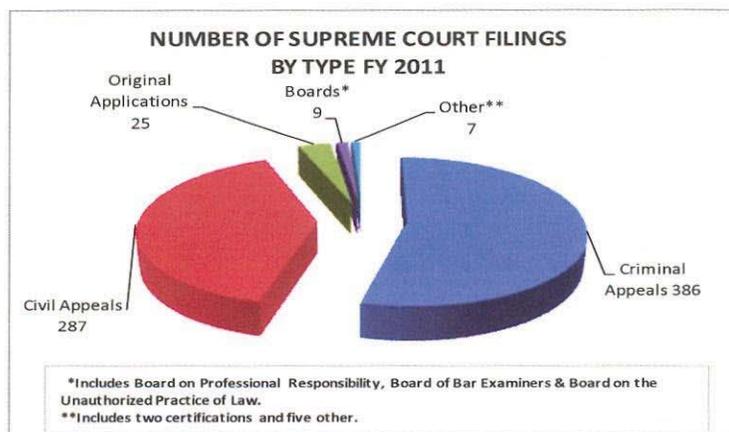
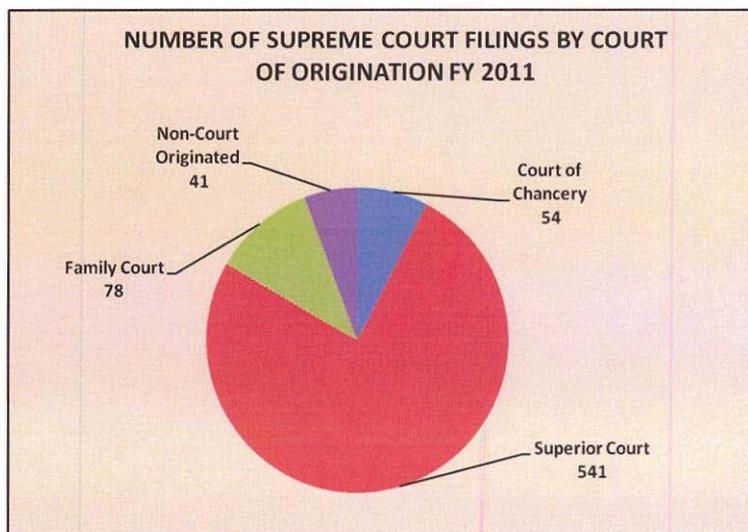


SUPREME COURT

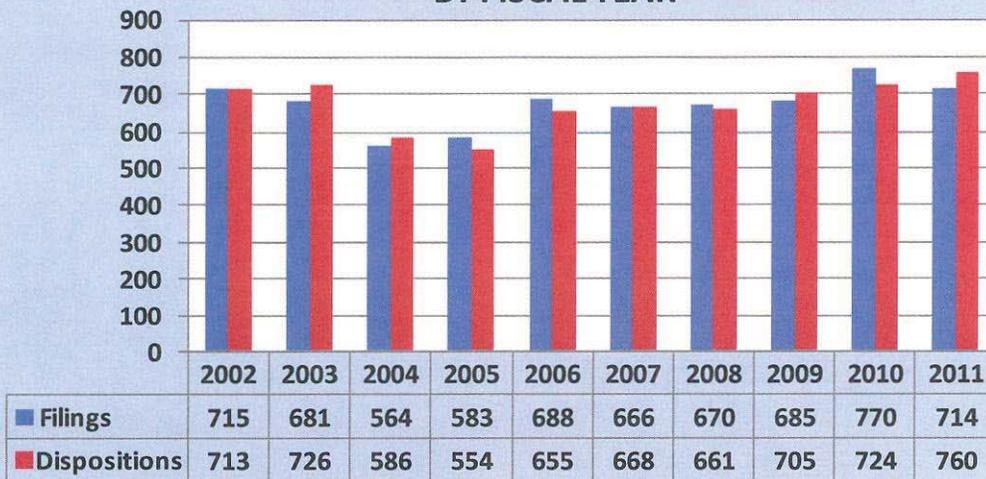
In Fiscal Year 2011, the Delaware Supreme Court received 714 appeals and disposed of 760 appeals by opinion, order or dismissal. On average, the appeals were decided 33.0 days from the date of submission to the date of final decision. In 98.4% of the appeals decided in FY 2011, the Court met the standard of the Delaware Judiciary for deciding cases within 90 days of the date of submission for decision. Based on the American Bar Association's Standards Relating to Appellate Courts, the Court set a performance measure for the disposition of 75% of all cases within 290 days of the date of the filing of the notice of appeal. The Court exceeded this objective by disposing of 86.6% of all cases within the 290 days timeframe. The Court set another performance measure for the disposition of 95% of all cases within one year of the date of the filing of the notice of appeal. The Court disposed of 93.3% of all cases within this one year timeframe.



