

Kentucky Court of Justice

2006 *Annual Report*



30th Anniversary of the Judicial Article

Kentucky Court of Justice
2006
Annual Report

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Kentucky Court of Justice Organizational Structure

In 1975, Kentucky voters supported a constitutional amendment to the Judicial Article that provided for a unified, four-tier judicial system for operation and administration called the Court of Justice. The Commonwealth of Kentucky's judicial power is thus vested in one Court of Justice, which is divided into the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, trial courts of general jurisdiction known as Circuit Courts, and trial courts of limited jurisdiction known as District Courts. In the 2002 general election, Kentucky voters overwhelmingly approved passage of the Family Court Constitutional Amendment, thus creating a Family Court division within the Circuit Court tier.

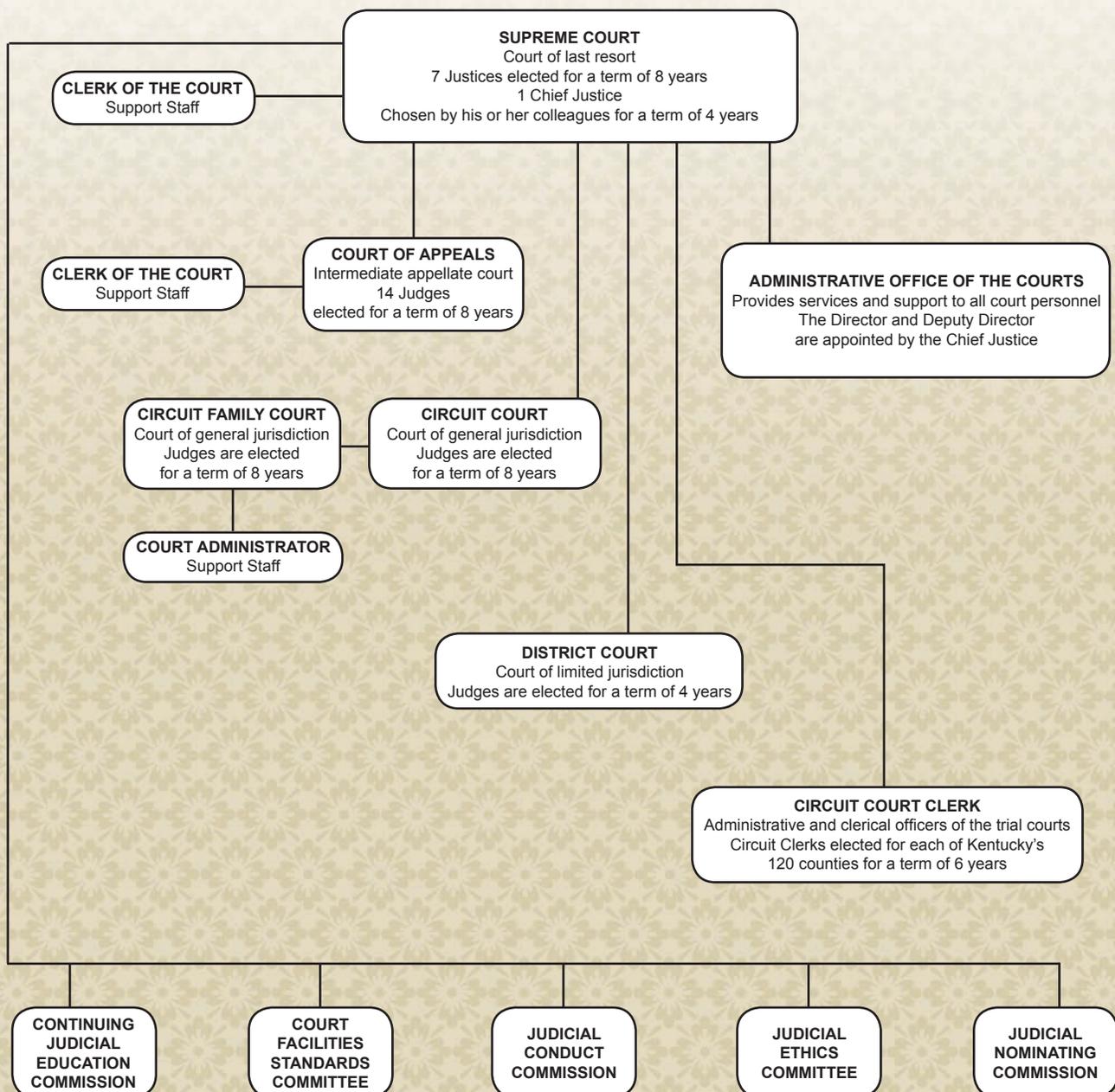


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Supreme Court of Kentucky

Joseph E. Lambert, Chief Justice
Vacant, Chief of Staff
Susan Stokley Clary, Clerk

Kentucky State Capitol, 2nd Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-564-5444

The Supreme Court of Kentucky is the court of last resort and the final interpreter of state law. It consists of seven justices who are elected from the seven appellate districts and serve eight-year terms. The chief justice of the commonwealth is chosen by his or her colleagues and serves a term of four years. The justices, as a panel, hear appeals of decisions from the lower courts and issue decisions, which are also called opinions, on cases. A case that comes before the Supreme Court is not retried. Attorneys with written briefs and oral arguments addressing the legal issues that the court must decide present the case to the Supreme Court. As a matter of right, cases involving the death penalty, life imprisonment or imprisonment for 20 years or more go directly from the Circuit Court level, where the cases are tried, to the Supreme Court for review. After a decision by the Kentucky Supreme Court, a case can only be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is also responsible for establishing rules of practice and procedures for the Court of Justice, including those governing the conduct of judges and attorneys.



Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert

was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in 1986 by the citizens of the 3rd Supreme Court District, which is comprised of 27 counties in south central Kentucky. In 1998, he became Kentucky's fourth chief justice through a vote of his fellow justices. He began a second four-year term as chief justice in 2002 and a third term as chief justice in 2006. His current eight-year term as a Supreme Court justice runs through 2010.



During his tenure, Chief Justice Lambert has focused on implementing cutting-edge programs in technology, court records, judicial education, justice facilities, pretrial services, the promotion of women, Family Court, and Drug Court. As a result, the Kentucky court system is proving to be one of the commonwealth's finest achievements. Chief Justice Lambert counts among his most significant accomplishments the 2002 passage of the amendment that made Family Court a permanent part of the Kentucky Constitution.

The Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy gave Chief Justice Lambert its Robert F. Stephens Public Service Award in 2006. In 2004, he received the Civil Rights Award from both the Northern Kentucky National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Lexington NAACP for his commitment to eliminating discrimination. In 2003, he was awarded the Kentucky Bar Association President's Special Service Award. He was given the Kentucky Public Advocate Award in 2001. In 2000, the KBA named him Outstanding Judge and the National Association of Drug

Court Professionals gave him its Leadership Award.

He is a former board member of the Conference of Chief Justices and the Eastern Kentucky University Board of Regents. He serves as board chairman for the Judicial Form Retirement Plan and for the Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center in Mount Vernon.

He has a bachelor's degree from Georgetown College and a juris doctor from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, which gave him its Distinguished Alumni Award. He is a native of Rockcastle County and resides in Mount Vernon with his wife, Debra, who is an attorney. They have two sons, Joseph and John.

The Supreme Court, which is Kentucky's highest court, is comprised of seven justices elected from districts across Kentucky. The chief justice is elected by his or her fellow justices for a term of four years. As executive head of the statewide judicial system, the chief justice oversees the Administrative Office of the Courts and the 4,000 employees of the Court of Justice, including the elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks. He or she also submits a biennial budget to the Kentucky General Assembly and executes the Judicial Branch budget.

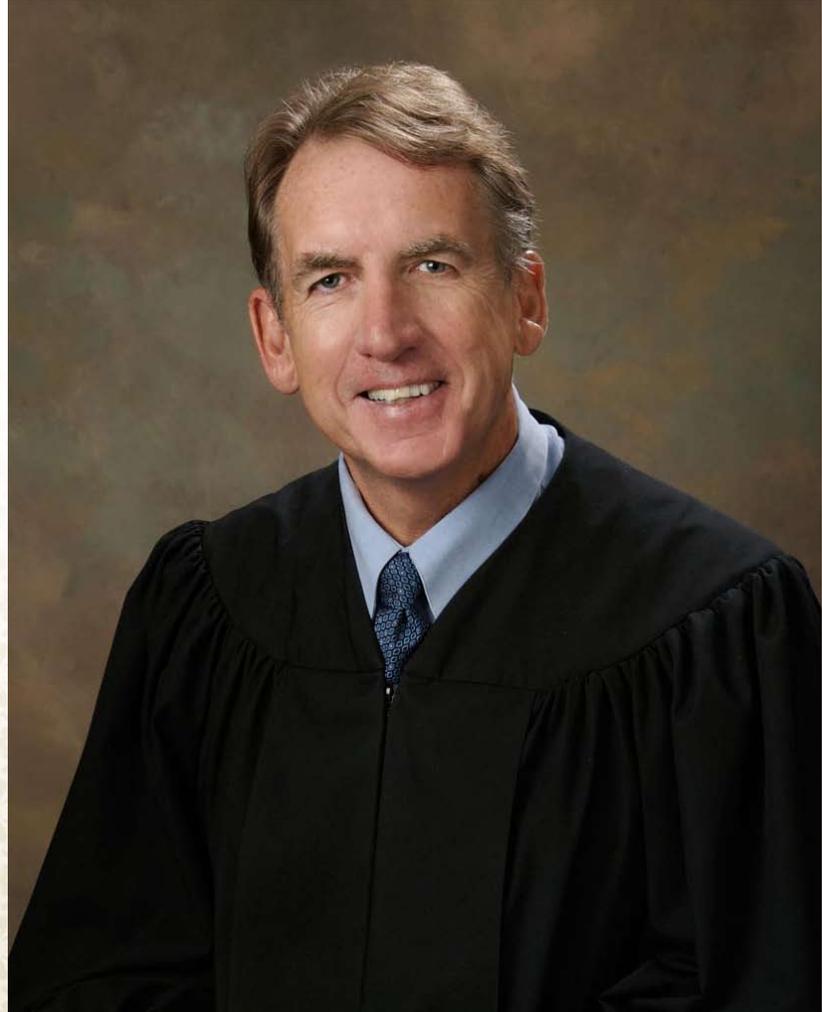
Justice Bill Cunningham was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 2006 to serve the 1st Supreme Court District.

Before becoming a member of the state's highest court, Justice Cunningham served as a Circuit Court judge for 15 years. He was elected to the Circuit Court bench in November 1991 to serve the 56th Judicial Circuit, which consists of Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon and Trigg counties. He was re-elected in 1999 and served as circuit judge until January 2007.

Justice Cunningham served the court system in several capacities before entering his judicial career. He was the Eddyville city attorney from 1974 to 1991 and public defender for the Kentucky State Penitentiary from 1974 to 1976. He served as commonwealth's attorney for the 56th Judicial District from 1976 to 1988. During his tenure in that position, he was voted the Outstanding Commonwealth's Attorney of Kentucky by his peers. Justice Cunningham also served as a hearing officer for the Kentucky Board of Claims from 1981 to 1985 and as a trial commissioner for Lyon County District Court from 1989 to 1992.

Justice Cunningham earned his bachelor's degree from Murray State University in 1962 and his juris doctor in 1969 from the University of Kentucky College of Law. A U.S. Army veteran, he served in Vietnam, Korea and Germany.

Justice Cunningham is a native of Lyon County and the author of six regional history books that chronicle the struggle for racial justice in western Kentucky since the Civil War. He and his wife, Paula, have five sons and four grandchildren.



Justice John D. Minton Jr. was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 2006 to represent the 2nd Supreme Court District. He was previously appointed to the high court on July 24, 2006, to fill a vacancy created by Supreme Court Justice William S. Cooper, who retired June 30, 2006.

Prior to his appointment to the Supreme Court, Justice Minton served as judge for the Kentucky Court of Appeals, representing the 2nd Appellate District. He was elected to the Court of Appeals in November 2003 and served there until his appointment to the Supreme Court in July 2006. Prior to being elected to the Court of Appeals, he was a circuit judge for the 8th Judicial Circuit, which consists of Warren County, from 1992 to 2003. From 1996 to 2003, he also served by special appointment of Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert as chief regional judge for the Green River Region, a 21-county area.



While on the circuit bench, Justice Minton was recognized by the Kentucky Court of Justice for his leadership in forming Warren County Drug Court and for his commitment to law-related education programs. In 2003, the Kentucky Bar Association honored him with its Outstanding Judge Award. He is a graduate of the National Judicial College.

Before his election to the Circuit Court bench, Justice Minton practiced law in Bowling Green for nearly 15 years. He earned a bachelor's degree with honors in history and English from Western Kentucky University in 1974, and he earned his juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1977.

Justice Minton is a member of Broadway United Methodist Church in Bowling Green and a former lay leader for the Kentucky Conference of The United Methodist Church. He serves on the Student Life Foundation's board at Western Kentucky University. He is also a member and past president of the Bowling Green Rotary Club and a former member of the board of directors of Shakertown at South Union.

He is married to the former Susan Lenell Page, a Bowling Green native. They have a daughter, Page Sullivan Minton, and a son, John D. Minton III.

Justice Minton is the son of Dr. and Mrs. John D. Minton of Bowling Green. Dr. Minton previously served at Western Kentucky University as a history professor and as the university's fifth president.

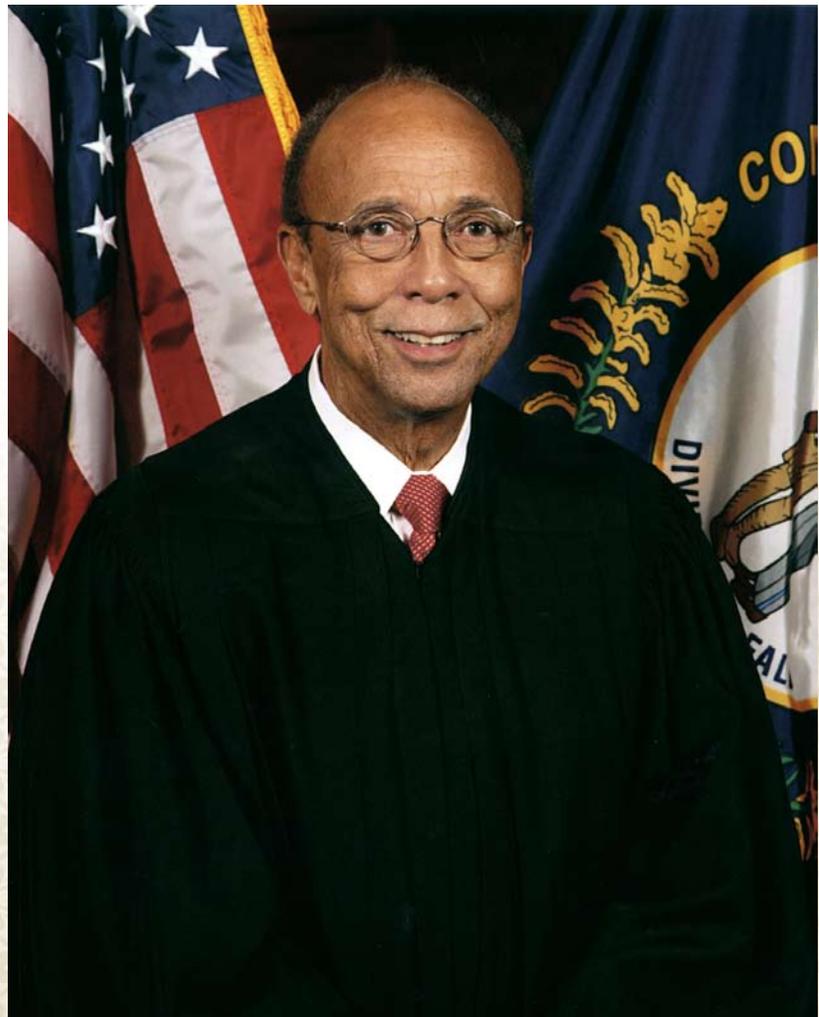
Justice William E. McAnulty was Kentucky's first black Supreme Court justice. He was elected to the state's highest court in November 2006 to represent the 4th Supreme Court District, which consists of Jefferson County. He had been appointed to the Supreme Court bench on June 28, 2006, to fill the position vacated by retiring Justice Martin E. Johnstone.

