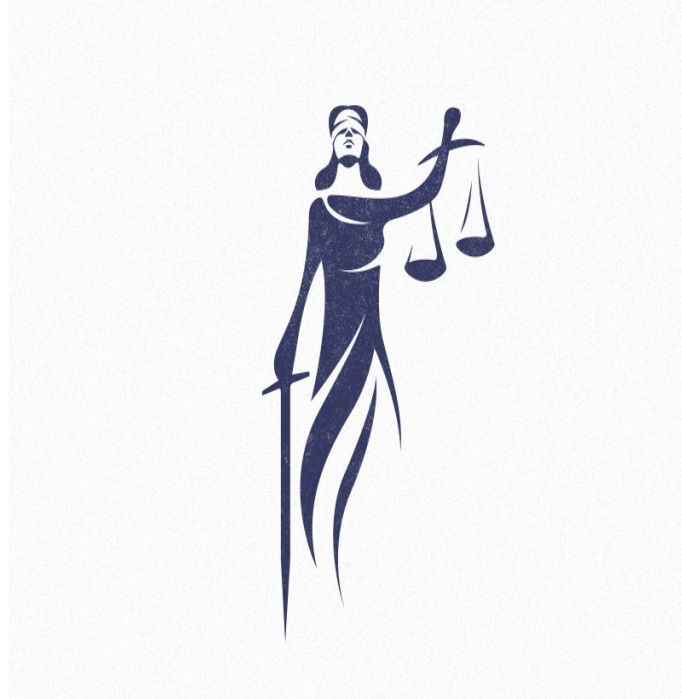


A. Law Day Presentation

Receive a presentation regarding Law Day.

