

Annual Report *of the* New Jersey Courts

Court Year 2021 - 2022





Somerset County Courthouse



NEW JERSEY COURTS

2022 Annual Report

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS

FOR THE COURT YEAR JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Chief Justice
Stuart Rabner

Associate Justices
Barry T. Albin
Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina
Jaynee LaVecchia
Anne M. Patterson
Lee A. Solomon
Fabiana Pierre-Louis

Clerk of the Supreme Court
Heather Joy Baker

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF THE

**Administrative Director
of the Courts**
Glenn A. Grant

Chief of Staff
Steven D. Bonville

Clerk of the Superior Court
Michelle M. Smith

Counsel's Office
Meryl G. Nadler, Counsel
Matthew Sapienza, Deputy Counsel

Court and Judicial Security
Robin Morante

**Equal Employment Opportunity/
Affirmative Action**
Tonya Hopson

Information Security
Sajed Naseem

Internal Audit and Control
John Brodowski

SUPERIOR COURT, APPELLATE DIVISION

Chief Judge
Carmen Messano

Deputy Presiding Judge
Jack M. Sabatino

Clerk of the Appellate Division
Joseph H. Orlando

TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY

Presiding Judge
Mala Sundar

Clerk of the Tax Court
Cheryl Ryan

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS, OFFICE OF

Director
Peter McAleer

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Director
Jack P. McCarthy III

Assistant Directors
Selvi Karuppaswamy - Data Analytics Research Center
Laks Kattalai - Application Services
Ron Wildmann - Technical Services & Operations

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Todd McManus

Assistant Directors
Valarie Fragé - Financial Services
Deirdre K. Hartman - Human Resources
Helen Livingston - Support Services

PROBATION SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Rashad Shabaka-Burns

Assistant Director
Brenda Beacham

PROFESSIONAL AND GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Deirdre M. Naughton

TRIAL COURT SERVICES, OFFICE OF

Director
Jennifer M. Perez

Assistant Directors
Donna Westhoven - Criminal Practice Division
Joanne M. Dietrich - Family Practice Division
John Lally - Data Analytics, Research and Standards
Kim Madera - Automated Trial Courts Services
Taironda Phoenix - Civil Practice Division
Steven A. Somogyi - Municipal Court Services



CAPE MAY COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Cape May County Courthouse

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On the cover: The Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Historic Courthouse in Jersey City, constructed between 1906 and 1910, features a copper cupola and towering pillars outside, and includes an ornate balcony, stained glass and impressive hand-painted murals depicting the state's early history.

The granite, six-story structure served as the seat of Hudson County government from its opening until a more modern Hudson County Administration Building opened next door in 1966. The courthouse was scheduled for demolition, but local citizens successfully worked to have it placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

When the building reopened in 1985 after a lengthy restoration, it was renamed in honor of William J. Brennan Jr., who served as assignment judge in the Hudson Vicinage from 1949 to 1951 before becoming an associate justice on both the New Jersey Supreme Court and U.S. Supreme Court.



VETERANS COURTHOUSE

Essex County (Veterans) Courthouse

Letter from the **Administrative Director of the Courts**



Glenn A. Grant

Administrative Director of the Courts

The past two years have been a challenge for all of us.

Within the New Jersey Judiciary, responding to the Covid-19 pandemic has meant balancing the health and safety of both our workforce and the public while continuing to maintain the operations of our court system.

I am immensely proud of the way our court system responded. Since the very beginning of the pandemic, the New Jersey Judiciary has continued to safely provide crucial services, sometimes with modifications but without interruption, thanks to the dedication, creativity, foresight, and adaptability of our judges and staff.

We embraced the challenges posed by the pandemic as an opportunity to transform how the courts conduct business. Our operations are not the same as they were pre-Covid: they are better, and they are continuing to improve.

An important concern was ensuring that court users who lacked access to technology were still able to effectively participate in the judicial process. With that in mind, the Judiciary developed several initiatives to bridge the “digital divide.” For example, technology rooms were created in all of our courthouses to allow individuals without technology to participate in court proceedings.

At the same time, we kept an eye toward using technology to improve efficiency. We created a new application called JEDS which allows self-represented parties and attorneys to file documents electronically.

As we enter a new court year, one that allows for more in-person court events, the challenges presented by the pandemic remain. We have much work to do to confront increased caseloads in a way that does not impact the public’s ability to access the court system. As this annual report shows, a number of court dockets experienced significant growth during the past year.

The Judiciary, like the rest of our government, has been forever changed by the lessons learned from Covid. While we must evolve, our priorities remain the same. In the year ahead, we will continue to pursue new ways to better provide access to justice so that we can better serve all those who rely on our court system.

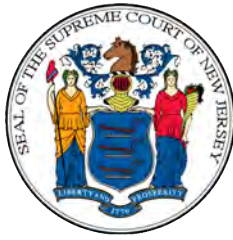
“Our operations are not the same as they were pre-Covid: they are better, and they are continuing to improve.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn A. Grant".

Administrative Director of the Courts



Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex



New Jersey Supreme Court

The New Jersey Supreme Court is the state's highest court. Its seven justices are appointed to an initial seven-year term, after which they can be reappointed with tenure until age 70, the mandatory retirement age for all New Jersey state court judges.

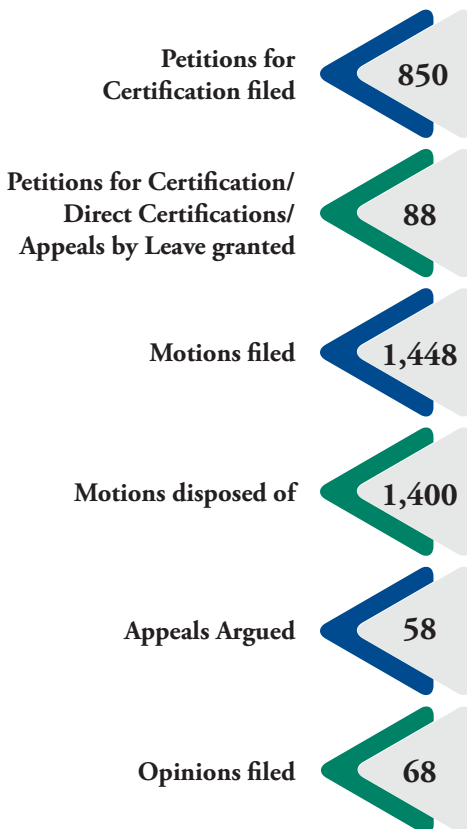


Standing from left:
Justice Lee A. Solomon
Justice Anne M. Patterson
Justice Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina
Justice Fabiana Pierre-Louis
 Seated from left:
Justice Jaynee LaVecchia
Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Justice Barry T. Albin

The Supreme Court hears appeals from the Appellate Division of the Superior Court. If an appellate panel is divided on an appeal, the parties have an automatic right to Supreme Court review. If the appellate panel is unanimous, the party that did not prevail must file a petition for certification to have the court hear the case. The court grants certification in cases involving constitutional issues, cases in which there have been conflicting rulings in the past and, in certain instances, cases of great public importance.

In addition to its judicial responsibilities, the Supreme Court oversees all aspects of Judiciary administration as well as the legal system. The court administers bar admissions through the Board of Bar Examiners. During Court Year 2022, the court admitted 1,830 new attorneys to the New Jersey bar, a 3.98 percent decrease from the previous year.

Appointed in June 2007 as the eighth chief justice to lead the New Jersey Supreme Court since the 1947 state constitution, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner serves as the administrative head for the court system, overseeing the management of the state's courts. He received tenure in June 2014



Attorney Oversight

The Supreme Court oversees the attorney discipline system, including the Office of Attorney Ethics (OAE) and the Disciplinary Review Board (DRB). The OAE investigates allegations of attorney misconduct and coordinates the work of the state's 18 district ethics committees and 17 fee arbitration committees to help ensure the integrity of the legal profession.

Its recommendations for final discipline are reviewed by the DRB, which conducts a second investigation, hearing and review. Recommendations for disbarment are reviewed by the Supreme Court, which issues an order to show cause and offers each attorney in danger of disbarment the opportunity for oral argument. DRB decisions for lesser sanctions are usually final, except in cases where an attorney requests Supreme Court review.

The Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection also is overseen by the Supreme Court. The fund, which is supported by annual payments from the state's lawyers and judges, provides reimbursement to victims of attorneys who have been suspended or disbarred for knowing misappropriation of client funds or deemed disability inactive or passed away. During Court Year 2022, the fund approved \$708,488.95 to reimburse clients for losses caused by 29 attorneys.



SALEM COUNTY COURT HOUSE

12

NO PARKING
AREA

NO PARKING
AREA

Salem County Courthouse

Appellate Division, Superior Court

The Appellate Division of the Superior Court is the state's intermediate appellate court. It hears appeals and interlocutory motions from the Superior Court, the Tax Court and from state administrative agencies.

Appellate judges are selected by the chief justice from among the state's Superior and Tax Court judges. Generally, each of the Appellate Division's eight parts includes four judges, the most senior of whom serves as the presiding judge who oversees case flow. This term the court was assigned seven parts of four judges. Each case is decided by a two- or three-judge panel. The panels issue their decisions in the form of written opinions that are either "published," meaning they set precedent and can be used as case law in future court cases, or "unpublished," meaning they have applicability to the parties in that appeal.

The chief judge of administration of the Appellate Division works closely with the Appellate Division Clerk's Office to manage the work of the division. Judge Carmen Messano was named presiding judge for administration on June 26, 2013. The title was changed to chief judge this year. He is assisted by Judge Jack Sabatino, who serves as the division's deputy presiding judge for administration.

New Jersey Courts June 27, 2022

A panel of the Appellate Division heard oral arguments last week in the Monmouth Vicinage's Hall of Records courtroom in Freehold. Appellate Division Judges Clarkson S. Fisher, Lisa A. Firko and Francis J. Vernioia heard arguments in three cases. While most appellate arguments are usually heard in Morristown, New Brunswick, Newark and Trenton, there are times where arguments will be scheduled at other locations to provide the public with an opportunity to observe the appellate... See more



Appeals Filed **4,067**

Motions Filed **7,118**

Appeals Decided **4,481**

Motions Decided **7,138**

Opinions Filed **2,006**

Published Opinions **125**

PART A	Presiding Judge Jack M. Sabatino
	Judge Garry S. Rothstadt
	Judge Jessica R. Mayer
	Judge Arnold L. Natali Jr.

