Common Issues

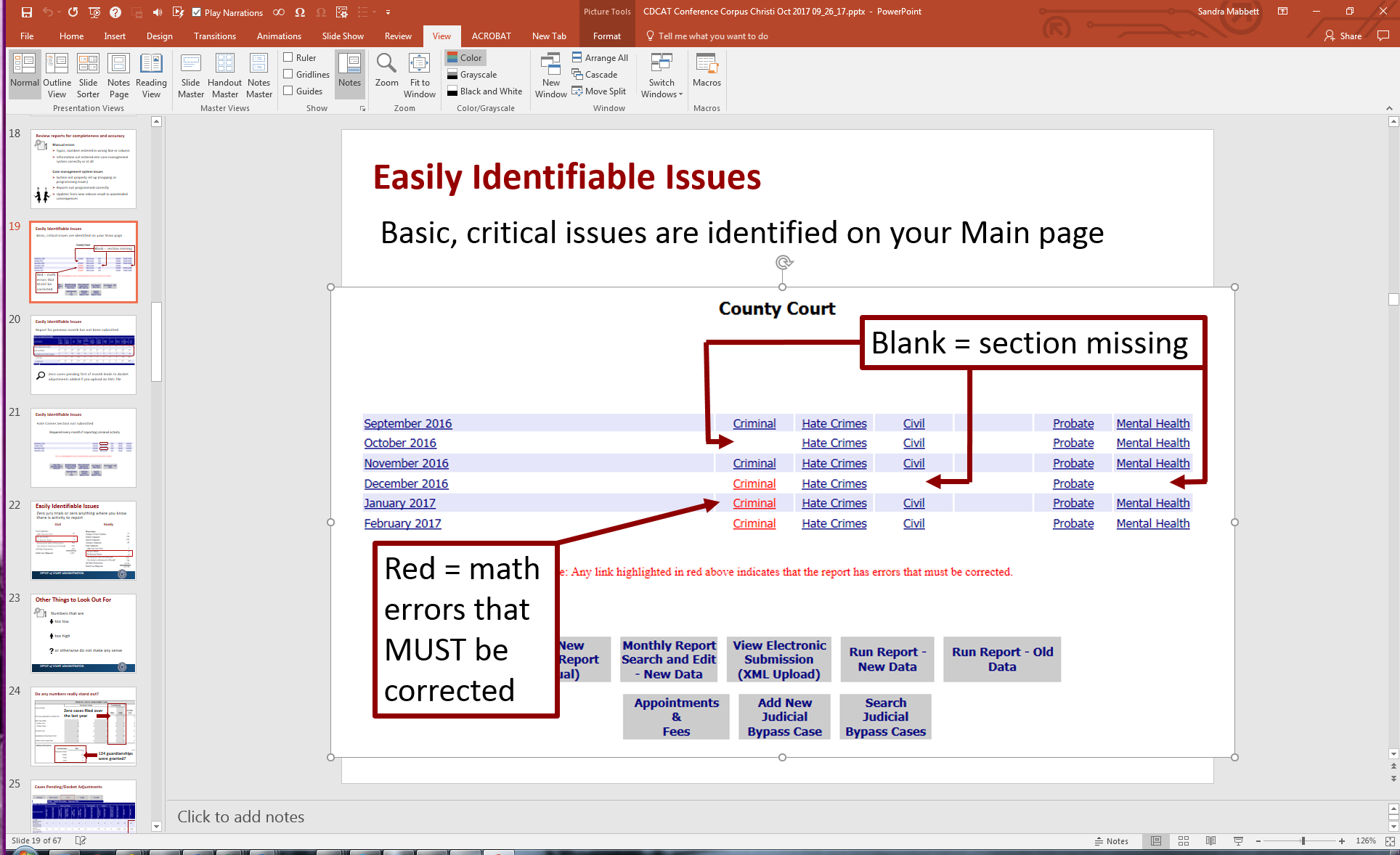
County and District Monthly Court Activity Reports

