

# SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

## REPORT

*To The*

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE

*In Response To*

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 143 OF  
THE 2011 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION



**FEBRUARY 14, 2014**

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## Exhibits:

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- 3. National Center for State Courts: Presentation on Weighted Caseload/Workload Assessment (January 23, 2104)*
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- 5. National Center for State Courts Report: An Assessment of Louisiana's Judicial Workload Model (January 2014)*
- 6. Appellate Court Profiles and Workload Data, 2002-2012*
- 7. Appellate Court Work Point Values Project: Project Summary and Recommendations (October 2012)*
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# **SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA**

## **Report in Response to House Concurrent Resolution 143 (2011 - Representative Rosalind Jones)**

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### **I. Introduction and Background**

House Concurrent Resolution 143 (hereinafter HCR 143) requested that the Supreme Court ... “conduct a comprehensive study of the caseload data and the number of judges of each appellate court, district court, parish court, and city court in Louisiana to determine changes necessary to the existing structure of the judiciary to provide the most efficient use of judicial resources...” The resolution further requested that the Court consider case filing data, case weights, court structure and finance, and the use of support personnel in this work. HCR 143 is attached to this report as Exhibit 1.

The resolution provided for a due date for the report on the courts of appeal and the parish courts by February 15, 2012, and a due date for the report on the district and city courts by February 15, 2014.

The Supreme Court submitted its report on the parish courts on February 14, 2012. In that report a summary of the structure, financing, operations, and workload of the state’s three parish courts was provided.

It was the Court’s intention to submit a report on the courts of appeal by the February 2012 date in the resolution. The HCR 143 Committee confronted several challenges at the outset of its work, however, regarding the courts of appeal. Chief among these challenges was the fact that the work point values for the courts of appeal needed to be updated. The Court contracted with the National Center for State Courts to review and make recommendations regarding workload calculations for the courts of appeal. That work is discussed in more detail in Section IV below. The report on the courts of appeal is included in this report.

This report is organized as follows: An overview of the study process and key activities is provided in parts II through IV. Information regarding the courts of appeal,

district courts, and parish courts is provided in parts V, VI and VII, respectively. General findings and recommendations are provided Part VIII.

## **II. The Supreme Court House Concurrent Resolution 143 Committee**

In the summer of 2011 the Supreme Court appointed a committee to assist it in responding to the resolution. A membership roster for the Committee is attached to this report as Exhibit 2. The Committee was staffed by the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office. The Committee met throughout the study process.

### **A. Study Process**

This report is based on the responses of judges to a series of surveys, information obtained during site visits to courts, staff research, testimony received at public hearings, and other activities designed to generate information responsive to the issues raised in the resolution.

Surveys - A series of surveys was developed for all of the courts studied. This included a *Chief Judge* survey requesting information from each chief judge regarding the structure and operations of the individual courts; and an *All Judge* survey which was sent to all judges (including chief judges) regarding the needs and issues facing their level of court generally. Staff research was conducted to supplement the survey information collected.

Responses to the *Chief Judge* survey were received from all chief judges in each appellate, district, and city court.<sup>1</sup> Response rates to the *All Judge* survey varied, as follows: courts of appeal - 74% of all judges responded; district courts - 62% of all judges responded; city courts - 81% of all judges responded. Response rates to the *All Judge* survey within courts with more than one judge likewise varied.

Site Visits - Site visits were made to certain courts. The purpose of these visits was to gather information regarding operations in the courts and to provide judges with an opportunity to respond to the issues raised in the resolution.

Because of their small number, site visits were made to all of the courts of appeal and parish courts. Site visits were made to those district and city courts that requested them.

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<sup>1</sup> The judge in one of the one-judge city courts was unable to submit a response to the Chief Judge survey.



Site visits were made to the following courts:

- Ascension Parish Court (Gonzales)
- Jefferson Parish First Parish Court (Metairie)
- Jefferson Parish Second Parish Court (Gretna)
- First Circuit Court of Appeal (Baton Rouge)
- Second Circuit Court of Appeal (Shreveport)
- Third Circuit Court of Appeal (Lake Charles)
- Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal (New Orleans)
- Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal (Gretna)
- New Orleans First City Court (New Orleans)
- New Orleans Municipal Court (New Orleans)
- New Orleans Traffic Court (New Orleans)
- Nineteenth Judicial District Court (Baton Rouge)
- Orleans Parish Civil District Court (New Orleans)
- Orleans Parish Criminal District Court (New Orleans)
- Orleans Parish Juvenile Court (New Orleans)

Public Hearings - With the Supreme Court's approval, the HCR 143 Committee held two public hearings on the issues raised in the resolution. Both hearings were held at the Louisiana State Capitol. The first hearing was held on October 16, 2013. The second hearing was held on January 23, 2014.

Twenty-four individuals testified at the October 2013 hearing. Four individuals represented themselves. The others represented the following entities:

- Louisiana State Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- New Orleans City Council, Criminal Justice Committee
- City of New Orleans, Office of the Mayor
- Bureau of Governmental Research
- Baptist Community Ministries
- New Orleans Inspector General
- Judicial Council of the National Bar Association
- Clerk of Orleans Parish Criminal District Court
- "We the People"
- Louisiana District Judges Association
- Orleans Parish Criminal District Court
- Orleans Parish Civil District Court
- New Orleans First City Court
- Orleans Parish Juvenile Court

- New Orleans Traffic Court
- New Orleans Municipal Court
- Sixteenth Judicial District Court

Six individuals testified at the January 23, 2014 public hearing. These individuals represented the following entities:

- Judicial Council Trial Court Committee on Judgeships
- Bureau of Governmental Research
- Lafayette City Court
- Louisiana City and Parish Court Judges Association
- National Center for State Courts

The testimony from the National Center for State Courts was accompanied by a presentation regarding judicial workload assessment. This presentation is attached to this report as Exhibit 3.

Video of both of the hearings can be accessed at <http://senate.la.gov/video/>.

### **III. Activities of the Judicial Council and the Trial Court Committee on Judgeships**

Case weights are one of the items the Legislature requested that the Supreme Court consider in its response to HCR 143. Case weights, known in Louisiana as “work point values,” are used by the Supreme Court’s Judicial Council to assess the need for additional judgeships, a role for the Council that is provided for by statute.<sup>2</sup>

Through its Trial Court Committee on Judgeships, the Judicial Council maintains work point values for the courts of appeal, district courts, city courts and parish courts, and it has promulgated guidelines regarding their application. Work point values are applied to court filings (dispositions in the courts of appeal) and used, along with other criteria, by the Council in developing recommendations to the Legislature regarding the need for additional judgeships.

The application of work point values to filings (dispositions in the courts of appeal) can provide a preliminary indication of judge workload and judgeship need. Considered with

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<sup>2</sup> See La. R.S. 13:61.

other criteria, the product of this application of values to filings (dispositions for the courts of appeal) is a helpful tool that has been used by the Judicial Council for many years to assist the Legislature in deliberations regarding the need for new judgeships. This process has never been used for the purpose of reducing judgeships.

In an effort to assist the HCR 143 Committee in its work, at the October 2013 meeting of the Judicial Council the chair of the Council's Trial Court Committee on Judgeships requested authorization to review the work point values for the district and city courts. This authorization was received.

In the months that followed, the Trial Court Committee on Judgeships:

- coordinated efforts with the Louisiana District Judges Association to solicit input from judges around the state regarding the work point values and the process used to make assessments regarding judicial workload generally;
- received a detailed on-site briefing from the National Center for State Courts on judicial workload assessment, in which Louisiana's model was compared to the best practice models used in other states;
- considered the extent to which changes in law and practice have impacted court workload and caseload;
- identified case types that may warrant greater work point values and considered the quality and quantity of information available on which to base such modifications;
- analyzed existing case filing data and assessed the scope and sufficiency of current data collection protocols;
- received comments from judges regarding court caseloads and judge workload;
- worked with the Chief Justice on the development of a data reporting protocol designed to gather information about workload in addition to case filing data; and
- conducted site visits to select courts to meet with judges and representatives from other justice system agencies.

The chair of the Trial Court Committee on Judgeships provided a verbal report on these activities to the HCR 143 Committee at its January 24, 2014 public hearing.

#### **IV. Consultation with the National Center for State Courts**

##### **A. Courts of Appeal**

As indicated, it was the Court's intention to submit a report on the courts of appeal by the February 2012 date in the resolution. However, the HCR 143 Committee confronted several challenges at the outset of its work. Chief among these was the fact that the work point values for the courts of appeal needed to be updated.

In November 2011 the Supreme Court contracted with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to review and make recommendations regarding the work point values for the courts of appeal. This work also involved a study of case complexity in the circuits. The HCR 143 Committee suspended its work on the courts of appeal while the NCSC was completing this project for the Supreme Court.

The Court established a Judicial Council Appellate Court Work Point Values Committee composed of appellate court judges, district court judges, and lawyers to provide high-level input on the project. The Court also established a Working Group composed of court of appeal judges from each circuit to work with NCSC consultants on the collection, review and analysis of data throughout the study period. These committees were staffed by the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office.

The NCSC submitted its report on appellate court work point values and case complexity to the Supreme Court in October 2012. Revised work point values for the courts of appeal were recommended in the report. These values were presented to the Judicial Council by the Appellate Court Work Point Values Committee and adopted by the Judicial Council at its October 2012 meeting. The Supreme Court submitted the NCSC report to the Legislature in November 2012. The NCSC report on appellate court work point values and case complexity is attached to this report as Exhibit 4.

##### **B. District and City Courts**

In October 2013 the Supreme Court again engaged the NCSC to work with the Judicial Council's Trial Court Committee on Judgeships, the HCR 143 Committee, and Supreme Court staff to review Louisiana's trial court workload assessment model and develop recommendations regarding improvements.

This work involved an extensive review by the NCSC of the Judicial Council's new judgeship review process; in-depth consultations with Supreme Court staff and the chair of the Trial Court Committee on Judgeships regarding the application of the judicial workload model; and a review of case filing data reporting protocols and prior reports completed by the Supreme Court and Judicial Council on judicial workload issues.

NCSC staff presented their preliminary findings to the HCR 143 Committee at the January 2014 public hearing. The NCSC's final report with recommendations is attached to this report as Exhibit 5.

## **V. The Courts of Appeal**

### **A. General**

Pursuant to the Constitution, Louisiana is divided into intermediate appellate circuits, each with one court.<sup>3</sup> These appellate courts are identified by law as the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth circuit courts of appeal.<sup>4</sup>

### **B. Jurisdiction**

#### **1. Subject Matter**

In civil cases all final judgments of district courts, city courts, juvenile courts and family courts can be appealed,<sup>5</sup> as can certain partial judgments.<sup>6</sup> An exception is any law or ordinance that has been declared unconstitutional, which is appealable directly to the Louisiana Supreme Court.<sup>7</sup>

In criminal cases a defendant may appeal to the court of appeal from a final judgment in a case triable by jury. The final judgment in such a case is a judgment in which a sentence is imposed. Capital cases in which a sentence of death has actually been imposed, however, are appealed directly to the Louisiana Supreme Court.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 8(A).

<sup>4</sup> La. R.S. 13:312.1.

<sup>5</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 10(A).

<sup>6</sup> La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann art. 1915.

<sup>7</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 5(D).

<sup>8</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 5(D).

## 2. Territorial

State law provides for the location and territorial jurisdiction of the courts of appeal. The territorial jurisdiction of the circuits is provided for on a parish, and not a judicial district, basis as follows:

Court	Location <sup>9</sup>	Parishes Served <sup>10</sup>
First Circuit	Baton Rouge	<u>16 total</u> : Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Lafourche, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana parishes
Second Circuit	Shreveport	<u>20 total</u> : Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Claiborne, DeSoto, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, Tensas, Union, Webster, West Carroll, and Winn parishes
Third Circuit	Lake Charles	<u>21 total</u> : Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Cameron, Calcasieu, Catahoula, Concordia, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabine, St. Martin, St. Landry, Vermilion, and Vernon parishes
Fourth Circuit	New Orleans	<u>3 total</u> : Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard parishes
Fifth Circuit	Gretna	<u>4 total</u> : Jefferson, St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist parishes

Judicial districts (the designation given to the state's courts of general jurisdiction) generally fall entirely within a circuit. There are two exceptions, however: the Twenty-Third Judicial District and the Sixteenth Judicial District. In the Twenty-Third Judicial District, Assumption and Ascension parishes fall within the First appellate circuit, and St. James Parish falls within the Fifth appellate circuit. In the Sixteenth Judicial District, St. Martin and Iberia parishes fall within the Third appellate circuit, and St. Mary Parish falls within the First appellate circuit.

## 3. Supervisory Jurisdiction

Louisiana's intermediate courts of appeal have supervisory jurisdiction. This supervisory jurisdiction allows each court of appeal, in its discretion, to review a ruling in any case that arises within its circuit, subject to the general supervisory jurisdiction of the Louisiana Supreme Court.<sup>11</sup> This jurisdiction is exercised when a party to a case submits a

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<sup>9</sup> La. R.S. 13:312.1.

<sup>10</sup> La. R.S. 13:312.

<sup>11</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 10(A).

writ to the appellate court with jurisdiction. The appellate court is not bound to grant the writ; however in its supervisory discretion it may do so.

#### **4. Scope of Review**

Except as limited to questions of law by the Louisiana Constitution, or as provided by law in the review of administrative agency decisions, the jurisdiction of the courts of appeal in civil cases extends to both law and facts. In criminal matters, the appellate jurisdiction extends only to questions of law.<sup>12</sup>

### **C. Appellate Court Operations**

#### **1. Court Leadership and Governance**

The judge oldest in point of service on each court of appeal is the chief judge.<sup>13</sup> The chief judge of each circuit administers the court subject to rules adopted by it.<sup>14</sup> The circuits are permitted to operate under their own set of rules to the extent these rules do not conflict with law or with the rules of the Louisiana Supreme Court. In addition to local rules, the circuits have adopted a set of uniform rules governing practice in the courts of appeal.<sup>15</sup>

Judges in the courts of appeal meet routinely in scheduled *en banc* conferences to discuss administrative issues. Several of the circuits report that they have committees that have been created to advise the chief judge in the circuit on issues relating to human resource/personnel matters, information technology, budget issues, legislation, rules, security, continuity of operations, “green” initiatives, building management, and docket management.

All circuits except the Fourth Circuit maintain satellite offices for some of their judges.

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<sup>12</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 10(B).

<sup>13</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 12.

<sup>14</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 12.

<sup>15</sup> The appellate courts’ uniform rules and local rules can be found at <http://www.lasc.org/rules/Appellate.asp>. (Last accessed 2/13/14.)

## 2. Judges

The term of a court of appeal judge is set by the Louisiana Constitution at ten years.<sup>16</sup> A court of appeal judge must be domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit for one year preceding election, and the judge shall have been admitted to the practice of law for ten years.<sup>17</sup> Terms are unlimited, except a judge may not run for election if over 70 years old. A judge who reaches the age of 70 while in office may complete his or her term.<sup>18</sup>

Each circuit is divided into at least three districts and at least one judge is elected from each district.<sup>19</sup> Two of the Fourth Circuit's judges are elected from the circuit at large.<sup>20</sup>

State law provides for the number of judges in each circuit.<sup>21</sup> The Supreme Court has the authority to assign a sitting or retired judge to any court.<sup>22</sup> There are 53 appellate court judges in the state, distributed among the circuits as follows:

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Number of Judges</b>
First Circuit	12
Second Circuit	9
Third Circuit	12
Fourth Circuit	12
Fifth Circuit	8

Appellate court judges' salaries are provided for in statute. Appellate court judges are paid entirely with state funds.

## 3. The Use of Panels

Court of appeal judges do all of their work in panels – usually of three judges – whether a case involves oral argument or not. Law and court rule define when panels of a different size shall be used.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 8(C).

<sup>17</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 24.

<sup>18</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 23.

<sup>19</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 9.

<sup>20</sup> La. R.S. 13:312.1(D).

<sup>21</sup> La. R.S. 13:312.1.

<sup>22</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 5(A).

<sup>23</sup> See La. Const. art V, § 8; See also Uniform Rules for the Courts of Appeal, Rule 1.5.



Each circuit maintains its own method of assigning judges to panels, randomly assigning cases to panels, and assigning judges to author opinions.

#### **4. Court Staff**

According to the Constitution, each court is permitted to select a clerk and other staff and to prescribe their duties.<sup>24</sup> Appellate court staff are paid entirely with funds appropriated by the Legislature at rates set in a pay plan developed by the Supreme Court's Human Resources Committee.

The total number of staff in each circuit differs, as follows:

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Budgeted Full-Time Positions (FY13-14)</b>	<b>Budgeted Student Positions (FY13-14)</b>	<b>Total Budgeted Positions (FY13-14)</b>
First Circuit	95	12	107
Second Circuit	51	12	63
Third Circuit	79	0	79
Fourth Circuit	75	13	88
Fifth Circuit	55	0	55

Staff positions and duties are as follows:

Clerk of Court - All of the circuits have a clerk of court. The clerk serves at the pleasure of the court.<sup>25</sup> The clerk's duties are essentially the same across the circuits and involve keeping the court's records. Clerks of court may also be involved, however, in case screening, docketing, and case management.

The clerks of court also work closely with the chief judge of the circuit on a wide range of administrative functions, including day-to-day administration, human resources and personnel, budgeting and finance, technology issues and intergovernmental issues. The size of the clerk's office staff varies across the circuits.

Law Clerks - All appellate court judges have law clerks. Each judge typically employs two law clerks; the chief judge may employ three, one of whom may be designated

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<sup>24</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 13.

<sup>25</sup> La. R.S. 13:353(A).

as administrative general counsel (AGC). The AGC assists the chief judge as directed, but may also work on projects for the court at the discretion of the chief judge.

Law clerks generally assist the judge to whom they are assigned with legal research and writing. These law clerks may be hired on a short term basis, at the hiring judge's discretion.

Other Legal Staff - All of the circuits have a central staff of lawyers responsible for screening cases and assisting in legal research, though the size of these units varies. These attorneys work for the court as a whole rather than for an individual judge and may be assigned to review and research civil and/or criminal appeals and/or writs. These staff members prepare memoranda on individual cases, as directed by the court. The court's workload, case screening practices, and related issues typically dictate how the central staff is organized and the nature of their duties.

Other Staff - Each circuit has a business services manager and support staff responsible for budgeting and related finance and administrative tasks. These staff typically report to the clerk of court. Several of the circuits also employ information technology staff.

Security is provided by officers who are either part of the clerk's office staff, work on assignment from a local law enforcement entity, or work under contract or other arrangement.

All judges have a secretary and/or an administrative assistant. Courts may also employ couriers.

#### **D. Court Technology**

The courts of appeal use a variety of technology tools to assist them in their work. Funding for technology projects and systems maintenance is typically built into each circuit's annual budget request.

E-filing is being planned in several circuits. E-notification, a system provided for in law which allows attorneys to receive communications from the clerk of court by e-mail, is in use in three circuits. Video conferencing is also used in several of the circuits, and remote access is provided in most of the circuits to allow judges and staff working in satellite offices to access court servers and networks.

All of the circuits use an electronic case management system to monitor case activity from intake/docketing through disposition. All circuits also report to the Supreme Court annually, using uniform reporting criteria and categories, on filings, opinions rendered, appeals pending, and other actions. This information is compiled annually for publication in the Supreme Court's annual report,<sup>26</sup> and it is used to analyze caseflow according to aspirational time standards promulgated by the Supreme Court.<sup>27</sup>

Other uses of technology in the circuits include the ability for attorneys to pay fees and/or costs on-line and by credit card; the streaming of court hearings over the Internet; electronic document management capabilities involving the scanning and storage of case documents, exhibits and other case-related items. Such items are retrievable by judges and court staff, and by attorneys.

## **E. Court Finance**

Funding for the courts of appeal is provided for in the annual judicial appropriations bill. In addition to receiving funds appropriated by the Legislature, all five circuits generate a small percentage of operating revenue from the costs and fees they impose. This self-generated revenue was reported to represent no more than 1.5% of revenues in FY 2012-2013 in any of the circuits. Each court maintains its own schedule of court costs and fees. These schedules are available on each court's website.

State appropriated funds for the judiciary totaled \$167,572,877 in FY 2013-2104. State appropriated funds for the operations for the circuits for FY 2013-2014 is as follows:

<b>Court</b>	<b>Annual Budget (FY 2013-2014)</b>
First Circuit	\$9,329,051
Second Circuit	\$5,361,316
Third Circuit	\$8,150,359
Fourth Circuit	\$7,392,190
Fifth Circuit	\$5,517,570

Additional detail regarding funds appropriated to the courts of appeal can be found in the judicial appropriations bill.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>26</sup> See [http://www.lasc.org/press\\_room/annual\\_reports/default.asp](http://www.lasc.org/press_room/annual_reports/default.asp). (Last accessed 2/13/14.)

<sup>27</sup> See Supreme Court Rules, Part G, § 6.

<sup>28</sup> See, La. Acts 2013, Regular Session, No. 64.

The judges of each circuit develop their own budget. These budgets must be approved by the Judicial Budgetary Control Board before being incorporated into the annual judicial appropriations bill.

## **F. Appellate Court Workload**

The courts of appeal maintain information about their filings, dispositions and caseloads that is detailed, specific, and comparable across jurisdictions. All circuits report to the Supreme Court annually, using uniform reporting criteria and categories, on filings, opinions rendered, appeals pending, and other actions.

Statewide, filings of all types in the courts of appeal have declined during the last decade.<sup>29</sup> The rate of change within the circuits may or may not be consistent with this statewide trend. This has resulted in an imbalance in workload among the circuits. During the period the circuits have remained current with their dockets. Exhibit 6.

In its October 2012 report on workload and case complexity issues in the courts of appeal, the National Center for State Courts applied updated work point values to the work of the circuits in 2011. The application of these revised values suggests that the number of appellate court judges may be insufficient.<sup>30</sup> Given current budgetary constraints, the courts of appeal indicate that additional staff, not judges, may be the most appropriate immediate response to any workload problems.

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<sup>29</sup> Between 2002 and 2012, appeals dropped 23%, *pro se* writs dropped 32%, and non *pro se* writs dropped 15% statewide.

<sup>30</sup> In its 2012 report the NCSC stated: "It should be noted that as the mix of case types disposed and the overall dispositional activity varies from year to year, the calculated judicial need will likewise change. The NCSC makes no representation about the number of judges needed and makes this reference only as a means to communicate how WPVs (work point values) translate into calculated judicial need. Further, the assessment of judgeships needed on a statewide or circuit-specific basis must include an analysis of other factors in addition to workload. This should include procedural, staffing and local cultural issues unique to each circuit...These assessments, and the criteria that is used to orient them, are within the purview of the Supreme Court and its Judicial Council." (Page 7.) In its report the NCSC also stated: "Further, the effective use of work point values requires periodic review, testing and, when necessary, refinement as their implications are fully considered and as conditions change. Such review, testing, and refinement of work point values would incorporate changes to the availability and quality of data; changes to law, rule, or policy governing how business in the courts is conducted; the use of case processing performance data; and the results of any general assessments regarding the sufficiency of judicial resources in the circuits, including input from key appellate court stakeholders." (Page 8.)

## **G. Appellate Court Needs and Issues**

The following questions were presented to all appellate court judges. The answers provided by judges in each circuit were discussed during the site visit to that circuit. Seventy-four percent of the appellate court judges responded to the survey. Response rates to the survey varied across the five circuits, and not all judges participated in the site visits. Further, not every judge answered each question. Accordingly, some courts are overrepresented in the pool of responses.

The responses below have not been taken verbatim from survey responses and are not to be taken as consensus statements from any individual circuit; rather they are suggestive of broad needs and issues raised by judges to open-ended questions regarding operations at the appellate court level.

### **1. Is your circuit lacking any of the following resources (options included judges, staff, funding, space)?**

Responses dealt generally with the need for merit raises for staff; the need for additional staff generally, and specifically for staff to assist in administrative matters and in the processing of writs filed by self-represented litigants; additional funding to support judicial education; additional judges; funding for technology staff and technology improvements; funding for furniture; and the need for a new facility.

### **2. Have there been any recent changes in statutes and/or court rules that have impacted the courts of appeal, favorably or unfavorably?**

Responses dealt generally with the impact on workload resulting from changes to Code of Civil Procedure articles 966 and 1915, which deal with summary judgment and appeals of certain partial judgments, respectively; the impact on the courts of post conviction relief filings; the impact on workload of writs, especially those filed by self-represented parties; and too many rules generally.

### **3. What, if any, changes to statutes and/or court rules do you think could be made to assist the courts of appeal generally?**

Responses dealt generally with the need for mediation programs at the appellate court level and the value of mandatory court ordered mediation at the district court level; greater use of e-filing at the district court level and above; and the need to review the provisions in

law and rule relating to the designation of cases by the Legislature as “preference” cases eligible for expedited treatment.<sup>31</sup>

Responses also dealt generally with the need for protocols to balance the distribution of cases among the circuits through an equalization plan or through changing venue laws for “state/seat of government” cases to allow them to be distributed evenly among the circuits; the need to review laws relating to post conviction relief and address the demands associated with handling the volume of post conviction relief applications; the need to assure consistency in reporting filing data to the Supreme Court; the need for permanent funding for the Louisiana Judicial College; and the need for a way to assess the needs of a court upon the creation of a judicial vacancy.

**4. Are there court customs or practices that hamper case processing or overall court efficiency in your circuit?**

Responses dealt generally with delays in docketing due to the need to equalize the number of cases received by each judge; and delays between judgment in the trial court and the lodging of a case in the court of appeal.

**5. Are there court customs or practices that could improve case processing or overall court efficiency in your circuit?**

Responses dealt generally with the need to make opinions available to the public more than once per week; the need for modifications and improvements to screening procedures to allow criminal cases to get on the docket more quickly; the need for improvements to case management systems at the district court level; and the need for e-filing to be implemented and used to the greatest degree possible.

**6. Are technology investments needed in your circuit?**

Responses dealt generally with the need for a better case tracking software/case management system; the need for additional software and computer equipment; greater use of videoconferencing; and the need for technology upgrades generally, and specifically to support e-filing and e-notification application development and implementation.

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<sup>31</sup> See generally Gail S. Stevenson, *Reaching the Top of the Docket: Louisiana’s Preference System*, 56 Loy. L. Rev. 155 (2010).

**7. Judicial Council Committee and Working Group recently made recommendations to the Judicial Council on revised work point values for the courts of appeal. Do you have any comments on this?**

(The report referenced in this question is attached to this report as Exhibit 7.)

Responses dealt generally with the need to more heavily weigh oil, gas and toxic tort cases. General agreement was also expressed in the recommendations made by the Judicial Council committee.

**8. Is there any other information you would like the HCR 143 Committee and the Supreme Court to know regarding your circuit?**

Responses dealt generally with the need to address the disparity in workload among the circuits; the demands associated with processing writs, and the need for additional staff to assist in criminal cases; the demands associated with processing filings by self-represented parties; the benefits, if any, associated with bringing all parishes within a judicial district into the same appellate circuit; and the need to develop a mechanism for allocating judicial resources to areas of need.

## **VI. The District Courts**

### **A. General**

The district court is Louisiana's trial court of general jurisdiction. There are 42 judicial districts in Louisiana and 48 district courts.<sup>32</sup>

### **B. Jurisdiction**

#### **1. Subject Matter Jurisdiction**

In general, district courts have jurisdiction over all matters within their territorial limits.<sup>33</sup> Exceptions exist in Orleans Parish and in the First (Caddo Parish), Nineteenth (East Baton Rouge Parish), and Twenty-Fourth (Jefferson Parish) judicial districts, where

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<sup>32</sup> La. R.S. 13:477; La. R.S. 13:1136 and La. R.S. 13:1335 (Orleans Parish district courts). The 48 district courts total includes the four juvenile courts and one family court. See La. R.S. 13:1561 *et seq.* and La. R.S. 13:1401.

<sup>33</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 16(A)

dedicated family, juvenile, traffic, and municipal courts have exclusive jurisdiction over certain types of cases.<sup>34</sup>

District courts share civil jurisdiction with city, parish, and justice of the peace courts for some types of civil matters.<sup>35</sup> District courts also share jurisdiction with the city and parish courts for misdemeanor criminal matters and for juvenile cases in districts where there is no separate juvenile court.<sup>36</sup> Orleans Parish Criminal District Court is an exception. In Orleans parish, jurisdiction for violations of city ordinances is exclusive to the dedicated traffic and municipal courts.<sup>37</sup>

## **2. Territorial Jurisdiction**

The Louisiana Constitution provides for the state to be divided into judicial districts to include at least one parish and at least one judge.<sup>38</sup> The parishes that make up each district, as well as the election sections that fall within each district, are provided for by law.<sup>39</sup>

Twenty-eight of the district courts contain only one parish. Six districts include two parishes, and eight contain three parishes. In districts comprised of more than one parish, each parish has a separate courthouse with its own clerk and separate docket. Judges in a

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<sup>34</sup> La. R.S. 13:2493 (New Orleans Municipal Court); La. R.S. 13:2501.1 (New Orleans Traffic Court); La. Const. art. V, § 18.

<sup>35</sup> Civil jurisdiction of city, parish, and justice of the peace courts is limited by the nature of the proceeding and the amount in controversy. Proceedings that may not be heard by limited jurisdiction courts include successions or probate matters; cases in which a succession is the defendant; claims for annulment of marriage, divorce, separation of property, or alimony; matters concerned with adoption, emancipation, interdiction or filiation of persons; receiverships, habeas corpus, or *quo warranto* proceedings; when the state, political corporation, parish or other political subdivision is a party defendant; where title to immovable property is involved; in election contests; in a case where a state, parish or other public official is involved in his official capacity, or where the right to office or other public position is involved; over civil or political rights; where a federal or state law or a parish or municipal ordinance is sought to be invalidated, or cases involving the appointment of receivers or liquidators for corporations or partnerships; and a case in which the plaintiff asserts civil or political rights under the federal or state constitutions. See La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. arts. 1732, 4841, 4847, and 4911; La. R.S. 13:2563.2; La. R.S. 13:1444.

Civil jurisdiction for limited jurisdiction courts is also limited by the amount in controversy, ranging from \$5,000 to \$49,999 in various courts. See La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. arts. 4841 to 4845, and 4911.

<sup>36</sup> La. R.S. 13:1894; La. Child. Code Ann. art. 302.

<sup>37</sup> La. R.S. 13:1336; La. R.S. 13:2493(A); La. R.S. 13:2501.1(F).

<sup>38</sup> La. Const. art. V, §14.

<sup>39</sup> La. R.S. 13:477; La. R.S. 13:1136 and La. R.S. 13:1335.



district with more than one parish have the authority to preside over dockets in all of the parishes within that district.<sup>40</sup>

### **3. Appellate Jurisdiction**

District courts have appellate jurisdiction over civil cases from justice of the peace courts in parishes where no parish court exists. These appeals are heard *de novo*.<sup>41</sup> Civil cases from city and parish courts are generally appealable to the courts of appeal; however, the Nineteenth Judicial District Court has appellate jurisdiction over cases heard in the city courts in the district.<sup>42</sup> The scope of civil appeals generally extends to both the facts and the law.<sup>43</sup>

District courts have appellate jurisdiction over violations of municipal ordinances tried in city, parish, municipal, and traffic courts. These appeals are heard on issues of law only. District courts also hear appeals from certain criminal cases heard in mayor's courts and justice of the peace courts.<sup>44</sup> These appeals are also tried *de novo*.

Criminal cases from city and parish courts tried under a state statute are not appealable, but may be reviewed under the supervisory jurisdiction of the appropriate court of appeal.<sup>45</sup> An exception to this rule is the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, which has appellate jurisdiction over cases triable by a jury from a city court located in the district.<sup>46</sup> Another exception is Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, which has appellate jurisdiction over all cases from New Orleans Municipal Court and New Orleans Traffic Court as well as supervisory jurisdiction over these courts.<sup>47</sup> Supervisory jurisdiction allows the higher court, in its discretion, to review any ruling in any case that arises within the lower court. This jurisdiction is exercised when a party to a case submits a writ to the higher court. The supervising court is not bound to hear the writ, but in its supervisory discretion it may do so.

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<sup>40</sup> La. R.S. 13:502; *State v. Cooper*, 2010-2344 (La. 11/16/10), 50 So. 3d 115, 130.

<sup>41</sup> La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. art. 4924.

<sup>42</sup> La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. art. 5001.

<sup>43</sup> La. Const. art. V, §10(A).

<sup>44</sup> La. R.S. 13:1896 A; La. Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 912.1(c).

<sup>45</sup> La. R.S. 13:1896 B; La. Code Crim. Proc. art. 912.1(C).

<sup>46</sup> La. Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 912.1(B)(2).

<sup>47</sup> La. R.S. 13:1337.

#### **4. District Courts of Specialized Jurisdiction: Juvenile and Family Courts**

The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish and the juvenile courts of Orleans, East Baton Rouge, Caddo, and Jefferson parishes are courts with exclusive original jurisdiction over certain types of domestic and juvenile matters, including some adult offenses involving children.<sup>48</sup> In the other judicial districts these cases may be handled by district courts, parish courts, or city courts.<sup>49</sup>

A notable exception to this grant of exclusive jurisdiction includes those cases involving a youth charged with first degree murder, second degree murder, aggravated rape, or aggravated kidnapping, and who is fifteen or older at the time of the alleged commission of the offense. In such cases, the district attorney may bring the case in either juvenile court or district court. If the case is brought in district court, the juvenile court is divested of jurisdiction.<sup>50</sup>

#### **5. Specialized Divisions of District Courts**

District courts may create or dedicate one or more divisions to hearing certain specialized matters as allowed by law, including family or juvenile matters, drug court, driving while intoxicated court, criminal or civil matters, mental health court, misdemeanor matters, traffic matters, violent crimes, homicides, or other matters of specialized subject matter jurisdiction.<sup>51</sup>

### **C. Court Structure and Administration**

#### **1. Court Leadership and Governance**

The judges in each district court have the authority to elect a chief judge to administer the court pursuant to rules adopted by it.<sup>52</sup> The term of the chief judge is determined by the judges of the district.<sup>53</sup> In some jurisdictions, the position of chief judge rotates automatically according to a schedule set by the court; in others, the chief judge is elected by

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<sup>48</sup> La. Const. art. V, §18; La. Child. Code Ann. arts. 303 and 312.

<sup>49</sup> La. Child. Code Ann. art. 302.

<sup>50</sup> La. Child. Code Ann. art. 305(A).

<sup>51</sup> La. Const. art. V, §15; La. R.S. 13:587 *et seq.*; La. R.S. 13:5304.

<sup>52</sup> La. Const. art. V, §17.

<sup>53</sup> *Id.*

the judges. The term of the chief judge ranges from one year to open-ended. The scope of authority and duties of the chief judge are typically set by local rule.<sup>54</sup>

The district courts operate pursuant to a set of uniform rules that have been promulgated by the Supreme Court.<sup>55</sup> These uniform rules contain appendices with additional local rules applicable to each district.<sup>56</sup>

Most judges meet regularly, typically monthly, in *en banc* meetings to discuss administrative matters. A few of the larger courts may maintain committees dealing with human resources, finance, budgeting, technology, security or other areas of administration.

## 2. Judges

State law provides for the number of judges in each judicial district.<sup>57</sup> A district judge must be domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of the court for one year preceding election and been admitted to the practice of law in Louisiana for at least eight years.<sup>58</sup> District judges serve six-year terms.<sup>59</sup> Terms are unlimited, except a judge may not run for election if over 70 years old. A judge who reaches the age of 70 while in office may complete his or her term.<sup>60</sup>

There are currently 236 district court judges in the state.<sup>61</sup> The Supreme Court has the authority under the Constitution to assign a sitting or retired judge to any court.<sup>62</sup>

The majority of Louisiana's district courts are small. Forty percent of the district courts have fewer than three judges. See below.

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<sup>54</sup> *Id.*

<sup>55</sup> The uniform rules for the district courts can be found at <http://www.lasc.org/rules/DistrictCourt.asp>. (Last accessed 2/13/14.)

<sup>56</sup> La. R.S. 13:472.

<sup>57</sup> La. R.S. 13:621.1 through 621.43.

<sup>58</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 24.

<sup>59</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 15(C). Juvenile and family court judges also serve six-year terms.

<sup>60</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 23.

<sup>61</sup> This figure includes judges in the four juvenile courts, the East Baton Rouge Family Court, and the elected magistrate judge in Orleans Parish Criminal Court. It does not include commissioners or hearing officers.

<sup>62</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 5(A).

Number of Judges	Number of Courts	Percentage of All District Courts
1-2 Judges	19	40%
3-4 Judges	11	23%
5-6 Judges	6	13%
7-8 Judges	2	4%
9-10 Judges	2	4%
11-12 Judges	4	8%
13-14 Judges	2	4%
15-16 Judges	2	4%

### 3. Other Judicial Officers

According to chief judge survey responses, just over half of the district courts (57%) have a magistrate, commissioner or hearing officer to assist in their workload. With the exception of the magistrate judge in Criminal District Court, who is elected, these judicial officers are appointed by the judges in the district in which they sit. In most cases, the salaries of these judicial officers are paid by local funds. In some cases, however, they are paid by funds appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose.<sup>63</sup>

The scope of authority and the eligibility requirements for judicial officers are provided for by law and jurisprudence.<sup>64</sup>

According to chief judge survey responses, judicial officers assist with criminal matters such as arraignments, warrants, bond-setting, initial appearances, non-support matters, and post-disposition matters including prisoner suits and hearings for post conviction relief. Judicial officers also are involved with domestic and family civil matters including child support, uncontested divorces, and issuance of protective orders. They also assist with juvenile matters, including juvenile traffic violations.

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<sup>63</sup> The salaries of the two commissioners in the Nineteenth Judicial District (East Baton Rouge Parish) and the salary of one commissioner of the Fifteenth Judicial District (Acadia, Lafayette and Vermilion parishes) are paid for with state-appropriated funds. See La. R.S. 13: 712 and La. R.S. 13:715, respectively. Salaries and related expenses of the commissioners in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court are also paid with state appropriated funds. See La. R.S. 13: 1347.

<sup>64</sup> La. R.S. 13:711 *et seq.* (Nineteenth Judicial District Court Commissioners); La. R.S. 13:1347 (Orleans Parish Criminal District Court Commissioners); La. R.S. 46:236.5 (Hearing officers for family and domestic matters); La. Child. Code Ann. art. 423; *State v. Smalls*, 2009-2695 (La. 10/19/10), 48 So. 3d 212.

#### 4. Clerk of Court and Court Reporters

Clerk of Court - The Louisiana Constitution provides for clerks of the district courts. A clerk is elected from each parish and serves a term of four years.<sup>65</sup> This means that courts in multi-parish districts are served by multiple clerks. Clerks of court have powers and duties as prescribed by law.<sup>66</sup> The structure, functions and operations of the clerks of court is outside the scope of this report.

Clerks have the authority, with the approval of the judges, to appoint deputy clerks who possess all the powers and authority of the clerk unless otherwise provided by law.<sup>67</sup> Deputy clerks are appointed to assist in carrying out the business of the clerk's office and the court and may act as minute clerks.<sup>68</sup>

Minute Clerks - Orleans Parish civil and criminal district court judges appoint their own minute clerks.<sup>69</sup> In other parishes, the clerk, with the approval of the court, may appoint deputy clerks to perform the duties of minute clerks. Duties of minute clerks include administering oaths of witnesses and jurors, filing all documents and exhibits presented in open court, transcribing minutes of all court proceedings, and other duties as directed by the court.<sup>70</sup>

Court Reporters - Louisiana law provides for the appointment of court reporters in the judicial district courts.<sup>71</sup> Court reporters are generally appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the judge(s) in each district.<sup>72</sup> Their qualifications and duties are set out by statute and include taking testimony in court, preparing transcripts of that testimony when needed for appeals, and administering oaths to parties appearing before them.<sup>73</sup>

Court reporter salaries are generally paid for by local and self-generated funds, but court reporters in the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, Orleans Parish Criminal Court, and Orleans

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<sup>65</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 28.

<sup>66</sup> La. R.S. 13:910; La. R.S. 13:1211.

<sup>67</sup> La. R.S. 13:910; La. R.S. 13:1211; La. R.S. 13:1371.2(B).

<sup>68</sup> *Id.*

<sup>69</sup> La. R.S. 13:1211; La. R.S. 13:1373.

<sup>70</sup> La. R.S. 13:910; La. R.S. 13:1211; La. R.S. 13:1373.

<sup>71</sup> La. R.S. 13:961 *et seq.*; La. R.S. 13:1271; La. R.S. 13:1373.

<sup>72</sup> *Id.*

<sup>73</sup> La. R.S. 13:961.1.

Parish Juvenile Court are paid with state-appropriated funds.<sup>74</sup> Local government is generally responsible for providing an office and equipment for each court reporter.<sup>75</sup>

## **5. Court Staff**

According to chief judge survey responses, district court staff range from a low of 2 to a high of 130. Staff members include court administrators, law clerks, minute clerks, secretaries, court reporters, probation officers, case managers, FINS officers, drug court employees, accountants, court reporters, and security officers.

Court Administrators - According to Chief Judge survey responses, many (63%) of the district courts have a court administrator. Administrators typically assist the chief judge and other judges in the day to day administration of the court. This typically involves duties relating to: human resources and personnel administration; budgeting and finance; grant writing; management and oversight of special programs such as drug courts and other problem solving courts; intergovernmental relations; docketing, calendaring and case management; and technology management.

Funds from local government and self-generated sources are typically used to pay the salary and expenses of a court administrator. Orleans Criminal District Court is an exception. State-appropriated funds are used to pay salaries and benefits of the Judicial Administrator and assistants in that court. These state-appropriated funds are provided for in the judicial appropriations bill.

Law Clerks - According to chief judge survey responses, most (81%) of the district courts have law clerks. In some courts law clerks are shared; in others each judge has his or her own law clerk. Some law clerk positions are short term and others are permanent. Several courts report that summer law clerks are used. Funds from local government and self-generated sources are typically used to pay the salary and expenses of a law clerk. Exceptions are thirteen law clerks in Orleans Criminal District Court and one law clerk in the Twentieth Judicial District, whose salaries are provided by the Legislature.<sup>76</sup>

Duties of law clerks generally include legal research but may also involve docket management; jury trial preparation; reviewing post conviction relief applications; serving as a hearing officer; tracking appeals; reviewing motions from self represented parties; grant

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<sup>74</sup> La. R.S. 13:961(E); La. R.S. 13:1372; 13:966.1; 13:1373.1.; 13:1347.

<sup>75</sup> La. R.S. 13:961.

<sup>76</sup> Act 747 of 1977.

writing and program development; and some administrative and clerical duties, including scheduling pretrial and other conferences; and providing other needed services in support of the daily operations of the court.

Operations/Support Staff - According to chief judge survey responses, courts employ a variety of staff to support the work of the court. These include case managers; office administrators; secretaries; custodians; accountants and financial coordinators/bookkeepers; jury coordinators; paralegals; department managers; docket clerks; docket (criminal/civil) coordinators; staff for programs such as drug courts and FINS; misdemeanor probation officers; information technology staff; collections officers; juvenile coordinators; and public information officers. State-appropriated, local government, and self-generated funds are used to pay the salaries of court support staff.<sup>77</sup>

## **6. Security**

According to Chief Judge survey responses, security in courthouses and courtrooms is typically provided by the local sheriff/local law enforcement or local government.<sup>78</sup> Expenses of providing security may be split among courts, clerks and local government.<sup>79</sup>

### **D. Court Finance**

District courts rely on a combination of state-appropriated funds, and an often fluctuating level of local government support, self-generated funds, grants, and other sources of revenue to fund their operations. According to chief judge survey responses, self-generated and local funds, not state funds, represent the largest sources of revenue in the majority of courts. The amount of revenue and the proportion of revenue from each available source varies considerably among courts.

#### **1. State-Appropriated Funds**

State funds are appropriated by the Legislature annually for district judges' salaries, benefits, travel, and certain office expenses.<sup>80</sup> State funds are also appropriated for staff and operations in some courts.<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> La. R.S. 13:698; *see also* the courts' judicial expense fund statutes cited in note 51, *infra*.

<sup>78</sup> *See* La. District Court Rule 5.2.

<sup>79</sup> For example, *see* La. R.S. 13:852.

<sup>80</sup> La. R.S. 13:691; La. R.S. 13:694; La. R.S. 13:698; La. R.S. 13:1341.2.

<sup>81</sup> *See* La. R.S. 13:961(E); La. R.S. 13:1372; 13:966.1; 13:1373.1; 13:1347; Act 747 of 1977.

State appropriated funds for the judiciary totaled \$167,572,877 in FY 2013-2104. Detail regarding funds appropriated to the district courts can be found in the judicial appropriations bill.<sup>82</sup>

The state-appropriated portion of the district courts' budget must be approved by the Judicial Budgetary Control Board before being incorporated into the annual judicial appropriations bill.

Funds are also appropriated by the Legislature for court-related programs that enhance the administration of justice by the judiciary, including drug court programs, Court Appointed Special Advocate programs, Families in Need of Services programs, and legal representation of children in child protection cases. These programs serve district courts as well as city courts exercising juvenile jurisdiction. In FY 2013-2014, \$28.1 million in state and federal funds were appropriated by the Legislature for these programs. These funds are administered by the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office and allocated to programs around the state for their specified purposes.

## **2. Self-Generated and Local Funds**

Self-Generated Revenue - An array of costs, fees and fines in both criminal and civil matters are provided for by law and may be imposed by judges. Revenue generated from the imposition of some of the costs and fees are to be used at the judges' discretion, generally for purposes related to the administration of the courts.<sup>83</sup> The revenue from other costs and fees is distributed to other bodies for specific regional or statewide purposes, as provided for by law.<sup>84</sup>

Local Funds - According to law, each parish is to provide a building and related items for district courts.<sup>85</sup> By law, however, judges in several jurisdictions are authorized to impose certain costs and/or fees to generate revenue for limited purposes associated with the

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<sup>82</sup> See, La. Acts 2013, Regular Session, No. 64.

<sup>83</sup> Costs and fees provided for in the several judicial expense funds are an example of these. See La. R.S. 13:991 *et seq.*; La. R.S. 13:1565.2; La. R.S. 13:1595.2; La. R.S. 13:1599.1; La. R.S. 13:1312; La. R.S. 13:1381.4.

<sup>84</sup> Examples of such costs include those provided to benefit Crime Stoppers Organizations (Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 895.4), crime victims (La. R.S. 46:1816), indigent defense services (La. R.S. 15:168 *et seq.*), trial court management information systems (Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 887), and victims of traumatic head and spinal cord injuries (La. R.S. 46:2633).

<sup>85</sup> La. R.S. 33:4713 *et seq.*; La. R.S. 13:961.



maintenance or construction of a courthouse.<sup>86</sup> These funds can be either maintained by the judges themselves, by parish governing authorities, or jointly.

Grants and Other Funds - Several courts report having received grants from state, federal or other sources. These grants are typically applied for and administered by the courts that receive them. Other, smaller sources of revenue also exist.

### **3. Budget Issues**

Chief judges were asked to report on the amount of their annual budget, exclusive of judges salaries and related benefits. Responses ranged from less than \$100,000 in small rural districts to approximately \$9 million for several courts in large urban districts.

Chief judges were asked if their court was experiencing any budget needs or concerns. Twenty-one of the 48 district court chief judges (44%) indicated that they were experiencing such needs or concerns, including:

- a general lack of funding to operate efficiently and carry out the constitutional duties of the court;
- having to depend on unstable or unreliable sources of revenue, such as local government and self-generated funds, to fund court operations;
- the need for more staff, more space, and upgraded technology to better serve court users and court staff;
- concerns about court security;
- inability to fund programs such as drug courts and FINS.

## **E. District Court Workload**

### **1. Description and Limitations of Available Data**

The Supreme Court collects filing data from clerks of court in each parish annually and publishes it in its annual report.<sup>87</sup> Among all of the data collected, filing data has

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<sup>86</sup> See La. R.S. 13:992.1 (Nineteenth Judicial District), La. R.S. 13:995.1, (Twenty-Fourth Judicial District), La. R.S. 13:996.67 (Orleans Parish Civil District Court), La. R.S. 13:996.68 (Twenty-First Judicial district), La. R.S. 13:1599.1 (Jefferson Parish Juvenile court).

<sup>87</sup> This information is profiled in the Supreme Court's annual report. Copies of the annual report are available at [http://www.lasc.org/press\\_room/annual\\_reports/default.asp](http://www.lasc.org/press_room/annual_reports/default.asp). (Last accessed 2/13/14.)

historically been the only data routinely collected by the Supreme Court on a statewide basis that has been used to calculate court workload.<sup>88</sup>

Filing data for the district courts is of varying accuracy and detail, and it is not easily comparable across jurisdictions. This is due, in part, to local variances in criminal charging practices of the district attorneys (which can lead to significant variance in filing numbers), to differences in the design and capabilities of the case management systems used by the clerks of court (whose offices report the data), and to differences in counting and reporting practices generally.

It must be noted that filing data alone is an imprecise measure of judicial activity. This is because filing data reflects case volume only and it does not address the varied – and often significant – procedural, legal, and substantive elements of cases heard. These elements translate into case complexity, which has a direct impact on the workload demands of judges and on caseflow generally. In addition, filing data does not reflect case management practices and the impact on workload of hearing officers, the use of which varies among jurisdictions.

Case Filing Trends in the District Courts - Notwithstanding the above limitations associated with using filing data alone as an indicator of workload, it is noted that district court filings overall are up slightly over the past decade, and through 2012 were higher than they were prior to the hurricanes of 2005. Filing data within the individual judicial districts may or may not be consistent with this statewide profile. See Exhibit 8.

It must be noted that the filing data reported in this report is for broad case categories only – i.e., juvenile, civil, criminal, and traffic case types. While presenting data this way can reveal general trends in activity, it is not detailed enough to support precise and fully informed assessments of workload and need. In an effort to begin addressing this gap in information, during the study period, the Chief Justice requested that judges submit information about rules, motions and trials that could complement the filing data already maintained. This work is ongoing.

It must also be noted that filing trends and workload can be impacted by changes in law (particularly those laws providing for sentences) changes in legal practice, and changes in case management.

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<sup>88</sup> Civil and criminal jury trial information is also provided by judges. Additional information about cases filed is available for the four dedicated juvenile courts and the East Baton Rouge Family Court. All of this information is available in the Supreme Court's annual reports.

## **F. District Court Needs and Issues**

The following questions were presented to all district court judges. Response rates to the survey varied considerably across jurisdictions. Sixty-two percent of the district court judges responded to the survey, though not every judge answered each question. Accordingly, some courts are overrepresented in the pool of responses.

The responses below have not been taken verbatim from survey responses and are not to be taken as consensus statements from any individual court; rather they are suggestive of broad needs and issues raised by judges to open-ended questions regarding operations at the district court level.

### **1. Is your court lacking any of the following resources (options included judges, staff, funding, space)?**

Space - More than half of the judges responding to the survey (56%) reported that they are concerned with space issues. Those commenting noted problems with the buildings themselves such as broken elevators, mold and asbestos. Others noted that the need to share courtrooms makes it difficult to hear cases timely. Others noted that lack of staff space and court operations spread out over separate buildings were undesirable. Several mentioned that the current spaces are inadequate for jurors as well as witnesses, litigants, and defendants.

Funding - More than half the responding judges (53%) reported that more funds are needed. Those commenting indicated that the funds are needed to provide resources for those with mental health and substance abuse issues. Other judges report a need for funds for better case management tools and to provide more assistance for self represented litigants. Also noted was the need for funds for staff and/or for increased space for court operations. Several judges pointed out that the courts should have a more stable and dependable source of funding than local governments and user fees.

Staff - Just over one-third of the responding judges (36%) indicated that additional staff is needed in their courts. Those commenting noted staff are needed to perform legal research, assist with general administration, and staff specialty courts or dockets. Staff is also needed for personnel administration and case management, to provide court reporting services, to replace workers lost after Katrina, and to process crowded dockets more timely.

Judges - One-fourth of the judges responding (25%) indicated that additional judge(s) are needed in their jurisdiction. Those who commented noted that they are in large, multi-parish jurisdictions; others are dealing with docketing issues. Other judges noted the increased time needed to deal with more serious crimes and cases involving self represented litigants. Others noted that judges were needed for specialized divisions, such as criminal, juvenile, or family matters.

**2. Have there been any recent changes in statutes and/or court rules that have impacted the district courts, favorably or unfavorably?**

One fourth (25%) of the survey respondents answered in the affirmative. Those judges who chose to comment on favorable changes included practices regarding self-represented litigants; uniformity among districts resulting from the uniform rules; provisions relating to extensions of hearing deadlines for ex parte motions; and provisions relating to the use of electronic warrants or other technological advances that increase court efficiency.

Judges commenting on unfavorable changes in law or rule noted the inadequacy of the Judicial Council's system for weighting cases; the difficulties judges have in transferring cases among sections of court to optimize case flow; sex offender assessment panel (SOAP) legislation; requirements for court reporters; amendments to Code of Civil procedure article 966; and changes to Children's Code Art. 631 restricting those who may file a Child in Need of Care petition. Judges also noted that the uniformity that is being imposed through the uniform rules does not allow for the unique considerations of each district. Other judges noted unfavorable changes such as mandatory minimum sentences that remove the judge's ability to tailor sentences to the circumstances of the individual case; the rate of some criminal fees; unfunded mandates; and restrictions on the authority of commissioners.

**3. What, if any, changes to statutes and/or court rules do you think could be made to assist the district courts?**

Judge responses dealt generally with the value of mandatory trial dates; the need to revisit *in forma pauperis* standards; the need to repeal sex offender assessment panel (SOAP) legislation; the need for judges to have the authority to set the docket; the need to clarify local governments' obligation to maintain courthouses and provide security; and the need to provide judges with access to the state's Protective Order Registry database.

Other judges commented on the need for standards relating to the use of electronic devices in the courtroom; the need to revisit the fee structure for cases involving the

appointment of a public defender; the need to reconsider procedural requirements in Child in Need of Care proceedings such as delays for filing answers and rules for continuances; the need for more e-filing and other technology to increase efficiency; the need for more reliable sources for funding court operations; a reconsideration of the Judicial Council's work point values; the need for additional staff at the local level to collect performance related data; and the need for greater judicial discretion in criminal sentencing.

**4. Are there court customs or practices that hamper case processing or overall court efficiency in your court?**

Over one-fourth (29%) of the judges responding to the survey responded to this question with a "yes" answer. Those judges who chose to comment dealt generally with the need to streamline service of process through the use of technology; the need to revisit continuance rules, policies and customs generally; the need to clarify the role of the chief judge; the need to maximize court dates in, and the rotation of judges among, parishes in multi-parish districts; and the need to revisit the Answer requirement in Child in Need of Care proceedings. Judges also indicated that delays in filing petitions in juvenile delinquency matters are a detriment to a youth's treatment needs.

Other judges commented on problems associated with delays in the assignment of a public defender and the need for more resources for public defenders; the need to streamline the docketing of rules and motions; the need for more court information technology staff; and the need for more coordination in managing criminal, juvenile and family cases. Also noted were the need to improve docketing practices; the need to give judges greater authority to move the docket; the need to have the court administrator handle all administrative matters; the need to control the specious use of motions to recuse; and greater use of pretrial conferences. Finally, judges noted the need to review processes in place to deal with protective orders and the need for better coordination and sharing of data between local justice agencies.

**5. Are there court customs or practices that could improve case processing or overall court efficiency in your court?**

Over one-fourth (29%) of the judges responding to the survey responded to this question with a "yes" answer. Judges who chose to comment dealt generally with the need for greater information sharing between justice system partners and investments in case management systems; the need for a criminal commissioner and the need to expand the authority of a commissioner; the need to address continuances practices in criminal matters;

the need to use specialized court divisions in order to enhance judicial expertise; and the need to upgrade and make better use of technology, including e-filing.

Judges also noted the need for more timely review of delinquency matters; the greater use of hearing officers in mediation and the use of mediation in more than just family cases; open file discovery in criminal cases; improved docketing and calendaring processes; better communication through more judges meetings; improved technology to support maintenance of statistics; greater adherence to court rules; the need to enhance courthouse security; the need to develop better responses to the challenges faced by self represented parties; and a reconsideration of allotment procedures and court schedules in order to promote improved case management and processing.

#### **6. Are technology investments needed in your court?**

Over two-thirds (67%) of the judges responding to the survey responded to this question with a “yes” answer. These judges’ comments dealt generally with the need for greater coordination among justice system entities and integration of data systems; the need for improved video and audio tools in courtrooms; the need for training in existing case management systems; the need for improved phone systems; the need for funding for equipments and training; the need for improved on-line and electronic interactions with jurors, attorneys litigants, and other court users; and the need to improve the automation of court processes.

Judges’ comments also dealt with the need for computers in court houses for attorney use and the need for Internet access in courthouses for attorneys; the need for technology to support court cost and fee collections; the need for GPS and monitoring devices for use in drug court programs, for probationers, and in other programs; the need to make greater use of videoconferencing; the need to develop e-filing systems; and concerns about the inability to and costs of upgrade technology due to the limitations of the courthouse.

#### **7. Is there any other information you would like the HCR 143 Committee and the Supreme Court to know regarding your court?**

One-third (33%) of the judges responding to the survey responded to this question with a “yes” answer. These judges’ comments dealt generally with the need to ensure that jurisdiction specific details – obtained through site visits and interviews with judges – are factored into an assessment of workload and need; the need to consider the benefits of active case management techniques on workflow; the impact of resource constraints generally on

workflow; the time demands associated with ongoing probation reviews in criminal cases and for reviews in family/domestic matters; the insufficiency of the work point values generally and the need specifically to consider the impact of complex civil litigation; and the need to consider the impact of economic development and population shifts when looking at judgeship need.

Responses also dealt generally with the need to consider the value of assigning judges to help reduce backlogs; the need to consider the special needs of rural, geographically large districts, especially as it relates to the provision of indigent defender services; the need to accurately document the number of self represented parties who appear in court; the need to consider splitting multi-parish district(s); the need to ensure the comparability of data from all districts used to assess workload; the impact on access to justice resulting from a reduction in judgeships; the need to move away from reliance on fines and costs to fund court operations; the need to reconsider provisions in the law exempting the state from paying filing fees; the need to enhance security in local courthouses; and the need for judicial officers (such as magistrates and commissioners) and for them to have greater authority.

## **VII. The City Courts**

### **A. General**

City courts have existed in Louisiana as early as 1805, prior to Louisiana's statehood. City courts were included in the Louisiana Constitution beginning in 1879. The current Louisiana Constitution retains the city courts already in existence, but no longer allows for courts with less than parish wide jurisdiction to be created.<sup>89</sup> City courts are vested with the same inherent power as other Louisiana courts.

There are 49 city courts in Louisiana.

### **B. Jurisdiction**

City courts are courts of limited jurisdiction; they may hear some but not all cases that may be heard by the district court.<sup>90</sup> With a few exceptions, city court jurisdiction is concurrent, or shared, with the district courts.

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<sup>89</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 15.

<sup>90</sup> Other courts of limited jurisdiction include parish courts and justice of the peace courts.

## **1. Subject Matter Jurisdiction**

Civil - City Courts share civil subject matter jurisdiction with the district courts, within the city court's territorial boundaries, when the amount in dispute, or the value of the property involved, does not exceed a threshold ranging from \$15,000 to \$49,999, depending on the court; over certain eviction suits; and over reconventional demands, interventions, and third party oppositions regardless of the amount in dispute or the value of the property involved.<sup>91</sup> Other limits on subject matter jurisdiction are provided for in law.<sup>92</sup>

Criminal - City courts share jurisdiction with the district courts for misdemeanor criminal matters and local ordinance violations.<sup>93</sup> An exception is Orleans Parish, in which jurisdiction for violations of city ordinances is exclusive to the dedicated traffic and municipal courts rather than shared with the criminal district court.

Juvenile - City courts share juvenile jurisdiction with the district courts in districts where there is no separate juvenile court.<sup>94</sup> Currently, Caddo Parish, Jefferson Parish, East Baton Rouge Parish, and Orleans Parish have juvenile courts with exclusive jurisdiction to hear juvenile matters. City courts in those parishes have no juvenile jurisdiction.

## **2. Territorial Jurisdiction**

Unless otherwise provided by law, a city court's territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city and ward or wards where the court is located.<sup>95</sup>

## **3. Appellate Jurisdiction**

City courts do not generally hear appeals. Exceptions are New Orleans First and Second City Courts, which hear appeals of automated red light enforcement violations from Traffic Court of New Orleans.<sup>96</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. arts. 4843 – 4845; La. R.S. 13:2154.

<sup>92</sup> La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. art. 4843; La. Code Civ. Proc. Ann. arts. 1732, 4841 and 4847, and 4911; La. R.S. 13:2563.2; La. R.S. 13:1444.

<sup>93</sup> La. R.S. 13:1894.

<sup>94</sup> La. Child. Code Ann. art. 302.

<sup>95</sup> La. R.S. 13:1951, *et seq.*

<sup>96</sup> La. Code of Civ. Proc. Ann. arts 4850.2 and 4857.



#### **4. Specialized Divisions of City Courts: Small Claims Divisions**

City Courts may establish small claims divisions with jurisdiction and procedure provided by law.<sup>97</sup> Small claims divisions have jurisdiction over civil claims in which the amount in dispute is less than \$5,000.<sup>98</sup> An exception is the city court of Slidell, whose small claims division jurisdiction is equal to the civil jurisdiction of the justice of the peace courts. The judge and clerk of the city court serve as the judge and clerk of the small claims division.<sup>99</sup> However, an attorney appointed by the judge may serve as a small claims arbitrator.<sup>100</sup> Small claims divisions are not courts of record.<sup>101</sup>

### **C. Court Structure and Administration**

#### **1. Court Leadership and Governance**

Leadership judges in the city courts are termed senior judges or administrative judges. With the exception of Monroe City Court, which has no senior/administrative judge, the leadership of multi-judge courts is determined by seniority.<sup>102</sup>

Forty-one city court judges (60%) serve in single-judge jurisdictions. Twenty-seven judges (40%) serve in multi-judge jurisdictions. These multi-judge jurisdictions are as follows:

- Baton Rouge City Court (5 judges)
- Lafayette City Court (2 judges)
- Lake Charles City Court (2 judges)
- Monroe City Court (3 judges)
- New Orleans First City Court (3 judges)
- New Orleans Municipal Court (4 judges)
- New Orleans Traffic Court (4 judges)
- Shreveport City Court (4 judges)

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<sup>97</sup> La. R.S. 13:5200.

<sup>98</sup> La. R.S. 13:5202.

<sup>99</sup> La. R.S. 13:5202.

<sup>100</sup> La. R.S. 13:5202.

<sup>101</sup> La. R.S. 13:5203.

<sup>102</sup> La. R.S. 13:1878.

According to senior judge survey responses, judges in multi-jurisdiction courts meet *en banc* monthly or more often when necessary to discuss administrative issues.

## 2. Judges

City court judges generally serve six-year terms.<sup>103</sup> An exception is Baton Rouge City Court, whose judges sit for four years.<sup>104</sup> City court judges must be licensed to practice law in the State of Louisiana for at least five years previous to their election and be residents of the territorial jurisdiction of the court for at least two years prior to their election.<sup>105</sup> Exceptions are Slidell City Court and Orleans First and Second City Courts, in which the judge must have been licensed to practice law at least eight years prior to election.<sup>106</sup> Terms are unlimited; however, a judge may not run for election if over 70 years old. A judge who reaches the age of 70 while in office may complete his or her term.<sup>107</sup>

Orleans Parish Municipal and Traffic Courts require judges to be at least thirty years of age but have no length of residency requirement.<sup>108</sup> The salaries of city court judges are paid by a combination of state, local, and self-generated funds.<sup>109</sup>

Eight city court judgeships are full-time, meaning the judge may not maintain a law practice while serving as a judge.<sup>110</sup> Two multi-judge courts require the senior/administrative judge to be full-time.<sup>111</sup> Judges in the rest of the courts are not restricted from maintaining a separate law practice.

## 3. Other Judicial Officers

Unlike the district courts, in city courts quasi-judicial officers such as magistrates and commissioners are rarely used. The two city courts that reported using judicial officers noted

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<sup>103</sup> La. R.S. 13:1872.

<sup>104</sup> La. R.S. 13:1872(D).

<sup>105</sup> La. R.S. 13:1873.

<sup>106</sup> La. R.S. 13:2487.2.; La. R.S. 13:2152.3.

<sup>107</sup> La. Const. art. V, § 23.

<sup>108</sup> La. R.S. 13:2492; La. R.S. 13:2501.1.

<sup>109</sup> La. R.S. 13:1874; La. R.S. 13:2151 – 2152.2.

<sup>110</sup> La. R.S. 13:1875(12)(e); La. Const. art. V, § 24; La. R.S. 13:2563.5(A); Plan of Government of the Parish of East Baton Rouge and the City of Baton Rouge, 1970 Section 11.04. *See also City of Baton Rouge v. DeFrances*, 429 So. 2d 470 (La. App. 1 Cir. 3/4/1983); La. R.S. 13:1875(14); La. Const. art. V, § 24; La. R.S. 13:2561.5(A). La. Const. art. V, § 24; La. R.S. 13:2562.5(A); La. R.S. 13:1952(12)(b); La. R.S. 13:1952(15)(a); La. R.S. 13:2152(C); La. R.S. 13:1875(7)(a) and (b); La. R.S. 13:2492(F); La. R.S. 13:2501.1(L).

<sup>111</sup> *Id.*

that their duties were acting as arbitrator in the court's small claims division and acting as juvenile traffic court referee.

#### **4. Court Staff**

According to senior judge survey responses, the size of city court staff ranges from a low of 1 to a high of 145. Staff members include clerks of court and deputy clerks, court administrators, law clerks, minute clerks, secretaries, court reporters, court criers, probation officers, FINS officers, accountants, court compliance or collections officers, court reporters, security officers, and social service professionals.

The duties of court staff vary in response to the size and needs of the court, and many staff members perform more than one function. Expenses of court operation and administration, including salaries of court staff, are paid for with local and/or self-generated funds.

Clerks of Court - Unlike the elected parish clerks of court who serve the parish and district-level courts, city court clerks are appointed and serve at the pleasure of the judge(s).<sup>112</sup> Exceptions are the elected clerks of First and Second City Courts of New Orleans.<sup>113</sup> Not all clerks of court are full-time positions. According to senior judge survey responses, clerks in 26 courts (54%) also serve as their court's court administrator.

