



Superior Court



President Judge
Eric M. Davis

The Superior Court, the State's court of general jurisdiction, has original jurisdiction over criminal and civil cases except equity cases. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction over felonies and almost all drug offenses. In civil matters, the Court's authority to award damages is not subject to a monetary maximum. The Superior Court also serves as an intermediate appellate court by hearing appeals on the record from the Court of Common Pleas, the Family Court (in criminal cases), and a number of administrative agencies. Appeals from the Superior Court may be taken to the Supreme Court.

By the Numbers



SUPERIOR COURT

- Judges - 21
- Commissioners - 5
- Court Staff - 302

TOTAL: 328



Superior Court Judges

Seated, Front Row (Left to Right):

Judge Paul R. Wallace • Judge Calvin L. Scott Jr. • President Judge Eric M. Davis
Resident Judge Charles E. Butler • Judge Ferris W. Wharton

Standing, Second Row (Left to Right):

Judge Mark H. Conner • Judge Meghan A. Adams • Judge Noel Eason Primos
Resident Judge Jeffrey J Clark • Judge Sheldon K. Rennie • Judge Francis J. Jones Jr.
Judge Robert H. Robinson Jr.

Standing, Third Row (Left to Right):

Judge Sonia Augusthy • Judge Kathleen M. Miller • Judge Patricia A. Winston
Judge Danielle J. Brennan • Judge Sean P. Lugg • Judge Kathleen M. Vavala
Judge Monica A. Horton

Not Pictured:

Resident Judge Craig A. Karsnitz • Judge Reneta L. Green-Streett



Superior Court Commissioners

Left to Right:

Commissioner Janine M. Salomone • Commissioner Alicia B. Howard
Commissioner Martin B. O'Connor • Commissioner Andrea M. Freud
Commissioner Lynne M. Parker



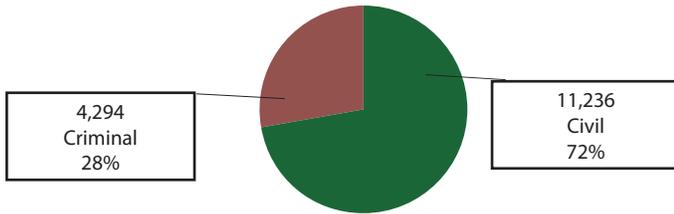
2025 Highlights

- Superior Court welcomed the Honorable Eric M. Davis as its new President Judge on April 17, 2025. President Judge Davis previously served on the Court of Common Pleas from 2010-2012 and joined Superior Court in 2012.
- Superior Court also welcomed the Honorable Sonia Augusthy on May 16, 2025, and Judge Monica A. Horton on June 26, 2025. Judge Augusthy was with the Office of Defense Services before being nominated as a Superior Court Judge and Judge Horton was with the Court of Common Pleas before being nominated as a Superior Court Judge.
- Superior Court continues to see case filings increase in its Complex Commercial Litigation Division ("CCLD"). In Fiscal Year 2024 there were 223 CCLD cases filed. In Fiscal Year 2025 the filings increased by 40 to 273. This in part has been driven by the February 2023 cross designation order from the Chief Justice allowing CCLD to take on breach of contract cases from the Court of Chancery where damages are sought. Since that time, CCLD Judges have closed 43 Section 111 cases, while 65 remain pending and three have been stayed.
- Superior Court is working to implement new probation standards in the wake of the enactment of Senate Bill 7 (Probation Reform) on July 1, 2025. The act instructs the courts, the Board of Parole, and the Bureau of Community Corrections to use the least restrictive probation and parole conditions and the most minimally intrusive reporting requirements necessary to achieve the goals of community supervision. The legislation is effective December 28, 2025.
- Superior Court is also working to implement Senate Bill 10 (Compassionate Release) that was enacted on July 14, 2025. This act, named for Richard "Mouse" Smith, removes the Board of Parole from the sentence modification process, thereby allowing the Department of Correction and incarcerated individuals, themselves or through their legal counsel, to apply directly to the sentencing court for modifications. Superior Court is coordinating with the Department of Correction to facilitate a seamless rollout of this new process. This legislation is effective January 10, 2026.
- As part of the Automatic Mandatory Expungement statute ("Clean Slate"), Superior Court has been working to identify and review criminal cases where dispositions were unknown, unobtainable or pending in the Court's records. This project was undertaken to permit eligible criminal cases to proceed through Clean Slate. To date, approximately 10,000 criminal case records have been reviewed using this process. Superior Court continues to work on this effort to permit additional criminal cases to be available for expungement. Beginning in August 2024 through September 2025, Superior Court completed 401 Clean Slate expungements, with 298 in New Castle County; 62 in Kent County; and 41 in Sussex County.