Look for numbers that are

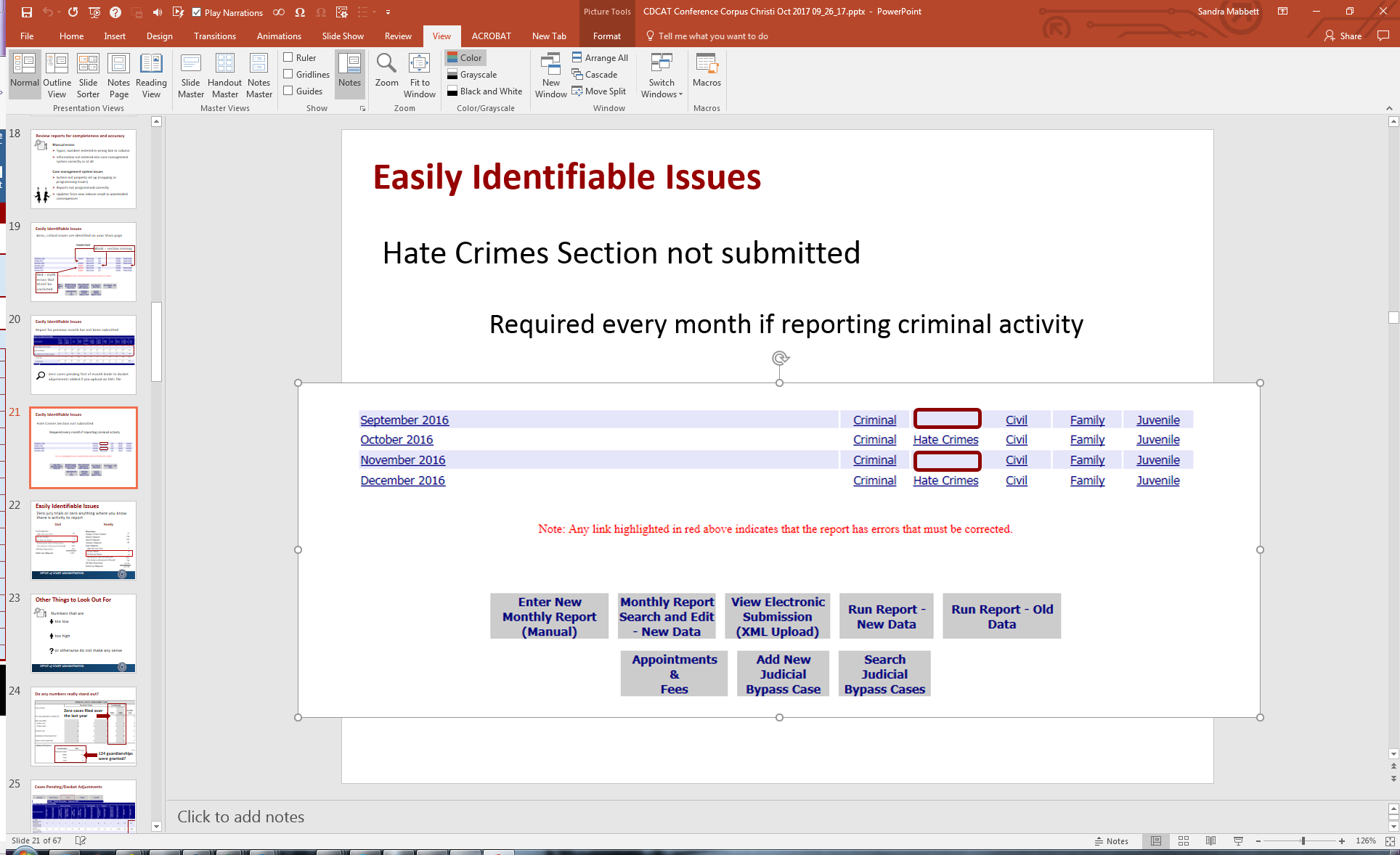
* + Too high,
  + Too low, or
  + Otherwise do not make sense

