

The Rocky River Municipal Court

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Rocky River 16, Ohio

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January 27, 1961

JUDGE
LEONARD S. FROST

ANNUAL REPORT 1960

As provided by law, I submit herein the annual report of the Rocky River Municipal Court for the year 1960, indicating the receipts of the Court, the expenditures made and the number of cases heard, decided and settled.

In order that the operations of the Rocky River Municipal Court may be fully stated, this report will include the operation for each political subdivision within the jurisdiction of the court, as well as a combined operation of all political subdivisions.

During the year 1960, there were 5925 criminal cases and 562 civil cases filed with the court. As of January 1, 1961, there were 170 criminal cases pending and 265 civil cases pending.

The following is the disposition by the court of all criminal cases during 1960. It also indicates the origin of each case.

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>Fines</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Rocky River	1282	\$18,748.00	\$8,164.90	\$26,912.90
North Olmsted	1329	30,475.50	8,507.10	38,982.60
Fairview Park	1290	21,280.20	8,056.40	29,336.60
Parkview Village	680	10,977.00	4,385.20	15,362.20
Westlake	685	21,106.00	4,664.45	25,770.45
Bay Village	511	10,212.00	3,542.85	13,754.85
State of Ohio	111	8,639.00	1,063.13	9,702.13
Metropolitan Park	<u>37</u>	<u>895.00</u>	<u>268.00</u>	<u>1,163.00</u>
TOTAL	5925	122,332.70	38,652.03	160,984.73

Inasmuch as the general fund of the City of Rocky River receives all costs assessed by the court regardless of place of origin, the above statement indicates that the City of Rocky River received \$38,652.03 in costs together with their own fines in the amount of \$18,748.00 or a total of \$57,400.03 from the Criminal Branch of the court.

Comparing the above report with that of 1959, it is to be noted that there were 325 fewer cases heard and decided in 1960 than there were in 1959. Inasmuch as most of the criminal cases are for traffic law violations, this reduction is gratifying, for it indicates an increased consciousness on the part of the public to traffic safety. While a reduction in violations does result in lesser revenue, it has always been the main objective of the court to assess penalties as a deterrent rather than a means of obtaining revenue.

As a further function of the court with reference to its criminal branch, the sum of \$66,314.20 was received in the cash bond account. A carry-over from 1959 in the amount of \$6,010.70, makes a total of \$72,324.90 in this account for 1960. As of January 1, 1961, there remains on hand the sum of \$9,894.20 in cash bail bonds for further disposition by the court.

With reference to the Civil Branch of the court there were 230 cases pending as of January 1, 1960. There were 562 new cases filed during the year, making a total of 792 cases for disposition during the year. There were 527 cases heard, decided or settled during the year 1960, leaving 265 civil cases pending as of January 1, 1961.

During the year 1960, there were \$4,324.71 Civil Court costs taxed and collected in the cases disposed of during the year 1960, which amount has likewise been paid into the General Fund of the City of Rocky River.

Adding together all sums paid into the General Fund of the City of Rocky River from the Criminal and Civil branches of the court, this report indicates that a grand total of \$61,724.74 was paid to the City of Rocky River, Ohio by the

Rocky River Municipal Court.

The Council of the City of Rocky River appropriated the sum of \$40,870.00 for current expenses and other expenses of the court during the year 1960, out of which amount the court expended the sum of \$40,630.92 as follows:

Salaries	\$31,486.37
Substitute Judge Salary	564.19
Mileage Expense	809.50
Incidentals	1,824.34
Law Library	319.85
Furniture & Fixtures	2,774.67
Stationery & Supplies	1,088.61
Janitor Service	1,338.39
Jury Fees	425.00
Witness fees	-0-

From the foregoing, it is apparent that the Rocky River Municipal Court has been self-sustaining. Receipts to the City of Rocky River for 1960 amounted to \$61,724.74. Expenses of the court for 1960, which were paid by the City of Rocky River, amounted to \$40,630.92. The balance of \$21,093.82, therefore, became available to the City of Rocky River for general expenses.

At this point the court wishes to bring to your attention, that while there has been a reduction of net income to the City of Rocky River in 1960, over the net income to the City of Rocky River in 1959, there are several attributing reasons. As previously set forth, during the year 1960 there were 325 fewer cases filed as a result of better compliance by the motorists. Further, the Clerk's office was moved from the second floor, to the first floor, requiring capital expenditures for filing cabinets, countertop etc. This appears under the item of furniture and fixtures, amounting to \$2,774.67. Of course, this item is a non-recurring expense. An additional item that is non-recurring is a \$250.00 change

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fund which is charged as an expenditure under incidentals. This will, of course always remain with the court and be represented by cash on hand.

As a further word of explanation as to the expenditures of the court, it must be borne in mind that its operations have been comparatively new. By reason thereof the necessary number of employees could not be accurately predicted. During the year 1960, the court found it necessary to employ an additional Deputy Clerk to maintain its operations in a current manner. This, of course, is reflected in the increase under SALARIES and EXPENDITURES.

In connection with the Civil Branch of the court, the receipts and expenditures thereof are as follows:

<u>CIVIL BRANCH</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Balance January 1, 1960	\$4,329.26	
Civil Docket Costs and Deposits	7,036.14	
Conciliation Docket Costs	258.20	
Other Costs	128.55	
Payments on Judgments	6,303.38	
Payments on Conciliation Claims	964.68	
Payments on Trusteeships	3,253.00	
Court Costs paid Rocky River		\$4,324.71
Deposit Refunds		1,783.54
Other Costs		141.82
Payments on Judgments		5,619.76
Payments on Conciliation Claims		1,082.17
Creditors paid on Trusteeships		1,605.00
Cash on hand		<u>7,716.21</u>
	<u>\$22,273.21</u>	<u>\$22,273.21</u>

I trust that you will find the above in order.

Respectfully submitted,

ROCKY RIVER MUNICIPAL COURT

Leonard S. Frost
Judge

LSF/hn