



Superior Court 00100.861.

Mission Statement

Superior Court:

- Adjudicate all cases, both criminal and civil, in a just and timely manner
- Assure due process and equal protection under the law
- Promote access to justice to all persons

Drug Court:

Enhance community safety and security by holding substance abusing individuals accountable for their actions while providing them an opportunity for treatment to develop and change their life skills and habits so they can become responsible and productive members of their families and society.

LIFT Court (Living in Families Together) Family Therapeutic Court:

LIFT Court's mission is to achieve safe and timely permanent child placement by providing structure, discipline, accountability and encouragement to parents through judicially managed community based service.

Function

Superior Court: The Superior Court is a general jurisdiction court. It has the responsibility of adjudicating matters coming before it over which it has original or appellate jurisdiction, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Washington. This includes felony criminal, civil, juvenile, domestic relations, adoption, guardianship, paternity, probate, domestic violence, and mental illness cases. The court is charged with resolving cases in an accessible and expeditious fashion.

Drug Court: Clallam county operates two Drug Court Programs for those charged with crimes. Adult Drug Court, including high risk DUI offenders and Juvenile Drug Court. All three Drug Courts are a minimum one year voluntary treatment-based program for individuals in need of intensive treatment for addictive disease. Drug Court offers an alternative to criminal prosecution.

Since its inception, Drug Court has served 963 participants with 391 graduates. Drug Court reduced recidivism, returned participants to work and school, reunited families and participants became active members of the community reducing need for community services. Clallam County has been able to provide more services and treatment opportunities to more participants than any county of comparable size.

LIFT Court (Living in Families Together) operates for high risk dependency cases that involve mental illness and/or alcoholism. Participants are referred by the court, social workers, attorneys, treatment providers or themselves. Participants are reviewed on a weekly basis for parenting, housing, legal, recovery/mental health issues and counseling compliance.

Since its inception in August 2008, LIFT Court has served 104 parents and 123 children. 34 parents have graduated, and 44 children have achieved permanency without the need for a trial. LIFT Court reduced recidivism, returned parent and children to school and/or work, reunited families, reduced the need for additional supervision, and created participants who are interested in their communities and want to be part of the greater good.

Goals

Superior Court:

1. Provide continuous training and education for staff and judges to ensure a high level of competency and efficiency, including succession planning.
2. Continue to ensure safe and secure courtrooms for the processing of criminal and civil cases that protects litigants, witnesses, spectators, and court personnel while working diligently to stay up-to-date with replacing old emergency radios with newer, more effective emergency radios throughout the courtrooms and offices providing for quick responses when requested.
3. Upgrade signage throughout the courtrooms and second floor lobby and hallways to provide the public with clear and easy-to-read directions throughout the courts.
4. Continue to efficiently manage limited resources through programs such as the Special Report Calendar (a mental health court that helps to reduce jail costs, among other advantages), Friendship Diversion (pre-trial supervisions and probation), and establishing a "flat-fee" for criminal conflict appointments and for some mental health evaluations. The Superior Court is also examining its collections practices and plans to identify best-practices balancing efficient collection with adherence to due-process principles.
5. In 2015, the court negotiated an agreement with the Family Court Commissioner to absorb additional commissioner calendars eliminating a part-time commissioner position creating a budget reduction.
6. Provide 24-hour coverage for law enforcement search warrants and wire orders.
7. Continue to reduce case backload.
8. Continue to work on courtroom modernization projects by making audio/visual and other technological improvements to bring the courtrooms to current standards. The public is now able to view exhibits and videos on courtroom television monitors. We also now have the capability to provide video conferencing when witnesses are unable to appear in court.
9. Continue to move toward implementing a new State-wide case management called "Odyssey" and work toward a "paperless court" through technology as resources allow. In 2017 we plan to implement the Odyssey program which will provide a more effective and efficient management of cases and reporting. It will also provide the public with the ability to view and access cases online saving time and money.

10. Increase community connectivity and outreach by initiating court Facebook page and upgrading and improving existing court website.
11. Update the Superior Court law library bringing our court up to current standards.
12. Replacement of old, dilapidated court lobby chairs with newer safe and sturdy chairs for the public's use.

Drug Court:

1. Provide an alternative to traditional criminal procedures for defendants committing offenses due to drug addiction.
2. Provide team training to enhance the effectiveness of the Drug Court Team and individual team members.
3. Utilize existing financial resources effectively.
4. Explore alternatives to State funded inpatient treatment placements for participants needing more help than is available through intensive outpatient treatment.

Workload Indicators

	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	6/30/16 Actual
Cases Filed:			
Criminal	501	476	271
Civil	1,117	1,041	488
Domestic	474	420	208
Probate/Guardianship	369	427	217
Adoption/Paternity	61	63	34
Mental Illness	58	89	87
Juvenile Non-Offender	388	395	224
Juvenile Offender	163	128	60
Total Cases Filed	3,131	3,039	1,589
Non-Trial Proceedings:			
Civil/Juvenile	8,538	7,453	3,867
Criminal/Juvenile Offender	11,047	9,686	4,782
Total Non-Trial Proceedings	19,585	17,139	8,649
Trials:			
Civil Non-Jury Trial	16	37	19
Civil Jury Trials	5	1	1
Criminal Jury	14	11	4
Criminal Non-Jury	16	18	12
Total Trials	51	67	36
Drug Court:			
Adult, Juvenile Court Participants	114	125	77
Adult, Juvenile Drug Court Graduates	13	25	8
LIFT Court:			
Adult clients served in LIFT Court	48	45	49
Children served in LIFT Court	75	59	63

Grant Funding Sources

1. Department of Health and Human Services (Federal)
2. Office Administrator for the Courts (State)

Revenues

	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	6/30/16 Actual	2017 Budget
Taxes	0	0	0	0
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	596,119	63,451	22,782	56,613
Charges for Goods and Services	162,750	209,771	81,378	219,795
Fines and Forfeits	306	502	291	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	5,034	0	1,022	5,000
Other Financing Sources	0	0	0	0
Transfers In	50,000	0	0	0
General Tax Support	433,836	987,452	502,633	1,190,220
Total	\$1,248,045	\$1,261,176	\$608,106	\$1,471,628

Expenditures

	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	6/30/16 Actual	2017 Budget
Salaries and Wages	719,668	686,387	346,987	754,604
Personnel Benefits	148,364	131,938	67,883	158,859
Supplies	9,768	56,392	4,889	23,557
Other Services and Charges	370,245	386,459	188,347	464,908
Intergovernmental Services	0	0	0	69,700
Capital Outlays	0	0	0	0
Interfund Payments for Services	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0
Total	\$1,248,045	\$1,261,176	\$608,106	\$1,471,628

Staffing

	2014 Budget	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	2017 Budget
Full Time Equivalents	8.63	8.63	8.75	8.75

*The Drug Court Special Revenue Fund was closed on 12/31/10 and is now a division of the Superior Court General Fund.