

**TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS**



**HENDRY AND GLADES COUNTY COURTS  
2017**



HENDRY AND GLADES COUNTY  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE  
HONORABLE JAMES D. SLOAN  
JUDICIAL ASSISTANT: TILENA GUTSHALL



HENDRY COUNTY COURT JUDGE  
HONORABLE SCOTT H. CUPP  
JUDICIAL ASSISTANT: IVELISSE MILLER



GLADES COUNTY COURT JUDGE  
HONORABLE JACK LUNDY  
JUDICIAL ASSISTANT: KELLY BRANTLEY

**Hendry County Court**  
**Administrative Office of the Courts Organization Chart**

**Michael T. McHugh**  
**Chief Judge**

**Scott Wilsker**  
**Trial Court Administrator**

**Dawn Oliver**  
**Administrative Services Manager**

**HENDRY COUNTY PROBATION  
DEPARTMENT**

SHONNA LYNN—PROBATION OFFICER  
MAYRA MARTINEZ—PROBATION OFFICER  
L. CRISTINA JEDRYKOWSKI—SECRETARY III

**CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT  
FAMILY LAW AND FORECLOSURES**

MAGISTRATE DARRELL HILL  
NANCY OWENS—CIVIL COURT SPECIALIST II

**CRIMINAL CASE MANAGEMENT  
JUVENILE ARBITRATION**

CRISTINA FILSON—SPECIALTY COURT  
COORDINATOR/PRETRIAL CASE MANAGER

**Court Operations,  
Courthouse Security and  
Facilities Management**

## HENDRY COUNTY COURTS CRIMINAL DIVISION

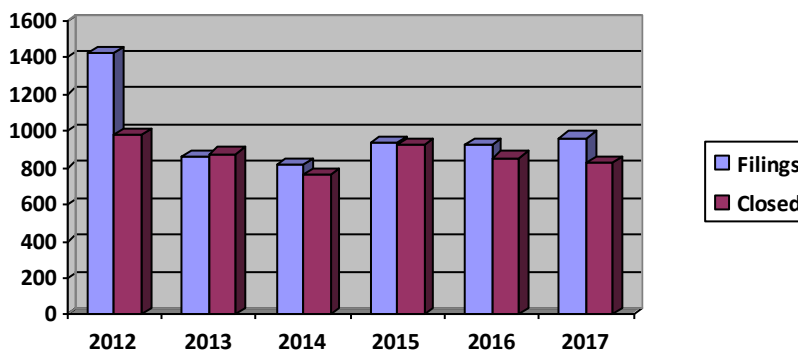
The Hendry County Circuit Felony filings have increased by 4% since 2016. However, they are still 32% lower than the amount of cases filed in 2012. A total of 827 felony cases were brought to a disposition in 2017 creating a clearance rate of 86%. Hendry County misdemeanor filings have decreased since 2016 by approximately 26%. 1054 Misdemeanor cases were brought to disposition in 2017, 973 were disposed of by plea and 13 cases were presented to a jury. A clearance rate of 123% was noted in the Misdemeanor caseload. Criminal traffic case filings are at the lowest in 5 years, which is 29% less cases than filed in 2012. A further decrease was experience in Civil Traffic filings of approximately 40% since 2015. 103% of Civil Traffic cases were disposed of in 2017 or 4422 cases.

\*\* Filing and Disposition Data include cases re-opened for Violations of probation.

<b>Filings</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Criminal Traffic	1183	1024	1006	1301	1107	837
Civil Traffic	5529	5995	6133	7192	5122	4281
Misdemeanor	1268	972	771	945	1159	855
Felony	1424	860	815	938	922	963

## Hendry County Circuit Court Felony Case Management

Hendry County Circuit Criminal Court utilizes differentiated Case Management methods to monitor and track all felony criminal cases. The Criminal Case Manager maintains detailed case notes regarding all on-going discovery issues and assists in identifying cases that could be deferred into early intervention programs. Case management ensures early disposition in appropriate cases and allows for adequate time for trial preparation in the more complex cases. In 2017, the average pending felony caseload was 421 cases. A total of 827 cases reached a disposition, creating a clearance rate of 86%. 394 cases were disposed of by plea and 14 cases were presented to a jury. Below depicts the felony filings and dispositions over the past 6 years:



