## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ILLINOIS COURTS

FIF

ALC: NO.

Administrative Summary

## THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS



*Left to Right:* Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, Justice Charles E. Freeman, Chief Justice Robert R. Thomas, Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, Justice Rita B. Garman, Justice Anne M. Burke.

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**Cover Design: Inside the Illinois Supreme Court, Springfield, Illinois.** The murals within the courtroom were completed in 1911 by Albert H. Krehbiel and depict the "Origin, Function, and Continuity of Law" using allegorical and mythological figures. Mr. W. Carby Zimmerman, architect of the Supreme Court Building, considered the work to be an "example of the best mural painting ever executed in the West." (information source: www.krehbielart.com) Cover photos provided by Daniels-Ackerman Photography.

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# LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL



Cynthia Y. Cobbs Director

t is my pleasure to transmit the **2006 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts**, which highlights the various projects and activities undertaken by the Illinois Judicial Branch during this past year. The Report contains a summary of the 2006 Illinois Judicial Conference Annual Meeting and of the activities pursued by the Supreme Court's committees. The Report also contains an overview of the state and local funding for the Illinois Judicial Branch and statistical information regarding court caseloads. Displayed throughout the Report are photographs which illustrate the rich and diverse architecture of Illinois' courthouses at the supreme, appellate and circuit

levels. Each of these courthouses is more than a symbol. They are the embodiment of our great experiment in democracy. As a final matter, the Report provides a brief description of the six divisions of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.

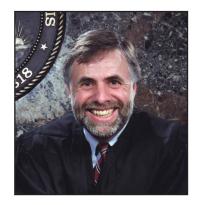
The Administrative Office gratefully acknowledges the clerks of the supreme, appellate and circuit courts for their assistance and support in supplying the statistical data set forth herein. I also wish to express my gratitude to all who contributed to the Report's preparation. As reflected in the Report, the Illinois judiciary and court personnel remain committed to providing the highest level of quality and access to justice to the citizens of Illinois, a goal which the Administrative Office is both privileged and pleased to facilitate.

For further information on the Illinois Courts and the Administrative Office, I invite you to visit <u>www.state.il.us/court</u>.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Letter of Transmittal



# A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERT R. THOMAS

n behalf of my colleagues on the Illinois Supreme Court and the entire Judicial Branch of our state, it is my pleasure to present the 2006 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts. I am pleased to report on many successes of the judicial branch and several key projects initiated by the Supreme Court through the assistance of our Administrative Office. Before presenting the Court's work for 2006, however, I want to acknowledge that anyone in this position recognizes that he stands here on the shoulders of the many accomplished individuals who have preceded him. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the distinguished and exemplary career of my predecessor, former Chief Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow, who was a member of the Supreme Court from 1992 until her retirement this year. Justice McMorrow was the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court and served as our Chief Justice from September 2002 until September 2005. The Court is grateful to Justice McMorrow for her leadership and contributions to the development of the law and the administration of justice in Illinois. Over the last ten years, the most far reaching change in the administration of the courts has come with the advent of computer technology. No aspect of the justice system has been unaffected. Technology promises increased efficiencies that enhance court services and functions. That said, the Court is not unmindful that with expanded technologies, comes the principled requirement to keep justice accessible to all and to adopt sound procedural protections and privacy principles. During calendar year 2006, technological innovations were among the areas of primary focus for the Supreme Court.

To identify and utilize information technologies that advance the services and functions of the courts, and increase their effectiveness by enhancing the quality, timeliness and efficiency of decisionmaking, the Court initiated several electronic business projects. First, the Court adopted the *Electronic Business Initiative*, an overarching strategy, crafted by our Administrative Office, to provide the framework that ensures access and provides compatibility and uniformity among all of Illinois' trial courts. In 2006, the Court established the "Standards for Accepting Electronic Pleas of Guilty in the Illinois Courts Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 529." These standards will enable the orderly development of practices and procedures relating to internet use for submitting and verifying guilty pleas in minor traffic and conservation offenses. Finally, the Court expanded its Electronic Filing Pilot Project, which invites chief circuit judges and clerks of the circuit courts to jointly submit proposals for the electronic filing of court documents for approval by the Supreme Court, to include Cook and Will Counties in addition to the existing site in DuPage County.

In 2006, the website for the Supreme Court (www.state.il.us/court) was redesigned, reorganized, expanded, and yet streamlined, to provide smooth access to a broad range of court and court related information. Navigation of the website to locate the most popular information about the Illinois Judicial Branch is now almost effortless. In addition, new features have been added to aid the public, educators and members of the legal profession. For example, "Citizen Self-Help" offers guides to the court system as well as links to information regarding citizen rights, responsibilities and legal resources such as Illinois child support information and an Illinois attorney locator. The newly designed site provides a platform which is visually appealing, interactive, and more efficiently organized to present information and services that relate to the entire Illinois Judicial Branch.

The Court also instituted several additional initiatives aimed at improving the judicial system in 2006, specifically seeking to identify and implement court practices and procedures that protect children, strengthen families, and assist Illinois' most vulnerable citizens. The Supreme Court adopted the "900 Series" of new rules to expedite and ensure the best interests of children is the focus in all custody cases. These rules mandate that all child custody proceedings be scheduled and heard on an expedited basis; that continuances shall not be granted 'except for good cause shown' and only if the continuance 'is consistent with the health, safety and best interests of the child;' and require a judge to render a decision as soon as possible but not later than 60 days after completion of trial or hearing. The rules also require that attorneys who are appointed in child custody and adoption cases meet certain minimum requirements as well as mandating education courses for judges who may be called upon to hear custody cases.

In addition to improving the administration of justice for children in custody proceedings, the Supreme Court focused on increasing pro bono legal services. The Court adopted a rule designed to encourage all Illinois lawyers to improve the delivery of legal services to the poor and to persons of limited means. Supreme Court Rule 756 requires all licensed Illinois attorneys to report annually whether they have provided pro bono legal services in the past 12 months, along with the approximate number of hours provided without

charge or expectation of a fee. Rule 756 is intended to impose a mandatory reporting requirement to serve as an annual reminder to the lawyers of Illinois that pro bono legal service is an integral part of a lawyer's professionalism.

The Court's focus in 2006 was not limited to improving legal services. The Court also initiated improvements in the judiciary. In conjunction with its Minimum Continuing Legal Education requirements for Illinois attorneys established in 2005, the Court in 2006 adopted the Mandatory Contin-

uing Judicial Education provisions for the Illinois judiciary. More specifically, all associate, circuit and appellate judges will be required to attain 30 hours of continuing judicial education over a twoyear period, including content addressing judicial conduct, ethics and professionalism issues. This new requirement will be fulfilled by judges through the presentation of an expanded 30-hour Judicial Education Conference beginning in 2008. At a minimum, judges should always be current on the latest developments in the law. At the same time, judges are in a unique position to foster a culture of professionalism and civility. The Court is confident that these new judicial education requirements will contribute to improving public confidence and trust in the Third Branch.

The year 2006 concluded the inaugural twelve months of work by the Supreme Court's Commission on Professionalism. Created by the Court in 2005, the goal of the Commission is to promote, among the members of the Illinois bench and bar, principles of integrity, professionalism and civility. The Commission and its staff, in pursuit of preserving core values of the legal profession such as the provision of equitable, effective and efficient resolution of problems and disputes for the people of Illinois, has initiated planning and activities in local jurisdictions to pilot aspirational models of professionalism.

Before closing these remarks, I would like to briefly note the work of the Administrative Office, which serves as the administrative arm of the Supreme Court. Headed by the Supreme Court's Administrative Director, Cynthia Y. Cobbs, and under her leadership, the Administrative Office provides organizational, administrative and technical support to all three levels of Illinois'

Inside the Illinois Supreme Court

courts and serves as liaison to the Supreme Court's various committees. The Administrative Director and staff work with the Chief Justice and the Court to prepare, present and follow-up on the policy matters affecting the judiciary, including fiscal and programmatic issues, rules, and topics related to the other branches of state government and to entities which are involved in, or have an interest in, the administration of the Judicial Branch. A more detailed description of the responsibilities and programs of each of the divisions of the Adminis-

trative Office is contained elsewhere in this publication.

I invite your review of the work and accomplishments of the Illinois Judicial Branch and the Administrative Office as contained in the 2006 Annual Report. Finally, I want to extend my appreciation to all who have assisted with the numerous projects and initiatives featured herein. It is my profound privilege to serve you and to work with you, as your Chief Justice.

Rober L. Shomas

Robert R. Thomas Chief Justice

A Message from the Chief Justice

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NINETY-FIFTH ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

January 31, 2007

Honorable Michael J. Madigan Speaker of the House House of Representatives Springfield, Illinois 62706

Honorable Tom Cross Republican Leader House of Representatives Springfield, Illinois 62706 Honorable Emil Jones, Jr. President of the Senate State Senate Springfield, Illinois 62706

Honorable Frank C. Watson Republican Leader State Senate Springfield, Illinois 62706

Gentlemen:

Attached is the 2006 Annual Report of the Illinois Supreme Court. I submit this Report to the General Assembly pursuant to Article VI, Section 17 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, which requires the Supreme Court to report annually in writing to the General Assembly regarding the annual Judicial Conference. The Judicial Conference considers the work of the courts and suggests improvements in the administration of justice. In compliance with the constitutional mandate, this Report includes a summary of the work performed by the several committees which make up the Judicial Conference.

The Committees of the Judicial Conference include (1) Alternative Dispute Resolution, (2) Automation and Technology, (3) Criminal Law and Probation Administration, (4) Discovery Procedures, (5) Education, (6) Study Committee on Complex Litigation, and (7) Study Committee on Juvenile Justice. The Judicial Conference was convened on October 19, 2006, to consider the aforementioned committees' reports and recommendations. Those reports detailed initiatives undertaken by the respective committees during Conference Year 2006. This Annual Report summarizes those initiatives, which also foretell of the projects and goals anticipated to be undertaken by the conference committees in 2007.

This report additionally includes a summary of selected Supreme Court decisions which are offered for the General Assembly's consideration. In offering these matters for the legislatures's consideration, the Court is not unmindful of the respective roles of the General Assembly and the Court. While we intend no intrusion upon the prerogatives of the General Assembly in the exercise of its authority, we do respectfully offer these matters for your consideration and look forward to the General Assembly's continued responsiveness and support.

With the submission of this report to the General Assembly, the Supreme Court renews its commitment to the effective administration of justice and the management of the courts, to the careful stewardship of those resources provided for the operation of the courts, and to the development of plans and goals designed to assure that the Illinois judicial branch provides justice to our citizens and upholds the rule of law.

On behalf of the Court, I respectfully submit the Supreme Court's 2006 Annual Report to the General Assembly.

Sincerely,

Roour L. Shomas

Robert R. Thomas Chief Justice Supreme Court of Illinois

2006 Illinois Judicial Conference The annual meeting of the Illinois Judicial Conference was held on October 19, 2006, in Chicago. The Conference, which is authorized by Article 6, Section 17 of the Illinois Constitution, is mandated to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice. The constitutional mandate is implemented through Supreme Court Rule 41, which defines the duties and the membership of the Illinois Judicial Conference. Consistent with the Rule, the Conference is composed of judges from every level of the judiciary representing Illinois' five judicial districts. The Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois, including the Chief Justice, who presides over the Conference, also serve as members.

The work of the Judicial Conference is conducted throughout the year, largely through the efforts of seven appointed committees: Automation and Technology Committee, Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee, Study Committee on Complex Litigation, Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration, Committee on Discovery Procedures, Study Committee on Juvenile Justice, and the Committee on Education. The rosters of the various committees include appellate, circuit and associate judges who serve as full members of the Judicial Conference. The work of the committees is aided by non-Judicial Conference judges, law professors, and attorneys, who are appointed by the Supreme Court to serve as either associate members or advisors. Senior level staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts serve as liaisons to the committees to support their work as defined in the committee charge.

The Executive Committee, which is also authorized through Supreme Court Rule 41, acts on behalf of the Conference when the Conference is not in session. The Executive Committee is comprised of fourteen judges, six of whom are from the First Judicial District (Cook County) and the remaining eight of whom are from judicial districts two, three, four and five. The Executive Committee previews the written reports of the conference committees and submits, for the Supreme Court's approval, an agenda for the annual meeting.

The 2006 Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference, as was the manner in the two prior years, was consolidated into a one-day format in order to minimize judicial time away from the bench and to effectively manage costs. The meeting was convened by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, the Honorable Robert R. Thomas. In his opening remarks, Chief Justice Thomas welcomed the Conference members and thanked them for their hard work during the Conference year. He also recognized the presence of current members of the Supreme Court as well as retired Supreme Court Justices Mary Ann G. McMorrow and John Nickels. In concluding his introductions, Justice Thomas recognized Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and thanked the Director and her staff for their work in preparing for the annual meeting of the Conference.

Chief Justice Thomas remarked that, notwithstanding that the Judicial Conference is constitutionally mandated, such a gathering, to improve the administration of justice, would occur absent such a mandate because of the sense of commitment to duty that is commonly shared by Illinois' judges. Reflecting on the role of the judiciary as a coequal branch of government, the Chief Justice noted that the judiciary is charged not only with deciding individual cases, but also with managing and administering the system in which those decisions are made. Citing the Federalist 78, and Hamilton's analysis of the role of the judiciary in a true democracy, Justice Thomas reminded all in attendance that the judiciary's strength lies not in the power of the sword, nor in the power of the purse, but rather, it lies in the power of our judgments. If the judgments are just and persuasive, then the judiciary will have earned, and continue to earn, the respect of the other two branches of government.

Chief Justice Thomas offered to the attendees that the purpose of the Judicial Conference, "to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice," essentially provides a compulsory selfevaluation. A little introspection, the Chief offered, is always a good thing. Over the past few years, the Supreme Court of Illinois has taken active and high-profile measures to ensure that the attorneys of Illinois are serving the judicial system effectively and with a high degree of professionalism. The Supreme Court recently enacted rules establishing minimum continuing legal education requirements for attorneys, and in an equally worthy initiative, created the Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism to create a forum in which lawyers, judges and legal educators can explore the meaning and aspirations of professionalism in contemporary legal practice. While these programs focus on the attorney side of the system, Justice Thomas also



highlighted that judges must also take affirmative steps to ensure that the system lawyers serve is the best it can be. To that end, the Supreme Court has increased the continuing education requirement for Illinois judges. Beginning in 2008, the judges of the state of Illinois, like the lawyers of the state, will be required to complete 30 hours of approved course work every two years.

In closing, Chief Justice Thomas commented that the important work of the Conference, the amount of study, debate and analysis that is dedicated by each committee to meet its charge and tasks, is the foundation for improving the quality and efficiency of our justice system. The committees' work during Conference Year 2006 provides a hint of the great things that are to come that will shape the future of the judicial branch.

The Annual Meeting continued with time dedicated to Conference Committee meetings, devoted in part to finalization of the Committees' annual reports and to initiate planning for Conference Year 2007. The afternoon plenary session included a presentation of each of the committees' activities in Conference Year 2006 and some initial suggestions for tasks in Conference Year 2007. The following summarizes the written and oral substance of those reports:

### Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee monitored both Court-Annexed Mandatory Arbitration Programs and Court-Sponsored Major Civil Case Mediation Programs.

During the course of the Conference year, the Committee met with arbitration administrators and supervising judges of circuits with mandatory arbitration programs. Meeting topics included discussion on amending Supreme Court Rule 87 with respect to arbitrator compensation, Supreme Court Rule 93 with respect to the rejection fee for an arbitration award, consideration of the feasibility of a *voluntary* arbitration program, and discussion on programmatic issues raised by arbitration administrators and supervising judges.

Currently, Supreme Court Rule 87 provides that arbitrators be compensated at the rate of \$75 per case. Noting that the compensation amount has not increased since the inception of the program, the Committee recommended to the Court that, upon research by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the compensation rate be increased.

Supreme Court Rule 93 mandates that a fee of either \$200 or \$500, dependent upon the amount of the award, shall be paid by litigants who, upon the announcement of the arbitrator's award, rejects that award. Upon rejection, an arbitration case may be disposed of by proceeding to trial but, more often than not, the case terminates by settlement of the parties. In addition to the Committee's recommendation for an increase in the arbitrator's fee, the Committee also recommended that the Court consider an increase in the arbitration award rejection fee.

