



# Annual Report *of the* New Jersey Courts

Court Year 2017 - 2018



Somerset County Courthouse



NEW JERSEY COURTS

# 2018 Annual Report

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS

FOR THE COURT YEAR JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

## SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

**Chief Justice**  
Stuart Rabner

**Associate Justices**  
Barry T. Albin  
Jaynee LaVecchia  
Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina  
Anne M. Patterson  
Lee A. Solomon  
Walter F. Timpone

**Clerk of the Supreme Court**  
Mark Neary

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF THE

**Acting Administrative Director  
of the New Jersey Courts**  
Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

**Chief of Staff**  
Steven D. Bonville

**Clerk of the Superior Court**  
Michelle M. Smith

**Counsel's Office**  
Meryl G. Nadler, Counsel  
Nicole Langfitt, 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

**Quantitative Research and Evaluation**  
Mark Davies

## SUPERIOR COURT, APPELLATE DIVISION

**Presiding Judge**  
Carmen Messano

**Deputy Presiding Judge**  
Jack M. Sabatino

**Clerk of the Appellate Division**  
Joseph H. Orlando

## TAX COURT OF NEW JERSEY

**Presiding Judge**  
Joseph M. Andresini

**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**  
Ron Wildmann - Technical Services & Operations  
Selvi Karuppaswamy - Application Development

## MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, OFFICE OF

**Director**  
Shelley R. Webster

**Assistant Directors**  
Helen Livingston - Support Services  
Janet S. Zatz - Human Resources  
Todd McManus - Financial 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**  
Susan E. Callaghan - Criminal Practice Division  
Joanne M. Dietrich - Family Practice Division  
Kim Madera - Automated Trial Court Services Unit  
Taironda Phoenix - Civil Practice Division  
Steven A. Somogyi - Municipal Court Services



Cape May County Courthouse

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*On the cover: The Union County Courthouse, with its 16-floor tower, has been a landmark on Broad Street in Elizabeth since its completion in 1934. The site has been the location of public assemblies since 1668, when the Elizabeth Meeting House was built there.*



Bergen County Justice Center

# *Letter from the* Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court



**Stuart Rabner**  
Chief Justice

The State Constitution entrusts the Judiciary with the responsibility to resolve disputes fairly and justly, to protect individual rights and liberties, and to help preserve the rule of law.

This annual report highlights some of the ways we pursue that mission. The charts and statistics speak to the successes and accomplishments of the past year, but they tell only part of the story. Behind the numbers lies the work of dedicated judges and staff who have distinguished themselves through sustained professionalism and dedication. By tackling challenges big and small, they have made a profound impact on the lives of New Jersey residents.

Reform of New Jersey's pretrial justice system, now in its second year, required the partnership of all three branches of government to overhaul a problematic bail system that had been in place for decades. Other states have closely watched our efforts and are reaching out for guidance and advice.

Amid the growing opioid crisis, our drug court program offers a tightly structured regimen of treatment and recovery. Drug court provides graduates with the skills they need to stay sober and out of prison, so that they can regain custody of their children and contribute to society again.

New Jersey's foreclosure process, a significant challenge throughout the State for more than a decade, has improved dramatically thanks to the exceptional and sustained efforts of the Superior Court Clerk's Office.

We've made strides to confront challenges in our municipal courts, the face of the court system for most residents, by proposing concrete solutions to serve the public more fairly.

Judges with specialized training in business issues are using their expertise to streamline and expedite complex commercial and construction cases through the Complex Business Litigation Program.

Thanks to the work of our family division, New Jersey now serves as a national leader in implementing statewide reforms that provide alternatives to detaining juveniles pretrial. Still other Judiciary programs help provide needed services to veterans, elderly and developmentally disabled adults, and victims of human trafficking and domestic violence.

Our willingness to confront significant challenges as we conduct the business of the Judiciary sends a powerful message about the State's system of justice. And by keeping sight of a basic sense of humanity and fairness, we further the Judiciary's mission and foster a lasting positive impression among our neighbors all throughout the year.

*“By keeping sight of a basic sense of humanity and fairness, we further the Judiciary's mission and foster a lasting positive impression among our neighbors all throughout the year.”*

Chief Justice



Essex County (Veterans) Courthouse



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



**Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.**

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

We can easily take for granted the critical role our court system plays in the development of a fair and just society.

Each day, the New Jersey Judiciary strives to attain justice for both the individual and society through the rule of law. It is the rule of law that ensures that our citizenry is not subject to the arbitrary will of those in power and that all persons are treated equally and according to a consistent set of principles and rules.

As an independent branch of government, we make it our mission to provide an independent, impartial forum for the fair and just resolution of disputes and to serve as a leader in creating an equitable and effective system of justice for an increasingly diverse society. We strive each day to build an atmosphere that ensures all members of the public are treated with courtesy, dignity and respect. In short, we demand excellence at every level and every corner of our court system.

At the Judiciary, we are privileged to serve all citizens, but particularly the most vulnerable in our society. We provide men and women caught in the grasp of drug addiction with an opportunity for rehabilitation. We provide protections to children who have been victims of abuse and neglect. We help safeguard the assets of the elderly and the incapacitated. We've created a fairer system of criminal justice in order to protect the rights of the poor and keep the public safe.

This annual report offers a snapshot of the outstanding work of the justices, judges and administrative staff of our court system. The results highlighted in these pages showcase our organization's commitment to justice and fairness. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about New Jersey Courts. We are proud of what we have accomplished in our court system during the past fiscal year and look forward to doing even more in the year ahead.

*“Each day, the New Jersey Judiciary strives to attain justice for both the individual and society through the rule of law.”*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn A. Grant'.

Acting 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.*



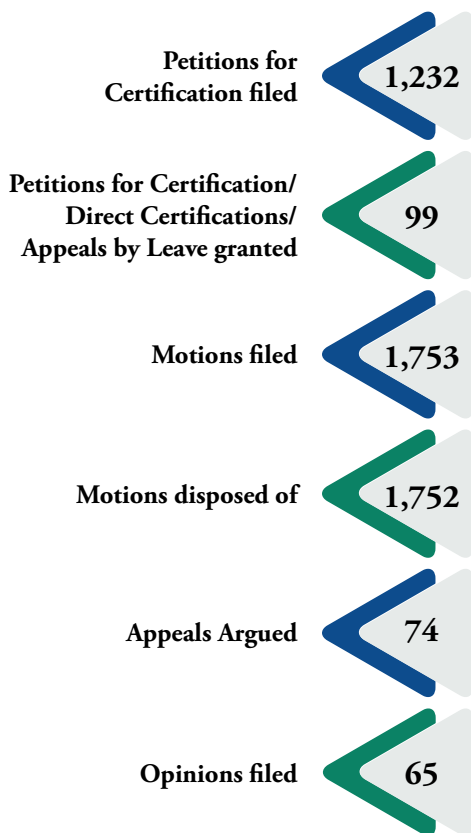
Standing from left:  
**Justice Lee A. Solomon**  
**Justice Anne M. Patterson**  
**Justice Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina**  
**Justice Walter F. Timpone**

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 2018, the court admitted 1,519 new attorneys to the New Jersey bar, a 3.31 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. During Court Year 2018, the Fund approved **\$4,968,331.32** to reimburse clients for losses caused by 31 attorneys.



Salem County Olde 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.*

The 33 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. 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 presiding judge for 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. He is assisted by Judge Jack Sabatino, who serves as the division's deputy presiding judge for administration.

## New Appointments

Appeals Filed **6,010**



Judge  
Patrick DeAlmeida



Judge  
Lisa A. Firko



Judge  
Richard J. Geiger

Appeals Decided **6,624**



Judge  
Hany A. Mawla



Judge  
Jessica R. Mayer



Judge  
Stephanie A. Mitterhoff

Motions Decided **9,672**



Judge  
Scott J. Moynihan



Judge  
Arnold L. Natoli Jr.



Judge  
Lisa Rose

Opinions Filed **3,325**

Published Opinions **153**



Gloucester County Olde Courthouse

# New Jersey Tax Court

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

## Local Property

The 12 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.



## State Cases



## Pending Cases



## Statewide Case Type

CIGARETTE	4
CORPORATE S ELECTION	1
CORPORATION BUSINESS	14
ESTATE TAX	3
FAIR HOMESTEAD REBATE	15
GROSS INCOME	67
HOTEL	1
INHERITANCE TAX	5
LITTER CONTROL TAX	2
NON-RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT FEE (COAH)	1
PARTNERSHIP FILING FEE	14
PARTNERSHIP WITHHOLDING TAX	5
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS GROSS RECEIPTS	1
PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT	6
REALTY TRANSFER FEE	3
SALES AND USE	37
SCHOOL AID (TABLE OF EQUALIZATION AND VALUATION)	6



**Joseph M. Andresini**  
Presiding Tax Court Judge

Judge Joseph Andresini was named presiding judge of the Tax Court, effective Jan. 16, 2018. He succeeded Judge Patrick DeAlmeida, who was appointed to the Appellate Division. Judge Andresini was appointed to the Tax Court on Oct. 1, 2009. He was reappointed on June 29, 2016. Prior to his judicial appointment, during a career in private practice that spanned 25 years, he specialized in tax appeals, condemnation, land use and real estate transactions. He also served as municipal prosecutor and public defender for Closter and Haworth boroughs.