PART C	Presiding Judge Richard S. Hoffman
	Judge Mary Gibbons Whipple
	Judge Karen L. Suter
	Judge Richard J. Geiger
	Judge Ronald Susswein

PART E	Presiding Judge Carmen Messano
	Judge Mitchel E. Ostrer
	Judge Allison E. Accurso
	Judge Lisa Rose
	Judge Catherine I. Enright

PART B	Presiding Judge Douglas M. Fasciale
	Judge Thomas W. Sumners Jr.
	Judge Francis J. Vernioia
	Judge Lisa A. Firko

PART D	Presiding Judge Carmen H. Alvarez
	Judge Michael J. Haas
	Judge Hany A. Mawla
	Judge Stephanie Ann Mitterhoff

PART F	Presiding Judge Clarkson S. Fisher Jr.
	Judge Heidi Willis Currier
	Judge Patrick DeAlmeida
	Judge Morris G. Smith

PART G	Presiding Judge Jose L. Fuentes
	Judge Robert J. Gilson
	Judge Greta Gooden Brown
	Judge Katie A. Gummer

GLOUCESTER COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER



Gloucester County Justice Center

Local Property

Cases Docketed 11,089

Cases Reinstated 73

Judgments Entered 14,157

State Cases

Cases Docketed 74

Cases Reinstated 3

Judgments Entered 122

Pending Cases

Total Local Property Cases Pending 35,634

Total State Tax Cases Pending 279

Pending as of June 30, 2022 35,913

New Jersey Tax Court

The Tax Court Management Office accepts and processes cases submitted for filing, assigns local property and state tax cases, prepares calendars and judgments, responds to attorney and litigant inquiries and provides procedural guidance.

The 10 Tax Court judges hear appeals of tax decisions made by county boards of taxation. They also hear appeals on decisions made by the director of the Division of Taxation on such matters as state income, sales and business taxes, and homestead rebates. The Tax Court heard matters dealing with the following case types in Court Year 202-2022.

Statewide Case Types

CORPORATION BUSINESS	8
ESTATE TAX	1
GROSS INCOME	23
HOMESTEAD REBATE	3
INHERITANCE TAX	4
PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT	2
REALTY TRANSFER FEE	2
SALES AND USE	18
RESPONSIBLE PERSON	3
SCHOOL AID (TABLE OF EQUALIZATION VALUATION)	2
SENIOR FREEZE	2
TOBACCO PRODUCT WHOLESAL	2

Standing from left:
Judge Jonathan A. Orsen, Judge Mark Cimino, Judge Joseph M. Andresini, Judge Michael J. Gilmore and Judge Joan Bedrin Murray (not pictured Judge Joshua D. Novin).

Seated from left:
Judge Mary Siobhan Brennan, Judge Vito L. Bianco, Presiding Judge Mala Sundar, Judge Christine M. Nugent, and Judge Kathi F. Fiamingo.





Sussex County Court House

Sussex County Historic Courthouse



Trial Courts

Criminal Division

Civil Division

Family Division

Chancery Division

Municipal Division



Atlantic County Criminal Courts Complex

Criminal Division

The Criminal Practice Division is part of the Trial Court Services section of the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Criminal Practice consists of two major units: Pretrial Services and Criminal Court Services.

The primary function of the Criminal Practice Division is to provide support and assistance to all criminal division judges and staff in the vicinages through the development and implementation of operational standards and best practices, training, evaluation, monitoring and preparation of various statistical reports and manuals.

The Pretrial Services Unit oversees the statewide implementation of Criminal Justice Reform and provides support and training to the staff in the Pretrial Services Unit in each vicinage. The Criminal Court Services Unit is tasked with providing assistance regarding the general operation of the criminal trial courts.

Criminal Justice Reform

In a March 2022 report, the Administrative Office of the Courts reviewed data related to a number of defendants charged with Graves Act offenses as well as the rate of their detention, release, and rearrest, the Administrative Office of the Courts gathered an analyzed relevant data and issued a report in March 2022. The report concluded that judges in New Jersey were exercising their discretion to detain high-risk defendants and also release lower-risk defendants on non-monetary conditions. The greater the risk, the greater the rate of detention. Data showed that defendants charged with Graves Act offenses were being detained at more than twice the rate of other defendants charged on a complaint-warrant.

Jury Trials and Grand Jury Panels

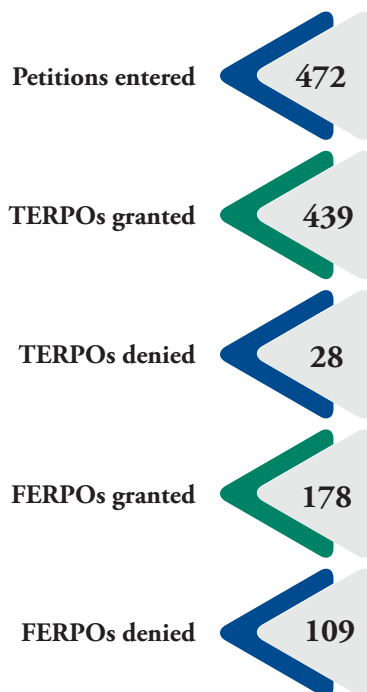
A March 18, 2022 Supreme Court order permitted jury selection for criminal trials to be held remotely and in person. The order established that the first phase of selection – where prospective jurors have an opportunity to request to be dismissed, excused, or deferred – will be conducted virtually, while potential jurors are required to report to the courthouse for the in-person exercise of peremptory challenges and for trial. Cases that involve detained defendants continue to receive the highest priority, under the Supreme Court order. With the reduction of social distancing requirements from 6 feet to 3 feet, the number of courtrooms large enough to support criminal jury trials more than doubled statewide. All grand jury panels began meeting in person as of April 15, 2022.

Extreme Risk Protective Orders

The Judiciary developed guidelines for Extreme Risk Protective Orders (ERPO), effective Sept. 1, 2019, which prohibit a person who poses an immediate and present danger of bodily injury to self or others from owning, purchasing, possessing, or receiving firearms or ammunition, or from securing or holding a firearms purchaser identification card, a permit to purchase a handgun, or a permit to carry a handgun. ERPOs are first considered for issuance on a temporary (TERPO) basis and then as a final order (FERPO).



Extreme Risk Protective Orders July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022





Passaic County Courthouse

Civil Division

The civil division coordinates the development and implementation of civil rules and improved court procedures and supports the local civil divisions in each vicinage.

The civil division of the Superior Court resolves cases of monetary damages ranging from small claims through complex commercial litigation. While the circumstances of each case are unique, the division has developed a series of best practices for each type of case to ensure statewide consistency and timely resolution for litigants. Litigants seeking damages of \$5,000 or less or for a return of a security deposit of \$5,000 or less file in Small Claims court where the goal for resolution is two months. Cases involving damages of \$20,000 or less are filed in the Special Civil Part, with a resolution goal of four months. Cases valued at more than \$20,000 are filed in the Civil Part of the law division and are to be resolved in 12 to 24 months, depending on their complexity. Tenancy cases are considered to be in backlog when they are not resolved in two months.

The civil division also handles cases with common characteristics such as large numbers of claims associated with a single product, mass disaster or complex environmental and toxic torts that are designated by the Supreme Court as multicounty litigation and assigned for centralized management in one of three counties: Atlantic, Bergen or Middlesex.

Complex Business Litigation Program

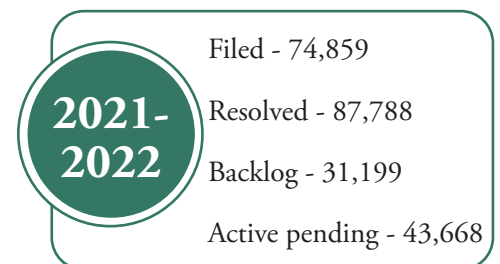
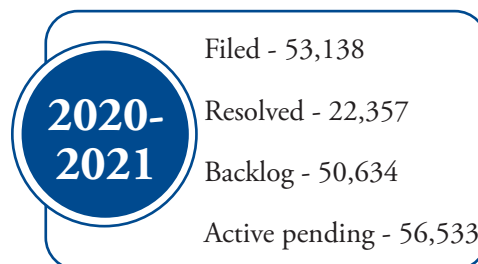
Under the Complex Business Litigation Program, judges with specialized training in business issues use their expertise to streamline and expedite commercial or construction cases that involve disputes of \$200,000 or more. This approach helps foster the development of case law that aids all parties in business litigation.

Special Civil Part

The Special Civil Part is comprised of three dockets: DC, Small Claims and Landlord Tenant. Actions by a landlord seeking to evict a tenant are filed in the Landlord Tenant section of the Special Civil Part.

In September 2021, the Judiciary instituted a series of steps to reform the residential landlord tenant process and allow for greater opportunities for the parties to work with trained staff to resolve disputes without a trial. The reforms addressed longstanding issues as well as pending and anticipated filings in landlord tenant matters which increased during the Covid-19 pandemic.

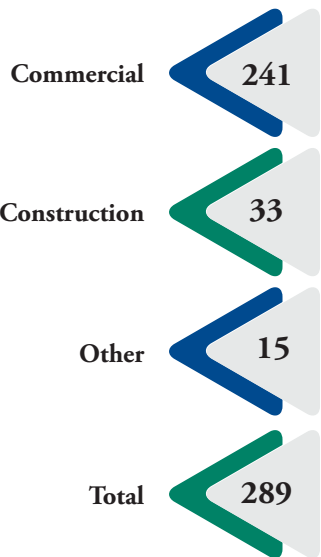
Tenancy Cases



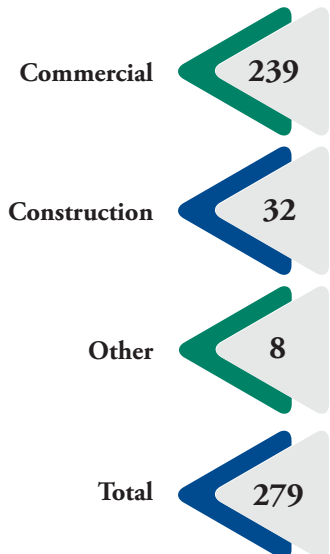
New Jersey Courts
September 17, 2021
Staff from the Ocean Vicinage were at the Sept. 9 Lacey Township Council Meeting to report on landlord tenant topics related to the court. Vicinage Civil Division Manager Stephanie Hudson addressed the council, providing information about local and statewide rental assistance options available to residents.



CBLP Statewide Cases Filed



CBLP Statewide Cases Resolved





MONMOUTH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Monmouth County Courthouse

Family Division

The primary function of the family division is to develop and implement policies, procedures and best practices in the vicinages and to support state-level committees to advance the goals of the Judiciary in family-related areas.

The family division provides an impartial forum for couples to resolve disputes including divorce, dissolution of civil unions, termination of domestic partnerships, child support, custody and visitation. The division also hears matters of domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, child abuse and neglect, termination of parental rights, adoption and kinship guardianship. The division strives to hear these matters quickly to provide important court protections such as restraining orders for victims of domestic violence, out-of-home placements for children in unsafe family situations, and orders protecting other vulnerable litigants. Judges and staff receive training in the emotional and cultural contexts that could complicate family cases as they work to meet the short time goals assigned to most family case types.



