

The image shows the spines of several old, worn books. The spines are made of different materials, including dark brown leather and yellowish-tan cloth. Red labels are pasted onto the spines, with the words "ACTS OF" and "ARKANSAS" printed in gold or yellow capital letters. Some spines also have handwritten numbers like "1866-67" and "1868-1869". The books are arranged vertically, and the image is partially obscured by a large red and dark blue diagonal graphic on the right side of the page.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Annual Report of the Arkansas Judiciary  
2016

Administrative Office of the Courts

Marty Sullivan, Director

Office of Research and Justice Statistics

Diane Robinson, Director





Last Updated 9/15/2017

## Contents

01	Chief Justice's Message
02	Letter from the Director
03	Court Structure
04	Budget and Funding
05	Arkansas Supreme Court
08	Court of Appeals
11	Appeals on Wheels
12	Boards and Committees
15	Administrative Office of the Courts
21	Judicial Council
22	Courts of General Jurisdiction
86	Limited Jurisdiction Courts
95	Specialty Courts
101	In Memoriam



# A Message from the Chief Justice



Photo Credit: Debbie Brower Photography

**The Annual Report is a substantial undertaking in transparency and highlights the combined efforts of all the state's courts this past year.**

My Fellow Arkansans:

It is my distinct pleasure to introduce the Annual Report for 2016. The Annual Report is a substantial undertaking in transparency and highlights the combined efforts of all the state's courts this past year. Within these pages, you will find statistics and other information that demonstrate the courts' extraordinary dedication to the People of Arkansas.

Arkansas courts continue to evolve to meet the needs of the public. I have recently appointed the judiciary's first strategic planning committee. The committee is composed of judges and court personnel from across the state. This year, we have already begun the process of creating and publishing an overall strategic plan for the state judiciary that encompasses strategic goals through 2025. Among these will be an emphasis on further updating our court technology infrastructure and bringing additional courts into the e-Filing system.

In the past year, e-Filing has been implemented in an additional five circuits and in one district court. The Supreme Court of Arkansas and the Court of Appeals have entered phase two of the implementation process for e-Filing, and Contexte has

been put into effect in Faulkner and Van Buren Counties' District Courts. While the judiciary has made significant strides in modernizing our courts, we must constantly strive to provide better and more efficient solutions for the public, our judges, the courts' staff, and the attorneys across the state. Improvements to the jury and case-management systems are a particularly high priority in the coming years.

Finally, I want to say how honored I am to serve the state and the people of Arkansas. I appreciate the trust placed in my leadership and strongly believe that the next year will be one of incredible progress for the state judiciary.



John Dan Kemp  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Court of Arkansas



## Letter from the AOC Director



Photo Credit: John Blakney

My Fellow Arkansans,

I am pleased to present the 2016 Annual Report. Our intent is that you will find it informative and useful.

The Administrative Office of the Courts has long had the motto, "Supporting Courts, Ensuring Justice." It is my goal to refocus on and stress the importance of our mission.

We are here to serve as a resource to the court community of our state, which does a remarkable job of efficiently and effectively dispensing justice to Arkansans who rely on the judiciary for resolution of legal matters. The fair and speedy administration of justice helps ensure public trust and confidence in our government.

Over the coming decade, the Arkansas Judicial Branch will embark on an aggressive agenda of innovation. We are moving forward with an effort to embrace new technologies to increase efficiency, improve service, and promote new thinking about the delivery of justice. We must find new ways to work collaboratively and support one another. We must learn and adapt to changes. We must approach problems proactively in order to execute the level of support that I know we are capable of providing. The challenges in accomplishing this are great, but I look forward to working with my outstanding colleagues at the Administrative Office of the Courts, the members of the Arkansas Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Judicial Council, District Judges Council, and their staffs to meet these goals. I also look forward to working with the Governor and the General Assembly as we undertake these initiatives.

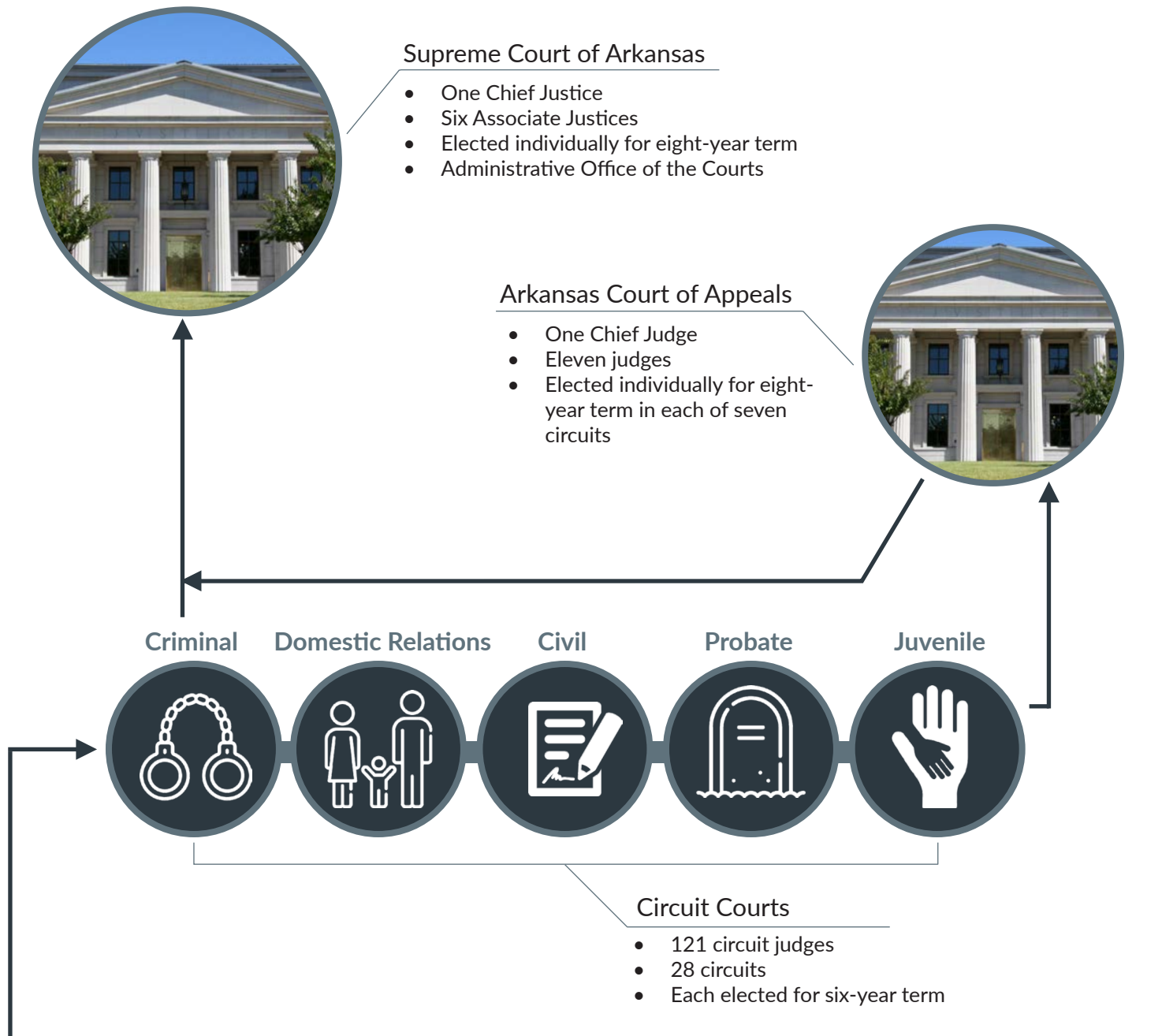
It is an honor to serve as the Arkansas State Court Administrator. I am blessed to work with so many talented judges, court personnel, and staff who care passionately about improving our great state. Together, we will fulfill our mission of supporting our courts and ensuring justice for the people of Arkansas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Sullivan".

**Marty Sullivan**

Director, Administrative Office of the Courts

# ARKANSAS COURT STRUCTURE\*



## State District Courts

- 37 courts
- 166 departments
- 54 judges, each elected to 4-year term
- Minor civil/criminal and small claims matters
- \$25,000 civil jurisdiction
- Circuit court referral



## Local District Courts

- 35 courts
- 73 departments
- 37 judges, each elected to 4-year term
- Minor civil/criminal and small claims matters

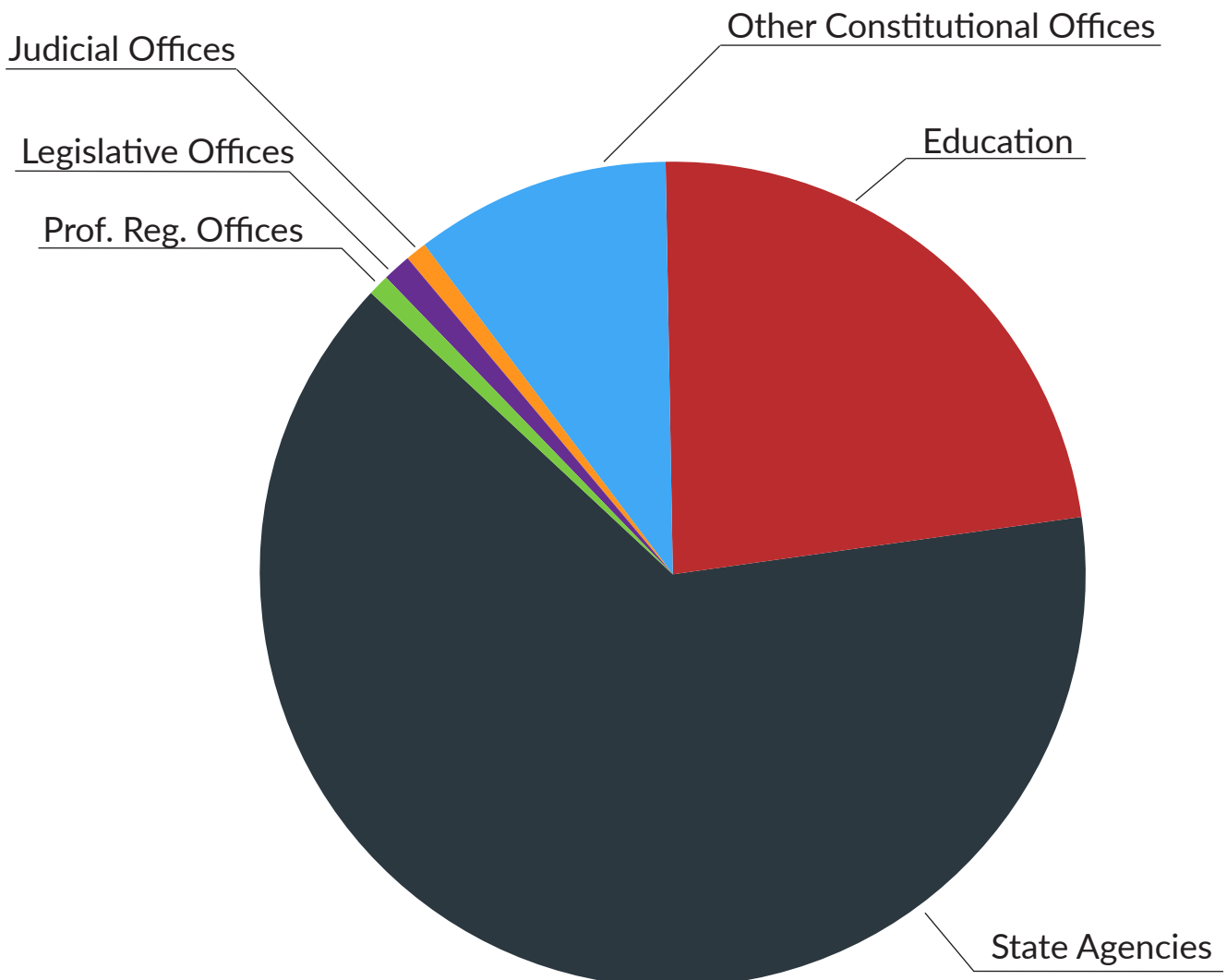
\*The number and distribution of district courts was changed in 2017 in accordance with Act 723.



# BUDGET AND FUNDING

FUNDED STATE BUDGET	2016
Judicial Offices	\$80
Legislative Offices	\$86
Other Constitutional Offices	\$2,839
Prof. Regulatory Offices & Boards	\$66
Education	\$6,745
State Agencies	\$19,155
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,971</b>

Amounts in millions. Fiscal year ended June 30. All funds budgeted to agencies and program from General Revenue, Constitutional Offices, and State Control Service Funds.



# THE SUPREME COURT OF ARKANSAS

## The Arkansas Supreme Court was created in 1836 and met for the first time on January 24, 1837.

The Court established, as one of its early goals, a standard of fairness and speedy dispatch in its deliberations and opinion process.

For many years, the Court operated with one of the nation's heaviest per-judge appellate court workloads. The creation of the Court of Appeals in 1978 greatly eased the burden, but the number of cases continued to grow. The expansion of the Court of Appeals in 1996 and 1997 from six to twelve judges greatly improved the administration of justice at the appellate court level.

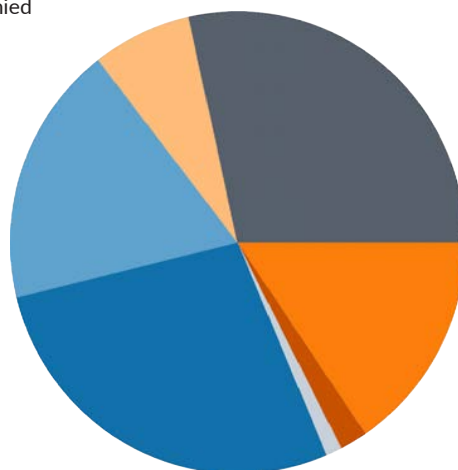
The workload of appellate courts is generally measured by the number of cases filed (including appeals, petitions, and motions) and disposed of during the year and by counting the number of opinions written by the justices. The number of appeals filed in the Supreme Court totaled 397. The number of cases closed also totaled 397, for a case clearance rate of 100%.

The most common type of case filed with the Supreme Court was civil petition for review, with 95 filings, followed by post-conviction appeals, with 90. The graph below shows the relative frequency of different types of cases. In this graph, CR refers to criminal and CV refers to civil. Pending start are the cases open at the beginning of the year and pending end are the cases open at the end of the year.

The Supreme Court's historical dedication to its "fast track" system, where citizens are assured of a written opinion, on average, within two weeks of the time of submission, continues to be unique among state courts of last resort in the United States. This year, Justices wrote and published a total of 580 opinions, which include majority, concurring, dissenting, and per curiam opinions. The average time from submission of a case to majority opinion was 21 days and the median time was 14 days, meaning that the majority opinion was issued in fewer than 14 days in half of cases and longer than 14 days in half.

### Manner of Disposition

- Other
- Granted
- Reversed and Dismissed
- Affirmed
- Dismissed
- Reversed
- Denied





## SUPREME COURT SUMMARY REPORT

### January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Case Type	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Appeal by State	7	3	6	4
Appellate Felony	20	28	25	23
Appellate Misdemeanor		4	3	1
Appellate Writ - Other - CR	6	2	2	6
Appellate Writ - Other - CV	2	2	3	1
Capital Death	8		2	6
Capital Life w/ Parole	5	6	4	7
Civil Appeal Administrative		1	1	
Civil Appeal Circuit	35	42	42	35
Civil Petition for Review	40	95	91	44
DHS Juvenile Appeal	1	6	5	2
Incarcerated Civil Appeal	22	44	29	37
Interlocutory Appeal	6	11	5	12
Original Action	5	13	14	4
Post Conviction Appeal	60	90	98	52
Post Conviction Death	1		1	
Probate Appeal	3		3	
WR Certiorari - CR	4	3	6	1
WR Certiorari - CV	5	14	17	2
Writ of Habeas Corpus - CV		1		1
Writ of Mandamus - CR	3	5	8	
Writ of Mandamus - CV		3	1	2
Writ of Prohibition - CR	1			1
Writ of Prohibition - CV	1	3	4	
TOTAL	247	397	397	247

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>





# History

The Arkansas Supreme Court is composed of seven justices elected to serve eight-year terms. The State's current constitution, ratified in 1874, initially provided for three Supreme Court justices, but also authorized the General Assembly to increase the number of justices to five if it deemed necessary when the state population amounted to one million. By Act 19 of 1889, the number of Supreme Court justices was increased by the legislature to five. In 1924, the constitution was amended to allow the General Assembly to increase the number of justices to seven should it become necessary. By Act 205 of 1925, the number increased to seven justices, whose terms began on January 1, 1927.

## Members of the Arkansas Supreme Court

**John Dan Kemp**  
Chief Justice

**Robin F. Wynne**  
Associate Justice - Position 2

**Shawn A. Womack**  
Associate Justice - Position 5

**Courtney Hudson Goodson**  
Associate Justice - Position 3

**Karen R. Baker**  
Associate Justice - Position 6

**Josephine Linker Hart**  
Associate Justice - Position 4

**Rhonda K. Wood**  
Associate Justice - Position 7

According to the Arkansas Constitution, justices are required to be licensed attorneys for eight years immediately preceding the date of assuming office. Many justices spend much more than the required eight years practicing as lawyers or serving as judges on a trial court. As a result, each member of the Court brings a unique background, set of experiences, and perspectives to the bench.



## THE ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS

Since its creation in 1978, the Arkansas Court of Appeals has worked with the Supreme Court to provide major relief for the tremendous increase in appeals which first challenged the Arkansas appellate court system during the 1970's.

The number of appeals continued to grow at such a tremendous rate, however, that the Court of Appeals was no longer able to accommodate further increase. Legislation first adopted during the 1993 legislative session increased the Court of Appeals to twelve members from six members. Three new judges were added in 1996 and an additional three judges were added in 1997. The twelve member court sits in four panels of three and, when necessary, conducts en banc sessions with six judges.

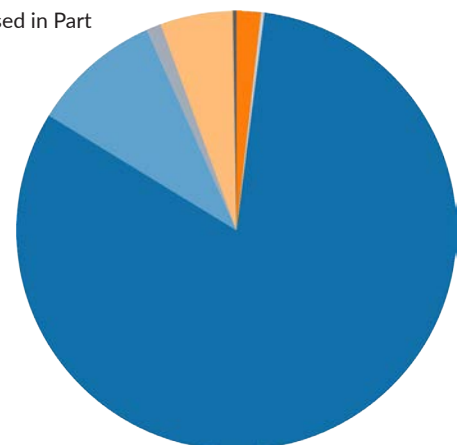
The workload of the Court of Appeals is measured by the number of appeals, petitions, and motions considered by the Court during the fiscal year. Appeals filed during 2016 totaled 1,209 cases. Disposed cases totaled 1,206 cases, for a case clearance rate of 99.75%.