The qualifications and duties of the clerk of court are set out by statute.<sup>114</sup>

Deputy Clerks - Deputy clerks are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the judge(s).<sup>115</sup> Deputy clerks must possess the same qualifications as the clerk. According to senior judge survey responses, some courts have deputy clerks of court that work with all types of suits. Other courts reported specialized positions including clerk supervisor, civil clerk, criminal clerk, juvenile clerk, traffic clerk, and DWI clerk. Deputy clerks in Orleans Parish First and Second City courts may act as minute clerks.<sup>116</sup>

Court Administrators - According to senior judge survey responses, six city courts employ a stand-alone court administrator. In twenty-six courts, clerks of court serve dual roles as clerk and administrator. The survey responses indicate that the duties of court

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<sup>112</sup> La. R.S. 13:1884.

<sup>113</sup> La. R.S. 13:2153.1.

<sup>114</sup> La. R.S. 13:1885, La. R.S. 13:1886.

<sup>115</sup> La. R.S. 13:1887.

<sup>116</sup> La. R.S. 13:2155.

administrators and clerk/administrators vary according to the individual court and include day-to-day court administration, human resources/personnel, budget and finance, docketing and calendaring, case management and monitoring, planning/performance management, intergovernmental issues, management of special programs such as drug courts, and grant writing.

Court Reporters - Court reporters in the city courts are appointed by the judge to take testimony in the same circumstances as mandated for district courts, as well as upon the request of a party.<sup>117</sup>

Law Clerks – Four city court senior judges report having law clerks. Some law clerk positions are short term and others are permanent. Law clerk duties generally involve legal research but may also include docket preparation, providing legal advice to the clerk of court; preparing judgments; acting as a *pro tem* hearing officer for juvenile drug court; answering questions from self represented parties; conducting scheduling conferences; and acting as court crier.

Operations/Support Staff – According to senior judge survey responses, city courts also employ a variety of staff to assist in the operations of the court. This includes secretaries, comptrollers and accountants, and information technology specialists. Survey respondents also listed probation officers, FINS officers, court compliance or collections officers, and social service professionals who support court-run programs such as probation and treatment courts.

## **5. Security**

According to city court senior judge survey responses, security for city court courtrooms and city court buildings, in the majority of city courts, is provided by the elected marshal. Security is also provided by local law enforcement, elected constables, sheriffs, and private security guards. Four city courts report that there is no daily security for the court building.

### **D. Court Finance**

City courts rely on a combination of state-appropriated funds, and an often fluctuating level of local government support, self-generated funds, grants, and other sources of revenue to fund their operations. According to senior judge survey responses, self-generated and

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<sup>117</sup> La. R.S. 13:1893.

local funds, not state funds, represent the largest sources of revenue in the majority of courts. The amount of revenue and the proportion of revenue from each available source vary considerably among courts.

## **1. State-Appropriated Funds**

State funds are appropriated annually for a portion of city court judges' salaries.<sup>118</sup> State appropriated funds for the judiciary totaled \$167,572,877 in FY 2013-2104. Detail regarding funds appropriated to the city courts can be found in the judicial appropriations bill.<sup>119</sup>

Funds are also appropriated by the Legislature for court-related programs that enhance the administration of justice by the judiciary, including drug court programs, Court Appointed Special Advocate programs, Families in Need of Services programs, and legal representation of children in child protection cases. These programs serve district courts as well as city courts exercising juvenile jurisdiction. In FY 2013-2014, \$28.1 million in state and federal funds were appropriated by the Legislature for these programs. These funds are administered by the Supreme Court Judicial Administrator's Office and allocated to programs around the state for their specified purposes.

## **2. Self-Generated and Local Funds**

Self-Generated Revenues - An array of costs, fees and fines in both criminal and civil matters are provided for by law and may be imposed by judges. Unless otherwise provided by law, these costs, fees and fines are to be paid into the city treasury.<sup>120</sup> Certain revenue generated from the imposition of some costs and fees are to be used at the judges' discretion, generally for purposes related to the administration of the courts.<sup>121</sup> The revenue from other costs and fees is distributed to other bodies for specific regional or statewide purposes.<sup>122</sup>

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<sup>118</sup> La. R.S. 13:1874; La. R.S. 13:2152 (Orleans Parish First and Second City Courts) La. R.S. 13:2492; La. R.S. 13:2501.1.

<sup>119</sup> See, La. Acts 2013, Regular Session, No. 64.

<sup>120</sup> La. R.S. 13:1898. La. R.S. 13:2507; La. R.S. 13:2501.

<sup>121</sup> La. R.S. 13:1899; La. R.S. 13:2095 *et seq.*; La. R.S. 13:2496.4; La. R.S. 13:2500.2; La. R.S. 13:2507.1; La. R.S. 13:2165; La. R.S. 13:1312.

<sup>122</sup> La. R.S. 13:1898; Examples of such costs include those provided to benefit Crime Stoppers Organizations (La. Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 895.4), crime victims (La. R.S. 46:1816), indigent defense services (La. R.S. 15:168 *et seq.*), trial court management information systems (La. Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 887), and victims of traumatic head and spinal cord injuries (La. R.S. 46:2633).

Local Funds - According to law, each city is to provide a courtroom and related items for city courts.<sup>123</sup> The city or city and parish are obligated to provide for court operation and maintenance.<sup>124</sup> By law, however, city court judges are authorized to impose certain costs and/or fees to generate revenue for limited purposes associated with the maintenance or construction of a courthouse.<sup>125</sup>

Grants and Other Funds - In addition to the state funds distributed to support drug courts, CASA, and FINS programs, courts also report receiving state or federal grants.

### **3. Budget issues**

Senior judges were asked to report on the amount of their annual budget, exclusive of judges' salaries and related benefits. According to survey responses, city court annual budgets range from a low of \$20,000 to a high of more than \$9 million.

Senior judges were asked if their court was experiencing any budget needs or concerns. Twelve of the 49 city courts (24%) indicated that they were experiencing such needs or concerns, including:

- a general lack of funding to operate safely and efficiently and carry out the constitutional duties of the court;
- lack of control over operating funds;
- having to depend on unstable or unreliable sources of revenue, such as local government and self-generated funds, to fund court operations;
- the need for more staff, more space, and/or upgraded technology to better serve court users and court staff;
- concerns about court security;
- inability to fund programs such as juvenile matters, drug courts and FINS.

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<sup>123</sup> La. R.S. 13:1889 *et seq.*; La. R.S. 13:2499.

<sup>124</sup> La. R.S. 13:1889 *et seq.*

<sup>125</sup> La. R.S. 13:1910. *See also*, for example, La. R.S. 13: 2095.3.

## **E. City Court Workload**

### **1. Description and Limitations of Available Data**

The Supreme Court collects filing data from each city court annually and publishes it in its annual report.<sup>126</sup> Among all the data collected, filing data has historically been the only data routinely collected by the Supreme Court on a statewide basis that has been used to calculate court workload.<sup>127</sup>

Filing data for the city courts is of varying accuracy and detail, and it is not easily comparable across jurisdictions. This is due, in part, to local variances in criminal charging practices of the district attorneys (which can lead to significant variance in filing numbers), to differences in the design and capabilities of the case management systems used by the clerks of court (whose offices report the data), and to differences in counting and reporting practices generally.

It must be noted that filing data alone is an imprecise measure of judicial activity. This is because filing data reflects case volume only and it does not address the nature of the kinds of cases typically heard in city courts, e.g., cases in which parties represent themselves. This feature of practice in the city courts has a direct impact on the workload demands of judges and on caseflow generally.

The jurisdictional limits – expressed as the amount in dispute – of civil matters that can be heard in the city courts varies among jurisdictions. This is an important feature of the city court structure that can have an impact on workload, and might alter both city court and district court filing numbers should the Legislature enact any legislation which would reduce the monetary threshold for demanding a civil jury trial.

Case Filing Trends in the City Courts - Notwithstanding the above limitations associated with using filing data alone as an indicator of workload, the Supreme Court notes that filings in the city courts have decreased during the last decade. Filing data within the individual courts may or may not be consistent with this statewide profile. See Exhibit 9.

It must be noted that the filing data reported in this report is for broad case categories only – i.e., juvenile, civil, criminal, and traffic case types. While presenting data this way

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<sup>126</sup> This information is profiled in the Supreme Court's annual report. Copies of the annual report are available at [http://www.lasc.org/press\\_room/annual\\_reports/default.asp](http://www.lasc.org/press_room/annual_reports/default.asp). (Last accessed 2/13/14).

<sup>127</sup> Terminated cases are also reported.

can reveal general trends in activity, it is not detailed enough to support precise and fully informed assessments of workload and need.

## **F. City Court Needs and Issues**

The following questions were presented to all city court judges. Response rates to the survey varied across courts. Eighty-one percent (81%) of the city court judges responded to the survey, though not every judge answered each question. Accordingly, some courts are overrepresented in the pool of responses.

The responses below have not been taken verbatim from survey responses and are not to be taken as consensus statements from the multi-judge courts; rather they are suggestive of broad needs and issues raised by judges to open-ended questions regarding operations at the city court level.

### **1. Is your court lacking any of the following resources (options were judges, staff, funding, and space)?**

Funding - More than half the responding judges (53%) reported that more funds are needed. Those commenting indicated that the funds are needed to provide resources for those with mental health and substance abuse issues. Also mentioned was a general lack of funding to operate efficiently and carry out the constitutional duties of the court. Also noted was the need for funds to pay staff adequately, and the need for increased space for court operations. Judges also noted the need for a more stable and dependable source of funding.

Space - Almost half of the responding judges (48%) noted issues with court space. Those commenting reported that the courtrooms were too small to accommodate certain dockets and that security was a concern. Other responses indicated the need for more space for staff.

Staff - About one-fourth (26%) of the responding judges indicated that additional staff is needed in their courts. Those commenting noted that they do not have the funds to pay competitive salaries and that increasing caseloads are creating the need for more staff.

Judges - About one-tenth (11%) of judges responding to this question indicated the need for more judges in their jurisdictions. Those commenting noted rising workloads and took issue with the Judicial Council's method of calculating workload.



**2. Have there been any recent changes in statutes and/or court rules that have impacted the city courts, favorably or unfavorably?**

About one-fourth (26%) of the survey respondents answered in the affirmative. In explaining their responses, judges who commented supported increased jurisdictional limits to small claims and civil jurisdictional limits in city courts and suggested that the limit be uniformly increased to just below the civil jury trial threshold. Also noted with approval was the judicial building fund.

Judges commenting on unfavorable changes in law or rule noted the impact on court employees of having to pursue collections, and the burden on the public, especially those individuals who are deemed indigent. One respondent noted the restrictions on the use of state laws as local ordinances; another noted the district attorney's case routing decisions have placed a heavy and unfunded burden on the city court.

**3. What, if any, changes to statutes and/or court rules do you think could be made to assist the city courts generally?**

Judges responding to this question suggested establishing a uniform jurisdictional limit and setting the limit just below the threshold for civil jury trials. Judges also commented that more funding is needed and that statutes mandating funding for city courts by local governments should be enforced.

Other judges noted that defendants should not be charged such high court costs and that a fee for providing transcripts in cases in which the defendant is indigent should be implemented. Another suggestion was that a means should be available to allow courts to adopt state misdemeanor and traffic laws "in globo" instead of having to adopt individual ordinances, and that a greater range of such laws should be available to city courts to facilitate enhancement of subsequent felony cases.

Judges also suggested forms for self represented litigants; revision of the Judicial Council's work point values; an aligning of the appeal or new trial delays with the actual eviction in eviction cases to assure that a litigant has the chance to appeal or request a new trial before being evicted; and compiling a list of preapproved attorneys or retired judges that may be appointed as ad hoc judges to expedite caseload.

**4. Are there court customs or practices that hamper case processing or overall court efficiency in your court?**

About one-tenth (9%) of those responding answered in the affirmative. Judges who commented felt that the process of collecting court costs hampers court activities. It was noted that the process presents judges with a conflict of interest, especially if court operations are based on the collections, and courts lack the room or specialized collections departments.

Others commented that self represented litigants' lack of understanding of court procedures hampers case processing and court efficiency; that attorneys should be able to mail or file motions in the clerk's office rather than having to file them in open court; and that an electronic ticketing system would save money and staff time needed to input tickets. The potential benefits of having a magistrate in city court were also noted.

**5. Are there court customs or practices that could improve case processing or overall court efficiency in your court?**

Approximately one-third (35%) of the judges responding indicated that court customs or practices could be changed to improve court procedures. The majority of those that commented noted that better technology in the form of case management software, better hardware, and improved online services would greatly improve court efficiency. Others suggested streamlining services by hiring a first appearance hearing officer, managing a parish wide probation office, and using scheduling conferences. Others suggested clarifying the rules delineating residency and evictions and encouraging plea agreements at the pretrial level when law enforcement officers are the only witnesses.

**6. Are technology investments needed in your court?**

Over two-thirds (69%) of the judges responding answered in the affirmative. Judges commenting noted the need for case management software; software to digitize and store court records; and increased options for court users to conduct court business and get court-related information online. Other respondents commented on the need for more information sharing among justice system partners; and the need to update courtroom technology and use video arraignments to save time and increase security. Other survey respondents noted that any investment in technology should be directed to tools that can assist self represented parties.

**7. Is there any other information you would like the HCR 143 Committee and the Supreme Court to know regarding your court?**

Approximately one-third (30%) of the judges responding to the survey responded to this question with a “yes” answer. Those judges who commented on this question indicated the need for technology; the need for cities to fulfill their legal responsibilities to fund the city courts; and the need for more judges.

Others noted their community involvement and efforts to educate the public about court procedures and other public services and the effectiveness of the court’s docket rotation system and the judges’ work with faith-based and charitable organizations, legal services organizations and other public agencies.

Respondents also expressed concern about local government’s resistance to pay for court operational expenses, and the impact on operations of the high number of self-represented litigants and eviction suits. Finally, it was noted that increasing city court jurisdiction, both in the types of suits and the amount in controversy, could relieve the district courts of some of their workload, thus obviating the need for a judge where one may be warranted.

**VIII. Conclusion**

**A. Summary of Activity**

HCR 143 requested that the Supreme Court ... “conduct a comprehensive study of the caseload data and the number of judges of each appellate court, district court, parish court, and city court in Louisiana to determine changes necessary to the existing structure of the judiciary to provide the most efficient use of judicial resources...” The resolution further requested that the Court consider case filing data, case weights, court structure and finance, and the use of support personnel in this work.

Recognizing the importance and complexity of the issues raised in the resolution, the Court engaged essential partners, both within and outside of the state’s judiciary, to assist it in responding. These partnerships were critical to the proper assessment of the issues raised in the resolution.

Specifically, during the study period:

- The Supreme Court appointed a ten-member committee to assist it in developing a response to the resolution. This committee met regularly throughout the period.
- The Supreme Court created and/or authorized other bodies—namely the Judicial Council Appellate Court Work Point Values Committee, the Judicial Council Appellate Court Work Point Values Working Group, and the Judicial Council Trial Court Committee on Judgeships—to participate in some aspect of its efforts to respond to the resolution.
- The Supreme Court undertook two separate projects with the National Center for State Courts providing for technical assistance on issues related to judicial workload assessment—one for the courts of appeal and one for the district and city courts.
- The HCR 143 Committee conducted outreach, in the form of surveys, site visits, and through other means, to judges in the courts of appeal, district courts, city courts, and parish courts to gather information regarding issues raised in the resolution.
- Updates on the HCR 143 Committee’s work were provided to the Supreme Court, appellate court judges, district court judges, city court judges, and the Judicial Council.
- With the Supreme Court’s approval, the HCR 143 Committee held two public hearings for the purpose of receiving testimony on issues raised in the resolution.
- Supreme Court staff conducted research into an array of issues relating to the structure, operations, and needs of the judiciary, and the study of judicial workload generally. This research involved outreach to judicial branch officials in other states.
- The Judicial Council Trial Court Committee on Judgeships conducted in-depth assessments of the processes used to collect judicial workload data and the tools used to measure and report on the work of the courts.

- The Chief Justice initiated a project to collect supplemental data from the district courts regarding motion practice and days spent in trial.
- A report on the parish courts was produced and submitted to the Legislature.

## **B. General Findings and Recommendations**

### **1. General Findings:**

#### **Finding 1: Judges are involved in a variety of justice system improvement activities, both on and off the bench.**

Judges at all levels of court are active and sustained partners in justice system reform initiatives. Judges at all levels participate on a variety of boards, committees, task forces, and other statewide bodies.<sup>128</sup>

Trial courts are typically the level of court where judicial branch innovations find their broadest application. Drug courts and other problem solving courts are currently the most current and widespread examples of such innovations, and interest in them is expected to grow.

There are 69 problem solving courts spread throughout the state, with approximately 70 judges taking an active role in their operation. These programs require intensive judicial oversight of program participants in mandatory treatment, drug testing, employment and educational activities and involve weekly staffing and court proceedings outside of a judge's regular court duties.

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<sup>128</sup> These include: Judicial Budgetary Control Board; Judicial Council; Judicial Council Trial Court Committee on Judgeships; Judicial Council Committee to Review Requests for Court Costs and Fees; Judicial Ethics Committee; Judicial Compensation Commission; Judiciary Commission; Uniform Rules Committee of the Louisiana Courts of Appeal; Louisiana Bar Foundation; Louisiana Judicial College; Louisiana Sentencing Commission; Supreme Court Standing Committee on Court Security; Advisory Committee to the Supreme Court for Revision of the Code of Judicial Conduct; Louisiana State Law Institute; Supreme Court Self Represented Litigant Task Force; Supreme Court Uniform Rules Committee; Louisiana Children's Cabinet; Child Support Review Committee; Interagency Council on the Prevention of Sex Offenses; Integrated Criminal Justice Information Systems Board; Louisiana Coalition on Domestic Violence; Louisiana Diversity Awards Nominating Committee; Sexual Assault Task Force; Uniform Forms Committee for the City and Parish Courts; and the DWI Task Force.

Needs in other areas of particular importance to the trial courts are addressed through the involvement of judges working on committees of the Louisiana District Judges Association (LDJA), the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Louisiana City Judges Association, and other judicial associations. Initiatives include:

- the development of model practices to meet the needs of self-represented litigants;
- the development of tools to assess and address courthouse and courtroom security needs;
- the development of best practice benchbooks in civil, criminal, drug court, family, and juvenile cases;
- planning for and teaching in judicial education seminars;
- the administration of a mentoring program designed to assist lawyers transitioning to their role as judges;
- participation in the LDJA/Department of Corrections Committee which involves strategizing with Corrections officials, prosecutors, public defenders and others about ways to improve the criminal justice process;
- planning for system-wide improvements through a Strategic Planning Committee; and
- the development of ways to incorporate evidence-based methods of sentencing through representation on the Sentencing Commission and through the LDJA's Problem Solving Courts Committee.

**Finding 2: The manner in which the trial courts are structured and funded results in unevenly resourced courts that may lack critical resources. Insufficient resources may lead to inefficiencies and limit access to justice.**

While there is a unity of purpose among courts at each level, there is a diversity of operations among the trial courts. This is due to, among other things, an uneven resource base. While the courts of appeal are funded entirely with state funds, the district and city courts rely on a combination of funding from local governments and self-generated revenue. These funding sources can be unreliable and revenues may be insufficient.

A lack of resources means that operating needs that are fundamental to modern courts – things such as trained administrators; a sufficient number of law clerks; the technology necessary for the collection of key court data; and those needs relating to courthouse and courtroom security – may go unmet. In an attempt to meet these needs, judges necessarily take on non-judicial management, planning, and technology leadership roles.

**Finding 3: The number of judgeships in the courts of appeal may be insufficient; a workload imbalance exists among the circuits.**

Statewide, filings of all types in the courts of appeal have declined during the last decade.<sup>129</sup> The rate of change in filings among the circuits varies, and this has resulted in an imbalance in workload among the circuits. This may result in inefficiencies and decisional delay.

In its October 2012 report on appellate court workload and case complexity, the National Center for State Courts applied updated work point values to the work of the circuits in 2011. The application of these revised values suggests that the number of appellate court judges may be insufficient.<sup>130</sup> Given current budget constraints, the courts of appeal indicate that additional staff, not judges, may be the most appropriate immediate response to any workload issues.

Venue rules for actions against the state may also contribute to workload imbalances. With some exceptions, actions against the state are to be brought in the Nineteenth Judicial District (East Baton Rouge Parish). Cases appealed from the Nineteenth Judicial District are heard in the First Circuit Court of Appeal. These laws of venue impact workload and may be one of the contributing reasons for the imbalance in filings across the circuits.

Finally, the number of “preference” cases – those matters designated by the Legislature for expedited treatment – may impact workflow in the courts of appeal.

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<sup>129</sup> Statewide, appeals have dropped 23%, *pro se* writs have dropped 32%, and non *pro se* writs have dropped 15%.

<sup>130</sup> In its 2012 report the NCSC stated: “It should be noted that as the mix of case types disposed and the overall dispositional activity varies from year to year, the calculated judicial need will likewise change. The NCSC makes no representation about the number of judges needed and makes this reference only as a means to communicate how WPVs (work point values) translate into calculated judicial need. Further, the assessment of judgeships needed on a statewide or circuit-specific basis must include an analysis of other factors in addition to workload. This should include procedural, staffing and local cultural issues unique to each circuit... These assessments, and the criteria that is used to orient them, are within the purview of the Supreme Court and its Judicial Council.” (Page 7.) In its report the NCSC also stated: “Further, the effective use of work point values requires periodic review, testing and, when necessary, refinement as their implications are fully considered and as conditions change. Such review, testing, and refinement of work point values would incorporate changes to the availability and quality of data; changes to law, rule, or policy governing how business in the courts is conducted; the use of case processing performance data; and the results of any general assessments regarding the sufficiency of judicial resources in the circuits, including input from key appellate court stakeholders.” (Page 8.)

**Finding 4: Technology needs have been identified by judges as preeminent; investments in technology can translate into efficiencies.**

The technology needs of modern courts are significant; investment in technology can lead to operating efficiencies, especially when investments are made pursuant to statewide judicial branch plans and priorities.

Judges at every level responded to the survey question dealing with technology needs at a higher rate than any other question. While the need for new and enhanced technology is high, however, these judges report a shortage of resources available to meet them.

Key technology tools for courts include modern case tracking and case management systems; e-filing; audio and video enhancements in courtrooms and courthouses; videoconferencing; and information sharing protocols.

**Finding 5: Workload data for the trial courts is of varying availability, detail and utility; determinations regarding the number of judges needed in the district and city courts requires additional data and study.**

The quality and quantity of data available from the district and city courts about court workload varies considerably. While some courts are able to generate detailed information about their workload and workflow, generally speaking, the reliability of data for the district and city courts is lacking for the purposes of assessing workload.

Data used to assess judgeship need must be uniform, reliable and detailed. The complexity of cases and the full range of judicial activities must be accounted for in any study of judgeship need. Filing data should only be used as a preliminary indicator of workload or judgeship need.

## **2. Recommendations**

**Recommendation 1:** The involvement of judges in judicial system improvement activities should be taken into account in any assessment of judicial workload. The activities that qualify for such consideration should be clearly defined.

**Recommendation 2:** Unstable and potentially inadequate revenue streams for courts should be addressed. Courts should identify all their resource needs and judges should work



with their funding bodies to ensure that adequate funding for the full range of court operations is provided, especially those operations that rely on or which can benefit from enhancements to technology.

Recommendation 3: A time study is needed to help determine the appropriate number of trial court judgeships needed in the state.

Recommendation 4: Data collection protocols should be developed for the capture, collection, and reporting of the full range of case-related data that will be necessary to support comprehensive and regular assessments of the need for judgeships and other court resources. Such a plan should rely on standard terminology, standard definitions, and standard reporting requirements.

Recommendation 5: Comprehensive and regular assessments of judgeship need at all levels of court should be conducted. Such assessments should be done at a frequency and scope that allow for determinations of need to be made as quickly as possible in response to changing conditions.

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 1

### House Concurrent Resolution 143 (2011)

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 143

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROSALIND JONES

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Supreme Court to conduct a comprehensive study of the caseload data and the number of judges of each appellate court, district court, parish court, and city court in Louisiana to determine changes necessary to the existing structure of the judiciary to provide the most efficient use of judicial resources and to report its findings and recommendations to the Louisiana Legislature prior to February 15, 2012.

WHEREAS, an extraordinary session of the Louisiana Legislature was held in the spring of this year to establish new congressional districts and new districts for the Louisiana House of Representatives, the Louisiana Senate, the Public Service Commission, and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education following receipt of the 2010 United States Census data; and

WHEREAS, as population shifts from some areas of this state to others, it would be prudent to examine the caseload data from each court in the state of Louisiana to determine if the judicial resources are being used in the most efficient manner possible; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to consider the case filing data, case weights, court structure and finance, and the use of support personnel in this study; and

WHEREAS, it is also necessary to study the territorial boundaries and the jurisdictional limits of each court.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Supreme Court to conduct a comprehensive study of the caseload data and the number of judges of each appellate court, district court, parish court, and city court in Louisiana to determine changes necessary to the existing structure of the judiciary to provide the most efficient use of judicial resources, and to report its findings and recommendations regarding the courts of appeals and parish courts to the Louisiana Legislature prior to February 15, 2012, and report its findings and recommendations

regarding the district courts and city courts to the Louisiana Legislature prior to February 15, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Supreme Court.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 2

### Supreme Court House Concurrent Resolution 143 Committee Roster

**LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT**  
**HCR 143 Committee**

**Senator Edwin Murray, Chair**  
Louisiana State Senate

**Judge Vanessa Guidry Whipple**  
Chief Judge, First Circuit Court of Appeal

**Judge Marion Edwards (Ret.)**  
Gretna, LA  
(Formerly Chief Judge at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal)

**Judge Ramona Emanuel**  
1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court

**Judge Robert Morrison**  
Chief Judge, 21<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Court

**Senator Dan Claitor**  
Louisiana State Senate

**Representative Nancy Landry**  
Louisiana House of Representatives

**Representative Katrina Jackson**  
Louisiana House of Representatives

**Michael Patterson, Esq.**  
Past President of the LSBA

**Fred Skelton**  
Citizen Member

Staff:  
Scott Griffith, Esq.  
Deputy Judicial Administrator  
Louisiana Supreme Court  
Judicial Administrators Office

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 3

### National Center for State Courts Presentation on Weighted Caseload/Workload Assessment (January 23, 2014)

## LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT

### House Concurrent Resolution 143 (2011) Committee

John J. Hainkel Jr. Room  
State Capitol Building  
Baton Rouge, LA

Matthew Kleiman, Ph.D.  
Richard Schauffler

National Center for State Courts

January 23, 2014

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## Overview

- What is weighted caseload/workload assessment?
- How does the current Louisiana model compare to models used in other states?
- What are the data integrity issues?
- What are recommended steps for moving forward?

2



## Recent NCSC Judicial Workload Assessments

- ❖ Virginia (2013)
- ❖ North Carolina (2011)
- ❖ California (2011)
- ❖ Michigan (2011)
- ❖ Minnesota (2010)
- ❖ Alabama (2008)
- ❖ Texas (2007)
- ❖ Wisconsin (2006)

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## Workload Assessment Basic Premise

- Not all cases are the same (case complexity)
- Certain types of cases take more judge time to handle, on average, than others (e.g., Felony vs. Misdemeanor)
- Translate raw filings into workload

*How many judicial officers are needed to effectively resolve different types of cases?*

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## Calculating Resource Need

Three elements to calculate number of judges needed:

- ✓ Accurate and valid filing counts
- ✓ Case weights
- ✓ Judge year value

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## Calculating Resource Need An Example

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Case Type A

Case Type B

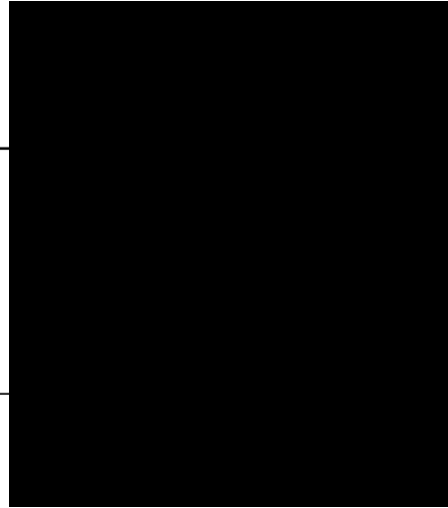
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Case Type C

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## Calculating Resource Need An Example

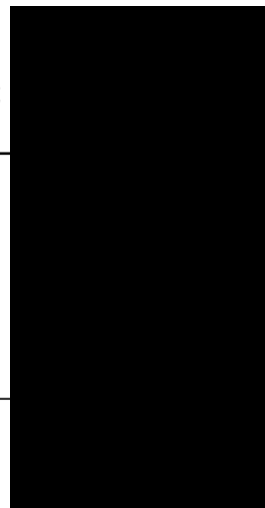
	Number of new filed cases
Case Type A	1,000
Case Type B	3,000
Case Type C	200
	4,200



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## Calculating Resource Need An Example

	Number of new filed cases	*	Case Weight (mins)
Case Type A	1,000	*	300
Case Type B	3,000	*	50
Case Type C	200	*	125
	4,200		



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## What Is A Case Weight?

$$\text{Case Weight} = \frac{\text{Minutes of Activity}}{\text{Filings}}$$

*Example:*

*A case weight of 125 minutes means that, on average, a case of this type requires 125 minutes of judge time from filing through post-disposition activity.*

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## Calculating Resource Need An Example

	Number of new filed cases	*	Case Weight (mins)	=	Workload (mins)
Case Type A	1,000	*	300	=	300,000
Case Type B	3,000	*	50	=	150,000
Case Type C	200	*	125	=	25,000
	4,200				475,000

Workload

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## Louisiana – Judicial Council Workload Formula

	Work Points
<b>Criminal</b>	
Felony	3.9
Misdemeanor	0.4
Traffic	0.02
<b>Civil</b>	
Civil, domestic (dist ct)	2.44
Civil, non-domestic (dist ct)	1.51
Civil (parish or city ct)	0.25
<b>Juvenile</b>	
Delinquency	2.6
Child in Need of Care	2.6
Other	0.76

## Louisiana – Judicial Council Workload Formula

	Work Points	Case Weight (minutes)	
<b>Criminal</b>			
Felony	3.9	88.4	
Misdemeanor	0.4	9.1	
Traffic	0.02	0.5	
<b>Civil</b>			Work point value = 22.7 minutes
Civil, domestic (dist ct)	2.44	55.3	
Civil, non-domestic (dist ct)	1.51	34.2	
Civil (parish or city ct)	0.25	5.7	
<b>Juvenile</b>			
Delinquency	2.6	58.9	
Child in Need of Care	2.6	58.9	
Other	0.76	17.2	

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## Comparison of Felony Case Weights

Workload			Workload		
Study	Case Type	Case Wght (mins)	Study	Case Type	Case Wght (mins)
Louisiana	Felony	88.4	MN, 2010	Murders	4,106
				Sex Crimes	632
CA, 2011	Felony	177		Felony DWI	223
				Person	216
MI, 2011	Capital Felony/Felony Juvenile	670		Felony Domestic Assault	199
	Noncapital Felony	106		Drug	155
				Other Felony	119
NC, 2011	Homicide	946		Property	116
	Sex Offender List Offense	131			
	Felony Assault w Weapon	117	AL, 2008	Capital Crimes	1,983
	Habitual Offender	91		Felony - Person	180
	Felony Controlled Substance	40		Felony - Drug	90
	Other Felony	40		Felony - Property	73
				Felony - Other	49

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## Comparison of Felony Case Weights

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				Felony - Property	73
				Felony - Other	49
Case weight > Louisiana Felony Weight			15		

## Comparison of Felony Case Weights

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## Louisiana – Judicial Council Workload Formula

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Civil, domestic (dist ct)	2.44	55.3
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Delinquency	2.6	58.9
Child in Need of Care	2.6	58.9
Other	0.76	17.2

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## Virginia, 2013 -- General Civil

Circuit	Filings			Percentage		
	More Complex	Intermediate Complex	Less Complex	More Complex	Intermediate Complex	Less Complex
1	50	862	271	4%	73%	23%
2 VA Beach	72	1,327	620	4%	66%	31%
3	168	359	1,425	9%	18%	73%
4 Norfolk	79	1,028	803	4%	54%	42%
5	22	378	197	4%	63%	33%
6	24	262	173	5%	57%	38%
7 Newport News	445	509	177	39%	45%	16%
.						.
.						.
.						.
23 Roanoke	102	609	295	10%	61%	29%
24	47	579	311	5%	62%	33%
25	27	418	272	4%	58%	38%
.						.
.						.
.						.
31 Prince William	85	1,251	561	4%	66%	30%
Total	2,001	24,079	11,315	5%	64%	30%
Case Weight (minutes)	454	68	28			

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## Data Integrity

“producing incomplete or inaccurate data can cause unreliable outcomes in the Council’s study and analysis which may result in recommendations that are unfair to either the particular court under consideration or other courts.”

*-- Report of the Louisiana Judicial Council, p. 6*

*March 14, 2008*

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## Data Integrity

- Need for case type definitions
- Rules for counting cases
- Use of filings data
- Consistency, completeness, comparability

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## Overview

- What is weighted caseload/workload assessment?
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## Workload Assessment Project Design

Current Practice  
"What is"

**WAAC**

Site  
Visits

Time  
Study

Quality Adjustment  
"What should be"

Adequacy  
Survey

Delphi  
Adjustments

### Formation of Workload Assessment Advisory Committee

- Provide project guidance and oversight
- Define case types
- Establish scope and method of time study data collection (e.g., participation, sampling strategy, duration)

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## Workload Assessment Project Design

Current Practice  
"What is"

WAAC

**Site  
Visits**

Time  
Study

Quality Adjustment  
"What should be"

Adequacy  
Survey

Delphi  
Adjustments

### Site Visits

- Understand nature and type of type of work performed by judges
- Understand variation between jurisdictions

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## Workload Assessment Project Design

Current Practice  
"What is"

WAAC

Site  
Visits

**Time  
Study**

Quality Adjustment  
"What should be"

Adequacy  
Survey

Delphi  
Adjustments

### Time Study

- Benchmark of current practice
- Statewide participation
- Event-based analysis
- Accurate measure of average time per case
- Case weights describe "what is"

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## Workload Assessment Project Design

Current Practice  
"What is"

WAAC

Site  
Visits

**Time  
Study**

Quality Adjustment  
"What should be"

Adequacy  
Survey

Delphi  
Adjustments

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Daily Time Log

For each case-related activity, choose one from A and one from B. For each non-case-related activity, choose one from C.

Elapsed Time	A. Case Types										B. Case-Related Events		C. Non-Case-Related Events												
	Child Dependency	Child in Need of Services/Supervision	Custody and Visitation	Juvenile Misdemeanors	Delinquency	Traffic	Adult Criminal	Juvenile Protective Order	Adult Protective Order	Support	Involuntary Commitment	DC-48/DC-44 Forms	Pre-Disposition	Post-Disposition	Non-Case-Related Administration	General Legal Research	Juvenile Miscellaneous	Juvenile Education and Training	Community and Other Meetings	Juvenile Driver's License Ceremonies	Community Activities and Public Outreach	Task-Related Travel	Vacation, Sick Leave, and Holidays	Lunch and Breaks	MSD Time Study
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Glossary of Terms  
Daily Time Log  
Supplemental Time Log  
Frequently Asked Questions  
Show All Activities  
Log Out

Daily Time  
Log

Web-based tool

Welcome, Judge Jefferson

Select the Date Worked:  Select the Activity Duration: Hours:  Minutes:

Select a Case Type

- Child Dependency
- Child in Need of Services/Supervision
- Custody and Visitation
- Juvenile Miscellaneous
- Delinquency
- Traffic
- Adult Criminal
- Juvenile Protective Order
- Adult Protective Order
- Support
- Involuntary Commitment
- DC-48/DC-44 Forms

OR Select a Non-Case-Related Event

- Non-Case-Related Administration
- General Legal Research
- Juvenile Education and Training
- Community Meetings, Other Meetings, and Related Work
- Juvenile Driver's License Ceremonies
- Community Activities and Public Outreach
- Work-Related Travel
- Vacation, Sick Leave, and Holidays
- Lunch and Breaks
- NCS Time Study

AND Select a Case-Related Event

- Pre-Disposition
- Disposition
- Post-Disposition

Add Activity  
Clear Selection

Today you have entered the following activities:

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## Workload Assessment Project Design

Current Practice  
"What is"

WAAC

Site  
Visits

Time  
Study

Quality Adjustment  
"What should be"

**Adequacy  
Survey**

Delphi  
Adjustments

### Adequacy Survey

- Web-based survey
- Input from judges statewide
- *"Identify particular tasks, **if any**, where additional time would allow you to more effectively handle your cases. If no additional time is needed, do not check any activities"*
- Used by Delphi groups to identify tradeoffs, bottlenecks, or areas of perceived resource constraints

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## Workload Assessment Project Design

Current Practice  
"What is"

WAAC

Site  
Visits

Time  
Study

Quality Adjustment  
"What should be"

Adequacy  
Survey

**Delphi  
Adjustments**

### Quality Adjustment Sessions (Delphi)

Structured method for assessing reasonableness of case weights

- Review key case-related activities
- Think explicitly about how specific types of cases are handled
- Discuss how much time is required
  - Provide specific rationales for adjustments
  - Consensus-based approach

30

## Workload Assessment Project Design – Updating the Model

### Current Practice “What is”

WAAC

Site  
Visits

Time  
Study

Regular updates to ensure that weighted caseload model remains and accurate representation of judicial workload.

Update every 5 to 7 years to reflect:

- changes in legislation
- changes in law or court rule
- changes in technology
- changes in legal practice

### Quality Adjustment “What should be”

Adequacy  
Survey

Delphi  
Adjustments

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 4

National Center for State Courts Report:  
“Development of Appellate Work Point  
Values & Examination of Case Complexity”  
(October 2012)





# **LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT**

## **DEVELOPMENT OF APPELLATE WORK POINT VALUES & EXAMINATION OF APPELLATE CASE COMPLEXITY**

**October 2012**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC), under an agreement with the Louisiana Supreme Court, was engaged to develop Work Point Values (WPV) for the appellate (circuit) courts and to analyze appellate case complexity throughout the five circuits. This project was conducted in two phases: Phase I, which included the development of appellate WPVs, and Phase II, which consisted of appellate case

complexity analysis. This report discusses the results of both phases.

The current version of appellate WPVs was developed approximately twenty years ago, cannot be supported by any existing available data, and is not perceived as accurately reflecting judicial requirements for cases in the intermediate appellate courts. The current work point values are presented in Table 1.

<b>Table 1 – Current Louisiana Appellate Work Point Values</b>		
<b>Current Louisiana Appellate Work Point Values</b>	<b>Civil</b>	<b>Criminal</b>
<b>Disposition of an appeal by formal opinion, memorandum opinion or summary disposition</b>	25	17.2
<b>Granting of a writ</b>	12	9
<b>Denial of a writ</b>	9	7
<b>Writ not considered/writ refused</b>	3	3

WPVs are most commonly used in conjunction with the Louisiana Judicial Council's analyses of requests for new judgeships. In order for a request for an

appellate judgeship to be considered, a circuit must have accounted for dispositions equaling 2,500 workload points per judge in each of the preceding two calendar years

and the average workload points per judge may not have decreased from the first to the second of those years. Alternatively, they can also be applied, along with other analytical tools, in an assessment of the sufficiency of judicial resources. The criteria considered in the development of the current appellate WPVs or the origin of the threshold established at 2,500 total work points cannot presently be identified. The approach taken in this project was to base the WPVs on a measurable criterion – in this instance, average judge time expended per case to resolve the various appellate case types.

The NCSC consultants employed a highly inclusive approach to this project. During the course of developing the appellate WPVs, they worked extensively with two groups; 1) the Appellate Work Point Values Committee<sup>1</sup> of the Louisiana Judicial

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<sup>1</sup> Work Point Values Committee members were: Judge Marion Edwards, Chief Judge Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal, Co-chair; Judge Milton Moore, Second Circuit Court of Appeal, Co-chair; Judge John Michael Guidry, First Circuit Court of Appeal; Judge Billy Ezell, Third Circuit Court of Appeal; Judge Paul Bonin, Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal; Judge Jerome Barbera, 17th Judicial

Council, and; 2) a Working Group<sup>2</sup> consisting of thirteen appellate judges representing each of the five circuit courts.

The Delphi method was utilized in developing the appellate WPVs. The Delphi Method is a process for collecting and distilling pertinent information from a group of expert individuals by means of structured discussion and the use of a series of surveys combined with controlled feedback. The Delphi technique recognizes human judgment as a legitimate and useful input in generating forecasts or estimated times.<sup>3</sup> Consensus is achieved among a

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District Court; Judge Robert Morrison, Chief Judge, 21st Judicial District Court; Kim Boyle, Esq., New Orleans, LA; Phil Cossich, Esq., Belle Chasse, LA.

<sup>2</sup> Working group members were: 1st Circuit - Judges McClendon, Parro & Welch; 2nd Circuit – Judges Caraway & Williams; 3rd Circuit – Judges Amy, Genovese & Peters; 4th Circuit – Judges Belsome, Lombard & Love, 5th Circuit – Judges Gravois & Chehardy.

<sup>3</sup> The Delphi methodology was developed by the RAND Corporation under contract with the United States Air Force in the 1940s to identify consensus on nuclear targeting policy and technology forecasting. Since then, Delphi methodology has been extensively used both in government and the private sector, resulting in a well-developed understanding of its advantages and limitations. Delphi methodology, whose name derives from the

group of experts to attain an agreed-upon response to questions posed – in this case, what are the appropriate judicial time requirements in appellate cases? For this project, the NCSC consultants used structured discussions and also administered a survey of all Louisiana Circuit Court judges on two occasions in order to obtain time estimates for judicial involvement in each of the various appellate case types.<sup>4</sup> Three separate Delphi sessions were held with Working Group members. The surveys listed the case types and descriptions of corresponding activities relating to a judge's work in deciding cases, as defined by the Working Group, and asked each appellate judge to estimate the minimum, typical, and maximum amount of time per case they

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oracle Delphi, utilizes a gathering of experts to voice opinions and to develop consensus on those opinions in successive iterations.

<sup>4</sup>Louisiana has 53 authorized appellate judgeships and the survey was planned to include all appellate judges. The NCSC consultants were advised by the Working Group that, due to several vacancies and judges who had just taken office as the project was getting under way, the expected number of respondents was 48. Of that group of 48 judges, 40 responded to the first iteration of the survey and 34 responded to the second iteration of the survey.

spend in each of those areas. The typical estimated time values were used in calculating the average time requirements which ultimately resulted in the WPVs. The Working Group worked closely with the NCSC to define the various appellate case types and activities, develop the Delphi survey instrument, and serve as a smaller group of experts for purposes of reviewing the survey data and making assessments regarding its completeness and accuracy. A copy of the survey instrument is included in this report as Appendix A.

All judges, whether in the trial or appellate courts, have responsibilities associated with both case-related and non case-related activities. The first step in establishing WPVs is to define the amount of time a judge is expected to work per day and then break that time down into case-related and non case-related components. The standard expectation for Louisiana judges is that of working 209 days per year and 7.5 hours per day. The Working Group concluded that it was a reasonable expectation for an appellate judge to spend an average of 1 hour per day on non case-

related activities<sup>5</sup>. Non case-related activities include but are not limited to participation in various judicial committees, bar association activities, public outreach efforts, keeping current with the law, and personnel management.

Based upon those expectations, the average number of case-related hours spent by Louisiana appellate judges each year can be determined as follows:

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<sup>5</sup> This estimate is consistent with weighted caseload studies conducted by the NCSC with judges in over 34 states over the past twelve years. On average, judges (both trial court and appellate) spend approximately one hour per day on non-case related duties.

**Determination of Annual Case-Related Hours:**

<b><u>1 Judge Year (Hours):</u></b>	209 Days	Multiplied by	6.5 Hours per Day	Equals	1,358.5 Hours per Year
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Once the number of case-related hours per year is determined, the time can be converted to a standard number of work point units. For this purpose, the NCSC consultants continued to use the threshold figure of 2,500 work point units as an expected level of judge workload. Thus, 1,358.5 hours of case-related work by an appellate judge is considered to represent 2,500 work point units and one hour of appellate case-related work by a judge is equivalent to 1.840265 work point units.

### **Conversion of Hours to Work Point Units:**

<b><u>Hours to WPV Conversion:</u></b>	2500	Divided	1358.5		
	Standard	by	Hours per	Equals	1.840265
	WPV Units		Year		

Finally, the number of judge hours expended for each appellate case type as reflected in the survey data and the Delphi process can be converted to work point units by applying the conversion factor derived above.

Using widely accepted methods of developing workload estimates and direction from the Working Group, the NCSC consultants applied five different averaging options to the survey results for the purpose of constructing proposed

WPs<sup>6</sup>. Shortly after distributing the results of the various averaging options to

<sup>6</sup> The various options are: A) applying the *arithmetic mean* of all respondents (n=40) who responded to either one or both surveys (e.g., if a judge only responded to the first survey, that data was used, if a judge only responded to the second survey, that data was used, and if a judge responded to both surveys, the second

the Working Group, the NCSC consultants met with the members to present and discuss the alternatives. Upon the completion of that presentation and discussion, the Working Group members voted to select and recommend a specific methodology to be used in developing the appellate work point values. The recommended alternative includes the use of time estimates only from those judges who responded to the second iteration of the survey, either to adjust or confirm their initial time estimates. It also specifies the use of median values of the time estimates for each of the case types identified by the Working Group. The Working Group's recommendation is listed as option E in the following Section II.

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survey responses were used); B) applying the *arithmetic mean* to the same group of judges referred to in option A (n=40), but pulling out the upper and lower-end outliers (determined by the Working Group); C) applying the *median* to the full range of respondents (n=40); D) applying the median to the same group of judges referred to in option A (n=40), but pulling out the upper and lower-end outliers (determined by the Working Group); E) applying the *median* to responses to the second iteration of the survey only (n=34). The Working Group recommended adoption of Option E.



## **II. WORK POINT VALUES CALCULATION OPTIONS:**

The various averaging options that the NCSC consultants discussed with the members of the Working Group were:

- A. Arithmetic Mean; Full Range of Respondents
- B. Arithmetic Mean; Reduced Range of Respondents
- C. Median; Full Range of Respondents
- D. Median; Reduced Range of Respondents
- E. Median; Second Iteration Respondents

During the course of analyzing the data and developing the appellate WPVs, it was helpful and illustrative to the members of the Working Group to discuss the analysis in terms of the resulting calculated number of judges needed on a statewide basis. Option E, the averaging option recommended by the Working Group and the Judicial Council Committee, translated into a calculated need of 59 appellate judges, based on 2011 disposition data provided by the Supreme Court. It should be noted that as the mix of case types disposed and the overall

dispositional activity varies from year to year, the calculated judicial need will likewise change. The NCSC makes no representation about the number of judges needed and makes this reference only as a means to communicate how WPVs translate into calculated judicial need. Further, the assessment of judgeships needed on a statewide or circuit-specific basis must include an analysis of other factors in addition to workload. This should include procedural, staffing and local cultural issues unique to each circuit, similar to the issues addressed in the Chief Judge Discussion Guide which is included as Appendix B. These assessments, and the criteria that are used to orient them, are within the purview of the Supreme Court and its Judicial Council.

The Judicial Council also has the authority to accept the recommendations of the two project groups, modify them as they deem appropriate, or consider other alternatives.

Items for possible modification or adjustment might include:

1. the expected judicial work days of 209 per year;
2. the expected average judicial work day of 7.5 hours;
3. the expected average one hour per day spent on non-case related activities;
4. the 2,500 work point threshold per judge; and
5. the specific WPVs for any of the individual case types.

The NCSC encourages the Judicial Council to carefully consider the applicability of the above listed items, particularly #4 – the threshold of 2,500 WPVs per appellate judge position. This threshold value has been in use for about twenty years and the basis for its establishment is unknown. The Judicial Council should consider this threshold value in light of changes to appellate caseloads, in appellate procedures, use of technological applications, number of staff support positions and their related responsibilities, appellate court performance measures, and other applicable criteria.

Further, the effective use of work point values requires periodic review, testing and,

when necessary, refinement as their implications are fully considered and as conditions change. Such review, testing and refinement of work point values would incorporate changes to the availability and quality of data; changes to law, rule or policy governing how business in the courts is conducted; the use of case processing performance data; and the results of any general assessments regarding the sufficiency of judicial resources in the circuits, including input from key appellate court stakeholders.

Each of the averaging options is discussed in the following sub-sections.

**A. Arithmetic Mean; Full Range of Respondents**

This averaging option uses the estimates from all judges who responded to either the original and/or to the second iteration of the survey. Those judges who responded to the original survey but did not respond during the second iteration are presumed to have confirmed the original estimates with no changes.

This averaging option has the benefit of including time estimates from all of the

judges who responded to either the original survey or the second iteration. That is a total of 40 judges from an expected maximum number of 48 (83%). However, the full range of data used in this methodology includes some estimates that vary significantly from the norm, producing both high and low extremes for virtually all of the case types and activity categories.

Use of this averaging option would result in the following set of work point values:

<b>Table 2 – WPVs Using Arithmetic Mean; Full Range of Respondents (Option A)</b>		
<b>DISPOSITION CASE TYPE</b>	<b>MEDIAN HOURS</b>	<b>WPV CONVERSION</b>
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	30.49	56.110
Add-on Work	6.24	11.483
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	48.24	88.774
Add-on Work	9.67	17.795
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.50	4.601
Counseled:	3.11	5.723
Emergency:	2.92	5.374
Called Up:	2.16	3.975
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.70	4.969
Summary Judgment:	2.21	4.067
Counseled:	4.65	8.557
Emergency:	3.82	7.030
Called Up:	2.98	5.484

**B. Arithmetic Mean; Reduced  
Range of Respondents**

This averaging option uses a refined set of estimates from all judges who responded to either the original or second iteration of the survey. Those judges who responded to the original survey but did not respond in the second iteration are presumed to have confirmed the original estimates with no changes.

Averaging option B has the benefit of starting with the time estimates from all of the judges who responded to either the original survey or the second iteration. That is a total of 40 judges from an expected maximum number of 48 (83%). The expert

Working Group members carefully reviewed the range of time estimates for all activity categories within each case type. Using their knowledge and experience, they removed from the data set those time estimates that were deemed to be outside the range of what was considered to be reasonable averages, i.e. extremely high or low. This provided a refined data set from which to make the work point value calculations, albeit with fewer individual estimates within each case type/activity category.

This process and averaging option would result in the following set of work point values:

<b>Table 3 – WPVs Using Arithmetic Mean; Reduced Range of Respondents (Option B)</b>		
<b>DISPOSITION CASE TYPE</b>	<b>MEDIAN HOURS</b>	<b>WPV CONVERSION</b>
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	31.46	57.895
Add-on Work	6.38	11.743
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	39.60	72.874
Add-on Work	8.83	16.256
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	1.57	2.889
Counseled:	2.46	4.527
Emergency:	2.79	5.134
Called Up:	2.11	3.883
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.78	5.116
Summary Judgment:	2.90	5.337
Counseled:	4.15	7.637
Emergency:	4.12	7.582
Called Up:	2.45	4.509

### **C. Median; Full Range of Respondents**

This option was prepared subsequent to the third Delphi session. During that session, the expert Working Group requested the use of median rather than arithmetic mean as the measure of central tendency.

Like Options A and B, this option has the benefit of including time estimates from all of the judges who responded to either the original survey or the second iteration. That is a total of 40 judges from an expected maximum number of 48 (83%). However,

the full range of data used in this methodology includes some estimates that vary significantly from the norm, producing both high and low extremes for virtually all of the case types and activity categories. The median value, which is defined as the middle value when a set of numbers are ordered from lowest to highest, provides a stabilizing effect because it is not influenced as much by extreme values as the arithmetic mean inherently is.

The resulting WPVs using this option are as follows:

<b>Table 4 – WPVs Using Median; Full Range of Respondents (Option C)</b>		
<b>DISPOSITION CASE TYPE</b>	<b>MEDIAN HOURS</b>	<b>WPV CONVERSION</b>
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	27.10	49.871
Add-on Work	6.00	11.042
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	34.25	63.029
Add-on Work	8.00	14.722
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.00	3.681
Counseled:	2.00	3.681
Emergency:	3.00	5.521
Called Up:	1.00	1.840
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.00	3.681
Summary Judgment:	2.25	4.141
Counseled:	3.00	5.521
Emergency:	4.00	7.361
Called Up:	2.00	3.681



#### **D. Median; Reduced Range of Respondents**

This averaging option was also developed pursuant to the discussion during the third Delphi session with the expert Working Group and resulting request from that body.

Like options A, B and C, this option has the benefit of starting with the time estimates from all of the judges who responded to either the original survey or the second iteration. That is a total of 40 judges from an expected maximum number of 48 (83%). As for option B, the expert Working Group members carefully reviewed the range of time estimates for all activity categories

within each case type. Using their knowledge and experience, they removed from the data set those time estimates that were deemed to be outside the range of what was considered to be reasonable averages, i.e. extremely high or low. This provides a refined data set from which to make the judge need calculations, albeit with fewer individual estimates within each case type/activity category. This method combines the stabilizing effect of using the median rather than mean values with the knowledge of the expert Working Group members in creating the reduced range of estimates.

The resulting WPVs using this option are as follows:

<b>Table 5 – WPVs Using Median; Reduced Range of Respondents (Option D)</b>		
<b>DISPOSITION CASE TYPE</b>	<b>MEDIAN HOURS</b>	<b>WPV CONVERSION</b>
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	28.30	52.079
Add-on Work	6.00	11.042
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	31.00	57.048
Add-on Work	8.00	14.722
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	1.67	3.073
Counseled:	2.00	3.681
Emergency:	3.00	5.521
Called Up:	2.00	3.681
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.00	3.681
Summary Judgment:	2.50	4.601
Counseled:	3.00	5.521
Emergency:	4.00	7.361
Called Up:	2.13	3.920

### **E. Median; Second Iteration Respondents**

This is the option recommended by the Working Group and the Work Point Values Committee. Unlike the other four options, this averaging option uses only the time estimates that were provided by those judges who completed the second iteration of the appellate judge survey. That is a total of 34 judges from an expected maximum number of 48 (71%). Those responses are considered to be more thoughtful and informed than the responses provided in the initial survey because the judges had an additional period during which to consider the time requirements of the various case types, were provided with detailed information regarding estimates of other judges within

their respective circuits as well as summary information for the other circuits, and had opportunities to discuss judicial time requirements with their colleagues.

In addition, the recommended averaging option includes use of the median value for all time estimates, rather than the arithmetic mean. The median value, which is defined as the middle value when a set of numbers are ordered from lowest to highest, provides a stabilizing effect because it is not influenced as much by extreme values as the arithmetic mean inherently is, particularly when the data includes extreme variations.

This option results in the following calculated WPVs:

<b>Table 6 – WPVs Using Median; Second Iteration Respondents (Option E)</b>		
<b>DISPOSITION CASE TYPES</b>	<b>MEDIAN HOURS</b>	<b>WPV CONVERSION</b>
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	26.30	48.399
Add-on Work	6.00	11.042
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	33.00	60.729
Add-on Work	8.00	14.722
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.00	3.681
Counseled:	2.00	3.681
Emergency:	2.00	3.681
Called Up:	1.00	1.840
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se:	2.00	3.681
Summary Judgment:	2.75	5.061
Counseled:	2.25	4.141
Emergency:	2.00	3.681
Called Up:	1.58	2.908

### **III. APPELLATE CASE COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS**

Phase II of this project consisted of a study to determine a baseline measure of the degree of complexity in appellate cases, whether the degree of complexity is inherently different among the five circuits, and if so, whether it would be feasible to apply that information to the WPVs when making an assessment of the sufficiency of judicial resources.

In recent years, appellate court judges across the country have identified increasing case complexity as a potential contributing factor in both a backlog of undecided appeals and the perceived imbalance of workloads among courts, individual judges, or panels of judges.<sup>7</sup>

As a part of this study, the NCSC consultants interviewed the chief judge of each appellate circuit. Several of the judges interviewed echoed that view. Accordingly, in order to evaluate the relative complexity of the courts' caseloads and determine whether differences in case complexity should be a factor in allocating resources among the circuits, the consultants conducted a detailed assessment of the complexity of the law and issues in both writ and appeal cases decided in each circuit and other case-related data pertaining to aspects affecting the complexity and resource intensity of each case.

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<sup>7</sup> The NCSC has conducted case complexity studies for a number of appellate courts aimed at developing differentiated case management programs designed to resolve certain classes of cases more expeditiously, reduce or avoid backlogs, redirect judicial resources to more demanding cases, and balance the relative workload of individual judges and panels of judges. The development of such a case differentiation program is beyond the scope of this project, which is NCSCs first effort at applying case complexity data to a work point value system.

### **Case Complexity Factors**

As the first step in the complexity phase of this study the NCSC consultants interviewed the chief judges, other judges, and key court personnel from each of the five circuits regarding the impact of case complexity on their caseloads and differences in their case resolution procedures. A discussion guide for these interviews is included as Appendix B. For example, the first circuit hears more appeals in administrative matters, tax cases, and prisoner claims against the Department of Corrections than other circuits do. With respect to complexity, one chief judge indicated that cases are no more complex now than before, but most others reported that their circuits' caseloads have become increasingly complex in recent years, particularly since hurricanes Rita and Katrina. Judges cited numerous reasons for the perceived increase in case complexity, including changes in the rules of civil procedure that resulted in the filing of more substantive civil writs, the addition of complex Rita and Katrina-related litigation, and an increase in the resolution of more straightforward litigation through

mediation or other alternative dispute resolution methods. Although the fourth circuit continues to have a summary docket for single issue cases that can be handled expeditiously, judges in the first, second, third and fifth circuits commented that they have had summary dockets in previous years, but that summary dockets have been eliminated, either because of budgetary changes, a reduction in the number of appeals that would be appropriate for summary resolution, or elimination of the backlogs the summary dockets were designed to address.

Some judges indicated that their courts adhere to a strictly random case assignment process and that the relative difficulty of each judge's caseload balances out over time. But others indicated that their courts have implemented case screening processes that they use when assigning cases to judges and panels in an effort to achieve a more consistently balanced workload. For example, the first circuit, recognizing that cases with large records are typically more time consuming, weights cases based on record size and

gives the judges to whom they are assigned "writing credits" based on the size of the record. They achieve balance in caseloads by spreading the larger cases among the judges, equalizing the total writing credits assigned to each judge over time, and assigning staff attorneys to cases with "mega" records (10,000 pages or more) to provide additional research and writing assistance to the assigned judge. Another example of the use of complexity screening is the fourth circuit's practice of routing motions filed in cases identified as highly complex directly to judges instead of using staff attorneys to handle motions as it does in other case types, thus ensuring greater judicial oversight early in the process. Finally, in the fifth circuit, central staff review appeals and, based on the size of the number of volumes in a file and the number of issues presented, they place a weight of 1 to 5 on each file. The weights represent the best guess as to case complexity, with 5 being the most complex. Once the weight is assigned, the case is randomly docketed by the clerk's office.

Through the course of the discussions, it became clear that there are two aspects to the complexity issue that, although distinct, frequently overlap. One is the common understanding of case complexity: cases with inherently complicated and conceptually difficult legal issues. The second aspect is the total judicial time required to resolve individual cases. In other words, a case may not present inherently complex legal issues but may take a great deal of time to resolve due to an extensive factual situation, a large trial court record, multiple parties, etc. Throughout this report, we use the term complexity for either or both of these aspects.

With respect to the first aspect of complexity, the interviewees discussed what types of cases are inherently complex because of their subject matter, and what types of legal issues are highly complex, moderately complex, and comparatively straightforward. With respect to the second complexity component, the interviewees addressed what time- or resource-intensive factors (other than the subject matter of the underlying dispute

and the nature of the issues raised) are indicative of increased complexity or that otherwise result in a case requiring a disproportionate amount of judicial time to resolve.

Based on those interviews, the NCSC consultants identified the following categories of factors that are frequently indicative of complexity: (1) subject matter complexity (cases with inherently difficult

subject matter); (2) issue-based complexity (issues that are either inherently complex or otherwise require an extensive amount of time), (3) other factors requiring an extensive amount of time; and (4) case disposition factors.

The complexity factors identified are listed in Table 7, below:

<b>Table 7 – Appellate Case Complexity Factors</b>			
<b>Subject Matter Factors</b>	<b>Issue-based Factors</b>	<b>Extensive Time Factors</b>	<b>Case Disposition Factors</b>
1. Oil and gas 2. Complex business litigation 3. Securities 4. Professional malpractice 5. Mass tort 6. Capital sentencing 7. DEQ/DNR matters	1. Issue involves settled law 2. Pure legal question 3. Fact-intensity of issues 4. Requires research of federal or other state laws 5. Matter of continuing public interest or public policy	1. Number of parties 2. Cross-appeal 3. Consolidated appeals 4. Pro se parties 5. Expedited or time constrained case type 6. Record size (in number of volumes and total page number)	1. Form of disposition (order or opinion) 2. Length of opinion 3. Dissent or concurring opinion 4. Expanded panel 5. Discussion of numerous errors patent 6. Outcome includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expansion or modification of existing rule or law</li> <li>• resolution of an apparent conflict of authority</li> <li>• announcement of a new rule or law</li> </ul>



Data regarding each of these complexity factors were gathered during a subsequent case file review. The following sections describe how cases were selected, the

review process, and the compilation of results.

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### **Case Selection**

NCSC and the Louisiana Supreme Court agreed that approximately 500 cases should be reviewed for complexity in order to ensure that there was at least a 95% confidence level that the sample represented the overall population within a margin of error of +/- 2%. The NCSC consultants obtained detailed 2011 disposition data for the five appellate circuits from the Office of the Judicial Administrator. The 2011 statewide dispositions for appeals and writs totaled 7,449.

In selecting cases for review in the complexity analysis, the consultants first determined the pro-rata share of total dispositions by circuit to calculate the number of cases that should be reviewed in

each court. The consultants then determined the pro-rata share of dispositions within each circuit represented by the various case types (civil appeals, criminal appeals, civil writs and criminal writs) to correspondingly allocate the case type mix within each circuit. Finally, a computerized random number generator was used to identify the specific cases that would be reviewed within each circuit and these case lists were distributed to the Clerk of Court in each circuit prior to the visit by the NCSC consultants. At this point, it was learned that it is a common practice that once an appeal is resolved and the time to request review by the Supreme Court has passed, both the trial court records and appellate case files are sent to the trial courts. The third, fourth and fifth circuits were able to retrieve all necessary files and records. However, due to the expense and difficulty of retrieving the files and records from the many parishes in the

first and second circuits, an alternative selection process was used. Those circuits provided a more recent list of dispositions for which the appellate files and records were still available at the appellate court. The consultants selected a new sample for review, replicating the mix of case types for both circuits. To ensure that the required confidence level and margin of error were

achieved, the consultants reviewed a total of 544 cases. This amount provides a 95% confidence level within a 1.8% margin of error.

The actual number of cases selected for review, by circuit and case type, is listed below in Table 8.

<b>Table 8 – Number of Cases Reviewed for Complexity</b>						
<b>Case Type</b>	<b>Circuit 1</b>	<b>Circuit 2</b>	<b>Circuit 3</b>	<b>Circuit 4</b>	<b>Circuit 5</b>	<b>Total</b>
Criminal Appeals	18	8	15	12	14	67
Civil Appeals	32	15	29	19	12	107
Criminal Writs	80	31	45	49	53	258
Civil Writs	44	12	23	16	17	112
<b>Total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>544</b>

### **Complexity Review and Analysis**

The complexity review and analysis process was conducted in two phases: an on-site review with data gathering, and a compilation and analysis phase. During the on-site review, the NCSC consultants visited each circuit to review the entire file and trial record for each randomly selected sample case. The case reviewer examined

the lower court record, studied the issues raised in the briefs, read the dispositional order or opinion, and recorded information regarding each of the complexity criteria listed in Table 7 above. The case complexity review worksheets for appeals and writs are included in this report as Appendices C & D.

After the on-site review, the consultants assigned one of three difficulty ratings to each case: "A" for the least complex/time intensive cases; "B" for cases of average complexity/time-intensity; and "C" for the most complex/time-intensive cases. As explained more fully below, these ratings were based both on the objectively measurable factors and on a subjective evaluation of the type of the case and nature of the issues raised.

For the three primary objectively measurable factors (total record size, total length of all briefs, and opinion length), the consultants determined averages and medians for each circuit, recognizing that a circuit-based approach more accurately reflects relative complexity than using statewide averages and medians. This is because the former accounts for circuit-specific practices and court culture, particularly with respect to the length of opinions and briefs while a statewide approach would not. Using those averages and medians, the consultants assigned an initial A, B, or C rating to each of the three primary objectively measurable factors,

then an overall rating based on the combination of those three ratings.

After making the initial complexity rating for each case based on the objectively measurable factors, the team adjusted the ratings up and down based on a review of the subjective complexity factors, on-site reviewer comments, and all of the other factors that might affect whether a particular case was likely to be more or less time consuming for the author judge and other panel members. This might also include local practices such as the use of a central staff attorney in a particular case type. For example, the second and fourth circuits use staff attorneys to prepare bench memoranda for all writs and criminal appeals, the fifth circuit focuses its staff attorney resources on civil writs and appeals, and the third circuit uses staff attorneys primarily on writs. Another example of a local practice that sometimes resulted in an adjustment in the initial complexity rating was the second circuit's practice of adding two judges to the opinion panel when a petition for rehearing is filed so that five judges rule on the petition.

The assignment of complexity ratings were then compiled for each circuit and aggregated on a statewide basis. The

statewide results are presented in Table 9, below:

<b>Table 9 – Statewide Complexity Ratings by Case Type</b>			
	<b>Complexity Rating</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
<b>Criminal Appeals</b>	<b>A</b>	15	22.4%
	<b>B</b>	46	68.7%
	<b>C</b>	6	8.9%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	
<b>Civil Appeals</b>	<b>A</b>	18	16.8%
	<b>B</b>	77	72.0%
	<b>C</b>	12	11.2%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	
<b>Criminal Writs</b>	<b>A</b>	211	81.8%
	<b>B</b>	44	17.0%
	<b>C</b>	3	1.2%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>258</b>	
<b>Civil Writs</b>	<b>A</b>	51	45.5%
	<b>B</b>	49	43.8%
	<b>C</b>	12	10.7%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	

#### **IV. APPLICATION OF COMPLEXITY FINDINGS TO WPV CALCULATION**

Once the case complexity analysis was completed and the ratings determined for each case, the consultants applied those findings to the proposed work point values resulting from averaging option E, which was recommended by both the Working Group and the Work Point Values Committee. This required making an adjustment to the median hours for each case type. As described on page 3, the appellate judge Delphi surveys requested minimum, maximum and typical estimated time requirements for each case type. The typical values were used in calculating the WPVs during Phase 1. The minimum and

maximum values were then used as proxies for calculating the median hours for the least complex (A rated cases) and most complex (C rated cases), respectively. The typical time estimates continued to be applied to the cases of moderate or standard complexity (B rated cases). The relationship of medians for the minimum and maximum time estimates to the median of the typical estimate was calculated for all case types when making adjustments to the proposed WPVs. Those relationships are expressed as percentages in Table 10, below.