Justice McAnulty has served at all four levels of the state court system. He began his judicial career as a Jefferson County Juvenile Court judge in 1975. He was elected to Jefferson District Court in November 1977, where he served until his election to Jefferson Circuit Court in November 1983. He briefly returned to private practice in January 1990 as a partner in a law firm and then returned to the Circuit Court in 1993. In 1998, he served as chief judge of the Jefferson Circuit Court until he was elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 1998 to represent the 4th Appellate District. He came to the Supreme Court from the Kentucky Court of Appeals in 2006.

In 1997, the Kentucky Academy of Trial Attorneys named Justice McAnulty the Henry V. Pennington Outstanding Judge of the Year and the Leadership Louisville Foundation presented him with its Thomas C. Simons Distinguished Leadership Award.

Justice McAnulty was born in Indianapolis in 1947. He received his bachelor's degree from Indiana University and his master's degree and juris doctor from the University of Louisville. He is a member of the Kentucky and Louisville bar associations.

Justice McAnulty and his wife, Kristi, have two children, William III and Shannon. He has two other children from a prior marriage, Patrick and Katheryn.



Justice Mary C. Noble was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 2006 to serve the 5th Supreme Court District.

Justice Noble began her judicial career in 1991 when she was elected circuit judge for Fayette County. She was re-elected to that office, where she served until her election to the Supreme Court. While on the Circuit Court bench, she served two terms – from 1998 to 2002 – as chief regional circuit judge. Justice Noble is one of the founders of Kentucky Drug Court and served as a Drug Court judge from 1996 to November 2006. She has been

a member of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals' Congress of State Drug Courts since its inception and has served as its president. She also serves on the board of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals.



Justice Noble earned a bachelor's degree in 1971 and a master's degree in 1975 from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn. She completed her juris doctor at the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1981. She was in private practice from 1981 to 1991. She served as a Fayette Circuit Court domestic relations commissioner from 1989 to 1991, prior to being elected a circuit judge.

Justice Noble was born in Jackson in 1949. She and her husband, Larry Noble, live in Lexington.

Justice Wil Schroder was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 2006 to serve the 6th Supreme Court District. Justice Schroder has more than 23 years of prior judicial service. He served on the Kentucky Court of Appeals for more than 15 years, from 1991 to 2006. He also served as a trial judge for Kenton County District Court for almost eight years, from 1983 to 1991, which included one year as a juvenile judge.

Justice Schroder earned his bachelor's degree in 1968 and his juris doctor in 1970 from the University of Kentucky. He earned an advanced law degree – a Master of Laws (LL.M.) – in 1971 from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. Justice Schroder is licensed to practice law in Kentucky and Missouri and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the early 1970s, while completing his advanced law degree at the University of Missouri, Justice Schroder worked as an attorney for the Kansas City Legal Aid Society and as a corporate attorney for St. Paul Insurance Company. Upon returning to Kentucky, he became an assistant law professor at Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law, where he taught during the first three years the college operated as a Kentucky-based institution, from 1972 to 1975.

Justice Schroder was in private practice from 1975 to 1983 in Covington with his brother Robert. There he represented the Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission and served as a contract attorney for the Special Fund of the Division of Workers' Compensation and as a Kenton County public defender. He also served as a hearing officer for the Kentucky Personnel Board and was appointed city attorney for Newport in 1982, during the onset of Newport's early riverfront development.

Justice Schroder was born in 1946 in Fort Mitchell, where he and his wife, Susan Wahlbrink Schroder, reside. He is the father to two daughters, Stephanie and Lydia, and a son, Wil.



Justice Will T. Scott

was elected in November 2004 to represent the 7th Supreme Court District, which consists of 22 counties in eastern Kentucky. Effective July 1, 2006, Justice Scott replaced Justice Martin E. Johnstone, who retired June 30, 2006, as deputy chief justice of the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert conducted the formal swearing-in ceremony for Deputy Chief Justice Scott on July 17, 2006.



Justice Scott served as a circuit judge from 1984 to 1988 and was elected second vice president of the Kentucky Circuit Judges Association in 1986. Before serving the judiciary, he practiced law as a trial attorney from 1975 to 1980 and as assistant commonwealth's attorney for Pike County from 1981 to 1982.

Justice Scott was born in Pike County in 1947 and attended Eastern Kentucky University for one year before volunteering for service in the U.S. Army. Enlisting as a private in 1966, he finished his tour of duty in 1969 in Vietnam as a first lieutenant. Among his military honors are his airborne wings, the Bronze Star, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

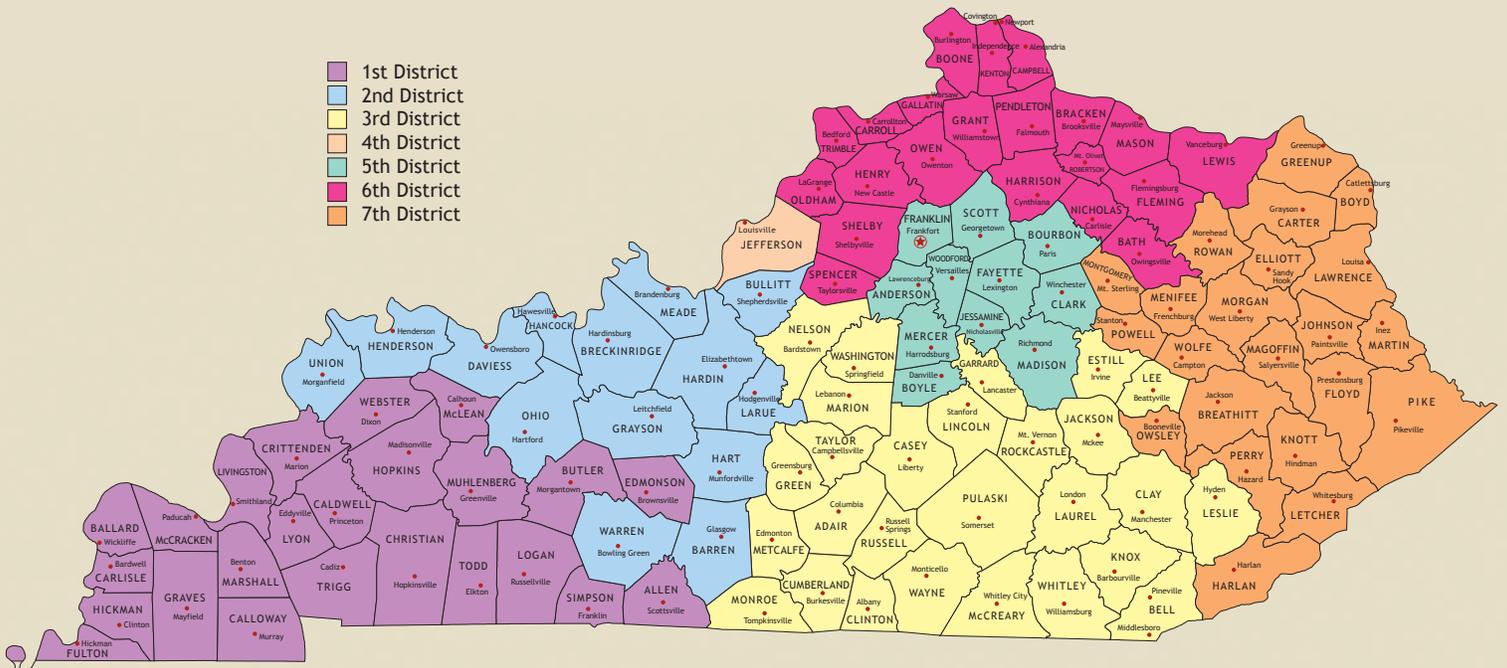
After completing his military service, Justice Scott graduated with a bachelor's degree from Pikeville College. He earned a juris doctor in 1974 and a master's degree in taxation in 1975 from the University of Miami School of Law in Coral Gables, Fla. He is licensed to practice law in Kentucky and Florida and has practiced law in Kentucky courtrooms for nearly 30 years. Justice Scott is a member of First Christian Church in Pikeville and is an avid hunter and fisherman.

Supreme Court Historical Case Load Data

Fiscal Year	Action	Direct Appeals/ Original Actions*	Motions for Injunctive Relief	Motions for Transfer	Motions for Discretionary Review	Petitions for Rehearing	TOTAL CASES
2000 - 2001	Filed	372	10	25	694	76	1,177
	Disposed	380	7	39	601	79	1,106
2001 - 2002	Filed	424	5	24	643	72	1,168
	Disposed	415	9	34	598	65	1,121
2002 - 2003	Filed	407	3	17	551	65	1,043
	Disposed	408	3	40	644	77	1,172
2003 - 2004	Filed	359	13	23	658	71	1,124
	Disposed	395	15	41	627	67	1,145
2004 - 2005	Filed	460	7	42	641	59	1,209
	Disposed	443	8	49	776	52	1,328
2005 - 2006	Filed	398	5	17	553	81	1,054
	Disposed	410	7	44	642	78	1,181

* Criminal appeals, civil appeals, original action, certification of question of law, Kentucky Bar Association proceedings, Judicial retirement, and removal cases.

Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Judicial Districts



Kentucky Court of Appeals

Sara W. Combs, Chief Judge
Samuel Givens, Court Clerk

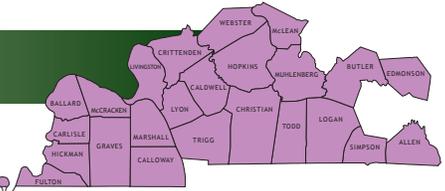
360 Democrat Drive
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-573-7920

The Kentucky Court of Appeals is comprised of 14 judges. Two judges are elected from each of the seven appellate districts to serve a term of eight years. Each month, the judges are randomly divided into panels of three to review and decide cases, with the majority determining the decision. The panels do not sit permanently in one location, but travel to all parts of the state on a regular basis. For the most part, cases come to the Court of Appeals when the dissatisfied party in a lower court decides to have the lower court's decision reviewed. The Court of Appeals does not retry the case. Rather, the panel bases its decision on the record compiled in the lower court and on arguments by attorneys challenging or supporting the lower court's disposition of the case as reflected in that record. The Kentucky Court of Appeals ranks as one of the nation's busiest.



1st District

The 1st Appellate District is comprised of Allen, Ballard, Butler, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Edmonson, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Logan, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Muhlenberg, Simpson, Todd, Trigg and Webster counties.



Christopher Shea Nickell
Division 1

Judge Christopher Shea Nickell was elected to serve on the Kentucky Court of Appeals on November 7, 2006, and represents Division 1 of the 1st Appellate District.

Prior to his election, Judge Nickell practiced law for 22 years, serving as a trial attorney, prosecutor, public defender and college instructor. In 1997, he established the Nickell Law Firm in Paducah. He was previously associated with the law office of Truman L. Dehner in Morehead and two Paducah law firms, Boehl, Stopher & Graves, LLP, and the Saladino Law Firm. From 1985 to 1986, Judge Nickell served as assistant commonwealth’s attorney for the 21st Judicial District, which is comprised of Bath, Menifee, Montgomery and Rowan counties. He served as assistant public advocate in Graves County from 1999 to 2000 through the Department of Public Advocacy’s Paducah trial office. He served as assistant McCracken County attorney from 2002 until he was elected to the Court of Appeals. In addition, he has taught courses on insurance and risk management at Murray State University and on jurisprudence at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In 1995, the Kentucky Bar Association named Judge Nickell its Outstanding Kentucky Young Lawyer.

A native and resident of McCracken County, Judge Nickell graduated from Paducah Tilghman High School in 1977. In 1981, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from DePauw University, where he majored in political science and communications. At DePauw, he served as student body president and received the Walker Cup, which the school’s faculty presents annually to the graduating senior who has contributed most to the campus community. He subsequently served on DePauw’s board of trustees. Judge Nickell earned his juris doctor degree in 1984 from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he served as president of the UK Student Bar Association.

Judge Nickell served as district governor for District 43K of the International Association of Lions Clubs and as president of the Paducah Lions Club. He is a recipient of the organization’s Finis Davis and Melvin Jones awards and is a trustee on the Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation. He is an Eagle Scout and a board member for the Shawnee Trails Boy Scout Council. He has been involved in numerous other civic organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Elks Club, Masons, Habitat for Humanity, Ducks Unlimited and National Wild Turkey Federation.

Judge Nickell is a deacon and adult Sunday school teacher at the Heartland Worship Center (Southern Baptist) in Paducah. He previously served as music director at Concord United Methodist Church in Paducah and is a member of The Gideons International.

Judge Nickell was married to the late Lana Jean “Jeanne” (King) Nickell, a school teacher, administrator and counselor, who died in 2001. He is the son of Carl Duane “Red” Nickell and Anna June (Starrett) Nickell, who are retired educators.



Donna Dixon
Division 2

Judge Donna Dixon was appointed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in July 2006 to serve as judge for Division 2 of the 1st Appellate District. She was subsequently elected to the court in November 2006.

Prior to sitting on the Court of Appeals, Judge Dixon served as a McCracken County District Court judge for more than 10 years. She began her legal career as a staff attorney for Judge J. William Howerton during his tenure as chief judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. She also served as assistant commonwealth’s attorney for McCracken County and spent several years in private practice.

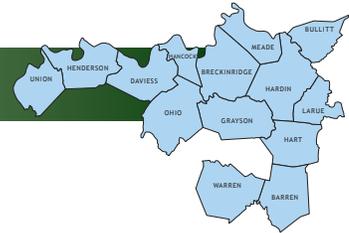
Judge Dixon graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree from Murray State University and was a cum laude graduate of Southern Illinois University School of Law.

