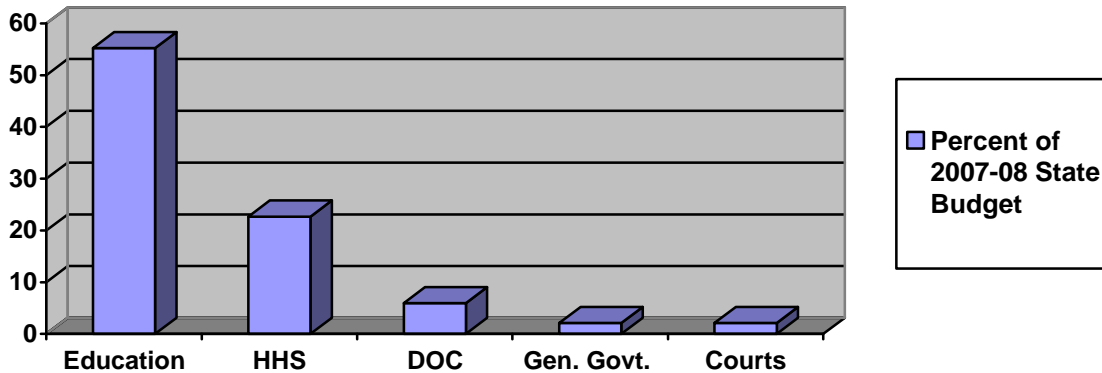


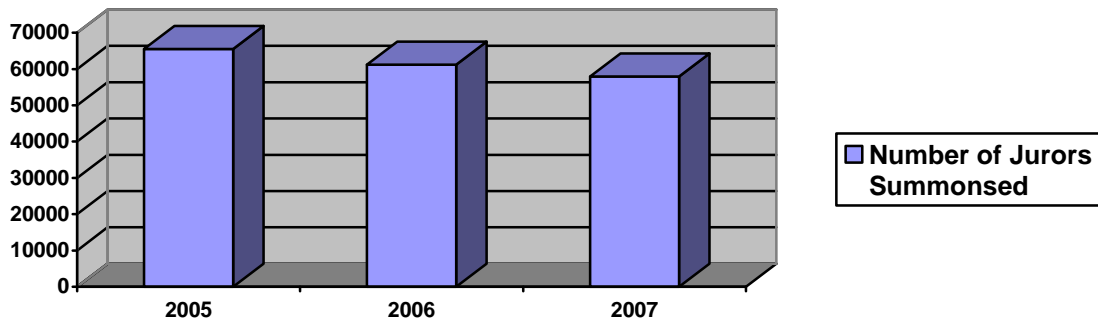
# Guilford County – 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District 2007 Annual Performance Report

## *Funding*



- ◆ The North Carolina Legislature increased the total amount of funding for the Judicial Branch by 12% for 2007-2008. Despite this increase, the percentage of funds allocated to the Judicial Branch remains at approximately 2% of the state's \$20 billion overall budget.
- ◆ Based on FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) positions, Guilford County accounts for 4.81% of the Judicial Branch's Budget and disposed of 5.77% of the state's total case filings.
- ◆ In the 2007-08 state budget, Guilford County received funding for one new District Court Judge, two new assistant district attorneys and four support staff, five new magistrates, over 20 new Clerk's office positions, and new staff for the Public Defender's Office.
- ◆ A new North Carolina Judicial Center opened in Raleigh, centralizing the Court's state operations and providing state-of-the-art technology capacity well into the future.

## *Citizens and the Community*



- ◆ By paying closer attention to juror usage, we have reduced the number of occasions when jurors are summoned and not used for court proceedings. Despite increasing caseloads, 2007 saw a reduction in over 3,000 summonses being issued to our county's citizens.
- ◆ Next year's summonses should continue to decrease, as Guilford County is installing a new, computerized jury summoning and management system.

## *Guilford's Court Performance 2007\**

	<u>Pending Cases:</u> <u>January 07</u>	<u>Total Cases</u> <u>Filed</u>	<u>Total Cases</u> <u>Disposed</u>	<u>Pending Cases:</u> <u>December 07</u>	<u>Cases Disposed</u> <u>as a % of Filed</u>	<u>Statewide Disposed %</u>
<b>Superior Court Civil</b>						
Civil:	1,424	1,704	1,918	1,210	113%	103%
Estates:	3,132	2,578	2,716	2,994	105%	102%
Special Proceedings:	2,296	4,343	3,939	2,700	91%	95%
Total:	6,852	8,625	8,573	6,904	99%	99%
<b>Superior Court Criminal</b>						
Murder:	68	35	47	56	134%	111%
Other Felonies:	5,937	9,095	9,949	5,083	109%	109%
Misdemeanors:	493	805	840	458	104%	105%
Misdemeanor Appeals:	183	163	188	158	115%	113%
Total:	6,681	10,098	11,024	5,755	109%	109%
<b>District Court Civil</b>						
Civil Magistrates:	1,956	22,727	22,746	1,937	100%	101%
Domestic Relations:	4,638	6,980	7,247	4,371	104%	101%
Civil:	2,267	4,933	4,324	2,876	88%	90%
Total:	8,861	34,640	34,317	9,184	99%	99%
<b>District Court Criminal</b>						
Felonies:	3,985	10,906	11,294	3,597	104%	102%
Non-Motor Vehicle:	21,218	33,920	37,825	17,313	112%	109%
Motor Vehicle:	26,742	50,674	56,492	20,924	111%	105%
Total:	51,945	95,500	105,611	41,834	111%	106%
<b>Infractions:</b>	11,857	43,604	46,753	8,708	107%	103%
<b>Total All Cases</b>	<b>86,196</b>	<b>192,467</b>	<b>206,278</b>	<b>72,385</b>	<b>107%</b>	<b>104%</b>

\*All case filing and disposition data are run utilizing the AOC Court Performance Management System (CPMS)

- ◆ Guilford County reduced its case backlog, disposing of 107% of the total cases filed in 2007. As a result, 2008 begins with almost 14,000 fewer pending cases than 2007.
- ◆ Guilford County compares favorably with other counties, either meeting or exceeding the statewide benchmark in almost every category.
- ◆ In fiscal year 2006-07, the number of cases filed in Guilford County grew by 1.9%, or almost 4,000 cases (AOC, FY0607 Report).
- ◆ The average age of Domestic Relations cases dropped from 615 days to 179 days in fiscal year 2006-07 (AOC, FY0607 Report).

### *2008 Initiatives*

- ◆ The first phase of a year-long Courthouse renovation project is scheduled to begin early in 2008. The addition of new, high-volume courtrooms will result in both faster case processing and reduced waiting for citizens.
- ◆ The Guilford County Commissioners have funded a Drug Court and a Mental Health Court in High Point, modeled after these existing courts in Greensboro. They have also provided funding for new Pretrial Services Case Managers to help manage the jail population.