Finally, the Committee focused some attention on identifying a means by which the Court could indicate appreciation to those Illinois attorneys who serve as arbitrators. In that regard, the Committee suggested that the Supreme Court issue Certificates of Appreciation acknowledging arbitrator service and dedication to the arbitration program.

### Automation and Technology Committee

In Conference Year 2006, the Automation and Technology Committee was charged to continue its work in examining and analyzing the



Illinois State Capitol

Annual Report to the General Assembly myriad issues related to the effective and efficient use of technology in the Illinois courts. A new project undertaken in this conference year included the Committee's development of a Disaster Recovery Guide ("Guide") for use in the trial courts. In its current format, the Guide identifies critical topics and procedures which may be included in a court's disaster recovery plan. The Guide includes general topics, sample responses and templates that may be customized for each county where more detailed information and practices can be included for county and circuit-wide disaster recovery plans. The Guide also facilitates the sharing of resources, practices, and procedures among neighboring counties/circuits.

The Committee also began discussions regarding the use of video conferencing and video arraignment equipment in the circuit courts. While recognizing the benefits of the availability of such technology, myriad issues are presented by its use, including equipment costs and integration of existing technology systems. Continued research and analysis will include further exploration of the costs and concerns of video arraignment systems and additional research in the technology required to support these systems.

### Study Committee on Complex Litigation

The charge to the Study Committee on Complex Litigation is to study and make recommendations regarding the management of multiple, overlapping litigation and other problems associated with complex litigation. The Illinois Manual for Complex Civil Litigation and the companion Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation were first developed by the Committee in 1991 and 1997, respectively. Both Manuals are updated annually, with the Committee periodically adding a new topical area to one or both manuals. In Conference Year 2006, the Committee monitored and culled case law and other legal developments involving complex litigation in order to keep the Manuals current. Updated information will be incorporated in the main text of the civil and criminal manuals. The text of the manuals will continue to be available on CD-ROM which affords users the convenience of downloading, hyperlink and search capabilities.

This year the Committee undertook the drafting of a new Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) section for inclusion in the Civil Manual. The new section, which covers the use of ADR in

specific types of complex cases, such as class actions, mass torts, and construction and real estate disputes, is intended to provide guidance to judges in selecting cases that likely will most benefit from ADR. A final version of the new draft section will be finalized for inclusion in the Manual upon review and comment by the Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee.

Finally, the Committee considered the utility of centralized document depositories in complex litigation cases. Such repositories, which are currently utilized in the Third Judicial Circuit and the Circuit Court of Cook County, serve the purpose of promoting the efficient and economical management of voluminous documents in multiparty litigation. The Committee recommended that the use of centralized document depositories be expanded in Illinois for appropriate complex litigation cases.

In the next Conference year, the Committee plans to continue monitoring and evaluating case law, rule changes, and legislation in order to update and supplement the Manual for Complex Civil Litigation and the Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation to keep them current. The Committee also will work to update the forms currently contained in the Manual Appendixes and make them available electronically which will permit judges easy access to form orders.

### Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration

The Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration focused its work on three major areas: evidence-based practices (EBP), the efficacy of problem-solving courts, and review of Supreme Court Rule 415. EBP is the term used to represent a body of research based strategies in the study of criminal conduct that, when implemented, demonstrate substantial impact in reducing offender recidivism. The Committee conducted literature reviews, held interviews with probation departments and select judiciary, as well as attended workshops on EBP. The review of these principles has prompted the Committee to seek approval from the Supreme Court to develop a guide for use by judges to assist their work in crafting targeted and effective conditions of community-based sentences.

There are no less than thirty-five problem solving courts in either operational or implementation phases in Illinois. Since the creation of the first drug court in the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1989, several other jurisdictions have created problem solving courts, including mental health courts. The Committee conducted a survey of those several therapeutic courts and compiled a summary report which includes such information as the description of the purpose, case processing procedures, administration, and staff training for such courts. The compiled report was filed as a part of the Committee's report and serves to provide the Court with an inventory of Illinois' current specialty courts.

Finally, the Committee concentrated some of its efforts on examining a proposed amendment to Supreme Court Rule 415. Rule 415 addresses the regulation of discovery in criminal proceedings in the trial courts. The amendment, as proposed, would have allowed defense counsel the option of providing a copy of discovery to the defendant. Upon completion of its review, the Committee determined to recommend rejection of the proposed amendment because of the concern that it could give rise to increased harassment, or reprisals, against witnesses and alleged victims.

### **Committee on Discovery Procedures**

The Committee on Discovery Procedures addressed the problems associated with sorting through various and often voluminous documents submitted pursuant to a written request to produce under Supreme Court Rule 214. The Committee sought to clarify the rule by requiring that documents, produced pursuant to a Rule 214 request, are labeled to correspond with the specific categories in the written request. Consistent with Supreme Court Rule 3, which sets forth procedures for the creation or amendment of Supreme Court Rules, the Committee forwarded its proposed amendments to the Supreme Court Rules Committee.

The Committee also analyzed the abuses surrounding a request to admit under Supreme Court Rule 216, which include burying the request with numerous other discovery requests where they are more likely to go undetected by the responding party until after the deadline has passed. The Committee found that such abuses often occur in small cases in high volume courtrooms, such as municipal court, where many of the law firms are "bulk filers," who represent credit card companies and collection agencies, and many of the litigants are *pro se*. After much discussion, the Committee proposed certain narrow amendments to Rule 216, including requiring prior leave of court before serving a request to admit; proper notice to all parties; and, prohibiting such requests from being served more than 120 days after the filing of a responsive pleading unless there is agreement otherwise, or the court so orders. Nevertheless, the Committee limited application of its proposed amendments to civil actions not in excess of \$50,000. Consistent with Supreme Court Rule 3, the Committee forwarded its proposed amendments to the Supreme Court Rules Committee.

The Committee began exploring the feasibility and nuances of a rule requiring mandatory disclosure of relevant documents to address the problem of parties not receiving relevant information before trial. The Committee considered, but rejected, adopting the automatic disclosure of documents procedure required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26. Instead, the Committee is considering a form of minimum disclosure whereby certain aspects of Supreme Court Rule 222, which has its own mandatory disclosure requirements for civil actions seeking money damages not in excess of \$50,000, are made applicable to general discovery. To assist its discussion, the Committee has begun to examine discovery rules concerning disclosure in other states, along with gathering information about the use of case management conferences and related orders.

### Committee on Education

The Supreme Court's Comprehensive Judicial Education Plan was first implemented in 1998. The Committee on Education is charged with identifying and addressing the ongoing education needs for the Illinois judiciary. Since the Plan's inception, the Committee, in collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, has developed and presented a wide range of judicial education programing for Illinois' judiciary annually.

In March 2006, the scope of the Committee's charge grew, with the Supreme Court's adoption of Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) provisions for all circuit, associate and appellate judges, through the presentation of an expanded 30-hour Education Conference in alternate years, beginning in 2008.

In accordance with its overall charge and the new MCJE provisions, the Committee undertook key specific activities and priorities in Conference Year 2006:

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- Developing and recommending a "core" judicial education curriculum for Illinois judges which identifies the key judicial education topics and issues to be addressed through the judicial education activities each Conference year;
- Enhancing the identification, recruitment and preparation of potential judicial education faculty members in each of the recommended core curriculum areas;
- Assessing the needs of Illinois judges for comprehensive judicial reference documents, "benchbooks," and self-study materials and recommending a plan, including a template for seminar materials, to meet the identified needs; and
- Recommending a plan for advanced use of technology to deliver judicial education programs and resources, including webcasting, web archiving, CD and DVD tutorials, and other "distance learning" options.

In addition to assessing judicial education needs and initiating implementation of the Court's MCJE provisions, the Committee's Conference Year 2006 activities included conducting Education Conference 2006, a full seminar series, the annual New Judge Seminar and the annual Faculty Development Workshop as well as initial planning for the 2007 Advanced Judicial Academy. The Resource Lending Library, sponsored by the Committee and operated by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, continues to serve as a valued judicial education resource.

### Study Committee on Juvenile Justice

The Study Committee on Juvenile Justice updated Volume II of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*, which primarily addresses juvenile court proceedings involving abuse, neglect, and dependency. The Committee researched and drafted provisions on confidentiality for inclusion in Volume II of the benchbook. The new provisions will address access to juvenile court proceedings and records by the press; access to juvenile court records for research; and, use of a minor's name in notice by publication to the parent. The Committee reasonably anticipates that an update to Volume II will be available for distribution at the New Judge Seminar which will be convened in January 2007. During the 2007 Conference Year, the Committee seeks to revisit and update Volume I of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*, which primarily addresses juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of delinquency.

The Committee also discussed the insufficient funding for the operation/administration of juvenile diversion programs and the related lack of priority for juvenile diversion fees under Supreme Court Rule 529. Rule 529 sets forth the percentage distribution of fines, penalties and costs collected for traffic offenses, which in turn is equal to the bail required by Supreme Court Rule 526. The Committee recommended that in the event the Supreme Court increases the \$75 bail for traffic offenses as provided for in Rule 526, the juvenile diversion fee be given priority under Rule 529.

Finally, the Committee began examining Problem-Solving Courts in the management of juvenile delinquency, abuse, neglect, and dependency cases. The Committee is awaiting responses from various circuits to inquiries made by the Committee about the existence/nature of such specialty courts.

### **Summary Statement**

The work of the seven Judicial Conference Committees is ongoing, with many of the projects and initiatives begun in Conference Year 2006 continuing in 2007. The work of the committees covered a broad range of topics and issues. That work, which included suggestions on improving alternative dispute resolution processes, assessing the efficacy of problem solving courts, providing resources for the continuation of court operations in the event of a disaster, as well as enhancing judicial competence through the development of manuals, benchbooks and course work, will serve to improve the administration of justice in Illinois.

### SUPREME COURT DECISIONS WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY WISH TO CONSIDER

### Governmental Regulation -Single Subject Clause

In *People v. Olender et al.*, S. Ct. Docket No. 98932 (December 15, 2005), the supreme court held that Public Act 88-669, entitled "An Act in Relation

to Governmental Regulation," violated the single subject clause of the constitution because it contained unrelated provisions that by no fair interpretation have any legitimate relation to one another. The court concluded that not all of the provisions of the Act have a natural and logical connection to the single subject of revenue to the state.

### Election Code-Constitutionality

In O'Brien et al., v. White et al., S. Ct. Docket No. 102077 (March 6, 2006), the supreme court considered section 7A-1 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/7A-1 (West 2004)). Section 7A-1 of the Election Code provided that an elected judge seeking retention must file a declaration of candidacy to succeed himself or herself on or before the first Monday in December before the general election preceding the expiration of the judge's term of office. The court held that section 7A-1 of the Election Code was facially unconstitutional because it directly conflicted with the clear and unambiguous deadline established by Article VI, §12(d) of the Illinois Constitution which provides that judges have the right to file retention declarations not less than six months before the general election preceding the expiration of their term of office. The supreme court determined that \$12(d) is directed at the judge, not the General Assembly, such that it gives the judge the right to file his or her declaration within the constitutionally established time frame.

### Endangering the Life or Health of a Child -Mandatory Rebuttable Presumption

In *People v. Jordan*, S. Ct. Docket No. 99895 (January 20, 2006), the supreme court considered section 12-21.6(b) of the Criminal Code of 1961, (720 ILCS 5/12-21.6(b)) which provides that there is a rebuttable presumption that a person committed the offense of endangering the life or health of a child if he or she left a child six (6) years of age or younger unattended in a motor vehicle for more than ten (10) minutes. The court held that section 12-21.6(b) created an unconstitutional mandatory rebuttable presumption which impermissibly shifts the burden of production to the defendant.

### Criminal Law-Mandatory Rebuttable Presumption

In People v. Woodrum, S. Ct. Docket No. 99984 (October 5, 2006), the supreme court considered section 10-5(b)(10) of the Criminal Code of 1961, (720 ILCS 5/10-5(b)(10) which provides that the "luring or attempted luring of a child under the age of 16 into a motor vehicle, building, house trailer, or dwelling place without consent of the parent or lawful custodian of the child shall be prima facie evidence of other than a lawful purpose." The court concluded that the plain meaning of the phrase "shall be prima facie evidence" in section 10-5(b)(10) is that the ultimate fact must be presumed upon proof of the predicate facts unless disproved by evidence to the contrary. Thus, the plain language of section 10-5(b)(10) creates a facially unconstitutional mandatory presumption.

# STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE COURTS



# STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE COURTS

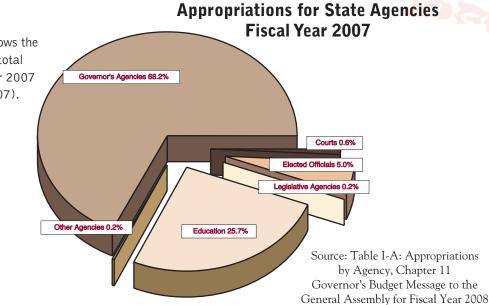
Revenue to provide court system is a shared responsibility of the state and the 102 counties of the state. Revenue to provide court services to the people of the state comes from a variety of sources: the state income tax, county property taxes, case filing fees, court-imposed fines and assessments, and other fees.

State government pays for the salaries, benefits, and office expenses of supreme and appellate court judges, and salaries and benefits of circuit court judges. Effective July 1, 2006, judicial salaries, as determined by the legislature, were: supreme court justices, \$182,739; appellate court judges, \$171,991; circuit court judges, \$157,824; and associate judges, \$147,074. The state also pays for support staff of supreme and appellate court judges, staff in other units of the supreme and appellate courts, court reporters and a small number of other personnel in the circuit courts, and mandatory arbitration staff in several counties. Part of the cost of operating the mandatory arbitration program is offset by fees paid by participants in the program. During 2006, the arbitration filing and rejection fees collected amounted to \$5,764,687.

State funding for probation departments currently covers approximately 3,250 probation personnel, for which the counties receive partial salary reimbursement on a monthly basis. At the present time, state funding provides for about 25% of the total cost of probation services in the state.

County governments pay part of the cost of financing circuit court operations. Counties provide office and courtroom space, maintenance, and support staff to assist the circuit court judges. Circuit clerks collect money to help pay for their operations and some court operations. They also collect and disburse revenues to help fund local and state government programs, as summarized on the next page.

## **State Funding**



The pie chart, to the right, shows the supreme court's share of the total appropriations for Fiscal Year 2007 (July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007). The total appropriation was \$48,494,435,000. The appropriation for the courts was \$286,052,000.

## Local Funding

The circuit clerk's office in each county provides a variety of court recordkeeping and financial accounting services. Circuit clerks are elected for four-year terms by the voters in each county. Circuit clerks, with help from deputy clerks, attend sessions of the court, preserve court files and papers, and maintain complete records of all cases. Employees of the clerks' offices are appointed by and are accountable to the circuit clerk, with the county board having budgetary authority. During 2006, the total number of full-time employees in all 102 circuit clerk offices was 3,794, assisted by a total of 225 part-time employees. The cost of operating all circuit clerks' offices totaled \$180,501,677 in 2006.

Revenue to pay for these court-related services comes primarily from property taxes, filing fees, and court-ordered fines and costs. Fines, fees and other costs collected by circuit clerks are governed primarily by statute and supreme court rule.

## **Revenue to Finance Local Improvements**

Fees and court-ordered fines were collected in 2006 by circuit clerks and earmarked for improvements in the clerks' offices and to help defray the cost to the county of operating the courts at the local level.

Court Document Storage	Court Automation	County Law Library	<b>County Fund To Finance</b>
Fund	Fund	Fund	the Court System
is used for any costs	is used to establish and	helps defray the costs of	is available from fees
relative to the storage of	maintain automated systems	maintaining a law library	collected by circuit clerks
court records.	for keeping court records.	in the county for judges,	to help finance the court
		attorneys, and the public.	system in the county.
\$16,160,918	\$15,111,501	\$7,660,908	\$6,542,307
		ALL .	

## **Uncollected Claims**

The Administrative Office, the Supreme Court Clerk, the Supreme Court Library, and the Clerks of the five Appellate Districts are responsible for collecting certain fees. Outstanding accounts receivable are normally collected by the unit to which the account is owed. Additionally, a small number of accounts receivable are turned over to private collection agencies and the State Comptroller's offset system. At the end of FY 06, there were 126 claims due and payable, totaling \$613,013.31.

