Jail)	52
Penal Institution, Suspended (Condition: Spend time in County Jail and make restitution)	14
Penal Institution, Suspended (Condition: make Restitution)	15
Penal Institution, Suspended (Condition: Pay costs and/or fine)	16
County Jail	54
County Jail, Suspended	61
County Jail, Part suspended	79
County Jail, Suspended (Condition: Pay Fine)	50
County Jail, Suspended (Condition: Pay Costs)	38
County Jail, Suspended (Condition: Make Restitution)	17
Fined	8
Fined Plus Costs	9
Deferred Sentence	92
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Pay Costs)	117
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Serve time in County Jail)	201
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Make Restitution)	118
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Pay fine and costs)	47
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Pay fine)	18
Bail Forfeiture	63
Acquitted	26
Acquitted by Criminal Insanity	22
Dismissed	217
(See dismissal analysis)	
Remanded to District Court	38
Cases Pending or Set For Trial	968
TOTAL	2,646

CRIMINAL DIVISION

DISMISSAL ANALYSIS

Evidence Suppressed	13
Defendant Complied With Deferred Prosecution	4
Insufficient Evidence	46
Sentenced on Another Charge	33
Probation or Parole Revoked	11
Complaining Witness' Request	11
Sentenced by Other Authorities	5
Restitution Was Made	2
Complaining Witness Unavailable or Did Not Appear	11
Ends of Justice Best Be Served	20
Duplication of Charge	7
Defendant Is a Juvenile	3
Defendant Out of This Jurisdiction	1
Resolved by Civil Action	2
Defendant is Deceased	9
60 and/or 90 Day Rule Not Observed	5
Absolved By Co-Defendant	34
	TOTAL 217

DISTRICT COURTS

NO. 1, 2, 3 & 4

Misdemeanor Cases Filed	3,385
Traffic Cases Filed	34,414
	TOTAL 37,799

1976 ANNUAL REPORT - CRIMINAL APPEALS

Notices of Appeal filed in 1976	40
Convictions affirmed by Court of Appeals	12
Conviction affirmed by Court of Appeals and review denied by Supreme Court	5
Convictions affirmed by Court of Appeals and pending review by Supreme Court as of December 31, 1976	3
Convictions affirmed by State Supreme Court	1
Total convictions affirmed	21
Review denied by Supreme Court on convictions affirmed by Court of Appeals prior to 1976	2
Defendant appeals dismissed by Court of Appeals	10
Personal restraint petitions processed (Rule 16.3)	
Denied by Court of Appeals	8
Transmitted by Court of Appeals to Superior Court for hearing	2* 10

*On 1, Court of Appeals reversed trial court's refusal to grant bail on appeal. On the other, Court of Appeals ordered Board of Prison Terms and Paroles to reset minimum term to run concurrently with minimum term on defendant's prior conviction.

FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

REPORT FOR 1976

TOTAL CASE LOAD 1975	19,874
NEW SUPPORT CASES 1976	687
Welfare Fraud Referred	54
Unemployment Security Fraud	8
Cases Closed 1976	-72
TOTAL CASE LOAD 1976	20,551

WELFARE FRAUD 54

New Cases 1976	54
Pending 1975	59
Total	113

1976 Dispositions:

Order Stay. Proc.	21
Deferred Sent.	4
Dismissal (Rest. made)	4
Revoked	1
Pending 1976	83
Total	113

FELONY NON-SUPPORT 4

Filings 1976	4
Pending 1975	1
Total	5

1976 Dispositions:

Order Stay. Proc.	2
Dismissed/Settled	2
Pending 1976	1
Total	5

UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY FRAUD 8

Filings 1976	8
Pending 1975	4
Total	12

1976 Dispositions:

Guilty	1
Deferred	2
Pending 1976	9
Total	12

BIGAMY

No new cases. 1975 case still pending (defendant has not been arrested).

FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

SUPERIOR COURT CASES

RECIPROCAL PETITIONS (URESAS) 500

Incoming (new) 358
Outgoing (new) 142
Total 500

Filings - old cases
(OG URESAS) 57
Filings - old cases
(IC URESAS) not reflected
in total 89
Total 646

DISPOSITIONS ON INCOMING RECIPROCALLS (URESAS)

INCOMING RECIPROCALLS 358

Orders Entered 258
Change of Venue 17
Unable to Serve 55
Pending 28
Total 358

**ACTION TAKEN ON INCOMING RECIPROCALLS
(URESAS)**

Show Cause 189
Bench Warrants 10
Reciprocal Hearings 20
Interviews for Service 279