**Hendry County Circuit Court Juvenile Arbitration Program**

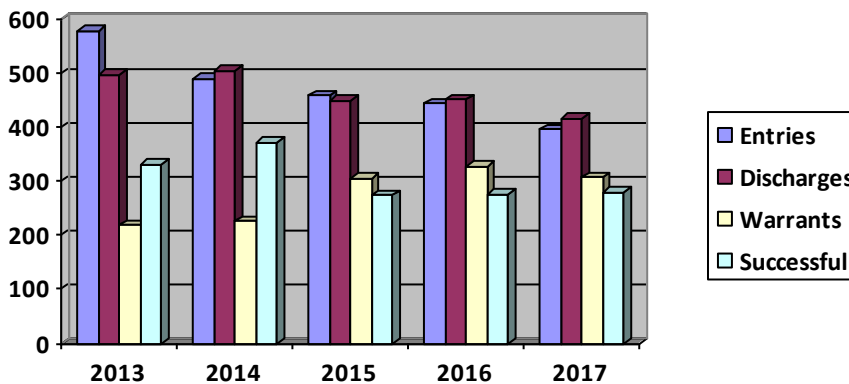
The Hendry County Juvenile Arbitration Diversion Program diverts juveniles with relatively minor offenses from the formal judicial process to be handled in a speedy and informal manner utilizing community resources. The Hendry County Juvenile Arbitration Program has three certified volunteer arbitrators that rotate hearing cases once a week, as needed. In 2017, 221 juvenile petitions were filed with the Court. 25 pre-filed juveniles were given the opportunity to participate in the Hendry County Juvenile Arbitration Program, which is a decrease of 56% from 2016. Eight cases were referred back to the State's Attorney's Office for formal prosecution creating a success rate of 64%.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
Juvenile Arb	25	57	79	58
Civil Citation	12	19	42	
Petitions	221	262	248	212

## **HENDRY COUNTY PROBATION AND PRETRIAL DEPARTMENT**

The Hendry County Probation Department pursuant to Florida Statute § 948.08, and §948.15 provides services to offenders adjudicated of misdemeanors who are ordered to comply with conditions of probation. Currently, the office is comprised of two Probation Officers, one of which is designated as team lead, and a Secretary III for support. The average daily caseload including Diversion and Probation Cases is approximately 235 offenders, which is a significant decrease from the previous year.

In 2017, The Hendry County Probation Department had 396 new cases ordered to comply with conditions of supervision, which is 48 fewer cases than 2016. The Department discharged 416 offenders from probation. Of those 416 discharges, 276 (67%) completed their probation successfully. Hendry County Probation Officers issued 307 warrants in 2017. The department looks to implement evidence based assessment tools and case management plans to reduce the agencies recidivism rate. The 2017 Recidivism Study indicated that the department has a recidivism rate of 40%.



### **Hendry County Pretrial Supervision Program**

The Hendry County Pretrial Supervision Program is designed to provide bail options to the courts while upholding public safety. 27 defendants were referred to the Pretrial Supervision Program in 2017, which is a 40% decrease from 2016. Twenty-seven (27) participants completed the program successfully and nine (9) terminated the program unsuccessfully for technical violations of non-compliance with their GPS monitoring condition. The Pretrial Supervision Program demonstrated a 72% success rate in 2017.

### **Misdemeanor Pretrial Diversion Program**

The Misdemeanor Pretrial Diversion Program is a voluntary deferred prosecution option that allows first time offenders charged with misdemeanors to complete conditions and if successfully completed, these cases are not prosecuted further. This cooperative effort between the State's Attorney's Office and the Hendry County Probation Department helps to expedite cases through the judicial system while holding defendants accountable for their actions. Since January of 2017, 142 defendants were offered the diversion program, which was a 32% decrease from 2016. Out of the 112 participants that accepted and entered the diversion program, only 14 participants failed to complete their court ordered sanctions and were returned to the court for formal prosecution. The Misdemeanor Pretrial Diversion Program had an 88% successful completion rate for 2017.



## **Hendry County Courts Civil Division**

### **Hendry County Family Court Program**

The Family Court Program assists the Hendry Circuit Court Judge by case managing and hearing family law cases utilizing a Magistrate. Currently the Family Court Program is case managing approximately 230 cases, which is consistent with the previous year. This number does not include Department of Revenue Child Support Cases. In 2017, 339 Domestic Relations cases were filed (not including child support cases). This is a 7.6% decrease since 2016. The Family Court Program assisted in closing 322 cases in 2017, creating a clearance rate of 95%. The Family Law Magistrate hears cases 6 days a month in Hendry County.

### **Hendry County Courts Foreclosure Case Management**

The Hendry County Foreclosure Case Management Program diligently works to reduce the number of pending foreclosure cases, with a main focus on disposing cases 18 months and older. These cases are heard by a Senior Judge every other month. At this time, Hendry County Circuit Court has approximately 82 active foreclosure matters, which is 11 cases more than the 2016. The Hendry County Foreclosure Case Management Program has closed 66 cases in 2017, creating a clearance rate of approximately 67%. The Foreclosure Case Manager also assists the Clerk's Office and Circuit Judicial Assistant in addressing back logged civil cases pending within the Circuit Court.