Easily Identifiable Issues

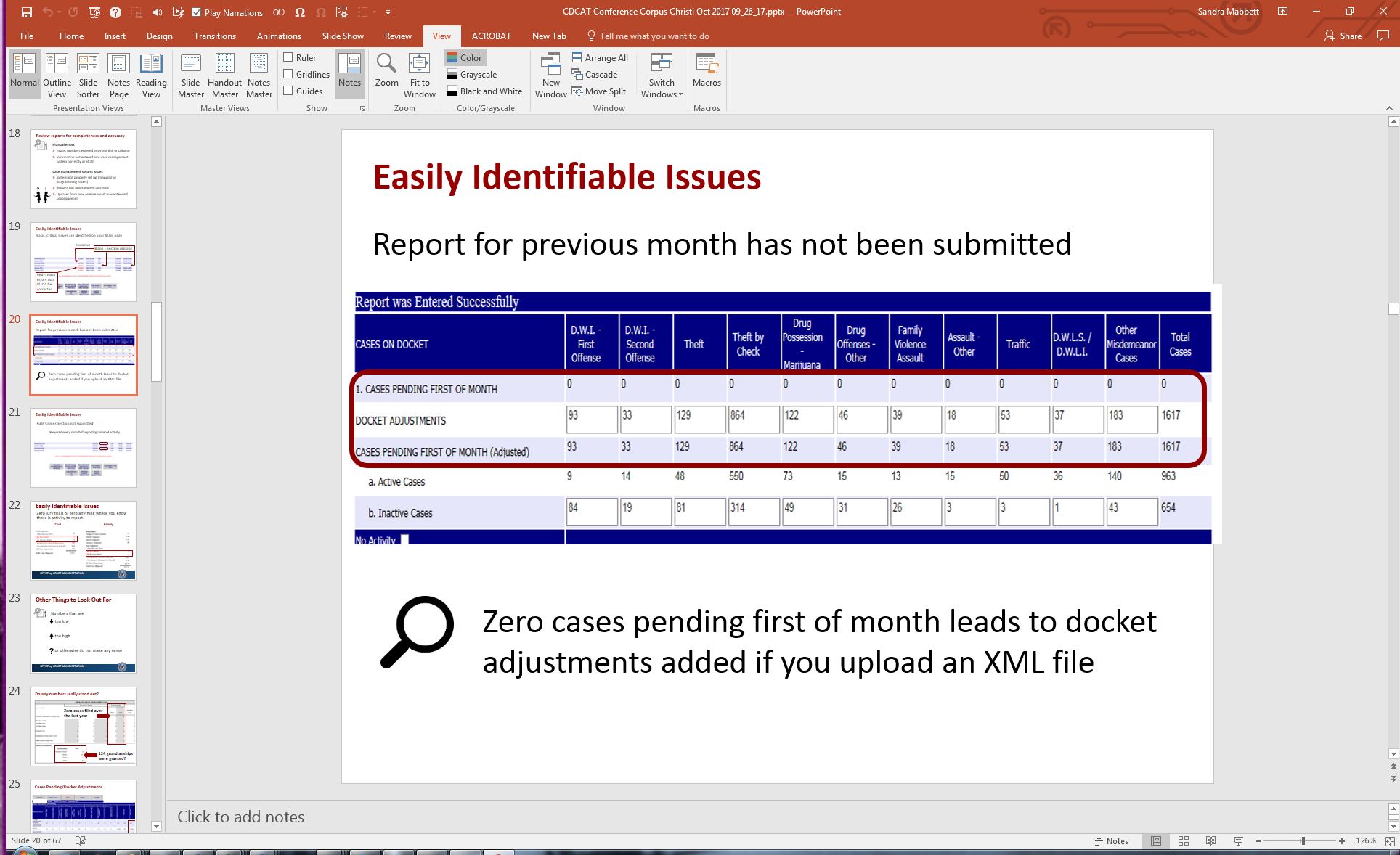
* Critical issues–**missing sections** and **math errors**–are identified on your Main page



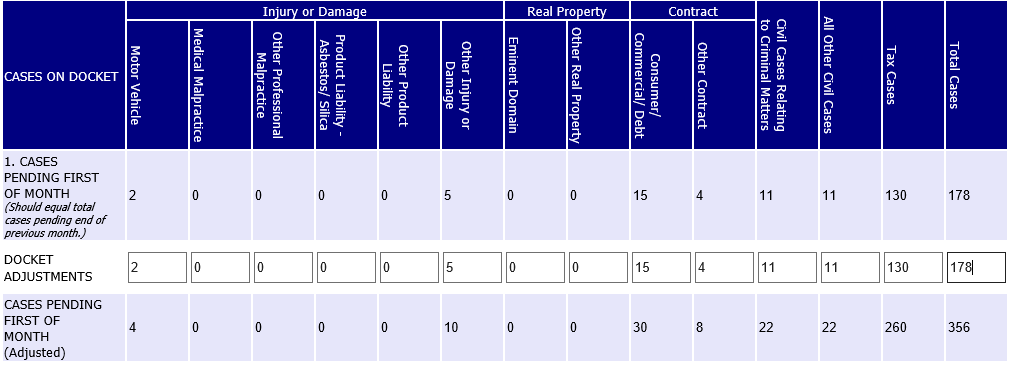
* If you report Criminal activity, a **Hate Crimes** report must be submitted each month



