

2011 Arkansas Judiciary Annual Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the Chief Justice3

2011 Appointments7

Arkansas Court Structure8

The Arkansas Supreme Court10

The Arkansas Court of Appeals12

Arkansas Annual Budget15

Court Administration17

Judicial Council26

Court of General Jurisdiction27

District Judges Council85

Courts of Limited Jurisdiction86

In Memoriam96

CHIEF JUSTICE JIM HANNAH

The office of Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Arkansas
Justice Building, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

**The Honorable Mike Beebe, Governor,
Members of the General Assembly,
Fellow Judges and Justices,
and Fellow Arkansans:**



The last year has been both trying and successful, and I am encouraged about the future of Arkansas's Judicial Branch. Today I will discuss the challenges we've faced over the last year; how we have responded to those problems; and what we can do in the year to come to address these continuing challenges.

Last year I shared with you my concerns about attacks on the judiciary and what we could do to combat the misperceptions and the misinformation that lead to such attacks. The joint task force on judicial elections hosted a symposium in March.

We had great speakers and a lot of information about how we can avoid the unseemly judicial campaigns that have taken place in the rest of the country. The concerns being discussed by our task force are legitimate, but I have to commend all of your colleagues who offered themselves as judicial candidates this year for running professional, clean campaigns. I think it's an example of how Arkansans are able to compete with each other with dignity and respect.

What we have been spared in Arkansas are massive infusions of out-of-state money for political attacks on judges or the judiciary. Criticisms have been leveled at the courts from day one in our country. It's a symptom of the natural tension that exists when each of the branches is required to impose checks and balances on each other. But the orchestrated and targeted attacks by special interests are a

new and dangerous phenomenon for which we must be prepared to respond.

The ability of the judiciary to address problems in judicial elections historically has been rooted in our judicial code of conduct. The White decision by the United States Supreme Court has had a tremendous impact on the enforceability of our judicial code of conduct. And the implications of *Citizen United* are very disturbing.

Recently an 8th Circuit panel struck down a provision of the Minnesota Judicial Code of Conduct that prohibited a judicial candidate from personally soliciting campaign funds as violating the 1st Amendment. We have the same provisions in Arkansas.

At our request, the Arkansas Attorney General filed a motion and brief with the 8th Circuit asking them to rehear this matter en banc. We were able to get every state supreme court in the 8th Circuit, except Nebraska, to join us. The 8th Circuit did grant rehearing and on March 27, the 8th Circuit in *Wersal v. Sexton*, en banc, reversed the panel's opinion. This is great news. Thank you General McDaniel.

Our Constitution defines rights, it defines the structure of our court system, and it gives the courts authority to settle disputes. In order to carry out our constitutionally-mandated obligations, the courts must be adequately funded. Our legal system is a necessity, not a luxury. Yet throughout the country, court budgets are being slashed and courts are being directed to raise revenue to operate.

In California, for example, almost a billion dollars has been eliminated from the state's judicial budget. They have had to eliminate judges and other court employees. They are reducing the number of days some courts are open while closing others altogether. These actions have a direct and immediate impact upon a state and its citizens. The resolution of business and commercial disputes are halted.

The ability of individuals to complete a divorce or an adoption; secure the payment of child support; settle an estate—all of these things are greatly delayed. Even where the budgets have not been reduced, state courts still have to find ways to cut costs due to the increase in the cost of court operations. Salaries are frozen. Positions are not being filled. Services are being reduced or eliminated.

Here in Arkansas, we have been very lucky, but still affected by the economy and political climate. An essential part of court operations has been affected.

You are all now familiar with the Administration of Justice Fund. Last fall we were faced with a crisis when there was a dramatic drop in court cost and filing fee collections, which are paid to that fund. The fund pays for many things, but most importantly it pays our trial court assistants' and court reporters' salaries.

We avoided having to impose layoffs or furloughs of trial court assistants, but barely. I want to be very clear about this: The courts were not to blame for the revenue decline. At our request, the Division of Legislative Audit examined the fund. They determined that, while there were a number of factors that contributed to the decrease in the fund, primarily the decrease was caused by lack of law enforcement resources and the poor economy.

Of the courts examined, the number of traffic tickets issued decreased by up to 24 percent. In addition, the number of warrants issued and served for failure to pay decreased by as much as 40 percent. In Rogers, for example, the Police Department Warrants Division was closed. As a result, there was a dramatic decrease in court cost collections. Another factor was the almost complete shutdown of statutory foreclosure filings.

Because of the economy, more judges than before were also allowing parties to pay off their

finances in smaller increments or with community service and jail time. Another reason the fund was low was one-time appropriations for a variety of projects and programs. At one time, there was more than 18 million dollars in the fund. In the fund's 17-year history, almost 22 million dollars has been appropriated by the legislature to be spent on one-time distributions or supplemental appropriations, several with little connection to the judiciary.

One important lesson from the fund crisis is that we should never rely on fees collected by the courts to pay for court employees. Court fees should not be the sole source of revenue to fund an essential part of court operations. There is an inherent problem with the courts having to make subjective decisions about the imposition of costs and fees that are used to pay their employees. If we are forced to rely on that system, it will impact access to justice. With filing fees and other expenses, the costs to use the legal system are already cost-prohibitive for many of our citizens.

One out of five of our neighbors lives in poverty. Even those who live above the poverty line have to make difficult choices about how to spend their money. If you have to choose between buying food and paying a utility bill, you're probably not in a position to file a lawsuit or appeal a decision, let alone hire an attorney to help you. Access to justice should not depend on an excessive cover charge at the courthouse door. It's not just our trial court assistants who have been hurt by these shortages. Our court reporters are also vulnerable.

Court security grants have also suffered a hit. The safety of our staffs, judges, and those who visit our courthouses must be paramount. Money for court security grants comes from the Administration of Justice Fund. When it takes a hit, so does the money for security upgrades. Less than a year ago our worst fears were realized when a gunman walked into the courthouse in Crawford County and shot a trial court assistant, Ms. Vickie Jones. He was looking for Judge Gary Cottrell. Thank God it was not worse. Had we been able to provide manned metal detectors, the tragedy may have been avoided. Adequate court security is imperative, and it takes money to implement.

Besides the AOJ Fund, another area that has taken a financial hit recently is our drug courts. We've seen treatment funding go from three million dollars in 2008 to less than a million this year. The long-term benefits of drug courts vastly outweigh the cost of the programs. Drug courts are proven to keep people out of prison and with their families. Participants work in their communities, which repays society in many ways. Cutting money from these programs will cost the state more in the long run, because more people will be in jail instead of addressing the core problem, their addictions and working for themselves and their families. The cost of prison and the cost to society are so much higher than the money needed to pay for drug courts.

We are asking courts to do more and more with fewer resources, yet judges in Arkansas are about to start their fourth year without any increase in their salary whatsoever. I have never felt comfortable talking about salary increases when it involved my salary. I was taught that you work hard, do your job and your compensation would take care of itself. However, as chief justice, I have a responsibility to the state and to the judiciary to address problems that the Arkansas judiciary is facing. And we have a problem that needs to be addressed. We need to attract bright and qualified judicial candidates. We also need to be able to keep the good judges that we have. In order to attract a good pool of qualified judicial candidates, and to be able to retain good judges, we are going to have to increase the salaries of the judges. We have a problem; we need to address it.

I realize that my preceding remarks may sound like all doom and gloom, but the judiciary's situation is actually much brighter than that, thanks to your hard work and innovation. From a technology perspective, we continue to automate the state's courts. Seven judicial circuits are already using the new case management system and making their dockets and pleadings available online. Eleven more circuit and district courts are in progress or finalizing plans to come online, while 22 are on the waiting list. Pulaski County is the first to use e-filing. The one-year pilot phase began in March.

We will start to work with the other automated courts to implement e-filing next

year. The attorneys who have registered to e-file in Pulaski County are a tremendous help to us as we work out the kinks of the new system. We really appreciate your enthusiasm and constructive feedback as we digitize the court system. There is much work to be done, but I am grateful for everyone's assistance.

We have not worked out the details yet, but I anticipate that the appellate courts will begin the process of automating the Supreme Court Clerk's office by the end of the year. The overhaul of our system will include e-filing.

The Office of Professional Programs recently made your CLE records available online. You can now register at the judiciary website to see how many hours you have earned. The Clerk's office will soon be able to accept payments for attorney license fees online through our website. Speaking of the website, it is currently being redesigned. The goal is to make it easier to find the information you need and provide the services you have asked for.

Automating the courts is a massive undertaking which costs a lot of money, but ultimately it will make us more efficient and cost less. Lawyers who practice in different jurisdictions will have easier access to the courts and their records. The public and press will have an easier time finding information. Litigants will also have better access to justice. In fact, Arkansas Legal Services is working with the AOC to allow victims of domestic violence to file petitions for protective orders online. So often they have no means to get to the courthouse.

In response to the crisis with the Administration of Justice Fund, judges took the lead in examining the potential causes of the downturn in their local communities and developed several innovative responses. Courts are hosting amnesty days or setting special docket days specifically so parties can pay their overdue fines. Other courts are now allowing parties to use credit and debit cards to make payments. Some are certifying court-owed obligations in order to garnish state income tax returns. We are supporting federal legislation that will allow intercepts of federal income tax returns for delinquent court fines, fees and costs, just like delinquent child support.

Probably every judge has initiated a conversation about this issue within his or her legal community. Judges are talking to court clerks and law enforcement to identify problems and find solutions. Still, we should not just talk about these things when there's a crisis. In fact, the last month's collection of fees and costs were down.

We should always be engaged in our communities and be searching for ways to work better together for the benefit of everyone. We'll be talking to the legislature next year to request that the trial court assistants' and court reporter salaries are made part of the state budget so they are paid like other state employees.

There is a lot of competition for general revenue funds, so I anticipate we are really going to have to fight for this change. We will need your support to help convince the state that our trial court assistants' and court reporters' jobs should not depend on how much money we collect from costs and fees.

Additional full-time district judges will be added beginning January 1, 2013. For the first time we will have district judges serving more than one county. The court has made some rule changes making it feasible for our state district courts to be a court of record. I can now appoint state district judges to serve as circuit judges. A big savings for Arkansans.

We are surely progressing to our goal of having all of our district judges full time. This will happen. This is the most important and positive structural change in the Arkansas's judiciary in our state's history.

At the request of the Arkansas Bar Association, we added a civility clause to our oath. What we added was:

I will maintain the respect and courtesy due to courts of justice, judicial officers, and those who assist them.

To opposing parties and their counsel I pledge fairness, integrity, and civility not only in court, but also in all written and oral communications.

This spring, for the first time, I administered the new oath to our new attorneys.

At the judicial election symposium in March, Minnesota Circuit Judge Kevin Burke, President of the American Judges Association, told us about the Litigants' Bill of Rights as his

solution to the public's misperceptions and misunderstanding about the courts. This Bill of Rights gives the people who use our courts the right to be listened to; the right to be treated with respect; and the right to understand why a decision is made. This argument is based upon a long line of social science research which makes clear that a citizen's satisfaction and compliance with orders or directives of the court are tied not so much to whether they win or lose but whether they perceived that they were treated fairly and had the opportunity to be heard.

Treating people with respect and explaining decisions builds trust and confidence in the judicial system, and it creates legitimacy. Litigants and people who come in contact with our courts can and should be our best ambassadors. When the public hears a negative ad or hears negative comments on cable news, their experience with the courts should contradict the rhetoric.

Procedural fairness should be the number one goal for all of us. It is in our own interest to ensure that all persons are provided these rights. Even if they lose, those who feel they got a fair shot and were listened to will trust the judge's decision. If they trust the decision, they will abide by the order. It's that simple.

We judges owe this duty to the lawyers who appear before us, too. I've heard that sometimes lawyers disagree with judges' decisions. Well, the same bill of rights theory applies. If an attorney is treated with respect in court, is allowed to make to make an argument to a judge who really listens, and understands why a decision is made, then that lawyer can trust the system, too.

There is no perfect judge or lawyer. There is no perfect legal system. What we do have is an opportunity to make it the best system we can. A system which protects our neighbors, protects everyone's access to justice, and protects our democracy.

More than one-and-a-half million cases are filed each year in this state. That means we have more than one-and-a-half million opportunities a year to strengthen the judiciary. What a great opportunity we have. We must take advantage of these opportunities. We cannot afford to waste these opportunities.

2011 Appointments

There were a number of judicial appointments made by Governor Beebe in 2011. In the Arkansas Court of Appeals, Cliff Hoofman and Doug Martin were appointed by the Governor to replace Karen Baker and Courtney Goodson, respectively, who had been elected in the 2010 general election to the Arkansas Supreme Court.

In the 13th Judicial Circuit, Searcy Harrell was appointed to replace Susan Hickey who was nominated and approved to serve on the federal bench. G. Chadd Mason was appointed in the 4th Judicial Circuit to replace Mary Ann Gunn who retired. The 6th Judicial Circuit lost Melinda Gilbert, who passed away in May of 2011, and Beth Branscum Burgess was appointed as her replacement. In the 19th Judicial Circuit West David Clinger and Jay Finch retired and appointees for their positions were Jon Comstock and Mark Fryauf, respectively.



Hon. Cliff Hoofman
Court of Appeals



Hon. Doug Martin
Court of Appeals



Hon. Searcy W. Harrell
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
13th Judicial Circuit



Hon. G. Chadd Mason
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
4th Judicial Circuit



Hon. Beth Burgess
Circuit Judge, Div. 11
6th Judicial Circuit

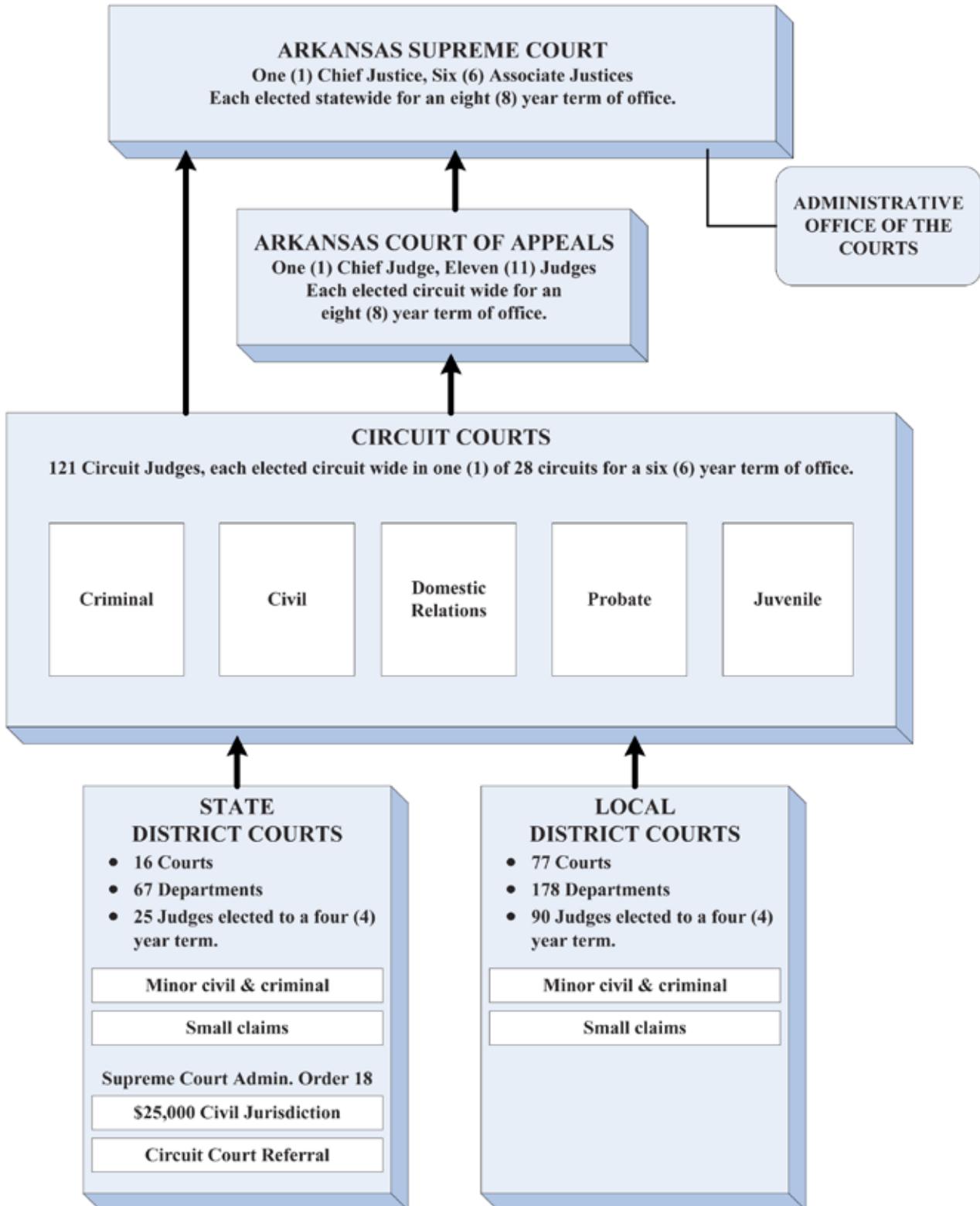


Hon. Jon Comstock
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
19th West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mark Fryauf
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
19th West Judicial Circuit

ARKANSAS COURT STRUCTURE



THE ARKANSAS COURT SYSTEM

Court structure

The Arkansas Supreme Court and the Arkansas Court of Appeals comprise the top tier of Arkansas's three-tier judicial system. Under the Arkansas Constitution, parties are entitled to one appeal. This appeal is taken to either the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals. The distribution of cases between the two courts is established by Supreme Court Rule. Each court exercises jurisdiction over civil and criminal cases. Judges of both courts are elected in non-partisan elections for eight-year terms.

The second tier is composed of 28 circuit courts served by a total of 121 circuit judges. These judges are elected circuit wide for a six-year term of office. Judicial nominees are required to have served as attorneys for at least six years prior to running for a circuit judgeship, and circuit judicial elections are non-partisan. Circuit courts are general jurisdiction courts. Circuit courts have five subject matters: criminal, civil, probate, domestic relations, and juvenile.

