

RHODE ISLAND JUDICIARY
ANNUAL REPORT

2015



INTRODUCTION

To the Honorable Members of the
General Assembly:

It is our distinct honor to present to you the 2015 Annual Report of the Rhode Island Judiciary, pursuant to G.L. 1956 (2012 Reenactment) § 8-15-7. In these pages, you will find the highlights of judicial programs in 2015, as well as statistics on caseloads and the makeup of the bench.

The year 2015 marked the halfway point of the Judiciary's four-year project to implement a new case management system with an electronic filing component. We are grateful for your support of this records modernization initiative, one that reduces the use of paper and makes case documents more readily accessible to litigants, attorneys, judges, court staff, and the general public. In 2015, we added the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal to the new system, which already had included all civil cases in the Superior, District, and Workers' Compensation Courts and domestic relations cases in the Family Court. In 2016, we look forward to adding all adult criminal cases and Supreme Court appeals, which will be another significant undertaking.

The Judiciary in 2015 was pleased to join in Governor Raimondo's effort to closely examine our system of probation and sentencing and explore more effective use of corrections resources. As a result, we expect to see changes in 2016 in our sentencing and probation guidelines. You can read more about that in the pages that follow.

We are also pleased to report that with your support we have begun the process of completing the five courtrooms that were deliberately left unfinished when

the Noel Judicial Complex in Warwick opened in 2006. These 5 courtrooms will bring the total to 16 in that courthouse, and will allow us to take case volume pressure off the Garrahy Judicial Complex in Providence and the McGrath Judicial Complex in South Kingstown.

Through efforts such as streamlined and effective record-keeping, updated sentencing and probation guidelines, and a shift of overburdened courthouse capacity to a building that can handle it, we will serve our citizens better and maintain the quality of services they have a right to expect.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul A. Suttell
Chief Justice



J. Joseph Baxter, Jr.
State Court Administrator



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ADVANCING COURT SERVICES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

The year 2015 marked the Judiciary's first full year of electronic filing and use of its new case management system, and by all accounts it was a year of dramatic technological advances and successes. The year also served as the midway point for this four-year, court-by-court, case type-by-case type conversion project.

Conversion to the new case management system with the electronic filing component is the single largest record-keeping project the Judiciary has undertaken in modern times. It is the culmination of 10 years of planning, research, and designating funds for what is a transformation in the way lawyers, litigants and court staff conduct business from the law office to the clerk's office to the courtroom. As 2015 drew to a close, the number of registered users in the electronic filing system had reached more than 6,000.

Key to understanding the conversion is that there are two separate systems. The first, the File & Serve electronic filing system, is operated by the Judiciary's commercial partner, Tyler Technologies of Plano, Texas. File & Serve is designed to streamline customer interaction, and it provides attorneys with the ability and convenience to file cases from anywhere



Court staff work on electronic filing and case management conversion.

with Internet access, any day and any time. Attorneys have remote access to their own cases.

The second is Odyssey, the case management system, which is operated by the courts. Attorneys and law office staff have been trained to use File & Serve, which sends pleadings and other court documents into the case management system. Self-represented litigants have the option to use electronic filing as well, although it is not mandatory.

Conversion overview

Civil cases in Superior Court and District Court, as well as domestic relations cases in Family Court, converted to electronic

filing in Phase II at the end of 2014, and by the end of 2015 the processes were established and court staff and law offices were becoming well-versed in navigating the systems. The Workers' Compensation Court, which was first to convert to the new case management system in Phase I in 2014, advanced to the next stage in February 2015 by switching to electronic case filing.

All documents in civil, traffic, domestic relations and workers' compensation cases are now electronically filed and processed within this system. Even though there was much apprehension prior to e-filing, court staff and attorneys adapted well to the transition. The Judiciary provided training classes for attorneys and their staffs regarding the electronic filing requirements. These classes were well attended and as a result, the transition to e-filing was almost seamless. In general,

electronic filings tend to be heaviest from Tuesday to Thursday, and during that period average 1,700 to 1,800 daily. Filings also arrive over the weekend, with about 100 filings on Saturdays and a couple of dozen on Sundays being quite typical. Each filing contains multiple documents to be reviewed.