**SUPPORT PAYMENTS MADE THRU
SUPERIOR COURT**

1975 \$3,467,354.23
1976 \$4,155,009.54
Increase \$ 687,655.22

**SUPPLEMENTAL ORDERS ENTERED IN SUPERIOR COURT ON NON-
SUPPORT CASES 24**

INTERVIEWS

Personal Interviews made by Support Deputy & Staff 1,873

FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

FILIATIONS	78
Filed - Superior Court	11
Filed - District Court	52
No Complaint Filed	15
Pending 1975	79
Total	157

1976 Dispositions:

Dismissed (child adopted, def. & plf. married, etc)	14
Orders Entered	65
No Complaint Filed	15
Pending 1976	63
Total	157

Of the 52 Filiations filed in District Court in 1976, 42 were bound over to Superior Court for trial and 10 Bench Warrants were issued in District Court for Failure to Appear.

DISTRICT COURT CASES

NON-SUPPORT	35
New cases 1976	35
Pending 1975	4
Total	39

1976 Dispositions:

Acquitted	1
Deferred	1
Dismissed	17
Expunged	1
Found Guilty	8
Found Not Guilty	4
Jail	2
Pending	5
Total	39

BUSINESS FRAUD-STOLEN PROPERTY DIVISION

REPORT FOR 1976

The Business Fraud unit attacks larceny by deception, practiced on the consumers of Pierce County. The Stolen Property unit has as its goal, the prosecution of those involved in the trafficking of stolen property. Prosecution of this type of activity not only deters fencing, but burglary and shoplifting as well. It also serves to educate the consumer to the existence of such operations. The following statistics cover the period of February 15, 1976 through December 31, 1976.

1976 SUPERIOR COURT FILINGS

	Charges Filed	Con- victions	Dis- missals	1976 Charges Pending or Set For Trial
Accessory to Arson/First Degree	2	1	1	—
Arson in the First Degree	2	—	—	2
Attempt to Possess Stolen Property Second Degree	6	—	—	6
Attempted Grand Larceny	6	4	—	2
Burglary in Second Degree	4	—	1	3
Contractor Doing Business W/O License	2	—	—	2
Credit Card Theft	1	1	—	—
Escape	1	—	—	1
Failure to Collect & Pay Retail Sales Tax	2	1	1	—
False Claims	1	1	—	—
False Information To Peace Officer	3	1	—	2
Forgery in First Degree	2	2	—	—
Grand Larceny	40	29	—	11
Min. Rates of Compensation for Employment in Excess of 40 Hr/Wk	6	3	3	—
Obscuring Identity of a Machine	2	2	—	—
Possession Motor Vehicle with Removed Identification	6	1	—	5
Possession Stolen Property First Degree	2	1	—	1
Second Degree	12	1	—	11
Prohibited Acts of Employer	2	1	1	—
Securities Fraud	8	—	—	8
Solicitation Stolen Property Third Degree	2	1	—	1
Theft - First Degree	5	2	—	3
Second Degree	2	—	—	2
Third Degree	1	—	—	1
Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance	7	—	—	7
Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance W/Intent to Deliver	5	—	—	5
TOTALS	132	52	7	73

BUSINESS FRAUD-STOLEN PROPERTY DIVISION

**SUPERIOR COURT DISPOSITION
(BY COUNT)**

CONVICTIONS

Analysis

Department of Institutions	17
Department of Institutions, Suspended (Condition: Spend time in County Jail)	1
Department of Institutions, Suspended (Condition: Spend time in County Jail and make restitution)	1
Department of Institutions, Suspended (Condition: Make restitution)	3
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Pay costs)	2
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Serve time in County Jail, restitution and costs) .	3
Deferred Sentence (Condition: Make restitution and costs)	20
Deferred Prosecution	5
	TOTAL 52

DISMISSALS

Analysis

Sentenced on Another Charge	1
Absolved by Co-Defendant	1
Entering cease order and restitution paid	5

BUSINESS FRAUD-STOLEN PROPERTY DIVISION

Total Complaints Received	336
Investigative Cases Opened	223
Economic Loss	\$1,534,145.00
Inquiry Court Proceedings	10
Search Warrants Issued	21
Resolutions Written	1
Revocation Hearings	2