## **Revenue to Finance Other Programs**

In addition to collecting fees for local improvements, circuit clerks receive, account for, and distribute millions of dollars to county governments, various local governmental entities, and various state funds. Some of the programs and dollars collected in 2006 by circuit clerks are listed below:

Child Support and Maintenance: Circuit clerks and the State Disbursement Unit collected and distributed \$986,348,346.

**Drug Treatment Fund:** Court-ordered drug assessments are used to pay for treatment programs for people addicted to alcohol, cannabis, or controlled substances. **\$4,105,439**.

**Violent Crime Victims Assistance:** Court-ordered penalties in criminal and certain traffic cases are used to support victim and witness assistance centers throughout the state. **\$6,654,609**.

**Trauma Center Fund:** Fees collected in certain traffic, DUI, and criminal cases are used to support Illinois hospitals that are designated as trauma centers. **\$4,823,856**.

**Traffic and Criminal Conviction Surcharge:** An additional penalty imposed in traffic and criminal cases is used for training of law enforcement and correctional officers. **\$11,093,344**.

**Drivers Education Fund:** Penalties and forfeitures in offenses reportable to the Secretary of State are used for driver education programs in high schools. **\$2,661,489**.



# CASEFLOW

llinois has had a unified court system since 1964. In that year, voters approved an amendment to the 1870 constitution which made major changes in the system.

Prior to 1964, the court system was fragmented. The courts of original jurisdiction had some concurrent and overlapping jurisdiction, and each court operated independently of the others. The old system had a circuit court with statewide original jurisdiction in all cases and some appellate jurisdiction; a Superior Court of Cook County having concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Cook County; the Criminal Court of Cook County also having concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Cook County but limited to criminal cases; a county court in each county with special jurisdiction that partially overlapped that of the circuit court; a probate court in certain counties with special jurisdiction; statutory municipal, city, town and village courts, with jurisdiction overlapping that of the circuit court; and justice of the peace and police magistrate courts with limited jurisdiction.

The path a case may follow in the process from start to finish can be complicated. The diagram, to the right, demonstrates, in general terms, how cases proceed through the state court system. + five districts

By 1962, Cook County alone had 208 courts: circuit court, superior court, family court, criminal court, probate court, county court, twenty-four city, village, town and municipal courts, seventy-five justice of the peace courts, and 103 police magistrate courts.

In addition, there were seven supreme court districts numbered from south to north and four appellate court districts numbered from north to south. For example, the first supreme court district was in a part of the fourth appellate court district and the seventh supreme court district was in a part of the first appellate court district.

In today's system, as shown on the left, there are three levels of courts: circuit, appellate, and supreme, all operating within clearly defined geographical boundaries. The circuit court is a court of original jurisdiction which is divided into twenty-two circuits. Each circuit is located in one of five appellate court districts. Cases enter circuit court via the circuit clerk's office in a county of the circuit. Cases may be + certain cases from appellate appealed to the appellate court in the district containing the circuit court, or, in certain circumstances, directly to the supreme court. After an appellate court decision, parties to the case may seek discretionary review by the supreme court. + appeals from circuits and industrial commission Supreme and appellate + may review cases from administrative agencies district and circuit maps are found in their **ARBITRATION PANELS** respective sections of this publication.

- panels of 3 attorneys impartial finders of fact and law
  - law suits of \$30,000 or less in Cook and \$50,000 or less in Boone, DuPage, Ford, Henry, Kane, Lake, McHenry, McLean, Mercer, Rock Island, St. Clair, Whiteside, Will and Winnebago Counties.
- + one clerk per county (102) + cases enter the court system in this office
- + court's official record keeper
- + collects fines, fees and costs, distributing all amounts to various agencies

+ 7,838 new cases filed in 2006

CIRCUIT COURT

+ 23 circuits for 102 counties

+ 1 to 12 counties per circuit

+ 4.31 million new cases filed in 2006

+ hears most cases

+ may review cases from

administrative agencies

CIRCUIT CLERK

SUPREME COURT

court or circuit courts

+ 2,992 new cases filed in 2006

APPELLATE COURT

review of death sentences

# JUDICIAL BRANCH ADMINISTRATION

## Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of Illinois, in addition to being the state's highest court, is responsible for the state's unified trial court, one appellate court with five districts, and several supporting units. General administrative and supervisory authority over the court system is vested in the supreme court. Several advisory bodies assist with this mission by making recommendations to the court. These include the Judicial Conference of Illinois and the various committees of the court. More information about committees can be found in the following sections. The supreme court also makes appointments to other committees, commissions, and boards as listed at the right.

The chief justice is responsible for exercising the court's general administrative and supervisory authority in accordance with the court's rules. The supreme court appoints an administrative director to assist the chief justice in his duties. The staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts supports this function.

Key support personnel exist at each level of the court to assist judges with the administration of justice. At the supreme court level, this includes the clerk of the supreme court, research director, marshal, and supreme court librarian and their staffs. Each support unit is described on page eighteen.

## **Appellate Court**

At the appellate court level, the presiding judge and judges of each appellate district are assisted by a clerk of the appellate court and research director and their staffs appointed by the appellate judges. Appeals enter the clerk's office, where deputy clerks assign them filing schedules and actively monitor and review cases as they progress through record preparation, motions, briefing, and oral arguments. Problems such as late filings, jurisdictional defects, inadequate records or noncompliant briefs are referred to the court. After the court has heard an appeal, the clerk's office issues the court's decision and tracks all post-decision activity. The clerk's office also manages the court's computerized and manual recordkeeping systems and oversees the maintenance of physical facilities. The clerk responds to requests and questions concerning the court's cases and procedures. The research director oversees a staff of attorneys and secretaries providing centralized legal research services to judges.

## Circuit Court

Each circuit is administered by a chief judge who is selected by the circuit court judges of the circuit. The chief judge is assisted by an administrative assistant and/or trial court administrator and other support staff. The number of counties in each circuit currently ranges from one to twelve. In each county, voters elect a circuit clerk for a four-year term. Circuit clerks, with help from deputy clerks hired by the circuit clerk, attend sessions of the court, preserve court files and papers, maintain complete records of all cases, and maintain records of money received and disbursed.

### Judicial Inquiry Board

The supreme court appoints two circuit judges to the board (the governor also appoints four non-lawyers and three lawyers) which receives and investigates complaints against judges and prosecutes the validated complaint before the Illinois Courts Commission.

#### **Illinois Courts Commission**

The commission consists of a supreme court justice, two circuit judges selected by the supreme court, two appellate court judges selected by the appellate court, and two citizen members selected by the governor. The commission hears complaints brought by the Judicial Inquiry Board and can discipline a judge or remove a judge from office.

#### Board of Admissions to the Bar

The supreme court establishes rules and standards for the education, testing, and admission of law school graduates to the practice of law in the state and appoints seven attorneys to sit on the board. The board oversees the process of admitting law school graduates to the practice of law.

#### Committee on Character and Fitness

The supreme court appoints attorneys to a committee in each of the five judicial districts to evaluate the moral character and general fitness of applicants to practice law.

## Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission

The supreme court establishes rules for the registration and discipline of attorneys and appoints four lawyers and three non-lawyers to the commission which oversees the registration and disciplinary process.

#### State Appellate Defender

The supreme court appoints the State Appellate Defender and two members of the State Appellate Defender Commission. Each appellate court district appoints one member to the Commission (the governor appoints two members).

#### Board of Trustees of the Judges Retirement System

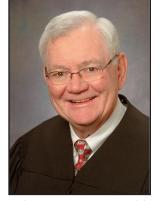
The supreme court appoints three judges to the Board of Trustees of the Judges Retirement System and the chief justice is an ex-officio member (as is the state treasurer).

# THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT

The supreme court is the state's highest court; it also supervises and administers the state's judicial system. The state is divided into five judicial districts, with three justices elected from the first district (Cook County) and one justice elected from each of the other four districts. Justices are elected in partisan elections for ten years and may be retained in office for additional terms of ten years. A chief justice is elected by the other justices for a term of three years.



Charles E. Freeman



Thomas R. Fitzgerald



**Justice Freeman** received a Juris Doctor degree from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago. Early in his career he served as an Assistant Attorney General, Assistant State's Attorney, and an attorney for the Board of Election Commissioners. He served as a commissioner on the Illinois Commerce Commission from 1973 to 1976. He was in the private practice of law from 1962 to 1976. In 1976, he was elected a Circuit Judge in Cook County where he served for ten years. He was elected to the Appellate Court in 1986 and to the Illinois Supreme Court on November 6, 1990, as the first African-American to serve on the Court. On May 12, 1997, he was selected as Chief Justice and served in that capacity until January 1, 2000.

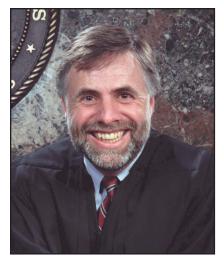
**Justice Fitzgerald** received his law degree from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago. He began his career in the law as a prosecutor in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. When first elected to the bench in 1976, he was the youngest Cook County judge. In 1989, he was elevated to presiding judge of Cook County's criminal courts and was appointed to serve as the presiding judge of Illinois' first statewide Grand Jury. Justice Fitzgerald was elected to the Supreme Court of Illinois for the First District in 2000.

**Justice Kilbride** received his law degree from Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C., in 1981. He practiced law for 20 years in Rock Island, engaging in the general practice of law, including appeals, environmental law, labor law, employment matters, and other general civil and criminal matters. He was admitted to practice in the United States District Court of Central Illinois and the United States Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Justice Kilbride was elected to the Supreme Court of Illinois for the Third District in 2000.

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Robert R. Thomas Chief Justice

**Chief Justice Robert R. Thomas** was born on August 7,1952, in Rochester, NY. He received his B.A. degree in Government from the University of Notre Dame in 1974, and was named an Academic All-American in that same year. He received his J.D. degree from Loyola University School of Law in 1981. He was elected Circuit Court Judge in DuPage County in 1988. There, he presided over civil jury trials and was the Acting Chief Judge from 1989 to 1994. In 1994, Judge Thomas was elected to the Appellate Court Second District. On December 4, 2000, Justice Thomas was sworn in as the Illinois Supreme Court Justice for the Second District. In April 1996, Justice Thomas was inducted into the Academic All-American Hall of Fame, and in January 1999, he received the prestigious NCAA Silver Anniversary Award. Justice Thomas is a member of the DuPage County Bar Association. He was selected as Chief Justice during the 2005 September Term of the Supreme Court.

**Justice Garman** received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1968. She was an Assistant State's Attorney in Vermilion County from 1969-1973. She then engaged in private practice with Sebat, Swanson, Banks, Lessen & Garman and was an Associate Judge for 12 years. Justice Garman was a Circuit Judge in the Fifth Judicial Circuit (1986-95) and Presiding Circuit Judge (1987-95). She was assigned to the Appellate Court, Fourth District, in July 1995, and was elected to the position in November 1996. Justice Garman was appointed to the Supreme Court on February 1, 2001 and subsequently elected to the Supreme Court on December 2, 2002.

**Justice Karmeier** received his law degree from the University of Illinois. From 1964 through 1986, he engaged in private law practice, clerked for Illinois Supreme Court Justice Byron O. House and United States District Court Judge James L. Foreman, and served as Washington County State's Attorney. Justice Karmeier has served on the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Pattern Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases, presiding as Chair of the Committee from 2003 to 2004. He served as Resident Circuit Judge of Washington County from 1986 through 2004 when he was elected to the Supreme Court.

**Justice Burke** was born on Feb. 3, 1944, in Chicago. She received her B.A. degree in education from DePaul University in 1976 and her J.D. degree from IIT/Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1983. She was admitted to the Federal Court, Northern District of Illinois, in 1983, the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in 1985, and certified for the Trial Bar, Federal District Court in 1987. In August 1995, she was appointed to the Appellate Court, First District. In 1996, she was elected to the Appellate Court, First District, for a full term. Justice Burke, the third woman to sit on the state's highest tribunal, was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court for the First District on July 6, 2006.



Rita B. Garman



Lloyd A. Karmeier



# SUPREME COURT SUPPORT STAFF



here are several support units which assist the supreme court with its work as the state's highest court. These units are located in Springfield, Bloomington, and Chicago.

**Clerk of the Supreme Court.** The clerk of the supreme court directs a staff of deputies who process cases according to court rules, monitor the caseload of the court, keep court files and records, and maintain court statistics. The clerk's office maintains the roll of attorneys licensed to practice in the state, processes the licensing of attorneys, and coordinates the semi-annual attorney admission ceremonies. The clerk also registers and renews law firms under Rule 721, keeps files of judicial financial disclosure statements, and serves as a public information officer of the court. The clerk maintains offices in Chicago and Springfield.

**Marshal of the Supreme Court.** The marshal attends all sessions of the court held in September, November, January, March, and May. In addition, the marshal directs a staff which maintains the Supreme Court Building and grounds, provides security for justices and employees, and conducts tours of the building.

### SUPREME COURT DIRECTORY

### Springfield (62701)

Supreme Court Building TDD (217) 524-8132

Clerk	(217) 782-2035
Librarian	(217) 782-2424
Marshal	(217) 557-2502

### Chicago (60601)

State of Illinois Building 160 North LaSalle Street TDD (312) 793-6185

Clerk (312) 793-1332

### Bloomington (61702) P.O. Box 3456

Reporter of Decisions (309) 827-8513 FAX (309) 828-4651 **Reporter of Decisions.** The reporter of decisions directs a staff which publishes opinions of the supreme and appellate courts in the *Official Reports.* Employees also verify case citations, compose head notes, attorney lines, tables of cases, topical summaries, and other materials appearing in the *Official Reports*; and edit opinions for style and grammar.

**Supreme Court Librarian.** The supreme court librarian directs a staff who provide legal reference services to the courts, state agencies, and citizens of the state. The Supreme Court libraries include a 100,000 volume public law library in Springfield, a 40,000 volume private branch library in Chicago, and four private judicial libraries across the state. The librarian oversees all aspects of library administration including budget and program planning, materials and equipment acquisition, cataloging and collection development, and library reference and research services.

**Supreme Court Research Director.** The supreme court research director supervises a staff of attorneys who provide legal research and writing assistance to the court.

Supreme Court Caseload				
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	2,992	3,048		
2005	2,994	3,217		
2004	3,205	3,056		
2003	2,967	3,328		
2002	3,310	3,320		

### Supreme Court Chief Internal Auditor.

The supreme court chief internal auditor and staff perform audits of the statefunded activities of the judicial branch. In addition, the internal auditor annually assesses the adequacy of internal controls for state-funded activities.

# SUPREME COURT COMMITTEES

### Standing committees of the Court and chairpersons during 2006

Appellate Court Administrative Committee...Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officer.

Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission...Benedict Schwarz, II, Esq., Chair; Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, liaison officer. Review Board...John W. Rapp, Jr., Esq., Chair.

Board of Admissions to the Bar... David W. Andich, Esq., President; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

Committee on Jury Instructions in Civil Cases...H. Kent Heller, Esq., Chair; Professor Nancy S. Marder, Reporter; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

**Committee on Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases...** Judge Bertina E. Lampkin, Chair; Patrick J. Cotter, Reporter; Professor John F. Erbes, Professor-Reporter; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

**Committee on Character and Fitness...** Nancy-Ellen Zusman, Esq., Chair; Jeffrey M. Cox, Esq., Vice-Chair (First Judicial District); Edward J. Walsh, Esq., Chair; Robert E. Jones, Esq., Vice-Chair (Second Judicial District); Robert H. Alvine, Esq., Chair; Cornelius J. Hollerich, Esq., Vice-Chair (Third Judicial District); Forrest G. Keaton, Esq., Chair (Fourth Judicial District); Eric M. Rhein, Esq., Chair (Fifth Judicial District); Justice Robert R. Thomas, liaison officer.

**Committee on Professional Responsibility...**Richard A. Redmond, Esq., Chair; Professor Vivien C. Gross, Professor-Reporter; Justice Anne M. Burke, liaison officer.

Judicial Mentor Committee...Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Status Member (Chairperson of Chief Judges' Conference); Judge Stephen D. White, Status Member (Vice-Chairperson of Chief Judges' Conference).