Once documents are filed from outside state courthouses via the Internet, court clerks have the ability to review these filings and accept them immediately, instantly building a case file. Judicial officers can now find documents on their computers, rather than paper, and can sign orders electronically before returning them to the case management system, where lawyers and clerks can retrieve them. Weekday filings are being processed within a couple of hours, attorneys are notified of the acceptance or rejection of their filing, and the documents, once accepted,



A Judicial Technology Center employee works with a Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal clerk on conversion day.



Traffic Tribunal Magistrate DiSandro on the bench on the first day of the conversion, with a Tyler Technologies employee assisting the courtroom clerk.

are available to be viewed on the public portal. Weekend filings are reviewed on Monday mornings.

Odyssey replaces an antiquated case management system. It includes features such as judge assignment, mass docketing, case file tracking, time standards, scheduling, and forms generation. It provides clerical employees with a single application with which to capture, maintain, and access all electronic content. This content includes pleadings, notices, motions, orders, exhibits, briefs, judgments, writs of execution, and other papers typically filed with the court. There is also a financial component giving court administrators improved management of monetary transactions such as funds held in escrow, receipt of costs and fines, and bail.

The Judiciary has a Self-Help Center on

its home page on the World Wide Web (www.courts.ri.gov), providing links to a comprehensive overview and specifics on “how to” use the new systems, user guides, online training sessions, notices, updates and court rules.

Ongoing phases

Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell describes the ongoing project as rewarding and as one that has been well-received by judicial officers, court staff and members of the bar. “I think it has been worth the growing pains inevitable with such a sweeping change in the way we handle cases,” he said.

Phase III of the conversion rolled out in June 2015 at the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal, which not only incorporated the new case management system and electronic filing but also an online payment



Traffic Tribunal Associate Judge Almeida gets started on the first day of the conversion.

portal system and eCitations, the electronic submission of traffic summonses. While the latter was made mandatory by court rule in June 2015, the vast majority of police departments in Rhode Island were already participating as they, too, have transformed the way they do business through technology.

In midyear 2015, the courts began to prepare for Phase IV, the conversion of criminal cases in Superior, District and Family Courts as well as appeals in the Supreme Court, records of the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and the attorney registration system. That phase is expected to be implemented in October 2016.

Each court has designated internal “subject matter experts” to identify and schedule the work to be done in each phase of the conversion project, although they are by no means the only employees to receive extensive training.

The conversion of criminal cases and Supreme Court will pave the way for the project’s last significant stage – Phase V – the implementation of the Family Court juvenile cases, essentially that court’s equivalent of criminal matters, sometime in 2017.

Technology enhancements

The Supreme Court’s Judicial Technology Center has undertaken a number of other initiatives as part of the Judiciary’s commitment to make the courts more accessible and more responsive to the needs of all who come through our doors. Public computers are available at all clerks’ offices in all courthouses across the state to help facilitate use of the new systems. The courthouse public computers may also be used to access case information and filings.

The Judicial Technology Center in 2015 completed installation of wireless Internet access in all courthouses for use by



Judiciary employees in the training room at the Judicial Technology Center.



State Court Administrator Baxter and Chief Justice Suttell meet with Traffic Tribunal Administrator Sao Bento on the first day of the conversion.

attorneys and litigants alike. It continues to upgrade the Judiciary's network infrastructure to support the new case management and electronic filing systems. It began a project in 2015 to replace all network equipment to enhance their speed and security. With the installation of fiber optic connections over the past few years, the Judicial Technology Center has been able to retire legacy systems and equipment and decommission older network communications lines to all state courthouses and other state agencies. It has upgraded the network infrastructure and equipment to modernize all video conferencing in the courthouses. The Judicial Technology Center has enhanced the digital recording systems to further improve the audio quality of the court record in the District Court, Traffic Tribunal and grand jury rooms. As courtrooms in the 85-year-old Licht

Judicial Complex in Providence have been renovated one-by-one, the infrastructure and technology have been updated to meet the demands of a modern court system.



COURT SERVICES: A CLOSER LOOK

In Rhode Island, 23,000 people are serving a probation sentence, the second-highest rate in the nation, according to the Council of State Governments Justice Center. That is 1 in 20 adult men and 1 in 6 adult African-American men. Nearly 30 percent of the Adult Correctional Institutions' total population is comprised of probation violators. The average length of probation terms for those leaving the ACI is six years, which is three times the national average. Eighty percent of the probation population has served more than a year. Researchers consider one year of probation the threshold that determines the likelihood to reoffend.