Number of new out-of-home placement cases (FC docket) by county in 2021 vs. 2020

COUNTY	2020	2021
Atlantic	137	124
Bergen	42	31
Burlington	95	92
Camden	304	267
Cape May	34	45
Cumberland	122	84
Essex	229	145
Gloucester	129	92
Hudson	108	70
Hunterdon	11	6
Mercer	154	74
Middlesex	118	90
Monmouth	71	70
Morris	32	28
Ocean	99	55
Passaic	120	111
Salem	61	30
Somerset	20	15
Sussex	35	13
Union	99	49
Warren	21	18
Total	2,041	1,509

Domestic Violence

In January 2022, the Supreme Court approved the revised Domestic Violence Procedures Manual. This manual, which provides comprehensive guidance on domestic violence procedures to the Judiciary and to law enforcement, was issued jointly with the Office of the Attorney General. The revised manual, which is posted on the Judiciary website, replaces the version that was promulgated in 2008. The revisions to the manual:

- Provide for immediate de novo hearings for the municipal court denial of a temporary restraining order.
- Established the Domestic Violence Economic Mediation Program to mediate economic issues in dissolution matters where there is an active domestic violence final restraining order between the parties.
- Established procedures for taking applications for temporary restraining orders remotely.
- Created a domestic violence form and instruction packet for victims who already have been granted a temporary restraining order to administratively amend their complaint for certain reasons.
- Implemented the use of a new form when the court accepts a plea in domestic violence contempt matters heard in the Superior Court, Family Division.

41,980
new domestic violence filings

6,396
reopened domestic violence cases

Children in Court

The Judiciary adopted the benchmark hearings protocol for children who are placed outside of their home by the state Division of Child Protection and Permanency. A benchmark hearing is a youth-centered event that enables older youth in placement to have a direct conversation with the judge to identify and develop strategies to ensure the youth's needs are addressed in a timely fashion. The youth and judge engage in a free-flowing conversation that results in the identification of specific measures to help the youth achieve their goals. The benchmark hearing gives the judge a chance to learn the child's desires, aspirations, and concerns for their future in a setting that is not a formal court hearing.



Bergen County Justice Center

Chancery Division

Cases in the chancery division, general equity, involve non-monetary disputes such as business dissolution issues, trade secrets, restrictive covenants, labor injunctions and mortgage and tax foreclosure actions. Cases in the chancery division, probate part, involve matters such as contested decedents' estates, trust actions, and guardianships of incapacitated adults. General equity and probate cases are heard without a jury by a specially assigned judge within the chancery division.

The Office of Foreclosure continues to review and recommend the entry of motions and judgments in accordance with established standards. All Covid-related stays in foreclosure have been lifted.

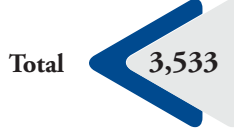
New Jersey Courts
October 28, 2021
Superior Court Judge James P. Savio of the Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage administered the oath of office and confidentiality today to new guardianship monitoring volunteer Sarah McElroy.



Probate Complaints



General Equity Complaints



Total Foreclosure Complaints



Total Foreclosure Judgments



Foreclosure Complaints by County (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)

County	Total
Atlantic	684
Bergen	510
Burlington	645
Camden	1,150
Cape May	145
Cumberland	345
Essex	938
Gloucester	468
Hudson	442
Hunterdon	121
Mercer	559
Middlesex	561
Monmouth	561
Morris	319
Ocean	781
Passaic	539
Salem	160
Somerset	212
Sussex	277
Union	417
Warren	150
Total	9,984



Burlington County Courts Facility

Municipal Division

The municipal courts in New Jersey are considered courts of limited jurisdiction, having responsibility for motor vehicle and parking tickets, minor criminal-type offenses, municipal ordinance offenses and other minor offenses. A municipal court usually has jurisdiction only over cases that occur within the boundaries of its municipality.

There were 4,932,193 cases filed, a 1 percent increase from the previous year. The municipal courts had a 98 percent clearance rate during Court Year 2022.

Municipal Court Reform

The Judiciary began a transition from almost all in-person court proceedings before the pandemic to an expansion of virtual proceedings. A Nov. 18, 2021 Supreme Court order gave municipal court judges discretion to determine whether to conduct court proceedings virtually or in person. However, trials in municipal matters involving a reasonable likelihood of a jail sentence or loss of suspension of license, and evidentiary hearings are still to be conducted in person.

Other key reforms enabled parties to resolve minor municipal matters without appearing in court. Rather than coming to a court facility, court users are now able to complete and submit a plea-by-mail form and participate in online dispute resolution.



Municipal Court Virtual Sessions Scheduled

2020 - 18,104
 2021 - 38,388
 2022 - 39,518
 Total - 96,010

Matters Resolved in Virtual Sessions

2020 - 337,295
 2021 - 805,858
 2022 - 691,873
 Total - 1,835,026

Defendants Scheduled in Virtual Sessions

2020 - 573,441
 2021 - 1,325,315
 2022 - 1,158,509
 Total - 3,057,265

Number of Defendants who Appeared Virtually

2020 - 292,313
 2021 - 672,748
 2022 - 589,282
 Total - 1,554,340

Defendant Appearance Rate

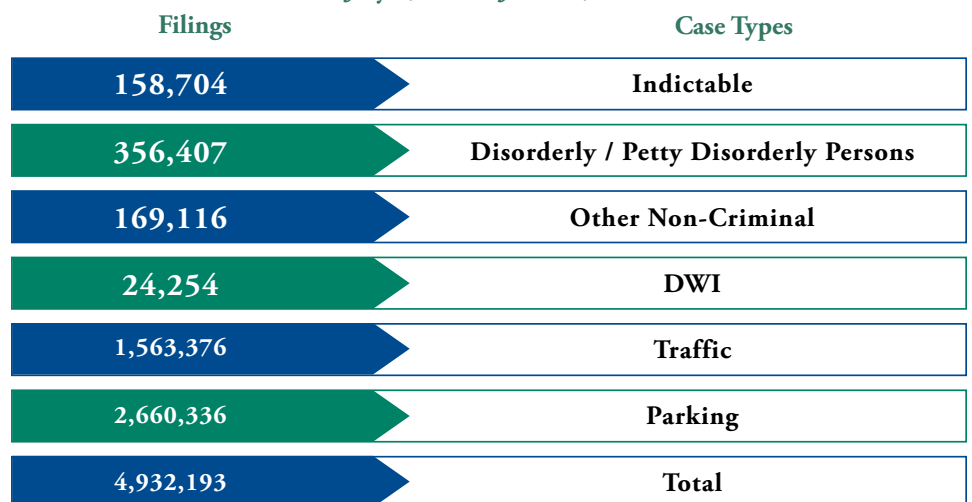
2020 - 51%
 2021 - 51%
 2022 - 51%

Resolution by Alternate Process

2020 - 60,228
 2021 - 127,820
 2022 - 100,156
 Total - 288,204

Municipal Court Filings by Case Type

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022





MARIA BARRY GREENWALD
CAMDEN COUNTY HALL OF JUSTICE
DEDICATED MAY 2017

Camden County Hall of Justice

Probation Services

The Office of Probation Services provides monitoring and enforcement of court orders from the Family, Criminal and Municipal courts and manages the Adult and Juvenile Intensive Supervision programs along with the drug court program.

\$24,223,393.64

total expected probation fees/fines

\$7,596,585.98

paid probation fees/fines

230,733

child support caseload as of June 2022

\$1,196,230,073

total child support collections

71.8%

current child support obligations collected for July 2021 to June 2022

The Office of Probation Services reached an important milestone. In September 2018, the New Jersey Judiciary began a year-long process to train probation division managers, assistant division managers, court services officers, probation officers, and Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) staff on Core Correctional Practices (CCP). CCP aims to reduce recidivism by focusing on teaching clients how to engage in long-term behavior change. As of Sept. 3, 2019, more than 1,100 staff have been trained through 44 CCP sessions.

Probation Services provides guidance and oversight to more than 1,900 probation officers across the state and includes critical programs such as Child Support Enforcement, the Comprehensive Enforcement Program, adult and juvenile supervision, the Interstate Compact, and the Intensive Supervision Program.

Child Support Enforcement Program

The Child Support Enforcement Unit seeks to promote the welfare and safety of children, families and communities through the enforcement of orders of support issued by the court. The 21 local divisions monitor and enforce more than 240,000 child support cases in New Jersey. The unit is responsible for the collection of child and spousal obligations, medical support, and alimony.

Intensive Supervision Program

The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) allows non-violent offenders to serve the remainder of their prison sentences under a highly structured form of community supervision that is more rigorous than traditional parole. Probation officers provide a high level of supervision to this carefully selected group of offenders who are approved by a panel of judges for release. ISP officers oversee many aspects of the participants' daily lives, including their living arrangements, employment, curfews, budgeting, and performance of community service. The program saved the state nearly \$21 million, or more than \$41,000 per participant, in Court Year 2021-22.

Recovery Court Program

The Recovery Court Unit focuses specifically on the advancement and operation of the recovery court in each vicinage. The Judiciary's recovery court program, which addresses non-violent, addicted offenders, requires completion of four phases of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and recovery, under court supervision. The New Jersey recovery court program started as a pilot in 2001 and expanded statewide the following year.



Judicial Conference on Jury Selection



The effort to improve New Jersey's jury selection process began in July 2021 with a unanimous state Supreme Court decision in State v. Andujar, which highlighted problems in the jury selection process.

The opinion called for a conference that brought together members of the New Jersey bar, national experts on jury selection, and chief justices from three other states that undertook jury reforms.

The Judicial Conference on Jury Selection, established and chaired by Chief Justice Stuart Rabner, examined ways to improve the jury selection process, with the goal of expanding jury pools and enhancing fairness in the selection process in New Jersey.

The committee brought together leaders of all three branches of government as well as other key stakeholders in the legal community.

The conference, held over two days in November 2021, examined implicit bias in jury selection, including the potential effects of the allotment and exercise of peremptory challenges on juries and juror experiences in criminal trials.

