

# ROOKER REPORT

March 1999

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## PLEASE (SNEEZE) EXCUSE OUR (COUGH) BREVITY

Because of an extended bout with the flu, Editor Gene Baker was unable to fully develop this month's report in accordance with printing deadlines. Therefore, we are offering this abbreviated two-page version, focusing primarily on statistical information evolving from the regular business of the courts during the previous month.

We apologize for the brevity and hope to return to our normal four-page publication in April with regular features such as Cheers & Tears and other articles of interest concerning court-related events.

Among next month's features will be coverage of the April 6 official open house event of the new General Sessions civil courtrooms and clerk's operations in the Stahlman Building. We also will pay tribute to the late Jimmy Hawkins, who passed away on March 17 following a glowing public service career as a Metro councilman and a supervisor with the General Services Department.

Until then, we appreciate your patience and... please, please pass the antibiotics.

## JURY TRIAL VERDICTS

CIRCUIT COURT				APPEALS		
CASE	TYPE	COURT	VERDICT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT	
95C-873	MEDICAL MALPRACTICE	3RD	DEFENDANT			
97C-4001	AUTO/CYCLE ACCIDENT	2ND	DEFENDANT			
98C-1104.3279	GSA AUTO ACCIDENT	1ST* (P)	\$8,600	P-\$8,868	(P)	
97C-3075	ASSAULT	6TH* (P)	\$8,500			
97C-3517	AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	8TH (P)	\$1,000			
96C-1949	WORKERS COMP	8TH	20% DISABILITY			
95C-4025	AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	6TH (P)	\$14,000			
96C-4020	AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	1ST	DEFENDANT			
98A-616	CRIMINAL	5TH	GUILTY			

\*WAIVED JURY

### Week of February 22

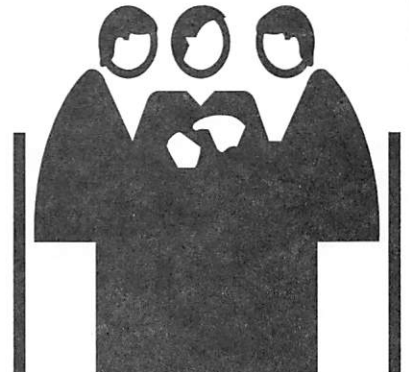
CASE	TYPE	COURT	VERDICT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT	
96C-4429	AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	3RD	MISTRIAL			
96C-201	AUTO ACCIDENT	8TH (P)	\$8,550			
96C-1865	AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	3RD (P)	\$1,404			
96C-3528	MEDICAL MALPRACTICE	6TH**	INTERLOCATORY APPEAL			
97C-3405	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT/ST	8TH (P)	\$15,000	P-\$10,500	(P)	
98A-610	CRIMINAL	5TH	GUILTY			

\*\*HEARD BY SPECIAL MASTER MARSH NICHOLS

## NON-JURY TRIAL RESULTS

### Week of February 16

CASE	TYPE	COURT	VERDICT	JUDGMENT	APPELLANT	
96C-1182	DAMAGES	8TH (P)	\$76,075			
98C-2240	GSA/MAL. PROSECUTION	5TH (P)	\$3,000			
98C-1964	EMPLOY CONTRACT	6TH (P)	\$100			
98C-1965-66	EMPLOY CONTRACT	6TH (P)	\$12,180			
98C-1967	EMPLOY CONTRACT	6TH (P)	\$8,655			
97C-736	WORKERS COMP	8TH	UNDER ADVISEMENT			
96C-1960	ASSAULT	2ND (P)	\$1,754			
98C-461	GSA/AUTO ACCIDENT	2ND (P)	\$830	P-\$830	(D)	
98C-1651	GSA/CONTRACT	1ST	DEFENDANT	P-\$5,000	(D)	
98C-2108	GSA/CONTRACT	5TH	DEFENDANT	P-\$8,100	(D)	



### SETTLEMENT CONFERENCES

#### FEBRUARY

TOTAL CASES CONSIDERED	14
Auto Accidents	6
Real Estate Dispute	1
Slip/Fall	1
Personal Injury	1
Toxic Chemical Claim	1
Contract Dispute	1
Breach of Contract	1
Condemnation	2

#### DISPOSITIONS

Settled	9
Did Not Settle	5

(Source: Megan Gregory, case coordinator)