Judge Dixon previously served as president of the Paducah-McCracken County United Way, McCracken County Young Lawyers Association and the Leadership Paducah Alumni Association. She has also served on the boards of the Paducah Rotary Club, Child Watch Children’s Advocacy Center, Paducah Rape Crisis Center and the McCracken County Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Council.

She is a native of western Kentucky and resides in Paducah with her husband, Tom Osborne, and their three children, Keaton, Maya and Hope. She is a member of First Baptist Church of Paducah.

2nd District

The 2nd Appellate District is comprised of Barren, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Daviess, Grayson, Hancock, Hardin, Hart, Henderson, LaRue, Meade, Ohio, Union and Warren counties.



Jeff S. Taylor
Division 1

Judge Jeff S. Taylor was elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2003 to represent Division 1 of the 2nd Appellate District.

Prior to sitting on the Court of Appeals, Judge Taylor practiced law in Owensboro for more than 20 years and was a sole practitioner from 1990 until his election.

Judge Taylor has a Bachelor of Science degree from Murray State University and a Master of Public Administration degree from Memphis State University. He graduated from the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law with honors in 1982.

He is a past president of the Kentucky chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Daviess County Bar Association, Daviess County Public Defender Corp. and the Daviess County Lawyer Referral Service. He is a member of the Kentucky, American and Daviess County bar associations. He is a Life Fellow in the Kentucky Bar Foundation and a member of the Brandeis Honor Society. He received a Donated Legal Services Recognition Award from the Kentucky Bar Association in 1999 and 2000.

Judge Taylor is a member of the Owensboro-Daviess County Chamber of Commerce, is past president of the Owensboro Kiwanis Club and serves on the board of trustees for Girls Inc. He is a former board member of the Owensboro-Daviess County Committee on Aging. He has been a frequent United Way volunteer and has also been a volunteer for the Salvation Army and Boy Scouts Law Explorers.

Judge Taylor was born in Fort Knox and raised in Daviess County. He is married to the former Betty Keller. She has one son, and they have two grandchildren.



Kelly Thompson
Division 2

Judge Kelly Thompson was elected in November 2006 to serve as a judge on the Kentucky Court of Appeals. He represents the 2nd Appellate District, Division 2.

Judge Thompson was chief trial counsel for the Kentucky Department of Highways in Hardin County from 1972 to 1973 and served as law clerk for the Kentucky Court of Appeals from 1973 to 1974. He practiced law in Bowling Green from 1974 until his election in 2006. He was the chief public advocate for the 8th Judicial District from 1976 to 1999, and he twice served on the board of directors for the Bowling Green-Warren County Bar Association.

Judge Thompson graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1968 with a bachelor's degree and a teaching certificate. He earned his juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1972.

Judge Thompson has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Board of Claims and the U.S. Supreme Court. He has successful appellate experience in the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court of Kentucky and the Kentucky Court of Appeals. He is a recipient of the Kentucky Bar Association's Donated Legal Services Recognition Award. He has been certified as a civil trial specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, which is accredited by the American Bar Association to certify lawyers in civil, criminal and family law trial advocacy. Judge Thompson has also served as a board member for numerous civic organizations in Warren County.

Judge Thompson was born in 1948 and is a native of Warren County. He is married to the former Victoria Golden. He has one daughter, Elizabeth, and three grandchildren.

3rd District

The 3rd Appellate District is comprised of Adair, Bell, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Estill, Garrard, Green, Jackson, Knox, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, Lincoln, Marion, McCreary, Metcalfe, Monroe, Nelson, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Washington, Wayne and Whitley counties.



James Howard
Division 1

Judge James Howard was appointed as judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in September 2006 to serve Division 1 of the 3rd Appellate District.

Judge Howard holds a bachelor's degree from Asbury College and a juris doctor from Duke University School of Law. He has been in private practice for 26 years. Since 1983 he has practiced law with Hensley, Ross & Howard of Horse Cave. He has served as the trial commissioner for Metcalfe County and is past president of the Hart County Bar Association.

Judge Howard is a member and past president of the Horse Cave Lions Club. He serves on the board of trustees of both the Wesley Biblical Seminary in Jackson, Miss., and Bowling Park in Edmonton, Ky. He is a member and deacon in the Edmonton Baptist Church.



James H. Lambert
Division 2

Judge James H. Lambert was elected as judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2006 to serve Division 2 of the 3rd Appellate District.

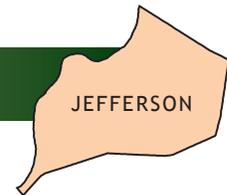
Judge Lambert has a bachelor's degree from Eastern Kentucky University and a juris doctor from Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law. After admission to the Kentucky Bar in 1976, he entered private practice with Lambert & Lambert of Mount Vernon. He was elected Rockcastle County attorney in November 1981 and served in that capacity for three terms. He returned to full-time private practice in 1994.

Judge Lambert served as trial commissioner for Rockcastle County District Court from 2002 to 2005 and as an administrative law judge for the Kentucky Department of Corrections.

Judge Lambert resides near Mount Vernon with his wife, Brenda. His daughter, Lora Lambert Boyd, also lives in Rockcastle County.

4th District

The 4th Appellate District is comprised of Jefferson County.



Thomas B. Wine
Division 1

Judge Thomas B. Wine was appointed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in August 2006 to serve Division 1 of the 4th Appellate District, which consists of Jefferson County. He was subsequently elected to the Court of Appeals in November 2006.

Judge Wine was elected to the Circuit Court bench in November 1991 and re-elected in 1999. Judge Wine served as chief judge of Jefferson County Circuit Court in 2000 and 2001. He was president of the Louis D. Brandeis American Inns of Court in 2002 and 2003.

Before embarking on his judicial career, Judge Wine worked in the Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney Office from 1979 to 1984 and from 1988 to 1990. He worked in the Office of the Attorney General in Frankfort from 1984 to 1988. He was in private practice from 1990 until he was elected circuit judge.

Judge Wine was born in Louisville. He graduated from the University of Louisville with a bachelor's degree in 1977 and a juris doctor in 1980.

He and his wife, Annie, have two children, Daniel Jacob and Matthew Joseph.



**Lisabeth Hughes
Abramson**
Division 2

Judge Lisabeth Hughes Abramson is serving on the Kentucky Court of Appeals for the second time in her career. She was appointed on June 30, 2006, to fill a vacancy in Division 2 of the 4th Appellate District and subsequently elected to that position in November 2006. She first served as a Court of Appeals judge from 1997 to 1998.

From January 1999 until her 2006 appointment and election to the Court of Appeals, Judge Abramson served as a circuit judge for the 30th Judicial Circuit, which consists of Jefferson County.

Judge Abramson earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Louisville, graduating in 1977 with the highest honors. She graduated magna cum laude from the U of L School of Law in 1980 and was named Outstanding Graduate of her law school class. Before serving as a judge, she practiced law for 15 years, concentrating on business and commercial litigation. Judge Abramson serves as president of the U of L Brandeis School of Law Alumni Council and is a member of the American, Kentucky and Louisville bar associations. She also serves as a trustee for the Kentucky Judicial Form Retirement System Board and is a frequent lecturer for the Kentucky Circuit Judges Judicial College. She is a member of the Leadership Louisville Class of 2007.

Judge Abramson is a native of Princeton. She and her husband, professor Leslie W. Abramson, have three sons.

5th District

The 5th Appellate District is comprised of Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Scott and Woodford counties.



Laurance B. VanMeter
Division 1

Judge Laurance B. VanMeter was elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2003 to serve Division 1 of the 5th Appellate District. He was re-elected to the Court of Appeals in November 2006. Judge VanMeter serves as the Court of Appeals representative on the Judicial Ethics Committee.

Judge VanMeter practiced law with the Lexington firm of Stoll, Keenon & Park from 1983 to 1994. From 1994 to 1999, he served as district judge for Fayette County, Division 1 of the 22nd Judicial District. Judge VanMeter was appointed to the Fayette County Circuit Court bench in 1999.

A Winchester native, Judge VanMeter received his undergraduate degree in 1980 from Vanderbilt University and his law degree in 1983 from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and the Kentucky Law Journal.

Judge VanMeter has been actively involved in many community organizations, including Little League Baseball, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and Parents' Place.



Glenn E. Acree
Division 2

Judge Glenn E. Acree was elected judge for the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2006 to serve Division 2 of the 5th Appellate District. He was originally appointed to the position in August 2006 to fill a vacancy created when Judge Julia K. Tackett retired.

Judge Acree earned his bachelor's degree and juris doctor from the University of Kentucky. He has a master's degree from the University of Maryland.

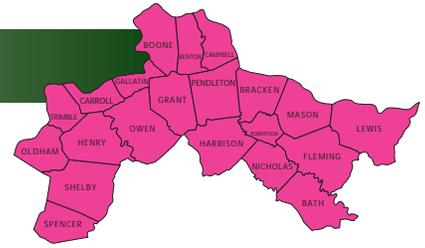
Judge Acree resides in Lexington, where he has had a solo practice since 1997. Prior to 1997, he practiced law with Stidham & Acree from 1996 to 1997, with Thomas, Stidham & Acree from 1994 to 1996, and with McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie & Kirkland from 1985 to 1994.

Before his appointment to the Court of Appeals, Judge Acree handled litigation and appeals in the areas of criminal law, administrative law, employment discrimination, civil procedure, insurance law, domestic relations, environmental law and construction law.

Judge Acree is married to the former Lisa T. Hahn of Versailles. He has two sons, Matt and Taylor.

6th District

The 6th Appellate District is comprised of Bath, Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Carroll, Fleming, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Henry, Kenton, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas, Oldham, Owen, Pendleton, Robertson, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties.



Michelle M. Keller
Division 1

Judge Michelle M. Keller was elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2006 to serve as judge for Division 1 of the 6th Appellate District. She also serves as the Court of Appeals representative on the Judicial Conduct Commission.

Prior to her election, Judge Keller practiced with Arnzen, Wentz, Molloy, Laber & Storm PSC in Covington. Her extensive legal experience includes representing clients in the area of criminal defense and serving as an assistant county prosecutor. Her work in litigation includes family law, personal injury and medical-negligence defense. She is experienced in administrative law and served the Kentucky Personnel Board as a hearing officer and now as a chairwoman emeritus. She is a member of the National Association of Administrative Law Judges and has represented numerous clients before state regulatory and licensure boards. She is an adjunct professor at Xavier University, where she teaches medical/legal research, writing and forensics.

She has been a licensed registered nurse in Kentucky since 1982. While working as an RN in critical care, Judge Keller earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in 1985 from Northern Kentucky University, where she received the Charlotte Schmidlapp Scholarship. Judge Keller attended the evening division of Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law while working full time. She was an Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts scholar during law school and received her juris doctor in 1990.

Judge Keller has served the Northern Kentucky Bar Association as chairwoman of the Women Lawyers Section and as a member of numerous committees. She represented the 16th Judicial Circuit on the Kentucky Bar Association's former House of Delegates.

In addition to her professional service, Judge Keller has a strong commitment to public service. She is a former chairwoman and board member for the Diocesan Catholic Children's Home. She is a founding and current member of the Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Council and has served the interests of children in court as a guardian ad litem. Judge Keller also volunteers with the Women's Crisis Center and her local church and is an Academic Team coach at her daughters' school.

Judge Keller is a lifelong Kentuckian and the oldest of five children. She and her husband, Dr. James Keller, have two daughters, Brenna and Olivia.



Joy A. Moore
Division 2

Judge Joy A. Moore was elected judge for the Kentucky Court of Appeals in November 2006 to serve Division 2 of the 6th Appellate District.

Judge Moore graduated magna cum laude from Morehead State University, where she also earned a master's degree and a Rank I teaching certificate. After teaching special education for seven years in Grant and Pendleton county schools, Judge Moore earned her juris doctor from Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law. She ranked No. 1 in her law school class, graduated magna cum laude and was a member of the Northern Kentucky Law Review. She received numerous scholarships and awards for academic achievement, including the Chase Excellence Scholarship.

Judge Moore served six years as chief law clerk for William O. Bertelsman, senior judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky. She also served as staff attorney to Kentucky Court of Appeals Judges Daniel T. Guidugli and Robert W. Dyche III. As a prac-

itioner, Judge Moore specialized in civil rights defense work in the litigation department of Adams, Stepner, Woltermann & Dusing PLLC in Covington and practiced general litigation law with Hoffman, Hoffman & Grubbs in Elsmere.

Judge Moore is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association, Northern Kentucky Bar Association and the Salmon P. Chase Inn of Court. She serves on the St. Elizabeth Hospice Committee and the Every Child Succeeds Executive Committee. She is a 2006 graduate of Leadership Northern Kentucky and serves on its government committee. She is a former member of Vision 2015, a 10-year strategic plan developed by northern Kentucky citizens for economic growth, as well as the Kentucky Personnel Board, the Governor's Postsecondary Education Nominating Commission and the board of the Boone County Court Appointed Special Advocates. She is a member of Florence Baptist Church, where she previously served on the Women's Council.

Judge Moore grew up in Menifee County and now resides in Boone County with her husband, Gary W. Moore. They have two children, Brandi Moore List and Scott Moore.

7th District

The 7th Appellate District is comprised of Boyd, Breathitt, Carter, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Harlan, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Rowan and Wolfe counties.



Sara W. Combs
Division 1

Chief Judge Sara W. Combs became the first woman and the first judge from the eastern Kentucky counties of the 7th Appellate District to serve as chief judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. She assumed the role in June 2004 after her colleagues on the court voted unanimously to elect her to the position as chief judge, which provides administrative oversight to the Court of Appeals.

In 1993, Judge Combs also made history by being the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court of Kentucky after then-Gov. Brereton Jones appointed her to the state's highest court. After she narrowly lost her election to retain that seat on the Supreme Court, Gov. Jones appointed her to fill a vacancy on the Court of Appeals in 1994. She was elected to the court in November 1994 and re-elected in 2000 and again in 2006.

Judge Combs ranked second in her class at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, which later honored her with its Distinguished Alumni Award. She was valedictorian at Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville and U of L, where she obtained an undergraduate degree in French. She also earned her master's degree in French from U of L, having been recognized as a Woodrow Wilson Designate.

Judge Combs has taught at the high school and university levels in addition to gaining broad experience in the practice of law. She began her career as an associate with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs in Louisville before serving as corporate counsel to an advertising company. She also practiced law with her late husband, former Kentucky Gov. Bert T. Combs; established a solo practice in Stanton; and became a regional associate with the Louisville law firm of Mapother & Mapother.

She is affiliated with numerous professional, educational and civic organizations. Judge Combs is a member of the Kentucky and Louisville bar associations and the University Press of Kentucky. She also serves on the boards of Pikeville College, Lees College and the Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival. She previously served for seven years on the Kentucky Appalachian Commission.

Judge Combs resides at Fern Hill in Stanton, the farm she shared with her late husband.