Panels addressed various topics, including the process of questioning jurors, juror pay, removing the permanent disqualification of people convicted of an indictable offense, further expanding the types of sources from which potential

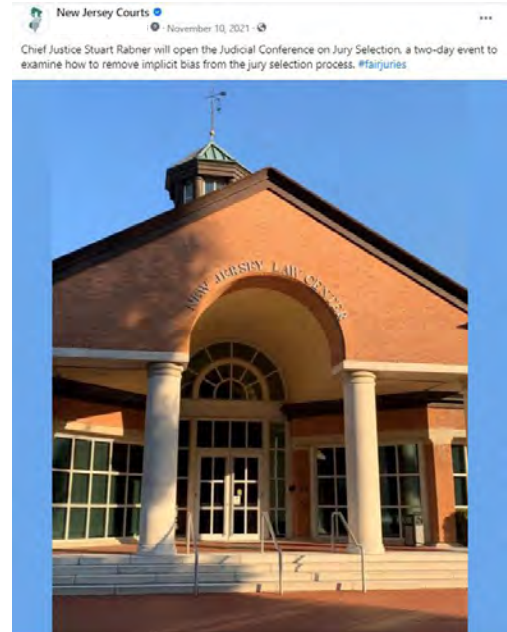
jurors are drawn, and other efforts to support diverse juries and juror impartiality.

The committee issued its report in April 2022 and listed 25 recommendations to be considered by the Supreme Court.

One of the key recommendations of the report is a proposed new court rule intended to reduce bias in the jury selection process. The proposal would change the way peremptory challenges are exercised. Other recommendations would:

- ask the Supreme Court to authorize a voluntary pilot program for criminal cases that shifts the questioning of jurors from judges to attorneys and includes a consent-based reduction in the number of peremptory challenges available to each party.
- adopt a one-day-or-one-trial term for petit jury service in most counties.
- add questions on race, ethnicity, and gender to the juror qualification questionnaire.

The report also recommends that the Legislature consider increasing juror compensation and explore restoring eligibility to serve on juries to individuals with certain prior criminal convictions.

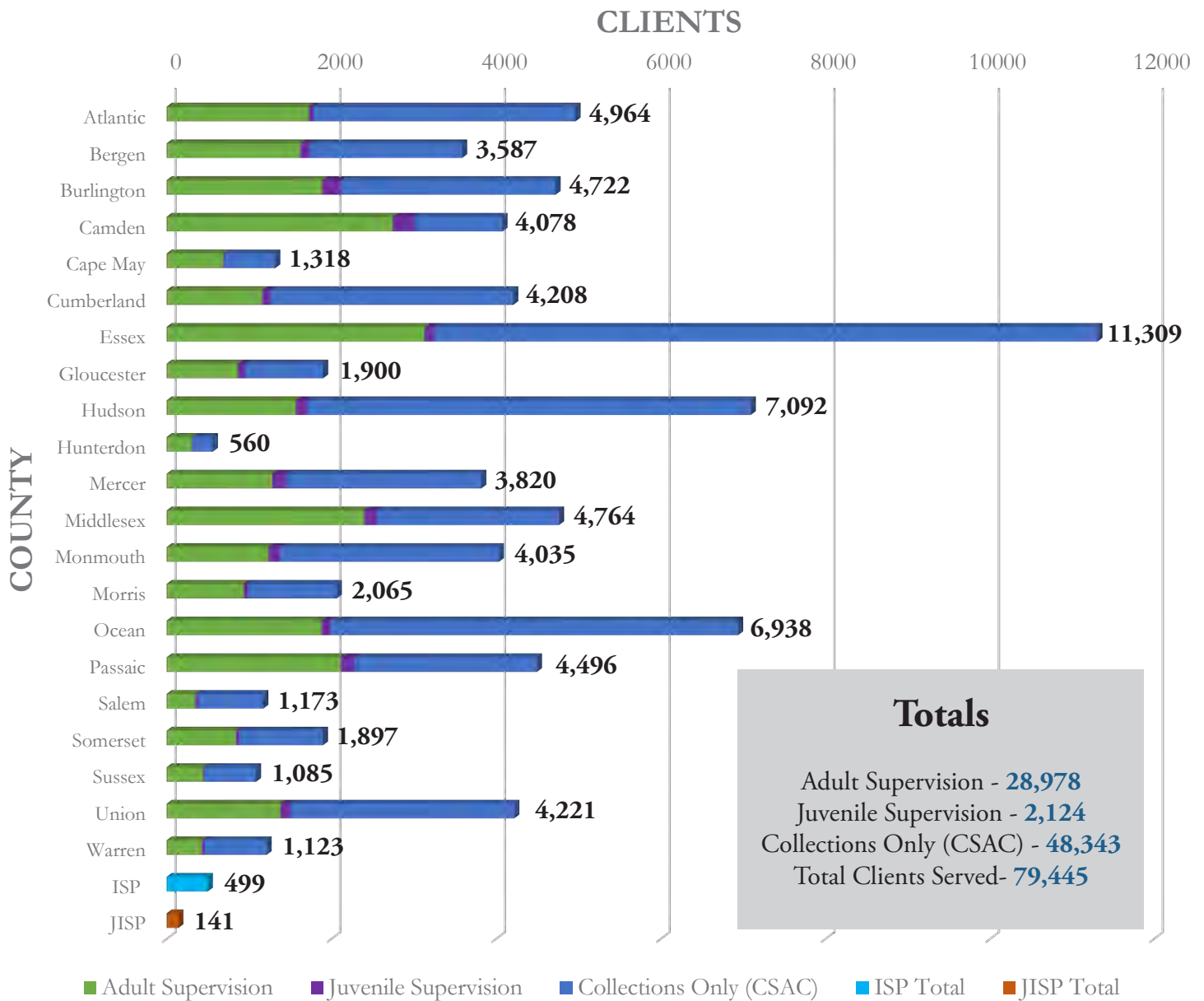




Sussex County Judicial Center

Probation Services by the Numbers

Court Year 2021 - 2022



Supervision

On June 30, 2022 probation services was actively supervising 28,978 adults and 2,124 juveniles statewide.

Field Work

Probation officers conducted 12,132 inspections and 33,093 visits of clients' homes during Court Year 2021-2022.

Community Service

Probation clients performed 306,687 hours of community service during Court Year 2021-2022.



Morris County Courthouse

Addressing the Needs of Society

The Judiciary oversees a number of initiatives that work to confront some of the most intractable problems facing society. Judiciary programs work to safeguard the assets of the elderly and the incapacitated, refer veterans to mental health counseling and other needed services, and respond to the needs of victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

Expungements

The New Jersey Judiciary expunged more than 362,000 marijuana and hashish cases from court records since the Marijuana Decriminalization Law became effective July 1, 2021. Eligible cases were expunged automatically by the Judiciary. Once a case is expunged, it is removed from the court's public record and does not have to be reported on applications for jobs, housing, or college admissions.

Cases with offenses eligible for expungement include certain marijuana or hashish charges alone or in combination with the following: possession of drug paraphernalia; use or being under the influence of a controlled, dangerous substance; and failure to make lawful disposition of a controlled, dangerous substance.

The Administrative Office of the Courts launched an awareness campaign on Sept. 20, 2021 to inform the public of the opportunities available through the Marijuana Decriminalization Law.

Recovery Court

New Jersey officially switched the name of drug court to recovery court Jan. 1, 2022 to better reflect the primary goal of the program. New Jersey's drug court program started as a pilot in 2001. The program, which addresses non-violent addicted offenders, requires completion of several phases of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and recovery.

This level of supervision permits the program to support the recovery process but also allows the team to react swiftly to impose appropriate therapeutic interventions or to reinstate criminal proceedings when participants do not comply with the program.

JOBS program

The Judiciary Opportunities for Building Success (JOBS) Program partners with local employers to provide employment and job training, as well as professional development, for recovery court graduates and for those who complete probation.

The program gives probation clients a second chance at rebuilding their lives while employers have the opportunity to support their local communities.

New Jersey Courts
November 15, 2021
The Camden Vicinage drug court program recently celebrated it's 25 anniversary.



New Jersey Courts
June 20, 2022
As part of the Judiciary Opportunities for Building Success (JOBS) program, the Bergen Vicinage held a hiring event last Wednesday in partnership with Amazon. The 15 probation clients who attended the event watched a half-hour presentation, which highlighted positions available at Amazon. After the presentation, clients applied for positions and were interviewed on site. Eight probation clients were offered positions on the spot.



New Jersey Courts
August 10, 2021
Here's another example of how the Judiciary's JOBS program is helping probation clients get a second chance.





Mercer County Civil Courthouse

Adoption Day

National Adoption Day, held annually on the third Saturday in November, allows the Judiciary to increase awareness of the number of children in foster care and to honor adoptive families throughout New Jersey. Although judges finalize adoptions throughout the year, vicinages join in the national celebration by conducting special events in November. The Judiciary works in partnership with the state Division of Child Protection and Permanency and county surrogates to facilitate adoptions.

The fall of 2021 saw a resurgence of Covid cases, prompting many vicinages to continue to hold adoption day ceremonies remotely. But Judiciary staff adapted by arranging for adoption proceedings to be conducted virtually and for gifts to be delivered to the families.

Naturalization Ceremony/Law Day Event

The Judiciary holds naturalization ceremonies several times a year, including on Law Day in May, to administer the Oath of Citizenship to new U.S. citizens. While public ceremonies were put on hold in 2020 because of the Covid pandemic, the Judiciary resumed in-person ceremonies this court year.

One Judge, One School program

The vicinages continued their interactions with local schools in Court Year 2021-2022 through the One Judge/One School Program, which provides thousands of students with insights into the workings of New Jersey's court system. Through the program, judges visit schools or students visit courthouses to learn more about how the Judiciary operates. After Covid required these sessions to be remote, in-person visits resumed this court year.

Landlord Tenant

The Judiciary implemented some temporary modifications for cases affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Beginning in August 2021, the Judiciary allowed for the adjournment of eviction cases in residential landlord tenant matters while financial assistance applications were pending. An adjournment of 60 was granted in residential non-payment of rent cases where parties provided documentation that an application for rental assistance was submitted. Following the provisions of new legislation, courts dismissed certain cases if a tenant filed a certification, promulgated by the state Department of Community Affairs, with the court. Courts processed complaints to pursue the collection of unpaid rent that accrued from March 1, 2020 through Aug. 31, 2021.

Throughout the year, the Judiciary continued to work to connect landlords and tenants rental assistance resources to resolve matters without trial.





WARREN COUNTY

COURT HOUSE

Warren County Courthouse

Reduction of Gun Violence Initiative

The Judiciary’s Reduction of Gun Violence Initiative is a combined effort of the courts, community stakeholders and resource providers to address reducing gun violence and other weapon-related violence committed by those on probation. The initiative is designed to encourage positive behavioral change using evidence-based practices.