Sussex County Court House

Sussex County Historic Courthouse



# Trial Courts

Criminal Division  
Civil Division  
Family Division  
Chancery Division  
Municipal Division



# Criminal Division

*The Criminal Practice Division is part of the Trial Court Services section of the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). 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.*

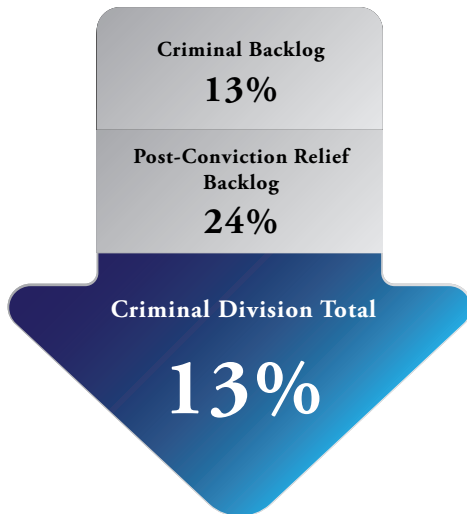
Criminal Practice consists of four major units: Pretrial Services, Criminal Court Services, Drug Court and Research/Statistics. The Pretrial Services Unit oversees the statewide implementation of Criminal Justice Reform and provides support and training to the staff in the Pretrial Services Unit in each vicinage. The Criminal Court Services Unit is tasked with providing assistance regarding the general operation of the Criminal trial courts. The Drug Court Unit focuses specifically on the advancement and operation of the Drug Court in each vicinage.

## Criminal Justice Reform

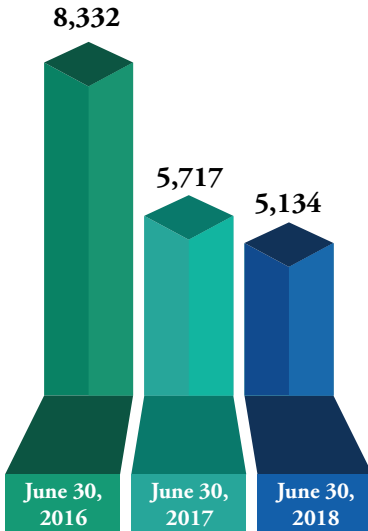
Criminal Justice Reform includes comprehensive bail reform, preventive detention, a pretrial services program of 267 employees to monitor and communicate with defendants on pretrial release, and speedy trial requirements made possible through technological capabilities that no other state can match.

Through Criminal Justice Reform, New Jersey modernized and transformed a centuries-old cash bail system that allowed money to dictate which defendants were detained until trial and which were allowed to go free. In its place is a system that allows judges to base pretrial release decisions on a fair and evidenced based assessment of the risk a defendant poses.

Over the course of 2017, New Jersey’s pretrial jail population dropped 20 percent. At the same time, more than 8,000 defendants – essentially those found to pose the greatest risk to public safety - were detained pretrial.



## Pretrial Jail Population



**38.4%**

decrease since June 30, 2016

## Virtual Courtroom

First appearances and central judicial processing (CJP) hearings conducted in Superior Court are streamed live from various locations across the state for the public to view on a computer, tablet or smartphone, generally during non-business hours.





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 Superior Court.*

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 less than \$3,000 file in small claims court where the goal for resolution is two months. Cases involving damages between \$3,000 and \$15,000 are filed in the special civil part, with a resolution goal of four months. Cases valued at more than \$15,000 are to be resolved in 12 to 24 months, depending on their complexity.

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.

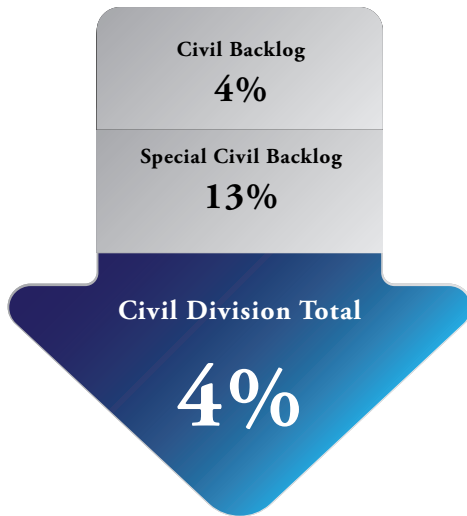
The majority of cases filed with the civil division are filed in the special civil part, which resolved **417,589** cases during Court Year 2018.

## Complex Business Litigation Program

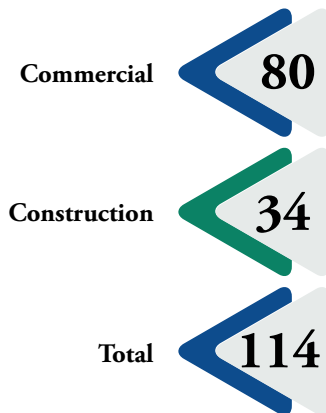
Under the Complex Business Litigation Program, judges with specialized training in business issues use their expertise to streamline and expedite commercial or construction cases that involve disputes of \$200,000 or more. This approach helps foster the development of case law that aids all parties in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

## Electronic Filing

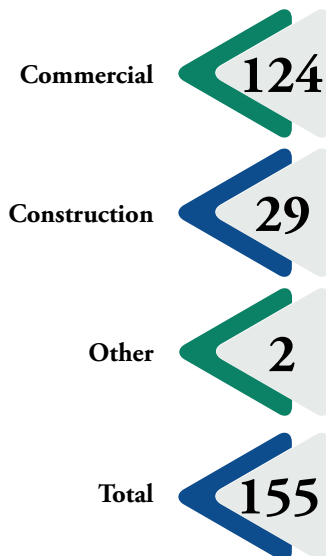
Electronic filing in the Civil Part of the Law Division (eCourts Civil) began as a pilot program in April 2017 with attorneys filing in the Mercer and Middlesex vicinages. By the end of that year, all counties were able to accept electronic filings. Electronic filing has been mandatory for attorneys filing in the special civil part (DC) since September 2016 and in the civil part as of January 2018.



## CBLP Statewide Cases Filed



## CBLP Statewide Cases Resolved



**1,068,792**  
Special Civil Part eCourt Filings

**906,553**  
Civil Part eCourt Filings



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.

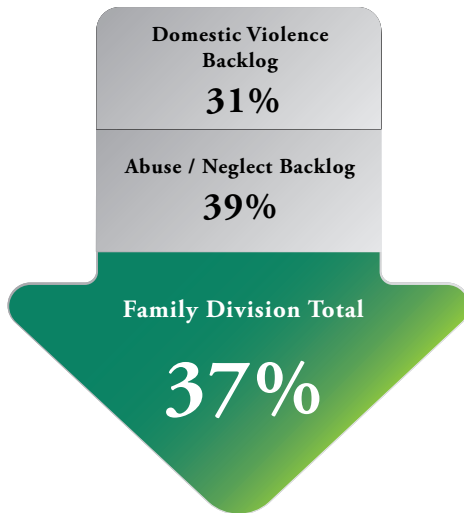
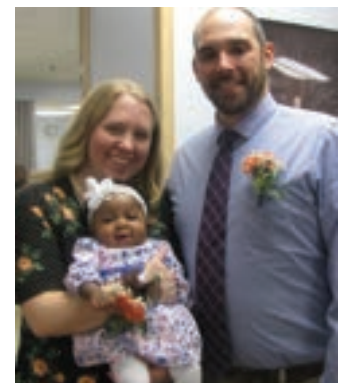
## Juvenile Detention

This year, New Jersey became the first state to institute a statewide reform that provides alternatives to detaining juveniles pretrial.

After adopting the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative in 2004, New Jersey became a national model in developing practices that allow juveniles to remain home while receiving the appropriate services.

Since 2002, the average daily population of juvenile detention centers in New Jersey has dropped by nearly 70 percent and eight of the state’s 17 county-operated youth detention centers have been closed. The last of New Jersey’s 21 counties adopted the reform initiatives this year.

## Adoption Day



**35,000**  
total domestic violence filings

**10,600**  
reopened domestic violence cases

In Court Year 2018, the number of domestic violence filings, which included more than 35,000 new cases and more than 10,600 reopened cases, decreased by 4 percent. Nearly all of the cases were resolved the same year.

The Judiciary celebrates National Adoption Day with adoption ceremonies in all 15 vicinages, creating forever families for hundreds of children in foster care.



Hudson County (William J. Brennan Jr.) Courthouse



# Chancery Division

**144,032**

active foreclosures in June 2011

**27,229**

active foreclosures in June 2018

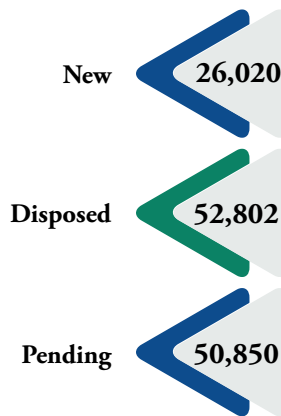
From June 2011 to June 2018, the number of active foreclosure cases was reduced from 144,032 to 27,229, including 20,949 residential properties. The average timeframe for the court's involvement in the foreclosure process, from complaint to judgment, decreased from 1,360 days to 160 days during the same period. In Court Year 2018, 26,020 new cases were filed while 52,802 were completed.

*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. General equity cases are heard without a jury by a specially assigned judge within the chancery division.*

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner established the Supreme Court Special Committee on Residential Foreclosures in May 2017 to review residential mortgage foreclosure practices, policies, court rules and legislation and to make recommendations to ensure a timely and fair foreclosure process. Following the collapse of the housing market nationwide, New Jersey experienced a high level of foreclosure filings, which peaked in 2009 and remained elevated for nearly a decade.