* When a report for the previous month has not been submitted, it often leads to **docket adjustments** in the next month’s report

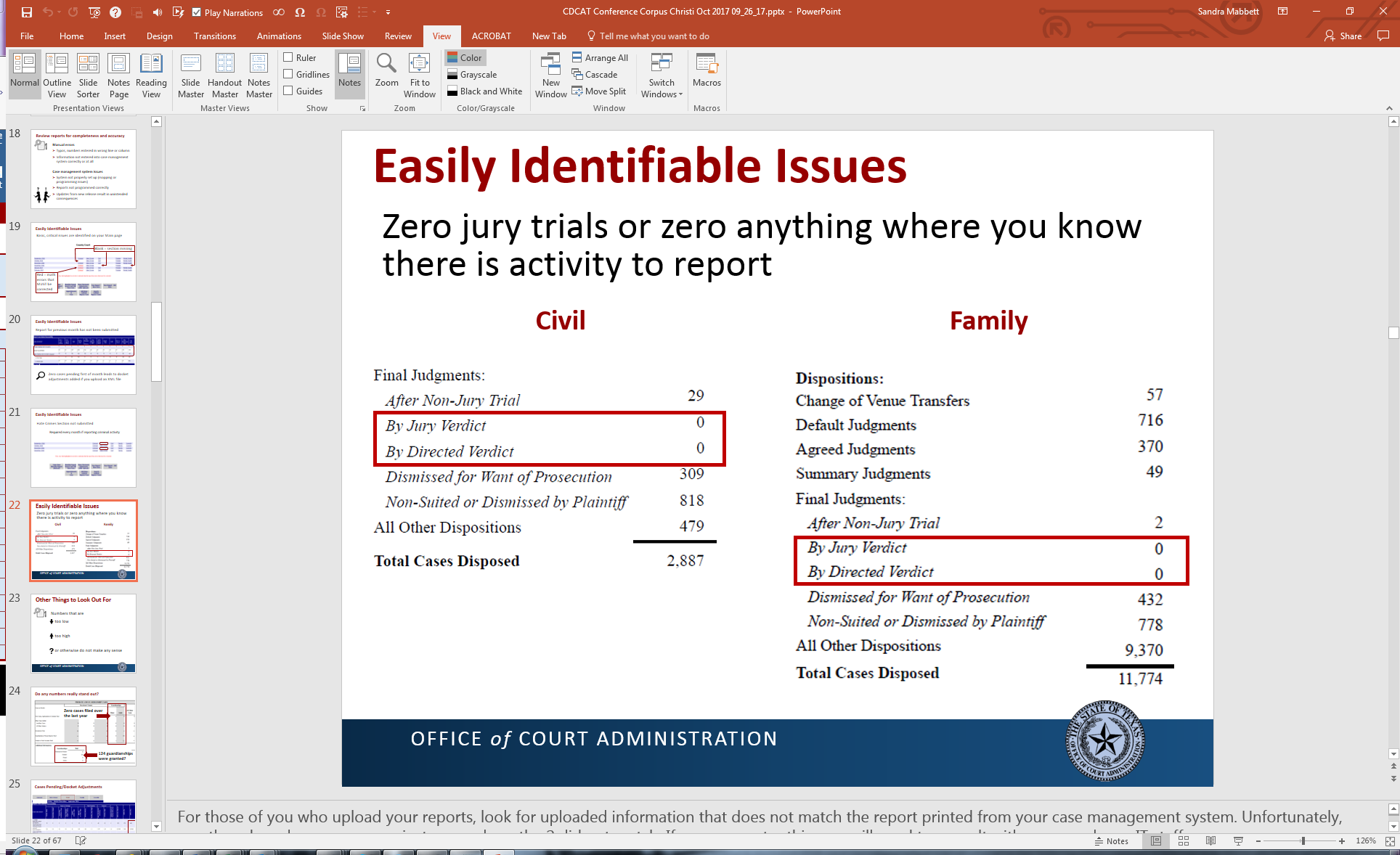


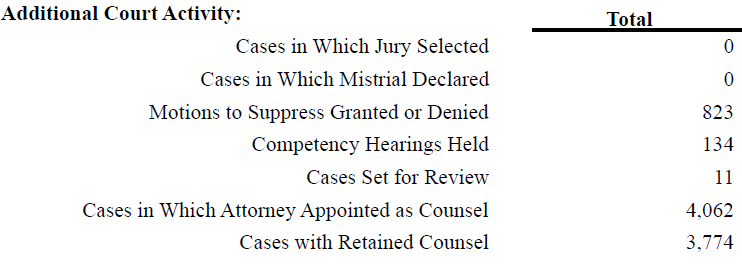
* A large number of **docket adjustments** or **significant increase** in the number of cases