The most common type of case by far in the Court of Appeals is Department of Workforce Service, with 568 cases filed. The second most common case type filed was Civil Appeal Circuit, with 240 cases filed. Workload is also measured by the number of

opinions written by the judges of the Court of Appeals. In 2016, the judges wrote a total of 697 majority, concurring, dissenting, and per curiam opinions. The average time for a case from submission to majority opinion was 21 days. The median time was 14 days, meaning that the majority opinion was issued in fewer than 14 days in half of cases and longer than 14 days in half.

### Manner of Disposition

- Other
- Reversed and Dismissed
- Affirmed
- Dismissed
- Affirmed/Reversed in Part
- Reversed
- Denied





## COURT OF APPEALS SUMMARY REPORT

### January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Case Type	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Appellate Felony	134	169	153	150
Appellate Misdemeanor	14	14	17	11
Appellate Writ - Other - CR	3		2	1
Appellate Writ - Other - CV	6	1	7	
Civil Appeal Administrative	3	2	4	1
Civil Appeal Circuit	197	240	235	202
Civil Petition for Review	1		1	
Dept Workforce Service	273	568	622	219
DHS Juvenile Appeal	40	105	92	53
Incarcerated Civil Appeal	1	2	2	1
Interlocutory Appeal	2	10	4	8
Juvenile Civil Appeal		1		1
Juvenile Delinquency Appeal	3	15	5	13
Original Action	1		1	
Post Conviction Appeal	1	12		
Probate Appeal	16	18	17	17
Worker's Compensation	23	51	41	33
WR Certiorari - CR	3		2	1
WR Certiorari - CV	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	722	1209	1206	725

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>





## Members of the Arkansas Court of Appeals

**Rita W. Gruber**

Chief Judge - Position 1  
District 6

**Ray Abramson**

Judge - Position 1  
District 1

**Phillip Whiteaker**

Judge - Position 2  
District 1

**Bart Virden**

Judge - Position 1  
District 2

**Mike Murphy**

Judge - Position 2  
District 2

**Robert J. Gladwin**

Judge - Position 1  
District 3

**Kenneth S. Hixson**

Judge - Position 2  
District 3

**Brandon Harrison**

Judge - Position 1  
District 4

**David M. Glover**

Judge - Position 2  
District 4

**Mark Klappenbach**

Judge  
District 5

**Larry D. Vaught**

Judge - Position 2  
District 6

**Waymond M. Brown**

Judge  
District 7

## History

In response to the increasing backlog of cases pending before the Arkansas Supreme Court, effective July 1, 1979, the Arkansas General Assembly established a Court of Appeals composed of six members. The Court handed down its first opinions for publication on August 8, 1979.

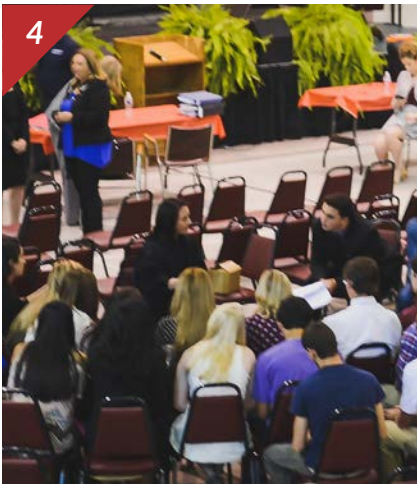
Although the creation of the Court of Appeals provided relief for the Arkansas Supreme Court, the latter's growing docket required more. In 1995, the Arkansas General Assembly enlarged the Court of Appeals to nine judges, and again in 1997 to the twelve members we have on the Court today.

Pursuant to Act 1812 of 2003, the State of Arkansas is divided into seven districts for the election of judges to the Arkansas Court of Appeals, and the dates of electing the judges within each of these districts is established.

**The jurisdiction of the Arkansas Court of Appeals is determined by the Arkansas Supreme Court. There is no right of appeal from the Arkansas Court of Appeals to the Arkansas Supreme Court; however, opinions decided by the Arkansas Court of Appeals may be reviewed by the Arkansas Supreme Court on application by a party to the appeal, upon certification of the Arkansas Court of Appeals, or if the Arkansas Supreme Court decides the case is one that should have originally been assigned to the Supreme Court.**

# Appeals on Wheels

Appeals on Wheels is an outreach program to teach students about the court system. Twice each year, the Supreme Court holds oral arguments outside of Little Rock, inviting local students to attend, watch the proceedings, and ask questions of the justices afterwards.



## 1. Batesville / Spring 2016

Following oral arguments, the audience breaks into several groups, each assigned a Supreme Court Justice. These breakout groups give students an opportunity to interact with the justices. In this photograph, **Justice Hart** addresses a group of students from Batesville Junior High.

## 2. Fordyce / Fall 2016

**Justice Baker** addresses a group of students following the oral arguments.

## 3. Fordyce / Fall 2016

A native son of Fordyce, **Justice Wynne** signs a photograph of the sitting Supreme Court of Arkansas for the local museum.

## 4. Fordyce / Fall 2016

**Justice Wood** addresses a group of students following the oral arguments.

## 5. Batesville / Spring 2016

**Justice Goodson** addresses a group of students following the oral arguments.



# SUPREME COURT BOARDS & COMMITTEES

The Arkansas Supreme Court carries out many of its administrative responsibilities through the work of several committees, commissions, and boards. Each is made up of judges, attorneys, and lay persons and one liaison justice of the Supreme Court. Staffing for the committee is provided by the Office of Professional Programs, the Office of Professional Conduct, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Arkansas Access to Justice Commission (AATJ)

The mission of AATJ is to coordinate statewide efforts to ensure that all Arkansans have a fair opportunity to be heard in court in civil matters. The AATJ works with a variety of partners who share their vision. Together, they undertake innovative projects to accomplish this mission, as well as efforts to increase the financial and pro bono resources available to meet the civil legal needs of low-income Arkansans.

## Arkansas Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program (JLAP)

The mission of JLAP is to protect the interests of clients, litigants, and the general public from harm caused by impaired lawyers or judges; to assist impaired members of the legal profession to begin and continue recovery; and to educate the bench and the bar to the causes of and remedies for impairments affecting members of the legal

profession.

## Board of Certified Court Reporter Examiners

Oversees the examination and certification of court reporters and makes certain that all certified court reporters comply with Administrative Order 4.

## Client Security Fund Committee

This committee was established to provide reimbursement to individuals who have lost money or property as a result of the dishonest conduct of an attorney practicing law in the State of Arkansas. The fund provides a remedy for clients who are unable to obtain reimbursement from any other source.

## Commission on Children, Youth, and Families

The commission was created to study and recommend improvements to state courts and state court practice for children, youth, and families who



are involved in proceedings in Arkansas Courts. Its goals are to develop and sustain a collaborative model among leaders in the state that will produce improved outcomes for children, youth, and families in Arkansas courts; identify, recommend, implement, and evaluate improvements for courts in order to be more effective in achieving safety, permanency, and well-being for children and youth; promote data-driven, evidence-based practices in the courts; promote fairness and due process for all parties; provide appropriate access to courts for foster parents and relative care givers; and promote appropriate training for all participants in the child welfare and juvenile justice system.

### **Committee on Automation**

The committee's charge is to fully study all issues relating to the automation of the courts and to make recommendations for a master plan of automation.

### **Committee on Child Support**

The Supreme Court Committee on Child Support is appointed by the Court to examine, and, if needed, revise, the child support guidelines (the family support chart) and to establish the criteria for deviation from the chart. The Committee consists of, at a minimum, one Court of Appeals judge, four circuit judges, one legal services attorney, one Office of Child Support Enforcement attorney, two attorneys from the private bar, and one member of the Arkansas General Assembly. Each state is required by federal law to review its child support guidelines every four years. For Arkansas, this Committee conducts that review for the Supreme Court at least every four years, but recommendations to the Court concerning the guidelines and Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 10 may be made at any time.

### **Committee on Civil Practice**

The Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Civil Practice considers proposals and recommendations for changes in rules of procedure affecting civil practice. Recommendations are submitted to the Arkansas Supreme Court. Members are appointed to

three year terms.

### **Committee on Criminal Practice**

The Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Criminal Practice considers proposals and recommendations for changes in rules of procedure affecting criminal practice. Recommendations are submitted to the Arkansas Supreme Court. Members are appointed to three year terms.

### **Committee on Model Jury Instructions - Civil**

The Committee adopts model jury instructions for civil cases. Members are appointed to three year terms.

### **Committee on Model Jury Instructions - Criminal**

The Committee adopts model jury instructions for criminal cases. Members are appointed to three year terms.

### **Committee on Professional Conduct**

The Committee operates to adjudicate professional conduct charges brought before it by the Office of Professional Conduct (OPC) against Arkansas-licensed attorneys. The Committee consists of four panels, each comprised of five attorneys and two non-attorneys, all appointed by the Arkansas Supreme Court for six year terms. OPC staff receives grievances, investigates, charges as indicated by the evidence, and prosecutes formal complaints before the Committee panels and on appeals or disbarments before the Supreme Court. In the five year period through 2016, OPC has received an annual average of 727 grievances and filed an average of 62 formal complaints. In 2016, 725 grievances were received and 52 formal complaints were filed.

### **Committee on Security and Emergency Preparedness**

Provides assistance and support to cities and counties in the adoption of local court security plans and the provision of court security for circuit and district courts; coordinates training programs for



court security officers, and provides assistance to courts when incidents occur.

### **Committee on Unauthorized Practice of Law**

The UPL Committee determines probable cause to proceed and adjudicates formal charges developed by its staff attorney at OPC against any person or entity believed to be engaged in the unauthorized practice of law. The Committee is composed of four attorneys and three non-attorneys appointed by the Arkansas Supreme Court for three year terms. The Committee can issue cease-and-desist opinions. If legal action against a party is deemed necessary, such action is filed in the circuit court for injunctive relief. In the five year period through 2016, the UPL Committee received an annual average of 29 complaints, 26 files were opened for investigation, and 8 UPL violations were found. In 2016, 26 complaints were received, 25 went to investigation, and 2 UPL violations were found (23 files remained open with investigation continuing).

### **Continuing Legal Education Board**

The CLE Board is responsible for the supervisory authority over the Arkansas Supreme Court Rules for Minimum Continuing Legal Education. These responsibilities include imposition of sanctions for noncompliance of the CLE requirements in Arkansas as well as the implementation and administration of the Rules. The Board has the exclusive authority for accreditation of continuing legal education sponsors and programs in Arkansas. The Board handles all matters of reinstatement for those attorneys who have failed to comply with their annual requirements.

### **District Court Resource Assessment Board**

Board is directed by statute to meet on or before the first Tuesday of the December before each regular session of the General Assembly to consider making a recommendation to the General Assembly for the creation and placement of new district court judgeships; any redistricting of the district courts/ and the reorganization, consolidation, abolition, or creation of any district court(s) or

district court judgeships. The statute also requires the Board to meet upon the end of the term, resignation, retirement, death, or election to another judicial office of any district judge to recommend the reorganization, consolidation, abolition, or continuation of that district court judgeship to the General Assembly before the next regular session, fiscal session, or special session or during the current session.

### **Board of Law Examiners**

The Board is responsible for obtaining and providing the questions to be used on all Bar Exams given in Arkansas. The Board members are also responsible for the grading of all essay answers of all applicants of the Arkansas Bar Exam. It is the responsibility of the Board of Law Examiners to certify all applicants who have attained a passing score on the Bar Exam, secured a required scaled score on the MultiState Professional Responsibility Exam and satisfied all requirements of the Standards for Admission. The Board is responsible for the review and certification of all applicants seeking Admission by Motion, Readmission to the Bar of Arkansas after surrender or disbarment and those filing Petitions for Reinstatement after failing to pay annual license fees for a period of more than three (3) years. The Board conducts all hearings on applicants presenting Character and Fitness issues in their applications.

# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

The mission of the Administrative Office of the Courts is to support the Arkansas Judiciary and employees of the judicial branch and to assist attorneys and members of the public who rely upon an independent state court system that is efficient, accessible, and fair to all. The Administrative Office of the Courts provides a number of specific services.

## Alternative Dispute Resolution

The office of Alternative Dispute Resolution assists in the work of the ADR commission in the implementation of programs and the education and certification of professional mediators.

Jennifer Taylor  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Director  
[jennifer.taylor@arcourts.gov](mailto:jennifer.taylor@arcourts.gov)

## Court Interpreters

The Office of Court Interpreter Services provides services for individuals who have a limited ability to understand English, are deaf or hard of hearing, or are unable to speak. It is responsible for the certification of interpreters and the scheduling of interpreters for court proceedings. In addition to the staff interpreters, it coordinates the use of contract interpreters and maintains a registry of Certified Court Interpreters.

Mara Simmons  
Court Interpreter Services Director  
[mara.simmons@arcourts.gov](mailto:mara.simmons@arcourts.gov)

## Security and Emergency Preparedness

The Security and Emergency Preparedness Director oversees the Supreme Court's improvements to security and emergency preparedness for all the courts of the state. He assists courts in developing security plans, coordinates training programs for court security officers, and provides assistance to courts when incidents occur.

Pete Hollingsworth  
Director of Security and Emergency Preparedness  
[pete.hollingsworth@arcourts.gov](mailto:pete.hollingsworth@arcourts.gov)





## Domestic Violence Program

The Domestic Violence Program maintains and develops programs and policies for the courts to address domestic violence issues. The coordinator facilitates training and education programs for judges and educates victims, advocates, and other organizations on the judicial process.

### Position Vacant

Domestic Violence Program Director

## Judicial Branch Education Division

The Judicial Branch Education Division provides educational and training programs for judges, court clerks, trial court assistants, court reporters, probation officers, and other court personnel. It includes a public education component to help educate students and private citizens about the judiciary. It oversees the publication of educational pamphlets, special reports, and other materials relating to the judiciary. In 2016, the judicial branch education division provided 19 programs and reached 1,627 learners.

### Ben Barham

Director of Judicial Education  
ben.barham@arcourts.gov

## Juvenile Division

The Juvenile Division strives to encourage best judicial practices; promote data-driven, evidence-based practices in our courts; coordinate and provide training for participants in the Juvenile Division Courts; provide the Juvenile Division of Circuit Court with resources to better serve the children and families who appear before the court; ensure that the well-being of children, youth, and families is a high priority within the Arkansas judicial system; and provide leadership in bringing diverse groups together to better serve children and families who enter our court system.

### Jennifer Craun

Juvenile Division Director  
jennifer.craun@arcourts.gov

## Juvenile Attorney ad Litem (AAL) Program

The Juvenile AAL program provides qualified attorneys to represent all children in dependency-neglect proceedings pursuant to Arkansas Supreme Court Administrative Order 15. The AAL program has 33 full-time Attorneys ad Litem and 41 part-time contract Attorneys ad Litem who provide representation to all children in the dependency-neglect cases in the state. AALs provided representation to 11,188 children in 5,691 dependency-neglect cases in 2016.

### Renia Robinette

Attorney ad Litem Program Director  
renia.robinette@arcourts.gov

## Court-Appointed Special Advocate (ARCASA) Program

ARCASA promotes and supports local CASA programs to provide qualified advocates in our courts to work with Attorneys Ad Litem helping dependent-neglected children reach safe, permanent homes. CASA advocates are volunteers appointed by the court and undergo background checks, 30 hours of pre-service training with curricula developed by the National CASA Association, and must complete 12 continuing education hours annually. In 2016, ARCASA provided grants, technical assistance and training to 23 local CASA programs with a total of 1,336 volunteers who advocated for 4,390 youth.

### Mary Beth Luibel

State CASA Coordinator  
marybeth.luibel@arcourts.gov

## Parent Counsel Program

The Parent Counsel Program provides representation to a parent or custodian who had legal custody at the time the children were removed from the home if the parent makes a request to the court and is found by the court to be indigent. Further, even a non-custodial parent who requests an attorney and is found by the court to be indigent is entitled to a court-appointed attorney at termination of parental rights hearings. Attorneys serving as Parent Counsel must be qualified pursuant to Arkansas Supreme

Court Administrative Order 15. The Parent Counsel Program contracted with 63 attorneys to represent parents in dependency-neglect cases. Parent Counsel represented an average of 2,896 parents per month across the state, with each contractor representing an average of 45.9 parents per month throughout the year.

Brian D. Welch II  
Parent Counsel Program Director  
brian.welch@arcourts.gov

### **Court Improvement Program (CIP)**

The Court Improvement Program is a result of three federal grants that support improvements in child abuse and neglect cases. CIP focuses on improving the quality of representation and court proceedings, including youth and family engagement. CIP Technology supports the development and implementation of DNet and court technology to improve court practice.

Carol A. Fletcher  
CIP Director  
carol.fletcher@arcourts.gov

### **Finance and Administration Division**

The Finance and Administration Division of the manages the areas of research and justice statistics, human capital, office administration, budgeting and finance, and court security.

Hervey F. Houser  
Finance and Administration Director  
hervey.houser@arcourts.gov

### **Juvenile Officer Certification**

Juvenile Officer Certification is provided by the Juvenile Division at the AOC based on a curriculum from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges adapted to Arkansas with input from juvenile officers. Circuit Judges hire juvenile officers who must meet the qualification standards and who must complete the Juvenile Officer Certification Course within one year. Officers must also maintain 12 hours of continuing education each year to

remain certified as a juvenile officer. In 2016, 42 new juvenile officers completed certification training.

### **Legal Services**

The Legal Division provides legal assistance to judges and court personnel throughout the state. They also assist the Supreme Court, the Governor's Office, and the General Assembly in developing policies and addressing issues affecting the judicial branch of government.

Larry Brady  
Legal Services Director  
larry.brady@arcourts.gov

Brooke Steen  
Attorney, Circuit Court Domestic Relations/  
Probate  
brooke.steen@arcourts.gov

Krystal Mann  
Attorney, Circuit Court Civil and Criminal  
krystal.mann@arcourts.gov

Keith Caviness  
Attorney, District Courts  
keith.caviness@arcourts.gov

### **Specialty Court Programs**

The Drug Court Coordinator serves as the coordinator of all specialty court activities in the state. These responsibilities include the training and continuing education of specialty court judges and their staff; development of a centralized management information system to evaluate and report on specialty court activities; providing assistance and counsel to the Specialty Court Program Advisory Committee; and the coordination of the work of judges, the Department of Community Correction, treatment providers, and others.