<b>Table 10 – Relationship Among Median Values; Minimum, Typical &amp; Maximum Time Estimates</b>			
	<b>Case Complexity Rating</b>		
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>CASE TYPE</b>	<b>MINIMUM TO TYPICAL</b>	<b>TYPICAL</b>	<b>MAXIMUM TO TYPICAL</b>
<b>CR APPEALS</b>	45.13%	100.00%	245.08%
<b>CV APPEALS</b>	45.10%	100.00%	245.10%
<b>CR WRITS</b>	58.00%	100.00%	254.00%
<b>CV WRITS</b>	42.00%	100.00%	208.00%

Next, the total 2011 dispositions were allocated by case type to the least complex, moderate or standard, and most complex rating categories based on the statewide percentages listed in Table 9. The median hours for the A and C rated cases were then adjusted based on the relationship of the

minimum and maximum time estimates to the typical time estimates for each case type. To calculate the impact of complexity on the WPVs for the three complexity ratings within each case type, NCSC consultants employed the following two formulas:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{Median} & & & & \text{Complexity \& Frequency} \\ \text{Hours} & \text{Multiplied} & \text{(Median Hour Adjustment} & \text{Equals} & \text{Adjusted Median} \\ & \text{by} & \text{Multiplied by the Statewide} & & \text{Hours} \\ & & \text{Frequency)} & & \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{Complexity \& Frequency} & & & & \text{Complexity} \\ \text{Adjusted Median} & \text{Multiplied} & \text{WPV Multiplier} & \text{Equals} & \text{Adjusted WPV} \\ \text{Hours} & \text{by} & \text{(1.840265)} & & \end{array}$$

The formulas and the complexity adjusted WPVs are presented in Table 11, on the following page.

Table 11 – Complexity Adjusted Work Point Values						
Case Type	Median Hours (Table 6)	Median Hour Adjustment (Table 10)	Statewide Frequency (Table 9)	Complexity & Frequency Adjusted Median Hours	WPV Multiplier	Complexity Adjusted WPV
CR APPEALS						
A	26.3	45.13%	22.40%	2.659	1.840265	4.893
B		100.00%	68.70%	18.068		33.250
C		245.08%	8.90%	5.737		10.557
Consolidated Total WPV for CR APPEALS						48.700
CV APPEALS						
A	33	45.10%	16.80%	2.500	1.840265	4.601
B		100.00%	72.00%	23.760		43.725
C		245.10%	11.20%	9.059		16.671
Consolidated Total WPV for CV APPEALS						64.997
CR WRITS (Pro-se, Counseled & Emergency)						
A	2	58.00%	81.80%	0.949	1.840265	1.746
B		100.00%	17.00%	0.340		0.626
C		254.00%	1.20%	0.061		0.112
Consolidated Total WPV for CR WRITS						2.484
CV WRITS (Pro-se & Emergency)						
A	2	42.00%	45.50%	0.382	1.840265	0.703
B		100.00%	43.80%	0.876		1.612
C		208.00%	10.70%	0.445		0.819
Consolidated Total WPV for CR WRITS						3.135
CV WRITS (Review of Summary Judgment)						
A	2.75	42.00%	45.50%	0.526	1.840265	0.967
B		100.00%	43.80%	1.205		2.217
C		208.00%	10.70%	0.612		1.126
Consolidated Total WPV for CR WRITS						4.310
CV WRITS (Counseled)						
A	2.25	42.00%	45.50%	0.430	1.840265	0.791
B		100.00%	43.80%	0.986		1.814
C		208.00%	10.70%	0.501		0.922
Consolidated Total WPV for CR WRITS						3.526

The resulting effects of applying the case complexity findings to the calculation of appellate WPVs were a slight to moderate increase in those related to criminal and civil appeals along with a slight to moderate decrease in those related to criminal and civil writs. While statistics are available for cases that included ‘add-on work’ in appeals and ‘called up’ writs, there are none available to indicate the frequency with which those additional activities occur in A, B, or C rated cases. Accordingly, no adjustment was made for the WPVs associated with ‘add-on work’ in appeals or ‘called up’ writs. The effect of the WPV complexity adjustments on the statewide calculation is a net increase of 788 work

point units (using the 2011 disposition statistics). This result is approximately 32% of the 2,500 work point unit threshold, or about one-third of the expected workload for a single appellate judge. Given the varying impacts of the complexity adjustments among the different case types, particularly appeals compared to writs, any significant future changes in the caseload mix of a particular circuit relative to the statewide totals could have a more substantive effect on the judicial need for that circuit.

A comparison of the complexity adjusted WPVs to those calculated using averaging option E in Phase 1 is presented in Table 12.



<b>Table 12 – Comparison of Proposed WPVs with Complexity Adjusted WPVs</b>						
<b>CASE TYPES</b>	<b>2011 Statewide Dispositions</b>	<b>Proposed WPVs (See Table 6)</b>	<b>Statewide Work Point Units - Proposed</b>	<b>Complexity Adjusted WPVs (See Table 11)</b>	<b>Statewide Work Point Units - Complexity Adjusted</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	816	48.399	39494	48.700	39739	246
Add-on Work <sup>8</sup>	73	11.042	806	11.042	806	0
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	1,377	60.729	83624	64.997	89501	5877
Add-on Work <sup>8</sup>	277	14.722	4078	14.722	4078	0
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>						
Pro Se	2,684	3.681	9880	2.484	6667	-3213
Counseled	922	3.681	3394	2.484	2290	-1104
Emergency <sup>9</sup> (Est.)	25	3.681	92	2.484	62	-30
Called Up <sup>8</sup>	4	1.840	7	1.840	7	0
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>						
Pro Se	187	3.681	688	3.135	586	-102
Summary Judgment (Est.)	25	5.061	127	4.310	108	-19
Counseled	1,388	4.141	5748	3.526	4894	-854
Emergency (Est.)	25	3.681	92	3.135	78	-14
Called Up <sup>8</sup>	13	2.908	38	2.908	38	0
<b>Projected Net Effect on Statewide Work Point Units</b>						<b>788</b>
<b>Percentage of Appellate Judge Expected Workload (788/2,500)</b>						<b>32%</b>

<sup>8</sup> Because the consultants were unable to determine the percentage with which 'add-on work' for appeals and 'called up' writs occurred in A, B, or C rated cases, no adjustment was made for these WPVs.

<sup>9</sup> Statistics regarding dispositions of emergency criminal and civil writs and civil writs to review orders of summary judgment were not available. As a result, estimated figures were inserted for purposes of calculating work point units. The amounts inserted were deducted from the corresponding counseled writ categories.

## **V. SUMMARY & CONCLUSION**

Working with the Appellate Work Point Values Committee of the Louisiana Judicial Council and a Working Group consisting of thirteen appellate judges representing each of the five circuit courts, NCSC consultants administered a survey of all appellate judges and developed appellate work point values using five alternative averaging options. WPVs are most commonly used in conjunction with the Louisiana Judicial Council's analyses of requests for new judgeships. These values can also be applied, along with other analytical tools, in an assessment of the sufficiency of judicial resources. Such an assessment of judgeships on a statewide or circuit-specific basis must also consider an analysis of other factors in addition to the case-related workload. This should include procedural issues, staffing and local cultural matters unique to each circuit, similar to those addressed in the Chief Judge Discussion Guide (Appendix B). These assessments, and the criteria that are used to orient them, are within the purview of the Supreme Court and its Judicial Council.

After reviewing and comparing the results of each of these averaging options, the Working Group recommended that Option E, using a median calculation of time estimates from those judges who responded to the second survey iteration, be considered by the Judicial Council's Work Point Values Committee. The Work Point Values Committee agreed with that recommendation as did the NCSC consultants. These efforts constituted Phase 1 of this project.

In Phase 2, the NCSC consultants then conducted a study to determine a baseline measure of the degree of complexity in appellate cases, whether the degree of complexity is inherently different among the five circuits, and if so, whether it would be feasible to apply that information to the WPVs when making an assessment of the sufficiency of judicial resources.

Analysis of the findings indicated that adjusting for complexity would be unlikely

to result in a significant effect when calculating the need for additional judicial positions. Although the process of studying case complexity has value in appellate courts, primarily for purposes of differentiating cases for various decision-making processes and expediting their resolution, given the minor impact seen on the total statewide work point units calculated using the proposed WPVs, along with the extensive time and effort required to gather, analyze, compile and apply case complexity findings for use in the future, the Working Group recommended that such analysis not be included in the development of work point values at this time and the Work Point Values Committee agreed. The NCSC consultants also agreed with the recommendations.

**Appendix A:**  
**Louisiana Courts of Appeal**  
**Work Point Value Time Study Survey**

At the request of the Louisiana Supreme Court the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) was contracted to develop revised work point values for the Louisiana Appellate Courts. The NCSC has begun by working in conjunction with the Judicial Council Work Point Values Advisory Committee and the Work Point Values Advisory Working Group (both groups primarily consist of appellate court judges representing each of the five circuits) to develop a survey for Appellate Court Judges in Louisiana.

Each of the appellate court judges in Louisiana is being asked to participate in this important survey. The data will be compiled into a database that will allow NCSC analysts to develop average estimated times associated with each category identified. To complete this project, the NCSC needs your assistance in gathering information on the estimated amount of time you actually spend processing appeals and writs as well as the amount of time you spend on non-case specific activities essential to your role as an appellate judge. The survey is designed to obtain case processing information on the following case types:

### Work Point Value Study Case Types

<u>Appeals:</u>	<u>Writs:</u>
Criminal	Criminal
Civil	Civil
Time-constrained (such as election cases)	

For appeals, you will be asked to estimate the amount of time associated with processing appeals based upon the different roles you take (preliminary work, 1<sup>st</sup> judge, 2<sup>nd</sup> judge, 3<sup>rd</sup> judge and add-on work). For writs, you will be asked to estimate the time it takes to hear criminal, civil and time-constrained writs for pro se, counseled and emergency cases, as well as to estimate time with called-up writs/granted to docket.

For each case type and role/task, we ask that you think back over your recent case processing work. Think about the cases that take a relatively lengthy amount of time to process and those that can be completed in a relatively short amount of time; then think about the average case. In terms of YOUR individual judge time on these cases, we are asking you to provide, in hours and minutes, the maximum, minimum and typical average for each case type (e.g. criminal appeals, civil appeals and time-constrained appeals). When estimating the typical average amount, consider the frequency with which the minimum and maximum amounts actually occur. The typical average should be your best estimate of the amount of time that you would normally expect to dedicate to the role/tasks listed. Please provide your best objective time estimates for each case type and each role/task identified in the survey.

For non-case specific activities, we ask that you think about how much time you spend on each of the identified categories in a given time period, and express these times (again in hours/minutes) in terms of either monthly or yearly averages.

You may complete the survey in the attached Microsoft Word® document or you may print out the document and complete it manually. Please enter information in all of the shaded areas – each page also includes a comments section if you believe that additional information would be helpful. To submit your survey, please contact one of the Working Group representatives in your circuit.

**WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Circuit	Judge Page McClendon, Judge Randy Parro, Judge Jewel Welch
2 <sup>nd</sup> Circuit	Judge Jay Caraway, Judge Felicia Williams
3 <sup>rd</sup> Circuit	Judge Marc Amy, Judge James Genovese, Judge Jimmie Peters
4 <sup>th</sup> Circuit	Judge Roland Belsome, Ed Lombard, Judge Terri Love
5 <sup>th</sup> Circuit	Judge Susan Chehardy, Judge Jude Gravois

CRIMINAL APPEALS				
CIRCUIT:	Click here to enter text.	ESTIMATED JUDGE TIME REQUIRED (Please specify hours/minutes)		
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMINAL APPEALS		MINIMUM (hours/minutes)	MAXIMUM (hours/minutes)	TYPICAL (hours/minutes)
EXAMPLE: Preliminary Work (work prior to submission date)		15 min	3 hours	1.25 hours
Preliminary Work (work prior to submission date) – including but not limited to: initial conflict review, review of jurisdictional issues, reading of briefs, record review, secondary conflict review, legal research, conference with law clerks, review and handling of preliminary motions, bench memos, preparation for oral argument		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
3-Judge Panel Work (individual judge's time only) – including but not limited to: oral argument (if requested), panel conferencing, review and handling of additional motions post-submission		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
1st Judge (Writing Judge) Work – including but not limited to: update legal research, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs, review for legal issues, initial draft of proposed opinion, conferencing with law clerks, editing of proposed opinion, finalization of proposed opinion, circulate memorandum to panel with any additional comments, review & editing based in 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> judges' comments		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
2nd Judge Work – including but not limited to: initial review of circulated opinion, legal research regarding the opinion, review for legal issues, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs and/or proposed opinion, memos to the panel regarding proposed opinion (e.g., citation review, grammar check, content, stylistic change), conferencing with law clerks, draft of concurrence or dissent, if applicable, back up editorials to writing judge		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
3rd Judge Work – including but not limited to: initial review of circulated opinion, legal research regarding the opinion, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs and/or proposed opinion, review for legal issues, memos to the panel regarding proposed opinion (e.g., citation review, grammar check, content, stylistic change), conferencing with law clerks, draft of concurrence or dissent, if applicable, back up editorials to writing judge		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Add-on Work – including but not limited to: authorship of new opinion based on vote of 3, 5, 7 or en banc panel, participation in an expanded panel (this includes all duties identified as writing, number 2 and number 3 judge); review of applications for rehearing, including additional research and writing and conferencing		Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

## CIVIL APPEALS

	ESTIMATED TIME REQUIRED (in hours/minutes)		
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CIVIL APPEALS	MINIMUM (hours/minutes)	MAXIMUM (hours/minutes)	TYPICAL (hours/minutes)
<b>Preliminary Work (work prior to submission date)</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> initial conflict review, reading of briefs, record review, secondary conflict review, legal research, conference with law clerks, review and handling of preliminary motions, bench memos, preparation for oral argument	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>3-Judge Panel Work (individual judge's time only)</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> oral argument (if requested), panel conferencing, review and handling of additional motions post-submission	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>1st Judge (Writing Judge) Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> update legal research, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs, initial draft of proposed opinion, conferencing with law clerks, editing of proposed opinion, finalization of proposed opinion, circulation memorandum to other judges with any additional comments	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>2nd Judge Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> initial review of circulated opinion, legal research regarding the opinion, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs and/or proposed opinion, memos to the panel regarding proposed opinion (e.g., citation review, grammar check, content, stylistic change), conferencing with law clerks, draft of concurrence or dissent, if applicable, back up editorials to writing judge	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>3rd Judge Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> initial review of circulated opinion, legal research regarding the opinion, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs and/or proposed opinion, memos to the panel regarding proposed opinion (e.g., citation review, grammar check, content, stylistic change), conferencing with law clerks, draft of concurrence or dissent, if applicable, back up editorials to writing judge	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Add-on Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> authorship of new opinion based on vote of 3, 5, 7 or en banc panel, participation in an expanded panel, this includes all duties identified as writing, number 2 and number 3 judge; review of applications for re-hearing, including additional research and writing and conferencing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.



TIME-CONSTRAINED APPEALS (such as elections cases)			
	ESTIMATED TIME REQUIRED (in hours/minutes)		
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH TIME-CONSTRAINED APPEALS	MINIMUM (hours/minutes)	MAXIMUM (hours/minutes)	TYPICAL (hours/minutes)
<b>Preliminary Work (work prior to submission date)</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> initial conflict review, reading of briefs, record review, secondary conflict review, legal research, conference with law clerks, review and handling of preliminary motions, bench memos, preparation for oral argument	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>3-Judge Panel Work (individual judge's time only)</b> – including but not limited to: oral argument (if requested), panel conferencing, review and handling of additional motions post-submission	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>1st Judge (Writing Judge) Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> update legal research, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs, initial draft of proposed opinion, conferencing with law clerks, editing of proposed opinion, finalization of proposed opinion, circulation memorandum to other judges with any additional comments	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>2nd Judge Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> initial review of circulated opinion, legal research regarding the opinion, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs and/or proposed opinion, memos to the panel regarding proposed opinion (e.g., citation review, grammar check, content, stylistic change), conferencing with law clerks, draft of concurrence or dissent, if applicable, back up editorials to writing judge	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>3rd Judge Work</b> - <i>including but not limited to:</i> initial review of circulated opinion, legal research regarding the opinion, additional record review specific to argument and/or briefs and/or proposed opinion, memos to the panel regarding proposed opinion (e.g., citation review, grammar check, content, stylistic change), conferencing with law clerks, draft of concurrence or dissent, if applicable, back up editorials to writing judge	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Add-on Work</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> authorship of new opinion based on vote of 3, 5, 7 or en banc panel, participation in an expanded panel, this includes all duties identified as writing, number 2 and number 3 judge; review of applications for re-hearing, including additional research and writing and conferencing, additional time which might be required due to the statutorily-mandated expedited nature of the appeal	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

CRIMINAL WRITS			
	ESTIMATED TIME REQUIRED (in hours/minutes)		
ACTIVITIES IN REVIEWING& HANDLING OF CRIMINAL WRITS	MINIMUM (hours/minutes)	MAXIMUM (hours/minutes)	TYPICAL (hours/minutes)
<b>Pro Se</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> screening for conflicts and emergencies, review of writ application, legal research, conference with staff attorneys/law clerks, review and handling of motions, writ conference, preparation of writ disposition, circulation of proposed disposition to panel, review of proposed disposition from other panel members, preparation of concurrence or dissent, if required, handling of applications for rehearing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Counseled</b> - <i>including but not limited to:</i> screening for conflicts and emergencies, review of writ application, legal research, conference with staff attorneys/law clerks, review and handling of motions, writ conference, preparation of writ disposition, circulation of proposed disposition to panel, review of proposed disposition from other panel members, preparation of concurrence or dissent, if required, handling of applications for rehearing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Emergency</b> - <i>including but not limited to:</i> screening for conflicts and emergencies, review of writ application, legal research, conference with staff attorneys/law clerks, review and handling of motions, writ conference, preparation of writ disposition, circulation of proposed disposition to panel, review of proposed disposition from other panel members, preparation of concurrence or dissent, if required, handling of applications for rehearing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Called-up writs/Granted to Docket</b> – conferencing with panel to determine action to be taken, order calling up the record (everything you would do on an appeal will be accounted for under the appeal category, so do not include those activities here).	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

CIVIL WRITS			
	ESTIMATED TIME REQUIRED (in hours/minutes)		
ACTIVITIES IN REVIEWING& HANDLING OF CIVIL WRITS	MINIMUM (hours/minutes)	MAXIMUM (hours/minutes)	TYPICAL (hours/minutes)
<b>Pro Se</b> – <i>including but not limited to:</i> screening for conflicts and emergencies, review of writ application, legal research, conference with staff attorneys/law clerks, review and handling of motions, writ conference, preparation of writ disposition, circulation of proposed disposition to panel, review of proposed disposition from other panel members, preparation of concurrence or dissent, if required, handling of applications for rehearing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Review of Denial of Summary Judgment</b> – please estimate your time for summary judgment denials separately using the same activity descriptions above (pro se and counseled)	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Counseled</b> - <i>including but not limited to:</i> screening for conflicts and emergencies, review of writ application, legal research, conference with staff attorneys/law clerks, review and handling of motions, writ conference, preparation of writ disposition, circulation of proposed disposition to panel, review of proposed disposition from other panel members, preparation of concurrence or dissent, if required, handling of applications for rehearing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Emergency</b> - <i>including but not limited to:</i> screening for conflicts and emergencies, review of writ application, legal research, conference with staff attorneys/law clerks, review and handling of motions, writ conference, preparation of writ disposition, circulation of proposed disposition to panel, review of proposed disposition from other panel members, preparation of concurrence or dissent, if required, handling of applications for rehearing	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<b>Called-up writs/Granted to Docket</b> – conferencing with panel to determine action to be taken, order calling up the record (everything you would do on an appeal will be accounted for under the appeal category, so do not include those activities here).	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

<b>NON CASE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES</b> (estimate your time using either an annual time value or a monthly time value)		
	<b>ESTIMATED TIME REQUIRED (in hours/minutes)</b>	
<b>NON CASE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES – Time Estimates</b>	<b>ANNUAL (hours/minutes)</b>	<b>MONTHLY (hours/minutes)</b>
<b>Administrative Activities</b>		
Committee participation & related work – attending committee meetings and work related to committees and administrative travel to and from meetings.	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Human Resources/Personnel-Related activities (include staff supervision) -	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Court-specific and general administrative activities – create and maintain statistical reports, generate new studies and reports, and any other administrative work necessary for the smooth operation of the court that is not specified elsewhere. Includes preparation for and attendance at the full court conference. Reading/sending emails, telephone calls/voice mail, etc.	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Administrative travel between satellite office and main courthouse for court business/activity.	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Bar Association and Public Outreach – working with local, state, and national bar association(s). Also includes working with civic and educational organizations, which includes law day, mock trials and outreach as well as serving on Inns of Court, etc.	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>Keeping current with the law</b>		
Reading other court decisions to remain current on the law not specific to case. Additionally, reading journals and other professional materials.	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Attending/teaching educational programs -includes preparation of materials and administrative travel).	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>Opinion Review</b>		
Reviewing opinions issued by other panels within circuit	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Full Court or en-banc conferences	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>Leave (sick, vacation, etc.)</b>		
Sick	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Vacation	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

## Appendix B – Chief Judge Discussion Guide

### **Court Organization/Administration**

- Please describe the staffing arrangement(s) in the court. (This should include number of staff and organization in the clerk's office, central staff attorneys and chambers staff – judicial assistants and law clerks.)
- Are central staff attorneys assigned to chambers or do they operate independently?
  - Do central staff attorneys provide case-specific research or writing assistance to chambers? If so, how is that allocated?
  - What other duties are assigned to central staff attorneys.
- Are law clerk positions short-term (one or two years) or permanent appointments?
  - What duties are assigned to law clerks?
- How often does the court meet in conference?
- Has the court developed any unique rules, protocols or special programs to address specific issues of need or concern?
  - If so, please describe.
- Is the court lacking any resources? Staffing or otherwise
  - If so, what are they?
  - What are the effects of such shortages?
  - Has the court adjusted any procedures or work standards in order to adapt to the shortages?
- Have there been any recent changes in law or rules that have had an impact on the courts of appeal ability to process its workload? This may include jurisdiction, staffing, or administration. If so, please describe.
- Are there any changes in law or rules that you think could have a beneficial impact on the administration/operation of the courts of appeal? If so, please describe.

### **Case Complexity**

- What types of cases, both writs and appeals, generally present the most complexity, moderate complexity or little to no complexity?
- Are there particular factors that may be present in a case that are indicative of increased complexity? (The attached case complexity checklist provides the foundation for our case reviews)
- What estimated percentage of the docket in your circuit is comprised of highly complex cases? Least complex cases?

## Appendix B – Chief Judge Discussion Guide

### **Case Intake Screening**

- What are the case screening practices used in the court? What is the purpose, or purposes, of the court’s screening procedures? (e.g.: complexity, jurisdiction, deficiencies, case tracking, etc.) (f multiple screens take place, the following questions should be answered for all types of screens)
  - Describe whether all cases or only particular types of cases are screened.
  - Are different case types screened differently?
  - Describe any differences between the way writs and appeals are screened
  - Who does the screening?
  - At what point in the case does case screening take place?
  - Do screening practices impact the processing/assignment of cases?
  - Does the court identify cases that may be appropriate for summary disposition and divert such cases from the “normal” case processing procedures in an effort to resolve them more expeditiously?
  - If so, please describe when, how, and by whom such screening takes place.

### **Case Processing**

- Is there currently a backlog or has there been one in the past? How is backlog defined? What factors contributed to the backlog? What steps have been taken to reduce the backlog and prevent future backlogs?
- Is there a summary docket in your circuit?
  - If so, what types of cases are included?
  - What are the criteria for summary disposition?
- How are panels created and how often do they change?
- How does the court handle requests for 5 panel or en banc hearings?
- Who makes the case assignments and how are they made?
- What is the process for circulating opinions, including dissents and concurrences?
- Describe the differences between the way writs and appeals are processed.

Any additional thoughts or comments about this process?

## Appendix C: Sample Appeals Data Collection Form

Circuit: 1st Circuit Appeals										Case Complexity Worksheet												
BASIC CASE INFORMATION								RECORD		BRIEFING INFORMATION						DISPOSITION INFORMATION						
Record No.	Court Case Number	CR or CV; Writ or Appeal?	Case Type (Sched A)	Did the Matter Involve a Cross Appeal?	Pro Se Party? Y or N	No. of Lawyers Involved?	Expedited or Time Constrained Case Type? Y or N	No. of Volumes	Total No. of Pages in Record	Appellant Brief - No. of Assignments of Error	Appellant Brief - No. of Pages	Respondent Brief Filed? Y or N	Respondent Brief - No. of Pages	Total No. of Briefs Filed	Total Pages for All Briefs	If cross-appeal, No. of Assignments of Error	Issue Specific Factors (Schedule B; Note all that Apply)	Method of Disposition (Formal Opinion/ Memorandum Opinion/ Summary Disposition)	Possible Outcome Factors (Schedule C; Note all that Apply)	Length of Opinion - No. of Pages	Was There a Dissent or Concurring Opinion? Y or N	Expanded Panel?
1																						
2																						
3																						
4																						
5																						
A		See Attached Schedule of Case Types																				
B		1	Issue involves settled law						6.A.		Oil/gas		C		1	Requires expansion or modification of existing rule or law						
		2	Pure legal question						6.B.		Complex litigation				2	Requires resolution of an apparent conflict of authority						
		3	Factual intensity of issues						6.C.		Capital case				3	Requires announcement of a new rule of law						
		4	Requires research of federal or other state(s') laws						6.D.		Professional malpractice											
		5	Matter of continuing public interest or public policy						6.E.		Mass tort case											
		6	Generally difficult subject matter, e.g.,						6.F.		DEQ/DNR matter											

## Appendix D: Sample Writ Data Collection Form

Circuit 1st Circuit Writs										Case Complexity Worksheet												
BASIC CASE INFORMATION								RECORD		BRIEFING INFORMATION						DISPOSITION INFORMATION						
Record No.	Court Case Number	CR or CV; Writ or Appeal?	Case Type (Schedule A)	Did the Matter Involve a Cross Appeal?	Pro Se Party? Y or N	No. of Parties Involved?	Expedited or Time Constrained Case Type? Y or N	No. of Volumes	Total No. of Pages in Record	Appellant Brief - No. of Assignments of Error	Appellant Brief - No. of Pages	Respondent Brief Filed? Y or N	Respondent Brief - No. of Pages	Total No. of Briefs Filed	Total Pages for All Briefs	If cross-appeal, No. of Assignments of Error	Issue Specific Factors (Schedule B; Note all that Apply)	Method of Disposition (Formal Opinion/Memorandum Opinion/Summary Disposition)	Possible Outcome Factors (Schedule C; Note all that Apply)	Length of Opinion - No. of Pages	Was There a Dissent or Concurring Opinion? Y or N	Expanded Panel?
1																						
2																						
3																						
4																						
A	See Attached Schedule of Case Types																					
B	1	Issue involves settled law						6.A.	Oil/gas		C	1	Requires expansion or modification of existing rule or law									
	2	Pure legal question						6.B.	Complex litigation			2	Requires resolution of an apparent conflict of authority									
	3	Factual intensity of issues						6.C.	Capital case			3	Requires announcement of a new rule of law									
	4	Requires research of federal or other state(s) laws						6.D.	Professional malpractice													
	5	Matter of continuing public interest or public policy						6.E.	Mass tort case													
	6	Generally difficult subject matter, e.g.,						6.F.	DEQ/DNR matter													



# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 5

National Center for State Courts Report:  
“An Assessment of Louisiana’s Judicial  
Workload Model”  
(January 2014)

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# An Assessment of Louisiana's Judicial Workload Model

Matthew Kleiman, Ph.D.  
Brian Ostrom, Ph.D.  
Richard Schauffler

January 2014

**Research Division**  
**National Center for State Courts**



## **Executive Summary**

The current methodology for assessing the need for judges in each district court, parish court, and city court in Louisiana should be revised and updated. The existing model does not account for the evolving character of judicial work in Louisiana, including recent changes in legal procedures (e.g., problem solving courts), changes in the law requiring additional hearings (e.g., child abuse and neglect cases), changes in the population, and changes in information technology. The Louisiana judicial branch would be best served by undertaking a new judicial workload assessment, grounded in a statewide time study, and consistent with current methodological best practices. Since a workload model is driven by caseload data, a systematic review and improvement of trial court caseload data will be required to ensure cases are being appropriately defined and accurately counted across the state. A new workload model will enable Louisiana to effectively determine the need for judicial resources and manage the equitable allocation of judgeships across the state.

## **I. Introduction**

The Louisiana Legislature passed House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 143 in 2011 requesting the Supreme Court conduct a comprehensive study of the caseload data and the number of judges in each appellate court, district court, parish court, and city court in Louisiana to determine changes necessary to the existing structure of the judiciary to provide the most efficient use of judicial resources and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature prior to February 15, 2014.

The Supreme Court of Louisiana established a committee to assist it in responding to the resolution and has been working with the committee and the Judicial Council Trial Court Committee on Judgeships to gather information and data regarding the court system as requested by the Louisiana Legislature. In November 2013, the Supreme Court engaged the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to assist with assessing its current case weighting system for trial courts. The NCSC:

- conducted on-site visits in New Orleans with representatives from the Supreme Court, the Judicial Administrator's Office, the leadership of the Court's HCR 143 Committee and the Judicial Council's Trial Court Committee on Judgeships to discuss project parameters, weighted caseload/workload design, data needs and project deliverables and respond to any questions or concerns;
- obtained basic data (e.g., filings, number of judges by jurisdiction) from the Louisiana Administrative Office of the Courts; and
- reviewed the current case weighting methodology to gain a better understanding of its use in the district courts, parish courts, and city courts.

- made a presentation of judicial workload to the HCR 143 Committee at a public hearing.

In this report, NCSC:

- provides an assessment on Louisiana's weighted caseload model; and
- makes recommendations regarding the improvement of the system of assessing judicial workload and determining judgeship need.

## ***Background***

The Louisiana judicial branch first developed an estimates-based method for measuring judicial workload over 30 years ago, and was a pioneer in the field. At that time, the field of judicial administration was just beginning to explore empirical approaches to inform management decisions on how to relate court caseloads to resource need, namely judges, staff, budgets, and other aspects of court operations. In 1982, the National Task Force on Principles for Assessing the Adequacy of Judicial Resources produced the first comprehensive report on new methods for assessing the need for judges.<sup>1</sup> Thirteen years later, the National Center for State Courts conducted a national research project funded by the State Justice Institute to summarize the new state of the art in this critical area of court management, based on lessons learned from the collective experience of numerous states. By the mid-1990s, six states had developed methods whose common feature was the use of a *time study* to collect data for calculating case weights for each case type. Seven other states, including Louisiana, used an alternative approach that involved *estimating* case weights based on data gathered through a structured process of expert opinion (a method sometimes known as the Delphi technique).<sup>2</sup> Dr. Hugh Collins, who then served as Deputy Judicial Administrator for Louisiana and who was the chief architect of Louisiana's judicial workload methodology, served on the advisory committee to this project.<sup>3</sup>

The essential logic of the Louisiana model as developed under the direction of Dr. Collins was sound: estimate the average amount of judicial work associated with adjudicating different types of cases, according to case types, and match the total amount of judicial work of a court to the amount of case-related time available to a judge. The estimates of the typical amount of judicial time

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<sup>1</sup> Task Force on Principles for Assessing the Adequacy of Judicial Resources, *Assessing the Need for Judicial Resources: Guidelines for a New Process* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1983)

<sup>2</sup> The six states that used time study methods are Colorado, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Washington. The seven states that used the Delphi technique were Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina. For a description of the Delphi technique, first developed by the Rand Corporation in 1964, see Flango and Ostrom (cited below), p. 73ff.

<sup>3</sup> Victor Flango and Brian Ostrom, *Assessing the Need for Judges and Court Support Staff*, (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1996)

necessary to handle each type of case were based on surveys of judges, staff analysis of survey results, and review by a select group of judges in a Delphi process. In Louisiana, the average amount of judicial time per case was expressed as work points. Work points were developed for nine case types reflecting variation in the average amount of judicial time that these different types of cases take to adjudicate. For example, in traffic cases, the value is low (0.02 work points, or 0.5 minutes), while for a felony case, the value is much higher (3.9 work points, or 88.4 minutes).<sup>4</sup>

The current workload method also relies on the estimated number of days a judge works in a year, taking into account time dedicated to holidays, weekends, sick leave, vacation leave, and continuing legal education. Within each of the work days, time is also subtracted for lunch and time spent preparing in chambers. The end result is that each judge is expected to be able to handle 3,167 work points during the course of a year.<sup>5</sup> The need for judicial resources in a court is calculated by multiplying the number of filings for each case type by the corresponding work point value and dividing by 3,167 (the workload of an average judge).<sup>6</sup>

This method was historically used to determine whether a court had the basis for requesting an additional judgeship. Once a formal request was made from a court to the Judicial Council, additional data would be gathered from the court and a site visit would be made to assess factors that might influence workload. Absent robust information systems at the time, the Council sought to gather this information by observing and interviewing key court stakeholders regarding case complexity, travel time, trial rates and other factors. This site visit component was an innovation developed by Louisiana and represented an attempt to evaluate the reality behind the numbers by combining qualitative information with the available quantitative information.

## **II. Findings**

A review of the current status of the Louisiana workload assessment model reveals some shortcomings that render it invalid for purposes of determining the number of judges needed in each jurisdiction within the state. In addition, data quality problems contribute to inaccuracy of results produced by this model. For these reasons, estimates of the need for judges currently produced by this model cannot be considered a reliable basis for policy and resource allocation decisions.

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<sup>4</sup> A work point equals 22.7 minutes.

<sup>5</sup> The history of the process for determining new judgeships was documented in detail in the Executive Summary of Louisiana Supreme Court's 2008 report to the Louisiana legislature. See Report of the Judicial Council in Response to Senate Concurrent Resolution #91 of the 2007 Regular Session of the Legislature Regarding the Determination of Judgeships, submitted March 14, 2008 p. 3ff.

<sup>6</sup> The current model assumes that judges work 184 days to handle cases, with an additional 25 days for administrative duties.

## *The Louisiana Workload Model*

The fundamental weakness of the current workload model is that it has not been systematically updated since its inception. As constructed, the model is a representation of the “what is” state of the work of judges, based on the statutes, practice of law, charging policies, population demographics, information technology and other factors present at the time the model was created or updated. As noted in the Supreme Court’s 2008 report to the Legislature, since that time, the procedures and criteria have been subject only to “relatively minor changes” in 1983, 2004, and 2007.<sup>7</sup> Over time, the integrity of a weighted caseload model deteriorates without regular and comprehensive updates. The Louisiana model is in need of such a thoroughgoing update.

The number and types of changes that have taken place that influence the workload of judges in Louisiana are not hard to illustrate. These include, but are not limited to:

- Changes in information technology: Improved case management systems make possible an expansion of the model to include a more finely-grained set of case types to differentiate the amount of judicial work across jurisdictions. Consideration should be given to increasing the number of case type categories to more accurately capture the workload of judges. For example, the Louisiana model currently contains one work point value for all felony cases. In contrast, a 2011 workload assessment in North Carolina<sup>8</sup> included separate case weights (weights in minutes are included within the parentheses) for Homicide (946 minutes), Sex Offender List Offenses (131), Felony Assault with a Weapon (117), Habitual Offenders (91), Felony Controlled Substances (40), and Other Felonies (40). Similarly, a 2010 workload assessment in Minnesota<sup>9</sup> included separate case weights for Murder (4,106 minutes), Sex Crimes (632), Felony DWI (223), Person (216), Felony Domestic Assault (199), Drug (155), Property (116), and Other Felony (119) cases. Appendix A includes a comparison of Louisiana's nine case weights to case weights developed in recent workload assessments in California, North Carolina, Michigan, Minnesota, Alabama, Texas, and New Hampshire.

Further, the current model has only one work point (1.51 or 34.2 minutes) for non-domestic Civil cases in district court. A recent 2013 workload assessment in Virginia developed three civil case type categories for their unlimited jurisdiction court (Circuit Court), distinguishing between cases that are more complex (e.g., asbestos litigation), of intermediate complexity (motor vehicle cases), and less complex (e.g., landlord tenant cases).<sup>10</sup> The development of separate case type categories is warranted when the caseload composition varies among

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<sup>7</sup> Op. cit., p. 4.

<sup>8</sup> Lee, Cynthia G. and Matthew Kleiman. “North Carolina Superior Court Judicial Workload Assessment.” 2011. A report for the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts.

<sup>9</sup> Ostrom, Brian J. and Matthew Kleiman. “Minnesota Judicial Workload Assessment, Final Report.” 2010. A report for the Minnesota State Court Administrator’s Office.

<sup>10</sup> Appendix B includes a listing of the case types used in Virginia.

jurisdictions. For example, in Virginia five percent of all General Civil cases are more complex. Due to the prominence of the ship building industry, roughly 40 percent of General Civil filings in Newport News are more complex. If one General Civil case category (case weight) was utilized, Newport News would not receive workload credit for the additional judge time associated with more complex civil cases. In Virginia, more complex civil cases have a weight of 454 minutes, intermediate complex civil cases have a weight of 68 minutes, and less complex civil cases a weight of 28 minutes.

- Changes in population:
  - The growth of immigrant populations, predominantly Latinos and Asians,<sup>11</sup> has brought many benefits to the state, but along with that, has added to the state court workload, especially in cases requiring the services of court interpreters. Between 1990 and 2011, the share of Louisiana's population represented by foreign-born residents has almost doubled. In-court hearings involving interpreters will take more time, on average;
  - the outmigration provoked by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (2005) has contributed to declines in population and thus a decline in the number of cases filed in some case types.
- Changes in legal procedures: Since the last update of the model there have been many changes in the way that civil, criminal, juvenile, and family law cases are adjudicated. These changes directly impact judicial workload. For example, the diffusion of problem-solving courts across the state, specifically drug courts, has increased the amount of judicial time needed to handle these types of cases. A felony drug case in the current Louisiana model is credited 88.4 minutes (3.9 work points). It is not difficult to imagine that the same case adjudicated through the drug court process will, on average, take additional judge time. Drug court replaces a hearing or trial that results in sentencing with a program of treatment and education. The drug court program typically involves a complex system of incentives and sanctions monitored by a judge on a weekly basis over an 18 month period as well as regular meetings of the drug court team. According to the web site of the Louisiana Supreme Court, there are now 49 such drug courts throughout the state providing this form of adjudication for 3,200 adults and juveniles monthly.<sup>12</sup> The Supreme Court indicated that in addition to these drug courts, other problem-solving courts include Family Preservation Courts (3 courts, 45 clients), DWI Courts (7 courts, 266 defendants) and Mental/Behavioral Health Courts (2 courts, 73 clients).
- Changes in the law: Many times, changes in state law mandate additional hearings in certain cases (e.g., child abuse and neglect cases) which directly increase workload.

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<sup>11</sup> See <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/new-americans-louisiana>, accessed January 18, 2014.

<sup>12</sup> See [http://www.lasc.org/court\\_managed\\_prog/drug\\_courts.asp](http://www.lasc.org/court_managed_prog/drug_courts.asp), accessed January 17, 2014.

In addition, the Louisiana workload model continues to rely on time estimates produced by surveys and the expert opinion of judges and other subject matter experts. A more precise methodology is the use of actual time-study data. The use of low-cost, web-based technology to develop an empirical profile of current practice—the average amount of judge time needed to handle a case from filing through post-disposition and time spent on non-case-related matters (e.g., administrative duties)—make it far preferable and more accurate than even the best Delphi estimate.

Finally, the Louisiana workload model has been used historically in a reactive manner to assess the need for new judges on the basis of requests, rather than being used to regularly assess current judicial workload and manage any imbalances in all jurisdictions throughout the state. An update allowing for a systematic analysis of current caseloads in all jurisdictions, rather than a reactive process based on requests, is required.

### ***Data Quality***

An additional concern of the NCSC, based on a preliminary review, is that the current Louisiana model has reliability issues due to data quality problems. The fundamental building block of any workload model is caseload data; typically counts of filings by case type. The Louisiana data in criminal case suffers because of a lack of consistency in statewide rules for counting criminal cases.

Inspection of the “Supreme Court Data Collection” worksheet submitted by the clerks of court in January 2013 reporting on their annual 2012 caseload reveals this problem for criminal cases. The data collection worksheet asks for data on charges, defendants, and bills or indictments. However, the reports are incomplete and inconsistent, making it hard to develop a statewide picture of the true caseload. For example, in one large jurisdiction the NCSC examined, the worksheet reported 0 charges, 0 defendants, yet showed 4,279 bills or indictments for 2012. This is a difficult result to interpret.

Even when the clerk of the court fully completes the worksheet to the best of their ability and knowledge, alternative charging practices among district attorney offices make it difficult to compare. For example, some offices will include only one charge per bill of information (the charging document); others will include multiple charges against a single defendant on one bill; and still others will include multiple charges against multiple defendants in a single bill. In this manner, a single crime in which one defendant is charged with three charges might be counted in one jurisdiction as a single case, while in another jurisdiction it would be counted as three cases – making it hard to fairly compare judicial work.



The nationally recognized best practice for counting criminal cases consistently is contained in the *State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting*,<sup>13</sup> developed by the Conference of State Court Administrators and endorsed by the Conference of Chief Justices, the National Association for Court Management, and the American Bar Association. The *State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting* specifies:

Count the defendant and all charges involved in a single incident as a single case. If the charging document contains multiple defendants involved in a single incident, count each defendant as a single case.<sup>14</sup>

The *State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting* contains case type definitions and counting rules for all major case types handled in the state courts and provides a reference point to ensure that all jurisdictions are counting the same things and in the same way. Accurate and comparable data is an essential ingredient to a well-functioning judicial workload model. A March 2008 report of the Louisiana Judicial Council states that “producing incomplete or inaccurate data can cause unreliable outcomes in the Council’s study and analysis which may result in recommendations that are unfair to either the particular court under consideration or other courts (6).”

### **III. Recommendations**

NCSC recommends that Louisiana conduct a new comprehensive, empirically based workload assessment for district court, parish court, and city court judicial officers. The workload assessment should be highly participatory, follow established national best practices, and focus on different areas of law and monitor the variation in how cases are actually processed in practice. Conducting a state of the art judicial workload assessment will provide the Louisiana Supreme Court with an objective and standardized method for assessing the need for judicial officers and the balance of judicial resources throughout the state. A comprehensive workload assessment will take approximately 15 months to complete and should include the following components:

- An *advisory committee* should be formed to oversee the project and provide guidance on policy matters. The committee should consist of experienced judges from district, parish, and city courts representing both urban and rural courts as well as geographic regions of the state. It may also be advantageous to include court clerks, court administrators, or state-level administrators on the advisory committee. The advisory committee should pay particular attention to identifying a broad set of case type categories for which case weights will be

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<sup>13</sup> Court Statistics Project, *State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting*, (Williamsburg, Va: National Center for State Courts, 2003).

<sup>14</sup> Court Statistics Project, *State Court Guide to Statistical Reporting*, p. 17 (Williamsburg, Va: National Center for State Courts, 2003).

developed (e.g., complex civil) and in establishing clear case type definitions and counting rules that will ensure that data are consistent, complete, and comparable.

- A statewide *time study* of all judicial officers in district, parish, and city courts should be conducted. A time study represents the empirical foundation of the workload assessment, during which judicial officers track all of their working time by case type and activity (e.g., post judgment work). The time study will include all judicial time spent working on cases both on and off the bench, as well as work that is not related to specific cases before the court, such as administrative work, committee meetings, judicial education and training, and travel. The results of the time study will be used to calculate a preliminary set of case weights that represent the average amount of time judges currently spend handling cases of each type. The time study data will also guide the advisory committee in selecting the amount of time each judge spends working on cases on a daily basis.
- A *quality adjustment process* should be undertaken to ensure that the model incorporates adequate time for the effective handling of all types of cases. Quality adjustments to the preliminary time study weights are typically made by a panel of experienced judges using a variant on the Delphi process, a structured method for decision-making by a group of experts. The panel's decisions may also be informed by data gathered from a larger group of judges through interviews and focus groups on site visits and/or surveys.

The NCSC believes that a comprehensive program of workload assessment is the best method for measuring case complexity and determining the need for judicial officers. Louisiana has long experience with the practice of judicial workload assessment. Building on this foundation, it is time for Louisiana to revise and update the methodology used to determine the need for judges and how they are allocated throughout the state.

## Appendix A: Case Weight Comparison

Louisiana			California, 2011		North Carolina, 2011 - Superior Court		Michigan, 2011 - Circuit Court	
Case Types	Work Points**	Case Weight	Case Types	Case Weight	Case Types	Case Weight	Case Types	Case Weight
<b>Criminal</b>			<b>Criminal</b>		<b>Criminal</b>		<b>Criminal</b>	
Felony	3.9	88.4	Felony	177	Homicide	946	Capital Felony/Felony Juvenile	670
Misdemeanor	0.4	9.1	Misdemeanor - Traffic	8	Sex Offender List Offense	131	Noncapital Felony	106
Traffic	0.02	0.5	Misdemeanor - Non Traffic	29	Habitual Offender	91		
			Infractions	1.1	Felony Assault w Weapon	117		
** work point equals 22.7 minutes					Felony Controlled Substance	40		
					Other Felony	40		
					Misdemeanor/ Other	32		

[illegible]

## Appendix A: Case Weight Comparison, continued

Minnesota, 2010		Alabama, 2008 - Circuit Court		Texas, 2007		New Hampshire, 2005	
Case Types	Case Weight	Case Types	Case Weight	Case Types	Case Weight	Case Types	Case Weight
<b>Criminal</b>		<b>Criminal</b>		<b>Criminal</b>		<b>Criminal</b>	
Murders	4,106	Capital Crimes	1,983	Felony Group A	186	Criminal 1	.4
Sex Crimes	632	Felony - Person	180	Felony Group B	39	Criminal 2	5.8
Felony Domestic Assault	199	Felony - Property	73	Misdemeanors	12	Criminal 3	6.5
Person	216	Felony - Drug	90	Injury or Damage - MV	126	Criminal 4	15.3
Drug	155	Felony - Other	49	Injury or Damage - Non MV	122	Criminal Complex	185.0
Felony DWI	223	Misdemeanor/Appeals	23			Criminal Routine	65.0
Property	116					Criminal Simple	24.0
Other Felony	119						
Gross Misd. Domestic Assault	77						
Gross Misd. DWI	63						
Other Gross Misd.	33						
Misd. Domestic Assault	55						
Other Assaults	41						
DWI	26						
Non-Traffic	7						
Traffic	2						
Parking	.2						
<b>Civil</b>		<b>Civil</b>		<b>Civil</b>		<b>Civil</b>	
Contract	154	General Civil - Tort	203	Contract	53	Civil 1	6.0
Consumer Credit	6	General Civil - Other	74	Other Civil	27	Civil 2	20.9
Condemnation	313	Contracts	30			Landlord Tenant/Small Claims	16.0
Employment	316					Equity Complex	230.0
Forfeiture	24					Equity Routine	31.0
Tort	284					Civil Complex	117.0
Personal Injury	234					Civil Routine	59.0
Harassment	20					Probate Routine	2.0
Torrens	4					Probate Non-Complex	31.0
MNCIS Civil Other/Misc	118					Probate Complex	237.0
Other Major Civil	97					Probate Long Term	71.0
Conciliation	7						
Minor Civil Judgments	2						
Implied Consent	50						
Unlawful Detainer	11						
Trust	330						
Guardianship/Conservatorship	121						
Commitment	116						
Commitment-Mentally Ill	524						
Commitment-Sexual Behavior	1,387						
Formal Probate	37						
Other Probate	8						
<b>Domestic</b>		<b>Domestic</b>		<b>Domestic</b>		<b>Domestic</b>	
Dissolution with Child	334	Domestic Violence	73	Divorce	47	Domestic Violence	34.8
Dissolution without Child	98	Workman's Compensation	48	Modifications/Enforcements	33	Involuntary Emer. Admissions	15.0
Paternity	93	Domestic Relations	51	Other Family Law	48	Domestic Complex	166.0
Custody	163					Domestic Routine	103.0
Support	14					Domestic Simple	10.0
Adoption	33						
Domestic Abuse	48						
Other Family	128						
<b>Juvenile</b>		<b>Juvenile</b>		<b>Juvenile</b>		<b>Juvenile</b>	
Delinquency Felony	139	Delinquency	28	Delinquent Conduct	54	Juvenile, District	82.1
Delinquency Gross Misd.	62	Dependency	107	CINS	14	Juvenile, Superior	60.0
Delinquency Misd.	29	Juvenile - TPR	724				
Petty Offender	8	Juvenile - Paternity	32				
CHIPS	214	Child Support	29				
Permanency TPR	246						
Permanency Non-TPR	57						
Truancy/Runaway	50						

## **Appendix B: Virginia Circuit Court: Civil Case Categories**

### **General Civil - Level 1 (More Complex)**

Includes the following matters:

- Annexation
- Asbestos litigation
- Establishment of boundaries
- Medical malpractice
- Product liability
- Wrongful death

### **General Civil - Level 2 (Intermediate Complexity)**

Includes the following matters:

- Condemnation
- Contract actions
- Correction of erroneous state/local taxes
- Declaratory judgments
- General tort liability
- Injunctions
- Intentional torts
- Mechanic's liens
- Motor vehicle cases
- Partition suits
- Specific performance
- Termination of mineral rights
- Actions to quiet title

### **General Civil - Level 3 (Less Complex)**

Includes the following matters:

- Attachments
- Confessed judgments
- Compromise settlements
- Delinquent taxes
- Suits in detinue
- Ejectments
- Enforcement of vendor's liens

- Actions to encumber/sell real estate
- Escheatments
- Freedom of Information Act cases
- Complaints to enforce judgment liens
- Landlord/tenant cases (including unlawful detainers)
- Civil appeals from General District Court

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 6

### Appellate Court Profiles and Workload Data, 2002-2012

**All Circuit Courts of Appeal**  
**Ten Year Trend in Activity**  
**2002-2012**

	<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>2006 Total</b>	<b>2007 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>	<b>2012 Total</b>
Appeals Filed	3,494	3,351	3,336	2,809	2,593	2,788	2671	2632	2,586	2,838	2,689
Motions Filed	129	189	142	134	127	144	127	96	137	124	115
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	2,588	2,482	2,464	2,099	2,001	2,174	2268	2428	2,425	2,371	2,196
Writs Refused*	1,909	1,731	1,884	1,594	1,517	1,600	1650	1769	1,895	1,757	1,740
Writs Granted	939	916	785	465	410	475	513	641	613	569	506
Pro Se Writs Filed	3,368	3,793	3,556	3,157	3,260	2,933	3127	2656	2,676	2,616	2,303
Pro Se Writs Refused*	2,773	3,209	3,009	2,758	2,708	2,411	2443	2276	2,182	2,427	1,984
Pro Se Writs Granted	658	620	563	367	546	428	373	389	420	445	472
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	539	462	447	383	411	326	318	329	292	378	320
Consolidated Opinions	274	124	103	137	129	113	165	142	119	93	84
Opinions Rendered **	3,507	2,975	2,690	2,388	2,556	2,410	2314	2338	2,358	2,233	2,254
Rehearings Acted Upon***	664	555	563	431	476	471	478	539	490	508	483
Appeals Pending	2,091	1,837	1,991	1,996	1,415	1,479	1421	1369	1,349	1,484	1,574
Appeals Argued But Not Decided	231	209	321	279	204	260	295	238	187	156	209
Appeals To Be Argued	1,860	1,628	1,670	1,717	1,211	1,219	1126	1131	1,162	1,328	1,365

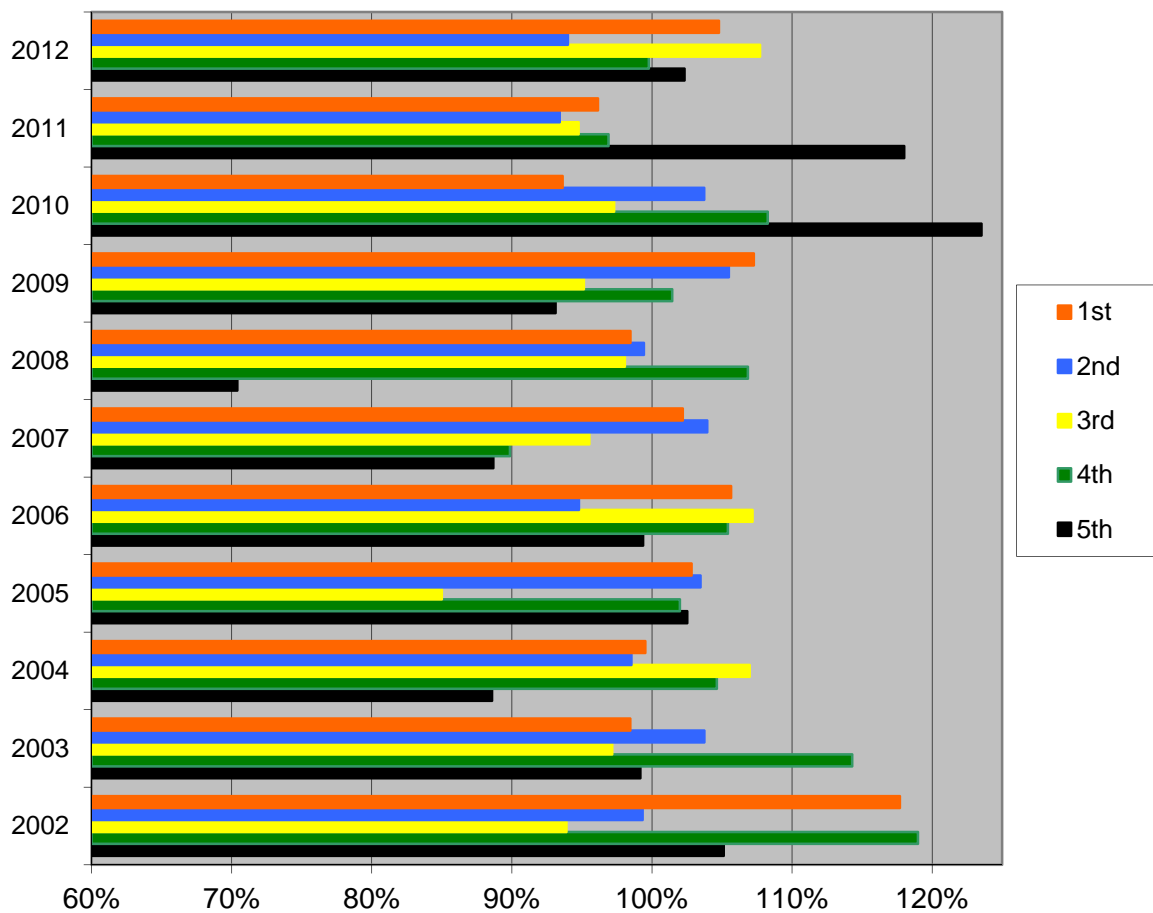
\*Includes writs denied, writs not considered, writs dismissed and transferred

\*\*Includes Opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental

\*\*\*Includes rehearings on writs



### Appellate Court Case Statistics Clearance Rates 2002-2012



Filings include all Writs and Appeals filed

Actions include all Writs Granted, Writs Refused, Opinions, Consolidated Opinions, Dismissals and Transfers

Actions for the 1st Circuit for 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2006 include opinions rendered by Ad Hoc or other Appellate Court Judges

Actions and Filings for the 1st Circuit do not include criminal appeals which were lodged, dismissed and then lodged again.

Actions and Filings for the 1st Circuit do not include criminal appeals in which multiple charges were treated as multiple appeals

The 1st Circuit filings for 2001 reflect 183 appeals filed in a mass litigation case. The actions for 2001 reflect the dismissal of 116 of those appeals

The 5th Circuit filings for 2000 reflect 514 appeals filed in a 'mass litigation' case. The actions & opinions for 2001 reflect disposition of the appeals

The 5th Circuit filings for 2008 reflect 317 writs remanded by the LASC

The 5th Circuit actions for 2009/2010 reflect decisions on the 317 writs remanded by the LASC

Clearance Rate is a measure that helps gauge the degree to which a court is keeping up with its incoming caseload. A rate of more than 100 percent demonstrates that the court is reducing the pending caseload; a rate of less than 100 percent indicates the court is adding to its pending caseload. Clearance rates naturally fluctuate above and below 100 percent, but clearance rates that are consistently under 100 percent increase the size of the pending caseload and can lead to backlogs.

The clearance rate is calculated by dividing the outgoing case load (number of actions) by the incoming case load (the number filed).

