ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ILLINOIS COURTS

ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY
2003
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Front Cover: "Law and Knowledge" by Charles J. Mulligan (1866-1916) One of two statues facing visitors as they enter the main (north) entrance of the Supreme Court Building in Springfield. Born in Ireland, Mr. Mulligan arrived in Chicago in 1872 with his father, James. He got his start as a sculptor by modeling clay dug from the Illinois & Michigan Canal, later working as a marble-cutter in Chicago. He studied under Lorado Taft at the Art Institute of Chicago and Alexander Faleuiere in Paris, France. He succeeded Taft as the head of the department of sculpture at the Institute and served in that role until his death. Some of his other works appear in Garfield Park, Chicago ("Lincoln as a Railsplitter" and his statue of John F. Finnerty); Riverview Park, Quincy (General George Rogers Clark statue); and Rosemond Grove Cemetery, Rosamond ("Lincoln the Orator"). "Law and Knowledge" and the other statue "Justice and Power" were completed sometime between 1908 and 1910.

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Letter of Transmittal


The Administrative Office is indebted to the clerks of the supreme, appellate, and circuit courts for their assistance in supplying the statistical information provided herein. I also wish to express my gratitude to all who contributed to the development and preparation of this Report. While the upcoming year presents broad challenges to the Judicial Branch, including effective stewardship of limited fiscal resources, the judges and employees of the Illinois courts remain committed to providing the highest level of judicial services to the people of Illinois in 2004.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director
Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts
As I near the mid-point of my three year term as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, it is my privilege to present, on behalf of the Illinois Judicial Branch, the 2003 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts. This report provides an overview of the Illinois Judicial Branch, summarizes major Supreme Court projects initiated during calendar year 2003, reviews the work of the Illinois Judicial Conference and the Court's several committees, and presents a general overview of the funding and operations of the judicial system. Included in the Report is a brief overview of the various divisions and functions of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, which serves as the Supreme Court's administrative arm.

As one of the three pillars of government defined by the Illinois Constitution, the Illinois Judicial Branch is vital to the social well-being of the people of Illinois. I am pleased to report that the Illinois Judicial Branch is strong, and has persevered despite this current time of fiscal shortages and budget cuts. The Judicial Branch, with its state fiscal year 2004 appropriation less than funds actually expended in fiscal year 2002, continues to respond effectively to ever increasing responsibilities and to deliver the highest quality of justice. The state appropriation for funding the Courts is less than 1% of the state's total budget. The number of state paid judicial branch employees decreased by almost 9% this year, some as a result of the state's offered early retirement incentive, and other positions, including census authorized judgeships, have been left unfilled because of fiscal shortages. However, the total number of annual case filings remains fairly constant. Further, the courts in Illinois, which are among the heaviest dockets in the entire nation, disposed of more than 4.3 million cases in calendar year 2002 - a phenomenal achievement. The Judicial Branch of Illinois continues to share the responsibility for the effective and efficient stewardship of state fiscal resources with the Executive and Legislativie Branches. We stand as an equal partner with our sister branches of government in contributing to the fiscal well-being of our state. It has been offered that the best bridge to the future is one that is anchored in the proven values of the past. For the Illinois Judicial Branch, the value of highest priority is the continued ability to provide the citizens of Illinois a system of justice anchored in integrity and excellence.

Crucial and fundamental to the efficient operation of Illinois' judicial system is a properly functioning administrative component. The Administrative Office, which functions as an arm of the Supreme Court, is charged with implementation of the Court's policies, initiatives and projects. Under the leadership of Director Cynthia Y. Cobbs, the Administrative Office provides technical and administrative support, training, and other court services to all three levels of Illinois courts and serves as liaison to the Court's various committees. The divisions of the Administrative Office, which are described herein, include the Executive Office, Administrative Services, Court Services, Judicial Education, Judicial Management Information Services and Probation Services.

The year 2003 continued a trend of managing and embracing change through progress and innovation for the Illinois Courts. In the continuing response to the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorists' attacks on America, we see many visible changes in our daily lives at Illinois' courthouses. We have stepped-up security and implemented new routines for such tasks as how to open the daily mail. In May 2003, the Supreme Court approved amendments to Supreme Court Rule 76, Military Service of Judges. The amended Rule permits a 12 month period during which judges, who have been called to actively serve our nation's military, can preserve the rights and benefits attendant to the office of judge.

Technology and public access to the courts and to court records continue to be important issues for the Supreme Court to oversee and manage. With few exceptions, Illinois courtrooms are open to the public,
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

and records of court proceedings are generally of public record. Since the Supreme Court's order in 2002 authorizing electronic access to circuit court records, Illinois' citizens have been provided a convenient means to access information even if away from the courthouse. Concomitantly, the Court's order protects the privacy of identifiable interests. As more court records are automated, the Court will continue its vigilance to maintaining the correct balance between privacy considerations and the right of access.

In that regard, advancement in audio and video technology available in portable electronic devices, such as cell phones and laptops, required amendments to Supreme Court Rule 63A(7). The rule, which prohibits the broadcasting, televising or photographing of court or recess proceedings in the trial courts unless authorized by order of the Supreme Court, has been expanded to resolve concerns about unauthorized use of technology in the courtroom. While the court proceedings are open to the public, the instant transmission of spoken words and/or the visual record of proceedings impinges, not only on the personal privacy rights of those engaged in the courtroom, but on the truth-seeking process itself.

In 2002, the Court also authorized the Policy for Implementation of Electronic Filing Pilot Projects in Illinois' trial courts. In September 2003 the Court approved the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit (DuPage County) as the first pilot site for electronic filing. DuPage County, which was the first jurisdiction to submit a pilot proposal, will be working closely with the Administrative Office regarding this initiative. Electronic filing pilot proposals from several other jurisdictions are anticipated to be submitted for approval in calendar year 2004. The use of technology in the courts in the 21st Century is expanding, as it should be, to mutually benefit the public and the judiciary.

The implementation of digital electronic recordation in the circuit courts continued its rapid growth in 2003. New and/or expanded digital systems were installed in Calhoun, Champaign, DeKalb, Jersey, Madison, Massac, McHenry, St. Clair and Will counties, and soon will include the juvenile division of the Cook County Circuit Court. Further, twenty-nine counties have submitted requests to initiate or expand digital recordation systems. The continued expansion of digital recording moves the Court closer to its goal of providing a record in every courtroom, thereby enhancing the entire Illinois court system. The Court also approved the Administrative Regulations for court reporting services in 2003 which provide a comprehensive policy for the work, work rules, essential functions and training for these employees of the Supreme Court.

In 2001 the Supreme Court established a Special Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism. Since its inception, the Committee's work has continued to meet its charge of promoting respectful conduct, as the norm within the legal profession. For 2003, the Court authorized the Committee to conduct orientations in all Illinois law schools. Various justices of the Supreme Court, or representatives of the Supreme Court, joined these events and administered professional oaths to incoming first year law students. The Committee has received strong support from the deans of the nine Illinois law schools. The Committee on Professionalism's sub-committee on Town Meetings and Symposia, in coordination and cooperation with the Illinois State Bar Association, initiated its series of regional meetings throughout the State of Illinois. The specific purpose of these meetings is to raise the consciousness of the bench and bar about professionalism within the legal community.

On January 29, 2002 the Supreme Court established a special committee to study child custody, termination of parental rights, and adoption issues. Public hearings were held by the Committee in 2002
and 2003 in such topical areas as Termination of Parental Rights, Dissolution of Marriage and general custody issues. The culminating event of the Committee's work will be the promulgation of comprehensive rules intended to expedite judicial proceedings in child custody cases.

The Court continued its focus on prioritizing the role of the judiciary in the management of child abuse and neglect cases. In order to establish a statewide and uniform manner to count juvenile abuse, neglect and dependency cases, in September 2003 the Court authorized the Administrative Office to initiate the method of "one child - one case" number system in the Illinois juvenile courts. This uniformity in case identification and counting will provide the foundation for the development of an automated court performance measurement system in the abuse and neglect courts of Illinois. Through the Administrative Office, in consultation with the Judicial Advisory Committee to Illinois' Court Improvement Program (CIP), the Court moved forward in its purposeful distribution of resources from this federally funded initiative. A statewide juvenile law colloquium and over a dozen local "best practices" initiatives were funded, or approved for funding, in 2003. Further, in response to an invitation from the state's child welfare agency, select representatives of the Illinois Judicial Branch participated in interviews as a component of Illinois' September 2003 Child and Family Services Federal Review. On-going collaboration remains a goal of this initiative as Illinois crafts its required "Program Improvement Plan" to be filed by the state's child welfare agency.

The Court's ongoing development of web technology in 2003 further enhanced the efficiency of the Illinois court system. The Court's web site (www.state.il.us/court), introduced in 2000, is continually updated and improved to provide more information on the judicial branch and additional links to numerous legal or justice resources and organizations. Recent statistics reveal that more than 50,000 people visit the Court's web site per month. Enhancements in 2003 included new postings of the following items on the web site:

- The Court's 2002 Annual Report
- Notices of Public Hearings and agendas for Supreme Court Committees and Commissions
- Application for Certificate of Registration under Supreme Court Rule 721
- Application for certificates as Supreme Court Rule 711 Senior Law Student or Law School Graduate
- New pattern jury instructions

The Court remained dedicated to prioritizing and providing comprehensive judicial education resources in 2003. Nearly 600 Illinois judges attended one or more of the Committee on Education's fourteen seminars in 2003. Seventy-four judges attended the week long Advanced Judicial Academy in June 2003, at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign. The topic, "Taking Facts Seriously," presented participants with an in-depth exploration of the various dynamics that affect the job of determining facts in a court of law. The Court also presented, through the Committee on Education, a week-long New Judge Seminar, designed to assist all new judges in the critical transition from attorney to jurist. New judges also received individual support and supervision through the mentoring program for new judges, overseen through the Court's Judicial Mentor Committee. In 2003, the Court also finalized plans for the agenda and curriculum for the two sessions of the 2004 Education Conference, which bi-annually draws over 800 Illinois judges to timely educational workshops and training seminars. The Court will continue to provide critical ongoing judicial education opportunities in 2004 through the annual seminar series as well as the aforementioned Education Conference.
The Court also authorized the design and delivery of judicial education opportunities in the arena of multi-disciplinary training for the effective management of "problem-solving courts". Specifically, "problem-solving courts," or more precisely, a problem-solving approach to certain cases, has shown evidence of more effective outcomes in such areas as drug addiction and mental illness. In June 2004, as coordinated by the Administrative Office, a Critical Issues in Drug Courts Conference is being offered to judges throughout the state who are either managing drug courts or contemplating the implementation of one.