The third tier is made up of state and local district courts. There are currently 16 state district courts, 67 departments of these courts, and 25 state district judges, each elected in a non-partisan election to a four-year term. These judges preside over civil, criminal, and small claims cases. In addition, cases pending in circuit court may be referred to state district court.

Recent changes

Act 1219 of 2011 created state district courts. These state district courts take the place of pilot district courts. The judges of these courts are full-time state employees. The remaining district courts of the state are now considered to be local district courts.

THE ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT

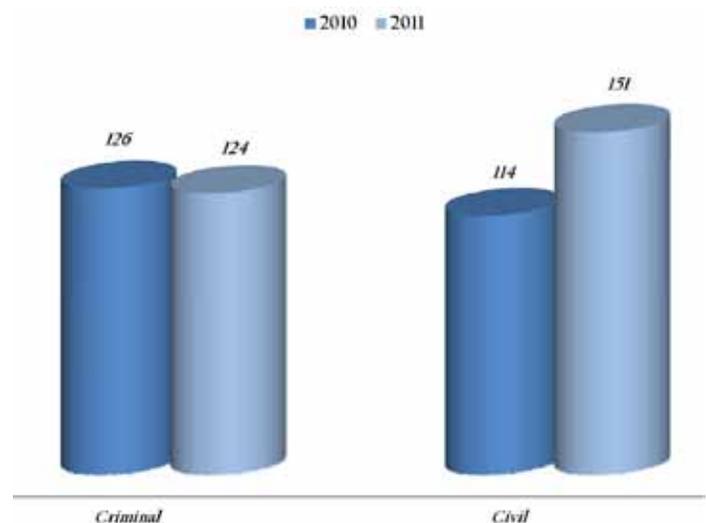
The Arkansas Supreme Court was created in 1836 and met for the first time on January 24, 1837. The Court established, as one of its early goals, a standard of fairness and speedy dispatch in its deliberations and opinion process.

For many years, the Court operated with one of the nation's heaviest per-judge appellate court workloads. The creation of the Court of Appeals in 1978 greatly eased the burden, but the number of cases continued to grow. The expansion of the Court of Appeals in 1996 and 1997 from six to twelve judges greatly improved the administration of justice at the appellate court level. With slight revisions in the rules which divide cases between the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, cases have been shifted from the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals. This has decreased the case-per-judge average off the Supreme Court without increasing the average of the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court's historical dedication to its "fast track" system, where citizens are assured of a written opinion, on average, within two weeks of the time of submission, continues to be unique among state courts of last resort in the United States.

The workload of appellate courts is generally measured by the number of cases filed (including appeals, petitions, and motions) and disposed of during the year and by counting the number of opinions written by the justices. The number of appeals filed in the Supreme Court totaled 275, an increase of 35 cases over the previous year's total of 240. The total caseload of appeals, petitions, and motions filed was 512, which mirrors last year's total caseload of 512. The Supreme Court has a good record for maintaining the currency of its cases. However, due to such factors as an increasing number of post-conviction appeals, the Court saw a total of 649 appeals pending at the end of the fiscal year, which is a slight increase from last year's total of 598 appeals pending. This year, Justices wrote and published a total of 469 opinions, which include majority, concurring, dissenting, and per curiam opinions. This reflects an increase from last year's total of 401 opinions written and published.

It required an average of 272 days in criminal cases and 254 days in civil cases for a record filed with the Supreme Court to be submitted for a decision. This marks a significant decrease from last year's average of 408 days for criminal cases and a slight decrease from an average of 258 days for civil cases. This year, a decision was handed down by the Supreme Court in an average of 12 days for a criminal case and 14 days in a civil case from the time it was submitted to the Court. These numbers have held relatively steady or slightly decreased since last year, when it took an average of 12 days in a criminal case and 17 days in a civil case for a decision to be handed down by the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court





Arkansas Supreme Court

Front Row (left to right):

Justice Donald Corbin
Chief Justice Jim Hannah
Justice Robert Brown

Back Row (left to right):

Justice Karen Baker
Justice Jim Gunter
Justice Paul Danielson
Justice Courtney Hudson Goodson

THE COURT OF APPEALS

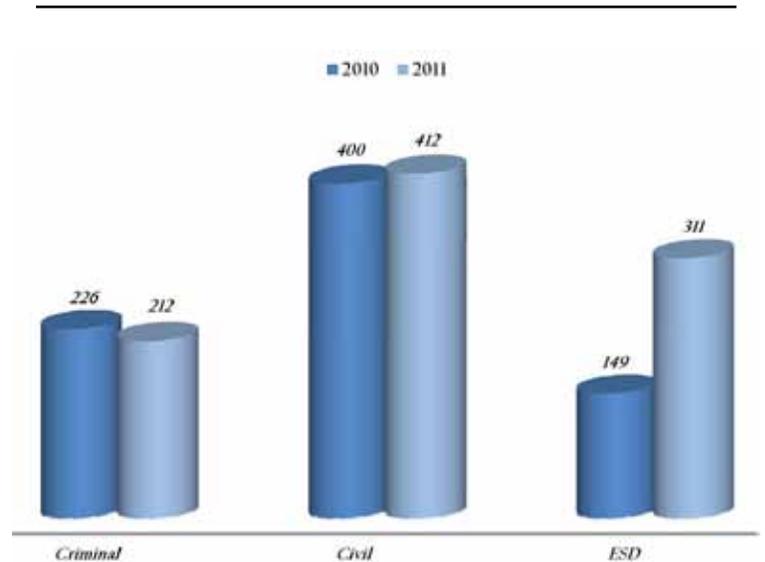
Since its creation in 1978, the Arkansas Court of Appeals has worked with the Supreme Court to provide major relief for the tremendous increase in appeals which first challenged the Arkansas appellate court system during the 1970's. The number of appeals continued to grow at such a tremendous rate, however, that the Court of Appeals was no longer able to accommodate further increase. Legislation first adopted during the 1993 legislative session increased the Court of Appeals to twelve members from six members. Three new judges were added in 1996 and an additional three judges were added in 1997. The twelve member court sits in four panels of three and, when necessary, conducts en banc sessions with six judges.

The workload of the Court of Appeals is measured by the number of appeals, petitions, and motions considered by the Court during the fiscal year. Appeals filed during 2011 totaled 935 cases, a significant increase from last year's total of 775 cases. Appeal terminations for the year totaled 839 cases, a decrease from last year's total of 808. The number of cases pending at the end of this year was 722, a slight increase from last year's total of 626 cases pending.

Workload is also measured by the number of opinions written by the judges of the Court of Appeals. In 2011, the judges wrote a total of 720 majority, concurring, dissenting, and per curiam opinions.

During 2011, it required an average of 274 days to process criminal cases and 209 days in civil cases for a record filed with the Court of Appeals to be submitted to the Court. From the time a case is submitted to the Court of Appeals, a decision is handed down in an average of 4 days for criminal cases and 14 days for civil cases.

Court of Appeals





Arkansas Court of Appeals

Front Row (left to right):

Hon. Robin Wynne
Hon. Larry Vaught
Hon. Josephine Hart
Hon. Rita Gruber
Hon. David Glover
Hon. Raymond Abramson

Back Row (left to right):

Hon. Waymond Brown
Hon. Robert Gladwin
Hon. John Pittman
Hon. John Robbins
Hon. Cliff Hoofman
Hon. Doug Martin

ORAL ARGUMENTS

This year saw the beginning of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals' oral arguments streaming live over the Internet. These arguments are available for public viewing on the courts' website. In 2011, Supreme Court oral arguments were viewed 3,441 times and the Court of Appeals oral arguments were viewed 1,359 times. Other live events, such as swearing-in ceremonies, were viewed a total of 494 times.

The ten most-viewed events of 2011 were:

1. 10-840 -- AR Dept. of Human Services v. Family Action Committee, et al, and Sheila Cole, from Pulaski Circuit, Second Div.
2. CR 08-1493 -- Damien Wayne Echols v. State of Arkansas, from Craighead Circuit, Western Div.
3. 10-1246 -- Bayer Cropscience v. Randy Schafer, et al, from Lonoke Circuit
4. CR 11-5 -- Erikson Dimas-Martinez v. State of Arkansas, from Benton Circuit
5. Swearing-in Ceremony of Associate Justices Baker and Henry to the Arkansas Supreme Court
6. 10-1094 -- Hempstead County Hunting Club v. Southwestern Electric Power Company, et al, from an Original Action on a Certified Question from the U.S. District Court, Western District of Arkansas
7. Court Management Program Graduation
8. CR 10-511 -- Billy D. Green v. State of Arkansas, from Randolph County
9. 11-112 -- April Forrester v. Mark Martin, Secretary of State, et al, from Pulaski Circuit, Ninth Div.
10. New Attorney Swearing-In Ceremony

Supreme Court Committees

The Arkansas Supreme Court carries out many of its administrative responsibilities through the work of several committees. Each committee is made up of judges, attorneys, and lay persons and one liaison justice of the Supreme Court. Staffing for the committee is provided by the Office of Professional Programs, the Office of Professional Conduct, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. The 2011 committees and their chairpersons included the following:

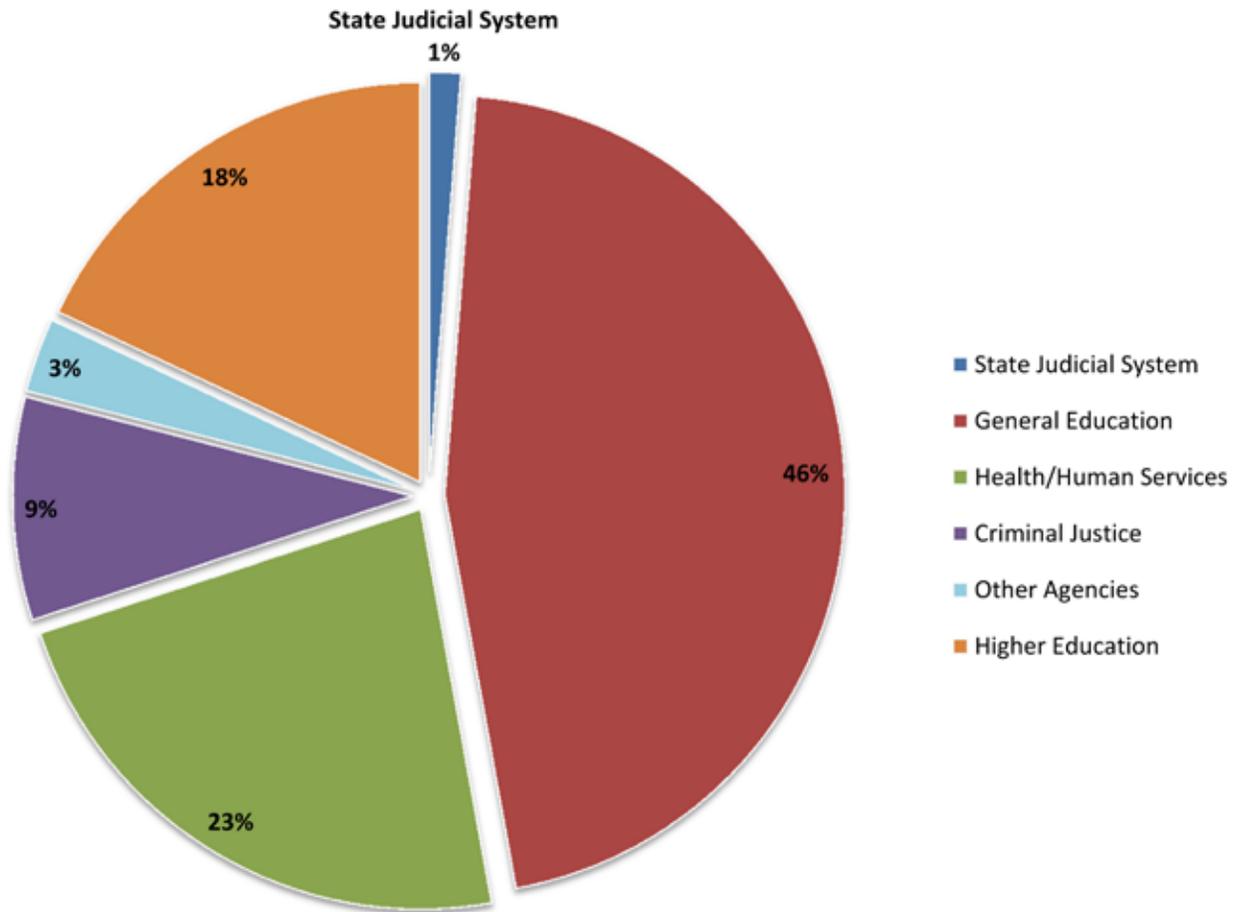
<i>Committee on Criminal Practice</i>	<i>Hon. Duncan Culpepper</i>
<i>Committee on Civil Practice</i>	<i>Hon. Henry Wilkinson</i>
<i>Criminal Jury Instruction</i>	<i>Hon. Gordon Webb</i>
<i>Civil Jury Instruction</i>	<i>Roger Rowe</i>
<i>Board of Certified Court Reporters Examiners</i>	<i>Hon. Xollie Duncan</i>
<i>Unauthorized Practice of Law</i>	<i>Van Stone, III</i>
<i>Board of Law Examiners</i>	<i>Mary Broadway</i>
<i>Committee on Professional Conduct</i>	<i>Valerie Kelley</i>
<i>Continuing Legal Education Board</i>	<i>Hon. Waymond Brown</i>
<i>Committee on Client Security Fund</i>	<i>Jo Ann Maxey</i>
<i>Committee on Automation</i>	<i>Hon. Vann Smith</i>
<i>Committee on Child Support</i>	<i>Hon. Mackie Pierce</i>
<i>Committee on Court Security and Emergency Preparedness</i>	<i>Hon. Hamilton Singleton</i>
<i>Commission on Children, Youth, and Families</i>	<i>Chief Justice Jim Hannah</i>

ARKANSAS ANNUAL BUDGET

FY2011 ARKANSAS STATE BUDGET

(All funds budgeted and distributed to agencies and programs from General Revenue, Constitutional Offices, and State Control Service Funds)

\$4,831,064,612



STATE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

<i>Salaries & Expenses of Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Circuit and State District Judges</i>	\$23,028,606
<i>Salaries & Expenses of Court Reporters, Trial Court Assistants, Juvenile Intake and Probation</i>	\$20,392,287
<i>Supreme Court</i>	\$4,123,659
<i>Court of Appeals</i>	\$4,021,514
<i>Administrative Office of the Courts</i>	\$8,154,614
<i>Judicial Discipline</i>	\$649,056
	\$60,369,736

FUNDING OF THE JUDICIARY

Arkansas courts are financed through state, county, and city appropriations. The degree of funding from each source depends upon the level of jurisdiction of the court being funded. State government is the sole funding source for the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, appellate court support staff, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. In addition, the state funds the salaries and costs of travel and educational assistance for circuit judges, and the salaries for court reporters and trial court assistants. The state also pays for one-half of the salaries of juvenile intake and probation officers who serve the judges of the juvenile division.

In 1995, the General Assembly enacted legislation which laid the groundwork for the state to begin the assumption of the responsibility for funding all court-related personnel at the trial court level. In that year, funding was provided for salaries for trial court administrative assistants for each trial judge. In 1998, the costs of the public defender system were assumed by the state. Legislation in 1999 provided for the state to begin to pay the salaries and expenses of deputy prosecuting attorneys in January 2000. Even with these additional costs, the funds appropriated to the courts and for court-related activities represent less than one percent of the total state government operating appropriation.

County government is the funding source for the salaries of circuit court support and clerical staff and for all supplies, equipment, utilities, and facilities within each judicial circuit. Each county within the circuit provides funding according to its pro rata share of the district-wide court expenses and is solely responsible for the costs of facilities and utilities within the county. County funding also includes juvenile intake and probation officer staff for the judiciary.

The county government also shares with city government the cost of the district court. The county share is usually 50%, but there are numerous exceptions to this pattern in a variety of locally negotiated arrangements.

COURT SERVICES DIVISION

Court Interpreters

The Court Interpreter Services provide interpreting services for individuals who have a limited ability to understand English, are deaf or hard of hearing, or are unable to speak. It is responsible for the certification of interpreters and the scheduling of interpreters for court proceedings. In addition to the staff interpreters, it coordinates the use of contract interpreter. It maintains a registry of Certified Court Interpreters.

Mara Simmons

Court Interpreter Services Director
mara.simmons@arkansas.gov

Court Security and Emergency Preparedness

The Court Security and Emergency Preparedness Director oversees the Supreme Court's improvements to security and emergency preparedness for all the courts of the state. He assists courts in developing security plans, coordinates training programs for court security officers, and provides assistance to courts when incidents occur.

Pete Hollingsworth

Director of Court Security and Emergency Preparedness
pete.hollingsworth@arkansas.gov

Domestic Violence Program

The Domestic Violence Program Coordinator is responsible for the development of programs and policies for the courts to address domestic violence issues. The coordinator facilitates training and education programs for judges and educates victims, advocates, and other organizations on the judicial process.

Lensa Odima-Warden

Domestic Violence Program Coordinator
lensa.odima-warden@arkansas.gov

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

The Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) assists in the work of the ADR Commission in the implementation of programs and the education and certification of professional mediators.

Jennifer Taylor

Alternative Dispute Resolution Director
jennifer.taylor@arkansas.gov

Drug Court Program

The Drug Court Coordinator serves as the coordinator of all drug court activities in the state. These responsibilities include the training and continuing education of drug court judges and their staffs, development of a centralized management information system to evaluate and report on drug court activities, and the coordination of the work of judges, the Department of Community Correction, treatment providers, and others.

Kari Powers

Drug Court Coordinator
kari.powers@arkansas.gov

Judicial Branch Education Division

The Judicial Branch Education Division provides educational and training programs for judges, court clerks, trial court assistants, court reporters, probation officers, and other court personnel. It includes a public education component to help educate students and private citizens about the court system. It oversees the publication of education pamphlets, statistical reports, special research reports, and other materials relating to the judiciary.

Marty Sullivan

Judicial Branch Education Division Director
marty.sullivan@arkansas.gov

Legal Division

The attorneys in the Legal Division provide ongoing legal assistance to judges and court personnel throughout the state. In addition, they assist the Supreme Court, the Governor's Office, and the General Assembly in developing policies and addressing issues affecting the judicial branch of government.