Legislative Committee of the Illinois Supreme Court...Justice Alan J. Greiman, Chair.

Planning and Oversight Committee for a Judicial Performance Evaluation Program...Judge Bill Taylor, Chair; Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officer.

**Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases...**Judge Michael P. Toomin, Chair; Judge Thomas E. Callum, Vice-Chair; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

**Special Supreme Court Committee on Child Custody Issues...**Judge Robert Anderson and Judge Karen G. Shields, Co-Chairs; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald and Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officers.

**Special Supreme Court Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service...**Russell K. Scott, Esq., Chair; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism...David F. Rolewick, Esq., Chair.

Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Conduct...Judge Scott H. Walden, Chair.

Supreme Court Rules Committee... Martin J. Healy, Jr., Esq., Chair; Hugh C. Griffin, Esq., Vice-Chair; Professor Keith H. Beyler, Esq., Reporter; Professor Jo Desha Lucas, Esq., Emeritus; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

Special Supreme Court Committee to Study Courtroom Security...Judge Robert K. Kilander, Chair.

Special Supreme Court Committee to Study Supreme Court Rule 23...Justice Thomas R. Appleton and J. Timothy Eaton, Esq., Co-chairs.

Minimum Continuing Legal Education Board...Jack L. Brooks, Chair.

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# JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

he Judicial Conference of Illinois, consisting of eighty-two judges, is responsible for suggesting improvements in the administration of justice in Illinois. The Executive Committee, composed of the chief justice and fourteen members of the Judicial Conference, reviews recommendations of the various committees and makes recommendations to the supreme court, resolves questions of committee jurisdiction, acts on behalf of the Judicial Conference between annual meetings, and performs other duties delegated by the supreme court. The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts serves as Secretary of the Conference.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee Judge John O. Steele Circuit Court of Cook County, Chair During the 2006 Conference Year, the Committee monitored both Court-Annexed Mandatory Arbitration Programs and Court-Sponsored Major Civil Case Mediation Programs. The Committee considered amendments to the Supreme Court Rules. One rule consideration included Supreme Court Rule 87(e), Appointment, Qualification and Compensation of Arbitrators. The Committee considered amending paragraph (e) to increase the arbitration compensation level from \$75.00 per hearing to \$100.00 per hearing. The Committee plans to forward this recommendation to the Administrative Director for consideration. The Committee also crafted a proposed rule that would create the summary jury trial as another dispute resolution option available for use by the trial bench. The Committee plans to send the proposed rule to the

Supreme Court for consideration. In the area of mediation, the Committee monitored exisitng Court-approved mediation programs, observed the inception of new mediation programs and continued to track statistical information to determine program efficacy.

Committee on Automation and Technology Judge Grant S. Wegner 16th Circuit Chair During the 2006 Conference Year, the Automation and Technology Committee completed a disaster recovery guide for use in the trial courts. The Disaster Recovery Guide ("Guide") identifies critical topics and procedures recommended for inclusion in a court disaster recovery plan. The Guide outlines topics that are necessary for the development of a consolidated disaster recovery plan while still allowing for the autonomy of local departments and offices to include processes for their respective environment and needs. The Guide includes general topics, sample responses and templates that may be customized for each county where more detailed information and practices can be included for county and circuit-wide disaster

recovery plans. The Guide facilitates the sharing of resources, practices, and procedures among neighboring counties/circuits and includes a Disaster Planning Checklist and research material used by the Committee to develop the Guide. The Committee began discussions regarding the use and impact of video conferencing equipment in the circuit courts. Further research and analysis will include the impact, benefits, costs, concerns, and technology required for video court/conferencing systems.

Study Committee on Juvenile Justice Judge C. Stanley Austin 18th Circuit Chair During the 2006 Conference Year, the Committee updated Volume II of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*, which primarily addresses juvenile court proceedings involving abuse, neglect, and dependency. The Committee researched and drafted new provisions on confidentiality for inclusion in Volume II of the benchbook. The new provisions will address access to juvenile court proceedings and records by the press; access to juvenile court records for research; and use of a minor's name in notice by publication to the parent. The Committee also discussed the insufficient funding for the operation/administration of juvenile diversion programs and the related lack of priority for juvenile diversion fees under Supreme Court

Rule 529, which sets forth the percentage distribution of fines, penalties and costs collected for traffic offenses, which in turn is equal to the bail required by Supreme Court Rule 526. The Committee therefore recommended that if the Supreme Court increases the \$75 bail for traffic offenses provided for in Rule 526, the juvenile diversion fee be given priority under Rule 529. Finally, the Committee began examining Problem-solving Courts in the management of juvenile delinquency, abuse, neglect, and dependency cases.

Study Committee on Complex Litigation Judge Mary Ellen Coghlan Circuit Court of Cook County, Chair During the 2006 Conference Year, the Study Committee on Complex Litigation monitored and culled caselaw and other legal developments involving complex litigation in order to keep the Illinois Manual for Complex Civil Litigation and the Illinois Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation current. The Committee will include this information in future updates to the text of the Civil and Criminal Manuals. The Manuals will continue to be available on CD-ROM which affords judges the convenience of downloading and hyperlink and search capabilities. The Committee also drafted a new Alternative Dispute Resolution chapter for the Civil

Manual. The draft was forwarded to the IJC Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee for its review and recommendations. The Complex Litigation Committee anticipates that the final version of this chapter will be included in the next revised Civil Manual. Last, the Committee considered the utility of centralized document depositories in complex litigation cases and voted to recommend that the use of such facilities be expanded throughout Illinois for appropriate cases; however, it was recommended that management of document depositories remain the responsibility of the parties to the litigation, rather than the circuit clerk's office.

# COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Education is charged by the Supreme Court with developing judicial education resources which enable Illinois judges to hone the knowledge and skills needed to be efficient, effective jurists. In 2006, the Supreme Court promulgated Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) requirements for all Appellate, Circuit and Associate judges and asked the Committee to develop a 30 hour curriculum for the Education Conference, presented in alternate years, to fulfill the new MCJE provisions. To do so, the Committee worked closely with the Administrative Office to develop and analyze the results of a comprehensive "judicial

education needs assessment" intended to identify emerging legal, sociological, cultural, and technical issues that impact decision making and court administration by Illinois judges. Based on the needs assessment results, the Committee recommended a "core curriculum" for Education Conference 2008 and the preparation of "judicial benchbooks" in six distinct topics or areas of Illinois law. To implement these recommendations, the Committee worked with the Administrative Office to enhance the identification, recruitment and preparation of judicial education faculty to teach judicial education sessions and/or to prepare components of the benchbooks. In addition to these MCJE-related activities, the Committee oversaw the presentation of the biennial Education Conference, attended by Illinois' more than 900 judges, in February and March 2006. The Conference featured sessions on civil law, criminal law, family law, evidence, judicial ethics and other issues. Half-day sessions focused on jury management, *pro se* and indigent litigants and the impact of methamphetamine production and use. In addition to the Education Conference, the Committee conducted the annual seminar series, comprised of six regional (2 day) seminars and two mini (1 day) seminars, presented the annual New Judges Seminar and conducted a Faculty Development Workshop for judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. Faculty for all programs were assisted by staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.

During the 2006 Conference Year, the Committee proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 214 and 216, and began exploring mandatory disclosure. The Committee addressed the problems associated with sorting through various and often voluminous documents submitted pursuant to a written request to produce under Supreme Court Rule 214. The Committee sought to clarify Rule 214 by requiring that documents, produced pursuant to a Rule 214 request, are labeled to correspond with the specific categories in the written request. The Committee forwarded its proposed amendments to the Supreme Court Rules Committee. The Committee also analyzed the abuses surrounding a request to admit under Supreme Court Rule 216, which include burying the request with numerous other discovery requests where they are more likely to go undetected by the responding party until after the deadline has passed. The Committee found that such abuses

often occur in small cases in high volume courtrooms, such as municipal court, where many of the law firms are "bulk filers," who represent credit card companies and collection agencies, and many of the litigants are *pro se*. After much discussion, the Committee proposed certain narrow amendments to Rule 216, including requiring prior leave of court before serving a request to admit; proper notice to all parties; and prohibiting such requests from being served more than 120 days after the filing of a responsive pleading unless there is agreement otherwise, or the court so orders. Nevertheless, the Committee limited application of its proposed amendments to civil actions not in excess of \$50,000. Consistent with Supreme Court Rule 3, the Committee forwarded its proposed amendments to the Supreme Court Rules Committee. Finally, the Committee began exploring the feasibility and nuances of a rule requiring mandatory disclosure of relevant documents to address the problem of parties not receiving relevant information before trial.

The Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration undertook several significant projects in 2006, which included conducting a literature search and review on evidence-based practices in reducing offender recidivism, the development of a comprehensive report entitled *"The Efficacy and Trends of Speciality Courts,"* conducting a survey of Illinois speciality courts resulting in the development of the *"Illinois Problem Solving Courts Inventory."* The Committee also examined issues affecting criminal law and procedure and reviewed proposals to amend Supreme Court Rules affecting criminal procedure and probation administration. The Committee also continued to discuss and monitor the impact of the United State Supreme Court case of *Crawford v. Washington,* 541 U.S. 36, 124 S.Ct. 1354, 158 L.Ed. 177 (2004) and any of its progeny concerning confrontation clause issues.

Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration Judge Donald C. Hudson 16th Circuit Chair

### Members of the Executive Committee of the Illinois Judicial Conference During 2006 Chief Justice Robert R. Thomas, Chair Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Secretary

Joseph F. Beatty, Circuit Judge, 14th Circuit Robert L. Carter, Chief Circuit Judge, 13th Circuit James K. Donovan, Appellate Judge, 5th District Timothy C. Evans, Chief Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County Susan Fox Gillis, Associate Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County Robert K. Kilander, Chief Circuit Judge, 18th Circuit John C. Knight, Circuit Judge, 3rd Circuit Rita M. Novak, Associate Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County Stuart A. Nudelman, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County Stephen H. Peters, Circuit Judge, 6th Circuit M. Carol Pope, Circuit Judge, 8th Circuit Robert B. Spence, Circuit Judge, 16th Circuit John O. Steele, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County Joseph J. Urso, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County

Committee on Education Judge Hollis L. Webster 18th Circuit Chair

Committee on Discovery Procedures Judge Frederick J. Kapala Appellate Court 2nd District Chair

Judicial Conference

# APPELLATE COURT

xcept for those cases appealed directly to the supreme court, a person has
 the right to request a review of a circuit court judge's decision by the
 appellate court.

The appellate court is organized into five districts. The first meets in Chicago, the second in Elgin, the third in Ottawa, the fourth in Springfield, and the fifth in Mt. Vernon.

Each district can have one or more divisions. There are six divisions in the first district and one in each of the other four. The supreme court assigns judges to the various divisions. The presiding judge of each division assigns judges to panels of three to hear appeals.

The number of appellate court judgeships, currently fifty-two, is determined by the legislature. The supreme court can assign additional circuit, appellate or retired judges temporarily to any district.

Judges are elected by voters in each district for tenyear terms, and may be retained for additional ten-year terms. Each judge has a support staff of two law clerks and a secretary.

Each district manages its own operations, subject to the overall authority of the supreme court. In the first district (Cook County), an executive committee exercises general administrative authority. This committee elects a chairperson and vice-chairperson for one year. In the other districts, judges select one of their members to serve as presiding judge for one year.

Total Caseload*				
Filed Disposed				
2006	7,838	8,251		
2005	8,153	7,884		
2004	8,060	8,327		
2003	8,184	9,027		
2002	8,290	9,419		

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

	Civil*		Crin	ninal
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2006	4,186	4,271	3,652	3,980
2005	4,453	4,569	3,700	3,315
2004	4,334	4,809	3,716	3,518
2003	4,520	4,765	3,664	4,262
2002	4,479	4,759	3,811	4,660

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Appellate Court Administrative Matters

Annual Meeting: The appellate court held its annual meeting in September 2006 with Judge Susan F. Hutchinson presiding as honorary chair. Forty appellate judges attended the meeting. Pursuant to section 15(e) Article VI of the Illinois Constitution, the Illinois Appellate Court selects two appellate judges to serve as regular members and three appellate judges to serve as alternate members on the Illinois Courts Commission. Judges Margaret Stanton McBride and Robert E. Byrne served as regular members. Judges Daniel L. Schmidt, Susan E. Myerscough, and Stephen F. McGlynn were elected as alternate members. Terms of both regular and alternate members pertain to service in 2006. Judge Themis Karnesis was selected to serve as the next honorary chair of the Illinois Appellate Court Annual Meeting to be held in 2007.

Administrative Committee: The Appellate Court Administrative Committee studies and recommends improvements to the Illinois Appellate Court. Additionally, the Committee plans and sponsors the annual Appellate Court The Conference was held in Conference. September 2006 in Springfield to which forty-nine appellate judges, appellate clerks, and research directors attended. Sessions addressed during the Conference included Using the Illinois State Constitution in Decision-Making, Standards of Review, Mediation Update in the First District, and review and discussion of U.S. and Illinois Supreme Court Decisions. The judges also elected one new member and three alternates to the Illinois Courts Commission. Judge Tom Lytton serves as Chair to the Committee and Justice Rita B. Garman serves as the liaison officer from the Illinois Supreme

Court. STATE OF ILLINOIS AUG. 26, 1818



# FIRST DISTRICT

Michael A. Bilandic Building 160 North LaSalle St. Chicago, IL (60601) (312) 793-5600

Steven M. Ravid, Clerk Marilyn T. Kujawa, Research Director

### **APPELLATE JUDGES**

### DIVISION I Margaret S. McBride,

Presiding Judge Robert Cahill Rodolfo Garcia\* Robert E. Gordon\*

### DIVISION II

Warren D. Wolfson\*, Presiding Judge

Shelvin Louise Marie Hall Thomas E. Hoffman++ Leslie E. South

### DIVISION III

Mary Jane Theis, Presiding Judge Joy V. Cunningham Alan J. Greiman\*+ Themis Karnezis\* DIVISION IV **Patrick J. Quinn, Presiding Judge** Calvin C. Campbell Michael J. Murphy P. Scott Neville, Jr.\*

### DIVISION V Sheila M. O'Brien, Presiding Judge Michael J. Gallagher Margaret O'Mara Frossard\*

### DIVISION VI James G. Fitzgerald Smith, Presiding Judge Joseph Gordon Jill K. McNulty Denise O'Malley

John P. Tully

+ chair ++ vice-chair: Executive Committee; \*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

	Civil**		Crin	ninal
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2006	1,965	1,989	1,768	1,956
2005	2,153	2,227	1,927	1,577
2004	2,017	2,292	1,837	1,669
2003	2,102	2,165	1,641	2,135
2002	2,079	2,178	1,772	2,533

\*\*Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases



**First District - Chicago Michael A. Bilandic Building** (Formerly State of Illinois Building) Completed in 1924; Remodeled in 1992; Renamed in 2003

### Circuit:

Circuit Court of Cook County

### **District Population:**

5,288,655 (2006 est.)

Total Pending Caseload* All Case Categories			
	Pending		
2006	5,551		
2005	5,358		
2004	4,820		
2003	4,691		
2002	4,924		

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases



# SECOND DISTRICT

Appellate Court Building 55 Symphony Way Elgin, IL (60120) (847) 695-3750

Robert J. Mangan, Clerk Jeffrey H. Kaplan, Research Director

### APPELLATE JUDGES R. Peter Grometer\*, Presiding Judge

John J. Bowman Susan F. Hutchinson Robert E. Byrne\* Frederick J. Kapala\* Thomas E. Callum Jack O'Malley Barbara Gilleran Johnson Robert D. McLaren

\*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

Total Pending Caseload* All Case Categories				
Pending				
2006	1,550			
2005	1,471			
2004	1,396			
2003	1,524			
2002	1,590			

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

	Civil**		Crin	ninal
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2006	649	629	647	625
2005	697	683	572	548
2004	651	820	606	599
2003	754	790	662	747
2002	717	813	671	675

\*\*Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases



**Second District Courthouse - Elgin** Completed in 1966 (C. Jane Bradley photo)

Circuits (Counties): 15th (Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle & Stephenson) 16th (DeKalb, Kane & Kendall) 17th (Boone & Winnebago) 18th (DuPage) 19th (Lake) 22nd (McHenry)

District Population: 3,164,947 (2006 est.)

