



D
i
s
t
r
i
c
t

o
f

C
o
l
u
m
b
i
a

C
o
u
r
t
s

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Open to All ♦ Trusted by All ♦ Justice for All



D
i
s
t
r
i
c
t

o
f

C
o
l
u
m
b
i
a

C
o
u
r
t
s

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Open to All ♦ Trusted by All ♦ Justice for All

District of Columbia Courts
500 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 879-1700
www.dccourts.gov

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUDGES

We are proud of our many achievements, which have served to improve the administration of justice, enhance public safety and facilitate access for the citizens of the District of Columbia and the metropolitan area. Many of our efforts focused on providing more and improved information for the public to seek and receive court services. Public forums held at various locations in the community, public satisfaction surveys, the installation of information kiosks throughout the courthouse, the expanded use of the Courts' web presence and the opening of self-service and information centers in the Courts' operating divisions all aided the Courts in learning about community needs and in reporting to the community about our progress.

The Courts continued to modernize and improve physical facilities to accommodate the needs of the public and provide a secure and safe environment. Additionally, we made great strides in implementing the Master Plan for Judiciary Square, including restoration of the historic Old D.C. Courthouse, the future site of the D.C. Court of Appeals, and re-designing courthouse entrances and space to permit easier and direct access to Family Court, Small Claims Court and Landlord and Tenant Court. Considerable emphasis, too, was placed on the monitoring and assessment of our performance and our past efforts as a means of guiding improvements for the future.

We trust that this report provides valuable information on the District of Columbia Courts as we strive to provide the highest quality service to our citizens and the broader community. We extend our appreciation to the dedicated and hard working judicial officers and court staff who make achieving our mission possible as we seek to continue to administer justice fairly and impartially in the District of Columbia.



Eric T. Washington
Chief Judge of the
District of Columbia Court of Appeals



Rufus G. King, III
Chief Judge of the
Superior Court of the District of Columbia

**FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**

On behalf of the District of Columbia Courts and in accordance with District of Columbia Code, Section 11-1701(c)(2) and 1745(a), I am pleased to provide to the community the Annual Report of the District of Columbia Courts for the calendar year 2006. The Report includes a statement from the Honorable Eric T. Washington, Chair of the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration, messages to the community from both Chief Judge Washington and Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III, Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and information on notable accomplishments of the Courts' divisions during 2006.



Anne B. Wicks
Executive Officer
District of Columbia Courts

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS' STRATEGIC PLAN	1
JOINT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION	
Report of Chief Judge Eric T. Washington, Chair of the Joint Committee	3
Organization Structure of the District of Columbia Courts	13
BUDGET AND FINANCE	
District of Columbia Courts' Finances	14
Operating Budget	14
Capital Budget	14
Defender Services Appropriations	14
COURT OF APPEALS	
Report on the Activities of the Court of Appeals	16
COURT OF APPEALS STATISTICS	
Filings by Category & Ratio to Dispositions, 2002-2006	24
Dispositions by Method, 2002-2006	24
Motions & Petitions, 2002-2006	24
Time on Appeal, 2002-2006	25
Bar Admissions, 2002-2006	25
Bar Disciplinary Actions, 2002-2006	25
SUPERIOR COURT	
Report on the Activities of the Superior Court	27
SUPERIOR COURT STATISTICS	
Superior Court Case Activity for 2006	29
New Case Filings, 2002-2006	30
Case Dispositions, 2002-2006	31
Pending Caseloads, 2002-2006	32
<i>CIVIL DIVISION</i>	
Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006	33
Civil Division Case Activity for 2006	34
Civil Division Pending Caseload, 2006	34
<i>CRIMINAL DIVISION</i>	
Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006	35
Criminal Division Case Activity for 2006	36
Criminal Division Pending Caseload, 2006	36

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006 37
Domestic Violence Unit Case Activity for 2006 38
Domestic Violence Pending Caseload, 2006 38

FAMILY COURT OPERATIONS

Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006 39
Family Court Operations Case Activity for 2006 40
Family Court Pending Caseload, 2006 40

FAMILY COURT SOCIAL SERVICES

Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006 41
Social Services Division Activity for 2006 42
Juvenile Supervision, 2002-2006 42

MULTI-DOOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006 43
Civil Alternative Dispute Resolution Activity, 2002-2006 44
Family/Community Alternative Dispute Resolution Activity, 2002-2006 45
Community Information & Referrals, 2006 45

PROBATE DIVISION

Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006 46
Probate Division Case Activity for 2006 47
Account and Fee Activity, 2002-2006 47
Probate Division Case Activity and Pending Caseload, 2006 47

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Description and Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006 48
Tax Division Case Activity, 2002-2006..... 49
Petit Juror Activity, 2002-2006 49
Appeals Coordinators Office 49
Office of Court Interpreting Services 49

OTHER SUPERIOR COURT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Auditor Master Case Activity, 2005-2006 50
Crime Victims Compensation Program, 2005-2006 50

COURT SYSTEM

Accomplishments of Court System Divisions In Calendar Year 2006 51

COURT REPORTING ACTIVITY

Transcript Production by Reporters, 2002-2006 53
Transcript Production from Recordings, 2002-2006 53
Transcript Production, 2002-2006 53

OVERVIEW OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS' STRATEGIC PLAN

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect rights and liberties, uphold and interpret the law, and resolve disputes peacefully, fairly and effectively in the Nation's Capital.

VISION STATEMENT

Open to All
Trusted by All
Justice for All

STRATEGIC ISSUES

- Strategic Issue #1: Enhancing the Administration of Justice
- Strategic Issue #2: Broadening Access to Justice and Service to the Public
- Strategic Issue #3: Promoting Competence, Professionalism and Civility
- Strategic Issue #4: Improving Court Facilities and Technology
- Strategic Issue #5: Building Trust and Confidence

J
O
I
N
T

C
O
M
M
I
T
T
E
E

O
N

J
U
D
C
I
A
L

A
D
M
I
N
I
S
T
R
A
T
I
O
N

REPORT OF
CHIEF JUDGE ERIC T. WASHINGTON
CHAIR OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

The Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia was created as part of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 (the Act). The Joint Committee is the policy-making body for the District of Columbia Courts. It is responsible for the Courts' general personnel policies, accounts and auditing, procurement and disbursement, development and coordination of statistics and management information systems and reports, submission of the annual budget request for the District of Columbia Courts, and other related administrative matters. Pursuant to the Act, five judges serve on the Joint Committee: the Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, who is the chair; the Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; an associate judge of the Court of Appeals, who is elected by the judges of that court; and two associate judges of the Superior Court, who are elected by the judges of the Superior Court. The members of the Joint Committee during calendar year 2006 were Chief Judge Eric T. Washington, Chair, Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III, Judge Michael W. Farrell of the Court of Appeals, and Judges Geoffrey M. Alprin and Lee F. Satterfield, of the Superior Court. By statute, there is an Executive Officer for the District of Columbia Courts, who is responsible for the administration of the Courts, subject to the supervision of the chief judge of each respective court, regarding the implementation in the respective courts of various administrative matters, consistent with the general policies and directives of the Joint Committee. Ms. Anne B. Wicks, Executive Officer for the Courts, serves as secretary to the Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee meets monthly to monitor carefully the Courts' adherence to the spending plan, to ensure the Courts operate within budget, and to discuss policy matters affecting the Courts. The Committee also holds special meetings as necessary throughout the year in order to discharge its responsibilities.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2006 calendar year marked the fourth year of the District of Columbia Courts' effort to integrate strategic planning and performance measurement into the Courts' daily business operations. Guided by *Committed to Justice in the Nation's Capital, Strategic Plan of the District of Columbia Courts 2003 –2007*, the Courts made significant improvements in the five strategic areas vital to the administration of justice:

- *Enhancing the Administration of Justice;*
- *Broadening Access to Justice and Service to the Public;*
- *Promoting Competence, Professionalism, and Civility;*
- *Improving Court Facilities and Technology; and,*
- *Building Trust and Confidence.*

Guided by the 18 goals and 67 strategies contained in the Plan, court divisions continued implementation of Management Action Plans (MAPs), which identified actions to help achieve courtwide goals. Directors regularly monitor and report their progress in accomplishing MAP objectives according to measurable performance criteria and update their MAPs every two years to ensure responsiveness to emerging community needs and to issues facing the Courts. The MAPs resulted in significant improvements in operational areas covered under the Plan, and a few are highlighted in the following sections.

ENHANCING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Fair and timely court processes and the effective and efficient use of the Courts' resources are central to the Courts' mission. In 2006, the Courts continued to work to administer justice fairly, promptly, and efficiently.

Budget and Spending

Under the terms of the National Capital Revitalization and Self Government Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act), the federal government assumed responsibility for funding the Courts directly. The Revitalization Act provides for the Joint Committee to submit its budget estimates to Congress and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Courts' estimates are to be "included in the budget without revision by the President but subject to the President's recommendations." D.C. Code § 11-1743 (1997). The statute also provides for the Joint Committee to send its budget estimates to the Mayor and the Council, although the budget for the Courts is no longer a part of the budget of the District of Columbia government. The Revitalization Act authorizes the Courts to make expenditures from appropriated monies for such expenses as may be necessary to execute efficiently the functions vested in the Courts. Pursuant to the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2006, Public Law No. 109-115, the Courts' appropriation is to be apportioned quarterly by OMB and obligated and expended as funds for Federal Agencies. Payroll and financial services are provided by the General Services Administration on a contractual basis.

FY 2006. For FY 2006, the Courts requested \$149,860,000 for operations and \$192,874,000 for capital improvements. Congress appropriated \$136,801,000 for operations and \$79,922,000 for capital improvements to courthouse facilities, after a one percent across the board reduction. In addition, for Defender Services in the District of Columbia Courts, the Courts requested \$54,000,000 and Congress provided \$43,560,000.

To support the Courts' commitment to serve the public in our Nation's Capital, the President and Congress provided funds to maintain court services at the current level, despite an austere fiscal environment. Increases for the operating budget were limited to inflationary changes and partial funding for cost of living allowances (COLAs). However, over the past several years increasing personal services costs have outpaced appropriations, resulting in 2006 in a funding shortfall in the Courts' personal services budget. The Joint Committee considered and implemented several cost-saving measures. Because 75% of the Courts' budget finances court personnel, this area was necessarily the primary source of savings: the Joint Committee implemented a hiring freeze to ensure that the Courts operated within their budget for the year.

The FY 2006 appropriation for capital improvements included \$50.1 million for the Courts' highest priority in that year, the restoration of the Old Courthouse at 430 E Street. These funds provided the second phase of the resources required to restore this architectural jewel for the Court of Appeals. The total capital appropriation, \$79,922,000, an increase of approximately \$24 million over the FY 2005 level, also included \$8.9 million for projects to renovate, improve, and expand court facilities, \$18.5 million for infrastructure projects, and \$1.5 million for the Integrated Justice Information System—the new case management system.

FY 2007. The Courts' FY 2007 budget request again focused on sufficient capital funding to address the Courts' severe space shortage and deteriorating infrastructure. For FY 2007, which began in October 2006, the Courts requested \$161,379,000 for operations and \$173,460,000 for capital improvements. Through a series of continuing resolutions, the final one enacted February 15, 2007, Congress provided the same funding level in FY 2007 as in FY 2006: \$136,801,000 for operations and \$79,922,000 for capital improvements. In addition, the Courts requested \$54,000,000 and were appropriated \$43,475,000 for Defender Services.

The FY 2007 appropriation provided \$23 million for the Old Courthouse restoration project, which completes the financing for the construction contract. Funds for additional project costs will be required in FY 2008. The operating budget did not include any increases for inflationary changes nor for COLAs. Accordingly, the hiring freeze and other cost saving measures remained in place to address the personal services budget shortfall, leading to staffing shortages throughout the Courts. By December 2006, the Courts were operating with a 12% non-judicial vacancy rate, meaning that one in eight positions was vacant.

Because these staffing shortages cannot continue without a profound negative impact on the fair and effective resolution of disputes, community safety, and public trust and confidence in the government, the Joint Committee included in the FY 2008

budget request, submitted in September 2006, a special request for personal services funding. A sufficient workforce is essential for the D.C. Courts to meet statutory mandates, fulfill our mission, and ensure that the public receives high quality justice and services.

BROADENING ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

The D.C. Courts recognize the increasing diversity of the community and seek to ensure that all District residents have full access to the judicial process. In 2006, the Courts conducted several activities to meet this need.

Website

In 2006, the D.C. Courts' website, first launched in July 2004, was recognized by *Justice Served* as one of the Top Ten Court Websites Worldwide. The website is designed to provide to the public information that is helpful and easy to use. Information available on the website includes the following: divisions' hours of operations, phone numbers, directions to the courthouse, juror procedures, self-represented litigant assistance, use of the child care center, and availability of interpreter services, among many others. Visitors to the website can also access Court of Appeals decisions, a child support calculator, court forms, and this annual report. Key information on the Courts, including interpreter services, is available in Spanish and other frequently requested languages. Freestanding touch screen kiosks that access the website were deployed in December 2006 and placed in key areas of the Moultrie Courthouse.

Standing Committee on Fairness and Access

The Joint Committee on Judicial Administration established the Standing Committee on Fairness and Access to the District of Columbia Courts (Standing Committee) in 1996. The initial mandate of the Standing Committee is to continue, on a permanent basis, the work of the earlier Task Forces on Racial, Ethnic and Gender Bias in the District of Columbia Courts with respect to monitoring the D.C. Courts to ensure the elimination of bias based on race, ethnicity, and gender. The mission of the Standing Committee, however, is now broader than the earlier task forces and its initial focus, since it also seeks to improve community access to the courts, enhance trust and confidence in the courts, monitor compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and generally improve the quality of service provided to court users.

Three subcommittees continued to guide the work of the Standing Committee in 2006. The Hiring and Promotions Subcommittee plays an oversight role in reviewing compliance with the Courts' affirmative employment plan in recruiting, hiring, and promoting staff. Issues addressed, with the collaboration of various segments of the D.C. Courts and the D.C. Bar, included increasing bilingual employees within the D.C. Courts, enhancing access to the Landlord/Tenant and Branch, and improving the process for tenants who are unrepresented.

The Improving the Treatment of Court Participants Subcommittee continued holding its Outreach Initiative Forums in an effort to get input from communities impacted by the Courts' operations. For example, outreach sessions were held with various segments of the Metropolitan Police Department and with victims and victim advocates.

The Improving Court Access Subcommittee focuses on issues confronting persons with various barriers to justice, including physical barriers within the court-houses and language barriers.

PROMOTING COMPETENCE, PROFESSIONALISM AND CIVILITY

A third strategic issue for the Courts is promoting the competence and professionalism of court personnel and enhancing civility among all court participants.

Training

In 2006, after more than a year of planning, the Courts launched a new Management Training Program, a one-year course in professional development, strategic planning, and leadership. The faculty for the program is comprised of Court leaders and national experts who form faculty teams to facilitate a two-day class each month on topics including teambuilding, court administration best practices, and human resources policy. Employees were selected for the program on a competitive basis. The first class of 22 exceptional employees began the program in September 2006.

IMPROVING COURT FACILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

The fourth strategic issue is improving court facilities and technology to ensure that facilities are safe, comfortable, secure, and functional and that technology supports the Courts' mission.

Facilities

The District of Columbia Courts process more than 200,000 cases each year and employ a staff of 1,200 who directly serve the public, process the cases, and provide administrative support. The Courts' capital funding requirements are significant because they finance projects critical to maintaining, preserving, and building in a timely manner safe and functional courthouse facilities essential to meeting the heavy demands of the administration of justice in our Nation's Capital. To meet these demands effectively, the Courts' facilities must be both functional and emblematic of their public significance and character.