Larry Brady

Court Services Director
larry.brady@arkansas.gov

Donna Gay

Attorney, Circuit Court Domestic Relations and Probate
donna.gay@arkansas.gov

Krystal Mann

Attorney, Circuit Court Civil and Criminal
krystal.mann@arkansas.gov

Keith Caviness

Attorney, District Courts
keith.caviness@arkansas.gov

JUVENILE DIVISION

The Juvenile Division strives to:

- Encourage judicial best practices;
- Promote data-driven, evidence-based practices in our courts;
- Coordinate and provide training for participants in the Juvenile Division Courts;
- Provide the Juvenile Division of Circuit Court with resources to better serve the children and families who appear before the court;
- Ensure that the well-being of children, youth, and families is a high priority within the Arkansas judicial system; and
- Provide leadership in bringing diverse groups together to better serve children and families that enter our court system.

The Juvenile Division includes the following Programs:

The Attorney Ad Litem (AAL) Program provides qualified attorneys to represent all children in dependency-neglect proceedings pursuant to Arkansas Supreme Court Administrative Order Number 15. These attorneys are called attorneys ad litem. The AAL program has 33 full-time employees and 37 part-time contractors who provide representation to all children in the dependency-neglect cases in the state. The AAL program has a high rate of retention of attorneys. On October 1, 2011 there were 13 AALs with 9-11 years with the program, there were 2 with 6-8 years, 10 with 3-5 years and only 8 with less than 3 years. AALs provided representation to 9,289 children in 5,337 dependency-neglect cases. For more information about the AAL Program, please contact the AAL Director, Renia Robinette at renia.robinette@arkansas.gov

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (ARCASA) promotes and supports local CASA programs so they may provide qualified advocates in our courts to work with attorneys ad litem to help dependent-neglected children reach safe, permanent homes. CASAs advocates are volunteers appointed by the court and undergo background checks, 30 hours of pre-service training with curricula developed by the National CASA Association, and must complete 12 continuing education hours annually. In 2011, ARCASA provided grants, technical assistance and training to 25 local CASA programs who served

3,443 children with 1,307 volunteers. For more information about CASA, please contact Julian Holloway, State CASA Director at CASA@arkansas.gov.

The Parent Counsel Program provides representation to a parent or custodian who had legal custody at the time the children were removed from the home if the parent makes a request to the court and is found by the court to be indigent. Further, even a non-custodial parent who requests an attorney and is found by the court to be indigent is entitled to a court-appointed attorney at termination of parental rights hearings. Even putative parents potentially have a right to court-appointed counsel if the court finds that the putative parent had significant contacts with the juvenile, that due process requires appointment of counsel for a full and fair hearing, and that the putative parent has requested counsel and is indigent. The attorneys who contract with the State of Arkansas to represent these parents are called Parent Counsel and must be qualified pursuant to Arkansas Supreme Court Administrative Order Number 15. The Parent Counsel Program contracted with 60 attorneys to represent parents in dependency-neglect cases. Parent Counsel represented an average of 2664 parents per month across the state, with each contractor representing an average of 44 parents per month throughout the year. For more information about the Parent Counsel Program, please contact the Director, Rena Roach at rena.roach@rocketmail.gov

The Court Improvement Program (CIP) is a result of three federal grants that support improvements in child abuse and neglect cases. CIP Basic focuses on improving the quality of representation and court proceedings, including youth and family engagement. CIP Technology supports the development and implementation of DNet and court technology to improve court practice. DNet is a state wide shared data base between the Supreme Court and the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS). It allows for parties in a dependency-neglect case to share information and data. CIP Training reinforces these programs by coordinating and supporting judicial and stakeholder training, educational opportunities, and resource development. For more information about various CIP programs, please contact the CIP Director, Terri Looney at terri.looney@arkansas.gov

JUVENILE DIVISION

Juvenile Drug Courts

There are currently 13 Juvenile Drug Courts. In 2011, the legislature funded three additional juvenile drug courts in the Second, Fifth and Eight North Judicial Districts.

Juvenile Drug Courts funding is currently limited to one staff which limits the number of participants the court can manage. For more information about Juvenile Drug Courts, please contact, Connie Hickman Tanner at Connie.Tanner@arkansas.gov or Gabrielle Russ at Gabrielle.Russ@arkansas.gov

Juvenile Officer Certification is provided by the Juvenile Division at the AOC based on a curriculum from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges adapted to Arkansas with input from juvenile officers. Circuit Judges hire juvenile officers who must meet the qualification standards and within their first year of employment they must go through the Juvenile Officer Certification Course. Officers also must maintain 12 hours of continuing education each year to remain certified as a juvenile officer. For more information about Juvenile Officer Certification, please contact, Gabrielle Russ at gabrielle.russ@arkansas.gov

UPDATE FROM THE COURT SERVICES DIVISION

2011 Highlights

Judicial Branch Education Division

The Division is tasked with providing continuing legal education to all limited, general, and appellate jurisdiction judges. The Division also administers funding provided for tuition and travel to out-of-state centers of excellence, such as the National Judicial College (NJC) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC).

Certification and training programs are made available to court staff including, trial court assistants, court reporters, district court clerks, and district court probation officers. Education conferences for these individual groups are held throughout the state annually. The recently introduced Arkansas Court Manager Program, through a partnership with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Institute for Court Management, has become a cornerstone of curriculum-based training for court staff in Arkansas.

In 2009, Arkansas was one of seven states invited to assist the NCSC in updating and revising its Court Management Program (CMP) curriculum. Through the development of nationally certified Arkansas faculty and the selection of an inaugural class of participants, the Arkansas CMP courses are now offered to court personnel through the Administrative Office of the Courts. This voluntary program gives participants the same nationally recognized certification that a participant would have received from the Institute for Court Management at the NCSC, minus cost-prohibitive tuition and out-of-state travel expenses. As these court

managers become certified, the Administrative Office of the Courts expects this new classification of court employees to evolve to include greater responsibility, training, and career potential.

CMP courses that are currently being offered include:

- Purposes and Responsibilities of the Courts
- Managing Human Resources
- Fundamental Issues in Caseflow Management
- Managing Technology Projects
- Managing Court Financial Resources
- Court Performance Standards: CourTools

The Division provides logistical support to statewide Court Security Officer training and an annual statewide Drug Court conference. In-house continuing legal education programming, organized by the Division, is also offered at the Justice Building to law clerks and staff attorneys. . The Division serves over 1,200 individuals annually.

The AOC held its first Court Management Program graduation in August 2011. Twenty-six trial court assistants from around the state completed the three year program, which consists of six, 2.5 day sessions taught by certified faculty from Arkansas and other parts of the country. At the graduation ceremony, they received from Chief Justice Jim Hannah, a nationally recognized certificate as a Certified Court Manager.

Court Management Program Class of 2011



COURT SERVICES DIVISION

Domestic Violence Program

2011 Conference on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

The 2011 Statewide Multi-Disciplinary Conference on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault took place September 29-30, 2011 at the Wyndham Hotel in North Little Rock, AR. The theme was: "Policy, Partnership, and Prevention: Taking a Coordinated Multi-disciplinary Community Approach to Domestic Violence." The conference was sponsored by the Administrative Office of the Courts through grant funding provided by the Office on Violence Against Women through the U.S. Department of Justice. It was cosponsored by the Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Arkansas Legal Services Partnerships.

Session and workshop topics dealt with issues relevant to various agencies and professionals that interact with victims of domestic violence, including judicial response, multidisciplinary team approach to aiding children who have witnessed domestic violence, the dynamics of domestic violence, the Arkansas Interactive Order of Protection, orders of protection in rural areas, assessing lethality and impact, forfeiture by wrongdoing, using technology to stalk, and immigration (U-visa and T-visas).

"How to Get an Order of Protection in Arkansas" Video

The 2011 domestic violence conference also included a screening of the newly developed "How to Get an Order of Protection in Arkansas" video which provides information about domestic abuse laws, the court system in Arkansas and sets out the procedure for obtaining an order of protection in Arkansas. The video was created to assist shelter directors, pro se victims and service providers in understanding the system better and in filing for orders of protection.

Interactive Order of Protection Software

AOC has purchased a license to an interactive software program from Probono.net that will enable victims to fill out and print orders of protection from the internet. This software will increase convenience, security and privacy for both victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as the agencies that serve them.

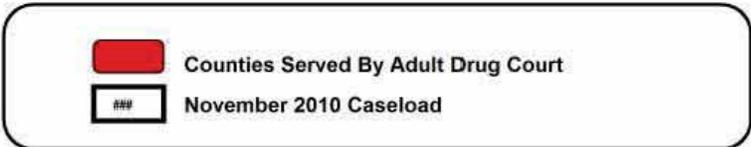
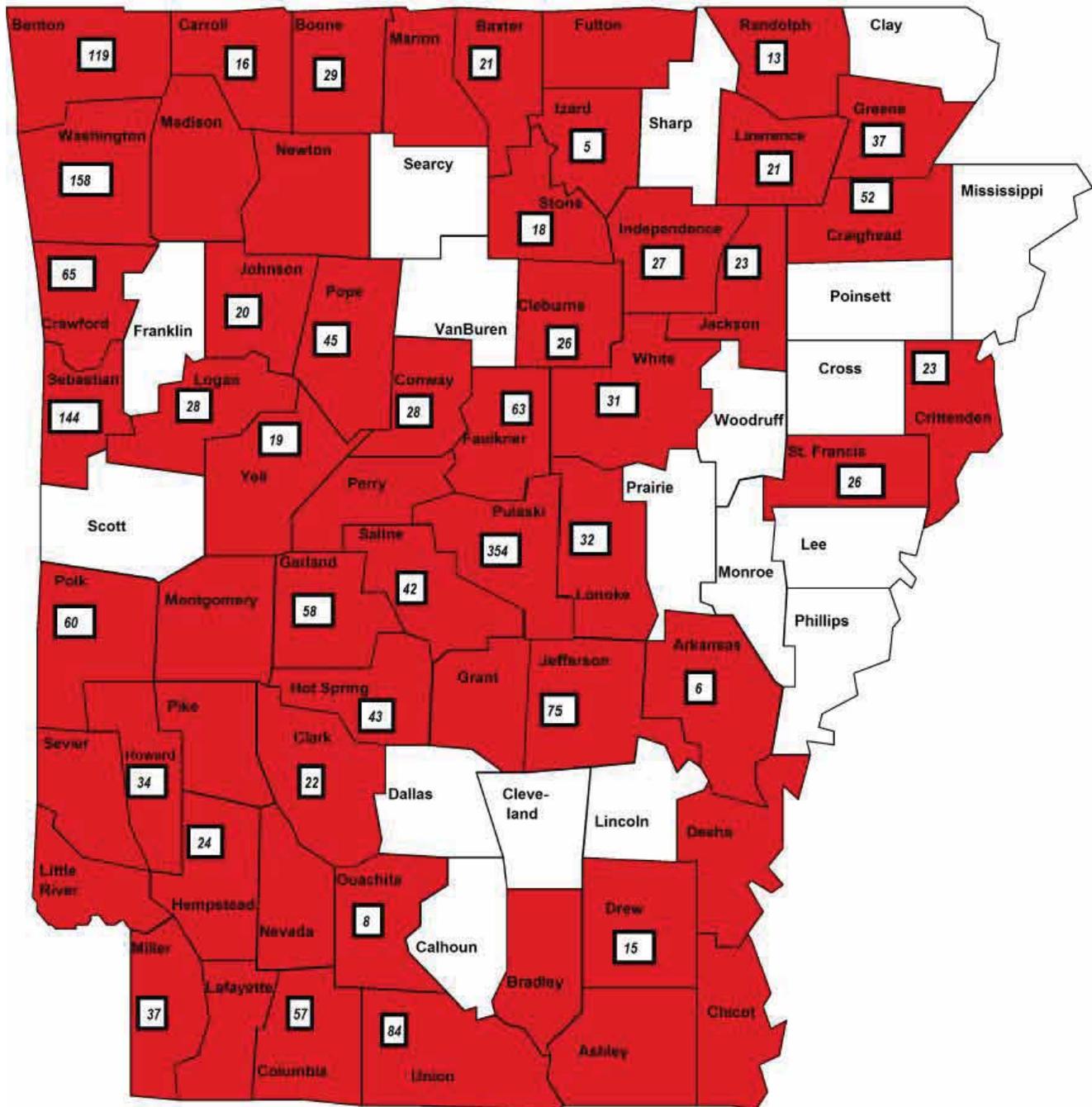
Arkansas Drug Courts

In February 2011, Kari Powers was appointed as the new Drug Court Coordinator for the Administrative Office of the Courts. The 88th General Assembly also passed a comprehensive corrections reform bill that contained provisions regarding drug courts, their program development, program criteria and measurements for success. Perhaps the change with the greatest potential impact is a heavy cut in treatment funding. While the majority of state officials support the work of drug courts, the national economic downturn resulted in drug court treatment funding being cut to one-third the amount from the previous year.

Unfortunately, due to the decline in the national and state economic health, budget cuts and restraints reduced the treatment funding to \$500,000 in the 2011 legislative session compared to \$1.5 million and \$3 million in previous years. This amount is disbursed among all the drug courts statewide. This funding for new drug court programs has also been reduced. The Legislature approved five more locations for new drug court programs, but until revenue is established to fund these programs, they will remain on hold. The General Assembly did approve the formation of three additional juvenile drug courts, which are funded and expected to become operational by January 2012.

In 2011, there were 41 operating drug courts in the state, serving 57 of 75 counties. Izard County had the fewest drug court cases in the state in November, with only five. Out of these drug courts, four had caseloads of more than 100 in November 2010: Benton County had 119 cases, Sebastian County had 144, Washington County had 158, and Pulaski County had the largest caseload, with 354 cases. Arkansas also has ten juvenile drug courts and judges in three circuits have expressed interest in starting programs in their areas

2011 ARKANSAS ADULT DRUG COURTS



COURT INFORMATION SERVICES

The Court Information Systems Division (CIS) is responsible for providing technological support to the state's courts, maintaining accurate information regarding court case loads, and for managing the Arkansas Court Automation Programs, a statewide initiative to automate jury and case management in Arkansas courts.

The division is composed of four groups. The Hardware Group is responsible for managing networks and server hardware and provides desktop support to the appellate courts, AOC, and ancillary agencies. The Software Group is responsible for database management, software and reports development, and the Arkansas Judiciary Website. The Case Management Group is responsible for maintaining accurate circuit court case load information, implementing and supporting case management software and related applications. The Jury Management Group is responsible for implementing and supporting jury management software and related applications.

Jury Management

During 2011 the Juror system was used to summon 73,757 persons and process over \$579,701 in payments for jury service. With the November 2011 addition of the Saline County Circuit Court, there are now 48 counties using the Juror system.

The Jury Group also completed development of an interactive jury service website called MyJuryInfo. The website allows citizens who are summoned for jury duty to complete qualification and questionnaire information online. The information goes directly to the circuit courts that use the Juror program. The system also permits the courts to more effectively communicate with jurors through e-mail and text messages. The website was developed in-house under the direction of a core committee comprised of circuit judges, circuit clerks, jury administrators, prosecutors, deputy clerks, and trial court assistants.

Case Management

In addition to its responsibility for auditing the state circuit court caseloads, the Case Management Group implemented the Contexte Case Management System in three circuit courts in 2011 and converted 23 paper-reporting counties to Contexte. The group

plans to fully implement eleven circuit courts in 2012. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration awarded the AOC a grant of nearly \$500,000 to target large district courts for Contexte implementation. With the grant, the AOC plans to implement two large district courts in 2012 in addition to two other district courts that are planned for the year.

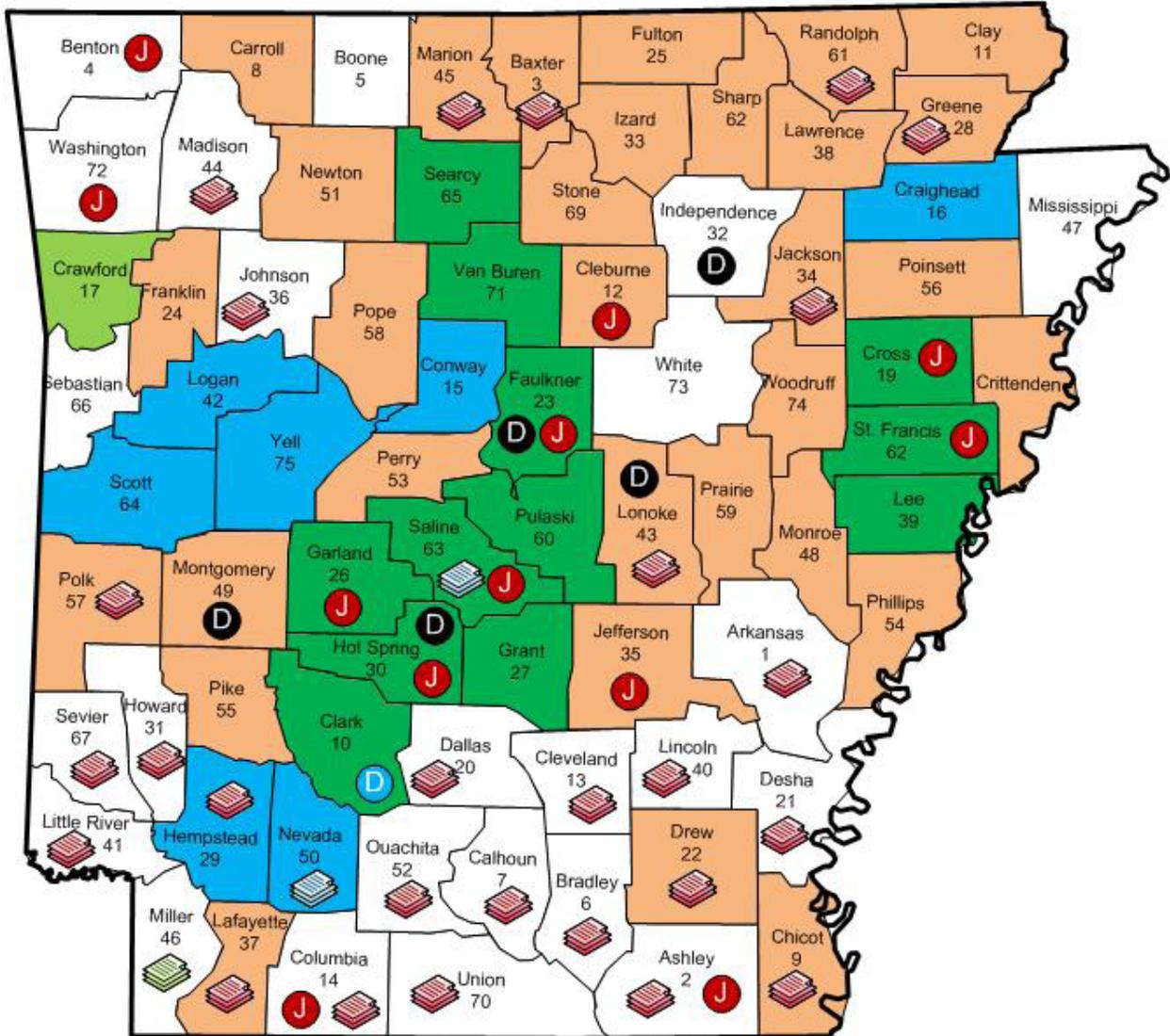
The AOC began a statewide electronic filing project in 2011 through a contract with Xerox and Tybera for electronic filing software. The project will be piloted in Pulaski County Circuit Court in three phases in 2012. The first phase will include civil, domestic and probate case types and is scheduled for go-live in March. Juvenile and criminal cases will follow in late summer. After the completion of the pilot project, the AOC will begin implementation in other courts that are using the Contexte program.