Appeals & Writs			
1st Cir	Filings	Actions	% Cleared
2002	2723	3205	117.70%
2003	2899	2854	98.45%
2004	2763	2750	99.53%
2005	2689	2765	102.83%
2006	2499	2640	105.64%
2007	2587	2644	102.20%
2008	2600	2560	98.46%
2009	2354	2525	107.26%
2010	2350	2200	93.62%
2011	2409	2316	96.14%
2012	2115	2216	104.78%
Ten Year Average	27988	28675	102.45%

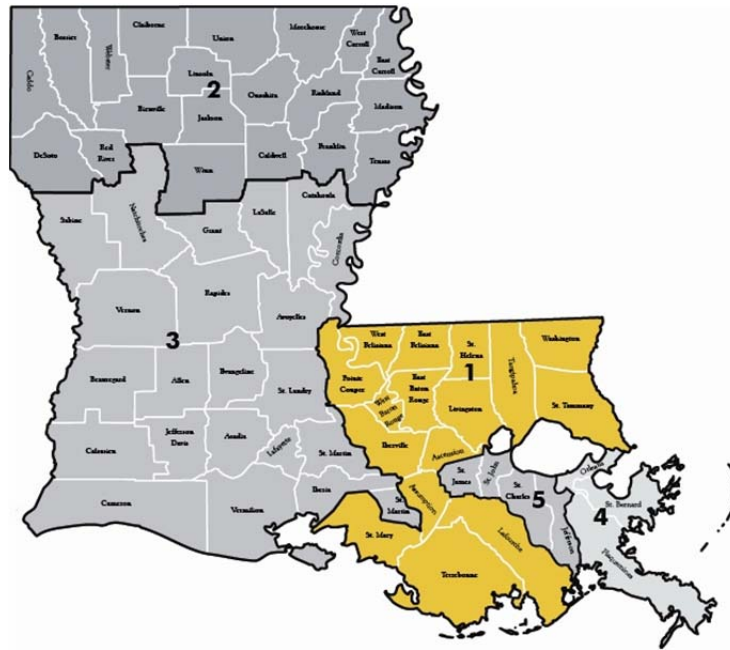
Appeals & Writs			
2nd Cir	Filings	Actions	% Cleared
2002	1194	1186	99.33%
2003	1283	1331	103.74%
2004	1223	1205	98.53%
2005	1239	1282	103.47%
2006	1092	1035	94.78%
2007	1065	1107	103.94%
2008	1045	1039	99.43%
2009	947	999	105.49%
2010	940	975	103.72%
2011	865	808	93.41%
2012	900	846	94.00%
Ten Year Average	11793	11813	100.17%

Appeals & Writs			
3rd Cir	Filings	Actions	% Cleared
2002	1473	1383	93.89%
2003	1725	1676	97.16%
2004	1678	1795	106.97%
2005	1613	1371	85.00%
2006	1644	1762	107.18%
2007	1589	1518	95.53%
2008	1554	1524	98.07%
2009	1543	1468	95.14%
2010	1520	1479	97.30%
2011	1565	1483	94.76%
2012	1452	1564	107.71%
Ten Year Average	17356	17023	98.08%

Appeals & Writs			
4th Cir	Filings	Actions	% Cleared
2002	2786	3315	118.99%
2003	2239	2559	114.29%
2004	2224	2327	104.63%
2005	1508	1538	101.99%
2006	1661	1751	105.42%
2007	1617	1453	89.86%
2008	1564	1671	106.84%
2009	1732	1757	101.44%
2010	1778	1925	108.27%
2011	1809	1753	96.90%
2012	1762	1758	99.77%
Ten Year Average	20680	21807	105.45%

Appeals & Writs			
5th Cir	Filings	Actions	% Cleared
2002	1268	1333	105.13%
2003	1453	1441	99.17%
2004	1445	1280	88.58%
2005	995	1020	102.51%
2006	942	936	99.36%
2007	1024	908	88.67%
2008	1294	911	70.40%
2009	1119	1042	93.12%
2010	1084	1339	123.52%
2011	1166	1376	118.01%
2012	945	967	102.33%
Ten Year Average	12735	12553	98.57%

**FIRST CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL**



### Quick facts:

- 12 judges.
- 16-parish circuit in southeast Louisiana.
- Includes the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 32<sup>nd</sup> judicial districts and portions of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> judicial districts.
- Courthouse located in Baton Rouge.
- Handles Louisiana “seat of government” cases.
- Website: <http://www.la-fcca.org/>

**First Circuit Court of Appeal  
Ten Year Trend in Activity  
2002-2012**

	<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>2006 Total</b>	<b>2007 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>	<b>2012 Total</b>
Appeals Filed	996	1,028	1,071	967	898	823	861	823	808	906	859
Motions Filed	38	47	52	47	49	58	50	37	36	40	45
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	650	684	663	647	650	648	666	625	645	651	579
Writs Refused*	518	531	575	520	513	517	509	485	477	473	481
Writs Granted	118	141	129	138	126	126	117	171	142	156	134
Pro Se Writs Filed	1,083	1,196	1,038	1,079	951	1,121	1073	906	897	852	677
Pro Se Writs Refused*	1,131	1,087	1,007	985	941	955	990	894	702	842	691
Pro Se Writs Granted	84	77	80	81	58	88	81	102	87	84	60
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	276	154	182	185	177	150	152	142	114	125	120
Consolidated Opinions	62	47	51	82	47	43	50	72	31	21	26
Opinions Rendered **	1,078	846	748	797	805	787	676	680	665	663	701
Rehearings Acted Upon***	230	233	208	182	176	168	186	188	149	137	159
Appeals Pending	779	746	860	788	622	472	471	417	439	540	557
Appeals Argued But Not Decided	28	47	69	39	39	72	50	40	24	46	64
Appeals To Be Argued	751	699	791	749	583	400	421	377	415	494	493

\*Includes writs denied, writs not considered, writs dismissed and transferred

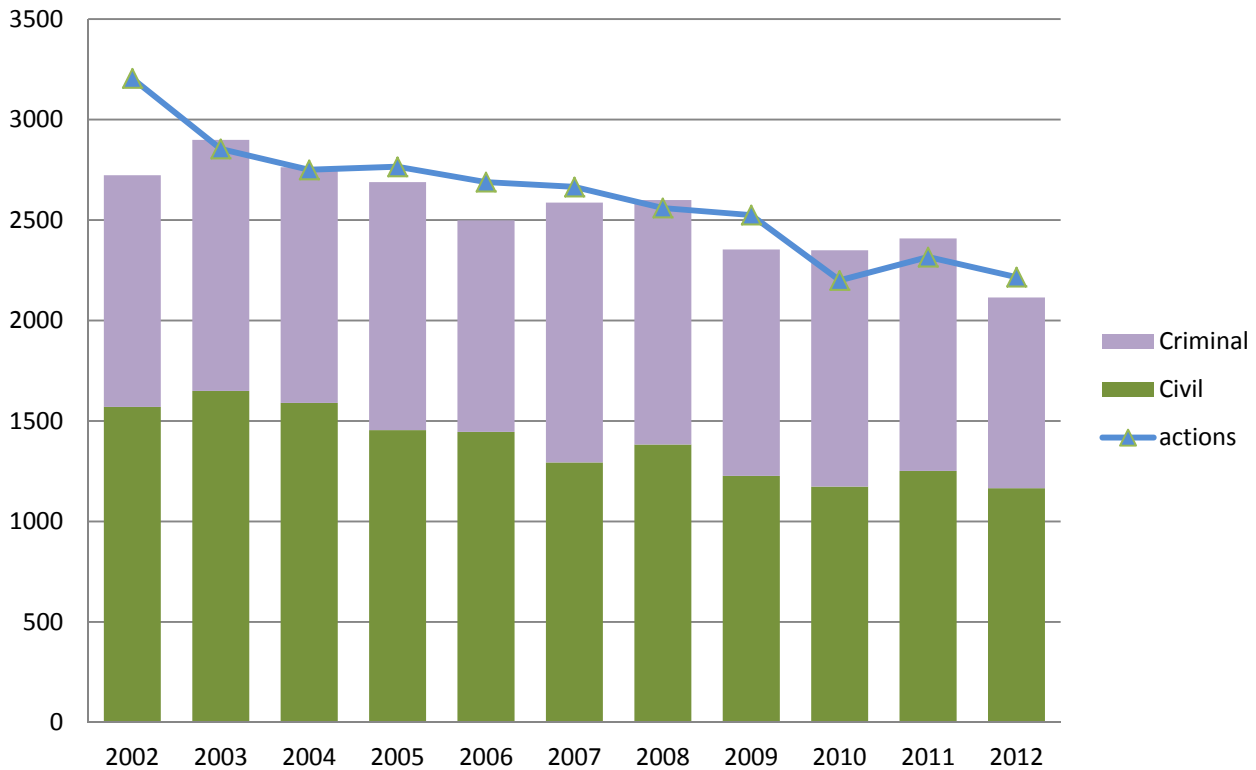
\*\*Includes Opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental

\*\*\*Includes rehearings on writs

Opinions, Rehearing Actions and Writ Actions rendered by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judges on assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit are excluded from the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit totals but included in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> circuit totals for 2006

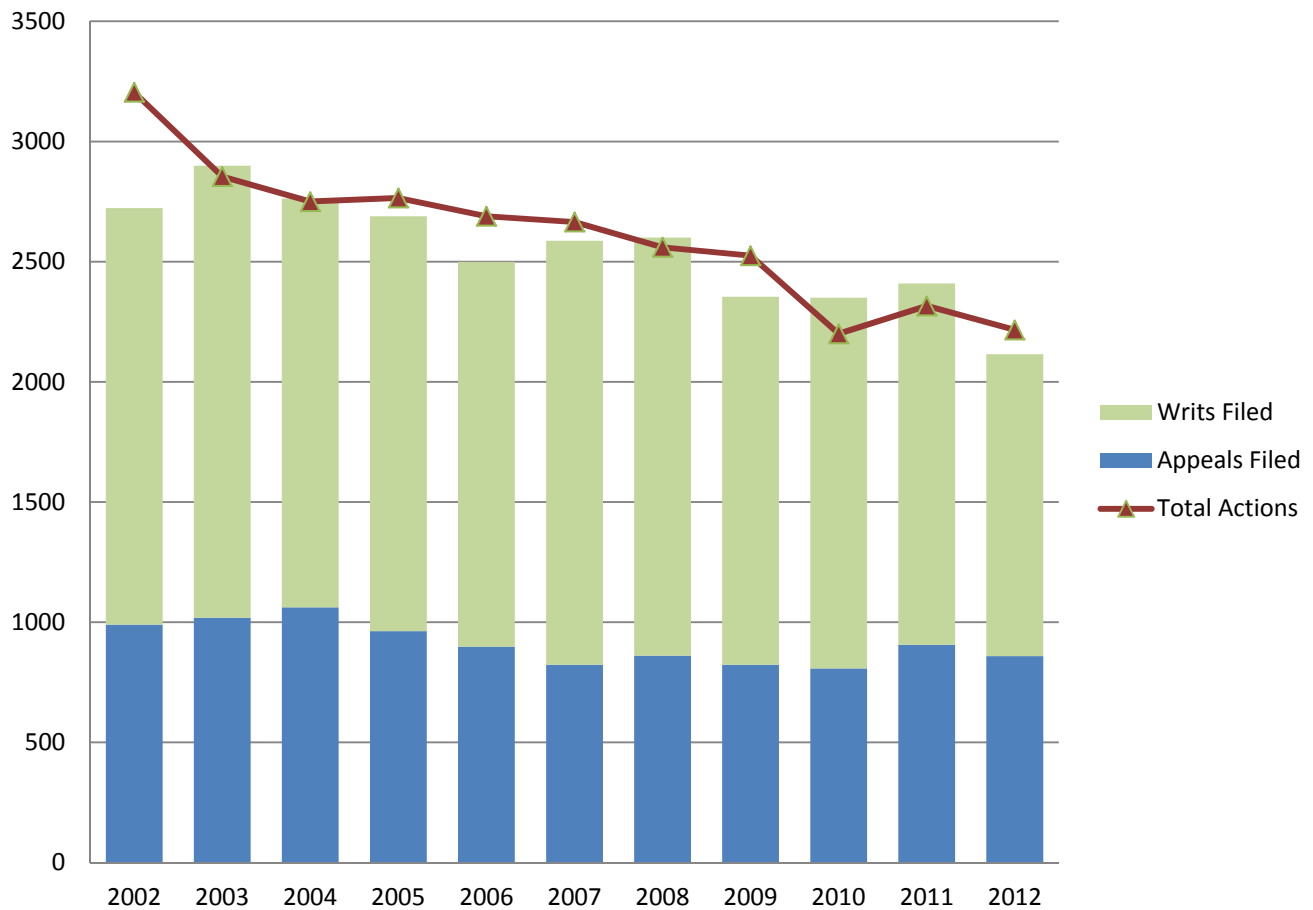
Opinions, Rehearing Actions and Writ Actions rendered by 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judges on assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit are excluded from the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit totals but included in the 4<sup>th</sup> circuit totals for 2007 and 2008 and 2010

**Filings and Actions by Category:  
Criminal and Civil  
1st Circuit  
2002-2012**



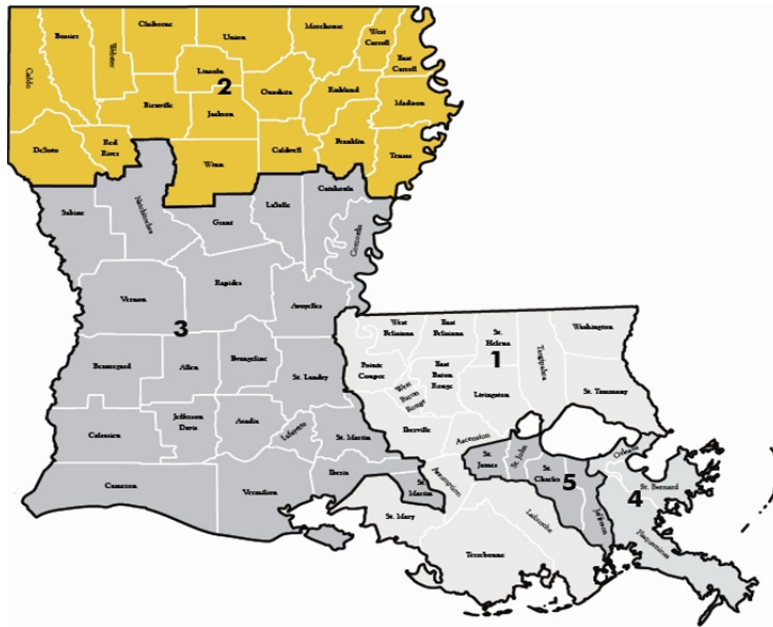
	Civil	Filings Criminal	Total Actions
2002	1570	1153	3205
2003	1650	1249	2854
2004	1590	1173	2750
2005	1455	1234	2765
2006	1446	1053	2689
2007	1294	1293	2665
2008	1383	1217	2560
2009	1227	1127	2525
2010	1174	1176	2200
2011	1252	1157	2316
2012	1166	949	2216

**Filings and Actions:  
Writs and Appeals  
1st Circuit  
2002-2012**



	Appeals Filed	Writs Filed	Total Actions
2002	990	1733	3205
2003	1019	1880	2854
2004	1062	1701	2750
2005	963	1726	2765
2006	898	1601	2689
2007	823	1764	2665
2008	861	1739	2560
2009	823	1531	2525
2010	808	1542	2200
2011	906	1503	2316
2012	859	1256	2216

## SECOND CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL



### Quick facts:

- 9 judges.
- 20 parish circuit covering North Louisiana.
- Includes the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup>, and 42<sup>nd</sup> judicial districts.
- Courthouse located in Shreveport.
- Website: <http://www.la2nd.org/>

**Second Circuit Court of Appeal**  
**Ten Year Trend in Activity**  
**2002-2012**

	<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>2006 Total</b>	<b>2007 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>	<b>2012 Total</b>
Appeals Filed	521	483	484	424	489	471	432	385	367	356	358
Motions Filed	19	24	12	17	19	14	12	6	24	15	6
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	278	291	271	267	202	198	259	245	212	178	204
Writs Refused*	209	206	207	211	130	154	180	205	154	126	129
Writs Granted	73	81	74	59	62	62	48	61	67	50	63
Pro Se Writs Filed	395	527	482	565	417	404	363	338	376	342	352
Pro Se Writs Refused*	340	450	393	515	369	377	363	294	351	320	264
Pro Se Writs Granted	65	114	98	58	24	56	26	39	29	32	73
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	55	40	32	38	41	47	31	39	41	44	31
Consolidated Opinions	40	25	24	15	43	31	34	30	24	30	13
Opinions Rendered **	428	444	407	421	397	412	385	366	334	303	285
Rehearings Acted Upon***	82	88	74	59	87	97	67	81	68	60	52
Appeals Pending	225	211	235	198	213	215	206	170	146	141	176
Appeals Argued But Not Decided	52	47	48	55	37	56	61	47	56	27	40
Appeals To Be Argued	173	164	187	143	176	159	145	123	90	114	136

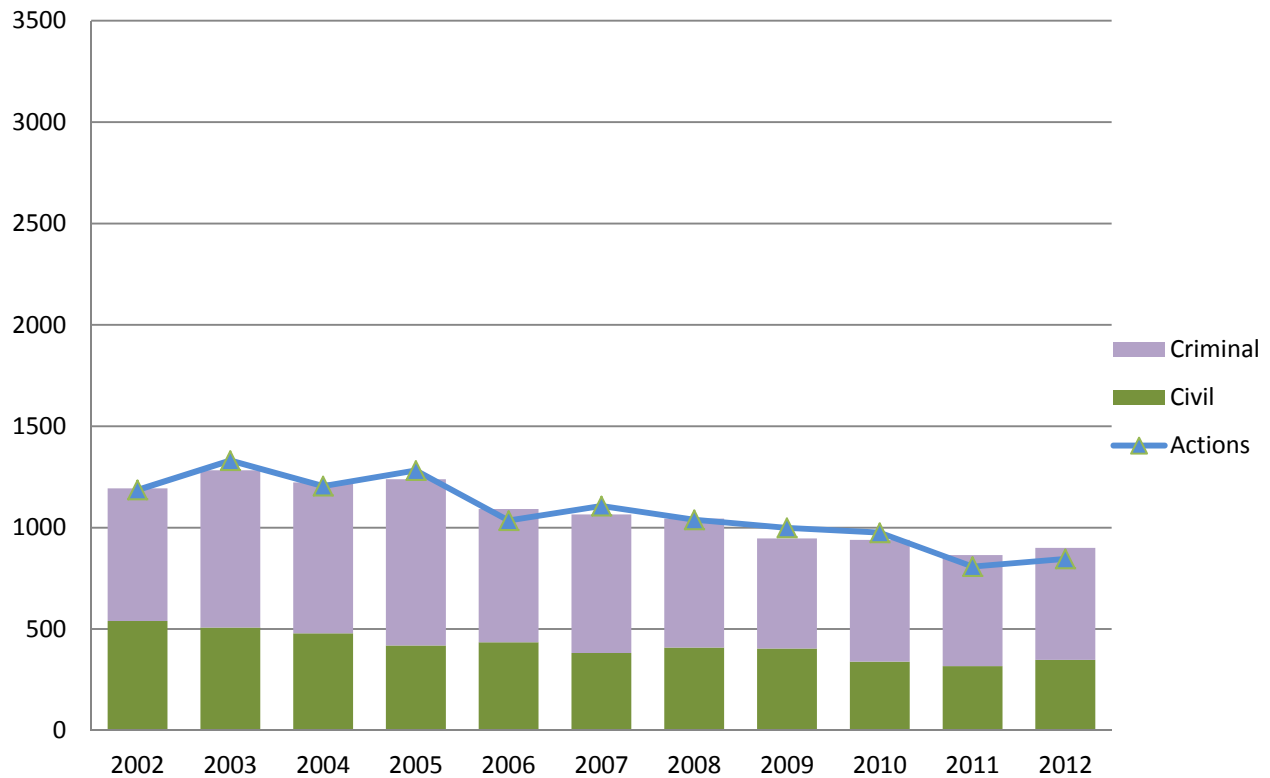
\*Includes writs denied, writs not considered, writs dismissed and transferred

\*\*Includes Opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental

\*\*\*Includes rehearings on writs

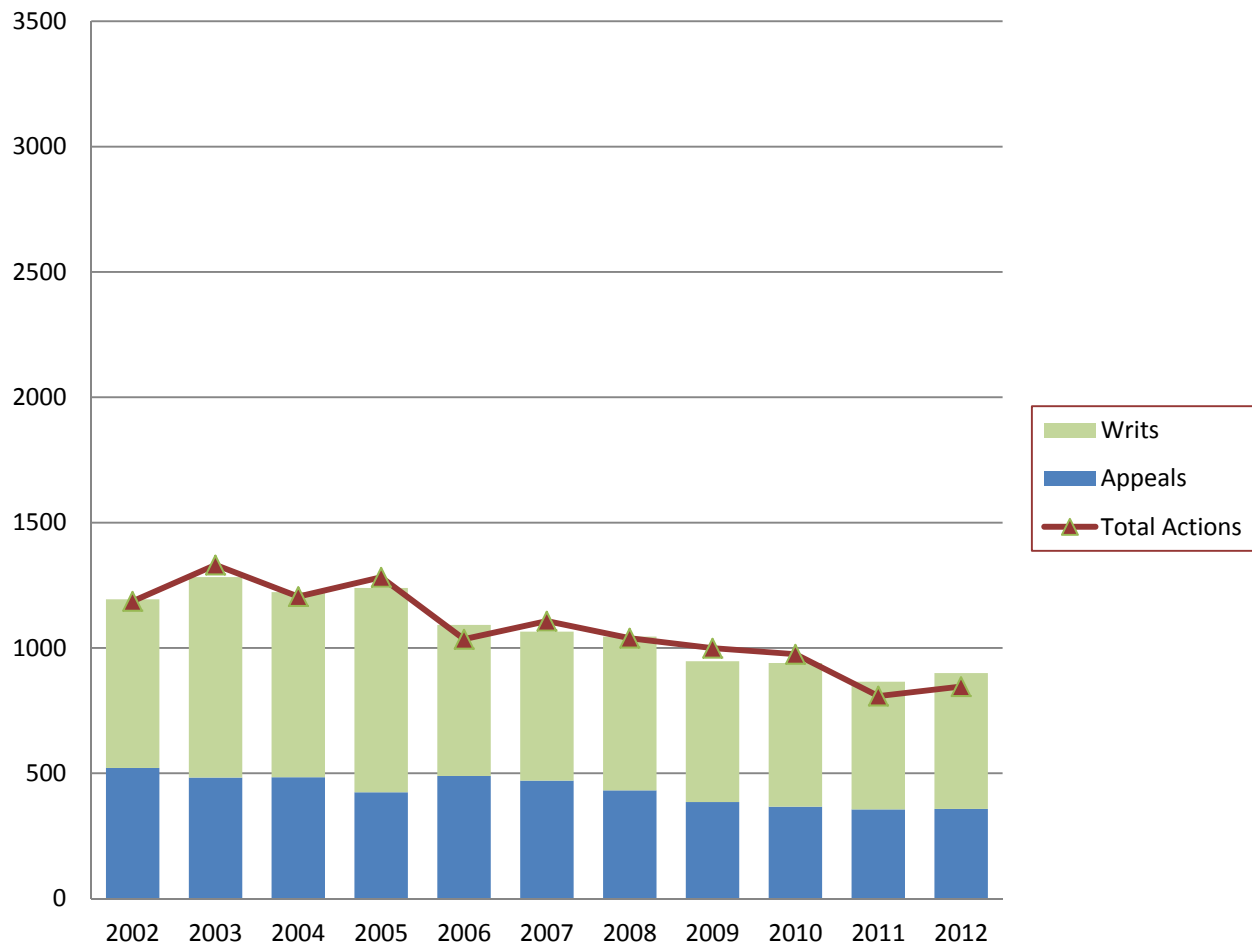


**Filings and Actions by Category:  
Criminal and Civil  
2nd Circuit  
2002-2012**



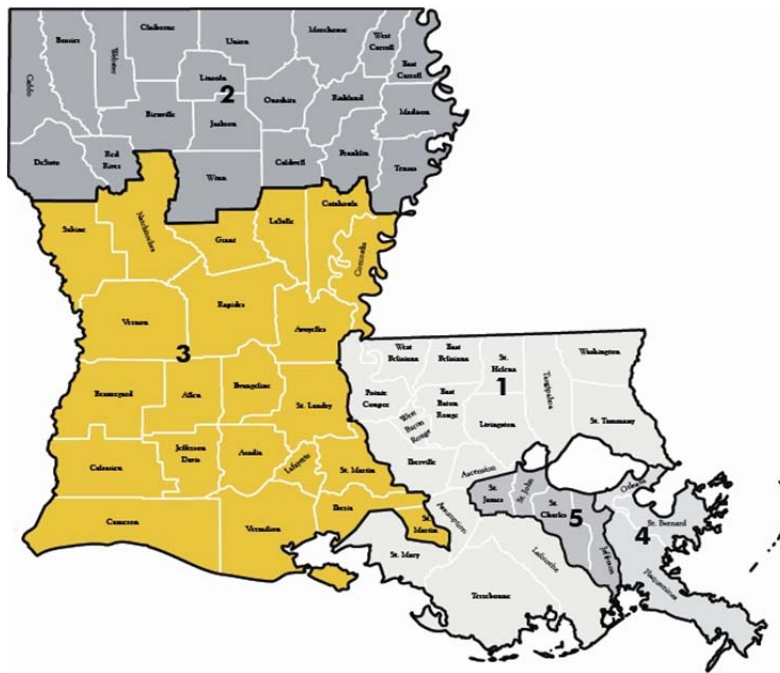
	Civil	Filings Criminal	Total Actions
2002	540	654	1186
2003	507	776	1331
2004	479	744	1205
2005	419	820	1282
2006	435	657	1035
2007	382	683	1107
2008	409	636	1039
2009	404	543	999
2010	339	601	975
2011	317	548	808
2012	348	552	846

**Filings and Actions:  
Writs and Appeals  
2nd Circuit  
2002-2012**



	Appeals Filed	Writs Filed	Total Actions
2002	521	673	1186
2003	483	800	1331
2004	484	739	1205
2005	424	815	1282
2006	489	603	1035
2007	471	594	1107
2008	432	613	1039
2009	385	562	999
2010	367	573	975
2011	356	509	808
2012	358	542	846

## THIRD CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL



### Quick facts:

- 12 judges
- 21-parish circuit encompassing central and southwestern Louisiana; includes the 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup>, 36<sup>th</sup>, 38<sup>th</sup> judicial districts, and portions of the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.
- Courthouse located in Lake Charles.
- Website: <http://www.la3circuit.org/>

**Third Circuit Court of Appeal**  
**Ten Year Trend in Activity**  
**2002-2012**

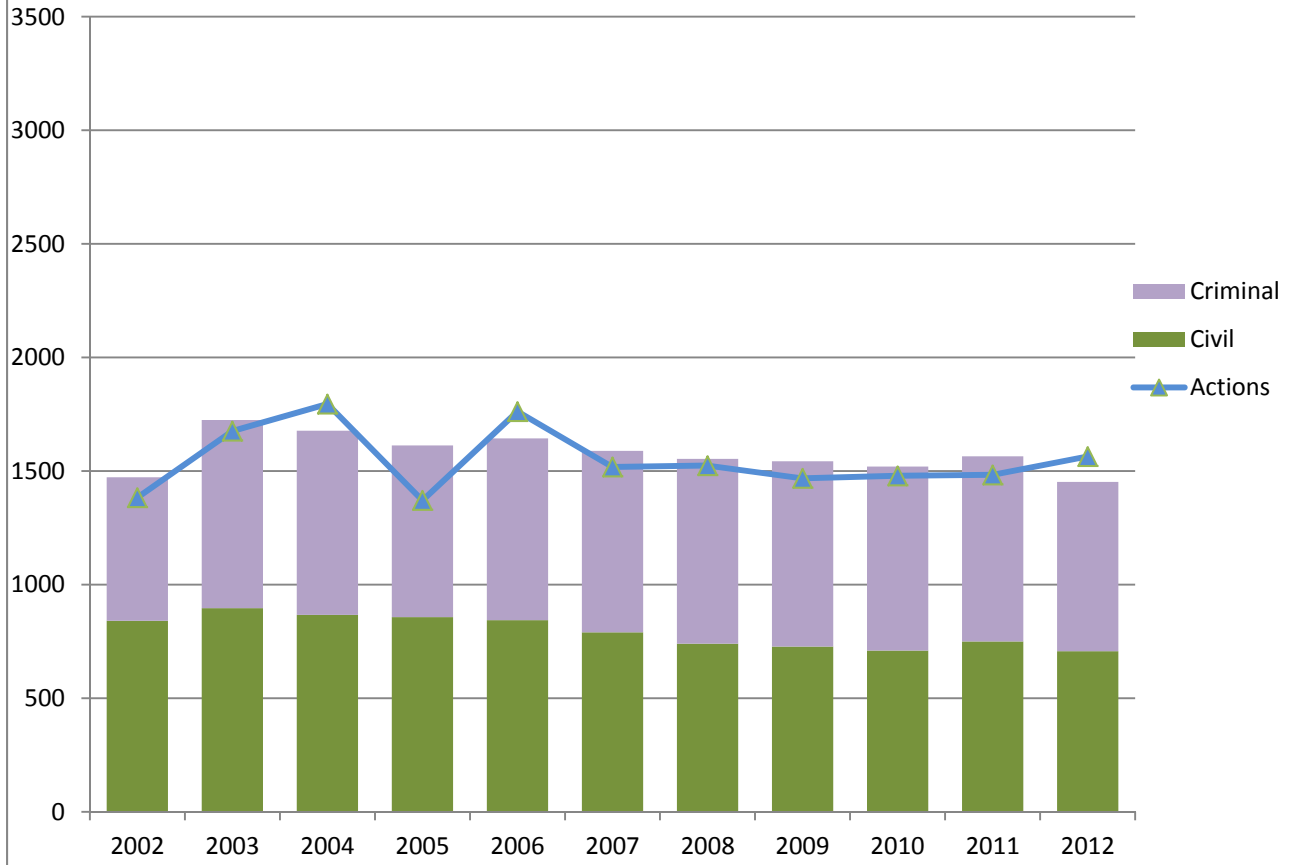
	<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>2006 Total</b>	<b>2007 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>	<b>2012 Total</b>
Appeals Filed	705	750	641	624	616	613	602	596	587	651	596
Motions Filed	41	63	24	30	17	35	27	27	43	33	24
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	392	383	444	423	446	429	412	391	397	385	388
Writs Refused*	285	271	387	276	367	329	317	266	312	290	330
Writs Granted	124	106	66	79	73	71	90	87	90	76	73
Pro Se Writs Filed	376	592	593	566	582	547	540	556	536	529	468
Pro Se Writs Refused*	223	575	515	433	557	454	470	481	394	418	473
Pro Se Writs Granted	59	64	87	61	55	86	79	51	66	62	70
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	65	78	81	81	88	51	40	37	45	103	65
Consolidated Opinions	31	2	0	6	2	0	0	2	5	0	4
Opinions Rendered **	656	616	688	459	642	545	545	557	588	543	549
Rehearings Acted Upon***	90	76	96	78	114	118	79	106	104	129	107
Appeals Pending	334	349	248	348	214	267	300	302	278	289	295
Appeals Argued But Not Decided	37	26	36	48	36	11	32	19	18	27	21
Appeals To Be Argued	297	323	212	300	178	256	268	283	260	262	274

\*Includes writs denied, writs not considered, writs dismissed and transferred

\*\*Includes Opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental

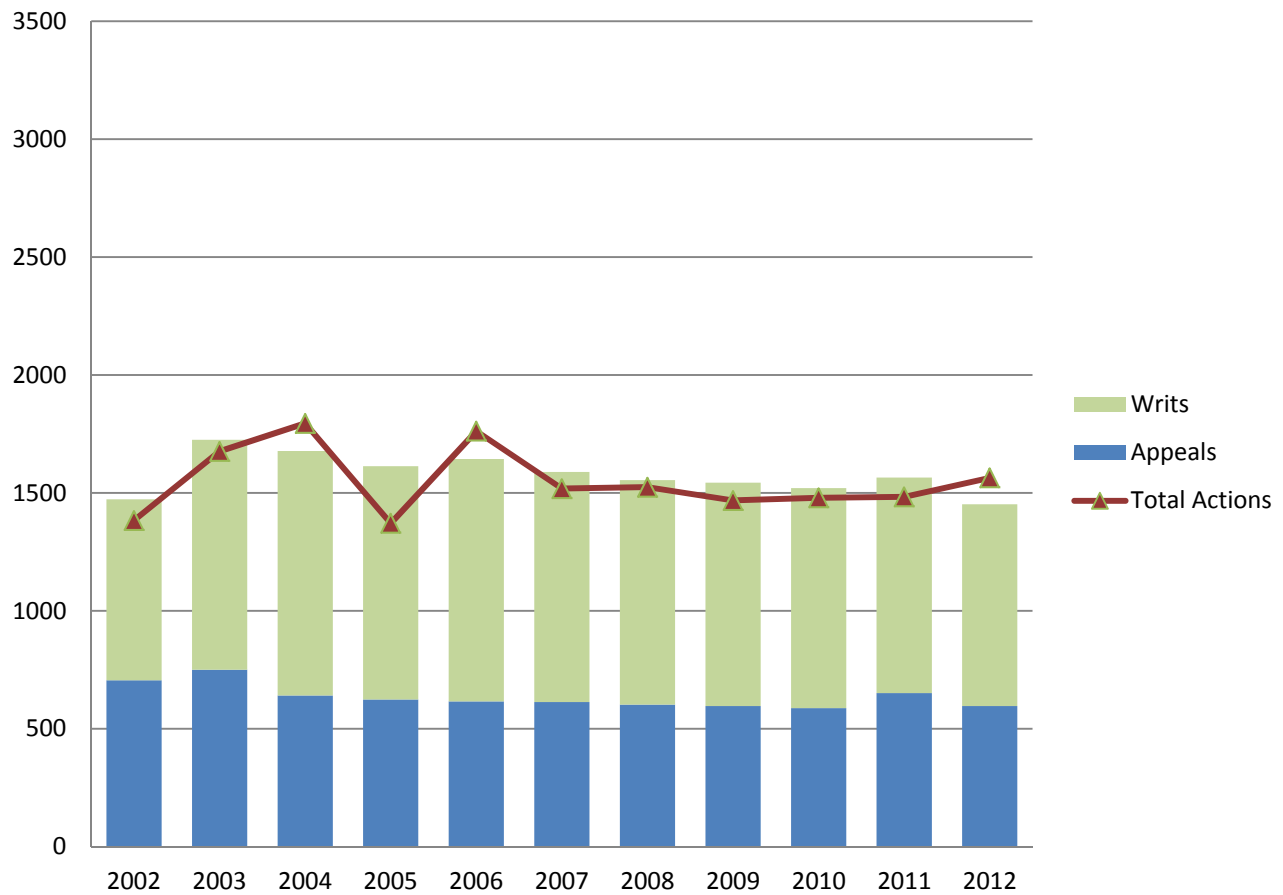
\*\*\*Includes rehearings on writs

**Filings and Actions by Category:  
Criminal and Civil  
3rd Circuit  
2002-2012**



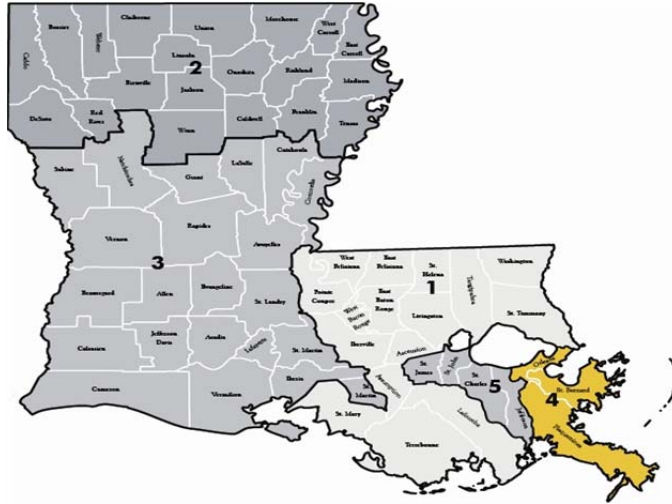
	Civil	Filings Criminal	Total Actions
2002	841	632	1383
2003	897	828	1676
2004	867	811	1795
2005	857	756	1371
2006	844	800	1762
2007	790	799	1518
2008	740	814	1524
2009	728	815	1468
2010	710	810	1479
2011	750	815	1483
2012	707	745	1564

**Filings and Actions:  
Writs and Appeals  
3rd Circuit  
2002-2012**



	Appeals Filed	Writs Filed	Total Actions
2002	705	768	1383
2003	750	975	1676
2004	641	1037	1795
2005	624	989	1371
2006	616	1028	1762
2007	613	976	1518
2008	602	952	1524
2009	596	947	1468
2010	587	933	1479
2011	651	914	1483
2012	596	856	1564

## **FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL**



### **Quick facts:**

- 12 judges.
- Three parish circuit in southeast Louisiana.
- Includes Orleans Parish and the 25<sup>th</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> judicial districts.
- Courthouse located in New Orleans.
- Website: <http://www.la4th.org/>

**Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal**  
**Ten Year Trend in Activity**  
**2002-2012**

	<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>2006 Total</b>	<b>2007 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>	<b>2012 Total</b>
Appeals Filed	809	626	612	458	323	556	453	477	498	526	518
Motions Filed	10	12	12	15	11	24	20	18	18	19	23
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	938	689	694	505	420	595	650	878	875	854	784
Writs Refused*	662	433	433	390	323	384	461	623	713	621	593
Writs Granted	533	457	422	112	89	142	188	239	246	231	191
Pro Se Writs Filed	1,039	924	918	545	918	466	461	377	405	429	460
Pro Se Writs Refused*	684	612	657	457	506	358	379	318	288	298	261
Pro Se Writs Granted	374	306	254	137	378	115	90	72	95	140	217
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	88	115	104	53	64	40	62	69	59	65	64
Consolidated Opinions	97	45	28	33	13	38	79	25	45	32	41
Opinions Rendered **	898	671	471	388	422	435	422	429	497	372	391
Rehearings Acted Upon***	180	106	178	110	96	72	91	116	94	102	94
Appeals Pending	562	381	399	404	261	366	276	300	275	296	341
Appeals Argued But Not Decided	80	70	121	116	78	90	88	77	32	47	81
Appeals To Be Argued	482	311	278	288	183	276	188	223	243	249	260

\*Includes writs denied, writs not considered, writs dismissed and transferred

\*\*Includes Opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental

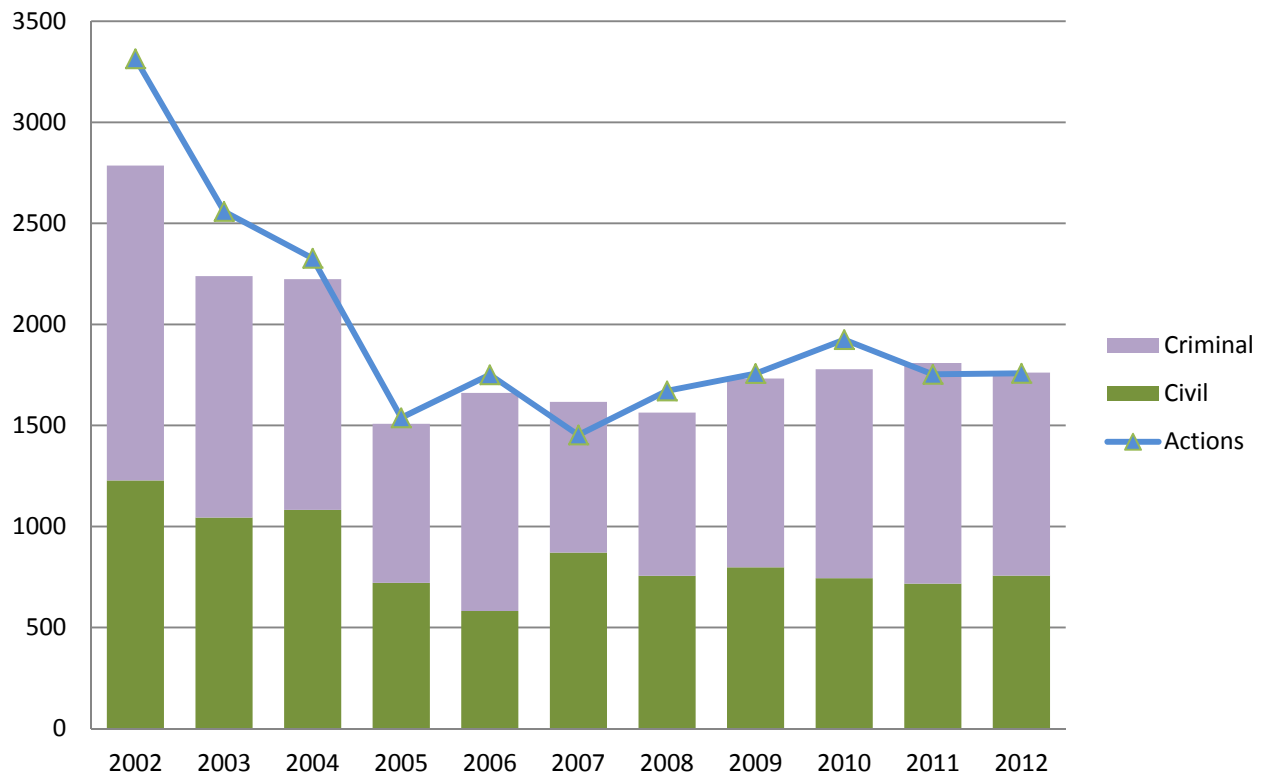
\*\*\*Includes rehearings on writs

Opinions, Rehearing Actions and Writ Actions rendered by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judges on assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit are excluded from the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit totals but included in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> circuit totals for 2006

Opinions, Rehearing Actions and Writ Actions rendered by 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judges on assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit are excluded from the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit totals but included in the 4<sup>th</sup> circuit totals for 2007 and 2008 and 2010

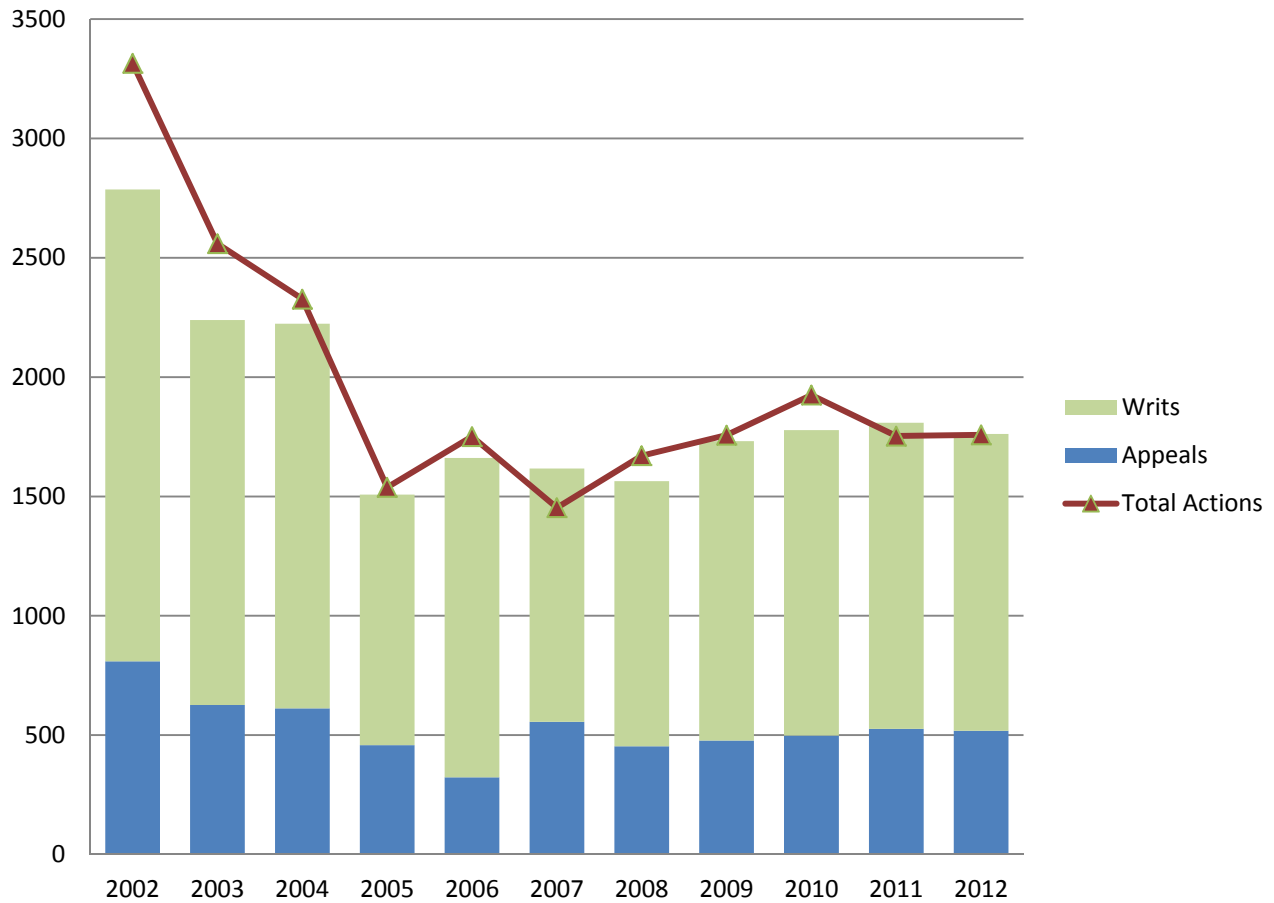


**Filings and Actions by Category:  
Criminal and Civil  
4th Circuit  
2002-2012**



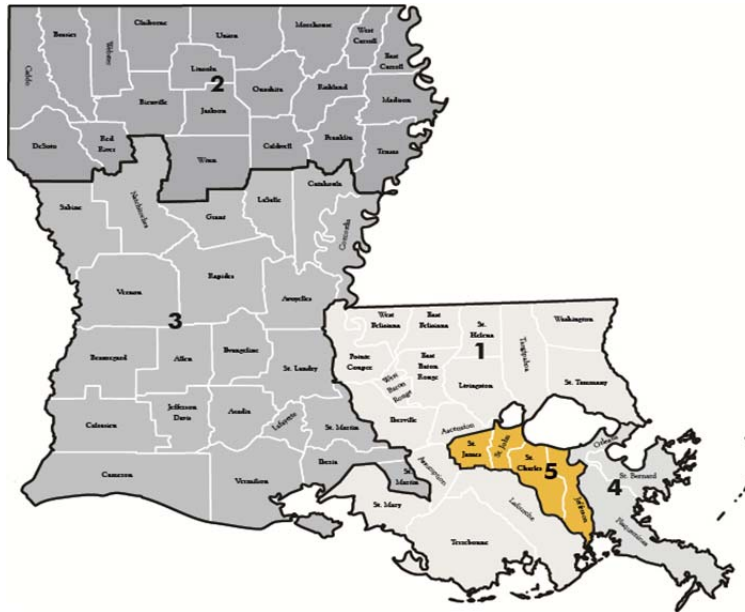
	Civil	Filings Criminal	Total Actions
2002	1228	1558	3315
2003	1044	1195	2559
2004	1082	1142	2327
2005	721	787	1538
2006	582	1079	1751
2007	871	746	1453
2008	756	808	1671
2009	798	934	1757
2010	744	1034	1925
2011	717	1092	1753
2012	757	1005	1758

**Filings and Actions:  
Writs and Appeals  
4th Circuit  
2002-2012**



	Appeals Filed	Writs Filed	Total Actions
2002	809	1977	3315
2003	626	1613	2559
2004	612	1612	2327
2005	458	1050	1538
2006	323	1338	1751
2007	556	1061	1453
2008	453	1111	1671
2009	477	1255	1757
2010	498	1280	1925
2011	526	1283	1753
2012	518	1244	1758

## **FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL**



### **Quick facts:**

- Eight judges.
- Four parish circuit south and west of Lake Pontchartrain.
- Includes the 24<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 40<sup>th</sup> judicial districts, and portions of the 23rd Judicial District.
- Courthouse located in Gretna.
- Website: <http://www.fifthcircuit.org/>

**Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal  
Ten Year Trend in Activity  
2002-2012**

	<b>2002 Total</b>	<b>2003 Total</b>	<b>2004 Total</b>	<b>2005 Total</b>	<b>2006 Total</b>	<b>2007 Total</b>	<b>2008 Total</b>	<b>2009 Total</b>	<b>2010 Total</b>	<b>2011 Total</b>	<b>2012 Total</b>
Appeals Filed	463	464	528	336	267	325	323	351	326	399	358
Motions Filed	21	43	42	25	31	13	18	8	16	17	17
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	330	435	392	257	283	304	281	289	296	303	241
Writs Refused*	235	290	282	197	184	216	183	190	239	247	207
Writs Granted	91	131	94	77	60	74	70	83	68	56	45
Pro Se Writs Filed	475	554	525	402	392	395	690	479	462	464	346
Pro Se Writs Refused*	395	485	437	368	335	267	241	289	447	549	295
Pro Se Writs Granted	76	59	44	30	31	83	97	125	143	127	52
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	55	75	48	26	41	38	33	42	33	41	40
Consolidated Opinions	44	5	0	1	24	1	2	13	14	10	0
Opinions Rendered **	447	398	376	323	290	231	286	306	274	352	328
Rehearings Acted Upon***	82	52	7	2	3	16	55	48	75	80	71
Appeals Pending	191	150	249	258	105	159	168	180	211	218	205
Appeals Argued But Not Decided	34	19	47	21	14	31	64	55	57	9	3
Appeals To Be Argued	157	131	202	237	91	128	104	125	154	209	202

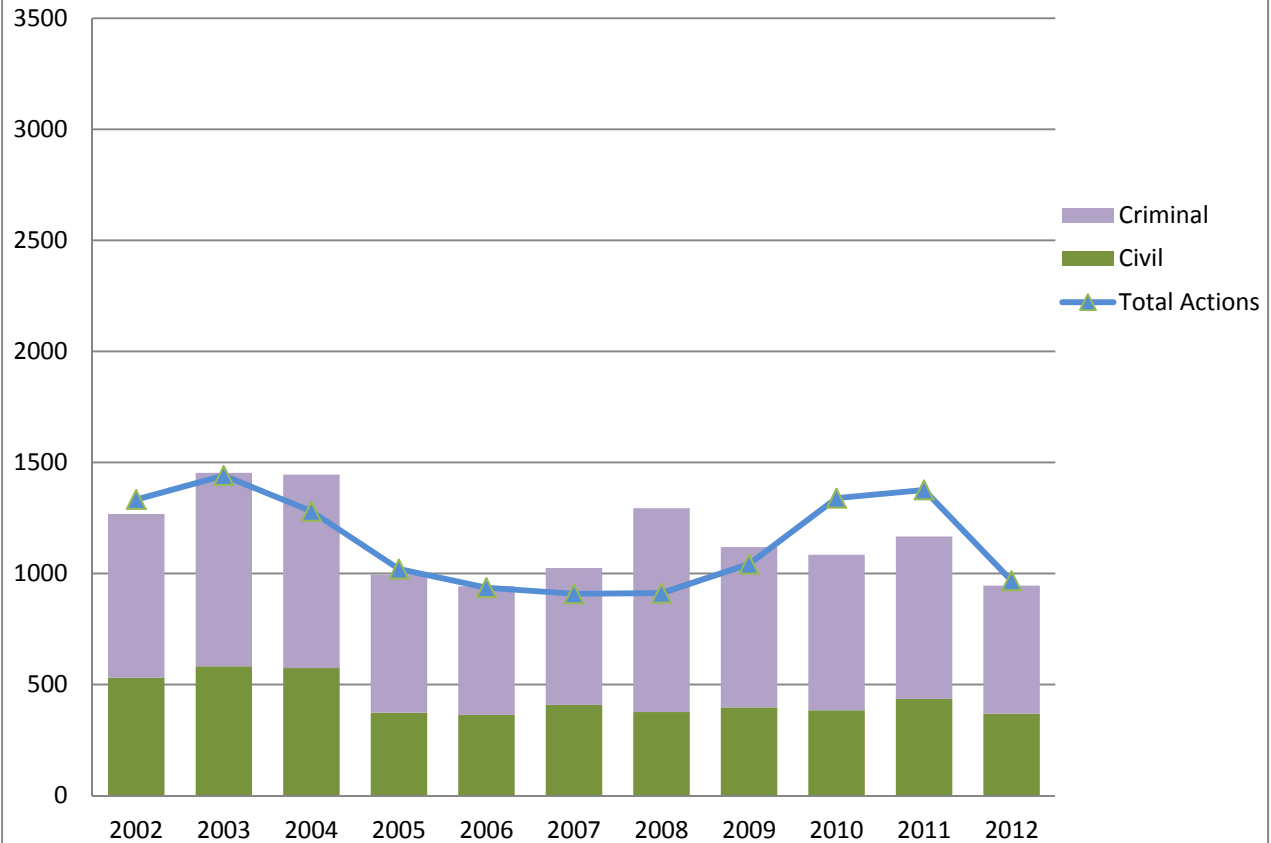
\*Includes writs denied, writs not considered, writs dismissed and transferred

\*\*Includes Opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental

\*\*\*Includes rehearings on writs

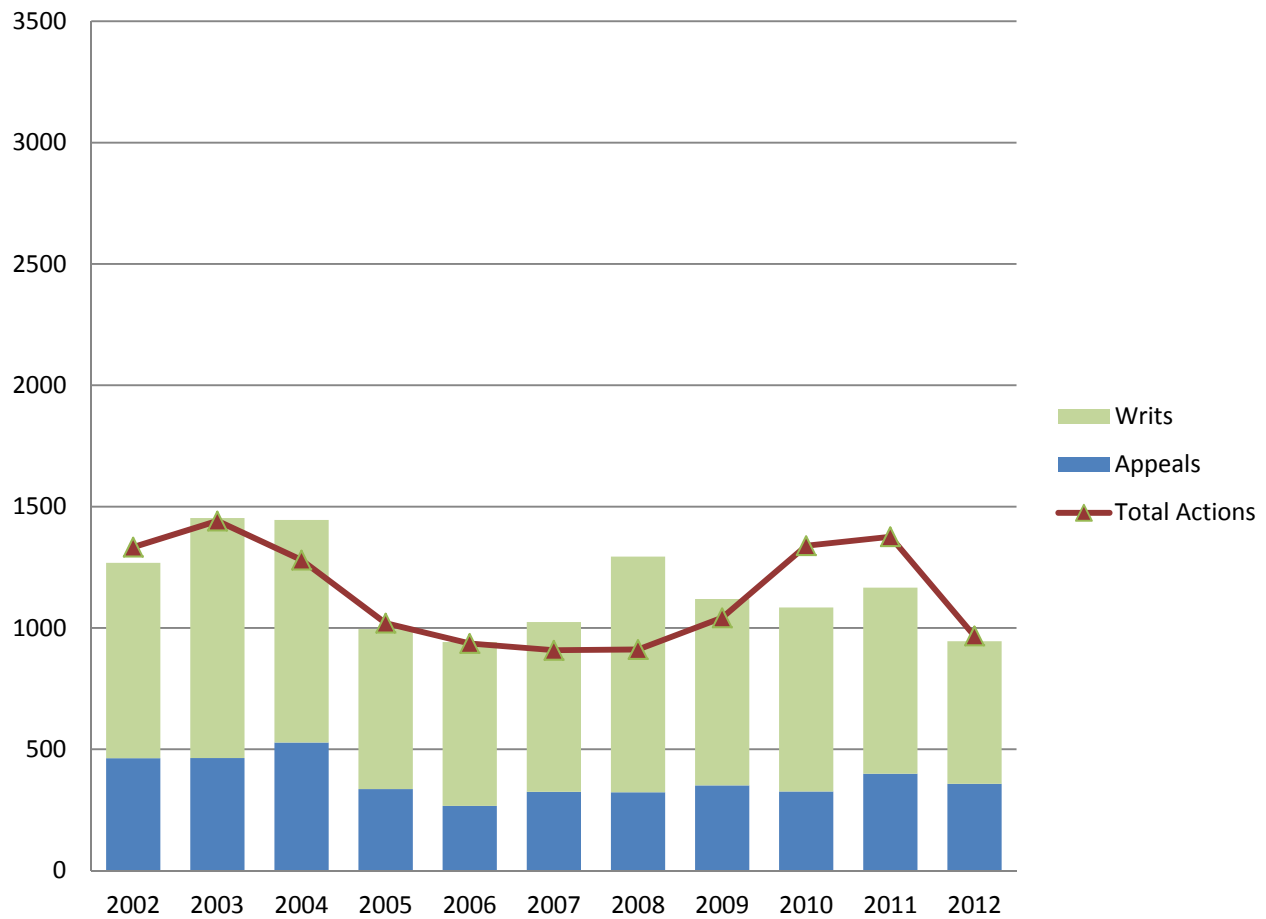
Opinions, Rehearing Actions and Writ Actions rendered by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judges on assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit are excluded from the 1<sup>st</sup> circuit totals but included in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> circuit totals for 2006

**Filings and Actions by Category:  
Criminal and Civil  
5th Circuit  
2002-2012**



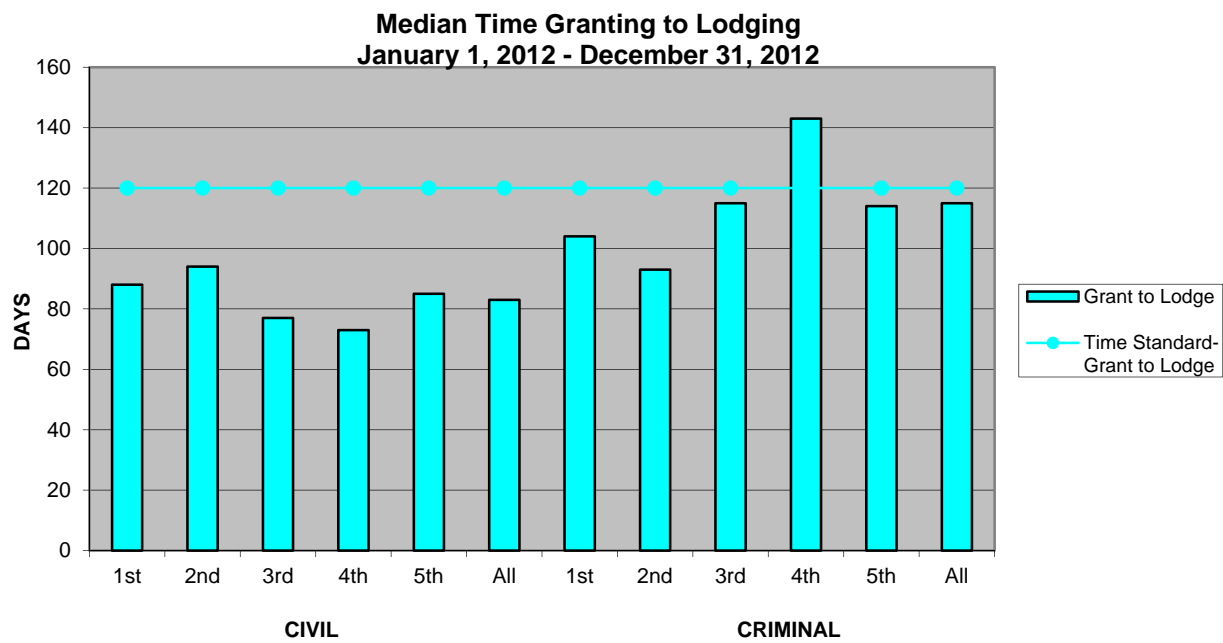
	Civil	Filings Criminal	Total Actions
2002	530	738	1333
2003	582	871	1441
2004	574	871	1280
2005	373	622	1020
2006	363	579	936
2007	408	616	908
2008	376	918	911
2009	397	722	1042
2010	384	700	1339
2011	435	731	1376
2012	369	576	967

**Filings and Actions:  
Writs and Appeals  
5th Circuit  
2002-2012**



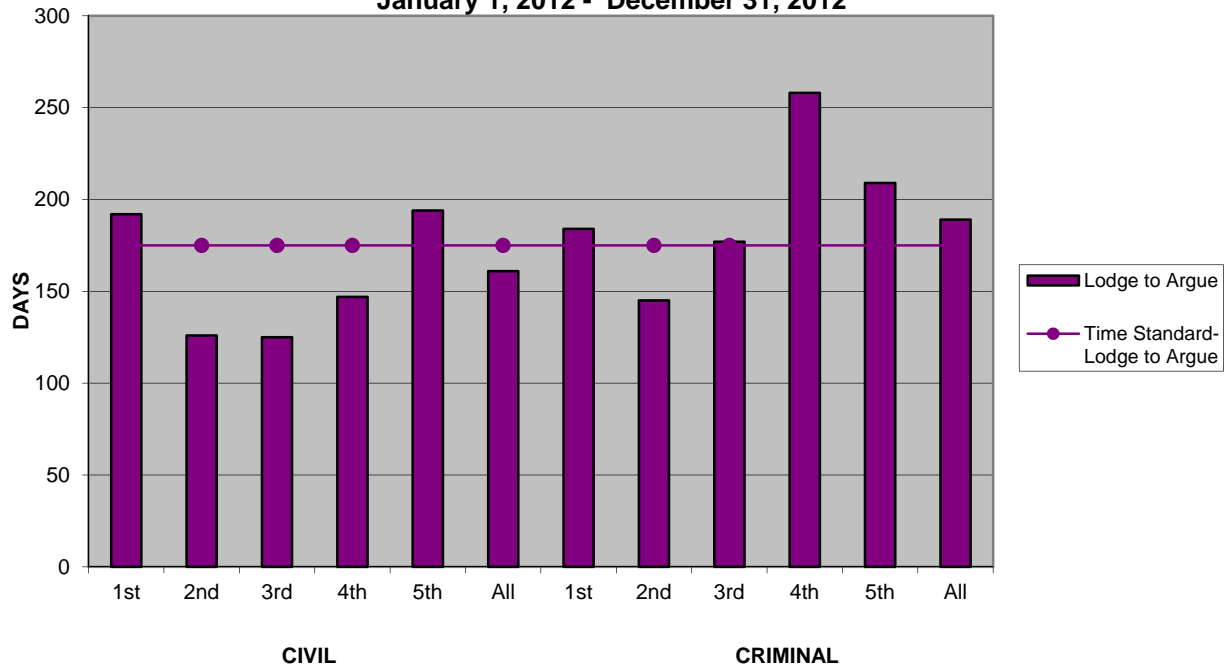
	Appeals Filed	Writs Filed	Total Actions
2002	463	805	1333
2003	464	989	1441
2004	528	917	1280
2005	336	659	1020
2006	267	675	936
2007	325	699	908
2008	323	971	911
2009	351	768	1042
2010	326	758	1339
2011	399	767	1376
2012	358	587	967

## Appellate Court Performance Relative to Supreme Court Aspirational Time Standards



	Civil						Criminal					
Circuit	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	All	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	All
Grant to Lodge	88	94	77	73	85	83	104	93	115	143	114	115
Time Standard	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120

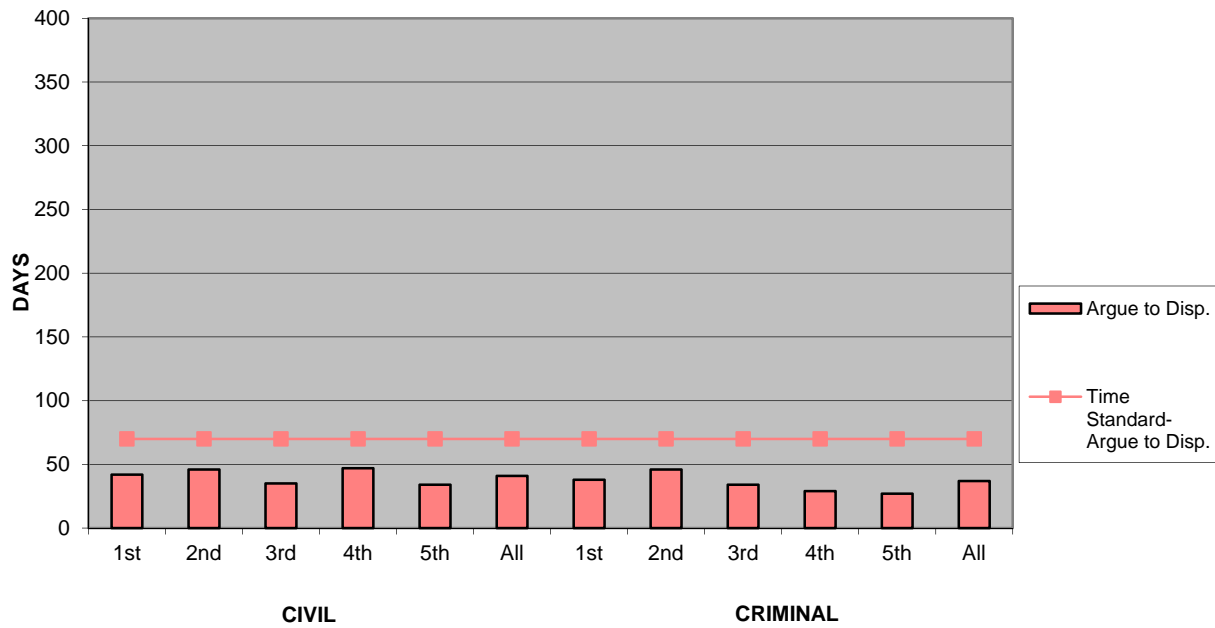
**Median Time Lodging to Argument  
January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012**



	Civil						Criminal					
Circuit	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	All	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	All
Lodging to Argument	192	126	125	147	194	161	184	145	177	258	209	189
Time Standard	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175



**Median Time Argument to Disposition  
January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012**



	Civil						Criminal					
Circuit	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	All	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	All
Argument to Disposition	42	46	35	47	34	41	38	46	34	29	27	37
Time Standard	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 7

### Appellate Court Work Point Values Project: Project Summary and Recommendations

# LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT

## JUDICIAL COUNCIL

### **Appellate Court Work Point Values Project**

#### *Project Summary and Recommendations*

\* \* \*

#### **I. Project Background and Methodology**

In 2011 the Supreme Court engaged the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to assist the Judicial Council in the development of updated work point values (WPVs) for the courts of appeal. The current version of the WPVs were developed over ten years ago, cannot be tied to existing data, and are not perceived to reflect judicial requirements for court of appeal judges. The Court's contract with NCSC also provided for a review of case complexity in each circuit and an assessment of the impact of such complexity findings on WPVs. A survey, interviews and file reviews were all components of the project.

The purpose of the project was to develop WPVs based on measurable criterion – in this context, average judge time expended per case to resolve the various appellate case types. The NCSC employed a highly inclusive approach to this project and worked extensively with two groups, the Judicial Council's Work Point Values Committee and a thirteen member Working Group comprised of judges from all five appellate courts.

WPVs have typically been used in Louisiana in connection with the Judicial Council's analyses of requests for new judgeships based on criteria outlined in the Judicial Council's General Guidelines for New Judgeships. WPVs can also be applied, along with other analytical tools, in an assessment of the sufficiency of judicial resources.

The Delphi Method was used in developing the WPVs. The Delphi Method is a well known and well established process that is used to collect information from a group of experts by means of structured discussion and the use of surveys, combined with controlled feedback and ongoing refinement. Three on-site Delphi sessions were held with Working Group members during the project, and NCSC consultants met in person with the Committee at several key points during the process.

#### **A. Survey of Court of Appeal Judges and Draft Work Point Values**

The survey used in the process was developed by NCSC consultants in close consultation with the Working Group. The survey listed the case types and included detailed descriptions of corresponding activities relating to a judge's work in processing cases – both appeals and writs. Judges were asked to estimate the minimum, typical, and maximum amount of time per case they spend in each area. NCSC met with the Working Group in on-site meetings to discuss the data and any refinements that might be needed to the collection

process, and to discuss ways of ensuring that there was consistency both within and among circuits in terms of how responses were being generated. On the basis of these discussions a second iteration of the survey was administered. These efforts proved critical to the reliability of the survey results.

NCSC staff profiled the survey data from both iterations using several averaging options. The Working Group and the Committee both eventually decided to rely on the typical time estimates provided in the second iteration of the survey. To mitigate against the impact of outliers in the data, the median (rather than the average) was used as the measure of central tendency in developing the data set.

Time estimates were then converted into WPVs by dividing the Judicial Council's existing WPV threshold for a court of appeal judge (2,500) by the number of hours in a judicial year (1358.5), and then multiplying this figure (1.84) by the typical time estimates reported in the survey. This approach results in the following WPVs:

WPVS USING MEDIAN, SECOND ITERATION OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS		
DISPOSITION CASE TYPES	MEDIAN HOURS (For <i>typical</i> case event)	WPV CONVERSION
<b>CRIMINAL APPEALS</b>	26.30	48.399
Add-on Work	6.00	11.042
<b>CIVIL APPEALS</b>	33.00	60.729
Add-on Work	8.00	14.722
<b>CRIMINAL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se	2.00	3.681
Counseled	2.00	3.681
Emergency	2.00	3.681
Called Up	1.00	1.840
<b>CIVIL WRITS</b>		
Pro Se	2.00	3.681
Summary Judgment	2.75	5.061
Counseled	2.25	4.141
Emergency	2.00	3.681
Called Up	1.58	2.908

Once developed, WPVs can be applied to case types to provide a general estimate of the sufficiency of judicial resources. It should be noted that during the study process it was helpful to all involved to consider the analysis in terms of the resulting expected number of judges needed on a statewide basis. The approach used translates into a need of 59 appellate judges based on 2011 disposition data. It should further be noted that estimated judicial need is highly dependent on the mix of case types disposed and overall dispositional activity in each circuit and the state as a whole. Neither the NCSC nor the Committee makes any representations about the number of judges needed. This information is offered only as a means of communicating how WPVs may translate into expected judicial need.

The Committee is of the belief that the assessment of judgeships needed on a statewide or circuit-specific basis must include an analysis of other factors in addition to workload. This should include procedural issues, staffing protocols, case screening and case

management practices, and local cultural and practice issues unique to each circuit. These assessments and the policies that govern their use are within the purview of the Supreme Court and its Judicial Council. Areas for possible modification or adjustment might include: the expected judicial work days of 209 per year; the expected average judicial work day of 7.5 hours; the expected average one hour per day spent on non-case related activities; the 2,500 work point threshold per judge; and the specific WPVs for any of the individual case types.

## B. Case Complexity

The second element of NCSC's work involved an analysis of case complexity in each appellate circuit. As part of this work, the NCSC consultants interviewed the chief judge of each circuit and conducted a detailed on-site review of a sample of files to assess the complexity of writ and appeal cases decided.

The interviews were an important prelude to the file review, as these sessions provided background regarding each circuit's customs and business practices that may impact the manner in which cases – both writs and appeals; complex and non-complex – are handled. Based on these interviews, a complexity schedule was developed. The schedule is below.

APPELLATE CASE COMPLEXITY FACTORS			
Subject Matter Factors	Issue-based Factors	Extensive Time Factors	Case Disposition Factors
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oil and gas</li> <li>2. Complex business litigation</li> <li>3. Securities</li> <li>4. Professional malpractice</li> <li>5. Mass tort</li> <li>6. Capital sentencing</li> <li>7. DEQ/DNR matters</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Issue involves settled law</li> <li>2. Pure legal question</li> <li>3. Fact-intensity of issues</li> <li>4. Requires research of federal or other state laws</li> <li>5. Matter of continuing public interest or public policy</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of parties</li> <li>2. Cross-appeal</li> <li>3. Consolidated appeals</li> <li>4. Pro se parties</li> <li>5. Expedited or time constrained case type</li> <li>6. Record size (in number of volumes and total page number)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Form of disposition (order or opinion)</li> <li>2. Length of opinion</li> <li>3. Dissent or concurring opinion</li> <li>4. Expanded panel</li> <li>5. Discussion of numerous errors patent</li> <li>6. Outcome includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expansion or modification of existing rule or law</li> <li>• resolution of an apparent conflict of authority</li> <li>• announcement of a new rule or law</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

A total of 544 cases were reviewed and the complexity features of each were documented. The complexity review was conducted in two phases: an on-site review of files and an analysis phase. During the on-site review, NCSC consultants visited each circuit to review the entire file and trial record for each randomly selected case. The case reviewer examined the lower court record, studied the issues raised in the briefs, read the dispositional order or opinion, and recorded information regarding each of the complexity criteria listed in the table above.

After the on-site review the consultants assigned one of three difficulty ratings to each case: "A" for the least complex/time intensive cases; "B" for cases of average

complexity/time-intensity; and "C" for the most complex/time-intensive cases. The statewide complexity results are below.

STATEWIDE COMPLEXITY RATINGS BY CASE TYPE			
	Complexity Rating	Number of Cases	% of Total
Criminal Appeals	A (least complex)	15	22.4%
	B (average complexity)	46	<b>68.7%</b>
	C (most complex)	6	8.9%
	Total	<b>67</b>	
Civil Appeals	A (least complex)	18	16.8%
	B (average complexity)	77	<b>72.0%</b>
	C (most complex)	12	11.2%
	Total	<b>107</b>	
Criminal Writs	A (least complex)	211	<b>81.8%</b>
	B (average complexity)	44	17.0%
	C (most complex)	3	1.2%
	Total	<b>258</b>	
Civil Writs	A (least complex)	51	<b>45.5%</b>
	B (average complexity)	49	43.8%
	C (most complex)	12	10.7%
	Total	<b>112</b>	

NCSC consultants applied these complexity findings to the WPVs to assess their impact. This analysis resulted in a slight increase in the values for appeals of both types and a slight decrease in the values for writs of both types. These differences, however, were not regarded by the consultants or the Committee as being impactful enough to warrant modifying the WPVs to reflect them.

## II. Recommendations

### A. Work Point Values

Working with the Appellate Court Work Point Values Committee of the Louisiana Judicial Council and a Working Group consisting of thirteen appellate judges representing each of the five circuit courts, NCSC consultants administered a survey of all appellate judges and developed data to support the development of a revised set of appellate court work point values. **The Committee recommends their adoption.** The consultants concur.

### B. Case Complexity

Through an on-site file review, NCSC consultants obtained a baseline measure of complexity in appellate cases. Analysis of the impact of the complexity findings revealed that adjusting WPVs for complexity does not significantly impact judicial need. Although the process of studying case complexity has value in appellate courts, given the minor impact seen upon their application, along with the extensive time and effort required to gather, analyze, and apply complexity data, **the Committee does not recommended that complexity factors be included in the establishment of work point values at this time.** The consultants concur.

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 8

### District Court Profiles and Workload Data, 2002-2012

The Supreme Court collects filing data from clerks of court in each parish annually and publishes it in its annual report.<sup>1</sup> Among all of the data collected, filing data has historically been the only data routinely collected by the Supreme Court on a statewide basis that has been used to calculate court workload.<sup>2</sup>

Filing data for the district courts is of varying accuracy and detail, and it is not easily comparable across jurisdictions. This is due to local variances in criminal charging practices of the district attorneys (which can lead to significant variance in filing numbers), and to differences in counting and reporting practices generally.

It must be noted that filing data alone is an imprecise measure of judicial activity. This is because filing data reflects case volume only and it does not address the varied – and often significant – procedural, legal, and substantive elements of cases heard. These elements translate into case complexity, which have a direct impact on the workload demands of judges and on caseflow generally.

