
Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary 1993

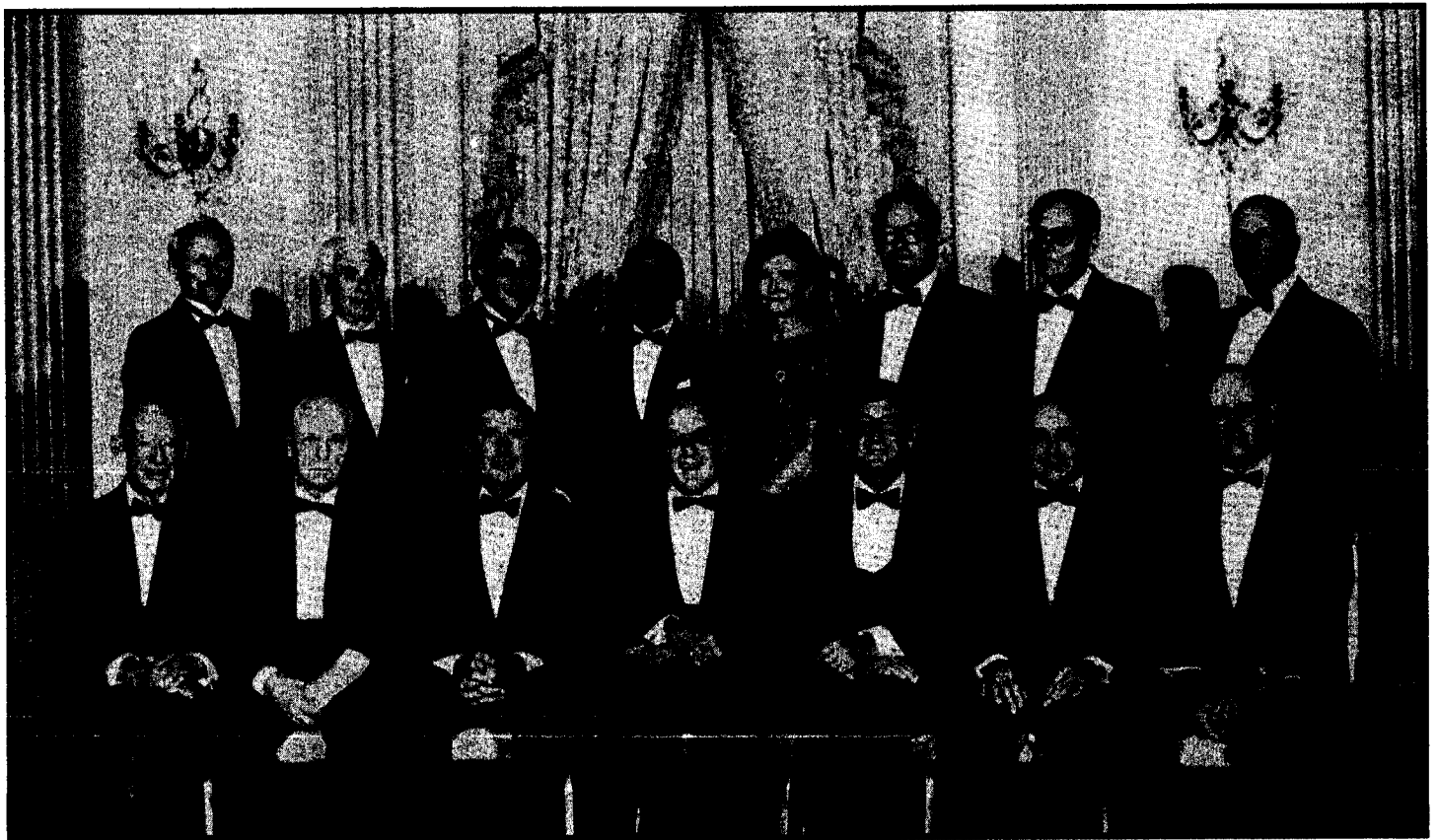
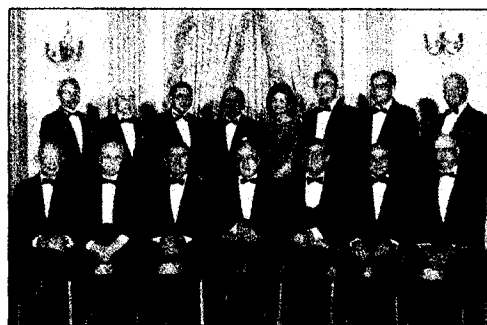


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About the Cover:
Members of the Court of Chancery judiciary past and present are shown with United States Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, Delaware Supreme Court Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey and United States Court of Appeals Circuit Judge Walter K. Stapleton.

1993 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary

(July 1, 1992 – June 30, 1993)

The Honorable E. Norman Veasey
Chief Justice of Delaware

Prepared by the

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The Honorable Chief Justice and Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware:

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 87, the Administrative Office of the Courts is pleased to present the 1993 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary. The statistical information contained herein covers the period beginning July 1, 1992 and ending June 30, 1993.

The Administrative Office of the Courts expresses its appreciation to the many individuals in the various courts and judicial offices throughout the State who provided the statistical data and other information which form the basis of this document.

I sincerely hope that the Annual Report will be both informative and useful to the reader.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lowell L. Groundland".

Lowell L. Groundland
Director
Administrative Office of the Courts

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE



SUPREME COURT OF DELAWARE

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February 1, 1994

It is with great pride that I present the achievements of the judicial system of this State described in the 1993 Annual Report of the Judiciary. During the past fiscal year, our courts were forced to handle their largest caseloads in history with an insufficient work force. In this difficult environment, our hard working judges and staff managed to dispose of a record number of cases and to launch new programs which have contributed to greater efficiency in the operations of our courts. This year's publication also heralds a watershed event in our judicial history, the creation of the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 to devise a plan for our Judiciary into the twenty-first century.

I want to thank Governor Thomas R. Carper, and the members of the General Assembly for their continued cooperation and support.

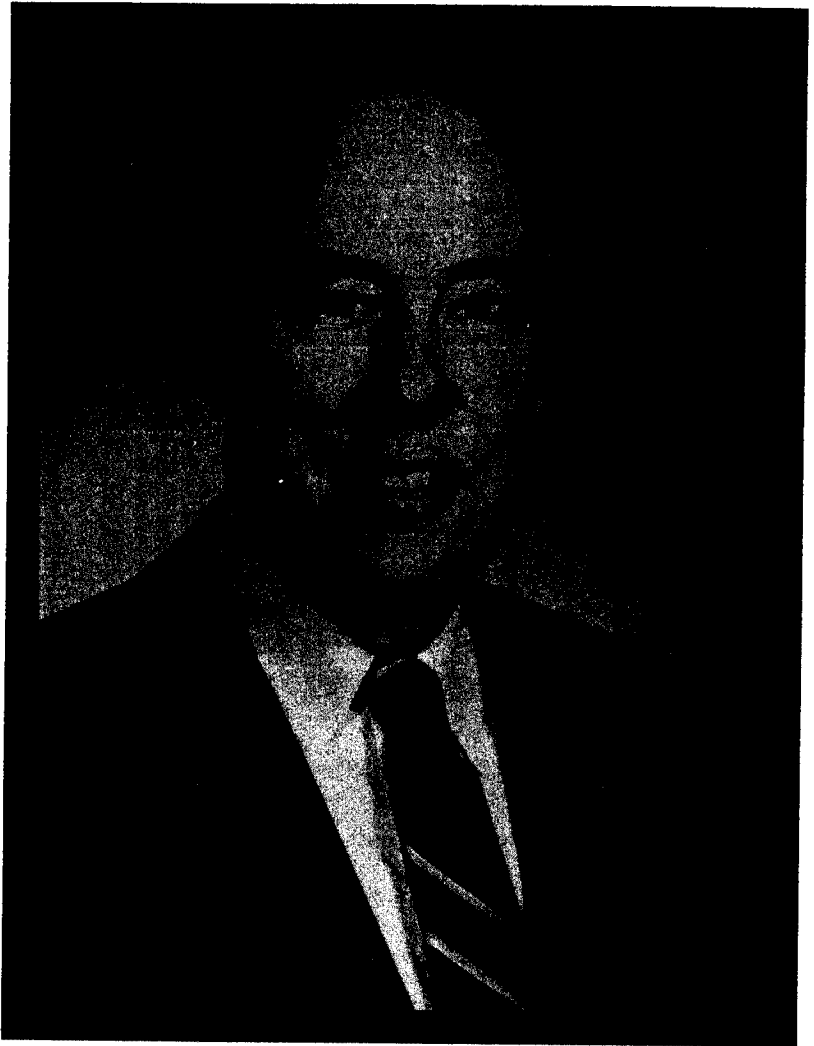
We believe that the accomplishments of the Delaware Judiciary in FY 1993 are a basis for launching additional initiatives designed to improve the services which the courts provide to our citizens and to enhance further the excellent reputation of our judicial system.

E. Norman Veasey

In Memoriam

IN MEMORIAM

CHIEF JUSTICE ANDREW D. CHRISTIE



The Honorable Andrew D. Christie

Retired Chief Justice Andrew D. Christie lost his life in an automobile accident on May 28, 1993.

After obtaining his undergraduate degree with honors in History from Princeton University, Chief Justice Christie received his LL.B. degree from the University of Pennsylvania where he served as editor of the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* and was elected to the Order of the Coif.

In 1949, he was admitted to the Delaware Bar and, from 1950 to 1957, he practiced law in Wilmington. He became a judge in the Superior Court on April 29, 1957 and was reappointed to that bench for two subsequent terms. On March 23, 1983, he left his post as Resident Judge of the Superior Court in New Castle County to be sworn in as Justice of the Supreme Court of Delaware, and on March 30, 1985, he succeeded the

IN MEMORIAM

Honorable Daniel L. Herrmann as Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court. In 1988, Widener University's Delaware Law School bestowed upon him the honorary Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

As Chief Justice, the Honorable Andrew D. Christie directed the centralization of the Judiciary's budgetary process through his office; the initiation of a comprehensive construction program to expand and renovate the physical facilities of the courts; the revitalization of the Delaware Bar, Bench, and Media Conference, dormant for over a decade, as an effective means of fostering understanding among the three professions; and the expansion of the Administrative Office of the Courts and its functions in conformity with the American Bar Association's *Standards Relating to Court Organization*.

Following Chief Justice Christie's retirement on February 29, 1992, he provided service on the bench of the Supreme Court when he was needed and assisted Superior Court in coping with its heavy caseload.

Throughout his career, Chief Justice Christie remained active in professional organizations. From 1957 to 1967, he served as President of the Legal Aid Society of Delaware. He was a regular participant in the programs and seminars of the National Conference of State Trial Judges, now known as the National Judicial College, and the Conference of Chief Justices.

His civic affiliations included the Boy Scouts, the Red Cross, and various United Way agencies, and he served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Chief Justice Christie and his devoted wife, Carol Graves Christie, resided in Greenville and were the proud parents of four children and loving grandparents of seven grandchildren.

The Delaware Judiciary held a memorial service for Chief Justice Christie on October 29, 1993 in Courtroom 301 of the Superior Court in the Daniel L. Herrmann Courthouse. Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey, in opening the Court, characterized Chief Justice Christie as a "distinguished jurist and scholar, a great family man, a notable church and civic leader, and a dear friend and wise counselor," and stated that "Delaware and our judicial system are significantly better off for his having graced our courts for the thirty-five years on the [Supreme] Court and the Superior Court." The following individuals offered eulogies at the service: Richard D. Kirk, Esq., President of the Delaware State Bar Association; The Honorable Collins J. Seitz, Senior Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; The Honorable Albert J. Stiffler, retired President Judge of the Superior Court; Andrew D. Kirkpatrick, Jr., Esq., former President of the State Bar Association; and Andrew D. Christie, Jr. In presenting the Response for the Court, Justice Joseph T. Walsh of the Supreme Court recalled the "innate sense of fairness, courtesy, scholarship, and a dedication to the administration of justice" which the Honorable Andrew D. Christie had exhibited while on the benches of Superior Court and the Supreme Court and, following his appointment to the post of Chief Justice, his success in promoting collegiality among members of the Judiciary and in overseeing notable improvements in the Delaware judicial system.

Following Chief Justice Christie's death, the Conference of Chief Justices passed a resolution memorializing his contributions to the Delaware court system and to the Conference of Chief Justices, and the Delaware House of Representatives in House Resolution No. 42 on June 9, 1993, mourned the

loss of Chief Justice Christie and recognized his role in maintaining Delaware's courts in high esteem throughout his thirty-five years on the bench.

Chief Justice Andrew D. Christie has left an important legacy to the citizens of Delaware through his noteworthy contributions to the judicial system of the State, to the legal profession both locally and nationally, and to the community.

The Bicentennial of the Court of Chancery

200 Years of Important Contributions

September 17, 1992 marked the two hundredth anniversary of the Court of Chancery. As one of only four separate equity courts in the nation, Delaware's Court of Chancery has earned a national and international preeminence in the field of corporation law. Not so publicized, but equally important are the other issues which the Court decides regularly as a court of equity - such as cases involving trusts, estates, restrictive covenants, labor matters, zoning questions, and boundary disputes. The Bicentennial of the Court of Chancery was celebrated with two impressive events in 1992.

At a public ceremony on September 17, 1992, on The Green in Dover, Governor Michael N. Castle, Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey, members of the General Assembly, and the Delaware Judiciary saluted the Court of Chancery on this historic occasion. Vice Chancellor Maurice A. Hartnett, III, related the highlights of the history of this tribunal including important organizational developments and the listing of the Chancellors and Vice Chancellors who served on this bench. He stated that the existence of a separate Court of Chancery in Delaware had been significantly responsible for enabling this Court to emerge as a nationally recognized forum for the trial of corporate litigation, to respond quickly to matters demanding immediate action even in a court system faced with a steadily growing caseload, and to attract to this bench individuals of superior learning and ability. In his remarks, Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey recalled the historic decisions of Chancellor Collins J. Seitz in the early 1950's desegregating Delaware's schools before the United States Supreme Court handed down its famous 1954 Brown v. Board of Education. He contended that the affirmation of the rulings of Chancellor Seitz and the Delaware Supreme Court in the Brown case, which reversed the decision of other state courts upholding segregation, represented "one of the finest hours of the Court of Chancery."

According to the Chief Justice, "the Court of Chancery consistently is viewed with esteem and often with something approaching reverence" by national corporations incorporated in Delaware and by attorneys, both in the First State and other states, who advise these companies.

On the evening of September 18, 1992, the Bicentennial of the Court was celebrated in the Gold Ballroom of the Hotel duPont in Wilmington. Chancellor William T. Allen addressed the friends of the Court by reviewing the outstanding traditions of the Delaware Bench and Bar. Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey introduced the keynote speaker, The Honorable William H. Rehnquist, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Citing as hallmarks of the Court of Chancery "judicial efficiency and expertise, . . . a well-respected judiciary, innovative judicial administration, [and] courageous leadership," Chief Justice Rehnquist described the tribunal "as a unique and vibrant Delaware institution [as well as] an important contributor to our national system of justice."

Other events commemorating the two hundredth anniversary of the Court of Chancery were the issuance of a history of that organization and the installation of a bronze plaque in the Kent County Courthouse containing the names and service dates of members of the Court's bench from its origin to the present.

The Delaware Judiciary joins the citizens of Delaware in acknowledging the notable contributions of the Court of Chancery to equity jurisprudence in Delaware and in the nation.

SOURCES:

William H. Rehnquist, "The Prominence of the Delaware Court of Chancery in the State-Federal Joint Venture of Providing Justice"; E. Norman Veasey, "The National Court of Excellence"; William T. Allen, "A Bicentennial Toast to the Delaware Court of Chancery 1792-1992"; Maurice A. Hartnett, III, "The History of the Delaware Court of Chancery"; in *The Business Lawyer*, XLVIII, No. 1 (November 1992), 351-372.

Introduction to the Delaware Court System

INTRODUCTION TO THE DELAWARE COURT SYSTEM

Court Organization and Jurisdiction

The Delaware Judiciary is composed of the Supreme Court, Court of Chancery, Superior Court, Family Court, Court of Common Pleas, the Justice of the Peace Courts, the Municipal Court of Wilmington, the Alderman's Courts, and related judicial agencies.

In terms of interrelationships among the courts, the Delaware Court System is similar to a pyramid. The Justice of the Peace Courts and the Alderman's Courts represent the base of the pyramid and the Supreme Court the apex of the pyramid. As a litigant goes upward through the Court

System pyramid, the legal issues generally become more complex and, thus, more costly to litigate. For this reason, cases decided as close as possible to the entry level of the Court system generally result in cost savings to the judiciary in resources used to handle the matters and in a speedier resolution of the issues at hand for the litigants. The jurisdiction and routes of appeals and transfers of the various courts are described in the paragraphs below and are depicted graphically in Figures 1 and 2.

The Justice of the Peace Courts, the initial entry level into the Court

System for most citizens, have jurisdiction over civil cases in which the disputed amount is less than \$5,000. In criminal cases, the Justice of the Peace Courts hear certain misdemeanors and most motor vehicle cases (excluding felonies) and the Justices of the Peace may act as committing magistrates for all crimes. In criminal cases with the possibility of incarceration or a fine of \$15 or more or both, the accused may elect to transfer the case to the Court of Common Pleas. Appeals may be taken de novo to the Superior Court. Over one-half of all cases are disposed of rapidly at the Justice of

Court Jurisdiction

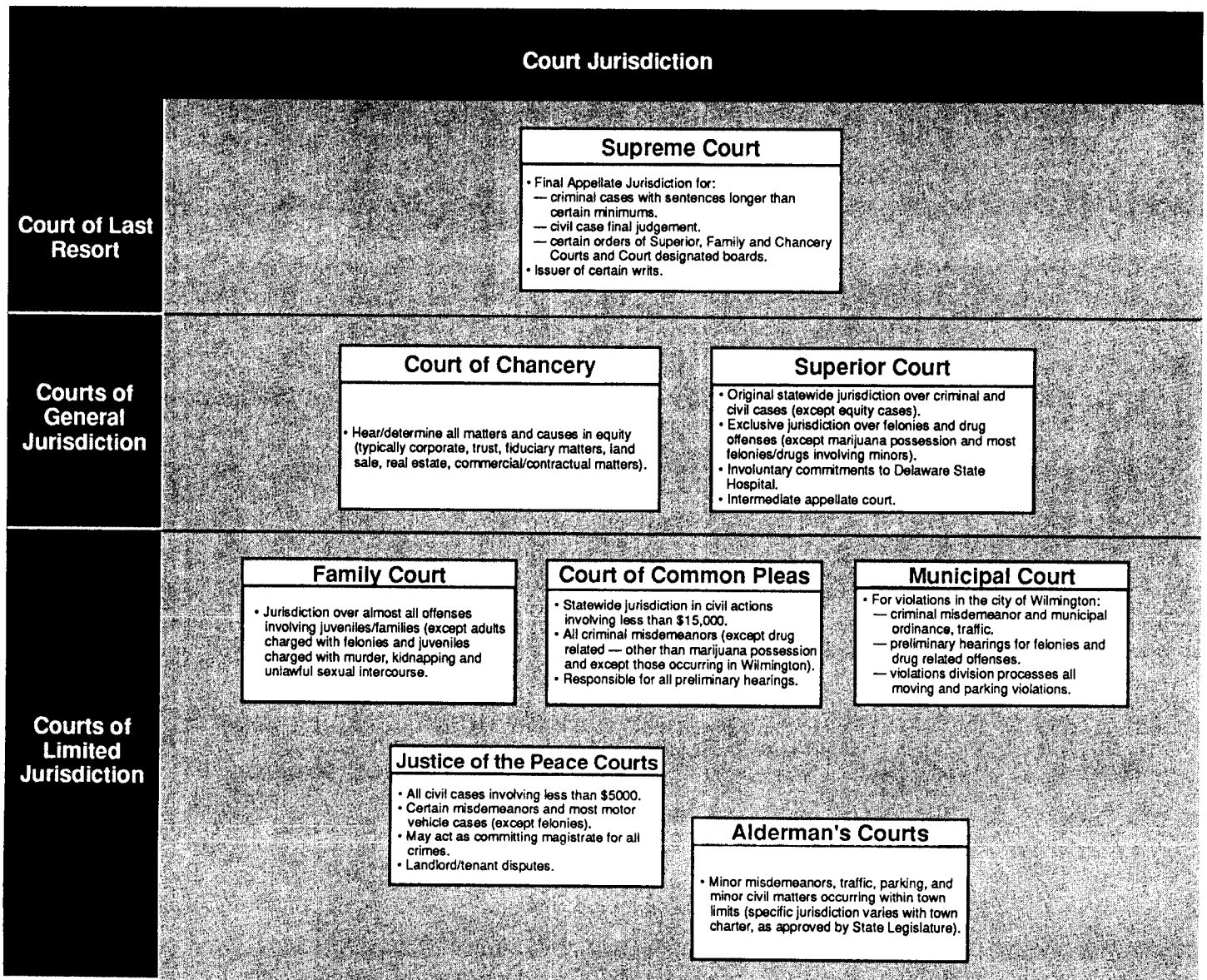


Figure 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE DELAWARE COURT SYSTEM

the Peace Courts level without further impact on the remainder of the judicial system.

The Court of Common Pleas has jurisdiction in civil cases where the amount involved, exclusive of interest, does not exceed \$15,000. In criminal cases, the Court of Common Pleas handles all misdemeanors occurring in the State except drug-related cases (other than possession of marijuana), and those cases occurring in Wilmington. The Court is also responsible for all preliminary hearings in felony cases except those occurring in Wilmington.

Appeals may be taken to the Superior Court.

The Family Court has almost comprehensive jurisdiction over family and juvenile matters. All civil appeals including those relating to juvenile delinquency go directly to the Supreme Court while criminal cases are appealed to the Superior Court.

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 Alderman's Courts, the Justice of the Peace Courts, and the Municipal Court are heard as trials de novo (second trials) in the Superior Court. Appeals from the Superior Court may be taken on the record to the Supreme Court.

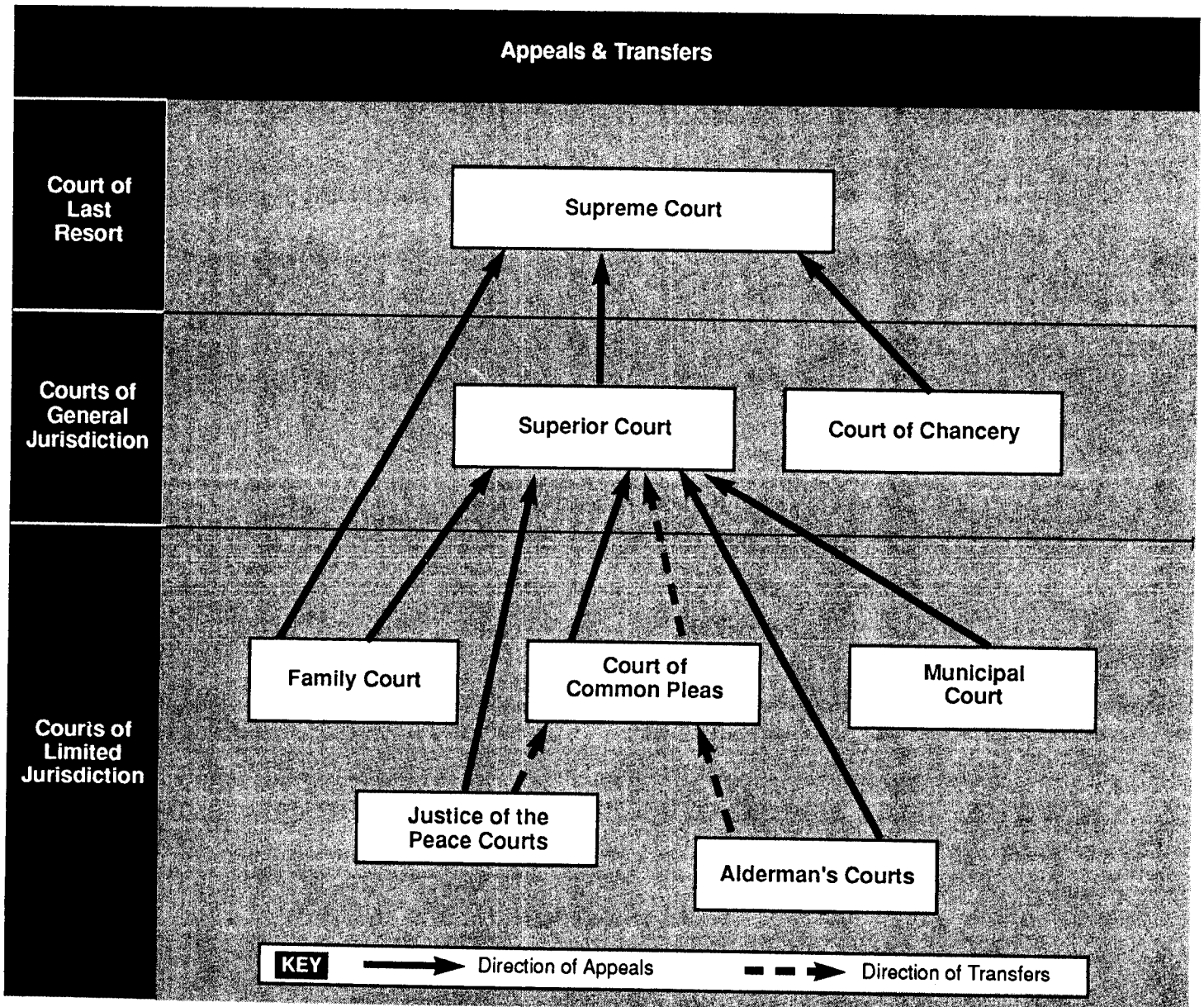


Figure 2

INTRODUCTION TO THE DELAWARE COURT SYSTEM

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 on the record to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court is the State's appellate court which receives direct appeals from the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court, and the Family Court.

As administrative head of the Courts, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in consultation with the other Justices, sets administrative policy for the Court System.

The Administrative Office of the Courts, including the Judicial Information Center, provides those centralized services to the Delaware Judiciary which are consistent with the statewide policies and goals for

judicial administration and support operations as established by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Other components of the Delaware Judiciary as seen on the figure below are for funding purposes only.

As seen on Figure 3, the majority of the parts of the Delaware judicial system are funded by the State. Exceptions to this are the Municipal Court of the City of Wilmington, the Alderman's Courts, the Registers in Chancery and the Registers of Wills for the Court of Chancery, and the Sheriffs for the Superior Court.

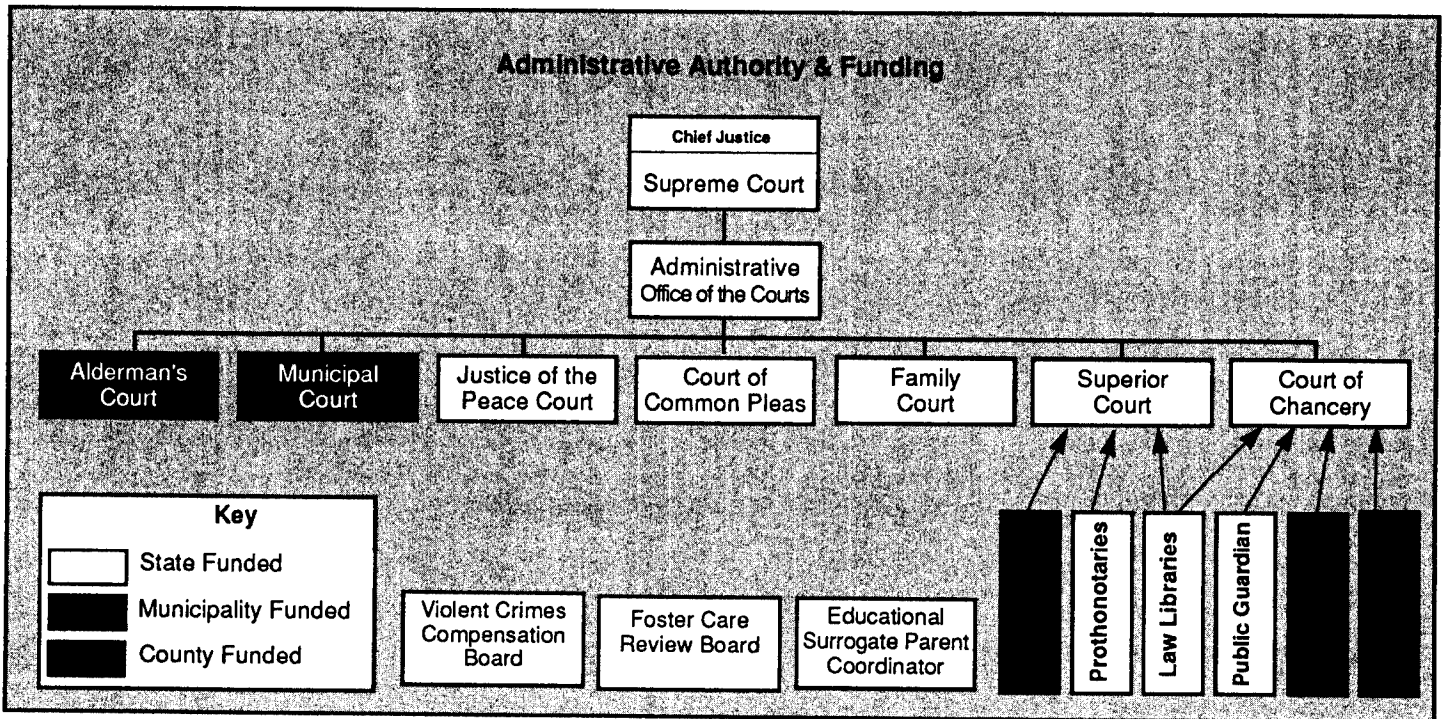
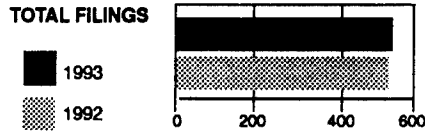


Figure 3

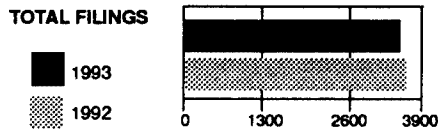
Court Caseload Summaries for Fiscal Year 1993

COURT CASELOAD SUMMARIES FOR FY 1993

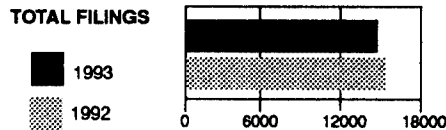
Filings and dispositions both increased slightly in the Supreme Court during FY 1993. This was the second year in a row in which both filings and dispositions increased.



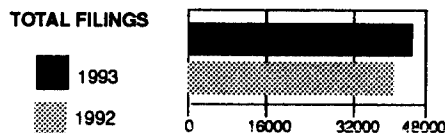
There was a decrease in total filings in the Court of Chancery during FY 1993. The number of estates filed actually rose, while the number of civil filings along with the number of miscellaneous matters decreased.



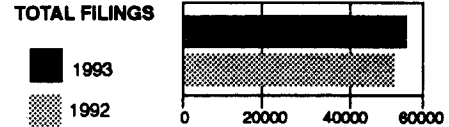
The number of total filings fell in the Superior Court in FY 1993, with decreases in both criminal and civil filings. However, there were still more filings than dispositions in the Court, resulting in another increase in the backlog.



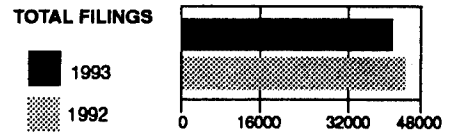
As in FY 1992 the Family Court had record levels of both total filings and total dispositions during FY 1993. The continuing history of growth in filings in the Court is an ongoing concern as the Family Court attempts to address its existing backlog of cases.



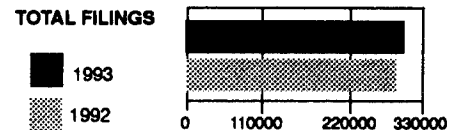
While the rate of increase was somewhat less than in many recent years, there was once again a rise in the number of criminal filings and dispositions to record levels in the Court of Common Pleas during FY 1993. Civil filings fell for the second straight year while civil dispositions rose again. The total number of filings increased during FY 1993 to yet another record level.



The total number of filings fell in FY 1993 as a result of a sharp dip in the number of criminal filings from FY 1992. There was a rise in the number of traffic filings in the Municipal Court during FY 1993.



Once again there was an increase in the number of criminal filings, a drop in the number of civil filings, and an increase in the total number of filings in the Justice of the Peace Courts during FY 1993. This is the same as in FY 1992 where there was a rise in criminal activity, a fall in civil caseload, and a rise in the total activity.



**A Commentary On
Fiscal Year 1993
By Chief Justice
E. Norman Veasey**

A COMMENTARY ON FISCAL YEAR 1993 BY CHIEF JUSTICE E. NORMAN VEASEY



The Honorable E. Norman Veasey

My message on the Judiciary for FY 1993 will consist of two parts. The first will describe the major developments for the past year while the second will relate a major benchmark in Delaware judicial history - the creation of the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 to chart the course of our Judiciary until the turn of the century and beyond.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE JUDICIARY

INTRODUCTION

Our Delaware court system continues to be recognized as one of the finest in the nation. Yet, as the narrative below reveals, our Judiciary is threatened with a serious crisis which serves to threaten its long-standing reputation for excellence. At the very time that our courts are experiencing their largest caseloads in history, they are forced to operate with an insufficient number of personnel, inadequate

Our Delaware court system continues to be recognized as one of the finest in the nation. Yet . . . [at] the very time that our courts are experiencing their largest caseloads in history, they are forced to operate with an insufficient number of personnel, inadequate physical facilities and security provisions, and other shortages.

physical facilities and security provisions, and other shortages. Nevertheless, during the last year, our courts, despite these difficulties, have made significant advances in instituting effective new case processing systems, computerizing additional basic functions, employing successfully alternative dispute resolution techniques, standardizing and streamlining system-wide processes, and launching other programs designed to promote quality and efficiency in the administration of justice. These achievements and other notable events in the judicial system during FY 1993 are presented in the following sections.

JUDGESHIPS

There were several changes in the Judiciary in FY 1993. In Superior Court, Associate Judge Haile L. Alford took office on July 17, 1992 and Associate Judge Richard R. Cooch was sworn in on August 31, 1992. Family Court acquired three new members on its bench - Associate Judge Jean A. Crompton on July 6, 1992, Associate Judge William J. Walls on September 1, 1992, and Associate Judge Alison Whitmer Tumas on September 15, 1992.

Former Judge Arthur F. DiSabatino of the Court of Common Pleas became the Chief Judge of that Court on July 1, 1993 following the retirement of Chief Judge Robert H. Wahl.

CONTINUING JUDICIAL EDUCATION AND STAFF TRAINING

Through the Continuing Judicial Education Program, administered by the Delaware Supreme Court with appropriations from the General Assembly, our Judiciary continued the practice of attending in-state seminars conducted by recognized experts. From September 30, 1992 through October 2, 1992, in Rehoboth, Delaware judges participated in a conference featuring sessions on: "Stress Management" conducted by Dr. Isaiah Zimmerman of Washington, DC; "Valuation Problems" led by Professor Peter Linneman of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania; and "The Americans With Disabilities Act" presided over by Judge Richard S. Brown of the Court of Appeals in Waukesha, Wisconsin. At the educational segment of the Judicial Conference held on December 4, 1992, presentations on the courtroom security were made by Judge Michael Valentine of the Family Court in Fairfax, Virginia, and by Herb Smith of the U.S. Marshall's Office in Philadelphia.

With funding from the Delaware Humanities Forum, the Delaware Judiciary and the Delaware Bar-Bench-Media Conference co-sponsored on February 26, 1993, a workshop with the theme, "Lights, Cameras, and Media Concerns in the Courtroom." Faculty members for this event were: William E. Ahearn, Executive Editor of the Associated Press; David Bartlett, President, Radio-Television-News

A COMMENTARY ON FISCAL YEAR 1993

Directors Association; Cynthia McFadden, Esq., of Court TV; Ira D. London, Esq., Past President, American Board of Criminal Lawyers; and Floyd Abrams, Esq., a prominent attorney specializing in First Amendment issues.

Scholarships provided by the State Justice Institute and the Bureau of Justice Assistance enabled seven Delaware judges to matriculate in the courses of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. Through an award provided by the State Justice Institute, Delaware judges joined their judicial colleagues from six other Northeast and Middle Atlantic states in a conference, "Effective Treatment for Drug Involved Offenders," on May 10-11, 1993 in Carlisle, Massachusetts, sponsored by the Education Development Center, Inc. The faculty included Associate Judge Richard S. Gebelein of the Delaware Superior Court.

During the fiscal year, court staff received training on the subjects of cultural sensitivity, victims, and security and enrolled in the two workshops, "Power and Leadership for Women in Public Administration," co-sponsored by the Administrative Office of the Courts and private agencies.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES AND SECURITY

The problem of security permeates our entire judicial system. It is known that violence tends to be sporadic, unpredictable, and deadly. Tragic occurrences in Delaware outside the court facilities, but related to court matters, and media-highlighted events

Branch's Capitol Police system, currently responsible for security in a number of our courts, is not adequate to protect those using these courthouses as it is presently deployed.

In reviewing the problems of security, I have concluded that a viable long-term solution is the adoption of a system similar to the United States Marshal system which would be controlled by the Judiciary. Obviously, extensive planning and sizeable

The problem of security permeates our entire judicial system . . . All of our courts in Delaware are vulnerable to incidents of violence.

funding would be required to achieve this goal, and this concept is under study by the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000. In the meantime, it is essential that the Executive Branch intensify the deployment of Capitol Police in the courts for which it is responsible and that security equipment be obtained and security personnel be acquired for the courts which have no protection.

Another critical problem facing our Judiciary is inadequate housing for our courts. The State's revenue shortage resulted in the fact that progress could be made in FY 1993 on only two of the construction projects in the Judiciary's comprehensive plan to improve and expand its physical facilities. The jury assembly room and the juror services office for Superior Court in the Daniel L. Herrmann Courthouse in

. . . I have concluded that a viable long-term solution is the adoption of a system similar to the United States Marshal system which would be controlled by the Judiciary.

in courtrooms of other states attest to the potential for violence. All of our courts in Delaware are vulnerable to incidents of violence. Clearly some are more at risk than others and the most serious problems are in the Justice of the Peace Courts where there is no regular police/security presence. It is universally accepted that the Executive

Wilmington, started in late FY 1992, were completed and, consequently, the more than 7,000 jurors can serve their duty with comfort and convenience. Also during FY 1993, further progress was made in the renovation of the Sussex County Courthouse which was begun in the last fiscal year.

A COMMENTARY ON FISCAL YEAR 1993

The most critical need for space for the Delaware courts is in Wilmington. This problem has been studied thoroughly during the last few years. The most recent and comprehensive examination of the issue, the 1990 report released by the Wilmington Space Planning Committee under the auspices of the Department of Administrative Services, recommended the erection of the New Courts Center (now called the Wilmington Justice Center) in downtown Wilmington to house the Superior Court, the Court of Common Pleas, and several of the Justice of the Peace Courts, and the use of the Daniel L. Herrmann Courthouse for the Supreme Court, the Court of Chancery, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. At the time the report was issued, Delaware's revenue problems prevented the implementation of the proposal.

In May 1992, I appointed the Wilmington Justice Center Committee to review and update the space problems in New Castle County, and that panel stressed the urgency of moving forward with the construction of the Wilmington Justice Center as proposed in the 1990 report. As of this date, the State has not been able to

... I must emphasize that our courts cannot continue to handle their growing workloads in crowded and unsafe quarters.

fund this project. The space needs of the courts in New Castle County became more critical as their caseloads escalated. For this reason, I have included as the top new initiative in the Judiciary's FY 1995 capital budget a request for funds to acquire the land for the Wilmington Justice Center and to plan and design this structure so that construction may begin in FY 1996. Another immediate need is the allocation of funds to renovate space in the Daniel L. Herrmann Courthouse in Wilmington to provide space for the two new Superior Court judges appointed in October 1993.

The State's fiscal shortage also caused the interruption of the Justice of the Peace comprehensive building project. Therefore, I have inserted in

the FY 1995 capital budget of the Judiciary a request for funding the erection of Justice of the Peace Courts in Harrington and Lewes. In addition, I have also submitted as capital budget items in the FY 1995 budget allocations for continuing the renovation of the Sussex County Courthouse and for acquiring State ownership of this building as well as that of the adjacent Annex and the Paramedic Building so that the space requirements of the courts and related agencies in the southernmost county may be met. I must add that it is imperative that the refurbishing of the Murphey House in Dover, started again in FY 1994 after a two year hiatus, be continued in order to provide relief to the Court of Chancery presently plagued by congestion in the Sykes Building.

In summarizing the condition of the Delaware courts housing conditions, I must emphasize that our courts cannot continue to handle their growing workloads in crowded and unsafe quarters. Consequently, the Judiciary must intensify its campaign to obtain the finances both from public and private sources to initiate the building projects which I have mentioned.

WORKLOAD AND RESOURCES

During the last several years, the Delaware courts have experienced record-level caseloads with the greatest rise in criminal cases. Since FY 1988, the criminal caseload of the Court of Common Pleas has increased by 97.4%, that of Superior Court by 68%, and that of the Justice of the Peace Courts by 58.2%. During this period, none of our courts has received a sufficient number of new personnel to manage the escalating workload.

Two other factors have exacerbated the lack of staff in our courts. During the last three years, the Judiciary has maintained a hiring moratorium on all but the most essential staff positions so that the Judicial Branch could share the sacrifices required to cope with the State's financial difficulties. It is important also to recognize that the courts lost 27 positions during the State's early retirement program which began on June 30, 1990.

I would like to identify some of the serious personnel needs of our courts. While the Superior Court received two

A COMMENTARY ON FISCAL YEAR 1993

new judgeships in October 1993, that Court's continually growing caseload requires two new commissioners who can assume responsibilities such as conducting arraignments, the appointment of counsel, and sentencing in misdemeanor cases so that more of the judges' time is freed up for trial duty. Equally urgent is the need for more operational staff for Supreme Court, Superior Court, Family Court, the Court of Common Pleas, and the Justice of the Peace

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESSES

Our Delaware courts are joining their counterparts in other states in utilizing alternative dispute resolution methods in lieu of full judicial trials to resolve selected judicial disputes. Both Superior Court and Family Court have demonstrated considerable success in employing these processes as is evidenced by the national publicity which these programs have attracted.

Unquestionably, Delaware courts must acquire more personnel if they are to carry out their constitutional and statutory mandates to provide fair, prompt, competent, and inexpensive resolution of disputes within their respective jurisdictions.

Courts so that these courts can cut their case backlogs and handle their case receipts in a timely manner. I must comment on a specific and dire need of the Supreme Court. Delaware is the only state, not having an intermediate appellate court, which does not provide its Supreme Court justices with staff attorneys to assist them in processing voluminous motions and in handling other procedural requirements. This situation is especially troublesome in light of the fact that the Delaware Supreme Court is one of the most respected courts in the nation and that its total filings have increased by 34% in the last two years. It is essential that the Supreme Court of Delaware be provided immediately with a staff attorney and a senior secretary to support this position so that this Court may maintain its ability to administer justice in a timely and effective manner and maintain its national and international reputation for excellence.

Unquestionably, Delaware courts must acquire more personnel if they are to carry out their constitutional and statutory mandates to provide fair, prompt, competent, and inexpensive resolution of disputes within their respective jurisdictions.

In Superior Court, civil cases involving monetary damages up to \$100,000 are subject to compulsory pre-trial arbitration. The arbitrator, selected from a list of experienced attorneys or appointed by agreement of the parties, presides over the hearing and issues a written order which becomes a judgement of the Court if there is no request for a trial de novo by one of the parties. In FY

Our Delaware courts are joining their counterparts in other states in utilizing alternative dispute resolution methods in lieu of full judicial trials to resolve selected judicial disputes.

1993, there were 3647 arbitration filings in Superior Court. The fact that a growing number of civil cases not subject to the mandatory arbitration rule are being stipulated into this program indicates that this procedure is highly accepted by the Bar.

During the last fiscal year Superior Court launched its Mediation Program. Any civil case may be referred to the program by election of the parties or by the Court according to established guidelines. Attorneys selected as mediators by agreement of the litigants or appointed by the Court,

must receive training in conflict resolution techniques. During the proceeding, the mediator assists the participants in reaching a mutually acceptable resolution of the dispute. If the parties agree to a settlement, the terms are included in a written agreement signed by the disputants and the mediator. Once it is filed by the mediator, the agreement becomes a part of the Court record.

It is my strong belief that Delaware courts should expand the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and should become a leader in creating a "multi-door courthouse."

The Superior Court Mediation Program provides for the use of settlement weeks. During this period, any mediator meeting the eligibility requirements may be required to serve in the program to reduce the Court's civil case backlog. During FY 1993, 40 attorneys, after receiving training on mediation through a program organized by Superior Court, were assigned 114 cases. During the next fiscal year, the number of mediators will be doubled and the mediation caseload tripled. Mediation, coupled with special calls of the civil calendar to review the status of older cases, is proving to be effective in expediting the management of civil cases in Superior Court.

In Family Court, arbitration is the informal, non-adversarial proceeding in which a specially trained hearing officer attempts to resolve juvenile delinquency cases involving minor charges and adult criminal cases involving selected misdemeanors. The hearing officer reviews the charges, listens to the explanations, and selects dispositional options such as informal probation for not longer than 90 days, community work service, and restitution. An important feature of the arbitration process is that parties who fulfill the dispositional conditions will not have a formal court record. During FY 1993, Family Court handled 3,083 arbitration cases. It is significant that 23% of Family Court's criminal and delinquency filings are resolved at arbitration.

Mediation in Family Court is employed in resolving conflicts in custody, visitation, support, and imperiling the family relationship cases. In the session the mediator guides the parties in drafting a mutually acceptable solution to the case. If approved and signed by both parties, the written agreement is forwarded to a judicial officer for review. Once the document is approved and signed by the judicial officer, it becomes an order of the Court. During last year, mediation handled 15,290 cases. It is important to point out that 21% of Family Court's civil caseload is resolved through mediation.

The results of the arbitration and mediation processes in Superior Court and Family Court are impressive. It is my strong belief that Delaware courts should expand the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and should become a leader in creating a "multi-door courthouse." Under this concept, parties would attend a mandatory pre-trial conference at which they would identify the areas of controversy and have the opportunity to resolve their claims through a number of alternative dispute procedures, such as neutral evaluation, arbitration, mediation, mini-trial, and summary jury trial.

AUTOMATION OF THE COURTS

Several important advances were made in the past year in automating the criminal and civil case management systems of the Delaware courts.

In the criminal area, the automated warrant system introduced in FY 1991 permits police officers statewide to produce warrants and request warrant approval from the courts. This system contributes to the saving of police staff time and to the collection of data which may be useful subsequently by the courts and criminal justice agencies.