reported **pending** is often the result of numbers being entered incorrectly entered in the Docket Adjustment line



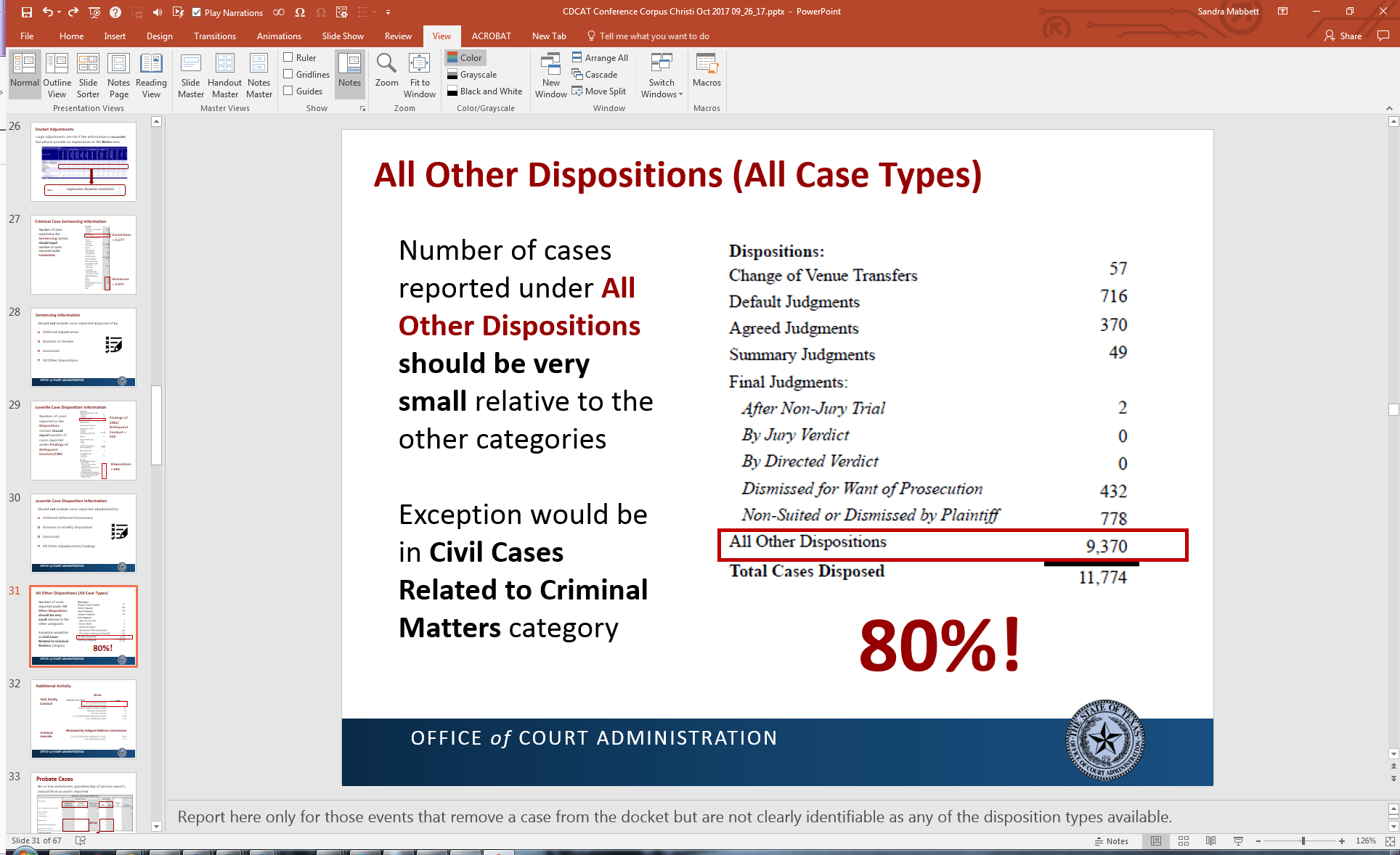
If the large number of cases in the Docket Adjustment line is correct, an explanation should be entered in the **Notes** field at the bottom of the report.

