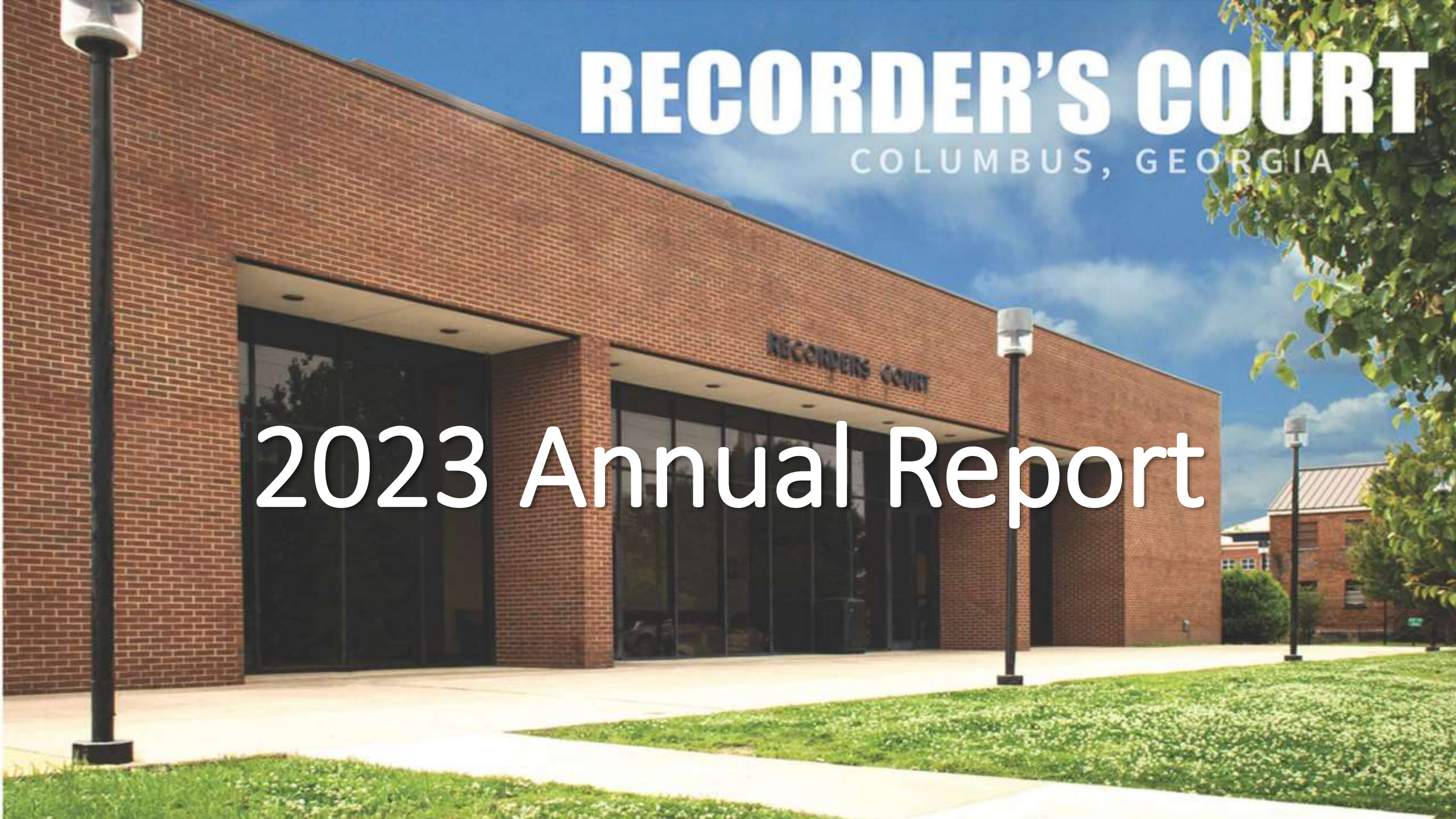


RECORDER'S COURT

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

2023 Annual Report



2023

A Year of Change & Progress

- Expanded outstanding team; dedicated and committed to excellence.
- Created a more efficient court.
- Strengthened communication and collaboration with agencies involved with Recorder's Court operations.
- Created a foundation for the expanded Recorder's Court vision.

