ARKANSAS JUDICIARY
Published on *Arkansas Judiciary* (https://courts.arkansas.gov)

Justices, Judges and Officers of the Courts

Judges of Colonial Arkansas (1686-1804) **French Domination**	
Henri de Tonty	1686-1699
Jean-Baptiste Ménard, Martin Merrick, and Labro	1721-1722
Bertrand Dufresne, Sieur du Demaine	1722-1726
Unknown	1726-1731
First Ensign Pierre de Coulange	1731-1734
First Ensign Jean Ste. Thérèse de Langloiserie	1734
Lieutenant Joseph Louis Boucher de Grandpré	1734-1739
Lieutenant Jean-François Tisserant de Montcharvaux	1739-1748
First Ensign Louis-Xavier-Martin Delinó de Chalmette	1748-1751
Lieutenant Paul Augustin le Pelletier de La Houssaye	1751-1753
Captain Charles Marie de Reggio	1753-1757
Captain de Gamon de La Rochette	1757-1763
First Ensign de Brichet	1763
Captain Pierre Marie Caberet de Trépi	1763-1764
Ensign Le Gros de Grandcour	1764-1766
Spanish Domination	
Ensign Le Gros de Grandcour	1766-1768
Captain Alexandre de Clouet	1768-1769
Captain François Demasellière	1769-1770
Lieutenant Josef Orieta	1770-1771
Captain Fernando de Leyba	1771-1774

Captain Josef Orieta	1774-1776
Sergeant Garcia	1776
Captain Balthazar de Villiers	1776-1782
Lieutenant Luis de Villars	1782-1783
Captain Jacobo Dubreuil Saint-Cyr	1783-1787
Captain Josef Bernard Vallière d'Hauterive	1787-1790
Captain Juan Ignacio Delinó de Chalmette	1790-1794
Captain Carlos Melchior de Vilemont	1794-1802
Captain Francisco Caso y Luengo	1802-1804
Judges of the Superior Court of the District of Louisiana (1804-1805)	
Thomas Terry Davis	1804-1805
John Griffin	1804-1805
Henry Vandenberg	1804-1805
Judges of the Superior Court of the Territory of Louisiana (1805-1812)	
Position One - Appointed	
John B.C. Lucas	1805
Position Two - Appointed	
Return Jonathan Meigs, Jr.	1805
John Coburn	1806
Position Three - Appointed	
Rufus Easton	1805
Otho Shrader	1806
William Sprigg	1812
Judges of the Superior Court of the Territory of Missouri (1812-1819)	

Position One - Appointed	
John B.C. Lucas	con't 1812
Position Two - Appointed	
John Coburn	con't 1812
Silas Bent	1813
Position Three - Appointed	
William Sprigg	con't 1812
Alexander Stuart	1814

Judges of the Superior Court of the Territory of Arkansas (1819-1836)

Position One - Appointed	
Andrew Scott	1819
Thomas P. Eskridge	1827
Archibald Yell	1835
Position Two - Appointed	
Charles Jouett	1819
James Woodson Bates	1819
Benjamin Johnson	1820

Position Three - Appointed	
Robert P. Letcher	1819
Joseph Selden	1821
William Trimble	1824
Edward Cross	1830

Position Four - Appointed	
James Woodson Bates	1828
Charles S. Bibb	1832
Alexander M. Clayton	1832

Thomas J. Lacy	1835

Clerks of the Superior Court (1819-1836)	
D.E. McKinney	1819-1830
William Field	1830-1836

Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of Arkansas (1836-Present)	
Position One - Chief Justice	
Daniel Ringo	1836-1844
Thomas Johnson	1845-1852
George C. Watkins	1853-1854
Elbert H. English [Confederate]	1855-1864
Thomas D.W. Yonley	1864-1866
David Walker [ousted by military commander]	1866-1868
W.W. Wilshire	1868-1871
John E. McClure [Constitution of 1868; held Pos. Five]	1871-1874
Elbert H. English	1874-1884
Sterling R. Cockrill	1884-1893
Henry G. Bunn [appointed; subsequently elected]	1893-1904
Joseph M. Hill	1904-1909
Edgar A. McCulloch [appointed; subsequently elected]	1909-1927
Jesse C. Hart	1927-1933
Cecil E. Johnson	1933-1936
Griffin Smith	1937-1955
Lee Seamster [appointed]	1955-1956
Carleton Harris	1957-1980
John A. Fogleman [appointed; prev. held Position Six]	1980
Richard B. Adkisson	1980-1984
Webster Lee Hubbell [appointed]	1984
Jack Holt, Jr.	1985-1995
Bradley D. Jesson [appointed]	1995-1996