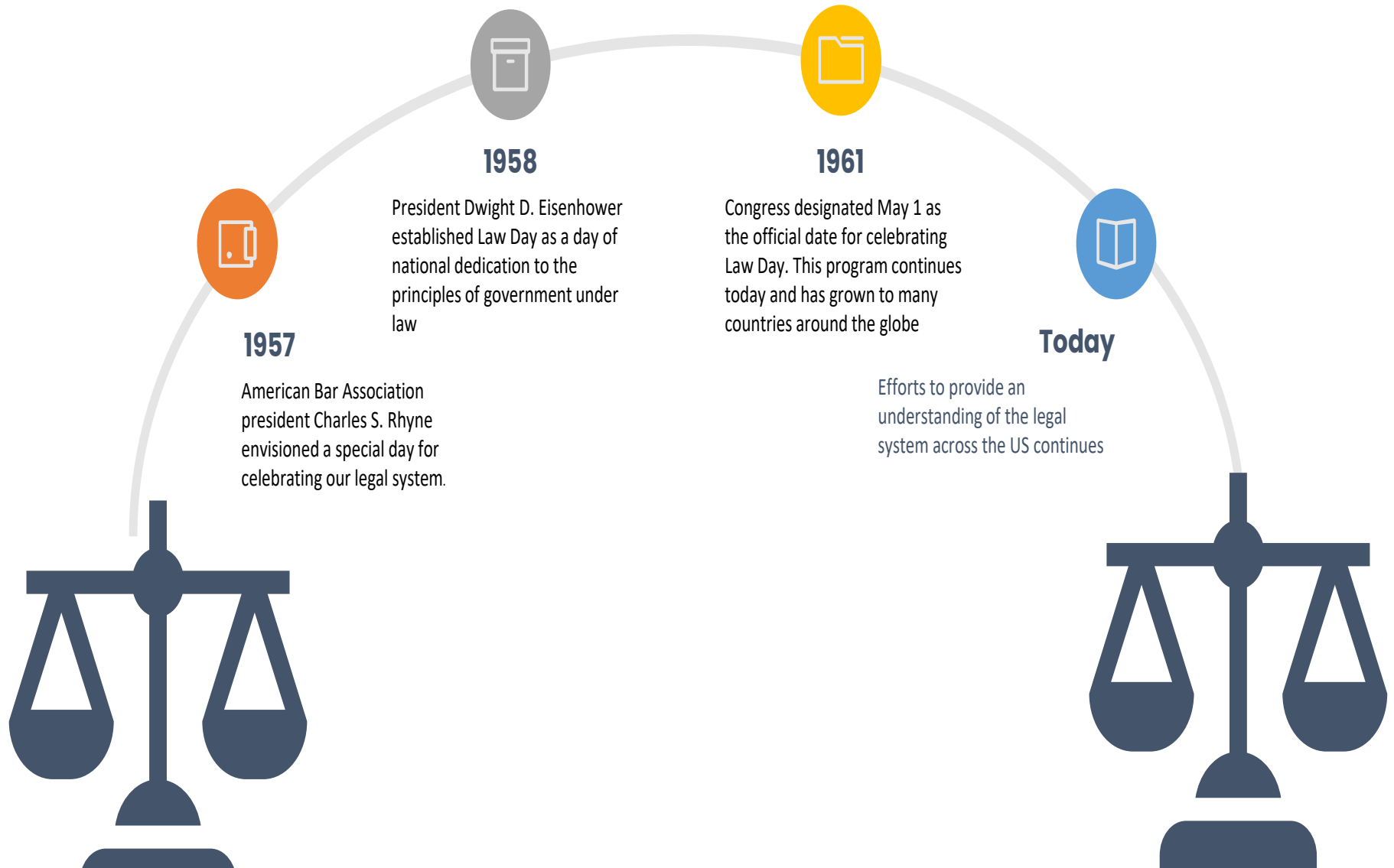
# Sunnyside Municipal Court

## Law Day 2025



# Law Day

Law Day is an annual commemoration held on May 1st to celebrate the rule of law and cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal system.



# Separation of Power

Under the "separation of powers doctrine," each of the three branches exercises certain defined powers, free from unreasonable interference by the others, yet all three branches interact with each other as part of a checks-and-balances system. Cities operate under two branches, Executive and Judicial Branch.



**Legislative Branch- Legislature**



**Executive Branch- Mayor or Manager**



**Judicial Branch- Municipal Court**

# Municipal Court Jurisdictions

Sunnyside Municipal Court provides court services for the City of Sunnyside and City of Toppenish



Sunnyside Municipal Court



## Criminal Matters

A violation of law that is punishable as a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor



## Infractions

Traffic violation where a financial penalty is imposed. (*Speeding, No Insurance, Fail to Yield*)