Software Development

The Software Group enhanced an online payment portal for Contexte called eTraffic. Initially the software allowed the Contexte courts to offer users the ability to search for citations and pay them over the web. The product was enhanced to allow for partial payments authorized by the courts as part of an installment plan which enabled circuit courts to participate.

In 2011 the AOC began transmitting criminal dispositions nearly instantaneously to the Arkansas Crime Information Center (ACIC). The Software Group worked closely with ACIC to develop and test the interface. Through the automatic transmission of disposition information, the criminal history file, which is used by federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies all over the United States, will have more timely, accurate, and complete disposition information.

Arkansas Court Automation Programs: Juvenile Drug Court, Circuit Court, & District Court



- Circuit Courts on Contexte
- Circuit Courts on Juror
- Planned Circuit Courts for Contexte 2012
- D District Courts on Contexte
- Circuit Courts on Contexte and Juror
- Paper-Courts on Contexte
- J Juvenile Drug Courts on Contexte

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Arkansas Judicial Council, Inc.

The Arkansas Judicial Council consists of all judges of the circuit courts, Court of Appeals, Justices of the Supreme Court, retired justices and judges, and the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Council acts as the official body representing the state's judiciary. It was organized "to foster and preserve the integrity, dignity, and independence of the judiciary; to promote uniformity and dispatch in judicial administration; to develop, implement and maintain a program of judicial education preassisting members newly elected or appointed to the bench; to provide continuing judicial education for members accomodating the diverse needs of chancellors, circuit judges, and appellate justices; and to

select members to the Judicial Retirement Board." The Council has specific statutory responsibility of making recommendations to the General Assembly on judicial redistricting and the addition of new judgeships in the state. Formal business of the Council is conducted in spring and fall meetings each year.

Arkansas Judicial Council Board of Directors and Officers



Front Row (left to right):

Hon. John Scott
Hon. Ralph Wilson
Hon. Joyce Warren
Hon. Hamilton Singleton

Back Row (left to right):

J.D. Gingerich
Hon. Mark Hewett
Hon. Berlin Jones
Hon. Mary McGowan
Hon. David Guthrie
Hon. Larry Vaught
Hon. Charles Yeargan

Not Pictured:

Hon. Phillip Whiteaker

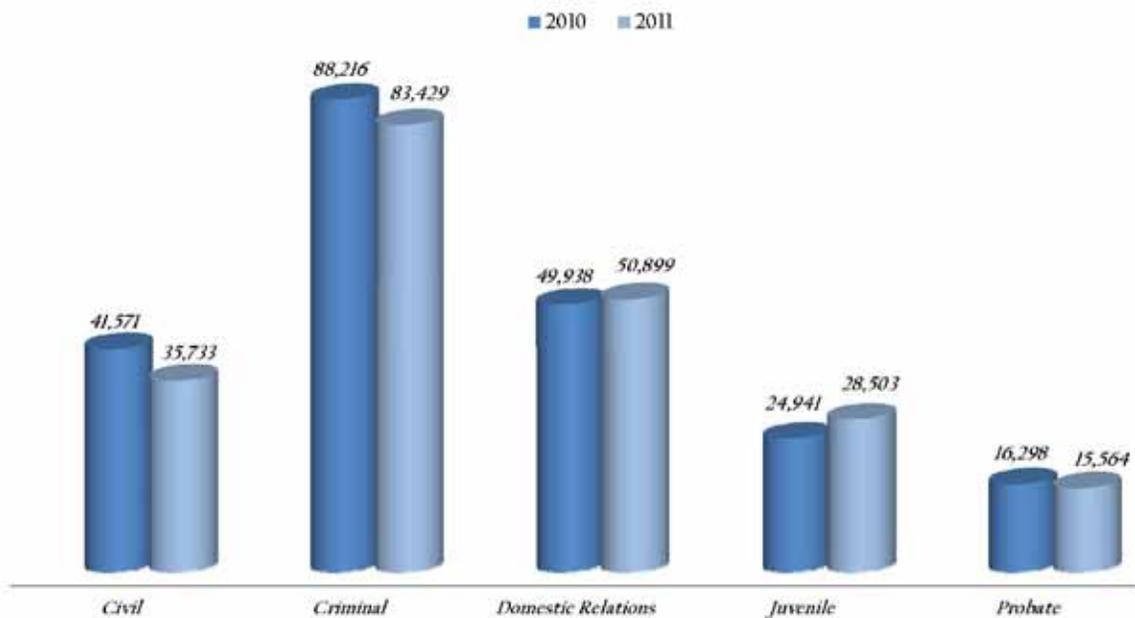
COURTS OF GENERAL JURISDICTION

During 2011, the total number of filings in the state's trial courts marked a slight increase over the 2010 caseload. Filings declined in civil and probate cases, but increased in criminal, domestic, and juvenile cases. The combined filings of criminal, civil, domestic, juvenile, and probate cases increased from 220,964 in 2010 to 222,419 in 2011. With a total of 121 circuit judges, the number of filings per judge totaled 1,838.

Arkansas trial courts terminated 196,978 cases in 2011, an increase of 1.1% from 194,798 terminations in 2010. The number of cases pending increased from 214,517 in 2010 to 216,001 in 2011.

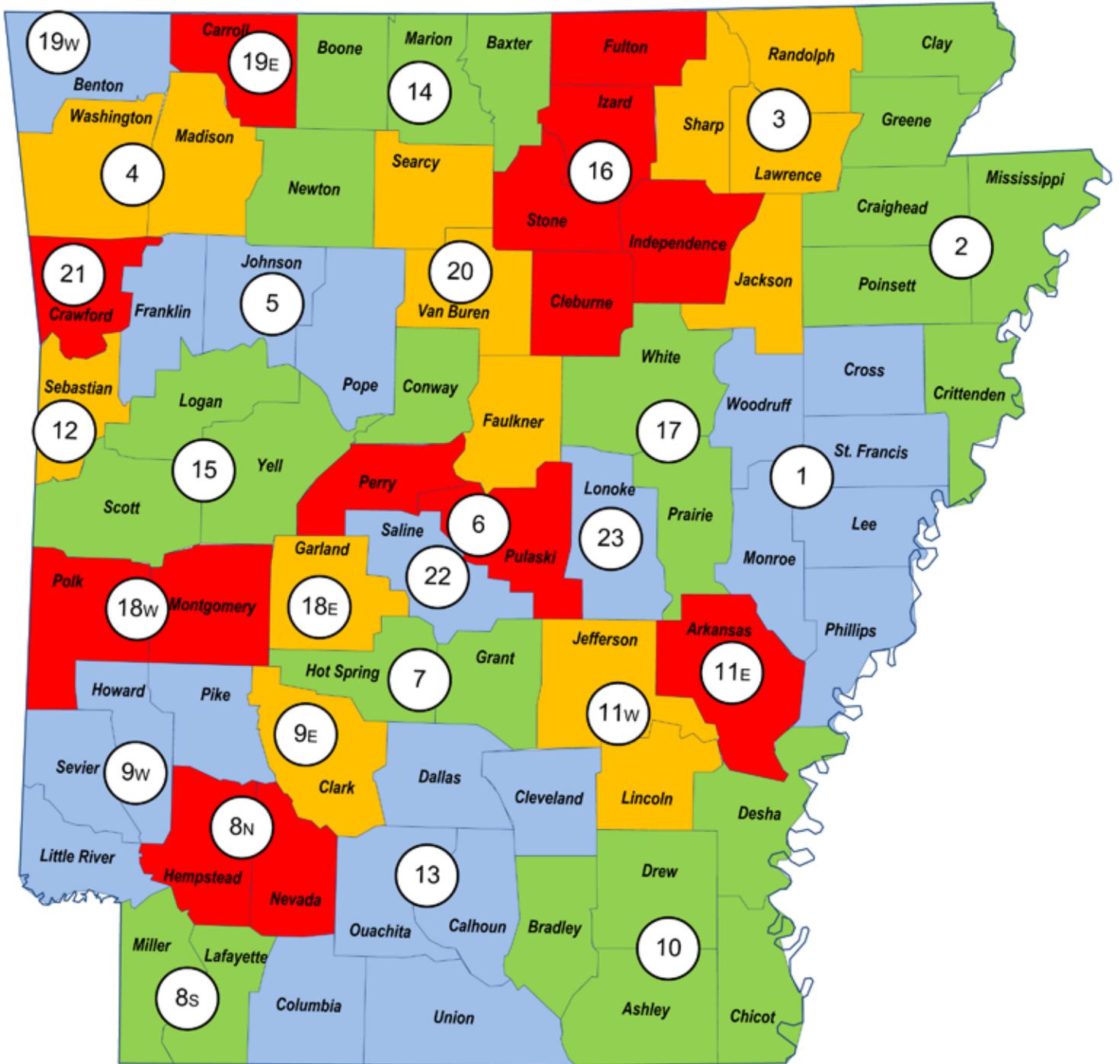
The disposition rate compares the number of terminations to the number of filings. The disposition rate for all courts of general jurisdiction was 87.3% in 2011.

Trial Courts



ARKANSAS JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

121 Total Judges - 28 Judicial Circuits



FIRST CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The First Judicial Circuit is located in the eastern part of the state and is composed of Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, St. Francis, and Woodruff counties. The circuit spans a total of 3,915 square miles and serves a population of 93,718.

Personnel

The First Judicial Circuit is served by 5 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Carla K. Austin
Alvah Griggs
Betty A. McLain
Elvetta Stacy
Linda Whitfield

Trial Court Assistants

Yvonne Amos
Faire Bailey
Gwen Bretherick
Tiffany Davis
Toni Martinez

Circuit Clerks

Rhonda J. Sullivan (Cross)
Mary Ann Wilkinson (Lee)
Alice F. Smith (Monroe)
Lynn Stillwell (Phillips)
Bette S. Green (St. Francis)
Jean Carter Root (Woodruff)

County Clerks

Melanie Winkler (Cross)
Pat Wilson (Lee)
Beth Lowman (Monroe)
Linda White (Phillips)
Emily R. Holley (St. Francis)
Becky Hicks (Woodruff)

Prosecuting Attorney

Fletcher Long

Managing Public Defender

Danny Glover

The courts of general jurisdiction in the First Circuit disposed of 7,593 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -18.3% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,150	1,436	-14.1%
Criminal	3,833	4,125	-7.1%
Domestic	1,785	1,886	-9.2%
Juvenile	707	915	-22.7%
Probate	585	597	-2.0%
Total	7,593	9,290	-18.3%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 94.1% in 2011.

There were 11,664 cases pending in the First Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 3.3% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

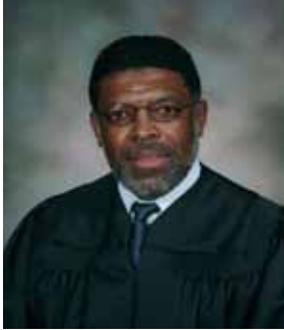
Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,799	1,739	3.5%
Criminal	6,526	6,218	5.0%
Domestic	1,002	1,092	-8.2%
Juvenile	494	474	4.2%
Probate	1,843	1,765	4.4%
Total	11,664	11,288	3.3%

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 8,070 cases were filed in the First Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -9.9% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,233	1,436	-14.1%
Criminal	3,833	4,125	-7.1%
Domestic	1,712	1,886	-9.2%
Juvenile	707	915	-22.7%
Probate	585	597	-2.0%
Total	8,070	8,959	-9.9%

FIRST CIRCUIT



Hon. L.T. Simes
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
First Judicial Circuit



Hon. Richard Proctor
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
First Judicial Circuit



Hon. Bentley Story * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
First Judicial Circuit



Hon. Kathleen Bell
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
First Judicial Circuit



Hon. Ann Hudson
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
First Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



SECOND CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Second Judicial Circuit is located in the northeast part of the state and is composed of Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Greene, Mississippi, and Poinsett counties. The circuit is the second largest in the state, spanning a total of 4,253 square miles and including 9 courthouses. The circuit serves a population of 276,581.

Personnel

The Second Judicial Circuit is served by 11 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Sandra Arwood
 Laura D. Bowen
 Jerri Brown
 Diane Gibson
 Janis Harbuck
 Michelle Jones
 Rosemary Jones
 William Kisselburg
 Buffy Topper
 Joyce Wheeler
 Cynthia D. White

Trial Court Assistants

Billie Bowels
 Michelle Grilletta
 Laura Hagen
 Ouida J. Hardin
 Andrea Hicks
 Judy Kincade
 Joyce Morgan
 Belinda Penn
 April Rasdon
 Brenda Welch
 Freddie M. Whitfield

Circuit Clerks

Janet Luff Kilbreath (Clay)
 Ann Hudson (Craighead)
 Lesia Couch (Craighead)
 Terry Hawkins (Crittenden)
 Jan Griffith (Greene)
 Donna Bray (Mississippi)
 Claudia Mathews (Poinsett)

County Clerks

Pat Poole (Clay)
 Nancy Nelms (Craighead)
 Lesia Couch (Craighead)
 Ruth Trent (Crittenden)
 Linda Heritage (Greene)
 Lib Shippen (Mississippi)
 Fonda Condra (Poinsett)

Prosecuting Attorney

Scott Ellington

Managing Public Defender

John Bradley
 Thomas Montgomery
 William Howard

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 23,251 cases were filed in the Second Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -3.6% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	2,647	3,090	-14.3%
Criminal	11,183	11,532	-3.0%
Domestic	5,442	5,021	8.4%
Juvenile	2,670	2,969	-10.1%
Probate	1,309	1,519	-13.8%
Total	23,251	24,131	-3.6%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Second Circuit disposed of 22,152 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -12.2% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	2,543	3,127	-18.7%
Criminal	11,282	10,945	3.0%
Domestic	4,939	4,770	3.5%
Juvenile	2,347	2,872	-18.3%
Probate	1,041	935	11.3%
Total	22,152	22,649	-12.2%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 95.3% in 2011.

There were 28,727 cases pending in the Second Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 1.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	4,235	4,217	0.4%
Criminal	11,182	11,268	-0.8%
Domestic	3,498	3,235	8.1%
Juvenile	1,217	991	22.8%
Probate	8,595	8,565	0.4%
Total	28,727	28,276	1.6%

SECOND CIRCUIT



Hon. Pam Honeycutt
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Lee Fergus
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Brent Davis
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Cindy Thyer +
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Ralph Wilson *
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Victor Hill
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Barbara Halsey +
Circuit Judge, Div. 7
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. John Fogleman +
Circuit Judge, Div. 8
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. David Laser +
Circuit Judge, Div. 9
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Larry Boling
Circuit Judge, Div. 10
Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Randy Philhours
Circuit Judge, Div. 11
Second Judicial Circuit

*Administrative Judge
+ Drug Court Judge



THIRD CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Third Judicial Circuit is located in the northern part of the state and is composed of Jackson, Lawrence, Randolph, and Sharp counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,532 square miles and serves a population of 70,645.

Personnel

The Third Judicial Circuit is served by 3 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Anita Howard
Joyce King
Rita Wood

Trial Court Assistants

Donna Simmons
Chrissie Tanner
Geraldine Vaughan

Circuit Clerks

Lisa Turner (Jackson)
Michelle Evans (Lawrence)
Debbie Wise (Randolph)
Tommy Estes (Sharp)

County Clerks

Melanie Clark (Jackson)
Tina Stowers (Lawrence)
Janice Mock (Randolph)
Tommy Estes (Sharp)

Prosecuting Attorney

Henry H. Boyce

Managing Public Defender

Christopher Jester

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 4,843 cases were filed in the Third Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -15.9% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	761	970	-21.5%
Criminal	1,879	2,136	-12.0%
Domestic	1,077	1,237	-12.9%
Juvenile	771	926	-16.7%
Probate	355	490	-27.6%
Total	4,843	5,759	-15.9%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Third Circuit disposed of 4,339 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -24.9% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	799	931	-14.2%
Criminal	1,627	2,377	-31.6%
Domestic	1,007	1,277	-17.9%
Juvenile	650	849	-23.4%
Probate	256	394	-35.0%
Total	4,339	5,778	-24.9%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 89.6% in 2011.

There were 6,400 cases pending in the Third Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 6.5% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	998	1,050	-5.0%
Criminal	2,351	2,110	11.4%
Domestic	583	535	9.0%
Juvenile	458	374	22.5%
Probate	2,010	1,939	3.7%
Total	6,400	6,008	6.5%

THIRD CIRCUIT



Hon. Harold Erwin +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Third Judicial Circuit



Hon. Phillip Smith * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Third Judicial Circuit



Hon. Kevin King
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Third Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



FOURTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Fourth Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Madison and Washington counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,793 square miles and serves a population of 218,782.