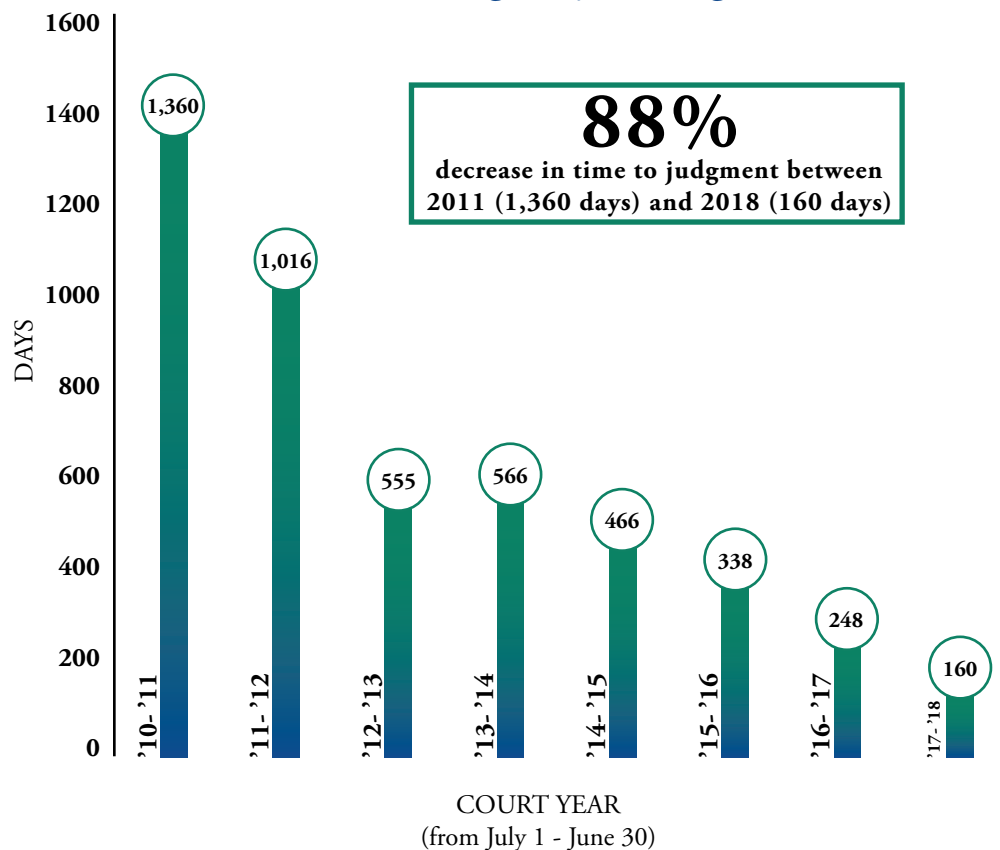
Various intergovernmental efforts during that decade led to a dramatic reduction in both the number of pending filings and the timeframe for moving foreclosure cases to resolution through either mediation or judgment. By 2018, pending foreclosure cases in New Jersey had been reduced to the lowest point since before the start of the housing market crisis.

## Foreclosure Cases



A statistical review of foreclosures filed in 2017 showed that the majority of cases were disposed of within 9 months from the date the complaint was filed. The numbers for 2018 continue to show dramatic decrease in the judicial time frame with matters averaging 160 days from complaint to judgment, as of June 30. Any lengthening of the time frame beyond that figure can be attributed to the assignment and reassignment of mortgages between lenders and servicers; the transfer of assets between lenders, service on judgment-creditor defendants (which requires additional time) and noticing to the defendant homeowners. In those cases that are not being resolved within 5 months, lenders most often have submitted insufficient proofs or have failed to comply with the rule requirements requiring the motion for judgment to be re-filed and re-served.

## Foreclosure Average Days to Judgment



COURT YEAR  
(from July 1 - June 30)



Burlington County Olde Courthouse

# 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 6,128,711 cases filed in the municipal courts during Court Year 2018, a 2 percent increase over the previous year. The municipal courts achieved a 35 percent reduction in backlogged cases and had a 99 percent clearance rate during Court Year 2018.

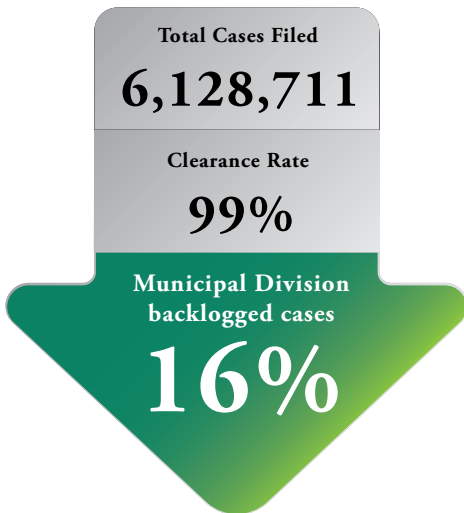
## Municipal Court Reform

A Supreme Court committee charged with reforming municipal court practices was empaneled this year to propose solutions for preserving and improving judicial independence in local courts. The Supreme Court Committee on Municipal Court Operations, Fines, and Fees focused on ensuring fairness to court users with recommendations to prevent government revenue concerns from affecting the equitable administration of justice.

The committee addressed issues such as developing alternatives to fines for indigent defendants, reducing reliance on bench warrants and driver’s license suspensions, creating an appointment process for municipal judges, consolidating local courts and improving access for court users through technology.

*“It is often said that municipal courts, which handle millions of cases every year, are the face of the Judiciary.”*

-Chief Justice Stuart Rabner

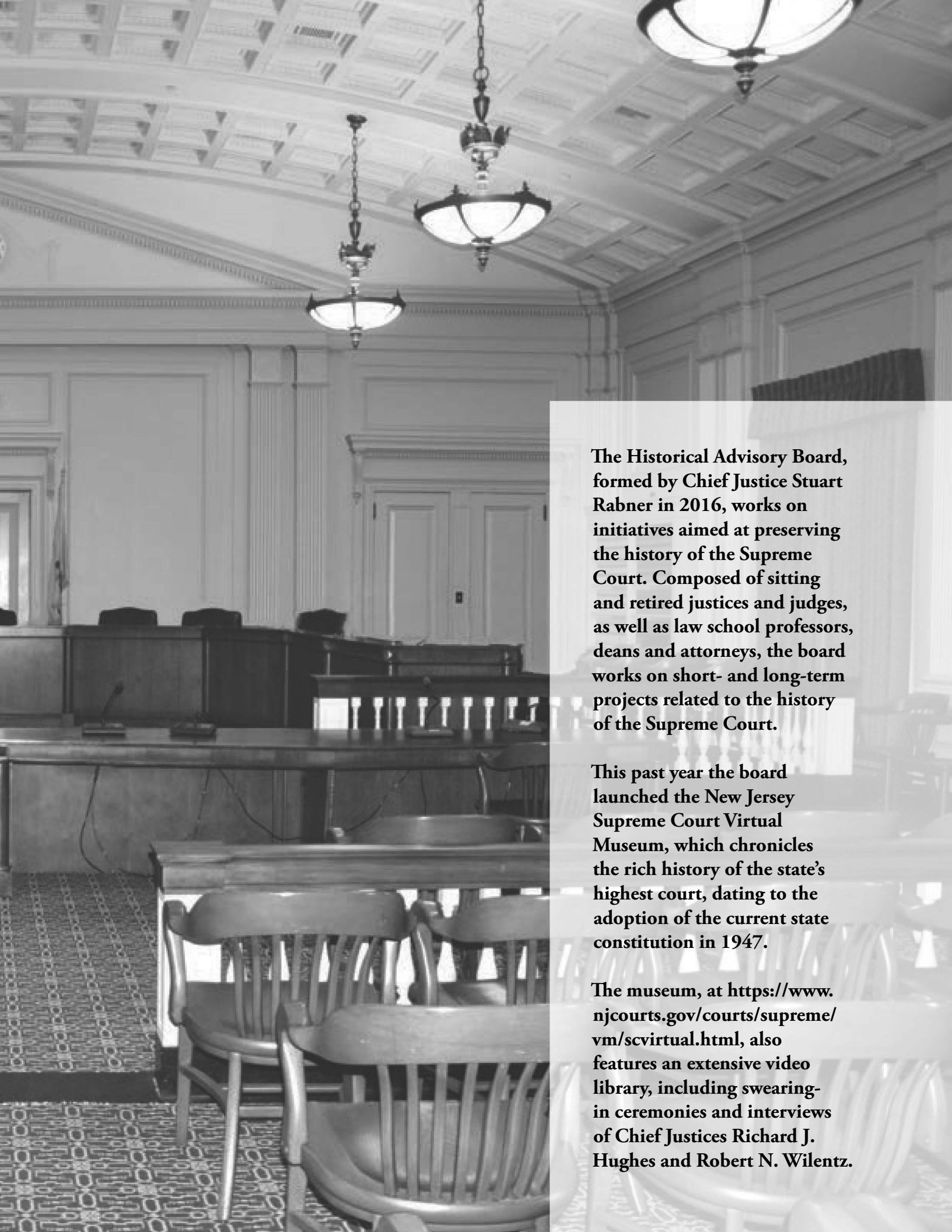


Filings	Case Types
184,155	Indictable
468,994	Disorderly / Petty Disorderly Persons
221,803	Other Non-Criminal
29,942	DWI
2,463,962	Traffic
2,759,855	Parking
<b>6,128,711</b>	<b>Total</b>



# Virtual Museum

The old Supreme Court courtroom was located in the Statehouse Annex, which housed the Judiciary from the late 1920s until the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex opened in 1982. The old courtroom and adjacent Supreme Court conference room have been converted into hearing rooms for the state Senate and Assembly.



**The Historical Advisory Board, formed by Chief Justice Stuart Rabner in 2016, works on initiatives aimed at preserving the history of the Supreme Court. Composed of sitting and retired justices and judges, as well as law school professors, deans and attorneys, the board works on short- and long-term projects related to the history of the Supreme Court.**

**This past year the board launched the New Jersey Supreme Court Virtual Museum, which chronicles the rich history of the state's highest court, dating to the adoption of the current state constitution in 1947.**

**The museum, at <https://www.njcourts.gov/courts/supreme/vm/scvirtual.html>, also features an extensive video library, including swearing-in ceremonies and interviews of Chief Justices Richard J. Hughes and Robert N. Wilentz.**



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 Intensive Supervision and the Juvenile Intensive Supervision programs.*

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.



## Probation Olympics

Below: Teens participating in the Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program get the chance to test their athleticism in the annual Judiciary Olympics, a daylong event that also teaches them social skills and good sportsmanship.

**\$37,486,313**  
total expected probation fees/fines

**\$20,012,256.71**  
paid probation fees/fines

## 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 ordered by the court. The 21 local divisions monitor and enforce approximately 280,000 child support cases in New Jersey. The unit is responsible for the collection of child and spousal obligations, medical support and alimony.

