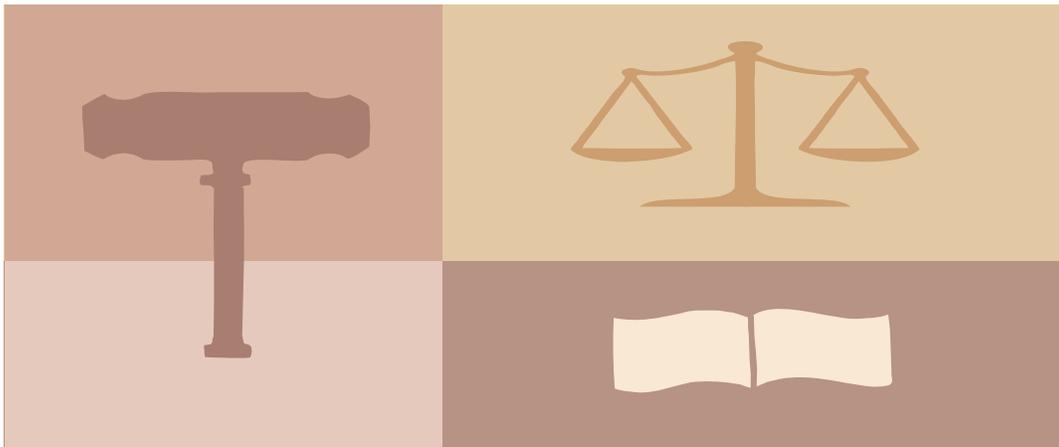


***Municipal Courts
in
Rhode Island***



Office of Local Government Assistance

***R.I. Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5873***

June 2008

*Municipal Courts
in
Rhode Island*

by

*Susan D. Moss
Senior Information & Public Relations Specialist*

Office of Local Government Assistance

*R.I. Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5873*

June 2008



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Administration
DIVISION OF PLANNING
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5873

June 3, 2008

Dear Municipal Official:

The Office of Local Government Assistance (LGA) is pleased to report the results of its recent survey on **Municipal Courts in Rhode Island**. The survey's purpose is to provide a useful reference to the increasing number of courts which have been established in Rhode Island's cities and towns in recent years.

Several of Rhode Island's municipal courts have their origins in local police courts which were established as early as 1866 in the City of Providence. Other courts, such as those in Central Falls, Johnston and Pawtucket also have their origins in locally-established police courts. Since 1990 the number of municipal courts in Rhode Island has doubled. Currently 23 of Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns have established municipal courts.

There are 5 towns which have legislative authorization, but have not, as yet, established a court: 1) Charlestown, 2) Exeter, 3) Jamestown, 4) North Kingstown, and 5) Smithfield.

The remaining 11 towns have no municipal courts:

1) Barrington, 2) Foster, 3) Glocester, 4) Little Compton, 5) New Shoreham, 6) North Smithfield, 7) Portsmouth, 8) Richmond, 9) Scituate, 10) South Kingstown, and 11) West Greenwich.

The Office of Local Government Assistance wishes to thank those municipal court clerks and other local officials who provided the information in this survey. We also welcome comments and suggestions for improving future surveys on this subject.

Joseph E. Coduri
Supervisor
Local Government Assistance

Municipal Courts

**Bristol
Burnside Memorial Building
400 Hope Street
Bristol, RI 02809
Telephone: 253-7000**

Chief Judge: Mark Sales
Associate Judges: Jacqueline Grasso-Anguilla, Paul Silva

Clerk: Louis P. Cirillo, CMC

Meeting Place:
Burnside Memorial Building

Sessions of the court are held:
Second Tuesday at 8:00 a.m., fourth Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
(twice monthly)

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Local Ordinance Violations;
i.e. Disorderly Conduct &
Parking

Court Established in 1999

**Burrillville
P.O. Box 419
Harrisville, RI 02830
Telephone: 568-9494**

Judge: Joseph P. Carroll
Associate Judge: Richard E. Kyte, Jr.