Personnel

The Fourth Judicial Circuit is served by 8 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Richard Fourt
Vickie Hassell
Shana Leding
Karen Morrow
Denise Mulliken
Amy Pence
Ann Wood

Trial Court Assistants

Kasey Compton
Delia Foster
Michele Friend
Hannah Ketter
Joan Lester
Alice M. Schultz
Julie Weston

Circuit Clerks

Phyllis Villines (Madison)
Bette Stamps (Washington)

County Clerks

Faron Ledbetter (Madison)
Karen Pritchard (Washington)

Prosecuting Attorney

John Threet

Managing Public Defender

Denny Hyslip

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 13,225 cases were filed in the Fourth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -13.5% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	3,836	4,273	-10.2%
Criminal	4,261	5,411	-21.3%
Domestic	2,838	3,093	-8.2%
Juvenile	1,434	1,658	-13.5%
Probate	856	858	-0.2%
Total	13,225	15,293	-13.5%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Fourth Circuit disposed of 13,595 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -14.6% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

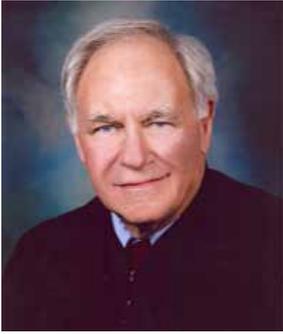
Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	3,840	4,473	-14.2%
Criminal	4,785	5,506	-13.1%
Domestic	2,877	3,007	-4.3%
Juvenile	1,346	2,151	-37.4%
Probate	747	787	-5.1%
Total	13,595	15,924	-14.6%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 102.8% in 2011.

There were 6,113 cases pending in the Fourth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a -3.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,510	1,503	0.5%
Criminal	2,337	2,655	-12.0%
Domestic	659	716	-8.0%
Juvenile	455	406	12.1%
Probate	1,152	1,059	8.8%
Total	6,113	6,339	-3.6%

FOURTH CIRCUIT



Hon. William Storey *
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Fourth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Kim Smith
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Fourth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Stacey Zimmerman
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Fourth Judicial Circuit



Hon. G. Chadd Mason +
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Fourth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Beth Bryan
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Fourth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mark Lindsay
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Fourth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Joanna Taylor
Circuit Judge, Div. 7
Fourth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



FIFTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Fifth Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Franklin, Johnson, and Pope counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,133 square miles and serves a population of 105,419.

Personnel

The Fifth Judicial Circuit is served by 4 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Johna Roedenbeck
Dianne Satterfield
June Stuart
Willma Vaughn

Trial Court Assistants

Erika Grimes
Michele Matthews
Cindi Sheely
Meredith Whitson

Circuit Clerks

Wilma Brushwood (Franklin)
Jane Houston (Johnson)
Fern Tucker (Pope)

County Clerks

DeAnna Schmalz (Franklin)
Michelle Frost (Johnson)
Laura McGuire (Pope)

Prosecuting Attorney

David Gibbons

Managing Public Defender

James Dunham

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 7,122 cases were filed in the Fifth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -4.7% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,059	1,295	-18.2%
Criminal	2,566	2,419	6.1%
Domestic	1,569	1,911	-17.9%
Juvenile	1,259	1,192	5.6%
Probate	669	655	2.1%
Total	7,122	7,472	-4.7%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Fifth Circuit disposed of 7,143 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -2.2% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,109	1,385	-19.9%
Criminal	2,716	2,515	8.0%
Domestic	1,569	1,911	-17.9%
Juvenile	1,259	1,192	5.6%
Probate	520	514	1.2%
Total	7,143	7,306	-2.2%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 100.3% in 2011.

There were 4,854 cases pending in the Fifth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a -17.9% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	706	776	-9.0%
Criminal	1,457	1,640	-11.2%
Domestic	1,287	1,356	-5.1%
Juvenile	139	213	-34.7%
Probate	1,265	1,926	-34.3%
Total	4,854	5,911	-17.9%

FIFTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Bill Pearson
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Fifth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Gordon McCain +
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Fifth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Ken Coker *
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Fifth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Dennis Sutterfield +
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Fifth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



SIXTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Sixth Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Perry and Pulaski counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,368 square miles and is the state's most populous, serving a population of 393,193.

Personnel

The Sixth Judicial Circuit is served by 17 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

MiMi Ambrose
Kathy Begley
Ranaye Cameron
Tammie Foreman
Kimela Hardin
Ellen Hart
Michelle Keeland
Beth Kremers
Ellen Kuciejki
Maria Lafferty
Mededith Pinkstone
Amanda Poe
Shiela Russell
Amber Speer
Melinda Tarver
Patricia Toland
Debra Westmoreland

Trial Court Assistants

Karen Cobb
Sherri Colbert
AiLien Draheim
Jerlene Eason
Adele Evans
Annette Gilbert
Kacie Glenn
Christie Greer
Melissa King
Julie Moory
Brenda Kaye Nellums
Laquina Reed
LaShannon Robinson
Steve Sipes (Court Administrator)
Gregory Shoptaw
Rose Sykes
Rosie Tolbert
Diana Williams

Circuit Clerks

Persundra Hood (Perry)
Larry Crane (Pulaski)

County Clerks

Persundra Hood (Perry)
Larry Crane (Pulaski)

Prosecuting Attorney

Larry Jegly

Managing Public Defender

Tom Devine
Bill Simpson

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 34,620 cases were filed in the Sixth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -16.3% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	6,403	7,564	-15.3%
Criminal	14,633	21,526	-32.0%
Domestic	8,060	7,025	14.7%
Juvenile	2,838	2,858	-0.7%
Probate	2,686	2,381	12.8%
Total	34,620	41,354	-16.3%

* Previous Pulaski County inflated 2010 case data

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Sixth Circuit disposed of 25,405 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 34.1% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	5,999	6,132	-2.2%
Criminal	12,091	3,466	170.3%
Domestic	6,456	6,168	4.7%
Juvenile	1,728	2,137	-19.1%
Probate	1,852	1,039	78.2%
Total	28,126	18,942	48.5%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 81.2% in 2011.

There were 40,185 cases pending in the Sixth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a -22.3% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	6,462	6,038	7.0%
Criminal	13,872	29,613	-53.2%
Domestic	7,965	6,111	30.3%
Juvenile	3,968	2,789	42.3%
Probate	7,918	7,158	10.6%
Total	40,185	51,709	-22.3%

* Previous Pulaski County inflated 2010 case data

SIXTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Leon Johnson
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Chris Piazza
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. James Moody
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Herbert Wright
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Wendell Griffen
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Tim Fox
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Barry Sims
Circuit Judge, Div. 7
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Wiley Branton
Circuit Judge, Div. 8
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mary McGowan+
Circuit Judge, Div. 9
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Joyce Warren
Circuit Judge, Div. 10
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Beth Burgess
Circuit Judge, Div. 11
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Alice Gray
Circuit Judge, Div. 12
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Collins Kilgore
Circuit Judge, Div. 13
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Vann Smith *
Circuit Judge, Div. 14
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Richard Moore
Circuit Judge, Div. 15
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Ellen Brantley
Circuit Judge, Div. 16
Sixth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mackie Pierce
Circuit Judge, Div. 17
Sixth Judicial Circuit



* Administrative Judge
+ Drug Court Judge

SEVENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Seventh Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Grant and Hot Springs counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,255 square miles and serves a population of 50,776.

Personnel

The Seventh Judicial Circuit is served by 2 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Margaret Lancaster
Leca Ledbetter

Trial Court Assistants

Linda Simmonds
Darlene Walters

Circuit Clerks

Carol Ewing (Grant)
Mayme Brown (Hot Spring)

County Clerks

Carol Ewing (Grant)
Sandy Boyette (Hot Spring)

Prosecuting Attorney

Eddy Easley

Managing Public Defender

Phyllis Lemons

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 2,881 cases were filed in the Seventh Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -8.2% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	416	504	-17.5%
Criminal	1,092	1,116	-2.2%
Domestic	757	840	-9.9%
Juvenile	302	376	-19.7%
Probate	314	303	3.6%
Total	2,881	3,139	-8.2%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Seventh Circuit disposed of 2,724 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -9.4% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	403	506	-20.4%
Criminal	1,289	1,274	1.2%
Domestic	721	904	-20.2%
Juvenile	169	207	-18.4%
Probate	142	117	21.4%
Total	2,724	3,008	-9.4%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 94.6% in 2011.

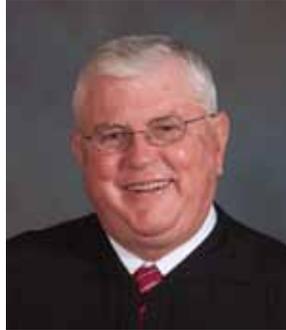
There were 5,221 cases pending in the Seventh Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 3.1% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	702	694	1.2%
Criminal	1,078	1,230	-12.4%
Domestic	780	759	2.8%
Juvenile	350	238	47.1%
Probate	2,311	2,145	7.7%
Total	5,221	5,066	3.1%

SEVENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Chris Williams * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Seventh Judicial Circuit



Hon. Phillip Shirron
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Seventh Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



EIGHTH CIRCUIT NORTH

Present Organization

The Eighth North Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Hempstead and Nevada counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,326 square miles and serves a population of 31,606.

Personnel

The Eighth North Judicial Circuit is served by 2 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Amy May
Donna Watkins

Trial Court Assistants

Kit Lucena
Janis Porterfield

Circuit Clerks

Gail Wolfenbarger (Hempstead)
Rita Reyenga (Nevada)

County Clerks

Sandra Rodgers (Hempstead)
Julie Oliver (Nevada)

Prosecuting Attorney

Christy McQueen

Managing Public Defender

Danny Rodgers

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 3,814 cases were filed in the Eighth North Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 24.0% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	271	358	-24.3%
Criminal	2,348	1,507	55.8%
Domestic	672	722	-6.9%
Juvenile	326	266	22.6%
Probate	197	222	-11.3%
Total	3,814	3,075	24.0%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Eighth North Circuit disposed of 3,301 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -3.1% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	241	379	-36.4%
Criminal	2,143	1,979	8.3%
Domestic	603	691	-12.7%
Juvenile	238	232	2.6%
Probate	76	126	-39.7%
Total	3,301	3,407	-3.1%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 86.5% in 2011.

There were 4,057 cases pending in the Eighth Circuit North at the end of 2011, representing a 8.9% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	425	397	7.1%
Criminal	1,486	1,430	3.9%
Domestic	730	671	8.8%
Juvenile	159	88	80.7%
Probate	1,257	1,141	10.2%
Total	4,057	3,727	8.9%

EIGHTH CIRCUIT NORTH



Hon. Randy Wright *
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Eighth North Judicial Circuit



Hon. Duncan Culpepper +
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Eighth North Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

*Administrative Judge



EIGHTH CIRCUIT SOUTH

Present Organization

The Eighth South Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Lafayette and Miller counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,182 square miles and serves a population of 51,107.

Personnel

The Eighth South Judicial Circuit is served by 3 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Jewell L. Arthur
Frances Haynes
Tabbatha Kopech

Trial Court Assistants

Jodi Burke
Karen Goodrum
Lisa Houser

Circuit Clerks

Mary Jo Rogers (Lafayette)
Mary Pankey (Miller)

County Clerks

Regenia Morton (Lafayette)
Ann Nichols (Miller)

Prosecuting Attorney

Carlton Jones

Managing Public Defender

Shannon Tuckett

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 3,816 cases were filed in the Eighth South Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 12.1% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	734	781	-6.0%
Criminal	1,420	1,167	21.7%
Domestic	948	735	29.0%
Juvenile	304	419	-27.4%
Probate	410	302	35.8%
Total	3,816	3,404	12.1%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Eighth South Circuit disposed of 3,857 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -2.1% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	694	839	-17.3%
Criminal	1,352	1,328	1.8%
Domestic	866	1,018	-14.9%
Juvenile	370	444	-16.7%
Probate	575	312	84.3%
Total	3,857	3,941	-2.1%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 101.1% in 2011.

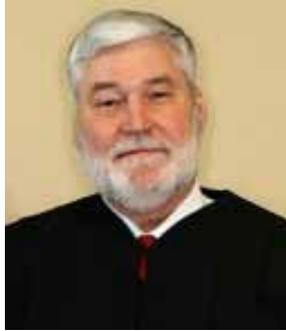
There were 4,665 cases pending in the Eighth Circuit South at the end of 2011, representing a 18.3% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	817	794	7.1%
Criminal	1,186	966	22.8%
Domestic	755	689	9.6%
Juvenile	128	202	-36.6%
Probate	1,779	1,292	37.7%
Total	4,665	3,943	18.3%

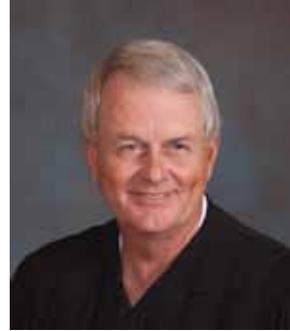
EIGHTH CIRCUIT SOUTH



Hon. Joe Griffin +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Eighth South Judicial Circuit



Hon. Brent Haltom
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Eighth South Judicial Circuit



Hon. Kirk Johnson *
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Eighth South Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



NINTH CIRCUIT EAST

Present Organization

The Ninth East Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Clark county. The circuit spans a total of 882 square miles and serves a population of 22,995.

Personnel

The Ninth East Judicial Circuit is served by 1 Circuit Judge. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Jacqueline Marvin

Circuit Clerks

Martha Jo Smith

Prosecuting Attorney

Blake Batson

Trial Court Assistants

Lanna Clark

County Clerks

Rhonda Cole

Managing Public Defender

Tim Beckham

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 1,612 cases were filed in the Ninth East Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 5.7% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	168	219	-23.3%
Criminal	723	615	17.6%
Domestic	350	298	17.4%
Juvenile	227	242	-6.2%
Probate	144	151	-4.6%
Total	1,612	1,525	5.7%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Ninth East Circuit disposed of 1,205 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -18.0% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	143	218	-34.4%
Criminal	586	618	-5.2%
Domestic	222	295	-24.7%
Juvenile	171	228	-25.0%
Probate	83	111	-25.2%
Total	1,205	1,470	-18.0%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 74.8% in 2011.

There were 2,205 cases pending in the Ninth Circuit East at the end of 2011, representing a 56.3% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	249	221	12.7%
Criminal	873	325	168.6%
Domestic	304	175	73.7%
Juvenile	117	75	56.0%
Probate	662	615	7.6%
Total	2,205	1,411	56.3%

NINTH CIRCUIT EAST



Hon. Robert McCallum * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Ninth East Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



NINTH CIRCUIT WEST

Present Organization

The Ninth West Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Howard, Little River, Pike, and Sevier counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,380 square miles and serves a population of 55,309.

Personnel

The Ninth West Judicial Circuit is served by 2 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Kim Garner
Chren Kesterson

Trial Court Assistants

Linda Ballard
Carolyn Pullen

Circuit Clerks

Bobby Jo Green (Howard)
Andrea Billingsley (Little River)
Pattie Chaney (Sevier)
Donna White (Pike)

County Clerks

Brenda Fritts (Howard)
Deanna Sivley (Little River)
Amanda Mitchell-White (Sevier)
Sandy Campbell (Pike)

Prosecuting Attorney

Bryan Chesshir

Managing Public Defender

LaJeanna Jones

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 2,686 cases were filed in the Ninth West Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -8.3% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	432	263	64.3%
Criminal	821	986	-16.7%
Domestic	916	992	-7.7%
Juvenile	256	381	-32.8%
Probate	261	308	-15.3%
Total	2,686	2,930	-8.3%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Ninth West Circuit disposed of 2,550 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -17.3% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	444	281	58.0%
Criminal	794	1,059	-25.0%
Domestic	853	1,026	-16.9%
Juvenile	225	374	-39.8%
Probate	234	345	-32.2%
Total	2,550	3,085	-17.3%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 94.9% in 2011.

There were 3,048 cases pending in the Ninth Circuit West at the end of 2011, representing a 41.0% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	271	137	97.8%
Criminal	765	758	0.9%
Domestic	390	300	30.0%
Juvenile	132	92	43.5%
Probate	1,490	874	70.5%
Total	3,048	2,161	41.0%

NINTH CIRCUIT WEST



Hon. Tom Cooper *
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Ninth West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Charles Yeargan +
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Ninth West Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



TENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Tenth Judicial Circuit is located in the southeast part of the state and is composed of Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Desha, and Drew counties. The circuit spans a total of 3,939 square miles and serves a population of 76,678.

Personnel

The Tenth Judicial Circuit is served by 5 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Mike Ashcraft
Sherry Parker-East
Jan McLemore
Margaret R. Norton
Bobby Reynolds

Trial Court Assistants

Laura Berryman
Helen King
Pam Murphy
Penny Rosegrant
JoAnn Smith

Circuit Clerks

Vickie Stell (Ashley)
Cindy Wagnon (Bradley)
Josephine T. Griffin (Chicot)
Skippy Leek (Desha)
Pat Savage (Drew)

County Clerks

Regina Kersten (Ashley)
Karen Belin (Bradley)
Pam Donaldson (Chicot)
Beth Fuller McMahan (Desha)
Lyna Gullledge (Drew)

Prosecuting Attorney

Thomas Deen

Managing Public Defender

Steven Porch

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 6,099 cases were filed in the Tenth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -2.3% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	749	974	-23.1%
Criminal	2,043	1,862	9.7%
Domestic	1,669	1,655	0.8%
Juvenile	1,258	1,287	-2.3%
Probate	380	467	-18.6%
Total	6,099	6,245	-2.3%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Tenth Circuit disposed of 5,337 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -11.3% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	699	952	-26.6%
Criminal	1,923	1,981	-2.9%
Domestic	1,318	1,560	-15.5%
Juvenile	1,183	1,202	-1.6%
Probate	214	325	-34.2%
Total	5,337	6,020	-11.3%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 87.5% in 2011.