The Illinois Judicial Branch administers the state's probation system. Probation continues to prioritize the application of evidenced-based practices through strategies that reduce offender risk, protect and restore communities and victims, and promote competency development and pro-social attitudes, values, beliefs and behaviors in the over 100,000 Illinois adults and juveniles who are being supervised on active caseloads. Further, to help promote and accelerate organizational development and change for the delivery of evidenced-based probation programs in Illinois' twenty-two trial courts, in 2003 the National Institute of Corrections identified Illinois, through the Administrative Office, as one of two states (Maine also was selected) to be awarded a three year technical assistance project to assist in implementing systemic changes. In 2003, the Judicial Branch also continued its further commitment to programs and practices that provide alternatives to detention for lower risk juveniles.

I invite you to review the work of the Illinois Judicial Branch and the Administrative Office as contained in the 2003 Annual Report. Finally, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Administrative Office, committee members, and to all who have assisted with the numerous projects and initiatives featured herein. I am confident that these ongoing efforts, which are anchored in our values of integrity and excellence, will prove to be a sturdy and reliable bridge to the future.

Mary Ann G. McMorrow
Chief Justice
January 30, 2004

Honorable Michael J. Madigan               Honorable Emil Jones, Jr.
Speaker of the House                      President of the Senate
House of Representatives                  State Senate
Springfield, Illinois 62706                Springfield, Illinois 62706

Honorable Tom Cross                        Honorable Frank C. Watson
Republican Leader                         Republican Leader
House of Representatives                  State Senate
Springfield, Illinois 62706                Springfield, Illinois 62706

Gentlemen:

Attached is the 2003 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. In addition, this Report includes a summary of selected Supreme Court decisions which are offered for the General Assembly's consideration. In offering these matters for the Legislature'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.

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. On October 23-24, 2003, the Judicial Conference was convened to consider the aforementioned committees' reports and recommendations. Those reports detailed initiatives undertaken by the respective committees during conference year 2003. This Annual Report summarizes those initiatives, which also foretell of the projects and goals anticipated to be undertaken by the conference committees in 2004.

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 court system is meeting the needs of our citizens.

On behalf of the Court, I respectfully submit the Supreme Court's 2003 Annual Report to the General Assembly.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann G. McMorrow
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Illinois
The 50th annual meeting of the Illinois Judicial Conference was held October 23-24, 2003, in Chicago. The Conference, which is authorized by Article VI, section 17 of the Illinois Constitution, is charged to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice. Conference membership includes the seven Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois, as well as judicial officers from each of Illinois' five judicial districts.

The work of the Conference is ongoing, conducted throughout the year, largely through the efforts of seven separately 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 various committee rosters include appellate, circuit and associate judges who serve as full Judicial Conference members. The committees are assisted in their work by non-Judicial Conference judges, attorneys, and law professors, who are appointed by the Supreme Court to serve as either associate members or advisors.

The Executive Committee, which is authorized by Supreme Court Rule 41, acts on behalf of the Conference when it is not in session. This Committee is comprised of fourteen judges, six from the First Judicial District (County of Cook) and eight from the remaining four judicial districts, and is chaired by the Chief Justice. 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.

Day one of the 2003 Annual Meeting commenced with a Conference luncheon in which members of the Conference were joined by associate members and advisors. The Honorable Mary Ann G. McMorrow, presiding over the Conference for the second time in her capacity as Chief Justice, welcomed the attendees and also recognized the presence of current members of the Supreme Court as well as retired Supreme Court Justices Benjamin K. Miller, John L. Nickels, and Seymour Simon. Chief Justice McMorrow also praised the work of the Conference members and committees for their public service and dedication to improving the administration of justice in Illinois.

In sum, Chief Justice McMorrow reflected on the profound changes that our society was experiencing in the post September 11th attacks. She suggested that although the changes that confront Illinois judges create challenges, they need not immobilize the judiciary. Judges must remain open to change because, often, it is the element of change which bears the fruit of opportunity and growth. As the “Third Branch” of government, the judiciary not only embrace change, but serve as catalysts for change.

Chief Justice McMorrow offered observations on a range of judicial activities that have demonstrated leadership during the conference year: over 800 judicial training slots were filled by judges attending one or more Judicial Education programs or seminars; the Supreme Court's Committee on Professionalism continues to work to raise the collective consciousness of the bench and bar to promote respectful conduct; technology in Illinois' courts continues to expand with a pilot program on E-filing about to commence; and the increased role of the judiciary in the work with our State's most vulnerable citizens, those children who are the subject of abuse and neglect.

“The Supreme Court shall provide by rule for an annual judicial conference to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice and shall report thereon annually in writing to the General Assembly not later than January 31.” Article VI, Section 17, Illinois Constitution
Finally, the Chief Justice noted that as the “Third Branch” of government, the judiciary is equal not only in authority, but also in the responsibility to work collaboratively with the other branches of government to contribute to the fiscal well-being of the State of Illinois. However, while sharing in the budget “belt-tightening,” the Court cannot compromise its high standards in the efficient administration of the judiciary or in the delivery of justice. To do so would compromise judicial independence, which is the very foundation of our system of justice.

Day one included a half-day dedicated to Conference committee meetings which were devoted in part to finalization of their annual reports and to preliminary planning for Conference year 2004 initiatives. An evening reception concluded the first day activities for the 2003 Judicial Conference.

On day two of the Annual Meeting, Chief Justice McMorrow convened the members for the plenary session. At that time, each of the committees presented their annual reports and recommendations to the full Conference. The following summarizes the written and oral presentations of those reports:

**Automation and Technology Committee.**

During the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee continued to pursue security and technology issues on behalf of the judiciary. The Committee drafted a rule amendment to Supreme Court Rule 63A(7) to include new technology devices in the definitions of broadcasting and televising. Many of the handheld personal data assistants (PDA’s) have the capability to record and transmit from any location, and hence the proposed rule amendment would preclude such items from being activated in Illinois’ courtrooms without authorization of the Supreme Court. The recommendation was forwarded to the Rules Committee in October 2003.

The Committee made a request to the Director of the Administrative Office that documents submitted for inclusion on the Supreme Court’s Web Site be formatted in or accompanied with a document in HTML format. HTML is a native Internet text format which stands for Hypertext Markup Language. The Director forwarded the request to the Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS) Division of the AOIC for review and recommendation. JMIS is responsible for managing the web site. It was determined that limiting electronic submissions to a single format would eliminate the flexibility now enjoyed by the Administrative Office in controlling for the overall appearance and functionality of the Court’s web site. Further, to make electronic submission a requirement of posting could hinder the submission of useful data to be posted to the web site.

Finally, the Committee continued to follow the electronic filing and optical imagery projects being conducted by the Administrative Office, worked on a survey of technology advancements for the judiciary that it hopes to distribute and analyze during the next calendar year, and discussed new technologies becoming available that may affect the judiciary, such as wireless technology and a judicial branch Intranet.

**Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee.**

During the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee monitored both Court-Annexed Mandatory Arbitration Programs and Court-Sponsored Major Civil Case Mediation Programs.
In addition, the Committee met with arbitrator administrators and supervising judges of circuits with mandatory arbitration programs. Topics discussed at the meeting included Supreme Court Rule amendment proposals, good faith participation in arbitration hearings; and several programmatic issues raised by the arbitration administrators and supervising judges.

As a part of this year's activities, the Committee forwarded to the Supreme Court Rules Committee language to amend Supreme Court Rule 94. The amended language proposed to establish check boxes on the Award of Arbitrators form which arbitrators would identify if the litigants in the arbitration process participated in good faith. The proposal was intended to address concerns about certain litigants rejecting awards as a matter of course and not participating throughout the arbitration process in good faith. The Supreme Court approved the amendments with an effective date of December 1, 2003.

The Committee also explored the feasibility of implementing a summary jury trial process in the State of Illinois. Summary jury trials are a specialized process designed to address high-end cases that are more complex and consume disproportionate amounts of court time and resources. The concept of summary jury trials was introduced to the Committee as a topic of discussion to study throughout the remainder of this Conference year and next.

During Conference Year 2004, the Committee plans to explore options for the implementation of summary jury trials as a part of alternative dispute resolution practices. Some of the options may include Supreme Court Rule proposals, enabling legislation or local rule implementation. The Committee will continue to identify and examine other jurisdictions that successfully utilize the summary jury trial process and determine which practices might best accommodate a program in the State of Illinois.

In the area of mediation, the Committee continued to monitor existing Court-sponsored mediation programs and track statistical information to determine program efficacy.

**Study Committee on Complex Litigation.**

During the past Conference year, the Committee met to discuss caselaw developments, new legislation, and rule changes in order to keep the *Illinois Manual for Complex Civil Litigation* and the *Illinois Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation* current. The Committee determined that update and supplemental chapters were necessary for both the civil and criminal manuals. The Committee produced a fourteen-page cumulative update for the civil manual and a supplemental chapter on discovery of business records, joint and several liability, and class action issues. The Committee produced a fifteen-page cumulative update for the criminal manual and a supplemental chapter on sentencing issues. These materials were made available for distribution in CD-ROM format at the Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference.

**Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration.**

In the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee continued its review of probation practices and procedures and its study of youthful offender sentencing programs. The Committee also
continued to monitor the work of the Governor’s Criminal Code Rewrite and Reform Commission. The Committee has prepared findings on the “Broken Windows” approach to probation, reports on specialized programs for domestic violence cases and gang issues, and a preliminary report on sex offender cases.

In 2002, the Committee proposed a new Rule 402A, which would specify the admonishments that must be given when a defendant admits or stipulates to evidence sufficient to find a violation of probation, conditional discharge or court supervision. In Conference Year 2003, the Committee addressed issues raised in the public comments invited by the Supreme Court Rules Committee. The Supreme Court adopted the new Rule in October 2003, effective November 1, 2003.