Appellate Court

# THIRD DISTRICT

Appellate Court Building 1004 Columbus Street Ottawa, IL (61350) (815) 434-5050

Gist Fleshman, Clerk Gerald Ursini, Research Director

## APPELLATE JUDGES

### Daniel Schmidt, Presiding Judge

Robert L. Carter William E. Holdridge Tom Lytton Mary W. McDade Mary K. O'Brien Vicki Wright

Total Pending Caseload* All Case Categories			
	Pending		
2006	849		
2005	950		
2004	945		
2003	1,012		
2002	999		

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

	Civil**		Crin	ninal
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2006	477	533	454	513
2005	480	489	417	408
2004	509	513	460	432
2003	522	496	499	507
2002	478	471	539	540

\*\*Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases



Third District Courthouse - Ottawa Completed in 1860 (Gist Fleshman photo)

### Circuits (Counties):

9th (Fulton, Hancock, Henderson, Knox, McDonough & Warren)

10th (Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark & Tazewell)

12th (Will)

13th (Bureau, Grundy & LaSalle)

14th (Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Whiteside)

21st (Kankakee & Iroquois)

### **District Population:**

1,781,331 (2006 est.)

# FOURTH DISTRICT

Waterways Building 201 W. Monroe St. Springfield, IL (62704) (217) 782-2586

Darryl Pratscher, Clerk Shirley Wilgenbusch, Research Director

## APPELLATE JUDGES

### Robert J. Steigmann, Presiding Judge

Thomas R. Appleton\* John T. McCullough Robert W. Cook Sue E. Myerscough James A. Knecht John W. Turner

\*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

### Total Pending Caseload\* All Case Categories

	Pending
2006	1,028
2005	1,090
2004	1,088
2003	1,093
2002	1,088

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

	Civ	il**	Crin	ninal
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2006	535	510	540	652
2005	523	546	532	519
2004	507	526	546	536
2003	506	586	566	513
2002	552	635	503	568

\*\*Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases



Fourth District Courthouse -Springfield Waterways Building Renovated in 2001 (photo by Terry Farmer Photography, Inc.)

Circuits (Counties):

5th (Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Edgar & Vermilion)

6th (Champaign, DeWitt, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie & Piatt)

7th (Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

8th (Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Mason, Menard, Pike & Schuyler)

11th (Ford, Livingston, Logan, McLean & Woodford)

### **District Population:**

1,290,029 (2006 est.)

# FIFTH DISTRICT

Appellate Court Building 14th & Main Street Mt. Vernon, IL (62864) (618) 242-3120

Louis E. Costa, Clerk James Sanders, Research Director

## APPELLATE JUDGES

Thomas M. Welch, Presiding Judge

Melissa A. Chapman James K. Donovan Richard P. Goldenhersh Bruce D. Stewart Stephen L. Spomer\*

\*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

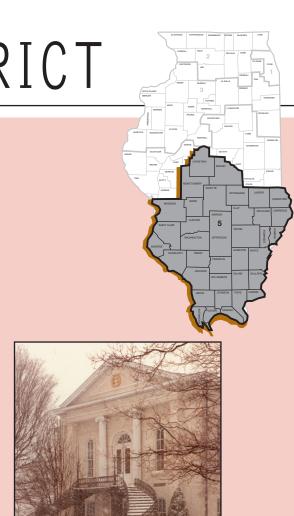
Total Pending Caseload* All Case Categories					
Pending					
2006	721				
2005	736				
2004	756				
2003	768				
2002	894				

\*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

	Civ	il**	Crin	ninal
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2006	418	460	243	234
2005	461	488	252	263
2004	513	530	267	282
2003	485	584	296	360
2002	509	522	326	344

\*\*Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases



**Fifth District Courthouse - Mt. Vernon** Completed in 1857 (John J. Flood photo)

Circuits (Counties):

1st (Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union & Williamson)

2nd (Crawford, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne & White)

3rd (Bond & Madison)

4th (Christian, Clay, Clinton, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Marion, Montgomery & Shelby)

> 20th (Monroe, Perry, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

> > District Population: 1,306,942 (2006 est.)

# CIRCUIT COURTS

he court of "original jurisdiction" is the circuit court. There are twenty-three circuits in the state, five of which are single county circuits (Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry). The remaining eighteen circuits contain two to twelve counties per circuit.

The circuit court can decide, with few exceptions, any kind of case. The exceptions are redistricting of the general assembly and the ability of the governor to serve or resume office. The circuit court also shares jurisdiction with the supreme court to hear cases relating to revenue, mandamus, prohibition, and *habeas corpus*. However, if the supreme court chooses to exercise its jurisdiction over these cases, the circuit court may not decide them. Finally, the circuit court also reviews administrative orders from certain state agencies.

There are two kinds of judges in the circuit court: circuit judges and associate judges. Circuit judges are elected for six years, may be retained by voters for additional six year terms, and can hear any kind of case. Circuit judges are elected on a circuit-wide basis or from the county where they reside. In Cook County, circuit judges are elected from the entire county or as resident judges from each of the fifteen subcircuits within the county. Associate judges are appointed by circuit judges, under supreme court rules, for four-year terms. An associate judge can hear any case, except criminal cases punishable by a prison term of one year or more, unless the associate judge has received approval from the supreme court to hear other criminal cases.

Circuit judges in a circuit elect one of their members to serve as chief circuit court judge. Cases may be assigned to general or specialized divisions by the chief judge who has general administrative authority in the circuit, subject to the overall administrative authority of the supreme court.

### Circuit Court Administrative Matters

**Conference of Chief Circuit Judges:** The Conference meets regularly to discuss issues related to the administration of justice in the circuit courts and other matters referred to the Conference by the supreme court. The Conference of Chief Circuit Judges is composed of the chief circuit judges from the twenty-three Illinois judicial circuits. Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, serves as chairperson of the Conference; Judge Stephen D. White,

Chief Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, is vicechairperson. The Administrative Office serves as secretary to the Conference.

**Conference Committees:** The committees of the Conference include the Article V Committee, Committee on Forms, Committee to Revise the Chief Circuit Judges' Manual, Domestic Relations Committee, Jury Panel Representation Committee, Juvenile Committee, Long-Range Planning Committee, Orientation Committee, Prison Committee, Probation Committee, Speciality Courts Committee and several *ad hoc* committees convened to study specific, short-term subject matter.

Activities during 2006 included the establishment of the Jury Panel Representation Committee, which was convened to study jury practices in Illinois and make recommendations on improving minority representation on jury panels. The Long Range Planning Committee hosted three seminars in 2006 on case management, courthouse and judicial security, and fair jury representation. The Article V Committee received authorization from the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges to convene a sub-committee on Bonds, Fines and Court Appearances. That sub-committee is charged with making a recommendation on what traffic violations should have a required court appearance and to study the bonding procedures of the Article V Rules. The Conference created an ad hoc committee on new Supreme Court child custody rules. It was established to study the mediation aspects and implications of the 900 Series Rules of the Supreme Court on the trial This committee was also charged with courts. developing a model set of rules for approval by the Conference and adoption by local circuit courts.

During 2006, the Article V Committee, Domestic Relations Committee, Committee on Forms, Juvenile Committee, Prison Committee, Speciality Courts Committee, and Probation Committee continued to monitor and analyze new legislation and Supreme Court Rules relevant to their particular subject matter. As necessary, related forms, policy, orders, etc. were modified in accordance with the new provisions.

Circuit Courts

## **CASE CATEGORIES**

**CIVIL: lawsuits** for monetary damages; **arbitration; small claims** (amounts up to \$10,000)\*; **chancery** (e.g., title to real property and injunctions); **miscellaneous remedy** (e.g., review of decisions of administrative bodies, *habeas corpus* matters, and demolition); **probate** (e.g., estates of deceased persons and guardianships); **order of protection and civil no contact order** (petition for order of protection and civil no contact order (petition (e.g., divorce, separate maintenance, and annulment); **mental health** (e.g., commitment and discharge from mental facilities); **eminent domain** (e.g., compensation when property is taken for public use); **municipal corporation** and **tax** (e.g., matters pertaining to the organization of municipalities and collection of taxes at the local level); **adoptions; family** (e.g., proceedings to establish parent-child relationship and actions relating to child support).

**CRIMINAL:** felony (e.g., a criminal case in which the offense carries a penalty of at least one year in prison) and misdemeanor. OTHER: ordinance, conservation, traffic (excluding parking tickets), and DUI.

**JUVENILE:** abuse and neglect, delinquent, and other (e.g., a minor who requires authoritative intervention).

\*Small Claim amount increased to \$10,000 effective January 1, 2006. (Amended Supreme Court Rule 281).

Caseload Statistics								
	Civil			Juve	nile		Fel	ony
	Filed	Disposed		Filed	Disposed		Filed	Disposed
2006	706,836	700,608		26,454	28,921		95,747	95,676
2005	672,781	677,728		28,519	32,662		94,125	98,293
2004	685,557	744,429		28,269	29,847		94,312	94,677
2003	697,700	694,787		26,986	33,087	È.	92,913	99,892
2002	677,582	663,761		27,263	35,617		96,933	120,045

2006 Total (	lases	12		Total Case	load
by Category				Filed	Disposed
Traffic (excl. DUI)	2,875,808	: 14	2006	4,305,551	4,248,347
Civil (excl. OP)	657,498	:0	2005	4,213,730	4 <mark>,2</mark> 26,456
Misdemeanor	376,855		2004	4,240,303	<mark>4,2</mark> 47,766
Conservation/Ordinance	161,804		2003	4,171,665	4,312,181
Felony	95,747		2002	4,158,794	4,352,329
DUI	62,047			72.77	
Order of Protection	49,338				
Juvenile	26,454				

# CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY (FIRST APPELLATE DISTRICT)

### Timothy C. Evans Chief Judge 2600 Daley Center Chicago, IL 60602

### **Circuit Population:** 5,288,655 (2006 est.)

### Circuit Judges:

Martin S. Agran Nancy J. Arnold David B. Atkins Robert Balanoff Patricia Banks Ronald F. Bartkowicz Carole K. Bellows Gerald C. Bender Richard B. Berland Andrew Berman Jeanne Cleveland Bernstein Robert W. Bertucci Paul P. Biebel, Jr. Richard J. Billik Jr. Patricia Martin Bishop Daniel P. Brennan Margaret Ann Brennan Eileen M. Brewer Cynthia Brim Philip L. Bronstein Rodney Hughes Brooks Janet Adams Brosnahan Mary M. Brosnahan James R. Brown Henry A. Budzinski Kathleen Marie Burke Charles P. Burns Anthony L. Burrell Bernetta D. Bush Diane Gordon Cannon Thomas F. Carmody, Jr. Robert Lopez Cepero Gloria Chevere Thomas R. Chiola Evelyn B. Clay Mary Ellen Coghlan Matthew E. Coghlan Melvin J. Cole Sharon Johnson Coleman

Claudia G. Conlon Maureen E. Connors Clayton J. Crane Lisa R. Curcio Paula M. Daleo Daniel P. Darcy Thomas Michael Davy David Delgado Grace G. Dickler Frank J. Dolan Christopher J. Donnelly David R. Donnersberger John T. Doody, Jr. Deborah M. Dooling Jennifer Duncan-Brice Laurence J. Dunford Loretta Eadie-Daniels James D. Egan Lynn M. Egan Richard J. Elrod James R. Epstein Candace J. Fabri Thomas P. Fecarotta, Jr. Roger G. Fein Peter A. Felice Denise K. Filan Kathy M. Flanagan Thomas E. Flanagan James P. Flannery, Jr. Ellen L. Flannigan John J. Fleming Peter A. Flynn Nicholas R. Ford Raymond Funderburk Sheldon Gardner Vincent M. Gaughan James J. Gavin Bettina Gembala Francis W. Glowacki Allen S. Goldberg



Richard J. Daley Center (Courtesy of the Chicago Architecture Foundation)

Joel L. Greenblatt Susan Ruscitti Grussel Catherine M. Haberkorn William J. Haddad Sophia H. Hall Orville E. Hambright, Jr. Kay M. Hanlon La Quietta J. Hardy-Campbell Sheldon A. Harris Marsha D. Hayes Shelli Williams Hayes Michael T. Healy Curtis Heaston James F. Henry Pamela E. Hill Veal Thomas L. Hogan Vanessa A. Hopkins Carol M. Howard Garritt E. Howard Michael J. Howlett, Jr. Nathaniel R. Howse, Jr. Arnette R. Hubbard Michael B. Hyman Cheyrl D. Ingram Anthony A. Iosco Moshe Jacobius Raymond L. Jagielski Marilyn F. Johnson Dorothy F. Jones Rickey Jones Daniel E. Jordan Edward R. Jordan Michelle D. Jordan Paul A. Karkula Richard A. Kavitt Joseph G. Kazmierski, Jr. Daniel J. Kelley Thomas J. Kelley Carol A. Kelly James W. Kennedy

Kathleen G. Kennedy Kerry M. Kennedy Dorothy K. Kinnaird John P. Kirby Robert J. Kowalski Margarita T. Kulys William J. Kunkle William G. Lacy Bertina E. Lampkin Diane Joan Larsen Jeffrey Lawrence Marjorie C. Laws Casandra Lewis Marcella C. Lipinski Thomas J. Lipscomb Daniel M. Locallo Gay-Lloyd Lott Noreen V. Love Michele F. Lowrance Stuart F. Lubin Marvin P. Luckman Daniel Joseph Lynch William D. Maddux William 0. Maki Marcia Maras Jill Cerone Marisie LeRoy K. Martin, Jr. Mary Anne Mason Veronica B. Mathein Carol Pearce McCarthy James P. McCarthy Barbara A. McDonald Susan J. McDunn Patrick E. McGann James M. McGing Sheila McGinnis Dennis M. McGuire Kathleen M. McGury Michael B. McHale Clare E. McWilliams

Barbara M. Meyer Mary L. Mikva Judy I. Mitchell-Davis Colleen McSweeney Moore John J. Moran Jr. Dennis J. Morrissey Mary A. Mulhern James P. Murphy Lisa Ruble Murphy Joyce Marie Murphy Gorman Patrick T. Murphy Thomas W. Murphy Timothy P. Murphy James C. Murray, Jr. Marya T. Nega Lewis Nixon Donald J. O'Brien, Jr. Edward P. O'Brien Joan M. O'Brien Patrick W. O'Brien William T. O'Brien Ramon Ocasio III Lawrence O'Gara James P. O'Malley William P. O'Malley William D. O'Neal Sandra R. Otaka Stuart E. Palmer Joseph D. Panarese Thomas P. Panichi Kathleen M. Pantle Sebastian T. Patti Sheryl A. Pethers William Michael Phelan Donna Phelps Felton Edward N. Pietrucha Edmund Ponce de Leon Joan F. Powell Lee Preston Aurelia Pucinski Robert J. Quinn Thomas P. Quinn James L. Rhodes Barbara A. Riley Daniel A. Riley James G. Riley Ronald C. Riley Mary C. Roberts Mary K. Rochford Thomas D. Roti Maureen Durkin Roy James Ryan Leida J. Gonzalez Santiago Drella C. Savage James M. Schreier Colleen E. Sheehan Kevin M. Sheehan

Nancy Drew Sheehan Diane M. Shellev Lon W. Shultz Henry R. Simmons, Jr. Henry M. Singer David A. Skryd Maura Slattery Boyle Irwin J. Solganick James F. Stack Cheryl A. Starks John O. Steele David P. Sterba Victoria A. Stewart Paul Stralka Jane Louise Stuart Michael W. Stuttley Daniel J. Sullivan Laura M. Sullivan Sharon M. Sullivan Donald J. Suriano Shelley Sutker-Dermer Rhoda D. Sweeney William Taylor Lawrence Terrell Amanda S. Toney Michael P. Toomin Sandra Tristano Edna M. Turkington John D. Turner, Jr. Valarie E. Turner Joseph J. Urso James Michael Varga Raul Vega Kenneth J. Wadas Carl Anthony Walker Richard F. Walsh John A. Ward Edward Washington, II Daniel S. Weber Alexander P. White Walter Williams Camille E. Willis Charles R. Winkler William H. Wise Gregory J. Wojkowski Lauretta Higgins Wolfson E. Kenneth Wright, Jr. Frank G. Zelezinski Susan F. Zwick Associate Judges: Jorge L. Alonso Edward A. Antonietti Larry Axelrood Reginald H. Baker Mark J. Ballard Consuelo E. Bedoya-Witt