Under Revised Administrative Directive No 176 dated May 13, 2011, the Court replaced Administrative Directive No. 176 dated April 6, 2010. Administrative Directive No. 176 established a governance structure for the COTS ("Courts Organized to Serve") case management system project, including the roles and responsibilities of the committees that would oversee the project, while the future direction of the COTS project related to criminal, and remaining, civil case management systems was under review. With the completion of the review process, the courts have adopted a new approach for the case management modernization project, which leverages existing systems through the use of technology to enhance the functionality required by the courts for criminal case management and for Family Court's civil case management. Under Revised Administrative Directive No. 176, the project framework and the project name have been modified to reflect the new approach adopted by the courts and to ensure that sufficient flexibility exists for the structure to meet the project's needs as it

SUPREME COURT

**SUPREME COURT FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS
BY FISCAL YEAR**

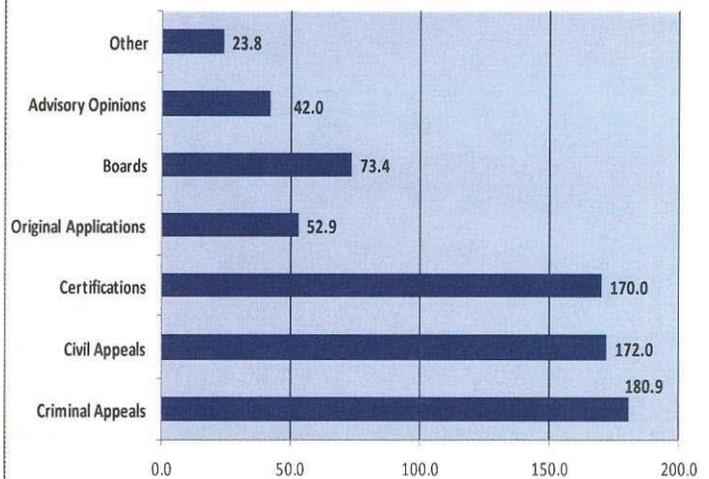


moves forward. The project was renamed the Delaware Court Automation Project (“DCAP”). The governance structure for DCAP included a Project Leadership Team (“PLT”) which has the final authority for all major policy decisions for the project and overall project planning and implementation. Justice Henry duPont Ridgely chairs the PLT which includes the presiding judges of the Superior Court, Family Court, Court of Common Pleas and the Justice of the Peace Court, the State Court Administrator, as members, and the Secretary, or Chief Technology Officer, of the Delaware Department of Technology and Information as an ex officio member. The governance structure also includes the Trial Courts Coordinating Committee (“TCCC”) which has responsibility for regular project oversight, including project plans and implementation, and policy and procedures development, consistent with the policy and overall project direction established by the Project Leadership Team. The TCCC is chaired by Marianne Kennedy, Court Administrator for the Justice of the Peace Court, and the TCCC members are the court administrators of the Superior Court, Family Court, Court of Common Pleas and the Justice of the Peace Court.

Under Administrative Directive No. 178 dated May 11, 2011, the Court adopted Delaware’s Judicial Guidelines for Civil Hearings Involving Self-Represented Litigants. The guidelines are intended to provide guidance to judicial officers in their efforts to balance self-represented litigants’ perceptions of procedural fairness while maintaining neutrality in the courtroom, particularly when one party is self-represented and one has an attorney. The guidelines are not intended to alter the Delaware Judges’ Code of Judicial Conduct or judges’ obligations

thereunder, or to create additional standards under which judges may be disciplined. The guidelines were developed by Judicial Committee on Self-Represented Litigants which was appointed by the Court in response to a recommendation made by The Delaware Courts: Fairness For All Task Force. The members of the Judicial Committee on Self-Represented Litigants are President Judge James T. Vaughn, Jr., (Chair) and Judge Calvin L. Scott, Jr. of the Superior Court, Family Court Judges Arlene Minus Coppadge and Peter B. Jones, Court of Common Pleas Judges Kenneth S. Clark, Jr. and Charles W. Welch, III and Justice of the Peace Judges James A. Tull and Robert B. Walls, Jr.

**SUPREME COURT FY 2011 AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS FROM FILING TO
DISPOSITION BY CASE TYPE**



SUPREME COURT

By Order dated June 10, 2010 and effective on November 1, 2010, the Court amended Rule 1.15 of the Delaware Lawyers' Rules of Professional Conduct. The amendments eliminate the opt-out provision in the Court's Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts ("IOLTA") program and makes participation in the program mandatory for all Delaware lawyers who maintain client trust fund accounts. The new rule requires IOLTA accounts be kept in financial institutions that provide interest rate comparability for IOLTA accounts. The interest rate comparability provision requires that the interest rate paid on these accounts must be comparable to the rates paid by the financial institutions on its other accounts with similar attributes. Delaware joins a majority of states that have made their IOLTA programs mandatory and have adopted interest rate comparability. The rule amendments were made by the Court on the recommenda-

tion of the Court's IOLTA Advisory Committee and the Delaware Bar Foundation which administers the IOLTA funds subject to the approval of the Court. Since its inception in 1983, the Court's IOLTA program has generated approximately \$23 million to provide legal assistance for low income persons through legal services providers including Community Legal Aid Society, Inc., Delaware Volunteer Legal Services and Legal Services Corporation of Delaware, Inc.

During the past fiscal year, 3,894 Delaware lawyers filed Annual Registration Statements with the Court pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 69. The Court continues to grant Delaware Certificates of Limited Practice to in-house counsel pursuant to Rule 55.1 and Delaware Certificates of Limited Practice as a Foreign Legal Consultant pursuant to Rule 55.2.



Supreme Court Justices:

Front Row (sitting left to right)

Justice Randy J. Holland
Chief Justice Myron T. Steele
Justice Carolyn Berger

Back Row (standing left to right)

Justice Henry duPont Ridgely
Justice Jack B. Jacobs