Committee on Discovery Procedures.

During the Conference year, the Committee considered proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 237, 204, and 206. The Supreme Court Rules Committee’s proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 237 would add a paragraph requiring the appearance of certain individuals and the production of certain documents at expedited hearings. The Committee on Discovery approved the proposal provided that it is limited to a party, as opposed to an officer, director or employee of a party, and to domestic relations cases. The Supreme Court Rules Committee’s proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 204 would create a paragraph to address deposition fees for an independent expert witness. The Committee on Discovery forwarded inquiries regarding the definition of fee and independent expert and the rationale behind the proposed change to the Supreme Court Rules Committee for further clarification. As a final matter, the Committee reconsidered its prior proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 206(c) to eliminate objections, except as to privilege, in discovery depositions, and to require that objections in evidence depositions be concise and state the exact legal basis for the objection. The Committee decided to table this proposed amendment for future discussion given that the current rules address any egregious behavior that might arise at a discovery deposition.

Committee on Juvenile Justice.

During the Conference year, the Committee commenced updating Volume I of the two-set volume of the Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook. Both volumes of the Benchbook are available for distribution through the Resource Lending Library.

The Committee discussed the anticipated 2003 federal review of Illinois’ child and family services system, which includes an analysis of select juvenile court functions in the management of abuse, neglect and dependency cases. During the presentation of the oral comments of the Committee at the Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference, it was noted that Illinois’ federal review was conducted in mid-September 2003. The site work for the review did include personal interviews with select juvenile court judges from the three chosen jurisdictions. Further, while over 35 other states have undergone the federal review, none of them have earned passing grades in the domains that are measured - safety, permanency, and well-being. Illinois’ report, to be issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has yet to be received by Illinois’ child welfare officials. It is anticipated that Illinois, as has occurred with all other jurisdictions that have been reviewed, will not achieve a passing rating. When the report is received, it was noted that there have been discussions to provide for judicial branch participation in the crafting of Illinois’ required program improvement plan that will be filed in response to HHS’s report.
Finally, the Committee also contributed to and served on the faculty of the New Judge Seminar.

Committee on Education.

In June 2003, the Committee oversaw the presentation of the second biennial Illinois Advanced Judicial Academy at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign. The Academy, entitled “Taking Facts Seriously,” was attended by 74 experienced judges from across the state. Developed to provide an intensive five-day educational forum for Illinois judges, the 2003 Academy enabled participants to examine the underpinnings of the rules and principles of evidence and to examine the processes - both legal and cognitive - for determining facts.

In addition to the Academy, the Committee conducted a full schedule of seminars during the 2003 Judicial Conference Year, and also presented a New Judge Seminar and a Faculty Development Workshop for all Illinois judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. The seminar series included nine regional (2 day) seminars and four mini (1 day) seminars.

The Committee on Education worked in collaboration with a special committee developed at the request of the Judicial Mentor Committee to produce a new videotape to train judges to serve as mentors in the New Judge Mentor Program. The videotape was circulated to all judicial circuits in fall 2002.

The Resource Lending Library, which is managed by the Administrative Office, continued to serve as a valued judicial education resource. Loan material available through the library includes videotapes, audiotapes and publications. Permanent use items include seminar reading materials, bench books, manuals, and other materials. The total number of loan and permanent use items distributed to judges in Fiscal Year 2002 was 1063. Four hundred thirty one judges requested one or more items from the library. As in the past, seminar reading materials and informational videotapes were the most requested items.

Supreme Court Decisions Which the General Assembly May Wish To Consider

Amended Attempt Statute is an Unconstitutional Violation of the Proportionate Penalties Clause
In People v. Morgan, S. Ct. Doc. 90891 (January 24, 2003), this court held that the sentencing ranges created by the amended attempt statute (720 ILCS 5/8-4 (West 2000)), which added the “15-20-25 to life” sentencing provisions to the offense of attempted first degree murder, violated the proportionate penalties clause of the Illinois Constitution. The court found that persons whose actions are identical may be exposed to vastly disparate sentences depending on whether the victim lives or not, and the person who fails to kill his victim stands to be sentenced to a much greater sentence than the person who actually causes the death of his victim.

Section 9-3(b) of the Reckless Homicide Statute Held Unconstitutional as Denying Due Process
In People v. Pomykala, S. Ct. Doc. 93089 (January 24, 2003), our court considered whether the presumption contained in section 9-3(b) of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/9-3(b) (West 2000)) is permissive or mandatory, noting that, under Illinois law, all mandatory presumptions are considered per se unconstitutional. The court determined that section 9-3(b) contained language of a mandatory presumption that a reasonable juror could conclude requires a finding of recklessness without any factual connection between the intoxication and the reckless act, unless this presumed connection is disproved. Accordingly, the court held that section 9-3(b) created a mandatory presumption of
recklessness and, consequently, violated the defendant’s due process rights. However, this court also determined that section 9-3(b) may be severed from the remainder of the statute.

**Continued Rejection of Social Host Liability**
In *Wakulich v. Mraz*, S. Ct. Doc. 92128 (February 6, 2003), this court determined that, apart from the limited civil liability provided in the Dramshop Act, there exists no social host liability in Illinois. The court adhered to its decision in *Charles v. Seigfried*, 165 Ill. 2d 482 (1995) and declined to recognize any form of social host liability. The court noted that the legislature continues to debate social host liability and that the legislature is best positioned to determine any change in the statute. A special concurrence suggested that there should be social host liability in situations where an adult social host provides alcohol to a minor who is permitted to become intoxicated and then to drive a vehicle.

**Sex Offender Registration Act - Juvenile Sex Offender**
In *In re J.W.*, S. Ct. Doc. 92116 (February 21, 2003), our court held that a condition of probation that required a 12-year-old boy to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life under the Sex Offender Registration Act (730 ILCS 150/1 et seq. (West 2000)) and that prohibited him from residing in his community is constitutional; however, a condition of probation that prohibited a 12-year-old boy from visiting his community under any circumstances is unconstitutional. The court found that there is a rational relationship between the registration of juvenile sex offenders and the protection of the public from such offenders. The court also found that a residency restriction is a reasonable condition of probation. Nevertheless, the court determined that banishing a 12-year-old boy from entering his community for any purpose is an unconstitutionally over broad restriction on his exercise of his fundamental rights. A special concurrence invited the legislature to reconsider the wisdom of imposing lifetime registration on juveniles, particularly juveniles under the age of 13. A partial dissent contended that subjecting juvenile delinquents to a lifetime registration requirement violates principles of substantive due process because it is an unreasonable method of accomplishing the state’s desired objective.

**Section 10(a) of the Public Employee Benefits Act is Ambiguous**
In *Krohe v. City of Bloomington*, S. Ct. Doc. 94112 (March 20, 2003), this court considered the meaning of the phrase “catastrophic injury” contained in section 10(a) of the Public Employee Benefits Act (820 ILCS 320/10 (West 2000)). Concluding that the phrase is ambiguous, the court looked to the statute’s legislative history and debate. The court determined that the history indicated the legislature’s intent to define a “catastrophically injured” policeman or firefighter as one who has been forced to take a line-of-duty disability due to injuries. Accordingly, the court construed the phrase “catastrophic injury” as synonymous with an injury resulting in a line-of-duty disability under section 4-110 of the Illinois Pension Code.

**Section 4-103.2(b) of the Illinois Vehicle Code, as it Applies to Special Mobile Equipment, Violates Due Process**
In *People v. Greco*, S. Ct. Doc. 89940 (May 8, 2003), this court held that section 4-103.2(b) of the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 4-103.2(b) (West 2000)) is unconstitutional as it applies to special mobile equipment. The court concluded that it violated due process by removing the requirement that a piece of special mobile equipment be recently stolen in order for possession of the equipment to give rise to an inference that the possessor knows that the equipment was stolen.

**Involuntary Commitment under the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code**
In *In re James E.*, S. Ct. Doc. 93608 (May 22, 2003), this court considered whether a hospital
not owned and operated by the State of Illinois can initiate a petition for involuntary commitment against one of its voluntary mental health patients, who has not requested a discharge in writing, to facilitate transferring the patient to a state facility. The court determined that the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code (Code) (405 ILCS 5/1-100 et seq. (West 2000)) fails to address a situation in which a nonstate hospital cannot continue to treat a voluntary patient already admitted to the facility but in need of continued treatment. The court therefore held that when a nonstate hospital can no longer adequately treat a voluntarily admitted patient, discharge from the nonstate hospital and the immediate initiation of an involuntary commitment proceeding to a state hospital pursuant to article VI of the Code (405 ILCS 5/3-600 et seq. (West 2000)) serves to ensure that a patient received necessary and adequate treatment. The court concluded that a written request for discharge was not necessary under these limited circumstances.

Section 11-20.1(f)(7) of the Illinois Child Pornography Statute Declared Unconstitutional

In People v. Alexander, S. Ct. Doc. 93952 (May 22, 2003), our court held that section 11-20.1(f)(7) of the Illinois child pornography statute (720 ILCS 5/11-20.1(f)(7) (West Supp. 2001)), which targeted virtual and pandered child pornography, is unconstitutional because it has the same language as a federal statute found to be unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition, 535 U.S. 234 (2002). The court further held, however, that this section is severable from the remainder of the statute.

Auditing Act - Use of Funds in the Operation of Chicago’s Airports

In City of Chicago v. Holland, S. Ct. Doc. 90585 (June 19, 2003), our court determined that the audit of the City’s airports, pursuant to a 1995 amendment to section 3-1 of the Illinois State Auditing Act (30 ILCS 5/3-1 (West 2000)), was improper. The court explained that, because the City’s airports receive no funding from the state treasury, the audit exceeded the Auditor General’s constitutional and statutory authority. The court rejected the Auditor’s argument that the definition of public funds of the state should include federal grants, which the state receives for disbursements to the airports.