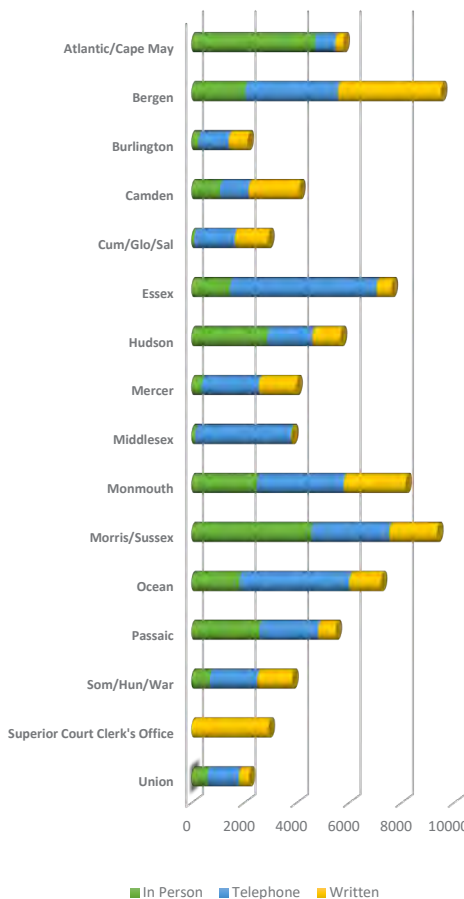
Ten of the Judiciary’s 15 vicinages are participating in the initiative, which serves those on probation supervision who are at moderate to high risk of reoffending and who have a current, weapon-related offense. The participating vicinages are Atlantic/Cape May, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Passaic and Union.

Ombudsman Program

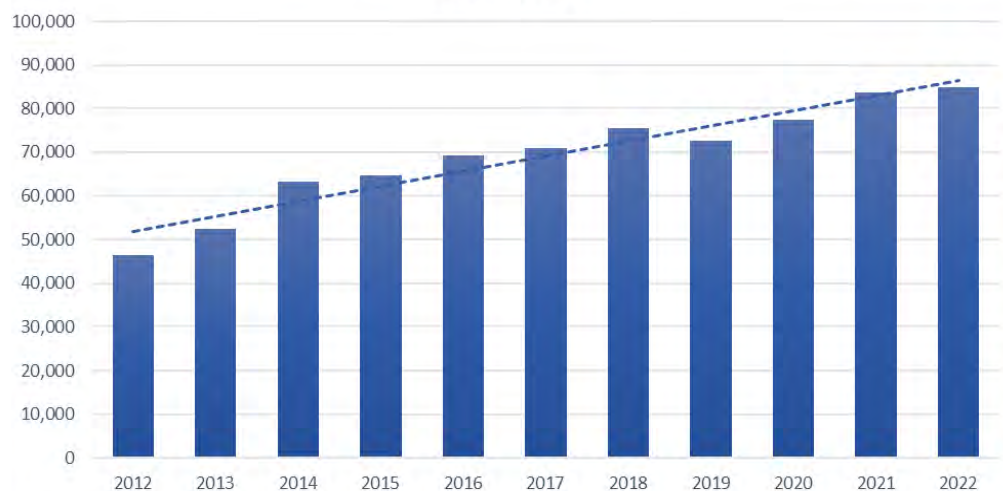
The Judiciary Ombudsman Program provides a variety of services to meet the expectations of court users, who are increasingly composed of self-represented litigants. Judiciary ombudsmen provided an invaluable continuity of service throughout the year, despite the numerous challenges involved in remote operations statewide and pivoting back to in-person service.

Ombudsmen continued to provide much-needed assistance to the public, ensuring the “open door to justice” that is the goal of the court’s commitment to the principles of access and fairness.

Ombudsman Mode of Contact 2022



Statewide Ombudsman Contact 10-Year Trend July 2021 - June 2022





Middlesex County Family Courthouse

Access and Fairness in the Courts

The Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Access and Fairness ensures that the Judiciary, as an institution, embraces access and fairness as an integral part of its core values. The work of the committee helps set the tone for the operation of the Judiciary for the future.

Supreme Court Action Plan for Ensuring Equal Justice

The Supreme Court began implementing a new series of initiatives designed to support fairness and equity within New Jersey's court system as outlined in nine new reforms in the 2021 Action Plan for Ensuring Equal Justice.

The reforms are designed to improve equity for people of color, as well as for persons affected by mental health conditions, addiction, and the challenges associated with poverty. The new plan includes initiatives that would:

- support employment and job training opportunities for clients and graduates of Judiciary drug court and probation programs.
- improve procedural safeguards for individuals with mental health challenges who come into contact with the justice system.
- expand access to legal representation at all levels of the courts.
- require implicit bias training for all state court employees.

The announcement came one year after the Court issued its inaugural Action Plan for Ensuring Equal Justice, which identified nine items aimed at eliminating disparities within the court system and removing institutional obstacles to justice.

Supreme Court Committee to Analyze Duration of Disbarment

The Supreme Court established a 28-member committee to analyze whether New Jersey should establish a process allowing disbarred attorneys to apply for reinstatement. In its June 2022 opinion in IMO Wade, the Court reaffirmed the longstanding rule for automatic disbarment of attorneys who knowingly misappropriate client or escrow funds.

In its decision, the Court called for the formation of a committee to consider whether disbarred attorneys should be given a second chance to practice law, and to examine what process and timeframe, if any, should be adopted for readmission.

Supreme Court Committee on Women in the Courts

The Supreme Court Committee on Women in the Courts marked the 40th anniversary of its creation as a task force “to investigate the extent to which gender bias exists in the New Jersey judicial branch and to develop an education program [for the 1983 New Jersey Judicial College] to eliminate any such bias.”





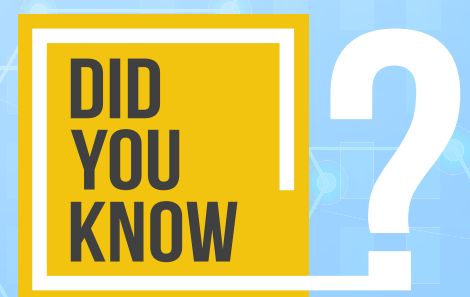
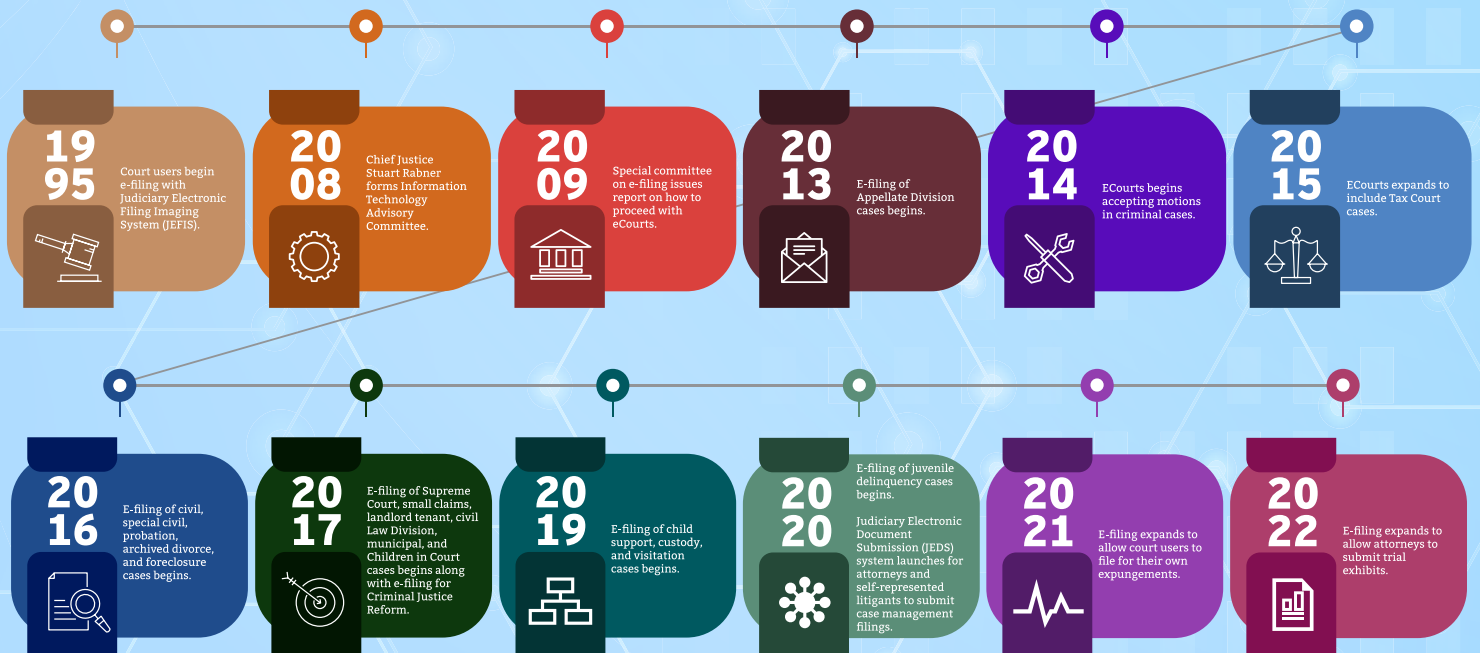
Hunterdon County Courthouse

eCourts

Over nearly 40 years, the New Jersey Judiciary has built one of the most comprehensive judicial information systems in the country. Every court case type is automated. The automated systems establish the official court records and dockets for more than 7 million cases per year. The Judiciary has incorporated legislative and court rule changes, interacted with law enforcement and other government agencies, and enabled the legal community, media and many others to access its information online.

The year 1985 marked the beginning of the Judiciary’s transition from an organization that relied heavily on paper to one that will soon become entirely paperless, resulting in time and cost savings by streamlining resources.

History of eCourts





OCEAN COUNTY
1850
COURT HOUSE

Ocean County Courthouse

New Jersey Court News

Judicial Retirements

Members of the Supreme Court gave fond farewells to two of their colleagues who left the Court after reaching the mandatory retirement age. Justice Faustino Fernandez-Vina retired in February 2022 after nine years on the state's highest court, and Justice Barry T. Albin retires in July 2022 after nearly 20 years with the Supreme Court.

Chief Justice Gives Keynote to Recent Graduates

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner gave the keynote address to the graduates of Rutgers Law School – Camden on May 18, 2022.

Courthouses are Open to the Public Post-Covid

State courthouses, which had been closed to the public since March 2020 because of the Covid pandemic, opened to the public on Aug. 2, 2021. New Jersey courts were open for business throughout the pandemic.

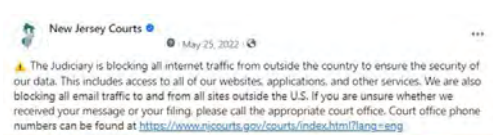
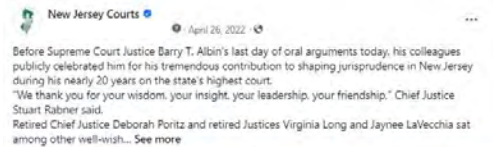
National Cybersecurity Update

Based on guidance from the federal government and state cybersecurity officials, the Judiciary began temporarily blocking all internet traffic from outside the country to ensure the security of its data on May 23, 2022. This includes access to all Judiciary websites, applications, and other services. The Judiciary also blocked all email traffic to and from all sites outside the U.S.