There were 6,545 cases pending in the Tenth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 18.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	852	857	-0.6%
Criminal	2,485	1,816	36.8%
Domestic	1,393	1,114	25.0%
Juvenile	257	294	-12.6%
Probate	1,558	1,438	8.3%
Total	6,545	5,519	18.6%

TENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Sam Pope +
*Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Tenth Judicial Circuit*



Hon. Kenney Johnson
*Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Tenth Judicial Circuit*



Hon. Bynum Gibson +
*Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Tenth Judicial Circuit*



Hon. Don Glover
*Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Tenth Judicial Circuit*



Hon. Teresa French *
*Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Tenth Judicial Circuit*

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



ELEVENTH CIRCUIT EAST

Present Organization

The Eleventh East Judicial Circuit is located in the southeast part of the state and is composed of Arkansas county. The circuit spans a total of 1,033 square miles and serves the smallest population of all the state's circuits with a population of 19,019.

Personnel

The Eleventh East Judicial Circuit is served by 1 Circuit Judge. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Stacey Sebree Simpson

Trial Court Assistants

Mindy Hoskyn

Circuit Clerks

Sarah Merchant

County Clerks

Melissa Wood

Prosecuting Attorney

Robert Dittrich

Managing Public Defender

Dennis Molock

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 1,976 cases were filed in the Eleventh East Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 8.0% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	246	247	-0.4%
Criminal	1,008	819	23.1%
Domestic	371	356	4.2%
Juvenile	192	215	-10.7%
Probate	159	192	-17.2%
Total	1,976	1,829	8.0%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Eleventh East Circuit disposed of 1,804 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -14.5% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	221	270	-18.1%
Criminal	884	898	-1.6%
Domestic	315	341	-7.6%
Juvenile	196	294	-33.3%
Probate	188	306	-38.6%
Total	1,804	2,109	-14.5%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 91.3% in 2011.

There were 3,027 cases pending in the Eleventh Circuit East at the end of 2011, representing a 17.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	439	420	4.5%
Criminal	1,320	884	49.3%
Domestic	447	401	11.5%
Juvenile	146	156	-6.4%
Probate	675	714	-5.5%
Total	3,027	2,575	17.6%

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT EAST



Hon. David Henry * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Eleventh East Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



ELEVENTH CIRCUIT WEST

Present Organization

The Eleventh West Judicial Circuit is located in the southeast part of the state and is composed of Jefferson and Lincoln counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,485 square miles and serves a population of 91,569.

Personnel

The Eleventh West Judicial Circuit is served by 6 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Jerry Lawson
Nancy Lindsay
Docie Johnson
Sharon Moody
Nevelyn Smith
Patricia Works

Trial Court Assistants

Jerrie Dean
Diane Duncan
Sarah Miller
Lisa Stewart
Kim Taylor
Carla Wooley

Circuit Clerks

Lafayette Woods (Jefferson)
Vera B. Reynolds (Lincoln)

County Clerks

Patricia Johnson (Jefferson)
Katherine Lawson (Lincoln)

Prosecuting Attorney

Kyle Hunter

Managing Public Defender

"Bucks" Fikes

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 7,692 cases were filed in the Eleventh West Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -5.7% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	887	1,048	-15.4%
Criminal	2,400	2,656	-9.6%
Domestic	2,444	2,069	18.1%
Juvenile	1,545	1,803	-14.3%
Probate	416	582	-28.5%
Total	7,692	8,158	-5.7%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Eleventh West Circuit disposed of 8,244 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 1.4% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,025	1,171	-12.5%
Criminal	2,903	2,737	6.1%
Domestic	2,306	1,998	15.4%
Juvenile	1,537	1,812	-15.2%
Probate	473	413	14.5%
Total	8,244	8,131	1.4%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 107.2% in 2011.

There were 6,066 cases pending in the Eleventh Circuit West at the end of 2011, representing a -9.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	999	1,167	-14.4%
Criminal	1,369	1,755	-22.0%
Domestic	1,075	969	10.9%
Juvenile	264	355	-6.4%
Probate	2,359	2,467	-4.4%
Total	6,066	6,713	-9.6%

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT WEST



Hon. Berlin Jones * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Eleventh West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Robert Wyatt
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Eleventh West Judicial Circuit



Hon. William Benton
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Eleventh West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Leon Jamison
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Eleventh West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Jodi Dennis
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Eleventh West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Earnest Brown
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Eleventh West Judicial Circuit

* Administrative Judge
+ Drug Court Judge



TWELFTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Twelfth Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Sebastian county. The circuit is comprised of the smallest geographic area of all the state's circuits, totaling 581 square miles and serving a population of 125,744.

Personnel

The Twelfth Judicial Circuit is served by 6 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Lavern Ball
Rhonda Brown
Monica Kinsey
Bill Mauldin
Brenda Thompson
Paula Sparrow

Trial Court Assistants

Denora Coomer
Kim Dodson
Jeanette Langham
Charlene Low
Gayla Moses
Barbie Reed
Janet Smith

Circuit Clerks

Ken Blevins

County Clerks

Sharon Brooks

Prosecuting Attorney

Daniel Shue

Managing Public Defender

Ray Spruell

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 12,904 cases were filed in the Twelfth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 22.7% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	2,193	2,520	-13.0%
Criminal	4,832	4,788	0.9%
Domestic	1,813	1,820	-0.4%
Juvenile	3,255	660	393.2%
Probate	811	729	11.2%
Total	12,904	10,517	22.7%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Twelfth Circuit disposed of 12,946 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 21.5% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	2,342	2,758	-15.1%
Criminal	5,078	5,073	0.1%
Domestic	1,553	1,799	-13.7%
Juvenile	3,356	420	699.0%
Probate	617	604	2.2%
Total	12,946	10,654	21.5%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 100.3% in 2011.

There were 6,323 cases pending in the Twelfth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 2.9% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,025	1,180	-13.1%
Criminal	1,825	1,955	-6.6%
Domestic	1,147	912	25.8%
Juvenile	484	432	12.0%
Probate	1,842	1,666	10.6%
Total	6,323	6,145	2.9%

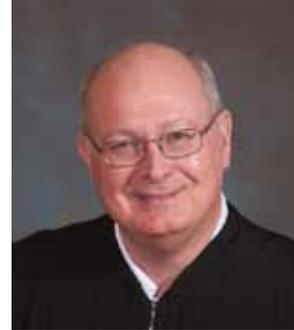
TWELFTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Stephen Tabor +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Twelfth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Annie Hendricks
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Twelfth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Jim Spears
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Twelfth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mark Hewett
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Twelfth Judicial Circuit



Hon. J. Michael Fitzhugh * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Twelfth Judicial Circuit



Hon. James Cox
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Twelfth Judicial Circuit



* Administrative Judge

+ Drug Court Judge

THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the south central part of the state and is composed of Calhoun, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Ouachita, and Union counties. The circuit is the state's largest, spanning a total of 4,461 square miles and serving a population of 114,484.

Personnel

The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit is served by 6 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Linda Sue Bell
Felisha Burson
Jeri Gale Harrelson
Alice Murphy
Rosemary Richerson
Paulette Wright

Trial Court Assistants

Tonja Avery
Verna Clark
Rebecca Drake
Vicki Evans
Becky Gilbert
Linda Wolfe

Circuit Clerks

Alma Davis (Calhoun)
Sharon Gray (Cleveland)
Janice Linkous (Columbia)
Susie Williams (Dallas)
Betty R. Wilson (Ouachita)
Cheryl Cochran Wilson (Union)

County Clerks

Alma Davis (Calhoun)
Sharon Gray (Cleveland)
Sherry Bell (Columbia)
Susie Williams (Dallas)
Britt Williford (Ouachita)
Shannon Phillips (Union)

Prosecuting Attorney

Robin Carroll

Managing Public Defender

Caren Harp

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 7,457 cases were filed in the Thirteenth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -8.8% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	863	1,135	-24.0%
Criminal	3,649	3,430	6.4%
Domestic	2,081	2,242	-7.2%
Juvenile	452	660	-31.5%
Probate	412	706	-41.6%
Total	7,457	8,173	-8.8%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Thirteenth Circuit disposed of 4,765 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -31.1% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	562	1,203	-53.3%
Criminal	2,354	2,820	-16.5%
Domestic	1,480	2,102	-29.6%
Juvenile	204	420	-51.4%
Probate	165	368	-55.2%
Total	4,765	6,913	-31.1%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 63.9% in 2011.

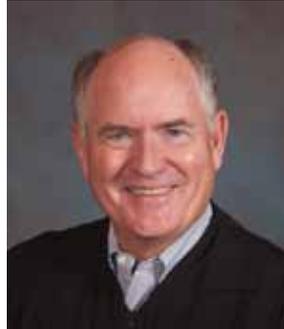
There were 13,256 cases pending in the Thirteenth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 28.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,534	1,260	21.7%
Criminal	4,371	2,743	59.4%
Domestic	1,907	1,308	45.8%
Juvenile	647	432	49.8%
Probate	4,797	4,564	5.1%
Total	13,256	10,307	28.6%

THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Hamilton Singleton *
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit



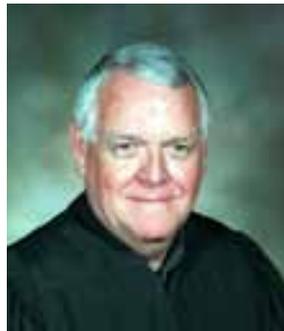
Hon. Mike Landers
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit



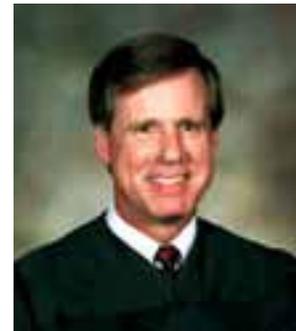
Hon. Edwin Keaton +
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Searcy W. Harrell
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Larry Chandler +
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. David Guthrie
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

* Administrative Judge
+ Drug Court Judge



FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Fourteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the north part of the state and is composed of Baxter, Boone, Marion, and Newton counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,652 square miles and serves a population of 103,399.

Personnel

The Fourteenth Judicial Circuit is served by 4 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Rebecca Burnham
Monica Harner
Megan Lair
Ralenn McBee

Trial Court Assistants

Claudette Davis
Eunie Dunkin
Polly Leimberg
Janette Pedigo

Circuit Clerks

Rhonda Porter (Baxter)
Jeannie Steen (Boone)
Dee Carlton (Marion)
Donnie Davis (Newton)

County Clerks

Rhonda Porter (Baxter)
Crystal Graddy (Boone)
Dee Carlton (Marion)
Donnie Davis (Newton)

Prosecuting Attorney

Ron Kincade

Managing Public Defender

Bruce Buck

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 5,259 cases were filed in the Fourteenth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -11.0% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	907	1,043	-13.0%
Criminal	2,177	2,059	5.7%
Domestic	1,306	1,731	-24.6%
Juvenile	422	497	-15.1%
Probate	447	576	-22.4%
Total	5,259	5,906	-11.0%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Fourteenth Circuit disposed of 4,425 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -16.0% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	796	1,126	-29.3%
Criminal	1,878	1,907	-1.5%
Domestic	1,146	1,577	-27.3%
Juvenile	292	313	-6.7%
Probate	313	342	-8.5%
Total	4,425	5,265	-16.0%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 84.1% in 2011.

There were 7,011 cases pending in the Fourteenth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 14.9% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	991	1,044	-5.1%
Criminal	2,194	1,685	30.2%
Domestic	1,109	939	18.1%
Juvenile	454	339	33.9%
Probate	2,263	2,096	8.0%
Total	7,011	6,103	14.9%

FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Shawn Womack
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Fourteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Gary Isbell *
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Fourteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. John Putman
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Fourteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Gordon Webb +
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Fourteenth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the northern part of the state and is composed of Conway, Logan, Scott, and Yell counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,915 square miles and serves a population of 77,044.

Personnel

The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit is served by 3 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Larry Shepherd
Glenda Vaughn
Joyce Woolf

Trial Court Assistants

Hope Millsap
Melinda Piatt
Becky Sexton

Circuit Clerks

Darlene Massingill (Conway)
Everly Kellar (Logan)
Sandy Staggs (Scott)
Shannon Stanberry Barnett (Yell)

County Clerks

Debbie Hartman (Conway)
Peggy Fitzjurls (Logan)
Sandy Staggs (Scott)
Shannon Stanberry Barnett (Yell)

Prosecuting Attorney

Tom Tatum II

Managing Public Defender

Michael Allison

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 4,847 cases were filed in the Fifteenth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -1.6% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	936	1,032	-9.3%
Criminal	1,728	1,725	0.2%
Domestic	1,110	1,189	-6.6%
Juvenile	687	459	49.7%
Probate	386	521	-25.9%
Total	4,847	4,926	-1.6%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Fifteenth Circuit disposed of 4,949 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 11.9% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	966	1,049	-7.9%
Criminal	1,974	1,507	31.0%
Domestic	1,113	1,096	1.6%
Juvenile	631	381	65.6%
Probate	265	391	-32.2%
Total	4,949	4,424	11.9%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 102.1% in 2011.

There were 3,701 cases pending in the Fifteenth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a -5.5% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	663	706	-6.1%
Criminal	936	1,217	-23.1%
Domestic	671	714	-6.0%
Juvenile	200	170	17.6%
Probate	1,231	1,111	10.8%
Total	3,701	3,918	-5.5%

FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Jerry Ramey +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. David McCormick *
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Terry Sullivan
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Sixteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the north central part of the state and is composed of Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, and Stone counties. The circuit spans a total of 3,177 square miles and serves a population of 100,952.

Personnel

The Sixteenth Judicial Circuit is served by 4 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Leigh Coffman
Fan Dozier
Linda Hubbard
Megan Wood

Trial Court Assistants

Melissa Anderson
Tonya Benton
Ruth Bonds
Martha Fleming
Barbara Kuhn

Circuit Clerks

Karen Giles (Cleburne)
Vickie Bishop (Fulton)
Deborah Finley
(Independence)
Rhonda Halbrook (Izard)
Donna Wilson (Stone)

County Clerks

Dana Guffey (Cleburne)
Vickie Bishop (Fulton)
Tracey Nast Wyatt
(Independence)
Rhonda Halbrook (Izard)
Donna Wilson (Stone)

Prosecuting Attorney

Don McSpadden

Managing Public Defender

Beverly Clauch

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 6,979 cases were filed in the Sixteenth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 2.0% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,044	1,032	1.2%
Criminal	1,974	2,456	-19.6%
Domestic	1,984	1,872	6.0%
Juvenile	1,327	830	59.9%
Probate	650	653	-0.5%
Total	6,979	6,843	2.0%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Sixteenth Circuit disposed of 7,054 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 20.9% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,071	936	14.4%
Criminal	2,272	2,043	11.2%
Domestic	2,034	1,686	20.6%
Juvenile	1,106	763	45.0%
Probate	571	405	41.0%
Total	7,054	5,833	20.9%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 101.1% in 2011.

There were 5,822 cases pending in the Sixteenth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a -4.9% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,265	1,356	-6.7%
Criminal	1,224	1,458	-16.0%
Domestic	1,201	1,343	-10.6%
Juvenile	378	185	104.3%
Probate	1,754	1,782	-1.6%
Total	5,822	6,124	-4.9%

SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. John Dan Kemp * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Sixteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Adam Harkey
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Sixteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Lee Harrod
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Sixteenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Tim Weaver
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Sixteenth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Seventeenth Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Prairie and White counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,718 square miles and serves a population of 85,791.

Personnel

The Seventeenth Judicial Circuit is served by 3 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Vicki R. Foster
Linda Goforth
Reni Irby

Trial Court Assistants

Brenda Landis
Connie Newkirk
Frances Robin

Circuit Clerks

Janell Taylor (Prairie)
Tami King (White)

County Clerks

Janell Taylor (Prairie)
Marquita Teague (White)

Prosecuting Attorney

Chris Raff

Managing Public Defender

Ellen Reif

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 4,875 cases were filed in the Seventeenth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -1.6% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	890	1,113	-20.0%
Criminal	1,087	1,381	-21.3%
Domestic	1,351	1,496	-9.7%
Juvenile	1,146	564	103.2%
Probate	401	402	-0.2%
Total	4,875	4,956	-1.6%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Seventeenth Circuit disposed of 4,672 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 0.9% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	807	1,071	-24.6%
Criminal	1,251	1,326	-5.7%
Domestic	1,264	1,416	-10.7%
Juvenile	1,101	555	98.4%
Probate	249	264	-5.7%
Total	4,672	4,632	0.9%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 95.8% in 2011.

There were 3,665 cases pending in the Seventeenth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 5.1% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	985	939	4.9%
Criminal	514	636	-19.2%
Domestic	677	598	13.2%
Juvenile	162	114	42.1%
Probate	1,327	1,201	10.5%
Total	3,665	3,488	5.1%

SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT



Hon. Tom Hughes
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Robert Edwards *
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Craig Hannah +
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT EAST

Present Organization

The Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Garland county. The circuit spans a total of 734 square miles and serves a population of 96,024.

Personnel

The Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit is served by 4 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Melissa Baber
Rene Hebert Daugherty
Shari Hamilton
Jana Hawley

Trial Court Assistants

Sarah Beaty
Sherri Daniels
Bridgette Howard
Cindy Hunt

Circuit Clerks

Jeannie Pike

County Clerks

Sarah Smith

Prosecuting Attorney

Steve Oliver

Managing Public Defender

Mark Fraiser

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 7,605 cases were filed in the Eighteenth East Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 28.0% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,359	1,536	-11.5%
Criminal	1,592	580	174.5%
Domestic	1,845	1,797	2.7%
Juvenile	2,097	1,273	64.7%
Probate	712	755	-5.7%
Total	7,605	5,941	28.0%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Eighteenth East Circuit disposed of 7,390 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 10.3% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,362	1,601	-14.9%
Criminal	1,629	1,108	47.0%
Domestic	1,727	1,962	-12.0%
Juvenile	2,084	1,310	59.1%
Probate	588	721	-18.4%
Total	7,390	6,702	10.3%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 97.2% in 2011.

There were 5,246 cases pending in the Eighteenth Circuit East at the end of 2011, representing a 20.3% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	976	960	1.7%
Criminal	1,196	577	107.3%
Domestic	1,176	928	26.7%
Juvenile	183	217	-15.7%
Probate	1,715	1,680	2.1%
Total	5,246	4,362	20.3%

EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT EAST



Hon. John Wright +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit



Hon. Vicki Cook *
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit



Hon. Lynn Williams
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit



Hon. Marcia Hearnberger
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT WEST

Present Organization

The Eighteenth West Judicial Circuit is located in the western part of the state and is composed of Montgomery and Polk counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,662 square miles and serves a population of 30,149.