Armed with these and other statistics, the Judiciary, Governor's office and other Executive Branch offices, and the General Assembly partnered in 2015 with the Council of State Governments to assess the problems, reduce corrections spending and reinvest the savings in strategies to lower recidivism, thereby increasing public safety.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell and retired Superior Court Associate Justice Judith C. Savage were co-chairs of the Governor's working group on "justice reinvestment" to assist the Council with its work. Superior Court Presiding Justice Alice B. Gibney, District Court Chief Judge Jeanne E.



The probation reform initiative is introduced at the State House.

LaFazia and Superior Court Magistrate John J. Flynn were also members of the working group.

Rhode Island's criminal sentencing and probation laws were largely untouched for decades. The Justice Reinvestment Initiative, financed by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Pew Charitable Trusts, aimed to help the state modernize its sentencing and supervision laws, and divert more defendants to the most appropriate services based on individual evaluations. Mental health disorders and substance abuse topped the list of problem areas.

Presiding Justice Gibney appointed committees of Superior Court judicial officers to examine current sentencing and probation guidelines. Proposed rule

changes were expected to be acted upon by both the Superior Court and the Supreme Court by mid-2016.

Drug addictions and the courts

Drug overdoses rose sharply in Rhode Island and surrounding states in 2015, putting focus on judicial programs already in place to deal with the issue.

The Superior Court's Adult Drug Court continues to grow with effective management of first-time nonviolent offenders who seek to turn their lives around. More than 10 years of continuous operation have resulted in impressive and measurable success in changing the course of many lives that otherwise may have been lost to a lifetime of drug or alcohol addiction. More than 100 individuals are enrolled in the Adult Drug Court at any one time. Responsibility and rehabilitation are essential to the court's success. Rehabilitation is achieved through adherence to prescribed clinical treatment and counseling, random drug testing, and individualized services coordination. A renewed sense of self and responsibility is gained through probation contact, participation in recovery programs, and frequent court appearances.

In 2014, with opioid addiction in Rhode Island at an all-time high, the Workers' Compensation Court began referring injured workers who suffer from chronic pain and are at least three months post injury, to the John E. Donley Rehabilitation Center for an evaluation for admission into an Interdisciplinary Chronic Pain Management Program (ICPMP). This program is available by



Superior Court Magistrate Flynn with an Adult Drug Court graduate and her daughter.

court referral only. If an injured worker is deemed to be an appropriate candidate for this program he or she will undergo a course of coordinated care designed to meet his or her specific needs. This care involves treatment with physicians of various specialties, nurse case managers, counselors, psychologists, physical and occupational therapists, and vocational counselors.

The goal of this program is to assist those injured workers who suffer from chronic pain to learn how to best manage that pain, and be productive once again, without the use of narcotic medication. The key feature to this program is that the entire medical team works together to coordinate the patient's care and team members meet and communicate regularly regarding the progress of each participant. Detailed statistics are still pending regarding the effectiveness of this program but preliminary feedback from program participants overall has been quite positive.

Language access

In compliance with Chief Justice Suttell's

executive order of 2012 on language services and the Judiciary's Language Access Plan, the Office of Court Interpreters continued providing language services in all courts and counties in civil and criminal matters during 2015. These requests for services were placed by court users, court staff, and attorneys. They included: interpreting, translating, sight translation, and information provided in the language spoken by court users. Services were provided in 32 languages to 9,365 court users. The five most requested languages were Spanish, Portuguese, Cape Verdean, Cambodian and Chinese. The office also provided interpreting services in most ancillary offices such as mediation in Superior Court; family services, family visitation, and juvenile services in Family Court; and the Pre-Trial Services Unit in District Court.

The Office of Court Interpreters continued proctoring the National Center for State Courts' certification exams. As a result, 15 new contractors are now certified or qualified to provide interpretation services to the Judiciary. To ensure all language services are provided in compliance with the Judiciary's guidelines and standards, the office conducted several staff and contractor trainings designed to address topics related to the delivery of those services. Also, the office has embarked on a collaborative effort with language service coordinators from the region to work on reciprocity standards on the provision of interpreting services, especially when it relates to uncommon languages. This effort will increase the availability of qualified interpreters from neighboring states.