Samuel J. Betar III Adam D. Bourgeois, Jr. William Stewart Boyd Stephen Y. Brodhay Michael Brown Gary L. Brownfield Elizabeth M. Budzinski Dennis J. Burke Frank B. Castiglione Cheryl D. Cesario Timothy J. Chambers Joseph M. Claps Robert J. Clifford Gloria G. Coco Susan M. Coleman Thomas J. Condon Abishi C. Cunningham Noreen M. Daly Ronald S. Davis Frank DeBoni Dennis A. Dernbach Israel A. Desierto James G. Donegan Thomas M. Donnelly James P. Etchingham Maureen P. Feerick Fe' Fernandez Howard L. Fink Brian K. Flaherty Lawrence E. Flood Lawrence P. Fox Thomas V. Gainer, Jr. Sheldon C. Garber Daniel T. Gillespie Susan Fox Gillis Gregory R. Ginex Renee Goldfarb Maxwell Griffin, Jr. John B. Grogan Gilbert J. Grossi R. Morgan Hamilton David E. Haracz Donald R. Havis Thomas Joseph Hennelly Rosemary Higgins Arthur F. Hill, Jr. Earl B. Hoffenberg Ann Houser Colleen A. Hyland John J. Hynes Marianne Jackson Moira Susan Johnson Jordan Kaplan James N. Karahalios Pamela G. Karahalios Nancy J. Katz Lynne Kawamoto

Carol A. Kipperman Randye A. Kogan Alfred L. Levinson Neil J. Linehan James B. Linn Mark J. Lopez Patrick F. Lustig Thaddeus S. Machnik Jeffrey A. Malak Martin E. McDonough Brigid Mary McGrath Clifford L. Meacham Patricia Mendoza Mary R. Minella Daniel R. Miranda Michael J. Murray Raymond Myles Rita M. Novak Gregory M. O'Brien Thomas J. O'Hara James M. Obbish Marcia B. Orr Donald D. Panarese, Jr. Luciano Panici Alfred J. Paul Arthur C. Perivolidis William G. Pileggi Dennis J. Porter Carolyn G. Quinn Jesse G. Reyes Hyman Riebman Elizabeth Loredo Rivera James J. Ryan Stanley J. Sacks Marcus R. Salone Joseph M. Sconza John J. Scotillo Robert E. Senechalle, Jr. Terrence V. Sharkey Karen G. Shields Darryl B. Simko Michele M. Simmons Douglas J. Simpson Terence B. Smith Richard A. Stevens Thomas R. Sumner Sanjay T. Tailor Sybil C. Thomas Elmer J. Tolmaire III John D. Tourtelot Thomas M. Tucker Rena M. Van Tine John A. Wasilewski Daniel G. Welter Lori M. Wolfson Leon Wool James A. Zafiratos Total Caseload

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Pending Caseload							
	Civil Felony Juvenile						
2006	412,285	22,815	15,022				
2005	396,180	23,039	18,137				
2004	380,815	24,386	14,168				
2003	419,763	23,506	17,165				
2002	393,164	25,314	22,438				

Helaine L. Berger

TULAI CASEIUAU				
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	1,873,192	1,821,063		
2005	1,822,758	1,820,929		
2004	1,920,378	1,896,278		
2003	1,811,631	1,824,433		
2002	1,771,698	1,854,637		

## FIRST CIRCUIT (Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Alexander (Cairo) Jackson (Murphysboro) Johnson (Vienna) Massac (Metropolis) Pope (Golconda) Pulaski (Mound City) Saline (Harrisburg) Union (Jonesboro) Williamson (Marion)

Terry J. Foster Chief Judge Williamson County Courthouse 200 Jefferson Street Marion, IL 62959

Circuit Population: 213,881 (2006 est.)

### Circuit Judges:

Brad K. Bleyer, Mark M. Boie, Mark H. Clarke, Ronald R. Eckiss, W. Charles Grace, Todd D. Lambert, Joseph M. Leberman, Phillip G. Palmer, Sr., William G. Schwartz, William J. Thurston, James R. Williamson

### Associate Judges:

Rodney A. Clutts, Kimberly L. Dahlen, Everett D. Kimmel, Walden E. Morris, Christy W. Solverson, John A. Speroni, William H. Wilson

Pending Caseload						
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile			
2006	11,943	1,855	1,168			
2005	11,588	1,682	1,125			
2004	11,667	1,556	1,061			
2003	10,426	1,638	988			
2002	10,136	1,631	849			

	Total Caseload					
	Filed					
2006	93,184	91,672				
2005	93,886	85,857				
2004	88,331	80,530				
2003	84,242	81,285				
2002	96,277	85,753				

## SECOND CIRCUIT (Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Crawford (Robinson) Edwards (Albion) Franklin (Benton) Gallatin (Shawneetown) Hamilton (McLeansboro) Hardin (Elizabethtown) Jefferson (Mount Vernon) Lawrence (Lawrenceville) Richland (Olney) Wabash (Mount Carmel) Wayne (Fairfield) White (Carmi)

E. Kyle Vantrease Chief Judge Jefferson County Courthouse 911 Casey Avenue Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

**Circuit Population:** 201,654 (2006 est.)

### Circuit Judges:

Melissa A. Drew, Larry D. Dunn, Don Al Foster, David K. Frankland, Terry H. Gamber, Bennie Joe Harrison, Robert M. Hopkins, Paul W. Lamar, Loren P. Lewis, Stephen G. Sawyer, Thomas H. Sutton, Barry L. Vaughan, Christopher L. Weber, James M. Wexstten

### Associate Judges:

Kathleen M. Alling, Leo T. Desmond, Kimbara Graham Harrell, Robert W. Lewis, Mark Lane Shaner, Mark R. Stanley

Pending Caseload							
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile				
2006	11,318	2,717	1,303				
2005	9,518	2,464	1,194				
2004	10,242	2,383	1,159				
2003	9,446	2,087	1,089				
2002	11,251	1,866	984				

Total Caseload				
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	55,403	51,958		
2005	55,062	51,565		
2004	49,902	47,132		
2003	54,283	53,614		
2002	53,878	50,337		

2006 Annual Report 
SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS
Administrative Summary

## THIRD CIRCUIT (Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Bond(Greenville) Madison (Edwardsville) Ann E. Callis Chief Judge Madison County Courthouse 155 North Main, #405 Edwardsville, IL 62025

**Circuit Population:** 283,358 (2006 est.)



Johnson County Vienna 1st Judicial Circuit (Johnson County Photo by David Hammond)

### **Circuit Judges:**

Nicholas G. Byron, Barbara L, Crowder, Edward C. Ferguson, David A. Hylla, John Knight, A. Andreas Matoesian, Jr., Charles V. Romani, Jr., Daniel J. Stack

### Associate Judges:

Thomas William Chapman, Ellar Duff, David Keith Grounds, James Hackett, Clarence W. Harrison II, Janet Rae Heflin, Lewis E. Mallott, Ralph J. Mendelsohn, Nelson F. Metz, Stephen A. Stobbs, Richard L. Tognarelli

Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	18,408	2,347	479	
2005	17,352	2,210	457	
2004	17,659	2,449	415	
2003	17,307	2,293	360	
2002	16,076	2,038	457	

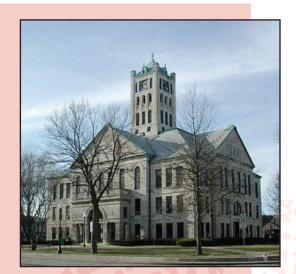
Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed	
2006	111,303	107,999	
2005	103,859	101,030	
2004	96,700	97,250	
2003	96,312	91,483	
2002	97,826	97,041	



Lawrence County Lawrenceville 2nd Judicial Circuit (Lawrence County Photo)



Madison County Edwardsville 3rd Judicial Circuit (Madison County Photo)



Christian County Taylorville 4th Judicial Circuit (Christian County Photo)



Cumberland County Toledo 5th Judicial Circuit (Cumberland County Photo)



Moultrie County Sullivan 6th Judicial Circuit (Moultrie County Photo)

# FOURTH CIRCUIT

Counties (seats): Christian (Taylorville) Clay (Louisville) Clinton (Carlyle) Effingham (Effingham) Fayette (Vandalia) Jasper (Newton) Marion (Salem) Montgomery (Hillsboro) Shelby (Shelbyville) S. Gene Schwarm Chief Judge Montgomery County Courthouse 120 N. Main St., #231 Hillsboro, IL 62049

**Circuit Population:** 244,434 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

John P. Coady, Daniel E. Hartigan, Patrick J. Hitpas, Michael P. Kiley, Kimberly G. Koester, Kelly D. Long, Kathleen P. Moran, David L. Sauer, Ronald D. Spears, Wm. Robin Todd, Sherri L.E. Tungate

#### Associate Judges:

William J. Becker, James J. Eder, James R. Harvey, John W. McGuire, Michael D. McHaney, Dennis Middendorff, James L. Roberts, David W. Slater

Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	9,037	858	448	
2005	8,804	868	327	
2004	8,588	866	309	
2003	8,339	791	259	
2002	8,072	737	281	

	Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	66,327	65,739		
2005	2005 67,484	66,111		
2004	65,411	63,894		
2003	2003 67,419	66,628		
2002	68,563	67,185		

Circuit Courts

### FIFTH CIRCUIT (Fourth Appellate District)

### SIXTH CIRCUIT (Fourth Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Clark (Marshall) Coles (Charleston) Cumberland(Toledo) Edgar (Paris) Vermilion (Danville) James R. Glenn Chief Judge Edgar County Courthouse Paris, IL 61944

**Circuit Population:** 180,060 (2006 est.) Counties (seats): Champaign (Urbana) DeWitt (Clinton) Douglas (Tuscola) Macon (Decatur) Moultrie (Sullivan) Piatt (Monticello) John P. Shonkwiler Chief Judge Piatt County Courthouse Room 306 Monticello, IL 61856

**Circuit Population:** 362,621 (2006 est.)



#### Circuit Judges:

Claudia J. Anderson, Dale A. Cini, Michael D. Clary, Craig H. DeArmond, Millard Scott Everhart, Nancy S. Fahey, Steven L. Garst, Gary W. Jacobs, Tracy W. Resch, Teresa K. Righter, Mitchell K. Shick

#### Associate Judges:

James K. Borbely, David W. Lewis, Brien J. O' Brien, Joseph P. Skowronski, Jr., Gordon R. Stipp

Circuit	Judge	s:
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Michael G. Carroll, Harry E. Clem, Thomas J. Difanis, Dan L. Flannell, Jeffrey B. Ford, John K. Greanias, Michael Q. Jones, Heidi Ladd, Katherine M. McCarthy, Theodore E. Paine, Stephen H. Peters, Albert G. Webber

#### Associate Judges:

Holly F. Clemons, James Coryell, Scott B. Diamond, Chris E. Freese, John R. Kennedy, Richard P. Klaus, Charles McRae Leonhard, Thomas E. Little, Brian L. McPheters, Timothy J. Steadman, Lisa Holder White

Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	21,222	1,972	1,260	
2005	22,482	1,899	1,174	
2004	21,552	1,910	1,157	
2003	19,365	1,752	1,123	
2002	17,567	1,388	1,098	

	Total Caseload			
Filed		Disposed		
2006	46,823	45,305		
2005	48,098	44,472		
2004	49,761	45,956		
2003	51,766	46,742		
2002	51,766	47,375		

	Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile		
2006	23,741	3,103	1,191		
2005	28,089	3,237	1,055		
2004	27,757	3,091	1,063		
2003	27,287	2,730	923		
2002	24,850	2,892	795		

	Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	98,064	101,650		
2005 97,554	93,597			
2004	98,382	96,579		
2003 100	100,117	98,599		
2002	102,279	96,586		

### SEVENTH CIRCUIT (Fourth Appellate District)

#### Counties (seats): Greene (Carrollton) Jersey (Jerseyville) Macoupin (Carlinville) Morgan (Jacksonville) Sangamon (Springfield) Scott (Winchester)

James W. Day Chief Judge Sangamon County Complex Springfield, IL 62701

Circuit Population: 320,291 (2006 est.)

### EIGHTH CIRCUIT (Fourth Appellate District)

#### **Counties** (seats): Adams (Quincy)

Adams (Quincy) Brown (Mount Sterling) Calhoun (Hardin) Cass (Virginia) Mason (Havana) Menard (Petersburg) Pike (Pittsfield) Schuyler (Rushville) Thomas L. Brownfield Chief Judge Adams County Courthouse 521 Vermont St. Quincy, IL 62301

> **Circuit Population:** 144,780 (2006 est.)



#### Circuit Judges:

Lois A. Bell, John W. Belz, Kenneth R. Deihl, Robert J. Eggers, Leslie J. Graves, Patrick W. Kelley, Patrick J. Londrigan, Richard T. Mitchell, Eric S. Pistorius, Leo J. Zappa, Jr.

#### Associate Judges:

Diane L. Brunton, Charles J. Gramlich, Robert T. Hall, Roger W. Holmes, Theodis P. Lewis, John A. Mehlick, Steven H. Nardulli, Tim P. Olson, George H. Ray, Esteban F. Sanchez

	Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile		
2006	35,069	1,682	2,907		
2005	37,633	1,542	2,786		
2004	35,635	1,685	3,502		
2003	23,945	1,874	3,475		
2002	25,668	1,943	3,882		

	Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	95,082	103,861		
2005	2005 103,026	106,274		
2004	101,613	104,966		
2003	112,451	120,167		
2002	109,675	116,337		

#### Circuit Judges:

Mark A. Drummond, Richard D. Greenlief, Bob Hardwick, Jr., William O. Mays, Jr., Alesia A. McMillen, M. Carol Pope, Michael R. Roseberry, Mark A. Schuering, David K. Slocum, Scott H. Walden

#### Associate Judges:

Scott J. Butler, Diane M. Lagoski, Thomas J. Ortbal, Chet W. Vahle, John C. Wooleyhan

	Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile		
2006	5,634	905	279		
2005	6,248	865	213		
2004	6,004	759	166		
2003	5,840	751	183		
2002	5,551	689	155		

	Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	45,413	45,625		
2005	2005 47,625	45,451		
2004	40,039	39,374		
2003	40,778	39,797		
2002	42,342	40,662		

2006 Annual Report 

SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

Administrative Summary

### NINTH CIRCUIT (Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Fulton (Lewistown) Hancock (Carthage) Henderson (Oquawka) Knox (Galesburg) McDonough (Macomb) Warren (Monmouth) Stephen C. Mathers Chief Judge 130 S. Lafayette Street Suite 30 Macomb, IL 61455

**Circuit Population:** 166,497 (2006 est.)



Greene County Carrollton 7th Judicial Circuit (Greene County Photo)

#### Circuit Judges:

Edward R. Danner, William C. Davis, Larry W. Heiser, William D. Henderson, Gregory K. McClintock, Scott Shipplett, James B. Stewart, David F. Stoverink, David L. Vancil, Jr.