Janet Stumbo
Division 2

Judge Janet Stumbo was the first woman from the 7th Judicial District to be elected to the Kentucky Court of Appeals in 1989. At that time, she was only the second woman to serve on the Court of Appeals and the first woman to be elected without having first been appointed. Judge Stumbo served four years with the Court of Appeals before being the first woman elected (again without having first been appointed) to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in November 1993. She was re-elected to a full eight-year term on the Supreme Court in 1996. While a Supreme Court justice, she served as chair of the Civil Rules Committee and the Family Court Consortium, a statewide committee appointed by then-Chief Justice Robert F. Stephens to implement a pilot project for Family Court. The consortium's work resulted in the enactment of an amendment to the Kentucky Constitution and legislation establishing Family Court in jurisdictions across the commonwealth.

In November 2006, two years after completing her Supreme Court tenure, Judge Stumbo was elected to the Court of Appeals for a second time to represent the 7th Appellate District.

Judge Stumbo earned her bachelor's degree from Morehead State University and her juris doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law. She began her legal career as a staff attorney to the late Judge Harris S. Howard of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. She entered private practice in 1982 with Turner, Hall & Stumbo PSC, where she focused on cases involving workers' compensation, federal black-lung claims, dissolution of marriage and personal injury.

She also served as assistant Floyd County attorney for three years and sat on the board of directors of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky from 1983 to 1989, serving as board chairwoman from 1984 to 1989. Judge Stumbo became a partner in Stumbo, DeRossett & Pillersdorf in 1989, just before being elected to the Court of Appeals for the first time.

During her break from the bench from 2004 to 2006, she taught at the Appalachian School of Law and the UK College of Law. She also taught a mock trial course for high schools students at Verbally and Mathematically Precocious Youth, a summer camp hosted by Western Kentucky University.

Judge Stumbo was inducted into the UK College of Law Alumni Hall of Fame in 1999 and into the Morehead State University Alumni Association Hall of Fame in 1990. In 1996, the Kentucky Bar Association for Women gave her its first Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, which recognizes professional excellence in the practice of law and efforts to open the field for other women. In 1995, the Network of Women in State Government presented her with its Bull's Eye Award. The Kentucky Women Advocates gave her its 1995 Outstanding Justice Award for her support of adopting gender fairness into state judicial language. The organization also gave her its 1991 Justice Award for her use of spousal-abuse evidence as grounds for setting aside a settlement in dissolution of marriage cases and for her support in creating a shelter for abused women in Floyd County.

Judge Stumbo is a native of Floyd County. She and her husband, attorney Ned Pillersdorf, have three daughters, Sarah, Nancee and Samantha.



Kentucky Circuit Court

The Circuit Court is the court of general jurisdiction in cases involving capital offenses, felonies, land disputes, contested probates of wills and general civil litigation in disputes involving more than \$4,000. Circuit Courts have the power to issue injunctions, writs of prohibition, writs of mandamus and to hear appeals from District Courts and administrative agencies.

As a division of Circuit Court with general jurisdiction, Family Court further retains primary jurisdiction in cases involving dissolution of marriage, child custody, visitation, maintenance and support, equitable distribution of property in dissolution cases, adoption and termination of parental rights. In addition to the general jurisdiction of Circuit Court, the Family Court division of Circuit Court, concurrent with the District Court, has jurisdiction over proceedings involving domestic violence and abuse, the Uniform Act on Paternity, the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, dependency, neglect, abuse and juvenile status offenses.

There are 138 circuit judges in Kentucky's 57 judicial circuits. Of the circuit judges, 45 are Family Court judges. One judge may serve more than one county within a circuit. Some circuits contain only one county but have several judges, depending on population and case load. Circuit judges serve in eight-year terms.

During fiscal year 2006, the Circuit Court recorded 102,771 cases filed and 101,968 disposed. The Circuit Family Court recorded 59,766 cases filed and 56,865 cases disposed in fiscal year 2006.

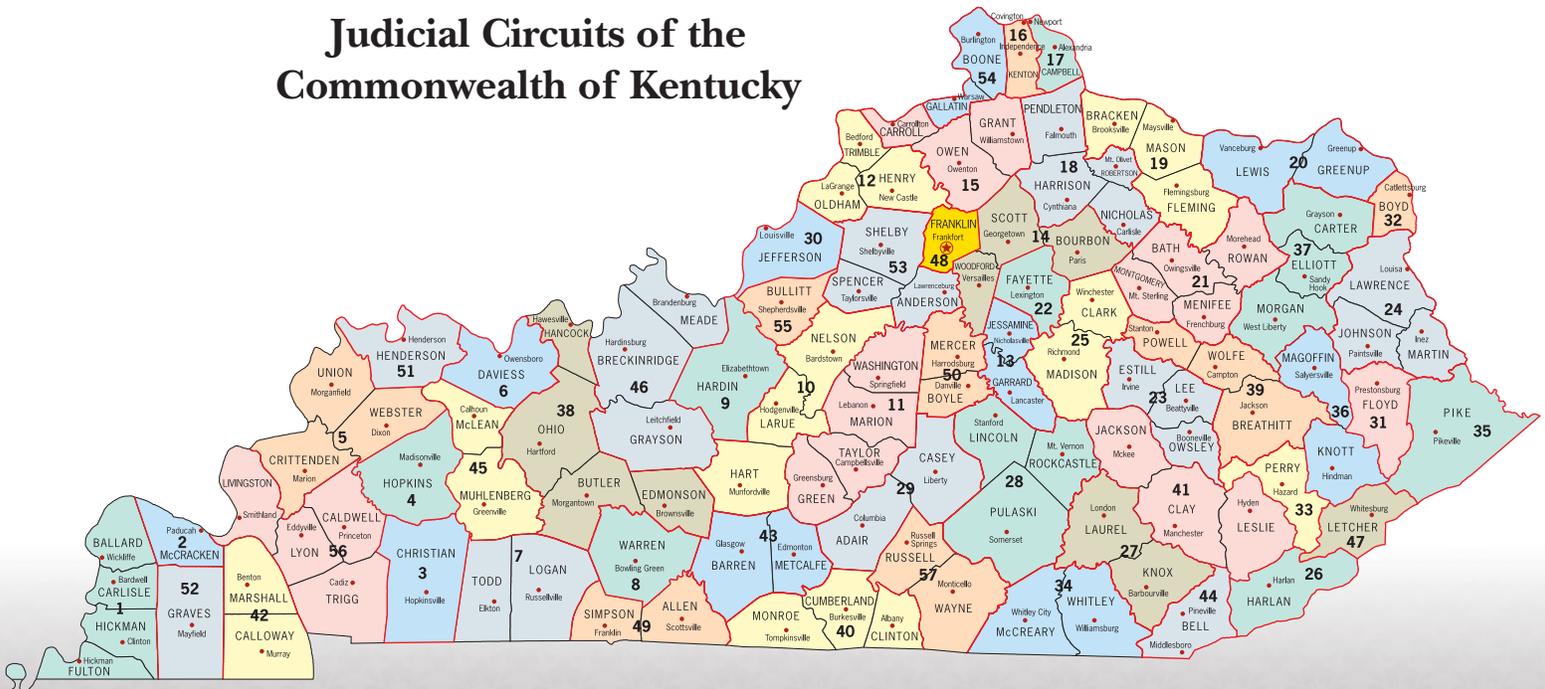


Chief Regional Circuit Judge Roderick Messer
 27th Judicial Circuit, Division 2
 2006 President, Circuit Judges Association



Circuit Judge Julia Hylton Adams
 25th Judicial Circuit, Division 1
 2006 Chair, Circuit Judges Education Committee

Judicial Circuits of the Commonwealth of Kentucky



Circuit Court Case Load FY 2006

Ranking by Circuit

Filings

Rank	Per Judge	Circuit	Circuit Name	Number of Judges
1	2,612.00	54	Boone, Gallatin	1
2	2,080.00	10	Hart, LaRue, Nelson	1
3	1,954.00	53	Anderson, Shelby, Spencer	1
4	1,916.00	13	Garrard, Jessamine	1
5	1,884.00	55	Bullitt	1
6	1,639.00	42	Calloway, Marshall	1
7	1,516.00	04	Hopkins	1
8	1,503.00	39	Breathitt, Powell, Wolfe	1
9	1,442.00	38	Butler, Edmonson, Hancock, Ohio	1
10	1,425.00	49	Allen, Simpson	1
11	1,406.00	15	Carroll, Grant, Owen	1
12	1,362.00	57	Russell, Wayne	1
13	1,325.00	20	Greenup, Lewis	1
14	1,298.00	06	Daviess	2
15	1,287.00	27	Knox, Laurel	2
16	1,209.00	56	Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon, Trigg	1
17	1,205.00	30	Jefferson	13
18	1,203.50	08	Warren	2
19	1,198.00	45	McLean, Muhlenberg	1
20	1,171.00	41	Clay, Jackson, Leslie	1
21	1,162.00	26	Harlan	1
22	1,160.00	07	Logan, Todd	1
23	1,141.00	33	Perry	1
24	1,119.00	43	Barren, Metcalfe	1
25	1,091.50	28	Lincoln, Pulaski, Rockcastle	2
26	1,090.00	16	Kenton	4
27	1,065.00	12	Henry, Oldham, Trimble	1
28	1,040.00	19	Bracken, Fleming, Mason	1
29	1,028.50	11	Green, Marion, Taylor, Washington	2
30	1,021.00	14	Bourbon, Scott, Woodford	2
31	985.00	24	Johnson, Lawrence, Martin	1
32	974.00	52	Graves	1
33	953.50	21	Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Rowan	2
34	953.00	51	Henderson	1
35	932.00	09	Hardin	2
36	929.00	23	Estill, Lee, Owsley	1
37	908.50	34	McCreary, Whitley	2
38 (Tie)	901.00	46	Breckinridge, Grayson, Meade	2
38 (Tie)	901.00	22	Fayette	6
40	899.00	02	McCracken	2
41	885.50	17	Campbell	2
42	875.00	44	Bell	1
43	868.00	25	Clark, Madison	2
44	865.00	29	Adair, Casey	1
45	856.00	50	Boyle, Mercer	1
46	844.00	40	Clinton, Cumberland, Monroe	1
47	842.00	47	Letcher	1
48	841.00	32	Boyd	2
49	803.50	48	Franklin	2
50	763.50	35	Pike	2
51	746.00	01	Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, Hickman	1
52	744.00	37	Carter, Elliott, Morgan	1
53	709.00	05	Crittenden, Union, Webster	1
54	669.00	18	Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson	1
55	640.50	03	Christian	2
56	555.00	36	Knott, Magoffin	1
57	407.00	31	Floyd	2

95 Judges

Average Cases per Judge: 1,081.80

Median: 1,028.5

Circuit Court Case Load FY 2006 Ranking by Circuit

Closings

Rank	Per Judge	Circuit	Circuit Name	Number of Judges
1	2,495.00	54	Boone, Gallatin	1
2	2,159.00	53	Anderson, Shelby, Spencer	1
3	1,986.00	10	Hart, LaRue, Nelson	1
4	1,847.00	55	Bullitt	1
5	1,760.00	38	Butler, Edmonson, Hancock, Ohio	1
6	1,697.00	13	Garrard, Jessamine	1
7	1,576.00	42	Calloway, Marshall	1
8	1,565.00	39	Breathitt, Powell, Wolfe	1
9	1,486.00	49	Allen, Simpson	1
10	1,439.00	15	Carroll, Grant, Owen	1
11	1,396.00	27	Knox, Laurel	2
12	1,341.00	33	Perry	1
13	1,301.00	26	Harlan	1
14	1,300.00	24	Johnson, Lawrence, Martin	1
15	1,293.00	57	Russell, Wayne	1
16	1,266.00	06	Daviess	2
17	1,253.00	04	Hopkins	1
18	1,220.00	28	Lincoln, Pulaski, Rockcastle	2
19	1,209.00	08	Warren	2
20	1,189.00	56	Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon, Trigg	1
21	1,179.00	45	McLean, Muhlenberg	1
22	1,168.23	30	Jefferson	13
23	1,162.00	23	Estill, Lee, Owsley	1
24	1,140.00	43	Barren, Metcalfe	1
25	1,139.00	12	Henry, Oldham, Trimble	1
26	1,073.00	07	Logan, Todd	1
27 (Tie)	1,051.00	52	Graves	1
27 (Tie)	1,051.00	41	Clay, Jackson, Leslie	1
29	1,036.00	20	Greenup, Lewis	1
30	1,004.00	51	Henderson	1
31	998.75	16	Kenton	4
32	996.50	25	Clark, Madison	2
33	984.00	44	Bell	1
34	982.00	11	Green, Marion, Taylor, Washington	2
35	976.00	19	Bracken, Fleming, Mason	1
36	946.00	50	Boyle, Mercer	1
37	920.50	17	Campbell	2
38	916.50	34	McCreary, Whitley	2
39	874.50	21	Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Rowan	2
40	868.00	02	McCracken	2
41	855.00	29	Adair, Casey	1
42	854.00	48	Franklin	2
43	850.00	14	Bourbon, Scott, Woodford	2
44	844.50	22	Fayette	6
45	811.00	46	Breckinridge, Grayson, Meade	2
46	801.00	35	Pike	2
47	793.00	37	Carter, Elliott, Morgan	1
48	783.00	40	Clinton, Cumberland, Monroe	1
49	780.00	01	Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, Hickman	1
50	776.50	09	Hardin	2
51	725.00	36	Knott, Magoffin	1
52	716.50	32	Boyd	2
53	716.00	05	Crittenden, Union, Webster	1
54	698.00	18	Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson	1
55	664.50	03	Christian	2
56	632.00	47	Letcher	1
57	532.00	31	Floyd	2
				95 Judges

Average Cases per Judge: 1,073.35 Median: 1,036.00

Circuit Family Court Case Load FY 2006 Ranking by Family Court Site

Filings

Rank	Per Judge		Number of Judges
1	2,656.00	Hardin	1
2	2,635.00	Floyd, Knott, Magoffin	1
3	2,397.00	Lincoln, Pulaski, Rockcastle	1
4	2,005.00	Fayette	3
5	1,986.90	Jefferson	10
6	1,982.00	Campbell	1
7	1,910.00	Boone, Gallatin	1
8	1,821.00	Christian	1
9	1,641.00	Johnson, Lawrence, Martin	1
10	1,576.00	Pike	1
11	1,432.00	McCracken	1
12	1,392.00	Henderson	1
13	1,390.00	Clark, Madison	2
14	1,352.00	Clay, Jackson, Leslie	1
15	1,344.00	Warren	2
16	1,266.00	Carter, Elliott, Morgan	1
17	1,258.00	Henry, Oldham, Trimble	1
18	1,208.00	Barren, Metcalfe	1
19	1,155.00	Franklin	1
20	1,019.00	Boyle, Mercer	1
21	881.00	Crittenden, Union, Webster	1
22	833.00	Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson	1
			35 Judges

Average Cases per Judge: 1,707.60

Closings

Rank	Per Judge		Number of Judges
1	2,407.00	Floyd, Knott, Magoffin	1
2	2,121.00	Lincoln, Pulaski, Rockcastle	1
3	2,117.00	Hardin	1
4	2,065.00	Campbell	1
5	1,993.00	Fayette	3
6	1,900.10	Jefferson	10
7	1,776.00	Christian	1
8	1,733.00	Boone, Gallatin	1
9	1,706.00	Johnson, Lawrence, Martin	1
10	1,537.00	Pike	1
11	1,460.00	McCracken	1
12	1,422.00	Henderson	1
13	1,346.00	Warren	2
14	1,331.00	Clay, Jackson, Leslie	1
15	1,262.00	Barren, Metcalfe	1
16	1,245.00	Carter, Elliott, Morgan	1
17	1,174.00	Clark, Madison	2
18	1,076.00	Henry, Oldham, Trimble	1
19	991.00	Boyle, Mercer	1
20	917.00	Franklin	1
21	913.00	Crittenden, Union, Webster	1
22	766.00	Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson	1
			35 Judges

Average Cases per Judge: 1,624.71

Kentucky District Court

The District Court has limited jurisdiction, which means it hears only certain types of cases. Ninety percent of all Kentuckians involved in court proceedings appear before District Court. Juvenile matters, city and county ordinances, misdemeanors, traffic offenses, probate of wills, felony preliminary hearings, small claims, and civil cases involving \$4,000 or less are all District Court matters, as are voluntary and involuntary mental commitments and cases relating to domestic violence and abuse. There are 117 district judges in 60 judicial districts in Kentucky. If a district has a high population and a heavy case load, it may consist of only one county but have several judges. In less populated areas, a district may encompass more than one county, but have only one judge who travels among the district's counties to hear cases. In fiscal year 2006, the District Court recorded 813,320 cases filed and 806,075 cases disposed.

