

COURT OF CHANCERY

Chancellor Leo E. Strine, Jr.

The past year was bittersweet for the Court of Chancery. Our leader, colleague and dear friend of long-standing, Chancellor William B. Chandler III, left the Court to write a new chapter of his professional life after 22 years of distinguished service to our Court. The Chancellor's gracious manner, incisive and creative legal mind, sense of humor, leadership skills, and commitment to the best interests of our State and Court will be missed by us all. The fact that the Chancellor was succeeded by the Court's excellent Master of long-standing, Sam Glasscock III, did, however, help to console us.

So too, did the reality that the foundation left by Chancellor Chandler is a strong one that the Court is building upon. Last year, the Court's filings were the highest of any year in the last decade, but were matched by an even greater increase in dispositions.

To address our caseload even more efficiently, the Court is in the midst of several initiatives to better utilize the potential reaped by our online filing system, the initiative led by Chancellor Chandler to make the Register in Chancery Office an office directly under the control of

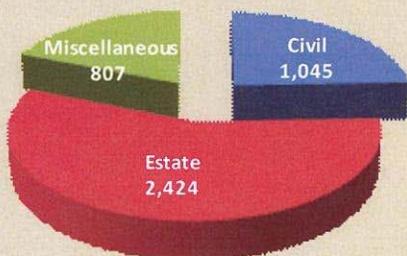
the Court, and the excellent partnerships the Court has with our bar through the Court's Rules Committee and other bodies of the Bar.

These initiatives include measures by our Register in Chancery Office to give the judges of the Court better and more usable information about their caseloads, which will enable them to keep their dockets more current and to keep cases moving at an efficient pace. Consistent with the goal of having cases move smoothly, the Court is also working with its Rules Committee to develop a useful best practices guide. Eschewing a chambers-by-chambers approach, the Court endeavors to articulate a set of best practices that all members of the Court share, and that practitioners can use in practicing before any member of the Court. We are doing this with input and guidance from our Rules Committee, so that the best practices reflect practitioner input and are as helpful as possible. Likewise, in more specialized areas, such as trusts and estates and guardianships, the Court is actively working with the bar on helpful guidance that will give practitioners and litigants useful information on practicing before the Court.

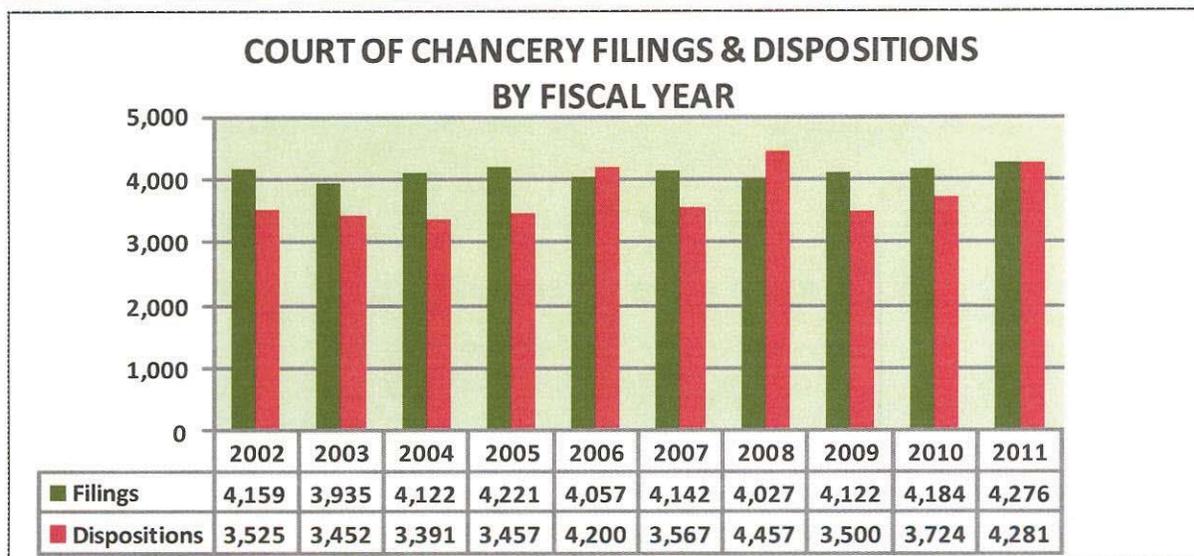
Common to these initiatives is an understanding by the judges on the Court that it is difficult for all of us to keep up in a time of enormous information, and that adhering to some efficient and universal practices can play some helpful, if admittedly inadequate, role in making our lives less stressful and in resolving cases on a more efficient and less wasteful basis.