Centralized Municipal Courts in Atlantic County

The Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage and Atlantic County officials held a dedication ceremony on May 4, 2022 for the new Central Municipal Court of Atlantic County. The court is the first of its kind in New Jersey and is comprised of nine towns. The three courtrooms were dedicated to retired Assignment Judge Julio L. Mendez, retired Superior Court Judge Valerie H. Armstrong, and the late Superior Court Judge Herbert S. Jacobs.

Judicial Appointments



Effective Sept. 1, 2021



Effective Jan. 13, 2022



Effective March 1, 2022



Kevin M. Shanahan, Assignment Judge, Somerset / Hunterdon / Warren Vicinage

Michael J. Blee, Assignment Judge, Atlantic / Cape May Vicinage



Cumberland County Courthouse

CUMBERLAND
COUNTY
COURT HOUSE

Judicial Council

as of June 2022



Stuart Rabner
Chief Justice



Glenn A. Grant
Administrative Director of the Courts



Michael J. Blee
Assignment Judge
Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage



Bonnie J. Mizdol
Assignment Judge
Bergen Vicinage



Jeanne T. Covert
Assignment Judge
Burlington Vicinage



Deborah Silverman Katz
Assignment Judge
Camden Vicinage



Sheila A. Venable
Assignment Judge
Essex Vicinage



Jeffrey R. Jablonski
Assignment Judge
Hudson Vicinage



Robert T. Lougy
Assignment Judge
Mercer Vicinage



Michael A. Toto
Assignment Judge
Middlesex Vicinage



Lisa P. Thornton
Assignment Judge
Monmouth Vicinage



Stuart A. Minkowitz
Assignment Judge
Morris/Sussex Vicinage



Ernest M. Caposela
Assignment Judge
Passaic Vicinage



Lisa Miralles Walsh
Assignment Judge
Union Vicinage



Kevin M. Shanahan
Assignment Judge
Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage



Marlene Lynch Ford
Assignment Judge
Ocean Vicinage



Benjamin C. Telsey
Assignment Judge
Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem Vicinage



Carmen Messano
Appellate Division Chief Judge



Joseph L. Marczyk
Civil Presiding Judge
Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage



Edward J. McBride Jr.
Criminal Presiding Judge
Camden Vicinage



Madelin F. Einbinder
Family Presiding Judge
Ocean Vicinage



Maritza Berdote Byrne
General Equity Presiding Judge
Morris/Sussex Vicinage



Supreme Court Conference Room

Judges and Justices

as of June 30, 2022

Superior Court

***Appellate Division**

Carlo Abad
Thomas P. Abode
Allison E. Accurso*
Gregory L. Acquaviva
Stacey D. Adams
Yolanda Adrianzen
Lisa M. Adubato
Kalimah H. Ahmad
Aravind Aithal
Mark S. Ali
Veronica Allende
M. Christine Allen-Jackson
Jodi Lee Alper
Craig A. Ambrose
Ralph E. Amirata
William Anklowitz
Michael Antoniewicz
Patrick J. Arre
Lorraine M. Augostini
Rahat N. Babar
Mark A. Baber
Keith A. Bachmann
Robert A. Ballard Jr.
Patrick J. Bartels
Arthur J. Batista
David F. Bauman
Jeffrey B. Beacham
Robert P. Becker Jr.
Aimee R. Belgard
Avion M. Benjamin
Scott J. Bennion
Maritza Berdote Byrne
Stanley L. Bergman Jr.
Daniel A. Bernardin
Michael N. Beukas
Supti Bhattacharya
Robert W. Bingham II
Avis Bishop-Thompson
Michael J. Blee
Gwendolyn Blue
Peter A. Bogaard
Thomas T. Booth Jr.
Stacey K. Boretz
Angela Borkowski
Jodi F. Bouer
Patrick J. Bradshaw

Gerard H. Breland
Robert E. Brenner
Thomas F. Brogan
Daniel H. Brown
Marc R. Brown
Benjamin, S. Bucca Jr.
James Bucci
Thomas J. Buck
Bruce D. Buechler
John J. Burke III
Bradford M. Bury
Henry P. Butehorn
Chad N. Cagan
Thomas A. Callahan Jr.
Ernest M. Caposela
Andrea G. Carter
Regina Caulfield
Stevie D. Chambers
Judith S. Charny
Mark K. Chase
Timothy W. Chell
Jean S. Chetney
Joseph M. Chiarello
Randal C. Chiocca
Mark P. Ciarrocca
Vicki A. Citrino
Joanne Cocchiola
Michael T. Collins
Rosalba L. Comas
Terrence R. Cook
Jorge F. Coombs
J. Randall Corman
Craig L. Corson
Mary K. Costello
Gerald J. Council
Frank Covello
Jeanne T. Covert
Michael V. Cresitello Jr.
Jennifer C. Critchley
Martin G. Cronin
Rodney Cunningham
Therese A. Cunningham
Heidi Willis Currier
H. Matthew Curry
Angela White Dalton
Pamela D'Arcy

Cristen P. D'Arrigo
Miguel A. De La Carrera
Patrick DeAlmeida*
Frank J. DeAngelis
Philip James Degnan
John M. Deitch
Kathleen M. Delaney
Anthony V. D'Elia
Darren J. Delsardo
James J. Deluca
Bernard E. Delury Jr.
James M. DeMarzo
James Den Uyl
Amy K. Depaul
Bina K. Desai
Darren T. DiBiasi
Lara K. DiFabrizio
Francisco Dominguez
John M. Doran
Charles W. Dortch Jr.
Paula T. Dow
John C. Eastlack Jr.
Madelin F. Einbinder
Brian M. English
Richard W. English
Catherine I. Enright*
Paul X. Escandon
Kimberly Espinales-Maloney
Linda W. Eynon
Vincent N. Falcetano Jr.
Douglas M. Fasciale*
James D. Fattorini
James J. Ferrelli
Eric G. Fikry
Rudolph A. Filko
Lisa A. Firko*
Clarkson S. Fisher Jr.*
Colleen M. Flynn
Marlene Lynch Ford
Wayne J. Forrest
Margaret M. Foti
Magali M. Francois
Noah Franzblau
Sander D. Friedman
Lisa Perez Friscia
Jose L. Fuentes*

Karina D. Fuentes
 Harold W. Fullilove Jr.
 Mitzy Galis-Menendez
 Jane Gallina Mecca
 George H. Gangloff Jr.
 Robert H. Gardner
 Christopher J. Garrenger
 Michael C. Gaus
 Peter G. Geiger
 Richard J. Geiger*
 J. Christopher Gibson
 Robert J. Gilson*
 Rochelle Gizinski
 John I. Gizzo
 Greta Gooden Brown*
 Margaret Goodzeit
 Dara A. Govan
 Lori Ellen Grifa
 Nora J. Grimbergen
 James J. Guida
 Katie A. Gummer*
 Angela Gunter Foster
 Michael J. Haas*
 Deborah S. Hanlon-Schron
 Robert M. Hanna
 Rachelle Lea Harz
 Melinda Hawkins Taylor
 Richard L. Hertzberg
 Kerry Ellen Higgins
 Francis Hodgson Jr.
 Edward W. Hoffman
 Richard S. Hoffman*
 John G. Hudak
 J. Adam Hughes
 Douglas H. Hurd
 Linda Ann Hynes
 Dorothy Incarvito-Garrabrant
 David H. Ironson
 Thomas K. Isenhour
 Jeffrey R. Jablonski
 Adam E. Jacobs
 Lisa James-Beavers
 Mark T. Janeczko
 Latoyia K. Jenkins
 Edward A. Jerejian
 Michael A. Jimenez
 Pedro J. Jimenez Jr.
 Sarah Beth Johnson
 Harold U. Johnson Jr.
 Claudia R. Jones
 Linda Grasso Jones
 Robert J. Jones Jr.
 John A. Jorgensen II
 Michael E. Joyce
 Bruce J. Kaplan
 Imre Karaszegi Jr.
 Michael J. Kassel
 David B. Katz
 Christopher R. Kazlau
 John S. Kennedy
 Honora O'Brien Kilgallen
 Robert Kirsch
 Teresa A. Kondrup-Coyle
 Kurt Kramer
 Mary Beth Kramer
 Linda L. Lawhun
 Verna G. Leath
 Marc C. Lemieux
 Alan G. Lesnewich
 Joseph A. Levin
 Daniel R. Lindemann
 Alvin R. Little
 Robert T. Lougy
 Lourdes Lucas
 Timothy P. Lydon
 Martha D. Lynes
 Keith E. Lynott
 Robert E. Lytle
 Colleen A. Maier
 Martha T. Mainor
 Robert G. Malestein
 Maureen B. Mantineo
 Janetta D. Marbrey
 Joseph L. Marczyk
 Julie M. Marino
 Margaret M. Marley
 Lawrence M. Maron
 Andrea I. Marshall
 Anthony M. Massi
 Hany A. Mawla*
 Jessica R. Mayer*
 Edward J. McBride Jr.
 Owen C. McCarthy
 James P. McClain
 Thomas D. McCloskey
 John P. McDonald
 William J. McGovern III
 Frances A. McGrogan
 Brian McLaughlin
 Marcy McMann
 Jaclyn V. Medina
 Robert J. Mega
 Peter J. Melchionne
 William G. Mennen
 Marybel Mercado-Ramirez
 Carmen Messano*
 Vincent J. Militello
 W. Todd Miller
 Stuart A. Minkowitz
 Stephanie Ann Mitterhoff*
 Bonnie J. Mizdol
 Sohail Mohammed
 Joseph G. Monaghan
 Thomas M. Moore
 Benjamin D. Morgan
 Valter H. Must
 David V. Nasta
 Arnold L. Natali Jr.*
 Steven F. Nemeth
 Justine A. Niccollai
 Dennis V. Nieves
 Paul D. Nieves
 Richard J. Nocella
 Carol V. Novey Catuogno
 Maryann C. O'Brien
 Patricia O'Dowd
 John D. O'Dwyer
 Jill G. O'Malley
 Michael F. O'Neill
 Christine S. Orlando
 Michael R. Ostrowski Jr.
 Joseph W. Oxley
 Gregg A. Padovano
 James R. Paganelli
 Kenneth T. Palmer
 Joseph Paone
 Mitchell L. Pascual
 Russell J. Passamano
 Vijayant Pawar
 Michelle Perry-Thompson
 Stephen L. Petrillo
 James H. Pickering
 Sheree V. Pitchford
 Benjamin Podolnick
 Steven J. Polansky
 Joseph A. Portelli
 John C. Porto
 Gary Potters
 Anthony M. Pugliese
 Lisa A. Puglisi
 Kathy C. Qasim
 Joseph P. Quinn
 Christopher D. Rafano
 David M. Ragonese
 Samuel J. Ragonese Jr.
 Kimarie Rahill
 Rosemary E. Ramsay
 John R. Rauh
 Michael L. Ravin
 Joseph L. Rea
 Nina C. Remson
 Nancy L. Ridgway
 Alberto Rivas
 Daniel Roberts
 Nesle A. Rodriguez
 Yolanda C. Rodriguez
 Candido Rodriguez Jr.
 Jonathan W. Romankow
 Christopher S. Romanyshyn
 Lisa Rose*
 Jodi L. Rosenberg
 Marysol Rosero
 Garry S. Rothstadt*
 Gregg R. Rubenstein
 Scott T. Rumana
 Aldo J. Russo
 Guy P. Ryan
 Jack M. Sabatino*
 Joshua D. Sanders
 Cynthia Santomauro

