



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

MARY SHEFFIELD
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: William McConico, Chief Judge, 36th District Court
FROM: Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council
DATE: March 22, 2023
RE: 36th District Court, Budget Hearing Questions, Fiscal Year 2023/2024

SUMMARY:

1. How many eviction proceedings have gone through 36th District Court in FY 22-23?
 - a. What percentage of eviction proceedings rule in favor of landlords?
 - b. What percentage of eviction proceedings or housing-related administrative proceedings rule in default due to defendant absence?
2. What educational and informational literature/programs does 36th District Court provide to residents that informs them of the court support services offered in Detroit?
3. What assistance programs are there for low-income clients? What kind of assistance do your programs entail? How many clients take advantage of these programs?
4. Part of 36th's mission is to administer justice in an equitable, impartial, and timely manner in accordance with the rule of law. What processes has the court implemented to achieve this goal? Does 36th District Court currently have a case backlog that prevents this goal from being achieved? If so, how does the court expect to remedy the backlog?
5. How many diversion programs are offered at 36th District Court? What are the requirements for an offender to opt-into these programs? Is there follow-up with the offenders once they transition out of the program? What analysis can the court provide proving that this opportunity strengthens the offenders' ability to be reintegrated into society, decreasing recidivism?

6. For FY 2024, the mayor proposed 325 FTE's. However, salaries and wages decreased by approximately \$40,000. Employee benefits also decreased by ~ \$31,000. What is the reason for this discrepancy?
7. What is the current rate of employee turnover? Is the court currently experiencing a staffing shortage?
8. \$23,679,334 of General Fund dollars is recommended for District Court Operations. What do these operations entail? The forecast for FY2025 shows an approximate \$500,000 increase for these operations. What is the reason for the increase?
9. For FY 2024, the mayor proposed \$70,000 of General Fund dollars for "other expenses." What do these miscellaneous expenses entail?
10. As we continue to transition back to normal, what protocols does the court have in place to ensure member and public safety?

Please contact Caryn Shannon from my office at caryn.shannon@detroitmi.gov if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues
City Clerk