### ABBREVIATIONS:

P-PLAINTIFF
D-DEFENDANT
CP-COUNTER PLAINTIFF
CD-COUNTER DEFENDANT
ST-SOFT TISSUE
REC-RECOVERY
GSA-GENERAL SESSIONS APPEAL

# TRENDS

## CASE ANALYSES



### AUTO ACCIDENTS

PLAINTIFFS 11  
DEFENDANTS 5

RATIO: PLAINTIFFS 2.1-1

#### MONTH-BY-MONTH

MONTH	TOTALS	JURY	NON-JURY	PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT	NONE
JANUARY	7	6	1	4	3	0
FEBRUARY	10	9	1	7	2	1
YEAR-TO-DATE	17	15	2	11	5	1

#### JURY AWARDS

MONTH	\$TOTALS	DOLLAR RANGE	\$MEAN
JANUARY	31,763	681-18,000	13,082
FEBRUARY	48,554	1,000-15,000	8,126

#### NON-JURY AWARDS

MONTH	\$TOTALS	DOLLAR RANGE	\$MEAN
JANUARY	3,724	N/A	N/A
FEBRUARY	830	N/A	N/A

#### SOFT TISSUE CASES

MONTH	\$TOTALS	DOLLAR RANGE	\$MEAN
JANUARY	31,763	681-18,000	13,082
FEBRUARY	31,404	1,000-15,000	7,707

#### \*GENERAL SESSIONS APPEALS

MONTH	TOTALS	PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT	NONE
JANUARY	1	0	1	0
FEBRUARY	3	3	0	0
YEAR-TO-DATE	4	3	1	0

\*INCLUDED IN ABOVE TRIAL TOTALS

## THE OTHERS:

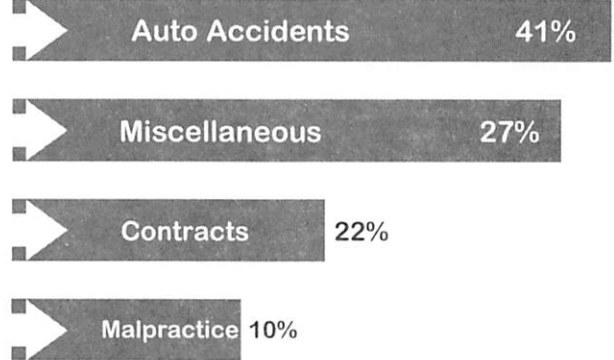
CONTRACTS	TOTAL	PLAINTIFFS	DEFENDANTS	NO VERDICT
	8	6	2	0

RATIO: PLAINTIFFS 2-1 TOTAL AWARDS TO DATE: \$30,185  
FEBRUARY DOLLAR RANGE: \$100-12,180

MISCELLANEOUS
11
PLAINTIFFS 7
DEFENDANTS 1
NO VERDICT 3

MALPRACTICE
4
PLAINTIFFS 1
DEFENDANTS 2
NO VERDICT 1

## Jury Trials by Classification



Statistics compiled for the month of February

### CASE INFORMATION

#### Circuit Court

NEW CIVIL CASES FILED	236
CIVIL CASES CONCLUDED	274
NEW DIVORCE CASES FILED	300
DIVORCE CASES CONCLUDED	253

#### General Sessions Civil

NEW CASES FILED	2,849
EXECUTIONS ISSUED	3,044
GARNISHMENT PAYMENTS	3,670
JUDGMENTS COLLECTED	\$541,430
ORDER OF PROTECTION PETITIONS	157

#### Probate Court

NEW CASES FILED	197
CASES CLOSED	117

#### Traffic Violations

MOVING CITATIONS	22,235
PARKING VIOLATIONS	6,937
TOTAL FINES COLLECTED	\$349,783
NULLIFICATIONS	2,966
NULLIFICATION FEES COLLECTED	\$26,694

## April Birthdays

General Sessions--5 Jeff Filson; 30 Judy Christopher.

Traffic Violations--25 Pete Page; 27 Carl Smith; 28 Eva McNaney.

Probate--11 Will Cripps.

Circuit Court Clerk--3 Gene Baker; 4 Barbara Eddings; 5 Beverly Rawls, Kelli Olin; 6 Cathy Cook; 18 Holly Russell; 23 Mike Garrett.

# Rooker Report

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Established by George L. Rooker (1929-1993),  
(Circuit Court Clerk, 1968-1993)

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Gene Baker ..... Editor