Kari Powers  
State Drug Court Coordinator  
kari.powers@arcourts.gov



## Office of Research and Justice Statistics

The mission of the Office of Research and Justice Statistics is to support the Arkansas Judiciary, employees of the judicial branch, attorneys, and members of the public with relevant and accessible data to improve the court system's efficiency, accessibility, and fairness to all. The office works to improve the quality and action-ability of court data, produces the statistical guide for Arkansas Courts, responds to data requests, and produces statistical and research reports.

Diane Robinson

Office of Research and Justice Statistics Director  
diane.robinson@arcourts.gov

## Supreme Court Library

The Supreme Court library serves the justices and staff of the Arkansas Supreme Court, the judges and staff of the Arkansas Court of Appeals, and support staff located within the Justice Building. The library is also open to the general public and participates as a selective depository in the federal government document and Arkansas state government document programs.

Ava Hicks

Supreme Court Library Director  
ava.hicks@arcourts.gov

## Court Information Services

The Court Information Systems Division (CIS) is responsible for providing technological support to the state's courts, maintaining accurate information regarding court case loads, and for managing the Arkansas Court Automation Programs, a statewide initiative to automate jury and case management in Arkansas courts.

The division is composed of four groups:

The **Hardware Group** is responsible for managing networks and server hardware and provides desktop support to the appellate courts, AOC, and ancillary agencies. The **Software Group** is responsible for database management, software and reports development, and the Arkansas

Judiciary Website. The **Case Management Group** is responsible for maintaining accurate circuit court case load information, implementing and supporting case management software and related applications. The **Jury Management Group** is responsible for implementing and supporting jury management software and related applications.

Tim Holthoff

CIS Division Director  
tim.holthoff@arcourts.gov

## CIS Projects Completed:

Contexte

9th Judicial District Courts Faulkner County (Depts. of Greenbrier, Guy, Mayflower, and Vilonia) and Van Buren (Depts. of Clinton and Damascus)

eFiling Implementation

Hot Spring District Court (Civil & Small Claims; Traffic/Criminal)

23rd Judicial Circuit (Lonoke)

20th Judicial Circuit (Faulkner and Van Buren)

21st Judicial Circuit (Crawford)

8S Judicial Circuit (Miller)

19W Judicial Circuit (Benton)

Supreme Court Electronic Circulation

Juror

Little River County Circuit Court Juror Implementation

Conference / Educational

2016 ACAP Systems Conference



## Arkansas Courts on eFiling

### Circuit Court & District Court

as of January 1, 2017

(Court code shown below county name)

★ Appellate Courts on eFiling

■ Circuit Courts on eFiling

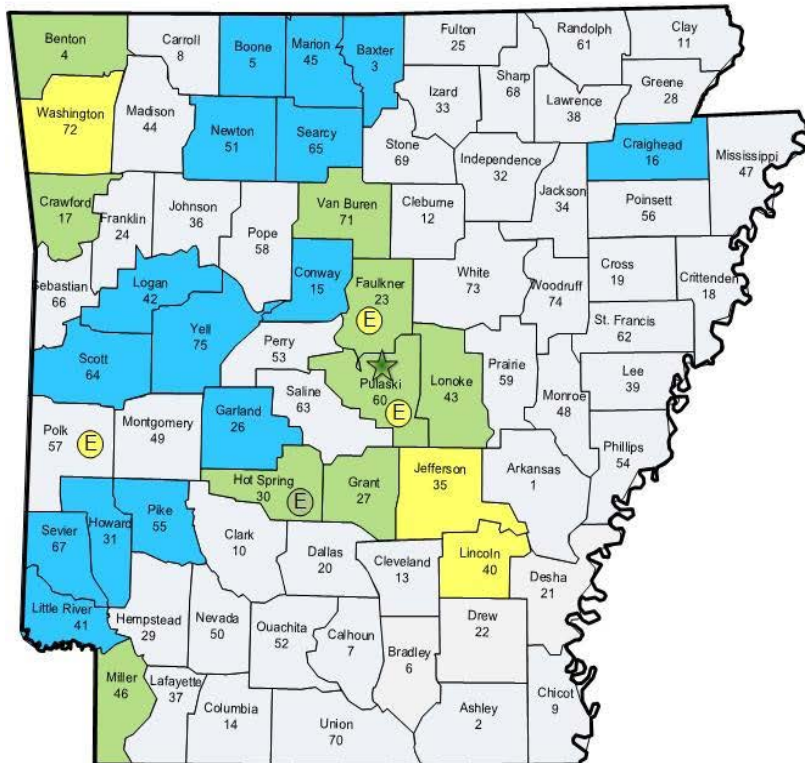
■ Circuit Court eFiling Project In Progress

■ Circuit Court Requesting an eFiling Project

ⓔ District Courts on eFiling

ⓔ District Court eFiling Project In Progress

ⓔ District Court Requesting an eFiling Project



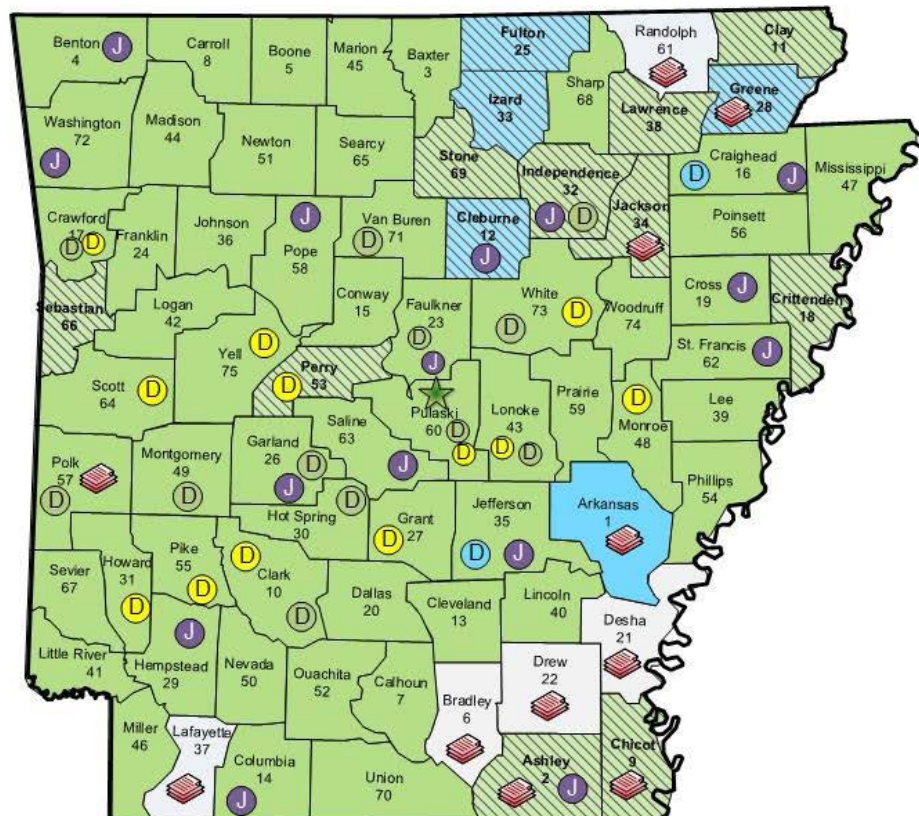


## Arkansas Courts on Contexte

### Circuit Court, District Court, & Juvenile Drug Court

as of January 1, 2017

(Contexte court code shown below county name)



★ Appellate Courts on Contexte

■ Circuit Courts on Contexte

▨ Circuit Court Statistics on Contexte

▨ Circuit Paper-Courts on Contexte

○ District Courts on Contexte

○ Juvenile Drug Courts on Contexte

■ Circuit Court Contexte Project In Progress

▨ Circuit Court Statistics with Full Contexte In Progress

○ District Court Contexte Project In Progress

■ Circuit Court Requesting a Contexte Project

▨ Circuit Court Statistics on Contexte Requesting Full Contexte

○ District Court Requesting a Contexte Project

## Judicial Council

The Arkansas Judicial Council consists of all judges of the circuit courts, Court of Appeals, Justices of the Supreme Court, retired justices and judges, and the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Council acts as the official body representing the state's judiciary. It was organized "to foster and preserve the integrity, dignity, and independence of the judiciary; to promote uniformity and dispatch in judicial administration; to develop, implement, and maintain a program of judicial education assisting members newly elected or appointed to the bench; to provide continuing judicial education for members; and to select members to the Judicial Retirement Board." The Council has specific statutory responsibility of making recommendations to the General Assembly on judicial redistricting and the addition of new judgeships in the state. Formal business of the Council is conducted in spring and fall meetings each year.

### Current Judicial Council Officers and Board of Directors

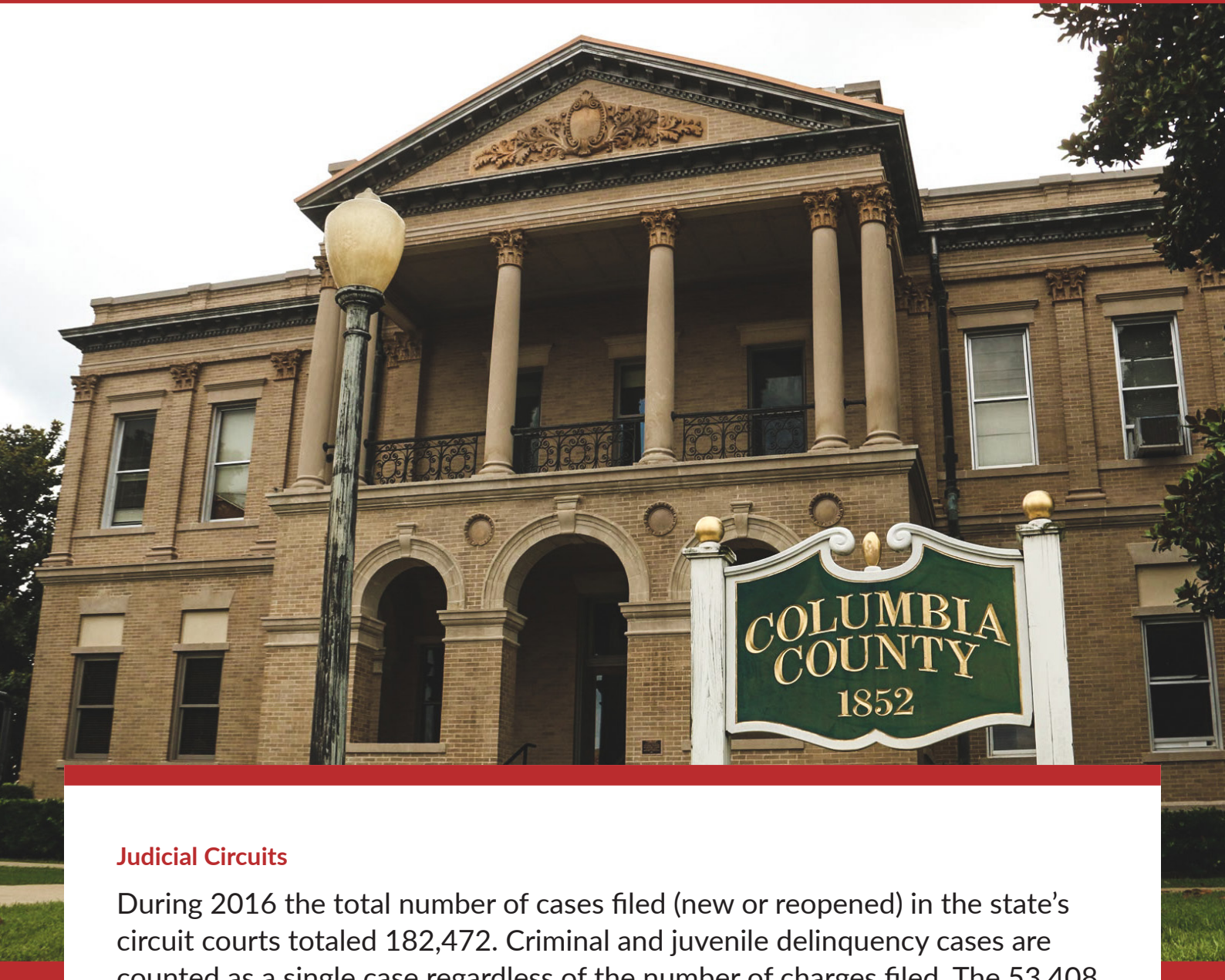
Hon. David Guthrie, Hon. Carlton Jones, Hon. David McCormick, Hon. Barbara Halsey, Hon. Leon Johnson, Hon. Mike Medlock, Hon. Herbert Wright, Hon. Rita Gruber, Hon. James Cox, Hon. Mary McGowan, Hon. Gary Arnold







# COURTS OF GENERAL JURISDICTION



## Judicial Circuits

During 2016 the total number of cases filed (new or reopened) in the state's circuit courts totaled 182,472. Criminal and juvenile delinquency cases are counted as a single case regardless of the number of charges filed. The 53,408 criminal cases filed involved 96,597 individual charges. Of those, 86,938 charges were disposed.

Overall, Arkansas circuit courts disposed of 160,707 cases in 2016. The number of cases pending at the end of 2016 was 260,118. The clearance rate compares the number of terminations to the number of filings. The clearance rate for all courts of general jurisdiction was 88% in 2016.





## OVERALL CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY

### January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	29,804	30,322	24,859	35,268
Criminal	81,115	90,995	80,120	91,900
Domestic Relations	40,378	52,156	48,570	43,966
Juvenile	25,141	15,729	14,507	26,363
Probate	66,334	18,366	13,515	71,193
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>242,772</b>	<b>207,568</b>	<b>181,571</b>	<b>268,690</b>

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>



# Arkansas Judicial Circuits

121  
Total Judges



28  
Judicial Circuits

For each judicial district a summary of the administrative plan is provided. For more detail, please see the administrative plans themselves at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/courts/circuit-courts>.



# FIRST CIRCUIT

---



The First Judicial District is located in the eastern part of the state and is composed of Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, St. Francis, and Woodruff counties. The circuit spans a total of 3,915 square miles and serves a population of 88,110.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Chalk S. Mitchell	Division 1
Hon. Richard L. Proctor	Division 2
<b>Hon. Christopher W. Morledge</b>	<b>Division 3</b>
Hon. Kathleen Bell	Division 4
Judge Ann B. Hudson	Division 5



# FIRST CIRCUIT CONTINUED

## FIRST CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	2,022	1,151	1,110	2,063
Criminal	2,615	1,612	1,449	2,778
Domestic Relations	2,906	1,826	1,269	3,463
Juvenile	688	620	415	893
Probate	2,503	599	480	2,622
TOTAL	10,734	5,808	4,723	11,819

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

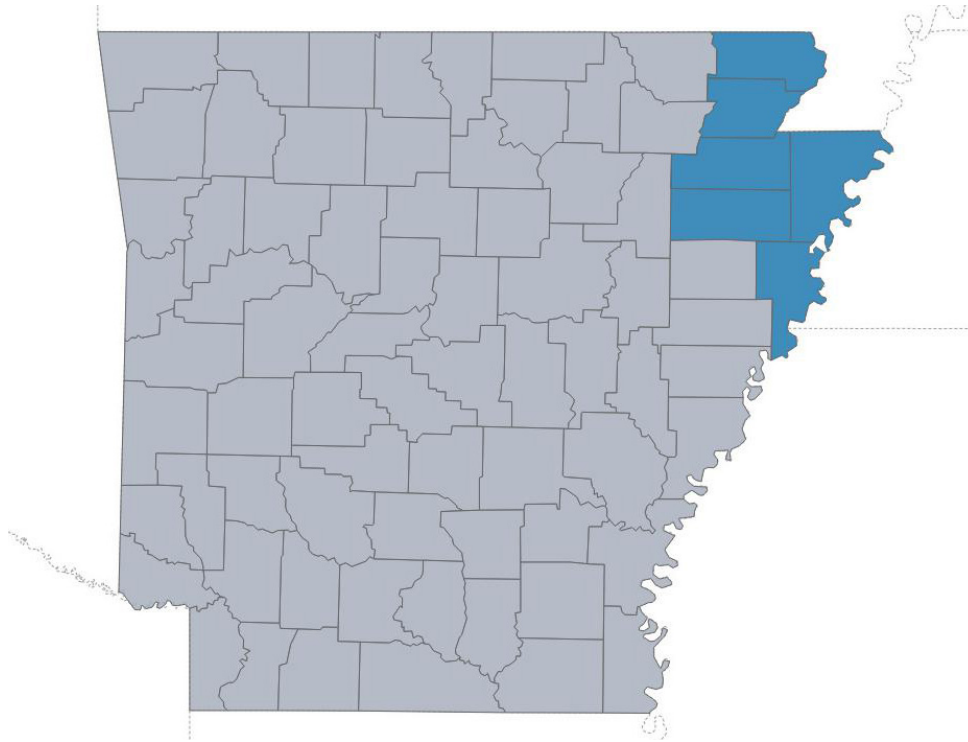
## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	45%	48%	7%		4%	
2	17%	16%	31%		32%	
3	17%	15%	31%	2%	32%	St. Francis County Adult Drug Court
4	17%	15%	31%	2%	32%	
5	4%	6%		96%		Juvenile Drug Courts



## SECOND CIRCUIT

---



The Second Judicial Circuit is located in the northeast part of the state and is composed of Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Greene, Mississippi, and Poinsett counties. The circuit is the second largest in the state, spanning a total of 4,253 square miles and including 9 courthouses. The circuit serves a population of 281,446.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Pam Honeycutt	Division 1
Hon. Richard Lusby	Division 2
Hon. Brent Davis	Division 3
Hon. Cindy Thyer	Division 4
<b>Hon. Ralph Wilson</b>	<b>Division 5</b>
Hon. Tonya Alexander	Division 6
Hon. Barbara Halsey	Division 7
Hon. John N. Fogleman	Division 8
Hon. Melissa Richardson	Division 9
Hon. Dan Ritchey	Division 10
Hon. Randy Philhours	Division 11



## SECOND CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### SECOND CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	4,994	2,872	2,078	5,788
Criminal	9,685	6,095	5,556	10,224
Domestic Relations	4,388	5,256	4,781	4,863
Juvenile	1,329	2,398	2,117	1,610
Probate	10,041	1,404	589	10,856
TOTAL	30,437	18,025	15,121	33,341