Sentencing Enhancements Violate Proportionate Penalties Clause

In People v. Moss et al., S. Ct. Doc. 91012, 91013, 91044, 91045, 91046, 91047, 91048, 91049, 91050, 91051, 91052, 91328 (June 19, 2003), this court considered the sentencing enhancements, commonly referred to as the “15-20-25 to life” provisions, added to certain offenses by Public Act 91-404. The court noted that the less serious conduct proscribed in the Public Act offenses involving possession of a firearm (15 years added) and personal discharge of a firearm (20 years added) is punished more harshly than is the more serious conduct targeted by the statutes for aggravated battery with a firearm and aggravated discharge of a firearm. The court therefore held that the 15 and 20 year enhancements violated the proportionate penalties clause with regard to the statutes for armed robbery, aggravated kidnaping, and aggravated vehicular hijacking.

Sexually Dangerous Persons Act Contains Significant Ambiguities

In People v. Masterson, S. Ct. Doc. 93579 (October 2, 2003), our court held that section 1.01 of the Sexually Dangerous Persons Act (725 ILCS 205/1.01 (West 1998)) meets minimal constitutional standards. The court found that the language of the Act implies that the mental disorder which afflicts the subject of the commitment proceedings must be causally related to the person’s propensity to commit sex offenses, and the requirement that the person has demonstrated that propensity by his or her actions is an important indicator of both mental abnormality or disorder and future dangerousness. By acting upon their propensities, those suffering from mental disorders demonstrate dangerousness and impaired volitional capacity, which are the touchstones for civil commitment under prior precedent. However, the court noted that the Act contains certain significant ambiguities, including failing to specifically address volitional capacity, failing to define the term “mental disorder,” and failing to
provide an explicit standard for gauging the probability or likelihood that the subject of the proceeding will commit sexual offenses in the future. The court resolved such ambiguities by applying the definitions and burden of proof set forth in the Sexually Violent Persons Commitment Act (725 ILCS 270/1 et seq. (West 2000)), which is closely related in subject and proximity to the Sexually Dangerous Persons Act.

**Provision of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act Constitutes Special Legislation**

In *Allen v. Woodfield Chevrolet, Inc.*, S. Ct. Doc. 94814 (October 17, 2003), this court held that amendments to section 10a of the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act (815 ILCS 505/1 et seq. (West 1996)), as contained in Public Acts 87-1140 and 89-144, constituted special legislation on behalf of car dealers and are thus unconstitutional. The court determined that the amendments clearly favor car dealers by putting them on a more advantageous footing than other retailers covered by the Act, thus creating a special class.
STATE
AND
LOCAL
FUNDING
FOR THE
COURTS
STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE COURTS

Financing the state 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, 2003, judicial salaries, as determined by the legislature, were: supreme court justices, $158,103; appellate court judges, $148,803; circuit court judges, $136,546; and associate judges, $127,247. 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 2003, the arbitration filing and rejection fees collected amounted to $5,780,136.

State funding for probation departments currently covers approximately 3,250 probation personnel. Counties are reimbursed for all salaries of approximately half of this number, with the rest reimbursed at the rate of $1,000 per month. At the present time, state funding provides for about 30% 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 below shows the supreme court’s share of the total appropriations for fiscal year 2004 (July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004). The total appropriation was $41,266,657,000. The appropriation for the courts was $301,215,000.

Appropriations for State Agencies
Fiscal Year 2004

Source: Table I-A: Appropriations by Agency, Chapter 11
Governor’s Budget Message to the General Assembly for Fiscal Year 2005
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 2003, the total number of full-time employees in all 102 circuit clerk offices was 3,866, assisted by a total of 240 part-time employees. The cost of operating all circuit clerks' offices totaled $178,297,759 in 2003.

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 2003 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Court Document Storage Fund</td>
<td>is used for any costs relative to the storage of court records.</td>
<td>$11,146,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Automation Fund</td>
<td>is used to establish and maintain automated systems for keeping court records.</td>
<td>$12,261,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Law Library Fund</td>
<td>helps defray the costs of maintaining a law library in the county for judges, attorneys, and the public.</td>
<td>$5,977,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Fund To Finance the Court System</td>
<td>is available from fees collected by circuit clerks to help finance the court system in the county.</td>
<td>$9,668,292</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 03, there were 169 claims due and payable, totaling $16,015.46.

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 2003 by circuit clerks are listed below:

**Drug Treatment Fund:** Court-ordered drug assessments are used to pay for treatment programs for people addicted to alcohol, cannabis, or controlled substances. **$3,491,384**

**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. **$7,418,316**

**Trauma Center Fund:** Fees collected in certain traffic, DUI, and criminal cases are used to support Illinois hospitals that are designated as trauma centers. **$6,344,287**

**Traffic and Criminal Conviction Surcharge:** An additional penalty imposed in traffic and criminal cases is used for training of law enforcement and correctional officers. **$10,026,393**

**Drivers Education Fund:** Penalties and forfeitures in offenses reportable to the Secretary of State are used for driver education programs in high schools. **$5,079,800**

**Child Support and Maintenance**

During 2003, circuit clerks and the State Disbursement Unit collected and distributed **$891,937,244** for child support and maintenance.
The path a case may follow in the process from start to finish can be complicated. The diagram below demonstrates, in general terms, how cases proceed through the state court system.

**SUPREME COURT**
- certain cases from appellate court or circuit courts
- review of death sentences
- 2,967 new cases filed in 2003

**APPELLATE COURT**
- five districts
- appeals from circuits and industrial commission
- may review cases from administrative agencies
- 8,184 new cases filed in 2003

**CIRCUIT COURT**
- 22 circuits for 102 counties
- 1 to 12 counties per circuit
- hears most cases
- may review cases from administrative agencies
- 4.17 million new cases filed in 2003

**CIRCUIT CLERK**
- 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

**ARBITRATION PANELS**
- panels of 3 attorneys - impartial finders of fact and law
- law suits of $20,000 or less in St. Clair County; $30,000 or less in Cook and Will Counties; and $50,000 or less in Boone, Du Page, Ford, Henry, Kane, Lake, McHenry, McLean, Mercer, Rock Island, Whiteside, and Winnebago Counties.

**CASEFLOW**

Illinois 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.

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 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. Supreme and appellate district and circuit maps are found in their respective sections of this publication.
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 her duties. The staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts support 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 twenty-four.

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.
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 Supreme Court of Illinois in 1990 from the First District. Justice Freeman is the first African-American to serve on the Illinois Supreme Court.

Justice Thomas received his Juris Doctor 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 1989-1994. In 1994, Justice 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.

Justice Garman received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1968. She was 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 McMorrow received her law degree from Loyola University, Chicago. Prior to being elected a Circuit Judge in Cook County in 1976, she was engaged in the private practice of law and later appointed an Assistant State's Attorney of Cook County, assigned to the criminal division. She was assigned to the Appellate Court for the First District by the Supreme Court in 1985 and won election to that post in 1986. She was elected to the Illinois Supreme Court in 1992, the first woman to serve on the state's highest court. With her election as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois in May 2002, she became the first woman to head any of the three branches of state government.

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.

Justice Rarick received his law degree from St. Louis University. He engaged in private law practice from 1966 until 1975, during which time he served as a City Attorney, Township Attorney, and Assistant State's Attorney. He assumed judicial office in 1975. He served as a member of the Illinois Courts Commission (1992-99) and alternate member from 1999 to present. He has also served on the Executive Committee of the Illinois Judicial Conference as well as a number of other Judicial Conference Committees in past years. He was elected to the Appellate Court, Fifth District, in 1988 and subsequently was appointed to the Supreme Court of Illinois on September 5, 2002.
SUPPORT STAFF

There 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 a list of attorneys licensed to practice in the state, processes the licensing of attorneys, and coordinates the semiannual attorney admission ceremonies. The clerk also registers and renews legal professional service corporations and associations, 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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supreme Court Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003: 2,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002: 3,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001: 3,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000: 3,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999: 3,231</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2,967 3,310 3,145 2,706 3,122 3,252 3,231 3,524
SUPREME COURT COMMITTEES
Standing committees of the court and chairpersons during 2003

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

Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission...Benedict Schwarz, II, Esq., Chair; Justice Charles E. Freeman, liaison officer. Review Board...Leonard F. Amari, Esq., Chair.

Board of Admissions to the Bar...Professor Randolph N. Stone, President; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

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

Committee on Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases...Judge Lloyd A. Karmeier, Chair; Patrick J. Cotter, Reporter; Professor John F. Erbes, Professor-Reporter; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

Committee on Character and Fitness...Eileen M. Letts, Esq., Chair; Mara S. Georges, Esq., Vice-Chair (First Judicial District); Richard L. Turner, Jr., Esq., Chair; Lamont L. Perington, Esq., Vice-Chair (Second Judicial District); William F. Smith, Esq., Chair; Robert H. Alvine, Esq., Vice-Chair (Third Judicial District); Harold L. Jensen, Esq., Chair (Fourth Judicial District); John H. Leskera, Esq., Chair; Eric M. Rhein, Esq., Vice-Chair (Fifth Judicial District); Justice Robert R. Thomas, liaison officer.

Committee on Professional Responsibility...Donald Hubert, Esq., Chair; Professor Vivien C. Gross, Professor-Reporter; Chief Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow, liaison officer.

Judicial Mentor Committee...Judge Robert L. Carter, Status Member (Chairperson of Chief Judges' Conference); Judge Robert K. Kilander, 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 Donald D. Bernardi, 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; Judge John R. DeLaMar, Reporter; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

Special Supreme Court Committee on Child Custody Issues...Justice Alan J. Greiman, Chair; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald and Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officers.

Special Supreme Court Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service...Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

Special Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism...David F. Rolewick, Esq., Chair; Professor Bruce A. Boyer, Professor-Reporter; Justice Robert R. Thomas, liaison officer.