The D.C. Courts occupy 1.1 million gross square feet of space in Judiciary Square, one of the original significant green spaces in the District of Columbia designated in the L'Enfant Plan for the Nation's Capital. Several of the Courts' four buildings in the square are historically significant. The Courts are responsible for the Old Courthouse at 430 E Street, N.W.; the Moultrie Courthouse at 500 Indiana Avenue, N.W.; and Buildings A and B, which are located between 4th and 5th Streets and E and F Streets, N.W. In addition, the District government's payroll office has begun vacating Building C, the old Juvenile Court, returning it to the Courts' inventory.

The Joint Committee, as the policy-making body for the District of Columbia Courts, has responsibility for, among other things, space and facilities issues in our court system. Capital improvements are an integral part of the Strategic Plan. Improved facilities were a need identified as a high priority among all constituency groups surveyed by the Courts as the Strategic Plan was developed. The effective administration of justice requires an appropriate physical and technical environment. Thus, the Courts have developed a detailed Facilities Master Plan and, in 2006, reached a number of milestones on several projects.

Judiciary Square Master Plan. The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) required the D.C. Courts to develop a Master Plan for Judiciary Square – essentially an urban design plan – before any construction could commence in the area. The Judiciary Square Master Plan, which was approved by the NCPC in 2005, integrates the facilities development program of the Courts into a rapidly changing and publicly oriented area of the District. The Plan resolves important technical issues while re-establishing the importance of this historic setting in the “City of Washington.” It provides a comprehensive framework for project implementation and lays the groundwork for the regulatory approval process with the NCPC, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), the District of Columbia Office of Historic Preservation, the District of Columbia Office of Planning, and the District of Columbia Department of Transportation, among others. The Judiciary Square Master Plan will ensure the preservation of one of the last green spaces in the District of Columbia awaiting revitalization, incorporating areas where the public can gather and relax, and creating a campus-like environment where citizens can feel safe and secure.

Master Plan for D.C. Court Facilities. The Courts have worked with GSA on a number of our capital projects since fiscal year 1999, when the Courts assumed responsibility for our capital budget from the District’s Department of Public Works. In 2001, GSA prepared Building Evaluation Reports that assessed the condition of the D.C. Courts’ facilities, which have been adversely affected by maintenance deferrals necessitated by severely limited capital funds in prior years. These projects culminated in the development of the first *Master Plan for D.C. Court Facilities (Facilities Master Plan)*, which delineates the Courts’ space requirements and provides a blueprint for optimal space utilization, both in the near- and long-term.

The *Facilities Master Plan*, completed in December 2002, incorporates significant research, analysis, and planning by experts in architecture, urban design, and planning. During this study, GSA analyzed the Courts’ current and future space requirements, particularly in light of the significantly increased space needs of the Family Court. The *Facilities Master Plan* examined such issues as alignment of court components to meet evolving operational needs and enhance efficiency; the impact of the D.C. Family Court Act of 2001 (Public Law Number 107-114); accommodation of space requirements through 2012; and plans to upgrade facilities, including, for example, security, telecommunications, and mechanical systems.

The *Facilities Master Plan* defined a shortfall in 2002 of 48,000 square feet of space, with a shortfall of 134,000 square feet projected in the next decade. It proposes to meet the Courts’ space needs through three mechanisms: (1) renovation of the Old Courthouse for use by this jurisdiction’s court of last resort, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, which will free critically needed space in the Moultrie Courthouse for trial court operations; (2) construction of an addition to the Moultrie Courthouse, a major portion of which will be developed as a separately accessible Family Court facility; and (3) the occupation of Building C. In addition, the *Facilities Master Plan* determined that other court facilities must be modernized and upgraded to meet health and safety standards and to function more efficiently.

The Old Courthouse, the centerpiece of the historic Judiciary Square, built from 1821 to 1881, is one of the oldest public buildings in the District of Columbia. Inside the Old Courthouse, Daniel Webster and Francis Scott Key practiced law, and John Surratt was tried for his part in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The architectural and historical significance of the Old Courthouse led to its listing on

the National Register of Historic Places and its designation as an official project of Save America's Treasures.

The unique character of the building and its compact size make it ideal for occupancy by the highest court of the District of Columbia. Its renovation to house the D.C. Court of Appeals is central to meeting the Courts' space requirements, but it was uninhabitable and required extensive work to meet current health and safety building codes and to re-adapt it for use as a courthouse. The restoration of the Old Courthouse for use as a functioning court building will not only provide much needed space for the Courts, but it will also impart new life to one of the most significant historic buildings and precincts in Washington, D.C. It will meet the needs of the Courts and benefit the community through an approach that strengthens a public institution, restores a historic landmark, and stimulates neighborhood economic activity.

With the support of the President and the Congress in prior years, the Courts have been able to take steps to prevent further deterioration of this important landmark and commence the process leading to the re-adaptation of the building for use as a functioning courthouse. The architectural firm Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP designed the restoration, and, in 2004, the plans received final approval from both the NCPC and the CFA.

In March 2006, the Joint Committee approved the construction contract for the restoration of the Old Courthouse. Hensel Phelps Construction Company was awarded the \$99 million contract. The plans include a new entrance on the north side of the Old Courthouse that will provide universal access to the building as well as appropriate space for security functions. In addition, the interior will be restored, both for historic preservation and for efficient service as a modern courthouse, and a ceremonial courtroom will be constructed.

In October 2006, construction was completed on the underground parking garage that will serve the Old Courthouse, and employees began using the facility. This garage replaced the surface parking lot that served the D.C. Courts and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. The garage provides secure parking for judges and staff of both courts and frees the lot south of E Street for redevelopment as delineated in the Judiciary Square Master Plan.

The H. Carl Moultrie I Courthouse, built in the 1970's, although not historic, is located along the view corridor that is comprised of the National Building Museum, the Old Courthouse, and John Marshall Park. The Moultrie Courthouse reinforces the symmetry of Judiciary Square through its similar form and material to the municipal building located across the John Marshall Plaza. Currently, the Moultrie Courthouse provides space for most Court of Appeals, Superior Court, and Family Court operations and clerk's offices.

Investment in the restoration of the Old Courthouse not only will improve efficiencies by co-locating the offices that support the Court of Appeals, but also will provide 37,000 square feet of space critically needed for Superior Court and Family Court functions in the Moultrie Courthouse. It is uniquely designed to meet the needs of a busy trial court. It has three separate and secure circulation systems – for judges, the public, and the large number of prisoners present in the courthouse each day. Built in 1978 for 44 trial judges, today it is strained beyond capacity to accommodate 59 trial judges and 24 magistrate judges in the trial court and 9 appellate judges, as well as senior judges and support staff for the two courts. Essential criminal justice and social service agencies also occupy office space in the Moultrie Courthouse. The Courts require well-planned and adequate space to ensure efficient operations in a safe and healthy environment.

In June 2006, the design was completed for the renovation of the Moultrie Courthouse Annex as a new juvenile holding area. The new juvenile holding area will meet current standards, including separation of juvenile detainees and juveniles-at-risk. It will provide adequate space, use state-of-the-art security equipment, and connect to the building's secure prisoner circulation system.

In November 2006, Phase II of the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) project to replace air handling units was completed. To date, the Court has replaced 15 of 31 air handling units, improving air flow to affected areas by 10 to 20%. The third phase of this project also began in November 2006.

In December 2006, the Moultrie Fire Alarm installation was completed. The updated and enhanced alarm system uses audible horns and sirens as well as visual aids to help all occupants of the courthouse exit safely in an emergency. The system isolates fire locations, putting first responders closer to the actual fire or emergency and facilitates future upgrades with minimal disruption to court operations.

Buildings A, B, and C, dating from the 1930's, are also situated symmetrically along the view corridor and form part of the historic, formal composition of Judiciary Square. These buildings have been used primarily as office space in recent years, with a number of courtrooms in operation in Building A. The D.C. Courts have begun implementation of the Master Plan, relocating the Superior Court's two highest volume courtrooms, Small Claims and Landlord and Tenant, into Building B. This move vacated space in the Moultrie Building that was immediately renovated for the Family Court, permitting the construction of three new courtrooms, three new hearing rooms, a centralized case intake facility, a family-friendly waiting area, and District government liaison offices for Family Court matters.

In December 2006, the first phase of the renovation of Building A was completed. The first and second floors as well as the basement were renovated and modernized. Office space was reconfigured to accommodate the Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division. As outlined in the Facilities Master Plan, the move of Multi-Door vacated space in the Moultrie Courthouse for the new juvenile holding area.

Technology

To provide technology that supports efficient and effective case processing, court management, and judicial decision-making, the Courts converted to a new case management system, the Integrated Justice Information System (IJIS) which consolidates over 20 automated databases into one comprehensive system, thereby ensuring complete information on all cases pertaining to one individual or family. In January 2006, the Courts completed IJIS with the implementation of the CourtView Case Management System in the Criminal Division.

Security Enhancements

To enhance security in court facilities, the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration approved the D.C. Courts' Security Access Policies and Procedures which limits access to secure areas of court facilities. As part of ongoing security enhancements, the D.C. Courts installed control entry systems in the Moultrie Courthouse and Building A, upgraded security cameras and installed new duress alarms in all courtrooms, chambers and public offices. A Security Training Program was held for judicial officers and their significant others which addressed security at work and home, and a training program was held for court employees on courthouse security. In October 2006, legislation was enacted that provides for continuity of court operations in the event of an emergency that precludes court proceedings within the District of Columbia. The new law authorizes the Courts to conduct special sessions

outside the District upon a finding that, because of emergency conditions, no location within the District is reasonably available where such special sessions could be held. This legislation builds on the Courts' Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) that was developed in 2005. The COOP provides policy, responsibilities, procedures, and planning guidance to ensure the ability of the D.C. Courts to serve the public, continuing essential functions when the use of court facilities is threatened or diminished.

BUILDING TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

The Courts continually strive to maintain the trust and confidence of litigants, attorneys, and others who participate in the justice system, as well as the community at large.

Courtwide Performance Measures

During 2006, the Courts began to develop standards and collect baseline data for several courtwide performance measures adopted by the Joint Committee in 2005 to enhance accountability to the public. The Courts developed time standards for case disposition, juror yield, and juror utilization and collected baseline data for these measures. The Courts later collected baseline survey data for access and convenience to court facilities and services, courtesy and responsiveness of court personnel, courtroom treatment of litigants, and equality and fairness in decisions. An intensive effort was initiated in 2006 to develop data collection and coding procedures and reporting tools in the CourtView case management system to facilitate the automated collection of data for these measures.

The measures are as follows:

- Access & Convenience to Court Facilities & Services
- Access to Case Information & Court Proceedings
- Courtesy & Responsiveness of Court Personnel
- Courtroom Treatment of Litigants
- Case Processing Time: (a) Clearance Rate, (b) Time to Disposition, (c) Age of Active Pending Caseload, (d) Certainty of Trial Dates
- Equality & Fairness in Decisions
- Use of Juries: (a) Juror Yield, (b) Juror Utilization, (c) Juror Satisfaction
- Reliability & Integrity of Case Records
- Enforcement of Court Orders
- Access for Indigent & Pro Se Persons
- Public Education/Community Outreach
- Strategic Use of Human Resources, Technology, and Capital
- Fiscal Accountability

In 2006, the Courts participated for the first time in the Office of Management and Budget' Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) process. The PART consists of about 25 detailed questions on strategic planning, management, and performance of federally-funded agencies. In April 2006, the Joint Committee approved the Courts' response to the PART questions, and, subsequently, OMB rated the Courts as performing adequately.

Future Plans

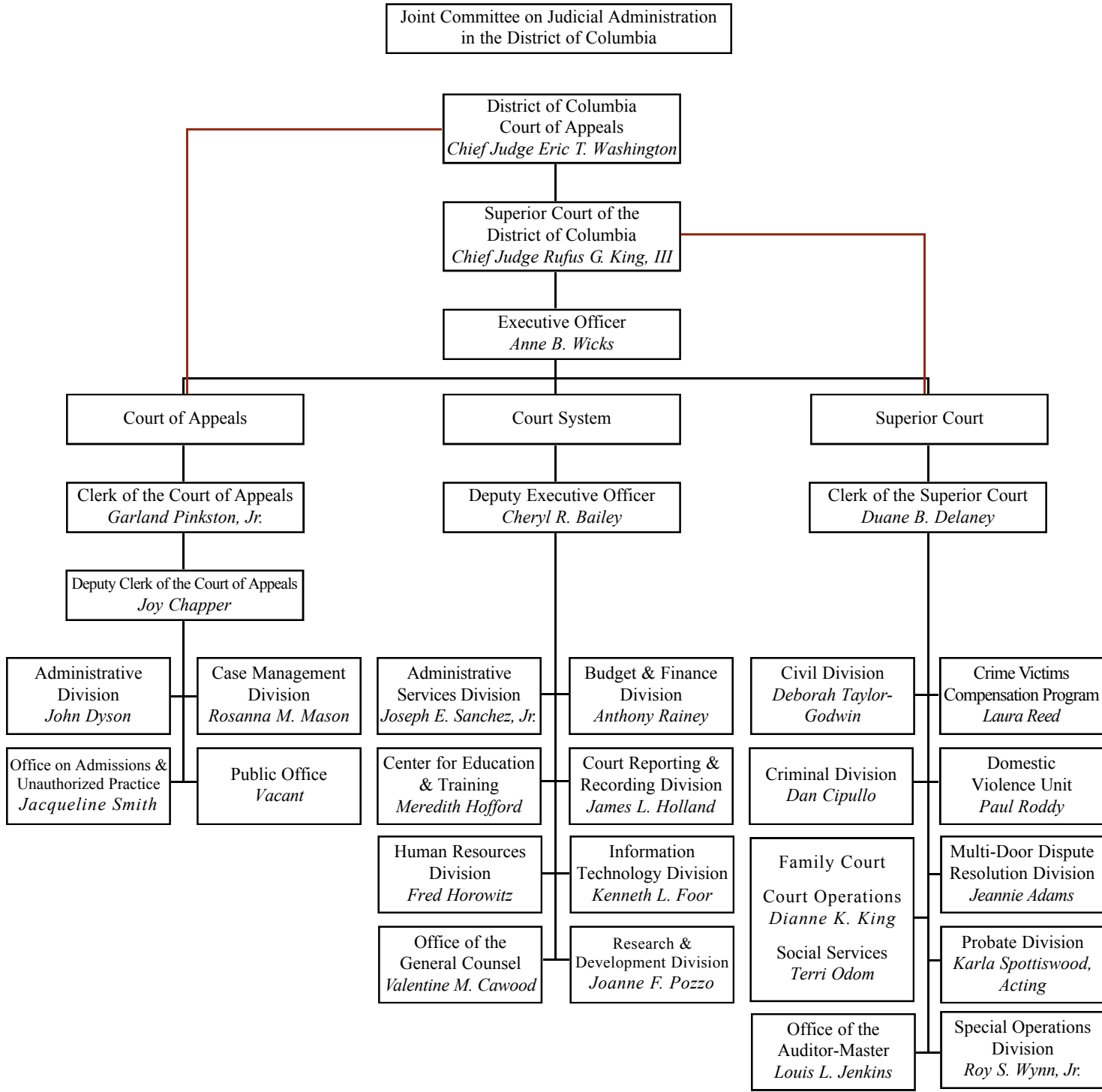
In 2006, the Courts also began outreach to develop the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning Leadership Council (SPLC) solicited input from internal and external stakeholders through surveys, focus groups, and meetings. Attorneys, litigants, jurors, social workers, child and family advocates, crime victims, police officers, other justice partners, judges, court managers, and employees all provided valuable information. Nearly 2,500 persons contributed suggestions to enhance court operations and services.