BUSINESS FRAUD-STOLEN PROPERTY DIVISION

1976—DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

	Counts
Acting as Merchant Without a License	1
Acting as Vehicle Dealer	3
Contracting Without a License	12
Failure to Maintain Registration as a Contractor	1
Failure to Obtain Solicitors License	4
Failure to Transfer Ownership	2
False Insurance Claims or Proof	1
Investigator Without a License	1
Misrepresentation of Application of Insurance	2
Motor Vehicle Wreckers, Records to be Kept	1
Obstructing a Public Servant	1
Obstructing Identity of Machine	5
Peddling Without a License	1
Petit Larceny	2
Practice as Unlicensed Registered Engineer	1
Purchase of Property For Minors	1
Failure to Report to Dept. of Motor Vehicles	1
Revoked Tax Certificate	3
Use of False and Misleading Handbill	1
Use of False License	1
Unlawful Acts	1
Unlawful Issuance of a Bank Check	7
Unlawful Possession of Forty Grams or Less of Marijuana	1
Unlawful Practice Law	2
	TOTAL 56

ANALYSIS OF DISTRICT COURT CASES:

Successful prosecution (Deferred sentence, bail forfeiture, etc.)	29
Pending cases set for trial	24
Acquittals	1
Dismissals	2

CIVIL DIVISION

The Prosecuting Attorney is the legal counsel for all units of Pierce County Government, and numerous school districts and political subdivisions located within the county. Acting through the deputy prosecuting attorneys in the Civil Division, the Prosecutor provides legal advice and representation to all county elected officials and department heads. These involve diverse areas of responsibilities such as solid waste management, personnel, parks & recreation, risk management, and facilities management. While in normal course, such representation entails the preparation of formal legal opinions, and representation of the county and county officials in formal litigation in court, the Civil Division continues to place substantial emphasis on the informal relationship existing between attorney and client in the public sector. Each deputy within the Civil Division spends considerable time assisting county elected officials and department heads in the anticipation and prevention of legal problems before they result in litigation. As a result, it is difficult to provide a complete statistical summary of all work performed by the Civil Division.

Accident Reports Reviewed	80
Agreements, Easements, Contracts, etc.	136
Amendments to Pierce County Code	81
Resolutions	332
Claims Filed Against County - 1976	109
Denied	39
Paid	36
Pending	34
Previous Claims: Denied	37
Paid	13
Litigated (including 11 damage suits in Superior Court with no preceding claims)	32
Correspondence	
Written Opinions Rendered:	
Assessor	31
Auditor	4
Boundary Review Board	3
Budget Director	2
Building Department	2
Civic Arts Commission	2
Commissioners	15
County Coordinating Committee	1
Clerk	4
Community Action Agency	1
Community Development & Human Resources	1
Drainage Districts	1
Fire Districts	1
Fire Marshall	2
Health Department	16
Insurance Committee	1
License	3
Manpower Planning	1
Mental Health Professional	1
Parks	5

Planning	19
Property Manager	3
Public Works	11
Purchasing	2
Schools	29
Sheriff	2
Treasurer	4
Total Written Opinions	167
Miscellaneous Correspondence	486
Total Correspondence	653

DISTRICT COURT ACTIONS

Building/Zoning Violations	8
Damages	1
Total District Court Actions	9

SUPERIOR COURT ACTIONS

Abatement	3
Administrative Appeal	1
Bankruptcy Complaint	1
Boundary Review Board Appeal	2
Breach of Contract	1
Certificate of Delinquency (sale of property for taxes)	1
Damages	29
Declaratory Relief	1
Employee Grievance	1
Foreclosure	2
Habeus Corpus	3
Habitual Traffic	97
Injunction	3
Quiet Title	9
Tax Lien	5
Tax Recovery or Refund	5
Vacation of Alleys or Streets	2
Writ of Certiorari	8
Writ of Mandamus	3
Zoning Challenge	2
Total Superior Court Actions	179

STATE COURT OF APPEALS ACTIONS

Employee Discrimination	1
-------------------------------	---

STATE BOARD OF TAX APPEALS ACTIONS

Tax Ratio Appeals	1
-------------------------	---

WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT ACTIONS

Election Dispute	1
Tax Appeal	1
Tax Ratio Challenge	1
Total State Supreme Court Actions	3

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT ACTIONS

Bankruptcy Dispute	1
Damages	2
Foreclosures	3
Total United States District Court Actions	6

CASES FILED

Pierce County District Court	9
Washington State Superior Court	179
Washington State Court of Appeals	1
Washington State Board of Tax Appeals	2
Washington State Supreme Court	3
United States District Court	6
Total of all cases filed	200
Cases Pending - Prior Years	379
Total	579

CASES CLOSED

Pierce County District Court Cases (1976)	20
All Other Court Cases (1976)	216
Total	236