**The Supreme Court receives its data from the various clerks across the State and therefore cannot vouch for its accuracy.**

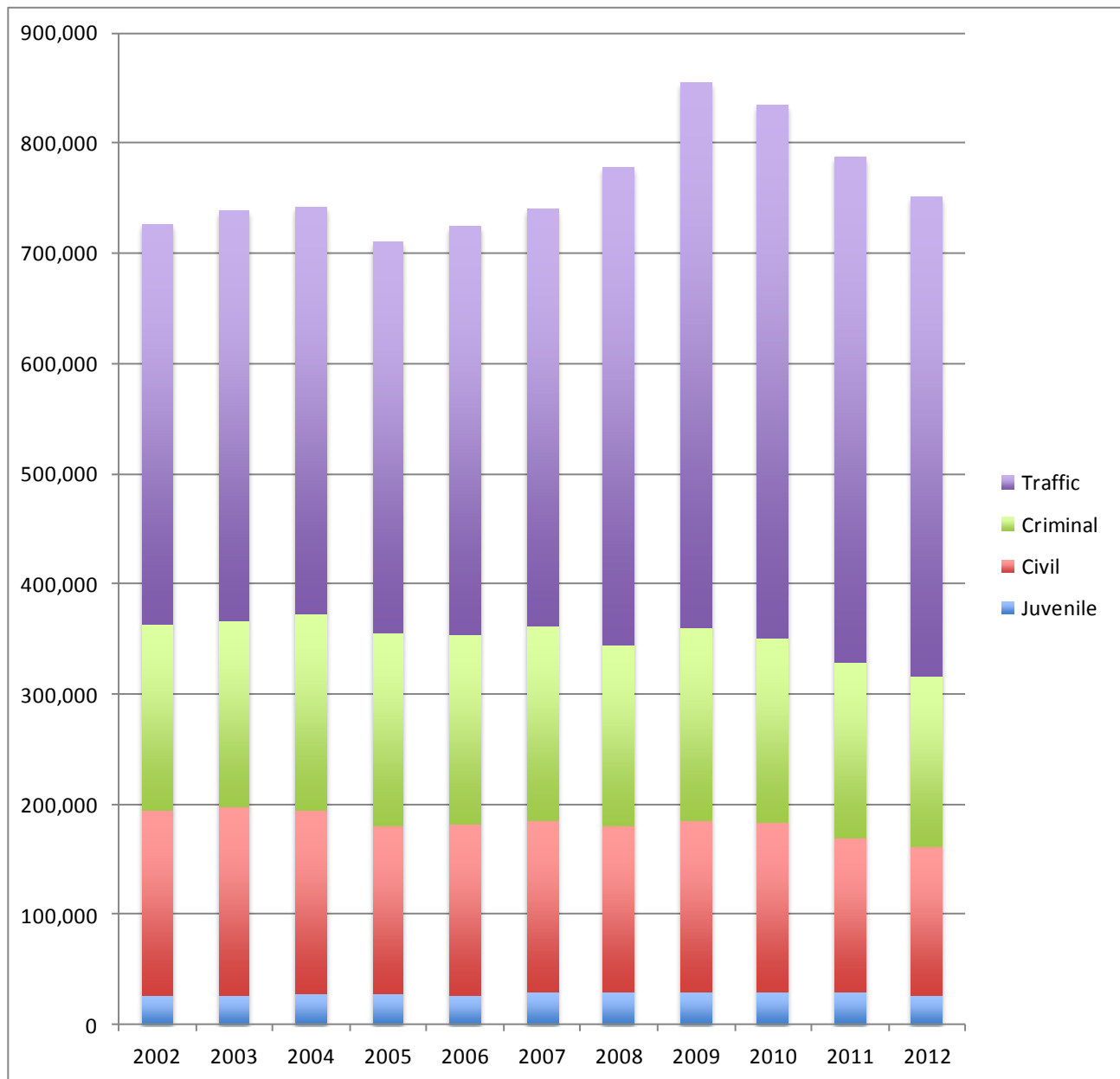
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<sup>1</sup> This information is profiled in the Supreme Court's annual report see Copies of the annual report are available at [http://www.lasc.org/press\\_room/annual\\_reports/default.asp](http://www.lasc.org/press_room/annual_reports/default.asp). (Last accessed 1/11/14.).

<sup>2</sup> Civil and criminal jury trial information is also provided by judges. Additional information about cases filed is available for the four dedicated juvenile courts and the East Baton Rouge Family Court. All of this information is available in the Supreme Court's annual reports.



## LOUISIANA DISTRICT COURTS



Statewide	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	26,385	26,790	27,765*	28,104	26,658*	28,868	29,390*	29,680	28,418*	28,455*	26,240
Civil	168,261	169,586*	166,568*	152,528	154,460*	156,047*	149,910*	154,126*	154,796	141,047	134,686
Criminal <sup>i</sup>	169,217	170,896	178,670*	174,861	172,788*	177,279*	164,940*	176,340*	167,330	158,743	154,721
Traffic <sup>ii, iii</sup>	362,641	370,808*	368,177*	355,380	370,950	377,621	433,003*	495,112*	483,494	459,424*	434,883
Total	726,504	738,080	741,180	710,873	724,856	739,815	777,243	855,258	834,038	787,669	750,530
Civil Jury Trials	425	380	374	271	300	255	197	258	280	267	235
Criminal Jury Trials	1,170	999	1,006	856	830	864	748	879	920	1,015	734

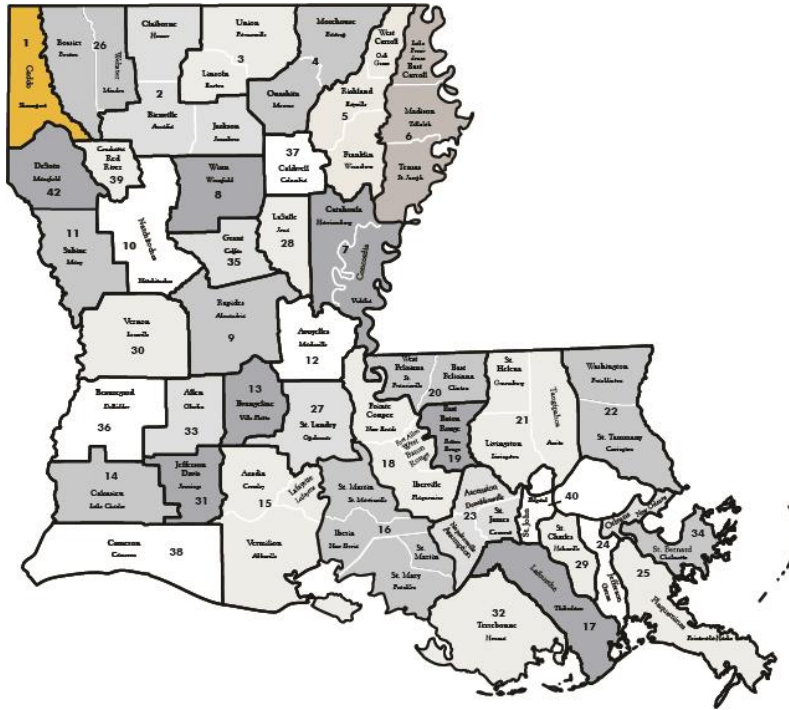
\* Data reflects updates received after the publication of the annual report.

<sup>i</sup> For the years 2007-2010, Criminal Filed for Lafayette parish denotes the number of defendants, not the number of cases filed.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings.

<sup>iii</sup> For the years 2002-2008, some parishes were unable to separate traffic from criminal filings.

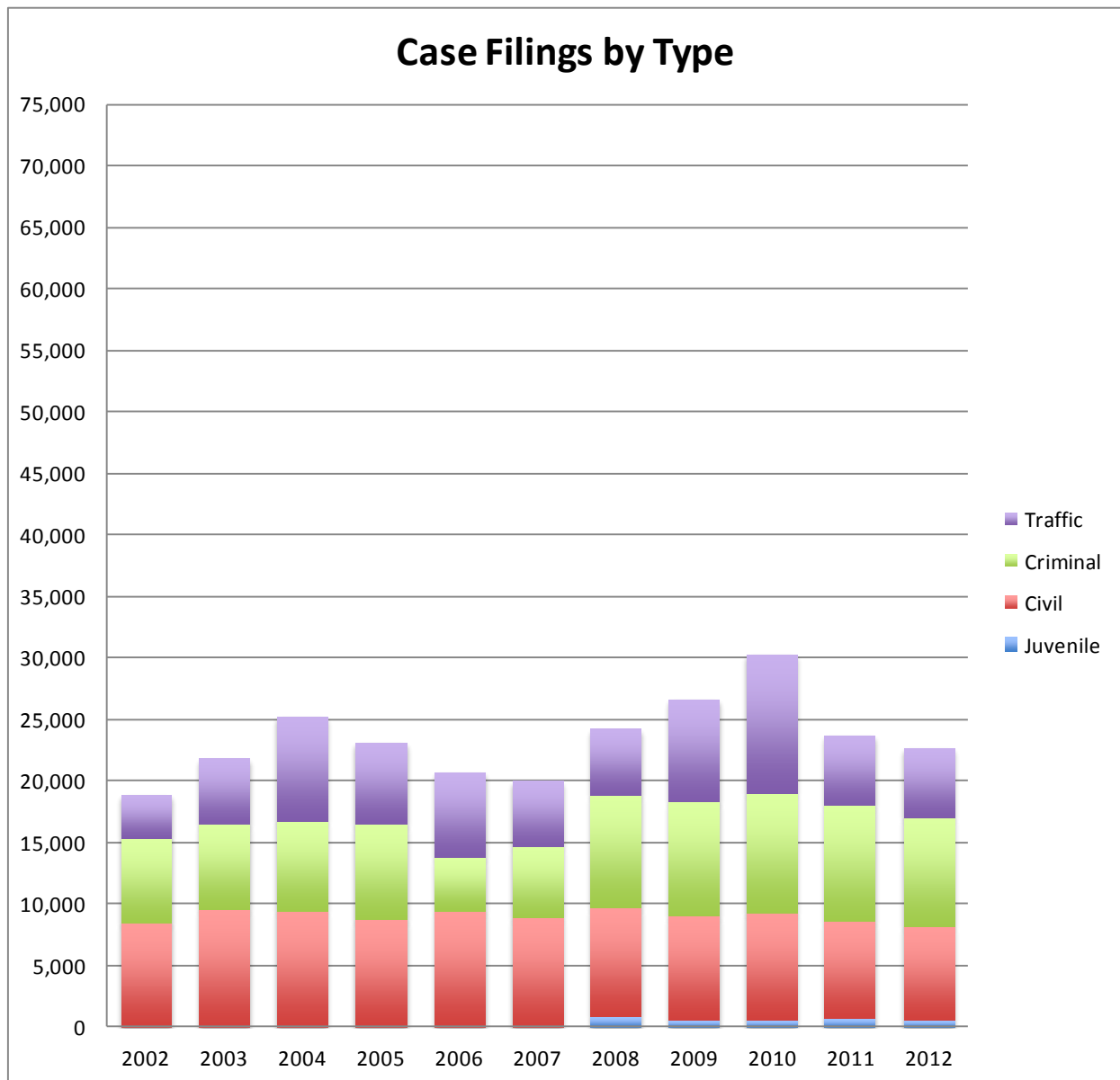
## FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Eleven judge court.
- One-parish district in northwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Shreveport.
- One non-support hearing officer.
- Operates an adult drug court and a mental health court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law (juvenile jurisdiction is vested exclusively in Caddo Parish Juvenile Court).
- Shares limited civil and misdemeanor criminal jurisdiction with Shreveport City Court.

## FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



1st JDC <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	719	463	539	584	457
Civil	8,445	9,469	9,358	8,694	9,320 <sup>ii</sup>	8,782	8,910	8,560	8,673	7,986	7,717
Criminal	6,860	6,994	7,342	7,716	4,391 <sup>iii</sup>	5,750	9,207 <sup>iv</sup>	9,291	9,702	9,417	8,832
Traffic <sup>v</sup>	3,582	5,271	8,399	6,657	6,905	5,359	5,346	8,304	11,310	5,637	5,611
Total	18,887	21,734	25,099	23,067	20,616	19,891	24,182	26,618	30,224	23,624	22,617
Civil Jury Trials	13	14	14	10	12	12	5	5	12	5	10
Criminal Jury Trials	46	41	47	64	73	49	39	43	43	49	41

<sup>i</sup> Violations of Traffic, Misdemeanors and/or Juvenile/Family Laws are processed by Parish, City, and or Juvenile/Family Courts.

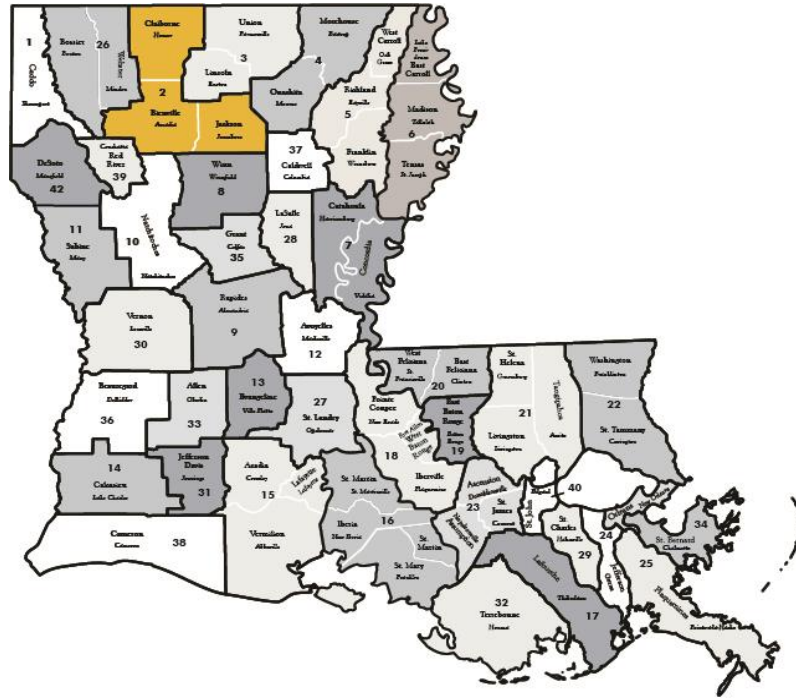
<sup>ii</sup> The 2006 civil filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> The 2006 criminal filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>iv</sup> The 2008 criminal filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2008 annual report.

<sup>v</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

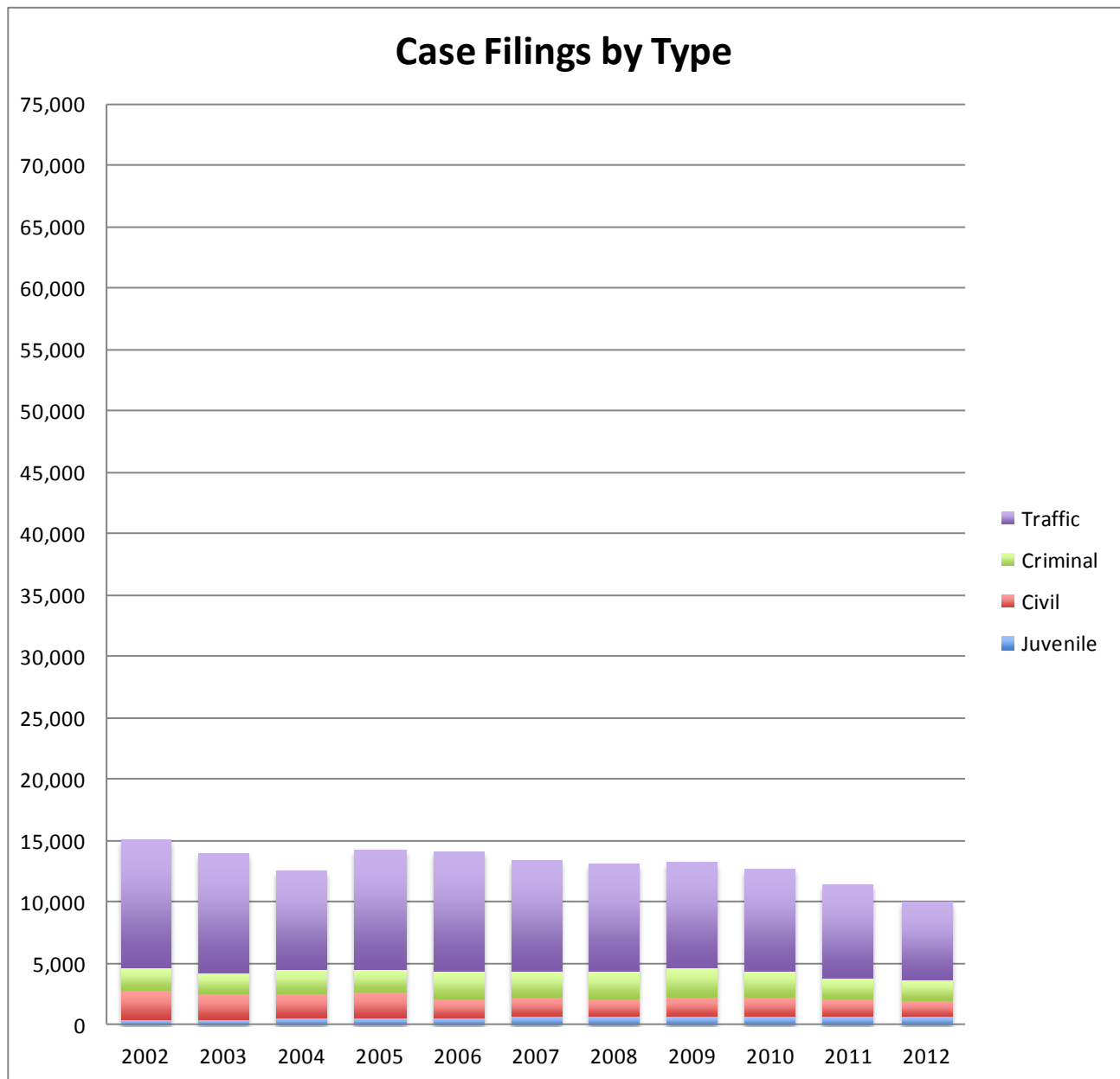
## SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Three-judge court.
- Three-parish district in north Louisiana; courthouses located in Arcadia, Homer, and Jonesville.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.

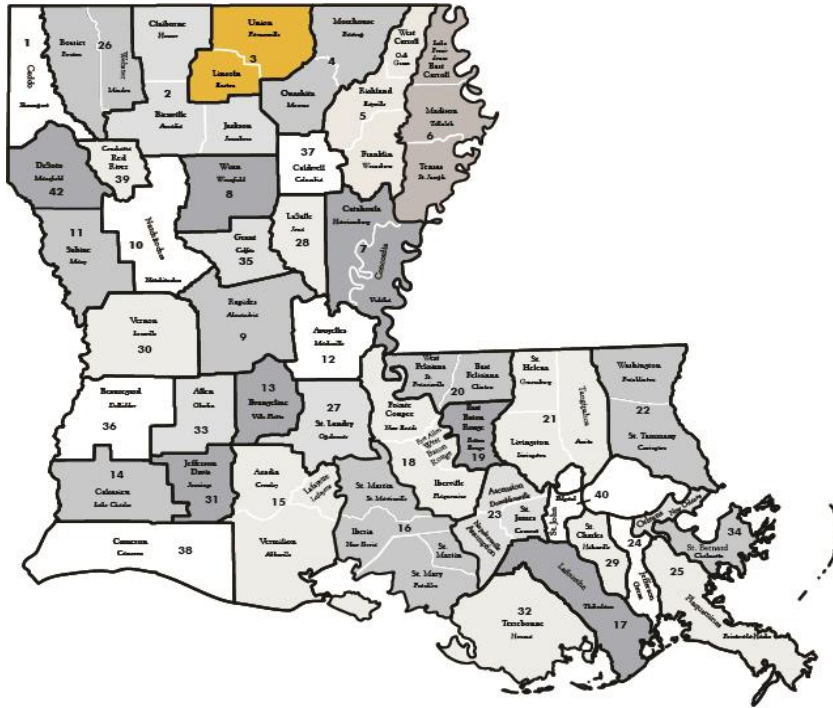
## SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



2nd JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	405	421	462	491	446	695	637	622	684	665	658
Civil	2,334	2,000	2,051	2,092	1,548	1,498	1,479	1,536	1,564	1,423	1,270
Criminal	1,910	1,810	1,921	1,824	2,334	2,134	2,246	2,366	2,043	1,711	1,604
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	10,331	9,624	7,976	9,789	9,715	9,006	8,732	8,597	8,264	7,509	6,463
Total	14,980	13,855	12,410	14,196	14,043	13,333	13,094	13,121	12,555	11,308	9,995
Civil Jury Trials	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	2
Criminal Jury Trials	5	11	7	7	8	7	4	7	3	3	5

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

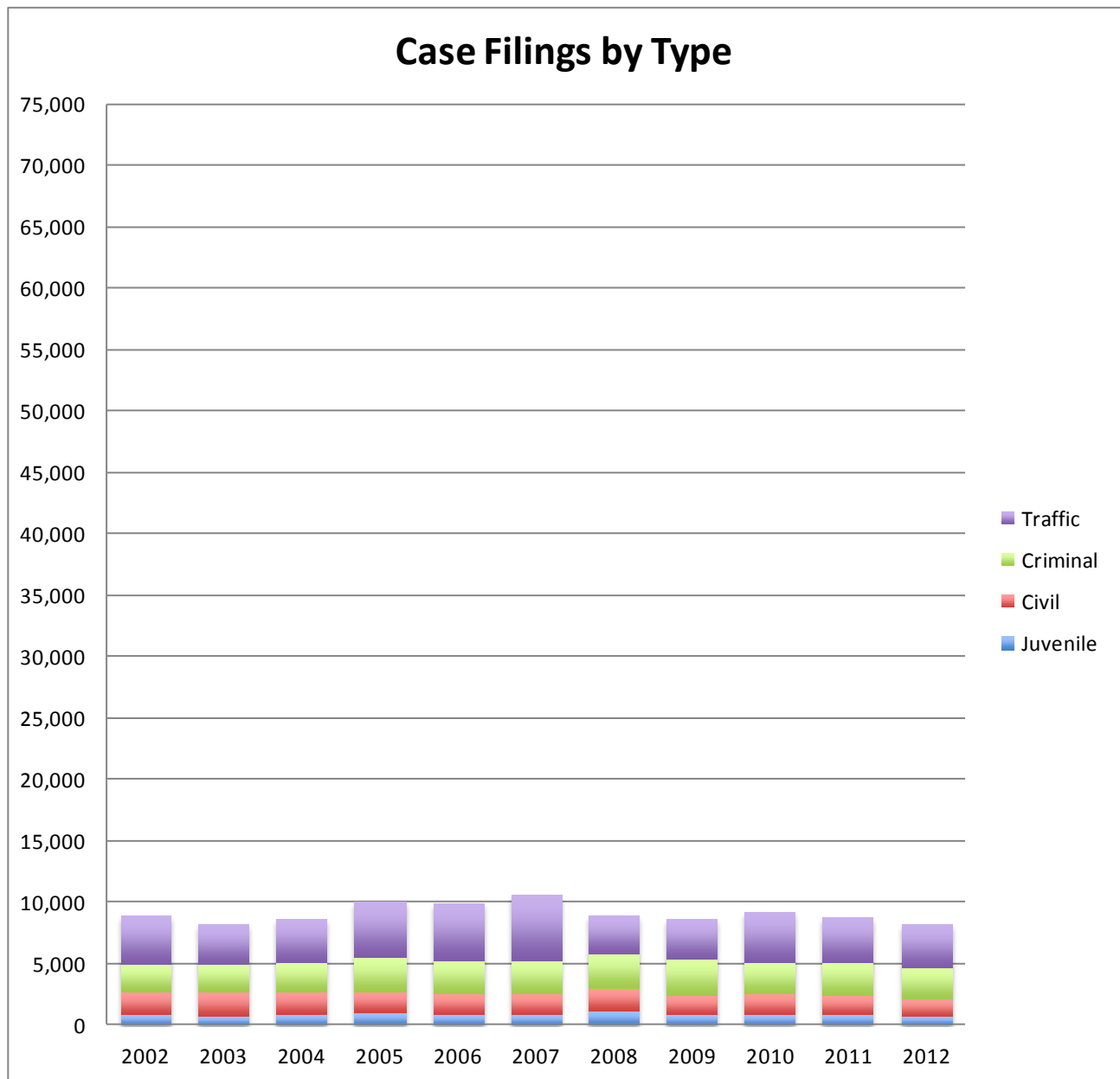
## **THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Three-judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- Two-parish district in north Louisiana; courthouses located in Ruston and Farmerville.
- Operates an adult drug court and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor, criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Ruston City Court.

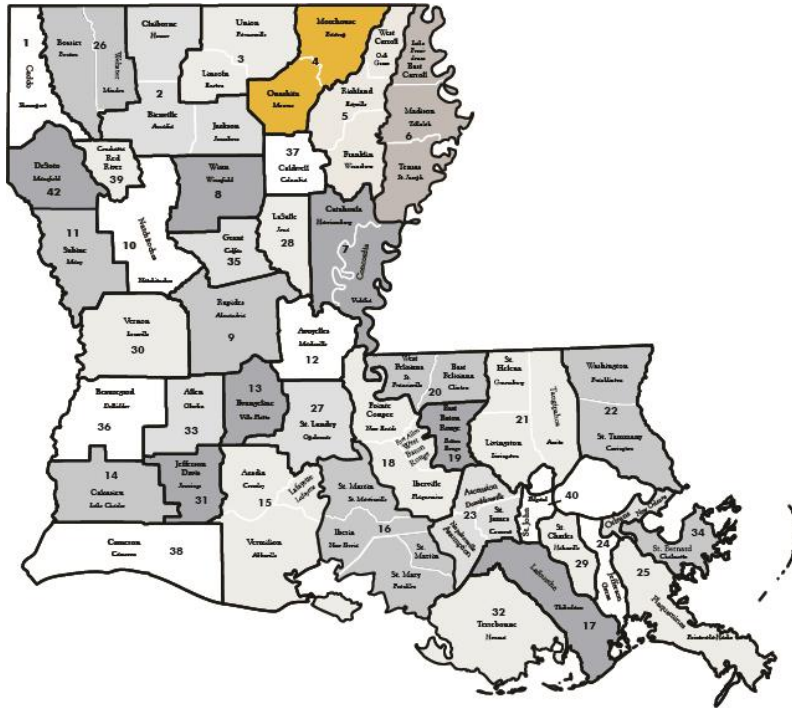
## THRID JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



3rd JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	756	644	725	917	784	837	1,024	711	754	798	664
Civil	1,911	1,940	1,869	1,646	1,679	1,624	1,834	1,560	1,661	1,504	1,436
Criminal	2,242	2,258	2,457	2,806	2,751	2,685	2,786	3,068	2,658	2,727	2,421
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	3,962	3,197	3,430	4,615	4,560	5,328	3,127	3,223	4,056	3,709	3,600
Total	8,871	8,039	8,481	9,984	9,774	10,474	8,771	8,562	9,129	8,738	8,121
Civil Jury Trials	4	3	7	1	6	2	1	2	3	0	2
Criminal Jury Trials	5	7	4	5	6	8	3	4	3	2	3

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

**FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

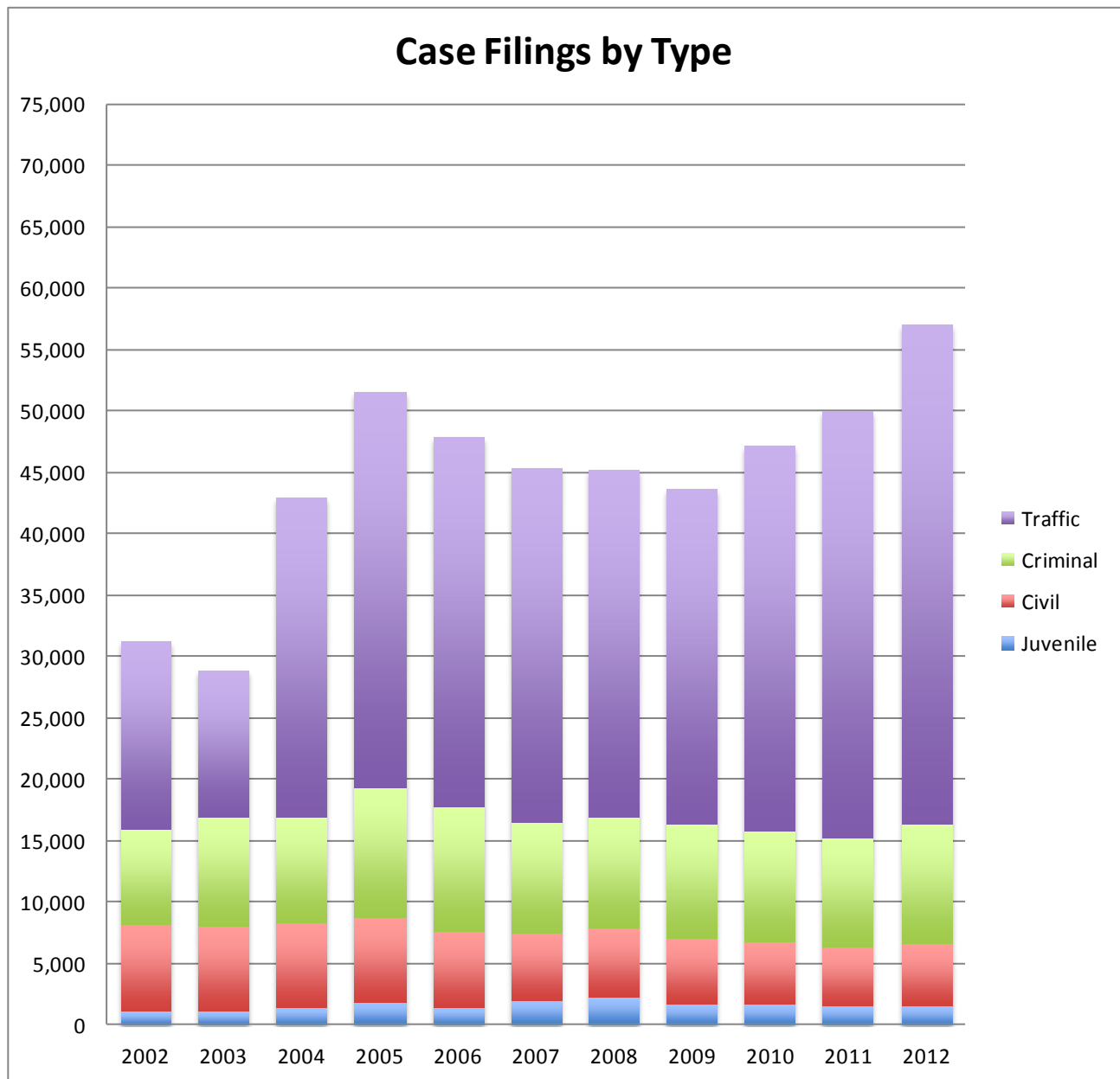


### Quick facts:

- . 11-judge court.
- . Three hearing officers hear juvenile and domestic matters.
- . Two-parish district in northeast Louisiana; courthouses located in Bastrop and Monroe.
- . Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, a DWI court and a truancy court.
- . Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- . Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Bastrop, Monroe, and West Monroe city courts.
- . Website: <http://www.4jdc.com/>.



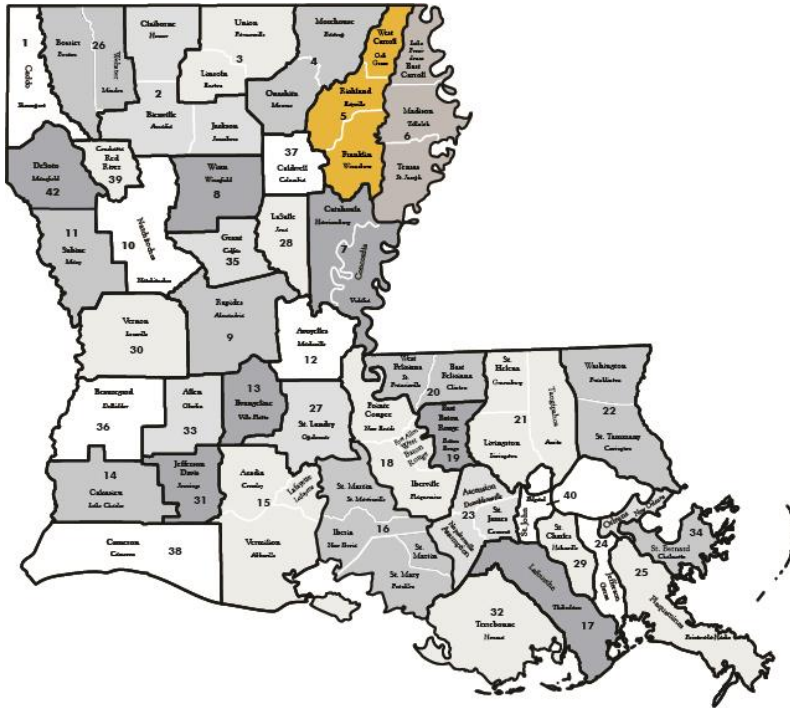
## FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



4th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	1,079	1,002	1,404	1,830	1,319	1,968	2,250	1,591	1,649	1,441	1,419
Civil	6,983	6,991	6,903	6,786	6,278	5,454	5,522	5,449	5,069	4,801	5,197
Criminal	7,779	8,872	8,547	10,605	10,143	9,025	9,046	9,242	9,050	8,962	9,689
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	15,330	11,896	26,072	32,273	30,046	28,838	28,376	27,336	31,388	34,761	40,724
Total	31,171	28,761	42,926	51,494	47,786	45,285	45,194	43,618	47,156	49,965	57,029
Civil Jury Trials	14	13	12	6	8	8	7	3	7	4	7
Criminal Jury Trials	46	73	45	39	54	25	38	26	38	31	29

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

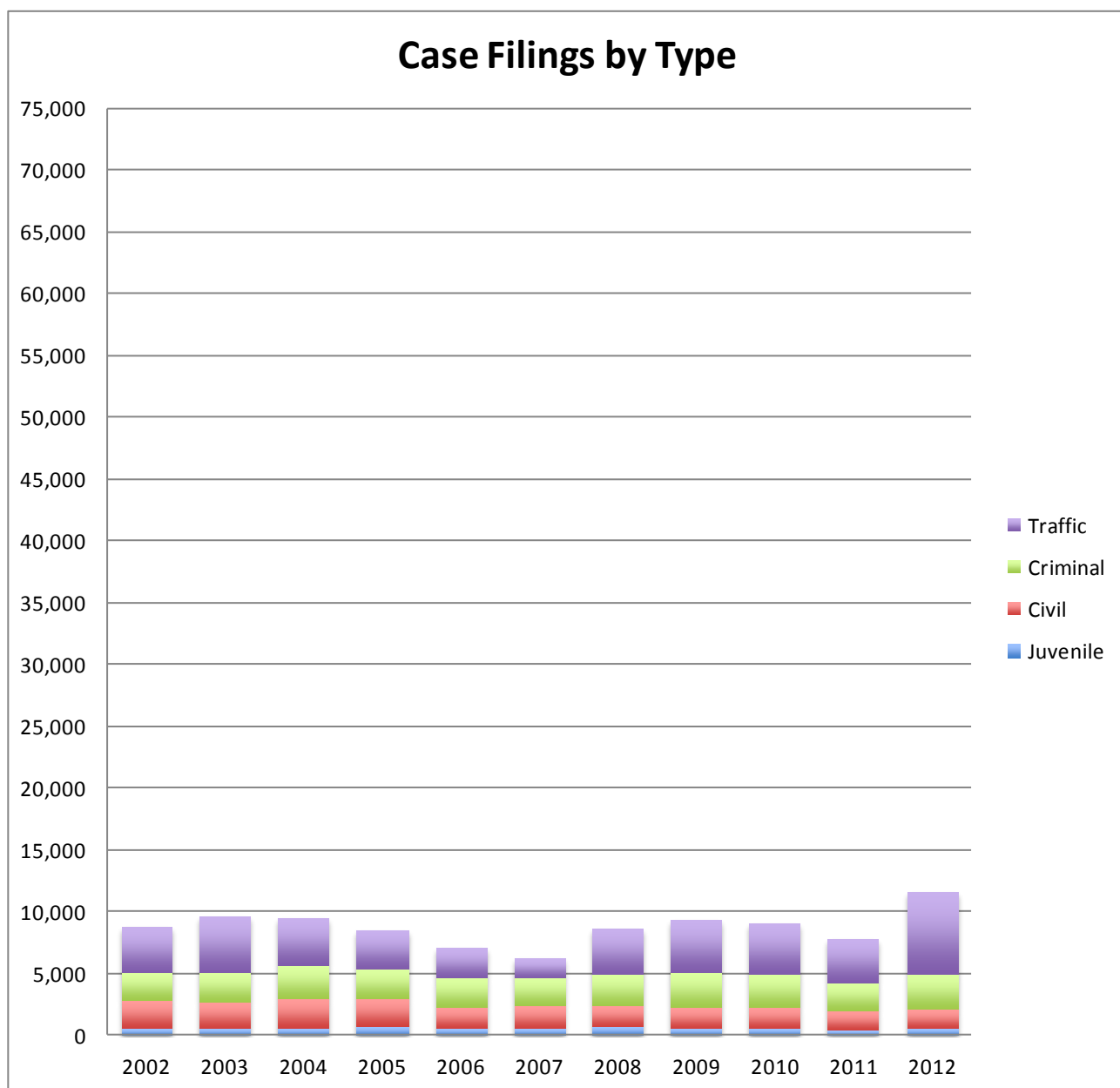
## FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Three-judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- Three-parish district in northeast Louisiana; courthouses located in Winnsboro, Rayville, and Oak Grove.
- Operates an adult and a juvenile drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Winnsboro City Court.
- Website: <http://www.5jdc.us/>.

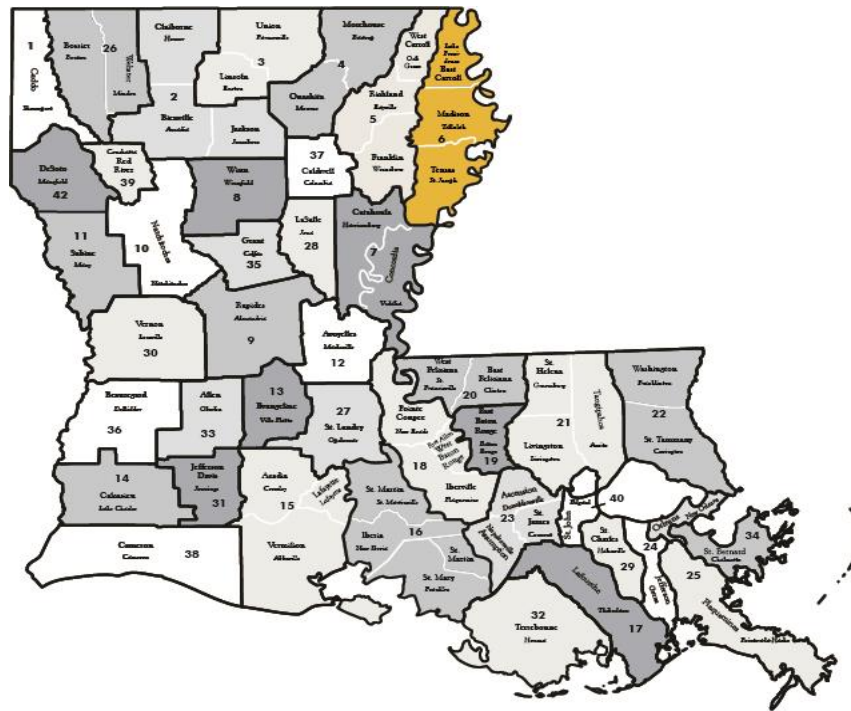
## FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



5th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	537	466	484	704	491	554	568	503	449	354	527
Civil	2,207	2,167	2,449	2,130	1,757	1,828	1,748	1,750	1,778	1,564	1,550
Criminal	2,240	2,320	2,581	2,490	2,334	2,157	2,550	2,690	2,653	2,301	2,784
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	3,735	4,596	3,867	3,081	2,364	1,623	3,701	4,226	4,138	3,428	6,613
Total	8,719	9,549	9,381	8,405	6,946	6,162	8,567	9,169	9,018	7,647	11,474
Civil Jury Trials	2	2	1	2	2	0	1	0	2	3	2
Criminal Jury Trials	1	3	4	4	5	10	3	5	8	7	5

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

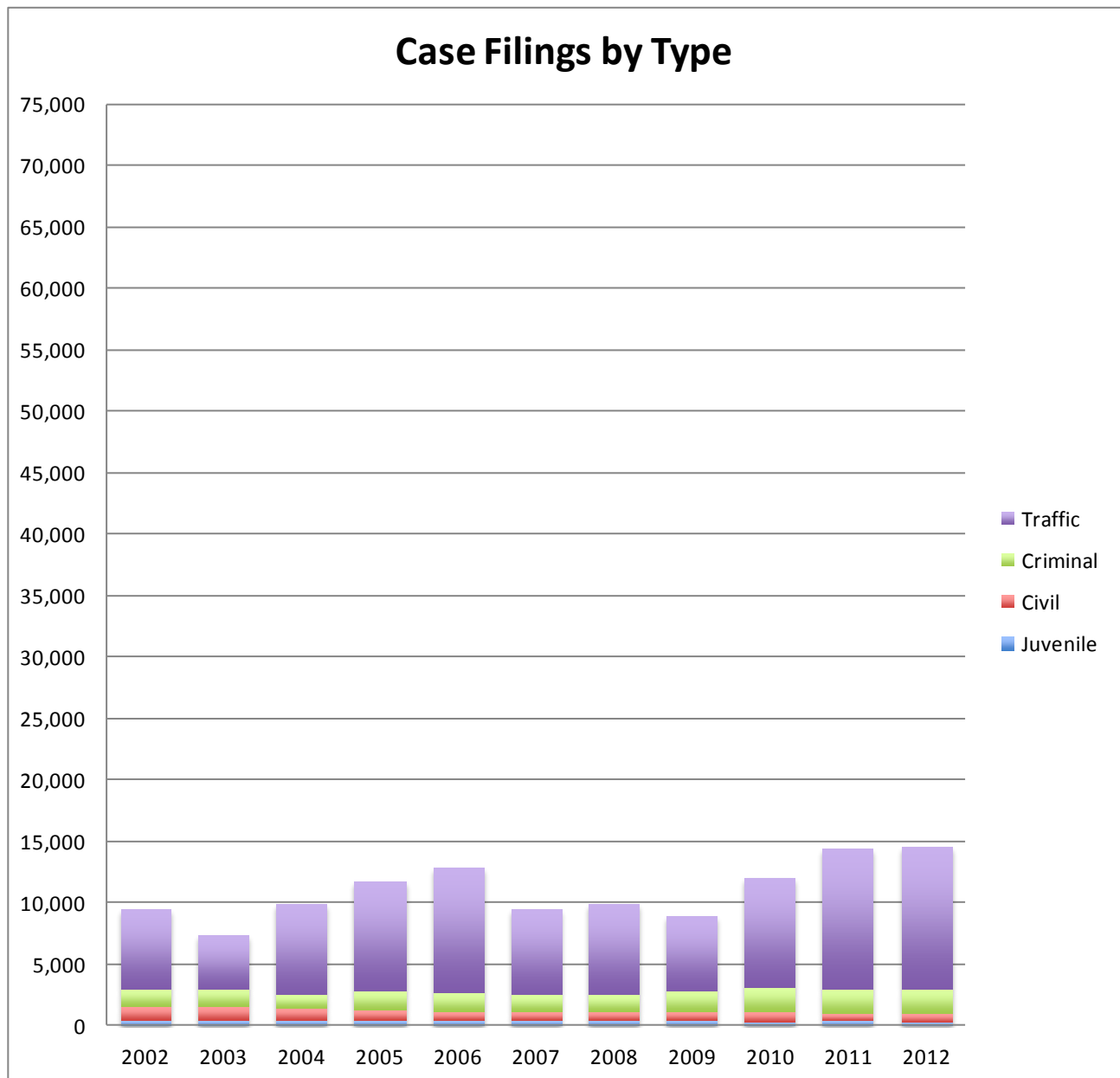
## SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One non-support hearing officer.
- Three-parish district; courthouses located in Lake Providence, Tallulah, and St. Joseph.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: <http://6jdc.com/>.

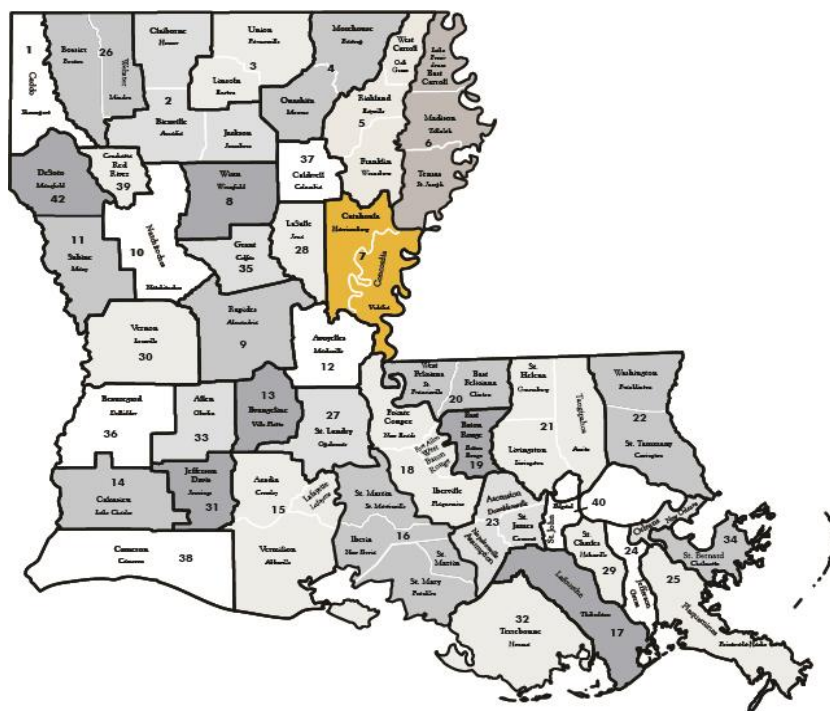
## SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



6th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	382	382	417	406	292	317	330	323	246	290	253
Civil	1,068	1,122	908	808	797	774	746	702	772	692	614
Criminal	1,494	1,359	1,160	1,590	1,510	1,369	1,362	1,685	1,958	1,928	2,050
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	6,367	4,342	7,254	8,799	10,180	6,983	7,366	6,148	8,895	11,408	11,552
Total	9,311	7,205	9,739	11,603	12,779	9,443	9,804	8,858	11,871	14,318	14,469
Civil Jury Trials	2	3	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	2	3	5	1	2	0	3	4	3	3	1

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

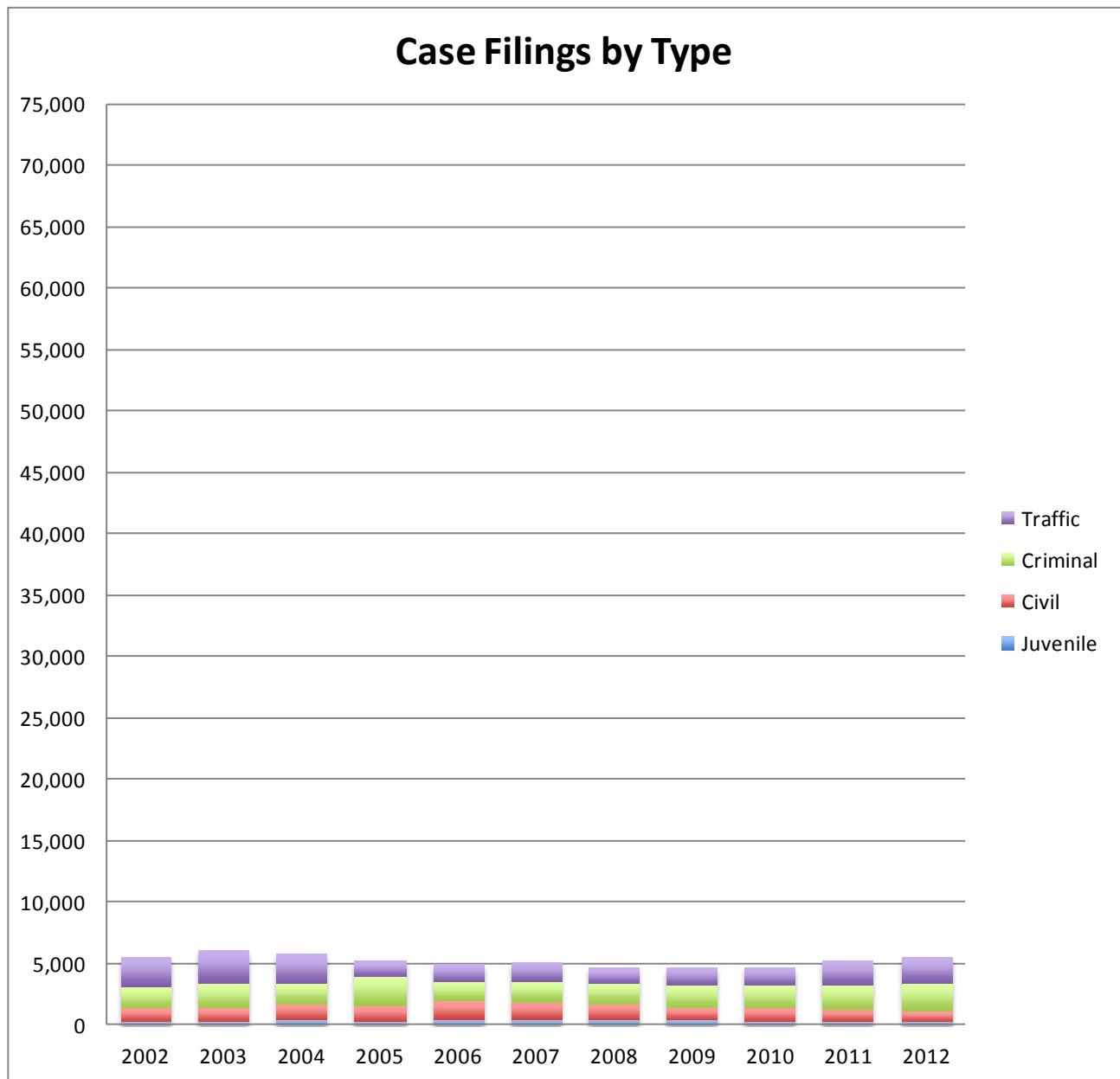
## SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- Two-parish district in eastern Louisiana; courthouses located in Harrisonburg and Vidalia.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Vidalia City Court.

## SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

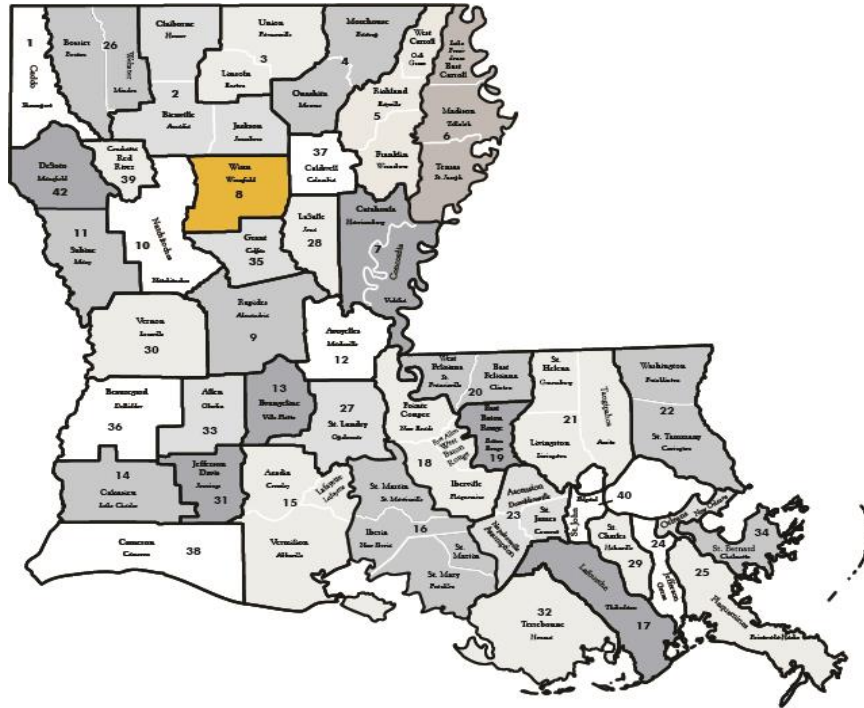


7th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	192	232	330	280	358 <sup>i</sup>	412	400	305	212	269	208
Civil	1,120	1,107	1,250	1,257	1,492	1,379	1,264	1,096	1,164	971	886
Criminal	1,785	2,024	1,785	2,289	1,585	1,597	1,592	1,756	1,783	1,935	2,249
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	2,315	2,650	2,372	1,263	1,465	1,687	1,385	1,358	1,434	1,969	2,025
Total	5,412	6,013	5,737	5,089	4,900	5,075	4,641	4,515	4,593	5,144	5,368
Civil Jury Trials	2	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	0
Criminal Jury Trials	3	3	5	2	4	1	2	3	3	1	0

<sup>i</sup> The 2006 Juvenile filing data reflects updated totals received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

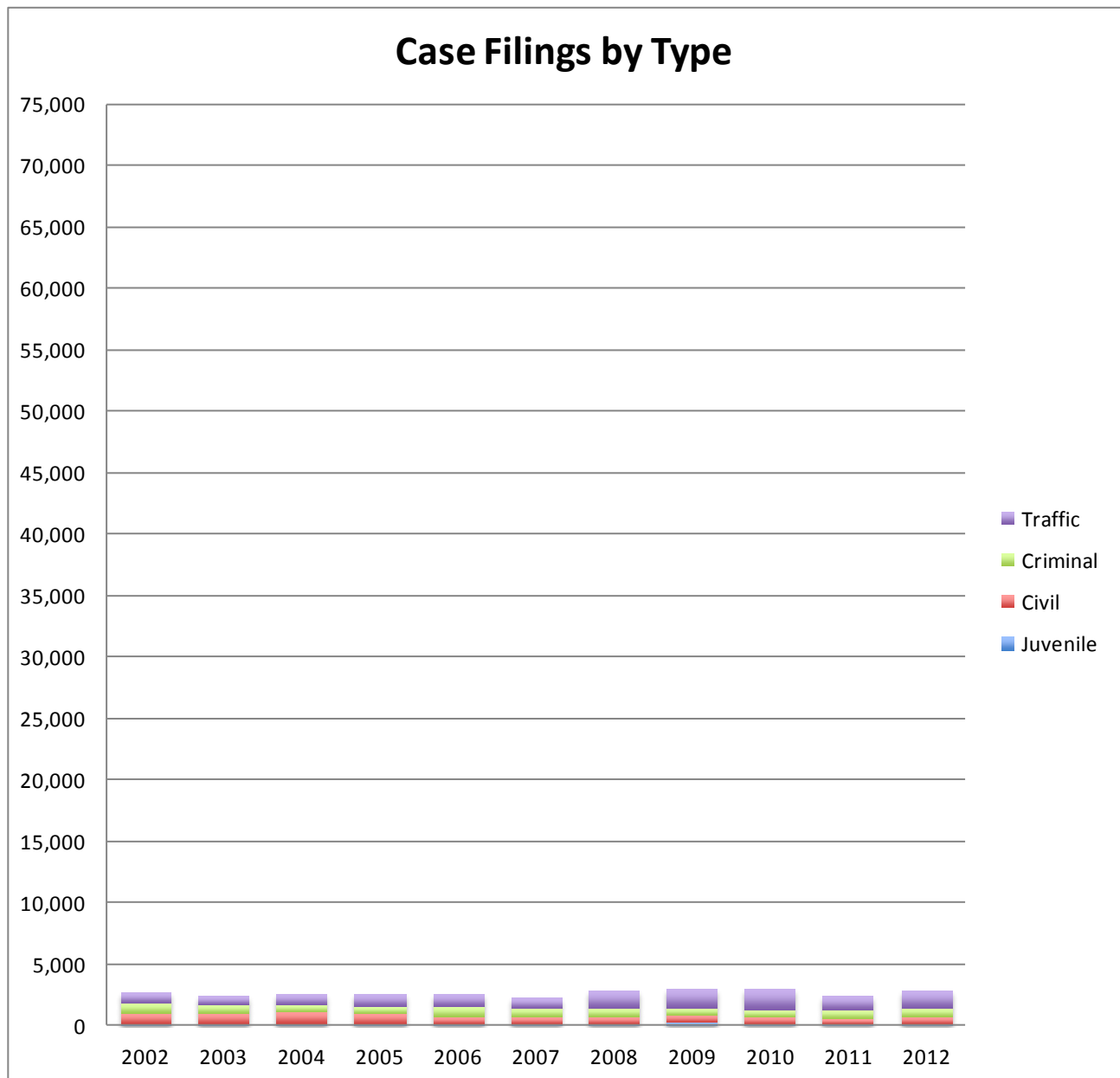


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- One-parish district in north central Louisiana; courthouse located in Winnfield
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Winnfield City Court.



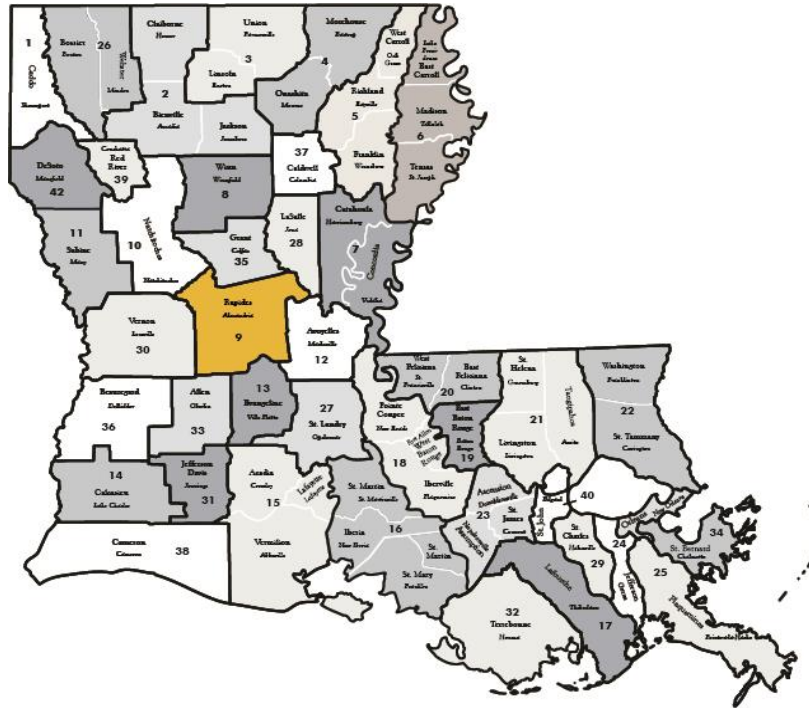
## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



8th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	95	61	83	71	39	36	37	174	50	34	58
Civil	799	827	962	805	629	642	595	605	581	498	513
Criminal	803	745	614	661	755	654	738	616	638	604	800
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	889	727	836	894	1,036	864	1,362	1,457	1,593	1,141	1,402
Total	2,586	2,360	2,495	2,431	2,459	2,196	2,732	2,852	2,862	2,277	2,773
Civil Jury Trials	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	2	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	3	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

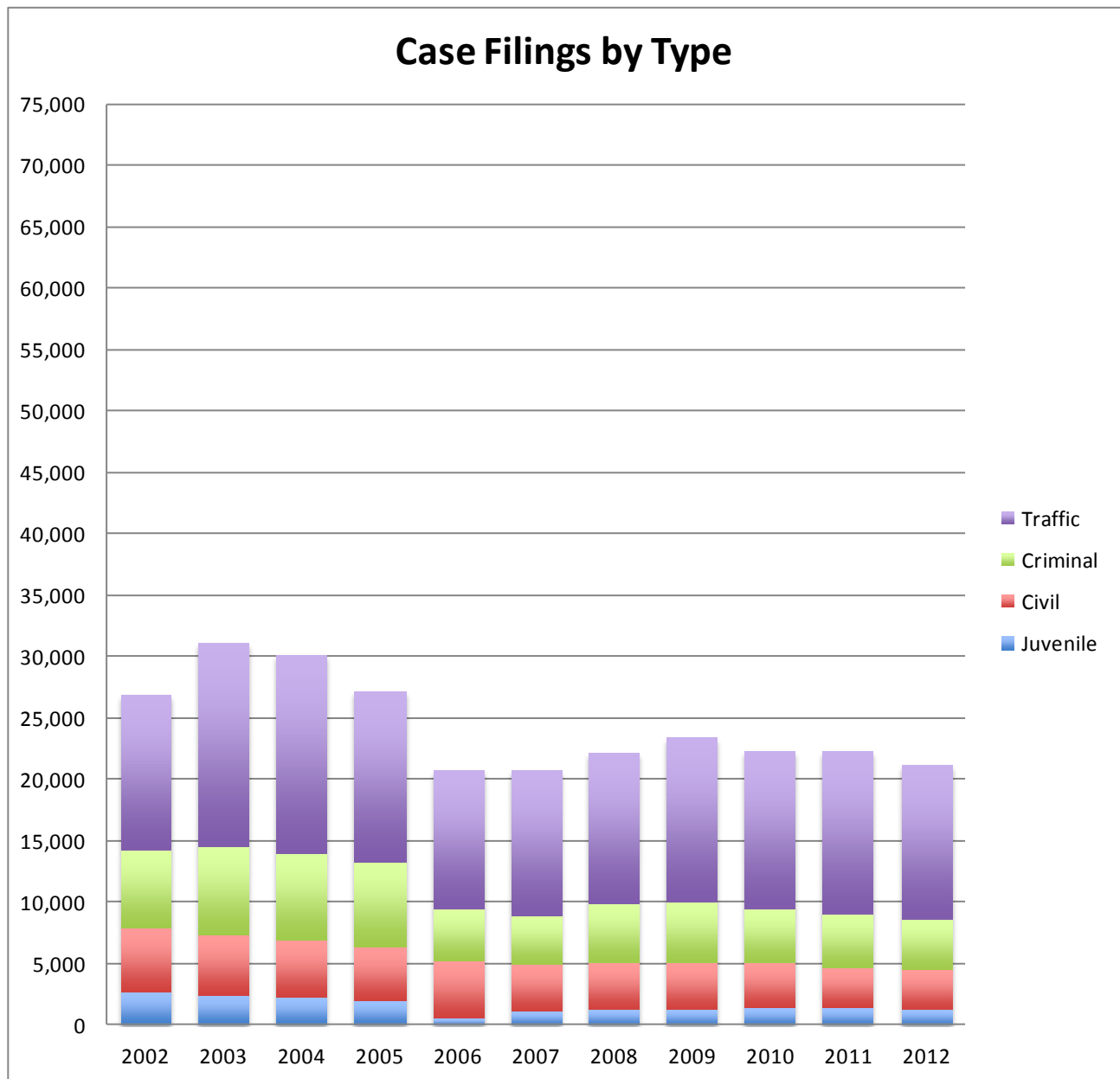
## NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Seven-judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- One-parish district in central Louisiana; courthouse located in Alexandria.
- Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, and a domestic violence misdemeanor court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Alexandria and Pineville city courts.
- Website: <http://www.9thjdc.org/Pages/default.aspx>.

## NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

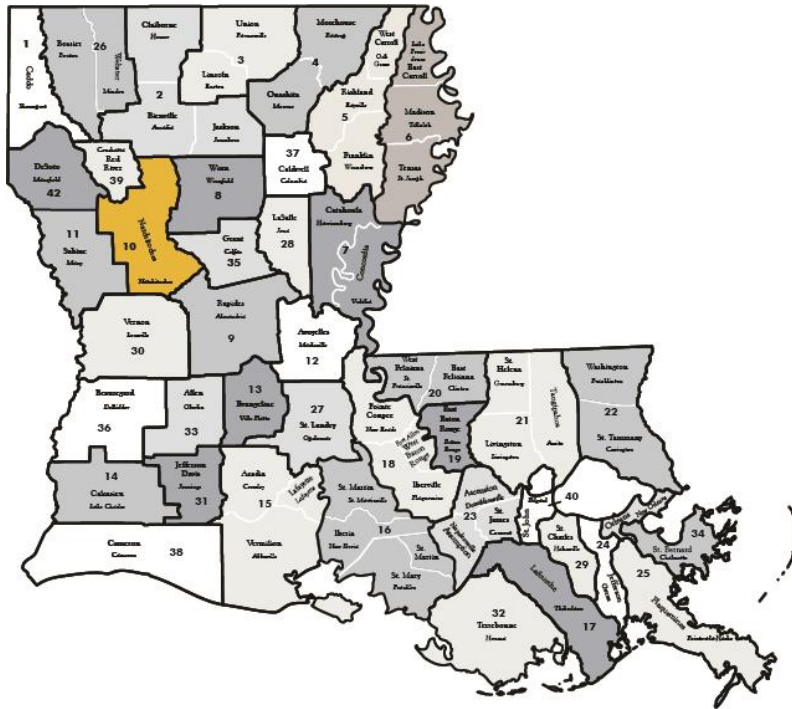


9th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	2,572	2,269	2,152	1,966	439 <sup>i</sup>	999	1,183	1,257	1,344	1,318	1,162
Civil	5,211	4,953	4,650	4,321	4,701	3,806	3,880	3,730	3,708	3,209	3,298
Criminal	6,364	7,181	7,021	6,857	4,299	3,968	4,778	4,999	4,386	4,382	4,068
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	12,685	16,724	16,274	13,960	11,211	11,884	12,260	13,365	12,795	13,260	12,536
Total	26,832	31,127	30,097	27,104	20,650	20,657	22,101	23,351	22,233	22,169	21,064
Civil Jury Trials	5	6	7	3	7	10	5	5	10	4	3
Criminal Jury Trials	20	20	21	25	25	17	14	17	27	17	13

<sup>i</sup> The 2006 juvenile filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

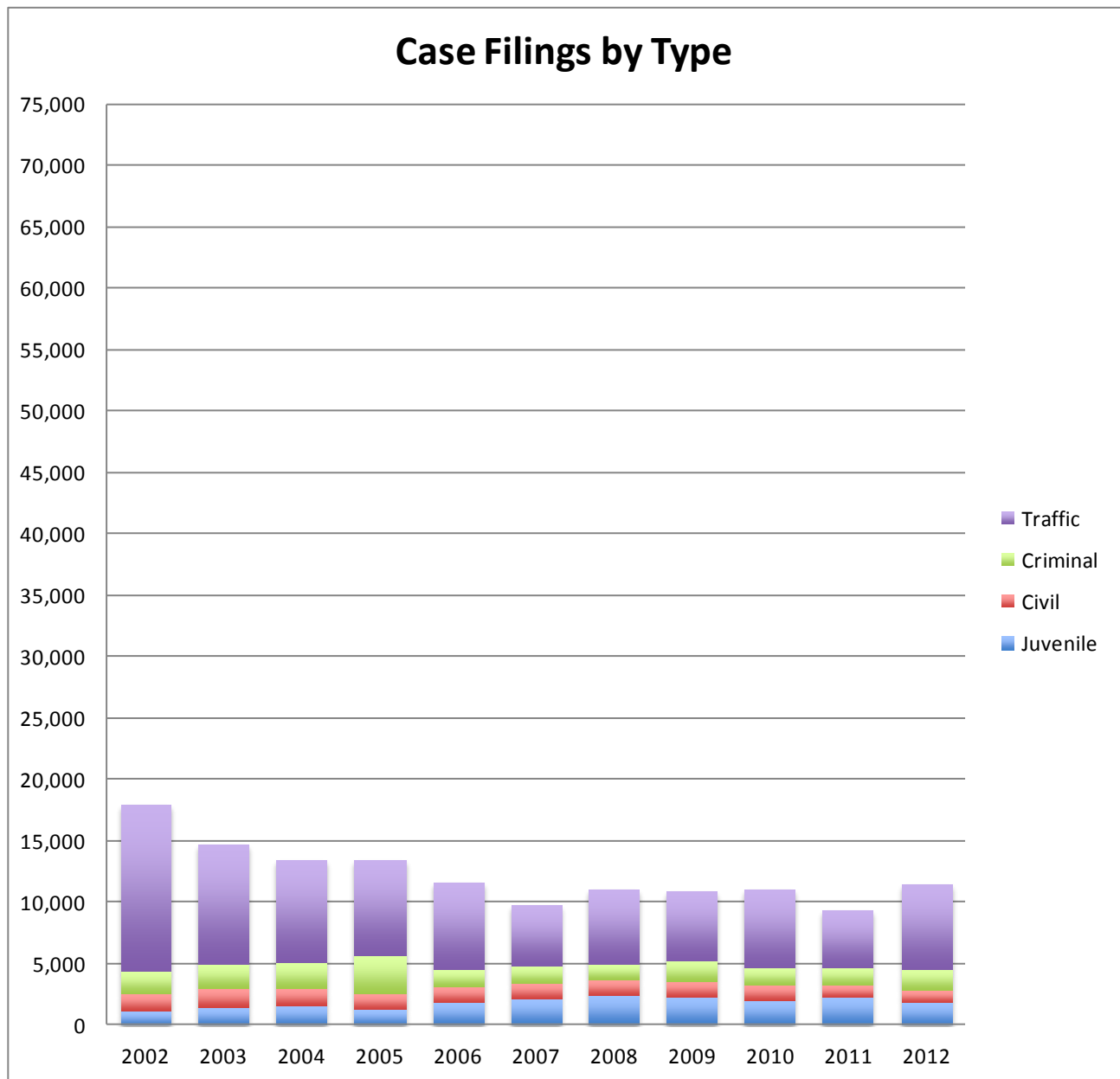
## TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- One-parish district in north central Louisiana; courthouse located in Natchitoches.
- Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Natchitoches City Court.
- Website: <http://10jdc.com/>.