To that same point, the Court remains committed to providing less expensive means of alternative dispute resolution to Delaware citizens, including Delaware entities, who wish to use them. Thus, 2011 was a year in which the Court continued to be heavily involved in mediating both business cases and guardianship cases, and saw the

**NUMBER OF COURT OF CHANCERY
FILINGS BY TYPE FY 2011**



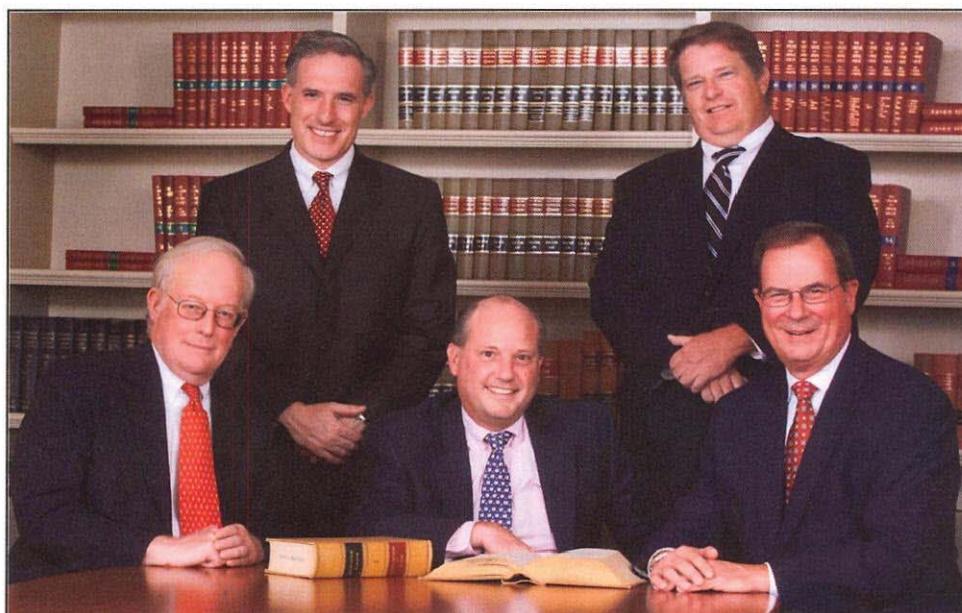
COURT OF CHANCERY



beginning of the first cases using the recently passed arbitration statute. During the next year, the Court hopes to develop a more permanent set of implementing rules for the arbitration statute working with its Rules Committee and our Supreme Court.

Thus, as the Court moves forward, its goal remains the same as it has always been: to continue its tradition of

providing prompt, expert judicial resolution of the cases within the Court's unique jurisdiction. But also consistent with Chancery tradition, the Court continues to innovate and evolve the means for achieving that enduring goal in a manner that best meets the needs of a dynamic marketplace and complex society.



Court of Chancery :

Front row (sitting left to right)

Vice Chancellor John W. Noble
 Chancellor Leo E. Strine, Jr.
 Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons, Jr.

Back row (standing left to right)

Vice Chancellor J. Travis Laster
 Vice Chancellor Sam Glasscock, III