**279,573**  
child support caseload as of June 2018

**1,301,267,721**  
child support collections

**70.1%**  
current child support obligations collected for July 2017 to June 2018



## 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 more than \$33 million, or more than \$38,000 per participant, in Court Year 2018.

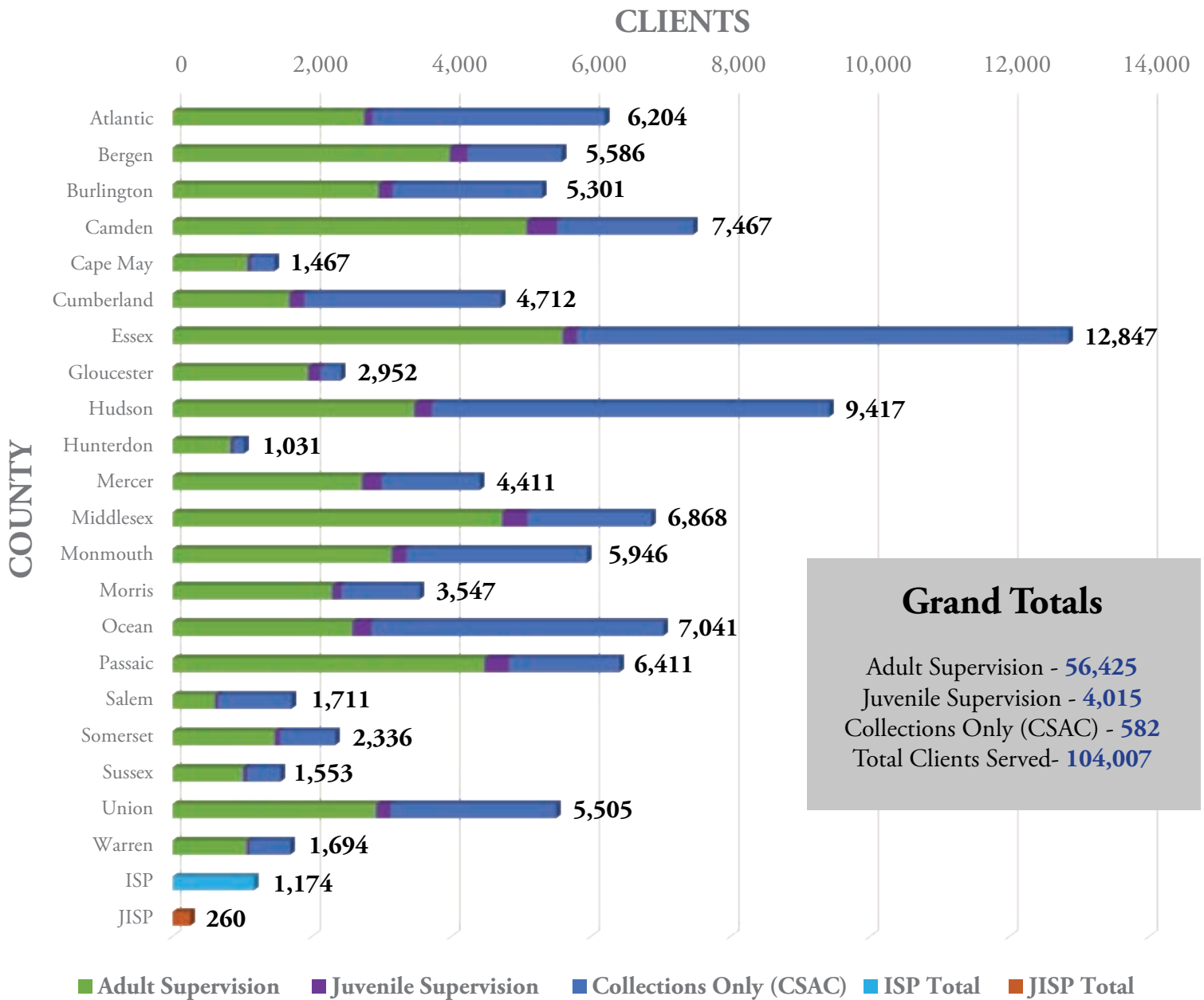


Sussex County Judicial Center



# Probation Services by the Numbers

Court Year 2017 - 2018



## Supervision

On June 30, 2018 probation services was actively supervising 56,425 adults and 4,015 juveniles statewide.

## Field Work

Probation officers conducted 27,333 inspections and 139,427 visits of clients' homes during Court Year 2017-2018.

## Community Service

Probation clients performed 778,125 hours of community service during Court Year 2017-2018.



Morris County Courthouse

# Addressing the Needs of Society

*In addition to Drug Court, 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.*

## Guardianship Cases

COUNTY	COURT YEAR 2018
Atlantic	104
Bergen	234
Burlington	166
Camden	170
Cape May	41
Cumberland	44
Essex	180
Gloucester	112
Hudson	188
Hunterdon	39
Mercer	114
Middlesex	219
Monmouth	199
Morris	245
Ocean	274
Passaic	114
Salem	9
Somerset	125
Sussex	75
Union	190
Warren	44
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2,886</b>

## Guardianship Monitoring Program

The New Jersey Judiciary Guardianship Monitoring Program is a statewide volunteer-based court program that monitors guardians in their handling of the affairs of incapacitated individuals, including elderly and developmentally disabled adults. Guardians are required to file inventories and annual reports. The program monitors cases to ensure that guardians of incapacitated persons are performing their duties appropriately.

In the 2018 Court Year, 2,886 adult guardianships and conservatorships were filed statewide. Conservatorships involve the appointment of a fiduciary to handle the financial affairs of another person, but, unlike a guardianship matter, do not require an adjudication of incapacity.

## Veterans Assistance Project

Recognizing that veterans may be in need of special services, the New Jersey Judiciary works with the Office of Attorney General, the state Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to operate the Veterans Assistance Project.

The project, piloted in 2008 on the municipal and Superior Court levels in two counties, is a voluntary referral service for veterans who come in contact with the court system and who may be in need of services such as mental health counseling, addiction services, legal services and housing.

The program is not diversionary, but referrals to one of the state’s 16 veterans services offices are designed to link veterans with the federal and state benefits to which they may be entitled.

As of July 2018, there have been **3,935** referrals statewide since the inception of the program.





MERCER COUNTY CRIMINAL COURTHOUSE



400 SOUTH V

Mercer County Criminal Courthouse

**2,212**  
defendants sentenced to the program in 2017-18

**19,000**  
average monthly number of drug tests administered in 2017-18

**6,532**  
active participants in FY 2017-18

### Drug Court

The Judiciary’s drug court program operates within the Superior Court to help nonviolent defendants overcome alcohol and drug dependencies while resolving related criminal charges.

The program offers a tightly structured regimen of treatment and recovery that provides graduates with the skills needed to stay sober and out of prison so they can regain custody of their children and contribute to society again.

Drug court was made mandatory by law by 2017.

**\$13.12 million**  
amount of fines, fees and restitution paid by drug court defendants since inception of the program



**Above:** Landon Hacker went from living under the Ben Franklin Bridge as a young adult to becoming a 4.0 graduate of Rutgers University – Camden after attending the Judiciary’s drug court program. Now in law school, he plans to become a defense attorney.

Nearly 40 percent of inmates released from state prison are convicted for new indictable crimes within the first three years of their release. Conversely, only 6.8 percent of drug court graduates are convicted for new indictable crimes within that same three-year period following graduation.

**40%**

**5,252**

Since the New Jersey Judiciary’s drug court program went statewide in 2002, some 5,252 participants successfully graduated from all phases of the Judiciary’s drug court program.

**646**  
graduates in 2017-18

Sixty-five percent of the current active participants in the New Jersey Judiciary’s drug court program are employed full time. Eighty-eight percent are employed by the time they graduate.

**88%**

**632**  
drug-free babies born since the program’s inception

**63%**

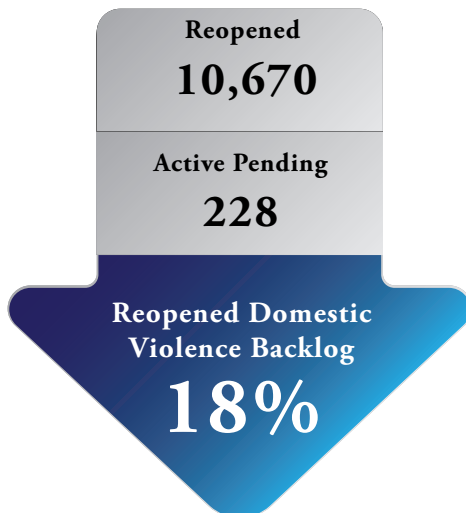
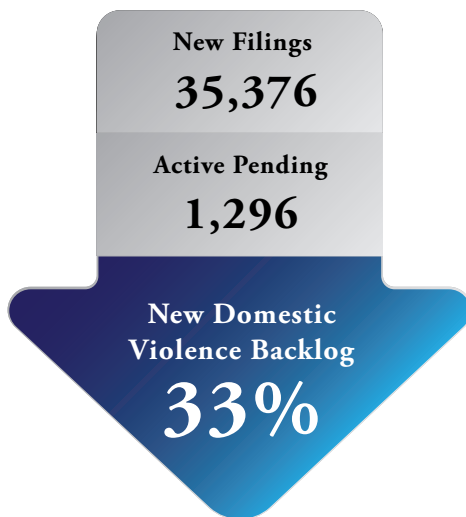
20 percent of drug court participants had a driver’s license when they entered the program. 63 percent had a license when they finished the program.

**200**  
parents regained custody of their children since the program’s inception



WARREN COUNTY

Warren County Courthouse



## Domestic Violence

The New Jersey Judiciary is committed to responding to the needs of victims of domestic violence and their families. New Jersey is governed by the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, one of the strongest laws in the country addressing domestic violence.

The Electronic Temporary Restraining Order System is used by law enforcement and family court staff to create electronic civil domestic violence complaints, and temporary and final restraining orders. The case tracking system has the capacity to record out-of-state domestic violence restraining orders, which provides further protection to victims who have relocated to New Jersey.