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	Clay ED 50%; Craighead WD 50%; Crittenden 33%; Poinsett 50%	Clay ED 50%; Greene 33%	11.9%		11.9%	
2	Crittenden 33%; Mississippi Chickasawba 33%	Craighead WD 25%	1.1%	Delinquency & FINS 50%	1.1%	Craighead County Juvenile Drug Court
3	Mississippi Chickasawba 33%	Craighead WD 25%; Greene 33%	8.5%		8.5%	Greene County Drug Court



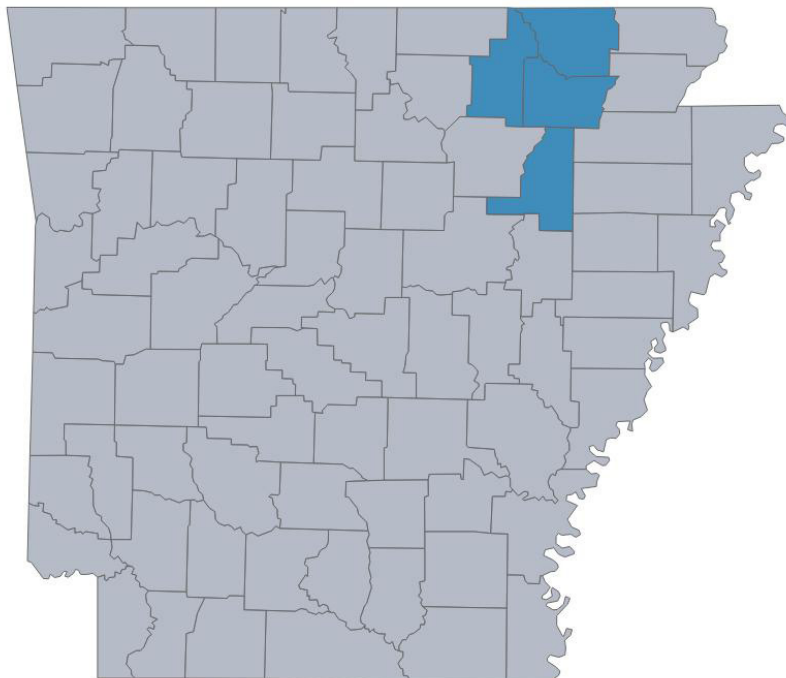
## SECOND CIRCUIT CONTINUED

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
4	Mississippi Osceola 50%	Craighead WD 25%; Mississippi Chickasawba 33%	3.0%	DN 24%; Delinquency & FINS 25%	3.0%	Crittenden County Drug Court
5	Clay WD 50%	Clay WD 50%; Crittenden 33%; Mississippi Chickasawba 33%	5.9%	DN 31%	5.9%	Mississippi County Drug Court
6	Crittenden 33%	Craighead WD 25%; Mississippi Osceola 50%	13.4%		13.4%	Craighead & Crittenden Counties Mental Health Court
7	Mississippi Osceola 50%	Greene 33%; Poinsett 33%	2.7%	DN 24%; Delinquency & FINS 25%	2.7%	
8	Craighead WD 50%; Craighead ED 100%	Craighead ED 100%; Crittenden 33%; Poinsett 33%				
9	Greene 50%	Mississippi Chickasawba 33%	22.8%	21% DN	22.8%	Craighead County Drug Court
10	Clay ED 50%	Clay ED 50%; Poinsett 33%; Mississippi Osceola 50%	19.6%		19.6%	
11	Clay WD 50%; Greene 50%; Poinsett 50%; Mississippi Chickasawba 33%	Clay WD 50%; Crittenden 33%	11.1%		11.1%	



## THIRD CIRCUIT

---



The Third Judicial Circuit is located in the northern part of the state and is composed of Jackson, Lawrence, Randolph, and Sharp counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,532 square miles and serves a population of 68,561.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Harold. Erwin  
**Hon. Philip G. Smith**  
Hon. Kevin King

Division 1  
**Division 2**  
Division 3





## THIRD CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### THIRD CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	1,131	696	326	1,501
Criminal	1,396	899	880	1,415
Domestic Relations	1,009	1,247	899	1,357
Juvenile	824	840	600	1,064
Probate	2,364	583	370	2,577
TOTAL	6,724	4,265	3,075	7,914

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

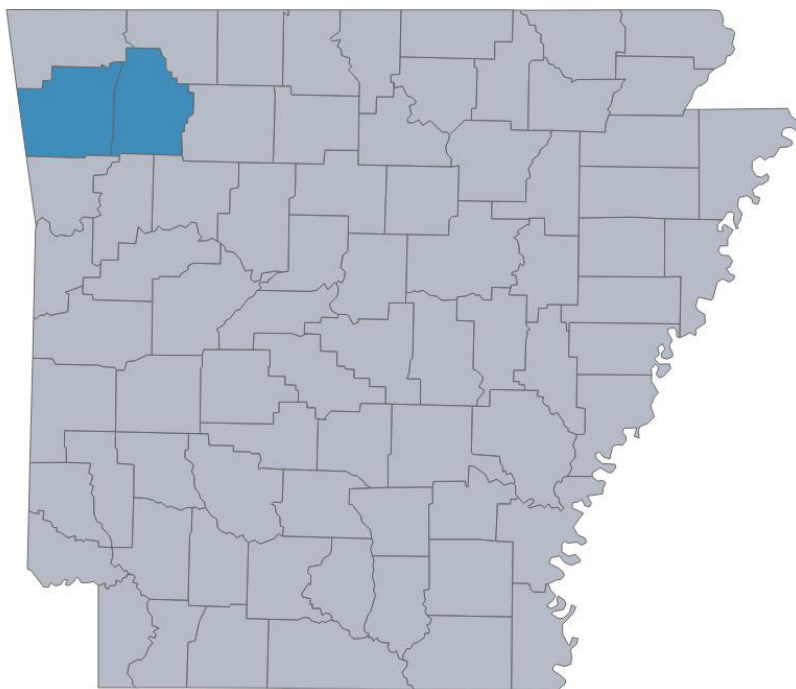
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	33%	50%				Jackson County Drug Court
2	33%	50%	100%		50%	Lawrence & Randolph County Drug Courts
3	33%		Child support and orders of protection	100%	50%	



## FOURTH CIRCUIT

---



The Third Judicial Circuit is located in the northern part of the state and is composed of The Fourth Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Madison and Washington counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,793 square miles and serves a population of 244,121.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Doug Martin	Division 1
Hon. John Threet	Division 2
<b>Hon. Stacey Zimmerman</b>	<b>Division 3</b>
Hon. Cristi Beaumont	Division 4
Hon. Beth Storey Bryan	Division 5
Hon. Mark Lindsay	Division 6
Hon. Joanna Taylor	Division 7



## FOURTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	1,136	2,843	2,917	1,062
Criminal	5,036	4,203	3,516	5,723
Domestic Relations	711	3,057	2,964	804
Juvenile	571	2,637	2,632	576
Probate	1,479	1,138	1,062	1,555
TOTAL	8,933	13,878	13,091	9,720

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	50%		Orders of Protection 33.3%		25%	
2	25%		20%, except Orders of Protection 33.3%		25%	
3				100%		
4			40%			Drug Court; Veterans' Court
5	25%		20%, except Orders of Protection 33.3%		25%	



## FOURTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
6			filed 1/1/15- 4/15/16		open prior to 1/1/13	
7			20%		25%	



## FIFTH CIRCUIT

---



The fifth Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Franklin, Johnson, and Pope counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,133 square miles and serves a population of 107,583.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. William M. Pearson	Division 1
Hon. Gordon "Mack" McCain, Jr.	Division 2
<b>Hon. Ken D. Coker, Jr.</b>	<b>Division 3</b>
Hon. Dennis C. Sutterfield	Division 4



## FIFTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	663	999	1,082	580
Criminal	1,124	2,048	1,907	1,265
Domestic Relations	1,638	2,021	1,954	1,705
Juvenile	303	1,222	1,178	347
Probate	2,596	856	606	2,846
TOTAL	6,324	7,146	6,727	6,743

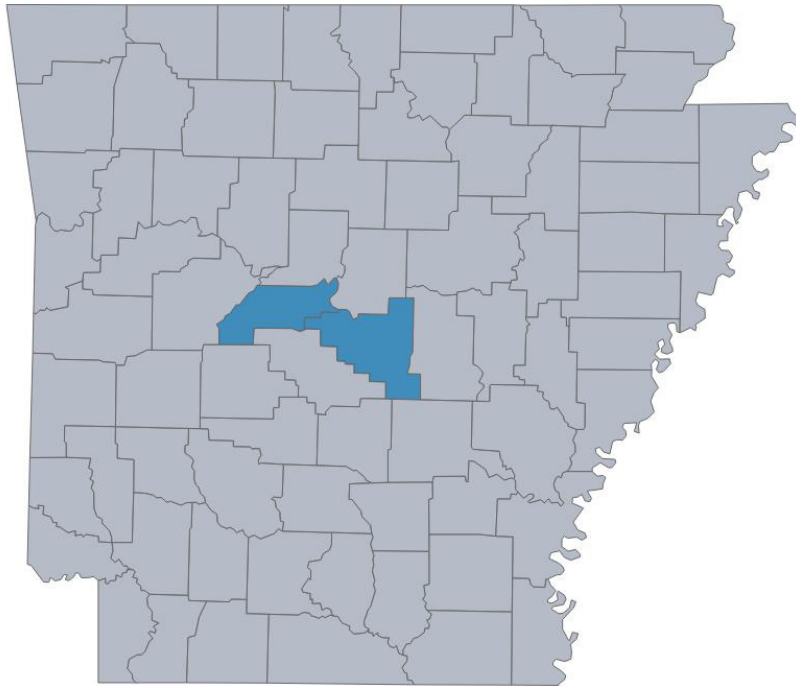
Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	Pope 20%; Johnson 40%; Franklin 40%	100%				
2			Pope 60%; Johnson 60%; Franklin 80%		100%	Johnson County Drug Court; Franklin County Drug Court
3	Pope 20%			100%		Juvenile Drug Court
4	60%		Pope 40%; Johnson 40%; Franklin 20%			Pope County Drug Court

## SIXTH CIRCUIT

---



The Sixth Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Perry and Pulaski counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,368 square miles and is the state's most populous, serving a population of 403,832.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Leon Johnson	Division 1
Hon. Chris Piazza	Division 2
Hon. Cathleen V. Compton	Division 3
Hon. Herbert T. Wright	Division 4
Hon. Wendell Griffen	Division 5
Hon. Tim Fox	Division 6
Hon. Barry Sims	Division 7
Hon. Wiley Branton	Division 8
Hon. Mary McGowan	Division 9
Hon. Joyce Williams Warren	Division 10
Hon. Patricia James	Division 11
Hon. Alice Gray	Division 12
Hon. W. Michael Reif	Division 13
<b>Hon. Vann Smith</b>	<b>Division 14</b>
Hon. Richard Moore	Division 15
Hon. Morgan E. Welch	Division 16
Hon. Mackie Pierce	Division 17



## SIXTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### SIXTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	9,030	7,286	5,987	10,329
Criminal	23,181	9,360	6,750	25,791
Domestic Relations	8,508	6,699	6,030	9,177
Juvenile	5,312	2,103	2,104	5,311
Probate	10,729	3,056	2,218	11,567
TOTAL	56,760	28,504	23,089	62,175

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. The number of criminal cases in pending start, disposed, and pending end are inflated due to inconsistency in criminal case closing methodology in Pulaski County. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1		27.5%				Mental Health Court
2	15.5%	9.0%				Mental Health Court
3			19.0%		16.7%	Mental Health Court
4		27.5%				Mental Health Court
5	15.5%	9.0%				
6	24.5%					
7		27.5%				
8				33.3%		





## SIXTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
9	8.5%					Mental Health Court; 100% Drug Court; 100% Veterans' Treatment Court
10				33.3%		
11				33.3%		Mental Health Court
12	24.5%					
13			19.0%		16.7%	Mental Health Court
14			19.0%		16.7%	Mental Health Court
15			19.0%		16.7%	Mental Health Court
16	4.0%		15.0%		16.7%	Mental Health Court
17	7.5%		10.0%		16.7%	Mental Health Court



## SEVENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Seventh Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Grant and Hot Spring counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,255 square miles and serves a population of 50,105.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

**Hon. Chris Williams**  
Hon. Eddy Easley

**Division 1**  
Division 2

Both divisions hear cases equally, except as noted in the Administrative Plan.



## SEVENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### SEVENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	596	489	479	606
Criminal	656	787	695	748
Domestic Relations	910	662	645	927
Juvenile	446	384	314	516
Probate	1,770	373	366	1,777
TOTAL	4,378	2,695	2,499	4,574

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	Drug Court
2	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	Swift Court



## EIGHTH CIRCUIT NORTH

---



The Eighth North Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Hempstead and Nevada counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,326 square miles and serves a population of 30,372.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. William Randal Wright  
**Hon. Duncan Culpepper**

Division 1  
**Division 2**





## EIGHTH CIRCUIT NORTH CONTINUED

### EIGHTH CIRCUIT NORTH COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	573	265	192	646
Criminal	1,449	680	422	1,707
Domestic Relations	1,225	655	458	1,422
Juvenile	194	581	502	273
Probate	1,667	240	72	1,835
TOTAL	5,108	2,421	1,646	5,883

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

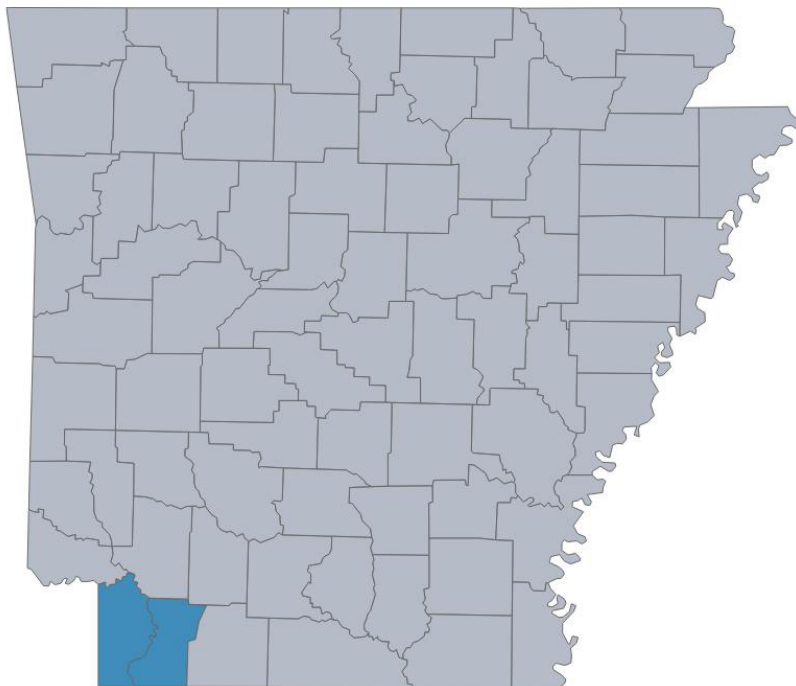
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	50%	50%	50%	DN 100%	50%	Juvenile Drug Court; Swift Court
2	50%	50%	50%	Delinquency & FINS 100%	50%	Adult Drug Court



## EIGHTH CIRCUIT SOUTH

---



The Eighth South Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Lafayette and Miller counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,182 square miles and serves a population of 50,634.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Carlton D. Jones  
Hon. Brent Haltom  
**Hon. Kirk Johnson**

Division 1  
Division 2  
**Division 3**



## EIGHTH CIRCUIT SOUTH CONTINUED

### EIGHTH CIRCUIT SOUTH COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	676	471	449	698
Criminal	1,302	1,434	1,198	1,538
Domestic Relations	1,072	891	855	1,108
Juvenile	114	277	258	133
Probate	1,248	312	197	1,363
TOTAL	4,412	3,385	2,957	4,840

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	
2	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	
3	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	33.30%	



## NINTH CIRCUIT EAST

---



The Ninth East Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Clark County. The circuit spans a total of 882 square miles and serves a population of 22,657.