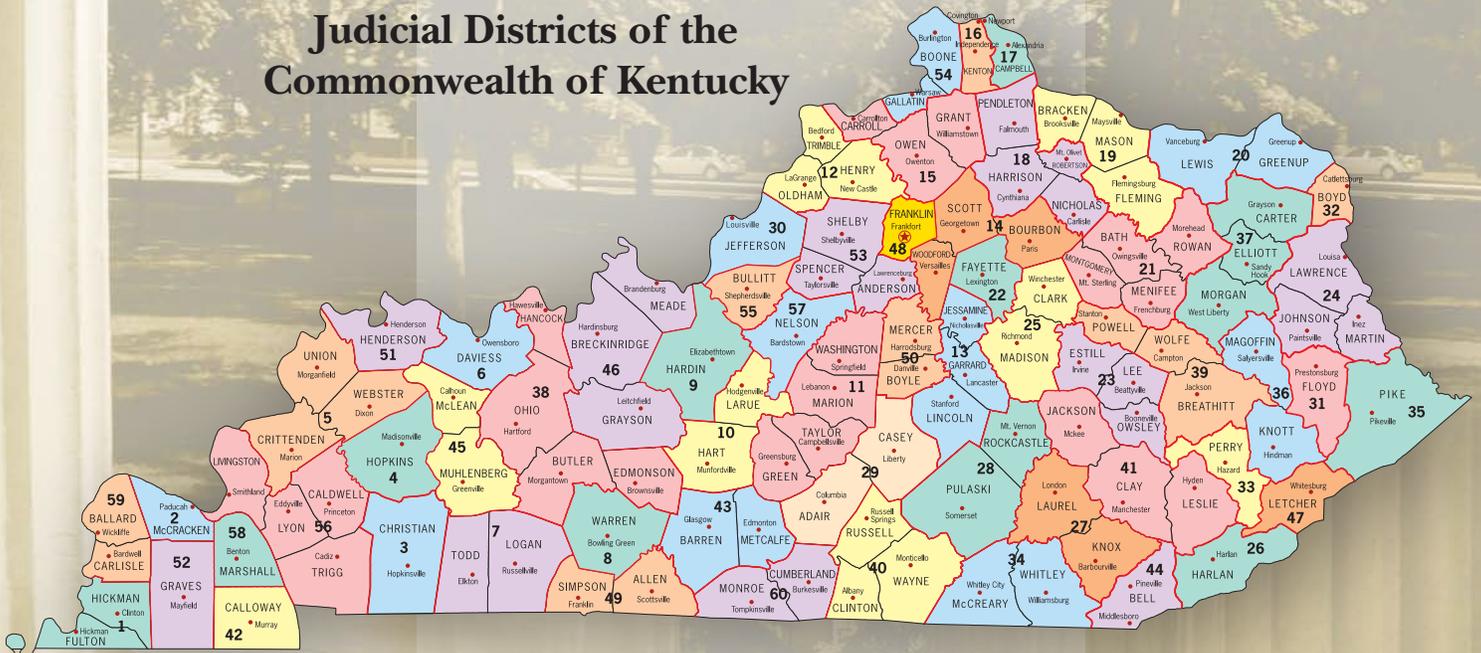


Vice Chief Regional District Judge Steve D. Hurt
60th Judicial District, Division 2
2006 President, District Judges Association



Chief Regional District Judge Karen A. Thomas
17th Judicial District, Division 3
2006 Chair, District Judges Education Committee

Judicial Districts of the Commonwealth of Kentucky



District Court Case Load FY 2006

Ranking by District

Filings

Rank	Per Judge	District	District Name	Number of Judges
1	12,833.60	22	Fayette	5
2	10,783.00	08	Warren	2
3	10,493.00	54	Boone, Gallatin	2
4	9,959.00	25	Clark, Madison	2
5	9,719.00	39	Breathitt, Powell, Wolfe	1
6	9,551.20	30	Jefferson	17
7	9,219.50	27	Knox, Laurel	2
8	9,163.00	50	Boyle, Mercer	1
9	8,164.50	16	Kenton	4
10	8,152.00	09	Hardin	2
11	8,121.00	07	Logan, Todd	1
12	8,034.00	43	Barren, Metcalfe	1
13	7,709.00	26	Harlan	1
14	7,666.50	17	Campbell	2
15	7,592.00	44	Bell	1
16	7,531.00	52	Graves	1
17	7,397.00	14	Bourbon, Scott, Woodford	2
18	7,306.00	13	Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln	2
19	7,139.00	49	Allen, Simpson	1
20	6,913.00	35	Pike	2
21	6,882.00	57	Nelson	1
22	6,870.00	37	Carter, Elliott, Morgan	1
23	6,839.00	28	Pulaski, Rockcastle	2
24	6,733.00	45	McLean, Muhlenberg	1
25	6,726.50	02	McCracken	2
26	6,505.00	12	Henry, Oldham, Trimble	2
27	6,369.00	20	Greenup, Lewis	1
28	6,292.00	05	Crittenden, Union, Webster	1
29	6,289.50	53	Anderson, Shelby, Spencer	2
30	6,271.70	06	Daviess	3
31	6,266.50	48	Franklin	2
32	6,252.00	36	Knott, Magoffin	1
33	6,113.00	29	Adair, Casey	1
34	5,993.00	21	Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Rowan	2
35	5,928.00	33	Perry	1
36	5,813.00	03	Christian	2
37	5,630.00	11	Green, Marion, Taylor, Washington	2
38	5,278.00	15	Carroll, Grant, Owen	2
39	5,233.00	46	Breckinridge, Grayson, Meade	2
40	5,194.50	55	Bullitt	2
41	5,113.00	19	Bracken, Fleming, Mason	1
42	5,092.00	51	Henderson	2
43	5,085.00	41	Clay, Jackson, Leslie	2
44	4,952.00	23	Estill, Lee, Owsley	1
45	4,916.00	42	Calloway	1
46	4,910.00	18	Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson	1
47	4,904.00	56	Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon, Trigg	2
48	4,813.00	34	McCreary, Whitley	2
49	4,773.00	10	Hart, LaRue	1
50	4,732.00	47	Letcher	1
51	4,563.50	04	Hopkins	2
52	4,549.00	24	Johnson, Lawrence, Martin	2
53	4,284.50	31	Floyd	2
54	4,143.00	58	Marshall	1
55	3,962.50	40	Clinton, Russell, Wayne	2
56	3,926.00	32	Boyd	2
57	3,909.50	38	Butler, Edmonson, Hancock, Ohio	2
58	3,257.00	60	Cumberland, Monroe	1
59	2,438.00	01	Fulton, Hickman	1
60	2,136.00	59	Ballard, Carlisle	1
				115 Judges

Average Cases per Judge: 7,072.35 Median: 6,269.08

District Court Case Load FY 2006

Ranking by District

Closings

Rank	Per Judge	District	District Name	Number of Judges
1	12,925.4	22	Fayette	5
2	12,365.0	08	Warren	2
3	10,551.0	54	Boone, Gallatin	2
4	10,261.0	25	Clark, Madison	2
5	9,423.0	50	Boyle, Mercer	1
6	9,235.9	30	Jefferson	17
7	9,086.0	39	Breathitt, Powell, Wolfe	1
8	8,549.0	27	Knox, Laurel	2
9	8,213.5	09	Hardin	2
10	8,160.8	16	Kenton	4
11	8,003.0	43	Barren, Metcalfe	1
12	7,795.0	07	Logan, Todd	1
13	7,704.0	26	Harlan	1
14	7,549.0	17	Campbell	2
15	7,539.0	49	Allen, Simpson	1
16	7,489.0	44	Bell	1
17	7,254.5	48	Franklin	2
18	7,236.5	28	Pulaski, Rockcastle	2
19	7,099.5	14	Bourbon, Scott, Woodford	2
20	7,076.0	37	Carter, Elliott, Morgan	1
21	6,886.0	57	Nelson	1
22	6,857.0	35	Pike	2
23	6,775.0	13	Garrard, Jessamine, Lincoln	2
24	6,773.0	52	Graves	1
25	6,618.0	12	Henry, Oldham, Trimble	2
26	6,602.5	02	McCracken	2
27	6,376.0	20	Greenup, Lewis	1
28	6,325.0	45	McLean, Muhlenberg	1
29	6,321.0	05	Crittenden, Union, Webster	1
30	6,225.3	06	Daviess	3
31	6,216.5	53	Anderson, Shelby, Spencer	2
32	6,101.0	03	Christian	2
33	6,029.0	36	Knott, Magoffin	1
34	6,025.0	33	Perry	1
35	6,022.5	21	Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Rowan	2
36	5,618.0	29	Adair, Casey	1
37	5,559.5	51	Henderson	2
38	5,250.5	11	Green, Marion, Taylor, Washington	2
39	5,240.5	55	Bullitt	2
40	5,216.5	41	Clay, Jackson, Leslie	2
41	5,102.0	15	Carroll, Grant, Owen	2
42	5,039.0	46	Breckinridge, Grayson, Meade	2
43	4,884.0	23	Estill, Lee, Owsley	1
44	4,828.0	56	Caldwell, Livingston, Lyon, Trigg	2
45	4,782.0	19	Bracken, Fleming, Mason	1
46	4,738.0	18	Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson	1
47	4,672.0	42	Calloway	1
48	4,564.0	24	Johnson, Lawrence, Martin	2
49	4,552.0	10	Hart, LaRue	1
50	4,412.0	47	Letcher	1
51	4,398.0	04	Hopkins	2
52	4,261.0	34	McCreary, Whitley	2
53	4,220.5	32	Boyd	2
54	4,117.0	58	Marshall	1
55	4,078.5	31	Floyd	2
56	3,781.5	38	Butler, Edmonson, Hancock, Ohio	2
57	3,771.5	40	Clinton, Russell, Wayne	2
58	2,828.0	60	Cumberland, Monroe	1
59	2,399.0	01	Fulton, Hickman	1
60	2,102.0	59	Ballard, Carlisle	1

115 Judges

Average Cases per Judge: 7,009.35 Median: 6,220.92

Kentucky Circuit Court Clerks

The 120 clerks of the Circuit Courts oversee documentation of trial court activities in each of Kentucky's counties. The clerk of each Circuit Court also serves as the clerk of the District Court for that county. Clerks are elected for a six-year term. Circuit clerks' offices vary in size from one clerk and one deputy clerk to 300 or more deputy clerks and administrative staff. The clerks of the trial courts keep a docket for each original action filed in that court and assign each action a consecutive file number. All papers filed with the clerk are marked with the file number and noted chronologically in the docket on the page or pages of the docket assigned to the action. These notations show the nature of each paper filed or issued and the substance of each order or judgment. This process is maintained and secured in both paper and electronic records for the nearly 1 million actions filed in Kentucky courts each year. In fiscal year 2006, the circuit court clerks' offices collectively processed \$284,747,092 in fines, fees, costs and other monies.



David N. Hunt
Circuit Clerk, Clark County
2006 President, Kentucky Association of Circuit Clerks



Janet Hearld
Circuit Clerk, Muhlenberg County
2006 Chair, Circuit Clerks Education Committee

Monies Collected by Circuit Clerks' Offices Statewide Totals FY 2006

Feecode Description	Beginning Balances	Cash Receipts	Cash Disbursements	Cash Refunds	Ending Balances
Drivers Licn	\$0.00	\$23,453,590.55	\$0.00	\$317.02	\$0.00
Charges for Services	\$0.00	\$4,804,235.57	\$0.00	\$31,425.13	\$0.00
Expungement Fees	\$0.00	\$56,872.70	\$0.00	\$610.00	\$0.00
Restitution Fees	\$0.00	\$372,226.35	\$0.00	\$299.04	\$0.00
Bond Filing Fee	\$0.00	\$509,466.09	\$0.00	\$332.00	\$0.00
Bond 10% Fee	\$0.00	\$759,256.10	\$0.00	\$2,060.00	\$0.00
Bond Forfeitures	\$0.00	\$1,713,366.02	\$0.00	\$10,893.50	\$0.00
Fish & Game Fines	\$0.00	\$139,926.59	\$0.00	\$52.00	\$0.00
Highway Work Zone Safety Fines	\$0.00	\$170,577.64	\$0.00	\$6.42	\$0.00
Alcohol Intoxication Fines	\$0.00	\$357,946.16	\$0.00	\$100.50	\$0.00
Energy Recovery Road Fines	\$0.00	\$84,812.80	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00
Criminal/Traffic Costs	\$0.00	\$55,682,658.15	\$0.00	\$25,422.25	\$0.00
Criminal/Traffic Fines	\$0.00	\$24,052,175.26	\$0.00	\$16,312.51	\$0.00
Handicap Fees	\$0.00	\$27,061.07	\$0.00	\$435.00	\$0.00
State Jail Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crime Victims Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
DUI Service Fees	\$0.00	\$6,946,627.18	\$0.00	\$2,430.50	\$0.00
Brady Bill Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SCHIR Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TBI Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Court Facilities Fees	\$0.00	\$5,707,265.52	\$0.00	\$2,907.00	\$0.00
Court Security Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Civil Filing Fees	\$0.00	\$10,469,549.02	\$0.00	\$7,085.70	\$0.00
Access to Justice Fees	\$0.00	\$3,057,085.51	\$0.00	\$2,415.00	\$0.00
PA Partial Fees	\$0.00	\$1,382,821.10	\$0.00	\$1,145.50	\$0.00
Public Advocate Admin Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$1,257,191.45	\$0.00	(\$121.12)	\$0.00
Over/(Short)	\$0.00	(\$55,903.87)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total State Money	\$12,087,667.04	\$140,948,806.96	\$140,012,730.73	\$104,252.95	\$12,919,490.32
Jury Fund	\$376,511.66	\$3,481,002.59	\$3,474,669.50	\$0.00	\$382,844.75
Witness Fund	(\$5,394.14)	\$123,142.86	\$99,412.14	\$0.00	\$18,336.58
Bail Bond	\$41,464,324.24	\$76,004,433.93	\$75,495,187.86	\$0.00	\$41,973,570.31
Alimony & Support	\$18,842.23	\$1,493,771.52	\$1,490,717.81	\$0.00	\$21,895.94
Rest & Gar	\$1,970,795.97	\$9,907,754.29	\$9,555,159.09	\$0.00	\$2,323,391.17
Condemnation	\$9,787,734.89	\$16,603,541.41	\$16,356,176.81	\$0.00	\$10,035,099.49
County Jail	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Collect for Others	\$8,609,128.90	\$28,841,369.20	\$26,785,365.90	\$0.00	\$10,665,132.20
Library Fees	\$99,728.66	\$745,019.90	\$750,453.71	\$0.00	\$94,294.85
Sheriff SS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Savings Bal	\$74,409,339.45	\$278,148,842.66	\$274,019,873.55	\$104,252.95	\$78,434,055.61
Spec Escrow	\$16,044,657.21	\$6,598,249.58	\$6,198,692.22	\$0.00	\$16,444,214.57
Total All Funds	\$90,453,996.66	\$284,747,092.24	\$280,218,565.77	\$104,252.95	\$94,878,270.18