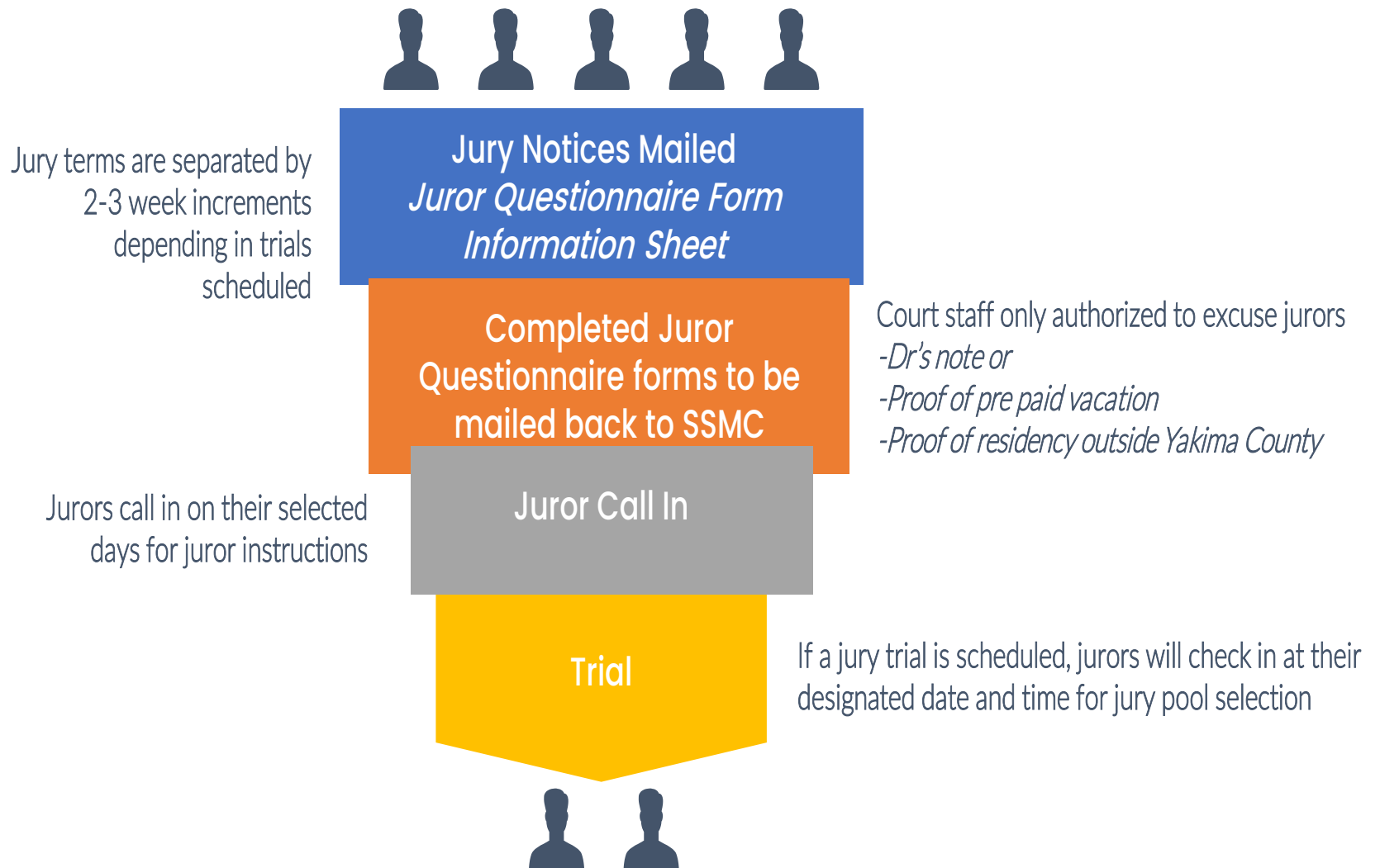


## Other Civil Infractions

Non-Traffic violation where a financial penalty is imposed. (*Parking, and dog violations*)