W.H. "Dub" Arnold	1997-2003
Betty Dickey [appointed]	2004
Jim Hannah [previously held Position Five]	2005-2015
Howard W. Brill [appointed]	2015-
Position Two - Associate Justice	
Townsend Dickinson	1836-1842
George W. Pashal	1843
William K. Sebastian	1843-1844
Williamson S. Oldham	1845-1848
Christopher C. Scott	1848-1859
Henry H. Rector	1859-1860
Hulbert F. Fairchild	1860-1864
Albert Pike [Confederate]	1864
C.A. Harper	1864-1866
Freeman W. Compton [ousted by military commander]	1866-1868
Lafayette Gregg [Constitution of 1868]	1868-1874
David Walker	1874-1878
Jesse Turner	1878
John A. Eakin	1878-1885
Burrill B. Battle	1885-1910
William F. Kirby	1910-1916
Thomas H. Humphreys [appointed]	1916-1942
R.W. Robins	1943-1949
Robert A. Leflar [appointed]	1949-1950
Sam Robinson	1951-1965
Osro Cobb [appointed]	1965-1966
J. Fred Jones	1967-1977
Elsijane Trimble Roy [appointed]	1977
George Howard, Jr. [appointed]	1977-1978
John I. Purtle	1979-1989
Otis H. Turner [appointed]	1990
Donald L. Corbin	1991-2014

Robin F. Wynne	2015

Position Three - Associate Justice	
Thomas J. Lacy	1836-1845
Edward Cross	1845-1846
William Conway	1847-1848
David Walker	1849-1855
Thomas B. Hanly	1856-1858
Felix I. Batson	1859
Freeman W. Compton [Confederate]	1859-1864
John J. Clendenin	1866-1868
Thomas M. Bowen	1868-1871
John E. Bennett	1871-1874
Freeman W. Compton [appointed]	1874
William M. Harrison	1874-1882
William W. Smith	1882-1888
Monte H. Sandels	1889-1890
William W. Mansfield	1891-1894
James E. Riddick [appointed; subsequently elected]	1894-1907
Jesse C. Hart [appointed; subsequently elected]	1907-1927
Edgar L. McHaney	1927-1948
Charles C. Wine [appointed]	1948
George Rose Smith	1949-1987
Tom Glaze	1987-2008
Elana Cunningham Wills [appointed]	2008-2010
Courtney Hudson Goodson	2011-
Position Four - Associate Justice	
M.L. Stephenson [Constitution of 1868]	1873
Wilson E. Hemingway	1889-1893
Richard H. Powell [appointed]	1893
Carroll D. Wood	1893-1929
Turner Butler	1929-1938

W.R. Donham [appointed]	1938
J. Seaborn Holt	1938-1961
Neill Bohlinger [appointed]	1961-1962
J. Frank Holt	1963-1966
Hugh M. Bland [appointed]	1966
Conley Byrd	1967-1980
Richard L. Mays [appointed]	1980
Robert H. Dudley	1981-1996
Ray Thornton	1997-2004
Jim Gunter	2005-2012
Josephine L. Hart	2013-

Position Five - Associate Justice	
John McClure [Constitution of 1868]	1868-1871
Elhanan J. Searle [Constitution of 1868]	1871-1873
Simon P. Hughes	1889-1904
Edgar A. McCulloch	1904-1909
Samuel Frauenthal [appointed]	1909-1912
Frank G. Smith	1912-1949
Edwin Dunaway [appointed]	1949-1950
Paul Ward	1951-1968
J. Frank Holt	1969-1983
P.A. "Les" Hollingsworth [appointed]	1984
David Newbern	1985-1998
Lavenski R. Smith [appointed]	1999-2000
Jim Hannah [elected Chief Justice]	2001-2004
Betty Dickey [appointed]	2005-2006
Paul E. Danielson	2007-
Position Six - Associate Justice	
William F. Kirby	1927-1934
Basil Baker	1934-1941
Karl Greenhaw [appointed]	1941-1942

Ben Carter	1943
Robert C. Knox [appointed]	1943-1944
Minor W. Millwee	1945-1958
William J. Smith [appointed]	1958
Jim Johnson	1959-1966
Guy Amsler [appointed]	1966
John A. Fogleman [appointed Chief Justice]	1967-1980
John F. Stroud, Jr. [appointed]	1980
Steele Hays	1981-1994
Andree Layton Roaf [appointed]	1995-1996
Annabelle Clinton Imber	1997-2009
William H. Bowen [appointed]	2010
Ronald Lee Sheffield [appointed]	2010
Karen R. Baker	2011-

Position Seven - Associate Justice	
James W. Mehaffy [died before assuming office]	1927
Tom M. Mehaffy [appointed; subsequently elected]	1927-1942
Ed F. McFaddin	1943-1966
Lyle Brown	1967-1975
Elsijane Trimble Roy [appointed]	1975-1977
Darrell Hickman	1977-1990
Dale Price [appointed]	1990
Robert L. Brown	1991-2012
Cliff Hoofman [appointed]	2013-2014
Rhonda K. Wood	2015

Source URL: https://courts.arkansas.gov/courts/supreme-court/historical-society/background-pg-2