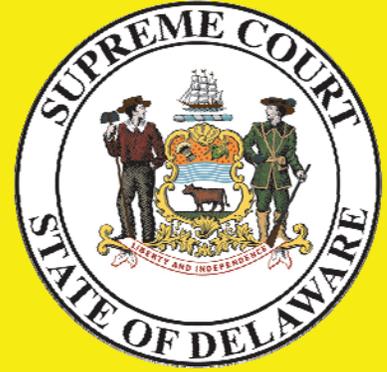
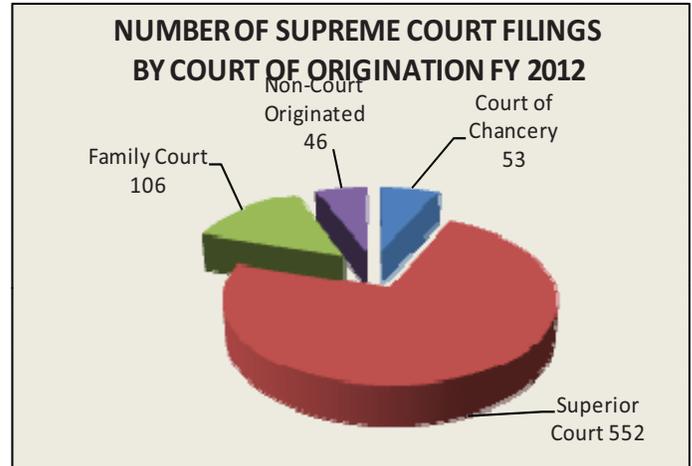


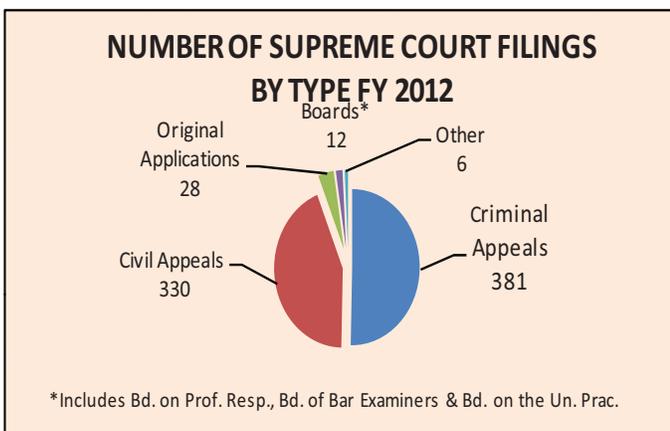
SUPREME COURT



In Fiscal Year 2012, the Delaware Supreme Court received 757 appeals and disposed of 747 appeals by opinion, order, or dismissal. On average, the appeals were decided 29.7 days from the date of submission to the date of final decision. In 99.1% of the appeals decided in FY 2012, the Court met the standard of the Delaware Judiciary for deciding cases within 90 days of the date of submission for decision. Based on the American Bar Association's Standards Relating to Appellate Courts, the Court set a performance measure for the disposition of 75% of all cases within 290 days of the date of the filing of the notice of appeal. The Court exceeded this objective by disposing of 86.2% of all cases within the 290 days timeframe. The Court set another performance measure for the disposition of 95% of all cases within one year of the date of the filing of the notice of appeal. The Court disposed of 92.8% of all cases within this one year timeframe.



file a report of marriage ceremonies performed by that judge with the Administrative Office of the Courts. A judge officiating a marriage or civil union ceremony is responsible for maintaining a copy of the original marriage or civil union form, pursuant to 13 *Del.C.* §§114 and 209. Under Administrative Directive No. 180 dated May 21, 2012, a hiring review process remains in effect, which requires that no positions may be filled within the Judicial Branch, including all new hires, promotions, paid interns, casual/seasonal, temporary, limited-term, merit and exempt positions, without prior approval of the Chief Justice. Career ladder promotions are not included in this process.