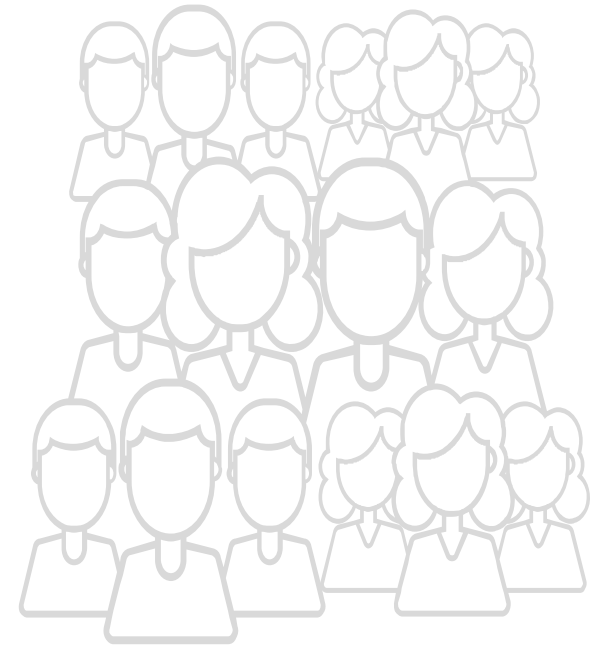
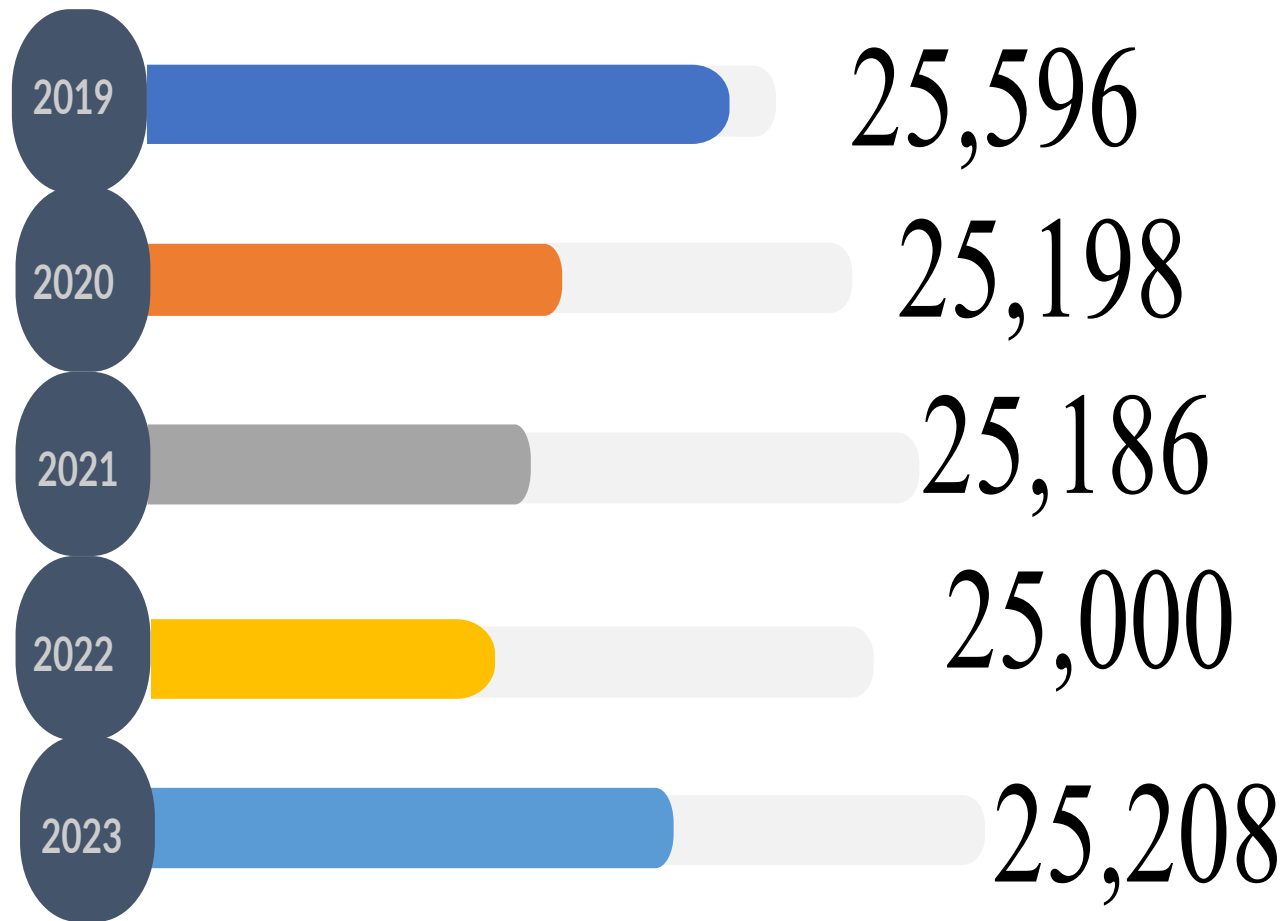
# Jury Duty

City of Sunnyside and City of Toppenish jury lists are provided to our court by Yakima County Superior Court  
Jurors may be collected for anyone living within Yakima County

