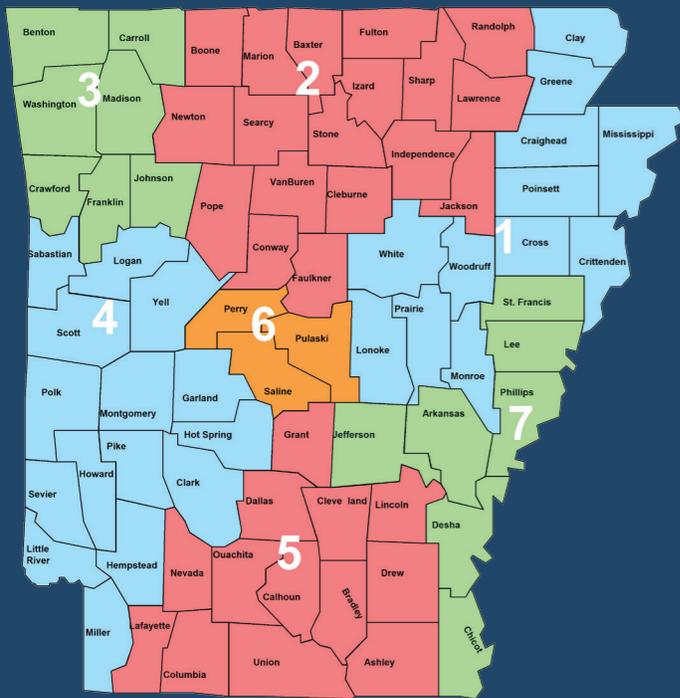


# JUDICIAL ELECTIONS

## Did You Know:

### Court of Appeals Districts

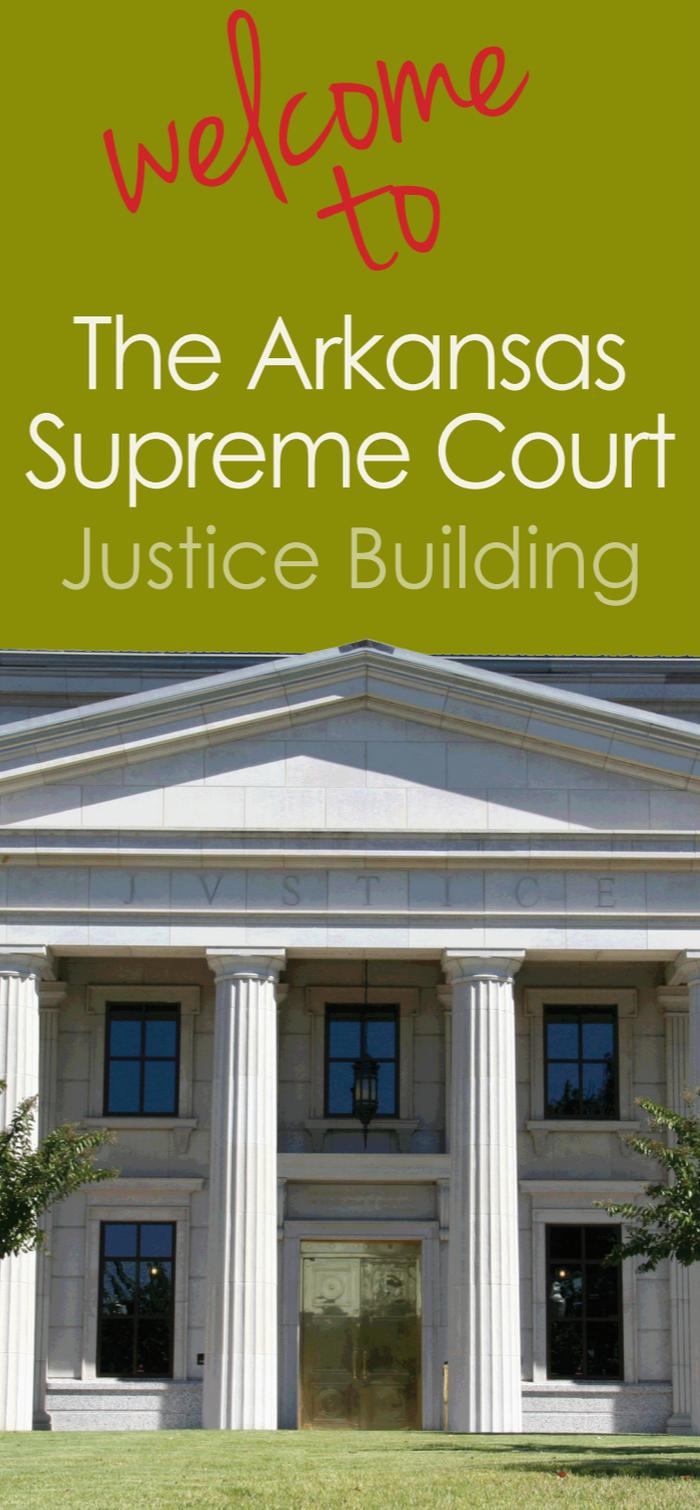


**District:**

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Abramson, Whiteaker | 5. Kinard         |
| 2. Virden, Hoofman     | 6. Vaught, Gruber |
| 3. Gladwin, Hixson     | 7. Brown          |
| 4. Harrison, Glover    |                   |

- The year 2015 marks the first time in the history of the state for the Arkansas Supreme Court to have a female majority.
- Arkansas has the second-highest-performing Supreme Court in the country, according to a University of Chicago Law School study. Arkansas justices ranked third in the number of opinions written per year.
- In the new addition to the Supreme Court Building completed in 2001, "Justice" was etched on the front of the building with a "v" rather than a "u." This comes from the fact that part of the basis for our system of law derives from Roman law and the Latin alphabet does not have a "u." Many people thought the court had made an egregious spelling mistake.
- Justice Annabelle Imber Tuck was the first woman elected to the Supreme Court. She served from 1997-2009.
- Justice George Rose Smith is Arkansas's longest-serving Supreme Court justice, serving from 1949 to 1987. He created the system by which the Supreme Court assigns and decides its cases.
