

MUNICIPAL COURTS Narrative Summary

Municipal Courts total case filing increase of 2.1% in FY 2005 is followed by a decrease of 1.2% in FY 2006. Total filings (including transfers in) decreased from 1,469,243 in FY 2005 to 1,451,725 in FY 2006, a decrease of 1.2%.

Traffic filings (criminal and civil), which comprise 72.2% of Municipal Court case activity, decreased by 0.9% from last year, from 1,057,934 to 1,048,279. Within the traffic category, criminal filings decreased by 0.9% and civil filings increased by 0.9% from FY 2005 to FY 2006. Misdemeanors (excluding criminal traffic) decreased, from 238,156 to 238,156 in FY 2005, an decrease of 0.3%.

From FY 2005 to FY 2006, Municipal Courts experienced a decrease in the number of petitions filed for injunctions against harassment and orders of protection. During FY 2006, a total of 12,465 petitions were filed for an order of protection, compared with 12,827 last year, a decrease of 2.8%. Petitions for injunctions against harassment decreased from last year to 8,960 in FY 2006, an increase of 4.8%.

Total dispositions (including transfers out) increased from 1,525,692 last year to 1,536,547 in FY 2006, an increase of 0.7%. Total traffic dispositions (criminal and civil) decreased by 0.8% from 1,095,069 in FY 2005 to 1,086,817 in FY 2006. Misdemeanor dispositions increased by 14.0%, from 254,730 in FY 2005 to 290,481 in FY 2006.

Non-criminal local ordinance case filings increased by 22.7%, from 135,278 in FY 2005 to 166,028 in FY 2006. Non-criminal local ordinances terminations showed a decrease of 9.5 %, from 175,893 in FY 2005 to 159,249 in FY 2006.

Finally, the total end of year pending cases increased from 785,528 in FY 2005 to 836,833 in FY 2006, an increase of 6.5%. The largest percentage increase was reported in misdemeanors, which increased from 311,356 in FY 2005 to 421,832 in FY 2006, an increase of 35.5%.