The first automated criminal case management system, introduced in the Justice of the Peace Courts in FY 1991, became operational in all of these courts in the last year. Through this system, the docketing and scheduling functions are performed, and court orders including dispositions and capiases as well as case management and financial reports are produced. The program is designed to utilize ultimately the data from the automated warrant

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system and thereby eliminate the redundant entry of information. Data added to the State's Criminal Justice Information System can be accessed by other courts and criminal justice agencies. The Alderman's Court in Newark has adopted this system, and during the next fiscal year, this system will be extended to the Court of Common Pleas and the Municipal Court in Wilmington.

The Administrative Office of the Courts and the Delaware Justice Information System continue to make progress in their joint project to integrate the data bases of the Criminal Justice Information System and the Judicial Information System. When completed, this initiative will permit the exchange of criminal data among the courts and the criminal justice agencies and result in a national model integrated statewide Criminal Justice Information System.

For the second year, the Justice of the Peace Courts and the Municipal Court are utilizing the Voluntary Assessment Centers, a centralized computerized system, for expediting the handling of mail-in traffic violations.

The automation of the courts' civil processes proceeds under the direction of the Judicial Information Center. The Family Court Automated Case Index System, which was launched in FY 1991 to replace the former labor intensive manual index system consisting of over 500,000 cards, reduces the information retrieval time substantially and allows numerous individuals to access the index simultaneously. The Family Court Automated Child Support Case Management System, begun in FY 1991, represents the largest computerized initiative undertaken to date in the civil area. During the past year, efforts were focused on the design and construction of the project which is expected to become operational in FY 1994. This system will enable Delaware to expedite the handling of child support cases and thereby meet the standards for the disposition of those cases required by the Family Support Act of 1988 in order to receive funds in this jurisdictional area. The project also serves as a prototype for constructing a comprehensive automated civil case processing system for Family Court and other courts in the State.

Both the Court of Common Pleas and Superior Court reap benefits from the automated civil case processing systems begun in FY 1991. The Civil Case Docketing System in the Court of Common Pleas contributes to time-savings and increased accuracy in the management of that Court's civil caseload. Through the Civil Case Management System in Superior Court, selected functions such as civil caseload indexing, docketing, calendaring, notification, and the production of management reports - can be carried out through automation.

Several important advances were made in the past year in automating the criminal and civil case management systems of the Delaware courts.

The Complex Litigation Automated Docket System (CLAD), developed by the Superior Court judges and practicing attorneys during the last fiscal year, is a computerized filing system to handle certain complex cases, especially disputes over insurance coverage for environmental cleanup costs and product liability claims issues which involve multiple parties and numerous Court documents. Through personal computers, litigants in these cases can file documents with the Court and serve those papers on other parties. Through terminals in their respective offices, judges can file orders and attorneys for the parties are able to access documents and print out documents filed in CLAD cases. CLAD, whose costs are borne by the litigants, reduces the amount of space required for the storage of the voluminous files associated with complex cases, increases access to case information by the Court and attorneys, and lowers the cost of these lawsuits. Considered among the most sophisticated applications of electronic filing in courts in the United States, CLAD has been publicized at several national conferences.

The automated docket for Supreme Court, operating through the Judicial Information Center mainframe, installed last year, provides more rapid

and simultaneous access to case information in the Supreme Court from all three counties.

The recent introduction of new automated criminal and civil case processing initiatives and the plan to either expand in FY 1994 existing systems or begin operation of newly developed proposals in the courts requires that the Judicial Information Center mainframe be upgraded in FY 1995. This will ensure that JIC may fulfill its responsibility as the primary custodian of computer-supported case management and information systems of the Judicial Branch.

STANDARDIZATION AND UNIFORMITY

I am pleased to announce the actions listed below designed to promote standardization and uniformity in functions common to all the courts with the aim of increasing efficiency and making optimal use of the resources within the Judicial Branch.

- On December 21, 1993, the Supreme Court of Delaware issued Administrative Directive Number Ninety Two which establishes uniform docket standards to be adhered to by all courts in the State of Delaware. The Action Docket Standards were originally developed by the staff of the Administrative Office of the Courts under the direction of the Supreme Court, and after review and modification by the Docket Standards Committee, were tested in a pilot project in the Office of the Prothonotary of the Superior Court in Kent County.

The implementation of these standards in all the courts will promote uniformity and efficiency in the management of cases within the judicial system.

- The development of a comprehensive Judicial Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan, begun in FY 1990, continues with the focus on the formulation of specific preventive steps and action responses to potential disasters for all court facilities.

- As of July 1, 1993, all courts in Delaware are required to use the Uniform Court Statistical Definitions in counting and reporting caseload data as required by the Supreme Court Administrative Directive Number Eighty Nine of February 4, 1993. The Administrative Office of the Courts, in consultation with the Court Statistical Standards Committee, is overseeing the implementation of the Directive which will enhance the Judiciary's capability to measure and project its workloads.

- The Administrative Office of the Courts, under the guidance of the Supreme Court, has just completed a comprehensive revision of the "Personnel Rules for Non-Judicial Personnel of the Delaware System," first issued in 1982. The revised Rules have been approved in principle by the Supreme Court and have been reviewed by the presiding judges of the various courts and the heads of judicial agencies.

It is expected that the Supreme Court will promulgate a version of the revised Rules in FY 1994. Of course, the ultimate goal of the Judiciary is to include all employees of the Judiciary under these new Rules by removing those court staff now under the Executive Branch's Merit System through statutory amendments.

- Several projects under the direction of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) are contributing to standardized practices in accounting in the Judiciary. The fiscal components of the automated criminal justice system are being used as the foundation for computerizing the accounting functions in the Courts. The automation of selected accounting functions has been implemented in the Justice of the Peace Courts, and is beginning in the Court of Common Pleas.

The AOC is also directing the project to reconcile all of the accounts held in individual court names as required by House Bill 350 (the FY 1992 Appropriations Act). A project team is reviewing and analyzing the accounts receivable and payable for each court jurisdiction for the purpose of retiring

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those accounts identified as uncollectible or unpayable and standardizing the record keeping in those accounts that are to be retained. During FY 1993, the project team completed its task in the Justice of the Peace Courts and the Court of Common Pleas and in FY 1994 will be operating in Superior Court.

This reconciliation project, scheduled for completion in FY 1994, is resulting in standardized practices which will assist the various courts as they make the transition from a manual to an automated accounting system.

Finally, an Office of Centralized Collections has been established in the AOC according to the provisions of House Bill 300 (the FY 1994 Appropriations Act). The office will develop and implement an automated centralized collection process in the Judicial Branch based on state of the art systems in use by major banks and financial institutions.

JUDICIAL BRANCH EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Judicial Branch Employee of the Year Award, initiated in FY 1991, recognizes annually one staff member for his or her outstanding public service. Ms. Deborah R. Barrett, Supervisor of Diversion Services in the Family Court in Sussex County, received this year's award from Supreme Court Justice Randy J. Holland in a ceremony at the Family Court in Georgetown on May 21, 1993. An employee of Family Court for over 15 years, she was cited for her consistently excellent service to the Court, the public, and the staff. Ms. Barrett was also recognized as the Judicial Branch nominee for the statewide Delaware award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service on May 4, 1993 at a dinner in celebration of Public Service Week.

OTHER IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

I would like to share with our readers the information on the topics below which have significance for our Judiciary.

Bias

Throughout the nation, judicial systems are studying the existence of bias and proposing recommendations to eliminate the occurrence of actions which may result in bias. On January 28, 1993, the Conference of Chief Justices adopted a resolution urging "each Chief Justice in every state to further the efforts of equal justice . . . in the court system by establishing task forces to remedy any discrimination and to implement the recommendations of the task force studies."

In response to this resolution, I issued Administrative Directive Number Ninety of February 23, 1993, which declared that "it is the policy of the Judicial Branch of Delaware that any such bias, whether explicit, subtle, intentional or unintentional, is inimical to the proper functioning of the judicial system and is unacceptable." The Directive further asserted that judges, lawyers, and court personnel should be sensitive to recognition of any instance of bias and take actions to eliminate such practices and mandated the presiding judges of each court to submit a comprehensive report to the Chief Justice on or before July 1, 1993, which was to include: the

The report of [the Gender Fairness Task Force] will identify existing practices which may reflect incidents of gender bias and recommend specific actions to eliminate any evidence of gender bias in the judiciary and in the legal profession in the present and in the future.

identification of areas where bias exists and steps taken to correct such actions; and recommendations regarding the need for and feasibility of a task force or task forces to study bias within each court which take into account the resources and expertise required to conduct such a study.

After reviewing the reports of the Presiding Judges of each court on bias as well as the measures being taken in other states to eliminate bias, I decided that there was a need to initiate a gender fairness study and that this initiative should be conducted cooperatively by the Judiciary and the Delaware State Bar Association.

Juvenile Dispositional Guidelines for Family Court

The Family Court juvenile dispositional guidelines, under development since 1990, were tested for a three month period in New Castle County. The results of this experiment will be the basis for legislation to be submitted for enactment by the General Assembly authorizing specific standards for juvenile sentencing.

The significant achievements of the Delaware judicial system were made possible through the dedication and hard work of our judges and staff and through the support and cooperation provided by the Governor and Legislature.

During the last two years, there has been a steady improvement in the statewide compliance rate of [the trial] courts with the 120 day speedy trial standard.

Therefore, in November 1993, Richard D. Kirk, Esquire, President of the Bar Association, and I, appointed the Gender Fairness Task Force with Superior Court Associate Judge Susan C. Del Pesco and Stephen E. Herrmann, Esquire, as Co-Chairpersons. Other members of the Task Force are: Vice Chancellor William B. Chandler of the Court of Chancery; Commissioner Ellen Marie Cooper of Family Court; Barbara D. Crowell, Esq.; I. Barry Guerke, Esq.; Patricia C. Hannigan, Esq.; Kathleen Jennings, Esq.; Associate Judge William N. Nicholas of Family Court; Elizabeth K. Rodriguez, Esq.; and Loretta Young-Lloyd, Esq. The report of this task force will identify existing practices which may reflect incidents of gender bias and recommend specific actions to eliminate any evidence of gender bias in the judiciary and in the legal profession in the present and in the future.

Speedy Trial Directive

The Speedy Trial Directive of the Supreme Court, issued on May 16, 1990, sets time standards for the disposition of criminal cases and requires the submission of compliance reports on adhering to these standards by the trial courts. During the last two years, there has been a steady improvement in the statewide compliance rate of the courts with the 120 day speedy trial standard. This achievement is especially noteworthy when viewed in light of the rapidly growing caseloads of these courts and their staff shortages described earlier.

THE COMMISSION ON DELAWARE COURTS 2000

I proposed the concept of the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 in my State of the Judiciary Message to a Joint Session of the 137th General Assembly on May 14, 1993. In my remarks, I urged the legislators to pass and the Governor to sign Senate Joint Resolution 14 which authorized the establishment of the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 as a task force to study the future of the courts. I was aware that the lawmakers, along with many citizens, would question why there was a need for another study committee. Obviously, we have had several excellent reports completed on our court system, including those of the Court Consolidation Commission in 1986, the Superior Court Study Committee in 1991, and the Common Pleas Study Committee in 1992. Moreover, Delaware had been fortunate to benefit from the work of the Delaware Courts Planning Committee, a permanent group appointed by the Chief Justice, which has served very effectively as a short-term, medium-term, and long-term study and advisory committee for the Judiciary. My rationale for recommending the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 was that it would represent an action-oriented, broad-based task force involving all three branches of the government which would devise a plan for streamlining our courts with the aim of creating for Delaware a model, state-of-the-art judicial system appropriate for the twenty-first century.

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The Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 came into existence on July 17, 1993, when Governor Thomas R. Carper signed into law Senate Joint Resolution No. 14. SJR No. 14 provided that the Commission would consist of 16 members - four appointed by the Governor, four by the Chief Justice, two by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, two by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General or his designee, and the Public Defender or his designee. At my recommendation, the legislation named O. Francis Biondi, Esquire, and Rodman Ward, Jr., Esquire as Co-Chairs. The 14 other individuals who were named to the Commission are: Representative Steven H. Amick; Senator Myrna L. Bair; R. Franklin Balotti, Esquire; Mr. Philip J. Corrozi; Representative Richard A. DiLiberto; Mr. Bernard H. Fisher; Attorney General Charles M. Oberly, III; Judge Battle R. Robinson of Family Court; Judge Myron T. Steele of Superior Court; Tempe B. Steen, Esquire; Leo E. Strine, Esquire, Counsel to the Governor; Public Defender Lawrence M. Sullivan; Senator James T. Vaughn; and Justice Joseph T. Walsh of the Supreme Court.

SJR No. 14 listed as issues which the Commission should examine the 13 items below which I identified in my May 4, 1993 State of the Judiciary as indispensable topics which should be studied by a Commission created to design a modern, smooth functioning, and model judicial system of this state.

1. The future position of the Court of Common Pleas within the judicial structure of the State of Delaware, including an analysis of its jurisdiction and the interrelationship between the exercise of its jurisdiction and that of the Superior Court and the Justice of the Peace Courts.
2. Whether or not the Wilmington Municipal Court should operate as part of a statewide court system or whether other changes should be made in the scope of its jurisdiction and its organizational structure.

3. Whether there should be changes in the jurisdiction, method of appointment, and operation of the Alderman Courts of various cities, towns, and municipalities within the State of Delaware, including the issue of whether or not the functions of such courts should be brought under the statewide judicial system as part of the Justice of the Peace Courts, or in some cases as a Municipal Court or otherwise.
4. The desirability of a unified general trial court with divisions such as a Criminal Division, Civil Division, Family Court Division, Common Pleas Division, and Appellate Division, including the question of whether or not some hybrid system of partial unification is appropriate for Delaware.

My rationale for recommending the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 was that it would represent an action-oriented, broad-based task force involving all three branches of the government which would devise a plan for streamlining our courts with the aim of creating for Delaware a model, state-of-the-art judicial system appropriate for the twenty-first century.

5. Whether the Family Court and/or the Court of Common Pleas should be constitutional courts.
6. The jurisdiction and functioning of the Justice of the Peace Courts as part of the overall judicial system, including appeals from the decisions of the Justice of the Peace Courts.
7. A focus on the impact of "minor offenses," the current jury system, and mandatory minimum sentencing on the efficient functioning of the courts and recommendations, if any, for change.

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8. A permanent solution to the security problems in Delaware courts, including consideration of the feasibility of a new and effective system deploying personnel along the lines of the U.S. Marshal Service model.
9. A permanent solution to space problems (e.g., the Georgetown Courthouse situation and the Wilmington Justice Center), and creative methods for funding such capital improvements.
10. An ongoing, fair, and reliable compensation system for judges so as to attract and retain persons of the highest levels of skill, honesty, judicial temperament, and work ethic.

I believe that the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 represents the beginning of a dynamic new era of cooperation among the three branches of government as they guide the Delaware court system in planning its future to accommodate the dramatic changes forecast for American society in the twenty-first century.

11. The desirability of revisions in the budgetary and personnel systems consistent with the flexibility of the Chief Justice in the management of the judicial branch.
12. The desirability of a senior judge system and recommendations as to the adoption of the second leg of a pending constitutional revision and implementing legislation.
13. Consideration of the feasibility of establishing goals involving enhanced nonjudicial staffing (e.g., commissioners, staff attorneys, law clerks, etc.), advanced technology, other court resources, and court-annexed alternate dispute resolution mechanisms.

In correspondence to Mr. Biondi and Mr. Ward, I stated that I believed that it was also important for the Commission, in constructing a judicial plan for the next decade and beyond, to utilize some of the methodologies employed in futures studies in the judiciaries of other

states, such as the forecasts for demographics, the judicial and legal systems, and the dynamics and expectations of clients and the public.

The Commission promptly began its work and held its first Commission meeting on August 16, 1993. Christine H. Sudell, Esq., was named Executive Director of the Commission and William K. Slate, II, of the Justice Research Institute, was recruited as Consultant. The Commission carries out its principal tasks through four task forces, one each on: Court Structure and Jurisdiction; the Judiciary; Citizens' Needs; and Support Systems of the Courts.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 14 requires that the preliminary report of the Commission is to be submitted to the Governor, the Chief Justice, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House by February 21, 1994, and the final report is to be issued to these officials by May 16, 1994.

I believe that the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 represents the beginning of a dynamic new era of cooperation among the three branches of government as they guide the Delaware court system in planning its future to accommodate the dramatic changes forecast for American society in the twenty-first century.

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COURT-RELATED LEGISLATION

The first session of the 137th General Assembly focused attention on a number of bills which were of great importance to the judicial branch.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Four proposed constitutional amendments which were endorsed by the Delaware Courts Planning Committee entered their respective second legs awaiting legislative action. Of that number, one constitutional amendment was passed and the three remaining will require the General Assembly's consideration during the second session which commences in January 1994. A summary of each follows:

Senate Bill No. 3

This legislation, which passed the second leg of the constitutional amendment process on January 28, 1993, amends the Delaware Constitution to permit federal courts, as well as the highest appellate court of each state, to certify questions of law to the Delaware Supreme Court.

House Bill No. 34 (Second Leg)

This bill would provide that the Register in Chancery in each county would be appointed by the Court of Chancery rather than elected.

House Bill No. 36 with House Substitute No. 1 (Second Leg)

This amendment would create the office of senior judge and would establish the compensation, eligibility, and work requirements for this post.

House Bill No. 37 (Second Leg)

This proposal contains primarily housekeeping amendments to certain sections of the Delaware Constitution which are inconsistent with the present five-member Supreme Court. It also includes amendments relating to the absence, disqualification, incapacity, or vacancy in the Office of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chancellor of the Court of Chancery, or the President Judge of the Superior Court and would eliminate references to the Orphans Court which was abolished many years ago.

STATUTORY LEGISLATION

Passage of significant statutory legislation was also accomplished during the first session. Most notable among these bills were:

Senate Bill No. 153 As Amended

This bill primarily defines domestic violence and establishes eligibility requirements for a first offenders domestic violence diversion program in the Family Court.

Senate Bill No. 156 As Amended

A permanent Domestic Violence Coordinating Council consisting of eleven members is established and the organization's purpose, powers, and duties are defined.

Senate Bill No. 176

This legislation brings Delaware's Victims' Bill of Rights into substantial conformity with the Uniform Victims' Rights Act.

Senate Bill No. 184 As Amended

This bill defines domestic violence and domestic abuse, establishes proceedings in the Family Court for the issuance of protective orders, and makes criminal contempt of a Family Court Protective Order a class A misdemeanor.

Senate Bill No. 227 As Amended

The appointment and confirmation of commissioners of the Family Court are authorized and specific powers are granted to these judicial officers.

House Bill No. 49 As Amended

Certain criminal and traffic costs for the Justice of the Peace Courts were increased by this bill. The funding of the two additional judgeships and support staff for the Superior Court as well as for numerous other positions for various criminal justice agencies was contingent upon enactment of this law.

House Bill No. 225

Two additional judgeships for the Superior Court were authorized.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 14 As Amended

This joint resolution established the Commission on Delaware Courts 2000 (Futures Commission). The Commission is to operate as a Task Force to study the Delaware court system comprehensively and to make recommendations for the improvement thereof with the issuance of its final report in May 1994.

Fiscal Overview

FISCAL OVERVIEW

SUMMARY OF JUDICIAL BUDGETS - FISCAL YEAR 1992-1993-1994-1995

	F.Y. 1992 Actual Disbursement	F.Y. 1993 Actual Disbursement	F.Y. 1994 Appropriations	F.Y. 1995 Request
STATE *				
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 2,990,400	\$ 3,520,400	\$ 3,163,400	\$ 3,753,300
Judicial Information Center	753,700	1,271,700	1,342,800	3,561,100
Supreme Court	1,512,800	1,622,300	1,641,500	2,007,900
Continuing Judicial Education**	33,300	37,900	37,300	44,100
Court of Chancery	1,543,700	1,525,900	1,604,600	1,650,700
Public Guardian	251,700	252,200	277,800	296,900
Superior Court	9,118,100	9,308,600	10,141,600	10,647,000
Law Libraries	384,000	413,400	400,700	457,100
Family Court	10,918,800	11,209,600	11,503,100	12,036,600
Court of Common Pleas	2,756,100	2,801,800	2,939,000	3,152,800
Justice of the Peace Courts	7,522,300	7,642,300	8,251,700	8,661,500
Violent Crimes Compensation Board	2,240,700	1,505,800	2,092,700	2,106,700
Foster Care Review Board	240,100	265,000	337,000	362,900
Educational Surrogate Parent Program	45,600	50,400	51,700	53,500
STATE TOTALS	\$40,316,500	\$41,427,300	\$43,784,900	\$48,792,100
NEW CASTLE COUNTY				
Register in Chancery	\$ 646,179	\$ 728,548	\$ 748,110	
Register of Wills	767,723	840,759	842,229	
Sheriff	1,274,553	1,348,637	1,367,775	
NEW CASTLE COUNTY TOTALS***	\$ 2,763,455	\$ 2,993,744	\$ 3,035,044	
KENT COUNTY				
Register in Chancery	\$ 90,987	\$ 100,726	\$ 138,938	
Register of Wills	66,997	73,580	122,959	
Sheriff	199,529	207,325	222,887	
KENT COUNTY TOTALS	\$ 357,513	\$ 381,631	\$ 484,784	
SUSSEX COUNTY				
Register in Chancery	\$ 88,681	\$ 100,487	\$ 108,041	
Register of Wills	109,824	119,011	130,864	
Sheriff	185,249	192,936	215,433	
SUSSEX COUNTY TOTALS	\$ 383,754	\$ 412,434	\$ 454,338	
MUNICIPALITIES* * * *				
Municipal Court	\$ 1,121,301	\$ 1,143,131	\$ 1,196,047	
GRAND TOTALS- JUDICIAL BRANCH	\$44,942,523	\$46,358,270	48,955,113	

N.A. = Not Available

*Figures include State governed funds, federal funds, City of Wilmington funds, and other funds.

**Continuing judicial education is funded as part of the Administrative Office of the Courts' budget, but is shown separately for informational purposes.

***Includes monies disbursed for the Office of the Prothonotary.

****Alderman's Courts not available.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

FISCAL OVERVIEW

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

SUBMITTED TO STATE GENERAL FUND

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous#	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
Administrative Office of the Courts	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0.0%
Judicial Information Center	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Supreme Court	63,300	0	0	0	63,300	3.9%
Continuing Judicial Education	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Court of Chancery	0	0	106,200	0	106,200	7.0%
Public Guardian	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Superior Court	1,290,200	256,500	14,800	15,100	1,576,600	16.9%
Law Libraries	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Family Court	326,800	28,900	0	29,400	385,100	3.4%
Court of Common Pleas	434,800	585,800	0	81,900	1,102,500	39.4%
Justice of the Peace Courts	2,717,600	2,510,400	0	16,800	5,244,800	68.6%
Foster Care Review Board	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Educ. Surr. Parent Program	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
STATE GENERAL FUND TOTALS	\$4,832,700	\$3,381,600	\$121,000	\$143,200	\$8,478,500	20.5%

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

RECEIVED BY VICTIMS COMPENSATION FUND

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous#	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
Superior Court	—	\$ 208,831	—	—	\$ 208,831	—
Family Court	—	10,836	—	—	10,836	—
Court of Common Pleas	—	203,441	—	—	203,441	—
Municipal Court	—	131,530	—	—	131,530	—
Justice of the Peace Courts	—	1,177,057	—	—	1,177,067	—
Alderman's Courts	—	184,489	—	—	184,489	—
Restitution	—	28,770	—	—	28,770	—
Other	—	16,770	10,035	341	27,146	—
VICTIMS COMPENSATION FUND TOTALS	—	\$1,961,734	10,035	341	\$1,972,110	114.5%

*Figures represent only revenue actually collected, not the total amount of fines and costs actually assessed.

**Counties receive 50% of all Court of Chancery interest money.

#FY 1993 Revenue divided by FY 1993 Actual Disbursement, which includes State general, federal, and other funds.

Educ. Surr. Parent Program = Educational Surrogate Parent Program.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

FISCAL OVERVIEW

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

SUBMITTED TO NEW CASTLE COUNTY

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous#	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
Register in Chancery	\$ 485,048	\$ 0	\$103,113	\$ 0	\$ 588,161	80.7%
Register of Wills	1,728,739	0	0	0	1,728,739	205.6%
Prothonotary	39,602	3,340	0	0	42,942	56.6%
Sheriff	912,264	0	17,000	4,083	933,347	69.2%
Justice of the Peace Courts	0	662,687	0	0	662,687	8.7%
NEW CASTLE COUNTY TOTALS	\$3,165,653	\$666,027	\$120,113	\$ 4,083	\$3,955,876	132.1%##

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

SUBMITTED TO KENT COUNTY

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous#	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
Register in Chancery	\$ 15,839	\$ 0	\$ 634	\$ 0	\$ 16,473	16.4%
Register of Wills	320,688	0	0	0	320,688	435.8%
Sheriff	167,546	0	0	0	167,546	80.8%
Justice of the Peace Courts	4,222	0	0	0	4,222	0.0%
KENT COUNTY TOTALS	\$508,295	\$ 0	\$ 634	\$ 0	\$508,929	133.4%##

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

SUBMITTED TO SUSSEX COUNTY

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous#	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
Register in Chancery	\$ 32,409	\$ 0	\$ 1,237	\$ 0	\$ 33,646	33.5%
Register of Wills	575,557	0	0	0	575,557	483.6%
Prothonotary	34,088	2,000	0	0	36,088	—
Sheriff	137,275	0	0	0	137,275	71.2%
Justice of the Peace Courts	25	0	0	0	25	0.0%
SUSSEX COUNTY TOTALS	\$779,354	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,237	\$ 0	\$782,591	189.7%##

*Figures represent only revenue actually collected, not the total amount of fines and costs actually assessed.

**Counties receive 50% of all Court of Chancery interest money.

#FY 1993 Revenue divided by FY 1993 Actual Disbursement.

##Revenue as a % of disbursement for county offices.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

FISCAL OVERVIEW

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

SUBMITTED TO MUNICIPALITIES

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
Court of Common Pleas	\$ 0	\$ 355,556	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 355,556	12.7%
Municipal Court	114,839	664,835	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 779,674	68.2%
Justice of the Peace Courts	0	2,462,089	0	0	2,462,089	32.2%
Alderman's Courts	260,725	995,541	0	5,736	1,262,002	N.A.
MUNICIPALITIES TOTALS	\$375,564	\$4,478,021	\$ 0	\$ 5,736	\$ 4,859,321	N.A.

COURT GENERATED REVENUE * - FISCAL YEAR 1993

GRAND TOTALS - JUDICIAL BRANCH

	Fees and Costs	Fines	Interest**	Miscellaneous	TOTALS	Revenue as a % of Disbursement#
TOTALS	\$9,661,566	\$10,489,382	\$253,019	\$153,360	\$20,557,327	44.3%##

RESTITUTION - FISCAL YEAR 1993

Court	Restitution Assessed	Restitution Collected	Restitution Disbursed
Supreme Court	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Court of Chancery	0	0	0
Superior Court			
New Castle County Prothonotary	1,854,333	409,021	447,595
Kent County Prothonotary	1,139,395	79,384	66,510
Sussex County Prothonotary	1,034,212	153,722	153,474
Family Court	361,452	138,443	134,845
Court of Common Pleas	226,193	259,590	244,510
Municipal Court	N/A	49,070	50,865
Justice of the Peace Courts	125,852	84,882	84,882
TOTALS	\$4,741,437	\$1,174,112	\$1,162,681

N.A. = Not Available

*Figures represent only revenue actually collected, not the total amount of fines and costs actually assessed.

**Counties receive 50% of all Court of Chancery interest money.

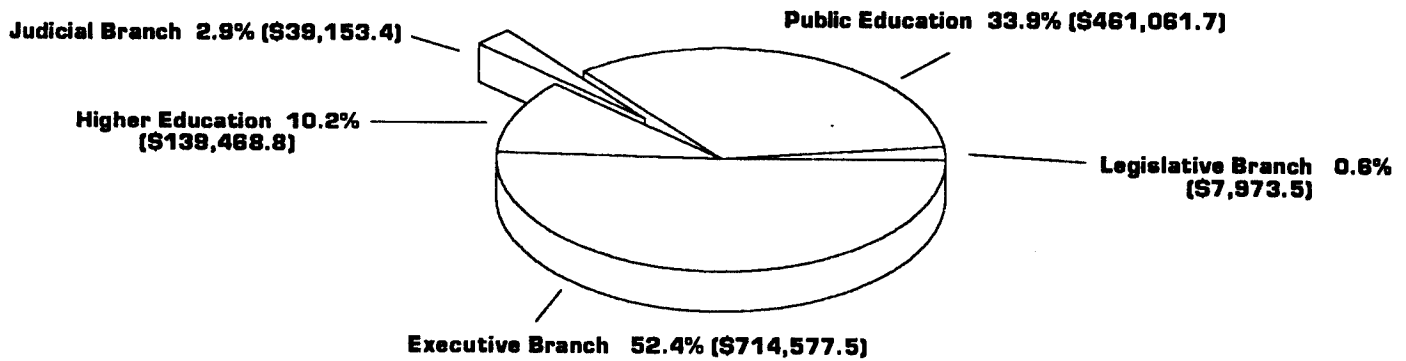
FY 1993 Revenue divided by FY 1993 Actual Disbursement, which includes State general, federal, and other funds.

This figure is approximate as some expenditure data is not available.

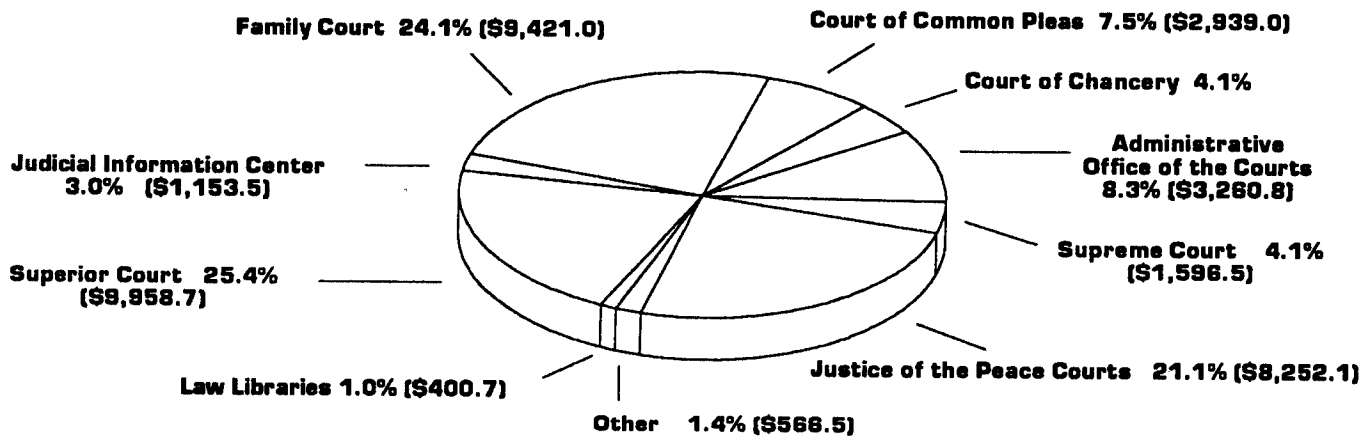
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts.

FISCAL OVERVIEW

DELAWARE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS* (IN THOUSANDS) - FISCAL YEAR 1994 STATE APPROPRIATIONS - TOTAL (\$1,362,234.9)



DELAWARE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS* (IN THOUSANDS) - FISCAL YEAR 1994 STATE APPROPRIATIONS - JUDICIARY (\$39,153.4)



Other: Public Guardian 0.7% (277.8), Foster Care Review Board 0.6% (237.0), Educational Surrogate Parent Program 0.1% (51.7).

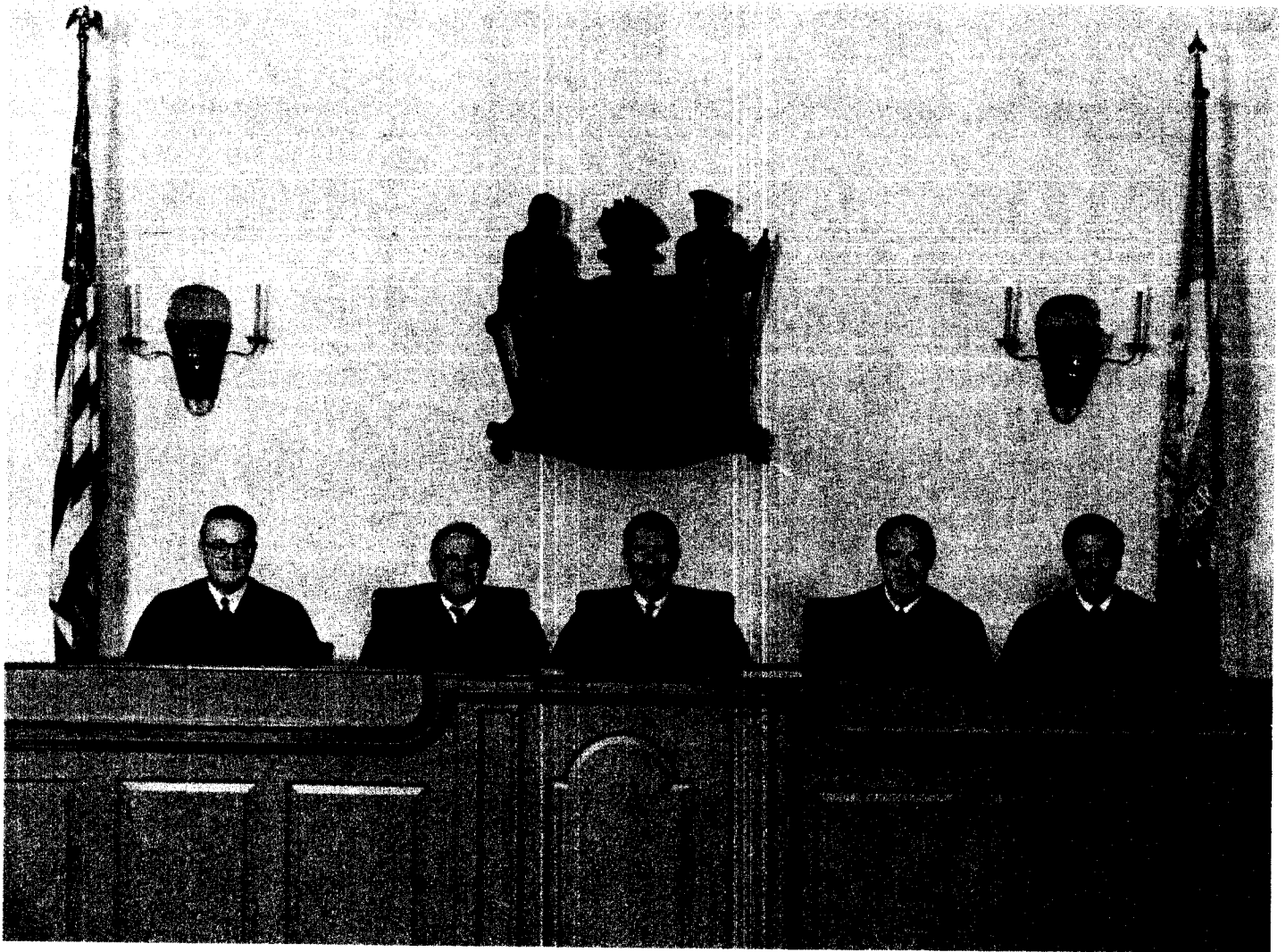
*State general fund monies only.

Source: 137th General Assembly, House Bill 300.

Supreme Court

Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey
Justice Henry R. Horsey
Justice Andrew G.T. Moore, II
Justice Joseph T. Walsh
Justice Randy J. Holland

SUPREME COURT



SUPREME COURT

(Left to Right)

Justice Joseph T. Walsh

Justice Henry R. Horsey

Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey

Justice Andrew G.T. Moore, II

Justice Randy J. Holland

Legal Authorization

The Supreme Court is created by the *Constitution of Delaware*, Article IV, Section 1. The Supreme Court sits in Dover but the Justices maintain their chambers in the counties where they reside.

Court History

The modern day Supreme Court was established in 1951 by constitutional amendment. The State's first separate Supreme Court initially consisted of three Justices and was enlarged to the current five Justices in 1978.

Prior to 1951, Delaware was without a separate Supreme Court. The highest appellate authority prior to the creation of the separate Supreme Court consisted of those judges who did not participate in the original litigation in the lower courts. These judges would hear the appeal en banc (collectively) and would exercise final jurisdiction in all matters in both law and equity.

Jurisdiction

The Court has final appellate jurisdiction in criminal cases in which the sentence exceeds certain minimums, and in civil cases as to final judgments and for certain other orders of the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court and the Family Court. Appeals are heard on the record. Under some circumstances the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to issue writs of prohibition, quo warranto, certiorari and mandamus.

Justices

The Supreme Court consists of a Chief Justice and four Justices who are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Justices are appointed for 12-year terms and must be learned in the law and citizens of the State. Three of the Justices must be of one of the major political parties while the other two Justices must be of the other major political party.

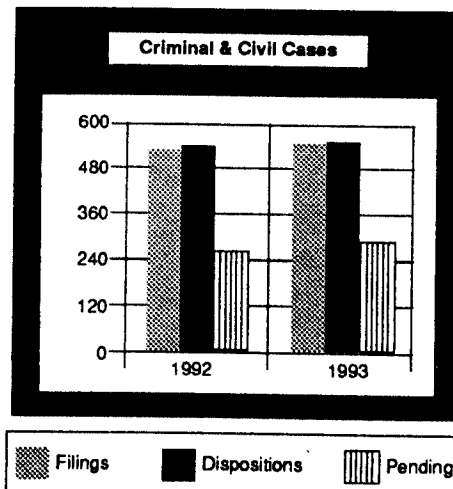
Administration

The Chief Justice is responsible for the administration of all courts in the State and appoints a Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to manage the non-judicial aspects of court administration. The Supreme Court is staffed by a Court Administrator, a Clerk of the Court/Staff Attorney, an assistant clerk, law clerks, secretaries, two senior clerks and a court clerk.

Caseload Trends

The level of caseload activity in the Supreme Court during FY 1993 did not change much from the levels of the previous fiscal year. Filings increased by 2.3% from 530 in FY 1992 to 542 in FY 1993. Dispositions rose by 0.5% to a record level of 552 in FY 1993 from 549 in FY 1992. There was a 3.9% decrease in pending from 255 at the end of FY 1992 to 245 at the end of FY 1993.

As in the previous fiscal year, the Court handled cases more quickly both from the date of filing to the date of disposition and from the date of submission of a case for a judicial decision to the date of disposition. The average elapsed time from the date of filing to the date of disposition fell from 207.2 days in FY 1992 to 168.9 days in FY 1993. The average time from submission to disposition fell to 22.8 days in FY 1993 from 32.1 days in FY 1992.



ARMS OF THE SUPREME COURT

Board on Professional Responsibility and Office of Disciplinary Counsel

The Board on Professional Responsibility and Office of Disciplinary Counsel are authorized by Supreme Court Rule 62 and Board on Professional Responsibility Rule 1 (c) (3) respectively. The Board on Professional Responsibility consists of 13 persons, nine of whom shall be members of the Bar and four of whom shall be public non-lawyer members. Members of the Board are appointed for three-year terms. Under Supreme Court Rule 62(c), the Court appoints a Preliminary Review Committee consisting of nine persons, six of whom shall be members of the Bar and three of whom shall be public non-lawyer members. Additionally, under Supreme Court Rule 62(d), the Court appoints members of the Bar to serve as Assistant Disciplinary Counsel as needed. The Board, Disciplinary Counsel, the Preliminary Review Committee and Assistant Disciplinary Counsel are responsible for regulation of the conduct of the members of the Delaware Bar. Matters heard by the Board on Professional Responsibility are subject to review by the Delaware Supreme Court.

Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection

The Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 66. There are nine trustees appointed by the Court, consisting of seven persons who shall be members of the Bar and two persons who shall be non-lawyer members. Trustees are appointed for four-year terms. The purpose of the trust fund is to establish, as far as practicable, the collective responsibility of the legal profession in respect to losses caused to the public by defalcations of members of the Bar.

Board of Bar Examiners

The Board of Bar Examiners is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 51. The Board consists of 12 members of the Bar who are appointed by the Court for four-year terms. The Court may appoint associate members of the Board to assist each member of the Board. Associate members are

appointed for one-year terms. Currently, there are 12 associate members. It is the duty of the Board to administer Supreme Court Rules 51 through 56 which govern the testing and procedures for admission to the Bar.

Commission on Continuing Legal Education

The Commission on Continuing Legal Education is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 70 and Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Rule 3. The Commission consists of five members who are appointed by the Court for three-year terms. One member shall be a member of the Judiciary. No more than one member may be a person who is not an attorney. The purpose of the Commission is to ensure that minimum requirements for continuing legal education are met by attorneys in order to maintain their professional competence throughout their active practice of law.

Advisory Committee on Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts

The six member Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts Program (IOLTA) is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 65. The Committee members are appointed by the Court for three-year terms. The function of the Committee is to oversee and monitor the operation of the Delaware IOLTA Program as established pursuant to Rule 1.15 and Interpretive Guideline number 2 of the Delaware Lawyers' Rules of Professional Conduct. The Committee reports annually to the Supreme Court on the status of the program and work of the Committee. It is the exclusive responsibility of the Delaware Bar Foundation, subject to the supervision and approval of the Court, to hold and disburse all funds generated by the IOLTA program.

Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law

The Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 86. The Board consists of six members appointed by

the Court for four-year terms. Five members of the Board must be lawyers, and one person must be a public non-lawyer member. The Court may appoint associate members of the Board to assist each member of the Board. It is the duty of the Board to administer Supreme Court Rule 86, to investigate matters sua sponte, and to deal with matters referred from any source regarding issues on the unauthorized practice of law.

Permanent Advisory Committee on Supreme Court Rules

The Permanent Advisory Committee on Supreme Court Rules is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 94. The Committee consists of nine or more members of the Bar who shall be appointed by the Court for three-year terms. It is the Committee's responsibility to monitor Supreme Court Rules, consider and draft changes and receive and consider comments from members of the Bar and Bench and from others. The Committee also has the power to make recommendations to the Supreme Court concerning the rules and practices of lower courts.

Committee on Publication of Opinions

The Committee on Publication of Opinions is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 93. The Committee consists of one member each from the Supreme Court, the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court and the Family Court. The members are appointed by the Chief Justice and serve at his pleasure. It is the responsibility of the Committee to determine by majority vote which opinions (or parts thereof) of the Court of Chancery, the Superior Court and the Family Court, respectively, shall be approved for official publication by West Publishing Company in both the Atlantic Reporter and the Delaware Reporter. In discharging such responsibility, the Committee shall consider public interest in the litigation, the novelty of the issues presented, the importance of the case as a legal precedent and/or whether the form of the opinion is appropriate for publication.

SUPREME COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change in Pending	% Change in Pending
Criminal Appeals	138	201	234	105	- 33	- 23.9%
Civil Appeals	114	301	281	134	+ 20	+ 17.5%
Original Applications*	3	40	37	6	+ 3	+100.0%
TOTALS	255	542	552	245	- 10	- 3.9%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Criminal Appeals	226	201	- 25	- 11.1%
Civil Appeals	268	301	+ 33	+ 12.3%
Certifications	8	5	- 3	- 37.5%
Original Applications	17	25	+ 8	+ 47.1%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	11	7	- 4	- 36.4%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0	2	+ 2	—
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	0	1	+ 1	—
TOTALS	530	542	+ 12	+ 2.3%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Criminal Appeals	241	234	- 7	- 2.9%
Civil Appeals	270	281	+ 11	+ 4.1%
Certifications	8	4	- 4	- 50.0%
Original Applications	19	22	+ 3	+ 15.8%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	11	8	- 3	- 27.3%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0	2	+ 2	—
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	0	1	+ 1	—
TOTALS	549	522	+ 3	+ 0.5%

*Board of Bar Examiners, and Board on Professional Responsibility and Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law are included with the original applications in the Caseload Summary. Each is listed separately, however, in the Caseload Comparison.

Bd. on Prof. Resp. = Board on Professional Responsibility

Bd. of Bar Exam. = Board of Board Examiners

Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law = Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPREME COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILINGS

	Court of Chancery		Superior Court		Family Court		Non-Court Originated		TOTALS	
Criminal Appeals	0	0.0%	201	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	201	100.0%
Civil Appeals	70	23.3%	170	56.5%	61	20.3%	0	0.0%	301	100.0%
Original Applications	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	30	100.0%	30	100.0%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	100.0%	7	100.0%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	2	100.0%
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	1	100.0%
TOTALS	70	12.9%	371	68.5%	61	11.3%	40	7.4%	542	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSITIONS

	Court of Chancery		Superior Court		Family Court		Non-Court Originated		TOTALS	
Criminal Appeals	0	0.0%	234	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	234	100.0%
Civil Appeals	52	18.5%	167	59.4%	62	22.1%	0	0.0%	281	100.0%
Original Applications	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	26	100.0%	26	100.0%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	100.0%	8	100.0%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	2	100.0%
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	1	100.0%
TOTALS	52	9.4%	401	72.6%	62	11.2%	37	6.7%	552	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

	Court of Chancery	Superior Court	Family Court	Non-Court Originated	TOTALS
Criminal Appeals	0	- 33	0	0	- 33
Civil Appeals	+ 18	+ 3	- 1	0	+ 20
Original Applications	0	0	0	+ 4	+ 4
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	0	0	0	- 1	- 1
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0	0	0	0	0
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	+ 18	- 30	- 1	+ 3	- 10

Bd. on Prof. Resp. = Board on Professional Responsibility.

Bd. of Bar Exam. = Board of Board Examiners

Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law = Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPREME COURT

TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD

APPEALS DISPOSITIONS

	Affirmed	Aff.Pt/ Rev. Pt.	Reversed	Remanded	Voluntary Dismissal	Court Dismissal	Leave to Appeal Denied	Other	Totals
Criminal Appeals	181 77.4%	0 0.0%	12 5.1%	1 0.4%	8 3.4%	31 13.2%	1 0.4%	0 0.0%	234 100.0%
Civil Appeals	123 38.7%	4 1.3%	27 8.5%	3 0.9%	44 13.8%	77 24.2%	24 7.5%	15 5.0%	318 100.0%
Totals	304 55.1%	4 0.7%	39 7.1%	4 0.7%	52 9.4%	108 19.6%	25 4.5%	15 2.9%	552 100.0%

TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL YEARS 1993 - CASELOAD

MISCELLANEOUS DISPOSITIONS

	Action Taken*	Approved	Answered	Granted	Denied/ Stricken	Court Dismissal	Totals
Original Applications	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 3.8%	1 3.8%	7 26.9%	17 65.4%	26 100.0%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	3 37.5%	5 62.5%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	8 100.0%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	2 100.0%	2 100.0%
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 100.0%	1 100.0%
Totals	3 8.1%	5 13.5%	1 2.7%	1 2.7%	7 18.9%	20 54.1%	37 100.0%

TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL YEARS 1993 - CASELOAD

METHODS OF DISPOSITIONS

	Assigned Opinion	Per Curiam Opinion	Written Order	Voluntary Dismissal	Totals
Criminal Appeals	16 6.8%	0 0.0%	210 89.7%	8 3.4%	234 100.0%
Civil Appeals	36 12.8%	0 0.0%	201 71.5%	44 15.7%	281 100.0%
Original Applications	2 7.7%	0 0.0%	24 92.3%	0 0.0%	26 100.0%
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	0 0.0%	2 25.0%	6 75.0%	0 0.0%	8 100.0%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	2 100.0%	0 0.0%	2 100.0%
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 100.0%	0 0.0%	1 100.0%
Totals	54 9.8%	2 0.4%	444 80.4%	52 9.4%	552 100.0%

*Action Taken includes suspensions, and reprimands.

