

Town of Kiawah Island Municipal Court

2007 Court Report

For all of 2007, the Town of Kiawah Island Municipal Court handled 205 traffic, criminal misdemeanor and town ordinance cases, down significantly from 284 in 2006, due entirely to a decline in traffic-related volumes. There were 359 cases in 2005; 303 cases in 2004 and 185 in 2003. For the second year in a row, there were just over 50 town ordinance violations, due primarily to improved administrative and court procedures involving business license violations. In addition, there was another drop in underage alcohol possession charges, which we prosecute under our ordinances rather than under the state criminal code. There were 4 criminal misdemeanor cases, the same as last year, involving disorderly conduct; marijuana possession; and criminal domestic violence. The town collected \$18,835 in fines and assessments.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Deputies reported 213 traffic contacts during 2007, down significantly from the 348 contacts in 2006. This year, nearly 60% of all contacts resulted in a citation being issued while the remaining received a written warning. The Court has already and will continue to schedule additional sessions each month to make it easier for Deputies to appear to prosecute traffic violations.

The Court has begun a study to determine whether it should re-arrange its dockets to create a monthly "quality of life session", modeled after the highly acclaimed City of Charleston Livability Court. For information on this innovative judicial initiative go to: <http://www.charlestoncity.info/dept/content.aspx?nid=703>.

For more information on the TOKI Municipal Court's jurisdiction, case types and volumes, statistical trends and "Court Jottings", visit the Town's website at www.kiawahisland.org and click on "Municipal Court" under "Town Government."

Respectfully submitted;

C. Gregory Brown
Municipal Court Judge

H. Kenneth Gunnells, Jr.
Town Treasurer / Clerk of Court