The current judge is:

**Hon. Gregory L. Vardaman**

**Division 1**





## NINTH CIRCUIT EAST CONTINUED

### NINTH CIRCUIT EAST COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	291	161	163	289
Criminal	811	209	178	842
Domestic Relations	516	286	227	575
Juvenile	252	92	14	330
Probate	851	130	88	893
TOTAL	2,721	878	670	2,929

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

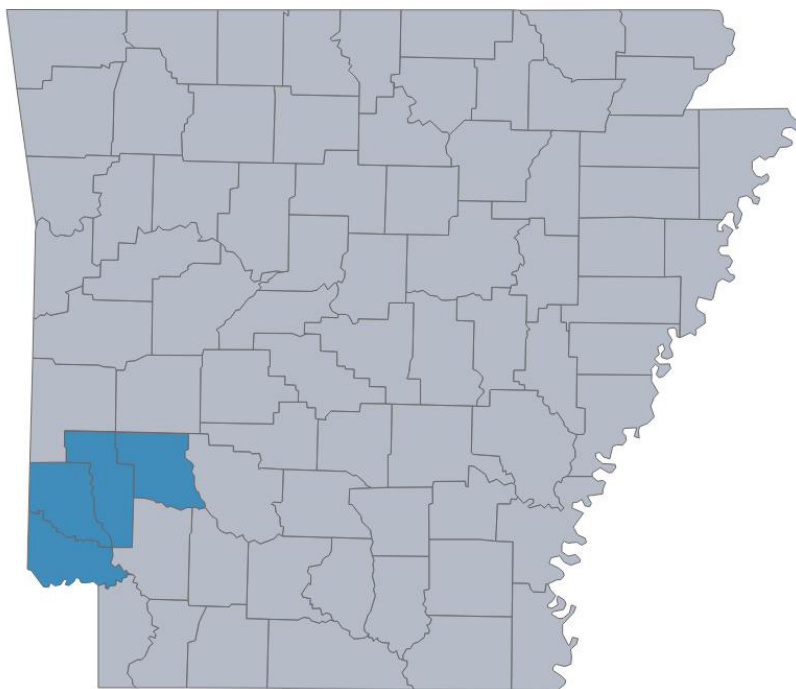
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Drug Court



## NINTH CIRCUIT WEST

---



The Ninth West Judicial Circuit is located in the southwest part of the state and is composed of Howard, Little River, Pike, and Sevier Counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,380 square miles and serves a population of 53,570.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Tom Cooper  
**Hon. Charles Yeargan**

Division 1  
**Division 2**

## NINTH CIRCUIT WEST CONTINUED

### NINTH CIRCUIT WEST COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	340	419	394	365
Criminal	675	659	572	762
Domestic Relations	453	743	804	392
Juvenile	121	318	297	142
Probate	716	298	163	851
TOTAL	2,305	2,437	2,230	2,512

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

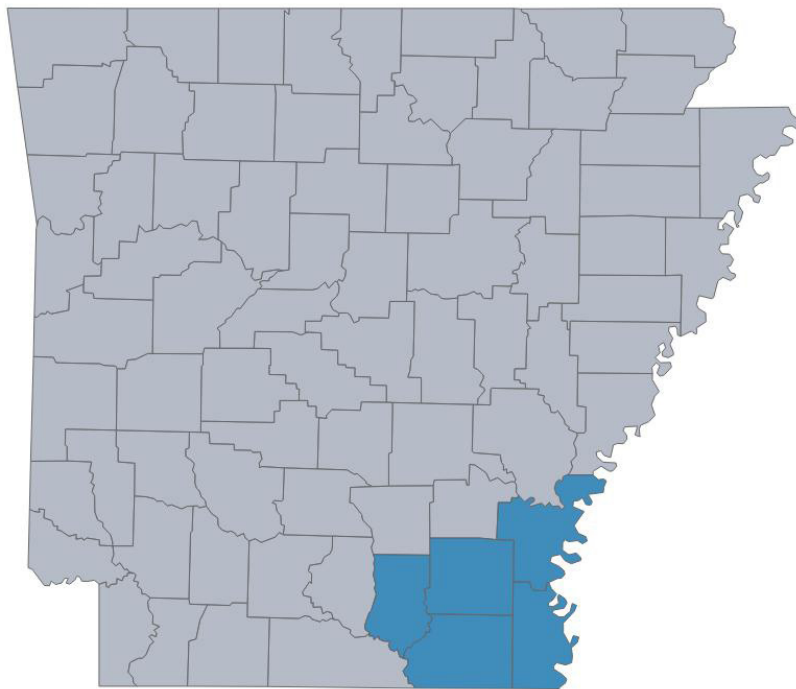
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	
2	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	Drug Court



## TENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Tenth Judicial Circuit is located in the southeast part of the state and is composed of Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Desha, and Drew Counties. The circuit spans a total of 3,939 square miles and serves a population of 72,818.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Sam Pope  
**Hon. Kenny Johnson**  
Hon. Bynum Gibson  
Hon. Don Glover  
Hon. Teresa French

Division 1  
**Division 2**  
Division 3  
Division 4  
Division 5





# TENTH CONTINUED

## TENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	842	822	813	851
Criminal	1,578	1,232	1,169	1,641
Domestic Relations	1,651	1,704	1,548	1,807
Juvenile	259	1,160	1,040	379
Probate	1,519	497	317	1,699
TOTAL	5,849	5,415	4,887	6,377

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	Ashley 30%	50%	OCSE Bradley & Drew			Drew County Adult Drug
2	Bradley 40%		100% non OCSE cases		50%	
3	Bradley 60%; Desha 60%; Drew 60%; Ashley 70%; Chicot 70%	Ashley 50%; Drew 50%	OCSE Ashley			Drew County Adult Drug
4	Drew 40%; Chicot 30%; Desha 40%	Bradley 50%; Chicot 50%; Desha 50%	OCSE Chicot & Desha		50%	Swift Court
5				100%		Juvenile Drug Court



## ELEVENTH CIRCUIT EAST

---



The Eleventh East Judicial Circuit is located in the southeast part of the state and is composed of Arkansas County. The circuit spans a total of 1,033 square miles and serves the smallest population of all the state's circuits with a population of 18,651.

The current judge is:

**Hon. David Henry**

**Division 1**



# ELEVENTH CIRCUIT EAST CONTINUED

## ELEVENTH CIRCUIT EAST COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	520	209	194	535
Criminal	573	377	344	606
Domestic Relations	642	475	327	790
Juvenile	365	210	172	403
Probate	842	159	86	915
TOTAL	2,942	1,430	1,123	3,249

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

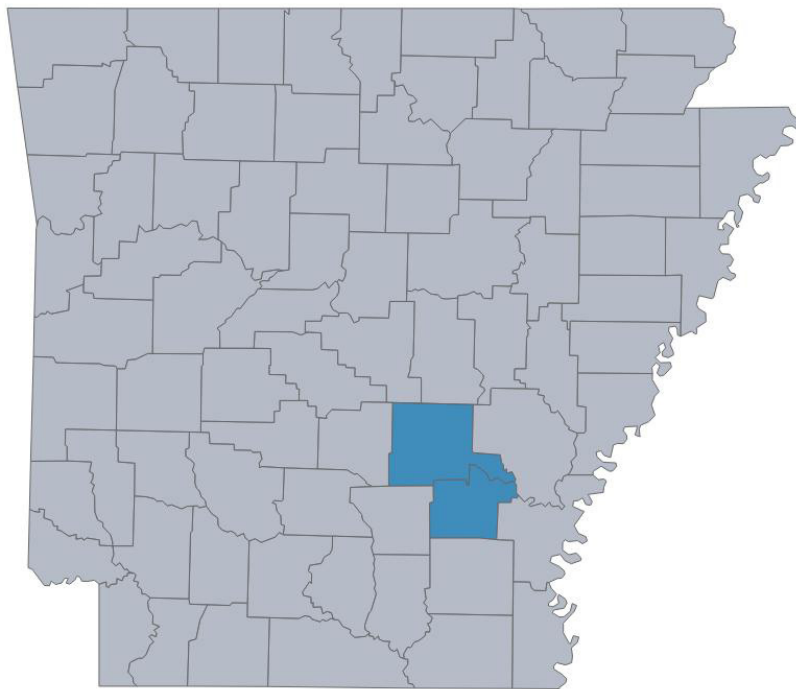
## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Drug Court



## ELEVENTH CIRCUIT WEST

---



The Eleventh West Judicial Circuit is located in the southeast part of the state and is composed of Jefferson and Lincoln Counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,485 square miles and serves a population of 83,721.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Berlin Jones	Division 1
<b>Hon. Robert Wyatt, Jr.</b>	<b>Division 2</b>
Hon. William Benton	Division 3
Hon. Leon Jamison	Division 4
Hon. Jodi Dennis	Division 5
Hon. Earnest E. Brown, Jr.	Division 6



## ELEVENTH CIRCUIT WEST CONTINUED

### ELEVENTH CIRCUIT WEST COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	955	975	914	1,016
Criminal	1,963	943	865	2,041
Domestic Relations	1,714	2,146	2,102	1,758
Juvenile	364	1,206	1,177	393
Probate	2,832	573	364	3,041
TOTAL	7,828	5,843	5,422	8,249

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

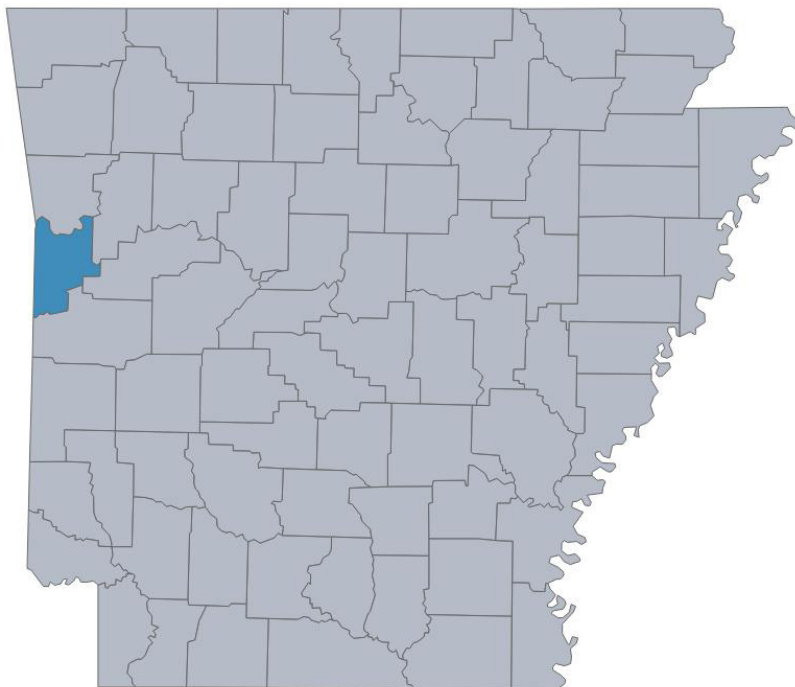
Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	civil forfeiture	54%				Drug Court
2	70%	12%				
3			50%		50%	
4			50%		50%	
5	30%; inmate post-conviction	34%; inmate post-conviction	inmate cases		inmate cases	
6				100%		Juvenile Drug Court; Family Treatment Drug Court





## TWELFTH CIRCUIT

---



The Twelfth Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Sebastian County. The circuit is comprised of the smallest geographic area of all the state's circuits totaling 581 square miles and serving a population of 127,793.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Steve Tabor	Division 1
Hon. Annie Hendricks	Division 2
Hon. Jim Spears	Division 3
Hon. Leigh Zuerker	Division 4
<b>Hon. Michael Fitzhugh</b>	<b>Division 5</b>
Hon. James Cox	Division 6



## TWELFTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### TWELFTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	788	1,385	1,439	734
Criminal	3,243	4,846	4,515	3,574
Domestic Relations	1,242	1,889	2,006	1,125
Juvenile	638	2,743	2,628	753
Probate	2,181	915	830	2,266
TOTAL	8,092	11,778	11,418	8,452

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

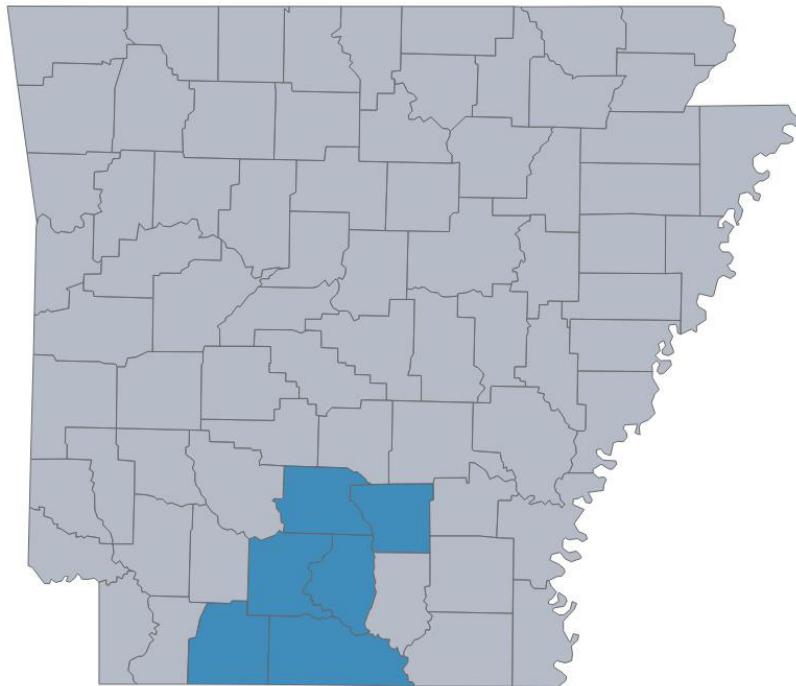
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	33%	33%				Drug Court; Veterans' Court
2			50%	DN 33%	45%	
3			50%	DN 33%	45%	
4				DN 34%; Delinquency & FINS 100%		
5	33%	33%				Drug Court
6	34%	34%			10%	



# THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the south central part of the state and is composed of Calhoun, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Ouachita, and Union Counties. The circuit is the state's largest, spanning a total of 4,461 square miles and serving a population of 109,387.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

**Hon. Hamilton Singleton**

Hon. Mike Landers

Hon. Edwin Keaton

Hon. Robin Carroll

Hon. David W. Talley, Jr.

Hon. David Guthrie

**Division 1**

Division 2

Division 3

Division 4

Division 5

Division 6



# THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

## THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	1,804	1,135	950	1,989
Criminal	2,136	1,650	1,422	2,364
Domestic Relations	2,194	2,305	1,800	2,699
Juvenile	507	794	602	699
Probate	5,603	772	471	5,904
TOTAL	12,244	6,656	5,245	13,655

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1		Union 50%	Calhoun 50%; Cleveland 50%; Dallas 50%; Columbia 25%; Ouachita 33%		Cleveland 100%; Ouachita 100%	Union County Adult Drug Court



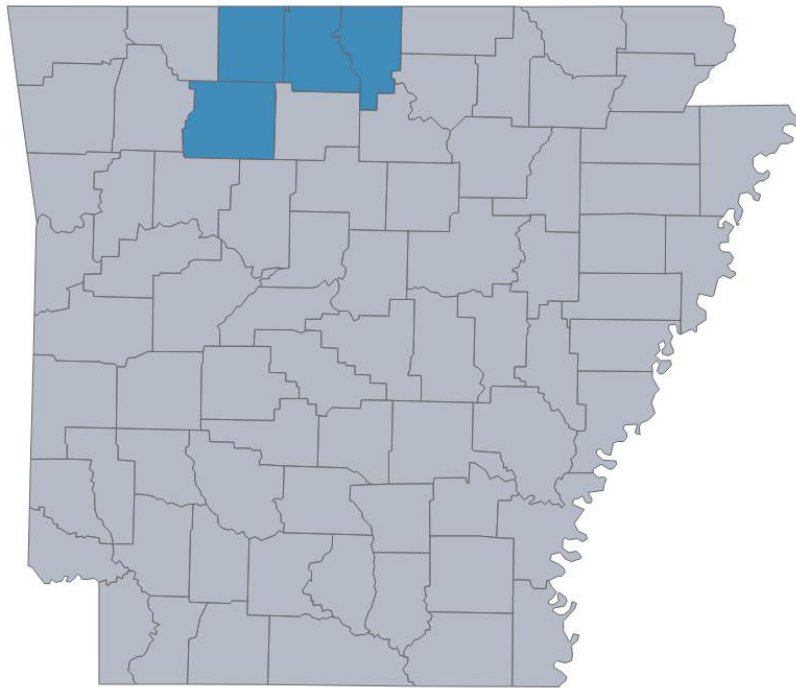
## THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
2			Calhoun 50%; Cleveland 50%; Dallas 50%; Union 50%; Columbia 25%; Ouachita 33%		Union 50%	
3	Dallas 25%	Ouachita 50%	Columbia 25%; Union 25%; Ouachita 33%	Ouachita 50%; Union 50%	Dallas 100%	Ouachita Adult Drug Court
4	Calhoun 25%; Cleveland 25%; Columbia 25%; Ouachita 25%; Union 25%	Calhoun 100%; Dallas 100%; Ouachita 50%; Union 50%			Calhoun 100%	
5		Cleveland 100%; Columbia 100%	Columbia 25%	Calhoun 100%; Cleveland 100%; Columbia 100%; Dallas 100%; Ouachita 50%; Union 50%	Columbia 100%	Columbia Adult Drug Court; Columbia Juvenile Drug Court
6	75%		Union 25%		Union 50%	



## FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Fourteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the north part of the state and is composed of Baxter, Boone, Marion, and Newton Counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,652 square miles and serves a population of 102,626.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Gail Inman-Campbell	Division 1
Hon. Deanna "Suzie" Layton	Division 2
Hon. John Putman	Division 3
<b>Hon. Gordon Webb</b>	<b>Division 4</b>



## FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	888	926	1,117	697
Criminal	1,190	1,246	1,275	1,161
Domestic Relations	1,178	1,839	2,095	922
Juvenile	859	337	483	713
Probate	2,061	616	745	1,932
TOTAL	6,176	4,964	5,715	5,425

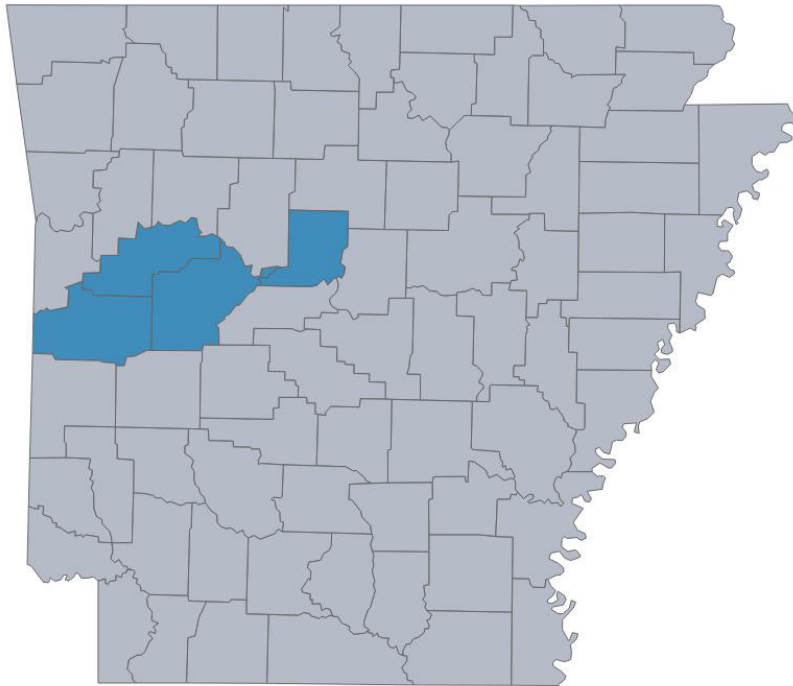
Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	33%		50% except OCSE 100%			
2				100%	100%	
3	33%	50%	25%			
4	33%	50%	25%			Drug Court

# FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Fifteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the western part of the state and is composed of Conway, Logan, Scott, and Yell Counties. The circuit spans a total of 2,915 square miles and serves a population of 74,558.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

**Hon. Jerry Don Ramey**  
Hon. David McCormick  
Hon. Terry Sullivan

**Division 1**  
Division 2  
Division 3



## FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	802	876	794	884
Criminal	1,152	1,365	1,229	1,288
Domestic Relations	1,395	1,533	1,400	1,528
Juvenile	677	675	591	761
Probate	1,637	538	478	1,697
TOTAL	5,663	4,987	4,492	6,158