Aff. Pt./Rev. Pt. = Affirmed in Part/Reversed in Part

Bd. on Prof. Resp. = Board on Professional Responsibility

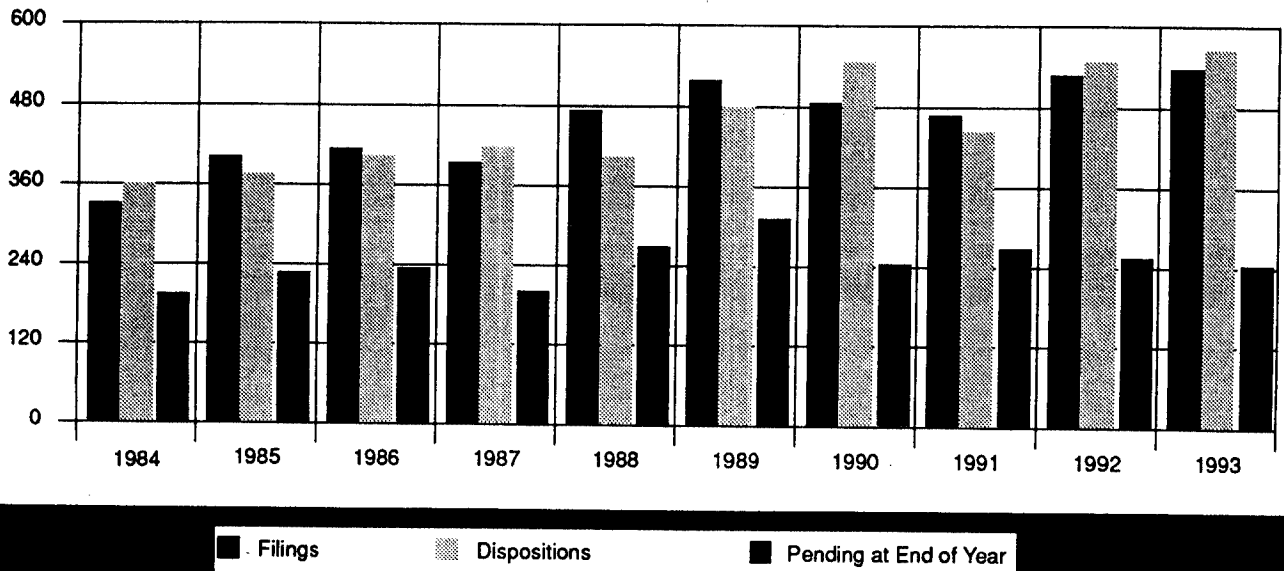
Bd. of Bar Exam. = Board of Board Examiners

Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law = Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law

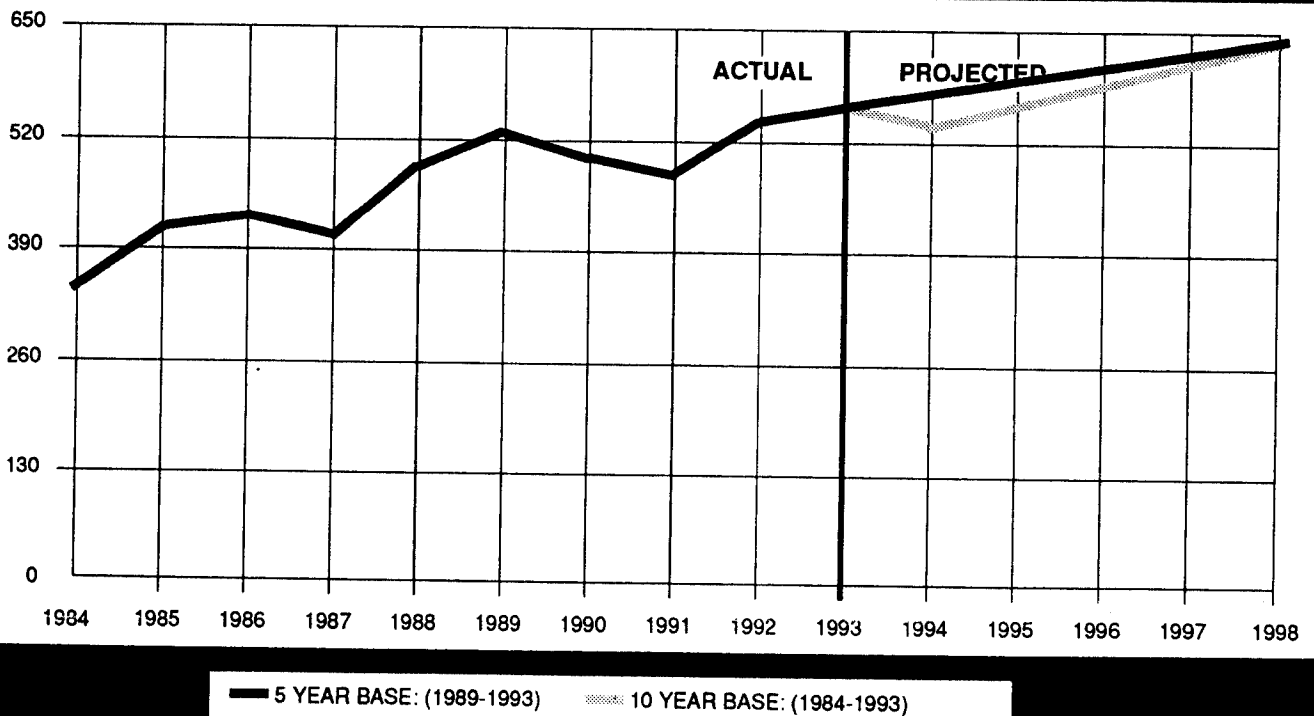
Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPREME COURT — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPREME COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

AVERAGE ELAPSED TIME TO DISPOSITION

	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition	Average Time from Submission to Disposition*
Criminal Appeals	234	217.5 days	24.3 days
Civil Appeals	281	145.2 days	22.1 days
Original Applications	22	23.6 days	15.3 days
Certifications	4	75.5 days	16.5 days
Bd. on Prof. Resp.	8	82.8 days	32.1 days
Bd. of Bar Exam.	2	14.5 days	9.0 days
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	1	24.0 days	14.0 days
TOTALS	552	168.9 days	22.8 days

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

AVERAGE TIME FROM FILING TO DISPOSITION

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Criminal Appeals	261.9 days	217.5 days	- 44.4 days	- 17.0%
Civil Appeals	179.3 days	145.2 days	- 34.1 days	- 19.0%
Certifications	78.9 days	75.5 days	- 3.4 days	- 4.3%
Original Applications	60.5 days	23.6 days	- 36.9 days	- 61.0%
Bd on Prof. Resp.	42.8 days	82.8 days	+ 40.0 days	+ 93.5%
Bd. of Bar Exam.	—	14.5 days	—	—
Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law	—	24.0 days	—	—
TOTALS	207.2 days	168.9 days	- 38.3 days	- 18.5%

*Average time from date submitted for judicial decision to actual date of disposition. Not all Supreme Court dispositions require a judicial decision.

Bd. on Prof. Resp. = Board on Professional Responsibility.

Bd. of Bar Exam. = Board of Bar Examiners.

Bd. on Un. Prac. of Law = Board on Unauthorized Practice of Law.

Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPREME COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - PERFORMANCE BREAKDOWNS

ELAPSED TIME BY DISPOSITION TYPE

Type of Disposition	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition	Average Time from Submission to Disposition
Affirmed	304	211.3 days	22.1 days
Affirmed Part/Reversed Part	4	261.0 days	67.0 days
Reversed	39	267.4 days	48.0 days
Remanded	4	351.5 days	27.8 days
Voluntary Dismissal	52	104.8 days	—
Court Dismissal	108	87.5 days	16.9 days
Leave to Appeal Denied	25	17.2 days	12.4 days
Other	16	47.7 days	18.6 days
TOTALS	552	168.9 days	22.8 days

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - PERFORMANCE BREAKDOWNS

ELAPSED TIME BY DISPOSITION METHOD

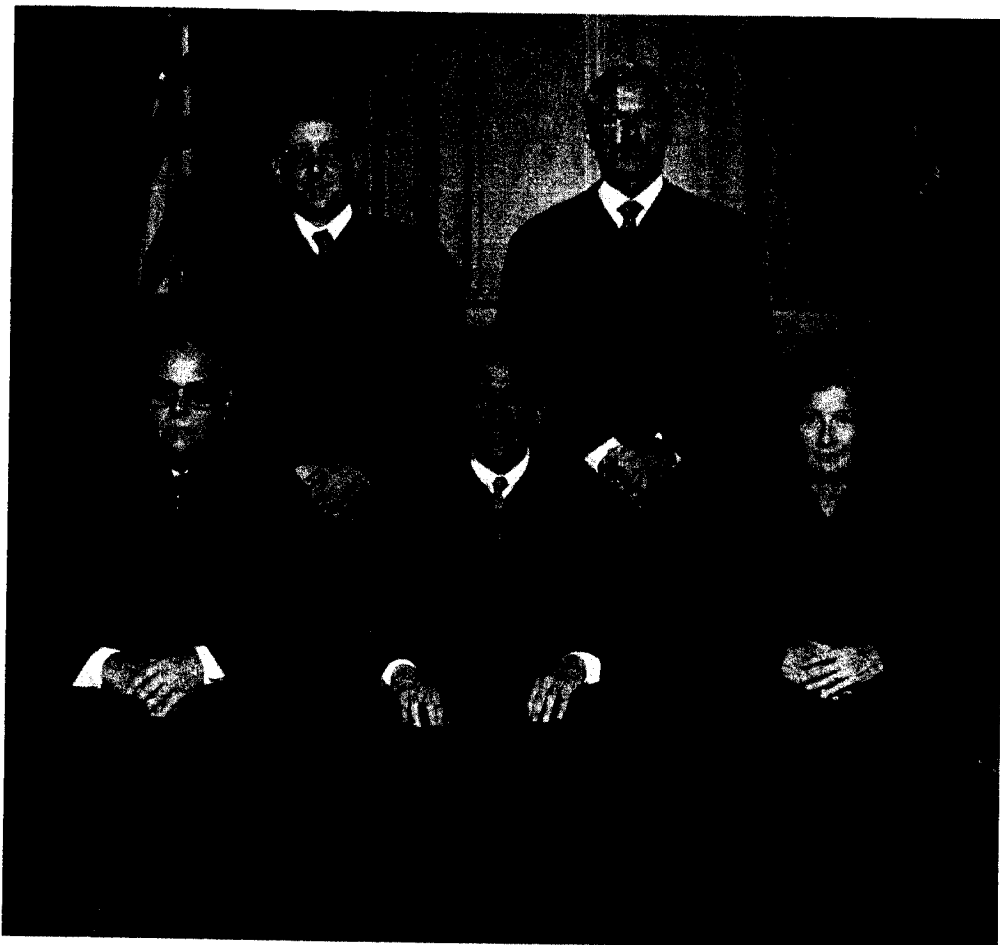
Method of Disposition	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition	Average Time from Submission to Disposition*
Assigned Opinion	54	291.9 days	61.1 days
Per Curium Opinion	2	186.0 days	31.5 days
Written Order	444	161.3 days	18.1 days
Voluntary Dismissal	52	104.8 days	—
TOTALS	552	168.9 days	22.8 days

*Average time from date submitted for judicial decision to actual date of disposition. Not all Supreme Court dispositions require a judicial decision.
Source: Court Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court; Administrative Office of the Courts

Court of Chancery

Chancellor William T. Allen
Vice-Chancellor Maurice A. Hartnett, III
Vice-Chancellor Carolyn Berger
Vice-Chancellor Jack B. Jacobs
Vice-Chancellor William B. Chandler, III

COURT OF CHANCERY



COURT OF CHANCERY

Seated (Left to Right)

Vice-Chancellor Maurice A. Hartnett, III

Chancellor William T. Allen

Vice-Chancellor Carolyn Berger

Standing (Left to Right)

Vice-Chancellor Jack B. Jacobs

Vice-Chancellor William B. Chandler, III

COURT OF CHANCERY

Legal Authorization

The Constitution of Delaware, Article IV, Section 1, authorizes the Court of Chancery.

The Court of Chancery came into existence as a separate court under the Constitution of 1792. It was modeled on the High Court of Chancery in England and is in direct line of succession from that Court. The Court consisted solely of the Chancellor until 1939 when the position of Vice-Chancellor was added. The increase on the Court's workload since then has led to further expansions to its present complement of a Chancellor and four Vice-Chancellors, with the addition of the fourth Vice-Chancellor being made in 1989.

Geographic Organization

The Court of Chancery holds court in Wilmington, Dover and Georgetown.

Legal Jurisdiction

The Court of Chancery has jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters and causes in equity. The general equity jurisdiction of the Court is measured in terms of the general equity jurisdiction of the High Court of Chancery of Great Britain as it existed prior to the separation of the American colonies. The General Assembly may confer upon the Court of Chancery additional statutory jurisdiction. In today's practice, the litigation in the Court of Chancery consists largely of

corporate matters, trusts, estates and other fiduciary matters, disputes involving the purchase and sale of land, questions of title to real estate and commercial and contractual matters in general. When issues of fact to be tried by a jury arise, the Court of Chancery may order such facts to trial by issues at the Bar of the Superior Court (10 Del. C., §369).

Judges

The Court of Chancery consists of one Chancellor and four Vice Chancellors. The fourth Vice Chancellor position is authorized by House Bill 60 which became law in January, 1989. The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors are nominated by the Governor and must be confirmed by the Senate for 1 2-year terms. The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors must be learned in the law and must be Delaware citizens.

Support Personnel

The Chancellor may appoint court reporters, bailiffs, criers or pages, and law clerks. The Register in Chancery is the Clerk of the Court for all actions except those within the jurisdiction of the Register of Wills. A Register in Chancery is elected for each county. The Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor resident in the county is to appoint one Chief Deputy Register in Chancery in each county. The Register in Chancery in New Castle County appoints a Chief Deputy Register in Chancery as well.

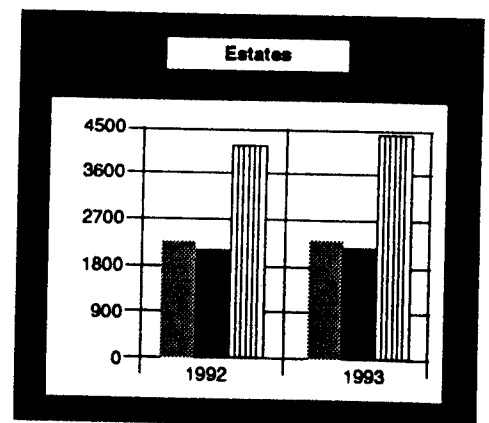
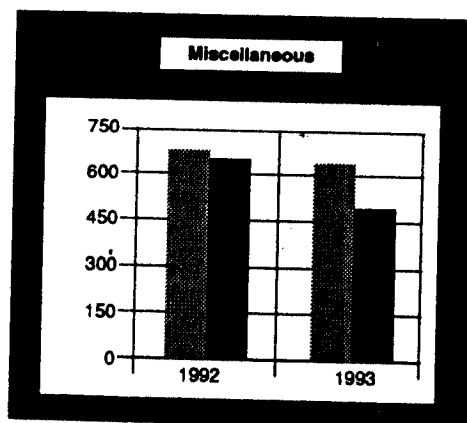
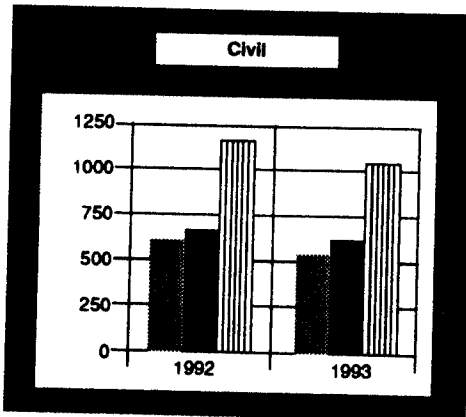
Public Guardian

The Chancellor has the duty to appoint the Public Guardian.

Caseload Trends

Civil caseload activity fell in the Court of Chancery during FY 1993. Civil filings decreased by 10.3% from 585 in FY 1992 to 525 in FY 1993. Civil dispositions fell by 5.8% to 637 in FY 1993 from 676 in FY 1992. The greater fall in civil filings than in dispositions led to a 9.6% drop in civil pending from 1,169 at the end of FY 1992 to 1,057 at the end of FY 1993. There was a 9.6% decrease in the number of miscellaneous matters filed from an amended total of 720 for FY 1992 to 651 in FY 1993. The number of miscellaneous matters disposed of decreased by 27.5% to 484 in FY 1993 from an amended total of 668 in FY 1992. The larger fall in the number of miscellaneous matters disposed of during FY 1993 led to a 2.8% increase in pending from an amended total of 6,020 at the end of FY 1992 to 6,187 at the end of FY 1993.

There was a 2.0% increase in the number of estates filed to 2,242 in FY 1993 from 2,198 during FY 1992. The number of estates closed (disposed) rose, but only by 0.5%, to 2,002 in FY 1993 from 1992 in FY 1,992. The rise in the number of estates filed along with the almost unchanged number of estates closed during FY 1993 resulted in a 6.0% rise in estates pending from 3,970 at the end of FY 1992 to 4,210 at the end of FY 1993.



Filings
 Dispositions
 Pending

COURT OF CHANCERY

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY *

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	925	447	555	817	- 100	- 11.7%
Kent	95	30	35	90	- 5	- 5.3%
Sussex	149	48	47	150	+ 1	+ 0.7%
State	1,169	525	637	1,057	- 112	- 9.6%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	491	447	- 44	- 9.0%
Kent	37	30	- 7	- 18.9%
Sussex	57	48	- 9	- 15.8%
State	585	525	- 60	- 10.3%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

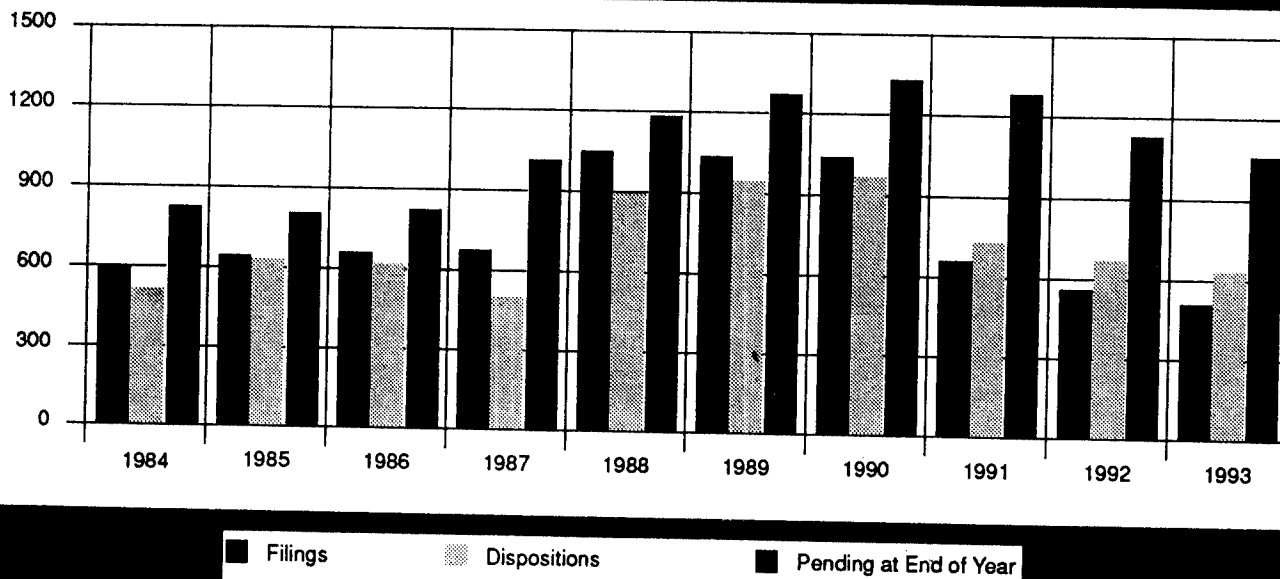
DISPOSITIONS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	568	555	- 13	- 2.3%
Kent	40	35	- 5	- 12.5%
Sussex	68	47	- 21	- 30.9%
State	676	637	- 39	- 5.8%

Source: New Castle County, Kent County, Sussex County Registers in Chancery, Administrative Office of the Courts.

COURT OF CHANCERY — CIVIL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



NOTE: Trend lines were not used to project civil filings because of the effect that the large fluctuations during recent years would have.

Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

COURT OF CHANCERY

FISCAL YEAR 1993 MISCELLANEOUS CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY *

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	3,646	327	245	3,728	+ 82	+ 2.2%
Kent	855	87	54	888	+ 33	+ 3.9%
Sussex	<u>1,519*</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>1,571</u>	<u>+ 52</u>	<u>+ 3.4%</u>
State	6,020*	651	484	6,187	+167	+ 2.8%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 MISCELLANEOUS CASES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	384	327	- 57	- 14.8%
Kent	94	87	- 7	- 7.8%
Sussex	<u>242*</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>- 5</u>	<u>- 2.1%</u>
State	720*	651	- 69	- 9.6%

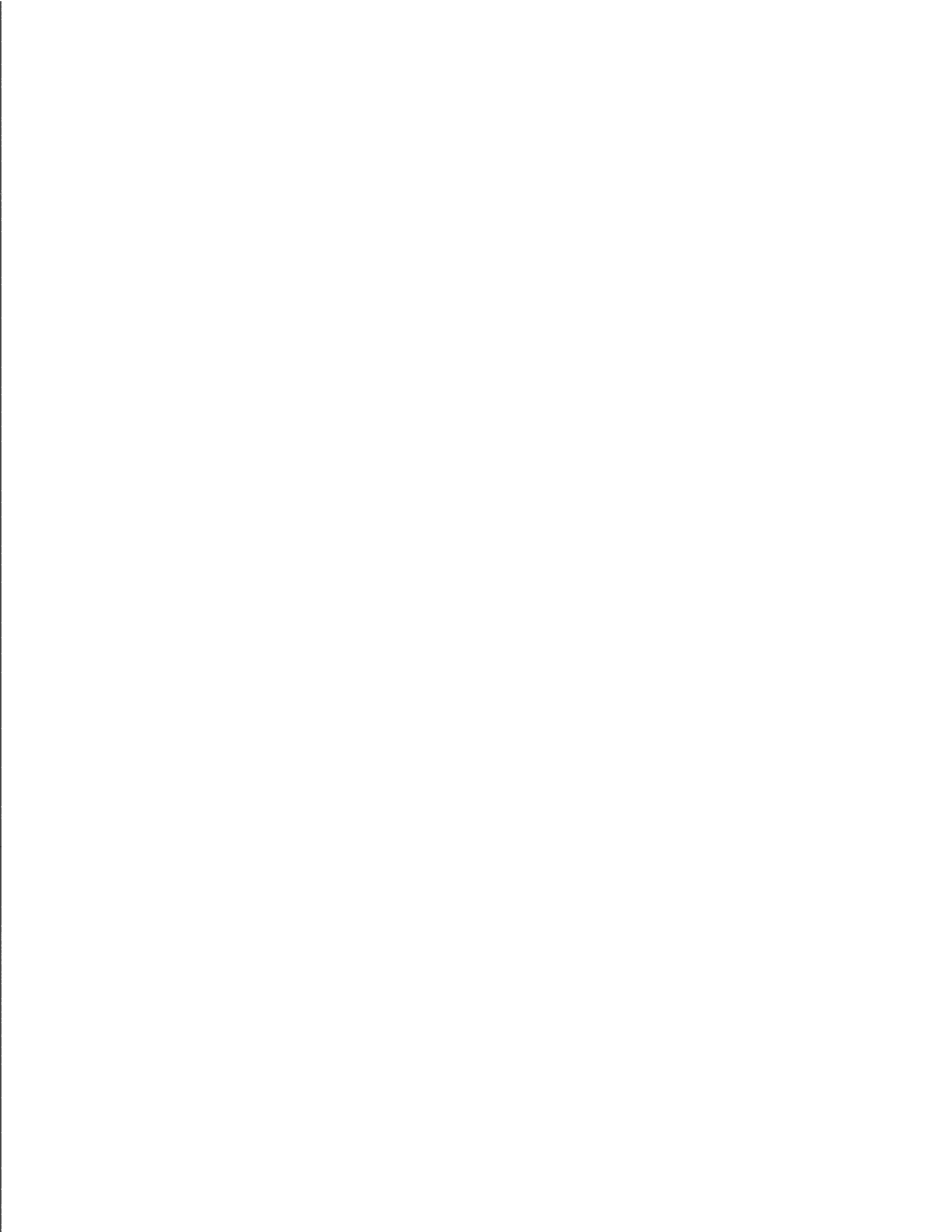
COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 MISCELLANEOUS CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	425	245	- 180	- 42.4%
Kent	69	54	- 15	- 21.7%
Sussex	<u>174*</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>+ 11</u>	<u>+ 6.3%</u>
State	668*	484	- 184	- 27.5%

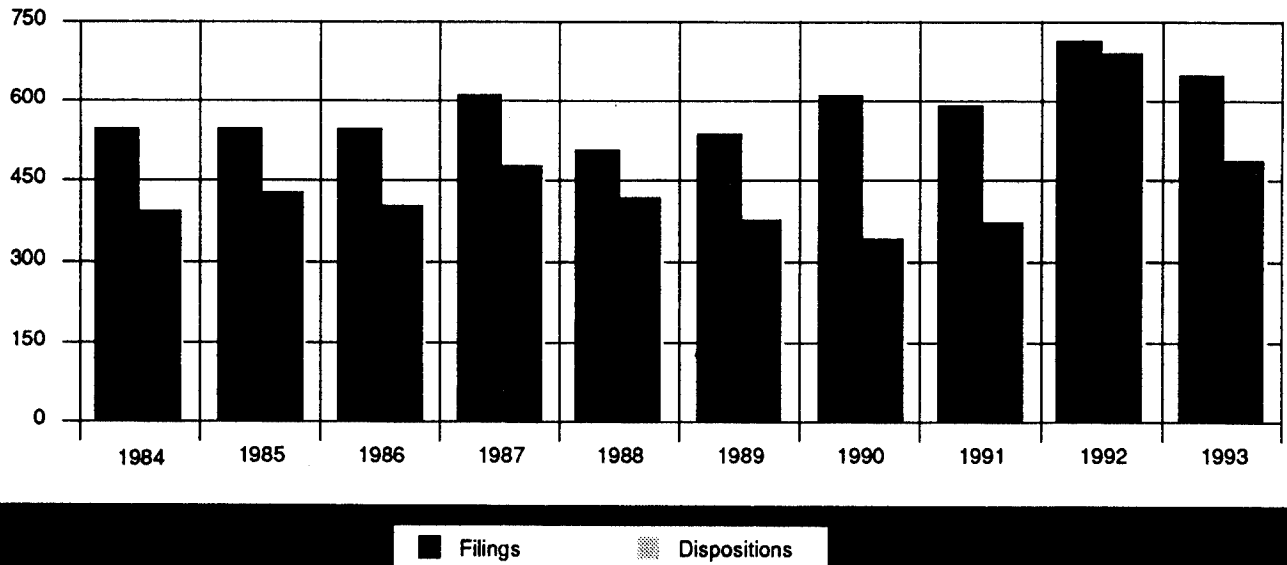
*Amended from 1992 Annual Report.

Source: New Castle County, Kent County, Sussex County Registers in Chancery, Administrative Office of the Courts.

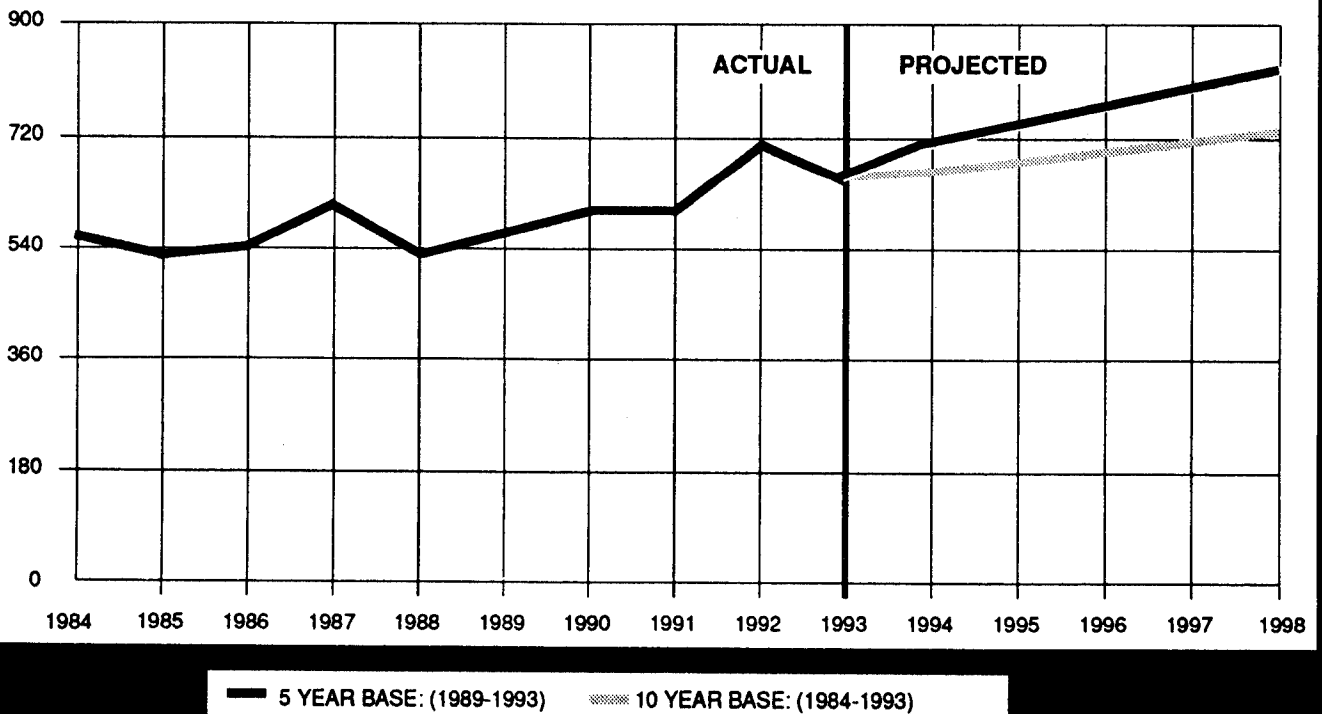


COURT OF CHANCERY — MISCELLANEOUS

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

COURT OF CHANCERY

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ESTATES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	2,054	1,453	1,239	2,268	+ 214	+10.4%
Kent	1,110	318	278	1,150	+ 40	+ 3.6%
Sussex	806	471	485	792	- 14	- 1.7%
State	3,970	2,242	2,002	4,210	+ 240	+ 6.0%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ESTATES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

OPENED

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	1,403	1,453	+ 50	+ 3.6%
Kent	297	318	+ 21	+ 7.1%
Sussex	498	471	- 27	- 5.4%
State	2,198	2,242	+ 44	+ 2.0%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ESTATES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

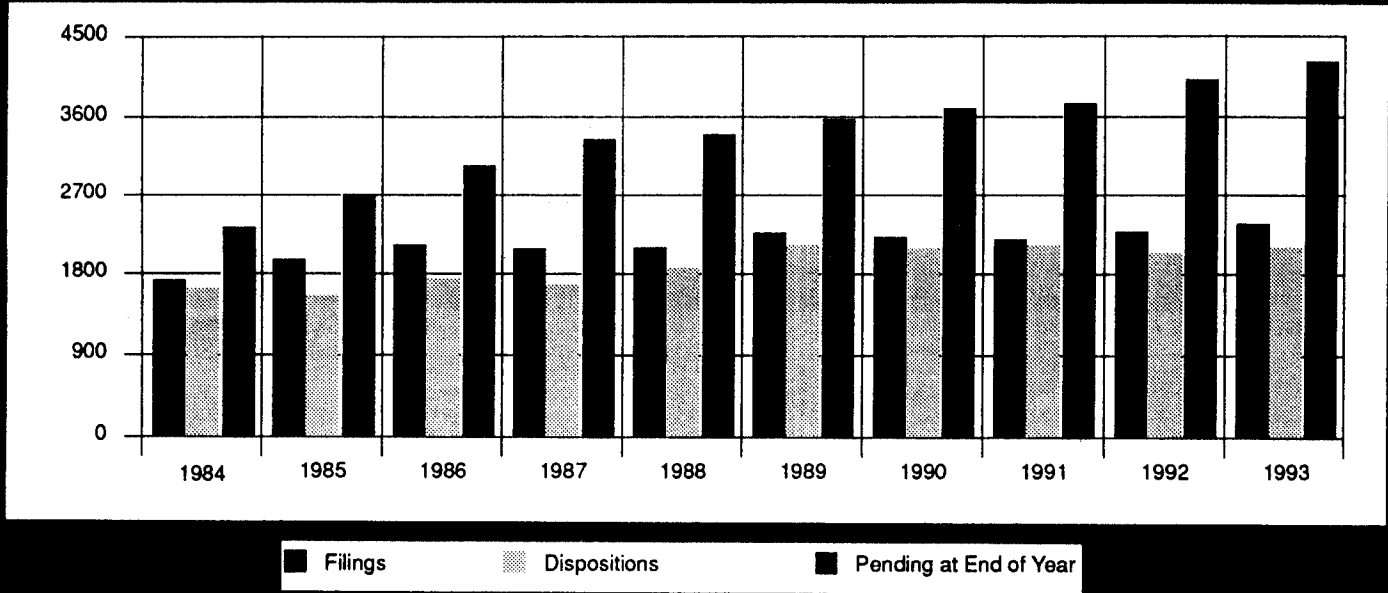
CLOSED

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	1,244	1,239	- 5	- 0.4%
Kent	295	278	- 17	- 5.8%
Sussex	453	485	+ 32	+ 7.1%
State	1,992	2,002	+ 10	+ 0.5%

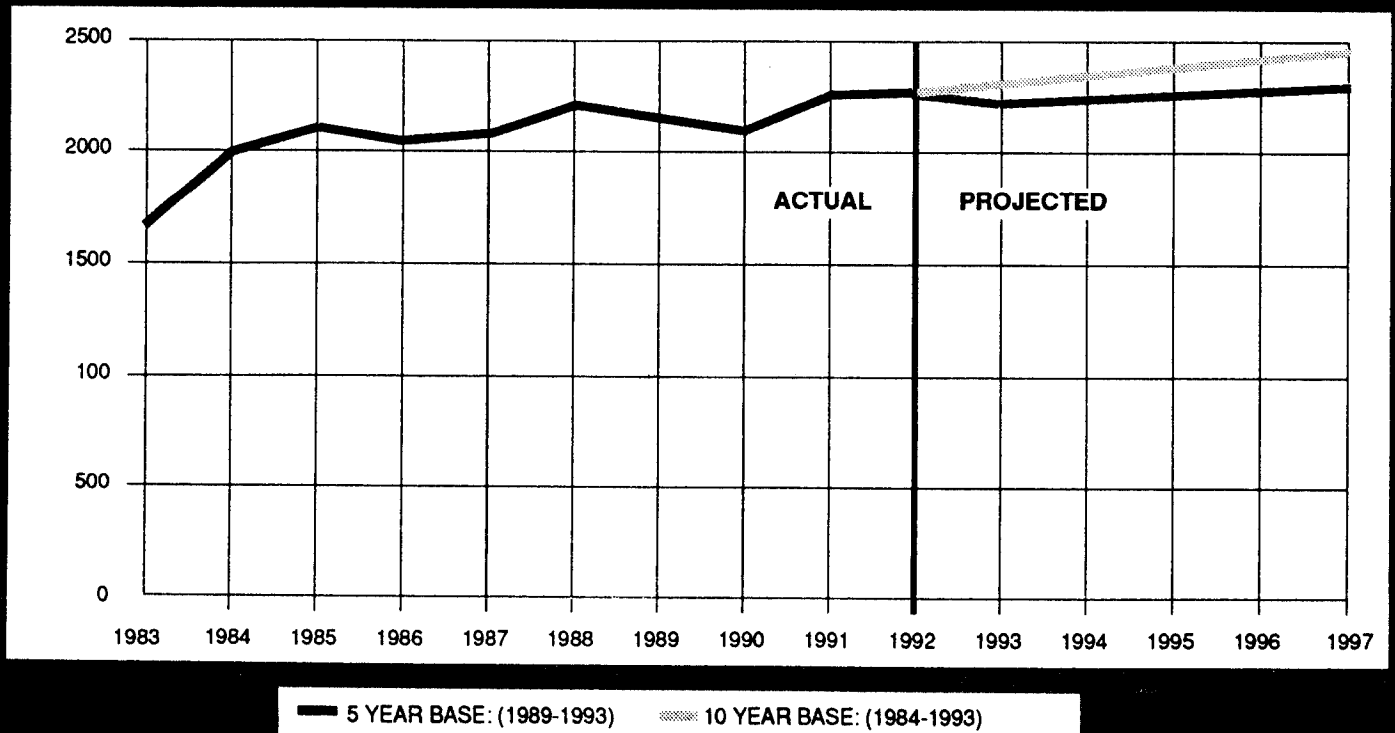
Source: New Castle County, Kent County, Sussex County Registers in Chancery, Administrative Office of the Courts.

COURT OF CHANCERY — ESTATES

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



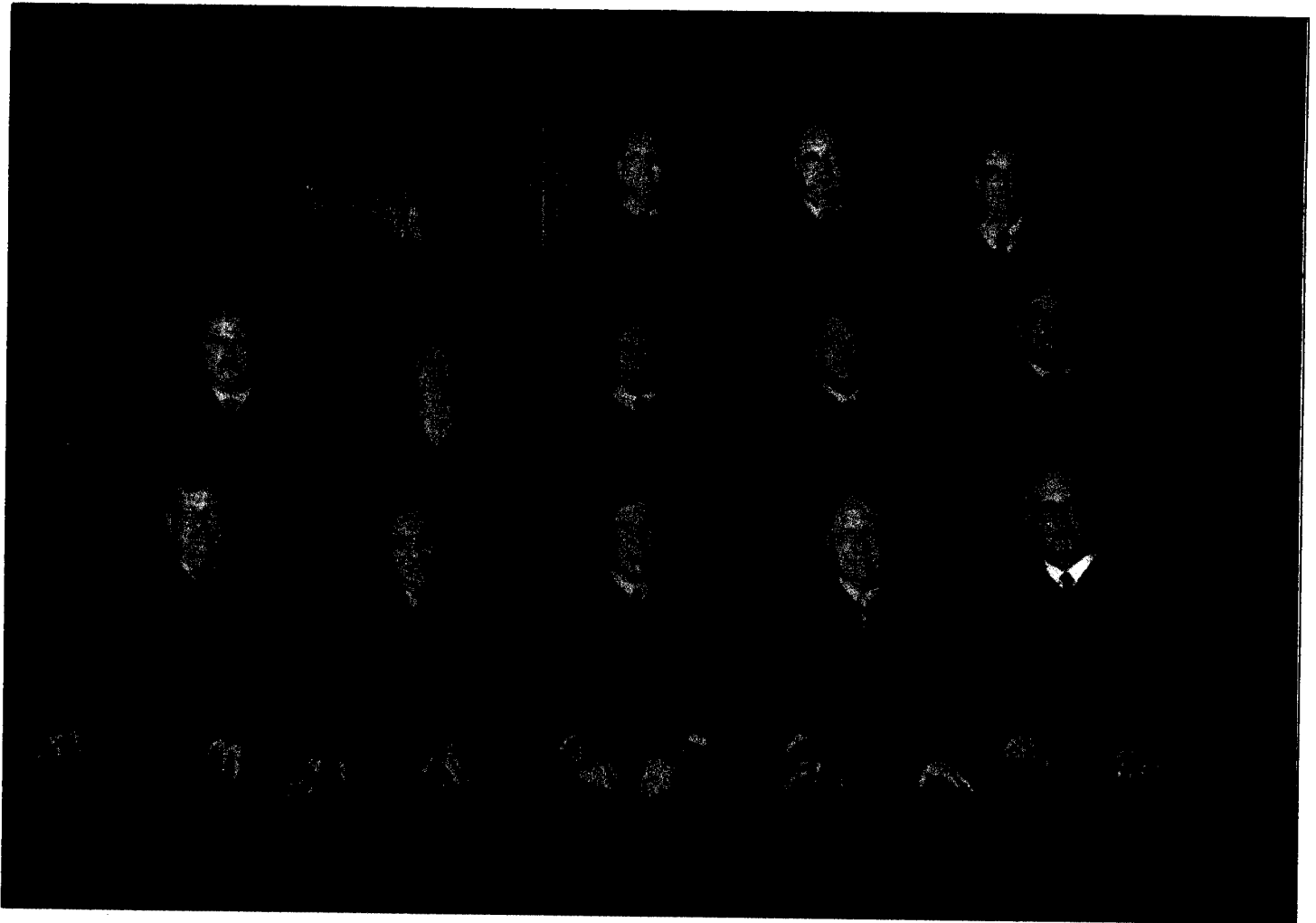
Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

Superior Court

President Judge Henry du Pont Ridgely
Resident Judge Vincent A. Bifferato
Associate Judge Bernard Balick
Associate Judge Richard S. Gebelein
Associate Judge John E. Babiarz, Jr.
Resident Judge William Swain Lee
Associate Judge Susan C. Del Pesco
Resident Judge Myron T. Steele
Associate Judge Norman A. Barron
Associate Judge Jerome O. Herlihy
Associate Judge T. Henley Graves
Associate Judge Charles H. Toliver, IV
Associate Judge Carl G. Goldstein
Associate Judge Haile L. Alford
Associate Judge Richard R. Cooch
Associate Judge Fred S. Silverman
Associate Judge William C. Carpenter, Jr.

SUPERIOR COURT



SUPERIOR COURT

Seated (Left-Right)

Associate Judge Richard S. Gebelein

Resident Judge Vincent A. Bifferato

President Judge Henry du Pont Ridgely

Associate Judge Bernard Balick

Associate Judge John E. Babiarz, Jr.

Middle (Left-Right)

Associate Judge Norman A. Barron

Associate Judge Susan C. Del Pesco

Resident Judge William Swain Lee

Resident Judge Myron T. Steele

Associate Judge Jerome O. Herlihy

Back (Left-Right)

Associate Judge Haile L. Alford

Associate Judge Charles H. Toliver, IV

Associate Judge T. Henley Graves

Associate Judge Carl G. Goldstein

Associate Judge Richard R. Cooch

*Associate Judge Fred S. Silverman (not shown) took the oath of office on 10/12/93, while Associate Judge William C. Carpenter, Jr. (not shown) took the oath of office on 10/18/93.

Legal Authorization

The *Constitution of Delaware*, Article IV, Section I, created the Superior Court.

Court History

Superior Court's roots can be traced back more than 300 years to December 6, 1669 when John Binckson and two others were tried for treason for leading an insurrection against colonists loyal to England in favor of the King of Sweden.

The law courts which represent today's Superior Court jurisdiction go back as far as 1831 when they included Superior Court, which heard civil matters, the Court of General Sessions, which heard criminal matters, and the Court of Oyer and Terminer, which heard capital cases and consisted of all four law judges for the other two Courts.

In 1951 the Court of Oyer and Terminer and the Court of General Sessions were abolished and their jurisdictions were combined in today's Superior Court. The presiding judge of Superior Court was renamed President Judge. There were five Superior Court judges in 1951; there are fifteen today.

Geographic Organization

Sessions of Superior Court are held in each of the three counties at the county seat.

Legal Jurisdiction

Superior Court has statewide original jurisdiction over criminal and civil cases, except equity cases, over which the Court of Chancery has exclusive jurisdiction, and domestic relations matters, which jurisdiction is vested with the Family Court. The Court's authority to award damages is not subject to a monetary maximum. The Court hears cases of personal injury, libel and slander and contract claims. The Court also tries cases involving medical malpractice, legal malpractice, property cases involving mortgage foreclosures, mechanics liens, condemnations, and appeals related to landlord-tenant disputes and appeals from the Automobile Arbitration Board. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction over felonies and drug offenses (except most felonies and drug offenses involving minors and except possession of marijuana cases).

Superior Court has jurisdiction over

involuntary commitments of the mentally ill to the Delaware State Hospital. The Court serves as an intermediate appellate court, hearing appeals on the record from the Court of Common Pleas, Family Court (adult criminal), and more than 50 administrative agencies including the Industrial Zoning and Adjustment Boards, and other quasi-judicial bodies. Appeals from Alderman's Courts, Justice of the Peace Courts, and Municipal Court are heard on trials de novo (second trials) in Superior Court. Appeals from Superior Court are argued on the record before the Supreme Court.

Judges

Number: There may be seventeen judges appointed to the Superior Court bench. One of the seventeen Judges is appointed President Judge with administrative responsibility for the Court, and three are appointed as Resident Judges and must reside in the county in which they are appointed. No more than a bare majority of the Judges may be of one political party; the rest must be of the other major political party.

Appointment: Superior Court Judges are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

Tenure: The Judges are appointed for 12-year terms.

Qualifications: The Judges must be learned in the law.

Support Personnel

Superior Court may appoint court reporters, law clerks, bailiffs, pre-sentence officers, a secretary for each judge and other personnel.

An appointed Prothonotary for each county serves as Clerk of the Superior Court for that county. The Prothonotary is the record keeper for the Superior Court and is directly involved with the daily operations of the Court. The Office handles the jury list, property liens, registration of law students and attorneys, and is the custodian of costs and fees for the Court and for the Attorney General. It issues permits to carry deadly weapons, receives bail, deals with the release of incarcerated prisoners, issues certificates of notary public where applicable, issues certificates of election to elected

SUPERIOR COURT

public where applicable, issues certificates of election to elected officials, issues commitments to the State Hospital and collects and distributes restitution monies as ordered by the Court in addition to numerous other duties. It is also charged with the security, care and custody of Court's exhibits.

Elected Sheriffs, one per county, also serve Superior Court.