Under Administrative Directive No. 179 dated December 22, 2011, a judge is no longer required to

Chief Justice Myron T. Steele hosted the 2012 Midyear Meeting of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) in Wilmington, Delaware in January. Chief Justice Steele began his term as President of the CCJ in August 2012. This was the first time that Delaware has hosted the full Conference of Chief Justices. The Conference of Chief Justices

SUPREME COURT FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS BY FISCAL YEAR

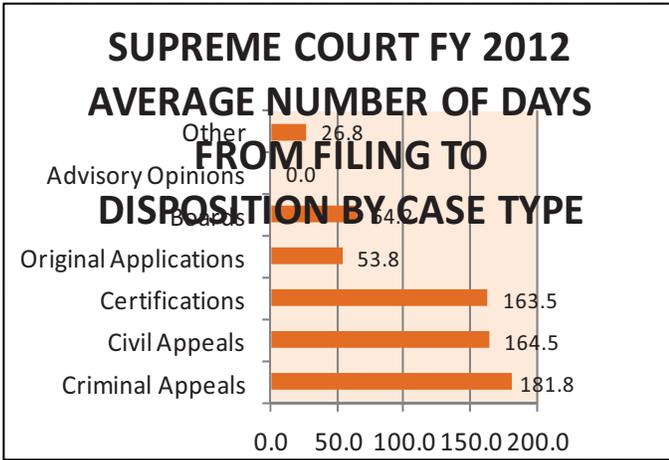


was founded in 1949 to provide an opportunity for the highest judicial officers of the states to meet and discuss matters of importance in improving the administration of justice, rules and methods of procedure, and the organization and operation of state courts and judicial systems, and to make recommendations and bring about improvements on such matters. Attendees from across the country participated in the four-day conference which included a dynamic education program focusing on “Commercial and Business Law” with renowned speakers and panelists from the United States and abroad.

The Delaware Courts, criminal justice agencies, and others were recognized for their leadership in efforts to implement racial and justice fairness initiatives during a conference sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the American Bar Association (ABA) on October 21-22, 2011 in Washington, D.C. In September 2010, Delaware was selected as one of four states to receive a two-year Racial Justice Improvement Project (RJIP) grant sponsored by the BJA and ABA as a part of the ABA’s program to support state criminal justice systems in efforts to enact key practices to promote fair, efficient, and accountable systems. Representatives of the jurisdictions receiving the ABA grants attended

the Conference to review progress midway through the grant period. The Delaware RJIP initiative is led by Supreme Court Justice Henry duPont Ridgely, with task force members including Chief Justice Alex Smalls of the Court of Common Pleas; Peggy Bell, Executive Director of Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS); Public Defender Brendan O’Neill; Colonel Robert Coupe, Delaware State Police Superintendent; Curt Shockley, the Director of Probation and Parole; Attorney General Joseph R. Biden, III; Drewry N. Fennell, Esquire, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Council; community representative Janet Leban, Executive Director of Delaware Center for Justice; State Court Administrator Patricia W. Griffin, Esquire and Task Force Facilitator; Amy A. Quinlan, Esquire, Deputy State Court Administrator.

As part of this year’s Law Day initiative, judges, attorneys, law students, and paralegals visited approximately 127 public elementary and middle schools in New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County. Law Day, which marks the United States of America’s commitment to the rule of law, was established in 1958. This year’s initiative introduced elementary and middle school students to iCivics, a web based program that allows students to explore and exercise,



through role play, their rights and responsibilities as citizens of our constitutional democracy. The program provides students with the ability to participate in all three branches of government. By playing these games, children will develop a better appreciation of the role and function of each branch of government, the separation of powers, and the need for an independent judiciary. iCivics is aligned to state and national educational standards and has been recognized by Delaware’s Department of Education. iCivics was founded in

2009 by retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor to promote civic understanding and participation among a new generation of young Americans. The initiative was sponsored by the Delaware Supreme Court iCivics Pro Bono Project; Justice Randy J. Holland, Delaware Chair for iCivics; the Women and the Law Section led by Laina Herbert, Esquire, Women and the Law Section Chair; Superior Court Judge Jan R. Jurden; and the Delaware Paralegal Association, with assistance from the Administrative Office of the Courts.

During the past fiscal year, 3,966 Delaware lawyers filed Annual Registration Statements with the Court pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 69. The Court implemented a new electronic system for Delaware lawyers to file their Annual Registration Statements, Certificates of Compliance, and Pro Hac Vice Renewals. The Court continues to grant Delaware Certificates of Limited Practice to in-house counsel pursuant to Rule 55.1 and Delaware Certificates of Limited Practice as a Foreign Legal Consultant pursuant to Rule 55.2.



Supreme Court Justices:

Front Row (sitting left to right)

Justice Randy J. Holland
 Chief Justice Myron T. Steele
 Justice Carolyn Berger

Back Row (standing left to right)

Justice Henry duPont Ridgely
 Justice Jack B. Jacobs