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#65 Crawford County, Court Records (C.C.C.R.), 1912-1975
4 linear feet

INTRODUCTION

This collection of documents is comprised of Crawford County District Court records, Justice of the Peace records, City Court of Pittsburg records, City Court of Girard, and City Court of Frontenac records. The documents in this collection pertain to various types of cases including murder, rape, arson, fraud, child endangerment, insufficient funds, welfare, simple assault, speeding and illegal trash dumping. There are many types of documents in this collection including transcripts of hearings and sworn statements, warrants, complaints, journal entries from the courts, testimonies, and coroner's inquisitions. In addition to the names of plaintiffs and defendants, listed within the index are the names of Crawford County judges, county attorney's, court appointed and hired attorney's, court reporters, stenographers, sheriffs, undersheriffs, and attorney firms.

DONOR INFORMATION

There is no known information about the donor or the date of this acquisition.

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

This collection of Crawford County Court records pertain to cases that were filed and tried in the District court, Justice of the Peace court, and the City courts at Pittsburg, Girard and Frontenac, Kansas, in the 20th century.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection of case files, while not complete for every case filed in Crawford County, supplements other district court, city court, and justice of the peace court records held by Pittsburg State University and provides a good overview of a wide variety of case types ranging from felonies to misdemeanors during the years 1911 to 1973. The records are divided into four series: **City Court**, **District Court**, **Justice of the Peace**, and **Other Court Records** with twenty sub-series within this collection. Cases are filed within each series by the name of the defendant.

City Court Series

This series is comprised of trial transcripts, sworn statements, testimonies, warrants, complaints, journal entries, worthless check complaints, and other documents relevant to the City courts of Pittsburg, Girard, and Frontenac, Kansas. This series is arranged by case names within the following types of cases; children, civil disputes, insufficient funds, death, murder, rape, theft, traffic violations, and miscellaneous. The Miscellaneous series is comprised of various cases that were filed within the City courts, such as trespassing. It is divided this way to give clarity of the offenses in the cases that were brought before the city courts.

District Court Series

A. Children

This series is comprised of child abuse, child support, child neglect, welfare applicants and welfare non-payment cases related to minors under the age of 18. .

District Court Series continued**B. Civil Disputes**

This series contains files or case files that pertain to or are directly related to civil disputes such as assault, divorce, disturbing of the peace, real estate disputes, loitering and vagrancy. There are also cases pertaining to liquor laws.

C. Compensation

This series is comprised of cases that were filed by individuals against companies in order to pursue compensation for injury while on the job site. Also included are cases related to refusal of payment or a party breaking a contract resulting in compensation to be paid to the plaintiff(s).

D. Death, Murder & Rape

This series is sub-series in three series: Death; Murder; and Rape. Each sub-series are divided yearly from oldest to most recent, monthly starting in January to December, and alphabetically by case name. The documents in these categories are comprised of sworn statements and testimonies, warrants, journal entries, complaints, coroner's inquests, and may be associated with other courts such as the Justice of the Peace courts residing at Girard, Kansas or Pittsburg, Kansas.

E. Insufficient Funds

This series encompasses cases of insufficient funds claims made against individuals for late or non-payments of bills and invoices. These claims are mostly documents such as general form warrants, worthless check complaint forms, or information and journal entries. This series has the sub-series Correspondence because of the cases that are filed with the District Court but have no warrants for arrest and are commonly notices to the debtor by the creditor or an attorney.

F. Theft

This series is comprised of cases that pertain to or are structured around burglary, grand larceny, or petty larceny, embezzlement, removing mortgaged property perjury, and forgery in Crawford County, Kansas.

G. Traffic

This series includes transcripts, journal entries, information, and sworn testimonies and statements for cases that pertain to traffic violations or traffic accidents.

H. Terms- District Court Term Dockets

This is a special series for the District courts residing in the cities of Pittsburg and Girard, Kansas and includes the term dockets of the District Courts. There are only certain years in this series: 1951 and 1954, April, October and November.

I. Miscellaneous

This series contains special documents and cases, such as price fixing, arson, motions to set aside journal entries and unidentifiable or unknown cases and includes documents such as sworn statements, transcripts and testimonies. The series has a preponderance of documents that were unable to be identified with any certain known District Court case, though they were acquired within the District courts; therefore they stand alone in this series.

Justice of the Peace Series**A. Children**

This series involves cases pertaining to minors 18 years of age and under and consists of child abuse, child support, child neglect, welfare applicants and welfare non-payment cases.

B. Civil Disputes

This series contains files or case files that pertain to or are directly related to civil disputes such as assault, divorce, disturbing of the peace, real estate disputes, loitering and vagrancy. There are also cases pertaining to liquor laws.

C. Compensation

This series is comprised of cases that were filed by individuals against companies in order to pursue compensation for injury while on the job site. Also included are cases related to refusal of payment or a party breaking a contract resulting in compensation to be paid to the plaintiff(s).

D. Death, Murder & Rape

This series is sub-series in three series: Death; Murder; and Rape. Each sub-series are divided yearly from oldest to most recent, monthly starting in January to December, and alphabetically by case name. The documents in these categories are comprised of sworn statements and testimonies, warrants, journal entries, complaints, coroner's inquests, and may be associated with other courts such as the Justice of the Peace courts residing at Girard, Kansas or Pittsburg, Kansas.

E. Insufficient Funds

This series encompasses cases of insufficient funds claims made against individuals for late non-payment of personal bills and includes documents such as general form warrants, complaint forms for bad checks, or information and journal entries.

F. Theft

This series covers cases pertaining to or structured around burglary, grand larceny, embezzlement, removing mortgaged property and forgery in Crawford County, Kansas.

G. Traffic

This series includes cases related to traffic violations or traffic accidents.

H. Miscellaneous

This series is comprised of special cases such as price fixing and includes sworn statements, transcripts and testimonies.

Other Court Records Series**A. Correspondence**

This series encompasses correspondence written before an action was taken against individuals, companies, and corporations regarding insufficient funds and welfare cases in order for them to avoid legal fees and legal obligations before being turned over to the State of Kansas. The series is separated by Insufficient Funds correspondence and Welfare correspondence.

B. Juvenile Court of Crawford County, Kansas

This series includes cases related to minors as the defendants being tried in court and consists of journal entries, sworn statements, hearing transcripts, and information.

C. Statements & Transcripts

The statements and transcripts series contains sworn transcripts of statements that were unable to be connected with a court case or simply did not have the case brought before a judge. This series is arranged by year, month and alphabetically.

- Children
- Civil Disputes
- Insufficient Funds
- Death
- Murder
- Rape
- Theft
- Traffic
- Miscellaneous

D. Kansas Supreme Court

This series is comprised of documents from the Kansas Supreme Court residing in Topeka, Kansas. The documents include hearing time cards, and transcripts of hearings or sworn statements.

E. Miscellaneous

This series includes other cases that are not affiliated with a known case or court. This includes the cereal malt beverages licenses for Crawford County, Kansas and such items as the List of Persons in Custody of the Pittsburg jail.

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