Personnel

The Eighteenth West Judicial Circuit is served by 1 Circuit Judge. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Mary Dixon

Circuit Clerks

Debbie Baxter (Montgomery)
Sharon Simmons (Polk)

Prosecuting Attorney

Andy Riner

Trial Court Assistants

Michelle Boehler

County Clerks

Debbie Baxter (Montgomery)
Terri Harrison (Polk)

Managing Public Defender

Randy Rainwater

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 1,402 cases were filed in the Eighteenth West Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -24.6% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	357	431	-17.2%
Criminal	438	593	-26.1%
Domestic	449	532	-15.6%
Juvenile	61	121	-49.6%
Probate	97	182	-46.7%
Total	1,402	1,859	-24.6%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Eighteenth Circuit West disposed of 1,549 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -8.2% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	412	413	-0.2%
Criminal	556	511	8.8%
Domestic	459	472	-2.8%
Juvenile	38	129	-70.5%
Probate	84	162	-48.1%
Total	1,549	1,687	-8.2%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 110.5% in 2011.

There were 1,973 cases pending in the Eighteenth Circuit West at the end of 2011, representing a -7.3% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	335	393	-14.8%
Criminal	531	652	-18.6%
Domestic	308	318	-3.1%
Juvenile	49	27	81.5%
Probate	750	738	1.6%
Total	1,973	2,128	-7.3%

EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT WEST



Hon. J.W. Looney * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Eighteenth West Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



NINETEENTH CIRCUIT EAST

Present Organization

The Nineteenth East Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Carroll county. The circuit was created in 1999 when it was separated from what is now the Nineteenth West Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 638 square miles and serves a population of 27,446.

Personnel

The Nineteenth East Judicial Circuit is served by 1 Circuit Judge. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Laura Carnahan

Circuit Clerks

Ramona Wilson

Prosecuting Attorney

Tony Rogers

Trial Court Assistants

Nadine Holland

County Clerks

Jamie Correia

Managing Public Defender

Beau Allen

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 1,610 cases were filed in the Nineteenth East Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -11.9% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	363	404	-10.1%
Criminal	517	721	-28.3%
Domestic	428	452	-5.3%
Juvenile	176	148	18.9%
Probate	126	103	22.3%
Total	1,610	1,828	-11.9%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Nineteenth Circuit East disposed of 1,732 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -7.4% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	324	431	-24.8%
Criminal	728	772	-5.7%
Domestic	402	462	-13.0%
Juvenile	189	134	41.0%
Probate	89	72	23.6%
Total	1,732	1,871	-7.4%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 107.6% in 2011.

There were 1,237 cases pending in the Nineteenth Circuit East at the end of 2011, representing a -14.7% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	248	223	11.2%
Criminal	449	694	-35.3%
Domestic	175	175	0.0%
Juvenile	37	54	-31.5%
Probate	328	304	7.9%
Total	1,237	1,450	-14.7%

NINETEENTH CIRCUIT EAST



Hon. Kent Crow * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Nineteenth East Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



NINETEENTH CIRCUIT WEST

Present Organization

The Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Benton county. The circuit was created in 1999 when it was separated from what is now the Nineteenth East Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 880 square miles and serves a population of 221,339.

Personnel

The Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit is served by 6 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Sharon Fields
Cathy Gardisser
Janis McLeod
Theresa Olenberger
Kathryn Pierson
Darlene Young

Trial Court Assistants

Chea Ball
Donna Fleer
Teresa F. Rich
Bonnie Ridley
Betty Schrader
Terri Womack

Circuit Clerks

Brenda DeShields

County Clerks

Tena O'Brien

Prosecuting Attorney

Van Stone

Managing Public Defender

Jay Saxton

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 10,752 cases were filed in the Nineteenth West Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -7.7% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	2,870	3,893	-26.3%
Criminal	2,605	2,812	-7.4%
Domestic	2,533	2,695	-6.0%
Juvenile	2,014	1,617	24.6%
Probate	730	636	14.8%
Total	10,752	11,653	-7.7%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Nineteenth Circuit West disposed of 10,721 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -11.4% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	3,221	4,290	-24.9%
Criminal	2,402	3,013	-20.3%
Domestic	2,415	2,733	-11.6%
Juvenile	2,002	1,589	26.0%
Probate	681	482	41.3%
Total	10,721	12,107	-11.4%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 99.7% in 2011.

There were 7,625 cases pending in the Nineteenth Circuit West at the end of 2011, representing a 0.4% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,205	1,597	-24.5%
Criminal	3,594	3,345	7.4%
Domestic	854	745	14.6%
Juvenile	577	547	5.5%
Probate	1,395	1,362	2.4%
Total	7,625	7,596	0.4%

NINETEENTH CIRCUIT WEST



Hon. Robin Green
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Jon Comstock
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit



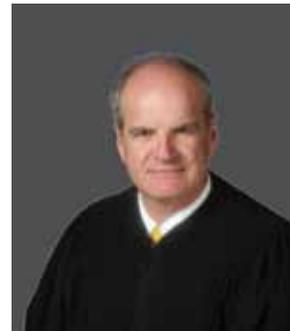
Hon. Mark Fryauf +
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit



Hon. John Scott
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Xollie Duncan *
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit



Hon. Doug Schrantz
Circuit Judge, Div. 6
Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit



* Administrative Judge

+ Drug Court Judge

TWENTIETH CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Twentieth Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Faulkner, Searcy, and Van Buren counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,934 square miles and serves a population of 138,727.

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Twentieth Circuit disposed of 9,056 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 3.6% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Personnel

The Twentieth Judicial Circuit is served by 5 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,485	1,621	-8.4%
Criminal	3,987	3,860	3.3%
Domestic	2,504	2,177	15.0%
Juvenile	708	629	12.6%
Probate	372	455	-18.2%
Total	9,056	8,742	3.6%

Court Reporters

Julie Beckman
Mary May
Gloria Nickles
Beth Vint
Deborah Whillock

Trial Court Assistants

Linda Ahlen
Kim Gary
Ginger Hall
Susan McGehee
Shannon Naylor

Circuit Clerks

Rhonda Long-Wharton (Faulkner)
Debbie Loggins (Searcy)
Ester Bass (Van Buren)

County Clerks

Melinda Reynolds (Faulkner)
Debbie Loggins (Searcy)
Ester Bass (Van Buren)

Prosecuting Attorney

Cody Hiland

Managing Public Defender

Butch Thacker

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 79.2% in 2011.

There were 13,023 cases pending in the Twentieth Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 27.5% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

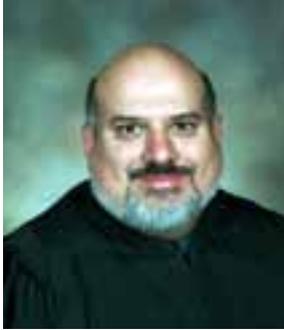
Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 11,439 cases were filed in the Twentieth Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 16.1% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

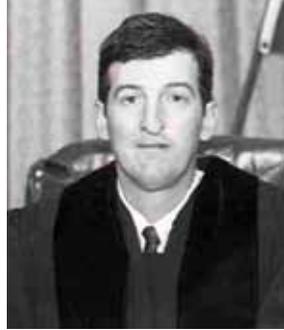
Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,397	1,268	10.2%
Criminal	6,331	4,832	31.0%
Domestic	2,042	1,469	39.0%
Juvenile	701	506	38.5%
Probate	2,552	2,143	19.1%
Total	13,023	10,218	27.5%

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,621	1,683	-3.7%
Criminal	5,223	4,424	18.1%
Domestic	2,952	2,128	38.7%
Juvenile	851	852	-0.1%
Probate	792	762	3.9%
Total	11,439	9,849	16.1%

TWENTIETH CIRCUIT



Hon. David Reynolds
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Twentieth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mike Maggio*
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Twentieth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Charles Clawson +
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Twentieth Judicial Circuit



Hon. David Clark
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Twentieth Judicial Circuit



Hon. Rhonda Wood
Circuit Judge, Div. 5
Twentieth Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Twenty-First Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Crawford county. The circuit was created in 1997 when it was separated from what is now the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 604 square miles and serves a population of 61,948.

Personnel

The Twenty-First Judicial Circuit is served by 2 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Joan Douglas
Nancy Warren

Circuit Clerks

Sharon Blount

Prosecuting Attorney

Mark McCune

Trial Court Assistants

Vickie Jones
Linda Walker

County Clerks

Teresa Armer

Managing Public Defender

Ryan Norris

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 6,227 cases were filed in the Twenty-First Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 33.2% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	743	781	-4.9%
Criminal	3,202	2,130	50.3%
Domestic	1,336	1,030	29.7%
Juvenile	682	471	44.8%
Probate	264	264	0.0%
Total	6,227	4,676	33.2%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Twenty-First Circuit disposed of 5,640 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 19.3% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

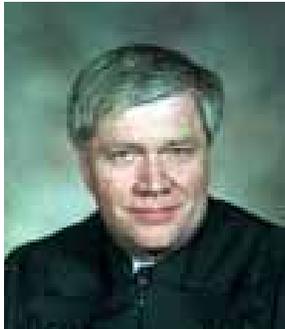
Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	723	773	-6.5%
Criminal	2,976	2,075	43.4%
Domestic	1,085	1,042	4.1%
Juvenile	665	461	44.3%
Probate	191	375	-49.1%
Total	5,640	4,726	19.3%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 90.6% in 2011.

There were 4,163 cases pending in the Twenty-First Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 28.4% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	537	508	5.7%
Criminal	1,981	1,461	35.6%
Domestic	788	499	57.9%
Juvenile	90	75	20.0%
Probate	767	698	9.9%
Total	4,163	3,241	28.4%

TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT



Hon. Gary Cottrell * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Twenty-First Judicial Circuit



Hon. Mike Medlock
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Twenty-First Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Saline county. The circuit was created in 1999 when it was separated from what is now the Seventh Judicial Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 898 square miles and serves a population of 107,118.

Personnel

The Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit is served by 4 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Jan Brooks
Linda Dyer
Valarie Flora
Amber White

Trial Court Assistants

Lisa Graves
Marcey Lawson
Andrea Pate
Midge Snow

Circuit Clerks

Dennis Milligan

County Clerks

Freddy Burton

Prosecuting Attorney

Ken Casady

Managing Public Defender

Pete Lancaster

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 6,237 cases were filed in the Twenty-Second Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of -1.0% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	983	1,071	-8.2%
Criminal	2,207	1,917	15.1%
Domestic	1,688	1,990	-15.2%
Juvenile	741	728	1.8%
Probate	618	594	4.0%
Total	6,237	6,300	-1.0%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Twenty-Second Circuit disposed of 5,729 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -3.7% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	1,029	1,063	-3.2%
Criminal	1,887	1,973	-4.4%
Domestic	1,719	1,777	-3.3%
Juvenile	728	716	1.7%
Probate	366	419	-12.6%
Total	5,729	5,948	-3.7%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 91.9% in 2011.

There were 6,817 cases pending in the Twenty-Second Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 10.6% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	816	951	-14.2%
Criminal	2,591	1,890	37.1%
Domestic	837	978	-14.4%
Juvenile	205	196	4.6%
Probate	2,368	2,146	10.3%
Total	6,817	6,161	10.6%

TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT



Hon. Bobby McCallister
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Gary Arnold
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Grisham Phillips
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit



Hon. Robert Herzfeld * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 4
Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT

Present Organization

The Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Lonoke county. The area had previously been designed as the Seventeenth West Circuit until it was renamed by the 1999 General Assembly. The circuit spans a total of 802 square miles and serves a population of 68,356.

Personnel

The Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit is served by 3 Circuit Judges. Other state-funded personnel include:

Court Reporters

Krystal Jones
Kathy Minton
Donna Wood

Trial Court Assistants

Deseria Blair
James Tapscott
Margaret Uzzell

Circuit Clerks

Denise Brown

County Clerks

Dawn Porterfield

Prosecuting Attorney

Chuck Graham

Managing Public Defender

Larry Cook

Caseload Summary

In calendar year 2011, 4,828 cases were filed in the Twenty-Third Circuit's general jurisdiction courts, representing a difference of 13.2% from calendar year 2010. The change in the percentage of filings in the circuit and chancery courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Filed	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	762	875	-12.9%
Criminal	1,988	1,323	50.3%
Domestic	1,198	1,124	6.6%
Juvenile	503	554	-9.2%
Probate	377	388	-2.8%
Total	4,828	4,264	13.2%

The courts of general jurisdiction in the Twenty-Third Circuit disposed of 4,380 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of 3.4% from the previous calendar year. The change in the percentage of terminations in the circuit courts can be broken down as follows:

Cases Terminated	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	629	886	-29.0%
Criminal	2,043	1,240	64.8%
Domestic	894	1,119	-20.1%
Juvenile	449	516	-13.0%
Probate	365	473	-22.8%
Total	4,380	4,234	3.4%

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. For circuit court, the disposition rate was 90.7% in 2011.

There were 3,362 cases pending in the Twenty-Third Circuit at the end of 2011, representing a 27.8% difference from the previous calendar year. These cases can be broken down as follows:

Cases Pending	2011	2010	% Increase/Decrease
Civil	822	758	8.4%
Criminal	983	637	54.3%
Domestic	752	490	53.5%
Juvenile	250	222	12.6%
Probate	555	523	6.1%
Total	3,362	2,630	27.8%

TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT



Hon. Barbara Elmore
Circuit Judge, Div. 1
Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit



Hon. Phillip Whiteaker * +
Circuit Judge, Div. 2
Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit



Hon. Sandy Huckabee
Circuit Judge, Div. 3
Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit

+ Drug Court Judge

* Administrative Judge



DISTRICT JUDGES COUNCIL

The Arkansas District Judges Council is made up of all district court judges in the state. The council acts as the general body representing the state's limited jurisdiction courts. Formal business by the council is conducted in the spring and fall meetings each year. The 2012 – 2013 term District Court Judges Council President – Hon. Alice Lightle, Criminal Division judge of the Little Rock District Court.

The Arkansas District Court Clerks' Association is responsible for the certification of these limited jurisdiction court clerks and works to represent their interest. The 2012-2014 term District Court Clerks Association President – Debbie Drake, Chief of Clerk of the Jefferson County District Court, Pine Bluff Department.

Arkansas District Judges Council Board of Directors and Officers



Front Row (left to right):

Hon. Reid Harrod
Hon. Wayne Gruber
Hon. Alice Lightle

Back Row (left to right):

Hon. Van Gearhart
Hon. Dan Stidham
Hon. Mark Pate

Not Pictured:

Hon. Stephen Peer
Hon. Butch Hale

LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS

District courts are the state's courts of limited jurisdiction. There are two types of district courts: 1) State district courts and; 2) Local district courts.

State district courts are served by twenty-five full-time judges in fifteen counties comprising fifteen numerical districts, effective July 27, 2011. Additional state district courts are created in January, 2013 and January, 2017. State district courts exercise territorial jurisdiction within judicial districts established by the General Assembly that is city, county or district wide. These courts have subject matter jurisdiction over misdemeanors and violations of state law and local ordinances, preliminary felony cases and civil cases involving contracts, damage to personal property and recovery of personal property in matters less than \$25,000. A small claims division provides a forum in which citizens represent themselves to resolve contracts and personal property matters of less than \$5,000. Supreme Court Administrative Order Number 18 authorizes state district court judges to hear certain matters filed in circuit court upon referral by the circuit court or the consent of the parties.

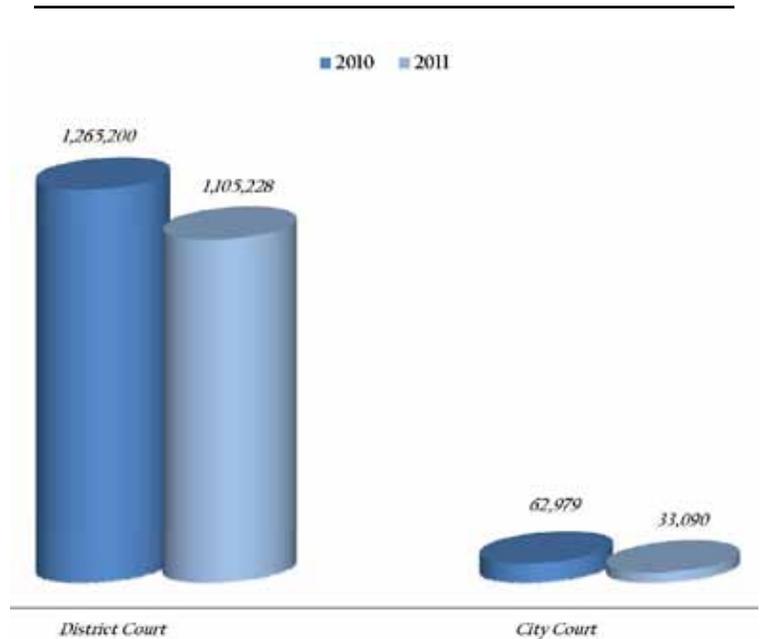
The remainders of the state's district courts are designated as local district courts. Local district courts are served by part-time judges who may engage in the private practice of law. Local district courts have territorial jurisdiction as established by the General Assembly, most of which is county wide. Their subject matter jurisdiction includes misdemeanors and violations of state law and local ordinances, preliminary felony cases and civil cases involving contracts, damage to and recovery of personal property in matters less than \$5,000. A small claims division also exists in local district courts.

In calendar year 2011, Arkansas's district court filings declined in all reported categories; criminal, DWI, traffic and civil. The total number of filings in the state's district courts decreased 12.6% from calendar year 2010.

Arkansas district courts disposed of 857,000 cases during calendar year 2011, a difference of -8.8% from the previous calendar year.

The disposition rate is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. The disposition rate for the state's district courts was 79.2%.