Caseload Trends

There were decreases in both criminal filings and dispositions during FY 1993. Criminal filings fell by 3.8% from 7,581 in FY 1992 to 7,295 in FY 1993. The number of criminal dispositions dropped by 8.7% to 6,671 in FY 1993 from 7,413 in FY 1992. There was a 19.4% increase in criminal pending from 2,706 at the end of FY 1992 to 3,230 at the end of FY 1993.

Civil filings fell in all three counties while the number of civil dispositions rose in all counties during FY 1993. There was a 6.3% decrease in the number of civil filings from 6,952 in FY 1992 to 6,513 in FY 1993. Civil pending fell by 0.5% from an amended total of 8,172 at the end of FY 1992 to

8,134 at the end of FY 1993. The decrease in both criminal and civil filings led to a 5.0% drop in total filings from 14,533 in FY 1992 to 13,808 in FY 1993. The total number of dispositions rose by 2.5% to 13,322 in FY 1993 from 12,998 during FY 1992. There was a 4.5% increase in the total pending at the end of the year from an amended total of 10,878 at the end of FY 1992 to 11,364 at the end of FY 1993.

FY 1993 Developments

The Superior Court received the 1993 National Center for State Courts/American Bar Association Standards on Juror Use and Management Award. Several functions of the jury system, including the checking in and payment of jurors, were automated. With the assistance of the National Center for State Courts, Superior Court began to develop a plan for implementing the one day/one trial juror reporting system.

A statewide accounting system introduced in the Prothonotary Offices of the Superior Court will promote uniform procedures and provide the capability to integrate the financial

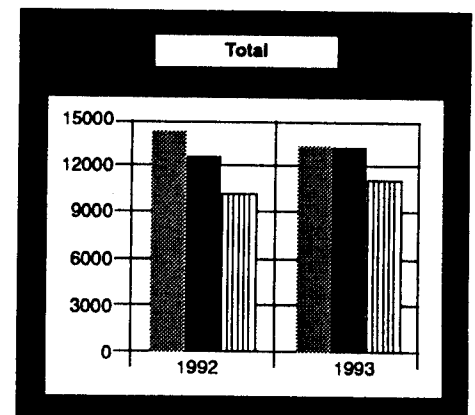
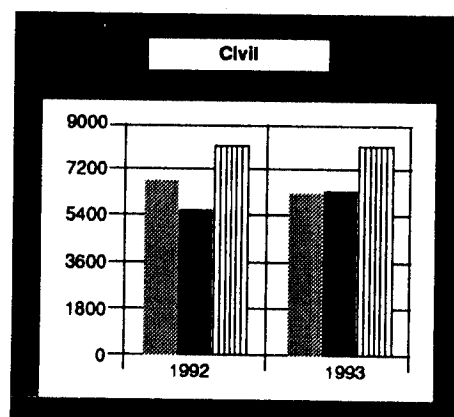
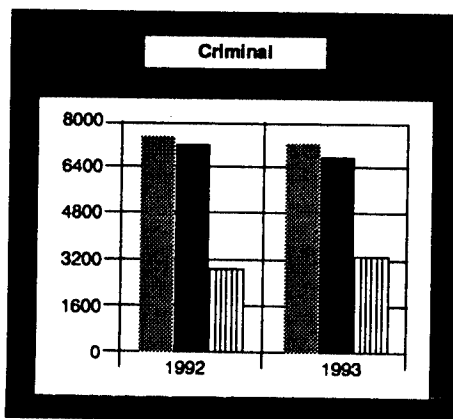
functions common to the Court, the Office of Centralized Collections in the AOC, and the Department of Corrections.

The agreement reached between the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Defender whereby the prosecution automatically forwards to the defense selected discovery information will contribute to accelerating the disposition of criminal cases.

The provisions of Senate Bill 109 enacted into law on July 11, 1989, which amended the Constitution to provide for the appointment rather than election of the Prothonotaries in Superior Court, were fully implemented when the terms of the elected Kent County and Sussex County Prothonotaries expired in the last year.

Security provisions in the Superior Court in Kent County were improved by the installation of electronic equipment such as surveillance cameras, locking devices, and detectors.

In FY 1993, Superior Court disposed of approximately 50 percent more cases than in FY 1988.



Filings
 Dispositions
 Pending

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Number of Defendants		Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
		Filings	Dispositions			
New Castle	2,024	4,791	4,410	2,405	+ 381	+ 18.8%
Kent	372	1,202	1,167	407	+ 35	+ 9.4%
Sussex	<u>310</u>	<u>1,302</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>418</u>	<u>+ 108</u>	<u>+ 34.8%</u>
State	2,706	7,295	6,771	3,230	+ 524	+ 19.4%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	Number of Defendants		Change	% Change
	1992	1993		
New Castle	5,165	4,791	- 374	- 7.2%
Kent	1,238	1,202	- 36	- 2.9%
Sussex	<u>1,178</u>	<u>1,302</u>	<u>+ 124</u>	<u>+ 10.5%</u>
State	7,581	7,295	- 286	- 3.8%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

	Number of Defendants		Change	% Change
	1992	1993		
New Castle	5,041	4,410	- 631	- 12.5%
Kent	1,269	1,167	- 102	- 8.0%
Sussex	<u>1,103</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>+ 91</u>	<u>+ 8.3%</u>
State	7,413	6,771	- 642	- 8.7%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The unit of count in Superior Court criminal cases is the defendant. A defendant is defined as an individual named in an indictment, so that an individual named in 3 indictments is counted as 3 defendants. An individual with a consecutively-numbered series of informations, appeals, or transfers filed on the same day is counted as one defendant.
2. Informations are filed if defendants waive indictment.
3. Transfers are defendants brought before the Court of Common Pleas in New Castle County who request jury trials. Since the Court of Common Pleas in Kent and Sussex Counties itself holds jury trials, there are no transfers in either of those counties.
4. Reinstatements represent defendants who have had their cases disposed of who are brought back before Superior Court for one of the following reasons:
 - Mistrial
 - Hung jury
 - Motion for new trial granted
 - Guilty plea withdrawn
 - Lower court appeal reinstated after being dismissed
 - Conviction overturned by Supreme Court; remanded to Superior Court for new trial.
5. Severances are defendants indicted on multiple charges whose charges are severed to be tried separately.
6. Trial dispositions refer to the number of defendants whose charges were disposed of at a trial rather than the number of trials. The date of disposition is the trial date. Should the decision be reserved, it will be the date when the opinion is handed down.
7. A defendant is counted as being disposed of by nolle prosequi only if all charges in an indictment or information or all charges transferred or appealed simultaneously are dropped. For example, if a defendant pleads guilty to one charge in an indictment, and other charges in the same indictment are then nol-prosessed, that defendant is considered to have been disposed of by guilty plea on the date of the plea.
8. Defendants are not counted as disposed of by nolle prosequi if the nolle prosequi was filed to an original charge because the defendant entered a guilty plea to a new information. The new information is a further action in an existing case and is not counted as a separate filing, so the nolle prosequi is not the primary disposition.
9. Only nolle prosequis filed for defendants who were actually brought before Superior Court by indictment, information, appeal, transfer, reinstatement, or severance are counted in the total number of Superior Court dispositions. Nolle prosequis of unindicted defendants are listed separately because such defendants were never formally before the Superior Court.
10. Unindicted nolle prosequis are felony or drug defendants who were arrested and were bound over to Superior Court by a lower court either because probable cause was found or because the defendant waived preliminary hearing. The Attorney General then decided not to seek indictment or the grand jury ignored the indictment and a nolle prosequi was filed.
11. Remands are defendants who appealed or transferred their cases to Superior Court and had them remanded back to the lower court. ADRR's are cases in which an appeal to Superior Court has been dismissed with the record being remanded to the court from which it came. ADRR's and remands do not constitute the dispositions of all appeals that are filed; some are disposed of by trial de novo, plea, or nolle prosequi.
12. Participation in the First Offender Program is limited to defendants who are charged with driving under the influence or select drug possession charges and are first-time offenders. The defendants choose to enroll in a rehabilitation program and waive their right to a speedy trial in the process. The charge is dropped once the defendant satisfactorily completes the program and pays all fees.
13. A consolidation represents a single individual who is indicted separately on different charges but whose charges are consolidated to be tried together. Thus an individual indicted in January and again in February, and who is counted as two filings, will receive one trial disposition and one consolidation disposition if the charges are tried together.
14. A triable criminal case is one in which there has been an indictment, information, or notice of appeal de novo filed with the Court. Defendants who have capiases or Rule 9 Warrants or Summonses outstanding or who have been judged to be incompetent to stand trial are not triable and are not included in the triable pending cases.

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILINGS

Number of Defendants Brought to Superior Court By:

	Indictment		Information		Appeal		Transfer		Reinstatement		Severance		TOTALS	
New Castle	3,898	81.4%	199	4.2%	58	1.2%	625	13.0%	0	0.0%	11	0.2%	4,791	100.0%
Kent	613	51.0%	581	48.3%	3	0.2%	0	0.0%	4	0.3%	1	0.1%	1,202	100.0%
Sussex	325	25.0%	948	72.8%	18	1.4%	1	0.1%	7	0.5%	3	0.2%	1,302	100.0%
State	4,836	66.3%	1,728	23.7%	79	1.1%	626	8.6%	11	0.2%	15	0.2%	7,295	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSITIONS

Number of Defendants Disposed of By:

	Trial		Guilty Plea		Nolle Prosequi		Remand or Transfer		ADRR	Dismissal	First Offender		Cons.	TOTALS		
New Castle	145	3.3%	3,235	73.4%	907	20.6%	3	0.1%	12	0.3%	25	0.6%	79	1.8%	4,410	100.0%
Kent	36	3.1%	926	79.3%	174	14.9%	1	0.1%	2	0.2%	9	0.8%	19	1.6%	1,167	100.0%
Sussex	48	4.0%	873	73.1%	219	18.3%	7	0.6%	1	0.1%	7	0.6%	28	2.3%	1,194	100.0%
State	229	3.4%	5,034	74.3%	1,300	19.2%	11	0.2%	15	0.2%	41	0.6%	126	1.9%	6,771	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

PENDING AT END OF YEAR

Number of Defendants

	Triable		Non-Triable		TOTALS	
New Castle	1,566	65.1%	839	34.9%	2,405	100.0%
Kent	124	30.5%	283	69.5%	407	100.0%
Sussex	264	63.2%	154	36.8%	418	100.0%
State	1,954	60.5%	1,276	39.5%	3,230	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

Number of Defendants

	Triable	Non-Triable	TOTALS
New Castle	+ 272	+ 109	+ 381
Kent	+ 28	+ 7	+ 35
Sussex	+ 71	+ 37	+ 108
State	+ 371	+ 153	+ 524

ADRR = Appeal Dismissed, Record Remanded

Cons. = Consolidation

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

TRIAL DISPOSITIONS - PART ONE

Number of Defendants Disposed of by:

	Jury Trial		Non-Jury Trial		Totals		Guilty		Not Guilty*		No Final Disposition**		Totals	
New Castle	136	93.8%	9	6.2%	145	100.0%	99	68.3%	29	20.0%	17	11.7%	145	100.0%
Kent	32	88.9%	4	11.1%	36	100.0%	23	63.9%	10	27.8%	3	8.3%	36	100.0%
Sussex	41	85.4%	7	14.6%	48	100.0%	32	66.7%	11	22.9%	5	10.4%	48	100.0%
State	209	91.3%	20	8.7%	229	100.0%	154	67.2%	50	21.8%	25	10.9%	229	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

TRIAL DISPOSITIONS - PART TWO

Number of Defendants Disposed of by:

	Jury Trial							Non Jury Trial							TOTALS
	Guilty	Guilty LIO	Not Guilty	Pled Guilty At Trial	Nol Pros/ Dismissed At Trial	Mistrial	Hung Jury	Guilty	Guilty LIO	Not Guilty	Pled Guilty At Trial	Nol Pros/ Dismissed At Trial	Mistrial		
New Castle	87	0	24	3	5	15	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	145
Kent	12	4	5	4	4	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	36
Sussex	24	0	8	2	2	1	4	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	48
State	123	4	37	9	11	17	8	15	3	1	0	1	0	0	229

LIO = Lesser Included Offense

Nol Pros = Nolle Prosequi

*Includes Dismissals at Trial and Nolle Prosequis at Trial

**Hung Juries and Mistrials

Source=Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Court.

SUPERIOR COURT

Explanatory Notes

1. Guilty plea dispositions do not include pleas made during trials. They are included in the trial disposition totals.
2. "PG-Original" includes defendants who pled guilty to all charges or to the major charge of a multi-count indictment, appeal, transfer or reinstatement.
3. "PG-Lesser" includes defendants who pled guilty to a lesser included offense of the most serious charge, a less serious charge of a multi-count indictment or other filings, or a lesser included offense of a less serious charge of a multi-count indictment or other filing.
4. "PG-NI" indicates that a defendant pled guilty to a new information – always a less serious charge than the original one.
5. "PG-Information" denotes a defendant who waived indictment and pled guilty to an information filed by the Attorney General.
6. A plea of nolo contendere is considered to be the equivalent of a guilty plea; e.g., a plea of nolo contendere to a lesser included offense is counted with PG-Lesser.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

GUILTY PLEA DISPOSITIONS - FELONY

	PG-Original		PG-Lesser		PG-NI		PG-Information		Totals	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
New Castle	1,354	58.3%	970	41.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2,324	100.0%
Kent	203	39.3%	42	8.1%	0	0.0%	272	52.6%	517	100.0%
Sussex	384	59.7%	258	40.1%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	643	100.0%
State	1,941	55.7%	1,270	36.5%	1	0.0%	272	7.8%	3,484	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

GUILTY PLEA DISPOSITIONS - MISDEMEANOR

	PG-Original		PG-Lesser		PG-NI		PG-Information		Totals	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
New Castle	897	98.5%	14	1.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	911	100.0%
Kent	73	17.8%	136	33.3%	0	0.0%	200	48.9%	409	100.0%
Sussex	225	97.8%	4	1.7%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	230	100.0%
State	1,195	77.1%	154	9.9%	1	0.1%	200	12.9%	1,550	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

GUILTY PLEA DISPOSITIONS - TOTALS

	PG-Original		PG-Lesser		PG-NI		PG-Information		Totals	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
New Castle	2,251	69.6%	984	30.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3,235	100.0%
Kent	276	29.8%	178	19.2%	0	0.0%	472	51.0%	926	100.0%
Sussex	609	69.8%	262	30.0%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	873	100.0%
State	3,136	62.3%	1,424	28.3%	2	0.0%	472	9.4%	5,034	100.0%

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

NOLLE PROSEQUI DISPOSITIONS -- PART ONE*

	Number of Defendants With Nolle Prosequis By Special Condition		Number of Defendants With Nolle Prosequis By Merit		Total Number of Defendants Disposed Of By Nolle Prosequi	
New Castle	494	54.5%	413	45.5%	907	100.0%
Kent	133	76.4%	41	23.6%	174	100.0%
Sussex	132	60.3%	87	39.7%	219	100.0%
State	759	58.4%	541	41.6%	1,300	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

NOLLE PROSEQUI DISPOSITIONS -- PART TWO*

	New Castle County	Kent County	Sussex County	State
Number of Defendants with Nolle Prosequis by Special Condition				
Guilty of Other Charges, Different Indictment	190	41	91	322
Disposed of in Other Court	48	2	0	50
Reindicted	67	8	0	75
Placed on AG's Probation	64	17	7	88
Made Restitution	10	3	7	20
Placed in Custody of Other Jurisdiction	2	1	2	5
Indicted on Other Charges	10	0	0	10
Without Prejudice	1	58	1	60
Miscellaneous	102	3	24	129
Number of Defendants with Nolle Prosequis by Merit				
Codefendant Guilty	6	3	5	14
Police Problems	5	2	0	7
Defense Valid	1	0	6	7
Prosecutive Merit	142	9	15	166
Victim or Witness Availability/Deceased	75	6	14	95
Victim or Witness Attitude/Credibility	23	7	14	44
Related to Indictment	18	2	1	21
Insufficient Evidence	116	10	28	154
Due Process	5	0	0	5
Miscellaneous	22	2	4	28
TOTAL	907	174	219	1,300

*Nolle Prosequis for indicted defendants only.

AG = Attorney General

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts.

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - DISPOSITIONS BY OFFENSE TYPE

NEW CASTLE COUNTY

Number of Defendants Disposed of By:

Offense	Trial G-NG-NFD	Guilty Plea	NP	Dismissal	ADRR	Remand/ Transfer	First Offender	Cons.	TOTALS
Crimes of Violence									
Murder 1st	14 - 0 - 1	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	25
Murder 2nd	3 - 0 - 0	4	6	0	0	1	0	0	14
Manslaughter	1 - 0 - 0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Attempted Murder 1st	3 - 0 - 1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Assault 1st	0 - 0 - 0	24	6	1	0	0	0	0	31
Assault 2nd	3 - 3 - 1	154	32	2	0	0	0	0	195
Sexual Intercourse 1st/2nd	2 - 1 - 1	12	3	0	0	0	0	1	20
Sexual Intercourse 3rd; Sex. Pen.	0 - 1 - 0	31	13	0	0	0	0	0	45
Sexual Contact	0 - 2 - 1	37	7	0	0	0	0	0	47
Kidnapping 1st/2nd	2 - 2 - 0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	12
Robbery 1st	5 - 1 - 3	77	24	0	0	0	0	0	110
Robbery 2nd	0 - 0 - 0	45	11	0	0	0	0	0	56
Drug Offenses									
Trafficking	15 - 3 - 2	116	42	1	0	0	0	0	179
Delivery	5 - 2 - 0	246	59	0	0	0	0	0	312
Possession w/Intent to Deliver	13 - 2 - 1	286	60	2	0	0	0	0	364
Possession of Drugs	2 - 1 - 1	306	59	0	0	0	63	0	432
Other Drug Offenses	1 - 1 - 0	39	9	0	0	0	0	0	50
Remaining Indicted Offenses									
All Forgery	0 - 0 - 0	150	40	0	0	0	0	0	190
Theft/RSP/Burglary	7 - 2 - 1	694	137	2	1	0	0	0	844
Weapons Offenses	3 - 2 - 0	93	56	0	0	0	0	0	154
Other	7 - 5 - 3	462	99	3	0	0	0	0	579
Appeals and Transfers									
DUI/CUI	6 - 0 - 0	67	17	0	2	0	16	0	128
Other Traffic Offenses	3 - 0 - 0	141	68	8	3	1	0	0	224
Non-Traffic Offenses	4 - 1 - 1	215	150	6	6	1	0	3	387
TOTALS	99 -29 -17	3,235	907	25	12	3	79	4	4,410

Sex. Pen. = Sexual Penetration

RSP = Receiving Stolen Property

DUI/CUI = Driving Under the Influence/Control Under the Influence.

G = Guilty (includes Pled Guilty at Trial)

NG = Not Guilty (includes Dismissals at Trial and Nolle Prosequi at Trial).

NFD = No Final Disposition (Hung Juries and Mistrials)

NP = Nolle Prosequi

ADRR = Appeal Dismissed, Record Remanded

Cons. = Consolidation

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - DISPOSITIONS BY OFFENSE TYPE KENT COUNTY

Number of Defendants Disposed of By:

Offense	Trial G-NG-NFD	Guilty Plea	NP	Dismissal	ADRR	Remand/ Transfer	First Offender	Cons.	TOTALS
Crimes of Violence									
Murder 1st	4 - 0 - 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Murder 2nd	1 - 0 - 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Manslaughter	1 - 0 - 0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Attempted Murder 1st	0 - 0 - 0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Assault 1st	0 - 0 - 0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Assault 2nd	0 - 0 - 0	24	6	1	0	0	0	0	31
Sexual Intercourse 1st/2nd	2 - 2 - 0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	14
Sexual Intercourse 3rd; Sex. Pen.	0 - 0 - 0	16	4	0	0	0	0	0	20
Sexual Contact	1 - 1 - 0	22	1	0	0	0	0	0	25
Kidnapping 1st/2nd	0 - 0 - 0	0	5	0	1	1	0	0	7
Robbery 1st	1 - 0 - 0	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	24
Robbery 2nd	0 - 0 - 0	21	3	0	0	0	0	0	24
Drug Offenses									
Trafficking	1 - 4 - 0	16	9	2	0	0	0	0	32
Delivery	2 - 0 - 0	71	12	0	0	0	0	0	85
Possession w/Intent to Deliver	0 - 0 - 1	34	9	0	0	0	0	0	44
Possession of Drugs	1 - 0 - 0	57	4	0	0	0	16	0	78
Other Drug Offenses	1 - 0 - 0	31	5	0	0	0	0	0	37
Remaining Indicted Offenses									
All Forgery	0 - 0 - 0	72	11	0	0	0	0	0	83
Theft/RSP/Burglary	2 - 4 - 1	263	60	1	0	0	0	0	331
Weapons Offenses	2 - 0 - 0	32	4	2	0	0	0	0	40
Other	1 - 0 - 0	71	12	1	0	0	0	0	85
Appeals and Transfers									
DUI/CUI	0 - 0 - 0	6	0	0	0	0	3	0	9
Other Traffic Offenses	0 - 0 - 0	27	2	0	0	0	0	0	29
Non-Traffic Offenses	3 - 0 - 0	145	6	1	1	0	0	0	156
TOTALS	23 - 11 - 2	926	174	9	2	1	19	0	1,167

Sex. Pen. = Sexual Penetration
 RSP = Receiving Stolen Property
 DUI/CUI = Driving Under the Influence/Control Under the Influence.
 G = Guilty (includes Pled Guilty at Trial)
 NG = Not Guilty (includes Dismissals at Trial and Nolle Prosequis at Trial).
 NFD = No Final Disposition (Hung Juries and Mistrials)
 NP = Nolle Prosequi
 ADRR = Appeal Dismissed, Record Remanded
 Cons. = Consolidation

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - DISPOSITIONS BY OFFENSE TYPE

SUSSEX COUNTY

Number of Defendants Disposed of By:

Offense	Trial G-NG-NFD	Guilty Plea	NP	Dismissal	ADRR	Remand/ Transfer	First Offender	Cons.	TOTALS
Crimes of Violence									
Murder 1st	2 - 1 - 0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Murder 2nd	0 - 0 - 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0 - 0 - 0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Attempted Murder 1st	2 - 0 - 0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
Assault 1st	2 - 1 - 0	20	1	0	0	1	0	0	25
Assault 2nd	1 - 0 - 1	54	14	1	0	1	0	1	73
Sexual Intercourse 1st/2nd	0 - 0 - 0	26	1	0	0	0	0	3	30
Sexual Intercourse 3rd; Sex. Pen.	0 - 0 - 0	19	1	0	0	1	0	1	22
Sexual Contact	2 - 3 - 1	14	6	0	0	1	0	0	27
Kidnapping 1st/2nd	0 - 0 - 0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Robbery 1st	5 - 0 - 0	22	2	0	0	0	0	0	29
Robbery 2nd	1 - 0 - 0	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	15
Drug Offenses									
Trafficking	0 - 0 - 0	12	3	0	0	0	0	0	15
Delivery	2 - 0 - 0	20	7	0	0	0	1	0	30
Possession w/Intent to Deliver	3 - 0 - 1	59	14	0	0	0	0	1	78
Possession of Drugs	1 - 0 - 0	25	5	1	0	0	16	0	48
Other Drug Offenses	0 - 0 - 0	95	7	0	0	0	4	0	106
Remaining Indicted Offenses									
All Forgery	1 - 0 - 0	44	17	0	0	0	0	0	62
Theft/RSP/Burglary	2 - 1 - 1	242	72	2	0	0	0	5	325
Weapons Offenses	0 - 0 - 0	17	15	0	0	0	0	0	32
Other	5 - 2 - 1	81	29	2	0	0	0	0	120
Appeals and Transfers									
DUI/CUI	3 - 1 - 0	20	1	1	1	0	7	0	34
Other Traffic Offenses	0 - 0 - 0	24	3	0	0	1	0	0	28
Non-Traffic Offenses	0 - 2 - 0	58	13	0	0	2	0	0	75
TOTALS	32 - 11 - 5	873	219	7	1	7	28	11	1,194

Sex. Pen. = Sexual Penetration
RSP = Receiving Stolen Property
DUI/CUI = Driving Under the Influence/Control Under the Influence.
G = Guilty (includes Pled Guilty at Trial)
NG = Not Guilty (includes Dismissals at Trial and Nolle Prosequis at Trial).
NFD = No Final Disposition (Hung Juries and Mistrials)
NP = Nolle Prosequi
ADRR = Appeal Dismissed, Record Remanded
Cons. = Consolidation

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - DISPOSITIONS BY OFFENSE TYPE

STATE

Number of Defendants Disposed of By:

Offense	Trial G-NG-NFD	Guilty Plea	NP	Dismissal	ADRR	Remand/ Transfer	First Offender	Cons.	TOTALS
Crimes of Violence									
Murder 1st	20 - 1 - 1	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	35
Murder 2nd	4 - 0 - 0	4	6	0	0	1	0	0	15
Manslaughter	2 - 0 - 0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Attempted Murder 1st	5 - 0 - 1	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	19
Assault 1st	2 - 1 - 0	46	7	2	0	1	0	0	59
Assault 2nd	4 - 3 - 2	232	52	4	0	1	0	1	299
Sexual Intercourse 1st/2nd	4 - 3 - 1	43	9	0	0	0	0	4	64
Sexual Intercourse 3rd; Sex. Pen.	0 - 1 - 0	66	18	0	0	1	0	1	87
Sexual Contact	3 - 6 - 2	73	14	0	0	1	0	0	99
Kidnapping 1st/2nd	2 - 2 - 0	8	10	0	1	1	0	0	24
Robbery 1st	11 - 1 - 3	108	40	0	0	0	0	0	163
Robbery 2nd	0 - 0 - 0	75	19	0	0	0	0	0	95
Drug Offenses									
Trafficking	16 - 7 - 2	144	54	3	0	0	0	0	226
Delivery	9 - 2 - 0	337	78	0	0	0	1	0	427
Possession w/Intent to Deliver	16 - 2 - 3	379	83	2	0	0	0	1	486
Possession of Drugs	4 - 1 - 1	388	68	1	0	0	95	0	558
Other Drug Offenses	2 - 1 - 0	165	21	0	0	0	4	0	193
Remaining Indicted Offenses									
All Forgery	1 - 0 - 0	266	68	0	0	0	0	0	335
Theft/RSP/Burglary	11 - 7 - 3	1,199	269	5	1	0	0	5	1,500
Weapons Offenses	5 - 2 - 0	142	75	2	0	0	0	0	226
Other	13 - 7 - 4	614	140	6	0	0	0	0	784
Appeals and Transfers									
DUI/CUI	9 - 1 - 0	113	18	1	3	0	26	0	171
Other Traffic Offenses	3 - 0 - 0	192	73	8	3	2	0	0	281
Non-Traffic Offenses	7 - 3 - 1	418	169	7	7	3	0	3	618
TOTALS	154 -51 -24	5,034	1,300	41	15	11	126	15	6,771

Sex. Pen. = Sexual Penetration

RSP = Receiving Stolen Property

DUI/CUI = Driving Under the Influence/Control Under the Influence.

G = Guilty (includes Pled Guilty at Trial).

NG = Not Guilty (includes Dismissals at Trial and Nolle Prosequi at Trial).

NFD = No Final Disposition (Hung Juries and Mistrials)

NP = Nolle Prosequi

ADRR = Appeal Dismissed, Record Remanded

Cons. = Consolidation

Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - TRIAL CALENDAR ACTIVITY

	Total Number of Defendants Scheduled	Number of Defendants Rescheduled	Percentage of Defendants Rescheduled	Rescheduled at Defense Request	Rescheduled at Prosecution Request	Rescheduled at Mutual Request	Rescheduled at Court Request
New Castle	4,134	2,585	62.5%	1,427	55.2%	758	29.3%
Kent	728	242	33.2%	114	47.1%	37	15.3%
Sussex	958	369	38.5%	197	53.4%	79	21.4%
State	5,820	3,196	54.9%	1,738	54.4%	874	27.3%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CALENDAR ACTIVITY

SCHEDULED

Number of Defendants	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	5,047	4,134	- 913	- 18.1%
Kent	823	728	- 95	- 11.5%
Sussex	833	958	+ 125	+ 15.0%
State	6,703	5,820	- 883	- 13.2%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CALENDAR ACTIVITY

RESCHEDULED

Number of Defendants	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	2,804	2,585	- 219	- 7.8%
Kent	226	242	+ 16	+ 7.1%
Sussex	262	369	+ 107	+ 40.8%
State	3,292	3,196	- 96	- 2.9%

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES PERFORMANCE EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The Speedy Trial Directive of Chief Justice Andrew D. Christie, effective May 16, 1990, states that 90% of all criminal defendants brought before Superior Court (except murder in the first degree cases) should be disposed of within 120 days of arrest.
2. The charts measure the average and median time intervals between arrest and disposition, and the average and median time intervals between indictment/information and disposition. Subtracting the figures for indictment/information to disposition from the figures for arrest to disposition would not determine the time from arrest to indictment/information exactly. This is because there may be a different number of cases being counted in the different categories (i.e., unindicted nolle prosequis).
3. In measuring the elapsed time of defendants for the purposes of computing compliance with speedy trial directives or average elapsed time, Superior Court excludes the following time intervals:
 - a. For all capiases, the time between the date the capias is issued and the date the capias is executed.
 - b. For all Rule 9 Summonses and Rule 9 Warrants, the time between arrest and indictment/information, if any.
 - c. For all nolle prosequis, the time between the scheduled trial date and the actual filing date of the nolle prosequi.
 - d. For all mental examinations, the time between the date the examination is ordered and the receipt date for the results.
 - e. For all defendants deemed incompetent to stand trial, the period in which the defendants remain incompetent.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

	Total Number of Defendants Disposed of	Average Time from Arrest to Disposition	Median Time from Arrest to Disposition*	Average Time from Indictment/Information to Disposition#	Median Time from Indictment/Information to Disposition*#
New Castle	4,410	172.9 days	112.5 days	144.2 days	83.2 days
Kent	1,167	84.9 days	73.9 days	46.3 days	33.5 days
Sussex	<u>1,194</u>	<u>97.4 days</u>	<u>78.2 days</u>	<u>65.8 days</u>	<u>52.4 days</u>
State	6,771	144.4 days	99.8 days	113.5 days	69.2 days

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

COMPLIANCE WITH 120-DAY SPEEDY TRIAL MANDATE

	Number of Defendants Disposed of Within 120 Days of Arrest		Number of Defendants Disposed of 121 Days or More After Arrest		Total Number of Defendants Disposed of	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
New Castle	2,400	54.4%	2,010	45.6%	4,410	100.0%
Kent	953	61.7%	214	18.3%	1,167	100.0%
Sussex	<u>889</u>	<u>74.5%</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>25.5%</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
State	4,242	62.6%	2,529	37.4%	6,771	100.0%

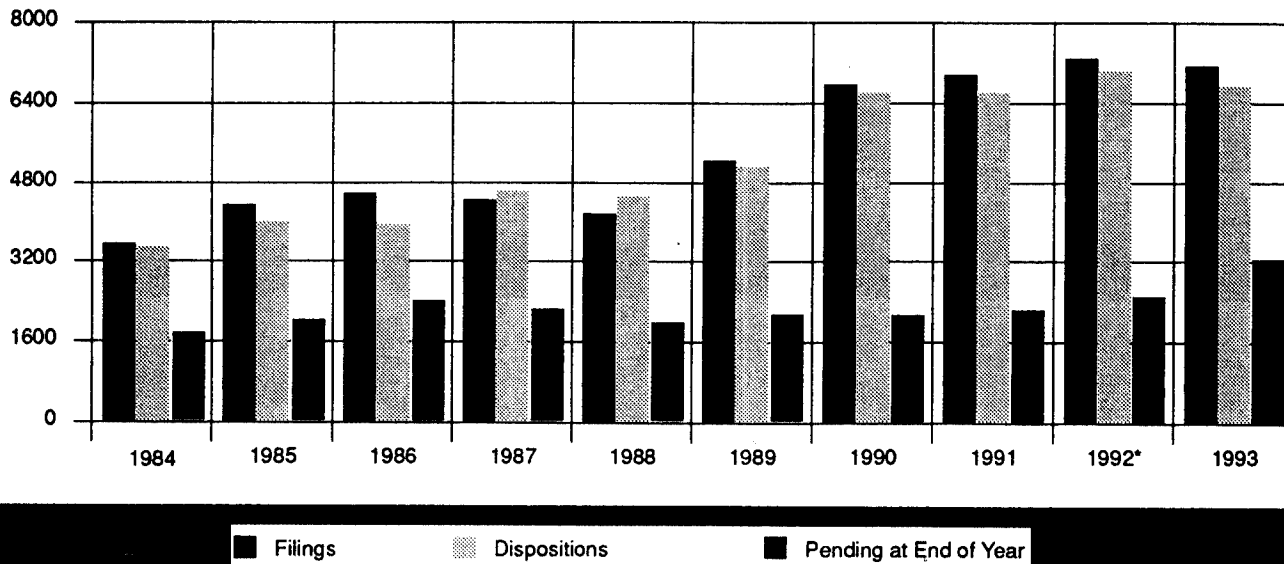
*Calculated using grouped medians method.

#Includes only defendants brought to Superior Court by indictment or information.

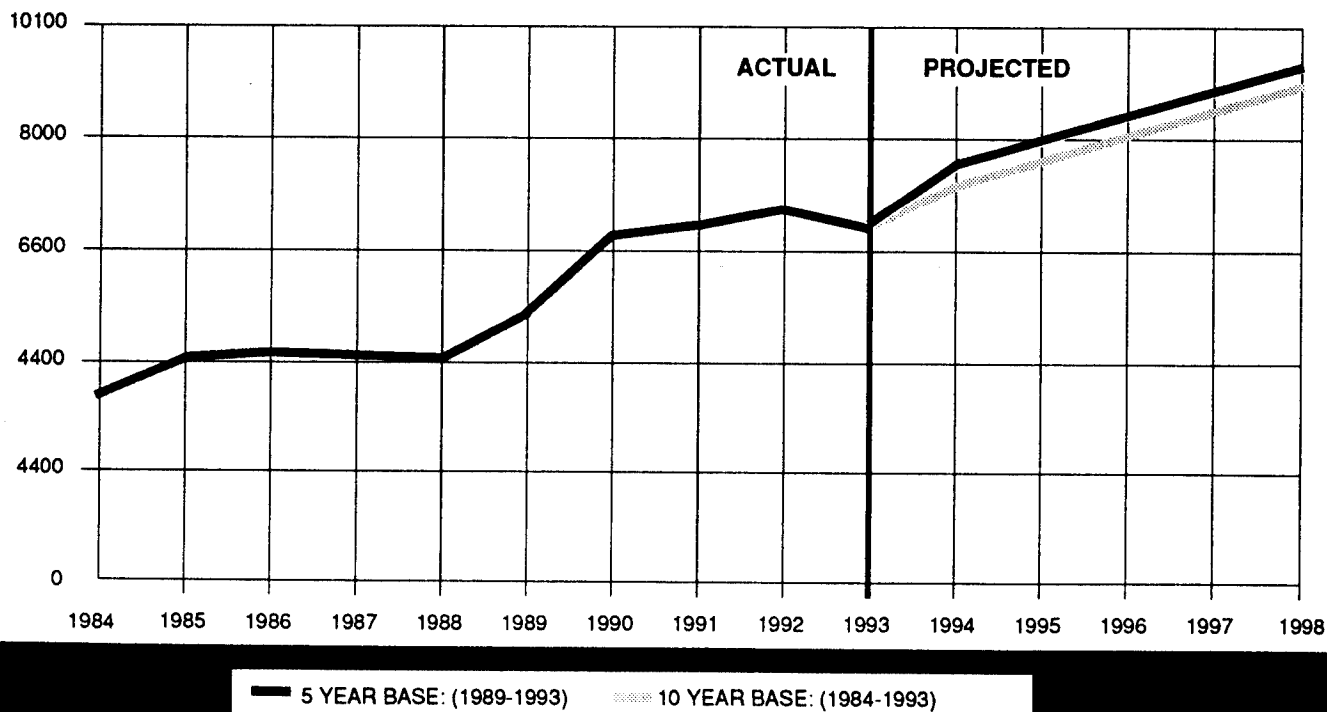
Source: Superior Court Case Scheduling Office, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT — CRIMINAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Complaints are suits for damages. During FY 1993, activity in the Complaints category included Complaints for Damages, Condemnations, Ejectments, Appeals from Justice of the Peace Court and from arbitration panels, Declaratory Judgments, Foreign Judgments, Replevins, Foreign Attachments, Domestic Attachments, Interpleaders, Amicable Actions, Breach of Contract, Transfers and Removals from the Court of Chancery, Transfers and Removals from the Court of Common Pleas and Debt Actions.
2. Mechanic's Liens and Mortgages are property suits.
3. Involuntary Commitments are proceedings held to determine whether individuals shall be involuntarily committed as mentally ill. Because Delaware State Hospital, the State's facility for mentally ill patients, is located in New Castle County, almost all Involuntary Commitment hearings are held in New Castle County.
4. Appeals are appeals on the record. This category includes appeals from administrative agencies, appeals from Family Court, appeals from the Court of Common Pleas and certioraris.
5. Miscellaneous includes all other cases.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	6496*	5,073	4,719	6,850	+ 354	+ 5.4%
Kent	796*	731	810	717	- 79	- 9.9%
Sussex	880*	709	1,022	567	- 313	- 35.6%
State	8,172*	6,513	6,551	8,134	- 38	- 0.5%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	5,405	5,073	- 332	- 6.1%
Kent	753	731	- 22	- 2.9%
Sussex	794	709	- 85	- 10.7%
State	6,952	6,513	- 439	- 6.3%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	4,269	4,719	+ 450	+ 10.5%
Kent	624	810	+ 186	+ 29.8%
Sussex	692	1,022	+ 330	+ 47.7%
State	5,585	6,551	+ 966	+ 17.3%

*Adjusted from 1992 Annual Report.

Source: New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County Prothonotaries' Offices, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILINGS

	Complaints		Mechanics's Liens and Mortgages		Appeals		Involuntary Commitments		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	3,119	61.5%	667	13.1%	219	4.3%	576	11.4%	492	9.7%	5,073	100.0%
Kent	469	64.2%	132	18.1%	43	5.9%	0	0.0%	87	11.9%	731	100.0%
Sussex	373	52.6%	165	23.3%	65	9.2%	0	0.0%	106	15.0%	709	100.0%
State	3,961	60.8%	964	14.8%	327	5.0%	576	8.8%	685	10.5%	6,513	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSITIONS

	Complaints		Mechanics's Liens and Mortgages		Appeals		Involuntary Commitments		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	2,969	62.9%	739	15.7%	131	2.8%	431	9.1%	449	9.5%	4,719	100.0%
Kent	565	69.8%	120	14.8%	44	5.4%	0	0.0%	81	10.0%	810	100.0%
Sussex	574	56.2%	290	28.4%	56	5.5%	0	0.0%	102	10.0%	1,022	100.0%
State	4,108	62.7%	1,149	17.5%	231	3.5%	431	6.6%	632	9.6%	6,551	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

PENDING AT END OF YEAR

	Complaints		Mechanics's Liens and Mortgages		Appeals		Involuntary Commitments		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	5,543	80.9%	741	10.8%	262	3.8%	152	2.2%	152	2.2%	6,850	100.0%
Kent	540	75.3%	112	15.6%	49	6.8%	0	0.0%	16	2.2%	717	100.0%
Sussex	415	73.2%	85	15.0%	54	9.5%	0	0.0%	13	2.3%	567	100.0%
State	6,498	79.9%	938	11.5%	365	4.5%	152	1.9%	181	2.2%	8,134	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

	Complaints		Mechanics's Liens and Mortgages		Appeals		Involuntary Commitments		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	+ 150		- 72		+ 88		+ 145		+ 43		+ 354	
Kent	- 96		+ 12		- 1		0		+ 6		- 79	
Sussex	- 201		- 125		+ 9		0		+ 4		- 313	
State	- 147		- 185		+ 96		+ 145		+ 53		- 38	

Source: New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County Prothonotaries' Offices, Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

COMPLAINTS DISPOSITIONS*

	Trial Dispositions				Non-Trial Dispositions*					TOTALS
	Judgment for Plaintiff	Judgment for Defendant	Default Judgment for Plaintiff	Other Judgment for Plaintiff	Judgment for Defendant	Voluntary Dismissal	Court Dismissal	Other		
New Castle	59 2.0%	50 1.7%	290 9.8%	178 6.0%	46 1.5%	2,039 68.7%	265 8.9%	42 1.4%	2,969 100.0%	
Kent	6 1.1%	10 1.8%	35 6.2%	48 8.5%	7 1.2%	365 64.6%	80 14.2%	14 2.5%	565 100.0%	
Sussex	23 4.0%	22 3.8%	26 4.5%	75 13.1%	11 1.9%	327 57.0%	84 14.6%	6 1.0%	574 100.0%	
State	88 2.1%	82 2.0%	351 8.5%	301 7.3%	64 1.6%	2,731 66.5%	429 10.4%	62 1.5%	4,108 100.0%	

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

MECHANIC'S LIENS AND MORTGAGES DISPOSITIONS*

	Trial Dispositions		Non-Trial Dispositions*						TOTALS
	Judgment for Plaintiff	Judgment for Defendant	Default Judgment for Plaintiff	Other Judgment for Plaintiff	Judgment for Defendant	Voluntary Dismissal	Court Dismissal	Other	
New Castle	6 0.8%	0 0.0%	330 44.7%	23 3.1%	0 0.0%	293 39.6%	72 9.7%	15 2.0%	739 100.0%
Kent	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	49 40.8%	2 1.7%	0 0.0%	44 36.7%	21 17.5%	4 3.3%	120 100.0%
Sussex	4 1.4%	0 0.0%	95 32.8%	22 7.6%	4 1.4%	136 46.9%	28 9.7%	1 0.3%	290 100.0%
State	10 0.9%	0 0.0%	474 41.3%	47 4.1%	4 0.3%	473 41.2%	121 10.5%	20 1.7%	1,149 100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

APPEALS DISPOSITIONS

	Affirmed		Reversed	Affirmed Part/ Reversed Part	Voluntary Dismissal	Court Dismissal	Remanded	TOTALS
	Count	Percentage	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	
New Castle	53	40.5%	19	6	19	28	6	131 100.0%
Kent	11	25.0%	3	2	8	18	2	44 100.0%
Sussex	16	28.6%	6	0	30	2	2	56 100.0%
State	80	34.6%	28	8	57	48	10	231 100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - TYPES OF DISPOSITIONS

MISCELLANEOUS DISPOSITIONS

INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS

	Signed/ Granted		Denied/ Dismissed		Disposition Simultaneous With Filing	Court Dismissal	TOTALS	Dismissed-Voluntary Commitment	Dismissed-Released by Hospital	Dismissed-Other Reason	TOTALS
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count
New Castle	306	68.2%	79	17.6%	12	52	449 100.0%	213	216	2	431 100.0%
Kent	27	33.3%	12	14.8%	1	41	81 100.0%	0	0	0	0 100.0%
Sussex	68	66.7%	2	2.0%	3	29	102 100.0%	0	0	0	0 100.0%
State	401	63.4%	93	14.7%	16	122	632 100.0%	213	216	2	431 100.0%

*Includes cases assigned for arbitration that are disposed of for Superior Court.

Source: New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County Prothonotaries' Offices, Administrative Office of the Courts.