The SPLC will analyze all of the information and draft an updated Strategic Plan for approval by the Joint Committee in the summer of 2007. Once it is approved, court committees and divisions will implement MAPs and other projects to achieve the goals of the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan. The SPLC will monitor implementation of the Plan on behalf of the Joint Committee, communicate progress, and seek feedback from internal and external stakeholders. Guided by the Strategic Plan, the Courts will continue to seek to achieve our Vision — Open to All, Trusted by All, Justice for All.

CONCLUSION

We live in a changing environment, facing new challenges to our nation, our nation's capital, and our court system. Regardless of the challenges we face, the fair and effective administration of justice remains crucial to our way of life. The District of Columbia Courts are committed to meeting these new challenges. To that end, we are constantly re-examining and re-evaluating the operations of the court system and making changes that will accomplish our goals. We have been steadfast in our mission, which is to protect rights and liberties, uphold and interpret the law, and resolve disputes peacefully, fairly, and effectively in the Nation's Capital. The Courts are continuing to enhance the administration of justice; broaden access to justice and service to the public; promote competence, professionalism, and civility; improve technology; provide safe and efficient facilities for today and the years ahead; and, build public trust and confidence. The court system of the District of Columbia is well-regarded around the nation, and indeed around the world, attracting visiting judges and other government officials seeking to improve their own justice systems. The Joint Committee will continue to establish policies, seek funding sufficient to meet the Courts' critical needs, manage prudently its resources, and undertake new approaches to ensure that our court system remains one that well serves the needs of the public.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS



BUDGET AND FINANCE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS' FINANCES

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self Government Improvement Act of 1997, the District of Columbia Courts receive direct funding from the federal government. The Courts' budget is submitted directly to the Office of Management and Budget, and then is sent to the United States Congress. All funds, fines and fees collected by the Courts are deposited in either the Crime Victims Fund or the United States Treasury.

The Courts' "Federal Payment" consists of funds for operations of the Court of Appeals, Superior Court and Court System (administrative support divisions) as well as for capital projects to maintain, preserve and build safe and functional courthouse facilities. The budget for operations provides the annual funding for the acquisition, spending, and service delivery activities of divisions within the Courts that are carried out within a prescribed fiscal year. The Courts receive a separate appropriation for Defender Services, a Constitutional and statutory responsibility to appoint and compensate attorneys to represent persons who are financially unable to obtain legal representation.

The Courts operate under the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASB) accounting standards for federal agencies and are audited under the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) accounting standards for states and municipalities.

OPERATING BUDGET

	FY 2006	FY 2007
	<u>Appropriation*</u>	<u>Appropriation*</u>
Court of Appeals	\$ 9,106,000	\$ 9,106,000
Superior Court	\$ 86,469,000	\$ 86,469,000
Court System	<u>\$ 41,226,000</u>	<u>\$ 41,226,000</u>
Total	\$ 136,801,000	\$ 136,801,000

CAPITAL BUDGET

Capital Budget	\$ 79,922,000	\$ 79,922,000
----------------	---------------	---------------

DEFENDER SERVICES APPROPRIATION BY FUND

Criminal Justice Act	\$ 29,106,000	\$ 28,875,000
Counsel for Child Abuse & Neglect	\$ 12,969,000	\$ 13,100,000
Guardianship	<u>\$ 1,485,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,500,000</u>
Total	\$ 43,560,000	\$ 43,475,000

* Reflects appropriation including rescission.

C
O
U
R
T

O
F

A
P
P
E
A
L
S

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

During the 2006 calendar year, a number of new initiatives were implemented or were continued consistent with the strategic areas identified as being vital to the administration of justice in the Courts' *Strategic Plan of the District of Columbia Courts 2003-2007*.

To address its significant caseload, the Court of Appeals made case management improvements to enhance services to the public and expedite the resolution of pending cases. Among these initiatives was a pilot appellate mediation program, which was expanded in 2006 to include all appeals from the Civil Actions Branch of the trial court where the parties are represented by counsel.

In an effort to enhance access to the Court, assisted-listening devices were installed in our courtroom for the benefit of attorneys and others with hearing impairments who attend oral arguments. The Court also implemented a streaming audio, whereby all oral arguments are broadcast live over the internet. Further, through the D.C. Courts' website, www.dccourts.gov, and the Court of Appeals section of the site, www.dcappeals.gov, the Court provided new instructional materials for litigants, as well as applicants for admission to the Bar. Internet access to the Court's rules, forms and opinions also continued to be available through the website. This has proven to be of invaluable assistance to attorneys and the public alike in accessing court services.

A highlight of the Court's community outreach efforts was the commencement of the well-received Education Outreach Initiative, which resulted from the collaborative efforts of the Court and the Deans of the six local-area law schools. Under the Education Outreach Initiative, the Court began to conduct oral arguments at area law schools in an effort to expose students, "up close and personal," to appellate advocacy. In addition, the Court engaged the students and faculty in discussions ranging from internship and clerkship opportunities to appellate procedure and substantive law issues. In 2006, the Court held arguments at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clark School of Law and the Howard University School of Law. Planned for 2007 are oral arguments at the Catholic University Columbus School of Law, American University Washington College of Law, Georgetown University Law Center and George Washington University School of Law.

The Court's community-bar education efforts also included a CLE-approved course on practice in the Court of Appeals, which was developed and conducted by court managers and judicial officers. Material on practice before the D.C. Courts also was presented at the District of Columbia Bar's mandatory course for its newly-admitted members.

Public accountability is an essential ingredient of building trust and confidence in the courts. In 2006, the Court undertook several activities to further this goal, including sponsoring the **Thirty-First Annual Judicial Conference** which, pursuant to D.C. Code Sec 11-744, the Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals is required to convene annually. This year, the conference, held jointly with the District of Columbia Bar, selected as its theme, "State of Emergency: Is the District's Justice System Prepared?" The Conference featured panel discussions on, "Disaster and Recovery: Lessons Learned From Other Jurisdictions," which included judges, court clerks and practitioners from Louisiana, New York and Florida; and "Disaster and Recovery: Is the District Prepared?," which included as panelists, along with the Courts' Executive Officer, a number of other prominent officials from the District's private and public sector agencies and organizations. Valuable subject matter on public safety and security in our public and private institutions was shared at this forum.

As expected, the judges and court staff faced the challenges of 2006 with creativity, great energy and salutary results. During the year, Associate Judges John Terry and Frank Schwelb retired and were appointed as Senior Judges of the Court. To fill the vacancies, the President of

the United States appointed to the Court as Associate Judges, Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, formerly an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and Phyllis D. Thompson, formerly a partner with Covington and Burling. They were a welcome compliment to the bench.

In addition to many internal committees, the Court of Appeals was greatly assisted by members of the Bar and the public in carrying out its responsibilities. These court-related committees and organizations are greatly appreciated for sharing a commitment with the Court to serve the citizens of the District of Columbia at the highest levels of dedication and purpose. In calendar year 2006, major activities of these committees were as follows:

The District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission (Commission) is charged with assuring high quality access for low- and moderate-income residents who face barriers in the civil justice system. The Commission is also charged with raising the profile of the need for equal access to justice in the community.

In 2006, the Commission developed and generated support for a public funding proposal that led the City Council to appropriate \$3.2 million for civil legal services in fiscal year 2007. This funding, which was distributed by the District of Columbia Bar Foundation in response to grant proposals from legal service providers, will add approximately 30 lawyers to the legal services network. These lawyers will work on housing-related cases, in under-served areas of the City. A portion of the appropriation will be used to implement a shared legal interpreter bank, and will fund the District's first loan repayment program for legal services lawyers.

Other initiatives include working with the Superior Court and legal services providers to make available additional lawyers in Landlord/Tenant Court; developing a detailed set of recommendations designed to enhance the legal services network's intake and referral process; collaborating with the Bar Foundation to prepare proposed updates to the IOLTA rules; conducting listening sessions with several groups throughout the District to get their perspective on barriers in the civil justice system; and, continuing work on the most comprehensive legal needs study ever done in the District. The Commission's website, www.dcaccesstojustice.org, contains additional information about these and other initiatives.

There were no changes to the Commission's membership in 2006. The Court extended the term of Commission Chair Peter Edelman until February 28, 2008, and named Robert Wilkins as Vice-Chair. The other Commissioners are Jane Golden Belford, Dr. Gloria Wilder Braithwaite, Marisa Demeo, Judge Stephanie Duncan-Peters, Patricia Mullahy Fugere, Andrew Marks, Shirley Massey, Jayne Park, Stephen Pollak, Judge Hiram Puig-Lugo, Judge Inez Smith Reid, Judge Vanessa Ruiz, Paula Scott, Jonathan Smith, and Joan Strand.

The Board on Professional Responsibility administers the attorney discipline system and enforces the D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct, which were adopted by the Court to protect the public and the judicial system from attorney misconduct and to preserve the integrity of the legal profession. The Board is composed of seven attorney members and two public members.

During the year ending December 31, 2006, the Board disposed of 103 cases¹, including recommendations in 83 cases filed with the Court of Appeals. Fifteen of these cases were original disciplinary proceedings; 53 involved reciprocal discipline, which may be imposed upon a member of the District of Columbia Bar who has been disciplined in another jurisdiction; two were criminal conviction cases; one case was remanded from the Court of Appeals; 10 cases were recommendations for disbarment on consent; and two were recommendations in reinstatement petitions filed by suspended or disbarred attorneys. The Board also issued four reprimands, dismissed two cases, directed Bar Counsel to issue one informal admonition, referred nine cases to Hearing Committees to determine moral turpitude, remanded one case for Hearing Committee review, peti-

¹ Beginning in 2005, the Board began to track both the number of disciplinary cases decided and the number of disciplinary complaints resolved by those cases, since one case may include allegations from multiple disciplinary complaints. The statistics here are based on the number of cases decided by the Board. Bar Counsel's statistics are based on the disposition of disciplinary complaints.

tioned the Court for an order of disability suspension in one case, issued one order denying Bar Counsel's motion for authority to seek Respondent's suspension due to disability, and directed Bar Counsel to file one petition for temporary suspension under Rule XI, § 3. The Board's Chair decided 82 motions. The Board approved diversion agreements recommended by Bar Counsel in nine cases.

During 2006, 1,330 complaints were filed with the Office of Bar Counsel, 485 of which were docketed for formal investigation. 374 dispositions were approved by contact members resulting in the dismissal of 288 complaints, the issuance of informal admonitions in 30 complaints, the filing of petitions instituting formal disciplinary proceedings in 35 complaints, and the deferral of 21 complaints.

The Thirty-First Annual Disciplinary Conference on May 5, 2006, featured a discussion on "Preventing Lawyer Misconduct: What the Disciplinary System, Law Schools and the Bar Can Do To Promote Ethical Practice." The panel included Justice Randy J. Holland of the Delaware Supreme Court, John Anthony Boggs, Esquire, Division Director of Attorney Regulation, the Florida Bar, Professor Gary A. Munneke, Pace Law School, Daniel Pinnington, Esquire, Practice Pro, Lawyers' Professional Indemnity Company, Toronto, Canada, and Reid Trautz, Esquire, Practice Management Advisor of the American Immigration Lawyer's Association.

In August 2006, the Court appointed Charles J. Willoughby, Esquire, as Vice Chair of the Board. Deborah J. Jeffrey, Esquire, and Ray S. Bolze, Esquire, were appointed to the Board to fill the vacancies created by the expiration of the terms of former Vice Chair Roger A. Klein and Lee Ellen Helfrich. Other members of the Board include Martin R. Baach, Esquire, Chair, Ms. Ernestine Coghill-Howard, Ms. Jean S. Kapp, James P. Mercurio, Esquire, Irvin B. Nathan, Esquire, and Shirley M. Williams, Esquire.

The Clients' Security Fund of the District of Columbia was established in 1972 to reimburse any person who has lost money, property, or other items of value because of the dishonest conduct of a member of the District of Columbia Bar. See, D.C. Bar Rule XII. The Fund is administered by five trustees who are D.C. Bar members and who are appointed by the Board of Judges of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for a term of five years.

During Fiscal Years 2005-06 (July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006), the Fund received 24 new requests for reimbursement. The Trustees reviewed 19 claims, of which 10 were new applications (or claims) and nine were pending claims carried over from FY 2004-05. There was one request for reconsideration submitted in FY 2004-05, and the approval of this claim was upheld in FY 2005-06. Ultimately, the Fund approved 15 claims and reimbursed individuals for losses totaling \$51,664.54.

The Fund is maintained through an allotment from the District of Columbia Bar. The Trustees seek to recover funds from the attorneys whose dishonest conduct resulted in disbursements from the Fund. In 2005-06, the Fund recovered \$91,780, in large part due to a payment of \$87,242.80, made by one attorney pursuant to a court-ordered disgorgement of attorney's fees.

The Fund is Chaired by Kathleen A. Carey, Esquire; its Vice-Chair is Bonnie I. Robin-Vergeer, Esquire. The other Trustees are Joan M. Wilbon, Esquire, Judge Robert P. Owens and Douglas K. Spaulding, Esquire.

The Committee on Admissions is responsible for certifying applications from attorneys for admission to the District of Columbia Bar, both by examination and without examination, and for licensing foreign applicants to practice as special legal consultants in the District of Columbia. See Rule 48.

The Court of Appeals appoints seven members of the District of Columbia Bar to the Committee on Admissions and designates one to serve as counsel to the Committee. The members

are Mark S. Carlin, Esquire, who serves as Chair; Claudia A. Withers, Esquire, who serves as Vice Chair; Alan H. Kent, Esquire, who serves as Counsel to the Committee; Sean C. Dent, Esquire, Lorelie S. Masters, Esquire, and Jason Lederstein, Esquire. Associate Judge Phyllis D. Thompson served as Vice Chair prior her appointment to the Court in September 2006. Former member Mark J. MacDougall, Esquire also served during 2006.

In 2006, the Committee received more than 4,000 applications for admission, conducted extensive character and fitness investigations, and certified for admission more than 3,600 attorneys who were administered the oath of admission in formal ceremonies before the Court. The members also were responsible for grading more than 5,000 essay responses from applicants tested in the February and July bar examinations. More than 9,500 certificates of good standing were issued to bar members.

Pursuant to Order No. M-227-06, effective March 1, 2007, the Court amended D.C. App. Rule 46 (b) (2) (ii), to require applicants for admission by examination to undergo the same rigorous character and fitness investigation by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) as current waiver applicants. Also, Rule 46 (b)(8)(i)(B) was amended to clarify that only a prior essay examination administered in the District of Columbia, and not in another jurisdiction, is an acceptable substitute for a current essay examination administration.

The Committee on the Unauthorized Practice of Law investigates complaints against persons who engage in the unauthorized practice of law. See D.C. App. R. 49. It also monitors motions made by attorneys from other jurisdictions for permission to appear pro hac vice in the District of Columbia Courts. The Committee is required to have no fewer than six and no more than twelve members who are members of the District of Columbia Bar. It also has one non-attorney member who is required to be a resident of the District of Columbia.

The Committee is chaired by Anthony C. Epstein, Esquire. Other members are: Anthony P. Bisceglie, Esquire, who serves as Vice Chair; Barry E. Cohen, Esquire; Mary L. Froning, non-attorney member; David A. Fuss, Esquire; Michael M. Hicks, Esquire; Theodore C. Hirt, Esquire; Caroline Judge Mehta, Esquire; Danette L. Mincey, Esquire; Julie B. Rottenberg, Esquire; Pamela S. Satterfield, Esquire; Cynthia G. Wright, Esquire; and, Frank J. Eisenhart, Esquire. Johnny M. Howard, Esquire, Brooke Pinkerton, Esquire, and Valerie E. Ross, Esquire also served during 2006.