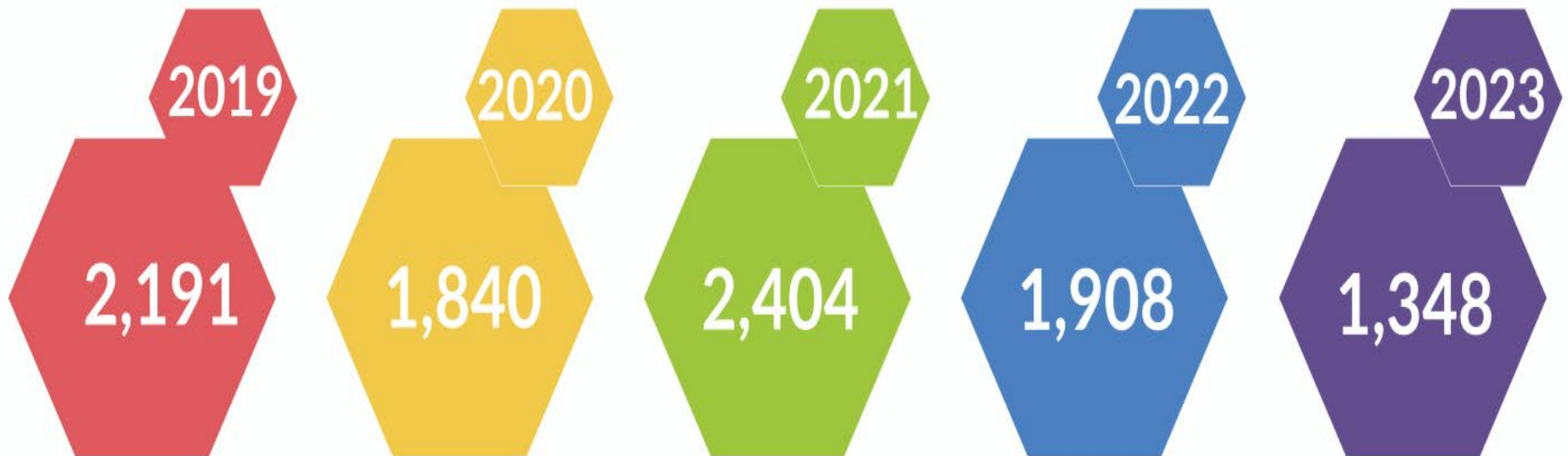


# Population Served

Approximately 90% of individuals who have criminal matters in our court are considered indigent.



# Infractions Filed



# Infractions Filed



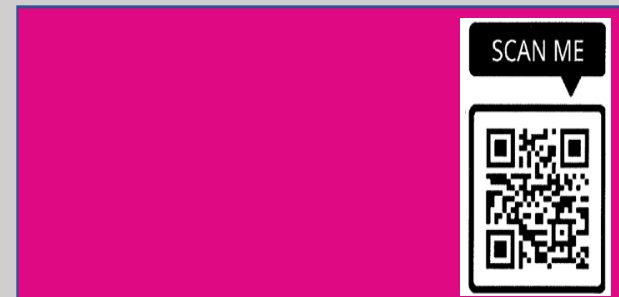
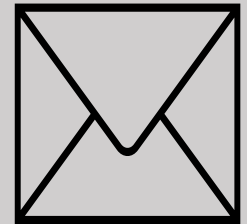
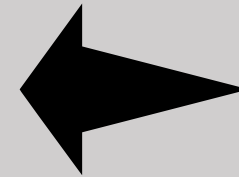
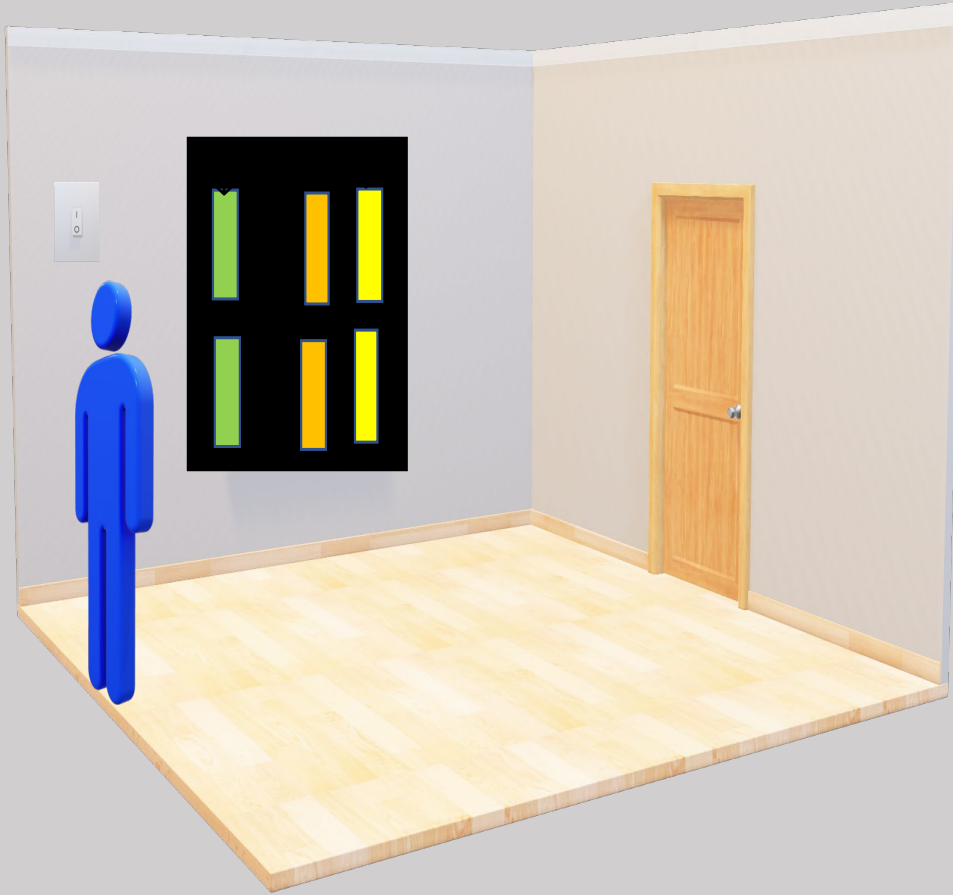
2024

