MUNICIPAL COURTS

Municipal courts are organized subject to Public Act 5 of 1956, although most were first organized under either Public Act 279 of 1909 or Public Act 269 of 1933. They have exclusive original jurisdiction over all ordinance violations, criminal jurisdiction equal to that of district court, and civil jurisdiction of claims limited to \$6,000.

The District Court Act of 1968 abolished most of the municipal courts, but permitted some municipalities to retain their courts. Four such municipal courts remain: Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, and Grosse Pointe Woods, all in Wayne County.

Municipal judges must be lawyers and residents and electors of their municipalities. They are paid by the municipalities and are elected for four-year terms.

In 2018, 29,343 cases were filed. Almost 30 percent of cases filed are traffic related.