Community Outreach

Providing and improving access to justice requires a robust community outreach program, and the Judiciary strives to approach this vital task on several fronts throughout the state court system. In conjunction with the Rhode Island Bar Association, the annual Law Day event in May pairs a judge with a lawyer in visits to more than 30 schools throughout Rhode Island to talk about timely topics in the law that are relevant to the lives of students.



Interpreter services provided at the Superior Court clerk's counter in Providence.

All year, the Supreme Court Office of Community Outreach and Public Relations promotes understanding of our judicial system through education programs in schools across the state, courthouse tours for secondary school students, and media relations.

The model program of this outreach is the national iCivics project, founded by retired United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Concerned that students were not learning enough information about their government to make them successful citizens, Justice O'Connor in 2010 founded the program

that is firmly rooted in digital education. She has fostered an approach that makes civics education fun through online video games and competitions. Supreme Court Chief Justice Suttell is the state chairman of iCivics. The use of the iCivics website in Rhode Island schools increased by 71 percent in 2015 from the previous year, according to the iCivics national office. There were 167 new teacher registrations in 2015, bringing the statewide total to more than 450 since 2011. Communities that showed exceptionally high growth in the project in 2015 included Coventry, West Warwick, Westerly, North Providence and Cranston, while Providence continued to dominate in overall usage.



A father and his son on National Adoption Day in Family Court.

The Family Court's annual National Adoption Day in November is one of the Judiciary's biggest public events, and is almost certainly the happiest day of the court year. It continues to attract hundreds from the community to celebrate and draw attention to the need for adoptive families in Rhode Island. While adoptions take place all year, the 2015 event marked the

adoption that day of 27 children into 23 families.

The five Supreme Court justices and court staff take their important work to Rhode Island's cities and towns with one or two visits a year away from the Licht Judicial Complex in Providence to hear oral arguments in appeals. In 2015, the Supreme Court heard cases at Rhode Island College.

The State Law Library continued its valuable assistance to the Office of Community Outreach and Public Relations by providing brief workshops to students on school field trips, and the library achieved its goals in five other areas of its own as well: public outreach to the neighboring library community; participation in off-site technological demonstrations; preservation of library material; enhancement of library surrounding and coordination of new legal research platforms.

The Workers' Compensation Court completed the 11th year of its youth employment safety (YES-RI) program, bringing to approximately 12,000 the total number of students reached since its inception. YES-RI was the inspiration of Chief Judge George E. Healy Jr., who retired in 2015 and whose vision was for a broad-based initiative to educate high school-aged workers about workplace safety and their rights in the event of an accident. YES-RI continues to create teams of judges, safety professionals, lawyers, and court personnel with the goal of reducing the number of work-related injuries for our next generation of workers.



Representative McKiernan, Chief Judge LaFazia on Legislators Law Day.

District Court

The Pretrial Services Unit monitors all conditions of bail that are placed on a defendant by a District Court judge. In 2015 the Pretrial Services Unit handled 2,237 cases. Most defendants in these cases were ordered to mental health or substance abuse treatment as a condition of bail. In 2015, the Pretrial Services Unit was asked to participate in the monthly Domestic Violence/Critical Case Review Meeting that identifies offenders with a high lethality risk. The unit also participated in training law enforcement officers and the Sheriff's Department in effective ways to deal with mentally ill offenders, including de-escalating techniques and recognizing the signs and symptoms of behavioral health diagnoses. In 2015, the unit assisted in training four local police departments.

The Rhode Island Veterans Treatment Court, administered by the Pretrial Services Unit, served 88 new Veterans in 2015. The total number of successful graduates from inception in April 2011 through December 2015 was 204,

especially impressive given the intensity and length of the program. In 2015, the Veterans Court opened an on-site toxicology lab in the Noel Judicial Complex where the Court convenes every Friday. In addition, the Veterans Court lab utilizes continuous alcohol monitoring devices (transdermal) and remote breathalyzers to help participants maintain sobriety.

Domestic Violence Monitoring and Training Unit

The unit reviewed 4,855 domestic violence/sexual assault forms in 2015. The unit's director, an active member of the Violence Against Women Act's Law Enforcement Training Committee, assisted in the domestic violence/sexual assault classroom and role play trainings for the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy. She helped to train the committee's newly certified instructors. She also assisted in the restructuring and updating of the domestic violence/sexual assault curriculum that is used at the Municipal Police Training Academy. She was one of the trainers for the Bristol and Charlestown police departments in-service trainings. The unit distributed more than 10,000 of its Victim Information and Safety Planning pamphlets in English, Spanish and Portuguese to law enforcement departments throughout the state.

