

The Court of Chancery has jurisdiction to hear all matters relating to equity. The litigation in this tribunal deals largely with corporate issues, trusts, estates, other fiduciary matters, disputes involving the purchase of land and questions of title to real estate as well as commercial and contractual matters. The Court of Chancery has a national reputation in the business community and is responsible for developing the case law in Delaware on corporate matters. Appeals from the Court of Chancery may be taken to the Supreme Court

Court of Chancery



**Chancellor
Kathaleen St. J.
McCormick**

By the Numbers



COURT OF CHANCERY

- Judges - 7
- Magistrates - 7.5
- Court Staff - 78

TOTAL: 92.5

*The .5 represents a part-time magistrate



Court of Chancery

Seated Front Row (Left to Right):

Vice Chancellor Nathan A. Cook • Vice Chancellor Paul A. Fioravanti, Jr. • Vice Chancellor J. Travis Laster
Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick • Vice Chancellor Morgan T. Zurn • Vice Chancellor Lori W. Will
Vice Chancellor Bonnie W. David

Standing Second Row (Left to Right):

Magistrate in Chancery David Hume, IV • Magistrate in Chancery Christian Douglas Wright
Senior Magistrate in Chancery Selena E. Molina • Magistrate in Chancery Loren Mitchell
Magistrate in Chancery Danielle Gibbs
Magistrate in Chancery Patricia W. Griffin (retired 12/2022)

Not pictured:

Magistrate in Chancery Caroline Brittingham
Magistrate in Chancery Jessie R. Benavides



2025 Highlights

- Attorney Gregory Birney was presented with the Court of Chancery's Annual Award for Attorney ad litem service to the Court on 12/3/24.
- The Honorable Bonnie W. David, who had been serving as a Magistrate in Chancery, became a Vice Chancellor on 1/7/25.
- For the fifth year, the court welcomed high school interns participating in the Delaware Department of State's Future Leaders Internship Initiative ("FLii").
- The Court welcomed Christopher D. Renaud as the Court's new Chief Staff Attorney on 10/20/25.

• The Court completed its expansion of the Magistrate in Chancery Bench to seven full-time judicial officers, welcoming: David Hume, IV on 2/10/25; Caroline Brittingham on 9/8/25 and Jessie R. Benavides on 9/22/25. The Chancellor also announced the elevation of Magistrate in Chancery Selena Molina to the newly created title of Senior Magistrate Judge on 1/2/25 formalizing the leadership role she has informally held over the past few years.

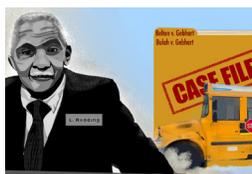


Magistrate
Brittingham



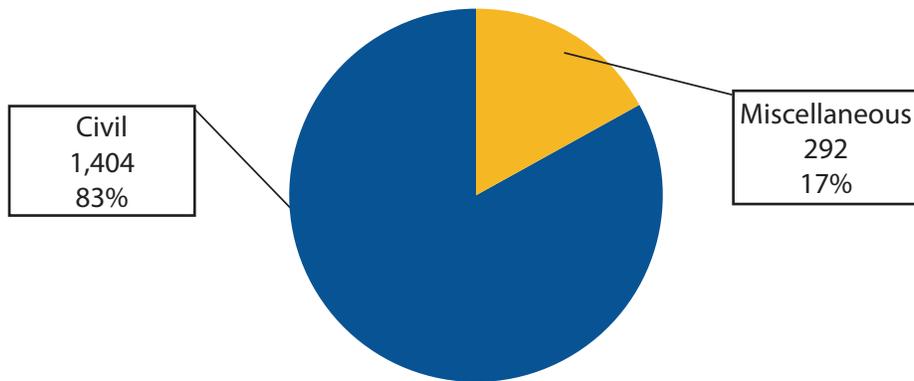
Magistrate
Benavides

- Vice Chancellor Paul A. Fioravanti, Jr. held a Special Session at historic New Castle Court House Museum in Old New Castle, helping that historic building maintain its claim as one of the oldest continually operating courthouses in the nation on 9/19/24.
- The Court of Chancery Historical Society hosted a celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Hostile Takeover Era at the Chase Center on 11/11/25. This event included an afternoon of CLE presentations focused on important Chancery decisions from the 1980s, followed by a cocktail reception and dinner. The Historical Society hosted the event as a celebration of the legacy of the court, including some of the judges and practitioners involved in those seminal cases.
- The Court continued with its ongoing effort to update, modernize and improve court rules and processes including revising Sample Confidentiality and Quick Peek Stipulations; updating Guidelines for Litigants; updating guidelines for requesting special designation of judicial officers; amending rules 143 and 144; updates to the e-filing system; and creating a new process for handling routine civil actions.
- The Court held its Third Annual Student Legal History Art Contest in 2025. The contest winners included: Nevaeh Rumbley, 17 of Dover High School, who won the \$500 first-place prize for her work, "Next Stop... Hopes and Dreams!"; Sarah Emily Falu, 17, of Polytech High School and her work "Louis Redding is a Pioneer for Equal Rights" and Sharon Rodney, 15, of Early College School at Delaware State University and her work "Shattering the Color Line" both won the \$300 second-place prize; and Onna Parrish, 16 of Appoquinimink High School won the \$200 third-place prize for her untitled work "Untitled."





Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2025



Before FY 23 reactivated cases were included in this count. Beginning FY 23 they were excluded. FY 25 saw 62 reactivated cases.

Civil Caseload Trend by Fiscal Year