- President Bill Clinton, serving as the 50th Attorney General of the state of Arkansas from January 1977 to January 1979, had an office in the original Justice Building.
- As an April Fools' joke, Justice George Rose Smith wrote a tongue-in-cheek opinion based on a children's poem of a fight between the Gingham Dog and Calico Cat ("The Duel" by Eugene Fields). The opinion was cited as a legitimate case by the high court of another state.

Judges are elected in Arkansas. The Supreme Court justices are chosen by voters in statewide elections. The chief justice is an elected, not appointed, position. The Court of Appeals judges are elected in the districts where they live. The Court of Appeals was created in 1978 by constitutional amendment. There are twelve judges on that court, including a chief judge, who is appointed to a two-year term by the chief justice of the Supreme Court.



[www.courts.arkansas.gov](http://www.courts.arkansas.gov)

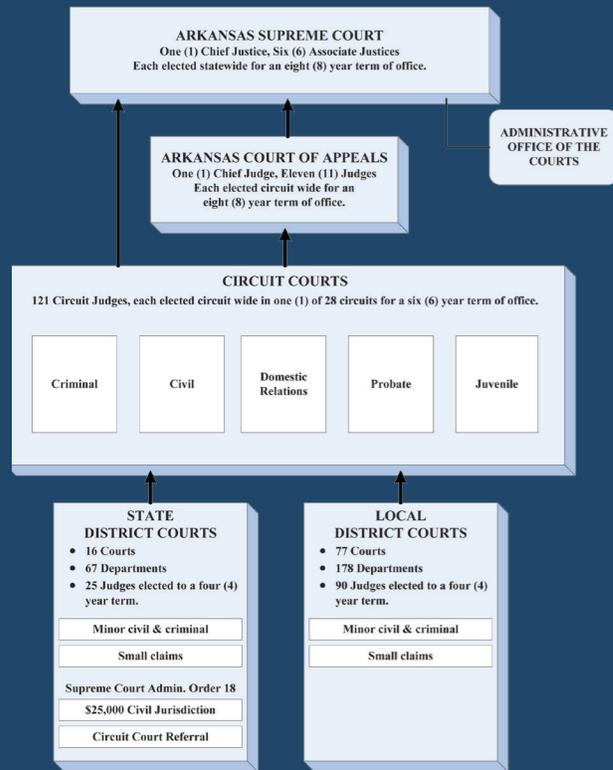
**COURT SUPREME**

- Chief Justice Jim Hannah  
Searcy, AR
- Justice Paul Danielson  
Booneville, AR
- Justice Karen Baker  
Clinton, AR
- Justice Courtney Goodson  
Fayetteville, AR
- Justice Josephine Hart  
Mountain View, AR
- Justice Rhonda K. Wood  
Conway, AR
- Justice Robin F. Wynne  
Fordyce, AR

