



# ARKANSAS JUDICIARY

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## Court Brochures

### Justice Building Brochure [1]

**JUDICIAL ELECTIONS**

**Court of Appeals Districts**

1. Arkansas, Whiteaker 6. Kiser  
2. Vidler, Harkins 7. Young, Cantelero  
3. Harrison, Moore 8. Brown  
4. Harrison, Moore 5. Brown

Judges are elected in Arkansas. The Supreme Court justices are chosen by voters in statewide elections. The chief justice is an elected, non-appointed, position. The Court of Appeals judges are elected in the districts where they live. The Court of Appeals was created in 1979 by constitutional amendment. There are twelve judges on that court, including an chief judge, who is appointed to a two-year term by the chief justice of the Supreme Court.

**Did You Know?**

- The year 2015 marks the first time in the history of the state for the Arkansas Supreme Court to have a female majority.
- Arkansas has the second highest performing Supreme Court in the country, according to a University of Chicago Law School study. Arkansas justices ranked third in the number of opinions written per year.
- In the new addition to the Supreme Court Building completed in 2001, "justice" was etched on the front of the building with a "j" rather than a "s." This comes from the fact that part of the basis for our system of law derives from Roman law and the Latin alphabet does not have a "s." Many people thought the court had made an egregious spelling mistake.
- Justice Annabelle Baker '86 was the first woman elected to the Supreme Court. She served from 1997-2004.
- Justice George Rose Smith is Arkansas' longest serving Supreme Court justice, serving from 1946 to 1987. He created the system by which the Supreme Court assigns and decides its cases.
- President Bill Clinton, serving as the 50th Attorney General of the state of Arkansas from January 1977 to January 1979, had an office in the original Justice Building.
- As an Appellate judge, Justice George Rose Smith was a tongue-in-cheek opinion headliner, children's poster of a fight between the Gophers Dog and Calico Cat ("The Dog" by Eugene Field). The opinion was an end-of-legitimate case by the high court of another state.

**welcome to The Arkansas Supreme Court Justice Building**

**COURT OF APPEALS**

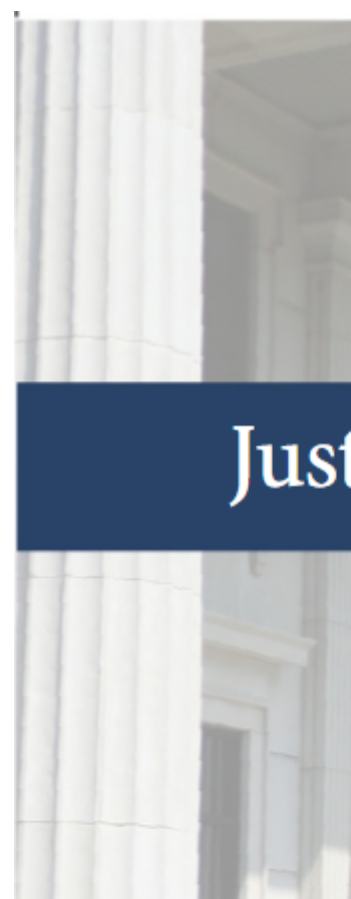
**SUPREME COURT**

Chief Justice Jim Harshbarger, AR  
Justice Paul Dantelack, Knoxville, AR  
Justice Karen Baker, Clinton, AR  
Justice Courtney Goodson, Fayetteville, AR  
Justice Josephine Hart, Mountain View, AR  
Justice Rhonda K. Wood, Conway, AR  
Justice Robin E. Wynne, Fayetteville, AR

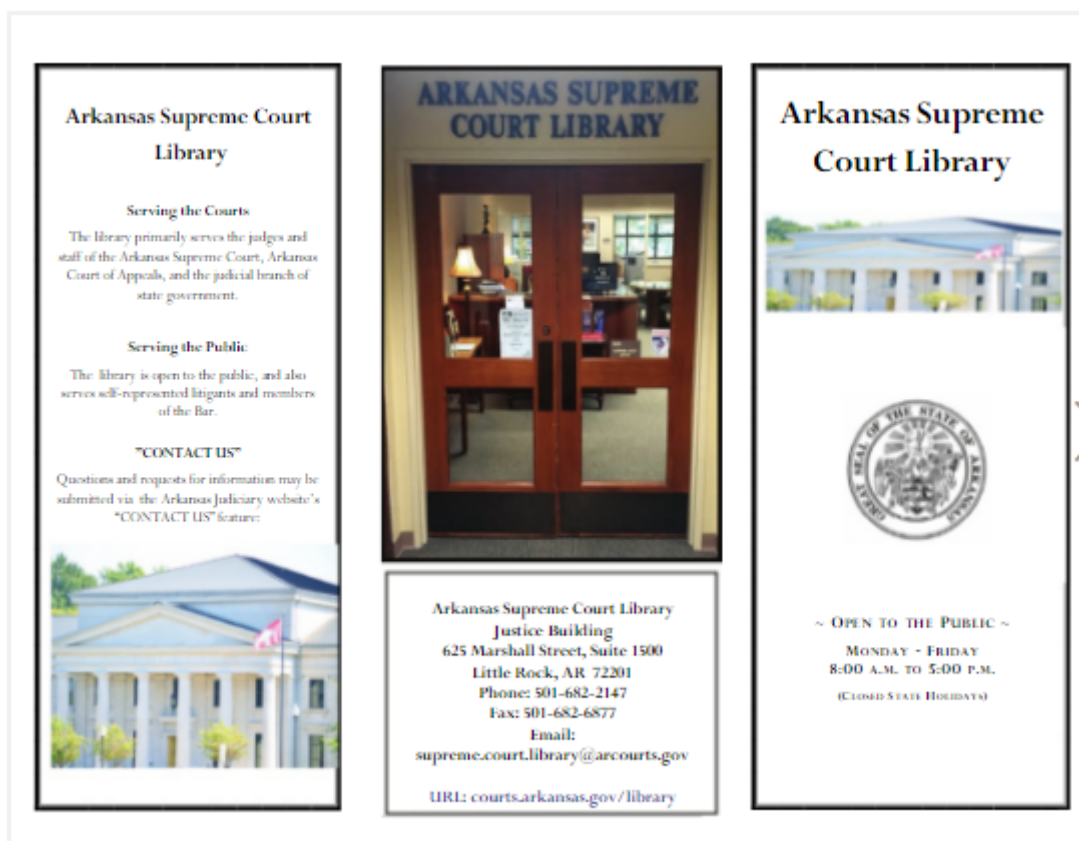
Chief Judge Robert J. Gladwin, Fayetteville, AR  
Judge Raymond R. Abraham, Holly Grove, AR  
Judge Bart F. Vidler, Batesville, AR  
Judge Brandon J. Harrison, Fort Smith, AR  
Judge M. Michael Kinard, Magnolia, AR  
Judge Rita W. Gisher, North Little Rock, AR  
Judge David M. Gleser, Malvern, AR  
Judge Philip T. Whitaker, Lonoke, AR  
Judge Larry D. Young, Little Rock, AR  
Judge Kenneth S. Brown, Fayetteville, AR  
Judge Cliff Hamilton, Eudora, AR  
Judge Raymond M. Brown, Pine Bluff, AR

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[1]



## Supreme Court Library Brochure [4]



[4]

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- [1] <https://courts.arkansas.gov/sites/default/files/2015%20building%20brochure%20no%20crops%20%283%29.pdf>
- [2] <https://courts.arkansas.gov/sites/default/files/portrait%20brochure2016.pdf>
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- [5] <https://courts.arkansas.gov/sites/default/files/bookmark.pdf>