Facilities, Operations and Security

Significant improvements to state court facilities were made over the past year. Renovations to courtrooms 4 and 9 at the Licht Judicial Complex in Providence were completed, as well as first floor ceiling



The Supreme Court chambers law clerks with Chief Justice Suttell.

restoration, exterior masonry repair and miscellaneous interior restorations. At the Murray Judicial Complex in Newport, the building's front entry door and exterior were restored. Work began on the five unfinished courtrooms at the Noel Judicial Complex in Warwick and was expected to be completed in 2016.

Video surveillance systems at the Garrahy Judicial Complex in Providence were upgraded with high resolution cameras in the cell block. Upgrades have continued at all of our facilities. At the Noel Judicial Complex parking garage, all light fixtures were replaced with LED and integrated controls to sense motion and natural daylight. These changes save approximately 75 percent of the cost for lighting the garage. All compact fluorescent bulbs in canned lights at the Traffic Tribunal in Cranston and Noel Judicial Complex were replaced with LEDs. At the Licht Judicial Complex, some 1,400 LED light bulbs were placed throughout the hallways and courtrooms.

Appellate Mediation

In effect since 2003, the Supreme Court's Appellate Mediation Program offers an alternative form of dispute resolution to give litigants the opportunity to resolve their pending appeal outside the litigation process. Appellate mediation saves time, expense and the contention of prolonged litigation that might otherwise conclude with oral argument before the full court.

In 2015, the program processed 147 cases, a 15 percent decrease from the prior year and the lowest number of cases subject to the program since its inception. The program mediated approximately 60 percent of those cases deemed eligible, representing the highest percentage of cases mediated in the last five years. Currently, five retired judges serve as mediators who guide the process and assist the parties in coming to their own resolution. The program's resolution rate remained steady at 38 percent and maintained its high satisfaction rating with 85 percent of participants indicating they would use the same mediator-justice again.



The law clerk pool for the lower courts with Chief Justice Suttell.

Mandatory Continuing Legal Education

The Supreme Court Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission concluded its third full year of electronic filing on June 30, 2015. Browser compatibility and expediting timelines for immediate response to all course applications and attorney filings were the highlights of 2015. The MCLE office managed 668 continuing legal education sponsor accounts. There are currently 9,440 (active and inactive) attorney records being served via the Supreme Court Attorney Portal.

Judicial education programming for calendar year 2015 included a variety of topics to enhance the judicial excellence of the state court bench. Three annual in-house conferences were offered and included neuroscience and the law, pro se litigants, mass incarceration, civil and criminal case law update, social media in litigation, guardianship and guardians ad litem, domestic violence, and E-Discovery.