**COURT OF APPEALS**

- Chief Judge Robert J. Gladwin  
Fayetteville, AR
- Judge Raymond R. Abramson  
Holly Grove, AR
- Judge Bart F. Virden  
Batesville, AR
- Judge Brandon J. Harrison  
Fort Smith, AR
- Judge M. Michael Kinard  
Magnolia, AR
- Judge Rita W. Gruber  
North Little Rock, AR
- Judge David M. Glover  
Malvern, AR
- Judge Phillip T. Whiteaker  
Lonoke, AR
- Judge Larry D. Vaught  
Little Rock, AR
- Judge Kenneth S. Hixson  
Fayetteville, AR
- Judge Cliff Hoofman  
Enola, AR
- Judge Waymond M. Brown  
Pine Bluff, AR

# AR COURT STRUCTURE



# WING WEST



Dedicated on April 27, 2001, the west wing of the Justice Building features brass doors and is built from Arkansas limestone and granite. The style of architecture is a testament to the timeless ideals of truth and justice.



The first floor houses the Supreme Court Clerk, Supreme Court Communications, the Judicial Education Division, and the Arkansas Court Automation Project. Portraits of current and former Supreme Court justices are on display throughout this area.

The Supreme Court's chambers and conference room are on the second floor.

## Original Justice Building

The original Justice Building was dedicated on June 10, 1958. Prior to its construction, the chambers and courtroom of the Supreme Court were located at the State Capitol.

This area of the Justice Building was fully renovated in 2002, and it now houses the Arkansas Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court Library, the Supreme Court Reporter, the Criminal Justice Coordinator, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The large plaques in this area identify each judge and justice who has served on the Arkansas appellate courts since 1836.

The relief sculpture surrounding the courtroom was executed in Roman travertine marble and stainless steel. The figures represent the development of the law throughout ancient history.



**The Babylonians** - The Code of Hammurabi, "an eye for an eye," marks the first historical record of a statement that the punishment for a crime should not be limitless.



**The Egyptians** - Egyptian legal practice emphasized conflict resolution and that plaintiffs and defendants swore oaths to tell the truth.



**The Hebrews** - Moses, Daniel and Solomon demonstrated that the law could be applied wisely and humanely in concrete situations.



**The Persians** - Cyrus was the first king to maintain that the law should be equal, stable, and enforced universally.



**The Asians** - Confucius established a system of behavior as a guide to princes and emperors. His advice became the foundation of traditional Chinese law.



**The Indians** - King Asoka of Magadha left a legacy of many edicts of Buddhist laws engraved throughout India.



**The Greeks** - Many Greek thinkers, such as Plato and Aristotle, shaped modern concepts of law through their writings on justice, equality, society, and citizenship.



**The Romans** - Roman leaders created a consistent legal system based on the idea that the law should be shaped into a coherent, harmonious and symmetrical body of codes.



**The Native Americans** - Pre-Columbian civilizations developed elaborate codes for their social structures. These codes sought to protect the environment and regulate trade.

# WALL SCULPTURES

# COURTROOM



The circular courtroom annex was constructed in 1976 and is used by the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals for hearings, weekly oral arguments, and swearing-in ceremonies for judges, justices, and newly-licensed attorneys.



The appellate courts began to stream their oral arguments and other events live on the internet in September 2010, making it even more accessible to the public it serves. Archives can be viewed anytime

from the Judiciary website: [www.courts.arkansas.gov](http://www.courts.arkansas.gov).

The focal point of the courtroom is the large tapestry on the wall behind the judges' bench. This textile, designed by Efrem Weitzman, includes the state seal and other symbols of Arkansas, such as a geographic outline of the state, a mockingbird, an apple blossom, and a pine tree. The wavy lines leading into the center represent the principal rivers and their influence on the customs and lives of the state's inhabitants.