During 2006, the Committee investigated 32 new complaints against persons allegedly engaging in the unauthorized practice of law in the District of Columbia and requests for guidance in complying with Rule 49. The Committee monitored approximately 370 motions of attorneys seeking pro hac vice appearances in the District of Columbia Courts. The Committee issued two advisory opinions: Opinion 17-06: The Scope of the Federal Court Practice Exception in Rule 49 (c) (3), and Opinion 18-06: Provision of Pro Bono Services Under the Limited Duration Practice Exception in Rule 49 (c) (8).

SIGNIFICANT OPINIONS

Administrative Law

Brizill v. D.C. Bd. of Elections & Ethics, 911 A.2d 1212 (D.C. 2006) (proposed initiative to allow video lottery terminals not a proper subject of initiative in that it amounted to an attempt to repeal or amend The Johnson Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1171-1178).

District of Columbia v. Bender, 906 A.2d 277 (D.C. 2006) (D.C. Code Enactment Act of 1996 not violative of Home Rule Act in that it permits the Council of the District of Columbia to impose unincorporated business franchise taxes on the personal income of a real estate partnership's non-resident partners).

District of Columbia v. D.C. Public Serv. Comm'n, 905 A.2d 249 (D.C. 2006) (applying so-called “filed rate doctrine” and its corollary, the rule against retroactive alteration of rates, to deny request for retroactive relief from tariff rates determined to be excessive).

Ford v. ChartOne, Inc., 908 A.2d 72 (D.C. 2006) (allowing consumer class action under the Consumer Protection Procedures Act to proceed against medical records provider for allegedly charging unconscionably high fees).

In re Estate of Grealis, 902 A.2d 821 (D.C. 2006) (court approval not required before attorney may receive payment of attorney’s fees for representation in guardianship proceedings as long as fees are not paid from ward’s estate, but from personal funds of guardianship petitioner or third party).

In re Greenspan, 910 A.2d 324 (D.C. 2006) (reciprocal disciplinary proceedings dismissed where a lower level entity having delegated authority to recommend attorney discipline outside the District of Columbia determined not to be a “disciplining court” within the existing meaning of D.C. Bar Rule XI, § 11(a)).

In re Nwadike, 905 A.2d 221 (D.C. 2006) (informal admonition, rather than a thirty-day suspension, was the appropriate sanction for the violation of disciplinary rule requiring an attorney to serve a client with skill and care where the matter involved a single-client representation over a short period of time, the violation in no way involved dishonesty, the attorney had no prior history of discipline, and there were mitigating factors, one of which was the lack of cooperation of the clients).

Scarborough v. Winn Residential L.L.P., 890 A.2d 249 (D.C. 2006) (as applied to criminal activity by tenant endangering safety of other tenants, notice-and-cure provision of D.C. Rental Housing Act could not be imposed consistently with federal statute governing occupancy of apartment under federal housing subsidy program).

Civil Law

Ball v. Arthur Winn General P’ship, 905 A.2d 147 (D.C. 2006) (to be “occupant” of housing unit under Residential Drug-Related Evictions Act, for whose actions tenant is deemed responsible, person need only be on premises with permission of tenant, and need not be resident).

Brin v. S.E.W. Investors, 902 A.2d 784 (D.C. 2006) (under discovery rule, statute of limitations to recover for injuries allegedly caused by defective air quality in workplace building did not begin to run until plaintiff received, or with the exercise of due diligence could have received, expert medical advice that the defective air quality was a “plausible cause” of her injuries).

Crawford v. District of Columbia, 891 A.2d 216 (D.C. 2006) (interpreting District of Columbia Whistle Blower Protections Act as precluding relief where a fact-finder concludes that although a “protected disclosure” was a contributing factor to adverse action against an employee, that adverse action would have occurred for legitimate, independent reasons despite the protected disclosures).

District of Columbia v. Edison Place, 892 A.2d 1108 (D.C. 2006) (supplemental assessment of real property limited only to improvements on the land; reassessment of entire real property may only be performed during scheduled general assessment).

In re A.G., 900 A.2d. 677 (D.C. 2006) (the award of “permanent guardianship” under the Foster Children’s Guardianship Act based upon a “preponderance of evidence” standard, rather than the standard of “clear and convincing evidence,” is not unconstitutional).

In re Jumper, 909 A.2d 173 (D.C. 2006) (precluding the imposition of sanctions where the party moving for Rule 11 sanctions failed to comply with the “safe harbor” provisions of Rule 11 and the trial court could not exercise inherent authority to sanction absent a finding of bad faith).

In re Lanier, 905 A.2d 278 (D.C. 2006) (a patient who voluntarily enters a hospital for mental health treatment can be involuntarily committed for treatment following a civil commitment proceeding).

Modiri v. 1342 Restaurant Group, Inc., 904 A.2d 391 (D.C. 2006) (collateral estoppel properly applied where sublessee, who was not a party in original landlord/tenant action, was in privity with defendant in the original action).

Pannu v. Jacobson, 909 A.2d 178 (D.C. 2006) (while trial court need not give a jury instruction specifically requested by a party where it contains phrasing which could confuse the jury regarding the applicable law, it is incumbent upon the trial court to give the jury a fair and accurate statement of the applicable law).

Siegel, Inc. v. District of Columbia, 892 A.2d 387 (D.C. 2006) (the Stadium Financing Act does not permit private land owners to challenge whether costs associated with the construction of baseball stadium were made in good faith as a defense to eminent domain proceedings; whether or not an estimate is made in bad faith is left to the discretion of the D.C. Council and the Mayor).

Threatt v. Winston, 907 A.2d 780 (D.C. 2006) (doctrine of *res judicata* precludes the relitigation of issues resolved in a default judgment).

Varner v. District of Columbia, 891 A.2d 260 (D.C. 2006) (summary judgment appropriate where insufficient evidence establishing applicable standard of care in wrongful death action where parents allege University negligently caused their son's death by failing to adequately discipline murderer for unrelated prior misconduct and by permitting murderer to live in dormitory; summary judgment on parents negligent investigation claim against the District also appropriate under "public duty" doctrine where there is no evidence that a special relationship existed between the victim and the official).

Wallasey Tenants Ass'n, Inc. v. Varner, 892 A.2d 1135 (D.C. 2006) (statutory right of first refusal is not triggered when there is a conveyance of real property by an individual owner to a corporation in which the same individual has *de facto* ownership).

Williams v. District of Columbia, 902 A.2d 91 (D.C. 2006) (dismissing lender's claim of fraud where the District of Columbia's agreement to purchase promissory note and deed of trust was void ab initio for violating the Anti-Deficiency Act and lender could not reasonably rely on District's representations regarding its authority and appropriations).

Wilson v. WMATA, 912 A.2d 1186 (D.C. 2006) (Judgment as a Matter of Law appropriate where there is insufficient evidence of proximate causation, leaving the jury to speculate as to causation and draw impermissible inferences).

Criminal Law

Bonilla v. United States, 894 A.2d 412 (D.C. 2006) (trial court is not required to give a requested jury instruction if the requested instruction would require a jury to engage in speculation about the events at issue).

Boyd v. United States, 908 A.2d 39 (D.C. 2006) (where government's factual theory changed on material issue from position taken at trial of co-defendant, reversal warranted only where inconsistency goes to the core of government's case).

Brown v. United States, 900 A.2d 184 (D.C. 2006) (revocation of probation without adequate evidentiary hearing violated due process).

Diggs v. United States, 906 A.2d 290 (D.C. 2006) (insufficient evidence to substantiate contention that hardship deferrals to more white jurors, along with the resulting composition of Monday jury pools reflecting low numbers of African-American jurors, produced an unfair cross-section of the community, in violation of the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution).

Hairston v. United States, 905 A.2d 765 (D.C. 2006) (denial of motion to suppress confession did not violate Fifth Amendment where the interrogation was in two phases, before and after *Miranda* warnings; where none of the details elicited in phase one emerged in phase two; and, where clear the *Miranda* warnings given meaningfully apprised suspect of right or choice to remain silent).

Hairston v. United States, 908 A.2d 1195 (D.C. 2006) (aiding and abetting instruction may not be given where only issue raised by evidence is whether defendant was principal actor in a crime).

In re D.L., 904 A.2d 367 (D.C. 2006) (statutory scheme governing juvenile delinquency matters does not permit trial judge to terminate juvenile probation as “unsuccessful” and close case where District seeks revocation based on probation violations).

In re Jones, 898 A.2d 916 (D.C. 2006) (defendant not given sufficient notice as to how civil protection order (CPO) would apply in courtroom during CPO proceeding and, thus, could not be convicted of criminal contempt for willfully violating “no-contact” provision of CPO).

In re T.H., 898 A.2d 908 (D.C. 2006) (insufficient factual basis to find probable cause to arrest where juvenile passenger of an SUV sat in close proximity to contraband (fireworks) and where contraband located in functional equivalent of a trunk, and thus, evidence found incident to arrest inadmissible).

Marquez v. United States, 903 A.2D 815 (D.C. 2006) (an objection to the admission of hearsay raised for the first time on appeal based on a violation of the Confrontation Clause subject to plain error review and will be reversed only upon a showing of prejudice).

Robinson v. United States, 890 A.2d 674 (D.C. 2006) (peremptory challenges need not be motivated solely by racial or gender bias to violate the Equal Protection Clause - violations occur where challenges are based on mixed motives, some of which being nondiscriminately).

United States v. McMillian, 898 A.2d 922 (D.C. 2006) (where defendant confessed to two different murders during same interrogation, collateral estoppel will not prevent government from only appealing suppression order in second case because the ruling in the first case did not constitute a final judgment, and because policy considerations unique to criminal cases make application of doctrine inappropriate).

Thomas v. U.S., 914 A.2d 1 (D.C. 2006) (DEA chemists’ drug test reports are testimonial, and thus inadmissible under 6th Amendment’s Confrontation Clause unless chemist called to testify at trial).

WilsonBey v. United States, 903 A.2d 818 (D.C. 2006) (en banc) (to be convicted of aiding and abetting premeditated murder, a defendant must be shown to have acted with premeditation and deliberation).

C
O
U
R
T

O
F

A
P
P
E
A
L
S

S
T
A
T
I
S
T
I
C
S

FILINGS BY CATEGORY & RATIO TO DISPOSITIONS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004 ^a	2005 ^a	2006
Mandatory Appeal & Bar Cases					
Pending Jan. 1	2,682	2,415	2,319	2,359	2,516
Filings:					
Criminal	510	633	821	716	661
Civil	373	531	414	367	391
Family	238	195	186	174	187
Agency	153	114	125	219	242
Special Proceedings	28	13	16	16	2
Bar Cases	93	96	115	95	139
Total Filings	1,395	1,582	1,677	1,587	1,622
Reinstated	49	29	23	28	28
Available for Disposition	4,126	4,026	4,019	3,974	4,166
Total Dispositions	1,711	1,707	1,660	1,458	1,558
Pending Dec. 31	2,415	2,319	2,359	2,516	2,608
Original Jurisdiction Matters					
Pending Jan. 1	1	4	2	1	2
Filings	71	77	70	57	45
Dispositions	68	79	71	56	47
Pending Dec. 31	4	2	1	2	0
Discretionary Jurisdiction Matters					
Pending Jan. 1	6	3	2	2	0
Filings	54	52	24	21	17
Dispositions	57	53	24	23	14
Pending Dec. 1	3	2	2	0	3
Total Filings	1,520	1,710	1,771	1,665	1,684
Total Dispositions	1,836	1,839	1,755	1,537	1,617
Clearance Rate^b	121%	108%	99%	92%	96%

^a Figures revised to reflect additional filings from Superior Court not previously reported.

^b The clearance rate, a measure of court efficiency, is the total number of cases disposed divided by the total number of cases added to the caseload (i.e. new filings and reactivations) during a given time period. Rates of over 100% indicate that the court disposed of more cases than were added, thus reducing the pending caseload.

DISPOSITIONS BY METHOD, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Opinion	339	299	295	323	302
Memorandum Opinion & Judgment	575	619	506	512	547
Judgment	61	57	84	51	73
Order	861	864	870	651	636
Total	1,836	1,839	1,755	1,537	1,558

MOTIONS & PETITIONS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Procedural Motions	5,749	5,243	4,738	4,249	4,715
Substantive Motions	1,701	1,667	1,618	1,603	1,286
Petitions for Rehearing/Rehearing En Banc	174	221	188	208	153

TIME ON APPEAL, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Overall Time On Appeal^a					
Average	650	623	550	562	575
Median	505	475	412	439	446
Time from Notice of Appeal to Filing of Trial Court or Agency Record					
Average	303	317	288	249	246
Median	184	196	149	131	149
Time from Filing of Trial Court or Agency Record to Completed Briefing by the Parties					
Average	287	270	245	220	256
Median	173	170	155	148	189
Time from Completed Briefing to Argument or Submission					
Average	155	150	174	192	202
Median	140	149	176	186	213
Time from Argument or Submission to Court Decision					
Average	126	107	115	125	117
Median	24	16	19	21	17
Overall Time On Appeal for Certain Matters					
Bar Cases					
Average	391	435	470	516	450
Median	358	279	414	420	282
Original Jurisdiction Matters					
Average	22	11	15	14	17
Median	14	8	7	8	8
Discretionary Jurisdiction Matters					
Average	29	32	45	22	31
Median	27	27	33	20	29

^a The time includes periods when cases are not under active processing by the Court of Appeals. For example, these figures include times during which some appeals are stayed for reasons such as bankruptcy or further trial court proceedings. In reciprocal bar matters, the Court opens a case file upon notification that another jurisdiction has disciplined a member of the D.C. Bar, but will not commence active processing of the matter until it receives a Report and Recommendation from the Board on Professional Responsibility.

BAR ADMISSIONS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Admission to Bar by Examination:					
Applications Filed	739	830	777	687	828
Applications Withheld	93	117	111	94	133
Applications Rejected	22	15	16	16	28
Unsuccessful Applicants	294	351	325	288	341
Successful Applicants	353	362	341	305	354
Applicants Admitted	347	337	337	305	334
Admission to Bar by Motion:					
Applications Filed	2,445	2,611	2,752	3,610	3,201
Applications Admitted	2,917	2,157	2,629	2,741	3,621
Applicants Rejected	4	2	6	10	18
Certificates of Good Standing	6,678	8,153	9,448	9,053	9,546
Certification for Law Student in Court Program	354	395	351	306	283
Certification as Special Legal Consultant	11	15	9	9	7

BAR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Disbarments	22	26	29	37	35
Suspensions	24	11	24	41	29
Public Censure	4	6	7	10	8
Petitions for Reinstatement	1	3	3	2	2
Petitions for Formal Hearings	37	57	22	22	35
Miscellaneous Petitions	2	11	5	7	7

SUPERIOR COURT

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

This has been a challenging year for the Superior Court. Over 124,000 new cases were filed, and the Court provided foreign and sign language assistance for over 7,000 requests by parties, witnesses and others in over 25 languages. Continuing a trend begun in recent years, the Court cleared, or disposed, of more cases than were filed, resulting in a very efficient clearance rate among trial courts nationally.

The Court completed one of its most significant and ambitious initiatives, the installation of an Integrated Justice Information System (IJIS) in all operating divisions of the Superior Court. This technology provides linkages among cases and parties across the court, allows for a seamless exchange of information among the District's criminal justice partners, enhances case scheduling and management and facilitates public access to case information. IJIS is one of the largest, most complex court information systems in the nation.

Additional advances in public access to the Court made during the year included the installation of public kiosks in strategic locations in the Moultrie Courthouse, providing portals to IJIS and the Court's award-winning website. Self-help offices were established for Small Claims, Landlord and Tenant, and Probate matters, and most other operating divisions produced information packets for self-represented parties to assist them with their business with the Court.

Judicial officers and staff conducted bar and community forums and other outreach activities to better inform the public about Court operations, promote public awareness of its activities and seek feedback about programs and services. These events proved successful and rewarding and led to improvements in the Court's services to the public.