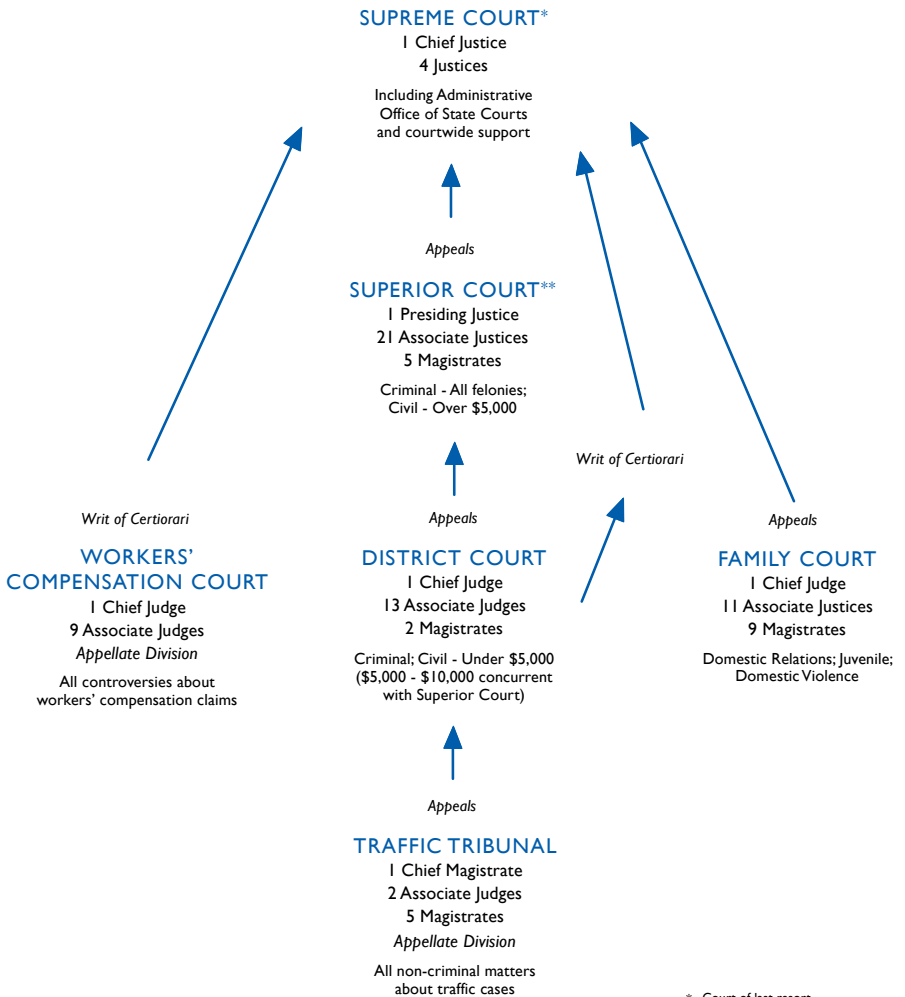
Supreme Court Law Clerk Department

The Supreme Court Law Clerk Department provides legal research and writing assistance to the trial judges and magistrates of the Rhode Island court system. These law clerks work throughout the state in the Providence, Kent, Newport, and Washington County courthouses, and in Cranston at the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal. They assist with the general trial and motion calendars as well as special calendars. Law clerks also serve the Family and District Courts and the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal Appeals Panel.

In 2015, the law clerks worked on case assignments encompassing civil, criminal, and administrative law. Some of these law clerks were also assigned to assist on particular trials for which they spent time in the courtroom. Throughout the year, the Law Clerk Department fully utilized the electronic case management system, which facilitated the assembly of case files and reduced time in accessing pleadings and case documents.

NAVIGATING THE COURT SYSTEM

Rhode Island Court Structure



* Court of last resort
 ** Court of general jurisdiction
 All other courts have limited jurisdiction

COURT GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



The chief judicial officers of the six courts in Rhode Island's unified judicial system are, from left: Superior Court Presiding Justice Alice Bridget Gibney; Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell; Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal Chief Magistrate William R. Guglietta; Workers' Compensation Court Chief Judge George E. Healy, Jr.; Family Court Chief Judge Haiganush R. Bedrosian; and District Court Chief Judge Jeanne E. LaFazia.



The administrators of the six courts in Rhode Island's unified judicial system are, from left, Kevin Spina (District Court), J. Joseph Baxter, Jr. (Supreme Court), Joseph V. Conley (Superior Court), Ronald Pagliarini (Family Court), Maureen Aveno (Workers' Compensation Court), and Steven Sao Bento (Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal).

SUPREME COURT



With Chief Justice Paul A. Suttell, seated, from left to right, Maureen McKenna Goldberg, William P. Robinson III, Francis X. Flaherty, and Gilbert V. Indeglia.

SUPERIOR COURT



*Bottom, left to right: Edward C. Clifton, Patricia A. Hurst, Robert D. Krause, Alice Bridget Gibney (Presiding Justice), Melanie Wilk Thunberg, Michael A. Silverstein, and Netti C. Vogel.
Second row, left to right: Walter R. Stone, Kristin E. Rodgers, William E. Carnes, Jr., Jeffrey A. Lanphear, Susan E. McGuirl, Stephen P. Nugent, Daniel A. Procaccini, Allen P. Rubine, Bennett R. Gallo, and Brian P. Stern.
Top, left to right: John J. Flynn, Patrick T. Burke, Richard A. Licht, Luis M. Matos, Brian Van Couyghen, Sarah Taft-Carter, Joseph A. Montalbano, Patricia L. Harwood, and John F. McBurney III.*