TOTAL CASES OPEN AND ACTIVE

HEARINGS

Administrative: Boundary Review Board	
E.E.O.C.	
Grievance Appeals	
Human Rights	
LEFF Disability Board	
License Revocations	
Planning Commission	
Total	33

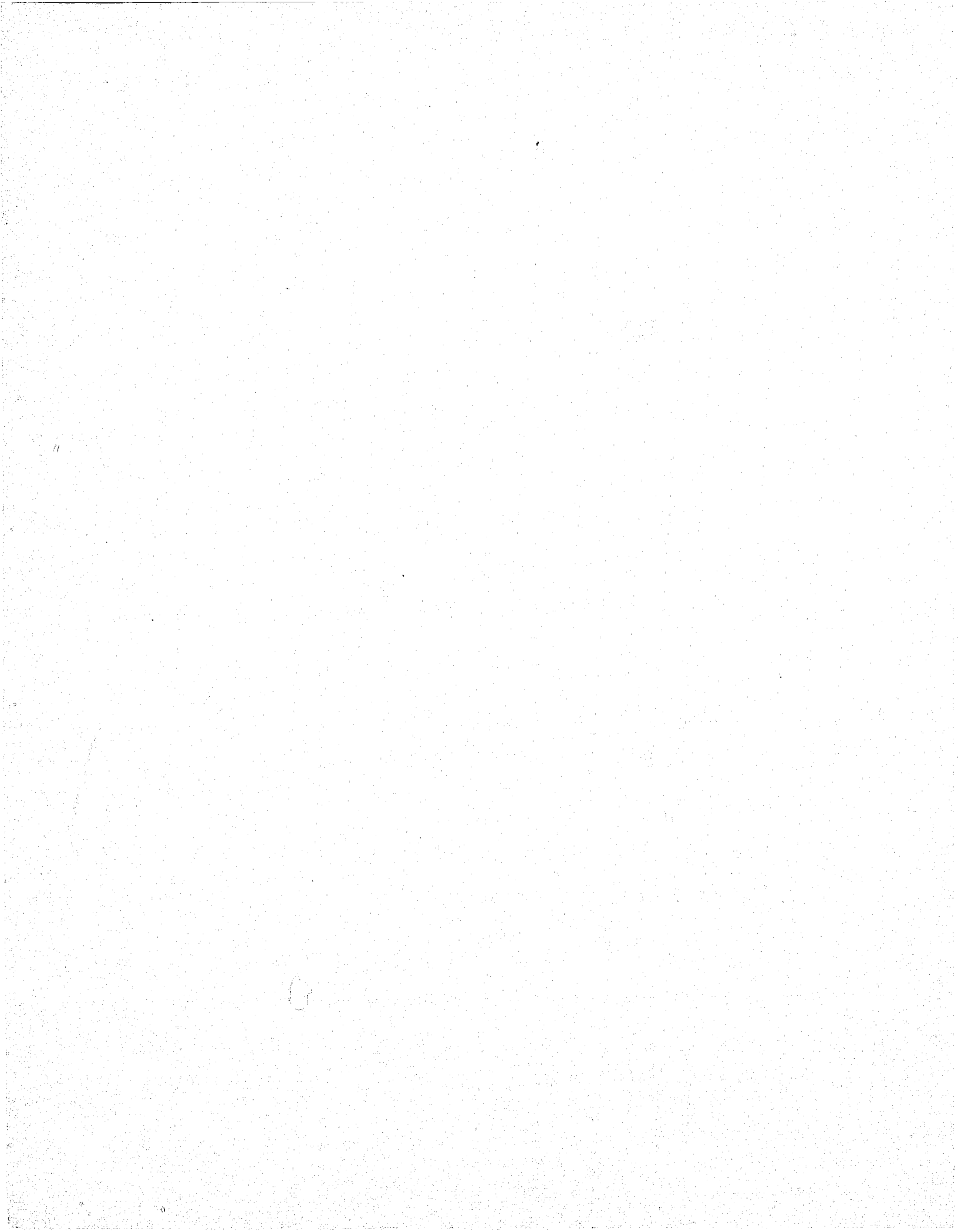
Alcoholism Treatment Act

Involuntary Mental Commitment & Treatment Act	
Pierce County Cases:	
14-day & 90-day hearings	340
180-day hearings	46
Out-of-county cases:	
14-day & 90-day hearings	227
Total	613

Superior Court jury trials held on mental commitments

JUVENILE COURT

Dependency & Delinquency Petitions:	
Representation by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney	540
Consultation only, by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney	101
Total	641



END