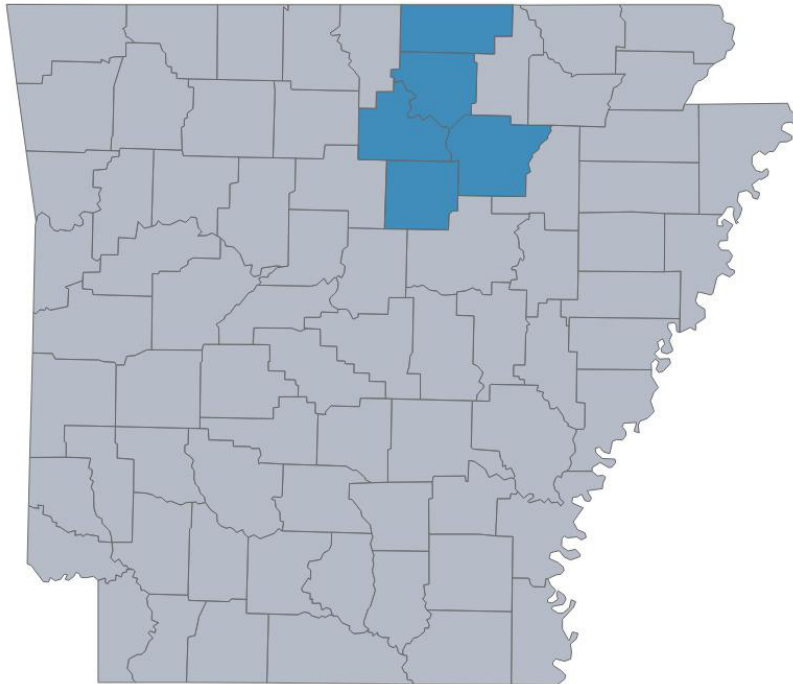
Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	Conway 33%	100%				Drug Court
2	67%		Conway 100%; Yell-Dardanelle 100%; Logan 67%; Scott 67%; Yell-Danville 67%		67%	
3	Scott 33%; Logan 33%; Yell 33%		Logan 33%; Scott 33%; Yell-Danville 33%	100%	33%	

## SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Sixteenth Judicial Circuit is located in the north central part of the state and is composed of Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, and Stone Counties. The circuit spans a total of 3,177 square miles and serves a population of 100,527.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Maureen Harrod  
Hon. Don McSpadden  
**Hon. Lee Harrod**  
Hon. Tim Weaver

Division 1  
Division 2  
**Division 3**  
Division 4



## SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	805	748	673	880
Criminal	1,089	1,159	949	1,299
Domestic Relations	914	1,473	1,445	942
Juvenile	375	468	128	715
Probate	1,305	717	760	1,262
TOTAL	4,488	4,565	3,955	5,098

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

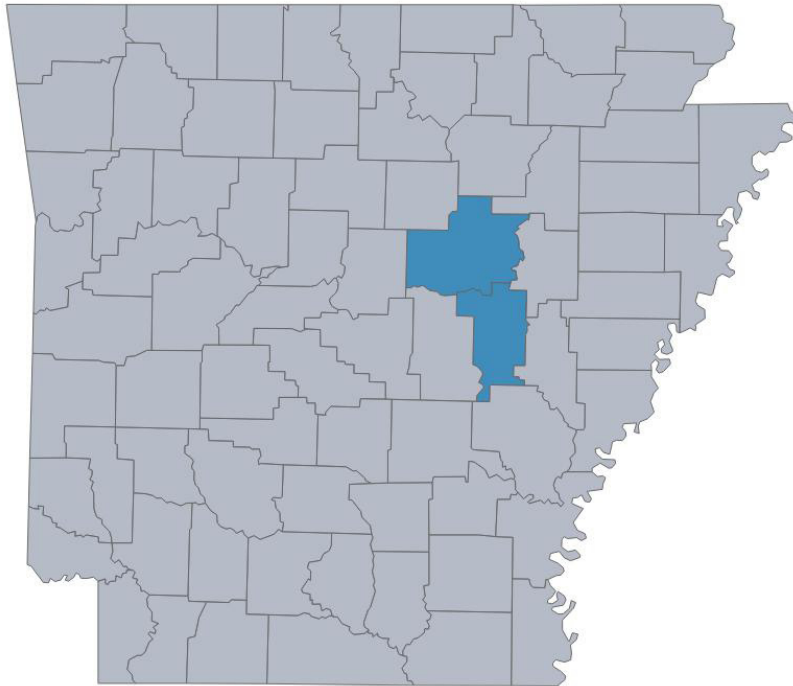
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	100%				non-	
2			100% non-OCSE			
3			100% OCSE	100%		Juvenile Drug Court
4		100%				Adult Drug Courts; Swift Court; Veterans' Court



## SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT

---



The Seventeenth Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Prairie and White Counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,718 square miles and serves a population of 87,514.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Tom Hughes  
Hon. Robert Edwards  
**Hon. Craig Hannah**

Division 1  
Division 2  
**Division 3**



## SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	941	789	693	1,037
Criminal	745	1,067	834	978
Domestic Relations	847	1,750	1,549	1,048
Juvenile	179	521	476	224
Probate	1,640	453	294	1,799
TOTAL	4,352	4,580	3,846	5,086

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	White 75%; Prairie 100%	Prairie 100%	Orders of Protection 50%; OCSE 100%		White 75%	
2		White 100%		DN in White 100%; Prairie 100%		
3	White 25%		100% (except Orders of Protection & OCSE)	Delinquency & FINS in White 100%	White 25%; Prairie 100%	Drug Court

## EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT EAST

---



The Eighteenth East Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Garland County. The circuit spans a total of 734 square miles and serves a population of 97,477.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. John Homer Wright	Division 1
Hon. Wade Naramore	Division 2
Hon. Lynn Williams	Division 3
<b>Hon. Marcia Hearnberger</b>	<b>Division 4</b>



# EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT EAST CONTINUED

## EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT EAST CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	863	1,164	1,132	895
Criminal	806	963	932	837
Domestic Relations	969	1,552	1,666	855
Juvenile	228	1,613	1,518	323
Probate	2,221	810	781	2,250
TOTAL	5,087	6,102	6,029	5,160

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	35%	50%	10%		30%	Adult Drug Court
2			45%	Delinquency & FINS	15%	Juvenile Drug Court
3	40%		25%		25%	
4	25%	50%	20%		30%	

## EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT WEST

---



The Eighteenth West Judicial Circuit is located in the western part of the state and is composed of Montgomery and Polk Counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,662 square miles and serves a population of 29,052.

The current judge is:

**Hon. Jerry Ryan**

**Division 1**



## EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT WEST CONTINUED

### EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT WEST CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	334	242	181	395
Criminal	507	344	258	593
Domestic Relations	386	394	241	539
Juvenile	85	71	38	118
Probate	787	244	154	877
TOTAL	2,099	1,295	872	2,522

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

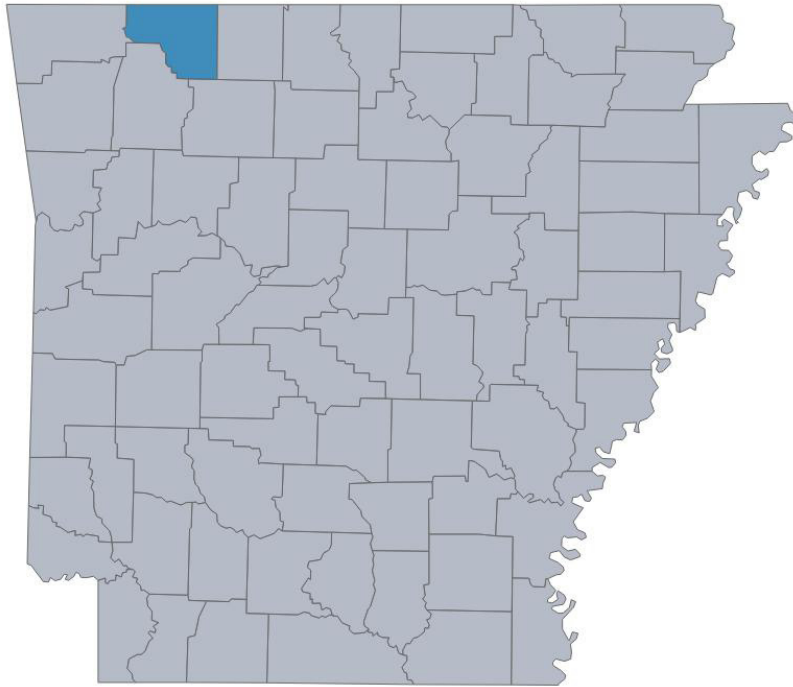
### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Drug Court



## NINETEENTH CIRCUIT EAST

---



The Nineteenth East Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Carroll County. The circuit was created in 1999 when it was separated from what is now the Nineteenth West Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 638 square miles and serves a population of 27,646.

The current judge is:

**Hon. Scott Jackson**

**Division 1**



# NINETEENTH CIRCUIT EAST CONTINUED

## NINETEENTH CIRCUIT EAST CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	311	305	201	415
Criminal	543	373	318	598
Domestic Relations	321	353	241	433
Juvenile	134	137	136	135
Probate	414	197	115	496
TOTAL	1,723	1,365	1,011	2,077

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Drug Court

## NINETEENTH CIRCUIT WEST

---



The Nineteenth West Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Benton County. The circuit was created in 1999 when it was separated from what is now the Nineteenth East Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 880 square miles and serves a population of 258,291.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Robin Green	Division 1
Hon. Brad Karren	Division 2
Hon. Thomas Smith	Division 3
Hon. John Scott	Division 4
Hon. Xollie Duncan	Division 5
<b>Hon. Doug Schrantz</b>	<b>Division 6</b>



# NINETEENTH CIRCUIT WEST

## NINETEENTH CIRCUIT WEST CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	1,021	1,985	1,963	1,043
Criminal	3,737	2,752	2,309	4,180
Domestic Relations	805	2,848	2,779	874
Juvenile	596	1,798	1,720	674
Probate	1,693	1,093	984	1,802
TOTAL	7,852	10,476	9,755	8,573

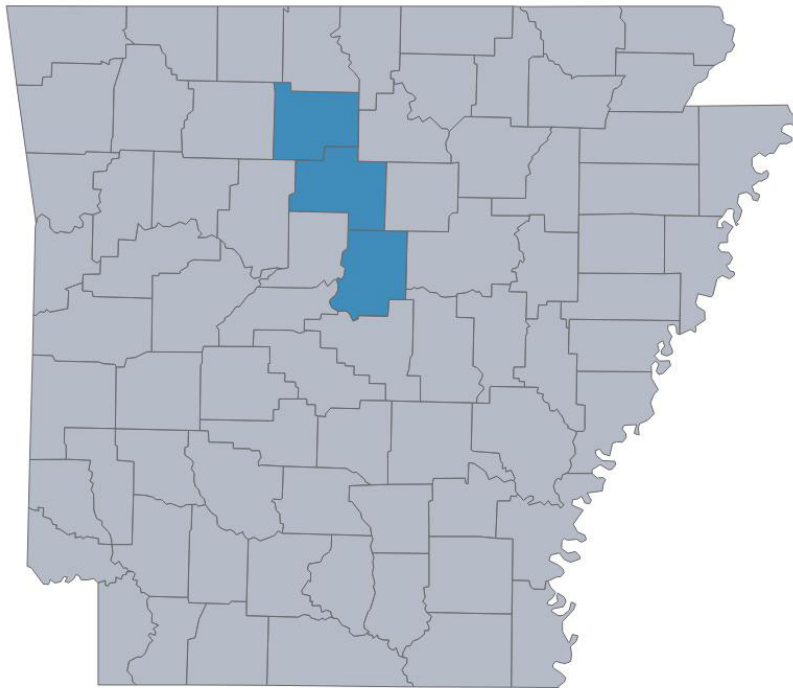
Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

## CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	10%	50%				
2	10%	50%				
3			25%	100%	25%	Veterans' Court; Adult Drug Court; Juvenile Drug Court
4	27% generally; 33% civil commitment		25% generally; 33% Orders of Protection		25%	
5	27% generally; 33% civil commitment		25% generally; 33% Orders of Protection		25%	
6	26% generally; 33% civil commitment		25% generally; 33% Orders of Protection		25%	

# TWENTIETH CIRCUIT

---



The Twentieth Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Faulkner, Searcy, and Van Buren counties. The circuit spans a total of 1,934 square miles and serves a population of 146,822.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Mike Murphy	Division 1
Hon. Troy Braswell	Division 2
Hon. Charles E. Clawson, Jr.	Division 3
<b>Hon. David Clark</b>	<b>Division 4</b>
Hon. H.G. Foster	Division 5



## TWENTIETH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### TWENTIETH CIRCUIT EAST CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	1,372	1,811	1,620	1,563
Criminal	2,555	1,869	1,766	2,658
Domestic Relations	2,450	2,655	2,614	2,491
Juvenile	726	777	681	822
Probate	2,623	877	602	2,898
TOTAL	9,726	7,989	7,283	10,432

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	Faulkner 65%; Van Buren 80%; Searcy 100%		Faulkner 35%; Van Buren 20%; Searcy 40%		Van Buren 50%; Searcy 50%	
2	Faulkner 25%; Van Buren 20%	Juveniles charged as adults	Van Buren 20%	Delinquency & FINS 100%; 100% DN in Van Buren & Searcy	100% Adult Protective Custody in Van Buren & Searcy	Juvenile Drug Court; Teen Court
3	Faulkner 10%	100%				Adult Drug Court; Veterans' Court





## TWENTIETH CIRCUIT CONTINUED

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
4			Faulkner 50%; Van Buren & Searcy 60% (all OCSE)	100% DN Faulkner	50%	
5			100% Orders of Protection; Faulkner 15%		Faulkner 50%	



## TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT

---



The Twenty-First Judicial Circuit is located in the northwest part of the state and is composed of Crawford County. The circuit was created in 1997 when it was separated from what is now the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 604 square miles and serves a population of 62,267.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

**Hon. Gary Cottrell**  
Hon. Mike Medlock

**Division 1**  
Division 2



## TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	418	625	546	497
Criminal	1,202	1,945	1,603	1,544
Domestic Relations	501	1,052	973	580
Juvenile	156	757	737	176
Probate	870	313	434	749
TOTAL	3,147	4,692	4,293	3,546

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	60%	60%	40%		100%	Drug Court
2	40%	40%	60%	100%		



## TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT

---



The Twenty-Second Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Saline County. The circuit was created in 1999 when it was separated from what is now the Seventh Judicial Circuit. The circuit spans a total of 898 square miles and serves a population of 118,703.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

Hon. Bobby D. McCallister	Division 1
Hon. Gary Arnold	Division 2
Hon. Grisham Phillips	Division 3
<b>Hon. Robert Herzfeld</b>	<b>Division 4</b>



## TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	1,151	1,009	1,117	1,043
Criminal	1,784	1,528	1,318	1,994
Domestic Relations	1,086	1,437	1,264	1,259
Juvenile	121	754	732	143
Probate	3,122	719	400	3,441
TOTAL	7,264	5,447	4,831	7,880

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1		20%	35%	Delinquency & FINS 100%		Adult Drug Court; Juvenile Drug Court
2	40%	50%		DN 100%		Hope Court
3	50%	30%	15% (100% OCSE)			
4	10%		50%		100%	



## TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT

---



The Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit is located in the central part of the state and is composed of Lonoke County. The area had previously been designed as the Seventeenth West Circuit until it was renamed by the 1999 General Assembly. The circuit spans a total of 802 square miles and serves a population of 72,228.

The current judges are as follows (Administrative Judge in bold):

**Hon. Barbara Elmore**  
Hon. Ashley Parker  
Hon. Sandy Huckabee

**Division 1**  
Division 2  
Division 3





## TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT CONTINUED

### TWENTY-THIRD CIRCUIT CASELOAD SUMMARY January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Issue Area	Pending Start	Filed	Cases Disposed	Pending End
Civil	535	814	729	620
Criminal	1,050	1,686	1,554	1,182
Domestic Relations	925	1,550	1,495	980
Juvenile	219	314	407	126
Probate	708	489	456	741
TOTAL	3,437	4,853	4,641	3,649

Pending start are those cases open on January 1, 2016. Filed refers to cases entering the court system in 2016, either as new cases or as reopened cases. Disposed refers to cases closed during 2016. Pending end are those cases open on December 31, 2016. All cases are reported by case. To see the number of criminal charges filed and disposed, see the statistical supplement to the annual report. More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

### CASE DISTRIBUTION BY DIVISION January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Division	Civil	Criminal	Domestic Relations	Juvenile	Probate	Specialty Court
1	19%	33%	50% Divorce	100%		
2		33%	100% generally; 50% Divorce			
3	81%	33%			100%	



## LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS



### Arkansas District Courts

District courts are courts of limited jurisdiction. There are two types of district courts:

- State district courts
- Local district courts

There are currently 28 state district courts and 46 local district courts. State district courts exercise territorial jurisdiction within judicial districts established by the General Assembly that is city, county, or district wide. These courts have subject matter jurisdiction over misdemeanors and violations

## LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS

of state law and local ordinances, preliminary felony cases, and civil cases involving contracts, damage to personal property, and recovery of personal property in matters less than \$25,000. A small claims division provides a forum in which citizens represent themselves to resolve contracts and personal property matters of less than \$5,000. Supreme Court Administrative Order 18 authorizes state district court judges to hear certain matters filed in circuit court upon referral by the circuit court or with the consent of the parties.

Other district courts are designated as local district courts. Local district courts are served by part-time judges who may engage in the private practice of law. Local district courts have territorial jurisdiction as established by the General Assembly, most of which is county wide. Their subject matter jurisdiction includes misdemeanors and violations of state law and local ordinances; preliminary felony cases; and felony cases and civil cases involving contracts, damage to, and recovery of personal property in matters less than \$5,000. A small claims division also exists in local district courts.