Clerk: Lorraine C. Cadieux

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers
105 Harrisville Main Street
Harrisville, RI

Sessions of the court are held:
First and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Town Ordinance Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1999

Municipal Courts

**Central Falls
City Hall
580 Broad Street
Central Falls, RI 02863
Telephone: 727-7411, Ext. 3102**

Judge: Daniel Carrillo

Clerk: Nathalie Benway

Meeting Place:
City Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Every other Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Court Established in 1988



**Coventry
Town Hall
1670 Flat River Road
Coventry, RI 02816
Telephone: 822-9187**

Judge: Arthur G. Capaldi

Clerk: Jean A. Boulanger

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Second and fourth Tuesday each month at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

All Town Ordinance Violations

Court Established in 1986

Municipal Courts

**Cranston
5 Garfield Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
Telephone: 477-5028**

Judge: Fred E. Joslyn, Jr.

Clerk: Janeann Quaedvlieg

Meeting Place:
Police Station
5 Garfield Avenue

Sessions of the court are held:
Every other Monday and Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.
Every other Thursday at 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Business Licenses and any other
Jurisdiction conferred by State
Law

Court Established in 1983



**Cumberland
Town Hall
45 Broad Street
Cumberland, RI 02864
Telephone: 728-2400, Ext. 154**

Judge: Scott Partington

Clerk: Janice Spagnoli McCormick

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
First and third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 2000

Municipal Courts

**East Greenwich
Town Hall
125 Main Street, P.O. Box 111
East Greenwich, RI 02818
Telephone: 886-3212**

Judge: David Neal Bazar

Clerk: Roberta J. Quinlan

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Second and fourth Thursday at 6:00 p.m.,
approx. four day sessions as needed

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1999



**East Providence
610 Waterman Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914
Telephone: 435-7540**

Judge: Michael Farley

Clerk: June O'Hara

Meeting Place:
Breed Hall
610 Waterman Avenue

Sessions of the court are held:
Every Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1994

Municipal Courts

**Hopkinton
Town Hall
One Town House Road
Hopkinton, RI 02833
Telephone: 377-7759**

Judge: Margaret Steele

Clerk: Kristine Sauvageau

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Once per month on Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 2008



**Johnston
1395 Atwood Avenue
Johnston, RI 02919
Telephone: 946-7150**

Chief Judge: William C. Dimitri
Associate Judge: Michael DiChiro

Clerk: Joseph L. Tedino

Meeting Place:
Municipal Court Building

Sessions of the court are held:
Arraignments: Wednesday (weekly) at 8:00 a.m.,
Trials: Third Tuesday each month at 8:00 a.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Town Code: All violations as per
Code of the Town of Johnston

Court Established in 1964

Municipal Courts

**Lincoln
Town Hall
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865
Telephone: 333-8436**

Judge: Frederic Marzilli

Clerk: Caitlyn Tucker

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
First and third Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 2006



**Middletown
Town Hall
350 East Main Road
Middletown, RI 02842
Telephone: 847-0009**

Judge: Peter B. Regan

Clerk: Wendy J. W. Marshall

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. (most Tuesdays)

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1994

Municipal Courts

**Narragansett
Town Hall
25 Fifth Avenue
Narragansett, RI 02882
Telephone: 782-0655, 782-0609**

Judge: John E. Decubellis, Jr. Magistrate: Anne M. Irons Senior Clerk: Allison L. Papa
Clerk: Heather Whittier

Meeting Place: Sessions of the court are held:
Town Hall Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m., approx. 3 times per month
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations	Harbor Violations	Local Traffic Violations
Minimum Housing Violations	Parking Violations, Police Violations	Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1990

**Newport
City Hall
43 Broadway
Newport, RI 02840
Telephone: 845-5410**

Judge: J. Russell Jackson Clerk: Sandra J. Henderson

Meeting Place: Sessions of the court are held:
City Hall Every Monday at 1:00 p.m. (unless a Monday Holiday)
Council Chambers