The Judiciary's statewide Domestic Violence Central Registry makes available to law enforcement agencies and family court staff current information on all restraining orders entered into the Family Automated Case Tracking System (FACTS). The registry serves as a valuable database for law enforcement to facilitate enforcement of temporary and final restraining orders, and protect victims as they move between municipalities within the state. The registry is also helpful in providing information to law enforcement personnel for screening of individuals who apply for firearms licensing.

## Human Trafficking

The Atlantic County Human Trafficking Intervention Program was launched in July 2017 to identify and help commercially exploited children in the Atlantic City region. A collaboration of the New Jersey Judiciary, law enforcement and service organizations, the pilot program seeks to help sexually exploited children and educate the public about human trafficking.

A judge working with a team arranges drug treatment, counseling, mental health referrals, job training, housing and other services the children may need. The team includes probation officers, prosecutors, public defenders and service organizations.

*“The New Jersey Judiciary has long been recognized locally and nationally as a leader in the fair and equitable treatment of those who use its services. This is a commitment that was made long ago and is one that will never waiver.”*

**-Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.**

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts



Chief Justice Stuart Rabner delivers his annual State of the Judiciary address at the New Jersey State Bar Association in Atlantic City. (New Jersey State Bar Association)



MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE

← ONE WAY

Middlesex County Courthouse



# Access and Fairness



*To ensure that the Judiciary, as an institution, embraces access and fairness as an integral part of its core values, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner created the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Access and Fairness. The work of the committee helps set the tone for the operation of the Judiciary for the next quarter century and beyond.*

## Women in the Courts

The Supreme Court Committee on Women in the Courts addresses issues of bias in the courts in order to further the Judiciary’s goal of ensuring access and fairness for all court users. In addition to advising the Supreme Court on gender bias and related issues, the committee develops and participates in programs to educate judges, the bar, and law students about identifying and addressing biased behavior and promoting opportunities for women in the law.

The committee provides training for new municipal and Superior Court judges on recognizing and correcting biased behaviors in the courtroom and participates in continuing legal education programs on issues of bias.

With the support of the Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Courts, the committee sponsored a summit on women in the law at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick in April.

## Language Services

New Jerseyans speak more than 130 different languages and upwards of 31 percent – more than 2.5 million – speak a language other than English at home. In Court Year 2018, New Jersey courts provided interpreting services nearly 75,000 times in 93 languages, including Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole and Korean but also in languages as diverse as Swahili, Dari, Igbo and Burmese.

The New Jersey Judiciary’s approach to language access has been a national model, one that is grounded in the basic tenet that anyone who is limited in the ability to speak and/or understand English or is deaf or hard of hearing is entitled to the same access to court services as those who are not.

Based on that core belief, the Judiciary ensures that only qualified interpreters may provide interpreting services and, except in very limited instances, the Judiciary bears all costs for interpreting.

The Judiciary’s Language Services section developed a comprehensive plan that promotes strong policies and standards, a court interpreter credentialing program, a program for translating self-help documents and training for judges and staff.

8,386,947

New Jersey residents

131

languages spoken in New Jersey

2,572,885

New Jerseyans who speak a language other than English

1,021,939

New Jerseyans who are not fluent in English



Hunterdon County Courthouse

### Minority Concerns

The Supreme Court Committee on Minority Concerns advises the state’s highest court on ways the Judiciary can ensure fairness, impartiality, equal access and full participation of racial, ethnic and religious/cultural minorities and economically disadvantaged court users.

Working with an advisory committee in each of the state’s 15 vicinages, the full committee coordinates general community education programs and conducts research to ensure the Judiciary’s programs and services are delivered without the influence of racial or ethnic biases.

The committee has four subgroups that address criminal justice and the minority defendant, juvenile justice and family, minority access to justice and minority participation in the judicial process.

**35,000**

the number of members of the public that staff have addressed about Criminal Justice Reform since the new bail system went into effect on Jan. 1, 2017

### Survey Subjects

1. Found courthouse easily
2. Forms clear/understandable
3. Felt safe in court
4. Despite disability, able to conduct business
5. Able to receive interpreting services
6. Reasonable amount of time
7. Court staff paid attention to needs
8. Treated with respect by court staff
9. Treated with respect by uniformed court security
10. Found courtroom easily
11. Website helpful
12. Hours of operation
13. Case handled fairly by judge/mediator
14. Judge/mediator listened
15. Judge/mediator had information needed for decision
16. Judge/mediator explained reasons for decision
17. I understand outcome
18. I was treated the same as everyone else
19. I know what to do next

### Access and Fairness Survey

**6,140**

total responses

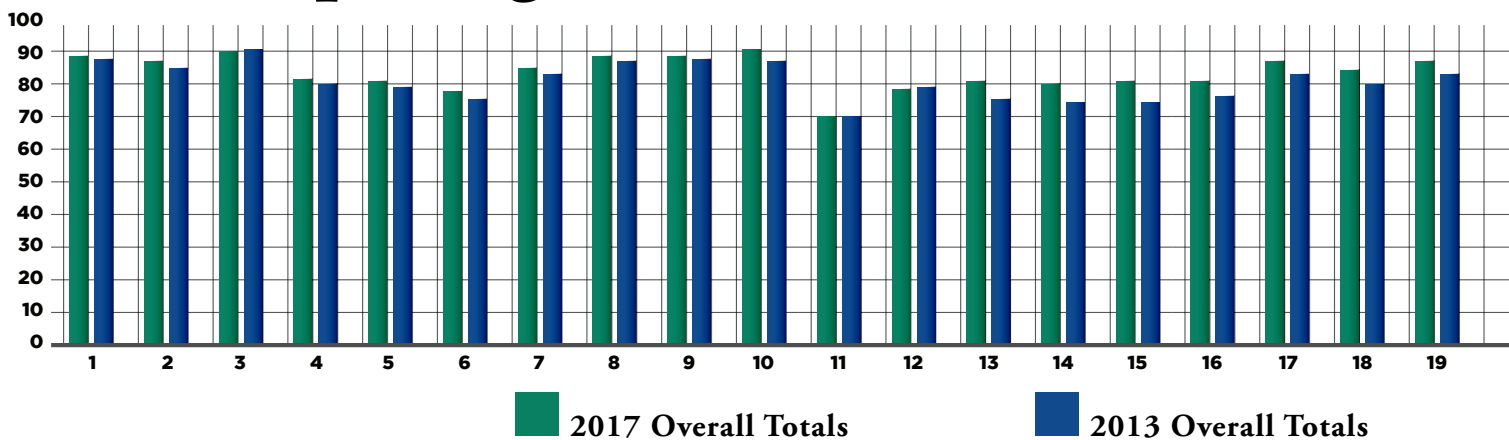
**74%**

were self-represented

The Municipal Court Survey project was developed by the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Access and Fairness. The goal of the survey was to measure the public’s perception of how accessible and fair they found the municipal court during their visit. The survey was administered in five municipal courts in each of the 15 court vicinages, a total of 75 courts. It was available during the entire month of September 2017 in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Korean, Polish, and Portuguese.

The survey showed overall improvements in court users’ experiences compared to the previous survey (2013), including feeling their cases were handled fairly and that they were treated with respect.

## Comparing 2017 and 2013 Results

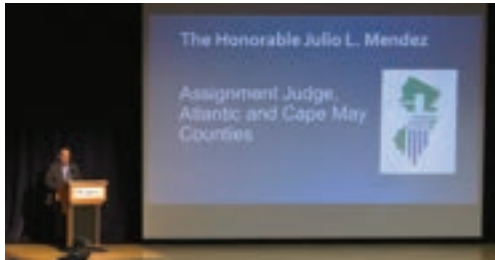




OCEAN COUNTY  
1850  
COURT HOUSE

Ocean County Courthouse

# New Jersey Court News



## Drug Court Summit

The Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage hosted a community summit in May during National Drug Court Month to discuss the challenges of the opioid crisis and identify solutions. The half-day event, attended by more than 150 community partners and agencies, featured discussions by representatives from education, health care and law enforcement. Drug court graduates also recounted their experiences combating their addictions.



## Naturalization Ceremonies

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. At ceremonies in the vicinages and at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex in Trenton, representatives of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security present the applicants before a judge administers the oath and the new citizens receive their certificates.



## 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 the adoptions.



## Law Day

Each year, the American Bar Association adopts a theme for Law Day, a commemoration of the United States' heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law. In May, vicinages throughout New Jersey celebrate Law Day with a variety of activities, including mock trial competitions, community outreach, poster and essay contests, and naturalization ceremonies.



## Retirement of AOC's first female director

Winnie Comfort, the first female director in the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts, retired at the end of July 2017 after 17 years with the Judiciary. As the communications director, Comfort led all of the Judiciary's public information efforts, including media relations, publications, video production and maintenance of the court website. She also oversaw other areas such as minority concerns, women in the courts, and litigant services, which encompass issues of access and fairness.



Cumberland County Courthouse

# Judicial Council



**From left:**

Associate Justice Anne M. Patterson is sworn in as a tenured member of the Supreme Court after being renominated in May 2018. Her husband, James Patterson, holds the Bible while Chief Justice Stuart Rabner administers the oath of office.

**Standing from left:**

Civil Presiding Judge Robert L. Polifroni, Family Presiding Judge Charles W. Dortch Jr., Assignment Judge Sallyanne Floria, Assignment Judge Ernest M. Caposela, Appellate Presiding Judge Carmen Messano, Assignment Judge Deborah Silverman Katz, Assignment Judge Peter F. Bariso Jr., Criminal Presiding Judge Peter E. Warshaw, Assignment Judge Alberto Rivas, Assignment Judge Benjamin C. Telsey, Assignment Judge Mary C. Jacobson, General Equity Presiding Judge Anne McDonnell, Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy, Assignment Judge Marlene Lynch Ford, Assignment Judge Bonnie J. Mizdol, Assignment Judge Lisa P. Thornton, Assignment Judge Stuart A. Minkowitz.