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

Supreme Court Rules Committee... Patricia C. Bobb, Esq., 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.
**Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee**  
*Judge Lance R. Peterson*  
*13th Circuit Chair*

During the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee monitored both Court-Annexed Mandatory Arbitration Programs and Court-Sponsored Major Civil Case Mediation Programs. In addition, the Committee met with arbitration administrators and supervising judges of circuits with mandatory arbitration programs. Topics discussed at the meeting included Supreme Court Rule amendment proposals; good faith participation in arbitration hearings; and several programmatic issues raised by the arbitration administrators and supervising judges. As part of this year's activities, the Committee forwarded to the Supreme Court Rules Committee language to amend Supreme Court Rule 94. The amended language would establish check boxes on the Award of Arbitrators form which would identify if the litigants in the arbitration process participated in good faith. This proposal addresses a letter submitted to the Committee by former Chief Justice Harrison which he received from a local arbitration program practitioner. The letter cited concerns about certain litigants rejecting awards as a matter of course and not participating throughout the arbitration process in good faith. The Committee also explored the feasibility of implementing a summary jury trial process in the State of Illinois. The concept of summary jury trials was introduced to the Committee as a topic of discussion to study throughout the remainder of this Conference year and next. Summary jury trials are a specialized process designed to address high-end cases that are more complex and consume disproportionate amounts of court time and resources. During Conference Year 2004, the Committee plans to explore options in attempting to implement summary jury trials as part of alternative dispute resolution practices. Some of the options may include Supreme Court Rule proposals, enabling legislation or local rule implementation. The Committee will continue to identify and examine other jurisdictions that successfully utilize the summary jury trial process and determine which practices might best accommodate a program in the State of Illinois. In the area of mediation, the Committee continued to monitor existing Court-sponsored mediation programs and track statistical information to determine program efficacy.

**Study Committee on Juvenile Justice**  
*Judge Patricia Martin*  
*Bishop*  
*Circuit Court of Cook County Chair*

During the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee commenced updating Volume I of the two-volume set of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*. The two-volume set is designed to provide judges with a practical and convenient guide to procedural, evidentiary, and substantive issues arising in Juvenile Court proceedings. Volume I, published in 2000, covers juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of delinquency, minors requiring authoritative intervention (MRAI) and addicted minors. Volume II addresses exclusively proceedings brought in the juvenile court which involve allegations of abuse, neglect and dependency. The Committee monitored the use of the uniform juvenile court orders it designed for use by judges involved in abuse, neglect or dependency proceedings in the Juvenile Court. Each uniform order contains the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' requirements for judicial determinations that a court must make when removing or authorizing removal of a child from his/her parents. The Committee continued to discuss at great length the anticipated 2003 federal review of the Illinois Juvenile Court which will study compliance with federal funding mandates concerning necessary findings in juvenile cases. Individual members for the Committee have been contacted for input into the Illinois Assessment phase of the review. Additionally, the Committee continued its commitment to educating Illinois judges on juvenile law issues by participating in various educational programs and workshops.

**Committee on Discovery Procedures**  
*Judge Joseph N. Casciato*  
*Circuit Court of Cook County Chair*

During the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee considered proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 237, 204, and 206. The Supreme Court Rules Committee’s proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 237 would add a paragraph requiring the appearance of certain individuals and the production of certain documents at expedited hearings. The Committee agreed to the proposed change provided that it is limited to a party, as opposed to an officer, director or employee of a party, and to domestic relations cases. The Supreme Court Rules Committee’s proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 204 would create a paragraph to address deposition fees for an independent expert witness. The Committee decided to forward its inquiries regarding the definition of fee and independent expert and the rationale behind the proposed change to the Supreme Court Rules Committee for further clarification. As a final matter, the Committee reconsidered its prior proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 206(c) to eliminate objections, except as to privilege, in discovery depositions, and to require that objections in evidence depositions be concise and state the exact legal basis for the objection. The Committee decided to table this proposed amendment for future discussion given that the current rules address any egregious behavior that might arise at a discovery deposition.

**The 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.
COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Education is charged by the Supreme Court with developing and providing ongoing judicial education for Illinois judges. The Committee does so within the framework of the Court’s Comprehensive Judicial Education Plan, which recognizes that judicial education is a primary means of advancing judicial competency. In Conference Year 2003, the Committee oversaw the presentation of the second biennial Illinois Advanced Judicial Academy at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign. The Academy, entitled “Taking Facts Seriously,” provided an intensive five-day educational forum for Illinois judges to examine the underpinnings of the rules and principles of evidence and to examine the processes-both legal and cognitive-for determining facts. In addition to the Academy, the Committee conducted a full schedule of seminars during the 2003 Judicial Conference year, and also presented a New Judge Seminar and a Faculty Development Workshop for all Illinois judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. The seminar series included nine regional (2 day) seminars, four mini (1 day) seminars, and the annual seminar addressing judicial management of DUI cases. The Committee on Education also worked in collaboration with the special committee developed at the request of the Judicial Mentor Committee to produce a new videotape to train judges to serve as mentors with the New Judge Mentor Program. The videotape was circulated to all judicial circuits in fall 2002. The Resource Lending Library, overseen by the Committee and operated by the Administrative Office, continued to serve as a valued judicial education resource. Loan material available through the library includes videotapes, audiotapecs and publications. Permanent use items include seminar reading materials, bench books, manuals, and other materials. During the past year, 1063 loan and permanent use items were distributed to judges and an additional 431 judges requested one or more “on-loan” items from the library.

During the 2003 Conference Year, the Committee continued to pursue security and technology issues on behalf of the judiciary. The Committee drafted a rule amendment to Supreme Court Rule 63A(7) to include new technology devices in the definitions of broadcasting and televising. Many of the handheld personal data assistants (PDA’s) have the capability to record and transmit from just about anywhere. The recommendation was forwarded to the Rules Committee who placed it on the agenda for the public hearing in October 2003. The Court adopted the amendment to Rule 63A(7), effective January 1, 2004. Also, the Committee made a recommendation to the Director of the Administrative Office that documents submitted for inclusion on the Supreme Court’s Web Site be formatted in or accompanied with a document in HTML format. HTML is a native Internet text format which stands for Hypertext Markup Language. The Director forwarded it to the Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS) Division for its review and recommendation. JMIS is responsible for managing the web site. Additionally, the Committee continued to follow the electronic filing and optical imagery projects being conducted by the Administrative Office, worked on a survey of technology advancements for the judiciary that it hopes to distribute and analyze during the next calendar year, and discussed new technologies becoming available that may affect the judiciary, such as wireless technology and a judicial branch Intranet.

During the past Conference Year, the Committee met to discuss caselaw developments, new legislation, and rule changes in order to keep the Illinois Manual for Complex Civil Litigation and the Illinois Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation current. The Committee produced a fourteen-page cumulative update for the civil manual and a supplemental chapter on discovery of business records, joint and several liability, and class action issues. The Committee produced a fifteen-page cumulative update for the criminal manual and a supplemental chapter on sentencing issues. The materials for both the civil and criminal manuals also are available on CD-ROM.

The Criminal Law and Probation Administration Committee continued its review of probation practices and procedures during the 2003 Conference Year. Reports on the Broken Windows model of probation, domestic violence programs, sex offender programs and probation programs for gang members were provided to the Conference. The Committee reviewed public comments on its rule proposal (now Supreme Court Rule 402A) regarding admonishments in probation, conditional discharge and court supervision revocation cases. The Committee also considered the work of the Criminal Code Rewrite and Reform Commission, concluding that a different approach was needed in the effort to revise and update the Illinois statutes on criminal law.

Members of the Executive Committee of the Illinois Judicial Conference During 2003

| Chief Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow, Chair |
| Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Secretary |

| Committee on Education |
| Judge Susan F. Hutchinson, Appellate Court 2nd District, Chair |

| Committee on Automation and Technology |
| Judge Robert E. Byrne, Appellate Court 2nd District, Chair |

| Study Committee on Complex Litigation |
| Judge Clyde L. Kuehn, Appellate Court 5th District, Chair |

| Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration |
| Judge Michael P. Toomin, Circuit Court of Cook County, Chair |

Robert P. Bastone, Associate Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County
Joseph F. Beatty, Circuit Judge, 14th Circuit
Timothy C. Evans, Chief Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County
Robert K. Kilander, Chief Circuit Judge, 18th Circuit
John C. Knight, Circuit Judge, 3rd Circuit
Lori D. Kuehn, Circuit Judge, 5th District
Clyde L. Kuehn, Circuit Judge, 14th Circuit

Rita M. Novak, Associate Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County
Stuart A. Nudelman, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County
M. Carol Pope, Circuit Judge, 8th Circuit
Ellis E. Reid, Circuit Judge, Assigned Appellate, 1st District
Stephen A. Schiller, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County
John P. Shonkwiler, Chief Circuit Judge, 8th Circuit
Robert B. Spence, Circuit Judge, 16th Circuit
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.

**Appellate Court Administrative Matters**

**Annual Meeting.** Supreme Court Rule 22(e) provides for a meeting of all judges of the appellate court. The appellate court held its annual meeting in November with Justice Robert P. Cahill presiding as chair. Forty-two appellate judges attended the meeting. Pursuant to amended 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 Anne M. Burke and Kent Slater were elected as regular members. Judges Robert E. Byrne, Sue E. Myrescough and Melissa A. Chapman were elected as alternate members. Justice Clyde L. Kuehn was selected to be the next chair of the Illinois Appellate Court.

**Administrative Committee.** The Appellate Court Administrative Committee, created by order of the supreme court, studies and recommends methods by which the appellate court might improve the court of appeals. The committee sponsored the 2003 Appellate Court Seminar. Forty-two judges attended the one and one-half day seminar. Further, the committee met during the year to consider various matters and plan the 2003 Appellate Court Seminar. Members of the committee include Judges Alan J. Greiman, Robert P. Cahill, Richard P. Goldenhersh, Joseph Gordon, Susan Fayette Hutchinson, Tom M. Lytton (Chair) and John T. McCullough. Justice Rita B. Garman served as the supreme court liaison.
FIRST DISTRICT

Circuit: Circuit Court of Cook County

District Population: 5,350,269 (2001 est.)

