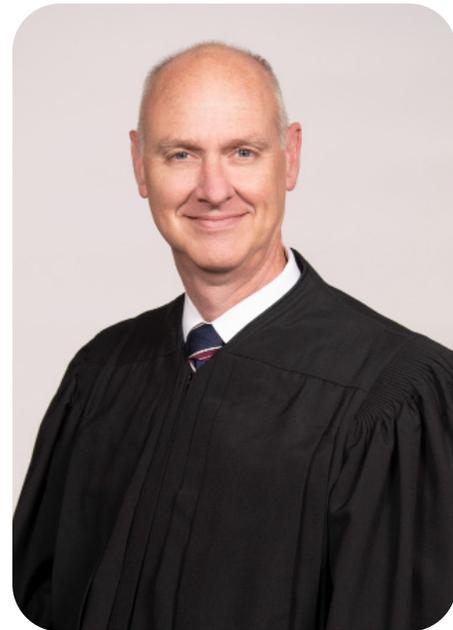


Court of Common Pleas

The Court of Common Pleas has jurisdiction in civil cases where the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest, does not exceed \$75,000. In criminal cases, the Court of Common Pleas handles all misdemeanors occurring in the State except certain drug-related offenses and traffic offenses. The Court is also responsible for all preliminary hearings in felony cases.



**Chief Judge
Carl C. Danberg**

By the Numbers

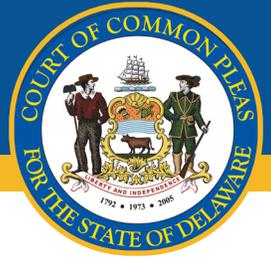


COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

- Judges - 9
- Commissioners - 3
- Court Staff - 137

TOTAL: 149

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

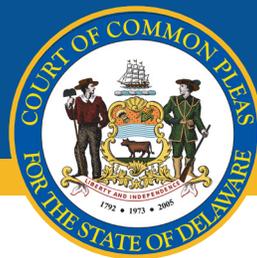


Court of Common Pleas Judges

Front Row (Left to Right)
Judge Anne E. Hartnett • Judge Katharine L. Mayer • Chief Judge Carl C. Danberg
Judge Monica A. Horton (elevated to Superior Court)
Judge Kathleen K. Amalfitano

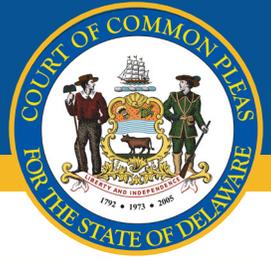
Back Row (Left to Right)
Judge Bradley V. Manning • Judge Rae M. Mims • Judge Thomas Pedersen
Judge Gerard M. Spadaccini

Not Pictured
Judge Jordan Ponzo Perry



Court of Common Pleas Commissioners

Left to Right
Commissioner Gregory R. Babowal • Commissioner Donald R. Bucklin
Commissioner Emily A. Ferrell



2025 Highlights



• After 49 years of service to the State of Delaware, we congratulate our Fiscal Controller, Lynn Deramo-Durr, on her retirement from the Court of Common Pleas. Lynn began her time with the State of Delaware in 1975 and concluded her service on March 1st, 2025. We thank her for her tremendous efforts to our court and the people of Delaware.

• Judge Robert Surles retired from the bench on January 18, 2025. He retired after 1 term and 12 years of dedicated service to the Court of Common Pleas and the people of Delaware.



• Judge Monica A. Horton left the bench of the Court of Common Pleas on June 26, 2025 upon being confirmed as a judge for the Delaware Superior Court. She had served on the Court of Common Pleas since July 1, 2020.

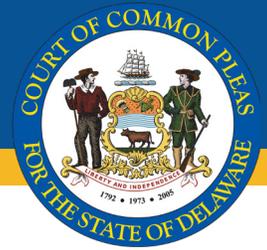


• The Court of Common Pleas welcomed Judge Gerard Spadaccini who was sworn in as a Judge in New Castle County on May 9th, 2025, followed by a public investiture ceremony on September 4th, 2025. He replaces Judge Surles. Judge Spadaccini served as an Assistant Public Defender with the Office of Defense Services for 21 years. From 2010 until his appointment, Spadaccini led the ODS's Court of Common Pleas Unit. Prior to that Judge Spadaccini served as a Deputy Principal Assistant in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Delaware. He earned his law degree from Widener University, his Master of Forensic Sciences degree from George Washington University, and his Bachelor of Science degree from Ursinus College.