**Seated from left:**

Assignment Judge Ronald E. Bookbinder, Assignment Judge Julio L. Mendez, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner, Acting Administrative Director of the Courts Judge Glenn A. Grant, Assignment Judge Yolanda Ciccone.

## Mission Statement of the New Jersey Judiciary



*We are an independent branch of government constitutionally entrusted with the fair and just resolution of disputes in order to preserve the rule of law and to protect the rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States and this State.*



Supreme Court Conference Room



# Judges and Justices

as of June 30, 2018

## Superior Court

\*Appellate Division

Allison E. Accurso*	Daniel H. Brown	Angela White Dalton
Gregory L. Acquaviva	Thomas M. Brown	William A. Daniel
Yolanda Adrianzen	Marc R. Brown	Wendel E. Daniels
Lisa M. Adubato	Benjamin S. Bucca Jr.	Pamela D'Arcy
Mark S. Ali	Thomas J. Buck	Cristen P. D'Arrigo
M. Christine Allen-Jackson	John J. Burke III	Lawrence P. De Bello
Jodi Lee Alper	Bradford M. Bury	Miguel A. De La Carrera
Carmen H. Alvarez*	Henry P. Butehorn	Estela M. De La Cruz
Ralph E. Amirata	Thomas A. Callahan Jr.	Patrick DeAlmeida*
William Anklowitz	Ernest M. Caposela	Frank J. DeAngelis
Patrick J. Arre	Dennis F. Carey III	Liliana S. Deavila-Silebi
Lorraine M. Augostini	Patricia E. Carney	Bernadette N. Decastro
Mark A. Baber	Harry G. Carroll*	Edward J. Defazio
Keith A. Bachmann	Andrea G. Carter	John M. Deitch
Robert A. Ballard Jr.	Karen M. Cassidy	Kathleen M. Delaney
Peter F. Bariso Jr.	Regina Caulfield	Anthony V. D'elia
Peter J. Barnes III	Linda Lordi Cavanaugh	James J. Deluca
Patrick J. Bartels	Judith S. Charny	Bernard E. Delury Jr.
Arthur J. Batista	Mark K. Chase	James M. Demarzo
David F. Bauman	Timothy W. Chell	James Den Uyl
Jeffrey B. Beacham	Jean S. Chetney	Paul M. Depascale
Robert P. Becker Jr.	Joseph M. Chiarello	Darren T. Dibiasi
Aimee R. Belgard	Randal C. Chiocca	Lara K. Difabrizio
Scott J. Bennion	Lisa F. Chrystal	Francisco Dominguez
Maritza Berdote Byrne	Mark P. Ciarrocca	Kenneth S. Domzalski
Arthur Bergman	Yolanda Ciccone	James W. Donohue
Stanley L. Bergman Jr.	Vicki A. Citrino	Michael J. Donohue
Daniel A. Bernardin	Marilyn C. Clark	John M. Doran
Robert C. Billmeier	Susan L. Claypoole	Charles W. Dortch Jr.
Robert W. Bingham II	Michael T. Collins	Paula T. Dow
Avis Bishop-Thompson	Robert P. Contillo	Katherine R. Dupuis
James M. Blaney	Terrence R. Cook	John C. Eastlack Jr.
Michael J. Blee	J. Randall Corman	Madelin F. Einbinder
Gwendolyn Blue	Craig L. Corson	Richard W. English
Peter A. Bogaard	Mary K. Costello	Catherine I. Enright
Ronald E. Bookbinder	Gerald J. Council	Paul X. Escandon
Thomas T. Booth Jr.	Frank Covello	Kimberly Espinales-Maloney
Angela Borkowski	Jeanne T. Covert	Linda W. Eynon
Terry Paul Bottinelli	Michael V. Cresitello Jr.	Vincent N. Falcetano Jr.
Patrick J. Bradshaw	Thomas J. Critchley Jr.	Nan S. Famular
Carlia M. Brady	Martin G. Cronin	Christine A. Farrington
Anne Marie Bramnick	Rodney Cunningham	Douglas M. Fasciale*
Gerard H. Breland	Therese A. Cunningham	James J. Ferrelli
Robert J. Brennan	Heidi Willis Currier*	Rudolph A. Filko
Robert E. Brenner	H. Matthew Curry	Lisa A. Firko
Thomas F. Brogan	Daniel D'Alessandro	Clarkson S. Fisher Jr.*

Catherine M. Fitzpatrick  
Sallyanne Floria  
Colleen M. Flynn  
Marlene Lynch Ford  
Wayne J. Forrest  
Margaret M. Foti  
Michele M. Fox  
Magali M. Francois  
Noah Franzblau  
Lisa Perez Friscia  
Jose L. Fuentes\*  
Harold W. Fullilove Jr.  
Garry J. Furnari  
Mitzy Galis-Menendez  
Jane Gallina Mecca  
Donna Gallucio  
George H. Gangloff Jr.  
Robert H. Gardner  
Christopher J. Garrenger  
Michael C. Gaus  
Richard J. Geiger\*  
J. Christopher Gibson  
Robert J. Gilson\*  
Rochelle Gizinski  
John I. Gizzo  
Arnold B. Goldman  
Greta Gooden Brown\*  
Margaret Goodzeit  
Deborah L. Gramiccioni  
Glenn A. Grant\*  
Nora J. Grimbergen  
Kenneth J. Grispin  
Deborah M. Gross-Quatrone  
James J. Guida  
Katie A. Gummer  
Michael J. Haas\*  
Philip E. Haines  
Deborah S. Hanlon-Schron  
Robert M. Hanna  
Jamie D. Happas  
John E. Harrington  
Rachelle Lea Harz  
James Hely  
Richard L. Hertzberg  
Francis Hodgson Jr.  
Edward W. Hoffman  
Richard S. Hoffman\*  
Michael E. Hubner  
John G. Hudak  
J. Adam Hughes  
Douglas H. Hurd  
James F. Hyland  
Paul Innes  
David H. Ironson  
Joseph V. Isabella  
Thomas K. Isenhour  
Jeffrey R. Jablonski  
Adam E. Jacobs  
Mary C. Jacobson  
Mark T. Janeczko

Latoyia K. Jenkins  
Edward A. Jerejian  
Pedro J. Jimenez Jr.  
Nelson C. Johnson  
Sarah Beth Johnson  
Harold U. Johnson Jr.  
Bruce A. Jones  
Linda Grasso Jones  
Robert J. Jones Jr.  
John A. Jorgensen II  
Michael E. Joyce  
James L. Jukes  
Bahir Kamil  
Bruce J. Kaplan  
Imre Karaszegi Jr.  
Michael J. Kassel  
David B. Katz  
Christopher R. Kazlau  
John T. Kelley  
Camille M. Kenny  
Donald A. Kessler  
Honora O'Brien Kilgallen  
Robert Kirsch  
Ellen L. Koblitz\*  
Teresa A. Kondrup-Coyle  
Walter Koprowski Jr.  
Mary Beth Kramer  
Kurt Kramer  
Thomas J. Laconte  
Linda L. Lawhun  
Verna G. Leath  
Vincent Leblon  
Marc C. Lemieux  
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Alan G. Lesnewich  
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Sandra Lopez  
Robert T. Lougy  
Lourdes Lucas  
Timothy P. Lydon  
Martha D. Lynes  
Keith E. Lynott  
Philip J. Maenza  
Colleen A. Maier  
Martha T. Mainor  
Robert G. Malestein  
Linda E. Mallozzi  
Thomas V. Manahan\*  
Maureen B. Mantineo  
Janetta D. Marbrey  
Joseph L. Marczyk  
Julie M. Marino  
Lawrence M. Maron  
Andrea I. Marshall  
Anthony M. Massi  
John J. Matheussen  
Susan F. Maven  
Hany A. Mawla\*  
Jessica R. Mayer\*  
Edward J. McBride Jr.

Owen C. McCarthy  
James P. McClain  
Thomas D. McCloskey  
John P. McDonald  
Anne McDonnell  
James J. McGann  
William J. McGovern III  
Frances A. McGrogan  
Brian McLaughlin  
Jean B. McMaster  
Robert J. Mega  
Peter J. Melchionne  
Julio L. Mendez  
Marybel Mercado-Ramirez  
Carmen Messano\*  
Vincent J. Militello  
Thomas C. Miller  
W. Todd Miller  
Stuart A. Minkowitz  
Lisa Miralles Walsh  
Stephanie Ann Mitterhoff  
Bonnie J. Mizdol  
Sohail Mohammed  
Joseph G. Monaghan  
Bruno Mongiardo  
Thomas M. Moore  
Scott J. Moynihan\*  
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Carolyn A. Murray  
Valter H. Must  
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Mark J. Nelson  
Steven F. Nemeth  
Maryann L. Nergaard  
Justine A. Niccolai  
Dennis V. Nieves  
Richard J. Nocella  
Carol V. Novey Catuogno  
William E. Nugent\*  
Dennis R. O'Brien  
Amy O'Connor\*  
John D. O'Dwyer  
Michael F. O'Neill  
Christine S. Orlando  
Mirtha Ospina  
Mitchel E. Ostrer\*  
Michael R. Ostrowski Jr.  
Joseph W. Oxley  
Gregg A. Padovano  
James R. Paganelli  
James W. Palmer Jr.  
Joseph Paone  
Russell J. Passamano  
Stuart L. Peim  
Darlene J. Pereksta  
Jamie S. Perri  
Stephen L. Petrillo  
Anthony F. Picheca Jr.  
James H. Pickering  
Diane Pincus