SUPERIOR COURT



Number of Superior Court Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2025



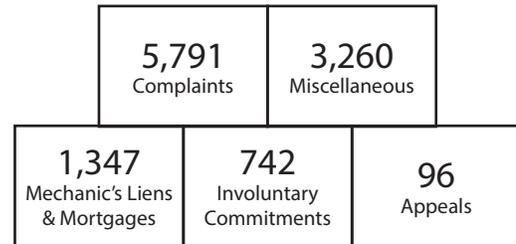
Number of Superior Court Criminal Dispositions by Method Fiscal Year 2025



Number of Superior Court Criminal Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2025



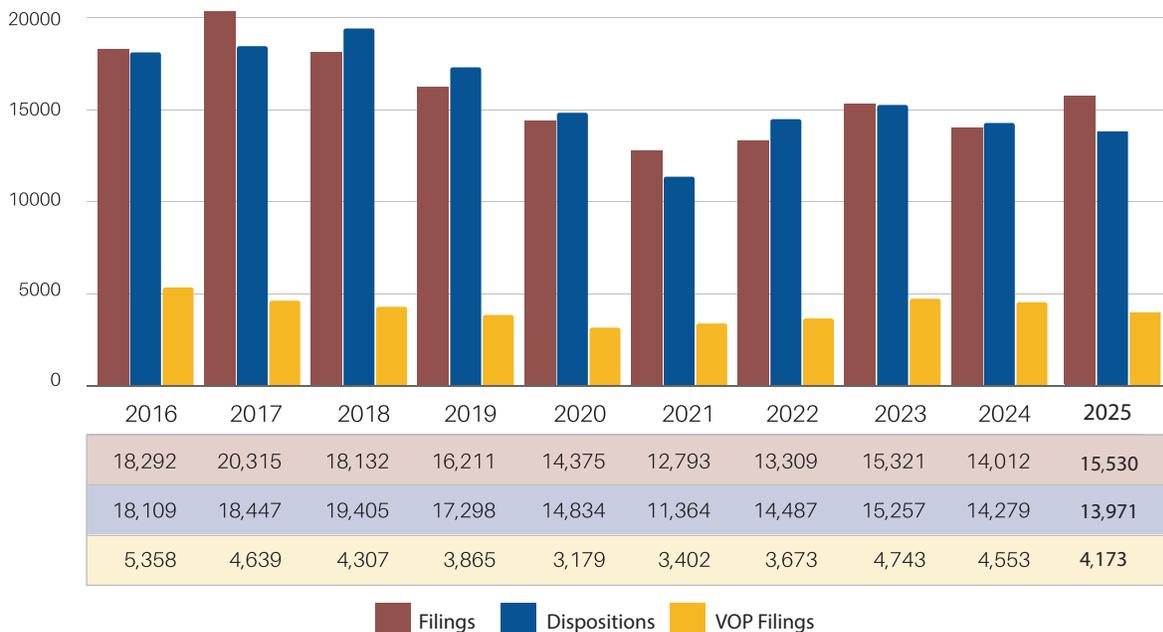
Number of Superior Court Civil Filings by Type Fiscal Year 2025



Number of Superior Court Civil Complaint Dispositions by Method Fiscal Year 2025



Superior Court Civil and Criminal Filings and Dispositions by Fiscal Year





Jury Services

The Superior Court supplies jurors for civil and criminal Superior Court trials; for criminal Court of Common Pleas trials; and for landlord tenant trials in the Justice of the Peace Courts. The Superior Court also provides jurors for the Grand Jury process.