APPELLATE JUDGES

DIVISION I
Denise O’Malley,
Presiding Judge
Joseph Gordon
Jill K. McNulty
Margaret S. McBride

DIVISION II
Warren D. Wolfson*,
Presiding Judge
Anne M. Burke
Robert Cahill
Rodolfo Garcia*

DIVISION III
Thomas E. Hoffman++,
Presiding Judge
Shelvin Louise Marie Hall
Themis Karnezis*
Leslie E. South

DIVISION IV
Patrick J. Quinn,
Presiding Judge
Alan J. Greiman*
Allen Hartman
Mary Jane Theis

DIVISION V
Calvin C. Campbell,
Presiding Judge
Neil F. Hartigan
Sheila M. O’Brien
Ellis E. Reid*

DIVISION VI
Margaret O’Mara Frossard*,
Presiding Judge
Michael J. Gallagher
James G. Fitzgerald Smith
John P. Tully

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

---

**Civil Caseload**

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<td>2003</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>2,135</td>
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</table>

**Total Pending Caseload**

All Case Categories (including Industrial Commission Division Cases)

- 2003: 4,691
- 2002: 4,924
- 2001: 5,507
- 2000: 5,023
- 1999: 5,062

---

**First District Court of Appeals**

160 North LaSalle St.
Chicago, IL (60601)
(312) 793-5600

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

---

State of Illinois Building
Completed 1924; remodeled 1992
(Holabird & Root/CDB photo)
SECOND DISTRICT

APPELLATE JUDGES
Susan F. Hutchinson, Presiding Judge
John J. Bowman
R. Peter Grometer*
Frederick J. Kapala*
Barbara Gilleran Johnson

Robert E. Byrne* Thomas E. Callum Robert D. McLaren
Jack O'Malley

*Circuit judge assigned to appellate court

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

District Population:
2,915,572 (2001 est.)

Criminal Caseload

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<td>675</td>
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Second District Courthouse - Elgin
Completed in 1966 (C. Jane Bradley photo)

Civil Caseload**

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<td>717</td>
<td>813</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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Total Pending Caseload

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<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
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<td>1,590</td>
<td>1,626</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,440</td>
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**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases
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
1,640,882 (2001 est.)
FOURTH DISTRICT

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

Darryl Pratscher, Clerk
Shirley Wilgenbusch, Research Director

APPELLATE JUDGES
James A. Knecht, Presiding Judge
Thomas R. Appleton* Robert W. Cook
John T. McCullough Sue E. Myerscough
Robert J. Steigmann John W. Turner

*Circuit judge assigned to the appellate court

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
1,278,043 (2001 est.)

Criminal Caseload

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Total Pending Caseload

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Civil Caseload**

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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>506</td>
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</table>

**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases
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
1,297,535 (2001 est.)

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

APPELLATE JUDGES
Melissa A. Chapman, Presiding Judge
James K. Donovan*
Richard P. Goldenhersh
Terrence J. Hopkins
Clyde L. Kuehn
Gordon E. Maag
Thomas M. Welch

* circuit judge assigned to the appellate court

Criminal Caseload

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<th>Year</th>
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Civil Caseload**

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>584</td>
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Total Pending Caseload

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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>789</td>
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</table>

**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases
The court of "original jurisdiction" is the circuit court. There are twenty-two circuits in the state, three of which are single county circuits (Cook, Will, and Du Page). The remaining nineteen 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 Committees: The committees of the Conference include the Article V Committee, Child Support Committee, Committee to Revise the Chief Circuit Judges' Manual, Juvenile Committee, Long-Range Planning Committee, Prison Committee, Probation Committee and several ad hoc committees convened to study specific, short-term subject matter.

Some of the committee activities from 2003 included the finalization and distribution of an updated Chief Circuit Judges' Manual to all the judicial circuits. Also, the Long-Range Planning Committee was established during 2003 with a charge of creating a mission statement for the Conference, developing a perennial strategic plan and providing a process whereby implementation and constant consideration is given for improving the administration of justice in the trial courts of Illinois. The Prison Committee continued its effort in revising the Handbook on Habeas Corpus and Mandamus and plans to finalize it in early 2004.

During 2003, the Article V Committee, Child Support Committee, Juvenile Committee, and Probation Committee continued to monitor and analyze new legislation and Supreme Court Rules, and provide necessary forms, policy, orders, etc. in accordance with the new provisions.
CASE CATEGORIES

CIVIL: lawsuits for monetary damages; arbitration; small claims (amounts up to $5,000); 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 (petition for order of protection filed separately from an existing case); dissolution (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).
**Total Caseload**

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<tr>
<td>2,071,649</td>
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*Large number includes traffic cases with dispositions of supervision that were previously counted as pending.

**Pending Caseloads**

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<td>23,506</td>
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<td>33,904</td>
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<tr>
<td>17,165</td>
<td>23,506</td>
<td>22,438</td>
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**Associate Judges:**

Robert P. Bastone
Consuelo E. Bedoya-Witt
Helaine L. Berger
J. Martin Berry
Samuel J. Betar III
Adam D. Bourgeois, Jr.
Preston L. Bowie Jr.
William Stewart Boyd
Stephen Y. Broadhay
Michael Brown
Gary L. Brownfield
Abishi C. Cunningham
Noreen M. Daly
Ronald S. Davis
Frank DeBonii
Dennis A. Dernbach
Grace G. Dickler
James G. Donegan
Thomas M. Donnelly
David A. Erickson
James P. Etchingham
Fe’ Fernandez
Gregory R. Ginex
Maxwell Griffin, Jr.
John B. Grogan
Gerald J. Grossi
R. Morgan Hamilton
Miriam E. Harrison
Rosemary Higgins
Arthur F. Hill, Jr.
Earl B. Hoffenberg
Patricia B. Holmes
Ann Houser

James L. Rhodes
Barbara A. Riley
Daniel A. Riley
James G. Riley
Ronald C. Riley
Thomas D. Roti
Maureen Durkin Roy
James T. Ryan
Leida J. Gonzalez Santiago
Drella C. Savage
Stephen A. Schiller
Colleen F. Sheehan
Kevin M. Sheehan
Nancy Drew Sheehan
Lon W. Shultz
Richard A. Siebel
Darryl B. Simko
Henry R. Simmons, Jr.
Karen Thompson Tobin
Mary Maxwell Thomas
Edward Washington, II
Shelley Sutker-Dermer
Gregory J. Wojkowski
E. Kenneth Wright, Jr.
Henry R. Simmons, Jr.
Nancy Drew Sheehan
Maura Slattery Dore
Maureen Durkin Roy
Edward A. Antonetti
James Michael Varga
Edna M. Turkington
Frank G. Zelezinski
Sharon M. Sullivan
Sharon M. Sullivan
Fred G. Suria, Jr.
Donald J. Suriano
Shelley Sutker-Dermer
Rhode Sweeney
William Taylor
Lawrence Terrell
Mary Maxwell Thomas
Karen Thompson Tobin
Amanda S. Toney
Michael P. Toomin
Charles M. Travis
Sandra Trostan
Edna M. Turkington
John D. Turner, Jr.
Valarie E. Turner
Joseph J. Urso
Raul Vega
James Michael Varga
Kenneth J. Wadas
Richard F. Walsh
John A. Ward
Mitchell Ware
Edward Washington, II
Cyril J. Watson
Daniel S. Weber
Alexander P. White
Camille E. Willis
Charles R. Winkler
Gregory J. Wojkowski
E. Kenneth Wright, Jr.
Anthony L. Young
Frank G. Zelezinski
Susan F. Zwick
FIRST CIRCUIT
(Fifth Appellate District)

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

Circuit Judges:
Mark M. Boie, Mark H. Clarke, Ronald R. Eckiss, Terry J.
Foster, Donald Lowery, Paul S. Murphy, Phillip G. Palmer,
Sr., William G. Schwartz, Stephen L. Spomer, Bruce D.
Stewart, William J. Thurston, James R. Williamson

Associate Judges:
Rodney A. Clutts, Kimberly L. Dahlen, Thomas H. Jones,
Everett D. Kimmel, Brocton D. Lockwood, John A. Speroni,
William H. Wilson

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)

Circuit Judges:
Larry O. Baker, David M. Correll, Larry D. Dunn, Don Al
Foster, David K. Frankland, Terry H. Gamber, Bennie Joe
Harrison, Robert M. Hopkins, Loren P. Lewis, Stephen G
Sawyer, Thomas H. Sutton, Barry L. Vaughan, E. Kyle
Vantrease, James M. Wexsten

Associate Judges:
Kathleen M. Alling, Leo T. Desmond, Kimbara Graham
Harrell, James V. Hill, Robert W. Lewis

Total Caseload

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THIRD CIRCUIT
(Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Bond (Greenville)
Madison (Edwardsville)

Edward C. Ferguson
Chief Judge
Madison County Courthouse
155 North Main, #405
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Circuit Population
278,017
(2001 est.)

Circuit Judges:
Nicholas G. Byron, Ann Callis, Phillip J. Kardis, John Knight,
A. Andreas Matoesian, George J. Moran, Jr., Charles V. Romani, Jr., Daniel I. Stack

Associate Judges:
Thomas William Chapman, Barbara L. Crowder, Ellar Duff,
David Keith Grounds, James Hackett, Clarence W. Harrison II,
Lola P. Maddox, Lewis E. Mallott, Ralph J. Mendelsohn,
Nelson F. Metz, Richard L. Tognarelli

Clay County
Louisville
4th Judicial Circuit
(Clay County Photo)

Total Caseload

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Shelby County
Shelbyville
4th Judicial Circuit
(Shelby County Photo)
**FOURTH CIRCUIT**  
(Fifth Appellate District)

**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 Judges:**  
Alan Buck, John P. Coady, Patrick J. Hitpas, Michael P. Kiley,  
Kelly D. Long, Kathleen P. Moran, David L. Sauer, Steven P.  
Seymour, Ronald D. Spears, Sherri L.E. Tungate, Michael R.  
Weber

**Associate Judges:**  
William J. Becker, James J. Eder, James R. Harvey, Mark M.  
Joy, John W. McGuire, Dennis Middendorff, David W. Slater

**Circuit Population:**  
245,958  
(2001 est.)

---

**FIFTH 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:**  
183,476  
(2001 est.)

**Circuit Judges:**  
Claudia J. Anderson, H. Dean Andrews, Dale A. Cini,  
Michael D. Clary, Craig H. DeArmond, Millard Scott  
Everhart, Thomas J. Fahey, Gary W. Jacobs, Tracy W. Resch,  
Mitchell K. Shick