A blue hexagon containing the year 2024.

1,459

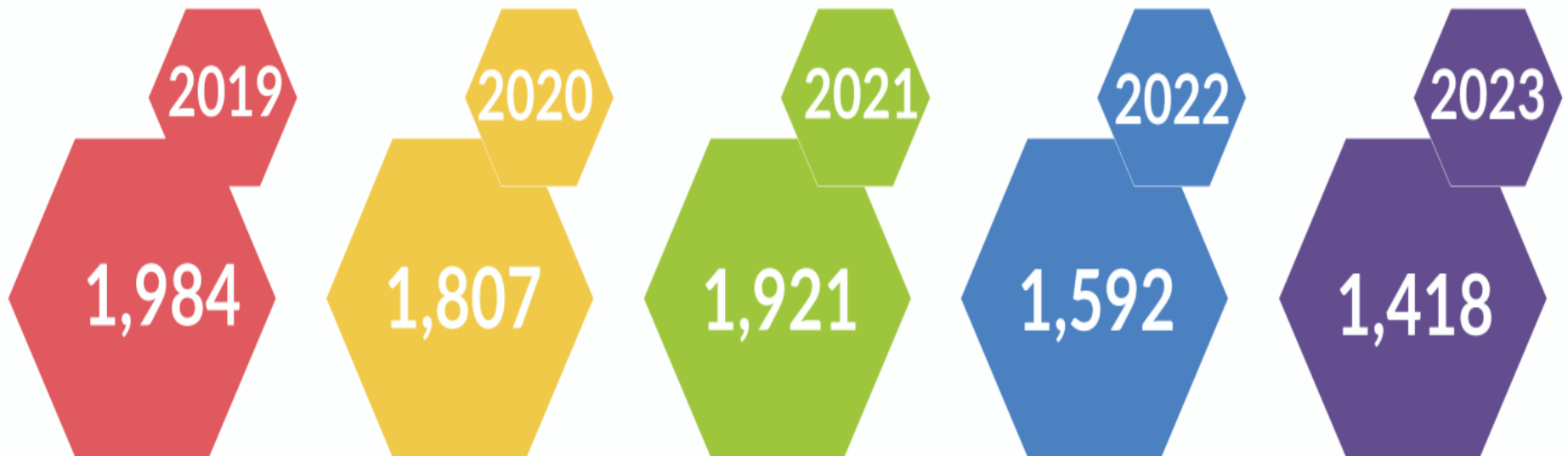
A large blue hexagon containing the number 1,459.