Administrative Office of the Courts

The statutory duties of the Administrative Office of the Courts include: act as fiscal agent for the Court of Justice; maintain data-processing systems; disperse and maintain supplies and equipment; administer personnel policies and payroll; oversee the state pretrial and juvenile services programs; supervise the State Law Library; provide educational programs for judges, court clerks and support staff; prepare, publish and print manuals, forms, stationery, and other materials. The AOC consists of a director's office and 15 departments, many of which consist of one or more divisions. The AOC departments are identified as follows:

Administrative Services

Division of Accounting

Division of Judicial Receptionists

Division of Payroll

Division of Purchasing

Auditing Services

Budget and Policy

Court Facilities

Division of Code Compliance

Division of Construction Services

Division of Design Services

Division of Facilities Finance

Division of Facility Operations

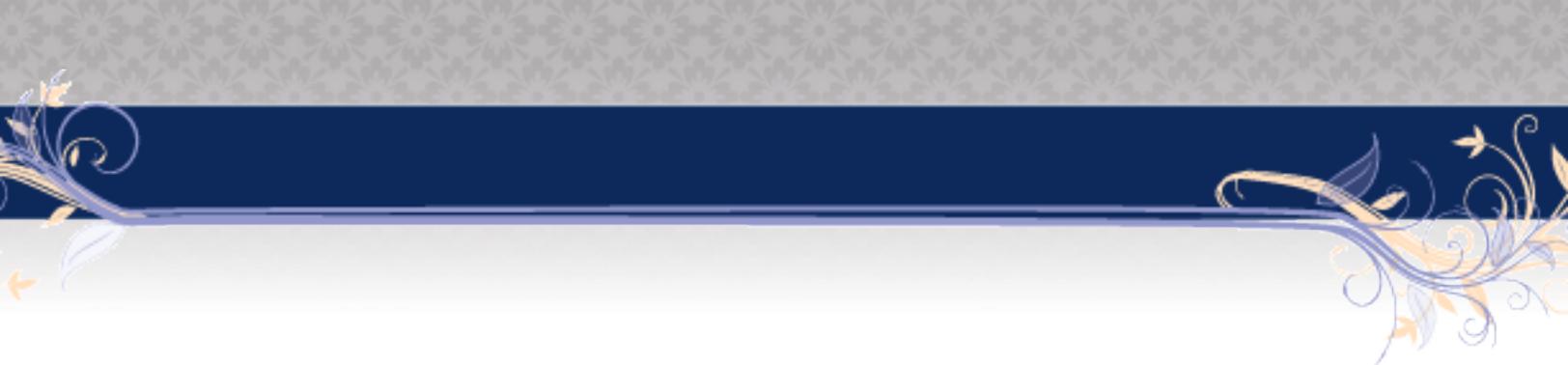
Division of Property Accountability

Division of Shipping, Receiving, Warehouse and Fleet Operations

Court Services

Division of Accessioning

Division of Case Management



Division of Research and Statistics

Drug Court

Human Resources

Juvenile Services

Division of Court Designated Workers and Law Related Education

Division of Dependent Children's Services

Division of Family Drug Court

Division of Juvenile Drug Court

Office of General Counsel

Office for Judicial Branch Education

Division of Mediation

Office of Minority Affairs

Pretrial Services

Division of Records Operations

Division of Court Security

Division of Interpreting Services

Division of Pretrial Services

Public Information

Division of Printing and Mailing Services

State Law Library

Technology Services

Division of Customer Support

Division of Development

Division of Data Security Systems

Division of Network Operations

Administrative Services

The Department of Administrative Services provides centralized payroll and personnel services to 4,000 Court of Justice employees and elected officials throughout the state. Administrative Services is also responsible for the purchasing and accounting of all goods and services used by the Court of Justice, which includes managing all memorandums of agreement, memorandums of understanding, personal services contracts, price contracts and federal and private agency activity.

In December 2006, Administrative Services assisted with transitioning more than 90 newly elected officials and their staffs into the court system.

FY 2006 Services Provided by Judicial Auditors	
Field Visits	170
On-site Trainings	42
Installation of Automated Receipts & Bookkeeping Systems (in number of days spent)	650
Investigations & Audits	75
Monthly Financial Reports Reviewed	1,500
Annual Financial Reports Reviewed	120
Funds Collected (in millions of dollars)	287

Auditing Services

The Department of Auditing Services regulates accounting policies and procedures for the offices of Kentucky Circuit Court clerks and master commissioners. With 10 judicial auditors, the department monitors their financial activities and performs full-scope audits of their accounting records. Auditors also provide technical assistance and training for clerks and master commissioners in the receipt, disbursement, investment and reporting of funds collected by their offices.

Auditing Services has been instrumental in developing Windows-based accounting and jury-management systems and offers ongoing assistance in improving and implementing services.

Office of Budget and Policy

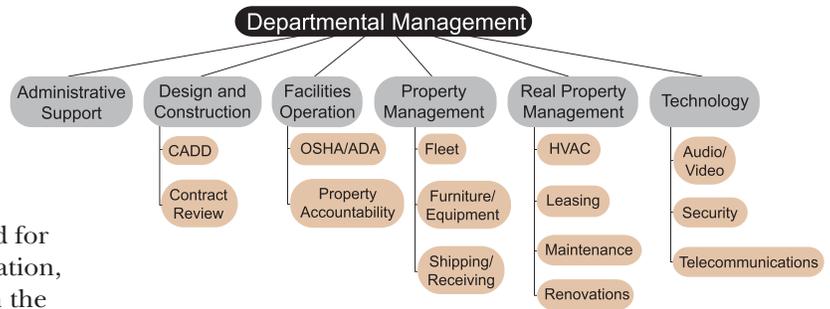
The Office of Budget and Policy monitors the Judicial Branch budget and serves as advisory staff for the AOC director in coordinating budgetary administration. This includes preparing and executing the annual operating budget and preparing the Judicial Branch Biennial Budget Request. Staff members attend legislative committee meetings during the General Assembly sessions and provide the AOC with analysis of legislation that may have a fiscal and programmatic impact on the Court of Justice.

Judicial Branch Budget General Fund	
Court Operations & Administration	FY 2006 Actual Expenditures
Supreme Court	\$ 4,672,600
Court of Appeals	\$ 7,121,100
Circuit Court	\$ 24,453,400
Family Court	\$ 10,301,200
District Court	\$ 18,501,400
Clerks	\$ 68,526,300
AOC	\$ 36,196,200
Cap Outlay	\$ 543,200
Total Court Operations & Administration	\$ 170,315,400
Local Facilities Fund	\$ 60,079,200
Judicial Retirement	\$ 2,303,300
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 232,697,900

Source: FY 2006 Judicial Branch Financial Statements

Court Facilities

The Department of Court Facilities is responsible for maintaining and equipping all courtroom and office space occupied by the Court of Justice throughout the state, which is more than 4 million square feet of facility space. As the need for space increases with Kentucky's growing population, new construction is planned and executed with the support of the Kentucky legislature, local government officials and citizens of the commonwealth. Governmental guidelines ensure court facility capital construction projects conform to uniform standards and procedures.



The Department of Court Facilities also carries out many renovation projects for facilities that need repair due to everyday use and those that must be brought into compliance with standards set forth by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Other projects involve restoring areas of historical value in keeping with their original presence. Renovated judicial centers, like those newly constructed, are equipped with the latest computer technologies, courtroom video and audio systems and security systems. With court security as a high priority, state-of-the-art security equipment is installed in new judicial centers and prisoners are segregated with separate entrances, corridors and elevators.

Construction procedures and the department's approach to designing and implementing facility infrastructures are constantly evolving to accommodate judicial facility needs and to serve as examples of facilities³⁵ across the commonwealth and nation.

Nearly 50 years after the Johnson County Courthouse opened in downtown Paintsville in 1957, the community gathered to dedicate its much anticipated replacement - the spacious, modern Johnson County Judicial Center at 908 Third St.



Court Services

The Department of Court Services took on additional responsibilities in fiscal year 2006 and expanded its management to include three divisions: Accessioning, Case Management, and Research and Statistics.

Accessioning Division

The Accessioning Division provides sound records management for the Court of Justice based on a retention schedule for paper documents produced by the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, circuit clerks and the AOC.

Case Management Division

The Case Management Division guides circuit court clerks in best practices for organization, maintenance, retrieval and disposition of court records. Field representatives provide on-site individual and group training to deputy clerks as new technology becomes available and is implemented in the Court of Justice case-management systems.

Research and Statistics Division

The Research and Statistics Division is responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of judicial case-load information for the Court of Justice. Its major function is to accurately handle and report circuit and district case-load activity collected from the circuit clerk offices in each of Kentucky's 120 counties. The division is also responsible for processing written requests from the public and private sector for Court of Justice statistical information.

Drug Court

Kentucky Drug Court is administrated through the AOC Drug Court Department. The program's mission is to help eligible participants break the negative cycle of addiction and related crime, which burden the community and prevent drug and alcohol abusers from living productive lives. Drug Court programs function within a cooperative courtroom environment where treatment providers and the justice system collaborate in supporting and monitoring a participant's recovery. In exchange for successful completion of the program, the court may dismiss the participant's original charge, reduce or set aside a sentence, offer a lesser penalty or offer a combination of these.



In fiscal year 2006, the number of Drug Court programs in Kentucky totaled 54 – 39 adult, two family and 13 juvenile. Operational programs encompass 80 counties, with 79 judges who volunteer their time to oversee Drug Court staff and weekly sessions with participants.

During fiscal year 2006, there were 532 Drug Court graduates from programs across the state. The amount of court obligations collected from participants increased from \$272,748 in fiscal year 2005 to \$500,099 in 2006. Since the inception of Kentucky Drug Court in 1996, court obligations paid total \$1,640,712.

2006 Statewide Conference

Kentucky Drug Court hosted its first statewide conference in May 2006, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the first AOC Drug Court established in Fayette County in 1996. More than 300 Drug Court staff, Drug Court judges, law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment providers, probation officers, school representatives and social workers attended the three-day event that featured national lecturers and experts from Kentucky. Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert, U.S. Rep. Harold "Hal" Rogers, then-Gov. Ernie Fletcher and then-Lt. Gov. Steve Pence, who was among the speakers at the celebration, were recognized for their contributions to the existence and expansion of Drug Court throughout Kentucky.

Juvenile Conference

In October 2005, more than 100 juvenile Drug Court staff, judges and treatment providers participated in training funded by the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Staff Trainings

Drug Court supervisors attended leadership and evaluation trainings in 2006, and all newly hired Drug Court staff attended a four-day day orientation.

Administrative Procedures

Chief Justice Lambert created Part XIII of the Administrative Procedures of the Court of Justice, which include Drug Court Administrative Procedures for Kentucky Drug Court programs. The Adult Drug Court procedures manual, adult participant handbook and Drug Court forms were revised and updated in 2006 to reflect the content of the newly established Administrative Procedures.

Management Information System

In fiscal year 2006, the Kentucky Drug Court Department and the AOC Technology Services Department trained all Drug Court staff on the newly created Management Information System for Drug Court programs. MIS was also installed and operational for all staff to use. The system assists Drug Court staff with the daily intake of information on participants and promotes consistency among the various programs. The capability of MIS to create statistical reports for each program, for a region or for the state is an invaluable tool for the Kentucky Drug Court Department, the Drug Court teams and the judges.

Drug Court Funding

State Funding

The 2006 regular session of the General Assembly provided \$1.3 million for fiscal year 2007 and \$1,725,000 in fiscal year 2008 to replace federal funds to cover existing Drug Court sites for which funding expires during the 2006-2008 biennium. The General Assembly also provided \$980,000 in fiscal year 2008 to expand existing Drug Court sites and \$4,770,000 in fiscal year 2008 for 20 new Adult Drug Court sites.

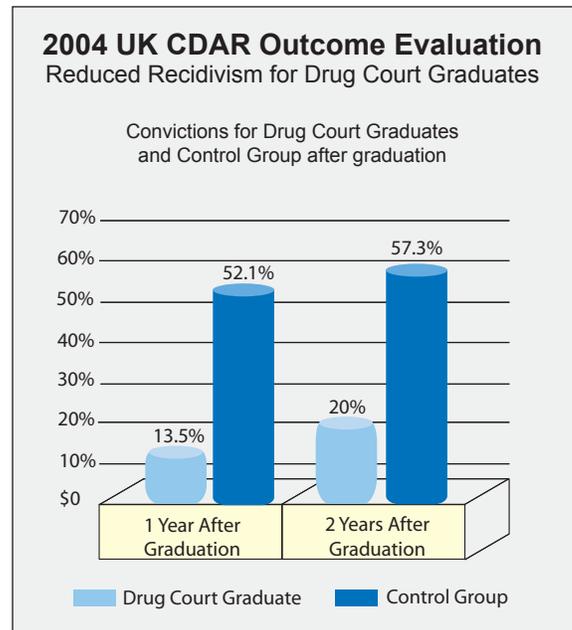
The Executive Budget provided \$1.3 million for fiscal year 2007 and \$1.8 million for fiscal year 2008 to continue and expand Drug Court in coal-producing counties. The funding was included in the Office of Drug Control Policy's budget and will be administered by that office.

Operation UNITE

Operation UNITE (Unlawful Narcotics Investigation, Treatment and Education) works closely with Kentucky Drug Court on issues of illegal drug usage, treatment and recovery. As of June 30, 2006, the organization provided funding to assist with personnel, treatment and drug screens in 17 Kentucky Drug Court programs, which encompass 27 eastern Kentucky counties. Of the 17 programs, 12 are for adults and five are for juveniles.