**Associate Judges:**  
James K. Borbely, David W. Lewis, Teresa K. Righter, Joseph  
P. Skowronski, Jr., Gordon R. Stipp

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**Total Caseload**

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**Pending Caseloads**

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**Pending Caseloads**

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**SIXTH CIRCUIT**
(Fourth Appellate District)

**Counties** (seats):
Champaign (Urbana)
DeWitt (Clinton)
Douglas (Tuscola)
Macon (Decatur)
Moultrie (Sullivan)
Piatt (Monticello)

**Circuit Judges:**

**Associate Judges:**

**John P. Shonkwiler**
Chief Judge
Piatt County
Courthouse
Room 306
Monticello, IL 61856

**Circuit Population**
359,824
(2001 est.)

---

**SEVENTH CIRCUIT**
(Fourth Appellate District)

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

**Circuit Judges:**

**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, Stuart H. Shiffman

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**Total Caseload**

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**Pending Caseloads**

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**EIGHTH CIRCUIT**
(Fourth Appellate District)

**Counties (seats):**
- 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 Judges:**
- Dennis K. Cashman
- Richard D. Greenlief
- Bob Hardwick, Jr.
- Alesia A. McMillen
- M. Carol Pope
- Michael R. Roseberry
- Mark A. Schuering
- David K. Slocum
- Scott H. Walden

**Associate Judges:**
- Chellis E. Taylor
- David L. Vancil, Jr.
- Thomas L. Brownfield
Chief Judge
Adams County Courthouse
521 Vermont St.
Quincy, IL 62301

**Circuit Population:**
146,198
(2001 est.)

---

**NINTH CIRCUIT**
(Third Appellate District)

**Counties (seats):**
- Fulton (Lewistown)
- Hancock (Carthage)
- Henderson (Oquawka)
- Knox (Galesburg)
- McDonough (Macomb)
- Warren (Monmouth)

**Ronald C. Tenold**
Chief Judge
130 S. Fayette Street
Suite 30
Macomb, IL 61455

**Circuit Judges:**
- Harry C. Bulkeley
- William D. Henderson
- David R. Hultgren
- Stephen C. Mathers
- James B. Stewart
- David F. Stoverink
- Chellis E. Taylor
- David L. Vancil, Jr.

**Associate Judges:**
- Steven R. Bordner
- John R. Clerkin
- Richard H. Gambrell
- Larry W. Heiser
- Gregory K. McClintock
- Patricia A. Walton

**Circuit Population:**
172,252
(2001 est.)

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**Pending Caseloads**

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TENTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

Counties (scats):
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
335,409
(2001 est.)

Circuit Judges:

Associate Judges:

Total Caseload

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Pending Caseloads

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Cass County
Virginia
8th Judicial Circuit
(Cass County Photo)

Jackson County
Murphysboro
1st Judicial Circuit
(Jackson County Photo)
**ELEVENTH CIRCUIT**
(Fourth Appellate District)

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

**Circuit Judges:**

**Associate Judges:**
Donald A. Behle, William D. DeCardy, Scott D. Drazewski, Charles M. Feeney III, Kevin P. Fitzgerald, Charles H. Frank, Robert L. Freitag, Paul G. Lawrence, Robert M. Travers

**Circuit Population:**
272,116
(2001 est.)

---

**TWELFTH CIRCUIT**
(Third Appellate District)

**County (seat):**
Will (Joliet)

**Circuit Judges:**

**Associate Judges:**

**Circuit Population:**
536,416
(2001 est.)
THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

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

Robert L. Carter
Chief Judge
LaSalle County Courthouse
119 W. Madison, #204
Ottawa, IL 61350

Circuit Population
185,191
(2001 est.)

Circuit Judges:
Marc Bernabei, Eugene P. Daugherty, James A. Lanuti,
Robert C. Marsaglia, Cynthia M. Raccuglia, Howard C.
Ryan, Jr.

Associate Judges:
William P. Balestri, William R. Banich, James L. Brusatte, A.
Scott Madson, Lance R. Peterson

Lee County
Dixon
15th Judicial Circuit
(Lee County Photo)

Total Caseload

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Randolph County
Chester
20th Judicial Circuit
(Randolph County Photo)
### FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

**Counties (seats):**
- Henry (Cambridge)
- Mercer (Aledo)
- Rock Island (Rock Island)
- Whiteside (Morrison)

**County Judges:**

**Associate Judges:**
- John L. Bell, Thomas C. Berglund, Alan G. Blackwood, Michael P. Brinn, John L. Hauptman, John R. McLean, Jr., Dana R. McReynolds, James J. Mesich, Carol M. Pentuic, Vicki R. Wright

**Circuit Judges:**
- Jeffrey W. O’Connor (Chief Judge)
- Rock Island County Courthouse
- 210 15th Street, #408
- Rock Island, IL 61201

**Circuit Population:**
- 276,618
- (2001 est.)

**FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT**
(Third Appellate District)

**Counties (seats):**
- Carroll (Mount Carroll)
- Jo Daviess (Galena)
- Lee (Dixon)
- Ogle (Oregon)
- Stephenson (Freeport)

**County Judges:**

**Associate Judges:**
- Charles T. Beckman, David L. Jeffrey, John F. Joyce, Kathleen O. Kauffmann, John E. Payne, Victor V. Sprengelmeyer, Theresa L. Ursin

**Circuit Judges:**
- Stephen C. Pemberton (Chief Judge)
- Carroll County Courthouse
- 301 North Main Street
- Mt. Carroll, IL 61053

**Circuit Population:**
- 174,983
- (2001 est.)

### Total Caseload

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### Pending Caseloads

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**SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT**  
(Second Appellate District)

**Counties** (seats):
DeKalb (Sycamore)  
Kane (Geneva)  
Kendall (Yorkville)

**Circuit Judges:**
Judith M. Brawka, F. Keith Brown, Michael J. Colwell, James T. Doyle, Donald J. Fabian, Joseph M. Grady, Donald C. Hudson, Kurt Klein, Gene L. Nottolini, Timothy Q. Sheldon, Robert B. Spence, Robbin J. Stuckert, Grant S. Wegner, James M. Wilson

**Associate Judges:**

**Philip L. DiMarzio**  
Chief Judge  
Kane County  
Judicial Center  
37 W. 777 Rte. 38, #400 A  
St. Charles, IL 60175

**Circuit Population**  
573,515  
(2001 est.)

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**SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT**  
(Second Appellate District)

**Counties** (seats):
Boone (Belvidere)  
Winnebago (Rockford)

**Gerald F. Grubb**  
Chief Judge  
Winnebago County Courthouse  
400 West State Street  
Rockford, IL 61101

**Circuit Population**  
323,415  
(2001 est.)

**Circuit Judges:**

**Associate Judges:**

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**Total Caseload**

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**Pending Caseloads**

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EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Second Appellate District)

County (seat):
Du Page (Wheaton)

Circuit Judges:

Associate Judges:

Robert K. Kilander
Chief Judge
DuPage County Courthouse
505 N. County Farm Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60187

Circuit Population:
912,044
(2001 est.)

NINETEENTH CIRCUIT
(Second Appellate District)

County (seats):
Lake (Waukegan)
McHenry (Woodstock)

Circuit Judges:

Associate Judges:

Margaret J. Mullen
Chief Judge
Lake County Courthouse
18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085

Circuit Population:
931,615
(2001 est.)

Total Caseload

Filed
Disposed

Total Caseload

Filed
Disposed

Pending Caseloads

Civil
Felony
Juvenile

Pending Caseloads

Civil
Felony
Juvenile
**TWENTIETH CIRCUIT**
(Fifth Appellate District)

**Counties (seats):**
- Monroe (Waterloo)
- Perry (Pinckneyville)
- Randolph (Chester)
- St. Clair (Belleville)
- Washington (Nashville)

**Circuit Judges:**
- James W. Campanella
- Lloyd A. Cueto
- Dennis B. Doyle
- Annette A. Eckert
- Jerry D. Flynn
- John M. Goodwin, Jr.
- Lloyd A. Karmeier
- Robert P. LeChien
- Michael J. O'Malley
- Milton S. Wharton

**Associate Judges:**
- Richard A. Aguirre
- Walter C. Brandon, Jr.
- Laninya Cason
- Ellen A. Dauber
- Andrew J. Gleeson
- Dennis Hatch
- Vincent J. Lopinot
- Scott Mansfield
- Alexis Otis-Lewis
- James M. Radcliffe III
- Stephen R. Rice
- William A. Schuwerk, Jr.
- Patrick M. Young

**Chief Judge:**
Jan V. Fiss

**County Building**
10 Public Square
Belleville, IL 62220

**Circuit Population**
357,065
(2001 est.)

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

**Counties (seats):**
- Iroquois (Watseka)
- Kankakee (Kankakee)

**Circuit Judges:**
- Kathy S. Elliott
- Clark E. Erickson
- J. Gregory Householter
- Michael J. Kick
- Gordon Lee Lustfeldt
- Susan Sumner Tungate

**Associate Judges:**
- Michael D. Kramer
- William O. Schmidt
- J. Scott Swaim
- David A. Youck

**County Building**
Kankakee County Courthouse, Ste. 101
450 East Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

**Circuit Population**
134,996
(2001 est.)

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**Total Caseload**

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**Pending Caseloads**

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The Executive Office is comprised of the Administrative Director, the Executive Assistant to the Director, the Senior Attorney, attorneys, and administrative staff. Through the Administrative Director, the Executive Office is responsible for leading and coordinating the operations of each of the Divisions of the Administrative Office and serves as a central resource for myriad issues which impact the administration of the judicial branch. The Executive Office plans and directs Administrative Office staff support for the Supreme Court, Supreme Court Committees, and the Committees of the Illinois Judicial Conference. One of the duties performed for the Supreme Court is the preparation of an administrative agenda for presentation during each of the Court's terms. The Administrative Director, in collaboration with the Chief Justice and the Office staff, prepares the agenda, distributes the materials to the Court, and presents the agenda issues to the Court for its consideration and determination. Agenda items approved by the Court for action are then implemented by the Director through the Executive Office. Executive Office staff also assists the Director in the administration of certain Supreme Court Rules. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 39, Executive Office staff conducts the election process for the appointment and reappointment of all associate judges as provided for under the rule. In 2003, the Executive Division planned for and administered the quadrennial application and appointment process for Illinois' 367 authorized associate judge positions. The Executive Office also processes applications filed under Supreme Court Rule 295, which concerns the assignment of associate judges to felony jurisdiction. 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. Other matters which fall within the scope of the Executive Office include securing and tracking legal representation though the Office of the Attorney General for members of the judicial branch named in a case or controversy arising out of their performance of their official duties. Executive Office staff also negotiate, prepare, and manage 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 contracting for goods and services are also reviewed and approved by the Executive Office. Written summaries of recent Supreme Court opinions are prepared by legal staff in the Executive Office for distribution to all Illinois judges. The Executive Office provides secretariat services to the Illinois Courts Commission, including filing and preservation of the Commission records, distributing the Official Illinois Courts Commission Reports, and performing all other duties typically executed by a clerk of a court of record. Finally, Executive Office staff prepares and executes grants which provide for programming funded through the Lawyer's Assistance Program Act.