James X. Sattely
Reema Y. Scaramella
Steven P. Scheffler
Tara Schillari Rich
Sherri L. Schweitzer
Annette Scoca
Angelo Servidio
Kevin M. Shanahan
Kathleen A. Sheedy
M. Susan Sheppard
Mark B. Shoemaker
Thomas J. Shusted Jr.
Michael J. Silvanio
Deborah Silverman Katz
Glenn C. Slavin
Christine Smith
Kevin T. Smith
Morris G. Smith*
Pamela M. Snyder
L. Grace Spencer
Robin J. Stacy
Barbara J. Stanton
Bridget A. Stecher
Donald J. Stein
Mitchell I. Steinhart
Barbara C. Stolte
Haekyoung Suh
Richard T. Sules
Andrea Sullivan
Thomas W. Sumners Jr.*
Ronald Susswein*
James R. Swift
Mark P. Tarantino
Mayra V. Tarantino
Donna M. Taylor
Heather V. Taylor
Stephen J. Taylor
Siobhan A. Teare
Benjamin C. Telsey
Rodney Thompson
Lisa P. Thornton
Mary F. Thurber
Peter J. Tober
Ellen Torregrossa-O'Connor
Michael A. Toto
Mark A. Troncone
Christopher M. Troxell
Joseph A. Turula
Christine M. Vanek
Radames Velazquez Jr.
Thomas R. Vena
Sheila Ann Venable
Deborah J. Venezia
Francis J. Vernioia*
Dina M. Vicari
Lisa M. Vignuolo
Jose Vilarino
Robert M. Vinci
Ana C. Viscomi
Danielle Walcoff

Kay Walcott-Henderson
Jeffrey J. Waldman
Thomas J. Walls Jr.
Lisa M. Walsh
Thomas J. Walsh
Peter E. Warshaw
David J. Weaver
Craig L. Wellerson
Mary Gibbons Whipple*
Brian C. White
Ronald D. Wigler
Gary N. Wilcox
James P. Wilson
Marcella Matos Wilson
Robert C. Wilson
Robert G. Wilson
Sherry L. Wilson
Richard C. Wischusen
Gary D. Wodlinger
Russell Wojtenko Jr.
Gary K. Wolinetz
Carolyn E. Wright
Michael Paul Wright
Daniel J. Yablonsky
John A. Young Jr.
Mara Zazzali-Hogan
William F. Ziegler
John Zunic

Supreme Court

Stuart Rabner
Barry T. Albin
Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina
Jaynee LaVecchia
Anne M. Patterson
Lee A. Solomon
Fabiana Pierre-Loius

Tax Court

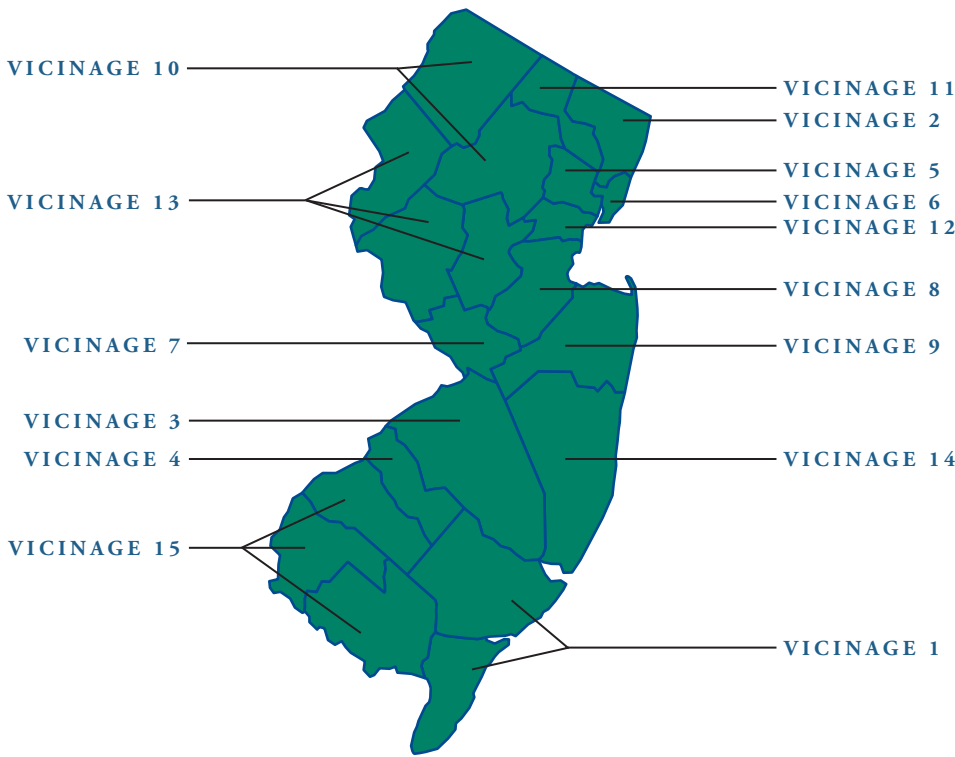
Mala Sundar
Vito L. Bianco
Mary Siobhan Brennan
Mark Cimino
Kathi F. Fiamingo
Michael J. Gilmore
Joan Bedrin Murray
Joshua D. Novin
Christine M. Nugent
Jonathan A. Orsen

Trial Court Filings, Resolutions and Backlog by Division

	Filings			Resolutions			Inventory (Active Cases Pending Within Time Goals)			Backlog (Active Cases Pending Over Time Goals)		
	July 2020 to June 2021	July 2021 to June 2022	percent change	July 2020 to June 2021	July 2021 to June 2022	percent change	June 2021	June 2022	percent change	June 2021	June 2022	percent change
	Criminal Division Indictable Cases	24,179	38,235	58%	21,976	32,006	46%	6,763	7,730	14%	8,497	12,497
Municipal Appeals	192	272	42%	260	253	-3%	59	72	22%	53	65	23%
Post-Conviction Relief	387	417	8%	438	420	-4%	300	313	4%	184	168	-9%
General Equity Total	3,323	3,533	6%	3,706	3,187	-14%	1,356	1,565	15%	249	336	35%
Contested Foreclosure	823	882	7%	1,253	672	-46%	271	419	55%	47	65	-38%
Equity (excluding foreclosure)	2,500	2,651	6%	2,453	2,515	3%	1,085	1,146	6%	202	271	34%
Civil Division Civil - Total	75,675	68,057	-10%	69,051	76,252	10%	67,120	59,227	-12%	30,545	30,198	-1%
Multi-County Litigation	3,467	2,474	-29%	2,366	2,559	8%	5,206	5,237	1%	10,134	10,064	1%
Non Multi-County Litigation	72,208	65,583	-9%	66,685	73,693	11%	61,914	53,990	-13%	20,411	20,134	-1%
Special Civil - Total	239,167	243,209	2%	199,767	260,968	31%	30,053	34,260	14%	55,024	33,535	39%
Special Civil - Auto	1,831	1,860	2%	1,975	1,873	-5%	258	306	19%	129	78	-40%
Special Civil - Contract	170,429	150,476	-12%	161,962	154,067	-5%	22,123	19,655	-11%	1,871	1,133	-39%
Special Civil - Other	4,530	4,156	-8%	4,772	4,428	-7%	866	693	-20%	264	169	-36%
Special Civil - Small Claims	9,239	11,858	28%	8,701	12,812	47%	907	1,137	25%	2,126	956	-55%
Special Civil - Tenancy	53,138	74,859	41%	22,357	87,788	293%	5,899	12,469	111%	50,634	31,199	-38%
Probate	6,214	6,531	5%	5,800	6,557	13%	2,061	2,043	-1%	152	153	1%
Family Division Dissolution	43,303	43,498	0%	39,519	42,970	9%	18,767	18,658	-1%	2,866	3,465	21%
Delinquency	11,741	10,834	-8%	12,724	10,351	-19%	1,107	1,599	44%	651	804	24%
Non-Dissolution	50,322	61,698	23%	49,453	57,240	16%	4,614	6,845	48%	1,394	3,524	153%
Domestic Violence	40,994	48,376	18%	41,044	48,412	18%	2,193	2,187	0%	991	938	-5%
Abuse / Neglect	2,370	2,117	-11%	2,813	2,515	-11%	2,766	2,368	-14%	65	53	-18%
Adoption	1,473	1,520	3%	1,432	1,518	6%	361	364	1%			
Child Placement Review	1,654	1,552	-6%	2,291	2,165	-5%	3,989	3,388	-15%	22	21	-5%
Juvenile / Family Crisis	134	100	-25%	133	101	-24%	7	3	-57%	4	8	100%
Kinship	322	411	28%	347	376	8%	47	76	62%	0	6	
Termination of Parental Rights	557	458	-18%	539	581	8%	215	169	-21%	211	130	-38%
Criminal / Quasi-Criminal	6,830	8,417	23%	6,288	8,751	39%	1,064	1,049	-1%	695	341	-51%
Total	508,837	539,235	6%	457,581	554,623	21%	142,842	141,916	-1%	101,603	86,242	-15%
Multi-County Litigation	3,467	2,474	-29%	2,366	2,559	8%	5,206	5,237	1%	10,134	10,064	1%
Non Multi-County Litigation	505,370	536,761	6%	455,215	552,064	21%	137,636	136,679	-1%	91,469	76,178	-17%