#### Associate Judges:

Steven R. Bordner, John R. Clerkin, Richard H. Gambrell, Patricia A. Walton



Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	9,392	1,201	240	
2005	9,143	1,328	293	
2004	8,878	1,192	250	
2003	9,219	1,119	407	
2002	8,730	1,149	337	

Total Caseload			
Filed Disposed			
2006	39,013	39,140	
2005	39,666	39,033	
2004	40,776	40,514	
2003	45,338	44,069	
2002	45,738	43,633	

Pike County Pittsfield 8th Judicial Circuit (Pike County Photo)



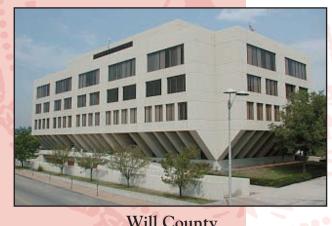
Fulton County Lewistown 9th Judicial Circuit (Fulton County Photo)



Stark County Toulon 10th Judicial Circuit (Stark County Photo)



Logan County Lincoln 11th Judicial Circuit (Logan CountyPhoto)



Will County Joliet 12th Judicial Circuit (Will CountyPhoto)

### TENTH CIRCUIT (Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Marshall (Lacon) Peoria (Peoria) Putnam (Hennepin) Stark (Toulon) Tazewell (Pekin) John A. Barra Chief Judge Peoria County Courthouse 324 Main Street, #215 Peoria, IL 61602

**Circuit Population:** 338,295 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

Stuart P. Borden, Michael E. Brandt, Kevin R. Galley, Paul P. Gilfillan, Richard E. Grawey, Stephen A. Kouri, James E. Shadid, Scott A. Shore, Joe R. Vespa

#### **Associate Judges:**

Glenn H. Collier, David J. Dubicki, Chris L. Fredericksen, Kim L. Kelley, Timothy M. Lucas, Jerelyn D. Maher, Richard D. McCoy, Brian M. Nemenoff, Albert L. Purham, Jr., Rebecca R. Steenrod

Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	20,906	1,561	2,611	
2005	20,161	1,560	2,582	
2004	18,793	1,458	3,051	
2003	25,701	1,666	2,813	
2002	24,181	1,541	2,815	

Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed	
2006	109,580	109,244	
2005	106,672	106,391	
2004	102,834	107,437	
2003	97,400	96,867	
2002	102,622	102,670	

Circuit Courts

### ELEVENTH CIRCUIT (Fourth Appellate District)

#### Counties (seats): Ford (Paxton) Livingston (Pontiac) Logan (Lincoln) McLean (Bloomington) Woodford (Eureka)

Elizabeth A. Robb Chief Judge McLean County Law & Justice Center 104 W. Front St., #511 Bloomington, IL 61701

**Circuit Population:** 282,277 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

Donald D. Bernardi, David L. Coogan, Scott D. Drazewski, Kevin P. Fitzgerald, Harold J. Frobish, John B. Huschen, Stephen R. Pacey, G. Michael Prall, Charles G. Reynard, James E. Souk

#### Associate Judges:

Jennifer Hartmann Bauknecht, Donald A. Behle, David W. Butler, John Casey Costigan, Charles M. Feeney III, Rebecca Simmons Foley, Robert L. Freitag, Paul G. Lawrence, Robert M. Travers

Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	8,963	1,281	1,158	
2005	8,374	1,331	968	
2004	7,730	1,284	764	
2003	7,719	1,414	580	
2002	8,618	1,469	545	

Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed	
2006	93,957	93,019	
2005	87,888	89,665	
2004	81,819	86,651	
2003	87,615	91,800	
2002	87,853	91,231	

### TWELFTH CIRCUIT (Third Appellate District)

County (seat): Will (Joliet) Stephen D. White Chief Judge Will County Courthouse 14 W. Jefferson, #439 Joliet, IL 60431

Circuit Population: 668,217 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

Carla J. Alessio Policandriotes, Amy M. Bertani-Tomczak, Gerald R. Kinney, Rodney B. Lechwar, William G. McMenamin, Susan T. O'Leary, Edward F. Petka, Daniel J. Rozak, Richard C. Schoenstedt, Richard J. Siegel

#### Associate Judges:

James Jeffrey Allen, Robert J. Baron, Bennett J. Braun, Robert P. Brumund, Edward A. Burmila, Jr., James E. Egan, James E. Garrison, Lawrence C. Gray, Ludwig J. Kuhar, Jr., Robert P. Livas, Robert C. Lorz, Rick A. Mason, Barbara N. Petrungaro, Joseph C. Polito, Michael J. Powers, Marzell L. Richardson, Jr., Marilee Viola

Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	19,055	2,795	1,346
2005	17,073	2,369	1,353
2004	18,008	2,257	1,219
2003	17,630	2,192	1,062
2002	17,065	2,418	1,312

Total Caseload			
Filed Disposed			
2006	195,536	196,337	
2005	188,475	209,082	
2004	167,579	171,009	
2003	159,997	161,365	
2002	161,622	170,560	



#### THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT (Third Appellate District) (Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Bureau (Princeton) Grundy (Morris) LaSalle (Ottawa)

James A. Lanuti Chief Judge LaSalle County Courthouse 119 W. Madison, #204 Ottawa, IL 61350

**Circuit Population:** 194,150 (2006 est.)

#### Counties (seats):

Henry (Cambridge) Mercer (Aledo) Rock Island (Rock Island) Whiteside (Morrison)

Jeffrey W. O'Connor **Chief Judge** Rock Island County Courthouse 210 15th Street, #408 Rock Island, IL 61201

**Circuit Population:** 274,719 (2006 est.)

#### **Circuit Judges:**

Marc Bernabei, Eugene P. Daugherity, Joseph P. Hettel, Robert C. Marsaglia, Cynthia M. Raccuglia, Howard C. Ryan, Jr.

#### Associate Judges:

William P. Balestri, James L. Brusatte, Daniel J. Bute, A. Scott Madson, Lance R. Peterson

#### **Circuit Judges:**

Joseph F. Beatty, Walter D. Braud, James G. Conway, Jr., Ted Hamer, John L. Hauptman, Lori R. Lefstein, F. Michael Meersman, Stanley B. Steines, Charles H. Stengel, Mark A. VandeWiele, Larry S. Vandersnic

#### **Associate Judges:**

Michael R. Albert, John L. Bell, Thomas C. Berglund, Alan G. Blackwood, Raymond J. Conklin, John R. McClean, Jr., Dana R. McReynolds, James J. Mesich, Carol M. Pentuic

Pending Caseload				
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	5,201	490	306	
2005	4,916	458	242	
2004	4,706	438	236	
2003	4,923	381	238	
2002	5,370	321	250	

Total Caseload			
Filed Disposed			
2006	58,133	57,913	
2005	57,426	55,828	
2004	54,682	56,734	
2003	62,221	61,224	
2002	60,167	59,854	

Pending Caseload					
	Civil Felony Juvenile				
2006	15,091	1,548	1,125		
2005	14,007	1,362	902		
2004	13,413	1,341	839		
2003	12,657	1,286	895		
2002	12,216	1,267	857		

Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed	
2006	82,504	78,470	
2005	79,127	78,509	
2004	82,520	82,246	
2003	87,972	84,952	
2002	87,309	85,069	

### FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT (Second Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Carroll (Mount Carroll) Io Daviess (Galena) Lee (Dixon) Ogle (Oregon) Stephenson (Freeport)

William A. Kelly **Chief Judge Ogle County** Courthouse 106 S. Fifth St., #306A Oregon, IL 61061

**Circuit Population:** 176,544 (2006 est.)



**Grundy** County Morris 13th Judicial Circuit (Grundy County Photo)

#### **Circuit Judges:**

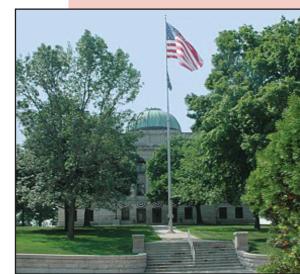
Michael Paul Bald, Val Gunnarsson, Ronald M. Jacobson, Michael Mallon, John E. Payne, Stephen C. Pemberton, Theresa L. Ursin

#### Associate Judges:

Jacquelyn D. Ackert, Charles T. Beckman, Robert T. Hanson, James M. Hauser, David L. Jeffrey, John F. Joyce, Kathleen O. Kauffmann, Victor V. Sprengelmeyer



Henry County Cambridge 14th Judicial Circuit (Henry County Photo)



Lee County Dixon (Lee County Photo)

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15th Judicial Circuit

Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	4,519	786	503
2005	4,641	712	420
2004	4,800	780	443
2003	4,718	682	676
2002	4,738	728	547

#### **Total Caseload**

	Filed	Disposed
2006	48,224	46,453
2005	47,002	47,064
2004	50,347	48,862
2003	55,740	54,150
2002	56,564	54,458

Circuit Courts



DeKalb County Sycamore 16th Judicial Circuit (DeKalb County Photo)



Boone County Belvidere 17th Judicial Circuit (Boone County Photo)

DuPage County Wheaton 18th Judicial Circuit (DuPage County Photo)

### SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT (Second Appellate District)

Counties (seats): DeKalb (Sycamore) Kane (Geneva) Kendall (Yorkville) Donald C. Hudson Chief Judge Kane County Judicial Center 37 W. 777 Rte. 38, #400 A St. Charles, IL 60175

> **Circuit Population:** 682,032 (2006 est.)

#### **Circuit Judges:**

Judith M. Brawka, F. Keith Brown, Michael J. Colwell, Philip L. DiMarzio, Patrick J. Dixon, Donald J. Fabian, Patricia P. Golden, Joseph M. Grady, Kurt Klein, Richard J. Larson, Thomas E. Mueller, Timothy Q. Sheldon, Robert B. Spence, Robbin J. Stuckert, Grant S. Wegner

#### Associate Judges:

Allen M. Anderson, William P. Brady, Franklin D. Brewe, Alan W. Cagerman, James Donnelly, Wiley W. Edmondson, James C. Hallock, Robert L. Janes, Marmarie J. Kostelny, Timothy J. McCann, Robert J. Morrow, Edward C. Schreiber, Mary Karen Simpson, Stephen Sullivan, William H. Weir, Leonard J. Wojtecki

Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	19,315	4,219	1,938
2005	12,639	4,029	2,296
2004	11,879	6,232	2,827
2003	12,918	4,706	2,668
2002	12,962	4,145	2,019

Total Caseload			
Filed Disposed			
2006	214,977	200,967	
2005	199,615	201,564	
2004	184,973	190,335	
2003	195,051	331,331	
2002	199,090	321,918	

### SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT (Second Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Boone (Belvidere) Winnebago (Rockford) Kathryn E. Zenoff Chief Judge Winnebago County Courthouse 400 West State Street Rockford, IL 61101

Circuit Population: 348,252 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

Rosemary Collins, Timothy R. Gill, Gerald F. Grubb, Janet R. Holmgren, John Todd Kennedy, Joseph G. McGraw, Ronald L. Pirrello, J. Edward Prochaska

#### Associate Judges:

Joseph J. Bruce, Fernando L. Engelsma, Patrick L. Heaslip, James W. Jerz, Richard A. Lucus, Steven M. Nash, Steven L. Nordquist, Gary Pumilia, R. Craig Sahlstrom, Brian Dean Shore, John R. Truitt, Steven G. Vecchio, Ronald J. White

Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	19,958	5,067	3,323
2005	18,180	4,106	3,284
2004	17,260	4,266	3,172
2003	20,066	4,117	3,157
2002	21,058	3,641	3,326

Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed	
2006	121,751	118,143	
2005	121,539	118,776	
2004	124,542	123,506	
2003	120,729	117,092	
2002	117,743	115,835	

County (seat): DuPage (Wheaton)

Ann B. Jorgensen Chief Judge DuPage County Courthouse 505 N. County Farm Rd. Wheaton, IL 60187

**Circuit Population:** 932,670 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

Robert J. Anderson, George J. Bakalis, Michael J. Burke, Kathryn E. Creswell, Stephen J. Culliton, Edward R. Duncan, Jr., John T. Elsner, Rodney W. Equi, Robert K. Kilander, Kenneth Moy, Kenneth Popejoy, Perry R. Thompson, Hollis L. Webster, Bonnie M. Wheaton

EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)

#### Associate Judges:

Kenneth A. Abraham, C. Stanley Austin, Joseph S. Bongiorno, Linda E. Davenport, John W. Demling, Brian J. Diamond, Peter J. Dockery, Thomas C. Dudgeon, Mark W. Dwyer, Blanche Hill Fawell, William I. Ferguson, Dorothy F. French, Nicholas J. Galasso, Daniel P. Guerin, Bruce R. Kelsey, John J. Kinsella, James J. Konetski, Patrick J. Leston, Brian R. McKillip, Jane Hird Mitton, John Panegasser, Cary B. Pierce, Thomas J. Riggs, Elizabeth W. Sexton, Terence M. Sheen, George J. Sotos, Ronald D. Sutter

Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	14,041	2,314	801
2005	13,000	2,284	700
2004	13,366	2,371	566
2003	13,633	2,149	635
2002	12,685	2,126	769

Total Caseload			
Filed Disposed			
2006	320,626	340,619	
2005	314,643	329,863	
2004	317,746	337,745	
2003	318,773	317,818	
2002	326,176	318,132	



### NINETEENTH CIRCUIT (Second Appellate District)

### TWENTIETH CIRCUIT (Fifth Appellate District)

#### County (seat):

\*Lake (Waukegan)

\* The new 22nd Judicial Circuit (McHenry County) was created by Public Act 93-0541, effective December 4, 2006. Statistical data contained in this publication, with the exception of adult and juvenile probation statistics, includes McHenry County with the 19th Judicial Circuit for all of calendar year 2006. Christopher C. Starck Chief Judge Lake County Courthouse 18 N. County St. Waukegan, IL 60085

Circuit Population: 713,076 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

James K. Booras, George Bridges, Fred Foreman, David M. Hall, Raymond J. McKoski, Margaret J. Mullen, John T. Phillips, Victoria A. Rossetti, Mary S. Schostok, Henry C. Tonigan III, Jane D. Waller

#### Associate Judges:

Valerie Boettle Ceckowski, Raymond D. Collins, Wallace B. Dunn, Michael J. Fritz, Michael J. Fusz, Donald H. Geiger, Mitchell L. Hoffman, Brian P. Hughes, Charles D. Johnson, Patrick N. Lawler, Sarah P. Lessman, Victoria L. Martin, Jorge L. Ortiz, Theodore S. Potkonjak, Helen Rozenberg, George D. Strickland, Christopher Stride, Nancy S. Waites, Joseph R. Waldeck, Diane E. Winter

Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	15,822	3,038	1,169
2005	14,407	2,716	1,096
2004	13,968	2,261	1,011
2003	14,525	3,496	905
2002	14,607	3,564	1,022

	Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed		
2006	350,084	364,733		
2005	350,018	367,118		
2004	344,323	357,992		
2003	336,417	349,124		
2002	331,611	345,490		

#### Counties (seats):

Monroe (Waterloo) Perry (Pinckneyville) Randolph (Chester) St. Clair (Belleville) Washington (Nashville) John C. Baricevic Chief Judge County Building 10 Public Square Belleville, IL 62220

Circuit Population: 363,615 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

James W. Campanella, Lloyd A. Cueto, Dennis B. Doyle, Annette A. Eckert, Jan V. Fiss, Dennis Hatch, Robert P. LeChien, Michael J. O'Malley, William A. Schuwerk, Jr., Milton S. Wharton, Patrick M. Young

#### Associate Judges:

Richard A. Aguirre, Brian A. Babka, Walter C. Brandon, Jr., Richard Brown, Laninya Cason, Ellen A. Dauber, Andrew J. Gleeson, Vincent J. Lopinot, Alexis Otis-Lewis, James M. Radcliffe III, Stephen R. Rice, Heinz M. Rudolf

	Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	
2006	16,997	1,642	300	
2005	17,050	1,620	294	
2004	15,904	1,925	336	
2003	17,405	1,821	279	
2002	17,131	1,585	251	

	Total Caseload			
Filed		Disposed		
2006	138,303	122,729		
2005	136,404	121,508		
2004	129,766	125,072		
2003	138,784	133,108		
2002	140,097	130,886		

### TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT (Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats): Iroquois (Watseka) Kankakee (Kankakee) Clark E. Erickson Chief Judge Kankakee County Courthouse 450 East Court St. Kankakee, IL 60901

Circuit Population: 139,688 (2006 est.)



Lake County Waukegan 19th Judicial Circuit (Lake County Photo)

#### **Circuit Judges:**

Adrienne W. Albrecht, Kathy S. Elliott, Michael J. Kick, Gordon Lee Lustfeldt, Susan Sumner Tungate, Kendall O. Wenzelman

#### Associate Judges:

James B. Kinzer, Michael D. Kramer, William O. Schmidt, J. Scott Swaim



Pending Caseload			
	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2006	15,795	842	811
2005	14,957	847	776
2004	16,233	851	809
2003	16,243	934	1,090
2002	15,394	949	1,179

Total Caseload			
	Filed	Disposed	
2006	48,072	45,708	
2005	45,903	46,769	
2004	47,879	47,704	
2003	46,658	46,533	
2002	47,898	56,680	

Monroe County Waterloo 20th Judicial Circuit (Monroe County Photo)



Kankakee County Kankakee 21st Judicial Circuit (Kankakee County Photo)



McHenry County Woodstock 22nd Judicial Circuit (McHenry County Photo)

### TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT (Second Appellate District)

#### County (seat):

#### \*McHenry(Woodstock)

\* The new 22nd Judicial Circuit (McHenry County) was created by Public Act 93-0541, effective December 4, 2006. Statistical data contained in this publication, with the exception of adult and juvenile probation statistics, includes McHenry County with the 19th Judicial Circuit for all of calendar year 2006. Michael J. Sullivan Chief Judge McHenry County Government Center 2200 N. Seminary Ave. Woodstock, IL 60098

Circuit Population: 312,373 (2006 est.)