* Zero in categories where you know there has been activity





* A large number of cases under **All Other Dispositions** in any section

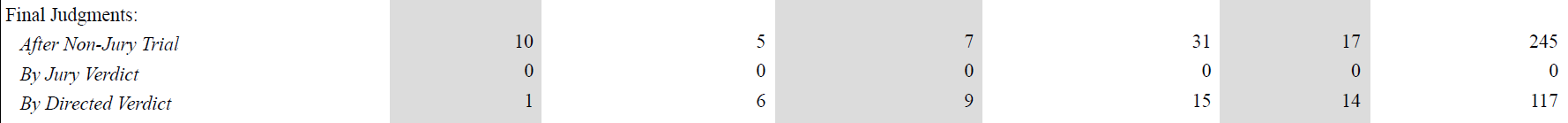
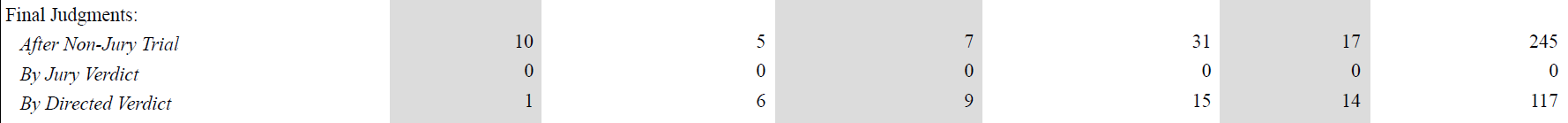


The number of cases reported under All Other Dispositions **should be very small** relative to the other categories, except in the Civil Cases Related to Criminal Matters category.

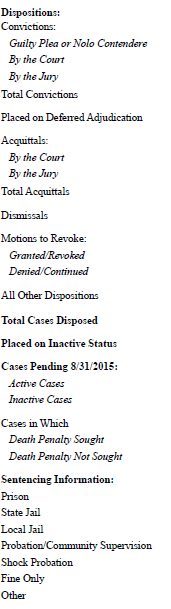
* A large number of **Directed Verdicts** in the Civil or Family section

**Directed verdict:** Rule 301, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure - The court may render **judgment non obstante veredicto** if a directed verdict would have been proper, and the court may **disregard any jury finding** on a question that has no support in the evidence.

Directed verdicts are rare, and the number should not be larger than bench and jury trials.



* The number of cases reported in the Criminal **Sentencing** section **should roughly equal** the number of cases reported under **Convictions.** The same rule applies to the Juvenile **Disposition** section, which should roughly equal the number of cases **Adjudicated**.

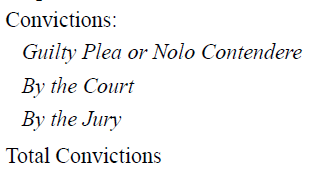
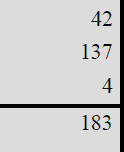


**Sentences = 5,317**

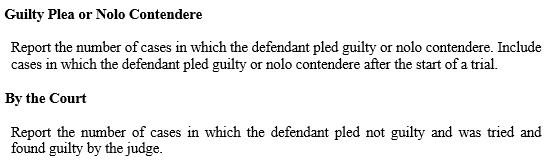
**Total Convictions = 3,177**

Sentencing Information should not include cases reported disposed of by

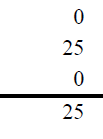
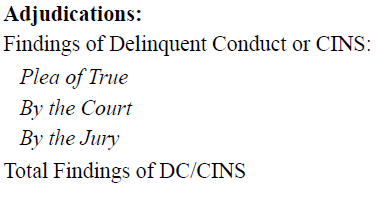
* Deferred adjudication
* Dismissals
* Motions to revoke
* All other dispositions
* A high number of **Convictions by the Court** compared to Guilty/Nolo Contendere Pleas



