

QUARTERLY REPORT TO COUNCIL

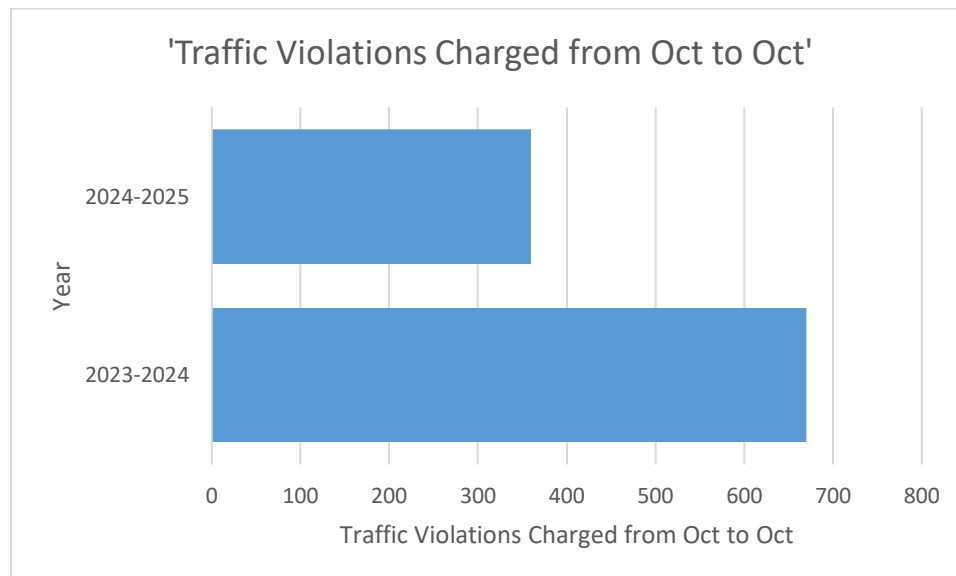


Meeting Date: November 5, 2025
Prepared by: Judge Amy Lindgren
Department: Administration
Division: Municipal Court
Reporting Period: September & October 2025
CC: City Administrator John Walsh

1. General Operations

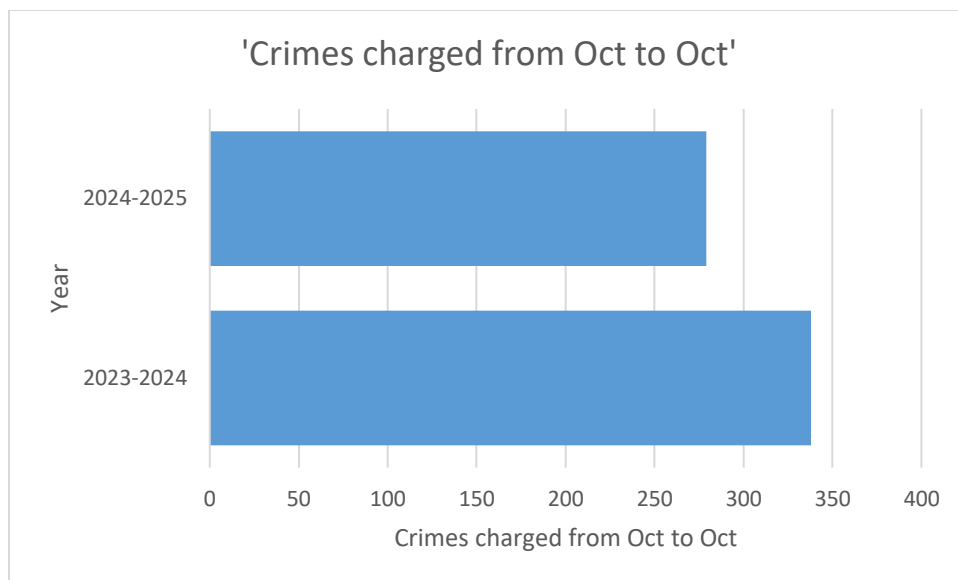
I am pleased to report that operations of the St. Helens Municipal Court continue to run smoothly. In the last report, I noted that Columbia County Jail no longer holds defendants who are arrested based on a police officer's probable cause. We have not felt an impact with this change.

From the time period of October 17, 2024 to October 17, 2025, the number of traffic and code enforcement cases submitted to the court dropped significantly.



From October 2023 to October 2024, most of the traffic violations submitted were Driving While Suspended and Driving Uninsured violations (approximately 155 each). Only two violations for Operating a Motor Vehicle While Using a Mobile Electronic Device were submitted for that time. From October 2024 to October 2025, approximately 100 Driving While Suspended and Driving Uninsured cases were submitted. There were no Operating a Motor Vehicle While Using a Mobile Electronic Device violations submitted.

From October 17, 2024 to October 17, 2025, the number of criminal cases submitted by the police department dropped as well, but not as significantly as the drop in traffic violations.



The majority of the criminal cases submitted for both time periods were traffic crimes including Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants, Reckless Driving, Driving While Suspended and Failure to Perform Duties of Driver.

In the next quarterly report, I will submit a comparison of the years to date for the full calendar years for the previous five years.

On a positive note, a young woman was on a deferred sentence agreement for a theft case. We learned that she dropped out of school in fifth grade and had been in and out of the foster care system. A condition of her deferred sentence agreement was to obtain her GED. It was not an easy task since she did not have any family support or funds to pay for the test or study materials. She reported on her progress every couple of months, and we were thrilled to celebrate her success at the end with a cake and big congratulations. Her charges were dismissed, and she is working on becoming a Certified Nurse Assistant. While the criminal justice system is not particularly positive in many regards, our small municipal court does have the ability to reach people in a meaningful way.

2. Staffing & Personnel

None

3. Projects & Initiatives

None

4. Upcoming Events & Important Dates

None