Trial Court Filings, Resolutions and Backlog by County

	Filings			Resolutions			Inventory (Active Cases Pending Within Time Goals)			Backlog (Active Cases Pending Over Time Goals)		
	July 2020 to June 2021	July 2021 to June 2022	percent change	July 2020 to June 2021	July 2021 to June 2022	percent change	June 2021	June 2022	percent change	June 2021	June 2022	percent change
	Atlantic County Total	23,776	26,260	10%	20,191	26,638	32%	8,384	9,023	8%	5,316	4,179
Multi-County Litigation	1,862	1,505	-19%	277	69	-75%	2,624	3,340	27%	1,213	1,972	63%
Non Multi-County Litigation	21,914	24,755	13%	19,914	26,569	33%	5,760	5,683	-1%	4,103	2,207	-46%
Bergen County Total	44,558	43,921	-1%	41,213	49,145	19%	13,280	12,533	-6%	10,925	6,789	-38%
Multi-County Litigation	612	668	9%	1,415	1,378	-3%	839	1,014	21%	4,601	3,719	-19%
Non-Multicounty Litigation	43,946	43,253	-2%	39,798	47,767	20%	12,441	11,519	-7%	6,324	3,070	-51%
Burlington County	26,625	29,379	10%	25,250	30,066	19%	6,156	6,158	0%	1,826	895	-51%
Camden County	40,128	43,372	8%	36,048	45,516	26%	10,048	9,827	-2%	7,254	5,257	-28%
Cape May County	6,549	6,641	1%	5,813	7,030	21%	1,507	1,376	-9%	722	390	-46%
Cumberland County	12,330	13,925	13%	11,281	14,517	29%	2,653	2,697	2%	1,770	1,091	-38%
Essex County	65,523	69,061	5%	53,151	66,327	25%	20,140	20,173	0%	23,356	25,979	11%
Gloucester County	17,179	17,925	4%	16,026	18,507	15%	3,870	3,845	-1%	1,725	1,157	-33%
Hudson County	38,881	39,299	1%	33,873	40,093	18%	10,375	9,781	-6%	7,868	7,433	-6%
Hunterdon County	4,352	4,214	-3%	4,115	4,366	6%	1,036	1,007	-3%	255	238	-7%
Mercer County	21,005	24,102	15%	19,722	24,779	26%	5,646	5,588	-1%	3,264	2,606	-20%
Middlesex County Total	42,922	43,852	2%	38,977	47,204	21%	14,741	13,473	-9%	12,371	10,137	-18%
Multi-County Litigation	993	301	-70%	674	1,112	65%	1,743	883	-49%	4,320	4,373	1%
Non Multi-County Litigation	41,929	43,551	4%	38,303	46,092	20%	12,998	12,590	-3%	8,051	5,764	-28%
Monmouth County	28,534	29,358	3%	26,280	30,945	18%	8,371	8,218	-2%	3,883	2,448	-37%
Morris County	17,217	18,162	5%	15,987	18,539	16%	5,031	5,086	1%	2,150	1,724	-20%
Ocean County	28,725	30,289	5%	27,454	31,718	16%	7,059	7,064	0%	3,421	1,974	-42%
Passaic County	30,608	33,374	9%	26,215	31,328	20%	8,634	9,226	7%	7,687	9,068	18%
Salem County	5,074	5,517	9%	4,482	5,644	26%	1,036	1,113	7%	662	468	-29%
Somerset County	12,796	12,851	0%	11,906	13,244	11%	3,401	3,440	1%	1,464	1,003	-31%
Sussex County	6,347	6,968	10%	6,043	7,023	16%	1,462	1,584	8%	607	433	-29%
Union County	30,097	34,396	14%	28,241	35,641	26%	8,929	9,500	6%	4,627	2,647	-43%
Warren County	5,611	6,396	14%	5,313	6,354	20%	1,083	1,204	11%	450	326	-28%
Total	508,837	539,235	6%	457,581	554,623	21%	142,842	141,916	-1%	101,603	86,242	-15%
Multi-County Litigation	3,467	2,474	-29%	2,366	2,559	8%	5,206	5,237	1%	10,134	10,064	1%
Non Multi-County Litigation	505,370	536,761	6%	455,215	552,064	21%	137,636	136,679	-1%	91,469	76,178	-17%



Vicinage Map

There is a Superior Court in each of New Jersey's 21 counties. The Superior Courts are grouped into 15 court districts called vicinages.

Vicinage comes from the Latin word *vicinus*, which means vicinity, neighborhood or district.

Below is a list of New Jersey's Superior Court vicinages including their Assignment Judge and Trial Court Administrator.

Atlantic/Cape May

Vicinage 1

Michael J. Blee

Assignment Judge

Howard H. Berchtold Jr.

Trial Court Administrator

Hudson

Vicinage 6

Jeffrey R. Jablonski

Assignment Judge

Marie L. Keevan

Trial Court Administrator

Passaic

Vicinage 11

Ernest M. Caposela

Assignment Judge

Robert D. Tracy

Trial Court Administrator

Bergen

Vicinage 2

Bonnie J. Mizdol

Assignment Judge

Laura A. Simoldoni

Trial Court Administrator

Mercer

Vicinage 7

Robert T. Lougy

Assignment Judge

Edward D. Wingren III

Trial Court Administrator

Union

Vicinage 12

Lisa Miralles Walsh

Assignment Judge

Devang M. Merchant

Trial Court Administrator

Burlington

Vicinage 3

Jeanne T. Covert

Assignment Judge

Alba R. Rivera

Trial Court Administrator

Middlesex

Vicinage 8

Michael A. Toto

Assignment Judge

Gregory Lambard

Trial Court Administrator

Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren

Vicinage 13

Kevin M. Shanahan

Assignment Judge

Adriana M. Calderon

Trial Court Administrator

Camden

Vicinage 4

Deborah Silverman Katz

Assignment Judge

Colleen P. Lore

Trial Court Administrator

Monmouth

Vicinage 9

Lisa P. Thornton

Assignment Judge

Gurpreet M. Singh

Trial Court Administrator

Ocean

Vicinage 14

Marlene Lynch Ford

Assignment Judge

Jill Vito

Trial Court Administrator

Essex

Vicinage 5

Sheila A. Venable

Assignment Judge

Amy K. DePaul

Trial Court Administrator

Morris/Sussex

Vicinage 10

Stuart A. Minkowitz

Assignment Judge

Susan Chait

Trial Court Administrator

Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem

Vicinage 15

Benjamin C. Telsey

Assignment Judge

Jason Corter

Trial Court Administrator

New Entrance to the Monmouth County Courthouse

The new West Wing entrance to the Monmouth County Courthouse in Freehold opened in November 2021. The new entrance brings security and access enhancements to the courthouse by adding more security screening lanes, an elevated Sheriff's supervisor station to observe the screening process, an upgraded security camera system, a larger indoor queuing area to protect staff and court users from inclement weather, an improved and larger ADA access ramp, and better and brighter lighting.

The East Wing entrance closed for the next phase of the courthouse construction project.

New Jersey Courts November 9, 2021

The new West Wing entrance to the Monmouth County Courthouse in Freehold opened yesterday. The new entrance brings security and access enhancements to the courthouse by adding more security screening lanes, an elevated Sheriff's supervisor station to observe the screening process, an upgraded security camera system, a larger indoor queuing area to protect staff and court users from inclement weather, an improved and larger ADA access ramp, and better and brighter lighting.

On the same day that entrance opened, the East Wing entrance closed for the next phase of the courthouse construction project. The reconstruction of the East Wing stairs is scheduled to be completed in March.



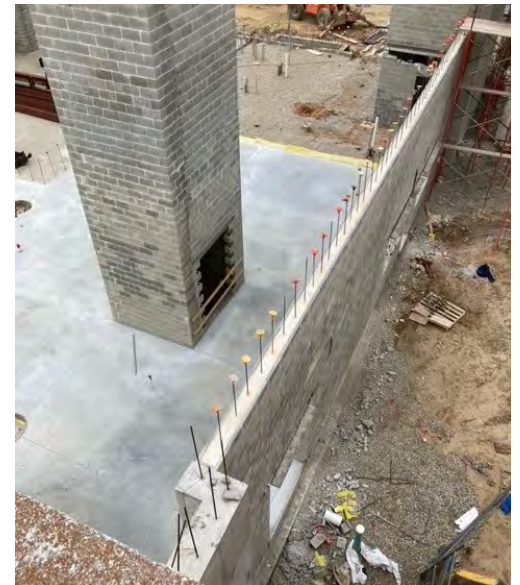
Construction Begins at the Salem County Courthouse

New Jersey Courts
May 13, 2022
Check out the progress in the construction of the new Salem County Courthouse. Some of the elevator shafts have been built and a portion of the steel has finally arrived.



Construction of an addition to the Salem County Courthouse in Salem City began in June 2021 to ease overcrowding and address safety and security issues of the current courthouse, which was built in 1969.

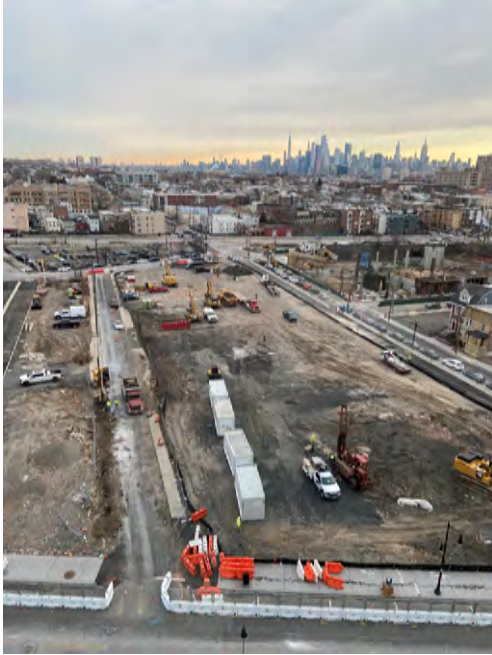
The new 47,000-square-foot facility will be located behind the existing courthouse, which also will be renovated. Court services will be located in the new building, the current courthouse and the top two floors of the county administration building. The three floors in the new building will provide more space for criminal, civil and family court offices to accommodate space requirements and bring the courthouse up to current standards. The addition will include four new courtrooms, including judges' chambers, jury deliberation rooms, and secure holding areas.



Honorable Frank J. Guarini Justice Complex

The Honorable Frank J. Guarini Justice Complex, named for retired U.S. Rep. Frank J. Guarini, is under construction in Jersey City across from the historic Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Courthouse. The new complex, which will replace the Hudson County Administration Building, will house courtrooms, jury assembly spaces, and other rooms for court functions, as well as other county operations.

The cornerstone of the building bears the name of Hudson Vicinage Assignment Judge Peter F. Bariso Jr., who retired in March 2021. Construction is expected to be completed the end of 2024.



New Jersey Courts
May 25, 2022
Construction of the Frank J. Guarini Justice Complex in Jersey City is well underway. The building is expected to be completed in late 2024.





STUART RABNER
CHIEF JUSTICE

GLENN A. GRANT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS

JULY 2023