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - TRIALS

	Number of Jury Trials		Number of Non-Jury Trials		Total Number Of Trials	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
New Castle	95	62.9%	56	37.1%	151	100.0%
Kent	14	87.5%	2	12.5%	16	100.0%
Sussex	24	53.3%	21	46.7%	54	100.0%
State	133	62.7%	79	37.3%	212	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CALENDAR ACTIVITY

	Cases Tried		Cases Settled or Dismissed		Cases Continued for Settlement		Cases Continued Due to Lack of Judge		Cases Continued at Request of Attorney		Total Cases Scheduled	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
New Castle	151	10.0%	616	41.0%	93	6.2%	23	1.5%	621	41.3%	1,504	100.0%
Kent	16	12.6%	55	43.3%	2	1.6%	4	3.1%	50	39.4%	127	100.0%
Sussex	45	16.9%	122	45.7%	2	0.7%	4	1.5%	94	35.2%	267	100.0%
State	212	11.2%	793	41.8%	97	5.1%	31	1.6%	765	40.3%	1,848	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

	COMPLAINTS		MECHANIC'S LIENS AND MORTGAGES	
	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition
New Castle	2,969	569.0 days	739	375.5 days
Kent	565	500.1 days	120	385.4 days
Sussex	574	590.1 days	290	464.8 days
State	4,108	562.5 days	1,149	399.1 days

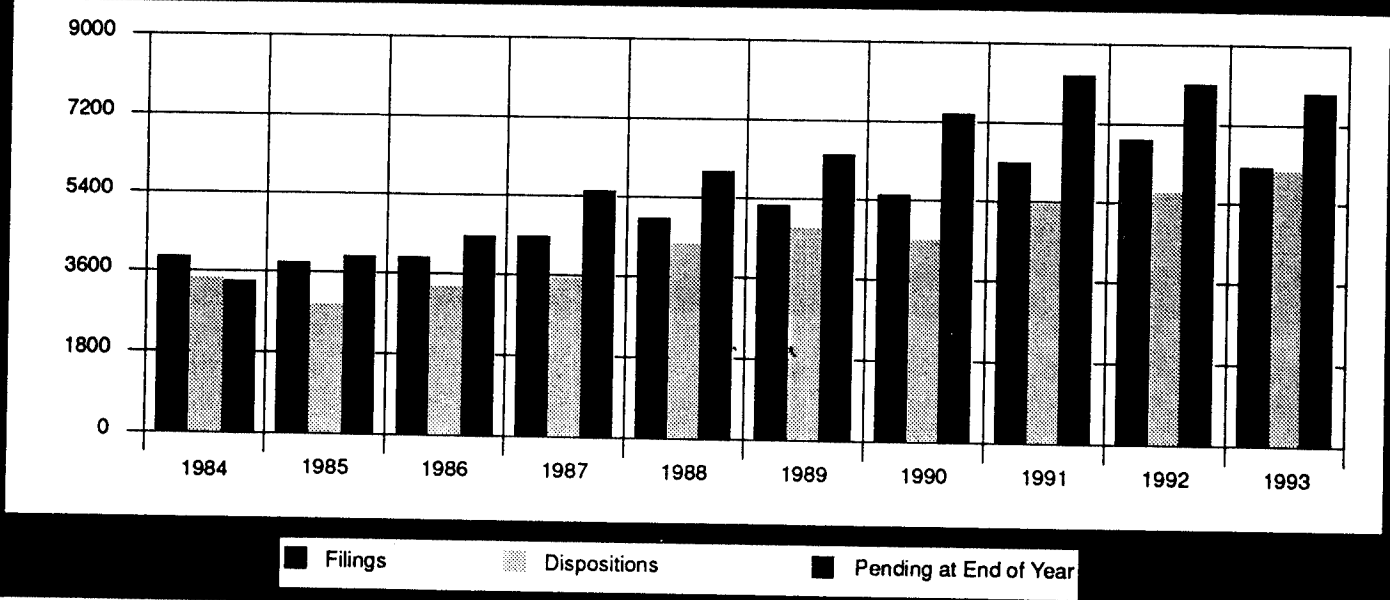
FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - PERFORMANCE SUMMARY (Continued)

	APPEALS		INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS		MISCELLANEOUS	
	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition	Number of Dispositions	Average Time from Filing to Disposition
New Castle	131	292.9 days	431	78.2 days	449	77.5 days
Kent	44	560.7 days	0	—	81	55.0 days
Sussex	56	343.8 days	0	—	102	31.9 days
State	231	356.2 days	431	78.2 days	632	67.3 days

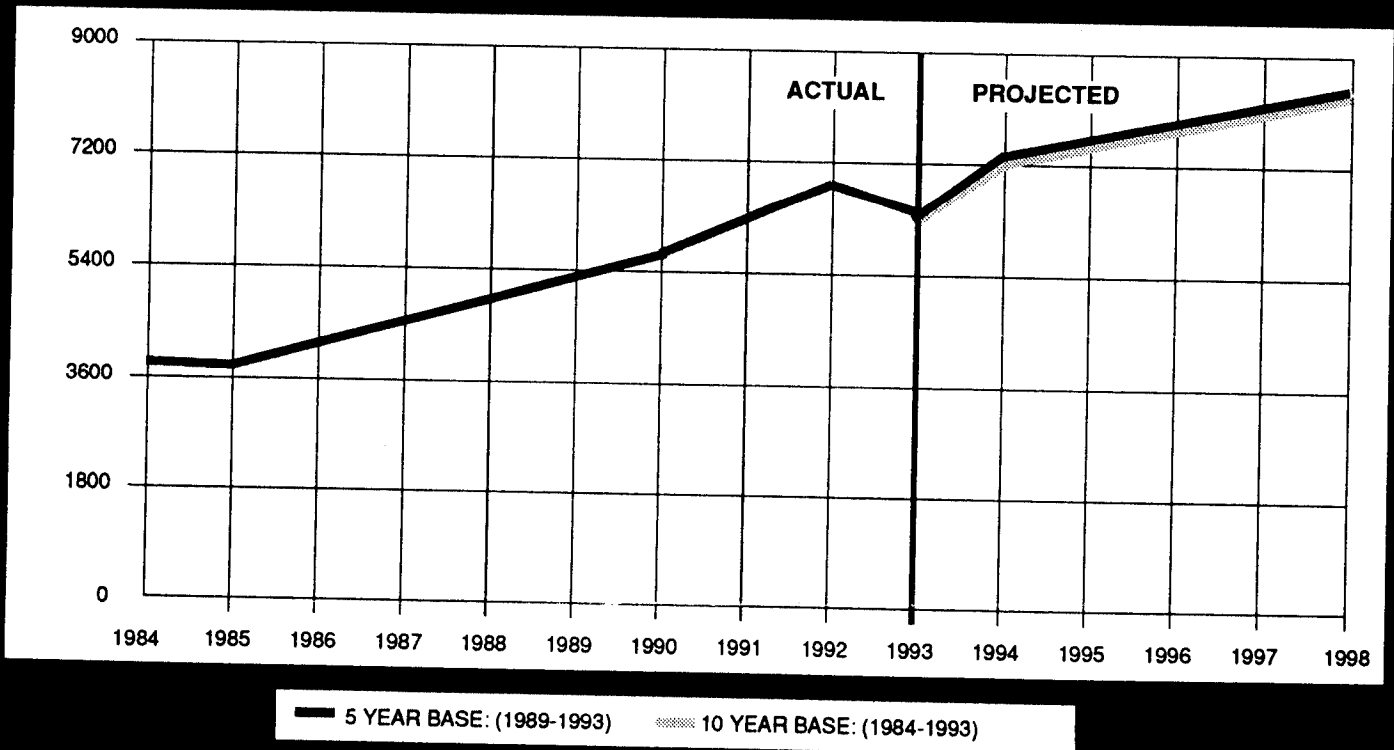
Source: New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County Prothonotaries' Offices, Administrative Office of the Courts.

SUPERIOR COURT — CIVIL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



*Pending at end of FY 1992 amended from 1992 Annual Report.
Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - PERFORMANCE BREAKDOWNS

COMPLAINTS - METHOD

METHOD OF DISPOSITION

Number of Cases Disposed of by:

	Trial		Arbitrator's Order		Default Judgment		Voluntary Dismissal		Other		TOTAL	
New Castle	109	3.7%	193	6.5%	290	9.8%	2,039	68.7%	338	11.4%	2,969	100.0%
Kent	16	2.8%	53	9.4%	35	6.2%	365	64.6%	96	17.0%	565	100.0%
Sussex	45	7.8%	56	9.8%	26	4.5%	327	57.0%	120	20.9%	574	100.0%
State	170	4.1%	302	7.4%	351	8.5%	2,731	66.5%	554	13.5%	4,108	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - PERFORMANCE BREAKDOWNS

COMPLAINTS - ELAPSED TIME

AVERAGE TIME FROM FILING TO DISPOSITION

Number of Cases Disposed of by:

	Trial	Arbitrator's Order	Default Judgment	Voluntary Dismissal	Other	TOTAL
New Castle	1,050.3 days	377.1 days	188.4 days	558.1 days	916.0 days	569.0 days
Kent	823.3 days	301.7 days	340.2 days	477.0 days	701.9 days	500.1 days
Sussex	681.6 days	419.7 days	185.6 days	524.1 days	903.1 days	590.1 days
State	931.4 days	371.8 days	203.4 days	543.2 days	876.1 days	562.5 days

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - PERFORMANCE BREAKDOWNS

MECHANIC'S LIENS AND MORTGAGES - METHOD

METHOD OF DISPOSITION

Number of Cases Disposed of by:

	Trial		Arbitrator's Order		Default Judgment		Voluntary Dismissal		Other		TOTAL	
New Castle	6	0.8%	5	0.7%	330	44.7%	293	39.6%	105	14.2%	739	100.0%
Kent	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	49	40.8%	44	36.7%	27	22.5%	120	100.0%
Sussex	4	1.4%	7	2.4%	95	32.8%	136	46.9%	48	16.6%	290	100.0%
State	10	0.9%	12	1.0%	474	41.3%	473	41.2%	180	15.7%	1,149	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - PERFORMANCE BREAKDOWNS

MECHANICS LIENS AND MORTGAGES - ELAPSED TIME

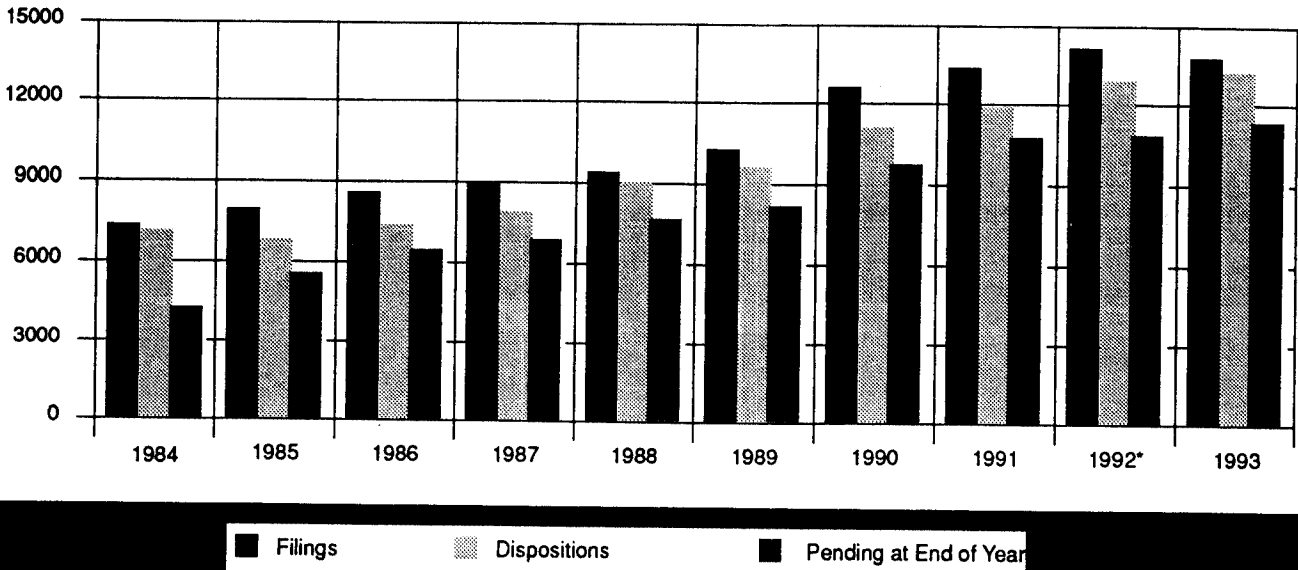
AVERAGE TIME FROM FILING TO DISPOSITION

Number of Cases Disposed of by:

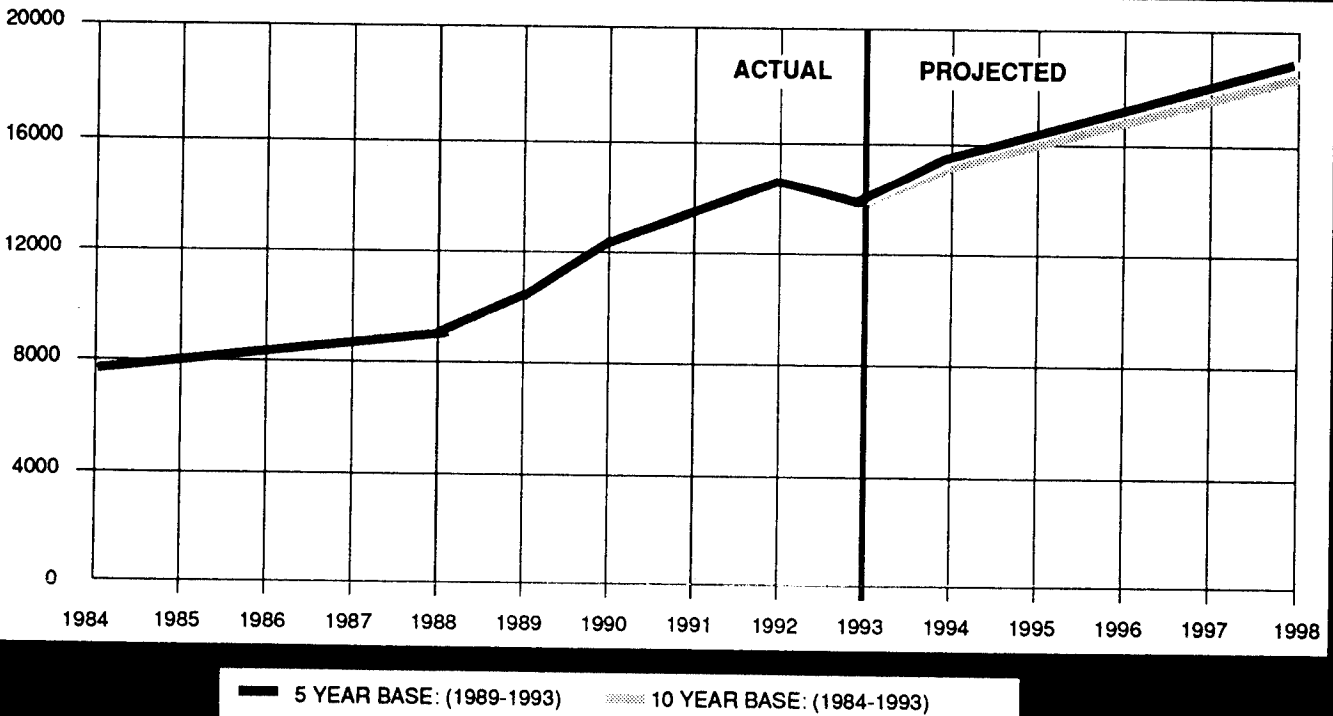
	Trial	Arbitrator's Order	Default Judgment	Voluntary Dismissal	Other	TOTAL
New Castle	1,416.2 days	348.6 days	145.2 days	524.0 days	627.0 days	375.5 days
Kent	— days	— days	121.9 days	332.8 days	949.1 days	385.4 days
Sussex	449.0 days	833.9 days	101.3 days	568.3 days	838.4 days	464.8 days
State	1,029.3 days	631.7 days	134.0 days	519.0 days	713.7 days	399.1 days

SUPERIOR COURT — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



*Pending at end of FY 1992 amended from 1992 Annual Report
Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Arbitration is compulsory for civil cases in which:
 - a) Trial is available, and
 - b) Monetary damages are sought, and
 - c) Non-monetary damages are substantial, and
 - d) Damages do not exceed \$100,000
2. The President Judge of Superior Court or his designee assigns each arbitration case to an arbitrator who is appointed pursuant to the following guidelines:
 - a) The parties may request a specific arbitrator by joint agreement, or
 - b) If the parties fail to mutually agree upon an arbitrator of their choice, the Court provides a list of three (3) alternative arbitrators for review by the parties. The plaintiff(s) and the defendant(s) may each strike one alternative arbitrator, and the Court appoints the arbitrator from the remaining alternative arbitrators.
3. The arbitrator's decision is to be in the form of a written order. The order is to become a judgment of the Court unless a trial de novo is requested. Any party may request a trial de novo before Superior Court within 20 days following the arbitrator's order.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings*	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	2,875	2,843	2,334	3,384	+ 509	+ 17.7%
Kent	528	470	410	588	+ 60	+ 11.4%
Sussex	478**	334	463	349	- 129	- 27.0%
State	3,881**	3,647	3,207	4,321	+ 440	+ 11.3%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ARBITRATION - CASELOAD

	FILINGS*		Change	% Change
	1992	1993		
New Castle	2,613	2,843	+ 230	+ 8.8%
Kent	323	470	+ 147	+ 45.5%
Sussex	382	334	- 48	- 12.6%
State	3,318	3,647	+ 329	+ 9.9%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ARBITRATION - CASELOAD

	DISPOSITIONS*		Change	% Change
	1992	1993		
New Castle	2,064	2,334	+ 270	+ 13.1%
Kent	166	410	+ 244	+ 147.0%
Sussex	314	463	+ 149	+ 47.5%
State	2,544	3,207	+ 663	+ 26.1%

*Includes new arbitration cases and cases transferred.

**Amended from 1992 Annual Report.

Source: Arbitration Unit, Superior Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION - CASELOAD

FILINGS

Cases Eligible for Arbitration*

	Arbitration** Cases Filed		Non-Arbitration Cases Filed		Total Filed	
New Castle	2,843	75.1%	943	24.9%	3,786	100.0%
Kent	470	78.2%	131	21.8%	601	100.0%
Sussex	334	62.1%	204	37.9%	538	100.0%
State	3,647	74.1%	1,278	25.9%	4,925	100.0%

All Civil Cases

	Arbitration** Cases Filed		Non-Arbitration Cases Filed		Total Filed	
New Castle	2,843	56.0%	2,230	44.0%	5,073	100.0%
Kent	470	64.3%	261	35.7%	731	100.0%
Sussex	334	47.1%	375	52.9%	709	100.0%
State	3,647	56.0%	2,866	44.0%	6,513	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION - CASELOAD

PENDING AT END OF YEAR

	Awaiting Responsive Pleading		Arbitrator Appointed		Total Pending	
New Castle	2,584	76.4%	800	23.6%	3,384	100.0%
Kent	469	79.8%	119	20.2%	588	100.0%
Sussex	221	63.3%	128	36.7%	349	100.0%
State	3,274	75.8%	1,047	24.2%	4,321	100.0%

*Includes complaints and mechanic's liens and mortgages.

**Includes new filings and transfers.

***Includes cases removed before hearing, final dispositions at hearing, and de novo appeals.

Source: Arbitration Unit, Superior Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

SUPERIOR COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION - METHOD OF DISPOSITION

Number of Dispositions	Removed Before Hearing*		Final Disposition Arbitrator's Order**		De Novo Appeal***		Total	
New Castle	1,566	67.1%	422	18.1%	346	14.8%	2,334	100.0%
Kent	280	68.3%	51	12.4%	79	19.3%	410	100.0%
Sussex	287	62.0%	74	16.0%	102	22.0%	463	100.0%
State	2,133	66.5%	547	17.1%	527	16.4%	3,207	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION - METHOD OF DISPOSITION

DISPOSED BEFORE HEARING*

Number of Dispositions	Default Judgment		Dismissed/Settled		Other		Total	
New Castle	436	27.8%	1,092	69.7%	38	2.4%	1,566	100.0%
Kent	59	21.1%	204	72.9%	17	6.1%	280	100.0%
Sussex	78	27.2%	205	71.4%	4	1.4%	287	100.0%
State	573	26.9%	1,501	70.4%	59	2.8%	2,133	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION - METHOD OF DISPOSITION

ARBITRATOR'S ORDERS

Number of Dispositions	Final Disposition**		De Novo Appeal***		Total	
New Castle	422	54.9%	346	45.1%	768	100.0%
Kent	51	39.2%	79	60.8%	130	100.0%
Sussex	74	42.0%	102	58.0%	176	100.0%
State	547	50.9%	527	49.1%	1,074	100.0%

*Includes dispositions before hearing and removals (certificate of value, stay orders, etc.)

**Cases in which the arbitrator's decision is not appealed de novo.

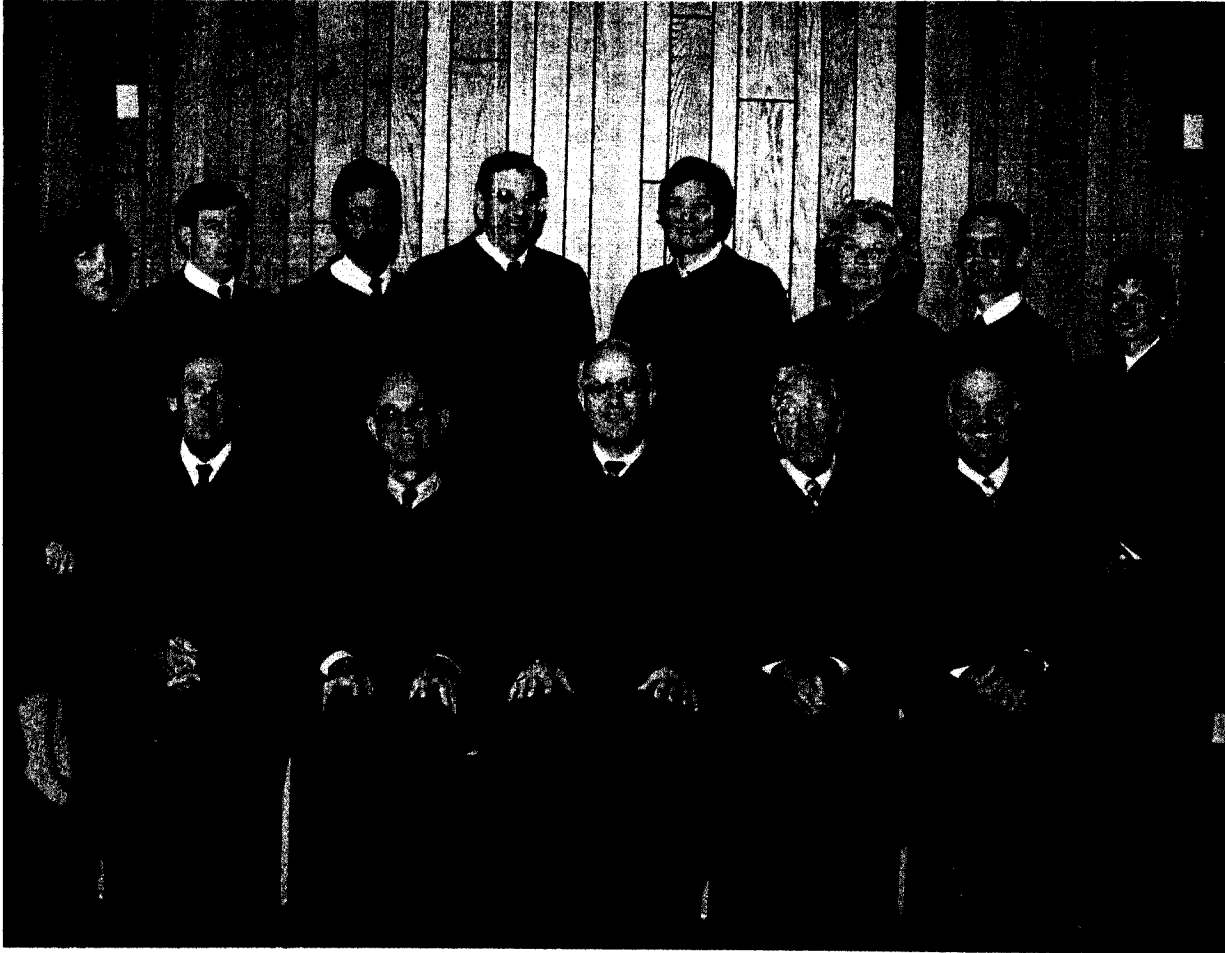
***Cases in which the arbitrator's decision is appealed de novo.

Source: Arbitration Unit, Superior Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

Family Court

Chief Judge Vincent J. Poppiti
Associate Judge Robert W. Wakefield
Associate Judge James J. Horgan
Associate Judge Jay Paul James
Associate Judge Jay H. Conner
Associate Judge Charles K. Keil
Associate Judge Peggy L. Ableman
Associate Judge Battle R. Robinson
Associate Judge Kenneth M. Millman
Associate Judge William N. Nicholas
Associate Judge Jean A. Crompton
Associate Judge William J. Walls
Associate Judge Alison Whitmer Tumas

FAMILY COURT



FAMILY COURT

Seated (Left to Right)

Associate Judge Jay Paul James
Associate Judge Robert W. Wakefield
Chief Judge Vincent J. Poppiti
Associate Judge James J. Horgan
Associate Judge Jay H. Conner

Standing (Left to Right)

Associate Judge Alison Whitmer Tumas
Associate Judge William J. Walls
Associate Judge William N. Nicholas
Associate Judge Charles K. Keil
Associate Judge Battle R. Robinson
Associate Judge Jean A. Crompton
Associate Judge Kenneth M. Millman
Associate Judge Peggy L. Ableman

Legal Authorization

The Family Court Act, rule 10, Chapter 9, Delaware Code, authorizes the Family Court.

Court History

The Family Court of the State of Delaware has its origin in the Juvenile Court for the City of Wilmington which was founded in 1911. A little over a decade later, in 1923, the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court for the City of Wilmington was extended to include New Castle County. In 1933, the Juvenile Court for Kent and Sussex Counties was created.

From the early 1930's there was a campaign to establish a Family Court in the northernmost county, and this ideal was achieved in 1945 when the Legislature created the Family Court for New Castle County, Delaware. In 1951, legislation was enacted to give the Juvenile Court for Kent and Sussex Counties jurisdiction over all family matters, and in early 1962 the name of the Juvenile Court for Kent and Sussex Counties was changed to the Family Court for Kent and Sussex Counties.

As early as the 1950's the concept of a statewide Family Court had been endorsed. The fruition of this concept was realized with the statutory authorization of the Family Court of the State of Delaware in 1971.

Geographic Organization

The Family Court is a unified statewide Court with branches in New Castle County at Wilmington, Kent County at Dover, and Sussex County at Georgetown.

Legal Jurisdiction

The Family Court has had conferred upon it by the General Assembly jurisdiction over juvenile delinquency, child neglect, dependency, child abuse, adult misdemeanor crimes against juveniles, child and spouse support, paternity of children, custody and visitation of children, adoptions, terminations of parental rights, divorces and annulments, property divisions, specific enforcement of separation agreements, guardianship over minors, imperiling the family relationship, and intra-family misdemeanor crimes.

The Family Court does not have jurisdiction over adults charged with felonies or juveniles charged with first degree murder, rape, or kidnapping.

Cases are appealed to the Supreme Court with the exception of adult criminal cases which are appealed to the Superior Court.

Judges

Number: The Court is allowed 13 Judges of equal judicial authority, one of whom is appointed by the Governor as Chief Judge and who is the chief administrative and executive officer for the Court. A bare majority of the Judges must be of one major political party with the remainder of the other major political party.

Appointment: The Governor nominates the Judges, who must be confirmed by the Senate.

Tenure: The Judges are appointed for 12-year terms.

Qualifications: Judges must have been duly admitted to the practice of law before the Supreme Court of Delaware at least 5 years prior to appointment and must have a knowledge of the law and interest in and understanding of family and child problems. They shall not practice law during their tenure and may be reappointed.

Other Judicial Personnel

The Chief Judge appoints and commissions Masters for the Court who shall hold office at his pleasure and must have resided in the State for at least 5 years prior to their appointment. Masters may hear any matters properly assigned to them by the Chief Judge, and their findings and recommendations are reviewed by a judge for approval. Parties may request a review de novo by a Judge by petitioning the Court in writing within 10 days of the Master's findings.

FAMILY COURT

Support Personnel

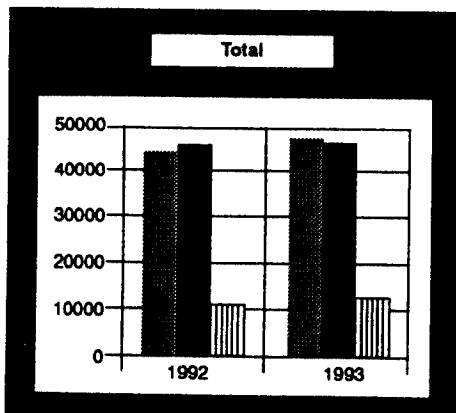
The three major administrative divisions of the Court are Court Operations, Fiscal Services and Personnel Services. Fiscal Services and Personnel Services perform staff functions, whereas Court Operations is responsible for the delivery of services to the public.

The Family Court has a staff of more than 270 persons in addition to the judiciary. The Court has a Court Administrator and a Director of Operations in each County as well as Clerks of the Court, secretaries, typists, accountants, clerks, data entry operators, judicial assistants, mediation/arbitration officers, child support officers, and volunteers working in all areas of the Court.

Caseload Trends

The caseload activity for Family Court during FY 1993 again showed record levels for both filings and dispositions. Total filings rose by 7.2% for the second consecutive year, to 47,684 from 44,500 in FY 1992. The number of dispositions rose by 3.1% from 45,755 in FY 1992 to 47,196 in FY 1993.

Total pending rose by 4.8% from 11,445 at the end of FY 1992 to 11,933 at the end of FY 1993, with pending increasing in Kent and Sussex Counties during FY 1993 while falling in New Castle County.



FY 1993 Developments

The Family Court created in New Castle County a special division, the Criminal, Delinquency, and Children and Families at Risk Division, to expedite all related actions in the priority cases which impact most directly the health, welfare, and safety of children. In FY 1993, two judges, one commissioner, and two masters, along with appropriate staff, were assigned to handle cases involving troubled families, juvenile delinquency, adult criminal, and ancillary divorce matters.

Chief Judge Vincent J. Poppiti appointed the Domestic Violence Task Force constituted by representatives from the Court, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Public Defender, Executive Branch agencies, police, other courts, and community and political leaders to suggest the streamlining of the handling of domestic violence cases. Among the laws enacted by the General Assembly in response to this initiative were Senate Bill 153 which established a first offenders domestic violence diversion program in Family Court and Senate Bill 154 which defines domestic violence and domestic abuse, and authorizes Family Court to issue protective orders.

The Family Court in New Castle County launched a Victims' Advocacy Program utilizing volunteers from the Project for Domestic Violence Reform, a non-profit agency, to screen domestic violence cases. The program which screened 1,500 cases in FY 1993 will be expanded to Kent and Sussex Counties next year.

A Child Support Task Force, chaired by former Chief Judge William C. Gordon, and made up of members from the various agencies dealing with the jurisdictional area, was formed to make recommendations for improving the Court's management of child support cases.

A Criminal and Delinquency Task Force was constituted to address the solutions to the backlog in New Castle County.

The space shortage in New Castle County was alleviated partially by the relocation of administrative staff to the Carvel State Office Building.

A historical occasion occurred on March 29, 1993 when the Family Court Building in New Castle County was formally named in memory of Jean Kane Foulke du Pont, a benefactor of the Court in the 1940's and 1950's.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 TOTAL CASES WORKLOAD EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The unit of count in the Family Court adult criminal, juvenile delinquency, and civil cases is the filing.
2. A criminal or delinquency filing is defined as one incident filed against one individual. Each incident is counted separately, so that three incidents brought before the court on a single individual are counted as three criminal or delinquency filings.
 - a. A single criminal or delinquency filing may be comprised of a single or multiple charges relating to a single incident.
 - b. A criminal filing received by the Court in the form of an information or a complaint, and a delinquency filing is received by the Court in the form of a petition or a complaint.
3. A civil filing is defined as a single civil incident filed with Family Court. A civil incident is initiated by a petition. In the instance of a divorce, although the petition may contain multiple matters ancillary to the divorce, each petition is counted as one filing.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Number of Filings	FISCAL YEAR 1992			FISCAL YEAR 1993		
	Pending 6/30/92	Filed	Disposed	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	6,560	28,703	29,272	5,991	- 569	- 8.7%
Kent	1,867	8,949	8,229	2,587	+ 720	+ 38.6%
Sussex	3,018	10,032	9,695	3,355	+ 337	+ 11.2%
State	11,445	47,684	47,196	11,933	+ 488	+ 4.3%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CASELOAD

FILED

Number of Filings	FISCAL YEAR 1992		FISCAL YEAR 1993	
	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	25,426	28,703	+ 3,277	+ 12.9%
Kent	9,214	8,949	- 265	- 2.9%
Sussex	9,860	10,032	+ 172	+ 1.7%
State	44,500	47,684	+ 3,184	+ 7.2%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CASELOAD

DISPOSED

Number of Filings	FISCAL YEAR 1992		FISCAL YEAR 1993	
	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	27,441	29,272	+ 1,831	+ 6.7%
Kent	9,288	8,229	- 1,059	- 11.4%
Sussex	9,026	9,695	+ 669	+ 7.4%
State	45,755	47,196	+ 1,441	+ 3.1%

Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ADULT CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Number of Filings	Pending 6/30/92	Filed	Disposed	Pending 6/30/93	Change in Pending	% Change in Pending
New Castle	754	3,049	3,118	685	- 69	- 9.2%
Kent	116	878	857	137	+ 21	+ 18.1%
Sussex	184	698	689	193	+ 9	+ 4.9%
State	1,054	4,625	4,664	1,015	- 39	- 3.7%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ADULT CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD

FILED

Number of Filings	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	3,179	3,049	- 130	- 4.1%
Kent	696	878	+ 182	+ 26.1%
Sussex	663	698	+ 35	+ 5.3%
State	4,538	4,625	+ 87	+ 1.9%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ADULT CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSED

Number of Filings	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	3,135	3,118	- 17	- 0.5%
Kent	724	857	+ 133	+ 18.4%
Sussex	604	689	+ 85	+ 14.1%
State	4,463	4,664	+ 201	+ 4.5%

Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Number of Filings	Pending 6/30/92	Filed	Disposed	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	1,733	5,718	6,134	1,317	- 416	- 24.0%
Kent	200	1,659	1,469	390	+ 190	+ 95.0%
Sussex	390	1,925	1,807	508	+ 118	+ 30.3%
State	2,323	9,302	9,410	2,215	- 108	- 4.6%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD

FILED

Number of Filings	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	5,903	5,718	- 185	- 3.1%
Kent	1,831	1,659	- 172	- 9.4%
Sussex	1,772	1,925	+ 153	+ 8.6%
State	9,506	9,302	- 204	- 2.1%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSED

Number of Filings	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	5,894	6,134	+ 240	+ 4.1%
Kent	1,850	1,469	- 381	- 20.6%
Sussex	1,627	1,807	+ 180	+ 11.1%
State	9,371	9,410	+ 39	+ 0.4%

Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILED

Number of Filings	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		TOTALS	
New Castle	1,478	25.8%	4,000	70.0%	240	4.2%	5,718	100.0%
Kent	339	20.4%	1,246	75.1%	74	4.5%	1,659	100.0%
Sussex	<u>349</u>	<u>18.1%</u>	<u>1,439</u>	<u>74.8%</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>7.1%</u>	<u>1,925</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
State	2,166	23.3%	6,685	71.9%	451	4.8%	9,302	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSED

Number of Filings	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		TOTALS	
New Castle	1,539	25.1%	4,345	70.8%	250	4.1%	6,134	100.0%
Kent	351	23.9%	1,094	74.5%	24	1.6%	1,469	100.0%
Sussex	<u>377</u>	<u>20.9%</u>	<u>1,278</u>	<u>70.7%</u>	<u>152</u>	<u>8.4%</u>	<u>1,807</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
State	2,267	24.1%	6,717	71.4%	426	4.5%	9,410	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

PENDING AT END OF YEAR

Number of Filings	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		TOTALS	
New Castle	714	54.2%	563	42.7%	40	3.0%	1,317	100.0%
Kent	6	1.5%	307	78.7%	77	19.7%	390	100.0%
Sussex	<u>22</u>	<u>4.3%</u>	<u>458</u>	<u>90.2%</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>5.5%</u>	<u>508</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
State	742	33.5%	1,328	60.0%	145	6.5%	2,215	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

Number of Filings	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic		TOTALS	
New Castle	- 61		- 345		- 10		- 416	
Kent	- 12		+ 152		+ 50		+ 190	
Sussex	<u>- 28</u>		<u>+ 161</u>		<u>- 15</u>		<u>+ 118</u>	
State	- 101		- 32		+ 25		- 108	

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Number of Filings	Pending 6/30/92	Filed	Disposed	Pending 6/30/93	Change in Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	4,073	19,936	20,020	3,989	- 84	- 2.1%
Kent	1,551	6,412	5,903	2,060	+ 509	+ 32.8%
Sussex	2,444	7,409	7,199	2,654	+ 210	+ 8.6%
State	8,068	33,757	33,122	8,703	+ 635	+ 7.9%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

FILED

Number of Filings	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	16,344	19,936	+ 3,592	+ 22.0%
Kent	6,687	6,412	- 275	- 4.1%
Sussex	7,425	7,409	- 16	- 0.2%
State	30,456	33,757	+ 3,301	+ 10.8%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSED

Number of Filings	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	18,412	20,020	+ 1,608	+ 8.7%
Kent	6,714	5,903	- 811	- 12.1%
Sussex	6,795	7,199	+ 404	+ 5.9%
State	31,921	33,122	+ 1,201	+ 3.8%

Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILED

	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/ Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle	4,729	23.7%	1,035	5.2%	4,253	21.3%	2,202	11.0%	2,197	11.0%	1,689	8.5%
Kent	689	10.7%	293	4.6%	1,345	21.0%	991	15.5%	872	13.6%	646	10.1%
Sussex	682	9.2%	210	2.8%	1,602	21.6%	1,644	22.2%	1,016	13.7%	852	11.5%
State	6,100	18.1%	1,538	4.6%	7,200	21.3%	4,837	14.3%	4,085	12.1%	3,187	9.4%

	Visitation		Imperilling Family Relations		Adoptions		Terminations of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	537	2.7%	156	0.8%	108	0.5%	76	0.4%	2,954	14.8%	19,936	100.0%
Kent	281	4.4%	32	0.5%	31	0.5%	13	0.2%	1,219	19.0%	6,412	100.0%
Sussex	258	3.5%	75	1.0%	37	0.5%	22	0.3%	1,011	13.6%	7,409	100.0%
State	1,076	3.2%	263	0.8%	176	0.5%	111	0.3%	5,184	15.4%	33,757	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSED

	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/ Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle	4,341	21.7%	1,086	5.4%	4,160	20.8%	2,352	11.7%	2,358	11.8%	1,716	8.6%
Kent	671	11.4%	230	3.9%	1,168	19.8%	980	16.6%	868	14.7%	515	8.7%
Sussex	696	9.7%	211	2.9%	1,483	20.6%	1,583	22.0%	1,100	15.3%	810	11.3%
State	5,708	17.2%	1,527	4.6%	6,811	20.6%	4,915	14.8%	4,326	13.1%	3,041	9.2%

	Visitation		Imperilling Family Relations		Adoptions		Terminations of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	523	2.6%	169	0.8%	126	0.6%	95	0.5%	3,094	15.5%	20,020	100.0%
Kent	258	4.4%	28	0.5%	31	0.5%	22	0.4%	1,132	19.2%	5,903	100.0%
Sussex	247	3.4%	68	0.9%	28	0.4%	12	0.2%	961	13.3%	7,199	100.0%
State	1,028	3.1%	265	0.8%	185	0.6%	129	0.4%	5,187	15.7%	33,122	100.0%

RTSC = Rule to Show Cause
 Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS (cont'd)

PENDING AT END OF YEAR

	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/ Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle	765	19.2%	148	3.7%	1,153	28.9%	422	10.6%	446	11.2%	522	13.1%
Kent	243	11.8%	126	6.1%	644	31.3%	225	10.9%	132	6.4%	350	17.0%
Sussex	295	11.1%	101	3.8%	776	29.2%	558	21.0%	215	8.1%	319	12.0%
State	1,303	15.0%	375	4.3%	2,573	29.6%	1,205	13.8%	793	9.1%	1,191	13.7%

	Visitation		Imperilling Family Relations		Adoptions		Terminations of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	192	4.8%	14	0.4%	36	0.9%	36	0.9%	255	6.4%	3,989	100.0%
Kent	116	5.6%	14	0.7%	10	0.5%	12	0.6%	188	9.1%	2,060	100.0%
Sussex	116	4.4%	19	0.7%	21	0.8%	18	0.7%	216	8.1%	2,654	100.0%
State	424	4.9%	47	0.5%	67	0.8%	66	0.8%	659	7.6%	8,703	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

	Divorces and Annulments		RTSC/ Other Civil Contempts		New Non-Support		Support Arrearages		Support Modifications		Custody	
New Castle	+ 388		- 51		+ 93		- 150		- 161		- 27	
Kent	+ 18		+ 63		+ 177		+ 11		+ 4		+ 131	
Sussex	- 14		- 1		+ 119		+ 61		- 84		+ 42	
State	+ 392		+ 11		+ 389		- 78		- 241		+ 146	

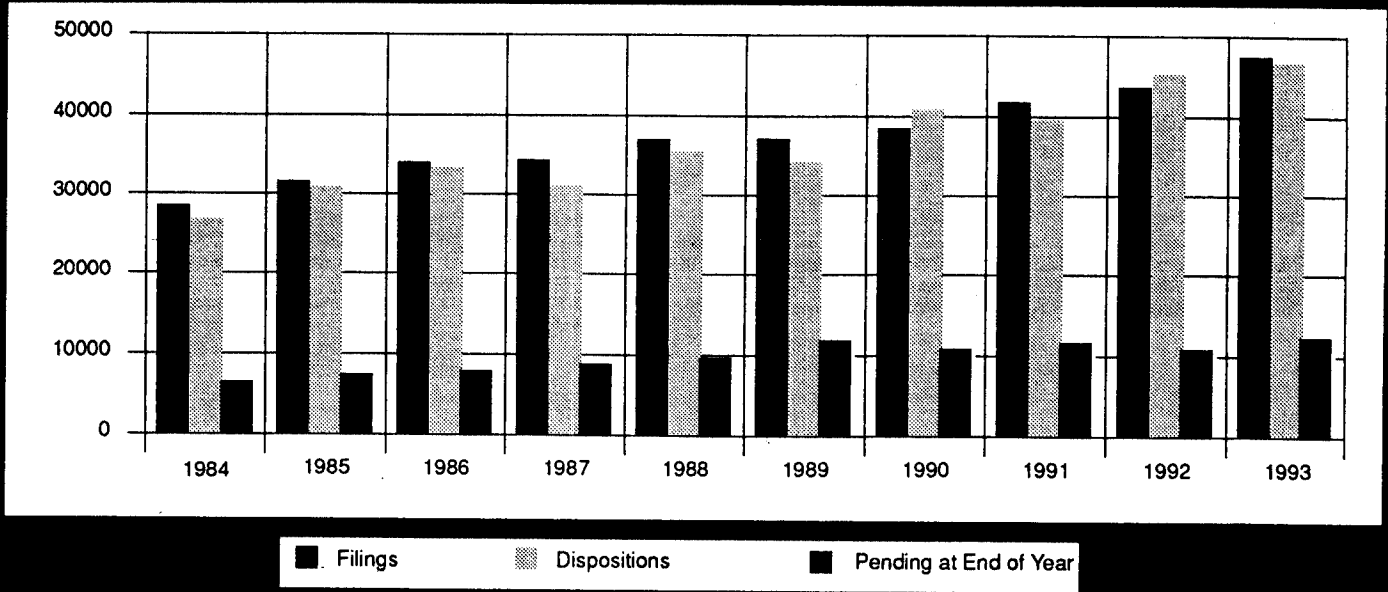
	Visitation		Imperilling Family Relations		Adoptions		Terminations of Parental Rights		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle	+ 14		- 13		- 18		- 19		- 140		- 84	
Kent	+ 23		+ 4		0		- 9		+ 87		+ 509	
Sussex	+ 11		+ 7		+ 9		+ 10		+ 50		+ 210	
State	+ 48		- 2		- 9		- 18		- 3		+ 635	

RTSC = Rule to Show Cause

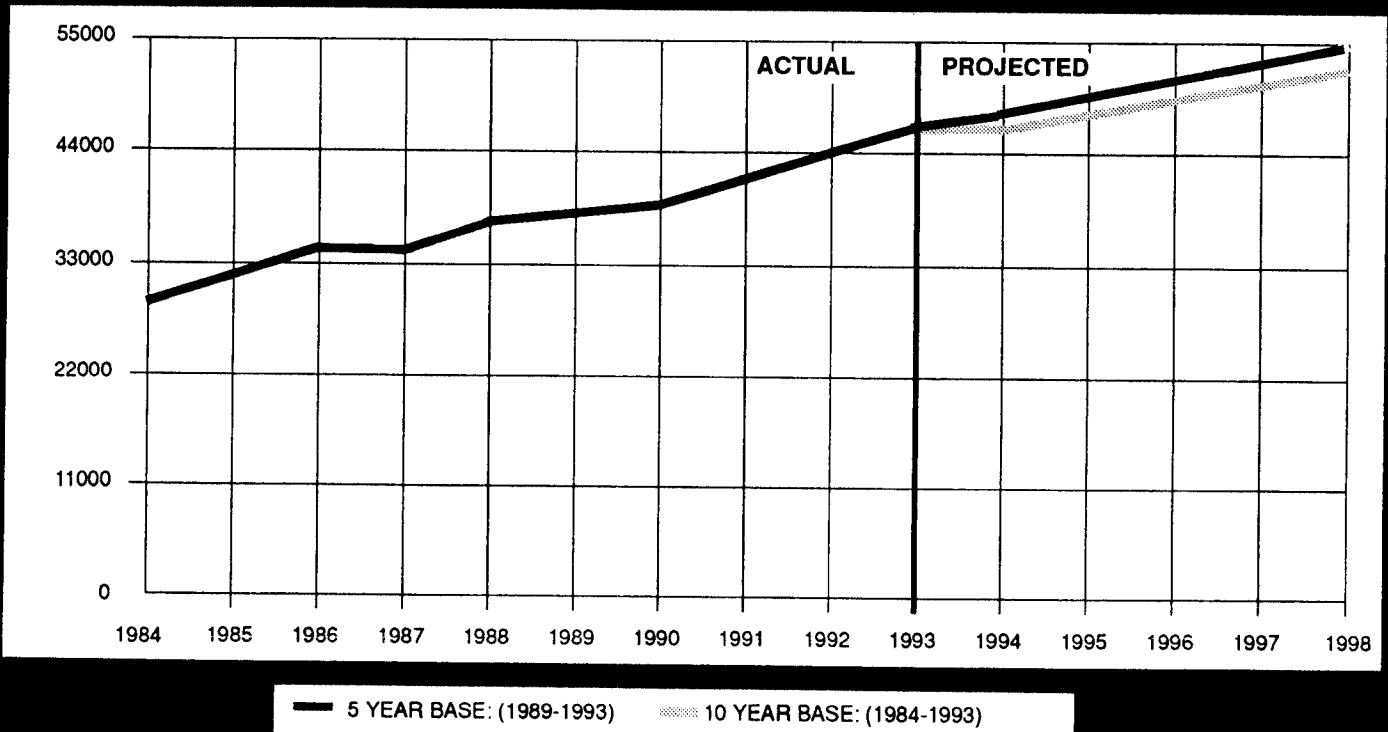
Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 ARBITRATION EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Arbitration is an informal proceeding in which a specially trained arbitration officer attempts to resolve juvenile delinquency cases involving minor charges and adult criminal cases involving selected misdemeanors.
2. Family Court decides according to established criteria if a case should be prosecuted at a formal hearing or if it should be referred to the Arbitration Unit.
3. An Arbitration Officer determines if the case should be dismissed, sent to a formal hearing, or kept open. A case is kept open if a defendant is required to fulfill conditions set by the officer and agreed to by the defendant.
4. The complainant, victim, defendant, or parent has ten (10) days to request a review of the disposition. The review is done by a Deputy Attorney General, who either upholds the disposition or decides that the manner should go to a formal hearing.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CASELOAD SUMMARY

Number of Filings

	Pending 6/30/92	Filed	Disposed*	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	760	2,202	2,867	99	- 661	- 87.0%
Kent	62	501	557	6	- 56	- 90.3%
Sussex	29	376	345	60	+ 31	+ 106.9%
State	851	3,083	3,769	165	- 686	- 80.6%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ARBITRATION ACTIVITY - CASELOAD

FILED

Number of Filings

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	2,934	2,206	- 728	- 24.8%
Kent	577	501	- 76	- 13.2%
Sussex	627	376	- 251	- 40.0%
State	4,138	3,083	- 1,055	- 25.5%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 ARBITRATION ACTIVITY - CASELOAD

DISPOSED*

Number of Filings

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	2,476	2,867	+ 391	+ 15.8%
Kent	569	557	- 12	- 2.1%
Sussex	638	345	- 293	- 45.9%
State	3,683	3,769	+ 86	+ 2.3%

*Cases processed by Family Court Arbitration Unit which may reflect final Court disposition.
Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

FAMILY COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 MEDIATION EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Mediation is a pre-adjudicatory proceeding where a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement in disputes involving child custody, support, visitation, guardianships, imperiling family relations, and rules to show cause. Mediation is mandatory in child custody, visitation and support matters.
2. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the matter is scheduled for a hearing before a master or a judge.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 MEDIATION ACTIVITY - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Number of Matters	Pending 6/30/92	Filed	Disposed*	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	778	8,583	8,244	1,117	+ 339	+ 43.6%
Kent	431	3,453	3,333	551	+ 120	+ 27.8%
Sussex	546	3,254	3,489	311	- 235	- 43.0%
State	1,755	15,290	15,066	1,979	+ 224	+ 12.8%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 MEDIATION ACTIVITY - CASELOAD

FILED

Number of Matters	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	8,850	8,583	- 267	- 3.0%
Kent	3,487	3,453	- 34	- 1.0%
Sussex	3,244	3,254	+ 10	+ 0.3%
State	15,581	15,290	- 291	- 1.9%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 MEDIATION ACTIVITY - CASELOAD

DISPOSED*

Number of Matters	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	8,763	8,244	- 519	- 5.9%
Kent	3,450	3,333	- 117	- 3.4%
Sussex	3,013	3,489	+ 476	+ 15.8%
State	15,226	15,066	- 160	- 1.1%

*Matters processed by Family Court Mediation Unit which may reflect final Court disposition.
Source: Statistician, Family Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

Court of Common Pleas

Chief Judge Arthur F. DiSabatino
Judge Merrill C. Trader
Judge Paul E. Ellis
Judge William C. Bradley, Jr.
Judge Alex J. Smalls

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Seated (Left to Right)
Judge Arthur F. DiSabatino**
Chief Judge Robert H. Wahl*

Standing (Left to Right)
Judge Merrill C. Trader
Judge William C. Bradley, Jr.
Judge Paul E. Ellis

*Chief Judge Wahl retired on 6/30/93.