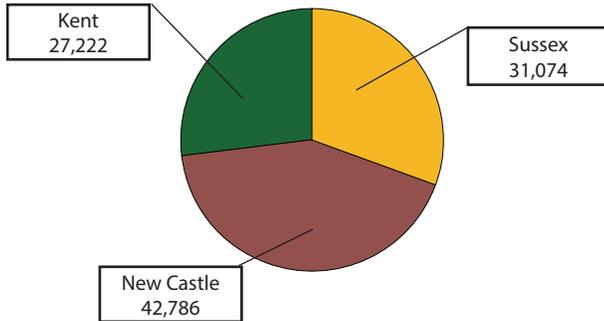
• The Court of Common Pleas also welcomed Judge Jordan Ponzio Perry, who was sworn in as a Judge in New Castle County on September 23, 2025. She replaces Judge Horton. Before her nomination, Judge Perry served as an Assistant County Attorney for the New Castle County Department of Public Safety. Prior to that she worked as a partner at Jacobs & Crumplar P.A., where she handled personal injury, toxic tort, and abuse litigation. She also served as an Assistant State's Attorney in Maryland where she prosecuted misdemeanors and felonies in Prince George's County. She earned her law degree from Howard University School of Law and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Delaware.



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



Civil and Criminal Filings by County Fiscal Year 2025



Number of Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2025



3,975
Civil Judgement, Name
Changes & Appeals



11,047
Civil Complaints

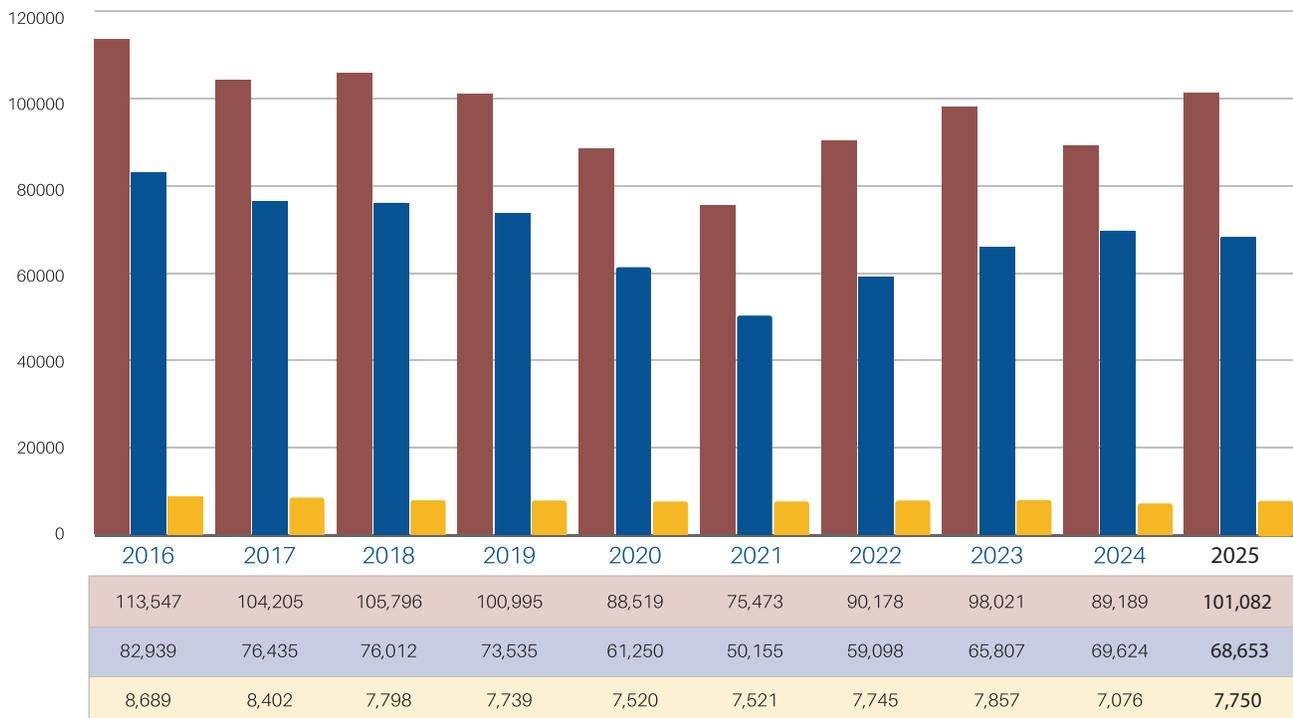


86,060
Criminal

Preliminary Hearings by County Fiscal Year 2025

3,823 New Castle	1,852 Kent	2,075 Sussex
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Criminal Caseload Trend by Fiscal Year



Filings Dispositions Preliminary Hearings