FAMILY COURT



*Bottom, left to right: Debra E. DiSegna, Stephen J. Capineri, John A. Mutter, Michael B. Forte, Haiganush R. Bedrosian (Chief Judge), Kathleen A. Voccola, Francis J. Murray, Jr., Laureen D'Ambra, and John E. McCann III.
Top, left to right: Paul T. Jones, Jr., Charles Levesque, Armando O. Monaco II, Jeanne L. Shepard, Feidlim Gill, Patricia K. Asquith, Karen Lynch Bernard, Sandra Lanni, George N. DiMuro, Angela M. Paulhus, Edward H. Newman, and Rossie Lee Harris.*

DISTRICT COURT



*Front, left to right: Pamela Woodcock Pfeiffer, William C. Clifton, Frank J. Cenerini (retired), Jeanne E. LaFazia (Chief Judge), Elaine T. Bucci, Madeline Quirk, and Rafael A. Ovalles.
Rear, left to right: Stephen M. Isherwood, Colleen M. Hastings, Anthony Capraro, Mary E. McCaffrey, Joseph T. Houlihan, Jr., Christine S. Jabour, and Joseph P. Ippolito, Jr.*

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT



*Bottom, left to right: Debra L. Olsson, George E. Healy, Jr. (Chief Judge), and Janette A. Bertness.
Top, left to right: Robert E. Hardman, George T. Salem, Jr., Edward P. Sowa, Jr., Dianne M. Connor,
Hugo L. Ricci, Jr., and Robert M. Ferrieri.*

RHODE ISLAND TRAFFIC TRIBUNAL



*Bottom, left to right: Lillian M. Almeida, William R. Guglietta (Chief Magistrate), and Edward C. Parker.
Top, left to right: Joseph A. Abbate, R. David Cruise, Domenic A. DiSandro III, Alan R. Goulart, and William T. Noonan.*

RECOGNITION

Retirements

Judicial Officers Who Retired From the Bench in 2015



Honorable Haiganush R. Bedrosian
Chief Judge
FAMILY COURT



Honorable George E. Healy, Jr.
Chief Judge
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT



Honorable Edward C. Clifton
Associate Justice
SUPERIOR COURT



Honorable Kathleen A. Voccola
Associate Justice
FAMILY COURT



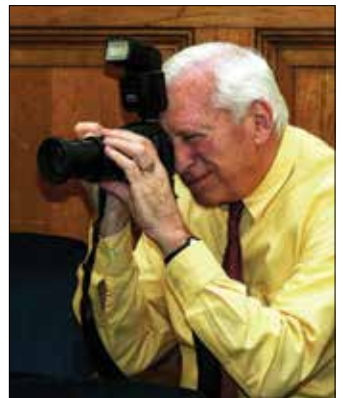
Honorable Edward P. Sowa, Jr.
Associate Judge
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT

In Memoriam



Honorable John A. Mutter
Associate Justice
FAMILY COURT





CASELOAD DATA CHARTS

AT A GLANCE

JUDGES

64 Judges (10 vacancies)
24 Female
3 Minorities

20 Magistrates
3 Female
1 Minority

EMPLOYEES

FTE Count
724.3 Authorized
671.6 Average Filled

FACILITIES

6 Courthouses
(2 Administrative Buildings)

74 Courtrooms
(5 Shelled Courtrooms,
4 Grand Jury Rooms,
2 Mental Health Courtrooms)

Total Filings in 2015

182,086

Total Dispositions in 2015

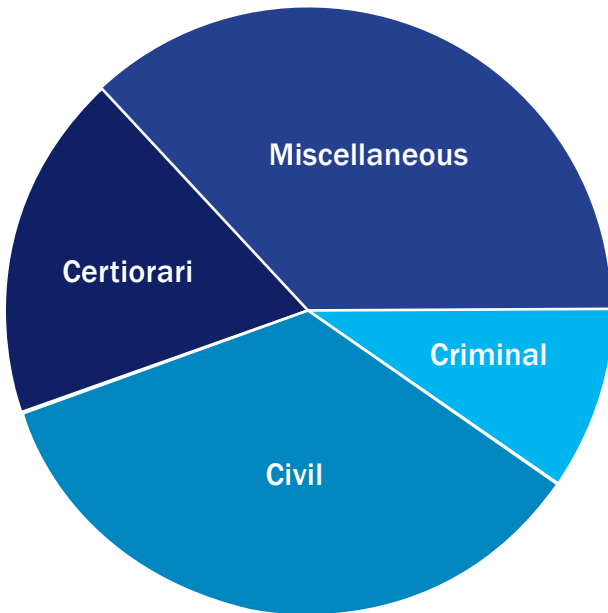
160,247



SUPREME COURT

2015 Appellate Caseload

Criminal	37
Civil	132
Certiorari	69
Miscellaneous	138
Total Filed	376
Total Disposed	411