Sheree V. Pitchford  
 Benjamin Podolnick  
 Steven J. Polansky  
 Robert L. Polifroni  
 Joseph A. Portelli  
 John C. Porto  
 Charles E. Powers Jr.  
 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  
 Raymond A. Reddin  
 Robert B. Reed  
 Susan L. Reisner\*  
 Nancy L. Ridgway  
 Alberto Rivas  
 Nesle A. Rodriguez  
 Yolanda C. Rodriguez  
 Candido Rodriguez Jr.  
 Patricia B. Roe  
 Marybeth Rogers  
 Michael J. Rogers  
 Christopher S. Romanyshyn  
 Lisa Rose\*  
 Marysol Rosero  
 Garry S. Rothstadt\*  
 Scott T. Rumana  
 John F. Russo Jr.  
 Guy P. Ryan  
 Jack M. Sabatino\*  
 Sharifa R. Salaam  
 Mark H. Sandson  
 Lourdes I. Santiago  
 Ramona A. Santiago  
 Barry P. Sarkisian  
 James X. Sattely  
 James P. Savio  
 Louis S. Sceusi  
 Tara Schillari Rich  
 Frederick J. Schuck  
 Francis B. Schultz  
 Sherri L. Schweitzer  
 Vito A. Sciancalepore  
 Annette Scoca  
 Kevin M. Shanahan  
 Kathleen A. Sheedy  
 M. Susan Sheppard  
 Thomas J. Shusted Jr.  
 Marcia L. Silva  
 Michael J. Silvanio  
 Deborah Silverman Katz  
 Marie P. Simonelli\*

Mary C. Siracusa  
 Nancy Sivilli  
 Walter F. Skrod  
 Christine Smith  
 Kevin T. Smith  
 Morris G. Smith  
 L. Grace Spencer  
 Barbara J. Stanton  
 Bridget A. Stecher  
 Donald J. Stein  
 Mitchell I. Steinhart  
 Barbara C. Stolte  
 Haekyoung Suh  
 Richard T. Sules  
 Thomas W. Sumners Jr.\*  
 Ronald Susswein  
 Karen L. Suter\*  
 James R. Swift  
 Mark P. Tarantino  
 Mayra V. Tarantino  
 Donna M. 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  
 Menelaos W. Toskos  
 Michael A. Toto  
 Mark A. Troncone  
 Joseph A. Turula  
 Christine M. Vanek  
 Radames Velazquez Jr.  
 Thomas R. Vena  
 Sheila Ann Venable  
 Deborah J. Venezia  
 Francis J. Vernoia\*  
 Lisa M. Vignuolo  
 Robert M. Vinci  
 Ana C. Viscomi  
 Kay Walcott-Henderson  
 Jeffrey J. Waldman  
 Thomas J. Walls Jr.  
 Thomas J. Walsh  
 Peter E. Warshaw  
 David J. Weaver  
 Daniel L. Weiss  
 Craig L. Wellerson  
 Mary Gibbons Whipple\*  
 Ronald D. Wigler  
 Gary N. Wilcox  
 Patricia M. Wild  
 James P. Wilson  
 Marcella Matos Wilson  
 Robert C. Wilson  
 Robert G. Wilson  
 Richard C. Wischusen  
 Gary D. Wodlinger

Gary K. Wolinetz  
 Carolyn E. Wright  
 Michael P. Wright  
 Daniel J. Yablonsky  
 Joseph L. Yannotti  
 John A. Young Jr.  
 Mara Zazzali-Hogan  
 William F. Ziegler  
 Janet Zoltanski Smith  
 John Zunic

## Supreme Court

Stuart Rabner  
 Barry T. Albin  
 Faustino J. Fernandez-Vina  
 Jaynee LaVecchia  
 Anne M. Patterson  
 Lee A. Solomon  
 Walter F. Timpone

## Tax Court

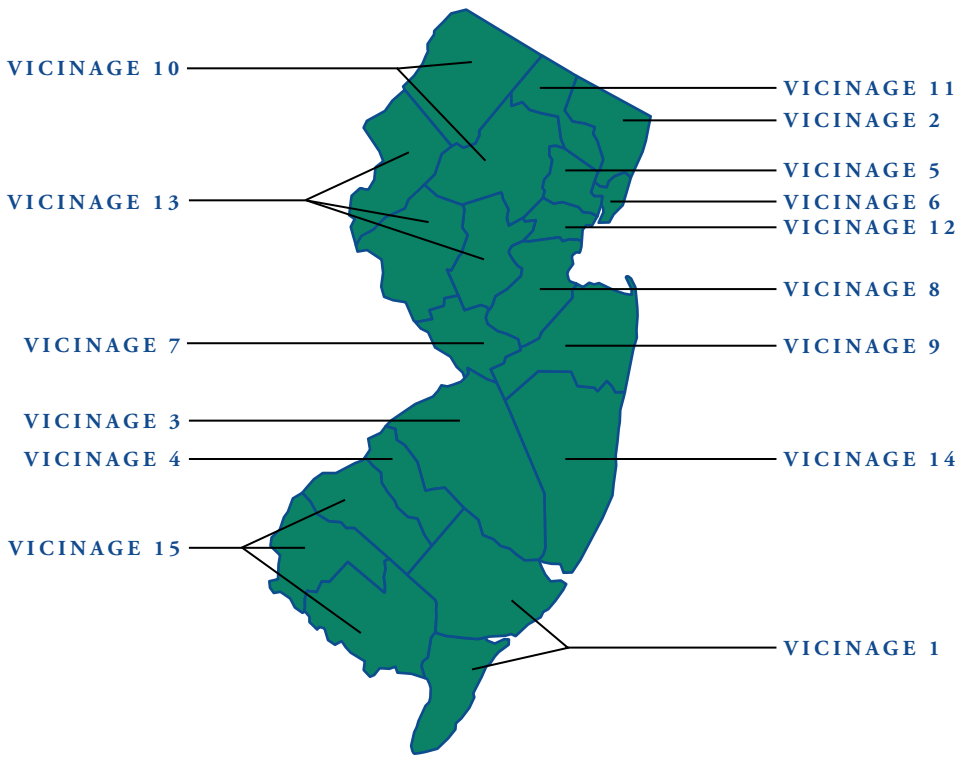
Joseph M. Andresini  
 Vito L. Bianco  
 Maty Siobhan Brennan  
 Mark Cimino  
 Kathi F. Fiamingo  
 Michael J. Gilmore  
 Joan Bedrin Murray  
 Joshua D. Novin  
 Christine M. Nugent  
 Jonathan A. Orsen  
 Mala Sundar

# 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 2016 to June 2017	July 2017 to June 2018	percent change	July 2016 to June 2017	July 2017 to June 2018	percent change	June 2017	June 2018	percent change	June 2017	June 2018	percent change
<b>Criminal Division</b>	Indictable Cases	43,146	43,560	1%	47,831	44,968	-6%	7,353	6,993	-5%	7,668	6,692	-13%
	Municipal Appeals	553	532	-4%	603	547	-9%	129	116	-10%	87	88	1%
	Post-Conviction Relief	730	724	-1%	853	764	-10%	478	491	3%	160	121	-24%
<b>General Equity</b>	Total	6,034	5,332	-12%	6,452	5,842	-9%	2,375	1,994	-16%	422	362	-14%
	Contested Foreclosure	2,962	2,518	-15%	3,313	2,938	-11%	1,182	914	-23%	218	125	-43%
	Equity (excluding foreclosure)	3,072	2,814	-8%	3,139	2,904	-7%	1,193	1,080	-9%	204	237	16%
<b>Civil Division</b>	Civil - Total	75,821	75,864	0%	79,507	80,445	1%	65,922	62,559	-5%	26,342	25,345	-4%
	Multi-County Litigation	838	1,037	24%	5,411	2,737	-49%	2,591	1,609	-38%	15,475	14,749	-5%
	Non Multi-County Litigation	74,983	74,827	-0%	74,096	77,708	5%	63,331	60,950	-4%	10,867	10,596	-2%
	Special Civil - Total	399,223	416,246	4%	391,324	417,589	7%	40,333	39,308	-3%	211	183	-13%
	Special Civil - Auto	2,768	3,393	23%	2,475	3,506	42%	551	450	-18%	17	10	-41%
	Special Civil - Contract	198,642	219,822	11%	191,371	220,372	15%	26,590	26,291	-1%	131	117	-11%
	Special Civil - Other	8,410	8,145	-3%	8,182	8,274	1%	1,228	1,119	-9%	13	11	-15%
	Special Civil - Small Claims	30,235	27,834	-8%	30,232	28,130	-7%	1,976	1,693	-14%	25	17	-32%
	Special Civil - Tenancy	159,168	157,052	-1%	159,064	157,307	-1%	9,988	9,755	-2%	25	28	12%
	Probate - Total	6,233	6,208	-0%	6,135	6,144	0%	1,675	1,785	7%	113	84	-26%
<b>Family Division</b>	Dissolution	56,228	54,247	-4%	56,742	54,950	-3%	16,131	16,000	-1%	1,548	923	-40%
	Delinquency	25,396	23,818	-6%	25,814	24,000	-7%	2,077	1,853	-11%	118	127	8%
	Non-Dissolution	132,272	128,448	-3%	132,452	128,275	-3%	7,531	7,675	2%	233	145	-38%
	Domestic Violence	47,812	46,046	-4%	47,864	46,181	-4%	1,569	1,483	-5%	59	41	-31%
	Abuse / Neglect	4,357	4,372	0%	4,755	4,572	-4%	4,777	4,587	-4%	41	25	-39%
	Adoption	2,057	1,923	-7%	1,980	1,966	-1%	556	515	-7%			
	Child Placement Review	4,112	3,830	-7%	4,890	4,366	-11%	7,113	6,615	-7%	2	1	-50%
	Juvenile / Family Crisis	254	229	-10%	255	228	-11%	8	11	38%	3	0	-100%
	Kinship	638	523	-18%	675	533	-21%	80	66	-18%	0	2	--
	Termination of Parental Rights	1,019	988	-3%	1,099	1,049	-5%	394	392	-1%	159	99	-38%
	Criminal / Quasi-Criminal	7,610	7,014	-8%	7,596	7,054	-7%	678	643	-5%	39	26	-33%
<b>Total</b>		813,495	819,904	1%	816,827	829,473	2%	159,179	153,086	-4%	37,205	34,264	-8%
	Multi-County Litigation	838	1,037	24%	5,411	2,737	-49%	2,591	1,609	-38%	15,475	14,749	-5%
	Non Multi-County Litigation	812,657	818,867	1%	811,416	826,736	2%	156,588	151,477	-3%	21,730	19,515	-10%