**Judge DiSabatino became Chief Judge on 7/1/93.

***Judge Alex J. Smalls (not shown) took the oath of office as a Court of Common Pleas judge on 10/8/93.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Legal Authorization

The statewide Court of Common Pleas was created by 10 Delaware Code, Chapter 13, effective July 5, 1973.

Court History

Initially established under William Penn in the 17th Century, the Court of Common Pleas served as the supreme judicial authority in the State. During the latter part of the 18th Century and through most of the 19th Century, however, the Court was abolished during an era of Court reorganization.

The modern day Court of Common Pleas was established in 1917 when a Court with limited civil and criminal jurisdiction was established in New Castle County. Courts of Common Pleas were later established in Kent County in 1931 and Sussex County in 1953.

In 1973, the Court of Common Pleas became a State of Delaware Court rather than county courts.

Geographic Organization

The Court of Common Pleas sits in each of the three counties at the respective county seats.

Legal Jurisdiction

The Court of Common Pleas has statewide jurisdiction which includes concurrent jurisdiction with Superior Court in civil actions where the amount involved, exclusive of interest, does not exceed \$15,000 on the complaint. There is no limitation in amount on counterclaim. All civil cases are tried without a jury.

The Court has criminal jurisdiction over all misdemeanors occurring in the State of Delaware except drug-related cases, and those occurring within the limits of the City of Wilmington. It is also responsible for all preliminary hearings. Jury trial is available to defendants; however, in New Castle County jury trials are transferred to Superior Court for disposition.

Judges

There are five Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, of which three are to be residents of New Castle County, one of Kent County, and one of Sussex County. They are nominated by the Governor with the confirmation of the Senate for 12-year terms. They must have been actively engaged in the general practice of law in the State of Delaware for at least five years and must be citizens of the State. A majority of not more than one Judge may be from the same political party. The Judge who has seniority in service is to serve as Chief Judge.

Support Personnel

Personnel are appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, including a Court Administrator and one Clerk of the Court for each county. Other employees as are necessary are also added, including bailiffs, court reporters, secretaries, clerks, presentence officers, etc.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Caseload Trends

The number of criminal filings rose by 3.6% to 52,091 in FY 1993 from 50,278 in FY 1992. This rise was caused by a 22.8% jump in Kent County from the previous year. Criminal dispositions increased by 6.5% from 49,815 in FY 1992 to 53,034 in FY 1993. The larger increase in dispositions than in filings resulted in a 8.6% decrease in criminal pending from 10,920 at the end of FY 1992 to 9,977 at the end of FY 1993. This represented the first time since FY 1984 where there was a decrease in criminal pending during a fiscal year.

The number of civil filings decreased for the second year in a row. The 13.6% drop in FY 1993 from 5,481 in FY 1992 to 4,735 in FY 1993 was caused in large part by a 19.2% fall in civil filings in New Castle County. Civil dispositions rose by 17.4% to 6,056 in FY 1993 from 5,157 in FY 1992 with increases in all counties. The fall in the number of civil filings along with the increase in civil dispositions led to a 25.5% decrease in civil pending from 5,185 at the end of FY 1992 to 3,864 at the end of FY 1993.

There was an increase of 1.9% in total filings from 55,759 in FY 1992 to 56,826 in FY 1993. The 7.5% rise in total dispositions to 59,090 during FY 1993 from 54,972 in FY 1992 was

caused by the rise in both criminal and civil dispositions. The fall in both criminal and civil pending assured that there would be a fall in total pending. The actual decrease was 14.1% from 16,105 at the end of FY 1992 to 13,841 at the end of FY 1993.

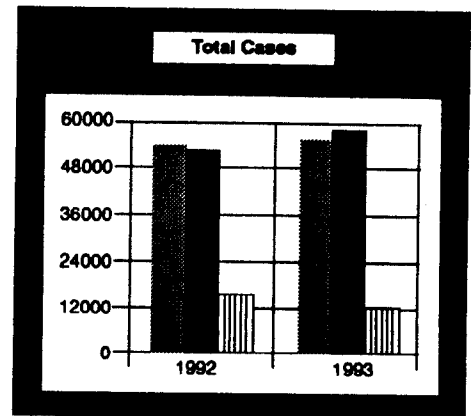
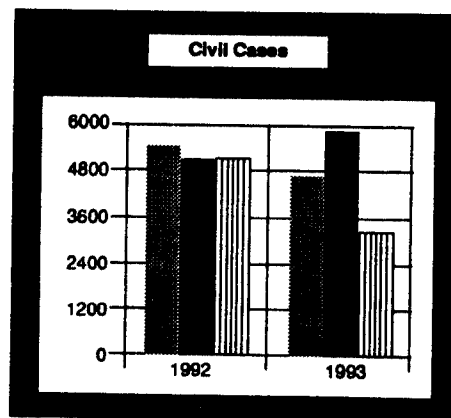
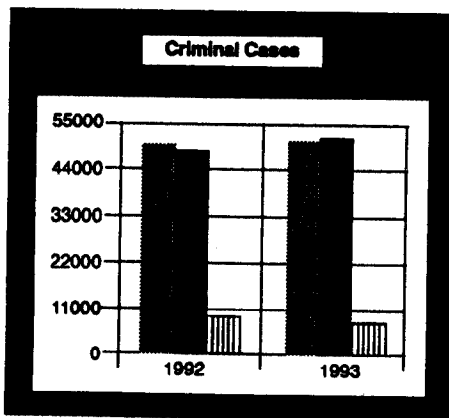
FY 1993 Developments

A new system for processing Driving Under the Influence cases which introduced the steps of a case review and a trial management conference contributed to the disposition of a larger number of these cases prior to trial. Consequently, the average time required for disposing these cases was reduced from ten to four months and more judicial and staff time could be allocated to other criminal cases.

The Court initiated discussion with the Division of Motor Vehicles toward developing procedures for the electronic transfer of dispositions.

In cooperation with the Justice of the Peace Courts, the Court developed an automated system for scheduling arraignments which has expedited the handling of this type of case.

The Court is using personal computer applications to automate such basic case processing functions as the production of forms and standard correspondence.



Filings
 Dispositions
 Pending

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY *

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change in Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	8,237	26,670	27,783	7,124	- 1,113	- 13.5%
Kent	1,434	13,151	12,812	1,773	+ 339	+ 23.6%
Sussex	1,249	12,270	12,439	1,080	- 169	- 13.5%
State	10,920	52,091	53,034	9,977	- 943	- 8.6%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	26,782	26,670	- 112	- 0.4%
Kent	10,709	13,151	+ 2,442	+ 22.8%
Sussex	12,787	12,270	- 517	- 4.0%
State	50,278	52,091	+ 1,813	+ 3.6%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CRIMINAL CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	25,749	27,783	+ 2,034	+ 7.9%
Kent	11,162	12,812	+ 1,650	+ 14.8%
Sussex	12,904	12,429	- 465	- 3.6%
State	49,815	53,034	+ 3,219	+ 6.5%

*The unit of count for criminal cases is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before the Court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.

Source: Court Administrator, Court of Common Pleas, Administrative Office of the Courts.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES * - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILINGS

	Original**		Optional Transfers#		Mandatory Transfers##		Reduced to Misdemeanors@		Totals		Preliminary Hearings
New Castle	6,176	23.2%	19,251	72.2%	739	2.8%	504	1.9%	26,670	100.0%	6,757
Kent	803	6.1%	11,771	89.5%	564	4.3%	13	0.1%	13,151	100.0%	3,950
Sussex	41	0.3%	11,111	90.6%	863	7.0%	255	2.1%	12,270	100.0%	3,806
State	7,020	13.5%	42,133	80.9%	2,166	4.2%	772	1.5%	52,091	100.0%	14,513

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES * - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSITIONS

	Jury		Non-Jury		Totals	
New Castle	0	0.0%	27,783	100.0%	27,783	100.0%
Kent	17	0.1%	12,795	99.9%	12,812	100.0%
Sussex	23	0.2%	12,416	99.8%	12,439	100.0%
State	40	0.1%	52,994	99.9%	53,034	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES * - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

PENDING AT END OF YEAR

	Capiases		Other		Totals	
New Castle	2,936	41.2%	4,188	58.8%	7,124	100.0%
Kent	686	38.7%	1,087	61.3%	1,773	100.0%
Sussex	333	30.8%	747	69.2%	1,080	100.0%
State	3,955	39.6%	6,022	60.4%	9,977	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES * - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

	Capiases	Other	Totals
New Castle	- 1,013	- 100	- 1,113
Kent	+ 48	+ 291	+ 339
Sussex	+ 52	- 221	- 169
State	- 913	- 30	- 943

* The unit of count in criminal cases is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before the Court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.
 ** Charges filed initially in the Court of Common Pleas.

Charges filed originally in Justice of the Peace Courts which were transferred to the Court of Common Pleas at the option of the defendant.

Charges originally filed in the Justice of the Peace Courts which by statute must be transferred to the Court of Common Pleas.

@ Felony charges brought before the Court of Common Pleas for preliminary hearing which are reduced to misdemeanors and pled guilty to.

Source: Court Administrator, Court of Common Pleas, Administrative Office of the Courts.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle	4,370	3,279	4,476	3,173	- 1,197	- 27.4%
Kent	344	594	626	312	- 32	- 9.3%
Sussex	471	862	954	379	- 92	- 19.5%
State	5,185	4,735	6,056	3,864	- 1,321	- 25.5%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	4,058	3,279	- 779	- 19.2%
Kent	528	594	+ 66	+ 12.5%
Sussex	895	862	- 33	- 3.7%
State	5,481	4,735	- 746	- 13.6%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle	3,813	4,476	+ 663	+ 17.4%
Kent	491	626	+ 135	+ 27.5%
Sussex	853	954	+ 101	+ 11.8%
State	5,157	6,056	+ 899	+ 17.4%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILINGS

	Complaints		Civil Judgments, Name Changes		Totals	
New Castle	2,975	90.7%	304	9.3%	3,279	100.0%
Kent	527	88.7%	67	11.3%	594	100.0%
Sussex	796	92.3%	66	7.7%	862	100.0%
State	4,298	90.8%	437	9.2%	4,735	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

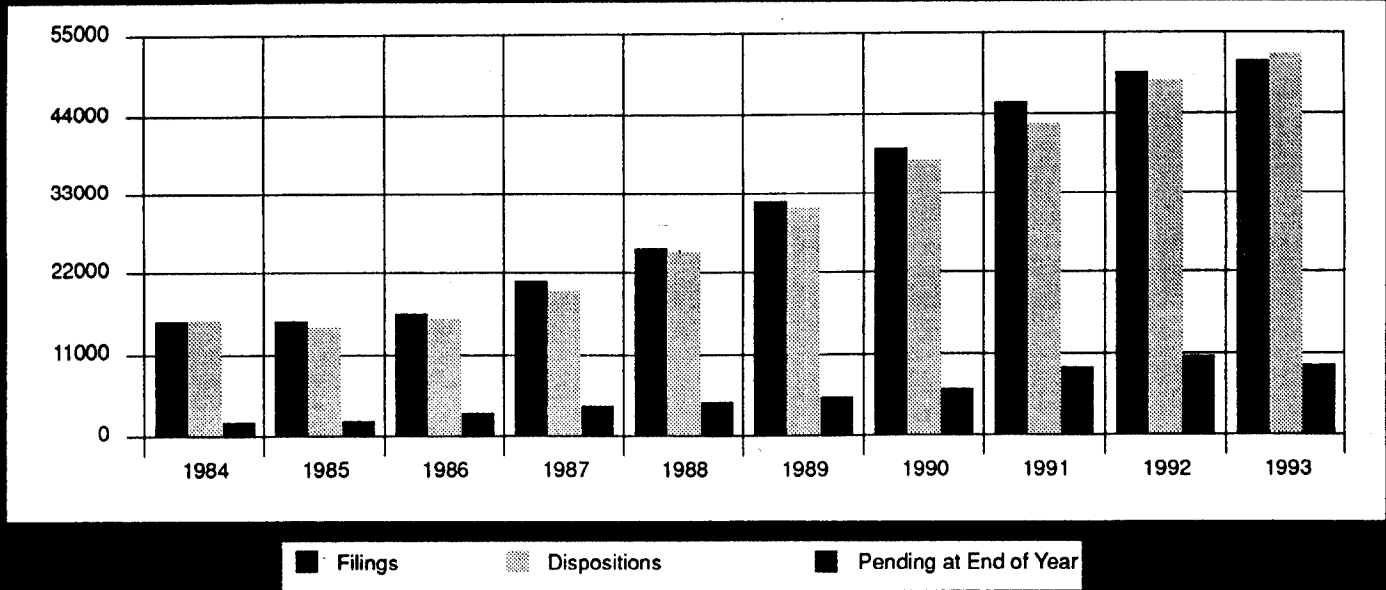
DISPOSITIONS

	By Court		By Counsel		Totals	
New Castle	1,698	37.9%	2778	62.1%	4,476	100.0%
Kent	223	35.6%	403	64.4%	626	100.0%
Sussex	219	23.0%	735	77.0%	954	100.0%
State	2,140	35.3%	3,916	64.7%	6,056	100.0%

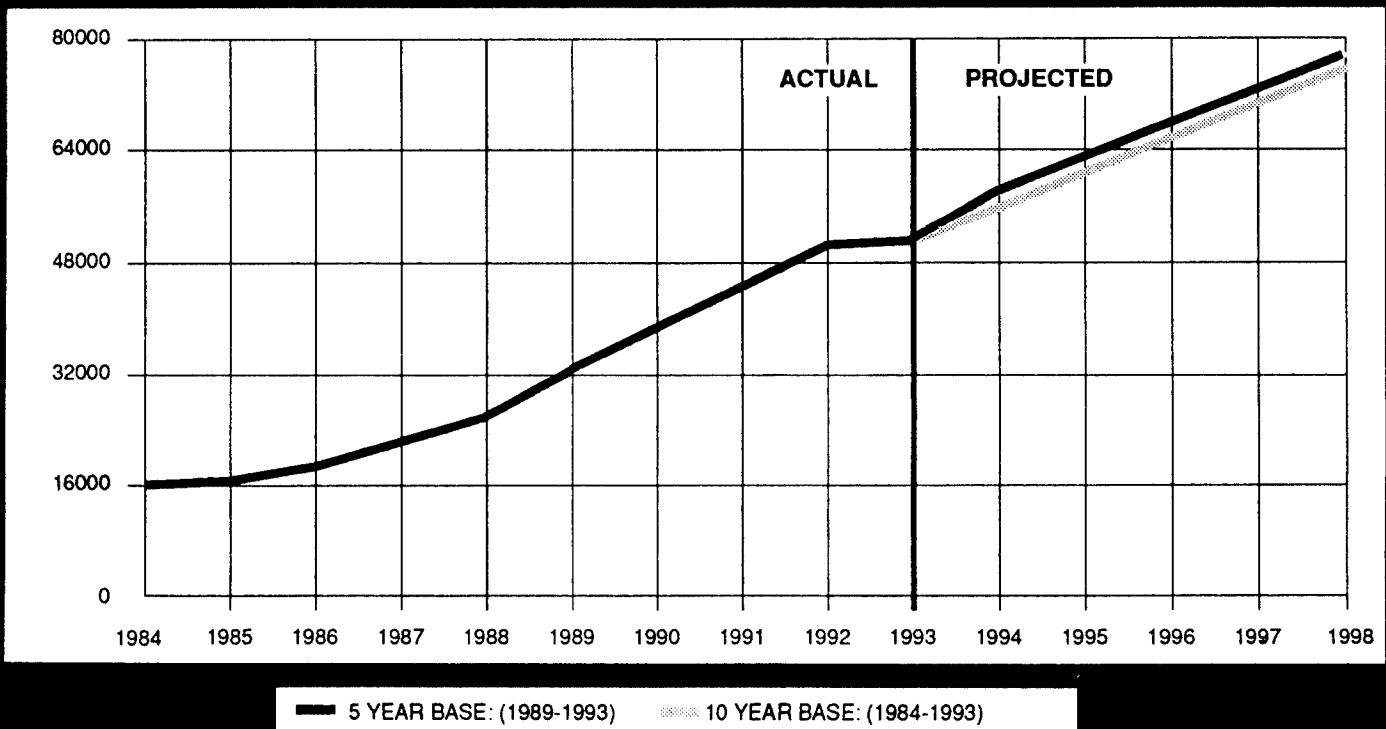
Source: Court Administrator, Court of Common Pleas, Administrative Office of the Courts.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS — CRIMINAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS

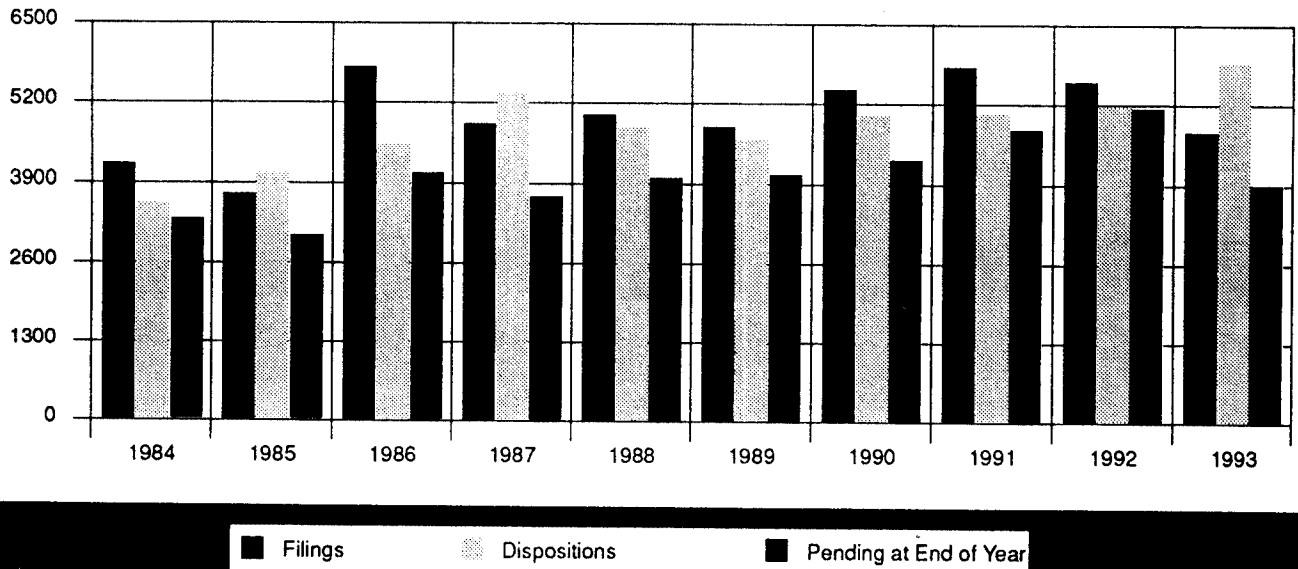


Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

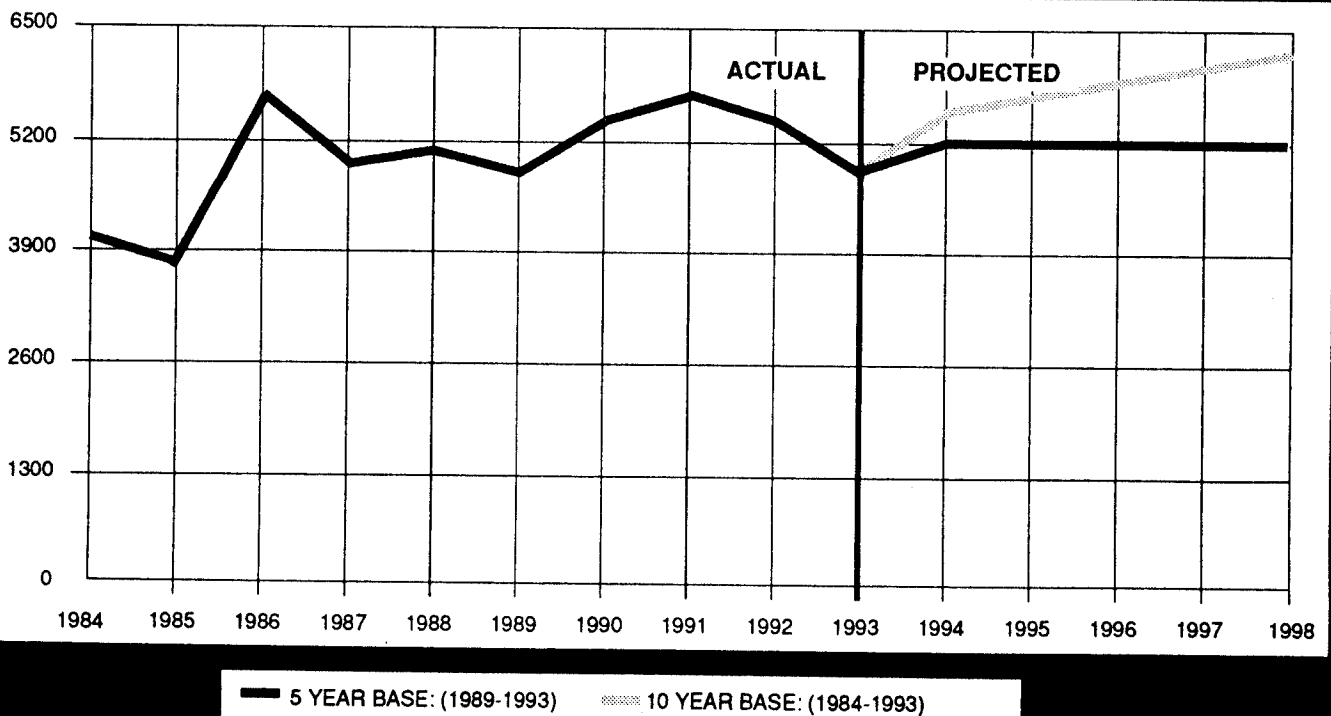
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS — CIVIL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



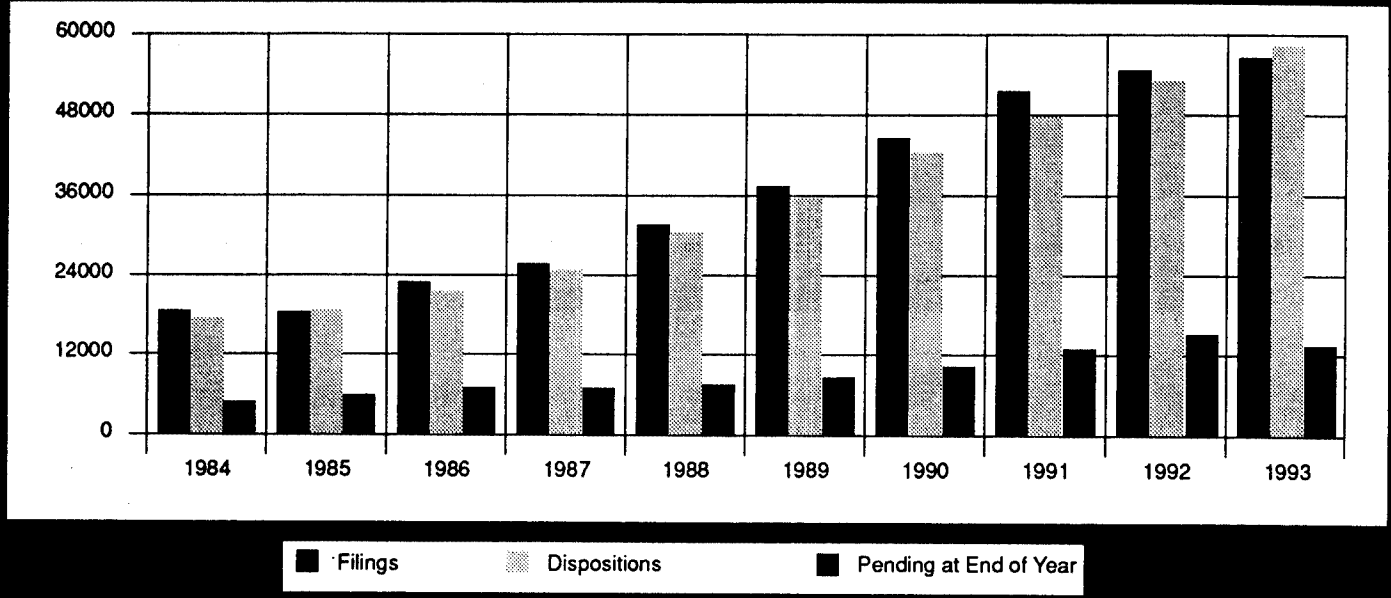
5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



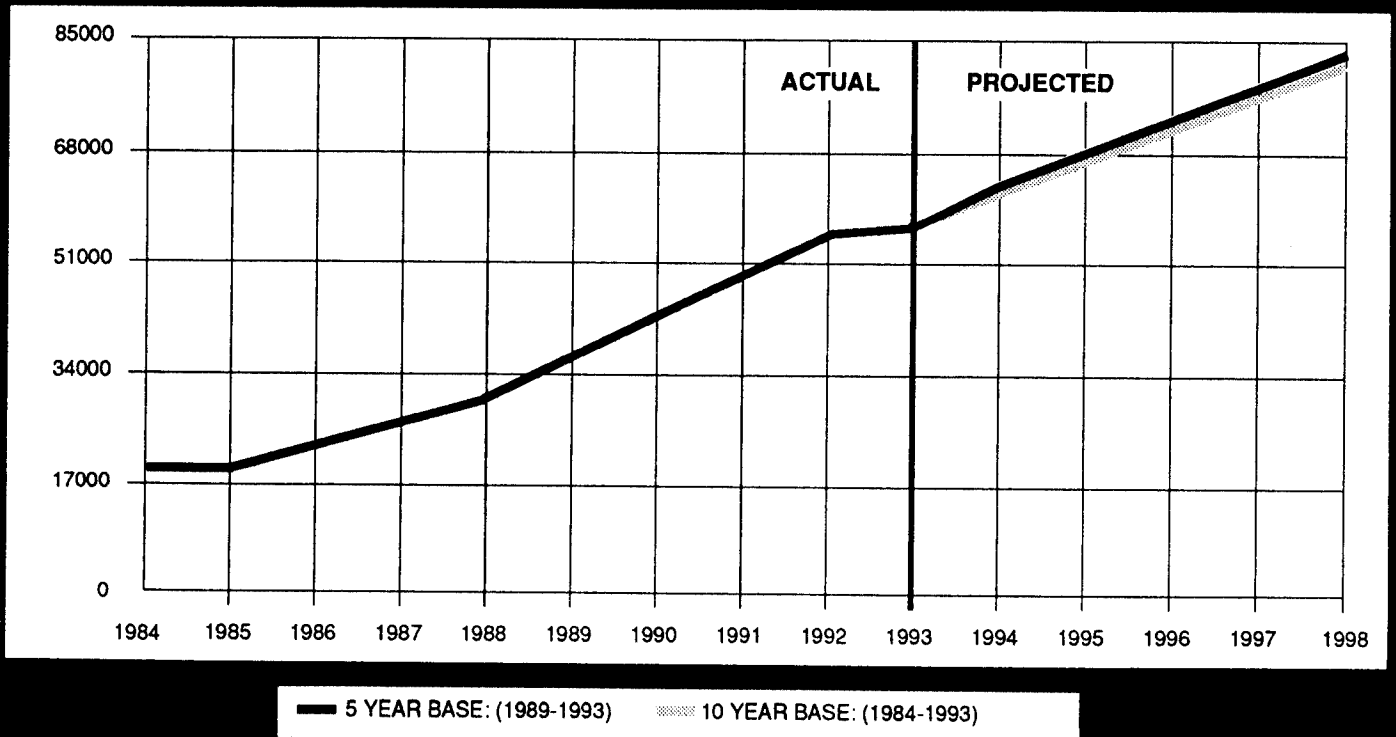
Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.
 Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



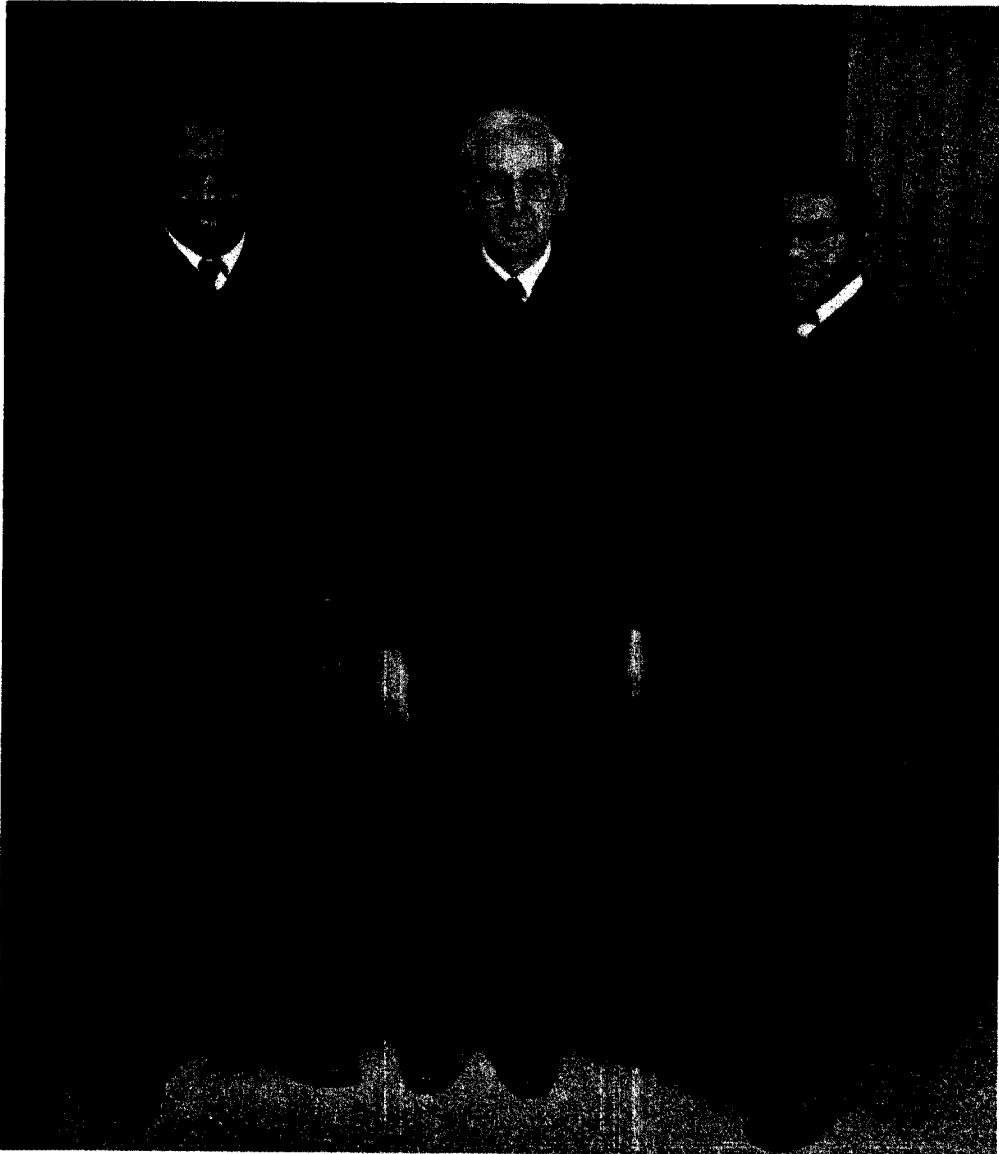
Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

Municipal Court

**Chief Judge Alfred Fraczkowski
Associate Judge Leonard L. Williams**

MUNICIPAL COURT



MUNICIPAL COURT

(Left to Right)

Associate Judge Leonard L. Williams

Chief Judge Alfred Fraczkowski

Associate Judge Alex J. Smalls *

*Associate Judge Alex J. Smalls left the Municipal Court on 10/8/93.

MUNICIPAL COURT

Legal Authorization

The Municipal Court of the City of Wilmington is authorized by 10 *Delaware Code*, Chapter 17.

Geographic Organization

The Court has jurisdiction within the geographic boundaries of Wilmington.

Legal Jurisdiction

The Municipal Court has criminal jurisdiction over traffic, misdemeanor, and municipal ordinances concurrent with the Justice of the Peace Courts and the Court of Common Pleas. The Court conducts preliminary hearings for both felonies and drug-related misdemeanors. Jury trials are not available. The Court has a Violations Division which processes all moving and parking citations.

Judges

Number: There are 3 Judges of the Municipal Court of Wilmington; at present two are full time and one is part time. Not more than 2 of the Judges may be members of the same political party.

Appointment: The Judges are nominated by the Governor, with confirmation by the Senate.

Tenure: Judges are appointed for 12-year terms.

Qualifications: The Judges must be licensed to practice law in the State of Delaware for 5 years preceding appointment.

Support Personnel

The Chief Judge of the Municipal Court appoints a Chief Clerk who may in turn appoint deputies.

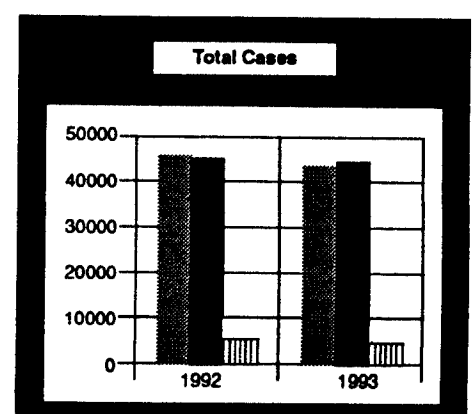
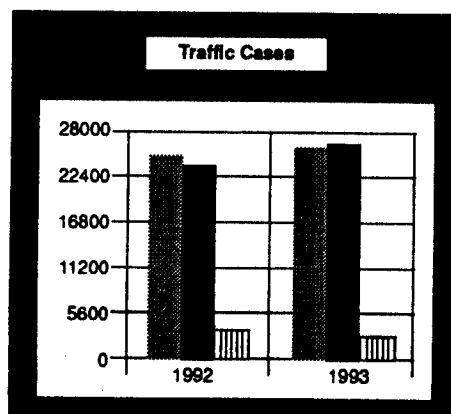
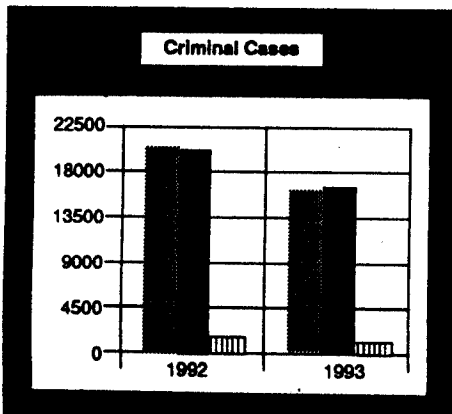
Caseload Trends

There was a drop in the caseload in criminal cases while the caseload for traffic cases rose during fiscal year 1993. Because the rate of decrease was greater in criminal cases than was the rate of increase in traffic cases, there was a drop in total caseload.

Criminal filings fell by 20.0% to 16,655 in fiscal year 1993 from 20,816 in fiscal year 1992. Dispositions fell as well, decreasing by 17.6% from 20,355 in fiscal year 1992 to 16,766 in fiscal year 1993. The pending at the end of fiscal year 1993 fell by 14.2% to 671 from 782 at the end of fiscal year 1992.

Traffic filings increased by 5.5% from 25,420 during fiscal year 1992 to 26,818 in fiscal year 1993. There was a rise of 8.1% in traffic dispositions to a record level of 27,162 during fiscal year 1993 from 25,133 in fiscal year 1992. The large number of dispositions led to a 12.5% drop in traffic pending from 2,869 at the end of fiscal year 1992 to 2,525 at the end of fiscal year 1993.

Total filings decreased by 6.0% from 46,236 during fiscal year 1992 to 43,473 in fiscal year 1993, due to the drop in criminal filings. There was a fall of 3.4% in total dispositions to 43,928 in fiscal year 1993 from 45,488 in fiscal year 1992, again due to the fall in criminal activity. The decrease in both criminal and traffic pending resulted in a 12.5% decrease in total pending to 3,196 at the end of fiscal year 1993 from 3,651 at the end of fiscal year 1992.



Filings
 Dispositions
 Pending

MUNICIPAL COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 - CASELOAD SUMMARY *

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
Criminal	782	16,655	16,766	671	- 111	- 14.2%
Traffic	<u>2,869</u>	<u>26,818</u>	<u>27,162</u>	<u>2,525</u>	- 344	- 12.0%
TOTALS	3,651	43,473	43,928	3,196	- 455	- 12.5%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CASELOAD

FILINGS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Criminal	20,816	16,655	- 4,161	- 20.0%
Traffic	<u>25,420</u>	<u>26,818</u>	+ 1,398	+ 5.5%
TOTALS	46,236	43,473	- 2,763	- 6.0%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS

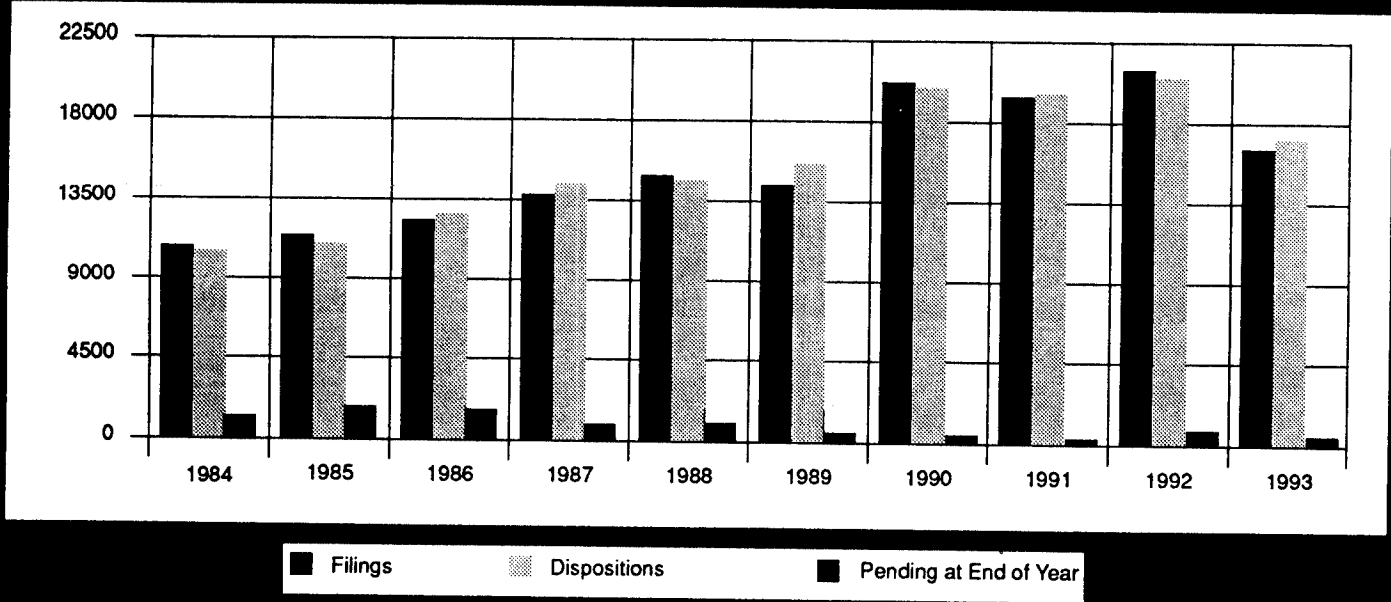
	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Criminal	20,355	16,766	- 3,589	- 17.9%
Traffic	<u>25,133</u>	<u>27,162</u>	+ 2,029	+ 8.1%
TOTALS	45,488	43,928	- 1,560	- 3.4%

*The unit of count in Municipal Court is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before the Court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.

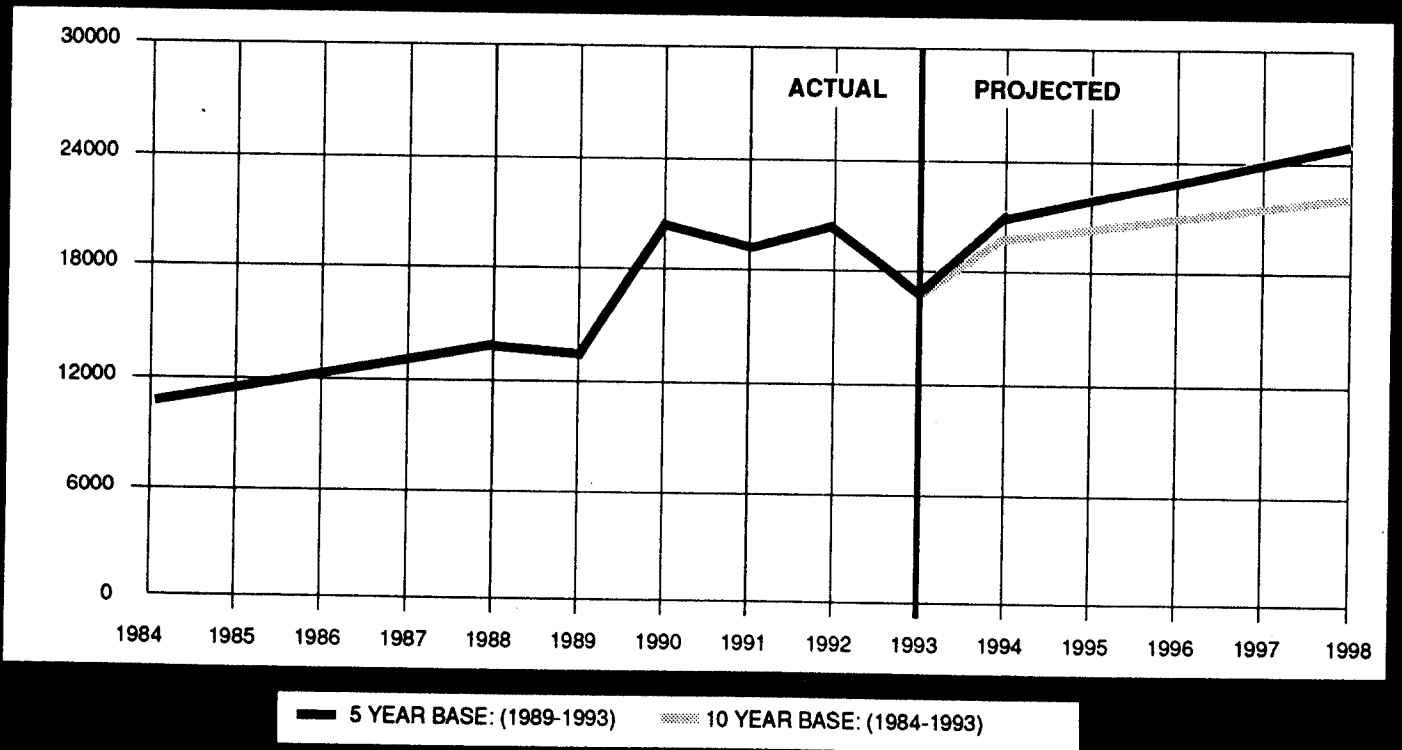
Source: Clerk of the Court, Municipal Court, Administrative Office of the Courts.