The Superior Court continued to support an array of problem-solving programs designed to provide services to individuals needing judicial intervention to make substantive life changes. Among these efforts are community court, family treatment court, juvenile drug court, and most recently the program for agreement and cooperation in child custody cases, or PAC, that provides parenting and communication training to parties involved in custody cases. These initiatives extend the traditional role of the court and equip individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to make life changes.

To enhance performance monitoring and reporting, regular meetings have been held with presiding and deputy presiding judges, senior court managers, the research and information technology divisions and the strategic planning office to develop a comprehensive trial court performance collection and reporting system. This has been a complex undertaking for our unified trial court system. Judges and court managers have been actively participating in these sessions and, as a result, the Court has identified time standards for all case types, to be shared with stakeholder groups. The next step is to create computer programs to extract and report on these measures from our case management system and begin reporting routinely on our progress.

During the year, the Court reached its full complement of judges with the appointment of Associate Judge Jennifer Anderson, appointed in September, and Magistrate Judges Mary Grace Rook and Elizabeth C. Wingo installed in August. Resources became an increasingly pressing issue for the Court during the year, and staff vacancies have risen to historic highs. Under those challenging circumstances, staff have been performing at extraordinary levels to maintain the level of service the public expects of the Court.

The Superior Court looks forward to the challenges that lie ahead and to the continuation of the improvements in services to the public that were the hallmark of the Court in 2006. These advances depend on the dedicated service and hard work of the Courts' many partners, judicial officers and staff as well as the interest and support of the District of Columbia citizenry for which the Court expresses thanks and gratitude.

S
U
P
E
R
I
O
R

C
O
U
R
T

S
T
A
T
I
S
T
I
C
S

SUPERIOR COURT CASE ACTIVITY FOR 2006

DIVISION/OPERATION OF SUPERIOR COURT	Cases		Cases Reactivated/ Certified In	Total Cases Available for Disposition	Cases Disposed	Cases Pending Dec. 31	% Change in Pending 2004 - 2005	Clearance Rate ^a
	Pending Jan 1.	Cases Filed						
Civil Division^b								
Civil Actions	10,364	9,540	834	20,738	13,311	7,427	-28.3%	128%
Landlord & Tenant	18,863	46,050	327	65,240	47,121	18,119	-3.9%	na
Small Claims	14,689	15,488	151	30,328	17,238	13,090	-10.9%	na
Total	43,916	71,078	1,312	116,306	77,670	38,636	-12.0%	na
Criminal Division^b								
D.C. Misdemeanors	504	3,119	-	3,623	2,543	1,080	114.3%	na
Felony ^c	2,480	5,889	-	8,369	5,833	2,536	2.3%	na
Traffic	1,013	9,317	-	10,330	6,684	3,646	259.9%	na
U.S. Misdemeanors	1,993	10,878	-	12,871	10,035	2,836	42.3%	na
Total	5,990	29,203	-	35,193	25,095	10,098	68.6%	na
Domestic Violence Unit^c								
Intrafamily	177	3,960	287	4,424	4,175	249	40.7%	98%
Paternity & Child Support	55	190	107	352	271	81	47.3%	91%
Misdemeanors	803	2,783	364	3,950	3,473	477	-40.6%	110%
Total	1,035	6,933	758	8,726	7,919	807	-22.0%	103%
Family Court Operations								
Abuse & Neglect	3,189 ^d	652	15	3,856	1,071	2,785	-12.7%	161%
Adoption	336	299	-	635	356	279	-17.0%	119%
Divorce/Custody/Miscellaneous	2,134 ^d	4,131	16	6,281	4,079	2,202	3.2%	98%
Juvenile	572 ^d	2,978	17	3,567	2,689	878	53.5%	90%
Mental Health	397 ^d	1,136	74	1,607	1,121	486	22.4%	93%
Mental Retardation	1,232	26	-	1,258	14	1,244	1.0%	54%
Paternity & Child Support	5,231	4,603	382	10,216	3,608	6,608	26.3%	72%
Total	13,091	13,825	504	27,420	12,938	14,482	10.6%	90%
Probate Division								
Conservatorships	215	-	-	215	20	195	-9.3%	na
Foreign Proceedings	-	128	-	128	128	-	-	100%
Formal Probate	2,498	1,492	46	4,036	2,921	1,115	-55.4%	190%
Guardianships	169	45	-	214	88	126	-25.4%	196%
Interventions	2,036	399	-	2,435	171	2,264	11.2%	43%
Small Estates	86	689	38	813	768	45	-47.7%	106%
Trusts	308	15	-	323	4	319	3.6%	27%
Total	5,312	2,768	84	8,164	4,100	4,064	-23.5%	na
Tax Division								
Civil Cases	437	185	-	622	209	413	-5.5%	113%
Criminal Cases	36	11	-	47	17	30	-16.7%	155%
Total	473	196	-	669	226	443	-6.3%	115%
Grand Total	69,817	124,003	2,658	196,478	127,948	68,530	-1.8%	na

^a The clearance rate, a measure of court efficiency, is the total number of cases disposed divided by the total number of cases added (including new filings/reactivations/certified in/tranferred in) during a given time period. Rates of over 100% indicate that the court disposed of more cases than were added, thus reducing the pending caseload.

^b The caseload figures for the Civil Division's Landlord & Tenant and Small Claims & Conciliation Branches and for the Criminal Division will be subject to adjustment in the future as a result of ongoing data verification activities due to the conversion to the court's integrated justice information system. Accordingly, the calculation of clearance rates for these caseloads would not be appropriate.

^c The Domestic Violence Unit receives Intrafamily (CPO) and U.S. Misdemeanor cases as direct filings; Paternity & Child Support cases are certified into the Unit from Family Court Operations where these cases are originally filed.

^d Figure adjusted after an audit of the caseload.

NEW CASE FILINGS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Civil Division						
Civil Actions	10,736	10,277	10,553	10,162	9,540	-6.1%
Landlord & Tenant	49,138	47,951	48,999	45,346	46,050	1.6%
Small Claims	20,529	17,891	15,756	14,622	15,488	5.9%
Total	80,403	76,119	75,308	70,130	71,078	1.4%
Criminal Division						
D.C. Misdemeanors	2,681	2,709	3,242	3,625	3,119	-14.0%
Felony	8,341	8,016	8,013	7,535	5,889	-21.8%
Special Proceedings	3,310	3,297	3,197	3,489	na	na
Traffic	7,448	6,745	7,128	7,657	9,317	21.7%
U.S. Misdemeanors	14,018	11,540	13,571	13,371	10,878	-18.6%
Total	35,798	32,307	35,151	35,677	29,203	-18.1%
Domestic Violence Unit						
Intrafamily	3,895	4,194	3,845	3,748	3,960	5.7%
U.S. Misdemeanors ^a	-	4,392	4,244	4,426	2,783	-37.1%
Total	3,895	8,586	8,089	8,174	6,743	-17.5%
Family Court Operations						
Abuse & Neglect	1,105	853	802	933	652	-30.1%
Adoption	574	504	467	324	299	-7.7%
Divorce/Custody/Misc.	3,885	3,589	3,507	3,659	4,131	12.9%
Juvenile	2,241	2,412	2,783	2,772	2,978	7.4%
Mental Health	1,958	1,958	1,623	1,155	1,136	-1.6%
Mental Retardation	29	25	16	49	26	-46.9%
Paternity & Child Support	2,325	2,468	2,595	3,192	4,603	44.2%
Total	12,117	11,809	11,793	12,084	13,825	14.4%
Probate Division						
Conservatorships	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Proceedings	112	109	132	153	128	-16.3%
Formal Probate	1,474	1,431	1,515	1,429	1,492	4.4%
Guardianships	102	64	38	29	45	55.2%
Interventions	375	281	326	316	399	26.3%
Small Estates	773	646	642	747	689	-7.8%
Trusts	23	8	13	23	15	-34.8%
Total	2,859	2,539	2,666	2,697	2,768	2.6%
Tax Division						
Civil Cases	148	172	189	166	184	10.8%
Criminal Cases	6	7	12	14	11	-21.4%
Total	154	179	201	180	195	8.3%
Grand Total	135,226	131,539	133,208	128,942	123,812	-4.0%
Monthly Average	11,269	10,962	11,101	10,745	10,318	-4.0%

^a Beginning in CY 2003, domestic violence cases were filed directly with the Domestic Violence Unit. Previously these cases were initially filed with the Criminal Division's Misdemeanor Branch and then certified to the Domestic Violence Unit.

CASE DISPOSITIONS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Civil Division						
Civil Actions	10,527	12,296	11,325	10,094	13,311	31.9%
Landlord & Tenant	50,573	48,387	46,087	43,720	47,121	7.8%
Small Claims	19,231	18,493	16,485	14,209	17,238	21.3%
Total	80,331	79,176	73,897	68,023	77,670	14.2%
Criminal Division						
D.C. Misdemeanors	3,178	3,106	4,591	4,736	2,543	-46.3%
Felony	10,178	10,206	10,216	10,011	5,833	-41.7%
Special Proceedings	3,448	3,379	3,233	3,497	na	na
Traffic	10,823	8,334	10,884	11,402	6,684	-41.4%
U.S. Misdemeanors	16,591	14,935	20,426	20,574	10,035	-51.2%
Total	44,218	39,960	49,350	50,220	25,095	-50.0%
Domestic Violence Unit						
Intrafamily	4,582	4,779	5,074	4,545	4,175	-8.1%
Paternity & Child Support	519	471	348	405	271	-33.1%
U.S. Misdemeanors	3,275	4,742	4,876	4,799	3,473	-27.6%
Total	8,376	9,992	10,298	9,749	7,919	-18.8%
Family Court Operations						
Abuse & Neglect	1,332	1,387	1,565	1,197	1,071	-10.5%
Adoption	464	579	802	495	356	-28.1%
Divorce/Custody/Misc.	7,203	4,678	3,576	3,499	4,079	16.6%
Juvenile	2,044	2,247	2,469	2,526	2,689	6.5%
Mental Health	1,491	3,760	1,590	1,073	1,121	4.5%
Mental Retardation	20	49	11	6	14	133.3%
Paternity & Child Support	5,375	5,893	4,218	1,900	3,608	89.9%
Total	17,929	18,593	14,231	10,696	12,938	21.0%
Probate Division						
Conservatorships	26	25	48	29	20	-31.0%
Foreign Proceedings	112	109	132	153	128	-16.3%
Formal Probate	1,693	1,426	2,025	2,743	2,921	6.5%
Guardianships	99	102	157	91	88	-3.3%
Interventions	173	227	280	187	171	-8.6%
Small Estates	830	719	717	800	768	-4.0%
Trusts	4	2	4	2	4	100.0%
Total	2,937	2,610	3,363	4,005	4,100	2.4%
Tax Division						
Civil Cases	72	111	161	160	209	30.6%
Criminal Cases	6	5	5	-	17	100.0%
Total	78	116	166	160	226	41.3%
Grand Total	153,869	150,447	151,305	142,853	127,948	-10.4%
Monthly Average	12,822	12,537	12,609	11,904	10,662	-10.4%

PENDING CASELOADS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Civil Division						
Civil Actions	10,843	10,216	10,063	10,364 ^a	7,427	-28.3%
Landlord & Tenant	4,006	3,803	6,888	18,863 ^a	18,119	-3.9%
Small Claims	2,692	2,115	4,687	14,689 ^a	13,090	-10.9%
Total	17,541	16,134	21,638	43,916	38,636	-12.0%
Criminal Division						
D.C. Misdemeanors	218	296	311	504	1,080	114.3%
Felony	2,851	2,556	2,482	2,480	2,536	2.3%
Special Proceedings	124	142	133	174	na	na
Traffic	733	1,075	820	1,013	3,646	259.9%
U.S. Misdemeanors	2,079	2,265	2,422	1,993	2,836	42.3%
Total	6,005	6,334	6,168	6,164	10,098	63.8%
Domestic Violence Unit						
Intrafamily	222	265	187	177	249	40.7%
Paternity & Child Support	62	70	80	55	81	47.3%
U.S. Misdemeanors	675	838	745	803	477	-40.6%
Total	959	1,173	1,012	1,035	807	-22.0%
Family Court Operations						
Abuse & Neglect	4,918	4,184	3,414	3,189 ^a	2,785	-12.7%
Adoption	917	842	507	336	279	-17.0%
Divorce/Custody/Misc.	3,345	2,256	2,187	2,134 ^a	2,202	3.2%
Juvenile	1,022	670	1,015	572 ^a	878	53.5%
Mental Health	1,817	112	228	397 ^a	486	22.4%
Mental Retardation	1,208	1,184	1,189	1,232	1,244	1.0%
Paternity & Child Support	7,325	6,497	3,863	5,231 ^a	6,608	26.3%
Total	20,552	15,745	12,403	13,091	14,482	10.6%
Probate Division						
Conservatorships	317	292	244	215	195	-9.3%
Foreign Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Formal Probate	4,284	4,289	3,784	2,498	1,115	-55.4%
Guardianships	388	350	231	169	126	-25.4%
Interventions	1,807	1,861	1,907	2,036	2,264	11.2%
Small Estates	156	138	107	86	45	-47.7%
Trusts	272	278	287	308	319	3.6%
Total	7,224	7,208	6,560	5,312	4,064	-23.5%
Tax Division						
Civil Cases	336	397	431	437	413	-5.5%
Criminal Cases	13	15	22	36	30	-16.7%
Total	349	412	453	473	443	-6.3%
Grand Total	52,630	47,006	48,234 ^a	69,991	68,530	-2.1%
Monthly Average	4,386	3,917	4,020	5,833	5,711	-2.1%

^a Figure adjusted after an audit of the caseload.

CIVIL DIVISION

The Civil Division has jurisdiction over any civil action at law or in equity (excluding family matters) brought in the District of Columbia except where jurisdiction is exclusively vested in the federal court. The division is comprised of four branches: Civil Actions, Quality Review, Landlord & Tenant, and Small Claims & Conciliation. The Civil Actions Branch manages civil cases in which the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000. The Quality Review Branch monitors compliance with time standards in civil cases, calendars civil actions cases, including landlord & tenant and small claims jury cases, and manages courtroom staffing and operations. The Landlord & Tenant Branch processes all actions for the possession of rental property or violations of lease agreements filed by landlords. The Small Claims & Conciliation Branch oversees the processing and adjudication of cases where the amount in controversy is \$5,000 or less.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

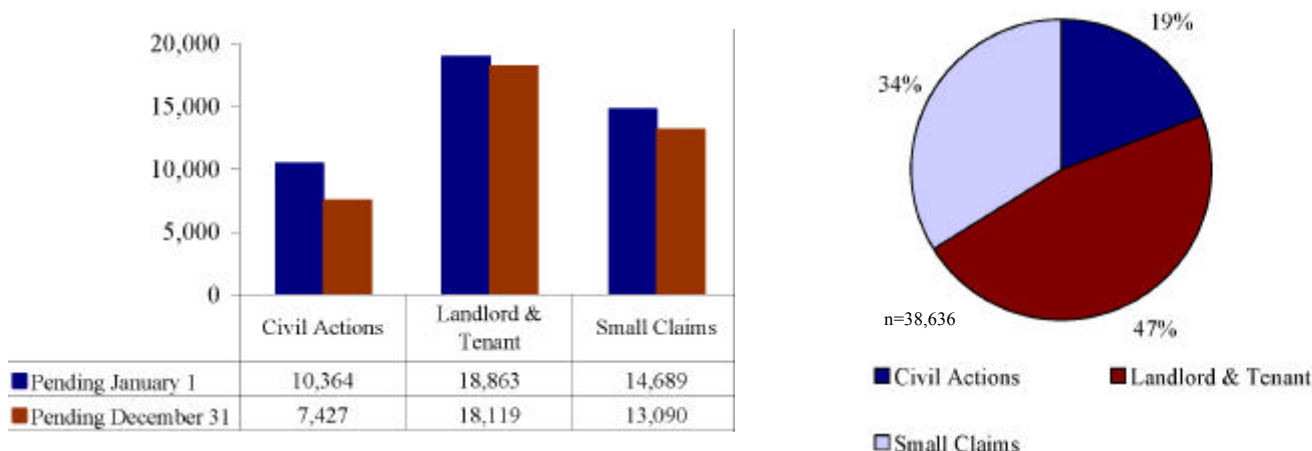
- Implemented the Superior Court's first Public Access System enabling the public to view case docket information on the internet through www.dccourts.gov/pa.
- Expanded the use of Electronic Filing to Civil II cases.
- Supported the Landlord and Tenant Resource Center, operated by the D.C. Bar Pro Bono Program, an invaluable asset in assisting landlords and tenants with legal representation.
- Improved information for litigants on how to initiate small claims cases and provided access to forms on the internet.