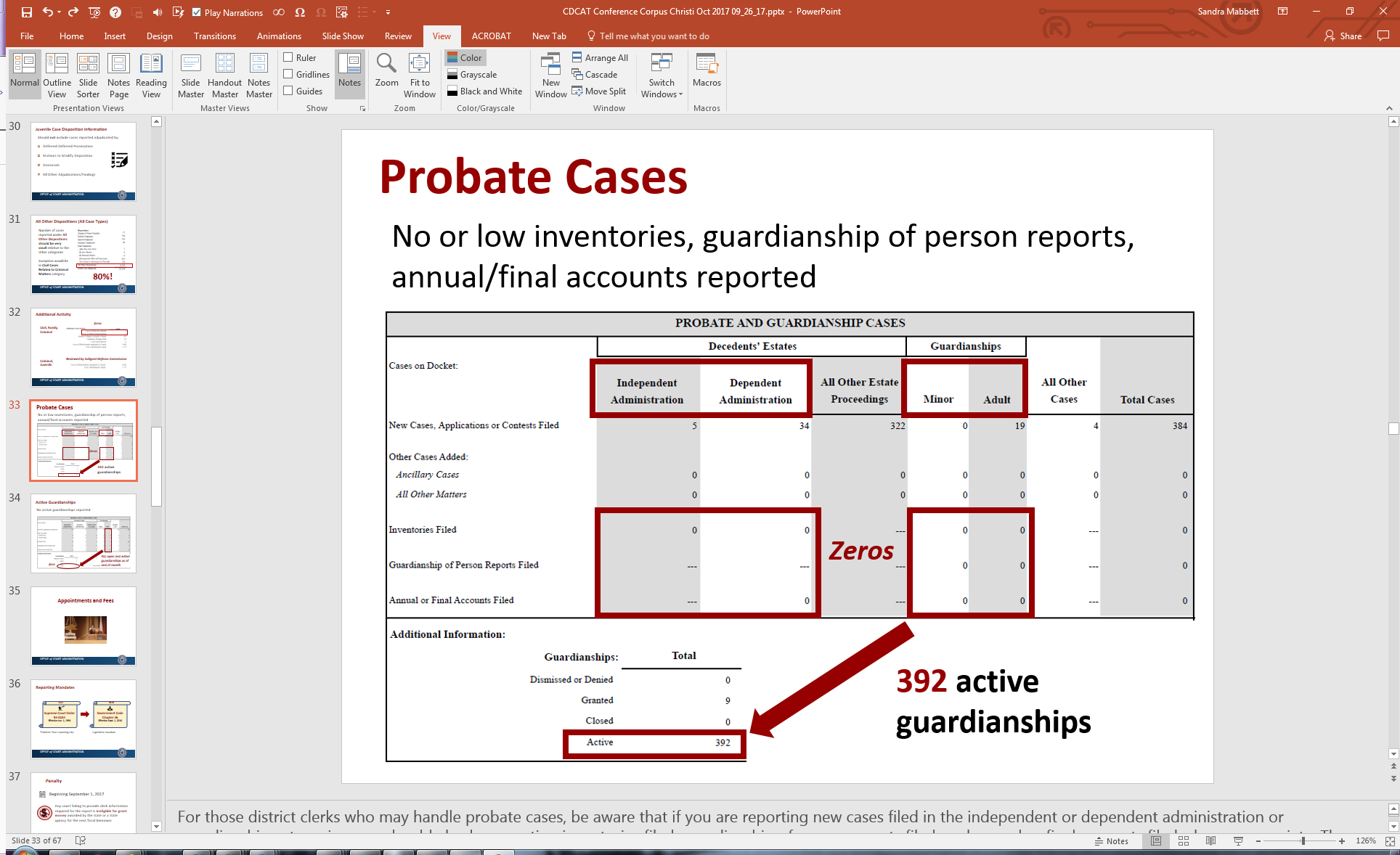
A case should be reported under Conviction by the Court only when the judge presides over a trial and finds the defendant guilty.