MUNICIPAL COURT — CRIMINAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



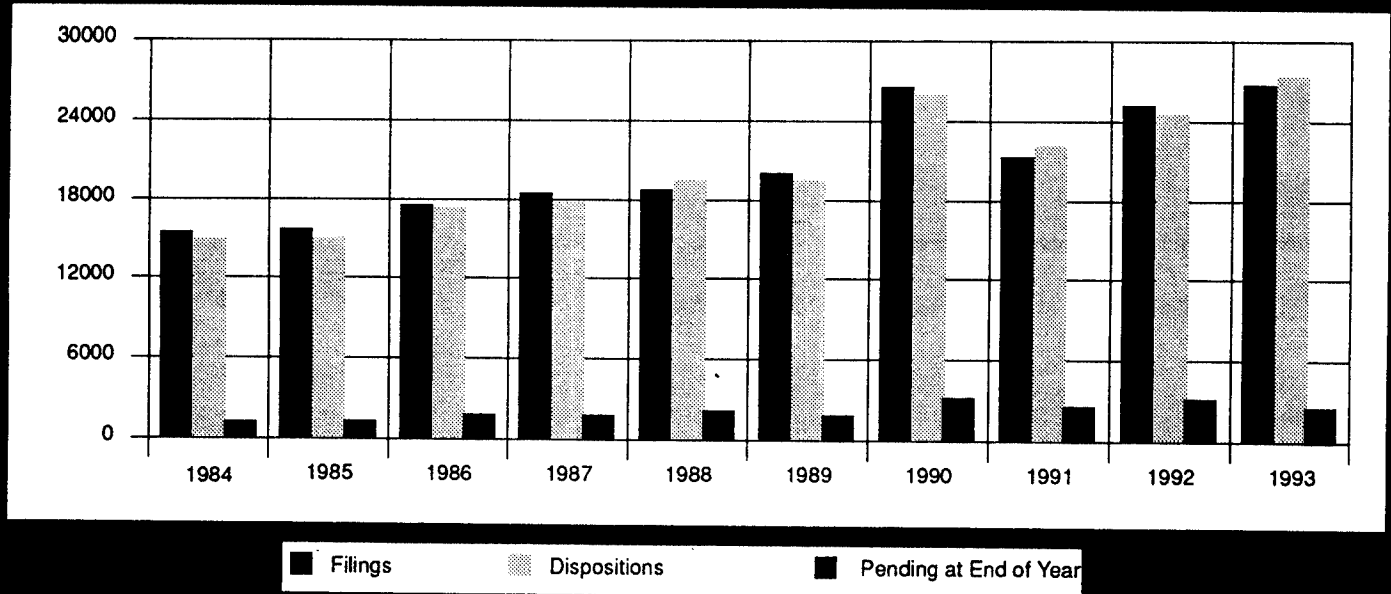
5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



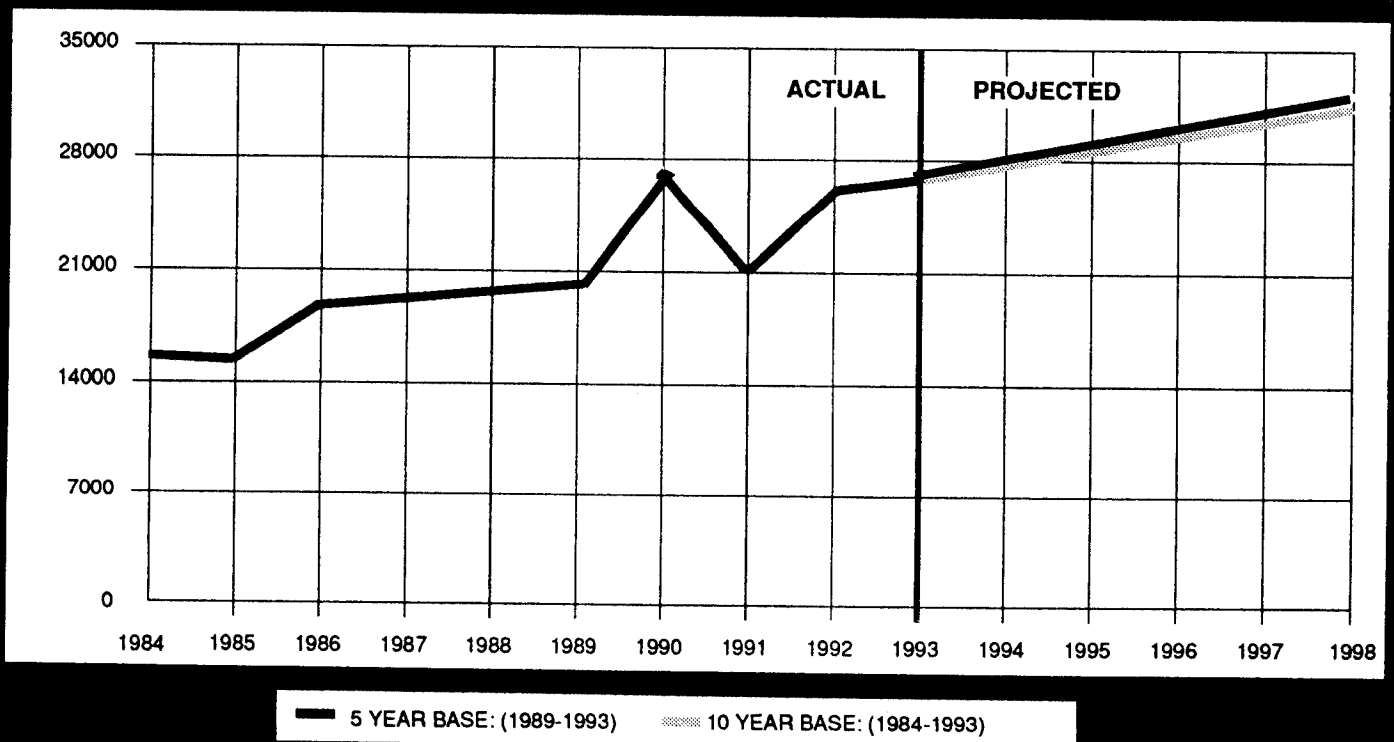
Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.
 Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

MUNICIPAL COURT — TRAFFIC

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS

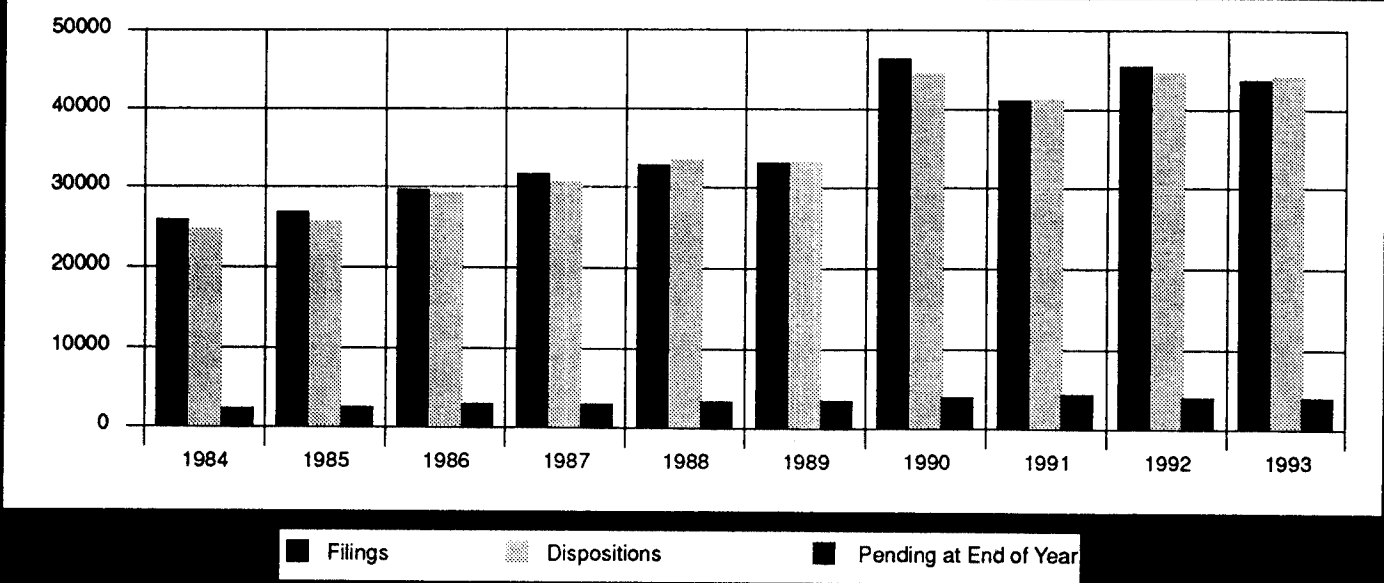


Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

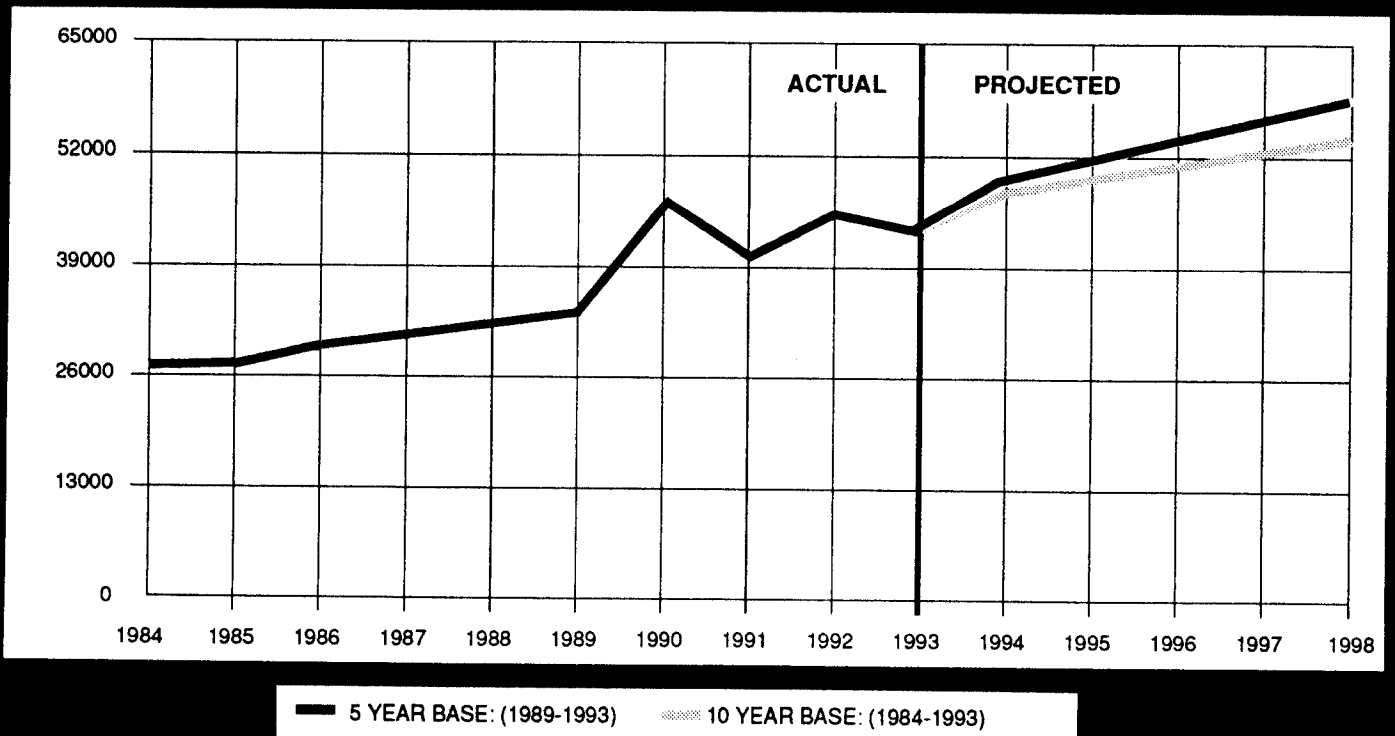
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

MUNICIPAL COURT — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Magistrate Patricia Walther Griffin
Justice of the Peace David R. Anderson
Justice of the Peace Robert A. Armstrong
Justice of the Peace Ernst M. Arndt
Justice of the Peace Margaret L. Barrett
Justice of the Peace William L. Boddy, III
Justice of the Peace Richard L. Brandenburg
Justice of the Peace William W. Brittingham
Justice of the Peace Karen N. Bundek
Justice of the Peace Francis G. Charles
Deputy Chief Magistrate Ronald E. Cheeseman
Justice of the Peace Thomas E. Cole
Justice of the Peace Richard D. Comly
Justice of the Peace Edward G. Davis
Justice of the Peace Frederick W. Dewey, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Walter J. Godwin
Justice of the Peace Wayne R. Hanby
Justice of the Peace William W. Henning, Jr.
Justice of the Peace William J. Hopkins, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Barbara C. Hughes
Justice of the Peace Virginia W. Johnson
Justice of the Peace James C. Koehring
Justice of the Peace Bonita N. Lee
Justice of the Peace Kathleen C. Lucas
Justice of the Peace Joseph W. Maybee
Justice of the Peace John P. McLaughlin
Justice of the Peace Joseph B. Melson, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Howard W. Mulvaney, III
Justice of the Peace Barry B. Newstadt
Justice of the Peace Joyce E. Nolan
Justice of the Peace John W. O'Bier
Justice of the Peace Ellis B. Parrott
Justice of the Peace Agnes E. Pennella
Justice of the Peace Stanley J. Petraschuk
Justice of the Peace Mable M. Pitt
Justice of the Peace William F. Plack, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Edward M. Poling
Justice of the Peace Russell T. Rash
Justice of the Peace William S. Rowe, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Marcealeate S. Ruffin
Justice of the Peace Rosalie O. Rutkowski
Justice of the Peace David R. Skelley
Justice of the Peace Paul J. Smith
Justice of the Peace Alice W. Stark
Deputy Chief Magistrate Charles M. Stump
Justice of the Peace Rosalind Toulson
Justice of the Peace Abigayle E. Truitt
Deputy Chief Magistrate Sheila G. Wilkins
Justice of the Peace William C. Wright

Justice of the Peace Courts

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

**Chief Magistrate
Patricia Walther Griffin**

Legal Authorization

The Justice of the Peace Courts are authorized by the *Constitution of Delaware*, Article IV, Section 1.

Court History

As early as the 1600's, Justices of the Peace were commissioned to handle minor civil and criminal cases. Along with a host of other duties, the administering of local government in the 17th and 18th Centuries on behalf of the English Crown was a primary duty of the Justices of the Peace. With the adoption of the State Constitution of 1792, the Justices of the Peace were stripped of their general administrative duties leaving them with minor civil and criminal jurisdiction. During the period 1792 through 1964, the Justices of the Peace were compensated entirely by the costs and fees assessed and collected for the performance of their legal duties.

Geographic Organization

The jurisdiction of the Courts is statewide and sessions are held throughout the State. Of the 19 Courts currently operating, 8 are in New Castle County, 4 are in Kent County and 7 are in Sussex County. The Voluntary Center, which handles mail-in fines, is located in Dover.

Legal Jurisdiction

The Justice of the Peace Courts had jurisdiction over civil cases during FY 1993 in which the amount in controversy did not exceed \$5,000. Justice of the Peace Courts are authorized to hear certain misdemeanors and most motor vehicle cases (excluding felonies) and may act as committing magistrates for all crimes. Appeals may be taken de

novo to Superior Court. The subject matter jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace Courts is shared with the Court of Common Pleas.

Justice of the Peace

The Delaware Code authorizes a maximum of 53 Justices of the Peace. The maximum number of Justices of the Peace permitted in each county is 24 in New Castle County, 12 in Kent County and 17 in Sussex County. Justices of the Peace are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for terms of four years. A Justice of the Peace must be at least 21 years of age and a resident of the State of Delaware and the county in which he serves. In addition to the 53 Justices of the Peace, the Governor nominates a Chief Magistrate, subject to Senate confirmation.

Support Personnel

An Administrator, two Operations Managers, an administrative officer and a fiscal administrative officer help the Chief Magistrate direct the Justice of the Peace Courts on a daily basis. The State provides clerks of the court, constables and other personnel for the courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

Caseload Trends

The number of criminal filings increased by 4.9% to 299,168 in FY 1993 from 285,201 in FY 1992. The number of criminal dispositions rose by 13.2% from 259,167 in FY 1992 to 293,370 in FY 1993. The large increase in filings during FY 1992 which resulted with the implementation of the Case Management System partly led to the rise in dispositions in FY 1993. Despite the increase in criminal dispositions, however, the number of criminal pending rose by 17.1% to 39,693 at the end of FY 1993 from 33,895 at the end of FY 1992.

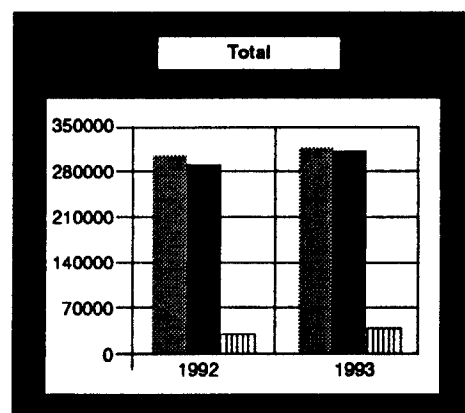
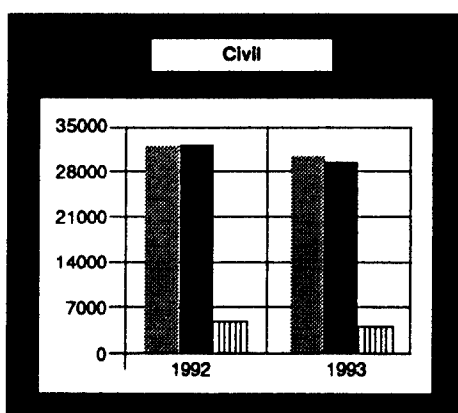
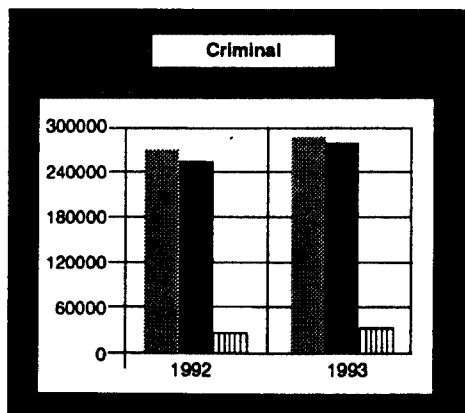
There was a decrease in civil activity, with filings falling 3.8% from 31,494 in FY 1992 to 30,293 in FY 1993. Civil dispositions decreased by .6 from 31,942 in FY 1992 to 30,142 in FY 1993. The civil pending increased by 2.9% from 5,288 at the end of FY 1992 to 5,439 at the end of FY 1993.

The rate of increase in criminal activity was greater than the rate of decrease in civil activity, which helps to explain the increases in total caseload activity. There was a rise of 4.0% in total filings to 329,461 in FY 1993 from 316,695 in FY 1992 dispositions increased by 11.1% from 291,109 in FY 1992 to 323,512 in FY 1993. Total pending rose by 15.2% to 45,132 at the end of FY 1993 from 39,183 at the end of FY 1992.

FY 1993 Developments

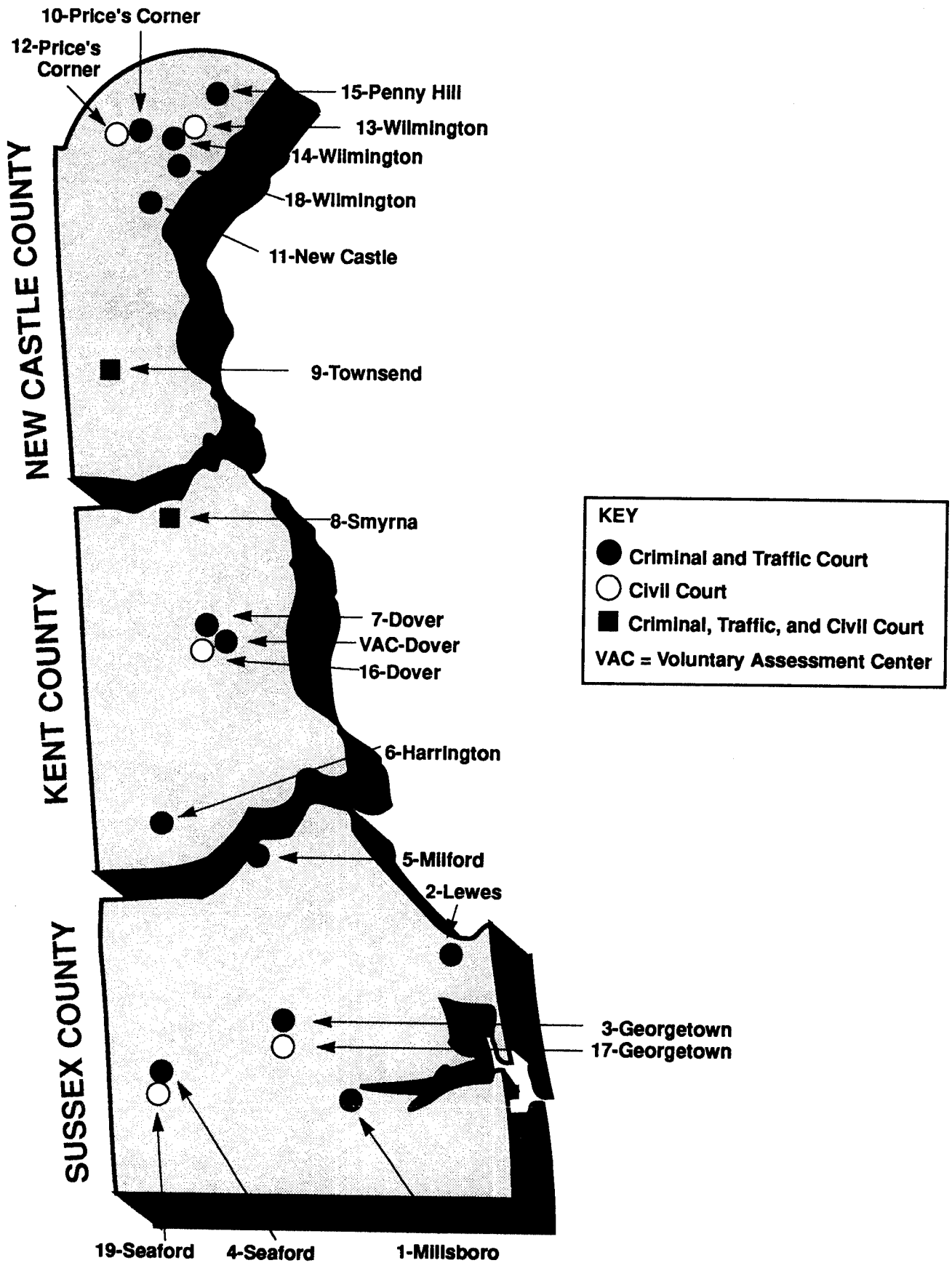
To provide the services to victims mandated by the Delaware's Victims' Bill of Rights legislation enacted in July 1993, the Justice of the Peace Courts established an Office of Victims' Services headed by a Coordinator of Victims' Services. The office sponsors an 800 telephone number enabling victims throughout the state to make toll free calls to the JP Courts, provides information to victims about the status of their case by tapping information in the automated criminal case management system, and has begun an automated victims' notification system which sends case scheduling notices to victims at every stage of the proceedings. In addition, the JP Courts have designed an educational brochure which advises victims of their rights under the new legislation.

Through federal funding provided by the Criminal Justice Council, the video-phone equipment of police agencies is used to conduct bail hearings in Justice of the Peace Courts 11 and 18 while detainees remain in the police station. This project contributes to the saving of police time by eliminating the need for them to escort prisoners to the courts and cuts the security risks inherent in having dangerous offenders in the court buildings. This system also permits the issuance of arrests, warrants, and search warrants.



Filings
 Dispositions
 Pending

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC CASES* - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change in Pending	% Change in Pending
New Castle County						
Court 9	3,377	9,655	8,994	4,038	+ 661	+ 19.6%
Court 10	2,980	15,159	15,118	3,021	+ 41	+ 1.4%
Court 11	8,396	38,811	39,101	8,106	- 290	- 3.5%
Court 14	0	2,540	1,830	710	+ 710	—
Court 15	1,231	8,770	8,386	1,615	+ 384	+ 31.2%
Court 18	227	11,634	11,628	233	+ 6	+ 2.6%
Kent County						
Court 6	134	5,059	4,919	274	+ 140	+ 104.5%
Court 7	1,433	27,145	26,961	1,617	+ 184	+ 12.8%
Court 8	30	4,200	4,091	139	+ 109	+ 363.3%
Sussex County						
Court 1	282	4,116	4,064	344	+ 52	+ 18.4%
Court 2	1,044	8,078	7,598	1,524	+ 480	+ 46.0%
Court 3	2,364	21,157	22,038	1,483	- 881	- 37.3%
Court 4	554	12,479	12,493	540	- 14	- 2.5%
Court 5	<u>644</u>	<u>3,659</u>	<u>3,658</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>+ 1</u>	<u>+ 0.2%</u>
Total	22,696	172,462	170,809	24,279	+ 1,583	+ 7.0%
VAC	<u>11,199</u>	<u>126,706</u>	<u>122,491</u>	<u>15,414</u>	<u>+ 4,215</u>	<u>+ 37.6%</u>
State	33,895	299,168	293,370	39,693	+ 5,798	+ 17.1%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

* The unit of count for criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before a court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.
Sources: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC CASES * - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

FILINGS

	Title 7 Fish/Game		Title 11 Criminal		Title 21 Traffic		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle County										
Court 9	319	3.3%	415	4.3%	8,700	90.1%	221	2.3%	9,655	100.0%
Court 10	221	1.5%	3,174	20.9%	10,414	68.7%	1,350	8.9%	15,159	100.0%
Court 11	837	2.2%	13,826	35.6%	18,988	48.9%	5,160	13.3%	38,811	100.0%
Court 14	4	0.2%	133	5.2%	2,383	93.8%	20	0.8%	2,540	100.0%
Court 15	28	0.3%	1,670	19.0%	6,691	76.3%	381	4.3%	8,770	100.0%
Court 18	12	0.1%	7,751	66.6%	1,533	13.2%	2,338	20.1%	11,634	100.0%
Kent County										
Court 6	60	1.2%	2,098	41.5%	2,664	52.7%	237	4.7%	5,059	100.0%
Court 7	685	2.5%	9,590	35.3%	14,722	54.2%	2,148	7.9%	27,145	100.0%
Court 8	31	0.7%	1,671	39.8%	2,133	50.8%	365	8.7%	4,200	100.0%
Sussex County										
Court 1	679	16.5%	333	8.1%	2,837	68.9%	267	6.5%	4,116	100.0%
Court 2	758	9.4%	1,234	15.3%	5,754	71.2%	332	4.1%	8,078	100.0%
Court 3	281	1.3%	9,565	45.2%	9,131	43.2%	2,180	10.3%	21,157	100.0%
Court 4	361	2.9%	2,946	23.6%	8,683	69.6%	489	3.9%	12,479	100.0%
Court 5	69	1.9%	958	26.2%	2,470	67.5%	162	4.4%	3,659	100.0%
Total	4,345	2.5%	55,364	32.1%	97,103	56.3%	15,650	9.1%	172,462	100.0%
VAC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	126,706	100.0%	0	0.0%	126,706	100.0%
State	4,345	1.5%	55,364	18.5%	223,809	74.8%	15,650	5.2%	299,168	100.0%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC CASES * - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

DISPOSITIONS

	Title 7 Fish/Game		Title 11 Criminal		Title 21 Traffic		Miscellaneous		TOTALS	
New Castle County										
Court 9	246	2.7%	416	4.6%	8,130	90.4%	202	2.2%	8,994	100.0%
Court 10	221	1.5%	3,208	21.2%	10,117	66.9%	1,572	10.4%	15,118	100.0%
Court 11	847	2.2%	14,079	36.0%	18,745	47.9%	5,430	13.9%	39,101	100.0%
Court 14	4	0.2%	90	4.9%	1,719	93.9%	17	0.9%	1,830	—
Court 15	24	0.3%	1,390	16.6%	6,496	77.5%	476	5.7%	8,386	100.0%
Court 18	11	0.1%	7,325	63.0%	1,772	15.2%	2,520	21.7%	11,628	100.0%
Kent County										
Court 6	54	1.1%	2,083	42.3%	2,552	51.9%	230	4.7%	4,919	100.0%
Court 7	680	2.5%	9,632	35.7%	14,584	54.1%	2,065	7.7%	26,961	100.0%
Court 8	29	0.7%	1,674	40.9%	2,143	52.4%	245	6.0%	4,091	100.0%
Sussex County										
Court 1	674	16.6%	345	8.5%	2,771	68.2%	274	6.7%	4,064	100.0%
Court 2	633	8.3%	1,245	16.4%	5,408	71.2%	312	4.1%	7,598	100.0%
Court 3	278	1.3%	9,761	44.3%	9,780	44.4%	2,219	10.1%	22,038	100.0%
Court 4	354	2.8%	2,909	23.3%	8,730	69.9%	500	4.0%	12,493	100.0%
Court 5	62	1.7%	974	26.6%	2,468	67.5%	154	4.2%	3,658	100.0%
Total	4,117	2.4%	55,131	32.3%	95,415	55.8%	16,216	9.9%	170,879	100.0%
VAC	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	122,491	100.0%	0	0.0%	122,491	100.0%
State	4,117	1.4%	55,131	18.8%	217,906	74.3%	16,216	5.5%	293,370	100.0%

VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

* The unit of count for criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before a court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.

Sources: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC CASES* - CASELOAD

FILINGS				
	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle County				
Court 9	12,278	9,655	- 2,623	- 21.4%
Court 10	25,277	15,159	- 10,118	- 40.0%
Court 11	47,368	38,811	- 8,557	- 18.1%
Court 14	0	2,540	+ 2,540	—
Court 15	15,393	8,770	- 6,623	- 43.0%
Court 18	10,118	11,634	+ 1,516	+ 15.0%
Kent County				
Court 6	3,906	5,059	+ 1,153	+ 29.5%
Court 7	24,942	27,145	+ 2,203	+ 8.8%
Court 8	2,156	4,200	+ 2,044	+ 94.8%
Sussex County				
Court 1	3,592	4,116	+ 524	+ 14.6%
Court 2	6,862	8,078	+ 1,216	+ 17.7%
Court 3	25,238	21,157	- 4,081	- 16.2%
Court 4	9,501	12,479	+ 2,978	+ 31.3%
Court 5	4,211	3,659	- 552	- 13.1%
Total	190,842	172,462	- 18,380	- 9.6%
VAC	94,359	126,706	+ 32,347	+ 34.3%
State	285,201	299,168	+ 13,967	+ 4.9%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC CASES* - CASELOAD

DISPOSITIONS				
	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle County				
Court 9	9,084	8,994	- 90	- 1.0%
Court 10	24,012	15,118	- 8,894	- 37.0%
Court 11	42,431	39,101	- 3,330	- 7.8%
Court 14	0	1,830	+ 1,830	—
Court 15	14,516	8,386	- 6,130	- 42.2%
Court 18	9,891	11,628	+ 1,737	+ 17.6%
Kent County				
Court 6	3,810	4,919	+ 1,109	+ 29.1%
Court 7	24,672	26,961	+ 2,289	+ 9.3%
Court 8	2,171	4,091	+ 1,920	+ 88.4%
Sussex County				
Court 1	3,365	4,064	+ 699	+ 20.8%
Court 2	5,896	7,598	+ 1,702	+ 28.9%
Court 3	23,520	22,038	- 1,482	- 6.3%
Court 4	8,988	12,493	+ 3,505	+ 39.0%
Court 5	3,651	3,658	+ 7	+ 0.2%
Total	176,007	170,879	- 5,128	- 2.9%
VAC	83,160	122,491	+ 39,331	+ 47.3%
State	259,167	293,370	+ 34,203	+ 13.2%

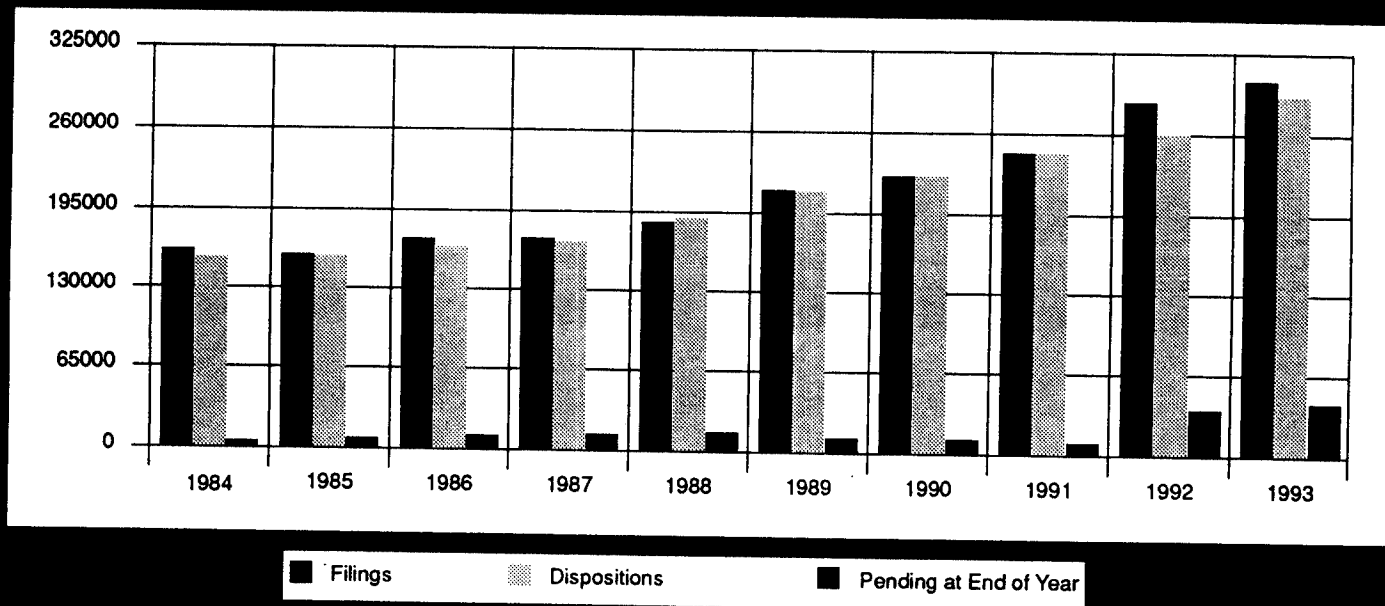
VAC = Voluntary Assessment Center

* The unit of count for criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before a court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.

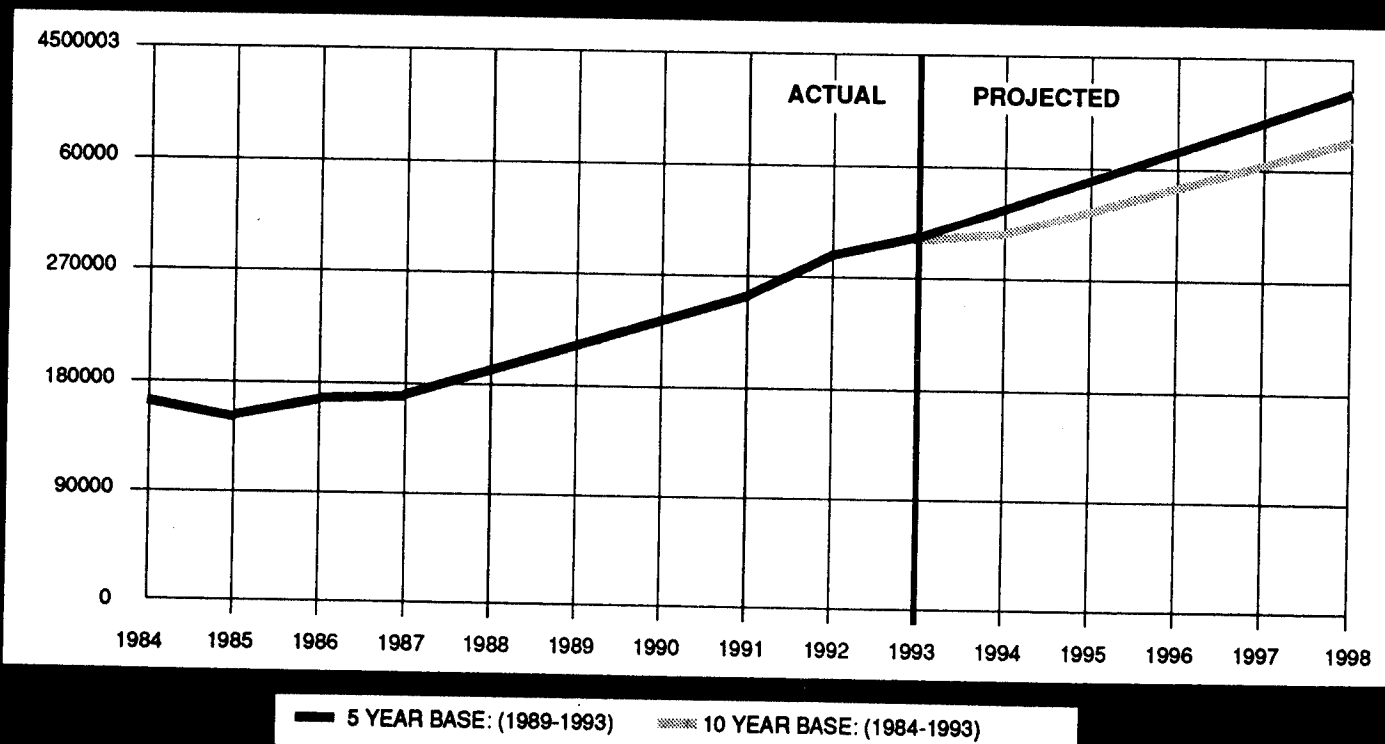
Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS — CRIMINAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD SUMMARY

	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change in Pending	% Change in Pending
New Castle County						
Court 9	87	697	701	83	- 4	- 4.6%
Court 12	306	8,540	8,568	278	- 28	- 9.2%
Court 13	1,819	8,917	9,163	1,573	- 246	- 13.5%
Kent County						
Court 16	1,219	5,564	5,138	1,645	+ 426	+ 34.9%
Court 8	4	19	20	3	- 1	- 25.0%
Sussex County						
Court 1	2	0	2	0	- 2	- 100.0%
Court 2	5	0	1	4	- 1	- 20.0%
Court 17	567	3,960	3,927	600	+ 33	+ 5.8%
Court 19	1,279	2,596	2,622	1,253	- 26	- 2.0%
State	5,288	30,293	30,142	5,439	+ 151	+ 2.9%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

	FILINGS						DISPOSITIONS					
	Complaints		Landlord/Tenant		TOTALS		Complaints		Landlord/Tenant		TOTALS	
New Castle County												
Court 9	630	90.4%	67	9.6%	697	100.0%	637	90.9%	64	9.1%	701	100.0%
Court 12	4,921	57.6%	3,619	42.4%	8,540	100.0%	4,907	57.3%	3,661	42.7%	8,568	100.0%
Court 13	5,967	66.9%	2,950	33.1%	8,917	100.0%	6,135	67.0%	3,028	33.0%	9,163	100.0%
Kent County												
Court 16	4,511	81.1%	1,053	18.9%	5,564	100.0%	4,137	80.5%	1,001	19.5%	5,138	100.0%
Court 8	19	100.0%	0	0.0%	19	100.0%	20	100.0%	0	0.0%	20	100.0%
Sussex County												
Court 1	0	—	0	—	0	—	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Court 2	0	—	0	—	0	—	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Court 17	3,494	88.2%	466	11.8%	3,950	100.0%	3,446	87.8%	481	12.2%	3,927	100.0%
Court 19	2,291	88.3%	305	11.7%	2,596	100.0%	2,363	90.1%	259	9.9%	2,622	100.0%
State	21,833	72.1%	8,460	27.9%	30,293	100.0%	21,648	71.8%	8,494	28.2%	30,142	100.0%

Sources: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

CHANGE IN PENDING

	Complaints	Landlord/Tenant	TOTALS
New Castle County			
Court 9	- 7	+ 3	- 4
Court 12	+ 14	- 42	- 28
Court 13	- 168	- 78	- 246
Kent County			
Court 16	+ 374	+ 52	+ 426
Court 8	- 1	0	- 1
Sussex County			
Court 1	- 2	0	- 2
Court 2	- 1	0	- 1
Court 17	+ 48	- 15	+ 33
Court 19	- 72	+ 46	- 26
State	+ 185	- 34	+ 151

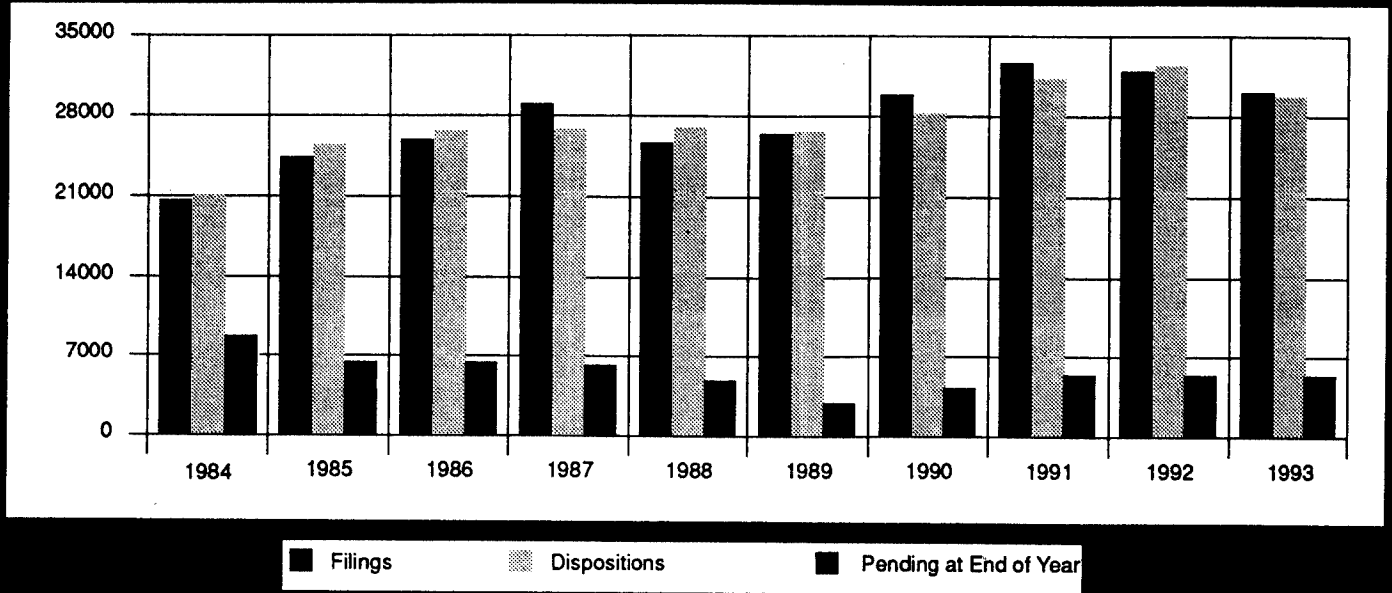
COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 CIVIL CASES - CASELOAD

	FILINGS				DISPOSITIONS			
	1992	1993	Change	% Change	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle County								
Court 9	532	697	+ 165	+ 31.0%	498	701	+ 203	+ 40.8%
Court 12	9,375	8,540	- 835	- 8.9%	9,995	8,568	- 1,427	- 14.3%
Court 13	8,800	8,917	+ 117	+ 1.3%	9,457	9,163	- 294	- 3.1%
Kent County								
Court 6	0	0	0	—	6	0	- 6	- 100.0%
Court 16	5,408	5,564	+ 156	+ 2.9%	5,005	5,138	+ 133	+ 2.7%
Court 8	0	19	+ 19	—	11	20	+ 9	+ 81.8%
Sussex County								
Court 1	0	0	0	—	14	2	- 12	- 85.7%
Court 2	0	0	0	—	22	1	- 21	- 95.5%
Court 17	4,107	3,960	- 147	- 3.6%	4,095	3,927	- 168	- 4.1%
Court 19	3,272	2,596	- 676	- 20.7%	2,261	2,622	+ 361	+ 16.0%
Court 5	0	0	0	—	578	0	- 578	- 100.0%
State	31,494	30,293	- 1,201	- 3.8%	31,942	30,142	- 1,800	- 5.6%

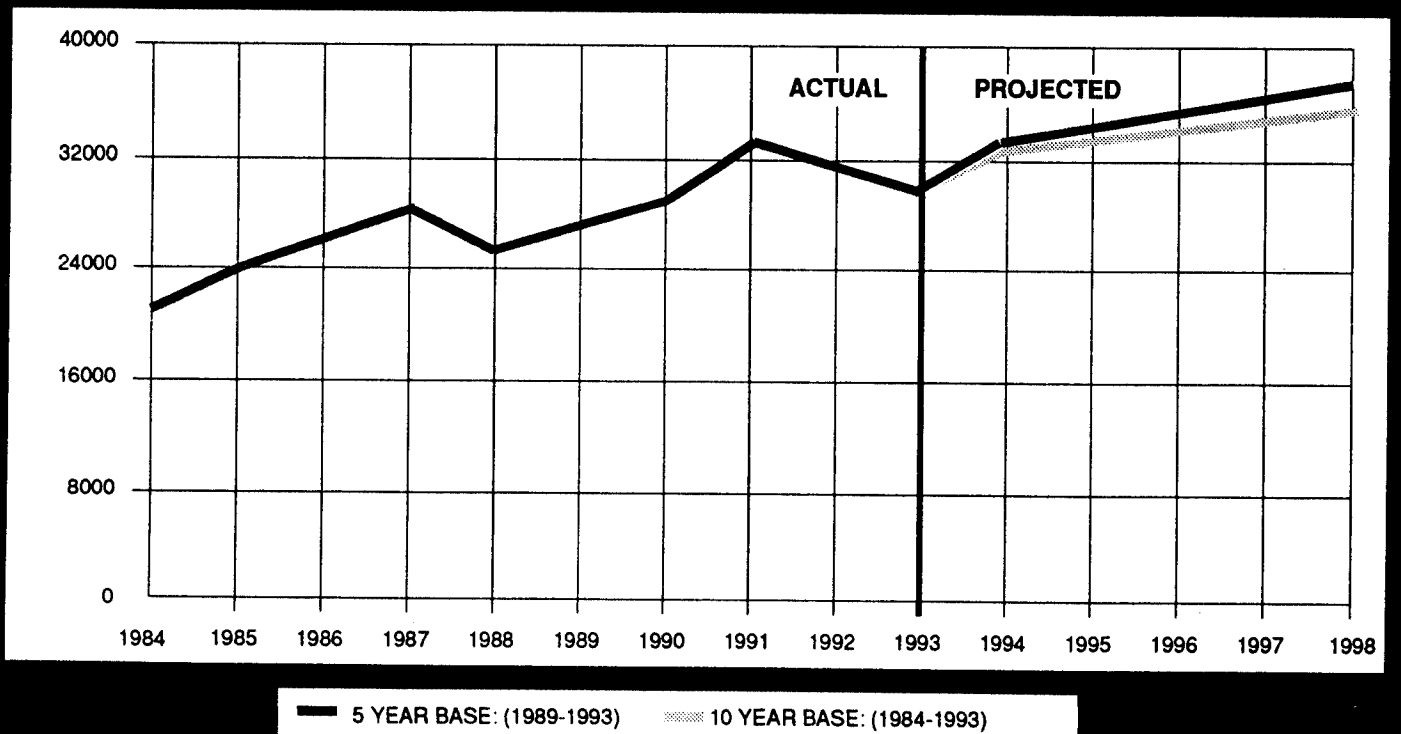
Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS — CIVIL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

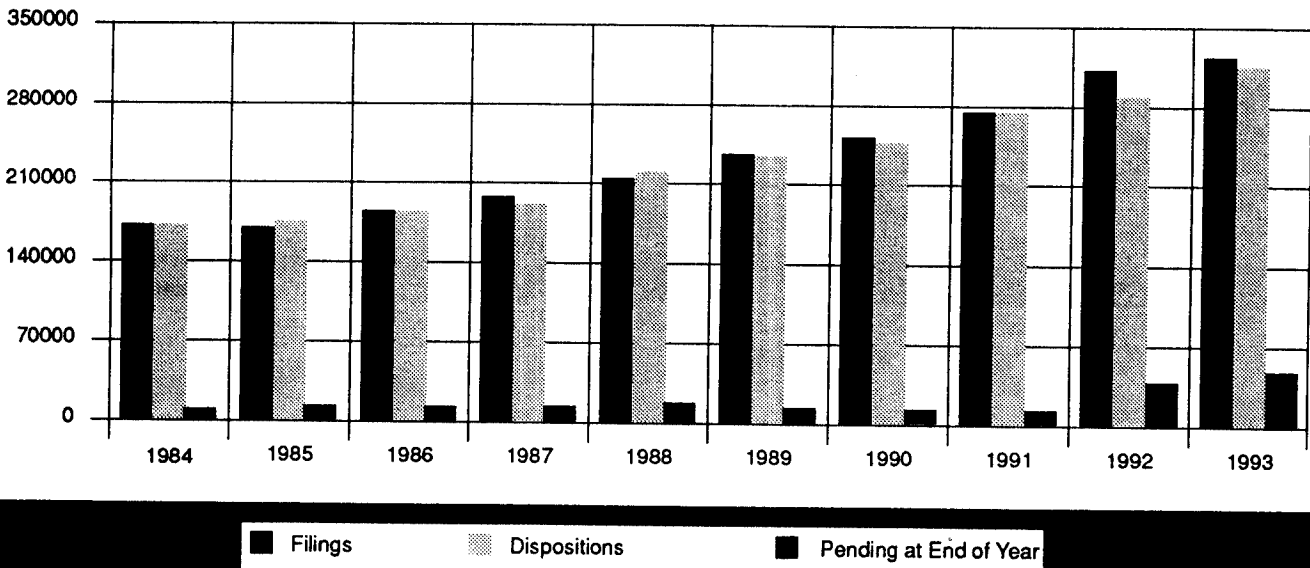
FISCAL YEAR 1993 RANKINGS IN ORDER OF TOTAL CASES FILED

1993 Rank (w/o VAC)	Court Number	Total Filings*	% w/o VAC	1992 Rank (w/o VAC)
1	Court 11	38,811	19.1%	1
2	Court 7	27,145	13.4%	4
3	Court 3	21,157	10.4%	3
4	Court 10	15,159	7.5%	2
5	Court 4	12,479	6.2%	8
6	Court 18	11,634	5.7%	7
7	Court 9	10,352	5.1%	6
8	Court 13	8,917	4.4%	10
9	Court 15	8,770	4.3%	5
10	Court 12	8,540	4.2%	9
11	Court 2	8,078	4.0%	11
12	Court 16	5,564	2.7%	12
13	Court 6	5,059	2.5%	15
14	Court 8	4,219	2.1%	18
15	Court 1	4,116	2.0%	16
16	Court 17	3,960	2.0%	14
17	Court 5	3,659	1.8%	13
18	Court 19	2,596	1.3%	17
19	Court 14	2,540	1.3%	19
	State w/o VAC	202,755	100.0%	
	VAC	126,706		
	State w/ VAC	329,461		

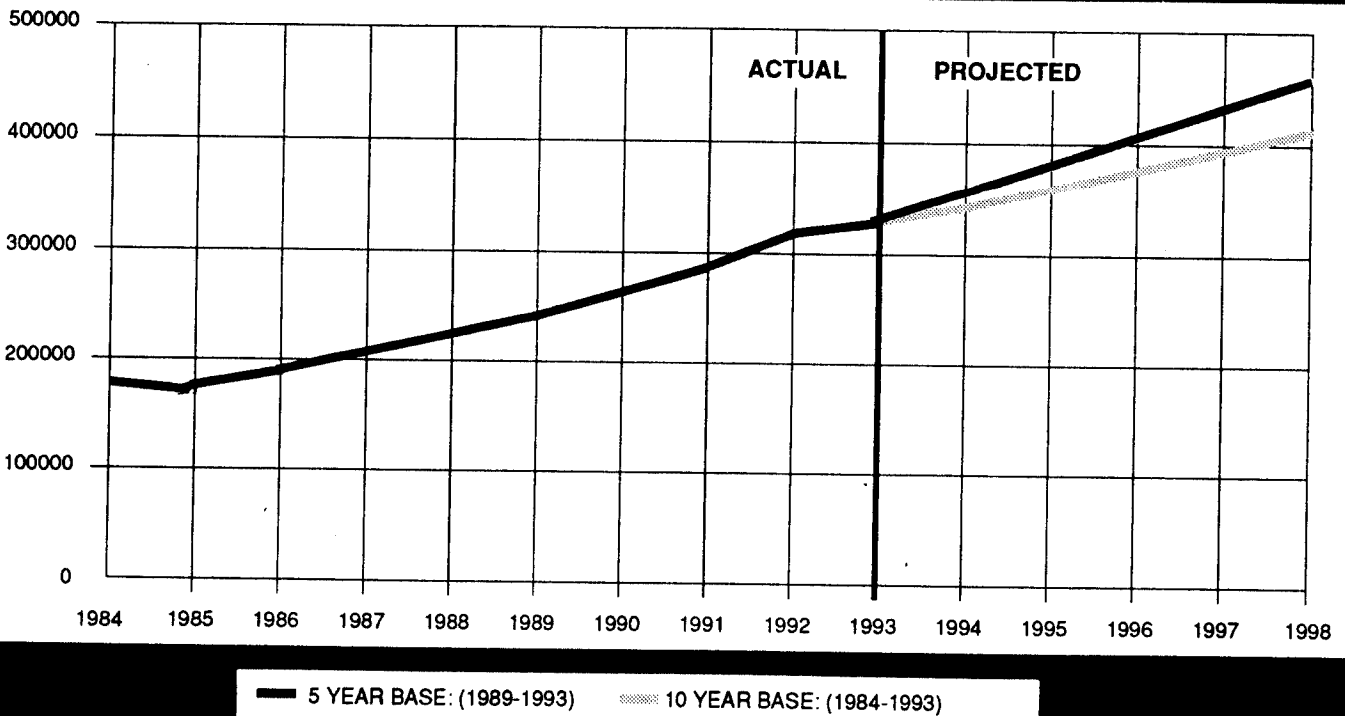
* The unit of count for criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant brought before a court on 3 charges would be counted as 3 cases.
Source: Chief Magistrate's Office, Justice of the Peace Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.
Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

Alderman's Courts

Chief Alderman Thomas B. Ferry (Newark)
Alderman Harold Britton Barber (Bethany Beach)
Deputy Chief Alderman Richard A. Barton (Fenwick Island)
Alderman Melanie M. Buchanan (Ocean View)
Alderman Michael J. DeFiore (Rehoboth Beach)
Alderman Marvin Guberman (Dewey Beach)
Mayor John F. Klingmeyer (New Castle)
Alderman Annette Leech (Newport)
Alderman Willie A. Robert, Jr. (Bridgeville)
Alderman David B. Striegel (Delmar)
Alderman Edward Walmsley, Jr. (Laurel)

ALDERMAN'S COURT

Legal Authorization

Alderman's Courts are authorized by the town charters of their respective municipalities.