CIVIL DIVISION CASE ACTIVITY FOR 2006

	Civil Actions	Landlord & Tenant	Small Claims	Total
Pending Jan. 1 ^a	10,364	18,863	14,689	43,916
Filings/Assignments	9,540	46,050	15,488	71,078
Reinstatements/Reactivations	834	327	151	1,312
Total for Disposition	20,738	65,240	30,328	116,306
Dispositions:				
Settled/Dismissed	4,036	928	3,431	8,395
Dismissed by Plaintiff/Parties	-	4,797	-	4,797
Dismissed re: Bulk Filing by FAX/email	-	20,955	-	20,955
Dismissed by Court	1,715	2,250	653	4,618
Dismissed Rule 41	797	1,750	2,197	4,744
Dismissed Rule 4(m)/4(o)	1,635	-	-	1,635
Default Judgment	960	8,619	5,299	14,878
Judgments/Consents/Confession	160	6,290	1,121	7,571
Exparte Proof-Affidavit	515	-	637	1,152
Removed to Federal Court	168	-	5	173
Dispositive Motions	776	64	9	849
Jury Trials	217	5	48	270
Non-Jury Trials	78	173	274	525
Summary Proceedings	1,633	-	-	1,633
Agency Review/Appeal	84	-	-	84
Settled During Trial	8	-	-	8
Mediation Agreement Approved	-	263	-	263
Non-Redeemable Judg./Plntf for Poss.	-	410	-	410
Judgment for Possession	-	472	-	472
Plea of Title	-	5	-	5
Other	529	140	3,564	4,233
Total Dispositions	13,311	47,121	17,238	77,670
Pending Dec. 31	7,427	18,119	13,090	38,636
Percent Change in Pending	-28.3%	-3.9%	-10.9%	-12.0%
Clearance Rate	128.3%	na	na	na

^a The caseload figures for the Civil Division's Landlord & Tenant and Small Claims & Conciliation Branches will be subject to adjustment in the future as a result of ongoing data verification activities due to the conversion to the court's integrated justice information system. Accordingly, the calculation of clearance rates for these caseloads would not be appropriate.

CIVIL DIVISION PENDING CASELOAD, 2006



CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Criminal Division is responsible for processing matters which are in violation of the United States Code, the District of Columbia Code and municipal and traffic regulations. The Division provides uniform assignment of cases and courtroom support to judicial officers, efficient case processing, and timely delivery of information regarding criminal cases to the public. The Criminal Division is administratively divided into four branches: Case Management, Special Proceedings, Quality Assurance and Courtroom Support.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Revised and translated all Criminal Division forms into Spanish to ensure access to the Spanish-speaking defendants.
- Converted the Criminal Division's legacy database to CourtView, the new Integrated Justice Information System (IJIS) case management system.
- Organized two community forums for the East of the River Community Court as part of the court's ongoing efforts to increase public awareness, engage the community in dialogue and solicit feedback.

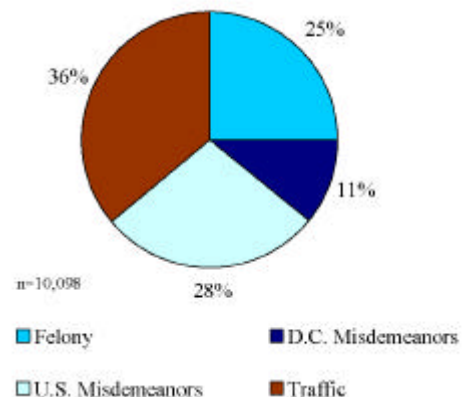
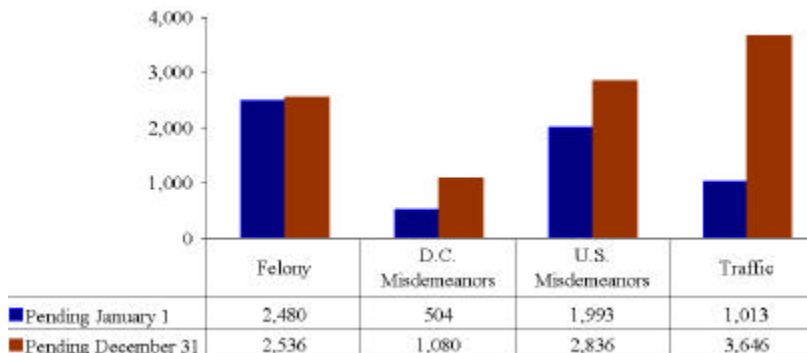
CRIMINAL DIVISION CASE ACTIVITY FOR 2006^a

	Felony	D.C. Misdemeanors	U.S. Misdemeanors	Traffic	Total
Pending Jan. 1	2,480	504	1,993	1,013	5,990
Filings	5,889	3,119	10,878	9,317	29,203
Total for Disposition	8,369	3,623	12,871	10,330	35,193
Dispositions:					
Non-trial:					
Guilty Plea	3,609	718	4,383	3,116	11,826
Nolle Prosequi	106	526	1,568	1,440	3,640
Nolle Diversion	10	233	1,072	1,370	2,685
DWP	228	41	779	126	1,174
Dismissal	1,401	43	1,423	83	2,950
Other/Abatement	28	-	13	4	45
Security Forfeited	-	910	1	394	1,305
No Papered ^b	68	18	161	55	302
Total Non-Trial	5,450	2,489	9,400	6,588	23,927
Trial:					
Jury:					
Guilty Verdict	229	1	5	8	243
Not Guilty Verdict	86	2	5	1	94
Acquittal	2	-	-	1	3
Total Jury Trials	317	3	10	10	340
Bench:					
Guilty Judgment	51	34	478	61	624
Not Guilty Judgment	14	12	128	19	173
Acquittal	-	5	19	5	29
Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity	1	-	-	1	2
Total Bench Trials	66	51	625	86	828
Total Dispositions	5,833	2,543	10,035	6,684	25,095
Pending Dec. 31	2,536	1,080	2,836	3,646	10,098
Percent Change in Pending	2.3%	114.3%	42.3%	259.9%	68.6%
Clearance Rate	na	na	na	na	na

^a The caseload figures for the Criminal Division will be subject to adjustment in the future as a result of ongoing data verification activities due to the conversion to the court's integrated justice information system. Accordingly, the calculation of clearance rates for these caseloads would not be appropriate.

^b As of January 18, 2006, cases that are not papered are no longer included in filings, and accordingly in dispositions.

CRIMINAL DIVISION PENDING CASELOAD, 2006



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

The Domestic Violence Unit provides due process of law and ensures the safety and protection of domestic violence victims. The Unit processes civil protection orders, criminal misdemeanors, child support, custody, visitation and divorce cases in which domestic violence is a significant issue, for adjudication before a designated team of judicial officers.

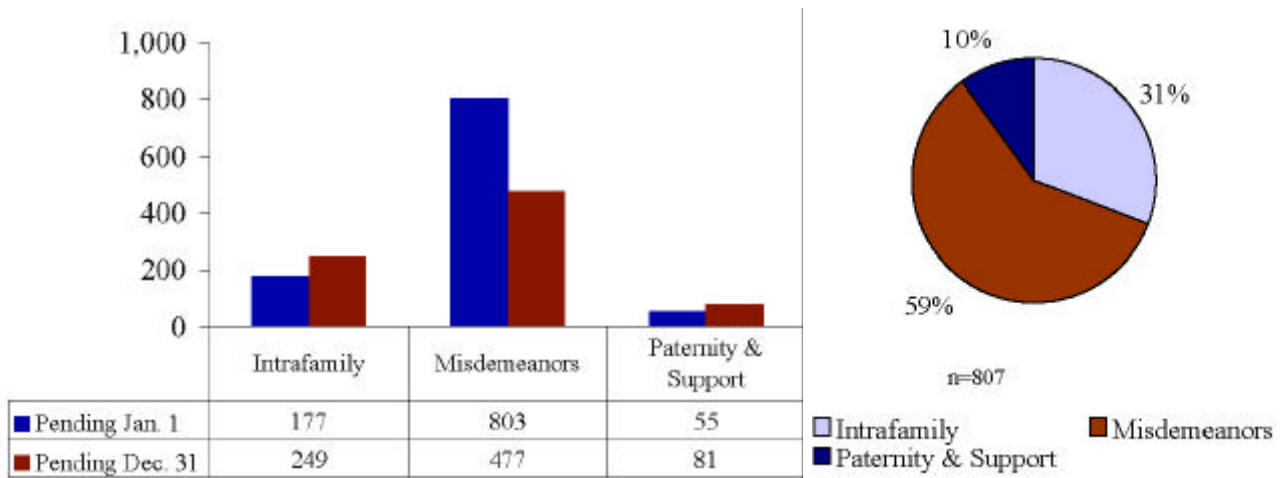
Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Reduced the pending caseload by 40% by devoting two judicial officers to the misdemeanor caseload.
- Improved case processing time by resolving 85% of petitions for protection orders within 30 days of filing.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT CASE ACTIVITY FOR 2006

	Intrafamily	Misdemeanors	Paternity & Child Support	Total
Pending Jan. 1	177	803	55	1,035
Filings	3,960	2,783	190	6,933
Reinstatements/Transferred In	287	364	107	758
Total for Disposition	4,424	3,950	352	8,726
Dispositions:				
Prior to Court Adjudication	-	837	-	837
Court Adjudications	4,175	2,636	271	7,082
Total Dispositions	4,175	3,473	271	7,919
Pending Dec. 31	249	477	81	807
Percent Change in Pending	40.7%	-40.6%	47.3%	-22.0%
Clearance Rate	98.3%	110.4%	91.2%	103.0%

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PENDING CASELOAD, 2006



FAMILY COURT OPERATIONS

The Family Court Operations is responsible for the processing and adjudication of all actions involving families and children in the District of Columbia Superior Court and is comprised of seven operational branches, two support offices and a Self Help Center. The Central Intake Center, the initial point of contact between the public and Family Court, provides a centralized location for filing all Family Court pleadings and paying associated fees; the Domestic Relations Branch processes cases seeking divorce, annulment, custody and adoption; the Paternity & Support Branch processes actions seeking to establish paternity and child support; the Juvenile & Neglect Branch handles cases involving children alleged to be delinquent, neglected, abused or otherwise in need of supervision; the Counsel for Child Abuse & Neglect (CCAN) recruits, trains and assigns attorneys to provide representation for children, eligible parents and caretakers in proceedings of child abuse and neglect; the Mental Health & Mental Retardation Branch is responsible for matters involving the commitment of individuals who are mentally ill or substantially retarded; and the Marriage Bureau issues licenses for marriages and maintains a list of officiants who perform civil marriages in the court. The Office of the Attorney Advisor monitors the Court's compliance with the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) and other child welfare laws applicable to cases involving abuse and neglect. The Quality Control Office conducts limited ASFA reviews and processes the transfer of prisoners in Family Court cases. The Self Help Center, developed in collaboration with the D.C. Bar, provides legal information and assistance to self-represented parties in Family Court cases.

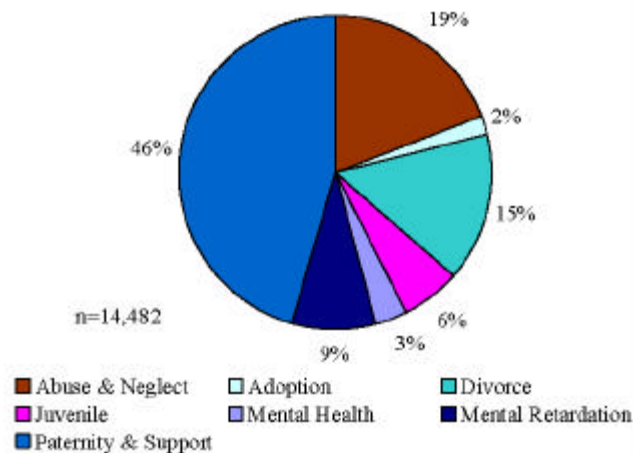
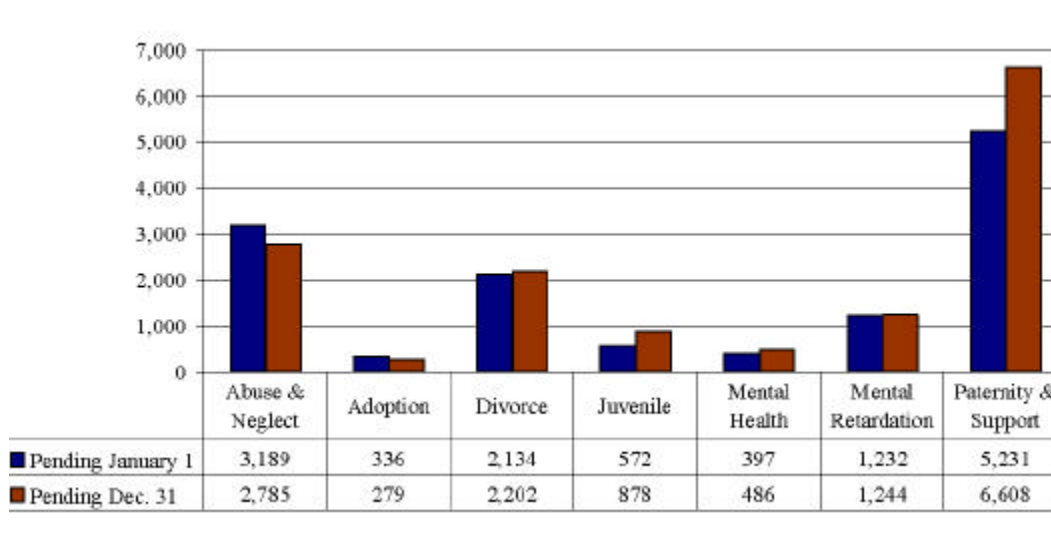
Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Observed national adoption day by hosting the Superior Court's 20th Annual Adoption Day Ceremony at which adoptions were finalized for 48 children joining 31 families.
- Graduated two classes of women participating in the Court's Family Treatment Court, a residential substance abuse treatment program for women involved with child abuse and neglect, and conducted a training day for program participants focusing on drug education, addiction and communication skills.
- In accordance with emergency legislation passed by the Council of the District of Columbia, began to report on non-detained juveniles, those who fail to appear for court events, and those whose adjudications would allow for a period of ineligibility or suspension of a drivers license.