Federal Funding

In fiscal year 2006, Kentucky Drug Court received a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance for an adult program in Harrison, Pendleton, Robertson and Nicholas counties.



During fiscal year 2006, the BJA provided funding for eight Kentucky Drug Court programs – six adult and two juvenile programs.

Office of Drug Control Policy

Also in fiscal year 2006, the Office of Drug Control Policy applied for and received a federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant to establish Fayette County Family Drug Court. The \$1.2 million, three-year grant created the first Family Drug Court in Fayette County.

Department of Juvenile Justice

As in years past, the Department of Juvenile Justice assisted Kentucky Drug Court in fiscal year 2006 by providing funding for pilot juvenile programs. Without the \$50,000 provided by the department, at least two pilot juvenile programs (Henderson and Daviess counties) would not exist.

Human Resources

The Department of Human Resources supports 4,000 Court of Justice employees and elected officials throughout the state. The department processes all personnel actions, time sheets and employee benefits and presents employee orientations. It is continuing to grow by providing more standardization of human resource material and processes. During fiscal year 2006, the automated transfer of information from the time sheet application to the payroll system increased the efficiency and accuracy of payroll payments. The department launched a pilot pre-hire testing process that greatly improved the employment application process. It includes technologies that fully track all candidates throughout the hiring process.

Juvenile Services

The Department of Juvenile Services has four divisions: Court Designated Workers and Law Related Education, Dependent Children's Services, Family Drug Court and Juvenile Drug Court.

Division of Court Designated Workers and Law Related Education

Court Designated Workers

Each of Kentucky's 120 counties has the services of a Court Designated Worker, or CDW, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to process public and status offense complaints against people younger than the age of 18. Uniform criteria determine which complaints are eligible for informal processing through the CDW program.

In fiscal year 2006, CDWs processed 38,289 new public and status offense complaints. This assistance to District Court and Family Court statewide breaks down as follows:

Public offense complaints: 28,019 cases in which 8,346 (29.8 percent) were informally diverted through the CDW program with a success rate of 91.3 percent.

Status offense complaints: 10,270 cases in which 4,124 (40.2 percent) were informally diverted through the CDW program with a success rate of 64.1 percent.

The CDW program informally diverted a total of 12,470 cases (an increase of 13.2 percent from the previous year), with a success rate of 82.5 percent. An additional 3,117 public and status offense cases were informally processed or dismissed at the direction of the court or county attorney, further reducing the case load for District Courts and Family Court.

Pre-complaint conferences for status offenses: 1,331 conferences were held, as required by the Kentucky Revised Statutes for status offense cases.

Release of juveniles: Of the 17,076 juveniles taken into custody in 2006, the CDW program assisted in the release of 12,926, for an overall release percentage of 75.7 percent.

Restitution: \$72,730 in restitution to crime victims was collected.

Community service: 50,323 hours in community service were recovered.

In fiscal year 2006, there were sites in 12 counties and 16 participating schools with nearly 300 participants.

In addition, CDWs made 64 dependent, neglect and abuse referrals to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services in fiscal year 2006.

Law Related Education

The Law Related Education Program provides citizens, particularly young people, with information about the law, legal processes and the fundamental principles and values that underlie our constitutional democracy. In fiscal year 2006, 129,128 young people participated in Law Related Education programs across the state. Through these programs, judges, educators, law enforcement officers, juvenile justice practitioners and attorneys have an opportunity to interact directly with youths in their communities in a positive learning environment.

Truancy Diversion Program

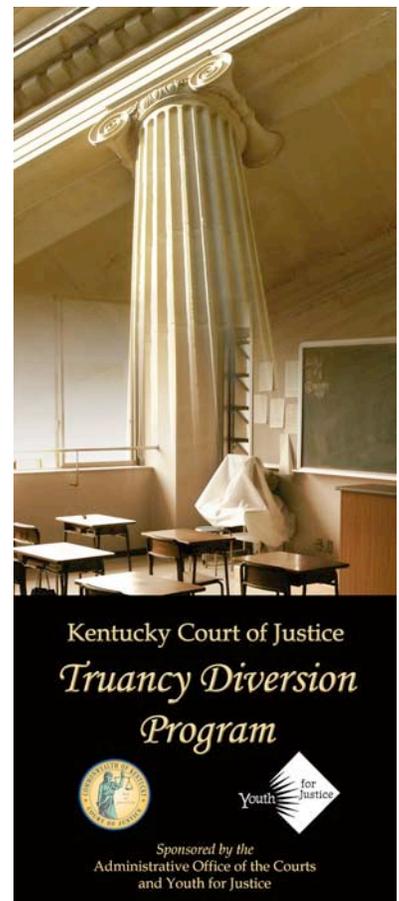
The Kentucky Court of Justice created the Truancy Diversion Program in fiscal year 2006 for students at risk of being charged with a truancy offense and referred to District Court or Family Court. CDWs work in collaboration with a team made up of judges, school counselors, principals, directors of pupil personnel and family resource staff. The goals are to divert students from getting a formal court record, help them develop good attendance habits and improve their overall educational experience.

Kentucky Teen Court

In fiscal year 2006, Teen Court was held in 26 counties with 1,295 young people participating with Circuit Court, Family Court and District Court judges in presiding over formal court proceedings. Nearly 200 Court of Appeals, Circuit Court, Family Court and District Court judges and attorneys volunteered their time during statewide mock trial competitions. A Kentucky team placed eighth in the national contest. All levels of the judiciary participated in the We the People ... The Citizen and the Constitution program through classroom visits, mock congressional hearings and the high school state competition.

Division of Dependent Children's Services

The Division of Dependent Children's Services supports a variety of programs that help ensure that the goals of safety, well-being and permanency for children in foster care are being met. Through these innovative programs, judges are able to make more informed decisions regarding permanency outcomes for children and determinations that appropriate services are being provided to children in out-of-home care.



Citizen Foster Care Review Board

The Citizen Foster Care Review Board continues to provide an invaluable service to Kentucky's foster children. There are more than 800 volunteers serving on 142 local review boards state-wide. CFCRB volunteers review the case files that are maintained by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services on the state's foster children. In fiscal year 2006, the CFCRBs conducted 15,095 reviews of case files on 6,333 children who were placed into the custody or committed to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services due to dependency, neglect or



The 2006 Citizen Foster Care Review Board conference honored volunteers who had served for 10 years. State Chairwoman Angie Funk is pictured at far left, followed by State Vice Chairwoman Charlene Greer, Kathryn Simmons, James Regan, Cathy Wallace, David Saier, Carol Dewald, Phyllis Church and Amanda Ferguson.

abuse. An important measure of success is that Kentucky's foster children continue to achieve permanency more quickly. For fiscal year 2006, the average length of stay of all children whose cases were reviewed was 23.75 months, a decrease of 2.85 months from last year's average.

Interested Party Review Program

The Interested Party Review program is an interactive review process that involves volunteers, parents, care-providers, personnel from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, guardians ad litem and counsel for parents. Detailed findings and recommendations are sent to the presiding judge so he or she will be better able to assess whether the needs of the child in out-of-home care are being met. In fiscal year 2006, more than 500 of Kentucky's foster children received the benefit of an IPR.

Kentucky Court Improvement Program

The Kentucky Court Improvement program is a federally funded initiative that requires states to address the most crucial court-reform issues regarding the improvement of safety, well-being and permanency of children in foster care. In fiscal year 2006, the Kentucky CIP focused its efforts on improving the court system through education of court and agency personnel, expansion of programs and collaboration with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Guardian Ad Litem Education Program

The Guardian Ad Litem Education program conducts training for guardians ad litem, counsel for parents, county attorneys and other professionals who work in the child protection system. During fiscal year 2006, the GAL program conducted nine two-day seminars and trained more than 600 attorneys in best-practice methods in dependency, neglect and abuse cases. In addition, the GAL program collaborated with the Kentucky Bar Association to present programs at the KBA Annual Convention and the KBA updates held in nine locations across the state. Funding for the program in 2006 was provided by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services through the Children's Justice Act grant.

Division of Family Drug Court

The Family Drug Court is a special court docket located in the local Family Court that focuses on treatment for families struggling with substance abuse. The court services families from which children have been removed from the home for abuse or neglect and where parental substance abuse is a contributing factor. The Family Drug Court is able to promote the safety and well-being of children by supporting the recovery of their parents from alcohol and other drug abuse through judicial accountability and an enhanced access to comprehensive treatment services.

Division of Juvenile Drug Court

Juvenile Drug Court identifies young people ages 13 to 17 who have current or past drug and/or alcohol charges. They may also have non-related drug charges stemming from their substance abuse. The program helps juveniles recognize and overcome their addictions. Participants and their families receive comprehensive education about addiction through treatment referrals and self-help groups. The goal is to enhance their potential for success in school and provide positive alternatives to a destructive lifestyle.

Office of General Counsel

The work of the Office of General Counsel encompasses nearly every aspect of the Court of Justice operations across the commonwealth. The office provides a full range of legal services to the chief justice, the director of the AOC and its central staff, judges, circuit clerks and commissioners of the courts. These services include counsel on personnel law, contracts, legislative changes, rules of administrative procedure, administration of juror lists, the Circuit Court Clerks Manual, administration of the Virtual Law Clerk program and AOC forms.

Office for Judicial Branch Education

A Banner Year

A new management team was appointed in February 2006 to serve the Office for Judicial Branch Education. Management and staff immediately began planning for what was to be the busiest and most productive year since the inception of the OJBE in 1978. That year, the Supreme Court created the OJBE, formerly known as Education Services, to provide continuing education for elected officials and to the multidisciplinary professional staff serving the Kentucky Court of Justice.

During 2006, the OJBE organized and implemented five faculty development programs and 21 conferences, including the largest orientation for newly elected officials in the history of the Kentucky Court of Justice. Requests for education services went beyond state boundaries in 2006. The OJBE contributed significantly to five national conferences. In conjunction with the Office of the Chief Justice of Kentucky and the Office of the Kentucky Secretary of State, the OJBE assisted with the organization and implementation of the regional Southern Coalition on Civic Literacy and Engagement held in Louisville and the fourth National Congressional Conference on Civic Education, which was held in Washington.

In addition to planning core educational functions, the Department of Mediation and Family Court Services was merged with the OJBE in 2006. The OJBE assumed responsibility for providing ongoing training to Family Court judges and staff. Mediation became a division of the OJBE that provides training opportunities for those interested in becoming mediators and continuing mediation education and services to approved mediators statewide.

Division of Mediation

In January 2006, the Mediation Division of the OJBE officially launched the Court Mediation Program in six jurisdictions: Boone, Campbell, Gallatin, Fayette, Jefferson and Kenton counties. Governed by 2005 Mediation Guidelines authorized by Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert, the program provides mediation services as a court-alternative program for judges. Cases deemed appropriate for this service may be directly referred to court mediators for processing. During the first year of the program, 4,908 cases were referred to mediation from the six jurisdictions. Mediators settled 88 percent of these referrals.

Court mediators are professionals with extensive training and experience in family and civil mediation. Located in courthouses in each pilot jurisdiction, mediators are authorized to mediate small claims, civil cases valued between \$1,500 to \$4,000, probate and family matters, and criminal misdemeanors.

Highlights of Selected Conferences

Newly Elected Officials Orientation Conference

The Newly Elected Officials Orientation Conference was the largest effort of its kind in the history of the Kentucky Court of Justice. Ninety newly elected officials attended this comprehensive orientation program that offered valuable assistance to circuit and district judges and circuit court clerks as they prepared to take office in January 2007.



The largest group of newly elected circuit and district judges and circuit clerks in years gathered in Lexington to attend sessions that would prepare them to take office Jan. 2, 2007. The Administrative Office of the Courts provided the intensive, five-day orientation program.

Traffic Safety and DUI

The 2006 Traffic Safety and DUI conference was funded by a grant from the Kentucky Governor's Highway Safety Program, which receives federal support from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. NHTSA recommendations have become the foundation for Kentucky's DUI Gold Standards Program. Judges, prosecutors and other law enforcement professionals developed the Gold Standards Program as a means to improve highway safety and reduce impaired driving.

Congressional Conference on Civic Education

The Kentucky Workgroup on Civic Literacy and Engagement took part in the fourth Congressional Conference on Civic Education in Washington from Nov. 17 through 20, 2006. Delegations from each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia participated in the conference sponsored by the Alliance for Representative Democracy and hosted by the Joint Leadership of the U.S. Congress. The conference drew more than 400 participants from across the nation.

Kentucky's 10-member delegation included Secretary of State Trey Grayson, chair of the Kentucky Workgroup on Civic Education; state Sen. Jack Westwood; state Rep. Tanya Pullin; Dr. Deborah Williamson, general manager of the OJBE; and Patrick Yewell, general manager of the Department of Juvenile Services at the AOC.

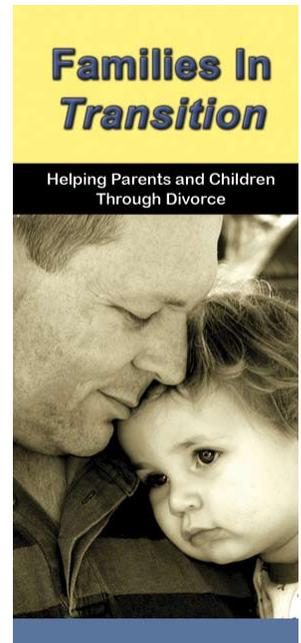
Families In Transition (Divorce Education)

The Kentucky Court of Justice has joined other states in offering divorce education programs to help parents and their children maintain a healthy, workable relationship throughout this painful process. Families In Transition is an educational program for parents and their children, ages 5 to 17 years. Kentucky has 55 judicial circuits with local providers who facilitate the FIT program and 33 judicial circuits that facilitate other types of divorce education programs.

Approximately 5,187 parents in Kentucky attended the FIT program in 2006. The overall evaluation rating indicated high satisfaction with the program.

FIT offers a six-hour educational program on how to effectively cope with the problems that result from divorce. The program teaches families the skills they need to resolve disputes on their own, which is likely to reduce the number of disagreements requiring court intervention.

The AOC and the University of Louisville jointly administer the FIT program, which has received national and international attention. It has been used as the model for developing programs in 65 communities in the United States, Ireland and the Republic of South Africa.



Office of Minority Affairs

The Office of Minority Affairs works to develop just and sustainable programs that improve the judicial process and strengthen public confidence in our laws and court system. Created in 2000 through the efforts of Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert, its mission is to address racial disparities in the courts, ensure equal access to justice and increase the diversity of Kentucky's judicial workforce and legal profession.

The Office of Minority Affairs sponsors educational workshops for Kentucky Court of Justice employees that offer valuable insights into attitudes toward cultural and gender differences. It participates in college career job fairs and maintains contact with college placement officials and minority organizations to encourage minority students to seek employment opportunities within the Kentucky Court of Justice.