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations	Harbor Violations	Local Traffic Violations
Minimum Housing Violations	Zoning Violations	Parking (Local) Violations City Ordinance Violations

Court Established in 1989

Municipal Courts

North Providence
1967 Mineral Spring Avenue
North Providence, RI 02904
Telephone: 231-4533, Ext. 139

Judge: Joseph A. Montalbano

Clerks: Karen Zito, Susan Fitzpatrick

Meeting Place:

Town Hall
Council Chambers
2000 Smith Street
North Providence, RI

Sessions of the court are held:

Twice a month on Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1986



Pawtucket
121 Roosevelt Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Telephone: 728-0500

Chief Justice: John F. McBurney, III

Clerk: Martha Rivest

Associate Judge: Donna A. Nesselbush

Meeting Place:

Police Station
Court Room

Sessions of the court are held:

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.,
Wednesday at 8:45 a.m.,
Fridays at 9:00 a.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:

Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1974

Municipal Courts

Providence
325 Washington Street
Providence, RI 02903
Telephone: 243-6414

Chief Justice: Frank Caprio

Clerk: Louis M. Pavao

Meeting Place:
Providence Safety Complex
Court Room, 1st Floor

Sessions of the court are held:
Moving Violations: Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m.
Walk in Court for -
Parking Tickets, Music Violations:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 8:00 a.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Automated red light tickets, parking tickets, misdemeanors, environmental

Court Established in 1968

Tiverton
Town Hall
343 Highland Road
Tiverton, RI 02878
Telephone: 625-6720

Judge: G. Scott Nebergall

Clerk: Eugene R. Gauthier

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
First and third Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1993

Municipal Courts

**Warren
Town Hall
514 Main Street
Warren, RI 02885
Telephone: 245-7340**

Judge: Ernest G. Mayo

Clerk: Elizabeth A. Johnson

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1999



**Warwick
99 Veterans Memorial Drive
Warwick, RI 02886
Telephone: 738-2000, Ext. 6396**

Judge: Joel Gerstenblatt

Clerk: Marie Ahlert

Meeting Place:
Police Station
99 Veterans Memorial Drive

Sessions of the court are held:
Every Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Harbor Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Open container, alarm ordinance, parking violations, other ordinance violations

Court Established in 1971

Municipal Courts

**West Warwick
Town Hall
1170 Main Street
West Warwick, RI 02893
Telephone: 822-9201**

Judge: John S. Brunero, Jr.

Clerk: Deborah A. Tellier

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Council Chambers

Sessions of the court are held:
Twice a month on Thursday evenings at 5:00 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Parking Violations

Court Established in 1994



**Westerly
Town Hall
45 Broad Street
Westerly, RI 02891
Telephone: 596-7374**

Judge: Tia M. Priolo

Clerk: Donna L. LaPlante

Meeting Place:
Town Hall
Municipal Court Room,
2nd Floor

Sessions of the court are held:
Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations

Minimum Housing Violations

Police Ordinances

Zoning Violations

Court Established in 1990

Municipal Courts

**Woonsocket
City Hall
169 Main Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895
Telephone: 762-6400**

Judge: Lloyd R. Gariepy

Clerk: Pauline S. Payeur

Meeting Place:
City Hall
Harris Hall

Sessions of the court are held:
Every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.,
except first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Jurisdiction of the Court:
Dog Ordinance Violations

Local Traffic Violations Minimum Housing Violations

Zoning Violations

Municipal Code, Building Code Violations

Court Established in 1986



There are 5 towns which have legislative authorization, but have not, as yet, established a court:

- 1) Charlestown
- 2) Exeter
- 3) Jamestown
- 4) North Kingstown
- 5) Smithfield

The remaining 11 towns have no municipal courts:

- 1) Barrington
- 2) Foster
- 3) Glocester
- 4) Little Compton
- 5) New Shoreham
- 6) North Smithfield
- 7) Portsmouth
- 8) Richmond
- 9) Scituate
- 10) South Kingstown
- 11) West Greenwich