# Public Access- 24/7



*In order to continue providing full public access, informational slips were created to assist the public on all avenues of court operation. This significantly increased production of office supplies and additional items to assist with the high production. Informational payment slips were also mailed with time-pay statements to assist with payment options.*

# Criminal Cases Filed



# Criminal Cases Filed



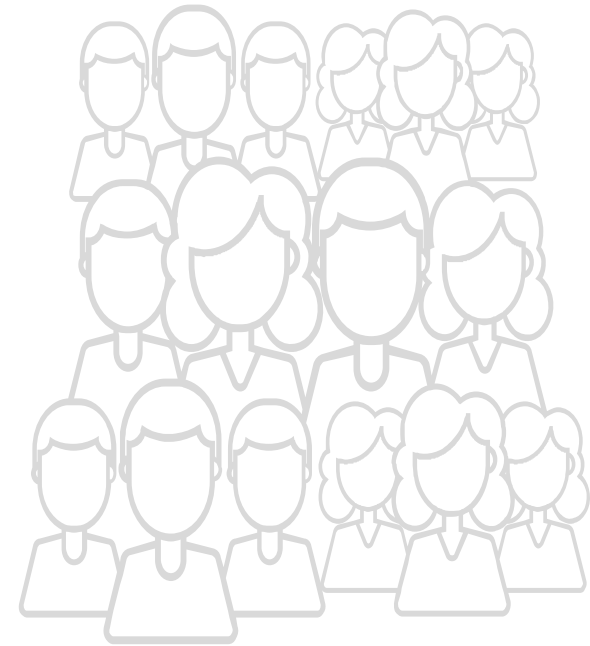
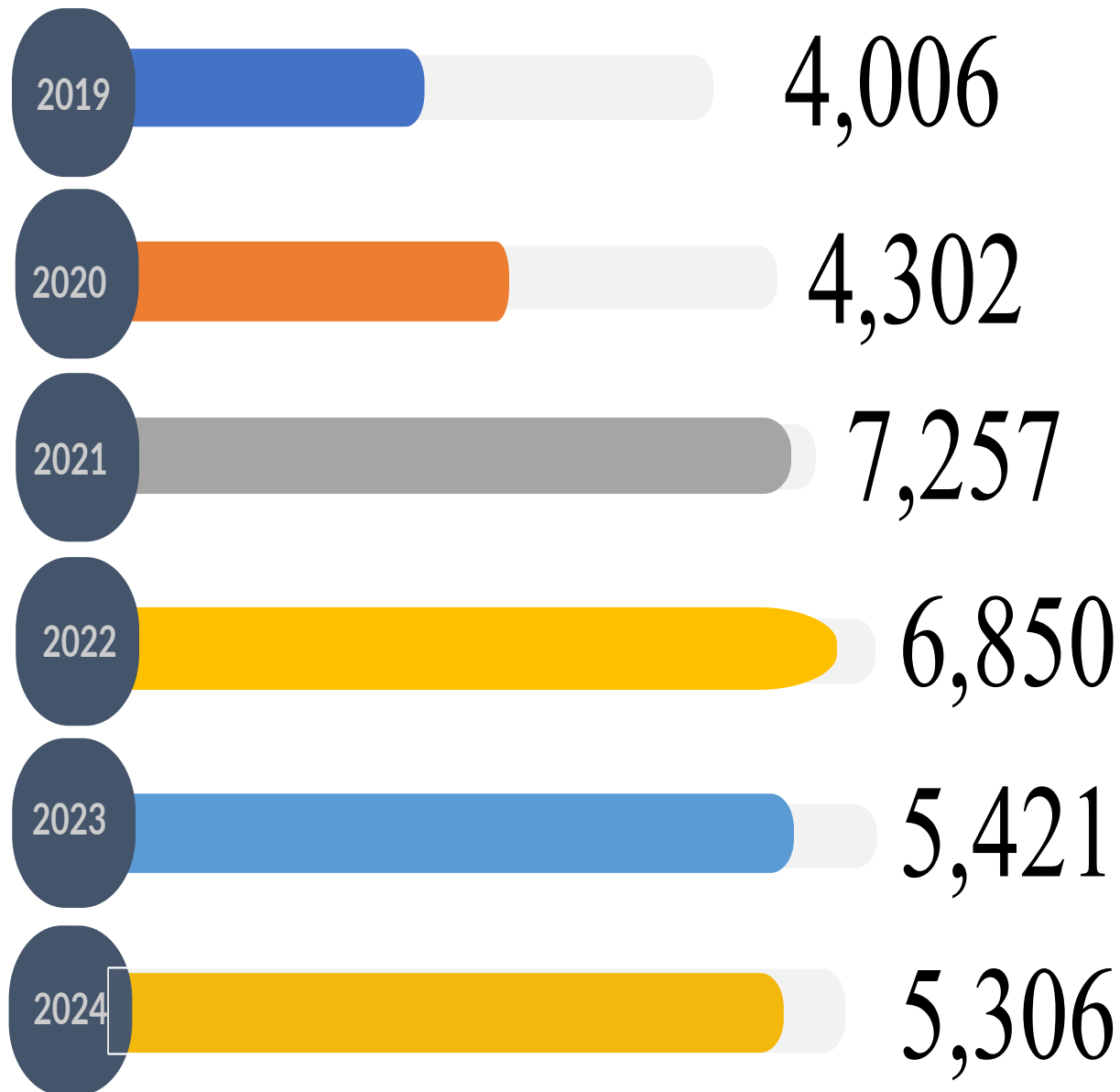
2024