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 Director of the Administrative Office to develop the judicial branch budget, as well as to provide daily accounting of expenditures and projected operating costs. This unit also provides procurement and inventory control, maintains contracts and leases, and carries out all other fiscal reporting requirements. Ad hoc reports are generated concerning these and related services for the Director and Supreme, Appellate, and Circuit Courts and their support units. The Vouchering Unit processes all payment vouchers for the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court, the state-paid functions of the Circuit Courts, and the Administrative Office. At the conclusion of the most recent fiscal year, the Administrative Services Division processed approximately 43,100 payment vouchers for the judicial branch. The Vouchering Unit also maintains all accounting records for the expenditure of resources appropriated by the General Assembly. The Payroll Unit maintains all payroll records for current state-paid judicial branch employees and limited records of previous employees. The unit works with the Office of the Comptroller in processing the payroll for over 2,200 current judicial branch employees. The Human Resources Unit provides personnel services to judicial branch employees by coordinating employee benefit programs with the Department of Central Management Services. These benefits include health, dental and life insurance, as well as workers' compensation. The Human Resources Unit also works with judicial branch employees and managers in administering the judicial branch classification and compensation plan and the sick and
vacation leave benefits. The Mail/Reprographics Unit oversees the
distribution of mail and parcel services for the AOIC. The Unit
coordinates copying and mailing of larger projects for the office.

The Court Services Division is involved in a wide range of activities
and projects affecting judges, circuit clerks, court reporters, and other
components of the judicial branch of government. Ongoing
responsibilities include staffing committees of the Supreme Court and
the Judicial Conference as well as the Conference of Chief Judges,
production of the Judicial Conference Report, and production of this
annual report. The division also provides ongoing legislative support
services to the Supreme Court, and prepares summaries of pending and
enacted legislation for the chief circuit judges and circuit clerks.
Division staff serve as liaison for court-annexed mandatory arbitration
programs and mediation programs. During 2003, division labor
relations personnel represented judicial employers in collective
bargaining for approximately 40 contracts. In May 2003, at the request
of the Illinois Association of Court Clerks and with the approval of the
Director, a joint Court Information System Technology Advisory
Committee (CISTAC) was formed. The committee invites other state
agencies to bring issues to and provide information for the committee's
meetings. The Director assigned Court Services and JMIS Division
staff to serve as liaison to the newly established Special Supreme Court
Committee on Professionalism. The Committee on Professionalism is
charged with providing recommendations to the Supreme Court on
ways to promote respectful conduct, as the norm, within the legal
profession. During 2003, the Committee on Professionalism conducted
several town hall meetings throughout the state to gather input from law
practitioners on how to improve and promote civility within the legal
profession. The committee also coordinated with Illinois law schools
and became part of the orientation process whereby justices of the
Supreme Court addressed incoming law students on the importance of
professional conduct and administered an oath of professionalism to the
students. The Court Services Division continues to administratively
process membership applications for membership in the Capital
Litigation Trial Bar. In 2003, additional staff resources were dedicated
to the Court Improvement Program (CIP) and 11 local programming
proposals were selected for funding with FFY2002 grant funds. A new
vendor was selected to manage the Judicial Performance Evaluation
Program which remains a voluntary program. During 2003, the Court
Services Division held three statewide symposia designed to provide the
judiciary with strategies for increasing revenues by enforcing the
collection of court ordered payment of fines, fees, and costs. Areas of
service to circuit clerks include guidance and technical support to the
circuit clerks and their staff. During the year, relevant changes were
made to the Manual on Fines and Fees and the Manual on
Recordkeeping. The Manual on Recordkeeping was amended to
implement an accurate statewide data collection system that complies
with federal juvenile case requirements for abused and neglected
children. The Division staffed the Ad Hoc Article V Committee of the
Conference of Chief Judges who recommended changes to the Supreme Court Rules under Article V. Division staff assisted in the development of the Electronic Access Policy for Circuit Court Records of the Illinois Courts and the Policy for Implementation of an Electronic Filing Pilot Project in Illinois Courts, both of which were adopted by the Supreme Court, effective January 1, 2003. These policies provide for the orderly development of practices and procedures for electronic receipt, maintenance, and dissemination of court records. The Automated Disposition Reporting Program was expanded to its present level of 77 counties. The Division also supplied merged jury lists, petit juror handbooks and grand jury handbooks to the counties requesting them. The Court Reporting Services staff worked with the Director and the Supreme Court to create the Administrative Regulations: A Comprehensive Document Governing Court Reporting Services for the Illinois Courts. This document, along with Supreme Court Order M.R. 19051, effective October 20, 2003, vacated and replaced four documents which previously provided guidelines for court reporting services in Illinois. The new document provides information and instructs court reporting services employees on the responsibilities of their position, as well as provides guidelines to the Chief Judges for the administration of reporting services in their circuit. In addition to the new regulations, regional court reporting services supervisor meetings were held to facilitate an information exchange between supervisors in different jurisdictions and the Administrative Office. During 2003, Court Reporting Services staff administered Computer Proficiency Exams to 42 court reporting services employees and the Realtime Proficiency Exam to 65 employees. The electronic recording project expanded to 28 additional courtrooms in 2003. New systems began operating in Calhoun, Champaign, DeKalb, Madison and Massac counties. Additional courtrooms were added to systems which were already operational in Jersey, McHenry, St. Clair and Will counties. The division also continued to assist the circuit courts in their efforts to address the need for court interpreters. Finally, the division assisted the Director in monitoring the progress of the repair and renovation of state owned facilities used by the judicial branch. These facilities included the Supreme Court Building in Springfield, the three courthouses of the Second, Third and Fifth Appellate Districts, and the recently renovated Fourth Appellate courthouse (formerly known as the Waterways Building) located in the Capitol Complex in Springfield.

The Judicial Education Division provides administrative oversight of continuing education programs for Illinois’ more than 900 judges. In doing so, the division provides staff support to the Judicial Conference Committee on Education which is charged by the Supreme Court with developing a comprehensive series of judicial seminars on an annual basis. In addition to recommending topics, the Committee also identifies and recruits judicial faculty panels to teach each seminar and crafts a “seminar charge” to guide its preparation. Division staff work with the Committee to develop the annual seminar series as well as to staff individual seminar faculty panels in all stages of seminar preparation and implementation, including development of seminar curricula, materials and presentations. In Conference Year 2003, the Division also worked with the Committee to oversee presentation of the second biennial Illinois Advanced Judicial Academy at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign, which provided an intensive five-day educational forum for Illinois judges to examine the underpinnings of the rules and principles of evidence and to examine the legal and cognitive processes for determining facts. In addition to the Academy, the Committee and division conducted a full schedule of seminars comprised of nine regional (2 day) seminars, four mini (1 day) seminars and the annual DUI seminar. The Committee and division also presented a New Judge Seminar and a Faculty Development Workshop for all Illinois judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. In addition to its work with the Committee on Education, the division also works closely with the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases to plan and present Capital Cases Seminars for Illinois judges hearing death penalty cases, which are conducted under the auspices of Supreme Court Rule 43.

In conjunction with its oversight of judicial education programming, the division staffs the Judicial Mentor Committee to administer the Judicial Mentoring Program, which provides an experienced judicial mentor for all new Illinois judges taking the bench. Lastly, the division operates the Resource Lending Library,
which continues to serve as a valued judicial education resource. Loan material available through the library includes videotapes, audiotapes and publications. Permanent use items include seminar reading materials, bench books, manuals, and other materials. Last year, 1063 loan and permanent use items were distributed to judges and an additional 431 judges requested one or more “on-loan” items from the library.

The Judicial Management Information Services Division (JMIS) provides technology to the offices and staff of the Illinois Supreme and Appellate Courts, the Supreme Court supporting units, and all divisions within the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. JMIS implements technology at the direction of the Administrative Office Director and Supreme Court with the primary objective of improving the procedures and efficiencies of court operations. JMIS responds to the needs of the judicial branch for application development and information processing by analyzing processes, designing applications, or procuring technology that leverages existing investments with an overall goal of improving organizational benefits to office procedures.

Technology initiatives projected during the past year include the continued installation of digital recording systems. To date, there are 155 circuit court courtrooms equipped with central control or stand alone digital recording capabilities. An electronic filing pilot project is expected to proceed as well as continued review of the Court's public access to court data policy. Work is expected to continue on the Integrated Justice project coordinated by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to develop and maintain information and communications systems for law enforcement and public safety agencies in Illinois. Finally, JMIS plans to leverage the Internet and Internet technologies to improve information exchange. The Illinois Court's web site (www.state.il.us/court) continues to expand to provide information to the legal and educational communities as well as the general public.

The Probation Services Division provides services to chief judges and their probation staffs 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 to 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.

A priority for the Division in 2003 was intensification of its efforts to implement evidenced-based assessment and intervention models to promote more successful case outcomes. These improved probation practices are aimed at enhancing public safety by reducing the risk of re-offending for offenders sentenced to probation. To assist in this effort, and in response to an application submitted by the Division on behalf of the state’s probation system, Illinois was selected as one of two states that will receive major, long-term technical assistance from the National Institute of Corrections to implement statewide strategies for the “Effective Correctional Management of Offenders in the Community.”