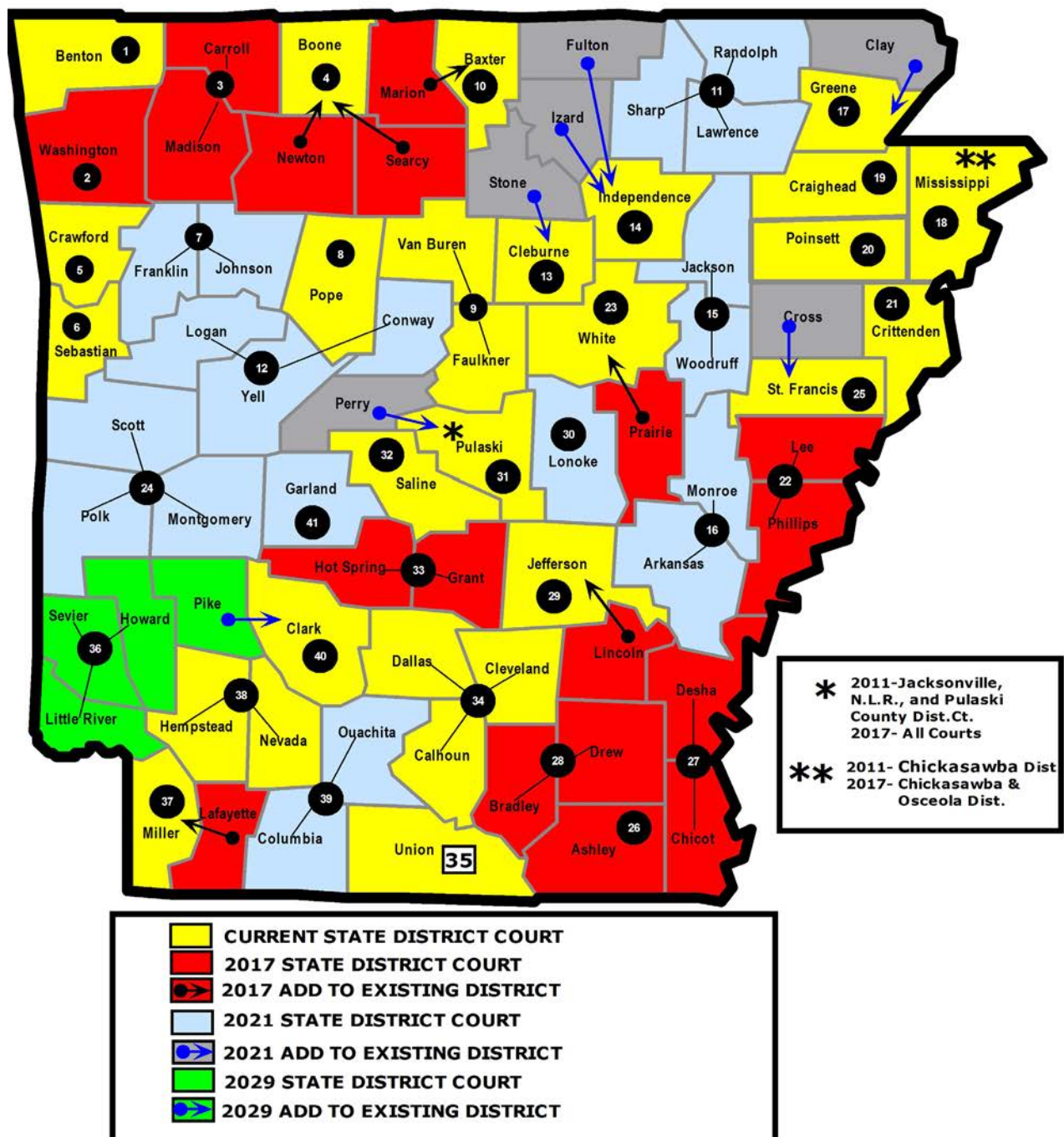
The Arkansas District Judges' Council is made up of all district court judges in the state. The council acts as the general body representing the state's limited jurisdiction courts. Formal business by the council is conducted in the spring and fall meetings each year. The current President is the Hon. Mark Pate.

The Arkansas District Court Clerks' Association is responsible for the certification of these limited jurisdiction court clerks and works to represent their interests. The current President is Staci Huber.

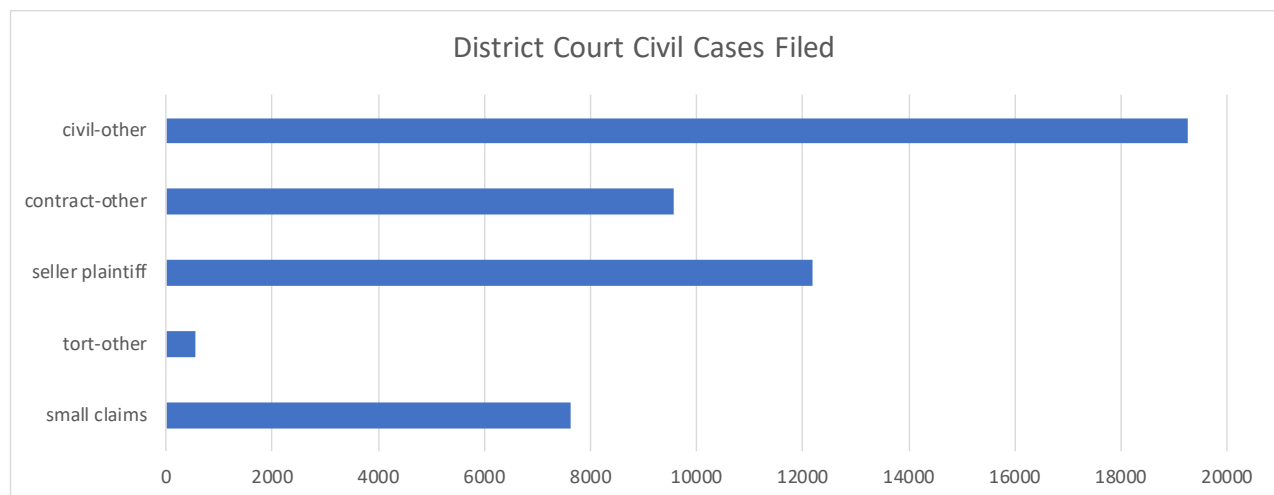
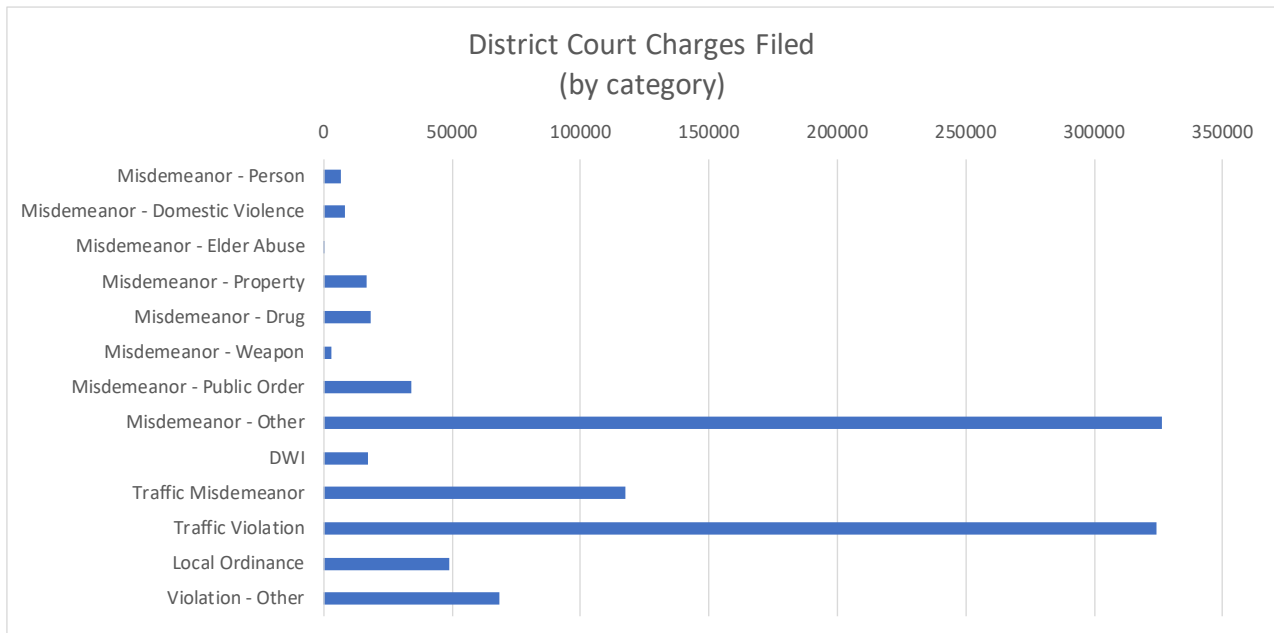


# LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS

## STATE DISTRICT COURTS ACT 1081 OF 2015



# LIMITED JURISDICTION COURTS



More detailed data and information available at <https://courts.arkansas.gov/administration/orjs>

During 2016 the total number of cases filed (new or reopened) in the state's limited jurisdiction courts totaled 1,060,788. In district court, each individual charge is counted as a case. More than half (570,299) of cases filed were criminal charges, while 441,317 were non-criminal traffic violations and local violations. 49,172 civil cases were filed in district court.





# 2016 State District Court Judges

## Hon. Van Gearhart

Baxter County - Briarcliff, Cotter, Gassville, Lakeview, Mountain Home, Norfolk, Salesville

## Hon. Jeff Conner

Benton County - Gentry, Decatur, Centerton, Gravette, Little Flock, Lowell, Sulphur Springs

## Hon. Stephen Thomas

Benton County - Bethel Heights, Siloam Springs

## Hon. Ray Bunch

Benton County - Bentonville, Cave Springs, Pea Ridge

## Hon. Paul Bridges

Benton County - Rogers

## Hon. Fred Kirkpatrick

Boone County - Alpena, Harrison

## Hon. Ronnie Phillips

Calhoun County - Hampton City, Hampton County  
Cleveland County - Rison  
Dallas County - Fordyce, Sparkman

## Hon. Randy Hill

Clark County - Arkadelphia, Gurdon, Amity, Caddo Valley

## Hon. Lance Wright

Cleburne County - Heber Springs, Quitman, Concord, Greers Ferry

## Hon. Keith Blackman

Craighead County - Jonesboro

## Hon. Curt Huckaby

Craighead County - Lake City Department

## Hon. Steven Peer

Crawford County - Van Buren, Alma, Mountainburg, Mulberry

## Hon. Fred Thorne

Crittenden County - Earl, Gilmore, Jericho, Marion, Turrell, West Memphis

## Hon. Susan Weaver

Faulkner County - Conway, Damascus, Greenbrier, Guy, Mayflower, Mount Vernon, Vilonia  
Van Buren County - Clinton

## Hon. David Reynolds

Faulkner County - Guy, Mayflower, Mount Vernon

## Hon. Dan Stidham

Greene County - Marmaduke, Paragould

## Hon. Tony Yocom

Hempstead County - Hope

## Hon. Chaney Taylor

Independence County - Batesville

## Hon. Kim Bridgforth

Jefferson County - Pine Bluff, Altheimer, Humphrey, Redfield, Wabbaseka, White Hall

## Hon. John Kearney

Pine Bluff

## Hon. Wren Autrey

Miller County - City of Texarkana, Miller county dept.

## Hon. Shannon Langston

Mississippi County, Chickasawba District - Blytheville, Dell, Gosnell, Leachville, Manila

## Hon. Tony Yocom

Nevada County - Prescott

## Hon. Ron Hunter

Poinsett County - Harrisburg, Lepanto, Marked Tree, Truman, Tyronza, Weiner



# 2016 State District Court Judges

## **Hon. Don Bourne**

Pope County – Atkins, Dover, London, Pottsville, Russellville

## **Hon. Wayne Gruber**

Pulaski County – Cammack Village

## **Hon. Robert Batton**

Pulaski County – Jacksonville

## **Hon. Jim Hamilton**

Pulaski County - North Little Rock Dept. 1

## **Hon. Randy Morley**

Pulaski County - North Little Rock Dept. 2

## **Hon. Stephanie Casady**

Saline County – Alexander, Bauxite, Bryant, Haskell, Shannon Hills

## **Hon. Mike Robinson**

Saline County – Benton

## **Hon. Ben Beland**

Sebastian County Fort Smith District – Dept. 1

## **Hon. David P. Saxon**

Sebastian County Fort Smith District – Dept. 1

## **Hon. Claire L. Borengasser**

Craighead County – Jonesboro

## **Hon. Michael Wagoner**

Sebastian County Greenwood District – Barling, Central City Dept., Greenwood

## **Hon. Stephen Routon**

St. Francis County – Forrest City, Madison

## **Hon. George Van Hook, Jr.**

Union County – El Dorado

## **Hon. Mark Derrick**

White County – Beebe, Bald Knob, Bradford, Judsonia, Kensett, McRae, Pangburn, Rose Bud

## **Hon. Mark Pate**

White County – Searcy

An updated list of the current state district court judges may be found at: <https://courts.arkansas.gov/sites/default/files/Judicial%20Directory.pdf>





## 2016 Local District Court Judges

**Hon. B. Park Eldridge, Jr.**

Arkansas County SD - DeWitt, Gillett, St. Charles

**Hon. Jeremy Bueker**

Arkansas County ND - Stuttgart

**Hon. Billy Hubbell**

Ashley County - Crossett

**Hon. Reid Harrod**

Ashley County - Hamburg

**Hon. Bruce Anderson**

Bradley County - Warren

**Hon. Gregory Thurman**

Carroll County ED - Berryville, Green Forrest

**Hon. Tim Parker**

Carroll County WD - Eureka Springs

**Hon. Stephen Tisdale**

Chicot County - Dermott

**Hon. Laurie A. Bridewell**

Chicot County - Eudora, Lake Village

**Hon. David Copelin**

Clay County - Corning, Piggott, Rector

**Hon. Michael G. Epley**

Columbia County - Magnolia, Waldo

**Hon. Jeannie L. Denniston**

Conway County - Morrilton, Menifee, Oppelo, Plummerville

**Hon. Joe Boeckmann**

Cross County - Wynne, Cherry Valley, Parkin

**Hon. Howard Holthoff**

Desha County - Dumas, McGehee

**Hon. Sara Hartness**

Drew County - Monticello

**Hon. Paul Efurd**

Franklin County Charleston district - Charleston

**Hon. Joe Ramos**

Franklin County Ozark district - Ozark, Altus

**Hon. Jim Short**

Fulton County - Salem, Mammoth Springs

**Hon. Meredith Switzer Rebsamen**

Garland County - Dept. 1

**Hon. Ralph Ohm**

Garland County - Dept. 2

**Hon. J. Larry Allen**

Grant County - Sheridan

**Hon. Sherry Burnett**

Hot Springs County - Malvern, Donaldson, Rockport

**Hon. Jessica Steele Gunter**

Howard County - Nashville

**Hon. David Miller**

Izard County - Melbourne, Horseshoe Bend

**Hon. Barbara Griffin**

Jackson County - Newport, Diaz, Swifton, Tuckerman

**Hon. Len Bradley**

Johnson County - Clarksville, Lamar, Coal Hill

**Hon. Edward Cochran**

Lafayette County - Stamps, Bradley, Lewisville

**Hon. Adam Weeks**

Lawrence County - Hoxie, Walnut Ridge, Black Rock

# 2016 Local District Court Judges

**Hon. Robert Donovan**

Lee County – Marianna

**Hon. Victor Harper**

Lincoln County – Star City/City Division, Star City  
County Division, Gould, Grady