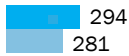
SUPERIOR COURT

2015 Superior Court Caseload

Felony



Misdemeanor



Civil



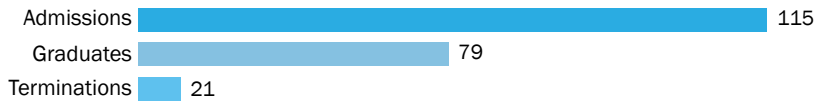
Total Filed = 14,129

Total Disposed = 11,678

*Estimated numbers run from Odyssey operational reports.

**Numbers produced by Superior Court from manual count.

Adult Drug Court



Number of graduates since 2009 = 314

FAMILY COURT

2015 Family Court Caseload

Juvenile

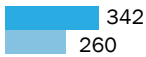
Wayward/Delinquent



Dependency/Neglect/Abuse



Termination of Parental Rights



Adoption/Guardianship



Violations



Other



Domestic/Other

Divorce



Abuse



Miscellaneous



Child Support



Total Filed = 15,857

Total Disposed = 11,432

*Estimated numbers run from Odyssey operational reports.

DISTRICT COURT

2015 District Court Caseload

Misdemeanor



Felony



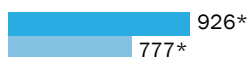
Small Claims



Civil



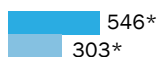
Abuse



Administrative Appeals



Mental Health Hearings



 Total Filed = 64,658

 Total Disposed = 54,260

*Estimated numbers run from Odyssey operational reports.

Post Judgment Hearings



WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT

2015 Workers' Compensation Court Caseload

Employee Petitions to Review



Employer Petitions to Review



Lump Sum Settlement



Miscellaneous Petitions



Original Petitions



Petitions for Medical



Petitions to Enforce



Total Filed = 7,394

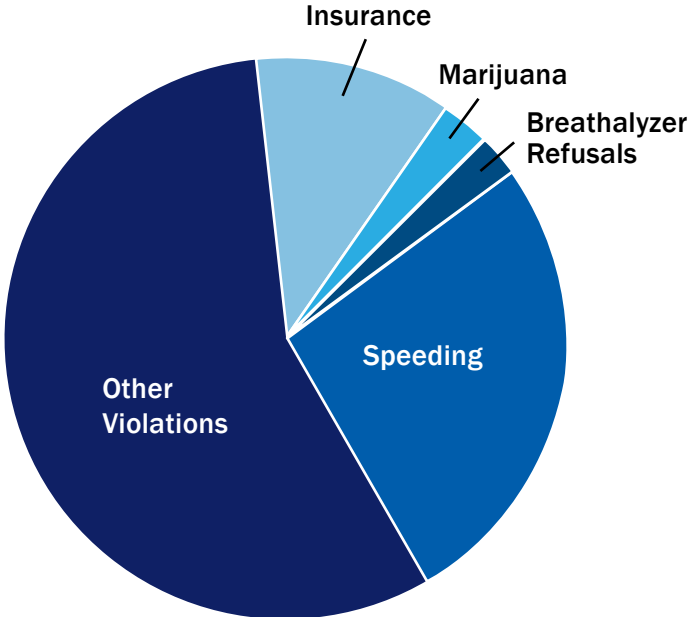
Total Disposed = 7,572

RHODE ISLAND TRAFFIC TRIBUNAL

2015 Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal Caseload

Traffic Tribunal Summonses Issued	86,367*
Traffic Tribunal Violations	
Insurance	10,640*
Marijuana	2,559*
Breathalyzer Refusals	2,303*
Speeding	24,960*
Other Violations	52,640*
<hr/>	
Total Violations	93,102*
Total Summonses Disposed	79,647*

*Estimated numbers run from Odyssey operational reports.



PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

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Page 15 – Supreme Court, Holly Hitchcock

Page 16 – District Court, Holly Hitchcock

Page 17 – Workers' Compensation Court, Holly Hitchcock

Candid photographs by Craig Berke, Director of Community Outreach and Public Relations