What We Do

- Only criminal cases.
- Traffic citations, city ordinance violations, and certain state misdemeanor charges.
- Initial Appearance Hearings (Rights Advisement).
- Preliminary Hearings.
 - Determine probable cause.
 - If probable cause, set bond.
- Arrest warrants, search warrants, orders for production of documents.
- And collect fines and bonds.

Who We Are

- Chief Judge Ranieri took office on January 1, 2023.
- Welcomed Judge Susan Henderson and Judge Alonza Whitaker on February 27, 2023.
- 3 Full-Time Judges, 1 Pro Tem.
- Added Assistant Chief Deputy Clerk, Finance Manager, and 2 Deputy Clerk II positions in 2023
- 20 Total Team Members

We have a GREAT TEAM!



What We Accomplished

Case Statistics

↑2,432 cases from 2022 to 2023

Case Category	2022	2023	% Increase
City	28	60	114.3%
Environmental	202	378	87.1%
Felony	1,779	1,927	8.3%
Misdemeanors	3,199	3,414	6.7%
Traffic	15,765	17,626	11.8%
TOTAL	20,973	23,405	11.9%

What We Accomplished

Financial Summary

Note: It is not the Court's purpose or goal to raise revenue.

Revenue	2022	2023	CHANGE
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,723,027.99	\$3,117,467.72	+\$1,394,439.73
Base Fines	\$785,279.28	\$1,627,137.57	+\$841,858.29
Law Library	\$34,906.00	\$67,518.95	+\$32,612.95
Local Vict. Asst. Fund	\$38,819.01	\$79,398.44	+\$40,579.43

Brief Review of Some of Our Accomplishments in 2023

2023 Year in Review

Hold people accountable in a fair and impartial manner.

- Enforced traffic violations.
- Discontinued automatic bind over of MVA cases.
- Held Contempt of Court/FTAs accountable.
- Exercised our concurrent jurisdiction.

2023 Year in Review

Efficiency

- Separated Traffic Court from Prelims/PS
 - ✓ Get Law Enforcement Out of the Courtroom and Back on the Streets (or Home)
 - ✓ Get the General Public Out of the Courtroom and Back to Work or Home Quickly
- Dockets Revised
- Created Policies and Procedures Manual

2023 Year in Review

Create a Team-Centered Approach to Problem-Solving

- Written No Contact Orders/Protective Orders
- MVA/Concurrent Jurisdiction
- Visited Savannah/Chatham County Recorder's Court
- Strengthened communication with CPD, MCSO, IT, other Clerks
- Cross Training

2023 Year in Review

Good Stewards of our Public Funds and Property

- Postcards
- Digital documents
- Added Finance Manager
- Pretrial Diversion Program – Community Service
- 3 Judges and 2 staff members relocated to new City Hall
- Use of Pro Tem Judges

2023 Year in Review

Establish a Culture of Exemplary Customer Service

- Philosophy – Treat Others How You Want to Be Treated.
- 9 Clerks successfully completed CSU's Customer Service Training.

2023 Year in Review

Ensure our Court is Accessible

- Completely revised and updated website.
- Separated Courts makes attendance more convenient and less time-consuming.
- Entered every traffic base fine in Odyssey and on our website payment calculator.

2023 Year in Review

Community Involvement

- SpookFest at Civic Center, serving candy to hundreds of children.
- Feeding the Valley Canned Goods Drive.
- Hosted participants in the Mayor's Youth Program.
- Hosted Shaw High School Classes in Court.
- Hosted the 9th Annual Master of My Fate Lawyer Up 2023 Summer Law Camp in June.

What is to Come in 2024

- New Courtroom in Sheriff's Administrative Building
- Separating Courts (Environmental and Principal Summons)
- New Case Management Software – Defendant Access
- Increase use of Technology

- At every level, this past year, our Judges and our Team share something in common — a fervent belief that our work matters.
- We can look back on our accomplishments with pride, knowing we did our best to fulfill our mission, serve our community,
and...
that we will improve even more in 2024!

Recorder's Court 2023

A Year of Change & Progress