**Hon. John C. Finley, III**

Little River County – Ashdown, Winthrop

**Hon. Betsy Danielson**

Logan County SD – Booneville, Magazine

**Hon. David Rush**

Logan County ND – Paris

**Hon. Joe O'Bryan**

Lonoke County ND – Cabot, Ward, Austin

**Hon. Joseph V. Svoboda**

Lonoke County SD – Carlisle, England

**Hon. Teresa Smith**

Lonoke County SD – Lonoke

**Hon. Dale Ramsey**

Madison County - Huntsville

**Hon. Jason Duffy**

Marion County – Yellville, Bull Shoals, Flippin

**Hon. Donald Betterton**

Mississippi County - Osceola

**Hon. John W. Martin**

Monroe County – Brinkley

**Hon. David Carruth**

Monroe County – Clarendon, Holly Grove

**Hon. William McKimm**

Montgomery County – Mount Ida

**Hon. Tommy Martin**

Newton County - Jasper

**Hon. Phil Foster**

Ouachita County – Camden

**Hon. Dan Ives**

Ouachita County - East Camden, Bearden, Chidester,  
Stephens

**Hon. Andy Gill**

Perry County – Perryville

**Hon. Durwood King**

Phillips County – Dept. 1, Elaine

**Hon. J. R. Porter**

Phillips County – Dept. 2, Lake View, Marvell

**Hon. LeAnne Daniel**

Pike County – Murfreesboro, Glenwood

**Hon. Jake Looney**

Polk County – Mena

**Hon. Robert Abney**

Prairie County ND - Des Arc

**Hon. Jim Rhodes, III**

Prairie County SD – Biscoe, DeValls Bluff, Hazen

**Hon. Alice Lightle**

Pulaski County - Little Rock Dept. 1

**Hon. Vic Fleming**

Pulaski County - Little Rock Dept. 2

**Hon. Mark. D. Leverett**

Pulaski County - Little Rock Dept. 3

**Hon. John Throesch**

Randolph County – Pocahontas



## 2016 Local District Court Judges

### **Hon. Donald Goodner**

Scott County – Waldron

### **Hon. Mitch Cash**

Searcy County – Marshall

### **Hon. Stephen W. Tedder**

Sevier County - DeQueen

### **Hon. Mark R. Johnson**

Sharp County – Ash Flat, Cherokee Village

### **Hon. Whitman W. Fowlkes**

Stone County – Mountain View

### **Hon. Ray Reynolds**

Washington County – Elkins

### **Hon. William A. Storey**

Washington County – Fayetteville

### **Hon. Graham Nations**

Washington County – Prairie Grove, Farmington,  
Lincoln

### **Hon. Jeff Harper**

Washington County – Springdale, Elm Springs,  
Johnson

### **Hon. Casey Jones**

Washington County – West Fork, Greenland

### **Hon. John Eldridge, III**

Woodruff County – Augusta, Cotton Plant, McCrory,  
Patterson

### **Hon. Carol Collins**

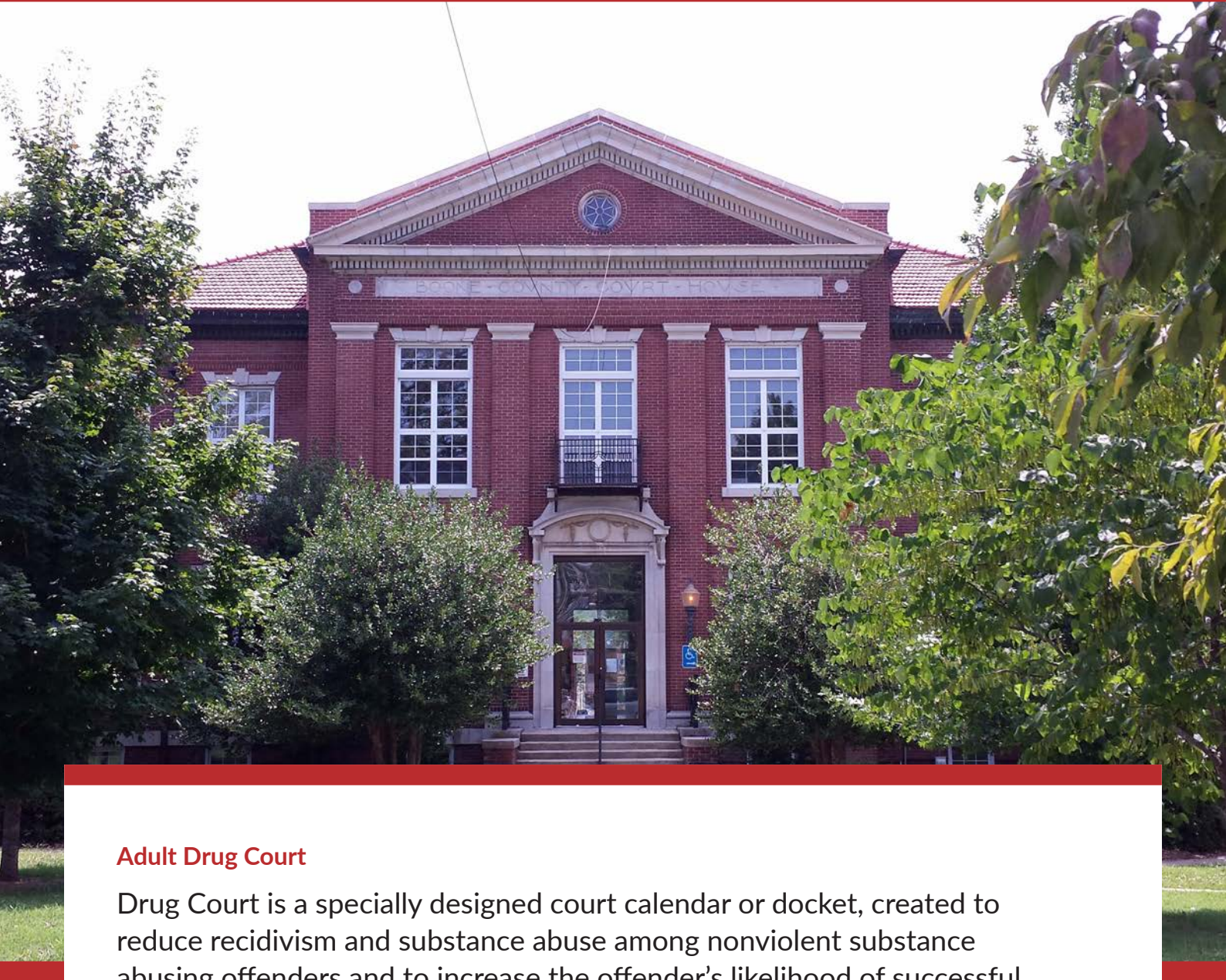
Yell County ND

### **Hon. Kristin Clark**

Yell County SD

An updated list of the current state district court judges may be found at: <https://courts.arkansas.gov/sites/default/files/Judicial%20Directory.pdf>

# SPECIALTY COURTS



## Adult Drug Court

Drug Court is a specially designed court calendar or docket, created to reduce recidivism and substance abuse among nonviolent substance abusing offenders and to increase the offender's likelihood of successful rehabilitation through early, continuous, and intense judicially supervised treatment, mandatory periodic drug testing, community supervision, and use of appropriate sanctions and other rehabilitation services (Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2005).

## Juvenile Drug Court

A juvenile court is located within the juvenile or family court system, a program to which selected delinquency cases, and in some instances status





## SPECIALTY COURTS CONTINUED

offenders, are referred for handling. The youths referred to this docket are identified as having problems with alcohol and/or other drugs (Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs/Bureau of Justice Assistance: Juvenile Drug Courts, *Strategies in Practice* 2003).

### DWI Court

Is an accountability court dedicated to changing the behavior of the hardcore DWI offenders. The goal of DWI Court or DWI/Drug Court is to protect public safety by using the highly successful Drug Court model that uses accountability and long-term treatment (National Center for DWI Courts).

### Veterans Treatment Court

Serves justice-involved veterans and sometimes active duty personnel. Courts link veterans facing mental illness, drug addiction/abuse, and/or reintegration issues to services, intensive treatment, and support while promoting sobriety, recovery and stability. Services may include a coordinated response from traditional partners as well as the Department of Veterans' Affairs healthcare networks, Veterans Benefits Administration, State Department of Veterans Affairs, volunteer veteran mentors, and organizations that support veterans' families (<http://justiceforvets.org/>).

### Mental Health Court

Links offenders who would ordinarily be prison-bound to long-term community-based treatment. They rely on thorough mental health assessments, individualized treatment plans and ongoing judicial monitoring to address both the mental health needs of offenders and public safety concerns of communities. These courts vary as to the types of charges and mental illness diagnoses accepted as well as the participants' demographics and plea requirements, but they are united by the common themes of substituting a problem-solving model for traditional criminal court processing and an emphasis on linking defendants to effective treatment and supports (Center for Court Innovation at <http://www.courtinnovation.org/>).

## SPECIALTY COURTS CONTINUED

### H.O.P.E. Court

HOPE Courts are based on the Hawaii Opportunity on Probation with Enforcement program model. Pilot HOPE courts exist nationwide, including Arkansas. The program identifies probationers with a high risk for re-offending, focusing on reducing drug use, new crimes and incarceration. Offenders are deterred from using drugs and committing crimes by frequent and random drug tests, backed by swift and certain jail stays, along with treatment when necessary. ([http://ojp.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/2011/OJP\\_PR-101811.pdf](http://ojp.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/2011/OJP_PR-101811.pdf))

### Swift Court

Swift courts are pilot program problem solving courts in Arkansas. These courts are similar to HOPE courts, using similar structure and seek similar positive outcomes. While each program is unique, all place emphasis on the certainty of the sanction and the swiftness with which it is applied, rather than the severity of the sanction. Swift and certain sanctioning increases offender compliance with rules of supervision, improving public safety in the short term and allowing for more effective case management. The models distinguish between low and high level offenders and have coordinated responses.

### Alternative Sentencing Court

Problem solving courts in Arkansas that use multiple tracks within their programs for offenders based on risk/need assessment levels. Sanction and incentive responses are tailored to offender track and risk levels. Programs include phase advancement and increased supervision and drug testing.



## Specialty Courts - District

Circuit	Division	Judge's Name	Counties Served	Types of Program
1	3	Chris Morledge	St. Francis	Adult Drug Court
2	5	Ann Hudson	St. Francis	Juvenile Drug Court
2	2	Thomas Fowler	Craighead	Juvenile Drug Court
2	4	Cindy Thyer	Crittenden	Adult Drug Court
2	5	Ralph Wilson	Mississippi	Adult Drug Court
2	6	Tonya Alexander	Craighead	Mental Health
2	6	Tonya Alexander	Craighead	Veterans
2	6	Tonya Alexander	Crittenden	Mental Health
2	9	Melissa Richardson	Craighead	Adult Drug Court
2	11	Brent Davis	Greene	Adult Drug Court
3	1	Harold Erwin	Jackson	Adult Drug Court
3	2	Philip Smith	Randolph	Adult Drug Court
3	2	Philip Smith	Lawrence	Adult Drug Court
4	4	Christi Beaumont	Washington	Adult Drug Court
4	4	Christi Beaumont	Washington	Veterans
5	2	Gordon "Mac" McCain	Johnson	Adult Drug Court
5	3	Ken Coker	Pope	Juvenile Drug Court
5	4	Dennis Sutterfield	Pope	Adult Drug Court
6	9	Mary McGowan	Pulaski	Adult Drug Court
6	9	Mary McGowan	Pulaski	Veterans
7	1	Chris Williams	Hot Spring	Adult Drug Court
7	1	Eddy Easley	Hot Spring	Swift Court
8 N	1	Randy Wright	Hempstead	Juvenile Drug Court
8 N	1	Randy Wright	Hempstead	Swift
8 N	2	Duncan Culpepper	Hempstead	Adult Drug Court
8 S	1	Carlton Jones	Miller	Adult Drug Court
9 E	1	Gregory L. Vardaman/ Randy Hill	Clark	Adult Drug Court
9 E	1	Gregory L. Vardaman/ Randy Hill	Clark	Alternative Sentencing
9 W	2	Charles Yeargan	Howard	Adult Drug Court
10	3	Bynum Gibson/ Sam Pope	Drew	Adult Drug Court
10	4	Don Glover	Desha	Swift
10	5	Teresa French	Ashley	Juvenile Drug Court
11 E	1	David Henry	Arkansas	Adult Drug Court
11 W	1	Alex Guynn	Jefferson	Adult Drug Court
11 W	6	Earnest Brown, Jr.	Jefferson	Juvenile Drug Court
11 W	6	Earnest Brown, Jr.	Jefferson	Family Treatment
12	1	Stephen Tabor/ J. Michael Fitzhugh	Sebastian	Adult Drug Court



## Specialty Courts - District

Circuit	Division	Judge's Name	Counties Served	Types of Program
12		Stephen Tabor	Sebastian	Veterans Court
13	1	Hamilton Singleton	Union	Adult Drug Court
13	1	Hamilton Singleton	Union	Alternative Sentencing
13	1	Hamilton Singleton	Union	Swift
13	3	Edwin Keaton	Ouachita	Adult Drug Court
13	3	Edwin Keaton	Ouachita	Alternative Sentencing
13	4	Robin Carroll	Union	Alternative Sentencing
13	5	David Talley	Columbia	Adult Drug Court
13	5	David Talley	Columbia	Juvenile Drug Court
13	5	David Talley	Columbia	Alternative Sentencing
14	4	Gordon Webb	Boone	Adult Drug Court
14	4	Gordon Webb	Baxter	Adult Drug Court
15	1	Jerry Don Ramey	Conway	Adult Drug Court
15	1	Jerry Don Ramey	Logan	Adult Drug Court
15	1	Jerry Don Ramey	Yell	Adult Drug Court
16	1	Tim Weaver	Cleburne	Adult Drug Court
16	1	Tim Weaver	Fulton	Adult Drug Court
16	1	Tim Weaver	Independence	Adult Drug Court
16		John Dan Kemp	Independence	Juvenile Drug Court
16	1	Tim Weaver	Independence	Veterans
16	1	Tim Weaver	Stone	Adult Drug Court
16	3	Chaney Taylor	Independence	Swift
17	3	Craig Hannah	White	Adult Drug Court
18 E	1	John Homer Wright	Garland	Adult Drug Court
18 E	2	Wade Narramore	Garland	Juvenile Drug Court
18 W	1	Jerry Ryan	Polk	Adult Drug Court
18 W		Jerry Ryan	Montgomery	Adult Drug Court
19 E	1	Scott Jackson	Carroll	Adult Drug Court
19 W	3	Thomas Smith	Benton	Adult Drug Court
19 W	3	Thomas Smith	Benton	Veterans
19W		Thomas Smith	Benton	Juvenile Drug Court
20	3	Charles Clawson Jr.	Faulkner	Adult Drug Court
20		Charles Clawson Jr.	Faulkner	Veterans Court
20	5	Troy Braswell	Faulkner	Juvenile Drug Court
21	1	Gary Cottrell	Crawford	Adult Drug Court
22	1	Bobby D. McCallister	Saline	Adult Drug Court
22	1	Bobby D. McCallister	Saline	Juvenile Drug Court
22	2	Gary Arnold	Saline	Hope
23	3	Sandy Huckabee	Lonoke	Adult Drug Court
23	3	Sandy Huckabee	Lonoke	Veterans



## Specialty Courts - District

Circuit	Judge's Name	Counties/Court Served	Type Of Program
2	Keith Blackman	Craighead County Dist. Court	DWI
6	Milas "Butch" Hale	Pulaski County-Sherwood Dist. Court	DWI
6	Wayne Gruber	Pulaski	DWI
9 E	Randy Hill	Clark	Adult Drug Court/ Veterans Court
11 W	John Kearney	Jefferson County Dist. Court	DWI
11 W	Kim Bridgforth	Jefferson County Dist. Court	Veterans Court
14	Fred Kirkpatrick	Boone County Dist. Court	DWI
16	Chaney Taylor	Independence County Dist. Court-Batesville	DWI
18 E	Meredith Switzer Rebsamen	Garland County Dist. Court-Department 1	Domestic Violence/DWI/ Mental Health/ Veterans Court
18 E	Ralph Ohm	Garland County Dist. Court-Department 2	Domestic Violence/Drug Court/DWI/ Mental Health/ Veterans Court
19W	Ralph Bunch	Benton County Dist. Court	DWI
20	Susan Weaver	Faulkner/Van Buren County	DWI
21	Charles Baker	Crawford	DWI
22	Mike Robinson	Saline County Dist. Court	DWI

# IN MEMORIAM



## **Chief Justice Bradley Dean Jesson**

**January 26, 1932 - January 11, 2016**

After military service in Japan and graduation from the University of Arkansas Law School, Hon. Jesson served as a law clerk for Federal Judge John E. Miller. For most of his career, he practiced law with the Hardin Law firm, now Hardin, Jesson, and Terry PLC. He served as City Attorney, Legislative Secretary to Governor Dale Bumpers, Chair of the Arkansas Democratic Party, Chair of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, and Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court.



## IN MEMORIAM CONTINUED

### **Chief Justice James Robert Hannah**

**December 26, 1944 - January 14, 2016**

Hon. Hannah received his law degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in 1968 and joined the private law firm, Lightle, Tedder, Hannah, and Beebe in Searcy, AR. Between 1969 and 1978, he was city attorney for Searcy, Augusta, Bradford, Des Arc, Garner, Kensett, and Rosebud; deputy prosecuting attorney for Woodruff County; city judge for Kensett and Rosebud; and juvenile judge for White County. In 1978, he was elected Chancery and Probate Judge for the 17th Judicial District, a position he held for the next 22 years. In 2000, he was elected Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Arkansas, where he served until 2005, when he was elected Chief Justice. He led the court until his early retirement on September 1, 2015.

### **Hon. Charles Plunkett**

**December 4, 1934 - January 14, 2016**

Hon. Plunkett attended Duke University Law School where he earned his Juris Doctorate (J.D.). After finishing law school, he returned to Camden where he had his own law practice in addition to serving as County Criminal Judge before being elected as Chancery Judge in 1974. He served in that capacity for over twenty years in addition to the many areas of business with which he was involved.

### **Justice Ray Thornton**

**July 16, 1928 - April 13, 2016**

Hon. Thornton graduated in 1950 with a degree in international relations and engineering from Yale University. He then studied law at the University of Texas for one year before receiving his commission in the United States Navy and reporting for duty during the Korean War. At the end of the war, Hon. Thornton returned home to Arkansas to attend the University of Arkansas School of Law in Fayetteville. After finishing law school, he opened his law practice. He was elected Attorney General in 1970 and served one term. In 1972, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served the Fourth Congressional District for three terms. In 1980 he was chosen as President of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro

## IN MEMORIAM CONTINUED

and in 1984 accepted the President's position of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He was elected to U. S. Congress as the representative for Arkansas Second Congressional District, where he served three terms. In 1996, he was elected to the Arkansas Supreme Court where he served for eight years.

### **Hon. Graham Partlow**

**December 5, 1931 - July 6, 2016**

Hon. Partlow was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1953 and upon graduation, entered active duty for 2 years. Upon his release from active duty, Judge Partlow continued serving in the U.S. Army Reserves until he was honorably discharged in 1968. Judge Partlow served as Circuit Judge for the Second Judicial District of Arkansas for 23 years prior to his retirement. He was a member of the Arkansas Judicial Council and was president of the council from 1997-98. He was appointed to and served on the Arkansas Supreme Court committee that drafted the Judicial Code of Conduct and on committees governing court reporters and the child support enforcement guidelines. Prior to his election to the bench, Judge Partlow served as Blytheville city attorney, deputy prosecuting attorney in Mississippi County, and in private practice with John Mayes.

### **Hon. Larry W. Chandler**

**August 4, 1942 - July 12, 2016**

Judge Chandler obtained his law degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law. In 1969 he entered private law practice. On March 16, 1994, he was appointed to fill the chancery judge vacancy in Division 1 of the 13th Judicial District. On February 15, 1995, he was appointed to fill a newly created judicial position. On January 1, 1997, he was appointed to fill a vacancy in Division 3. He took office January 1, 2002 to his final position in the 13th Judicial District. He was named Juvenile Judge of the Year for the State of Arkansas by the Arkansas State CASA Association in 1998.





## IN MEMORIAM CONTINUED

### **Hon. P. Luevonda Ross**

**July 4, 1964 - December 2, 2016**

Hon. P. Luevonda Ross attended law school at the James E. Beasley School of Law at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Her career began as an attorney for Central Arkansas Legal Services in Little Rock, and she later served as deputy prosecutor for the 10th and 11th Arkansas Judicial Districts. She would go on to become a deputy attorney general in the Arkansas Attorney General's Office in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Judge Ross also served as an attorney for the Office of Child Support Enforcement, maintained an active private practice at the Ross Law Firm in Monticello, and taught as a professor at the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law. She was appointed to the bench by Governor Mike Beebe in 2012 as Drew County District Court Judge and then ran successfully for 10th Judicial Circuit Judge.

### **Justice Donald Louis Corbin**

**March 28, 1928 - December 12, 2016**

Hon. Donald Louis Corbin attended law school at the University of Arkansas. Hon. Corbin practiced law in De Queen, then in Lewisville and Stamps. In 1971, he was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives where he was instrumental in passing the Rural Medical Practice Act and in obtaining funding for the neonatal unit at ACH. In 1980, he was elected to the Arkansas Court of Appeals and served four years as Chief Judge. He was elected to the Arkansas Supreme Court in 1990 and served until he retired in December 2014.

### **Hon. David B. Switzer**

**July 25, 1951 - December 17, 2016**

Hon. David B. Switzer graduated from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville School of Law, where he served on the Law Review. Hon. Switzer began privately practicing law in 1976 and also served as a deputy prosecuting attorney, Juvenile Judge, and Master for Paternity for Garland County. He went on to serve for nineteen years as judge for the 18th Arkansas Judicial Circuit for multiple divisions. Beginning in 2009, Hon. Switzer served as District Court Judge for Hot Springs and Garland County.

# Administrative Office of the Courts

Justice Building  
625 Marshall Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
72201

+1-501-410-1935  
[nick.shumate@arcourts.gov](mailto:nick.shumate@arcourts.gov)  
[courts.arkansas.gov](http://courts.arkansas.gov)

Icons courtesy of Freepik from [www.flaticon.com](http://www.flaticon.com)