#### Circuit Judges:

Michael T. Caldwell, Michael J. Chmiel, Joseph P. Condon, Maureen P. McIntyre, Sharon Prather, Charles P. Weech

#### Associate Judges:

John D. Bolger, Michael W. Feetterer, Gordon E. Graham, Suzanne C. Mangiamele, Robert A. Wilbrandt, Jr., Gerald M. Zopp, Jr.

Circuit Courts

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**



# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

he **Executive Office** is comprised of the Administrative Director, the Executive Assistant to the Director, the Senior Attorney, attorneys, and administrative staff.



Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts Springfield (Photo by Daniels-Ackerman Photography)

Through the Administrative Director, the Executive Office is responsible for coordinating and guiding the operations of each of the divisions of the Administrative Office and serves as a central resource for the multitude of operational issues which impact the administration of the judicial branch.

The **Executive Office**, on behalf of the Supreme Court, also manages and coordinates liaison activities with executive and legislative branch officials and agencies. One of the major duties performed for the Supreme Court is the consideration of non-routine administrative matters, which are presented during each of the Court's terms. The Administrative Director, in collaboration with the Chief Justice, prepares and presents the agenda issues to the Court for discussion and disposition. Agenda items approved by the Court for action are then implemented by the Director through the Executive Office.

The Executive Office plans and directs Administrative Office staff support for the Supreme Court Committees and the Committees of the Illinois Judicial Conference. The study and recommendations which flow from each Judicial Conference Committee to the Supreme Court greatly impact matters related to improving the administration of justice in Illinois. Consistent with the Court's increased reliance on the work of the Judicial Conference committees to examine, for the Court's consideration, matters of judicial branch policy and practice, the Court again assigned specific tasks and projects to each Judicial Conference Committee in 2006. The Administrative Director assigns senior level staff with subject matter

expertise to serve as liaisons to assist each committee in their assignments.

In 2006, the Executive Office, in its administration of Rule 39 (Appointment of Associate Judges) on behalf of the Supreme Court, conducted twenty-two associate judge elections in fourteen of Illinois' twenty-three judicial circuits. Further, in 2006, the Executive Office scheduled and finalized procedural and logistical components for administering the 2007 quadrennial reappointment process of all eligible Illinois associate judges. The Executive Office also processes applications filed under Supreme Court Rule 295, which concerns the assignment of associate judges to felony jurisdictions. Additionally, applications for licenses issued to those law students seeking to provide limited legal representation under Supreme Court Rule 711 are processed through the Executive Office.

In response to the legislative creation of the Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit, in which the County of McHenry become a new, single county circuit effective December 4, 2006, the Executive Office coordinated a series of planning and preparation meetings with the new circuit's administrative staff. Specifically, administrative and programmatic matters, including such issues as judgeships, court management resources and structure, and the operation of mandatory arbi-

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE DIRECTORY

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director Michael Tardy, Executive Assistant Marcia M. Meis, Senior Attorney

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE DIVISIONS**

Court Services Division James W. Redlich Assistant Director Judicial Education Division Lisa Jacobs Assistant Director

Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS) Skip Robertson, Assistant Director Cheryl Barrett Assistant Director

Probation Services Division

Administrative Services Division Kathleen L. O'Hara, Assistant Director

#### Administrative Office - Chicago

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tration, were reviewed and managed as a component of the very successful transition.

Other matters which fall within the scope of the Executive Office's activities include securing and tracking legal representation through the Office of the Attorney General for members of the judicial branch named in a case or controversy arising out of the performance of their official duties. Executive Office staff also negotiates, prepares, and manages office leases and contracts for the Supreme and Appellate Courts, mandatory arbitration programs, and the Administrative Office.

All vendor contracts generated by the Administrative Office for use in securing goods and services are reviewed and approved by the Executive Office. Written summaries of recent Supreme Court opinions are prepared by legal staff within the Executive Office for distribution to all Illinois Judges. Additionally, the Executive Office provides secretariat services to the Illinois Courts Commission, including filing and preservation of Commission records, distributing the Official Illinois Courts Commission Reports, and performing all other duties typically executed by a clerk of a court of record. Executive Office staff also prepares and executes grants which provide for programming funded through the Lawyers' Assistance Program Act.

In 2006, the Administrative Director reconvened the Probation Funding Task Force, which consists of judicial, probation and county government representatives from all five court districts. The Task Force is recharged to discuss and offer recommendations on probation plans and programs, including efforts to maximize revenue to counties from federal sources for state probation reimbursement.

Finally, in 2006, the Administrative Director, in the management of Illinois' Court Improvement Program (CIP), obtained two new federal grants directed to the development of an automated, case specific, data system and expanded training opportunities for all key stakeholders in the child protection arena. The CIP is a federally funded initiative, created by Congress in 1995, to assist state courts in strengthening and advancing systemic efforts to improve outcomes for families and children subject to abuse, neglect and dependency proceedings. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services annually distributes federal funds to each state's highest court. Since Federal Fiscal Year 2000, the Administrative Office has administered the CIP on behalf of the Supreme Court of Illinois.



Inside the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

The Administrative Services Division consists of five units that provide technical and support services to the judicial branch: Budget, Vouchering, Payroll, Human Resources, and Mail/Reprographics. The Budget Unit works closely with the Administrative Director to develop the judicial branch budget. Staff of this unit also provide daily accounting of expenditures and projected operating costs./ The Accounting Unit processes all payment vouchers for the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court, the state-paid functions of the circuit courts, and the Administrative Office. The Accounting Unit also maintains all financial records for the expenditure of resources appropriated by the General Assembly. Staff of this unit work closely with staff of the Comptroller's Office to reconcile payment information and provide that office any additional information needed to facilitate the payment of judicial branch bills. The Payroll Unit maintains all payroll records for the current state-paid judicial branch employees, as well as records for all previous employees. Staff of this unit also work with the Office of the Comptroller in processing the payroll for over 1,500 current judicial branch employees, as well as interact with personnel within the Department of Central Management Services (CMS) in the coordination of employee benefit programs, including health, dental and life insurance. The Human Resource Unit provides personnel services to judicial branch employees and managers. Staff within this unit maintain comprehensive attendance records for all judicial personnel covered by the Supreme Court's Leave of Absence Policies and assist individuals with questions regarding the associated paid and

unpaid leave of absences. Staff interact with CMS personnel to coordinate the state's workers' compensation program, and also work with judical branch employees and managers in administering the judical branch's classification and compensation plan. When requested, staff also assist judicial branch managers in recruitment and selection process, including the placement of advertisements, the dissemination, collection, and review of applications, administering proficiency testing and securing The Mail/ reference checks. Reprographics Unit oversees the distribution of mail and parcel the Administrative Office.

services for the Administrative Office. Computerized records are maintained in order to track packages. The Unit also coordinates copying and mailing of large objects. Acting as its own printing shop, staff review materials presented for copying and determine the best method to replicate the originals.

The Court Services Division is involved in a wide range of activities and projects affecting judges, circuit clerks, and other components of the judicial branch of government. Ongoing responsibilities include staffing Supreme Court and the Judicial Conference committees, as well as the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges, the production of the Judicial Conference Report, and the production of this annual report. The Division also provides legislative support services to the Supreme Court, and prepares legislative summaries for the Chief Circuit Judges and Circuit Clerks. Division staff serve as liaison for courtannexed mandatory arbitration programs and mediation programs. Division labor relations staff represents judicial employees in collective bargaining for approximately 40 contracts. As a result of the passage of Public Act 93-541, which became effective December 4, 2006, the division provided assistance in the creation of the new twenty-second judicial circuit (McHenry County). Additionally, under Supreme Court Rule 58, the seventeenth and twenty-first judicial circuits completed a voluntary judicial performance evaluation. In 2006, Court Services staff processed 88 applications for membership into the Capital Litigation Trial Bar as well as 20 applications for certification as an approved provider of programs for Continuing Legal Education Programs required by Supreme Court Rule 714(g). The Division also processed the removal of 57 members of the Capital Litigation Trial Bar for failure to comply with continuing education requirements and assisted in the appointments of new members to all of the Capital Litigation Trial Bar Screening Panels. Division staff continued to manage all technical, fiscal and program components of the federally-funded statewide Court Improvement Program (CIP) for child welfare. CIP has now greatly expanded with the addition of two new grant awards – one for training and one for data collection and analysis.

The Court Services Division continues to serve as liaison to the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges Ad Hoc Committee on the Article V Rules, which includes staffing support for the Article V Subcommittee on Bonds, Fines, and Court Appearances. The Division provides a wide range of guidance and technical support services to circuit clerks and their staff. The Division staffs the Oversight Board for Continuing Education of the Illinois Association of Court Clerks which sponsored two educational programs for circuit clerks and their staff and administered and monitored the New Clerk Mentor Program. Two updates of the Manual on Recordkeeping were completed and distributed, electronically, to Chief Circuit Judges and Circuit Clerks. The Division along with the Court Information System Technology Advisory Committee (CISTAC) continues to update Automated Disposition Reporting procedures, the AOIC Data Dictionary,

and the Civil Procedure Manual. The Supreme Court approved the Electronic Business Initiative which will provide the framework to define specific statewide e-Business services that would benefit and promote the continued growth of electronic business initiatives in the trial courts. The Electronic Filing Pilot Project was expanded to include Cook and Will Counties in 2006. Additionally, DuPage County was approved to expand their e-Filing Pilot by including additional case types. On December 20, 2006, the Supreme Court entered

an order establishing "Standards for Accepting Electronic Pleas of Guilty in the Illinois Courts Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 529" to maintain the orderly development of practices and procedures for electronically accepting voluntary pleas of quilty from offenders in minor traffic and conservation offenses. The Division supplied merged jury lists to 98 counties along with petit juror and grand jury handbooks to the counties requesting them. The Division continues to manage the Offense Code Table (OFT) as a method of identifying offenses reported through the Automated Disposition Reporting (ADR) Program. ADR currently processes traffic and criminal dispositions from 79 counties statewide. A supplemental DUI update of the OFT was released in January 2006. A complete updated table was issued in July of 2006. Over 2.3 million records of individual offender sentencing data collected through the ADR Program were assembled and provided to the CLEAR (Criminal Law Edit, Alignment and Reform) Commission to assist their efforts in reforming the Code of Corrections. In order to ensure ongoing repairs and renovations of state owned facilities used by the judicial branch, the Division also assisted the Director in formulating a long-range capital development plan.

The **Judicial Education Division** oversees the development of judicial education resources to ensure that Illinois judges may develop and enhance the knowledge and skills they need to be effective jurists. To do so, the Division provides extensive guidance and administrative support to the Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on



Inside the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts

Education, the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases, the Judicial Mentor Committee and other committees or groups convened for the purpose of developing judicial education resources. In 2006, the Supreme Court promulgated Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) requirements for all Appellate, Circuit and Associate judges. In response, the Division guided development of a new 30 hour curriculum for the Education Conference, to be presented to all Illinois judges beginning in 2008, as well as the planning for the preparation of "judicial benchbooks" in six distinct topics or areas of Illinois law. To prepare for implementation, the Division also worked closely with the Committee on Education to enhance the judicial education needs assessment processes in place and to improve faculty recruitment and development efforts. The Division also planned and coordinated the 2006 Education Conference, attended by Illinois' more than 900 judges, oversaw presentation of the annual seminar series, comprised of six regional (2 day) seminars and two mini (1 day) seminars, presented the annual New Judges Seminar and conducted a Faculty Development Workshop for judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. In addition to its work with the Committee on Education, the Division also assists the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases in presenting two Capital Cases Seminars each year for Illinois judges hearing death penalty cases, in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 43. The Division also staffs the Judicial Mentor Committee and administers the Judicial Mentoring Program, which provides an experienced judicial mentor for all new Illinois judges taking the bench. Lastly, the Division collaborates with other Divisions of the Administrative Office to develop customized judicial education programs on such topics as effective child protection practices, at risk youth and families in the justice system and evidencebased practices to reduce recidivism of adult and juvenile offenders.

The Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS) Division was established in the early 1980's to support the technical needs of the Supreme and Appellate Courts of Illinois. At that time, the primary objective was the development of an automated case management and docketing system for the review courts. A mainframe platform using proprietary, customized software captured and reported case information to users throughout the state. Currently, JMIS is organized into four groups within the division that provide technology to the offices and staff of the Illinois Supreme and Appellate Courts, the Supreme Court supporting units, and divisions within the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. The Application group is responsible for the design, development and support of enterprise database applications. JMIS' Internet Services group designs and maintains the Illinois Court website (www.state.il.us/court), uses Internet technologies to improve the exchange of information, and is involved with the technical review of electronic business projects in the trial courts. JMIS' User Services group staffs the division's help desk, provides telecommunication services, inventory management of IT equipment, and database administration. The Hardware/Software group manages the Court's local and wide area networks, personal computers, printers, network and security administration, and supports the digital recording systems installed in more than two hundred trial court courtrooms. The Court's database environment consists of an IBM RS/6000 system running IBM's AIX Unix operating system which supports Progress client-server applications. In 2005, a Dell/Oracle RAC clustered database platform was installed to support high-end applications and data warehouse repositories. An Oracle 10g Application Server was also installed to provide support for web-based application and development tools. Technology projects anticipated for JMIS include continued support of the Supreme Court digital recording initiative, which captures a digital audio record of trial court hearings, development of new enterprise database applications, and improvements to the infrastructure used throughout the judiciary. JMIS participates in the work of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IIJIS), the Clerks Information System Technical Advisory Committee (CISTAC), is a liaison for the Illinois Judicial Conference Automation and Technology Committee and the Supreme Court Committee to Study Courtroom and Judicial Safety.

The **Probation Services Division** provides services to Chief Judges and their probation staff in all circuits. The Probation and Probation Officer Act, at 730 ILCS 100/15(1), states: "The Supreme Court of Illinois may establish a Division of Probation Services whose purpose shall be the development, establishment, promulgation, and enforcement of uniform standards for probation services in this State, and otherwise carry out the intent of this Act." Consistent with its statutory responsibility, the mission of the Probation Division is to improve the quality, effectiveness, and professionalism of probation services in Illinois. In carrying out this mission, the Division's monitoring, standard-setting, and technical assistance activities extend to all aspects of the administration and operation of Illinois probation and court services departments. These activities include the administration of state reimbursement to counties for probation services, review and approval of annual probation plans submitted by each department, collection and analysis of statewide probation data, administration of probation employment and compensation standards, development and implementation of effective correctional intervention strategies for offenders on probation, monitoring and evaluation of probation programs and operations, administration of the interstate compact for probationers transferring into or out of the state, design and delivery of basic and advanced training for probation personnel, and provision of technical assistance and staff support to circuit courts to improve the administration and operation of probation services in Illinois. In 2006, the Division continued its efforts to improve probation practices and outcomes through the implementation of evidence-based practices. These research based practices provide a framework for greater public safety through reducing the risk of re-offending by

offenders sentenced to probation. During this year, over 466 adult probation officers and managers were trained on the Effective Casework Model which incorporates the Level of Service Inventory, an advanced offender risk and needs assessment tool. The Division proceeded working with the National Institute of Corrections and the Crime and Justice Institute on a research project developing intermediate and outcome measures for six probation and court service departments to measure the efficacy of probation practices and programs. Specialized training events were held throughout Illinois for probation officers and service providers to promote increased collaboration on developing effective case plans and correctional treatment interventions to reduce offender recidivism. The Division, in collaboration with the University of Illinois at Springfield, worked to enhance the basic training curricula for new adult, juvenile and detention officers. In addition, Division staff have been in the process of planning the delivery of cognitive behavioral programming for adult and juvenile probation officers scheduled for the Spring of 2007. Quality assurance has been another major focus during 2006. An auditing Field Book has been created for Division field staff as a tool to assess probation and court services departments' compliance with the standards and the implementation of evidencebased practices.



Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts





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