FAMILY COURT OPERATIONS CASE ACTIVITY FOR 2006

	Abuse & Neglect	Adoption	Divorce	Juvenile	Mental Health	Mental Retardation	Paternity & Child Support	Total
Pending Jan. 1	3,189	336	2,134	572	397	1,232	5,231	13,091
Filings	652	299	4,131	2,978	1,136	26	4,603	13,825
Reactivations/Reopened	15	-	16	17	74	-	382	504
Total for Disposition	3,856	635	6,281	3,567	1,607	1,258	10,216	27,420
Dispositions	1,071	356	4,079	2,689	1,121	14	3,608	12,938
Pending Dec. 31	2,785	279	2,202	878	486	1,244	6,608	14,482
Percent Change in Pending	-12.7%	-17.0%	3.2%	53.5%	22.4%	1.0%	26.3%	10.6%
Clearance Rate	160.6%	119.1%	98.4%	89.8%	92.6%	53.8%	72.4%	90.3%

FAMILY COURT PENDING CASELOAD, 2006



FAMILY COURT SOCIAL SERVICES

The Social Services Division, which serves as the juvenile probation system for the District of Columbia, is responsible for screening, assessing and supervising all youth involved in the front-end of the juvenile justice system. The Division provides information and recommendations to assist the Court in making individualized decisions in all dispositional phases of the adjudication process, conducts risk assessment screenings, makes detention and release recommendations on all youth subsequent to arrest, suggests court supervised alternatives to incarceration, and offers supportive services and specialized treatment programs to youths whose problems bring them within the purview of the Court. The Division is comprised of several branches and specialized units, as follows: Intake Services and Juvenile Drug Court, Pre-Disposition Services, Probation Supervision, Delinquency Prevention, Child Guidance Clinic, Contract Monitoring and Purchase of Services, Juvenile Information Control Center and a female adolescent probation unit, Leaders of Today in Solidarity (LOTS).

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Launched LOTS in February 2006, an initiative designed to respond to the needs of adolescent females prior to adjudication through a comprehensive strengths-based approach.
- Implemented a Third-Party Monitoring Initiative with Peaceholics in June 2006, a local community-based organization dedicated to advocating and uplifting adolescents and young adults. This initiative is designed to enhance community contact and supervision from traditional weekly face-to-face contacts for high and medium risk youth.
- Implemented Global Positioning System (GPS) Electronic Monitoring technology in collaboration with the Courts' Administrative Services Division to supervise youth, who would otherwise be detained during adjudication, in the least restrictive community setting while maintaining compliance with court ordered conditions. This technology has also enabled local law enforcement to identify youth involved in, and rule-out youth presumed to be involved in additional delinquency as tracking analysis have shown compliance, non-compliance and the actual location of youth in "real time."

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION ACTIVITY FOR 2006

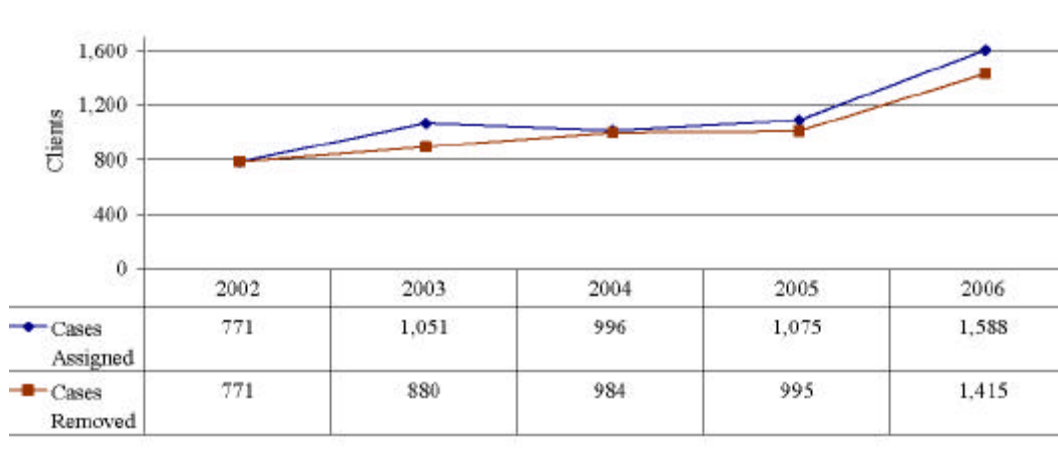
	Pending Jan. 1	New Cases/Clients	Total	Closed	Cases Pending Dec. 31	% Change Pending 2005 - 2006
JUVENILE CLIENTS						
Intake						
Active Clients ^a	-	891	891	891	-	-
New Clients	432	1,994	2,426	2,419	7	-98.4%
Diversion	18	36	54	36	18	0.0%
Total	450	2,921	3,371	3,346	25	-94.4%
Diagnostic						
Domestic Relations	29	80	109	93	16	-44.8%
Juvenile	181	1,071	1,252	793	459	153.6%
Total	210	1,151	1,361	886	475	126.2%
Juvenile Drug Court	16	11	27	5	22	37.5%
Supervision:						
Intensive Community Supervision	119	90	209	97	112	-5.9%
Regular Supervision ^b	831	838	1,669	930	739	-11.1%
LOTS	-	660	660	388	272	na
Total	950	1,588	2,538	1,415	1,123	18.2%
Total Pending Clients^c	1,626	na	na	na	1,645	1.2%

^a Individuals who are arrested in a new case, but are already included in the diagnostic or supervision caseloads.

^b Includes probation, interstate compact and consent decree.

^c Clients may move from intake to diagnostic to supervision status within a reporting period, therefore, to avoid double counting, only totals for pending cases are provided.

JUVENILE SUPERVISION, 2002-2006



MULTI-DOOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION DIVISION

The Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division facilitates the settlement of disputes through several alternative dispute resolution (ADR) programs: the Civil Dispute Resolution Program provides arbitration, mediation, or neutral case evaluation in civil cases; Small Claims, Tax, Probate, and Family and Child Protection Mediation; and a Community Information and Referral Program (CIRP), which provides information, referrals, conciliation and mediation of a variety types of disputes. ADR is performed by neutrals with professional experience as lawyers, social workers, and government employees, who are trained, evaluated and supported by Multi-Door staff. Multi-Door also provides ADR observations and technical assistance to international and domestic judges, lawyers, government officials and court administrators who seek to establish ADR programs in their own jurisdictions.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Implemented a Program for Agreement and Cooperation in Child Custody Cases (PAC), funded through the State Justice Institute and in collaboration with the Family Court, to enhance communication and understanding among parents and children involved in custody proceedings and to establish mediation as the principal means of resolving their conflicts.
- Began to offer Domestic Partnership Mediation to litigants.
- Collaborated with the Landlord-Tenant Resource Center and the D.C. Bar to create the Pro Bono Legal Assistance Project, which provides lawyers for unrepresented parties in mediation and expanded the use of mediators in Landlord and Tenant jury demand cases.

CIVIL ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACTIVITY, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Arbitration						
Cases Referred	35	32	5	3	2	-33.3%
Cases Closed	58	38	12	2	4	100.0%
Cases Settled	32	20	3	2	4	100.0%
Settlement Rate ^a	55%	53%	25%	100%	100%	na
Civil Mediation						
Cases Referred	2,528	2,906	2,838	3,184	3,640	14.3%
Cases Closed	2,223	2,160	2,272	2,258	2,862	26.7%
Cases Settled	686	727	767	576	718	24.7%
Settlement Rate ^a	38%	41%	34%	38%	25%	na
Special Civil Mediation						
Cases Referred	41	116	135	300	164	-45.3%
Cases Closed	47	99	132	198	140	-29.3%
Cases Settled	14	37	82	110	68	-38.2%
Settlement Rate ^a	30%	37%	58%	52%	43%	na
Landlord and Tenant Mediation^b						
Cases Referred	na	445	570	678	957	41.2%
Cases Closed	na	445	570	654	758	15.9%
Cases Settled	na	350	390	465	499	7.3%
Settlement Rate ^a	na	79%	68%	71%	64%	na
Probate Mediation						
Cases Referred	38	11	32	61	114	86.9%
Cases Closed	40	22	24	38	46	21.1%
Cases Settled	21	10	8	20	9	-55.0%
Settlement Rate ^a	52%	45%	33%	50%	17%	na
Small Claims Mediation						
Cases Referred	1,573	1,479	1,466	1,178	1,258	6.8%
Cases Closed	1,573	1,479	1,466	1,144	1,196	4.5%
Cases Settled	718	581	700	485	544	12.2%
Settlement Rate ^a	46%	39%	48%	42%	46%	na
Tax Mediation						
Cases Referred	151	127	147	292	288	-1.4%
Cases Closed	93	103	150	173	119	-31.2%
Cases Settled	25	50	56	57	62	8.8%
Settlement Rate ^a	27%	49%	37%	33%	53%	na

^a Settlements reached as percentage of the number of mediations completed.

^b Program began in 2003.

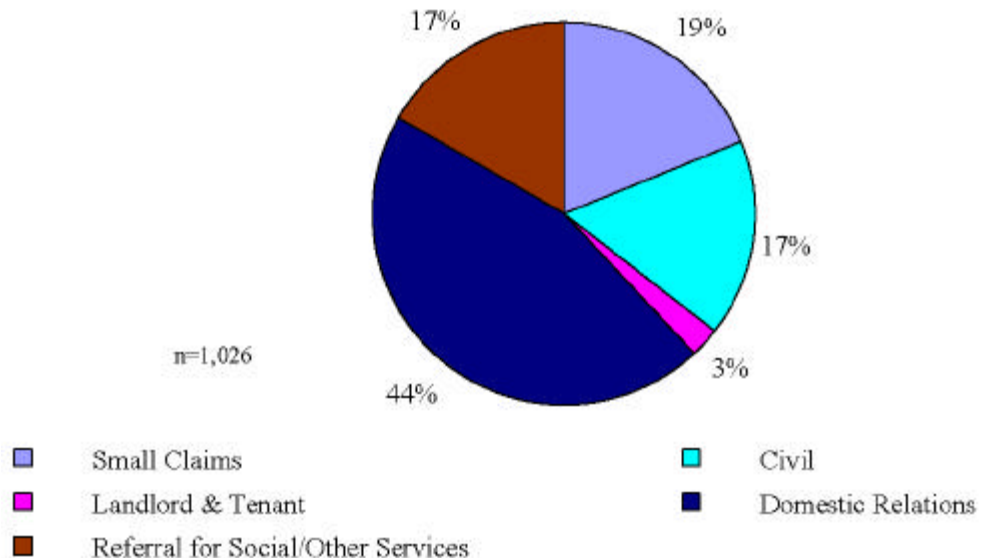
FAMILY/COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACTIVITY, 2002-2006

	2002	2003 ^a	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Community Information & Referral Program Activity						
Number of Clients Assisted	2,608	2,609	1,846	1,504	1,475	-1.9%
Type of Dispute:						
Small Claims	264	265	247	220	193	-12.3%
Civil	128	128	162	177	171	-3.4%
Landlord & Tenant	52	52	26	25	27	8.0%
Domestic Relations	816	817	565	475	464	-2.3%
Referral for Social/Other Services	193	193	324	173	171	-1.2%
Other	20	20	-	-	-	-
Total Number of Disputes	1,473	1,475	1,324	1,070	1,026	-4.1%
Cases Mediated/Conciliated	170	169	134	125	106	-15.2%
Cases Settled	122	122	101 ^a	97	81	-16.5%
Settlement Rate ^b	72%	72%	75% ^a	78%	76%	-2.0%
Child Protection Mediation						
Cases Referred	308	390	396	481 ^a	353	-26.6%
Cases Closed	136	414	388	480	372	-22.5%
Cases Settled	131	338	289	363	266	-26.7%
Settlement Rate ^b	96%	92%	89% ^a	92%	94%	na
Family Mediation						
Cases Opened	529	532	439	354	379	7.1%
Cases Closed	273	295	352	313	372	18.8%
Cases Settled	110	110	142	88	101	14.8%
Settlement Rate ^b	41%	37%	41% ^a	34%	38%	na

^a Figure adjusted after an audit of the caseload.

^b Settlements reached as percentage of the number of mediations completed.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION & REFERRALS, 2006



PROBATE DIVISION

The Probate Division has jurisdiction over decedents estates, trusts, guardianships of minors, and guardianships and conservatorships of incapacitated adults. The organizational components are the Office of the Register of Wills; the Auditing and Appraisals Branch, which audits accounts of fiduciaries and appraises personal property; the Probate Operations Branch, comprised of the Small Estates Section, which processes decedents estates with assets of \$40,000 or less; the Decedents Estates and Guardianships of Minors Section, which processes formal decedents estates and estates of minors; and the Interventions & Trusts Section, which processes estates for incapacitated adults and trusts. The Register of Wills is responsible for making recommendations to the Court on all *ex parte* matters filed in the Division.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Adopted detailed Probate Practice Standards in September 2006.
- Hosted Bench-Bar meetings in April and December and attended regular D.C. Bar seminars to continue the dialogue on improving probate operations and educating attendees on probate practice issues.
- Provided Probate forms on the internet that can be completed on line and printed as completed documents by the user.
- Initiated a Probate Resource Center to provide free legal and court information to low income parties or potential parties in probate matters.

PROBATE DIVISION CASE ACTIVITY FOR 2006

	Cases			Available for Disposition	Cases Disposed	Cases Pending Dec. 31	% Change in Pending 2005 - 2006
	Pending Jan. 1	Cases Filed	Cases Reactivated				
	Formal Probate (Decedent's Estates)	2,498	1,492				
Small Estates	86	689	38	813	768	45	-47.7%
Guardianships (of Minors)	169	45	--	214	88	126	-25.4%
Intervention Proceedings (Adult Guardianships/ Conservatorships)	2,036	399	--	2,435	171	2,264	11.2%
Trusts	308	15	--	323	4	319	3.6%
Conservatorships (Old Law) ^a	215	--	--	215	20	195	-9.3%
Foreign Proceedings	--	128	--	128	128	--	na
Total	5,312	2,768	84	8,164	4,100	4,064	-23.5%

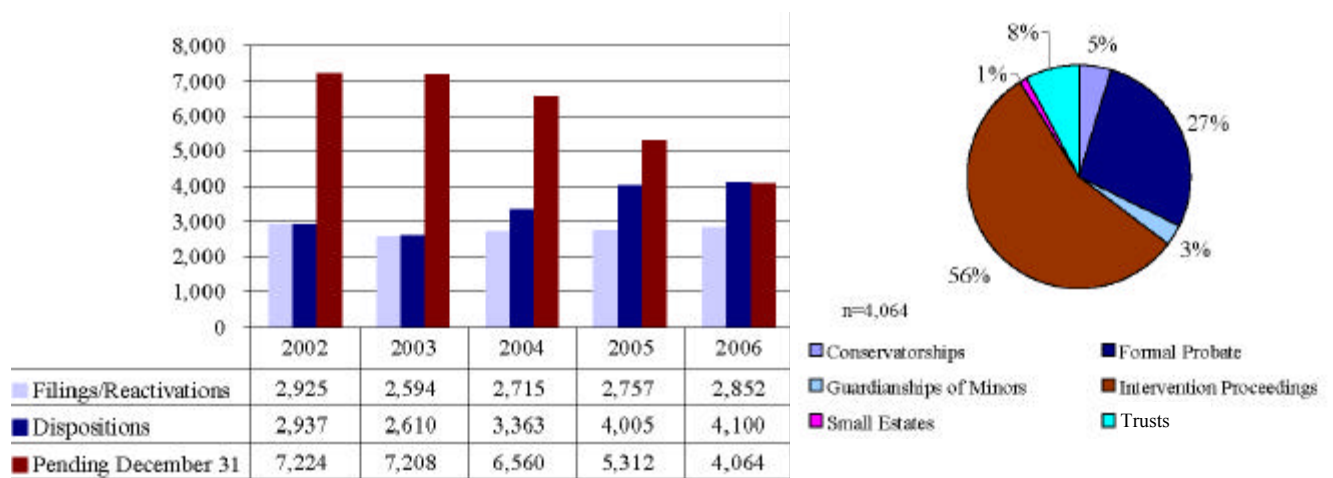
^a Old Law Conservatorships refers to Conservatorships created prior to 1989, which provided for only the management of assets of the ward. Beginning September 30, 1989, intervention proceedings filed are governed by the 300 rule series and D.C. Code 21-2001 through 2085 and termed Intervention Proceedings or Adult Guardianships/Conservatorships.