1,348

The infographic consists of two blue hexagons. The top hexagon is smaller and contains the year '2024'. The bottom hexagon is larger and contains the number '1,348'. Both hexagons are centered horizontally and vertically relative to each other.

1,348

# Court Proceedings Held



# Revenue for Court Services

	Sunnyside
2017	\$26,361.02
2018	\$229,663.13
2019	\$210,022.14
2020	\$207,990.97
2024	\$189,623.69
2021	\$189,623.69
2022	\$181,081.11
2023	\$310,535.42
2024	\$522,073.88

# Primary Court Representatives

All parties are required to be present for active court proceedings for each scheduled hearing, if not, the case may not proceed. All parties are expected to appear in person or by zoom upon presiding Judge approval.

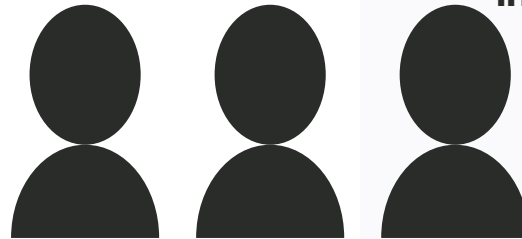


**Presiding Judge**  
*-Judge Lee*

**Prosecuting Attorney**  
Representative of Plaintiff

**Defense Attorney**

Representative of Defendant



**Interpreter**

Primarily Spanish interpreters but have utilized ASL and Tzetzal interpreting Services  
\*Required by law to provide interpreting services for defendants who are non-english speaking.



**Court Clerk**

Acts as hearing examiner, transcriber and representative for the Presiding Judge



# Criminal Court Proceedings

## Initiation

Law Enforcement  
Prosecuting Attorney  
Jail  
Defendant

## Arraignment

Prosecuting Attorney  
Defendant  
Interpreter

## Pre Trial

Prosecuting Attorney  
Defendant  
Defense Attorney  
Interpreter

## Resolution

Prosecuting Attorney  
Defendant  
Defense Attorney  
Interpreter

## Post Sentencing *As needed*

Prosecuting Attorney  
Defendant  
Defense Attorney  
Interpreter  
Jail  
Probation  
Treatment Agencies

Criminal Citation- Law Enforcement

Criminal Complaint- Prosecuting Attorney

*When a person is arrested or could have been arrested for a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor*

-Defendant advised of nature of the charges

-Defendant enters a plea

-Right to an attorney

-Conditions of Release imposed

-Hearing reset for Pre Trial Hearing

-Status of the case is addressed

-Entry of Guilty Plea  
-Judgement and Sentencing

-Stipulated Order of Continuance

-Deferred Prosecution

- Compliance Review Hearings

# Collaboration

The success of SSMC relies heavily on the collaborative efforts amongst multiple departments involved in court operations



# SSMC Mission

Sunnyside Municipal Court strives to promote confidence in the independence, integrity and impartiality of our judicial system.



*Any Questions?*

Thank you for attending  
Sunnyside Municipal Court

Law Day 2025