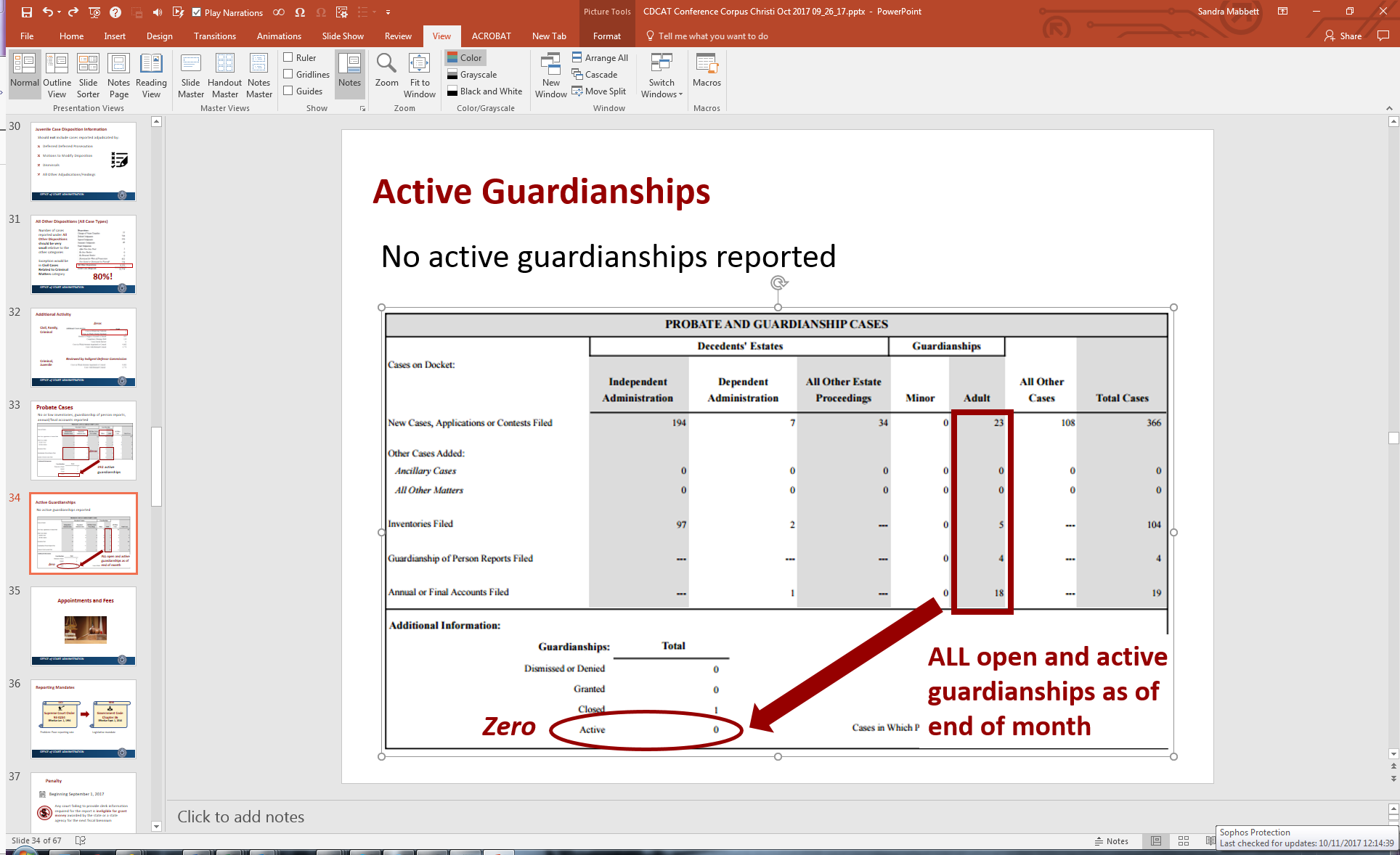
The same rule applies to juvenile cases.

* No or low inventories, guardianship of person reports, annual/final accounts reported



* No active guardianships reported



Potential reasons for errors

Data entry errors

* Typos or numbers entered in wrong line or column
* Information not entered into case management system correctly (wrong codes entered) or at all (no disposition entered, inactive case not reactivated before disposing of the case)

Case management system issues

* Case management system mapping or programming issues
* Reports not programmed correctly
* Updates from new release result in unintended consequences