# 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 2016 to June 2017	July 2017 to June 2018	percent change	July 2016 to June 2017	July 2017 to June 2018	percent change	June 2017	June 2018	percent change	June 2017	June 2018	percent change
<b>Atlantic County</b>	Total	32,703	32,617	-0%	36,402	33,101	-9%	6,900	6,610	-4%	1,859	1,670	-10%
	Multi-County Litigation	95	439	362%	3,804	42	-99%	224	505	125%	316	431	36%
	Non Multi-County Litigation	32,608	32,178	-1%	32,598	33,059	1%	6,676	6,105	-9%	1,543	1,239	-20%
<b>Bergen County</b>	Total	60,767	62,216	2%	60,346	64,339	7%	14,665	13,062	-11%	12,624	12,532	-1%
	Multi-County Litigation	603	396	-34%	458	1,755	283%	2,124	826	-61%	11,292	11,228	-1%
	Non-Multicounty Litigation	60,164	61,820	3%	59,888	62,584	5%	12,541	12,236	-2%	1,332	1,304	-2%
<b>Burlington County</b>		39,664	40,188	1%	40,025	40,290	1%	6,779	6,825	1%	417	228	-45%
<b>Camden County</b>		65,856	66,373	1%	65,734	66,949	2%	11,154	10,933	-2%	1,106	885	-20%
<b>Cape May County</b>		9,869	9,540	-3%	9,914	9,610	-3%	1,875	1,833	-2%	338	286	-15%
<b>Cumberland County</b>		22,381	21,821	-3%	22,237	22,129	-0%	3,295	3,187	-3%	585	399	-32%
<b>Essex County</b>		114,978	118,948	3%	112,272	120,227	7%	23,757	22,283	-6%	3,769	3,900	3%
<b>Gloucester County</b>		26,362	27,074	3%	26,582	27,382	3%	4,583	4,297	-6%	602	572	-5%
<b>Hudson County</b>		65,870	64,557	-2%	66,675	64,556	-3%	11,310	11,426	1%	1,129	952	-16%
<b>Hunterdon County</b>		6,210	5,866	-6%	6,327	5,895	-7%	1,061	1,036	-2%	73	58	-21%
<b>Mercer County</b>		37,779	37,856	0%	37,926	38,373	1%	6,781	6,524	-4%	996	840	-16%
<b>Middlesex County</b>	Total	63,235	64,842	3%	64,235	65,527	2%	14,476	14,637	1%	6,019	5,124	-15%
	Multi-County Litigation	140	202	44%	1,149	940	-18%	243	278	14%	3,867	3,090	-20%
	Non Multi-County Litigation	63,095	64,640	2%	63,086	64,587	2%	14,233	14,359	1%	2,152	2,034	-5%
<b>Monmouth County</b>		45,477	43,627	-4%	45,546	44,217	-3%	9,731	9,410	-3%	1,651	1,516	-8%
<b>Morris County</b>		26,238	25,693	-2%	26,209	26,496	1%	5,686	5,038	-11%	869	731	-16%
<b>Ocean County</b>		43,392	43,142	-1%	43,611	43,791	0%	8,633	8,042	-7%	1,363	1,281	-6%
<b>Passaic County</b>		51,766	53,444	3%	51,791	53,915	4%	9,977	9,680	-3%	1,344	1,089	-19%
<b>Salem County</b>		8,511	8,356	-2%	8,435	8,285	-2%	1,099	1,122	2%	77	121	57%
<b>Somerset County</b>		19,352	19,199	-1%	19,690	19,281	-2%	3,518	3,486	-1%	448	373	-17%
<b>Sussex County</b>		10,107	10,236	1%	10,221	10,384	2%	1,780	1,749	-2%	277	223	-19%
<b>Union County</b>		53,758	55,288	3%	53,339	55,587	4%	10,783	10,610	-2%	1,527	1,403	-8%
<b>Warren County</b>		9,220	9,021	-2%	9,310	9,139	-2%	1,336	1,296	-3%	132	81	-39%
<b>Total</b>		813,495	819,904	1%	816,827	829,473	2%	159,179	153,086	-4%	37,205	34,264	-8%
	Multi-County Litigation	838	1,037	24%	5,411	2,737	-49%	2,591	1,609	-38%	15,475	14,749	-5%
	Non Multi-County Litigation	812,657	818,867	1%	811,416	826,736	2%	156,588	151,477	-3%	21,730	19,515	-10%



# 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

**Julio L. Mendez**

Assignment Judge

**Howard H. Berchtold Jr.**

Trial Court Administrator

## Hudson

### Vicinage 6

**Peter F. Bariso Jr.**

Assignment Judge

**Marie L. Faber**

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

**Mary C. Jacobson**

Assignment Judge

**Sue Regan**

Trial Court Administrator

## Union

### Vicinage 12

**Karen M. Cassidy**

Assignment Judge

**James S. Agro**

Trial Court Administrator

## Burlington

### Vicinage 3

**Ronald E. Bookbinder**

Assignment Judge

**Jude Del Preore**

Trial Court Administrator

## Middlesex

### Vicinage 8

**Alberto Rivas**

Assignment Judge

**Dawn Brevard-Waters**

Trial Court Administrator

## Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren

### Vicinage 13

**Yolanda Ciccone**

Assignment Judge

**Adriana M. Calderon**

Trial Court Administrator

## Camden

### Vicinage 4

**Deborah Silverman Katz**

Assignment Judge

**Carole A. Cummings**

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

**Kenneth Kerwin**

Trial Court Administrator

## Essex

### Vicinage 5

**Sallyanne Floria**

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**

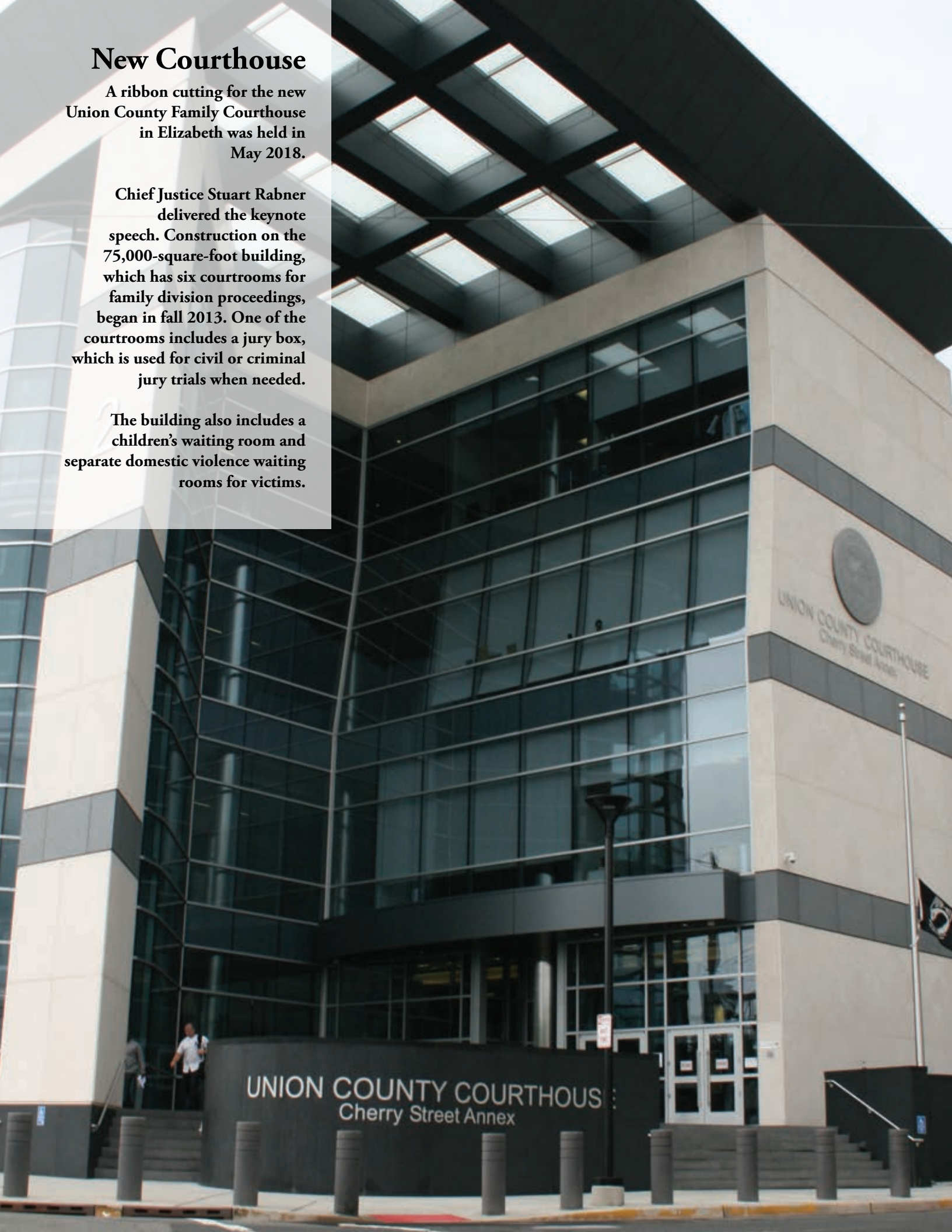
Trial Court Administrator

# New Courthouse

A ribbon cutting for the new Union County Family Courthouse in Elizabeth was held in May 2018.

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner delivered the keynote speech. Construction on the 75,000-square-foot building, which has six courtrooms for family division proceedings, began in fall 2013. One of the courtrooms includes a jury box, which is used for civil or criminal jury trials when needed.

The building also includes a children's waiting room and separate domestic violence waiting rooms for victims.





**STUART RABNER**  
CHIEF JUSTICE

**GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.**  
ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COURTS

**DECEMBER 2018**