Diversity Law Day

During annual Diversity Law Day on law school campuses, Minority Affairs supports initiatives that encourage students of color to attend law school and seek employment opportunities with the Kentucky Court of Justice when they graduate. Minority Affairs also promotes strategies for recruiting and retaining attorneys of color.

Legal Diversity Summit

The Office of Minority Affairs coordinated the first Legal Diversity Summit in February 2006. Featured speakers state Rep. Arnold Simpson and then-Circuit Court Judge Denise



Clayton (now a Court of Appeals judge) underscored the importance of a diverse workforce and served as role models of success in the legal community for students of color who desire to attend law school.

Jury Research and Juror Education

Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert formed The Jefferson County Commission on Racial Fairness in 2006 to ensure that juries represent the racial makeup of Kentucky communities. Court of Appeals Judge Denise Clayton chairs the commission, which researches and reports on courtroom environment, sentencing, bail and jury selection practices. The Office of Minority Affairs represents the Kentucky Court of Justice at the commission's monthly meetings.

Pretrial Services

The Department of Pretrial Services encompasses the divisions of Pretrial Records, Pretrial Diversion and Monitoring, and Court Security.

Pretrial Services provides a uniform system for assessing defendants' criminal history and personal data in order to classify their risk to public safety and make recommendations to the court for their release or holdover.

In fiscal year 2006, there were 207,717 defendants in Kentucky arrested and placed in custody who were eligible for a pretrial interview. Pretrial officers interviewed 178,387 of these, representing 86 percent. Of those defendants opting for a pretrial interview, 69,797 were released under the Pretrial Services program. Domestic violence-related charges in fiscal year 2006 accounted for 13,815 arrests. There were 52,098 affidavits of indigence processed, which comprised 25 percent of the arrest population.

In July 2005, Pretrial Services implemented a monitored conditional release program in Jefferson County. By June 2006 the program was available statewide. The MCR program operates on the premise that defendants often remain in jail because they are unable to afford bond after their first appearance in court. Pretrial officers use a standardized risk-assessment process to determine which individuals can be released with the assurance they will appear for future court dates and are unlikely to commit other crimes while their cases are pending. Pretrial officers also conduct a needs evaluation and screen for substance abuse and mental health issues.

This thorough assessment allows pretrial officers to recommend to the judge whether a defendant would be a good candidate for non-financial release under specific conditions. The conditions vary based on a defendant's at-risk behaviors. Some defendants are required to report regularly to their pretrial officer while others must undergo random drug testing, are subject to a curfew or home incarceration, or are ordered to maintain employment, seek counseling or obtain a general education diploma, or GED. Pretrial officers supervise the defendants until the final disposition of their court cases.

During fiscal year 2006, there were 2,011 clients referred to the monitored conditional release program, with a compliance rate of 88 percent. By freeing up jail beds, Pretrial Services saved local governments \$1,308,270.

The services of pretrial officers are required by statute to be offered within 12 hours of arrest. Pretrial Services employs 10 statewide administrators and seven unit managers to supervise its 57 field offices. Each office maintains an up-to-date database of all pretrial defendants in local jails and tracks their status until they are released.

Diversion and Monitoring

Pretrial Services also administers diversion and monitoring programs that offer misdemeanor offenders an alternative to prosecution. These programs benefit the court, the defendant

and the community. They reduce trial dockets and case loads and require offenders to pay restitution to their victims and volunteer for non-profit charities or public agencies. In fiscal year 2006, 5,752 clients were referred to the diversion program. Diversion clients completed 14,789 hours of community service and paid \$68,167.48 in restitution payments to crime victims.

Records Division

The Records Division responds to requests from state agencies and the private sector for criminal history data to use for employment screening and other purposes. Data is retrieved from CourtNet, which contains records from Kentucky's 120 counties on all misdemeanor and traffic cases for the last five years and felonies dating back to 1978.

In fiscal year 2006, more than 740,000 record requests were processed, which generated \$3.6 million to offset the cost of operations. The division also screened more than 9,000 applications for citizens who had applied for licenses to carry concealed deadly weapons and more than 286,000 requests for records checks on youth leaders.

Court Security Division

The Court Security Division provides security for high-profile, potentially volatile trials and special court functions. The division also trains bailiffs in security procedures. In fiscal year 2006, the division spent 14,394 hours providing security for Kentucky's trial and appellate courts. Court Security officers conducted full security surveys on 241 sites and held 1,145 meetings with elected officials to coordinate security procedures. At the request of local courts, detailed plans for 463 trials were developed with specific responsibilities for the parties involved in covering each trial. Additional surveys are being conducted on satellite locations, including appellate judges' offices, sites where driver's licenses are issued and all other sites leased by the Kentucky Court of Justice.

Public Information

The Department of Public Information is responsible for providing communications support to the Kentucky Court of Justice and is committed to producing high-quality communications that help the public better understand and use the resources provided by the state court system. This includes responding to the many media inquiries that come into the AOC regarding state courts. It also means serving in an advisory capacity for justices, judges and circuit court clerks who request assistance with media relations. The department also writes and distributes news releases on behalf of the court system.

Through its graphic design and publications development services to all AOC departments, the Department of Public Information ensures that Court of Justice materials provide a clear, consistent message. The Department of Public Information serves as the point of contact from the beginning of a project through the final printing and distribution.

Kentucky Court of Justice Web Site

The Department of Public Information is responsible for the daily operation of the Kentucky Court of Justice Web site. In 2006, the Kentucky Court of Justice Web site moved to a new operating platform, and a comprehensive revision of the Web site's information is underway.

Division of Printing and Mailing Services

The Division of Printing and Mailing Services is responsible for printing, warehousing and distributing Court of Justice legal forms, letterhead and other publications essential to the business of the courts. This division also provides postal and UPS shipping services to the AOC's Millcreek Park offices.

State Law Library

The Kentucky State Law Library provides timely and accurate research and reference assistance and materials to justices and judges. The library's collection is also available to other state agencies and the public. The library staff provides reference service and instruction in the use of the material, but not legal advice.

Print resources cover the complete Kentucky primary legal collection, including Kentucky Statutes from 1801, Kentucky Acts from 1801, Kentucky Codes of Practice from 1850 and prior editions of secondary Kentucky legal materials. The library also houses updated statutes of the 50 states including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, federal court decisions and digests, federal laws, the federal code and regulations, as well as regional reporters and legal texts and treatises.

In Memoriam

In November 2005, State Law Librarian Carol Jane Parris began fighting her battle with cancer. After recovering from a serious illness earlier that year, Ms. Parris' diagnosis came as a shock to everyone. Throughout her illness she continued to exhibit her characteristic joy. She spoke with the library staff at least once a week and kept tabs on everyone at the AOC. We lost her in August 2006. Our lives are sadder for her passing but better for the joy she brought to us while she was with us and the joy we will continue to feel when we think of her.

Pictured in photo: Seated, State Law Librarian Carol Parris. Standing, left to right: Brad Sears, staff attorney; Joseph Isaac, judicial purchase coordinator; Debbie Johnson, account specialist; Jennifer Frazier, assistant state law librarian; Robin Mattingly, electronic resources coordinator. Not pictured are Vida Vitagliano, technical services librarian, and Charles Brock, collection maintenance coordinator.



Highlights of State Law Library projects and changes in fiscal year 2006

The library staff completed its plan to visit all 120 county law libraries, which was a project that began in 2004.

Preservation of the Constitutional Debates of 1849 and 1890

In its capacity as a repository of state legal history, the Kentucky Constitutional Debates of 1849 and 1890 were scanned and PDF documents created in a word searchable CD-ROM format. The electronic versions of these important documents were then distributed to the Kentucky Supreme Court justices and Court of Appeals judges. Additionally, several sets of the 1890 debates were rebound for distribution to the Supreme Court. After mold was discovered on books stored in the basement of the Capitol, rare or important items not available to the Kentucky Court of Justice in electronic format were specially cleaned and placed on the shelves in the main library.

Celebration of 30th anniversary of the Judicial Article Amendment

Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert asked the state law librarian to head a celebration planning committee for the 30th anniversary of the passage of the Judicial Article Amendment in Kentucky. Carol Parris put together a committee that began planning a book, gala event and the cataloging and conservation of original documents. When she was unable to continue as chairwoman of the committee, others stepped in to complete the work and make the celebration a success.

Virtual Law Clerk Program

The Virtual Law Clerk program was expanded, making it physically impossible to house at the library in the state Capitol. The clerks and staff attorney in charge of the program moved to the Office of General Counsel at the AOC.

Technology Services

Technology Services provides technology to improve the operational efficiency of Kentucky's courts and court support systems. The department consists of four divisions: Customer Support, Data Security Operations, Development, Networking Operations, and Systems Operations. Each division is involved in specific areas of technical support for the 4,000 Court of Justice employees who are stationed across the state in the organization's more than 600 facilities.

Technology Services continually focuses on modernizing technologies to prepare for the future. Some examples of data-management applications and business software solutions that Technology Services has developed and supports are: KYCourts, a trial court management system; CourtNet, a Web-based summary of all cases; Court Records Online; Docket Information; E-citation; and the Jury Management System.

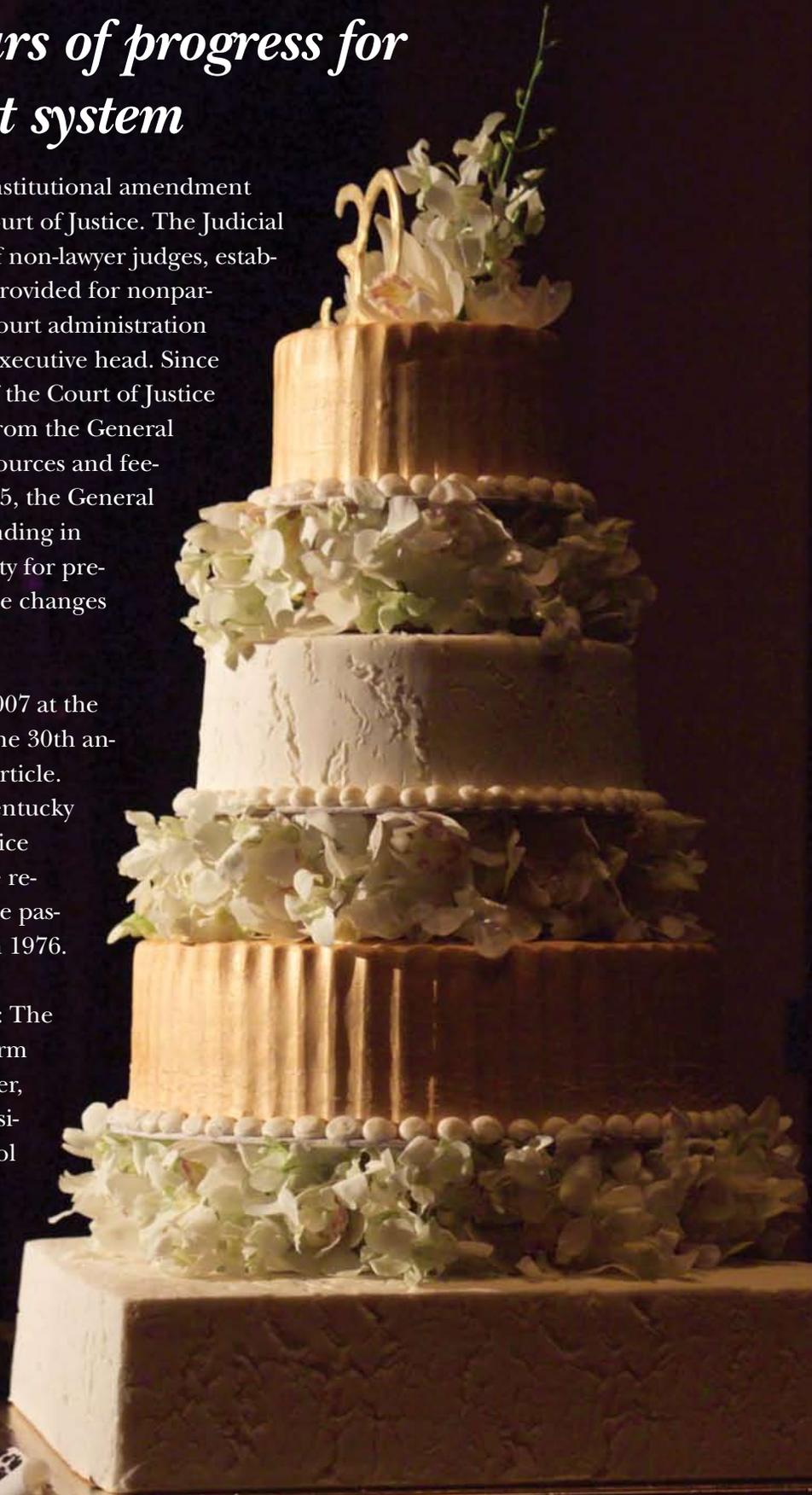
The Court of Justice networking infrastructure and Web-based programming have grown to provide a statewide data network and e-mail system that connects 123 courthouses, approximately 170 other facilities and 4,000 Court of Justice employees. Additionally, local court case information is available statewide to the justice community within 20 minutes of entry. A video arraignment system allows courtrooms to visually and audibly communicate directly with jails, labs and other connected facilities. An official court record is electronically recorded for all courtroom proceedings. Technology Services also designs the network architecture for the physical security systems it installs and maintains for the Court of Justice.

The Judicial Article Amendment ... celebrating 30 years of progress for the Kentucky court system

In 1975, Kentucky voters approved a constitutional amendment that virtually re-created the Kentucky Court of Justice. The Judicial Article Amendment abolished the use of non-lawyer judges, established a four-tier, unified court system, provided for nonpartisan judicial elections and centralized court administration with the chief justice designated as the executive head. Since adoption of the amendment, funding of the Court of Justice has been exclusively by appropriations from the General Assembly, and the use of local funding sources and fee-based funding discontinued. Also in 1975, the General Assembly abolished commercial bail bonding in Kentucky and delegated the responsibility for pre-trial release to the Court of Justice. These changes became effective in January 1976.

The Judicial Article Gala held Jan. 19, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency in Louisville celebrated the 30th anniversary of the passage of the Judicial Article. To commemorate the progress of the Kentucky court system, the Kentucky Court of Justice published a historical perspective on the reform of Kentucky's court system since the passage of the constitutional amendment in 1976.

Contributing authors of "United At Last: The Judicial Article and the Struggle to Reform Kentucky's Courts" are Kurt X. Metzmeier, acting director, law library of the University of Louisville's Louis D. Brandeis School of Law; Michael Whiteman, associate dean of Law Library Services and Information Technology, Northern Kentucky University's Salmon P. Chase College of Law; and Jason M. Nemes, director of the Administrative Office of the Courts.





Contributing authors and publishing staff of "United at Last: The Judicial Article and the Struggle to Reform Kentucky's Courts."



Several speakers at the Judicial Article Gala included Charles E. English, Esq., Sen. and former governor Julian M. Carroll, Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert and Honorable Robert M. Bell.



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