ACCOUNT AND FEE ACTIVITY, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
	Accounts Filed	1,887	2,163	2,060	1,995	1,675
Accounts Disposed	1,981	2,109	2,367	2,357	1,812 ^a	-23.1%
Petition for Compensation Request Filed	1,269	1,253	1,381	1,354	1,468	8.4%
Petition for Compensation Request Disposed	1,323	1,246	1,388	1,304	1,401	7.4%

^a Special efforts initiated by the Auditing Branch to streamline workflow processes resulted in a considerable reduction in the total caseload available for disposal by 62% (677 in 2005 to 257 in 2006) and 7.5% more accounts were disposed than filed in 2006.

PROBATE DIVISION CASE ACTIVITY AND PENDING CASELOAD, 2006



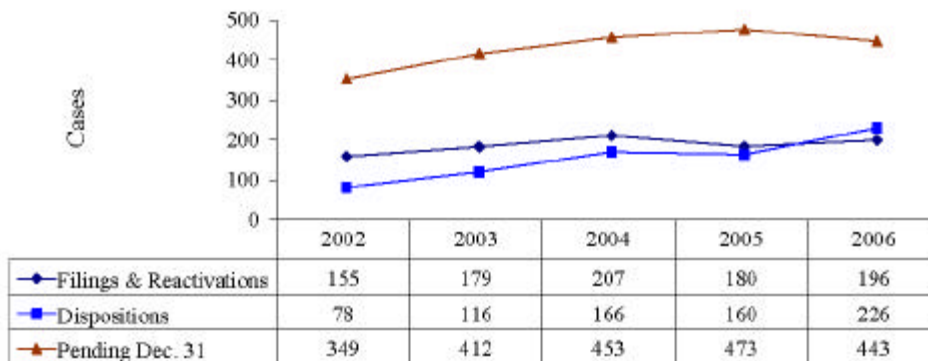
SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Special Operations Division is comprised of seven units: the Tax Division, which manages all tax cases and prepares and certifies records on appeal for tax matters; the Juror's Office, which processes jurors, randomly selects and assigns jurors for panels, and selects and swears in grand jurors; the Appeals Coordinator's Office, which processes appeal cases and prepares appeal records in coordination with the Court of Appeals, the Court Reporting and Recording Division, attorneys and *pro se* litigants; the Office of Court Interpreting Services, which provides Sign Language, Spanish, and other foreign language interpreters for court proceedings; the Superior Court Library, comprised of law books, legal periodicals and electronic research services for use by judges, attorneys and court staff; the Juror/ Witness Child Care Center, which cares for the children of jurors, witnesses, and other parties having business with the Court; and the Judge-In-Chambers Office, which handles matters from every division of the Court, including the issuance of arrest, bench and search warrants.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Held a Spanish-English Interpretation Course at the Bell Multicultural High School and provided a tour of the courthouse for students and their teachers.
- Participated in several community outreach efforts, including radio and print media interviews and panel discussions on language and barriers to justice.
- Hosted a "Hooked on Books" event in the Child Care Center at which the Friends of the Superior Court and the Pi Beta Phi Sorority donated children's books to the Family Court and the Child Care Center.
- Provided back to school supplies to children at a "Back to School Bash" organized by the Friends of the Superior Court, the Counsel for Child Abuse and Neglect (CCAN) and the Child Care Center.

TAX DIVISION CASE ACTIVITY, 2002-2006



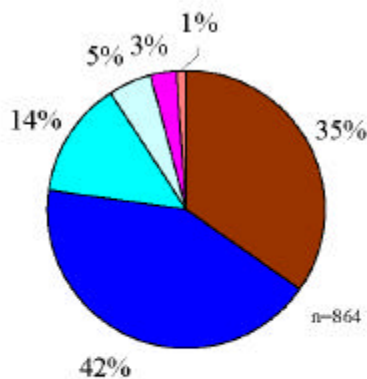
PETIT JUROR ACTIVITY, 2002-2006

	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	Total	Daily Average	Total	Daily Average	Total	Daily Average	Total	Daily Average	Total	Daily Average
Jurors Reporting for Service	47,488	205	46,318	236	42,192	228	45,013	234	56,465	291
Jurors Sent to Voir Dire	33,472	144	35,366	180	35,720	193	34,046	177	31,140	162
Jurors Selected For Panels	7,608	33	7,852	40	7,826	42	7,670	40	6,783	35
Juror Utilization Rate ^a	70%		76%		85%		76%		55%	

^a A measure of efficiency in which the number of prospective jurors who are used at least once in Voir Dire is expressed as a percentage of the number of jurors who are qualified and report for service.

APPEALS COORDINATORS OFFICE

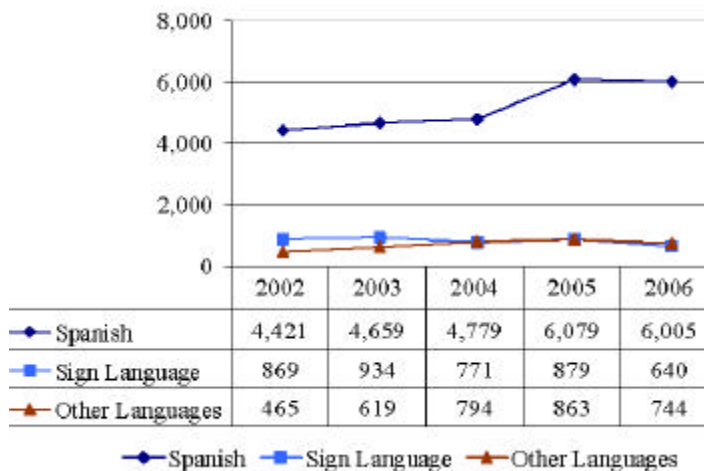
Type of Superior Court Cases Appealed to the D.C. Court of Appeals, 2006



■ Civil
■ Criminal
■ Family
■ Domestic Violence
■ Probate
■ Tax

OFFICE OF COURT INTERPRETING SERVICES

Number of Court Events Requiring Interpreters, 2002-2006^a



^a Foreign language services are provided for all criminal and family matters, for probate and civil matters if the party is adjudicated as indigent, or as a directive from the judge. Sign language services are provided for all deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Depending on the need, there may be multiple court events requiring interpreter services in a single case.

OTHER SUPERIOR COURT ACTIVITIES

AUDITOR MASTER CASE ACTIVITY, 2005-2006

	2005	2006
Pending January 1	35	24
New Orders of Reference	42	31
Requirement for Supplemental Reports	0	4
Available for Disposition	77	59
Closed	53	37
Pending December 31	24	22

The Auditor-Master sits as a Master of the Court, investigates matters as assigned by the Court, and issues subpoenas needed; presides over hearings, takes testimony and admits documents in order to issue proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law. Cases referred to the Auditor-Master include various civil, domestic relations, tax and probate matters involving complex financial analysis. Such matters encompass the stating of accounts for defaulted fiduciaries, audits of fiduciary accounts, assignments for benefit of creditors, dissolutions of business entities and real estate partitions.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Issued judgments totaling nearly \$635,000 against fiduciaries who failed to properly account for assets under their control.

CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION PROGRAM, 2005-2006

	2005	2006
Claims filed	2,452	2,399
Payments made	9,590	8,476
Amount awarded to victims	\$ 7,588,463	\$ 7,491,308

The Crime Victims Compensation Program assists innocent victims of violent crime, as well as the survivors of homicide victims and dependent family members with crime-related expenses including: medical, counseling and funeral bills; lost wages and support; the cost of temporary emergency housing for victims of domestic violence; replacement of clothing held as evidence; and costs associated with cleaning a crime scene. Through the services of the victim advocate, crime victims are provided with assistance in filing applications for other victim service programs, support groups, mental health counseling and other quality of life matters that arise after victimization.

Accomplishments in Calendar Year 2006

- Awarded nearly \$7.5 million to victims of crime in the District of Columbia.
- Through a partnership with My Sister's Place, provided case management and counseling to victims of domestic violence placed in temporary emergency housing in local hotels.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF COURT SYSTEM
DIVISIONS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2006****Administrative Services Division**

- Initiated several facilities projects, including a major renovation of the historic Old D.C. Courthouse, a national landmark, to house the D.C. Court of Appeals; and a new entrance to Family Court, including the installation of sculptures commissioned by the Courts as part of the Facilities Master Plan for the Courts and Judiciary Square.
- Completed upgrades to the Courts' life safety systems to provide enhanced security for judicial officers, staff and the public.
- Collaborated with the Family Court Social Services Division, the Budget and Finance and Research and Development Divisions to develop and open a Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop-In Center east of the Anacostia River to provide tutoring, peer mediation and recreation for youth under the Courts' supervision.

Budget and Finance Division

- Implemented a major upgrade of the Courts' web-based financial system which eliminates manual functions and reduces processing time.
- Enhanced the Courts' capacity to forecast and manage finances by restructuring the budget to track functional unit spending to guide expenditures within 99% accuracy.
- Collaborated with the Information Technology Division to improve the Courts' web-based Defender Services Vouchering System, which expedites the issuance, payment and processing of vouchers for services provided for the representation of indigent defendants resulting in an 80% reduction in processing time from receipt of an invoice to payment.

Center for Education and Training

- Offered over 100 court-sponsored courses attended by over 1,700 court employees and 13 educational events for judicial officers who completed over 4,000 hours of in-service training.
- Launched, in collaboration with the Management Training Committee, a 12 month Management Training Program for employees selected competitively from each division to learn management skills from national and court experts.
- Hosted delegations of international and local visitors interested in learning about the D.C. Courts, including those from China, Russia, Argentina, Jordan, North Korea and Kenya, and provided tours to over 600 visitors from schools and colleges.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF COURT SYSTEM DIVISIONS DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2006

Court Reporting and Recording Division

- Implemented internal modifications to case recording assignment information to facilitate customer service.
- Automated requests for private order transcripts to eliminate visits by customers to multiple offices.
- Reengineered and streamlined the transcript production process through the utilization of court reporting and transcription technologies.
- Updated the Court Reporter's Handbook.

Human Resources Division

- Placed over 75 interns in 14 branches and divisions of the Courts totaling over 8,000 volunteer hours of service by students from local and national colleges and universities.
- Expanded the scope and frequency of the two-day Pre-Retirement Planning Program attended by 160 employees within 5 to 10 years of retirement from the Courts.
- Introduced Short and Long Term Disability Insurance, a voluntary benefit program for employees, to provide continuation of pay for enrollees if disabled.

Information Technology Division

- Completed the implementation of the CourtView Integrated Justice Information System in the Criminal Division, including an automated interface to receive and process arrest information from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and to send information to the U.S. Attorneys Office, D.C. Department of Corrections, D.C. Pretrial Services Agency, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA), and the D.C. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.
- Designed a web-based system for public access to civil case information.
- Installed and launched informational kiosks throughout the Moultrie Courthouse.

Research and Development Division

- Secured over \$4 million in grant funds to support existing Court programs and launch new initiatives, including the Balanced and Restorative Justice Drop-In Center, Program for Agreement and Cooperation in Child Custody Cases, Crime Victims Compensation Program, Supervised Child Visitation Center, and the Courts' Integrated Justice Information System.
- Analyzed survey data from the Courts' principal stakeholders – judicial officers, attorneys, court participants and employees, and posted findings on the Courts' website.
- Completed project management of multi-year, independent program evaluations of Court Social Services and the Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division, components of the Courts' performance monitoring plan to evaluate operations on a routine and continuing basis, and held formal briefings on major findings and recommendations.

COURT REPORTING AND RECORDING DIVISION

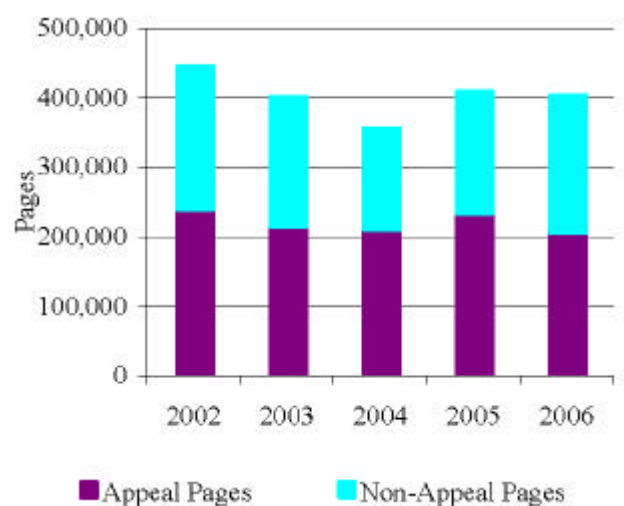
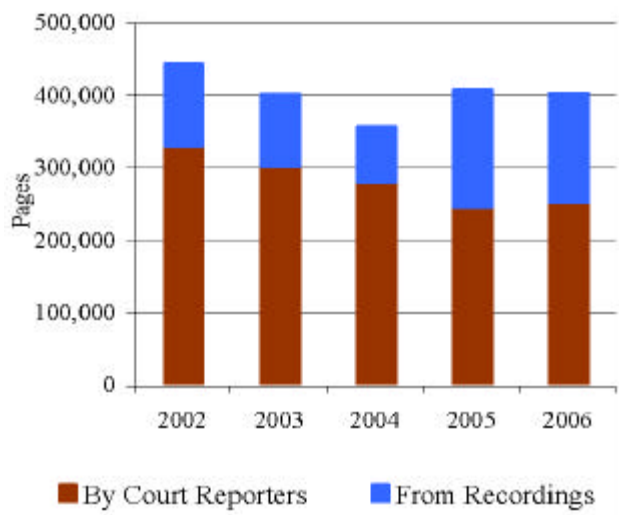
TRANSCRIPT PRODUCTION BY REPORTERS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Pages Produced by Court Reporters:						
Appeal Pages	184,546	167,384	177,002	152,054	135,818	-10.7%
Non-Appeal Pages	144,130	133,453	101,842	92,322	115,039	24.6%
Total	328,676	300,837	278,844	244,376	250,857	2.7%
Ratio of Appeal Pages to Total Pages Produced	56.1	55.7	63.5	62.2	54.1	-13.0%
Transcript Orders Pending December 31	277	637	305	545	412	-24.4%
Average Number of Days to Complete	101	38	61	50	41	-18.0%
Appeal	na	na	na	na	62	
Non-Appeal	na	na	na	na	20	

TRANSCRIPT PRODUCTION FROM RECORDINGS, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change 2005 - 2006
Pages Produced by Court Transcribers:						
Appeal Pages	5,004	7,020	8,309	10,819	8,762	-19.0%
Non-Appeal Pages	16,116	21,890	24,041	19,713	24,329	23.4%
Total	21,120	28,910	32,350	30,532	33,091	8.4%
Pages Produced by Contract Transcription Services:						
Appeal Pages	46,652	36,730	21,338	67,402	58,235	-13.6%
Non-Appeal Pages	46,716	33,892	23,311	65,587	60,396	-7.9%
Total	93,368	70,622	44,649	132,989	118,631	-10.8%
Grand Total	114,488	99,532	76,999	163,521	151,722	-7.2%
Transcript Orders Pending December 31	377	148	404	143	136	-4.9%
Average Number of Days to Complete	220	120	41	48	24	-50.0%
Appeal	na	na	na	na	27	
Non-Appeal	na	na	na	na	21	

TRANSCRIPT PRODUCTION, 2002-2006





District of Columbia Courts
500 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 879-1700
www.dccourts.gov