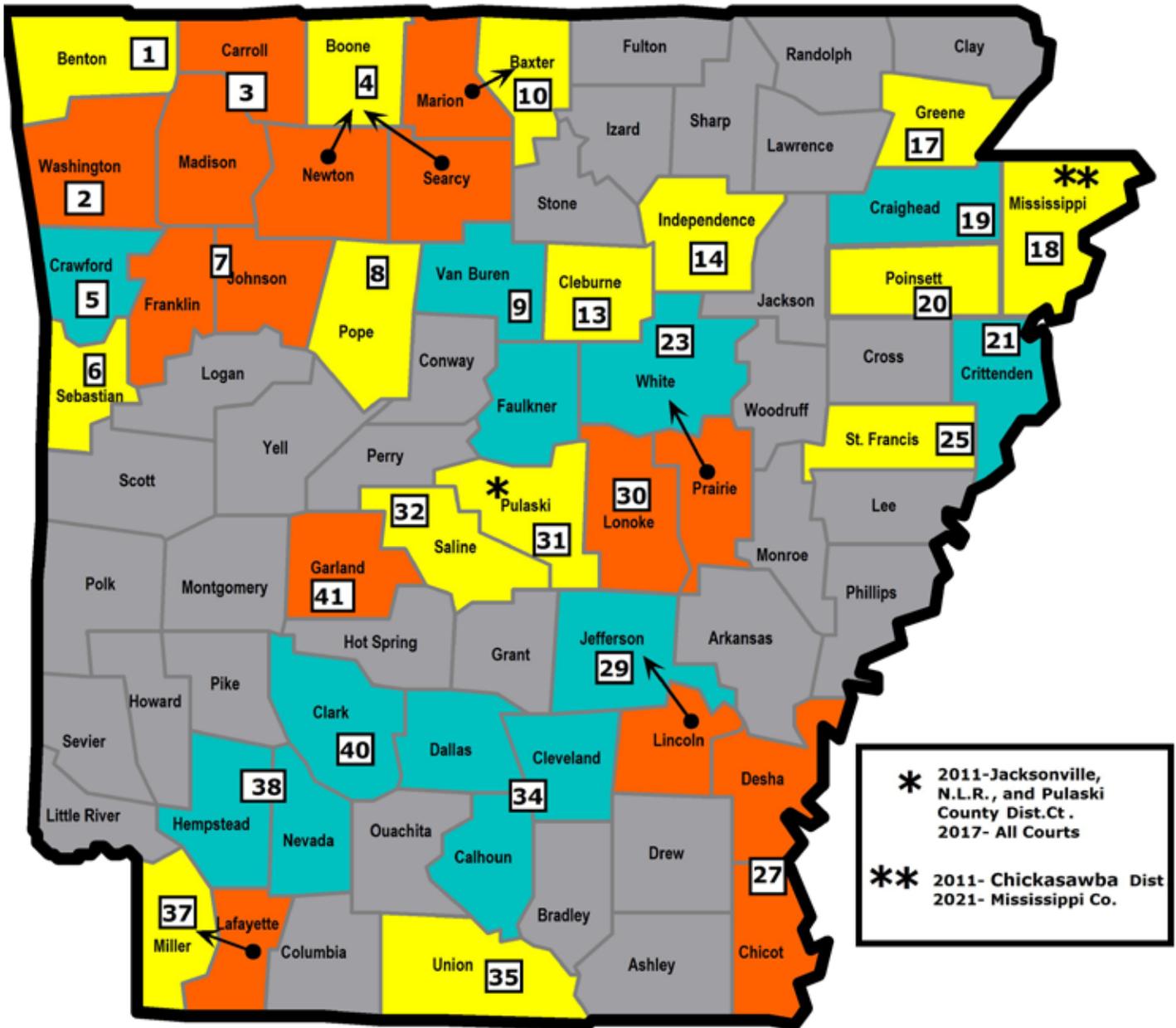
District Courts



ARKANSAS JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

25 State District Judges • 90 Local District Judges • 41 Judicial Districts

115 Total Judges - 41 Judicial Districts



	2011 STATE DISTRICT COURT
	2013 STATE DISTRICT COURT
	2017 STATE DISTRICT COURT
	2017 ADD TO EXISTING DISTRICT
	LOCAL DISTRICT COURT

STATE DISTRICT JUDGES

FIRST DISTRICT



Hon. John Skaggs
District Judge
Benton County

Departments:
Bentonville
Cave Springs
Pea Ridge



Hon. Jeff Conner
District Judge
Benton County

Departments:
Decatur
Gentry
Centerton
Gravette
Sulphur Springs
Lowell
Little Flock



Hon. Steve Thomas
District Judge
Benton County

Departments:
Siloam Springs
Bethel Heights



Hon. Brad Karren
District Judge
Benton County

Departments:
Rogers

FOURTH DISTRICT



Hon. Fred Kirkpatrick
District Judge
Boone County

Departments:
Harrison
Alpena

SIXTH DISTRICT



Hon. Ben Beland
District Judge
Sebastian County

Departments:
Fort Smith Dept. 1



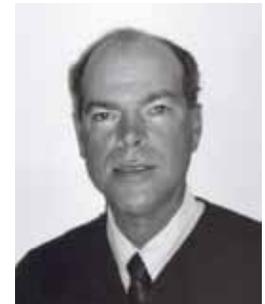
Hon. David Saxon
District Judge
Sebastian County

Departments:
Fort Smith Dept. 2



Hon. Claire Borengasser
District Judge
Sebastian County

Departments:
Fort Smith Dept. 3



Hon. Wayland Parker
District Judge
Sebastian County

Departments:
Greenwood
Barling
Central City

STATE DISTRICT JUDGES

EIGHTH DISTRICT



Hon. Don Bourne
District Judge
Pope County

Departments:
Russellville
Atkins
Dover
London
Pottsville

TENTH DISTRICT



Hon. Van Gearhart
District Judge
Baxter County

Departments:
Mountain Home
Briarcliff
Lakeview
Cotter
Gassville
Norfolk
Salesville

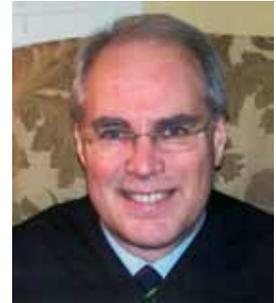
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT



Hon. Mike Irwin
District Judge
Cleburne County

Departments:
Heber Springs
Greers Ferry
Concord
Quitman

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT



Hon. Chaney Taylor
District Judge
Independence County

Departments:
Batesville

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT



Hon. Dan Stidham
District Judge
Greene County

Departments:
Paragould
Marmaduke

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT



Hon. Shannon Langston
District Judge
Mississippi County

Departments:
Blytheville
Manila
Leachville
Gosnell
Dell

TWENTIETH DISTRICT



Hon. Ron Hunter
District Judge
Poinsett County

Departments:
Harrisburg
Marked Tree
Trumann
Tyronza
Lepanto
Weiner

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT



Hon. Steve Routon
District Judge
St. Francis County

Departments:
Forrest City
Madison
Palestine

STATE DISTRICT JUDGES

THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT



Hon. Robert Batton
District Judge
Pulaski County

Departments:
Jacksonville



Hon. Jim Hamilton
District Judge
Pulaski County

Departments:
North Little Rock Dept. 1



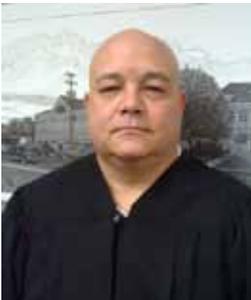
Hon. Randy Morley
District Judge
Pulaski County

Departments:
North Little Rock Dept. 2



Hon. Wayne Gruber
District Judge
Pulaski County

THIRTY-SECOND DISTRICT



Hon. Mike Robinson
District Judge
Saline County

Departments:
Benton



Hon. Curtis Rickard
District Judge
Saline County

Departments:
Bryant
Alexander
Bauxite
Haskell
Shannon Hills

THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT



Hon. George Van Hook, Jr.
District Judge
Union County

Departments:
El Dorado

THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT



Hon. Wren Autrey
District Judge
Miller County

Departments:
Texarkana

LOCAL DISTRICT JUDGES

ARKANSAS COUNTY

B. Park Eldridge, Jr. - DeWitt, Gillett and St. Charles Departments
J.W. Green, Jr. - Stuttgart Department

ASHLEY COUNTY

Billy Hubbell - Crossett Department
Reid Harrod - Hamburg Department

BRADLEY COUNTY

Bruce Anderson - Warren Department

CALHOUN COUNTY

Ronnie A. Phillips - Hampton Department

CARROLL COUNTY

Scott Jackson - Berryville and Green Forest Department
Marianne McBeth - Eureka Springs Department

CHICOT COUNTY

Chuck Gibson - Dermott Department
Laurie A. Bridewell - Eudora Department
David Gillison, Jr. - Lake Village Department

CLARK COUNTY

Randy Hill - Arkadelphia, Gurdon, Amity, Caddo Valley Departments

CLAY COUNTY

David Copelin - Corning, Piggott, Rector Departments

CLEVELAND COUNTY

Ronnie Phillips - Rison Department

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Francis 'Lucky' Crumpler - Magnolia, Waldo Departments

CONWAY COUNTY

Howard C. Yates - Morrilton, Menifee, Oppelo, Plummerville Departments

CRAIGHEAD COUNTY

Keith Blackman - Jonesboro, Lake City Departments

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Steven Peer - Van Buren, Alma, Mountainburg, Mulberry Departments

CRITTENDEN COUNTY

Mike Stephenson - Earle, Marion, Gilmore, Jerico, Turrell Departments
William P. Rainey - West Memphis, Edmonson Departments

LOCAL DISTRICT JUDGES

CROSS COUNTY

Joe Boeckmann - Wynne, Cherry Valley, Parkin Departments

DALLAS COUNTY

Tom Wynne - Fordyce, Sparkman Departments

DESHA COUNTY

Howard 'Corky' Holthoff - Dumas Department

Gibbs Ferguson - McGehee Department

DREW COUNTY

Ken Harper - Monticello Department

FAULKNER COUNTY

Amy Brazil - Conway, Greenbrier, Guy, Mayflower, Mount Vernon, Vilonia Departments

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Paul Efurd - Charleston Department

Joe Ramos - Ozark, Altus Departments

FULTON COUNTY

Jim Short - Salem, Mammoth Springs Departments

GARLAND COUNTY

David Switzer - Hot Springs/1 Department

Ralph Ohm - Hot Springs/2, Mountain Pine Departments

GRANT COUNTY

J. Larry Allen - Sheridan Department

HEMPSTEAD COUNTY

Tony Yocom - Hope Department

HOT SPRING COUNTY

Sherry Burnett - Malvern, Donaldson, Friendship, Rockport Departments

HOWARD COUNTY

Jessica Steele Gunter - Nashville Department

IZARD COUNTY

David Miller - Melbourne, Horseshoe Bend Departments

JACKSON COUNTY

Barbara Griffin - Newport, Diaz, Swifton, Tuckerman Departments

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Kim Bridgforth - Pine Bluff, Altheimer, Humphrey, Redfield, Wabbaseka, White Hall Departments

John Kearney - Pine Bluff Department

LOCAL DISTRICT JUDGES

JOHNSON COUNTY

Len Bradley - Clarksville, Lamar, Coal Hill Department

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Edward Cochran - Stamps, Bradley, Lewisville Departments

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Wm. Larry Hayes - Hoxie, Walnut Ridge, Black Rock Departments

LEE COUNTY

Robert Donovan - Marianna Department

LINCOLN COUNTY

Victor Harper - Star City/City Division, Star City/County Division, Gould, Grady Departments

LITTLE RIVER COUNTY

John C. Finley, III - Ashdown, Winthrop Departments

LOGAN COUNTY

Betsy Danielson - Booneville, Magazine Departments

David Cravens - Paris Department

LONOKE COUNTY

Joe O'Bryan - Cabot, Ward, Austin Departments

Joseph V. Svoboda - Carlisle, England Departments

Teresa Smith - Lonoke Department

MADISON COUNTY

Orville Cliff - Huntsville Department

MARION COUNTY

Judith Bearden - Yellville, Bull Shoals, Flippin Departments

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY

Mike Gibson - Osceola Department

MONROE COUNTY

John W. Martin - Brinkley Department

Robert Serio - Clarendon, Holly Grove Departments

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

William McKimm - Mount Ida Department

NEVADA COUNTY

Eugene Hale - Prescott Department

LOCAL DISTRICT JUDGES

NEWTON COUNTY

Tommy Martin - Jasper Department

OUACHITA COUNTY

Phil Foster - Camden Department

Dan Ives - East Camden, Bearden, Chidester, Stephens Departments

PERRY COUNTY

Elizabeth Wise - Perryville Department

PHILLIPS COUNTY

Durwood King - Helena Department/1, Elaine Departments

J.R. 'Rusty' Porter - West Helena Department/2, Lake View, Marvell Departments

PIKE COUNTY

Dana Stone - Murfreesboro, Glenwood Departments

POLK COUNTY

Jerry Ryan - Mena Department

PRAIRIE COUNTY

Robert Abney - Des Arc Department

Jim Rhodes, III - Biscoe, DeValls Bluff, Hazen Departments

PULASKI COUNTY

Alice Lightle - Little Rock/Dept. 1

Vic Fleming - Little Rock/Dept. 2

Mark D. Leverett - Little Rock/Dept. 3

Roger Harrod - Maumelle Department

Milas 'Butch' Hale - Sherwood Department

Rita F. Bailey - Wrightsville, Cammack Village Departments

RANDOLPH COUNTY

John Throesch - Pocahontas Department

SCOTT COUNTY

Donald Goodner - Waldron Department

SEARCY COUNTY

Mitch Cash - Marshall Department

SEVIER COUNTY

Stephen W. Tedder - DeQueen Department

SHARP COUNTY

Mark R. Johnson - Ash Flat, Cherokee Village Departments

LOCAL DISTRICT JUDGES

STONE COUNTY

Whitman W. Fowlkes - Mountain View Department

VAN BUREN COUNTY

John Aldworth - Clinton, Damascus Departments

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Ray Reynolds - Elkins Department

Rudy Moore - Fayetteville Department

Graham Nations - Prairie Grove, Farmington, Lincoln Departments

Ernest B. Cate - Springdale, Elm Springs, Johnson, Departments

Casey Jones - West Fork, Greenland Departments

WHITE COUNTY

Teresa Hughes - Beebe Department

Mark Pate - Searcy, Bald Knob, Bradford, Judsonia, Kensett, McRae, Pangburn, Rosebud Departments

WOODRUFF COUNTY

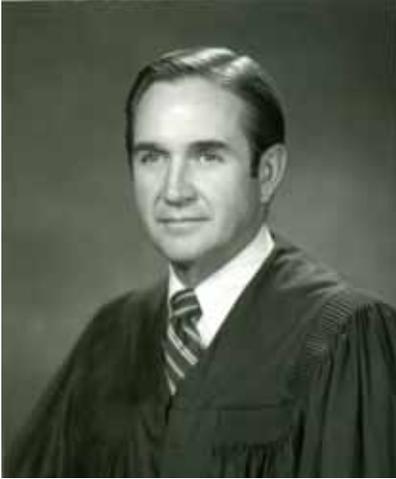
John D. Eldridge, III - Augusta, Cotton Plant, McCrory, Patterson Departments

YELL COUNTY

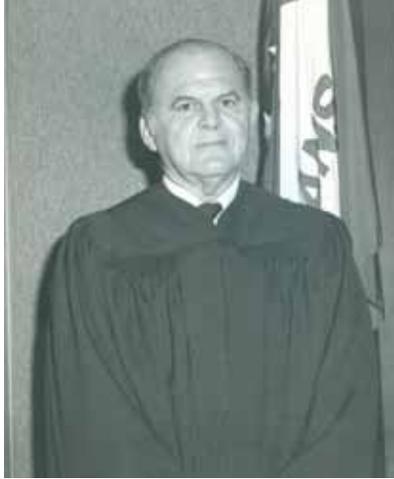
Kristin Clark - Russellville Department

Bill Strait - Morrilton

IN MEMORIAM



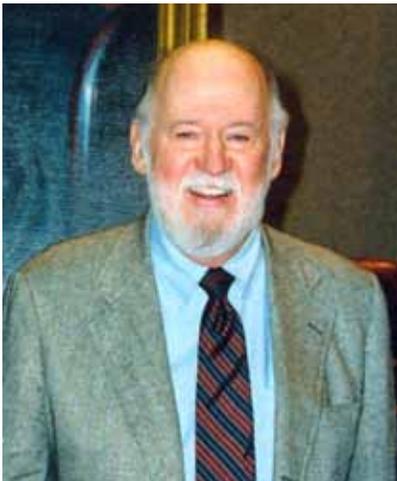
Honorable Richard Adkisson
Years of Service
1981 - 1984



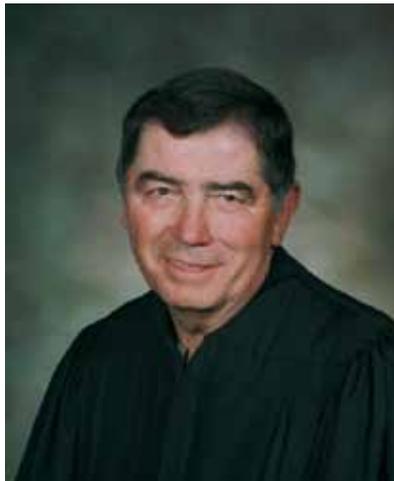
Honorable George Cracraft
Years of Service
1981 - 1992



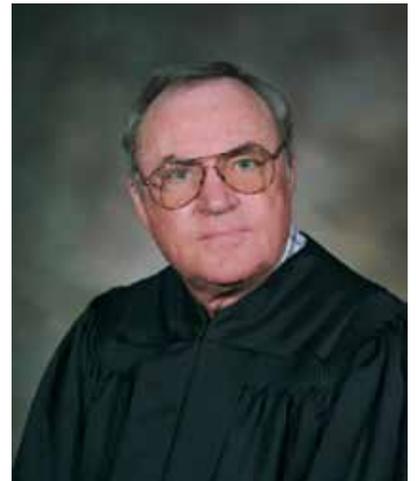
Honorable Melinda Gilbert
Years of Service
2009 - 2011



Honorable Steele Hays
Years of Service
1981 - 1994



Honorable Tom Hilburn
Years of Service
1983 - 2003



Honorable Robert Vittitow
Years of Service
1989 - 2008



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