Summoned Jurors by County

118,115 New Castle	18,269 Kent	25,229 Sussex
Total Jurors Summoned FY25 161,613		

Jurors Brought In by County

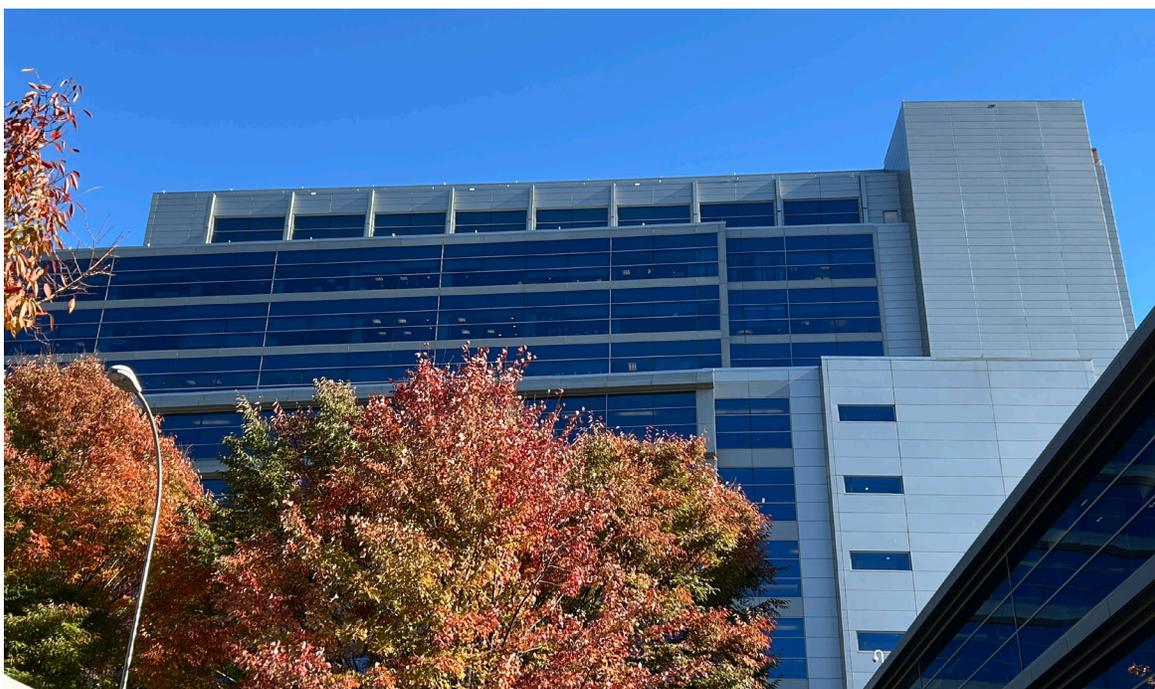
18,580 New Castle	3,239 Kent	2,058 Sussex
Total Jurors Brought In FY25 23,277		

Jury Trials by County

104 New Castle	23 Kent	14 Sussex
Total Jury Trials FY25 141		

Grand Jurors by County

289 New Castle	107 Kent	149 Sussex
Total Grand Jurors Served In FY25 545		





In Memoriam

Superior Court Judge John E. Babiarz, Jr.

The Delaware Judiciary mourned the passing of retired Superior Court Judge John E. Babiarz, Jr. on July 30, 2025.

Judge Babiarz, 83, served on Superior Court from 1985 to 2010.



“John was intelligent, quick-witted, kind and generous. He was a larger-than-life presence on the Court for many years and a great colleague. He will be dearly missed,” said Superior Court President Judge Eric M. Davis.

Judge Babiarz, a Delaware native and graduate of Salesianum High School, joined the Delaware Bar in 1966 after graduating from Harvard Law School. Prior to joining the bench, he was in private practice and formed the law firm Biondi and Babiarz in 1971. In 1979, he became a partner at Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell where he worked until his appointment to Superior Court. On the bench he had a reputation as a fiercely independent jurist, neither consistently favoring defense nor the prosecution. He was the son of former Wilmington Mayor John Babiarz and was particularly pleased that during most of his judicial career he worked in the Daniel L. Herrmann Courthouse on Rodney Square, which was the same building where his father had his office during his time as mayor.

While serving on the bench, Judge Babiarz said the great strength of Delaware’s legal community was the sense of decorum and mutual respect among members of the Delaware Bar.

Shortly after he was nominated in 1985, Judge Babiarz said that being a judge was the best job he ever had, adding, “I can’t wait for tomorrow to come.” And 25 years later, on the eve of his retirement, he remained as enthusiastic about being a judge as the day he took office. “I look forward to coming to work every day,” he said.