**Hendry County Courts Small Claims Mediation  
Program**

In 2015, the Hendry County Court began offering a dispute resolution option for County Civil and Small Claims cases. The Mediation Program affords all parties the opportunity to reach an agreement without a trial. The Hendry Small Claims Mediation Program currently has two Florida Supreme Court Certified Volunteer County Court Mediators that assist in resolving disputes free of charge. 198 Small Claims Cases were filed in 2017, this is a 8.5% increase from 2016. The Small Claims Mediation Program provided mediation in 25 cases, and resolved 15 of those cases prior to trial.



**Glades County Court**  
**Administrative Office of the Courts Organization Chart**

**Michael T. McHugh**  
**Chief Judge**

**Scott Wilsker**  
**Trial Court Administrator**

**Dawn Oliver**  
**Administrative Services Manager**

**GLADES COUNTY PROBATION  
DEPARTMENT**

Michelle Lanier—Probation Officer

**CIVIL CASE MANAGEMENT  
FAMILY LAW AND FORECLOSURES**

MAGISTRATE DARRELL HILL  
NANCY OWENS—CIVIL COURT SPECIALIST II

**Court Operations  
Courthouse Security  
Facilities Management**

## GLADES COUNTY COURTS CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Glades County Circuit Court Felony filings have increased by 24% since 2016. In 2017, 258 felony cases were filed or reopened for a Violation of Probation. 256 cases were brought to a disposition, 110 by plea and three were brought before a jury. Felony dispositions created a clearance rate of 99%.

The Glades County Court Criminal filings decreased by 25% since 2016. There were 316 misdemeanor and criminal traffic cases filed compared to 323 cases brought to disposition. The clearance rate for County Court Criminal was 102% in 2017. Of the 323 cases disposed of in 2017, 176 cases accepted a plea and two were brought before a jury.

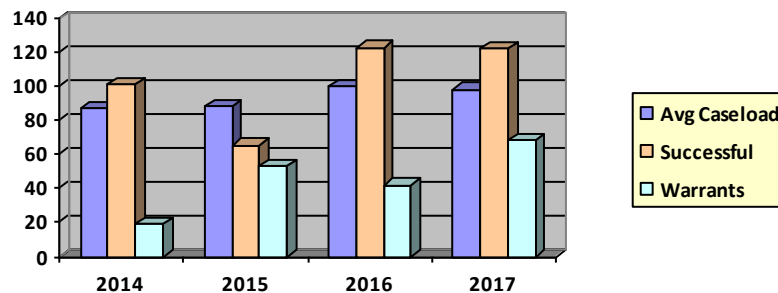
Also in 2017 there were 25 Juvenile Delinquency cases filed with 19 cases reaching a disposition, creating a clearance rate of 76%. A limited number of juvenile defendants were granted the ability to participated in the Hendry County Juvenile Arbitration Program.

<b>Filings per CCIS</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Criminal Traffic	221	140	215	155
Civil Traffic	4754	3331	5029	3732
Misdemeanor	265	162	162	161
Felony	199	165	196	258

**GLADES COUNTY PROBATION AND PRETRIAL  
DEPARTMENT**

The Glades County Probation Department pursuant to Florida Statute § 948.08, and §948.15 provides services to offenders adjudicated of misdemeanors who are ordered to comply with conditions of probation. The active daily caseload has remained consistent at approximately 98 probationers over the past couple of years. In 2017, there were 118 new probation referrals, which was a 24% decrease from 2016. Of the 141 cases terminated in 2017, 122 successfully completed their court ordered conditions, creating a compliance rate of 87%. The Glades County Probation Department filed 68 warrants in 2017.

The Glades County Probation Department also provides supervision for defendants ordered to comply with pre-trial diversion, a deferred prosecution option offered by the court. In 2017, there were 48 defendants diverted from formal prosecution, which is a 23% increase from 2016. The program had a 97% successful completion rate for 2017. In combining both Pretrial Diversion and Probation Supervision, caseloads the Glades County supervises approximately 125 offenders at a given time.



**GLADES COUNTY COURTS CIVIL DIVISION**

Glades County Circuit Civil caseload decreased by 24% since 2016. The total number of filings for 2017 was 139 cases. The filings for Family Law remained consistent with the previous year at 163 cases, which includes child support, dissolutions, and paternity cases.

In 2017, there were 19 foreclosure cases filed, while 20 cases reached a disposition creating a 105% clearance rate. There are currently 20 active foreclosure cases pending in Glades County, with only 7 being over 18 months or older. Senior Judge days were not utilized in 2017 to maintain and address the foreclosure caseload within Glades County Circuit Court.

The Glades County Court Small Claims and Civil filings have remained constant over the last three years with very little fluctuation. In 2017, 87 filings were recorded.

---

<b>2017 Filings</b>	<b>Filings</b>	<b>Dispositions</b>
Circuit Civil	139	69
Domestic Rel.	163	171
County Civil	58	41
Small Claims	29	29
Foreclosures	26	49

---