

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ceremonial Opening of New Family Court Building in Georgetown Marked with Ribbon Cutting

The Family Court of Delaware welcomed the public and state and local officials to the new Family Court building in Georgetown at 100 E. Market Street on Thursday Nov. 13, 2025 with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

“Today marks the culmination of a years-long effort to make our family court facilities more safe, secure and modern,” said Family Court Chief Judge Michael K. Newell. “We sought – with our partners in the governor’s office and in the legislature – to create a building that would offer dignity, privacy and security for our litigants and court staff, and we have delivered on that promise.”

Other speakers at Thursday’s event included Delaware Supreme Court Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr., former Delaware Governor John C. Carney, Jr. (who is Mayor of Wilmington), State Senator Brian Pettyjohn, Georgetown Mayor Bill West and William J. Lenihan of Tevebaugh Architecture, the company that designed the courthouse.

The new three-story building is roughly three times the size of the previous courthouse on The Circle. The 107,800-square-foot building not only has more courtrooms – eight, or two more than its predecessor – but courtrooms that are significantly larger at 1,400 to 1,800 square feet each, allowing for more comfort and safety during court proceedings. The building also has a large, bright, two-story lobby, wide hallways with alcoves and small meeting areas off to the sides to allow parties more distance and privacy as they wait. There is also a waiting area for children and specially designed rooms that will allow children to appear at proceedings through video instead of having to take the witness stand.

Behind the scenes, there are more holding cells and more room to allow for the appropriate separation of individuals in custody from judicial officers and court staff. There is also more space for court staff along with space for justice system partners in the building including the Department of Justice, Office of Defense Services and Office of the Child Advocate.

Finally, the building also has a 400-car parking garage becoming the first parking structure in Georgetown.

Ground was broken for the new Georgetown court facility in June 2022. A sister Family Court building in Dover, with a nearly identical floor plan located near the Kent County Courthouse, is set to be completed this summer.