Geographic Organization

Alderman's Courts have jurisdiction only within their own town limits. There were 11 active Alderman's or Mayor's Courts at the start of FY 1992; three in New Castle County and eight in Sussex County. When a town is without a Court or an Alderman for any period of time, its cases are transferred to the nearest Justice of the Peace Court.

Legal Jurisdiction

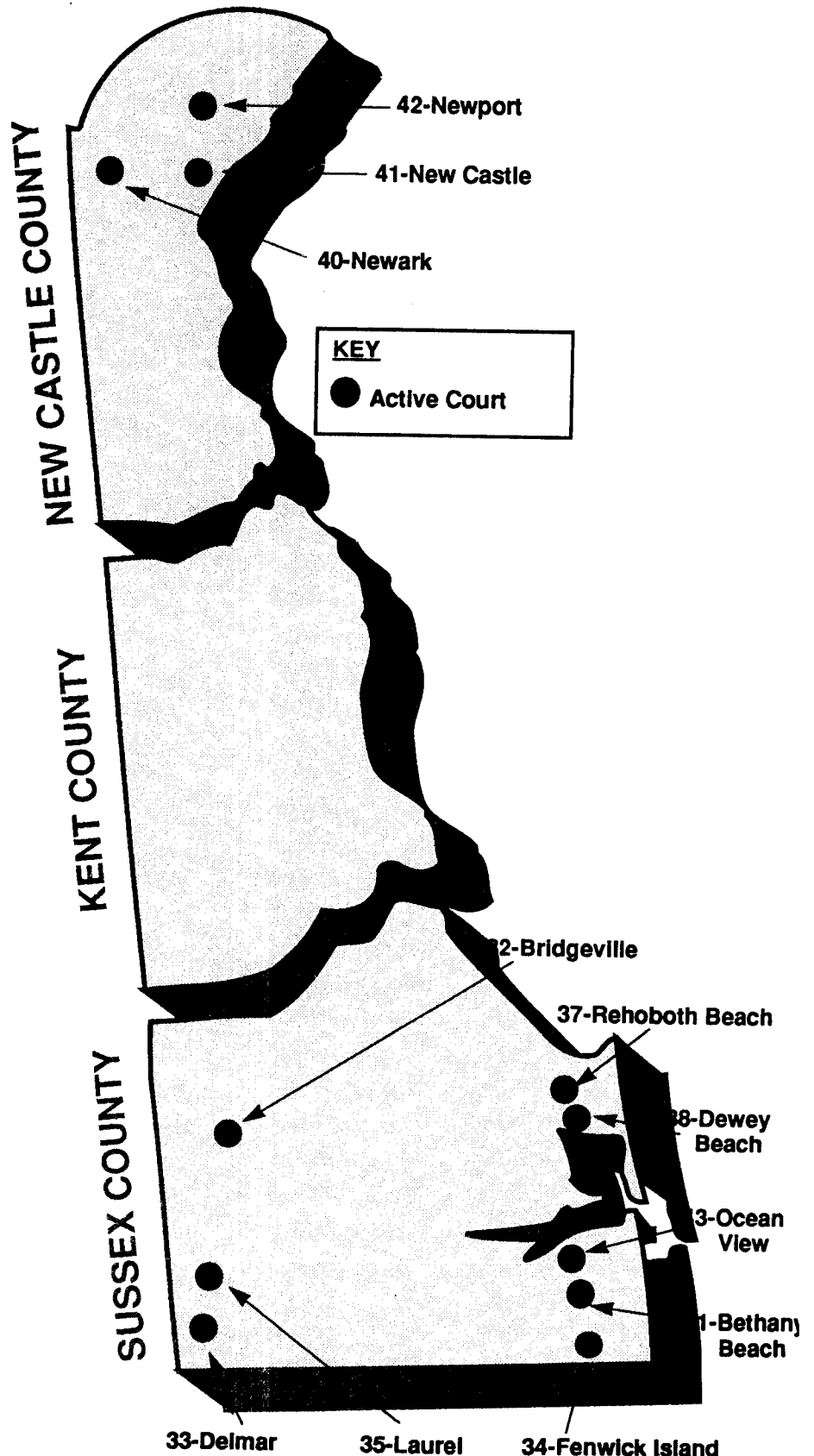
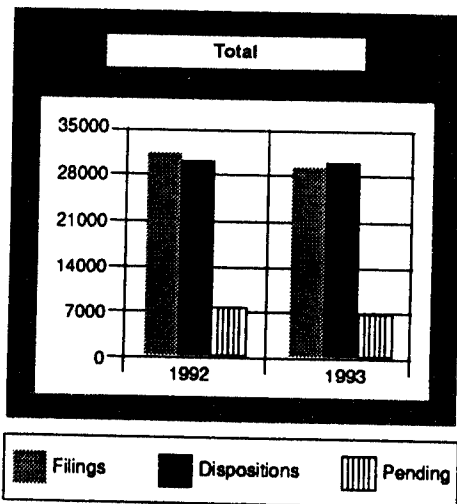
The jurisdiction of an Alderman's Court is limited to misdemeanors, traffic offenses, parking violations and minor civil matters. The specific jurisdiction of each court varies with the town charter (which is approved by the State Legislature). Appeals are taken de novo to Superior Court within 15 days of the trial.

Aldermen

The selection, number, tenure and qualifications of Aldermen are determined by the towns themselves. Some require lawyers while others choose ordinary citizens. A few Aldermen serve full-time, while some are part-time judges. In New Castle, the Mayor serves as Judge of the Court.

Caseload Trends

The total number of filings in the Alderman's Courts fell by 5.7% to 29,668 in FY 1993 from 31,446 during FY 1992. Total dispositions decreased by 3.5% from 31,045 in FY 1992 to 29,967 in FY 1993. The greater rate of decrease in filings than in dispositions led to a 4.1% drop in total pending from 7,294 at the end of FY 1992 to 6,995 at the end of FY 1993.



ALDERMAN'S COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 TOTAL CASES* - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Court	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle County						
Newark	5,257	8,877	9,159	4,975	- 282	- 5.4%
New Castle	3	61	62	2	- 1	- 33.3%
Newport	339	6,138	6,113	364	+ 25	+ 7.4%
Sussex County						
Bethany Beach	657	2,760	2,779	638	- 19	- 2.9%
Bridgeville	780	4,823	4,943	660	- 120	- 15.4%
Delmar	176	324	349	151	- 25	- 14.2%
Dewey Beach	0	2,678	2,678	0	0	—
Fenwick Island	0	1,202	1,202	0	0	—
Laurel	0	1,069	1,069	0	0	—
Ocean View	0	0	0	0	0	—
Rehoboth Beach	82	1,736	1,613	205	+ 123	+ 150.0%
TOTALS	7,294	29,668	29,967	6,995	- 299	- 4.1%

FISCAL YEAR 1993 CRIMINAL CASES* - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Court	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle County						
Newark	1,025	2,320	2,693	652	- 373	- 36.4%
New Castle	0	19	17	2	+ 2	—
Newport	0	0	0	0	0	—
Sussex County						
Bethany Beach	0	0	0	0	0	—
Bridgeville	0	0	0	0	0	—
Delmar	47	61	63	45	- 2	- 4.3%
Dewey Beach	0	1,248	1,248	0	0	—
Fenwick Island	0	31	31	0	0	—
Laurel	0	377	377	0	0	—
Ocean View	0	0	0	0	0	—
Rehoboth Beach	4	311	307	8	+ 4	+100.0%
TOTALS	1,076	4,367	4,736	707	- 369	- 34.3%

*The unit of count for criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant with three charges disposed of is counted as 3 dispositions.

Source: Alderman's Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

ALDERMAN'S COURT

FISCAL YEAR 1993 TRAFFIC CASES* - CASELOAD SUMMARY

Court	Pending 6/30/92	Filings	Dispositions	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
New Castle County						
Newark	4,232	6,557	6,466	4,323	+ 91	+ 2.2%
New Castle	3	42	45	0	- 3	- 100.0%
Newport	339	6,138	6,113	364	+ 25	+ 7.4%
Sussex County						
Bethany Beach	657	2,760	2,779	638	- 19	- 2.9%
Bridgeville	780	4,823	4,943	660	- 120	- 15.4%
Delmar	129	263	286	106	- 23	- 17.8%
Dewey Beach	0	1,430	1,430	0	0	—
Fenwick Island	0	1,171	1,171	0	0	—
Laurel	0	692	692	0	0	—
Ocean View	0	0	0	0	0	—
Rehoboth Beach	78	1,425	1,306	197	+ 119	+ 152.6%
TOTALS	6,218	25,301	25,231	6,288	+ 70	+ 1.1%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 TOTAL CASES- CASELOAD

Number of Filings*

COURT	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle				
Elsmere	828	0	- 828	- 100.0%
Newark	10,013	8,877	- 1,136	- 11.3%
New Castle	452	61	- 391	- 86.5%
Newport	5,545	6,138	+ 593	+ 10.7%
Sussex County				
Bethany Beach	2,972	2,760	- 212	- 7.1%
Bridgeville	5,472	4,823	- 649	- 11.9%
Delmar	539	324	- 215	- 39.9%
Dewey Beach	1,944	2,678	+ 734	+ 37.8%
Fenwick Island	1,576	1,202	- 374	- 23.7%
Laurel	1,052	1,069	+ 17	+ 1.6%
Ocean View	0	0	0	—
Rehoboth Beach	1,053	1,736	+ 683	+ 64.9%
TOTALS	31,446	29,668	- 1,778	- 5.7%

*The unit of count in traffic and criminal cases is the charge. For example, a defendant with three charges disposed of is counted as three defendants.
Source: Alderman's Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

ALDERMAN'S COURT

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 TOTAL CASES- CASELOAD (cont'd.)

Number of Dispositions*

COURT	1992	1993	Change	% Change
New Castle				
Elsmere	922	0	- 922	- 100.0%
Newark	10,623	9,159	- 1,464	- 13.8%
New Castle	450	62	- 388	- 86.2%
Newport	5,328	6,113	+ 785	+ 14.7%
Sussex County				
Bethany Beach	2,493	2,779	+ 286	+ 11.5%
Bridgeville	5,107	4,943	- 164	- 3.2%
Delmar	508	349	- 159	- 31.3%
Dewey Beach	1,944	2,678	+ 734	+ 37.8%
Fenwick Island	1,576	1,202	- 374	- 23.7%
Laurel	1,052	1,069	+ 17	+ 1.6%
Ocean View	0	0	0	-
Rehoboth Beach	1,042	1,613	+ 571	+ 54.8%
TOTALS	31,045	29,967	- 1,078	- 3.5%

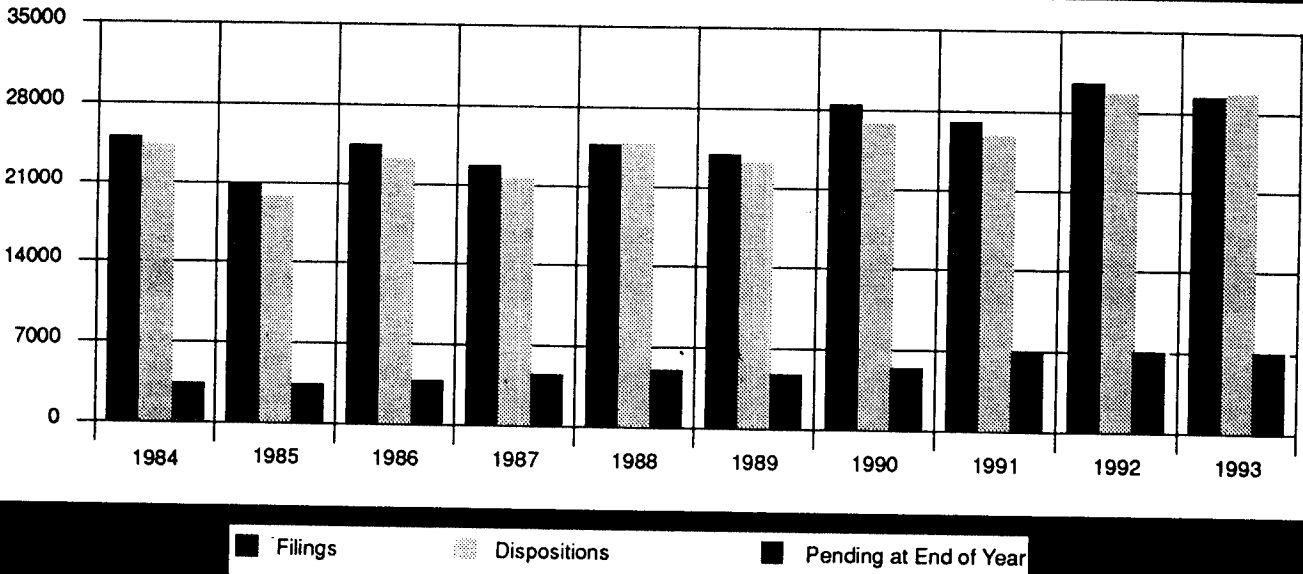
FISCAL YEAR 1993 — RANKING IN ORDER OF TOTAL CASES FILED

Rank	Total Number of Filings*	Percentage of Total	FY 1992 Rank
1 Newark	8,877	29.9%	1
2 Newport	6,138	20.7%	2
3 Bridgeville	4,823	16.3%	3
4 Bethany Beach	2,760	9.3%	4
5 Dewey Beach	2,678	9.0%	5
6 Rehoboth Beach	1,736	5.9%	7
7 Fenwick Island	1,202	4.1%	6
8 Laurel	1,069	3.6%	8
9 Delmar	324	1.1%	10
10 New Castle	61	0.2%	11
11 Ocean View	0	0.0%	12
TOTALS	29,668	100.0%	

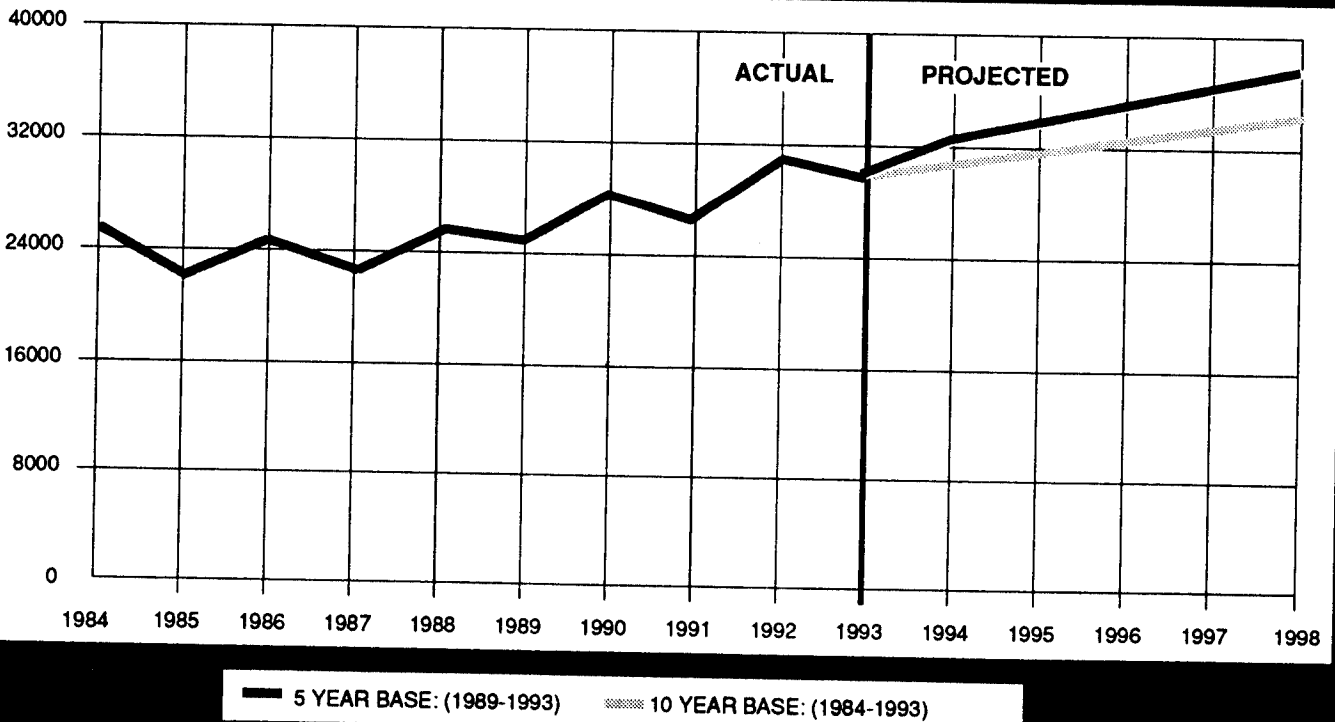
*The unit of count in criminal and traffic cases is the charge. For example, a defendant with three charges disposed of is counted as three dispositions.
Source: Alderman's Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts.

ALDERMAN'S COURT — TOTAL

10 YEAR CASELOAD TREND



5 YEARS PROJECTED FILINGS BASED ON 10 YEARS ACTUAL FILINGS



Trend lines computed by linear regression analysis.

Source: Administrative Office of the Courts

Judicial Agencies and Bodies

JUDICIAL AGENCIES AND BODIES

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Legal Authorization

The Administrative Office of the Courts was established by 10 *Delaware Code*, §128.

Personnel

The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts is appointed by

and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware.

The Director may, with the approval of the Chief Justice, appoint such assistants and support personnel as required.

Duties

The functions of the AOC are set out in Supreme Court Rule 87. The Judicial Information Center operates as a part of the AOC and is under the authority of the AOC.

DELAWARE COURTS PLANNING COMMITTEE

History

The Long Range Courts Planning Committee was created by Chief Justice Daniel F. Wolcott on December 15, 1970. At that time, Chief Justice Wolcott appointed nine members to the Committee which was composed of seven judges from the various courts and two members of the Bar. The initial charge of the Committee was to consider "long range planning for the needs of the Courts."

Under the leadership of Chief Justice Daniel L. Hermann, the Committee was reorganized with a broader charge in May, 1977. A formal "Statement of Purpose" was then adopted:

"The Long Range Courts Planning Committee shall be composed of judges, attorneys and court administrators. The purpose of the Committee is to provide an opportunity for the thoughtful formulation and active support of plans and programs for the improvement of the Delaware Court System which will enable it to better perform its task of administering justice in this State, and to undertake such other tasks as may be assigned to it by the Chief Justice. It is expected that this group will initiate new plans and programs, where appropriate, and will support plans and programs initiated by others, or initiated by this group in the past, which to this group appear worthy of such support. The group is intended not only to provide input from the standpoint of thoughtful ideas, but also to provide active and, where necessary, aggressive impetus at all levels of state government where support for the court

system is needed and appropriate."

Membership

The Chief Justice appoints individuals to serve as members on the

The current twenty-one member Committee contains representation from all of the courts as well as lawyers statewide. The present co-chairmen of the Committee are Justice Joseph T. Walsh and Victor F. Battaglia, Esq.

The other members are: Justice Andrew G.T. Moore, II, Vice-Chancellor Maurice A. Hartnett, III, President Judge Henry duPont Ridgely, Judge Peggy L. Ableman, Chief Judge Arthur F. DiSabatino, Judge Alex J. Smalls, and Chief Magistrate William F. Richardson.

The non-judicial members of the Committee are Sidney Balick, Esq., O. Francis Biondi, Esq., Attorney General Charles M. Oberly, III, Esq., Richard E. Poole, Esq., Harvey B. Rubenstein, Esq., Carolyn R. Schlecker, Esq., John J. Schmittinger, Esq., John F. Schmutz, Esq., Carl Schnee, Esq., Dennis L. Schrader, Esq., Bruce M. Stargatt, Esq., and Leo E. Strine, Jr., Esq.. Lowell L. Groundland, Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, serves as Secretary for the Committee.

Accomplishments

Working with the cooperation of the executive and legislative branches of government for the betterment of our court system, the accomplishments of the Committee to date have been significant. These include the enlargement of the Supreme Court,

additional judges for the Court of Chancery and Superior Court, the provision of adequate court facilities and making the Prothonotaries appointed rather than elected officials. The Committee is currently engaged in a continuing study of the jurisdiction of the component courts of the Delaware judicial system in order to promote efficiency and eliminate congestion. Courthouse security, adequate court facilities and court consolidation remain areas of continuing special concern.

In recognition of the Committee's outstanding contribution to the administration of justice for 22 years, Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey views its role as essential to dealing with all important issues confronting the courts. The Chief Justice desires to keep the Committee actively engaged in its pursuit of measures which will be advantageous for the court system and to the administration of justice in Delaware.

JUDICIAL AGENCIES AND BODIES

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

Legal Authorization

The Judicial Conference is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 81.

Duties

The Judicial Conference studies the judicial business of the courts with a view towards improving the administration of justice in the State. The Conference also considers improvements in procedure, considers

and recommends legislation, considers and implements the Canons of Judicial Ethics, holds symposia of Bench and Bar and reviews continuing judicial education programs.

Membership

The membership of the Conference includes the judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Chancery, Superior

Court, Family Court, Court of Common Pleas and the Municipal Court of Wilmington as well as the Chief Magistrate of the Justice of the Peace Courts. The Chief Justice is presiding officer of the Conference. The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts serves as secretary for the Conference. Scheduled meetings of the Conference are held on the first Wednesdays of December and June.

JUDICIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Delaware Supreme Court adopted the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Rule for members of the Bar, including judges, effective January 1, 1987. The Chief Justice appoints judges from each of the State courts and the Chief Magistrate to serve on the Judicial Education Committee with the charge to design and direct the implementation of educational programs which will permit members of the Judiciary to meet the requirements of the Rule.

In administering the funds provided by the General Assembly, the Committee plans in-state continuing judicial education programs at an annual seminar and also enables judges to travel out of state to pursue educational programs at the National Judicial College or to attend seminars offered by other prominent judicial education organizations. Justice Joseph T. Walsh has served as Chairman of the Judicial Education Committee since its inception. Other members of the

Committee are Vice-Chancellor Carolyn Berger, Judge Jerome O. Herlihy, Judge Jay Paul James and Judge William C. Bradley, Jr., and Chief Magistrate Patricia Walther Griffin. The Training Administrator of the Administrative Office of the Courts is the coordinator of the judicial education programs. Guest lecturers and speakers at each seminar have included distinguished jurists, legal scholars and others having expert knowledge in matters of importance to the judicial function.

COURT ON THE JUDICIARY

Article IV, Section 37 of the *Constitution of the State of Delaware* created this Court, consisting of the Chief Justice and the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Chancellor of the Court of Chancery, and the President Judge of Superior Court.

Any judicial officer appointed by the Governor may be censured, removed or retired by the Court on the Judiciary for willful misconduct in office, willful and persistent failure to perform

duties, commission of an offense involving moral turpitude after appointment or other misconduct in violation of the Canons of Judicial Ethics. A judicial officer may be retired because of permanent mental or physical disability interfering with the proper performance of his duties.

No censure, removal or retirement can be effective until the judicial officer has been served with written charges and has had the opportunity to be

heard in accordance with due process of law.

The Court on the Judiciary has the power to:

- (a) summon witnesses to appear and testify under oath and to compel production of other evidence, and
- (b) adopt rules establishing procedures for the investigation and trial of a judicial officer.

JUDICIAL AGENCIES AND BODIES

LAW LIBRARIES

The standards for the control and supervision of the three Law Libraries are set in 10 *Del. C.* §1941.

There are three Law Libraries located in the State of Delaware, staffed and maintained by state funds and each presided over by a law librarian. The Libraries are named after the counties in which they are situated.

The primary function of the Law Libraries is to provide a legal information center for the Judiciary, Public Defender's Office, legal representatives of counties and municipalities, city solicitors and members of the Delaware Bar. They are also the official depositories for state laws, administrative regulations and court rules. The libraries are made available to registered law students to assist them in preparation for state bar examinations and in their legal education. Assistance is given to persons using the facilities whenever possible.

The New Castle County Law Library, located in the Public Building, Wilmington, Delaware, is the busiest of the three Libraries. It houses about 25,000 books and there is presently seated working space for about 32 persons at one time. The recent purchase of a reader-printer which can make positive printouts from both microfiche and microfilm records has been a help to the Law Library and its users. The facility is maintained and administered by a law librarian and a library assistant. The Kent County Law Library is designated as the official law library of Delaware (10 *Del. C.*, §1942). It has over 25,000 volumes and is staffed by the Law Librarian and a Law Library Assistant. The Sussex County Law Library is staffed by one Law Librarian and houses about 14,000 volumes.

The Law Libraries are responsible for administrative library work as well as maintaining the bookkeeping

records required by the State. These duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to the following: insertion of pocket parts, maintenance of loose leaf service bookkeeping for the agency's accounts, preparing invoices for library expenditures, filing and indexing reported and unreported opinions from the several courts, obtaining and filing copies of rules and regulations promulgated by the governmental agencies, maintaining of books and their monetary values, obtaining and filing statutes from the Legislative Council and other states, handling requests from various persons for information contained in the Library, handling special requests for research work from the judges, planning and recommending development and improvement of services, writing reports and performing other duties associated with library work.

EDUCATIONAL SURROGATE PARENT PROGRAM

Legal Authorization

The Educational Surrogate Parent (ESP) Program is authorized by 14 *Del.C.* §3132.

Purpose

P.L. 94-142, the Federal special education law, requires that each state have a system for providing trained volunteers to represent the interests of special education children in State custody whose parents are not available. The ESP has authority to act on the child's behalf in all decision-making processes concerning the child's educational placement and services. Enough volunteers must be recruited, trained, and supported to ensure that every eligible child has an ESP.

Geographic Organization

The program is statewide. ESPs are available in all school districts. Each eligible child is matched with an appropriate volunteer in his/her geographical area.

The Coordinator's office is located in Wilmington.

Personnel

In FY 1993, 115 ESPs were appointed or available. ESPs are certified by the Department of Public Instruction and serve as long as they are willing and continue to meet the certification requirements. The program is administered by a Coordinator.

Caseload

During FY 1993, 21 new ESPs were trained, 51 appointments were processed and 106 children were represented by an ESP.

JUDICIAL AGENCIES AND BODIES

PUBLIC GUARDIAN

Legal Authorization

The authority for the Office of the Public Guardian is derived from Title 12, §3991, of the *Delaware Code*, which states that:

"There is established the Office of the Public Guardian. The Chancellor shall appoint the Public Guardian, who shall serve at his pleasure."

Geographic Organization

The Office of the Public Guardian has responsibility for the entire State and presents its petitions for guardianships in the Court of Chancery in all three counties.

Legal Jurisdiction

The powers and duties of the Public Guardian are stated in Title 12, §3992, of the *Delaware Code*;

"The Public Guardian, when appointed as guardian by Court order, shall:

1. Serve as a guardian for the property of aged, mentally infirm or physically incapacitated persons, pursuant to §3914 of this title;

2. Serve as a guardian for the person of aged, mentally or physically incapacitated persons where such persons are in danger of substantially endangering their health, or of becoming subject to abuse by other persons or of becoming the victim of designing persons; or
3. Serve as both guardian of the person and of property of such person."

The legislation creating the Office of the Public Guardian creates a guardianship capability for a person needing a guardian but who does not have a relative, friend, or other person interested in and capable of serving as a guardian, whose estate is insufficient to purchase the services of a private guardian or who would best be served by a neutral guardian. This has resulted in the Office of the Public Guardian serving as consultant to agencies, attorneys or families about guardianship matters.

Personnel

The Public Guardian is aided by a Deputy Public Guardian; an administrative officer, one full-time and two part-time caseworkers, and an accounting clerk in providing guardianship services.

Caseload

The Office of the Public Guardian received 168 referrals during FY 1993, of which 48 were deemed to need the services of the Public Guardian as a guardian. It was determined that the remaining 120 referrals during FY 1993 were not in need of guardianship to resolve their problems and were served by utilizing the resources of other state and private agencies.

There was a 47.7% increase in total referrals from 114 in FY 1992 to 168 in FY 1993. Total dispositions fell by 1.4% to 142 in FY 1993 from 144 in FY 1992. The total pending rose by 20.8% to 151 at the end of FY 1993 from 125 at the end of FY 1992.

FISCAL YEAR 1993 PUBLIC GUARDIAN - CASELOAD BREAKDOWNS

	Pending 6/30/92	New Referrals	Cases Closed	Pending 6/30/93	Change In Pending	% Change In Pending
Guardianships	104	48	28	124	+ 20	+ 19.2%
Investigations	<u>21</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>+ 6</u>	<u>+ 28.6%</u>
TOTALS	125	168	142	151	+ 26	+ 20.8%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 PUBLIC GUARDIAN - CASELOAD

NEW REFERRALS

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Guardianships	30	48	+ 18	+ 60.0%
Investigations	<u>84</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>+ 36</u>	<u>+ 49.2%</u>
TOTALS	114	168	+ 54	+ 47.4%

COMPARISON - FISCAL YEARS 1992-1993 PUBLIC GUARDIAN - CASELOAD

CASES CLOSED

	1992	1993	Change	% Change
Guardianships	31	28	- 3	- 9.7%
Investigations	<u>113</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>+ 1</u>	<u>+ 0.9%</u>
TOTALS	144	142	- 2	- 1.4%

Source: Office of the Public Guardian, Administrative Office of the Courts

JUDICIAL AGENCIES AND BODIES

FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD

Legal Authorization

The Foster Care Review Board is authorized by 31 *Del. C.*, C. 38.

Purpose

The mission of the Foster Care Review Board is to provide and administer a volunteer-based citizen Review Board, which acts as an independent monitoring system charged with identification and periodic review of all children in placement throughout the State of Delaware. Periodic reviews of children in out-of-home placement are conducted to ensure that continuing efforts are being made to obtain permanent homes for children; to provide stability in the lives of children who must be removed from their homes; to make the needs of a child for physical, mental, and emotional growth the determining factors in permanency planning; and to ensure that foster care remains a temporary status consistent with a child's sense of time.

The Board's committees conduct reviews of foster children every six months. The review consists of interviewing the Agency social worker, the foster parents, the child and the interested parties in order to determine if the case plan for the child is appropriate. The Board issues recommendations and has the power to petition Family Court for a judicial hearing on behalf of the child.

Periodic reviews for children in out-of-home placement conducted by independent citizen review committees are assisting the State to comply with federal review requirements. The purpose of the Board's child review program is to monitor the case plans made for children and families involved in the State's out of home programs.

Geographic Organization

The Board is organized into 12 review committees, in order to conduct reviews of children. These 12 review committees meet twice a month at various locations — Wilmington, Dover, Milford and Georgetown.

Personnel

Approximately 89 citizen volunteers comprised the Foster Care Review Board in Fiscal Year 1993. Board members are appointed by the Governor and serve terms of not more than three years. Not more than a simple majority of the Board may be members of either major political party. The Governor designates one member who serves at his pleasure as Chairman of the Board. The Board has an Executive Director who employs additional support personnel.

Performance

During FY 1993, the Board conducted 1400 reviews of children in foster care. The Board's volunteer citizens generate about 10,000 volunteer hours annually.

The Board also administers the Ivyane Davis D.F. Memorial Scholarship. Approximately \$20,000 was distributed to colleges in FY 1993 on behalf of 8 deserving Delaware residents who have been in foster care.

VIOLENT CRIMES COMPENSATION BOARD

Legal Authorization

The Violent Crimes Compensation Board is authorized by 11 *Delaware Code, Chapter 90*.

Purpose

It is the purpose of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board to "promote the public welfare by establishing a means of meeting the additional hardships imposed upon the innocent victims of certain violent crimes and the family and dependents of those victims". The Board may offer up to \$25,000 in compensation to those who are (1) victimized in the State of Delaware or (2) are residents of the State of Delaware and are victimized in a state that does not operate a crime compensation program. The Board receives a 18% penalty assessment which, by law, is added onto every fine, penalty and forfeiture assessed by the courts. The Fund is also replenished through court ordered restitution and through federal assistance.

Geographic Organization

The Board is responsible for handling requests for compensation throughout the State of Delaware.

Hearings on these requests may be held anywhere in the State at the convenience of the victim, with the Administrative Office of the Board located in Wilmington.

Personnel

The Violent Crimes Compensation Board consists of five members: a chairman, a vice-chairman and three additional Board members. Each member is appointed by the Governor and must be approved by the Senate before serving on the Board. The term of each Board member is three years so long as no more than two Board members have their terms expire at the end of any given year. The Board must be composed of not more than three members of any single political party. The Board may appoint an Executive Secretary and other employees as needed up to a maximum

of eight at one time. The Board currently employs one executive director, one support services administrator, three claim investigators, one administrative secretary, and one senior secretary.

Caseload Trend

In Fiscal Year 1993, the Board received 396 applications for compensation. During this operational period a total of 468 claims were processed. The Board disbursed \$1,165,647 to a total of 344 successful applicants. From FY 1975 through FY 1993, the Board has received 3,841 personal injuries/death benefits claim forms and has awarded approximately \$11,277,787. Revenue receipts for FY 1993 totalled \$1,972,100.

Directory

SUPREME COURT

General Information: 736-4155

Judiciary

Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey
 Justice Henry R. Horsey
 Justice Andrew G.T. Moore, II
 Justice Joseph T. Walsh
 Justice Randy J. Holland

Court Administrator

Stephen D. Taylor

Clerk of the Court/Staff Attorney

Margaret L. Naylor, Esquire

COURT OF CHANCERY

General Information: 571-2440

Judiciary

Chancellor William T. Allen
 Vice-Chancellor Maurice A. Hartnett, III
 Vice-Chancellor Carolyn Berger
 Vice-Chancellor Jack B. Jacobs
 Vice-Chancellor William B. Chandler, III

Master in Chancery

Richard C. Kiger, Esquire

Registers in Chancery**New Castle County**

Pricilla B. Rakestraw

Kent County

Loretta L. Wooten

Sussex County

David L. Wilson, Sr

Registers of Wills**New Castle County**

Joseph F. Flickinger, III

Kent County

Ross W. Trader

Sussex County

Howard Clendaniel

SUPERIOR COURT

General Information: 571-2380

Judiciary

President Judge Henry duPont Ridgely
 Associate Judge Vincent A. Bifferato
 Associate Judge Clarence W. Taylor
 Associate Judge Bernard Balick
 Associate Judge Richard S. Gebelein
 Associate Judge John E. Babiarz, Jr.
 Resident Judge William Swain Lee
 Associate Judge Susan C. Del Pesco
 Resident Judge Myron T. Steele
 Associate Judge Norman A. Barron
 Associate Judge Jerome O. Herlihy
 Associate Judge T. Henley Graves
 Associate Judge Charles H. Toliver, IV
 Associate Judge Carl G. Goldstein
 Associate Judge Haile L. Alford
 Associate Judge Richard R. Cooch
 Associate Judge Fred S. Silverman
 Associate Judge William C. Carpenter, Jr.

Master

Bernard Conaway

Court Administrator

Thomas J. Ralston

Deputy Court Administrator

Felicia C. Jones - New Castle County

Jesse L. Williams - Kent/Sussex Counties

Prothonotaries**New Castle County**

Sharon D. Agnew

Kent County

Mary Jane Smith

Sussex County

Jeffrey L. Howell

FAMILY COURT

General Information: 571-2200

Judiciary

Chief Judge Vicent J. Poppiti
 Associate Judge Robert W. Wakefield
 Associate Judge James J. Horgan
 Associate Judge Jay Paul James
 Associate Judge Jay H. Conner
 Associate Judge Charles K. Keil
 Associate Judge Peggy L. Ableman
 Associate Judge Battle R. Robinson
 Associate Judge Kenneth M. Millman
 Associate Judge William N. Nicholas
 Associate Judge Jean A. Crompton
 Associate Judge William J. Walls
 Associate Judge Alison Whitmer Tumas

Court Commissioner

Ellen Marie Cooper

Masters

Frederick H. Kenney, Chief Master

John R. Carrow

Courtney Collier

Carolee M. Grillo

Gary E. Grubb

Mary Ann Herlihy

Pamela Deeds Holloway

Andrew Horsey, Jr.

Susan Paikin

Martha Sackovicht

Andrew K. Southmayd

Court Administrator

Edward G. Pollard

Directors of Operations

Randall K. Williams

James F. Truitt

Robert F. Stuart

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

General Information: 571-2430

Judiciary

Chief Judge Arthur F. DiSabatino

Judge Merrill C. Trader

Judge Paul E. Ellis

Judge William C. Bradley, Jr.

Judge Alex J. Smalls

Court Administrator

Carole B. Kirshner

Clerks of the Court**New Castle County**

Frederick Kirch

Kent County

Teresa Lindale

Sussex County

Doris Wilkins

MUNICIPAL COURT

General Information: 571-4530

JudiciaryChief Judge Alfred Fraczkowski
Associate Judge Leonard L. Williams**Clerk of the Court**

T. Roger Barton

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

General Information: 323-4530

JUDICIARYChief Magistrate Patricia Walther Griffin
Justice of the Peace David R. Anderson
Justice of the Peace Robert A. Armstrong
Justice of the Peace Ernst M. Arndt
Justice of the Peace Margaret L. Barrett
Justice of the Peace William L. Boddy, III
Justice of the Peace Richard L. Brandenburg
Justice of the Peace William W. Brittingham
Justice of the Peace Karen N. Bundeck
Justice of the Peace Francis G. Charles
Deputy Chief Magistrate Ronald E.
CheesemanJustice of the Peace Thomas E. Cole
Justice of the Peace Richard D. Comly
Justice of the Peace Edward G. Davis
Justice of the Peace Frederick W. Dewey, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Walter J. Godwin
Justice of the Peace Wayne R. Hanby
Justice of the Peace William W. Henning, Jr.
Justice of the Peace William J. Hopkins, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Barbara C. Hughes
Justice of the Peace Virginia W. Johnson
Justice of the Peace James C. Koehring
Justice of the Peace Bonita N. Lee
Justice of the Peace Kathleen C. Lucas
Justice of the Peace Joseph W. Maybee
Justice of the Peace John P. McLaughlin
Justice of the Peace Joseph R. Melson, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Howard W. Mulvaney, III
Justice of the Peace Barry B. Newstadt
Justice of the Peace Joyce E. Nolan
Justice of the Peace John W. O'Bier
Justice of the Peace Ellis B. Parrott
Justice of the Peace Agnes E. Pennella
Justice of the Peace Stanley J. Petraschuk
Justice of the Peace Mable M. Pitt
Justice of the Peace William F. Plack, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Edward M. Poling
Justice of the Peace Russell T. Rash
Justice of the Peace William S. Rowe, Jr.
Justice of the Peace Marcealeate S. Ruffin
Justice of the Peace Rosalie O. Rutkowski
Justice of the Peace David R. Skelley
Justice of the Peace Paul J. Smith
Justice of the Peace Alice W. Stark
Deputy Chief Magistrate Charles M. Stump
Justice of the Peace Rosalind Toulson
Justice of the Peace Abigayle E. Truitt
Deputy Chief Magistrate Sheila G. Wilkins
Justice of the Peace William C. Wright**Court Administrator**

Thomas W. Nagle

Operations ManagerNew Castle County
Anna A. Lewis
Kent/Sussex County
Harry J. Betts**Clerks of the Court**Wanda Abbott (Court 19)
Barbara Adams (Court 3)
Joanne Ash (Court 2)
Marilyn Burbage (Court 6)
Linda Chapman (Court 18)
Mildred Dorris (Court 10)
Ann Marie Ellingsworth (Court 12)
Sheila Fox (Court 16)
Ethel Iacono (Court 13, Court 14))
Gaile Kerrigan (Court 11)
Debbie Long (Court 17)
Mary Lee Lowe (Court 4)
Jill Magee (Court 5)
Marjorie Nolette (Court 7)
Linda Parton (Court 8)
Teresa Reed (Court 1)
Eunice Ridgeway (Court 19)
Agnes Thompson (Court 9)
Betty Thompson (Court 9)
Cindy Veal (Court 15)**ALDERMAN'S COURTS**Chief Alderman Thomas B. Ferry (Newark)
Alderman Harold Britton Barber
(Bethany Beach)
Deputy Chief Alderman Richard A. Barton
(Fenwick Island)
Alderman Melanie M. Buchanan (Ocean View)
Alderman Michael J. DeFiore (Rehoboth Beach)
Alderman Marvin Guberman (Dewey Beach)
Mayor John F. Klingmeyer (New Castle)
Alderman Annette Leech (Newport)
Alderman Willie A. Robert, Jr. (Bridgeville)
Alderman David P. Striegel (Delmar)
Alderman Edward Walmsley, Jr. (Laurel)**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS****Director**

Lowell L. Groundland

Deputy Director

Michael B. McLaughlin

Law LibrariansNew Castle County
Rene Yucht
Kent County
Aurora Gardner
Sussex County
Mary Tylecki Dickson**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN****Public Guardian**

Robin Williams-Bruner

FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD**Executive Director**

Barbara A. Brown

**VIOLENT CRIMES
COMPENSATION BOARD****Executive Director**

Ann L. Del Negro



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