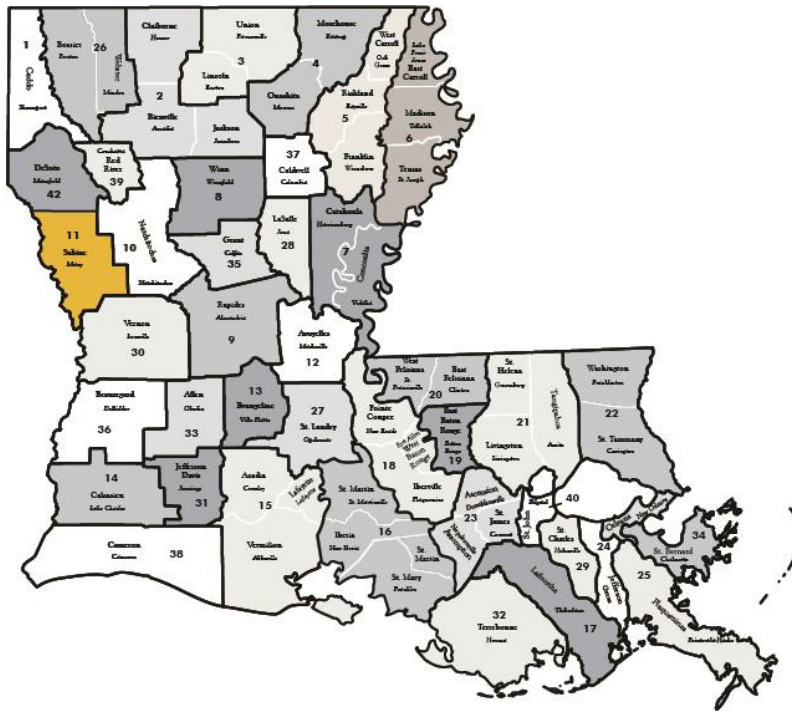
## TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



10th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	1,049	1,388	1,424	1,219	1,818	2,064	2,287	2,167	1,842	2,147	1,764
Civil	1,366	1,510	1,431	1,275	1,259	1,314	1,347	1,355	1,273	1,051	1,010
Criminal	1,913	1,994	2,211	3,079	1,339	1,314	1,260	1,588	1,513	1,370	1,608
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	13,558	9,752	8,203	7,768	7,053	4,959	6,045	5,612	6,281	4,731	6,938
Total	17,886	14,644	13,269	13,341	11,469	9,651	10,939	10,722	10,909	9,299	11,320
Civil Jury Trials	3	1	2	0	2	1	2	2	4	1	1
Criminal Jury Trials	4	6	2	3	7	10	10	3	7	6	4

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

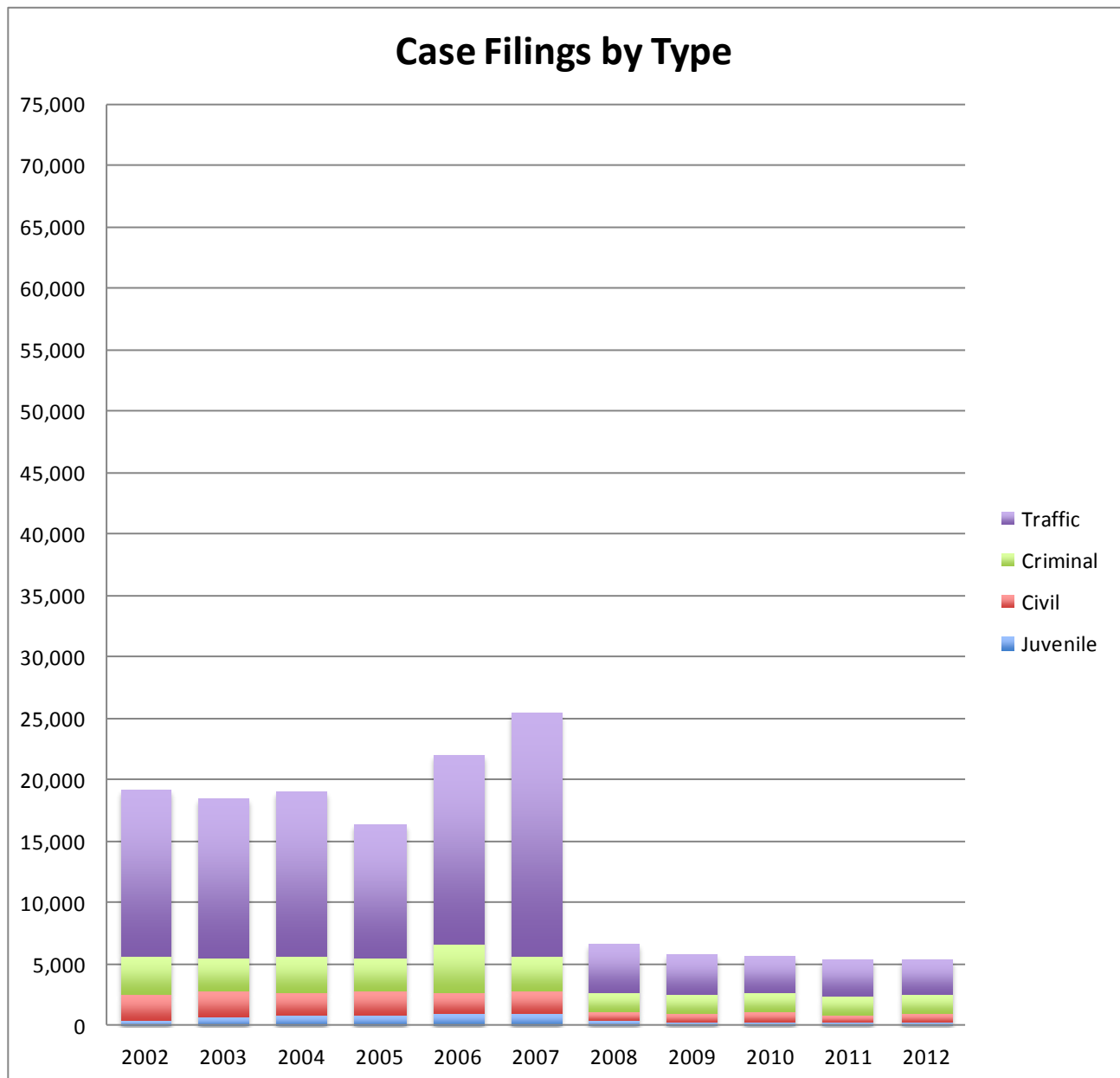
## **ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- One- judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- One-parish district in western Louisiana; courthouse located in Many.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.

## ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

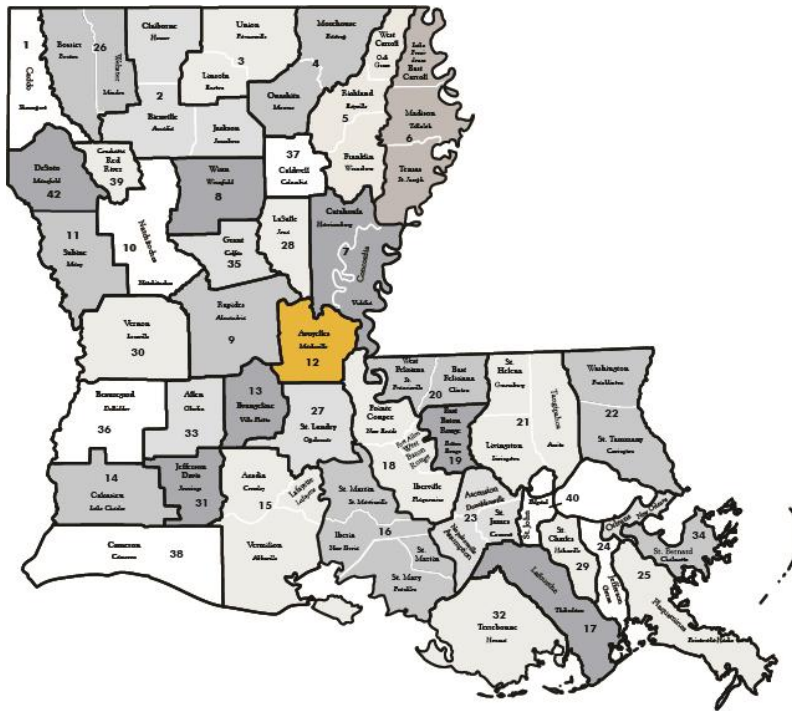


11th JDC <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	378	631	726	768	893	891	287	234	201	180	180
Civil	2,065	2,117	1,913	2,020	1,730	1,833	842	742	795	659	696
Criminal	3,082	2,675	2,971	2,655	3,932	2,805	1,463	1,541	1,593	1,530	1,585
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	13,533	13,018	13,350	10,863	15,328	19,952	3,918	3,239	3,024	2,883	2,789
Total	19,058	18,441	18,960	16,306	21,883	25,481	6,510	5,756	5,613	5,252	5,250
Civil Jury Trials	1	4	1	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	14	14	12	10	12	8	4	0	0	5	3

<sup>i</sup> In 2008 DeSoto parish moved from the 11<sup>th</sup> JDC to the newly created 42<sup>nd</sup> JDC.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

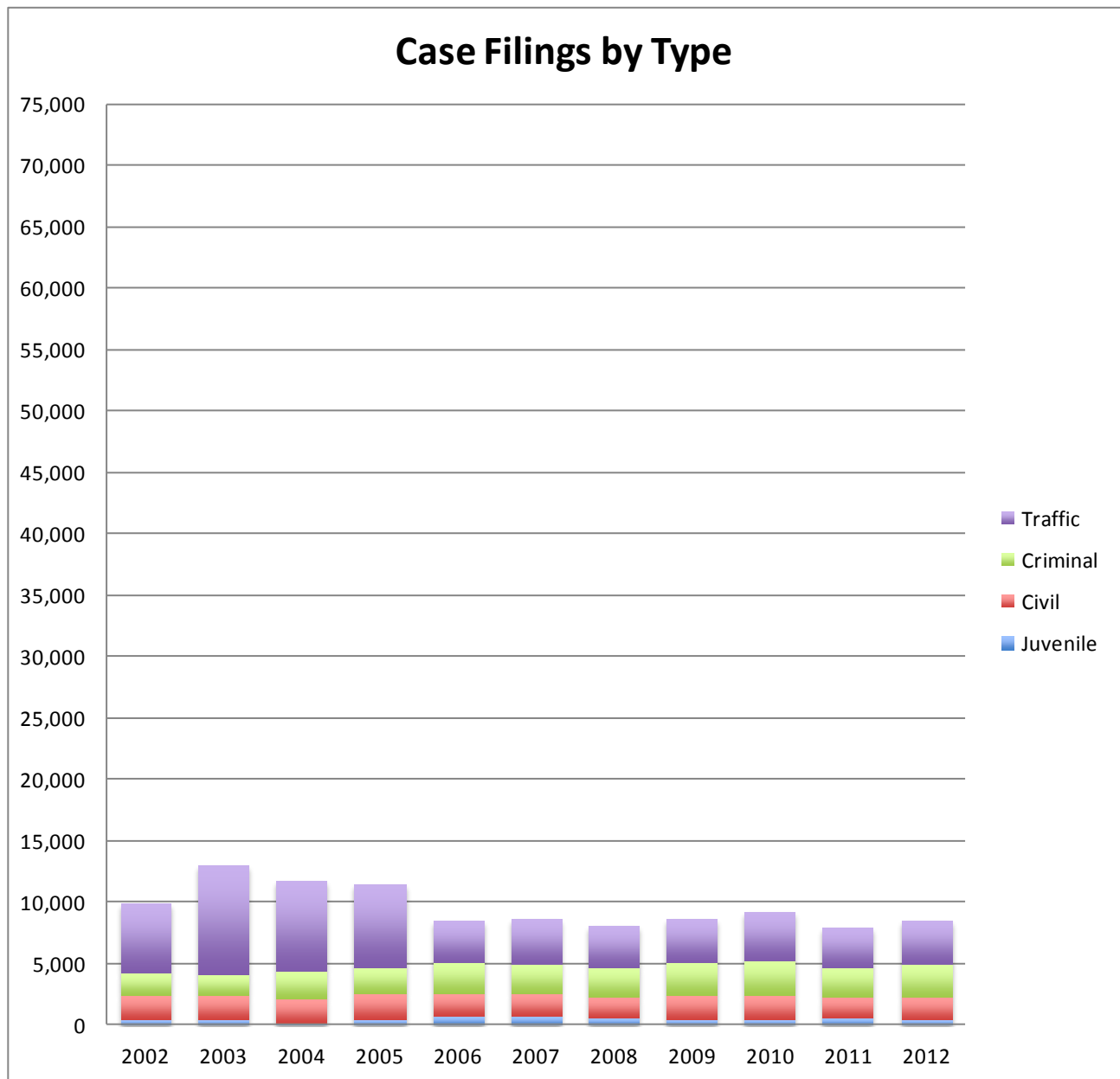


### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One-parish district in east central Louisiana; courthouse located in Marksville.
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Bunkie and Marksville city courts.



## TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

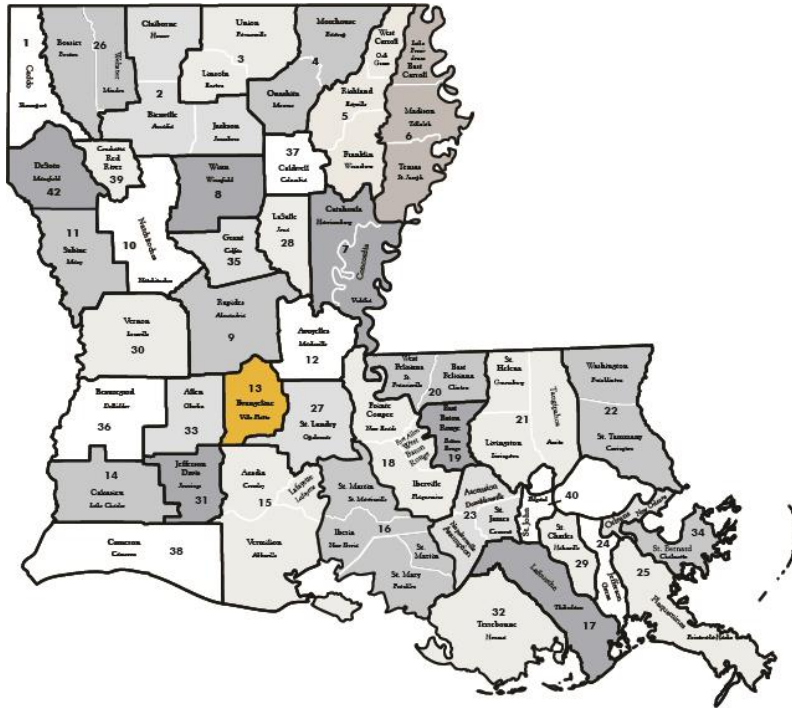


12th JDC	2002	2003	2004 <sup>i</sup>	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	320	318	61	288	662	614	497	417	411	468	422
Civil	1,980	2,028	1,984	2,177	1,859	1,837	1,741	1,965	1,932	1,706	1,751
Criminal	1,877	1,647	2,228	2,105	2,439	2,361	2,301	2,650	2,758	2,342	2,755
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	5,626	8,972	7,295	6,746	3,471	3,779	3,386	3,473	4,055	3,314	3,463
Total	9,803	12,965	11,568	11,316	8,431	8,591	7,925	8,505	9,156	7,830	8,391
Civil Jury Trials	3	1	2	3	2	2	3	1	3	2	2
Criminal Jury Trials	12	7	2	6	8	9	11	16	10	6	2

<sup>i</sup> The 2004 filing data for Avoyelles parish reflects updated totals received after publication of the 2004 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

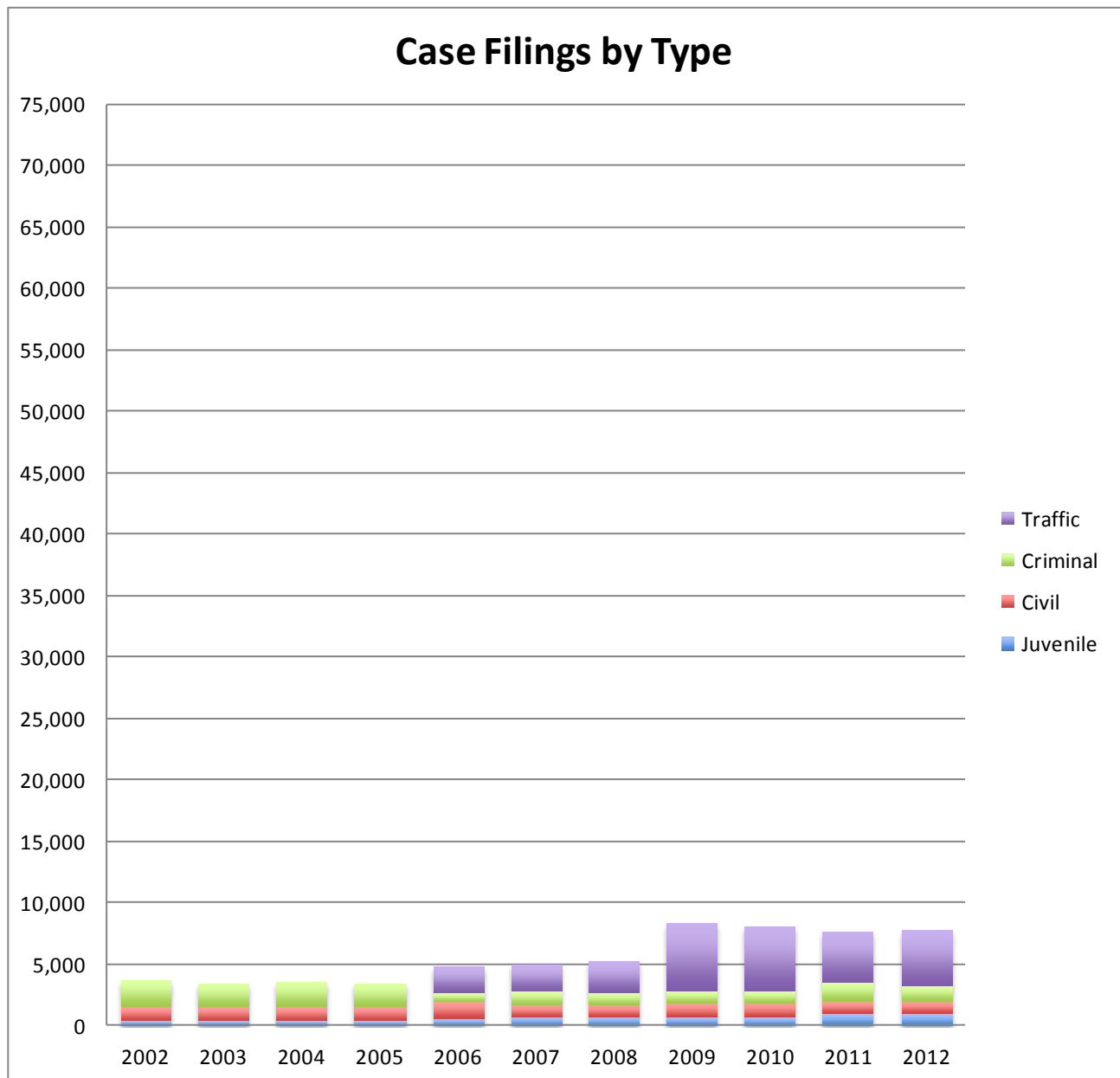
## THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One-parish district in central Louisiana; courthouse located in Ville Platte.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Ville Platte City Court.

## THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



13th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	349	296	328	347	560 <sup>i</sup>	580	577	590	619	922	907
Civil	1,173	1,181	1,192	1,141	1,294 <sup>ii</sup>	1,040	1,102	1,131	1,149	1,003	934
Criminal	2,039	1,834	1,973	1,826	823	1,104	991	1,022	949	1,467	1,379
Traffic <sup>iii, iv</sup>	0	0	0	0	2,112	2,173	2,421	5,449	5,233	4,219	4,476
Total	3,561	3,311	3,493	3,314	4,789	4,897	5,091	8,192	7,950	7,611	7,696
Civil Jury Trials	1	2	0	1	2	2	1	0	1	1	0
Criminal Jury Trials	3	4	6	4	6	5	7	5	7	7	3

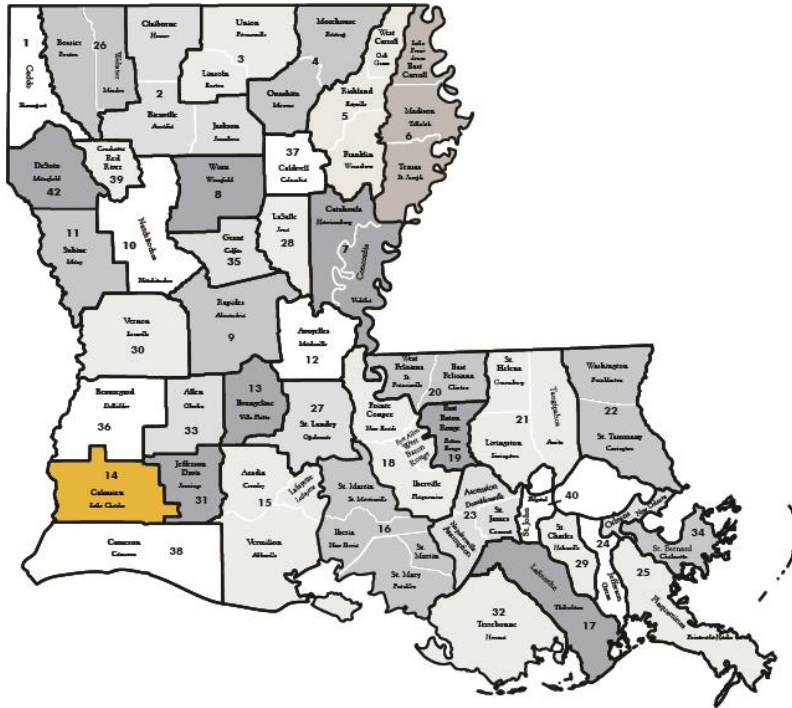
<sup>i</sup> The 2006 juvenile filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2006 civil filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>iv</sup> This court was unable to separate traffic from criminal filing from 2002-2005.

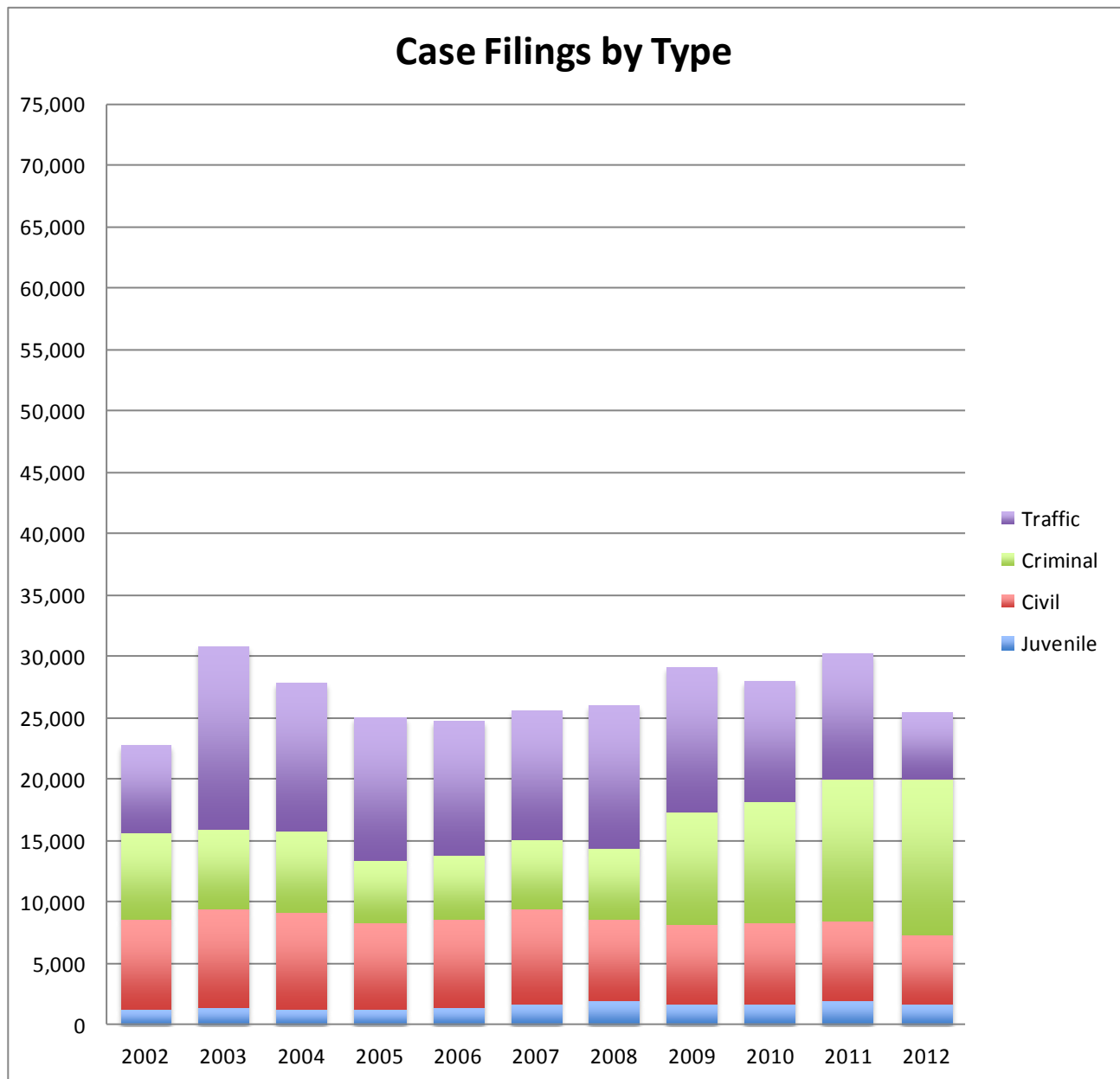
## **FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Nine-judge court.
- Two domestic/family hearing officers.
- One-parish district in southwestern Louisiana; courthouse located in Lake Charles.
- Operates adult and juvenile drug courts, a DWI court, adult and juvenile mental health courts, a truancy court, and a Teen Court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Lake Charles and Sulphur city courts.
- Website: <http://14jdc.org/>

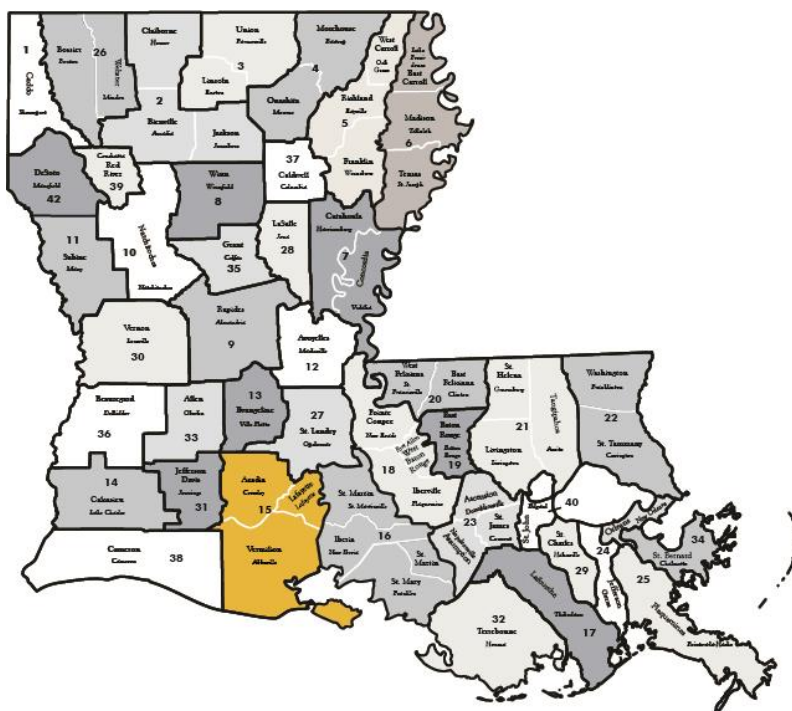
## FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



14th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	1,213	1,373	1,228	1,190	1,404	1,636	1,865	1,631	1,621	1,852	1,565
Civil	7,267	8,015	7,825	7,127	7,059	7,676	6,726	6,420	6,572	6,508	5,758
Criminal	7,130	6,505	6,735	5,050	5,221	5,677	5,712	9,159	9,978	11,585	12,692
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	7,186	14,867	12,119	11,650	11,028	10,645	11,652	11,924	9,870	10,303	5,390
Total	22,796	30,760	27,907	25,017	24,712	25,634	25,955	29,134	28,041	30,248	25,405
Civil Jury Trials	32	26	25	15	20	18	7	21	17	14	11
Criminal Jury Trials	16	18	15	10	20	16	13	15	19	15	13

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

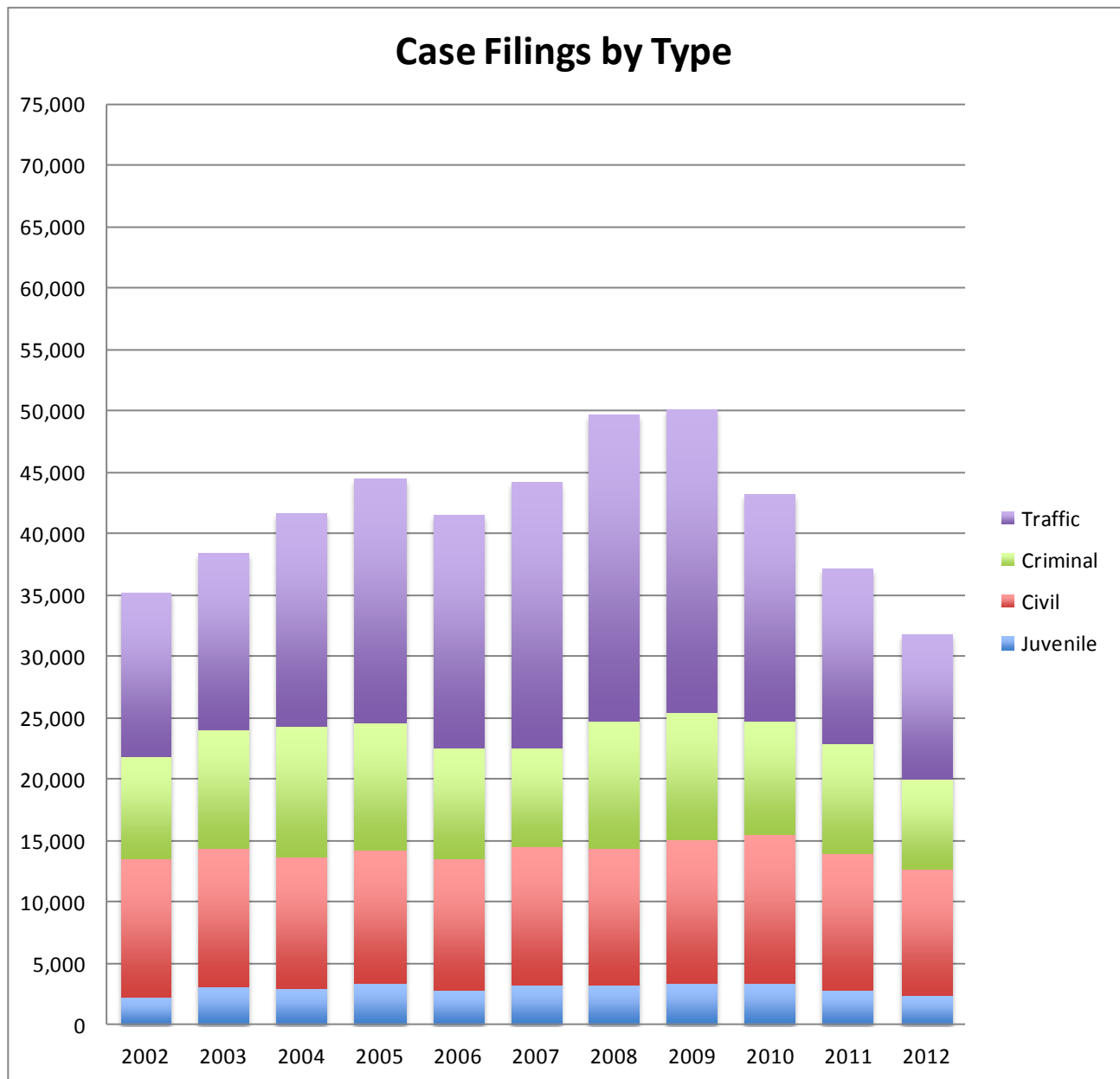
## FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick Facts:

- 13-judge court.
- 5 hearing officers hear certain civil/domestic and criminal matter.
- Three-parish district in south Louisiana; courthouses located in Crowley, Lafayette, and Abbeville.
- Operates adult and juvenile drug courts, a family preservation court, and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Abbeville, Crowley, Kaplan, and Lafayette city courts.
- Website: <http://15thjdc.org/site.php>.

## FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

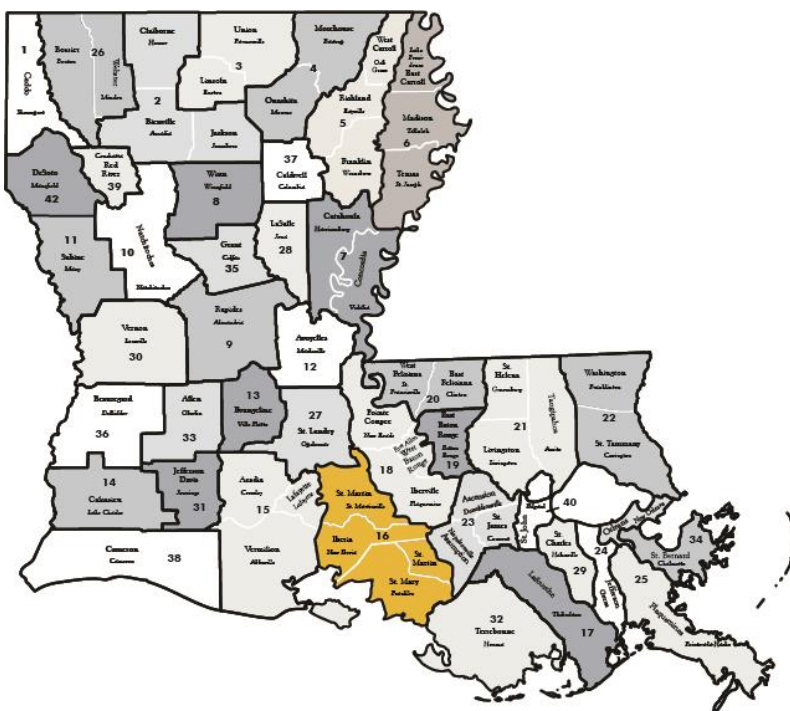


15th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	2,241	2,963	2,896	3,286	2,803	3,156	3,234	3,360	3,368	2,814	2,374
Civil	11,245	11,347	10,770	10,829	10,677	11,239	11,045	11,693	12,069	11,107	10,181
Criminal <sup>i</sup>	8,335	9,774	10,638	10,492	9,053	8,059	10,502	10,421	9,360	9,033	7,393
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	13,416	14,294	17,360	19,904	19,015	21,803	24,910	24,673	18,457	14,216	11,887
Total	35,237	38,378	41,664	44,511	41,548	44,257	49,691	50,147	43,254	37,170	31,835
Civil Jury Trials	34	33	26	14	29	20	16	12	19	17	16
Criminal Jury Trials	16	22	22	12	23	20	24	26	22	26	40

<sup>i</sup> For the years 2007 -2010, criminal filings for Lafayette parish denotes the number of defendants, not the number of cases filed.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

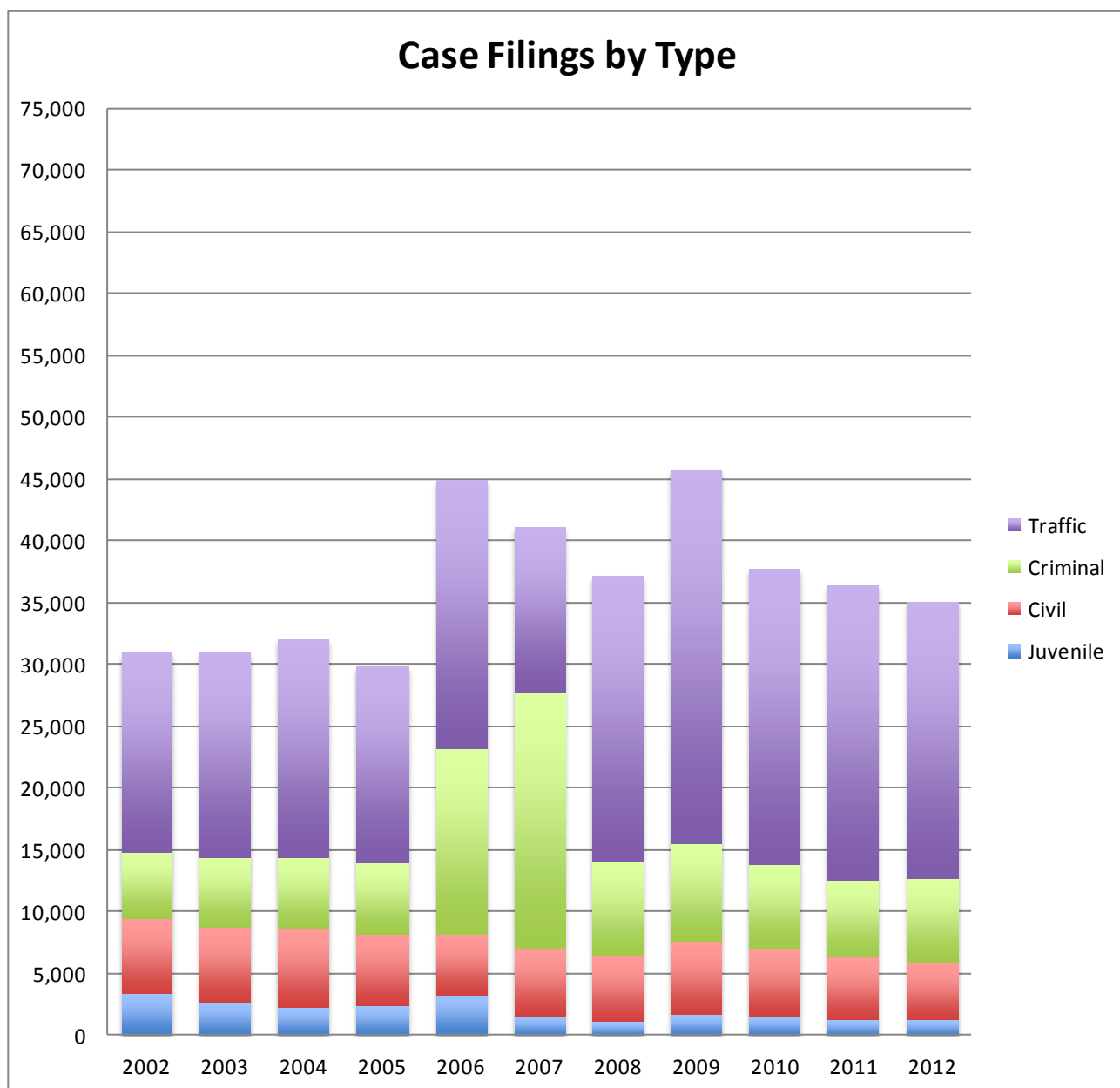


### Quick facts:

- Eight-judge court.
- Three family/domestic hearing officers.
- Three-parish district; courthouses located in New Iberia, St. Martinville, and Franklin.
- Operates adult and juvenile drug courts, a DWI court, re-entry courts, juvenile delinquent docket, and child in need of care docket.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Breaux Bridge, Franklin, Jeanerette, Morgan City, and New Iberia city courts.



## SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



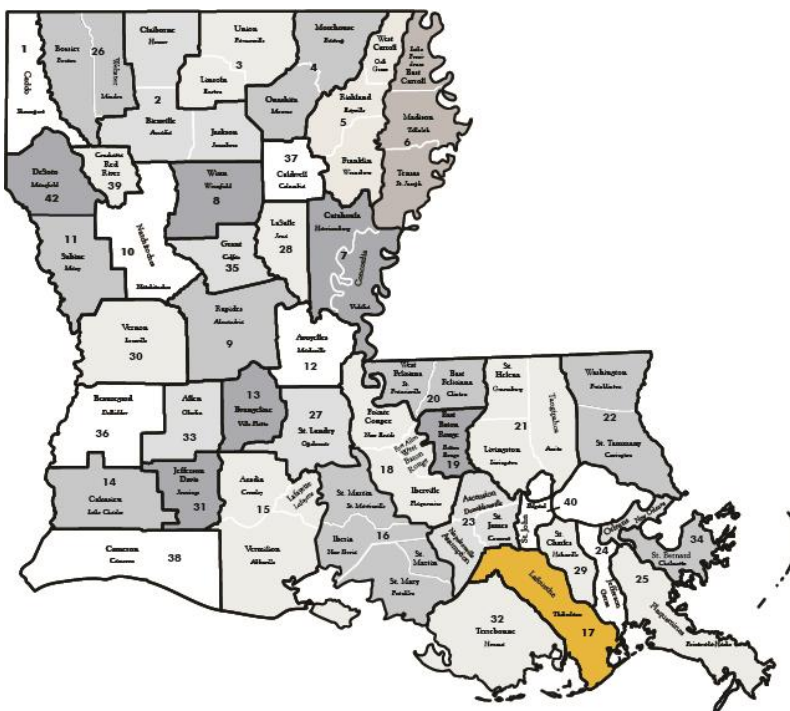
16th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	3,326	2,613	2,220	2,310	3,152	1,509	1,003 <sup>i</sup>	1,588	1,419	1,190	1,194
Civil	5,985	6,080	6,328	5,762	4,985	5,517 <sup>ii</sup>	5,458	5,932	5,568	5,079	4,684
Criminal <sup>iii</sup>	5,423	5,597	5,737	5,823	15,096	20,692	7,560	7,880	6,772	6,144	6,694
Traffic	16,270	16,606	17,760	15,885	21,682	13,364	23,108	30,382	23,938	24,001	22,514
Total	31,004	30,896	32,045	29,780	44,915	41,082	37,129	45,782	37,697	36,414	35,086
Civil Jury Trials	20	9	15	7	14	4	10	11	8	8	9
Criminal Jury Trials	27	24	41	35	39	24	17	27	19	22	14

<sup>i</sup> In 2008, St Martin parish entered their juvenile numbers incorrectly into the new case management system. As a result, these numbers will have to be correct on a case by case basis.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2007 civil filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2007 annual report

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

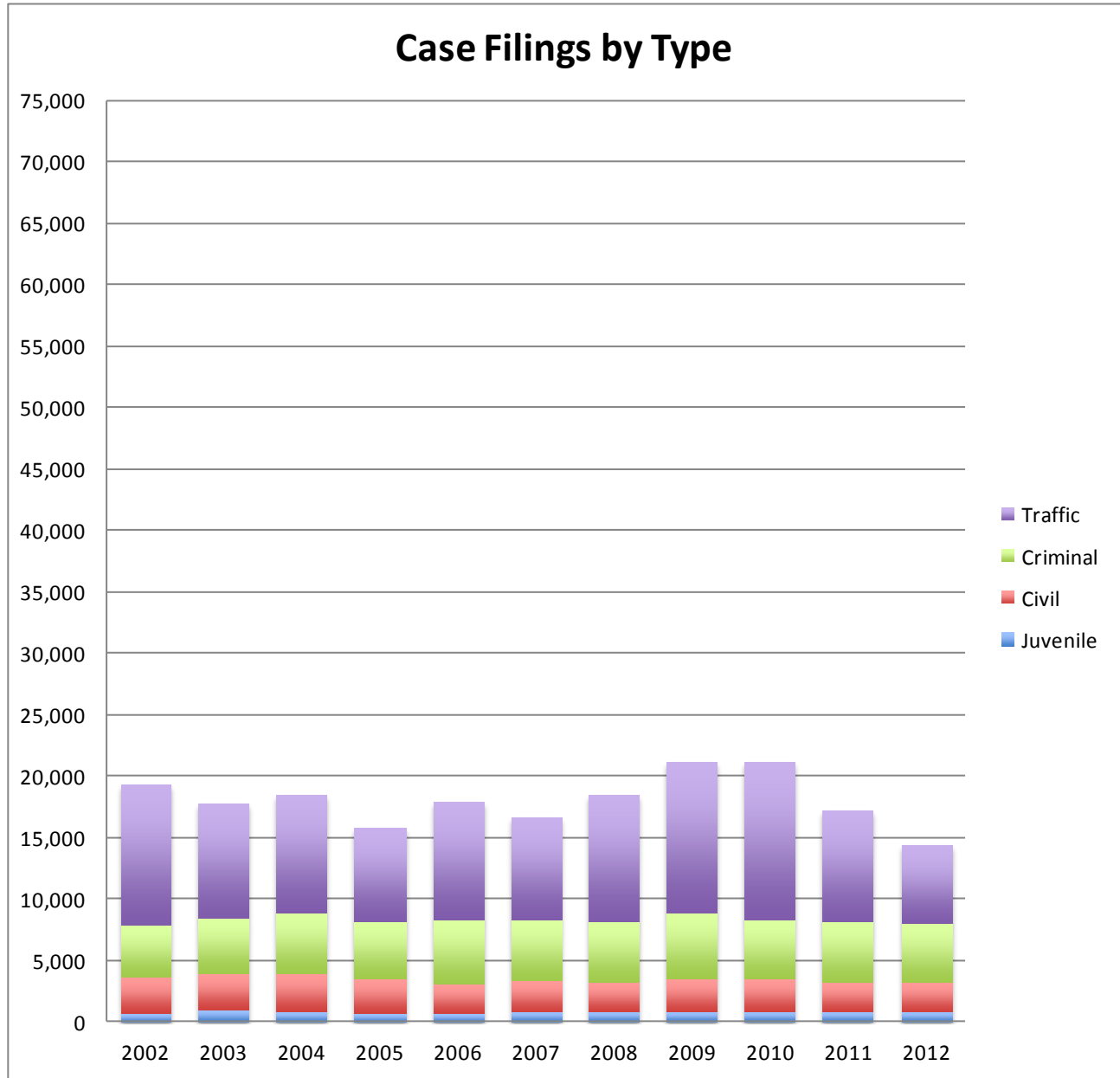
## SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Five-judge court.
- One-parish district in south Louisiana; courthouse located in Thibodaux.
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Thibodaux City Court.
- Website: <http://www.17thjdc.com/>.

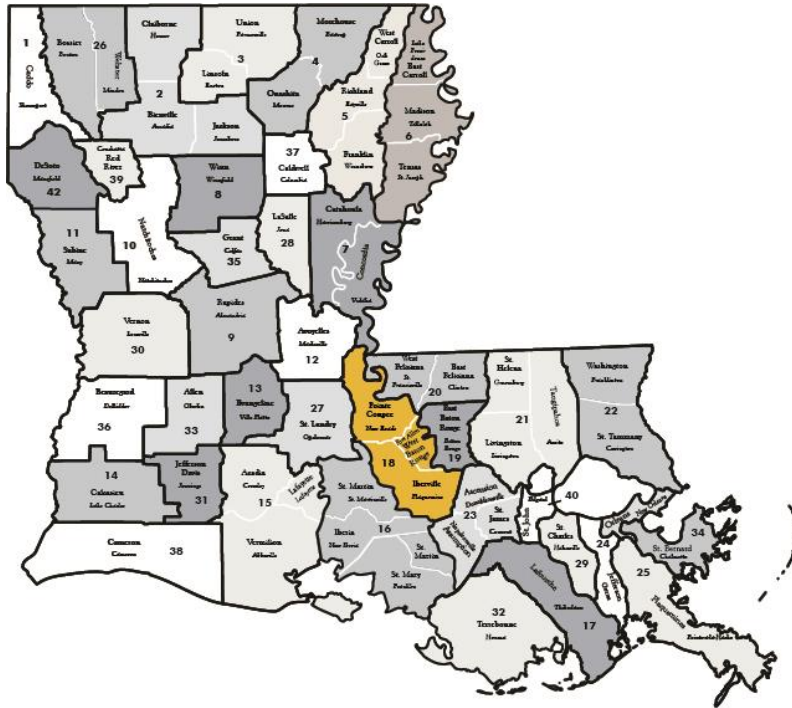
## SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



17th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	601	874	754	700	630	818	751	781	759	777	727
Civil	2,943	3,032	3,079	2,731	2,461	2,494	2,462	2,728	2,670	2,423	2,430
Criminal	4,250	4,547	5,024	4,648	5,164	5,004	4,943	5,304	4,806	4,952	4,771
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	11,451	9,271	9,515	7,693	9,647	8,277	10,260	12,212	12,819	9,029	6,355
Total	19,245	17,724	18,372	15,772	17,902	16,593	18,416	21,025	21,054	17,181	14,283
Civil Jury Trials	7	6	7	8	5	4	2	5	2	1	4
Criminal Jury Trials	6	8	10	9	11	5	5	11	7	12	6

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

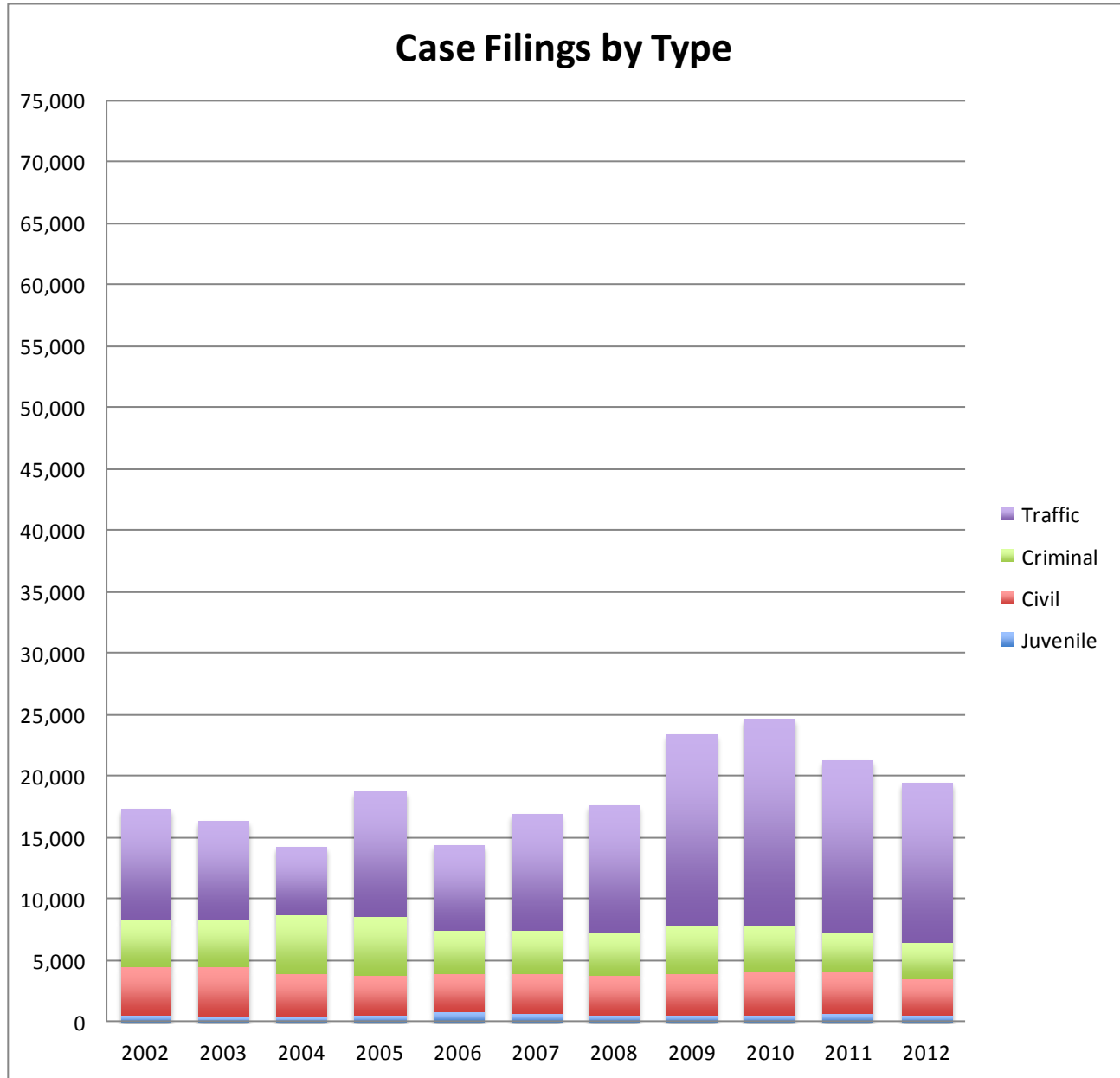
## **EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Four- judge court.
- One domestic/family hearing officer.
- Three-parish district in south Louisiana.
- Courthouses located in Plaquemine, New Roads, and Port Allen
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Plaquemine and Port Allen city courts.
- Website: <http://www.18thjdc.com/>.

## EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



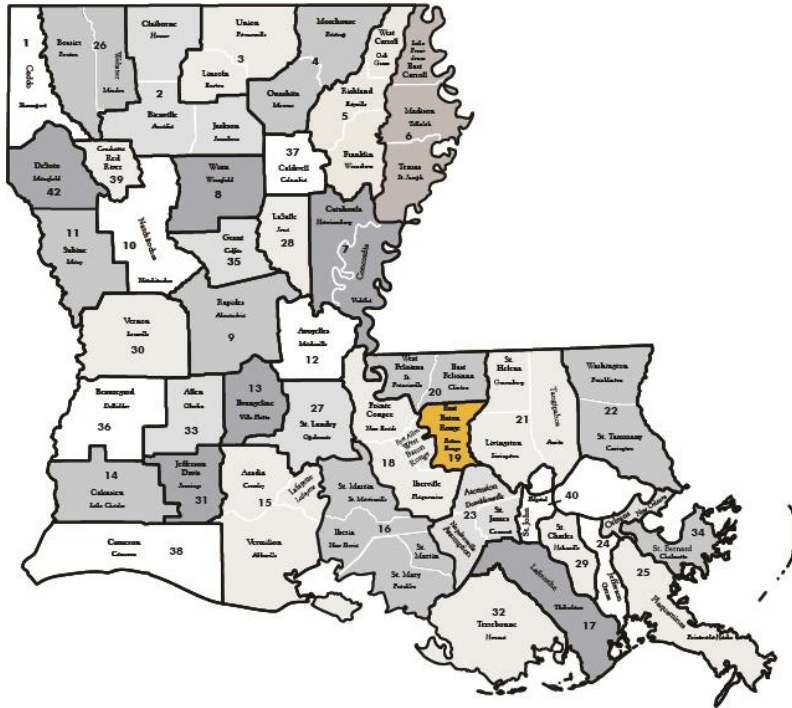
18th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 <sup>i</sup>	2007	2008	2009 <sup>ii</sup>	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	461	333	346	495	816	706	521	540	507	602	458
Civil	3,989	4,047	3,566	3,252	2,993	3,185	3,286	3,379	3,476	3,364	2,974
Criminal	3,728	3,808	4,746	4,789	3,569	3,515	3,488	3,902	3,788	3,364	2,956
Traffic <sup>iii</sup>	9,133	8,123	5,486	10,117	6,992	9,493	10,289	15,547	16,768	13,861	13,004
Total	17,311	16,311	14,144	18,653	14,370	16,899	17,584	23,368	24,539	21,191	19,392
Civil Jury Trials	14	11	9	9	8	11	4	6	8	6	5
Criminal Jury Trials	9	9	9	3	11	8	3	10	5	10	5

<sup>i</sup> The 2006 juvenile, civil, and criminal filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2009 civil, criminal, and traffic filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2009 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

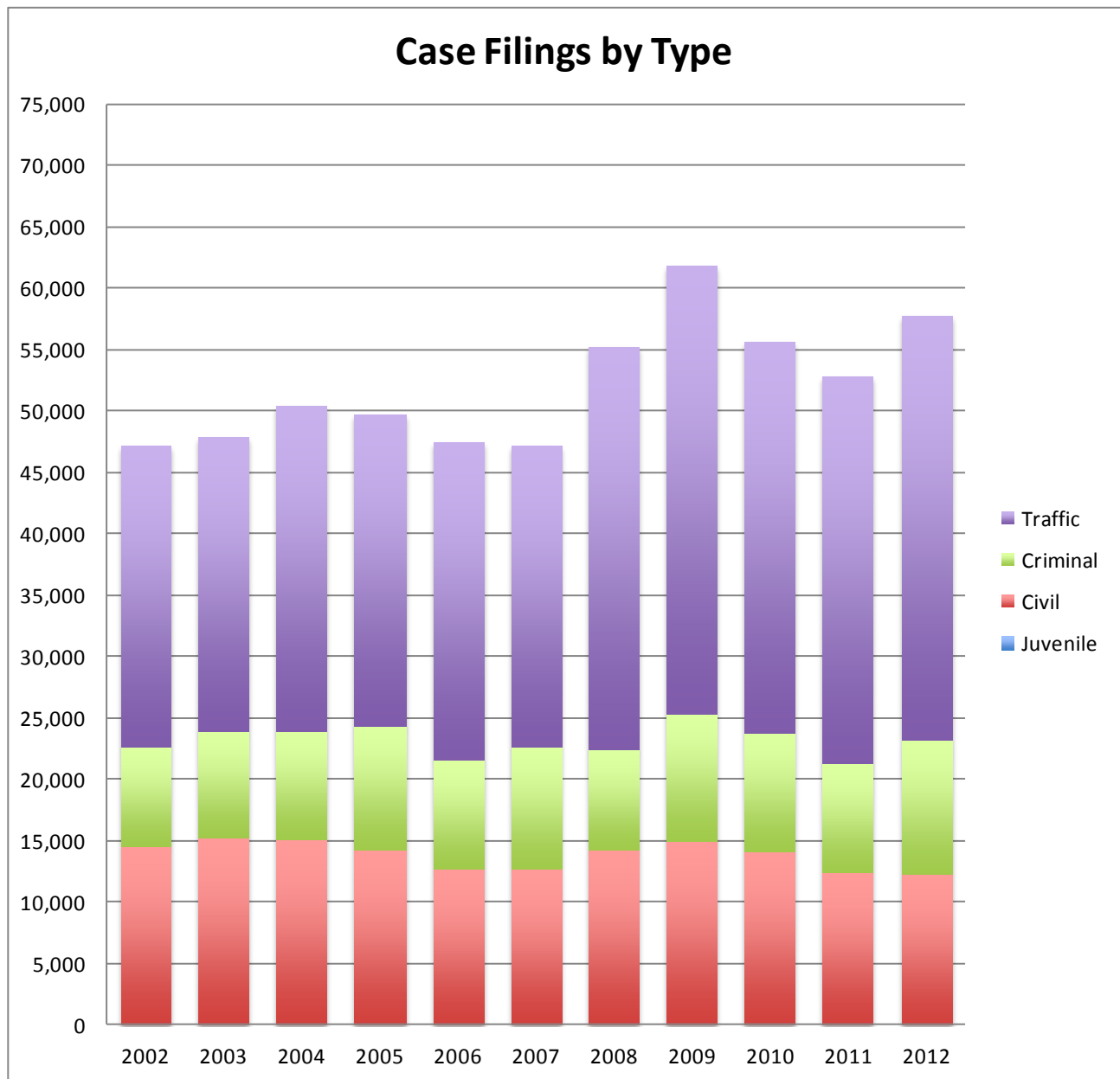
## NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- 15-judge court.
- Two commissioners.
- One-parish district in south Louisiana; courthouse located in Baton Rouge.
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil and misdemeanor criminal jurisdiction with Baker, Baton Rouge, and Zachary city courts.
- Has no jurisdiction over family matters, domestic violence, or juvenile matters. Juvenile jurisdiction is vested exclusively in East Baton Rouge Juvenile Court. Jurisdiction over divorce and related matters and domestic violence is vested exclusively in East Baton Rouge Family Court.
- Website: <http://idc.gozonehosting.com/>.

## NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

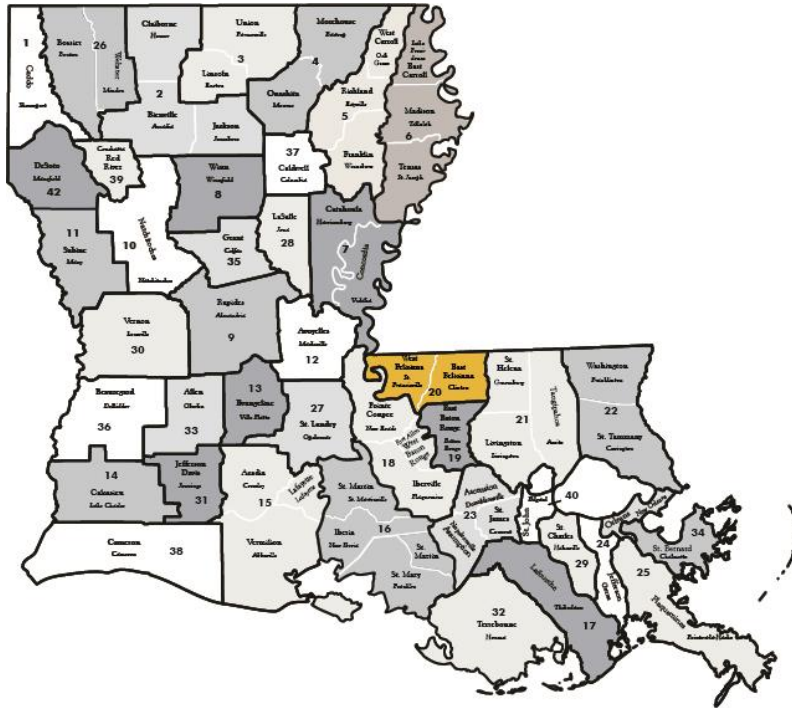


19th JDC <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil	14,493	15,221	15,026	14,180	12,635	12,575	14,109	14,909	14,065	12,363	12,158
Criminal	8,094	8,655	8,870	10,186	8,896	10,005	8,293	10,377	9,631	8,876	11,045
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	24,509	23,976	26,452	25,379	25,845	24,534	32,801	36,561	31,943	31,531	34,560
Total	47,096	47,852	50,348	49,745	47,376	47,114	55,203	61,847	55,639	52,770	57,763
Civil Jury Trials	44	49	50	44	41	30	23	24	35	58	37
Criminal Jury Trials	42	58	37	51	43	46	37	35	38	50	45

<sup>i</sup> Violations of Traffic, Misdemeanors and/or Juvenile/Family Laws are processed by Parish, City, and or Juvenile/Family Courts.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

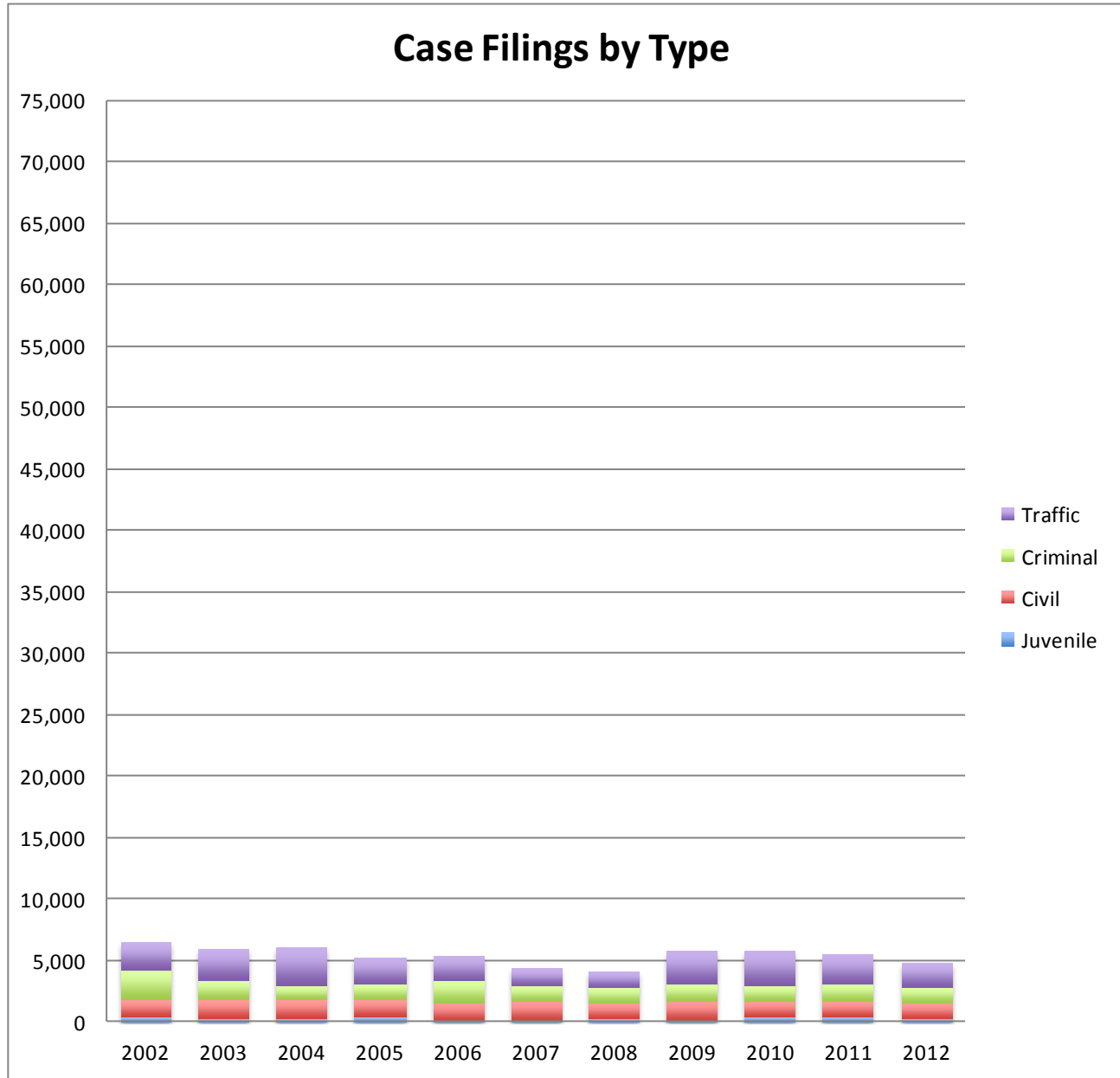


### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- Two-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouses located in Clinton and St. Francisville.
- Operates a mental health court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.



## TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



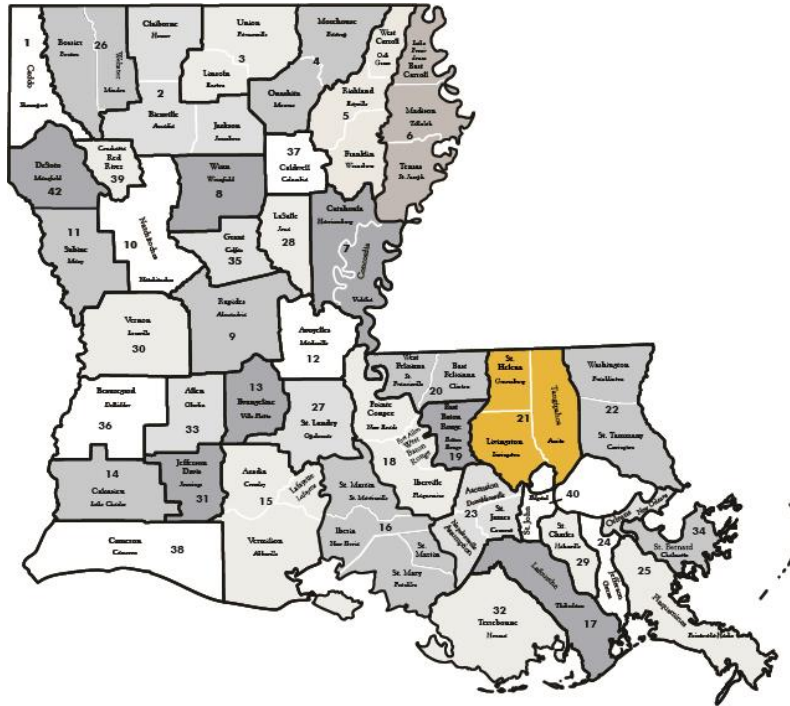
20th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	404	272	257	386	86	126	201	99	297 <sup>i</sup>	288	226
Civil	1,405	1,530	1,447	1,428	1,460	1,477	1,264	1,546	1,380	1,346	1,299
Criminal	2,374	1,498	1,257	1,152	1,754	1,302	1,232	1,338	1,285	1,429	1,243
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	2,298 <sup>iii</sup>	2,618	3,036	2,197	1,960	1,409	1,335	2,748	2,679	2,416	1,937
Total	6,481	5,918	5,997	5,163	5,260	4,314	4,032	5,731	5,641	5,479	4,705
Civil Jury Trials	1	2	3	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	2
Criminal Jury Trials	14	6	8	10	5	8	4	8	8	2	10

<sup>i</sup> The 2010 juvenile filings data for East Feliciana parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2010 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>iii</sup> In 2002 West Feliciana parish was unable to separate traffic from criminal filings.

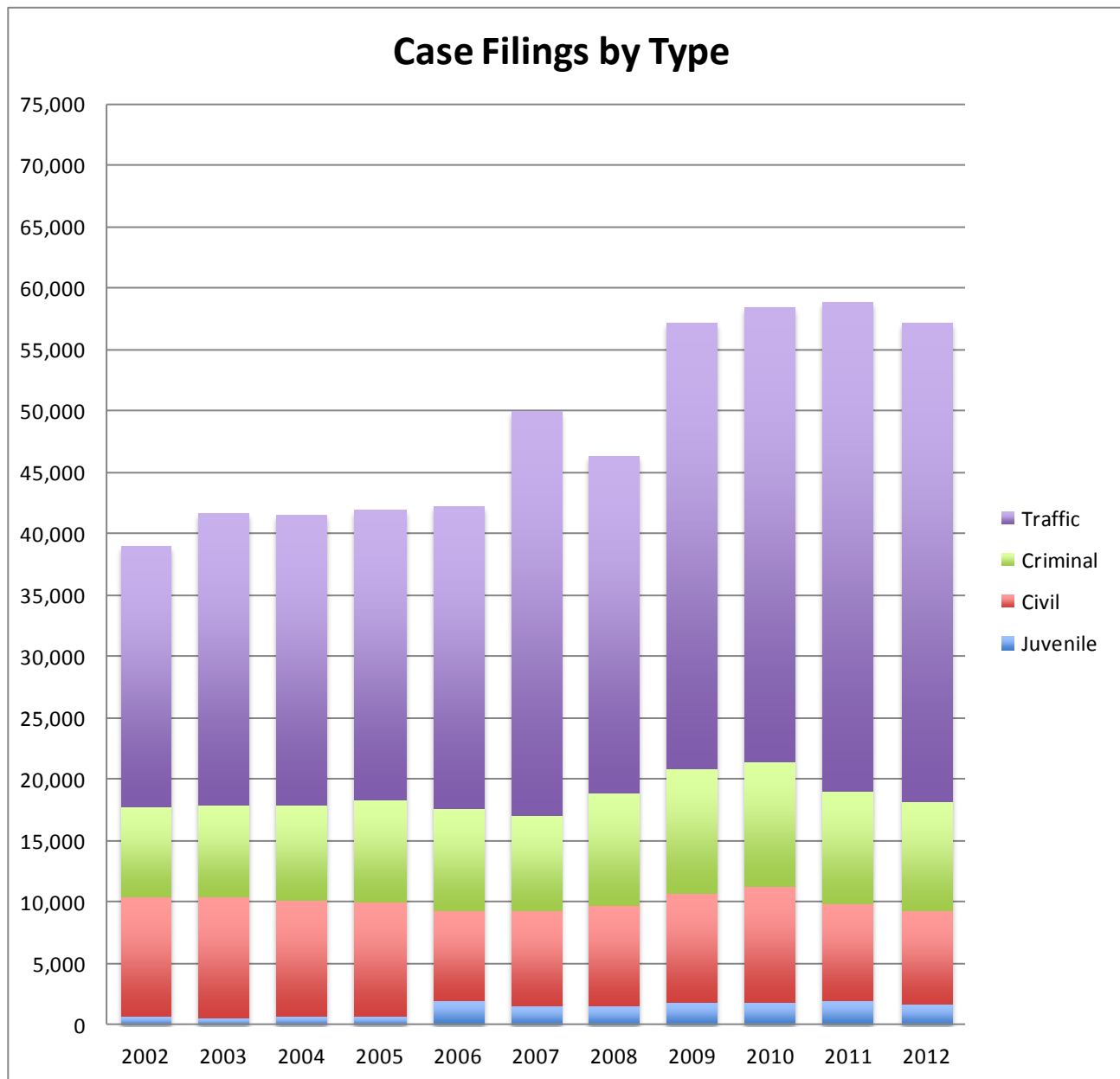
## TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Nine-judge court.
- Three-parish district in southeast Louisiana.
- Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, and a truancy court.
- Courthouses located in Livingston, Greenburg, and Amite.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Denham Springs and Hammond city courts.
- Website: [www.21stjdc.org](http://www.21stjdc.org)

## TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



21st JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 <sup>i</sup>	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	652	565	615	663	1,878	1,415	1,518	1,769	1,824	1,848	1,586
Civil	9,698	9,737 <sup>ii</sup>	9,456	9,290	7,395	7,798	8,188	8,836 <sup>i</sup>	9,429	8,016	7,681
Criminal	7,274	7,497	7,738	8,232	8,327	7,817	9,104	10,214 <sup>i</sup>	10,104	9,162	8,856
Traffic <sup>iii</sup>	21,303	23,857 <sup>iv</sup>	23,694	23,719	24,643	32,902	27,440	36,346	37,063	39,785	38,981
Total	38,927	41,656	41,503	41,904	42,243	49,932	46,250	57,165	58,420	58,811	57,104
Civil Jury Trials	13	11	16	11	13	10	7	4	8	3	10
Criminal Jury Trials	17	28	25	28	29	25	22	19	19	17	15

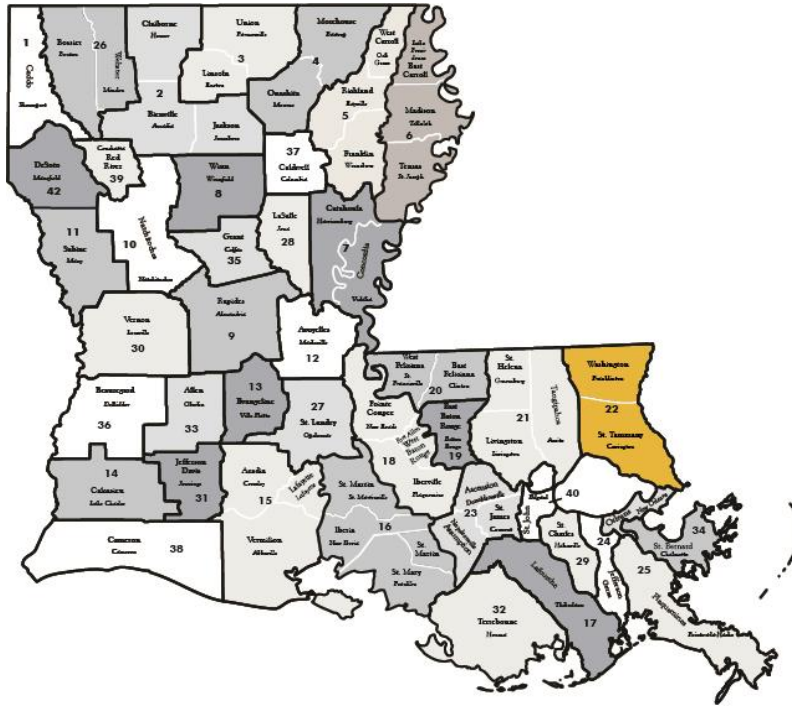
<sup>i</sup> The 2009 civil and criminal filing data for St. Helena parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2009 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2003 civil filing data for Livingston parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2003 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>iv</sup> The 2003 traffic filing data for St. Helena parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2003 annual report.

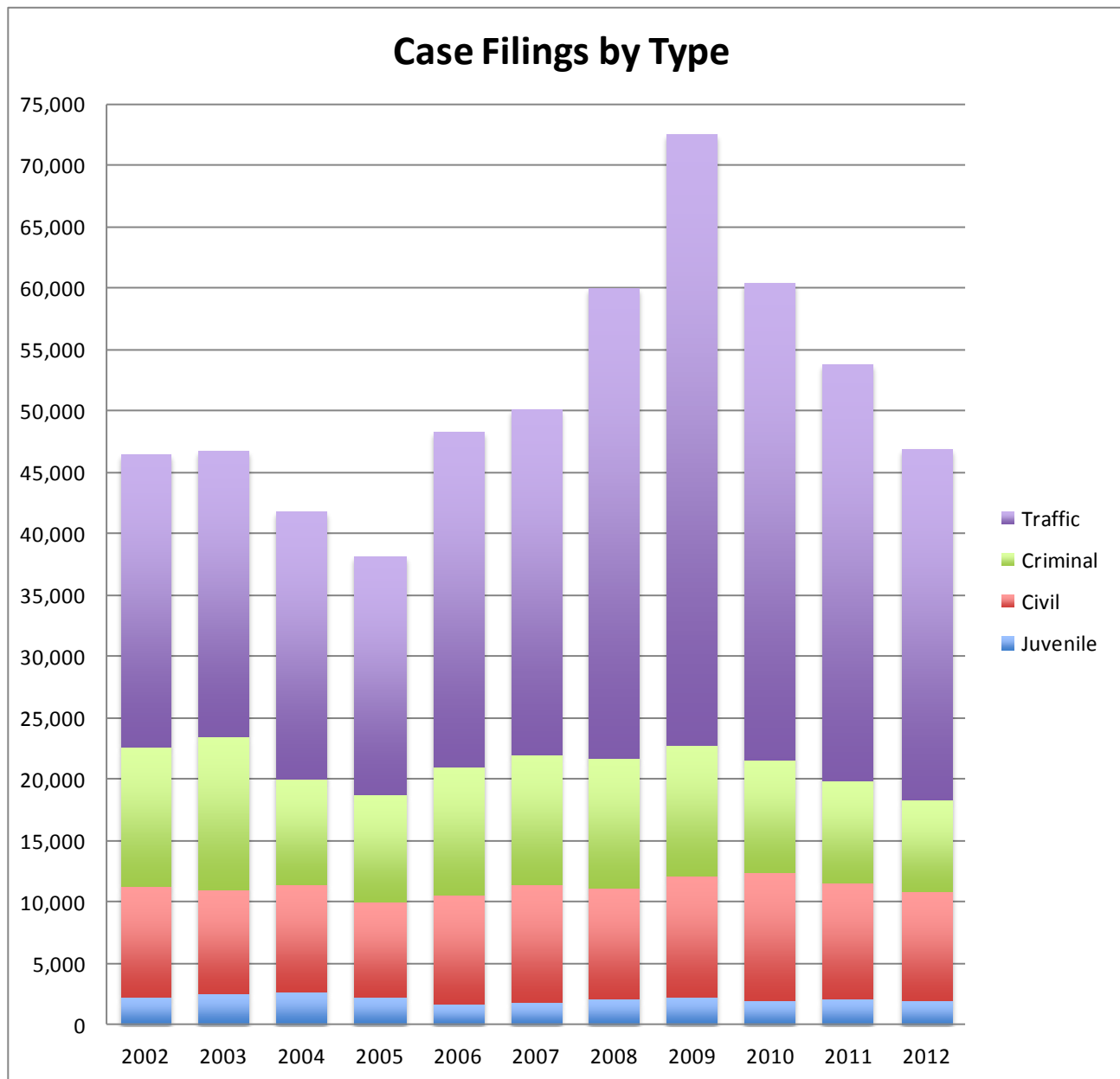
## TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Twelve-judge court.
- Two-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouses located in Covington and Franklinton.
- One criminal hearing officer; four family law hearing officers.
- Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, a mental health court, a DWI court, a family preservation court, and a reentry court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Bogalusa and Slidell city courts.
- <http://www.22ndjdc.org/default.aspx>.

## TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

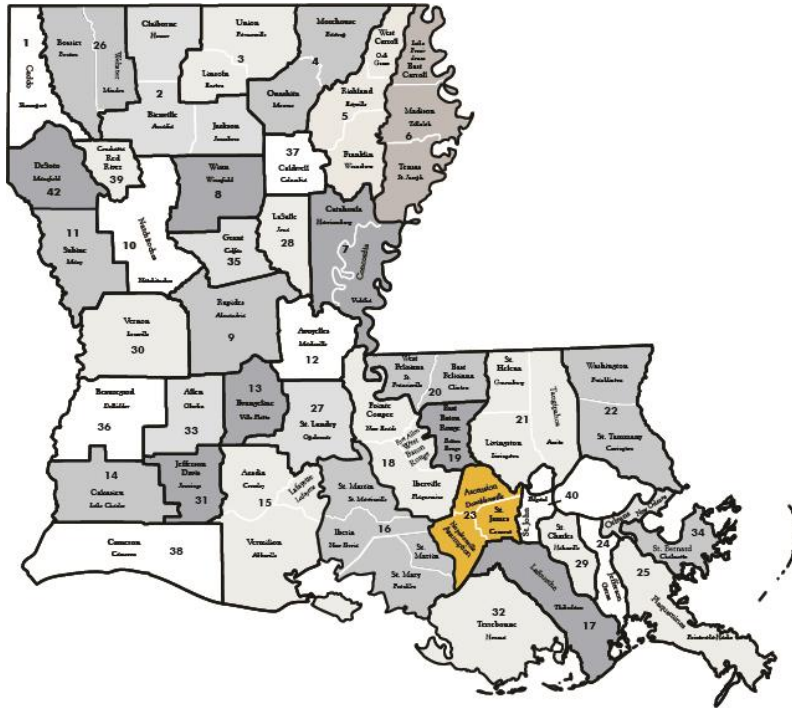


22nd JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 <sup>i</sup>	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	2,217	2,502	2,678	2,249	1,653	1,801	2,046	2,206	1,850	2,017	1,930
Civil	8,931	8,451	8,657	7,643	8,920	9,586	9,052	9,866	10,505	9,525	8,900
Criminal	11,443	12,463	8,547	8,752	10,381	10,558	10,529	10,703	9,125	8,280	7,493
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	23,849	23,276	21,875	19,469	27,372	28,226	38,337	49,790	38,954	34,008	28,545
Total	46,440	46,692	41,757	38,113	48,326	50,171	59,964	72,565	60,434	53,830	46,868
Civil Jury Trials	14	13	16	14	19	12	14	15	18	15	10
Criminal Jury Trials	114	107	103	109	103	102	84	138	114	146	106

<sup>i</sup> The 2006 civil, criminal, juvenile, and traffic filing data for St. Tammany parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

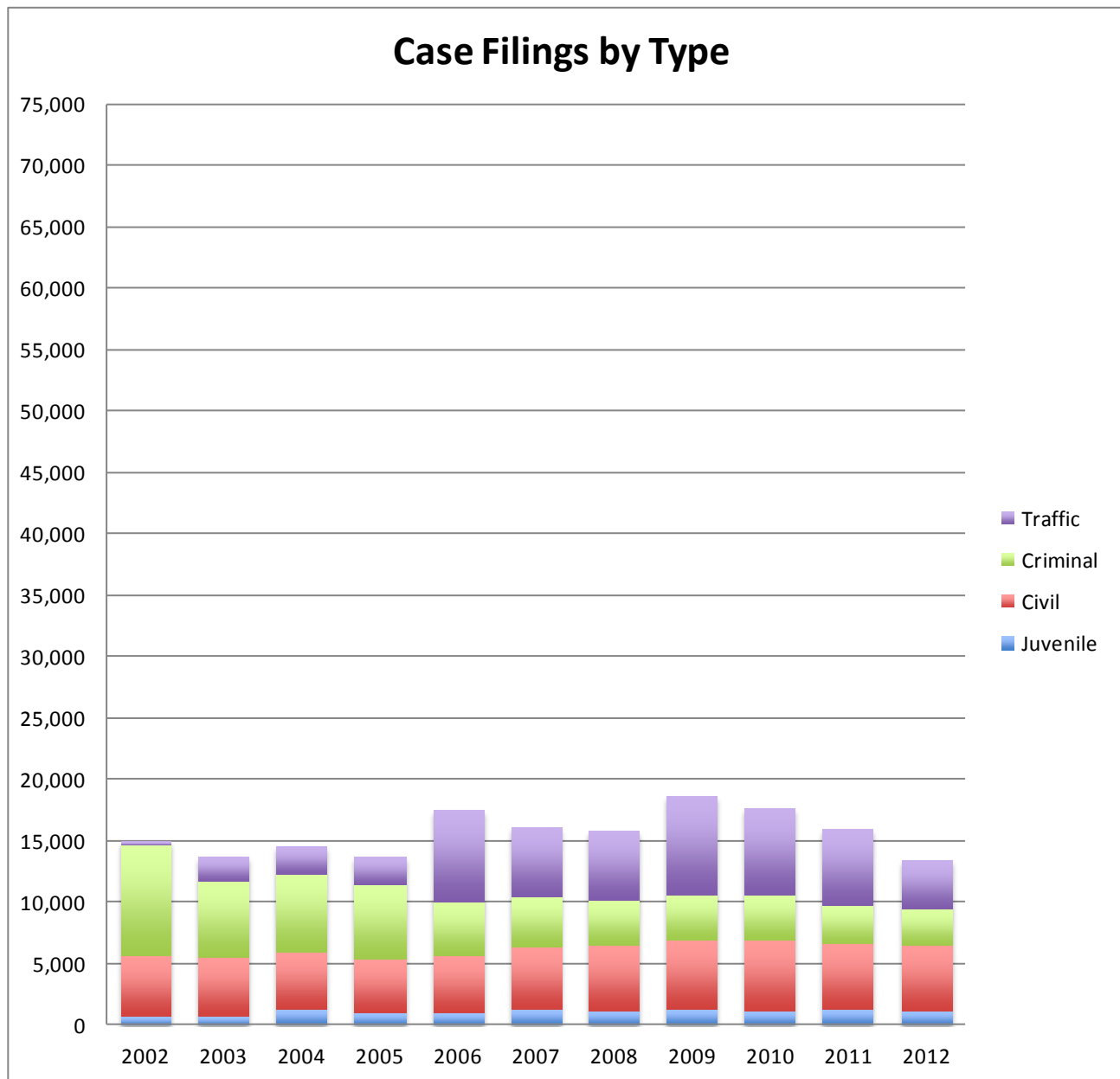
## TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Five-judge court.
- One hearing officer.
- Three-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouses located in Donaldsonville, Napoleonville, and Convent.
- Operates an adult drug court and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Ascension Parish Court.
- Website: <http://www.23rdjdc.org/default.aspx>.

## TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



23rd JDC <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	674	688	1,220	901	937	1,241	1,039	1,163	1,073 <sup>ii</sup>	1,230	1,108
Civil	4,932	4,731	4,639	4,406	4,568	5,025	5,420	5,723	5,808	5,371	5,292
Criminal	9,050	6,156	6,359	5,974	4,378	4,032	3,629	3,549	3,680	3,077	2,974
Traffic <sup>iii</sup>	169 <sup>iv</sup>	2,025	2,264	2,329	7,576	5,764	5,626	8,107	6,968	6,120	3,911
Total	14,825	13,600	14,482	13,610	17,459	16,062	15,714	18,542	17,529	15,798	13,285
Civil Jury Trials	13	8	15	8	9	8	4	9	4	8	10
Criminal Jury Trials	21	39	32	32	39	20	7	41	23	33	14

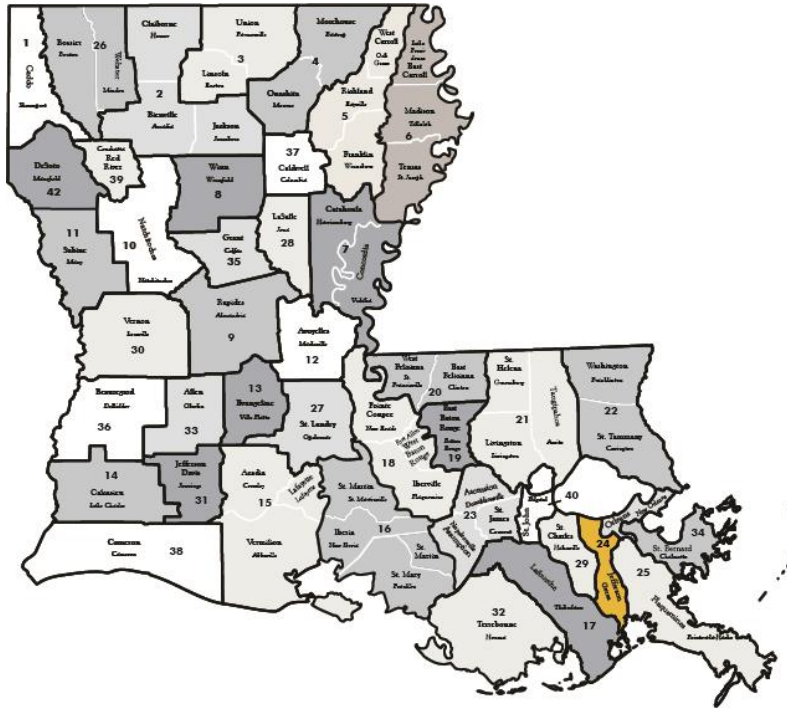
<sup>i</sup> In Ascension parish, violations of traffic, misdemeanors and/or juvenile/family laws are processed by parish, city, and or juvenile/family courts.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2010 juvenile filing data for Assumption parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2010 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>iv</sup> In 2002, this court was unable to separate traffic from criminal filings for St. James parish.

## TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

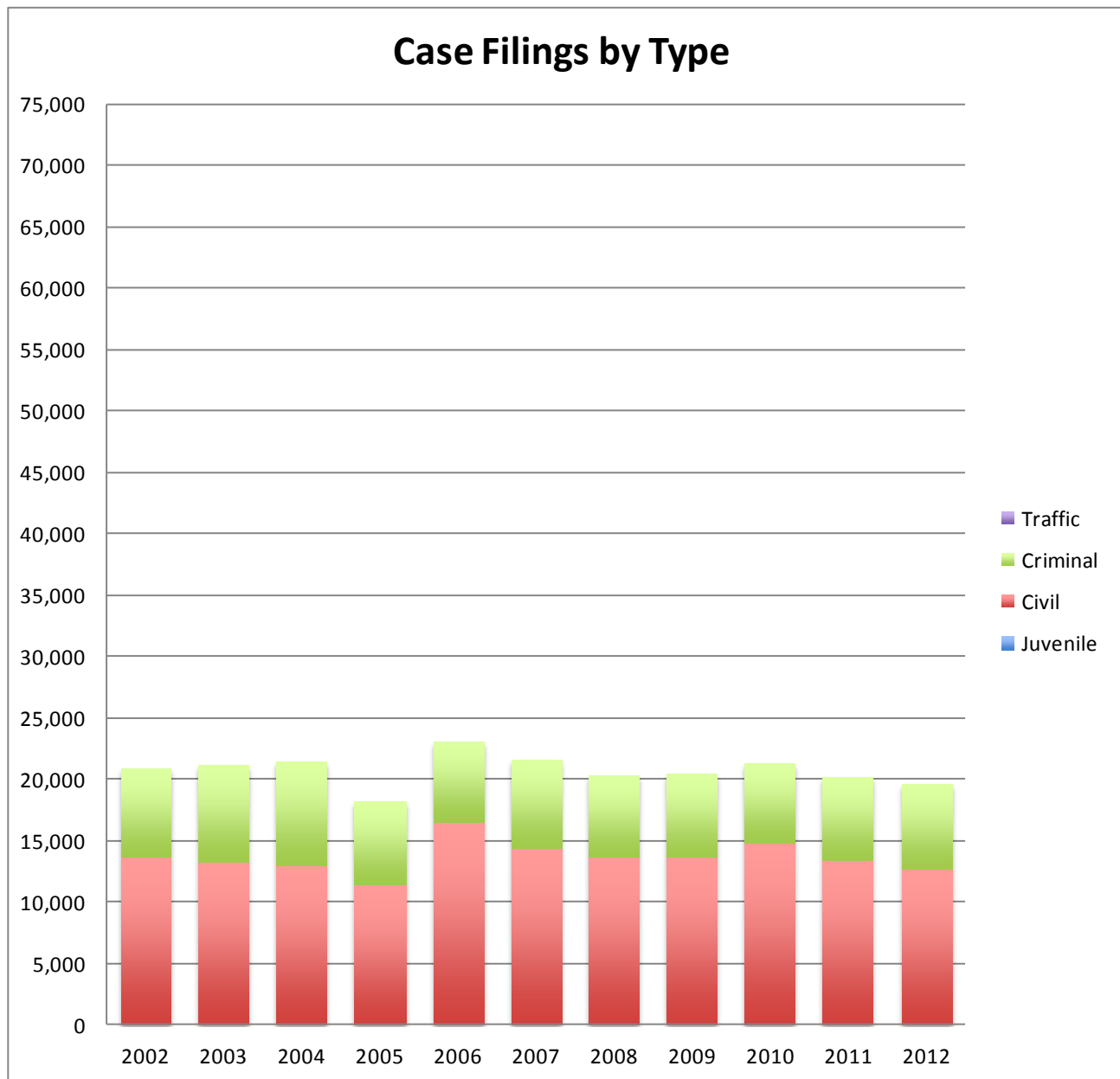


### Quick facts:

- Sixteen-judge court.
- One magistrate, three commissioners, four hearing officers.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Gretna.
- Operates an adult drug court, a DWI court, a veteran's court and a compliance court for probationers.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil and misdemeanor criminal jurisdiction with Jefferson First Parish and Second Parish courts.
- Has no jurisdiction over juvenile matters. Juvenile jurisdiction is vested solely in Jefferson Parish Juvenile Court.
- Website: <http://www.24jdc.us/>.



## TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

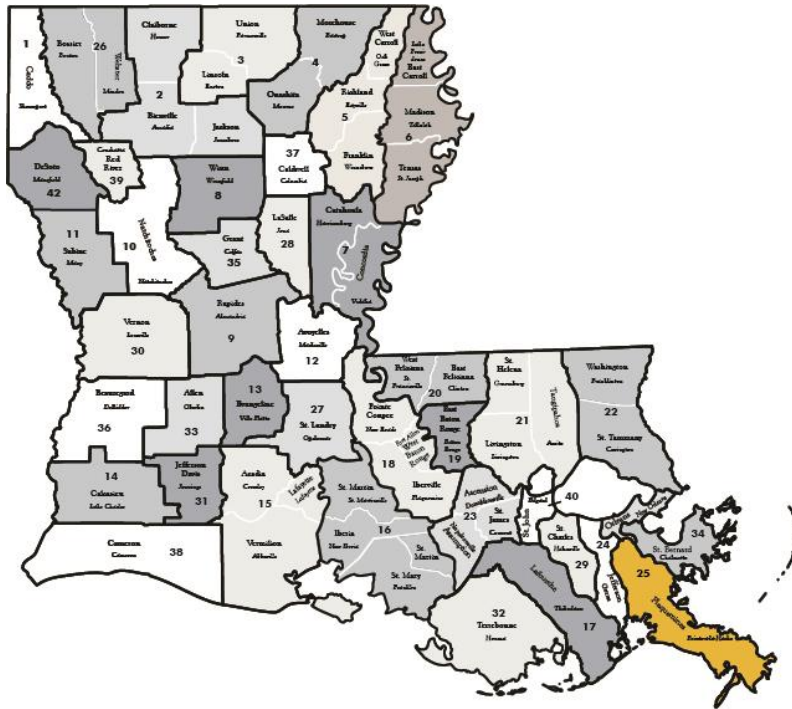


24th JDC <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil	13,630	13,127	12,932	11,350	16,370	14,284	13,586	13,550	14,671	13,366	12,547
Criminal	7,136	8,009	8,420	6,802	6,650	7,166	6,588	6,844	6,494	6,692	6,906
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20,766	21,136	21,352	18,152	23,020	21,450	20,174	20,394	21,165	20,058	19,453
Civil Jury Trials	36	38	26	29	17	19	17	36	27	34	21
Criminal Jury Trials	200	170	178	77	64	89	91	96	106	101	75

<sup>i</sup> Violations of traffic, misdemeanors and juvenile laws are processed by Parish and Juvenile Courts

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

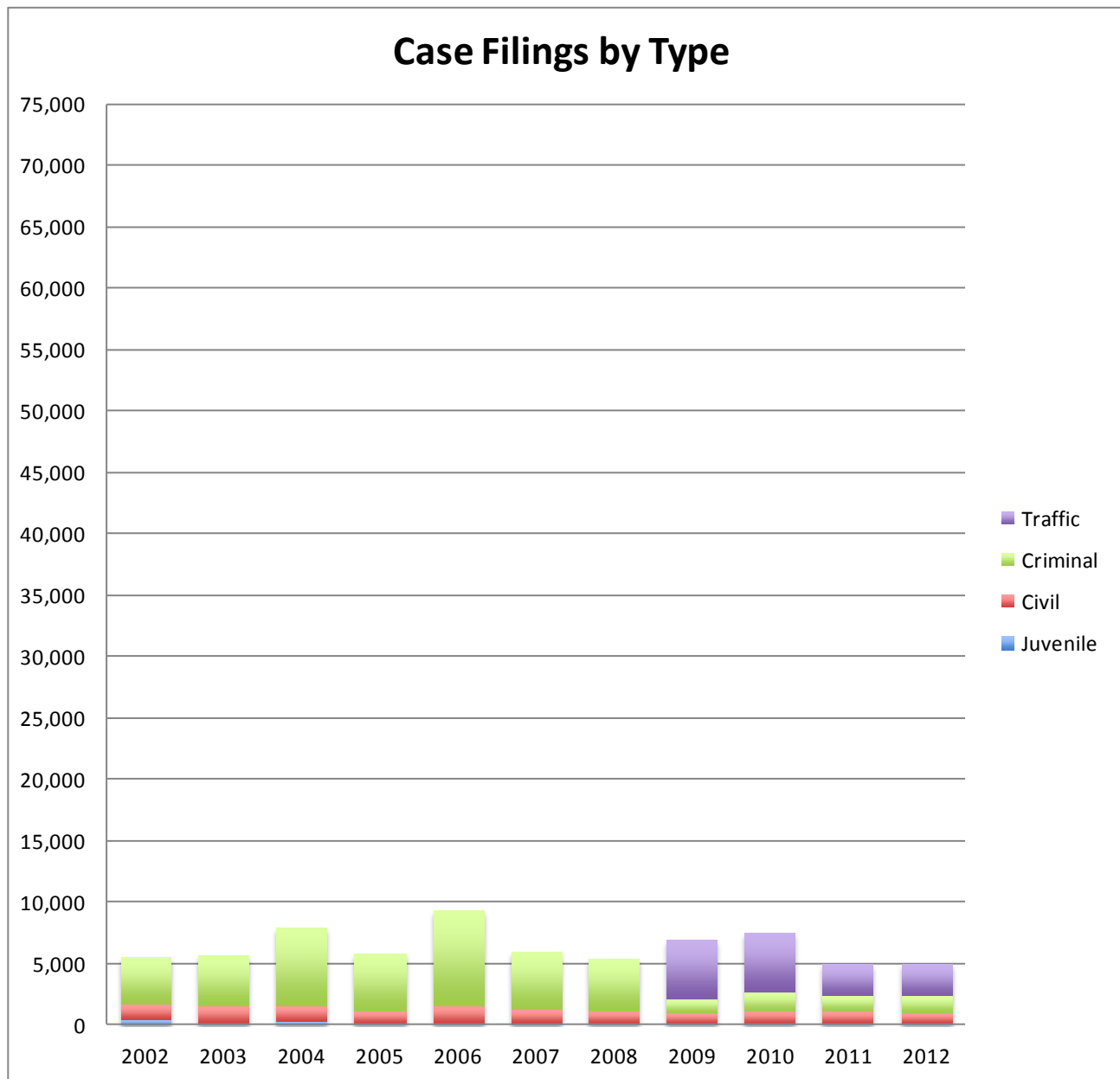
## TWENTY-FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Belle Chasse.
- Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, and a DWI court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: <http://25thjdc.com/>.

## TWENTY-FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

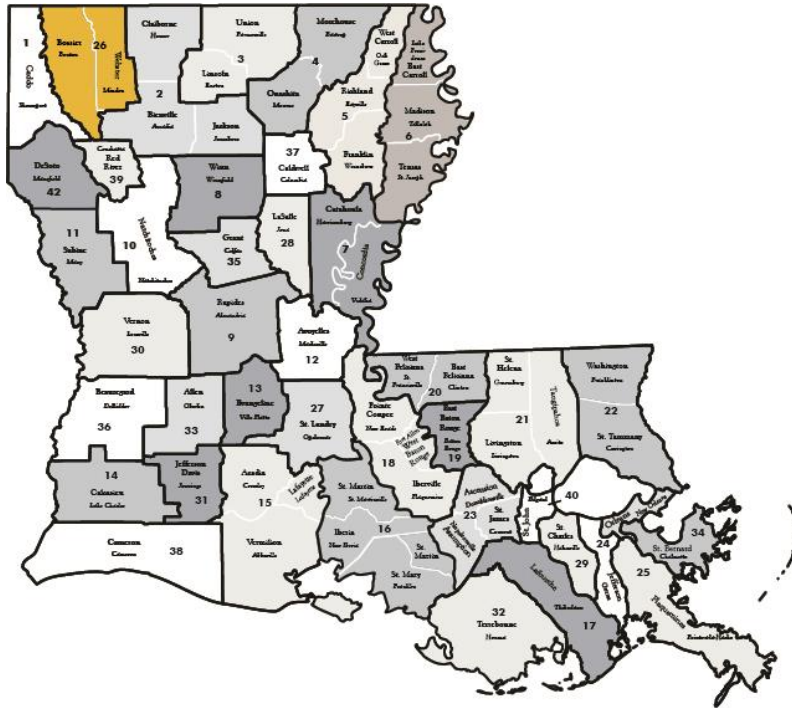


25th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	351	137	156	122	124	111	84	129	98	99	82
Civil	1,249	1,340	1,291	973	1,332	1,060	932	845	934	906	775
Criminal	3,771	4,033	6,421	4,635	7,802	4,723	4,258	1,111	1,511	1,304	1,416
Traffic <sup>i, ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,807	4,849	2,522	2,544
Total	5,371	5,510	7,868	5,730	9,258	5,894	5,274	6,892	7,392	4,831	4,817
Civil Jury Trials	0	3	2	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	11	12	11	6	10	8	1	0	4	3	2

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>ii</sup> From 2002-2008, this court was unable to separate traffic from criminal filings.

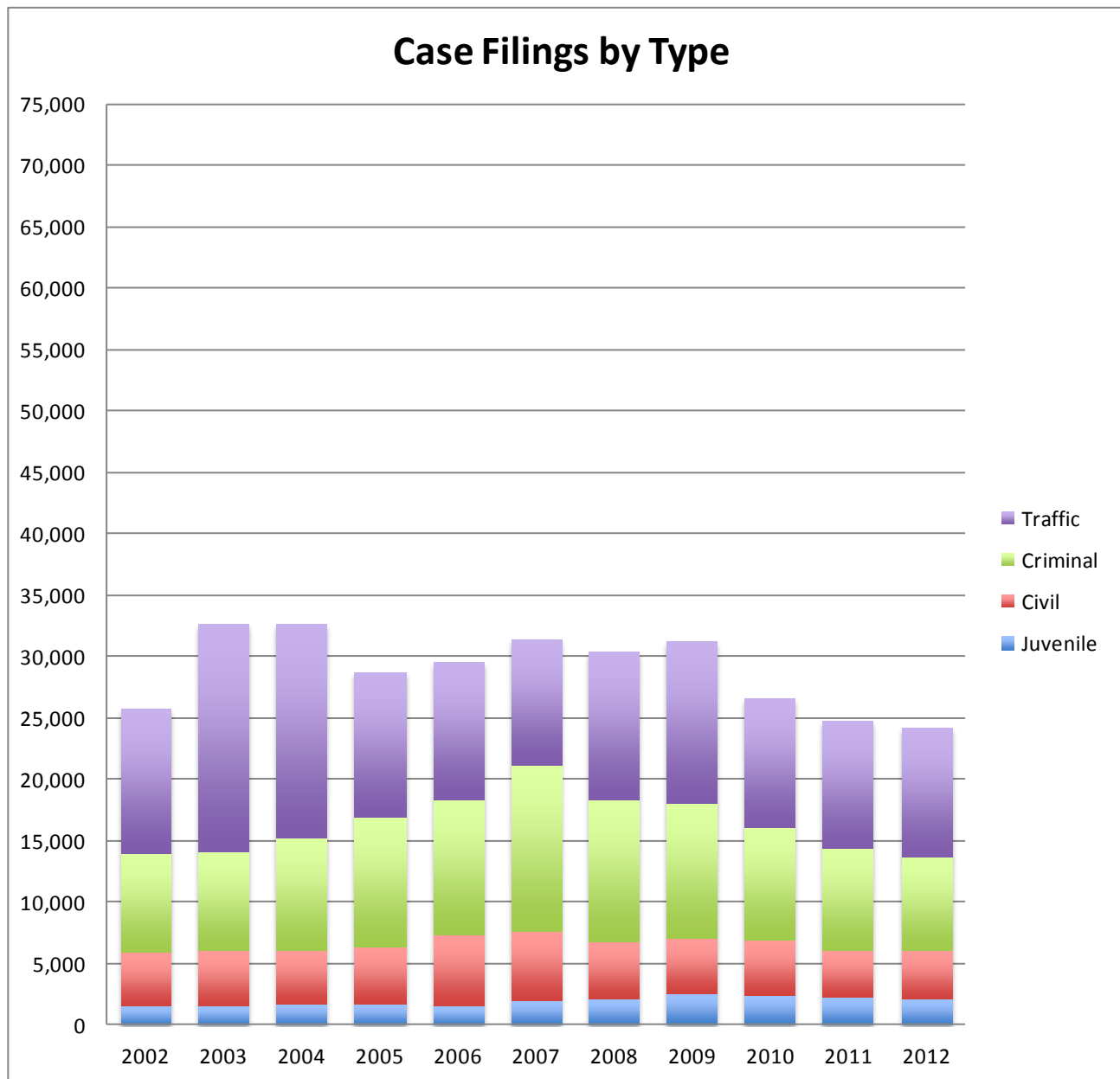
## TWENTY-SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Six- judge court.
- One hearing officer.
- Two-parish district in northwest Louisiana; courthouses located in Benton and Minden.
- Operates an adult drug court, a juvenile drug court, and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Bossier, Minden, and Springhill city courts.
- Website: <http://www.26jdc.com/>.

## TWENTY-SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

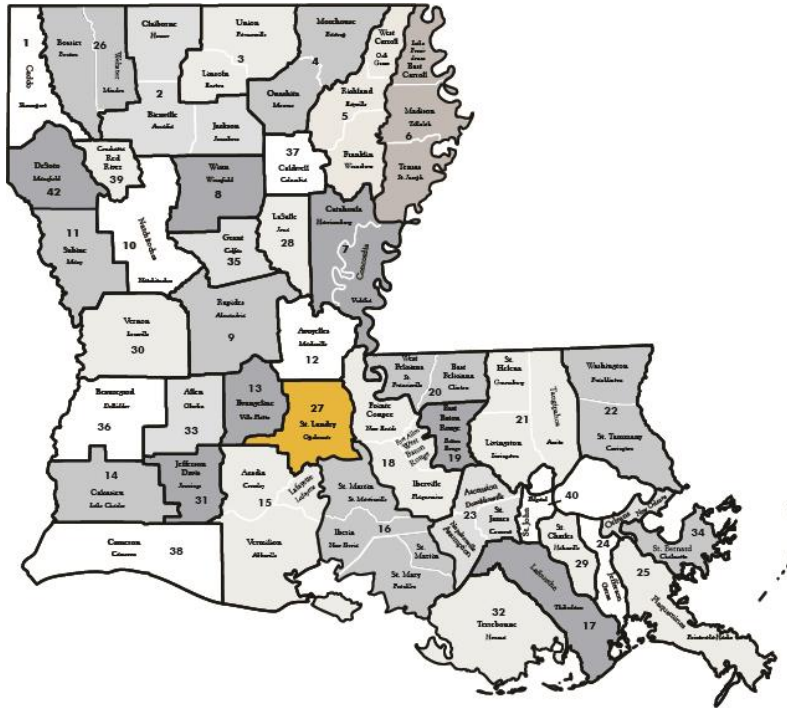


26th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	1,529	1,519	1,672	1,554	1,498	1,953	2,061	2,435	2,296	2,146	2,059
Civil	4,372	4,502	4,363	4,671	5,718 <sup>i</sup>	5,583	4,586	4,567	4,568	3,815	3,933
Criminal	7,974	8,060	9,176	10,577	11,026	13,536	11,547	10,999	9,102	8,278	7,594
Traffic <sup>ii</sup>	11,808	18,492	17,445	11,865	11,290	10,286	12,172	13,259	10,580	10,516	10,655
Total	25,683	32,573	32,656	28,667	29,532	31,358	30,366	31,260	26,546	24,755	24,241
Civil Jury Trials	11	11	5	4	6	3	1	1	0	3	3
Criminal Jury Trials	19	23	22	23	28	19	13	15	13	16	12

<sup>i</sup> The 2006 civil filing data for Webster parish reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

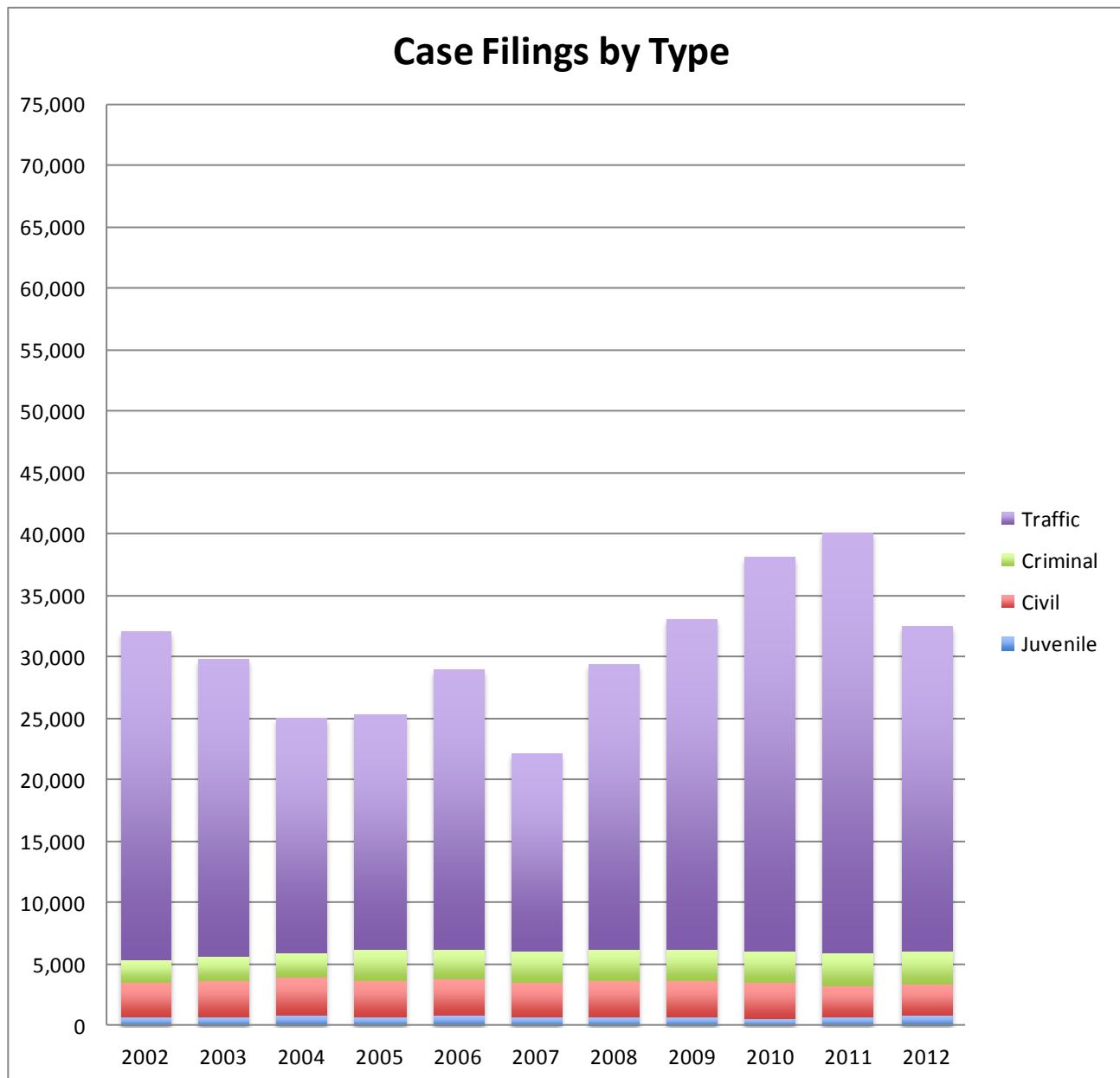
## TWENTY-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Four-judge court.
- One hearing officer.
- One-parish district in south central Louisiana; courthouse located in Opelousas.
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Eunice and Opelousas city courts.
- Website: <http://27thjudicialdistrict.com/>.

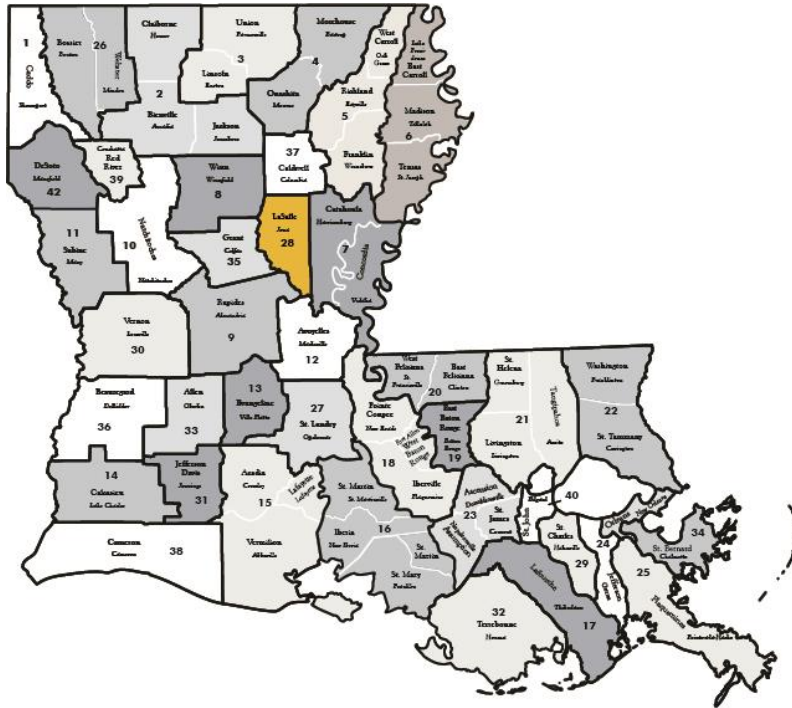
## TWENTY-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



27th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	586	619	835	670	755	635	684	652	557	594	742
Civil	2,831	2,936	3,072	2,952	3,014	2,835	2,947	2,896	2,933	2,532	2,632
Criminal	1,934	2,076	1,946	2,528	2,417	2,462	2,455	2,586	2,573	2,753	2,663
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	26,731	24,224	19,183	19,157	22,720	16,069	23,236	26,913	32,022	34,228	26,480
Total	32,082	29,855	25,036	25,307	28,906	22,001	29,322	33,047	38,085	40,107	32,517
Civil Jury Trials	14	10	7	9	8	11	10	7	14	10	8
Criminal Jury Trials	30	28	22	20	23	24	32	22	11	16	17

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## TWENTY-EIGHTTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

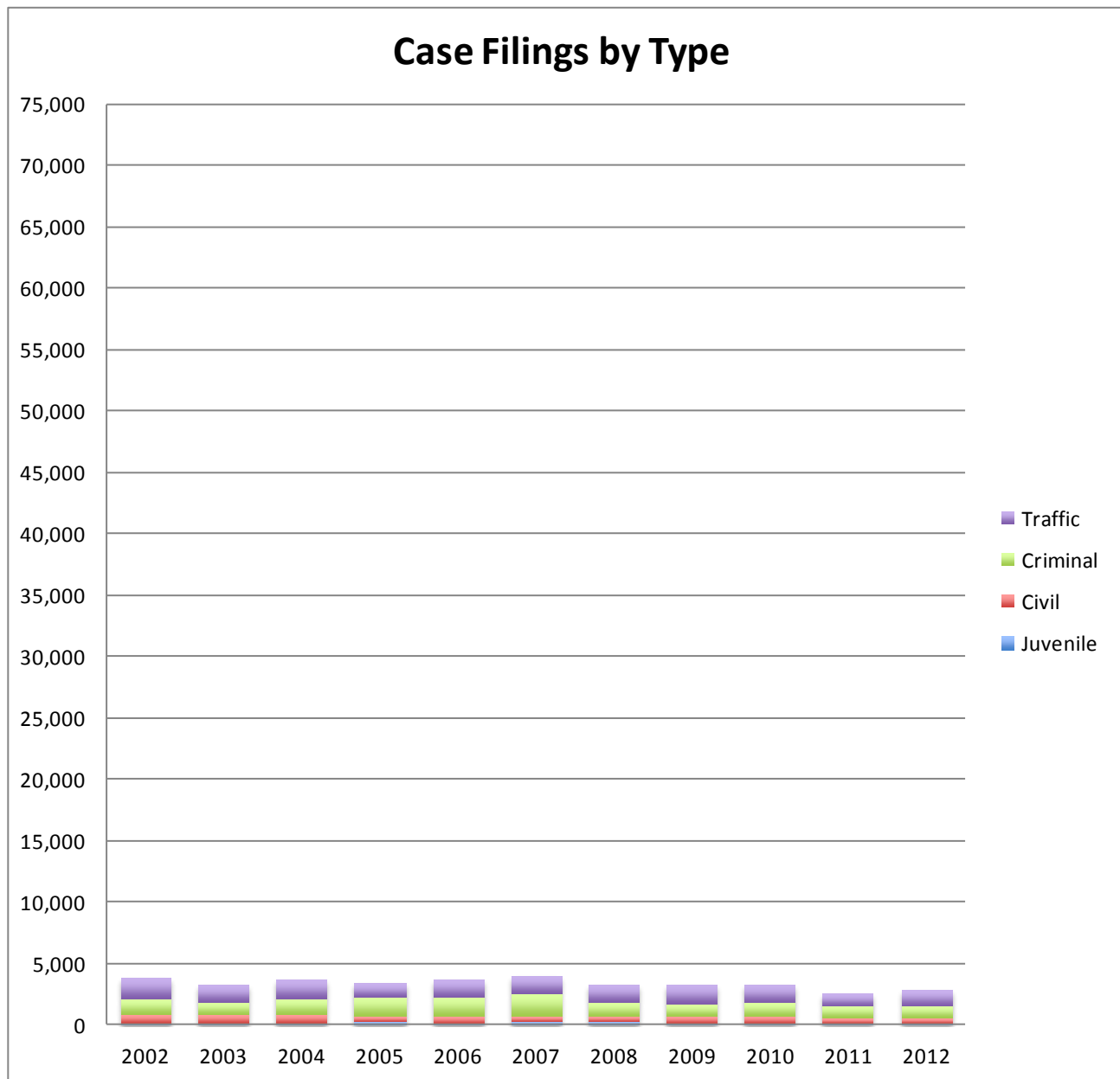


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One-parish district in east central Louisiana; courthouse located in Jena.
- Operates a truancy court
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.



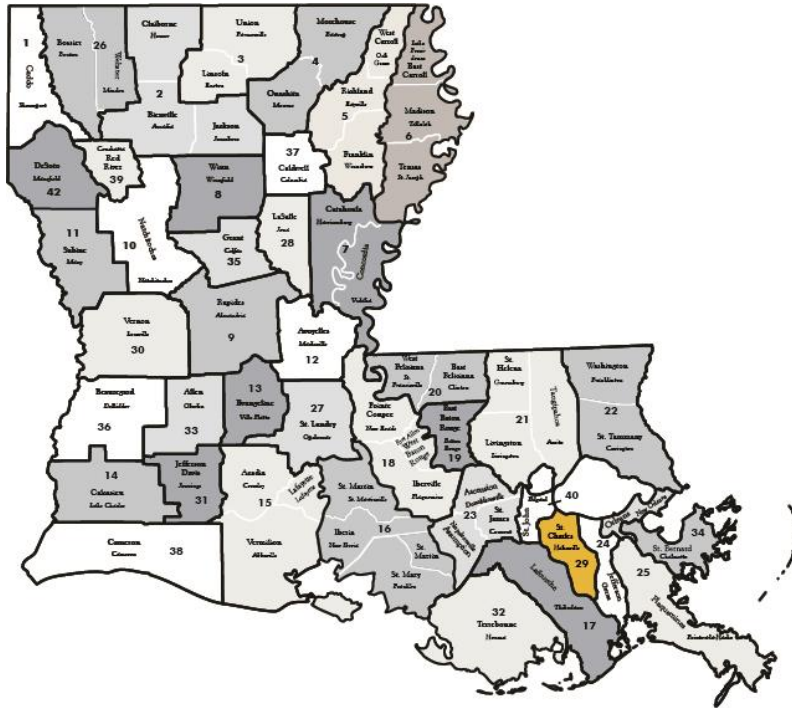
## TWENTY-EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



28th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	101	141	126	146	130	183	160	138	94	82	83
Civil	629	579	607	536	552	496	485	501	519	409	356
Criminal	1,268	1,107	1,256	1,470	1,576	1,839	1,050	949	1,092	991	1,044
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	1,802	1,407	1,626	1,146	1,403	1,414	1,546	1,654	1,472	991	1,289
Total	3,800	3,234	3,615	3,298	3,661	3,932	3,241	3,242	3,177	2,473	2,772
Civil Jury Trials	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
Criminal Jury Trials	6	4	3	4	4	2	0	5	6	7	6

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

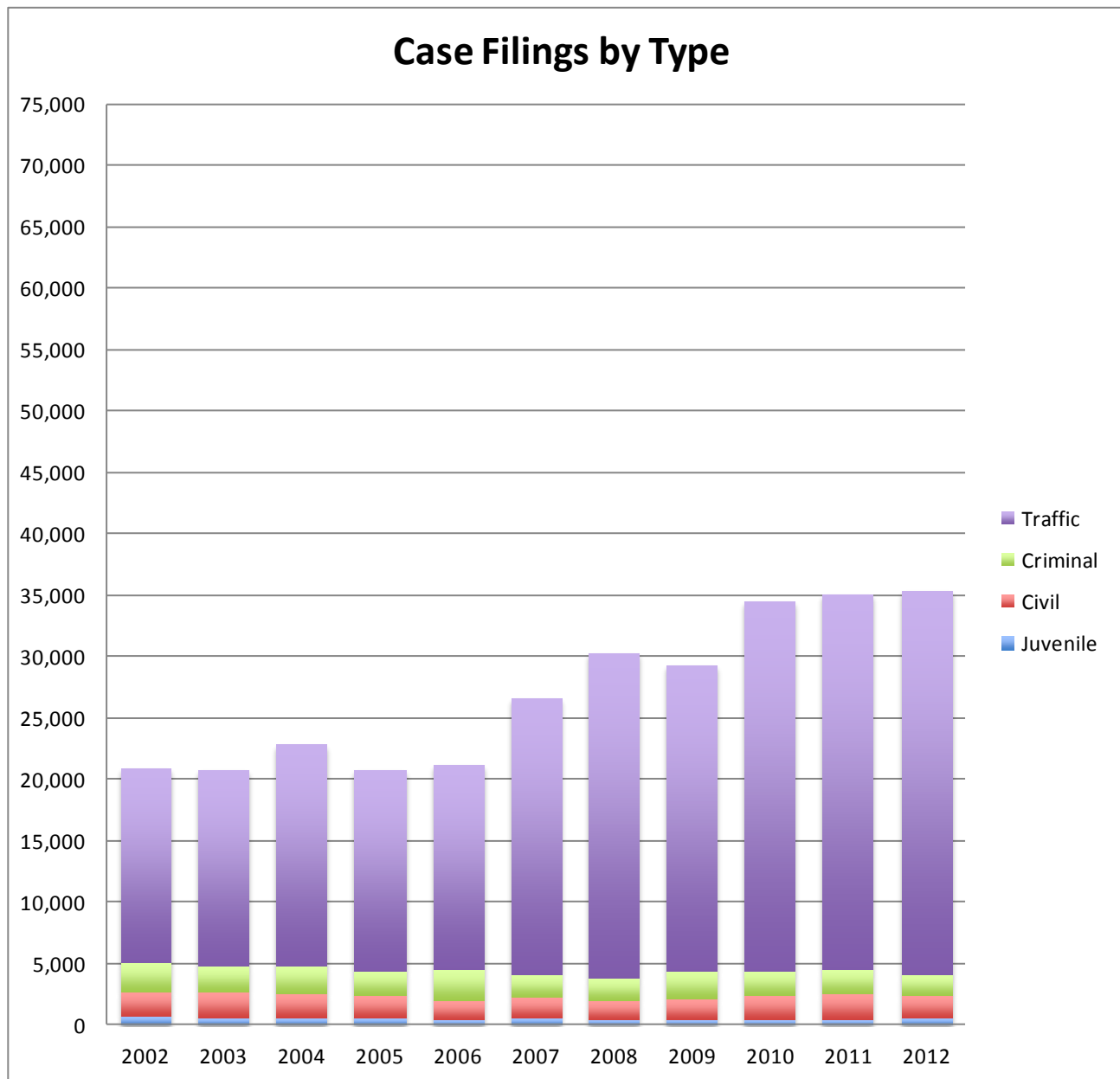
## **TWENTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Three-judge court.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Hahnville.
- Operates an adult drug court and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: <http://www.stcharlesgov.net/index.aspx?page=53>.

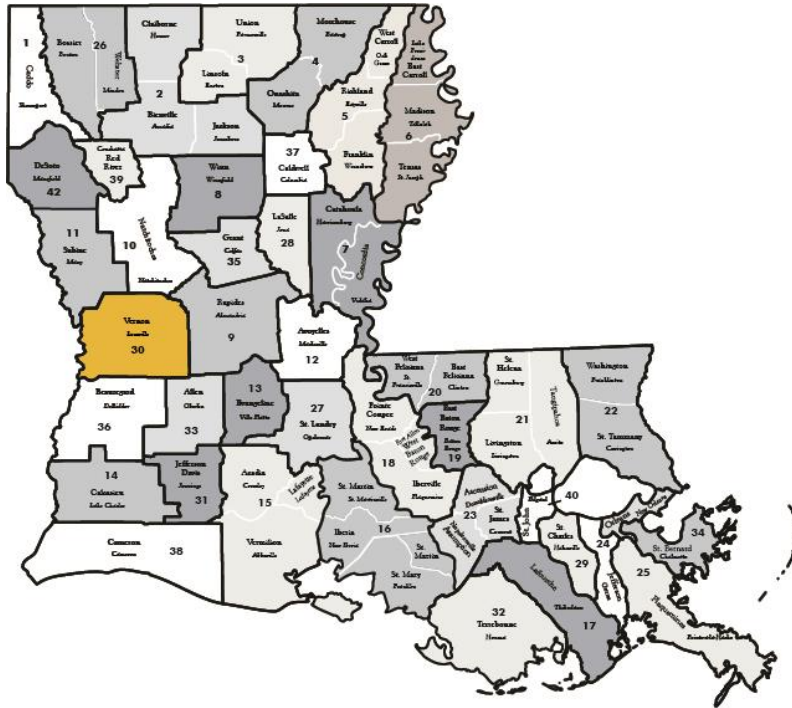
## TWENTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



29th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	567	470	498	523	376	438	376	328	356	373	547
Civil	2,022	2,189	2,033	1,756	1,591	1,773	1,576	1,787	1,961	2,090	1,785
Criminal	2,350	2,045	2,197	2,088	2,406	1,813	1,850	2,233	1,951	1,952	1,737
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	15,908	16,011	18,037	16,266	16,729	22,528	26,418	24,863	30,204	30,681	31,195
Total	20,847	20,715	22,765	20,633	21,102	26,552	30,220	29,211	34,472	35,096	35,264
Civil Jury Trials	5	5	3	5	8	3	2	5	2	4	2
Criminal Jury Trials	12	10	10	7	5	2	4	3	4	12	4

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

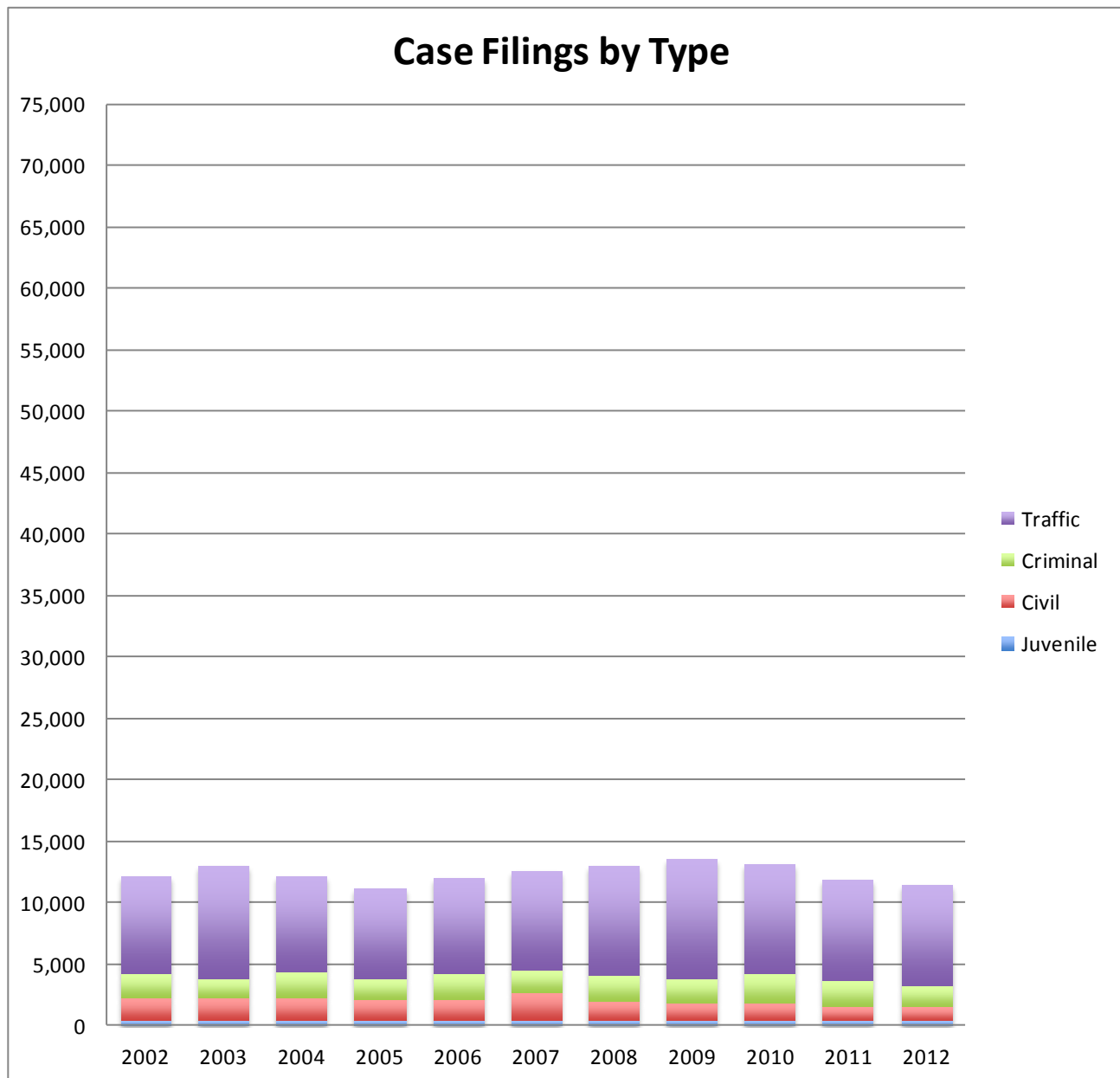
## **THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Three-judge court.
- One-parish district in west central Louisiana; courthouse located in Leesville.
- Operates an adult drug court and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Leesville City Court.

## THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



30th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	376	325	337	337	317	399	345	290	323	335	310
Civil	1,842	1,831	1,832	1,676	1,724	2,261	1,518	1,542	1,434	1,174	1,222
Criminal	1,994	1,606	2,159	1,795	2,129	1,780	2,094	1,950	2,453	2,121	1,599
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	7,905	9,205	7,776	7,292	7,680	7,968	8,999	9,687	8,863	8,204	8,239
Total	12,117	12,967	12,104	11,100	11,850	12,408	12,956	13,469	13,073	11,834	11,370
Civil Jury Trials	2	3	2	0	1	3	1	2	3	3	2
Criminal Jury Trials	3	3	2	4	1	1	4	5	4	1	3

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

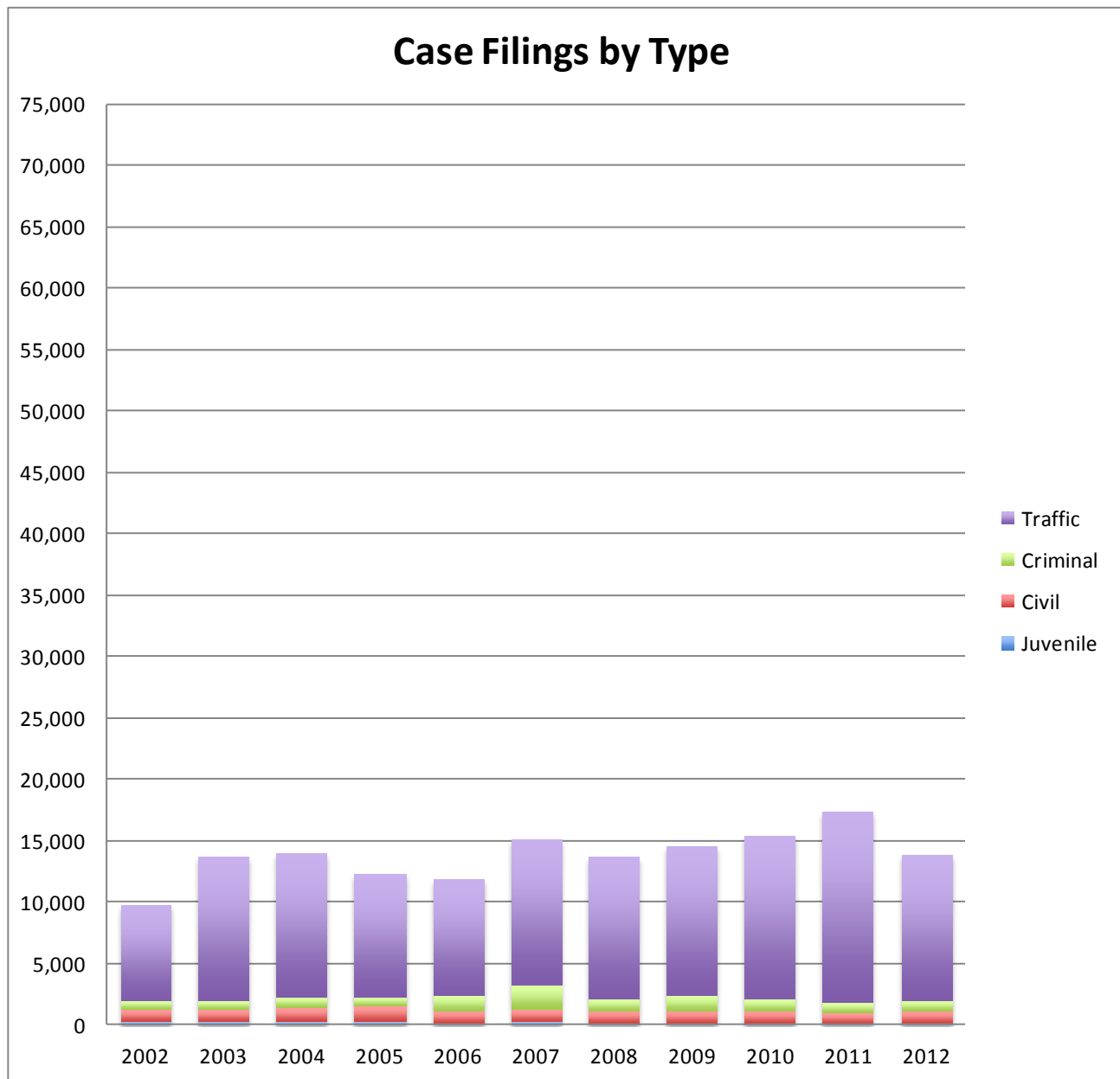
## THIRTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One-parish district in southwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Jennings.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Jennings City Court.
- Website: <http://ieffdavis.net/judges.html>.

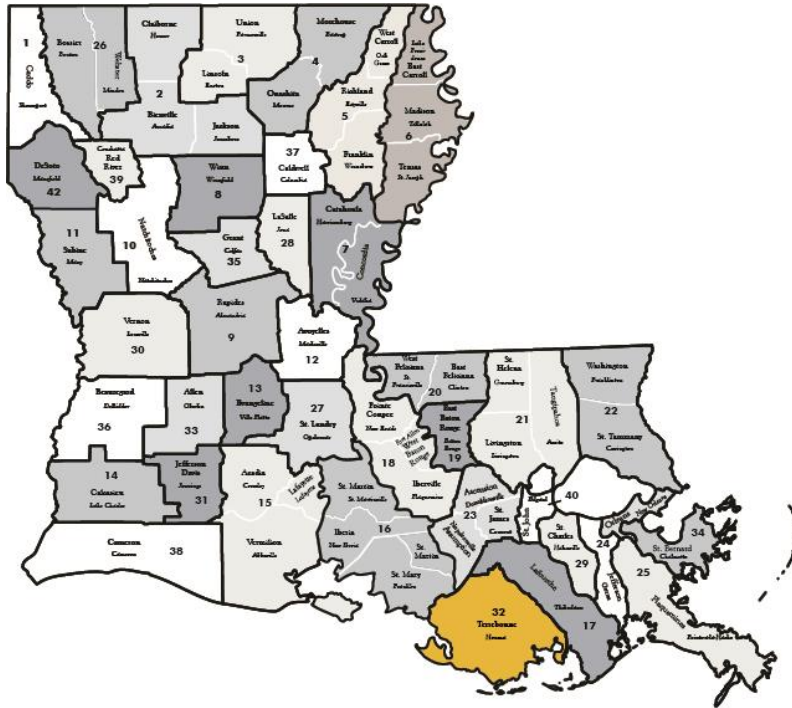
## THIRTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



31st JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	155	165	258	170	99	166	111	122	73	96	116
Civil	1,107	1,083	1,091	1,286	978	1,077	975	977	968	844	929
Criminal	666	700	813	773	1,256	1,871	993	1,298	1,037	890	874
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	7,771	11,715	11,671	9,925	9,471	11,940	11,566	12,030	13,199	15,425	11,795
Total	9,699	13,663	13,833	12,154	11,804	15,054	13,645	14,427	15,277	17,255	13,714
Civil Jury Trials	2	1	3	2	0	1	0	3	2	1	2
Criminal Jury Trials	1	1	0	3	2	2	3	4	7	0	3

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## THIRTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

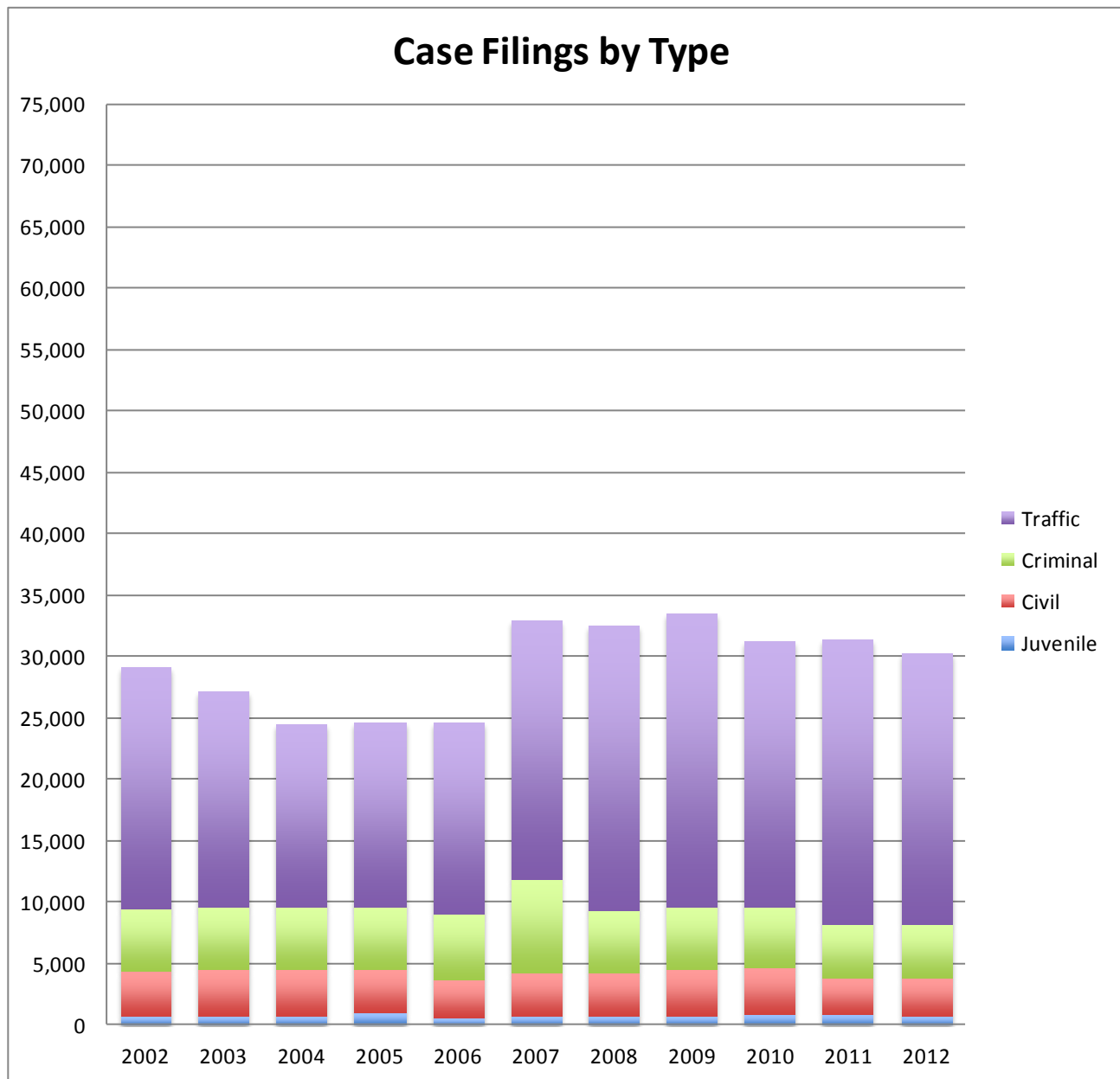


### Quick facts:

- Five- judge court.
- One child support hearing officer.
- One-parish district in southern Louisiana; courthouse located in Houma.
- Operates an adult drug court and a DWI court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil, misdemeanor criminal, and juvenile jurisdiction with Houma City Court.



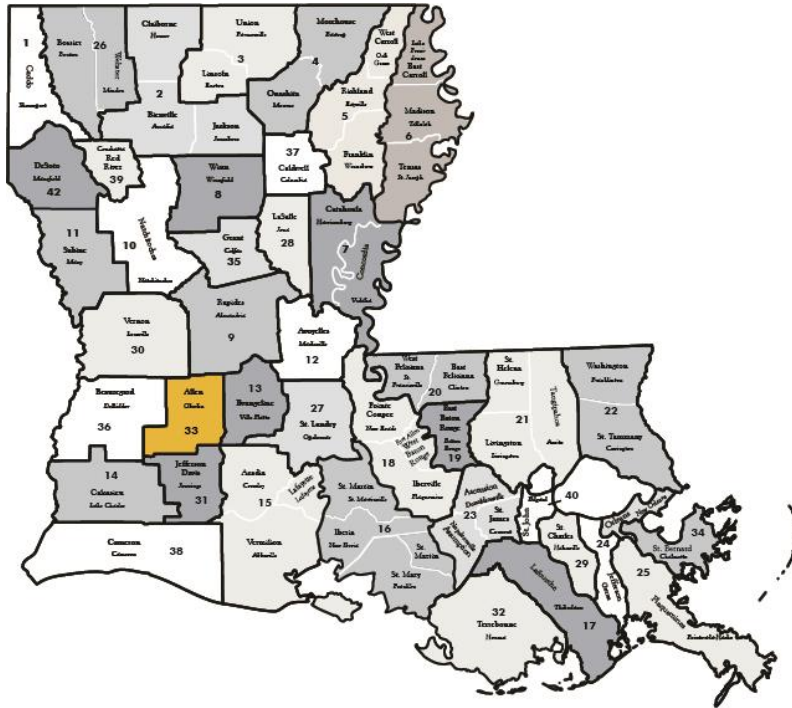
## THIRTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



32nd JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	640	595	691	905	516	629	626	707	741	767	664
Civil	3,665	3,887	3,683	3,552	3,133	3,593	3,482	3,754	3,785	2,999	3,081
Criminal	5,018	5,057	5,100	5,053	5,321	7,590	5,196	5,064	5,021	4,347	4,329
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	19,799	17,645	14,959	15,076	15,570	21,086	23,171	23,900	21,649	23,290	22,160
Total	29,122	27,184	24,433	24,586	24,540	32,898	32,475	33,425	31,196	31,403	30,234
Civil Jury Trials	14	5	7	4	7	4	8	7	8	4	7
Criminal Jury Trials	33	26	40	28	43	26	21	17	29	34	19

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

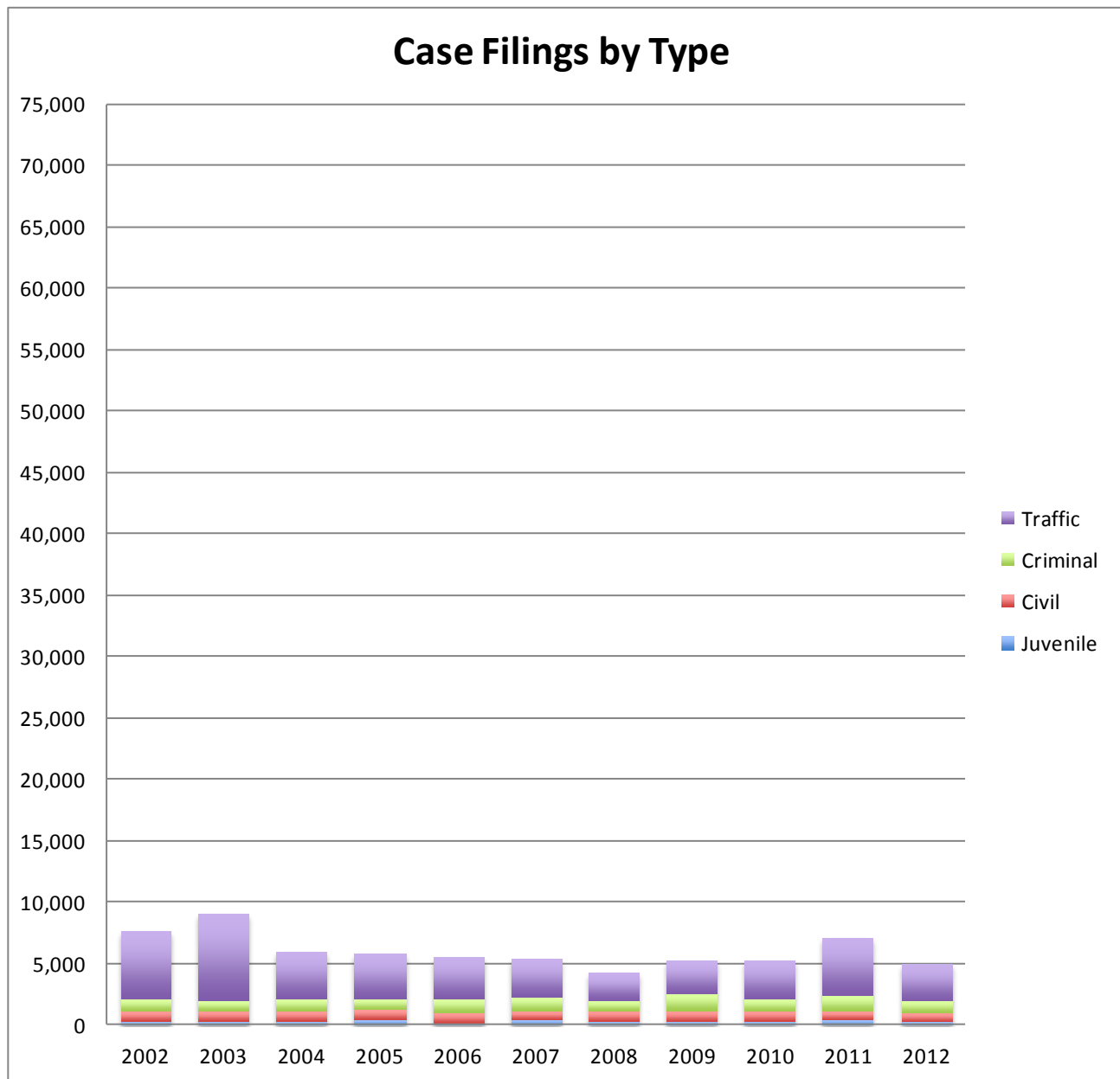
## THIRTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One-parish district in southwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Oberlin.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: <http://www.33jdc.com/>.

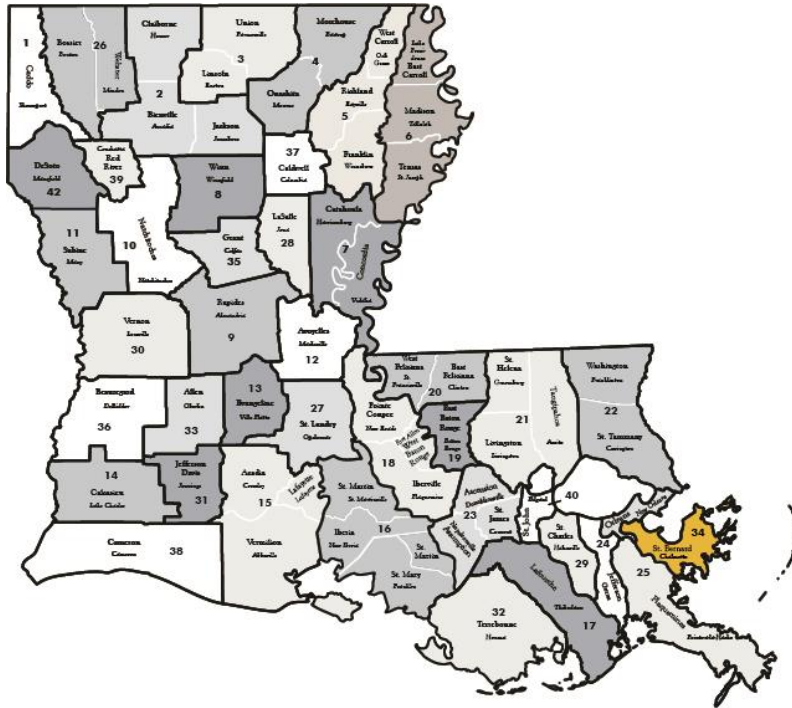
## THIRTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



33rd JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	226	191	233	393	139	358	273	268	252	315	221
Civil	883	862	802	750	811	730	731	730	751	677	655
Criminal	871	879	949	936	1,112	1,161	944	1,423	976	1,329	985
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	5,545	7,027	3,909	3,612	3,401	3,074	2,159	2,688	3,160	4,726	2,937
Total	7,525	8,959	5,893	5,691	5,463	5,323	4,107	5,109	5,139	7,047	4,798
Civil Jury Trials	1	5	3	1	0	0	1	4	2	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	6	6	5	6	8	5	5	3	4	5	5

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

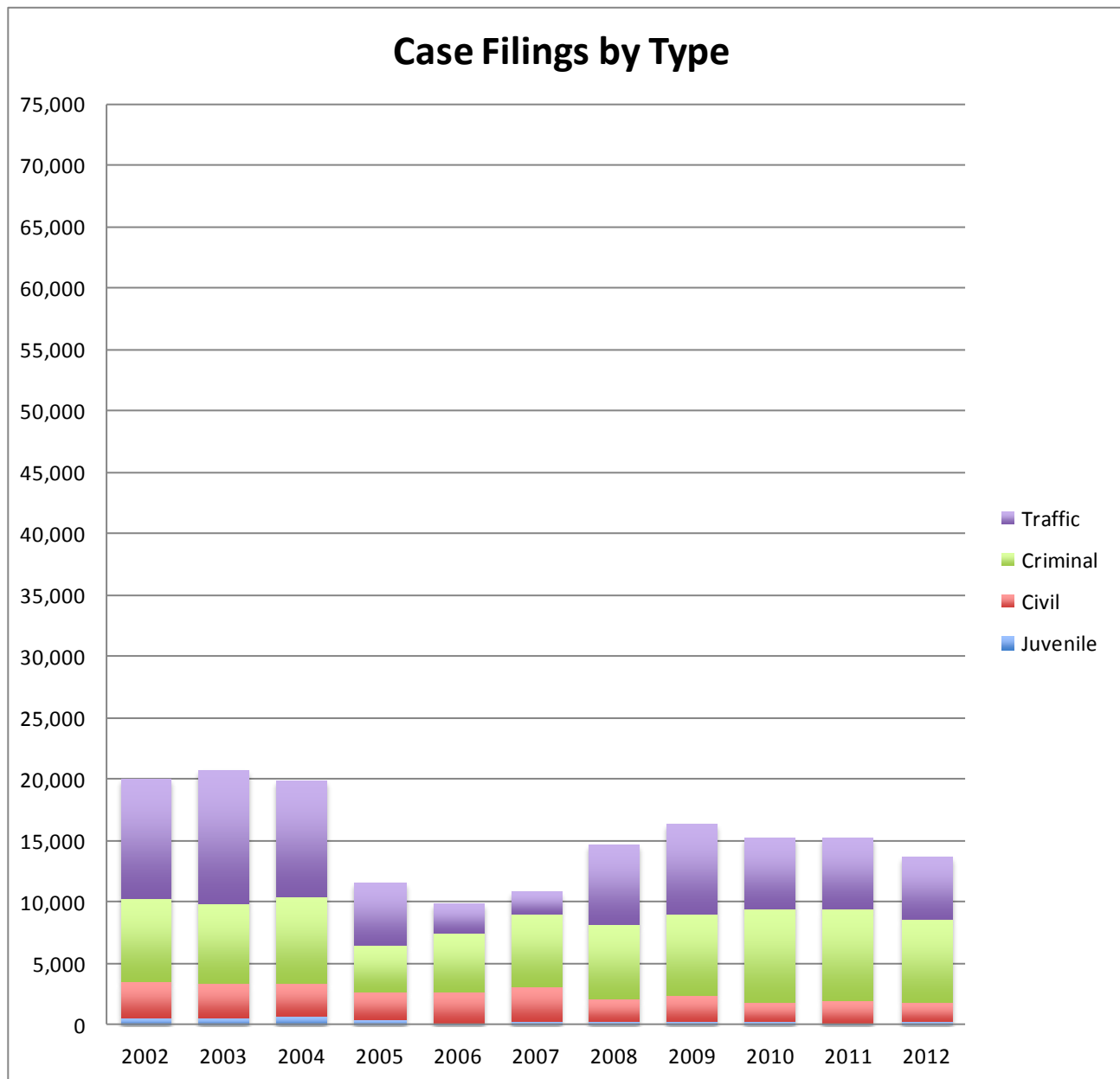
## THIRTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Five-judge court.
- One-parish district in far southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Chalmette.
- Operates an adult and a juvenile drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: <http://judgefernandez.com/>.

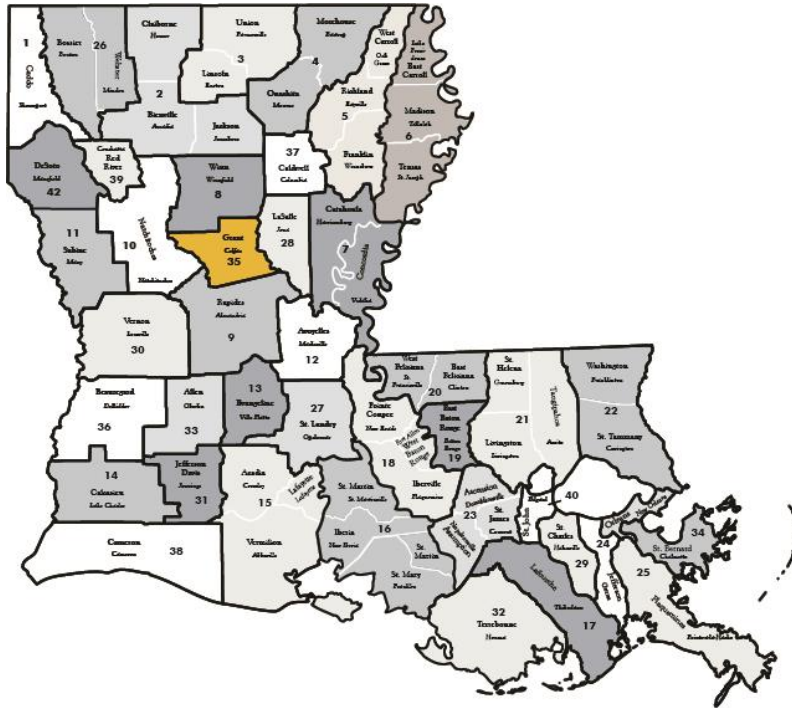
## THIRTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



34th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	540	564	607	415	70	199	164	169	146	120	269
Civil	2,885	2,789	2,708	2,218	2,511	2,768	1,901	2,220	1,649	1,736	1,525
Criminal	6,751	6,461	7,035	3,826	4,830	6,029	6,058	6,500	7,528	7,508	6,737
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	9,713	10,800	9,504	4,964	2,337	1,749	6,506	7,401	5,786	5,774	5,017
Total	19,889	20,614	19,854	11,423	9,748	10,745	14,629	16,290	15,109	15,138	13,548
Civil Jury Trials	5	6	10	4	0	3	4	4	2	5	2
Criminal Jury Trials	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	1	2

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

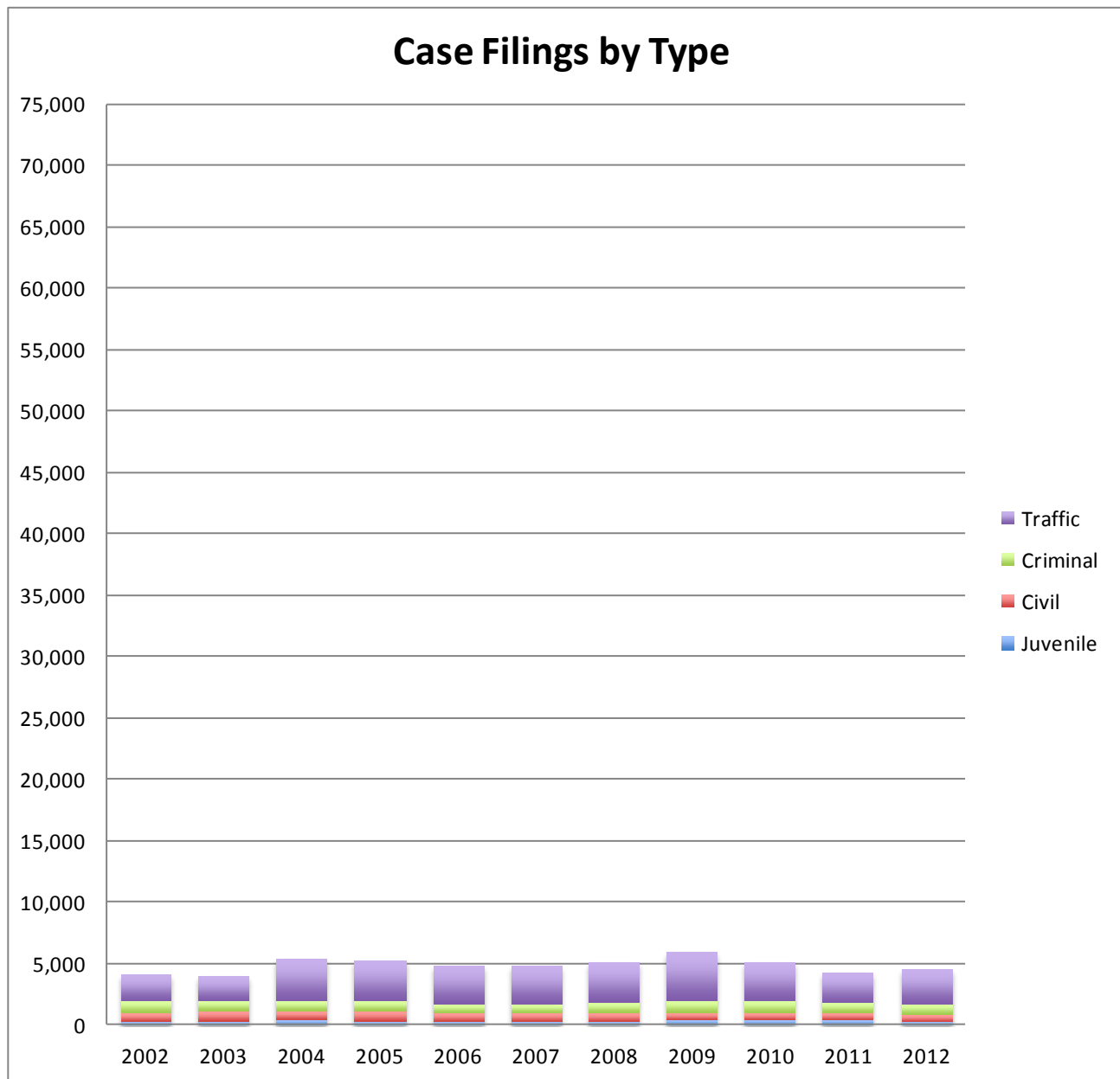
## THIRTY-FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One child support hearing officer.
- One-parish district in central Louisiana; courthouse located in Colfax.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: [http://35jdc.com/35\\_JDC/Home.html](http://35jdc.com/35_JDC/Home.html).

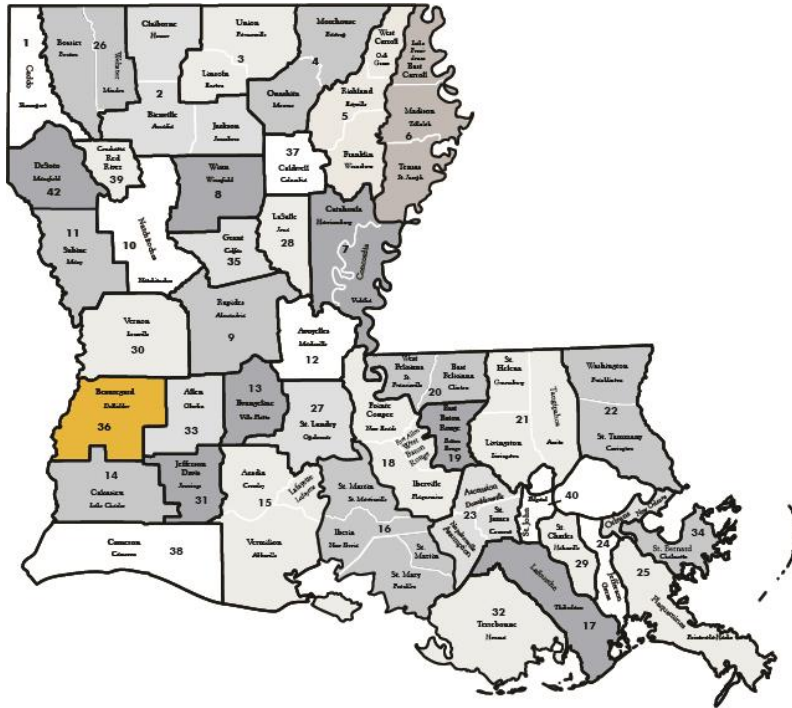
## THIRTY-FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



35th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	187	250	304	270	210	223	192	290	300	291	274
Civil	749	781	749	729	663	644	672	669	685	595	465
Criminal	1,004	808	852	969	814	824	857	992	893	832	866
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	2,111	2,101	3,371	3,191	3,082	3,096	3,273	3,855	3,146	2,505	2,892
Total	4,051	3,940	5,276	5,159	4,769	4,787	4,994	5,806	5,024	4,223	4,497
Civil Jury Trials	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	1	2	4	2	2	2	5	5	2	4	2

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## THIRTY-SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

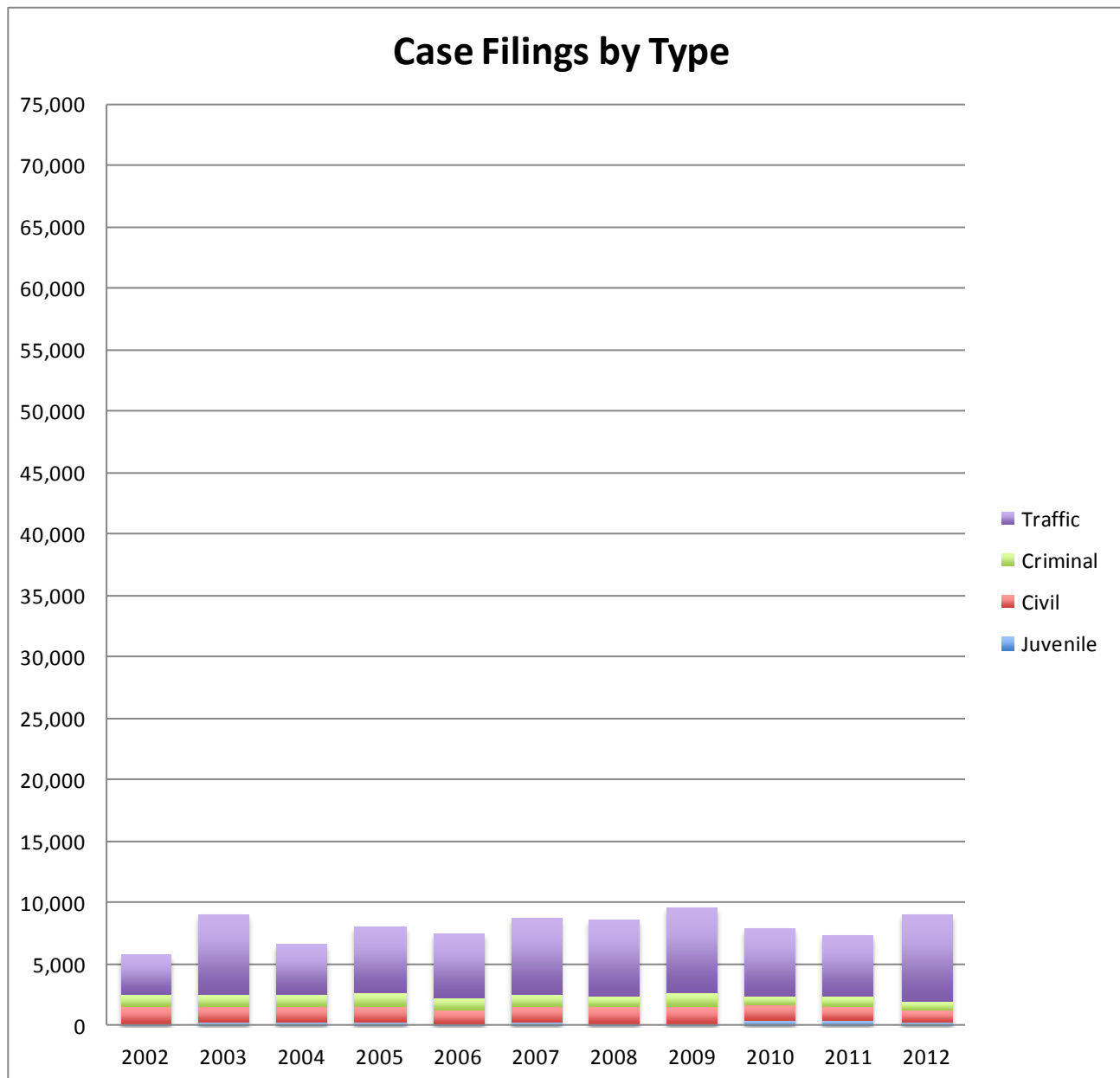


### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One domestic hearing officer.
- One-parish district in southwest Louisiana; courthouse located in DeRidder.
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.



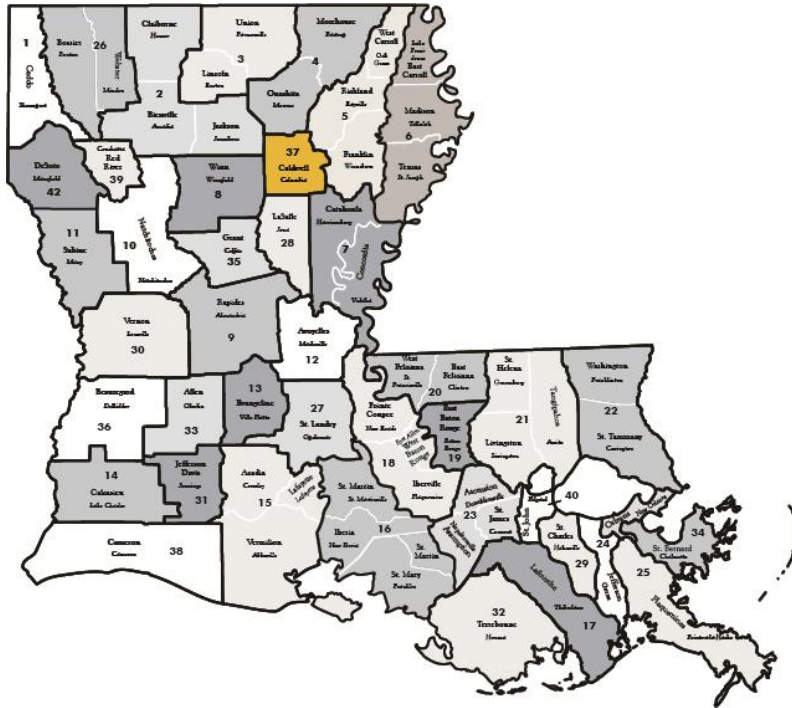
## THIRTY-SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



36th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	133	171	239	162	126	194	126	95	299	293	251
Civil	1,301	1,364	1,245	1,327	1,130	1,251	1,314	1,366	1,292	1,186	1,001
Criminal	991	869	972	1,185	933	1,023	844	1,195	752	872	697
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	3,267	6,487	4,101	5,314	5,174	6,250	6,255	6,838	5,490	4,977	7,031
Total	5,692	8,891	6,557	7,988	7,363	8,718	8,539	9,494	7,833	7,328	8,980
Civil Jury Trials	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Criminal Jury Trials	7	6	6	3	8	7	3	4	1	4	5

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

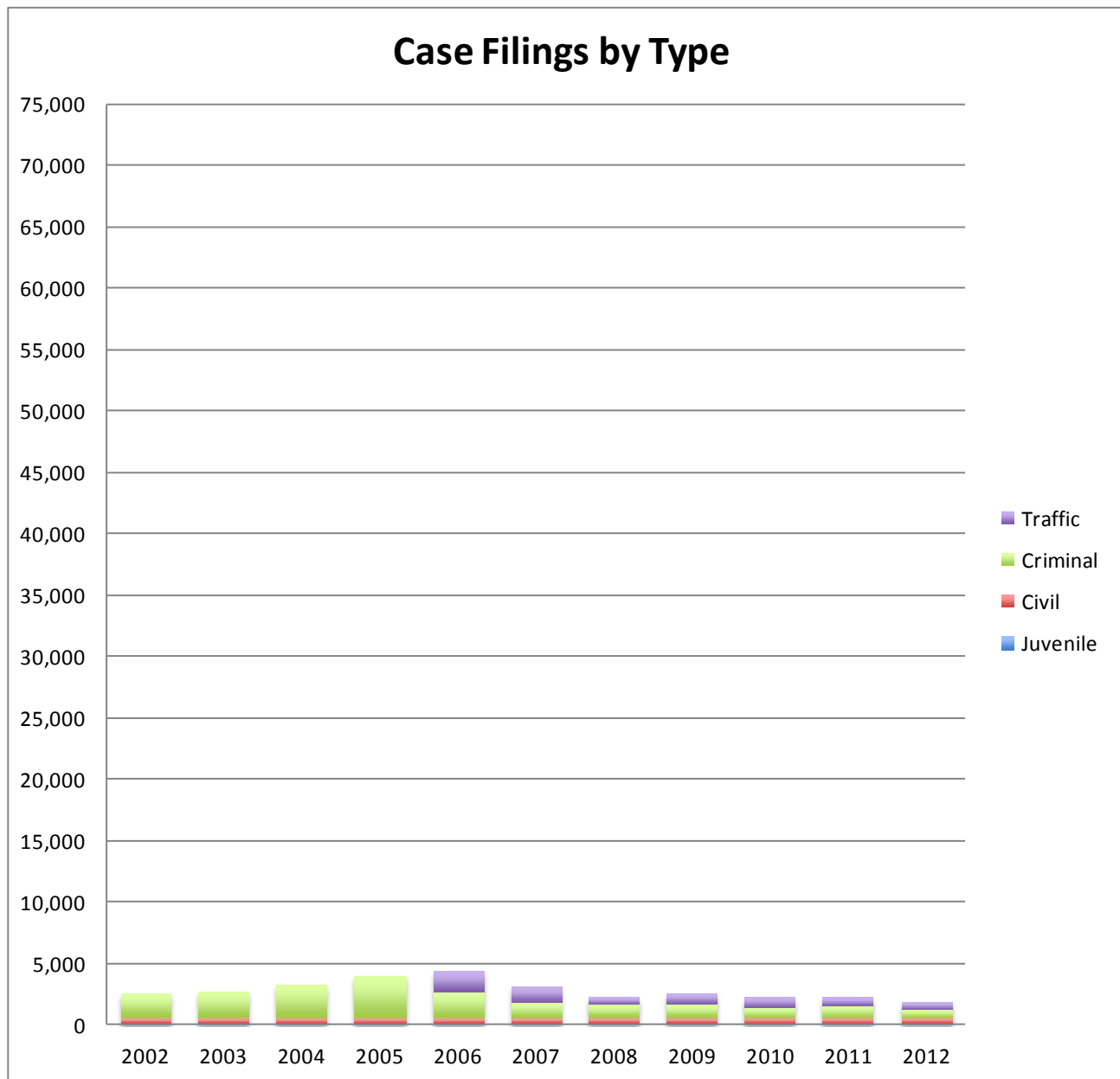
## **THIRTY-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court.
- One child support hearing officer.
- One-parish district in northeastern Louisiana; courthouse located in Columbia.
- Operates an adult drug court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.

## THIRTY-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

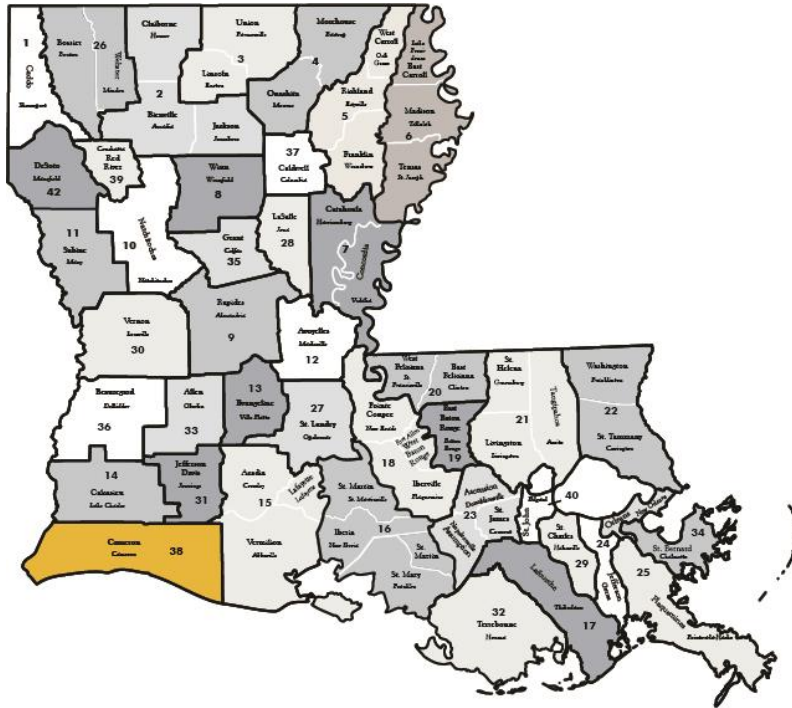


37th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	66	58	71	98	88	115	97	113	85	86	74
Civil	499	424	478	465	351	337	405	345	392	353	357
Criminal	1,889	2,098	2,679	3,336	2,226	1,296	1,101	1,172	932	981	795
Traffic <sup>i, ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	1,604	1,316	594	882	796	776	605
Total	2,454	2,580	3,228	3,899	4,269	3,064	2,197	2,512	2,205	2,196	1,831
Civil Jury Trials	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0
Criminal Jury Trials	0	2	2	1	0	3	0	1	1	3	1

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>ii</sup> From 2002-2005, this court was unable to separate traffic from criminal filings.

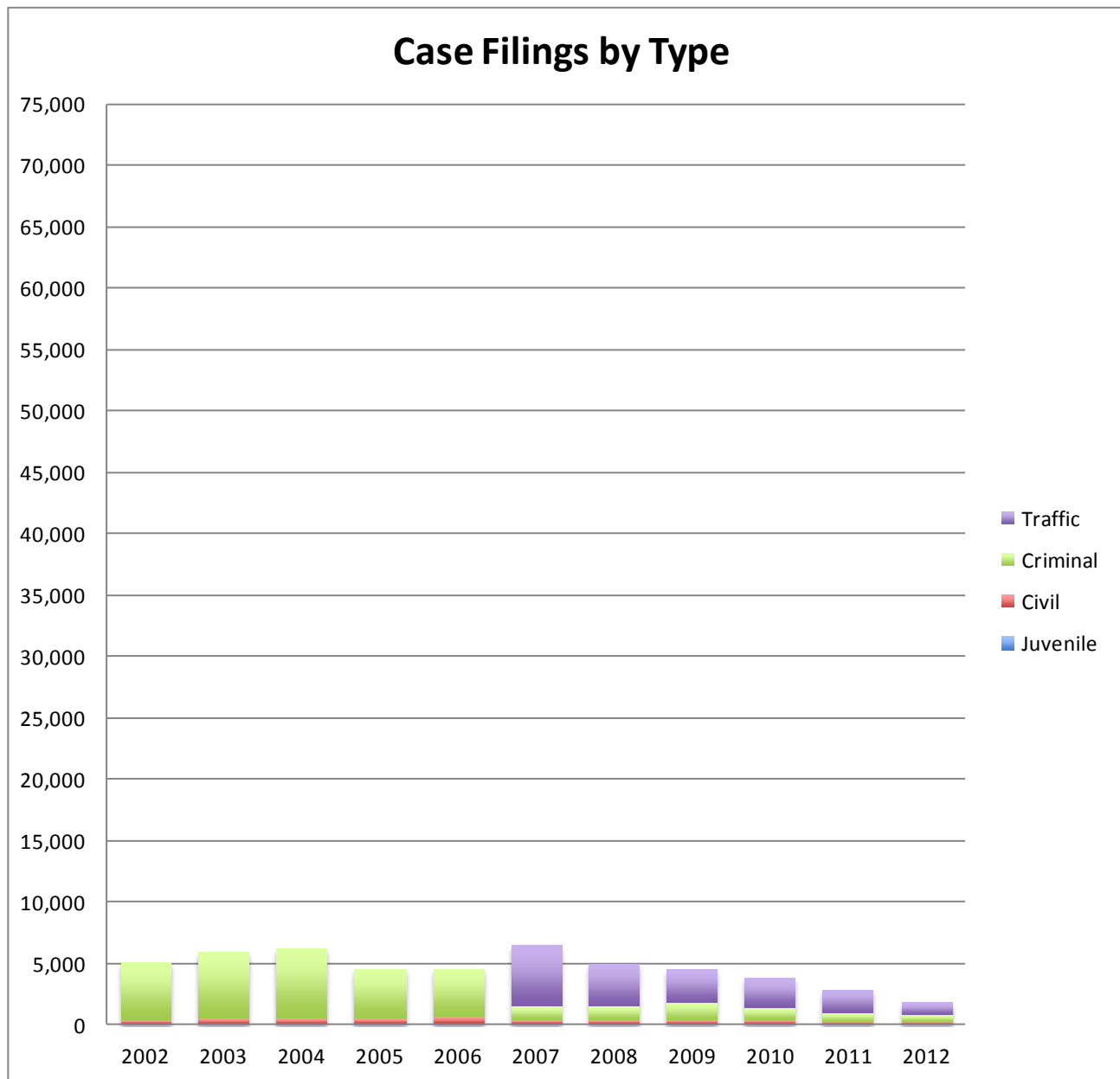
## THIRTY-EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One-parish district in southwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Cameron
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.

## THIRTY-EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

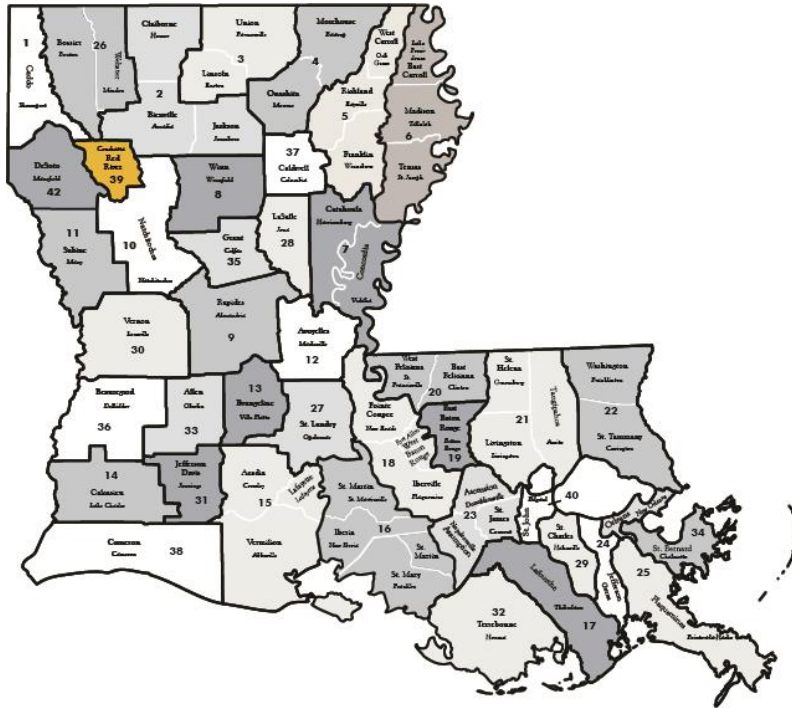


38th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	14	64	84	64	54	57	94	64	63	32	28
Civil	376	383	400	383	611	261	242	299	246	198	165
Criminal	4,552	5,423	5,619	3,958	3,779	1,188	1,104	1,368	1,100	651	618
Traffic <sup>i</sup> <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	4,905	3,402	2,732	2,283	1,822	996
Total	4,942	5,870	6,103	4,405	4,444	6,411	4,842	4,463	3,692	2,703	1,807
Civil Jury Trials	1	4	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	4	1
Criminal Jury Trials	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

<sup>ii</sup> From 2002-2006, this court was unable to separate traffic from criminal filings.

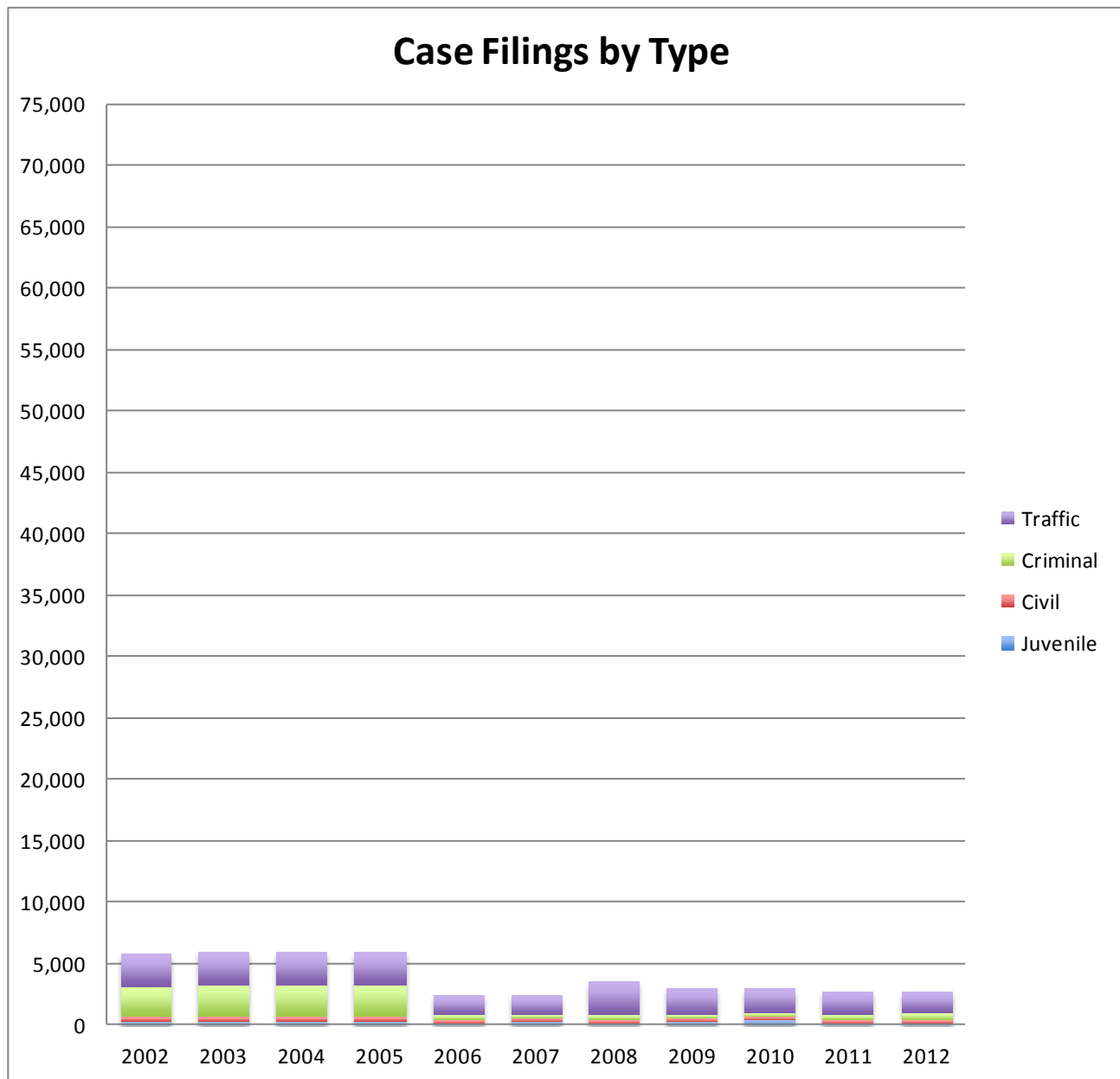
## THIRTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One-parish district in northwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Coushatta.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.

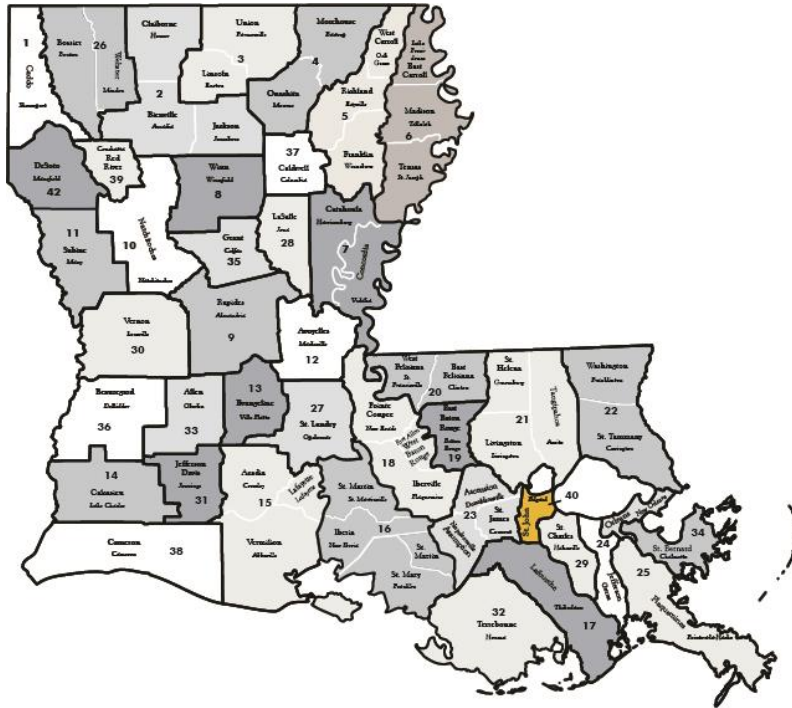
## THIRTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



39th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	166	180	197	195	143	213	139	202	290	111	118
Civil	499	457	468	473	271	300	255	265	278	263	251
Criminal	2,410	2,492	2,525	2,506	314	300	402	272	316	464	520
Traffic <sup>i</sup>	2,706	2,678	2,711	2,698	1,608	1,487	2,606	2,123	1,974	1,720	1,700
Total	5,781	5,807	5,901	5,872	2,336	2,300	3,402	2,862	2,858	2,558	2,589
Civil Jury Trials	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	5	4	4	3	1	6	1	0	1	1	1

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## **FORTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**

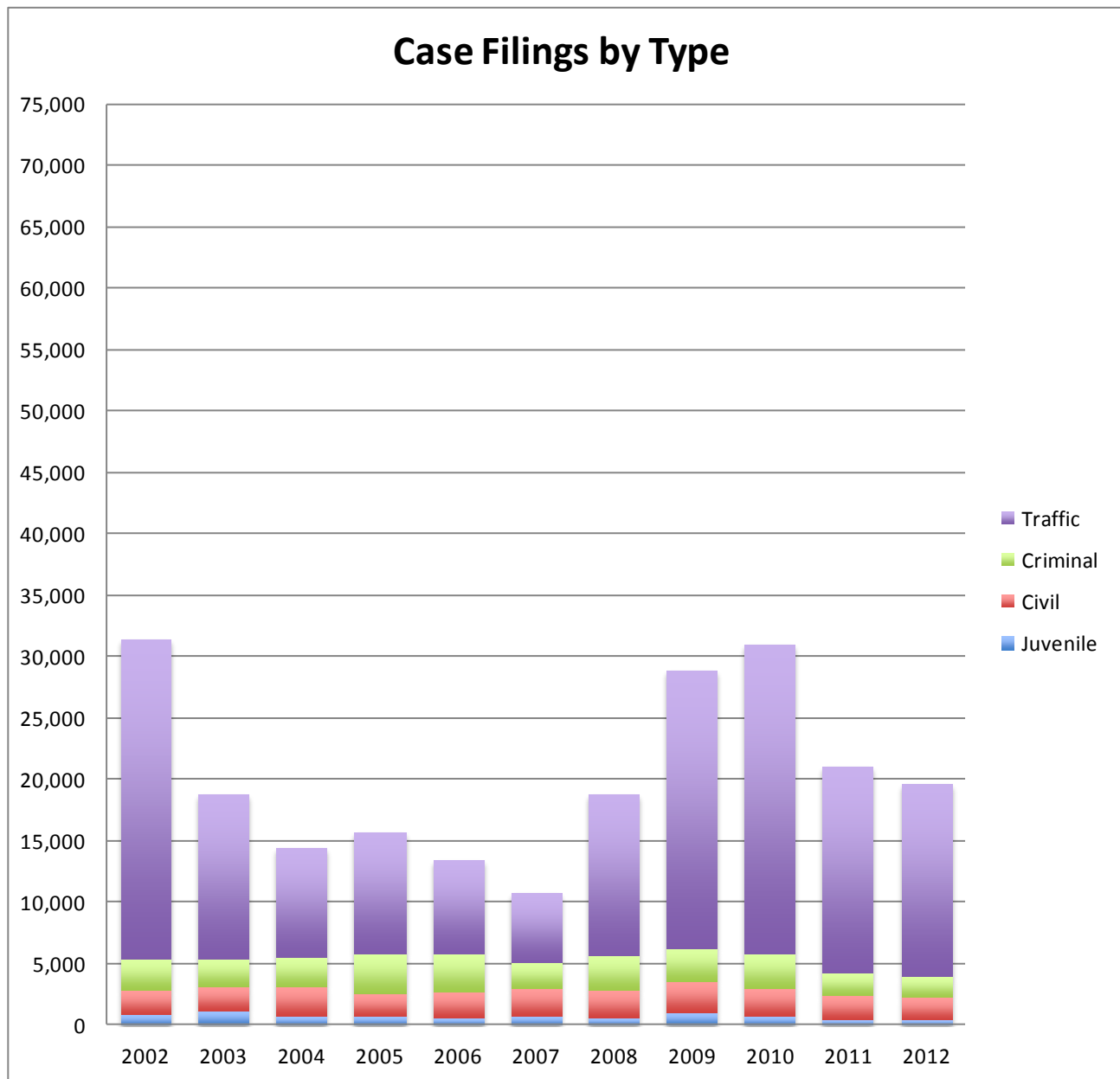


### **Quick facts:**

- Three-judge court.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Edgard.
- Operates an adult drug court and a truancy court.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Website: <http://40thjdc.org/>.



## FOURTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



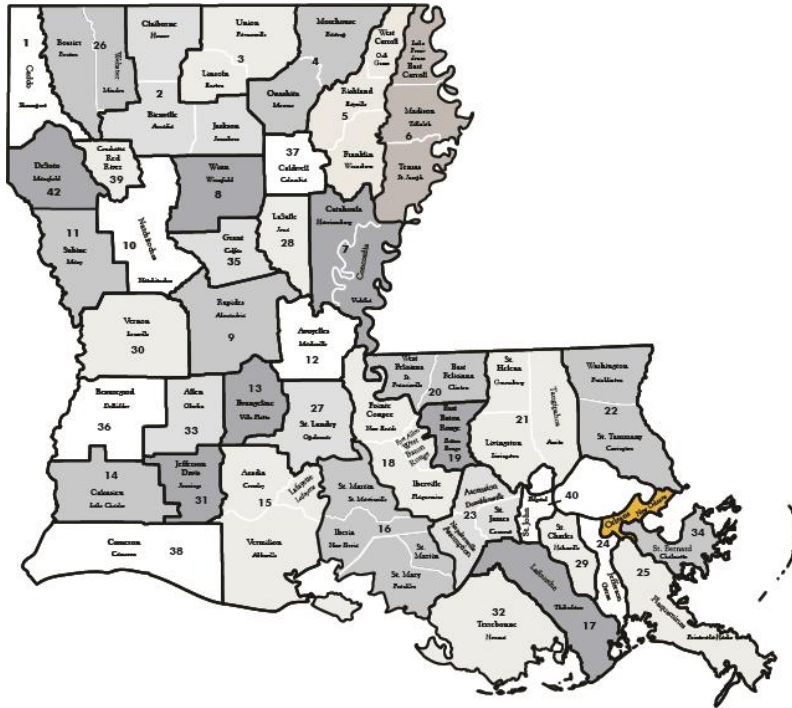
40th JDC	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 <sup>i</sup>	2012
Juvenile	845	1,048	647	613	553 <sup>ii</sup>	620	506	915	570	380 <sup>i</sup>	300
Civil	1,915	1,983	2,338	1,810	2,030	2,305	2,210	2,488	2,297	1,890	1,910
Criminal	2,503	2,276	2,378	3,341	3,060	2,114	2,830	2,771	2,898	1,884	1,728
Traffic <sup>iii</sup>	26,078	13,334	8,995	9,824	7,675	5,601	13,171	22,601	25,199	16,716 <sup>*</sup>	15,616
Total	31,341	18,641	14,358	15,588	13,318	10,640	18,717	28,775	30,964	20,870	19,554
Civil Jury Trials	3	4	0	1	0	2	2	3	0	4	1
Criminal Jury Trials	15	12	9	2	4	3	10	3	7	7	7

<sup>i</sup> The 2011 juvenile and traffic filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2011 annual report.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2006 juvenile filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2006 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

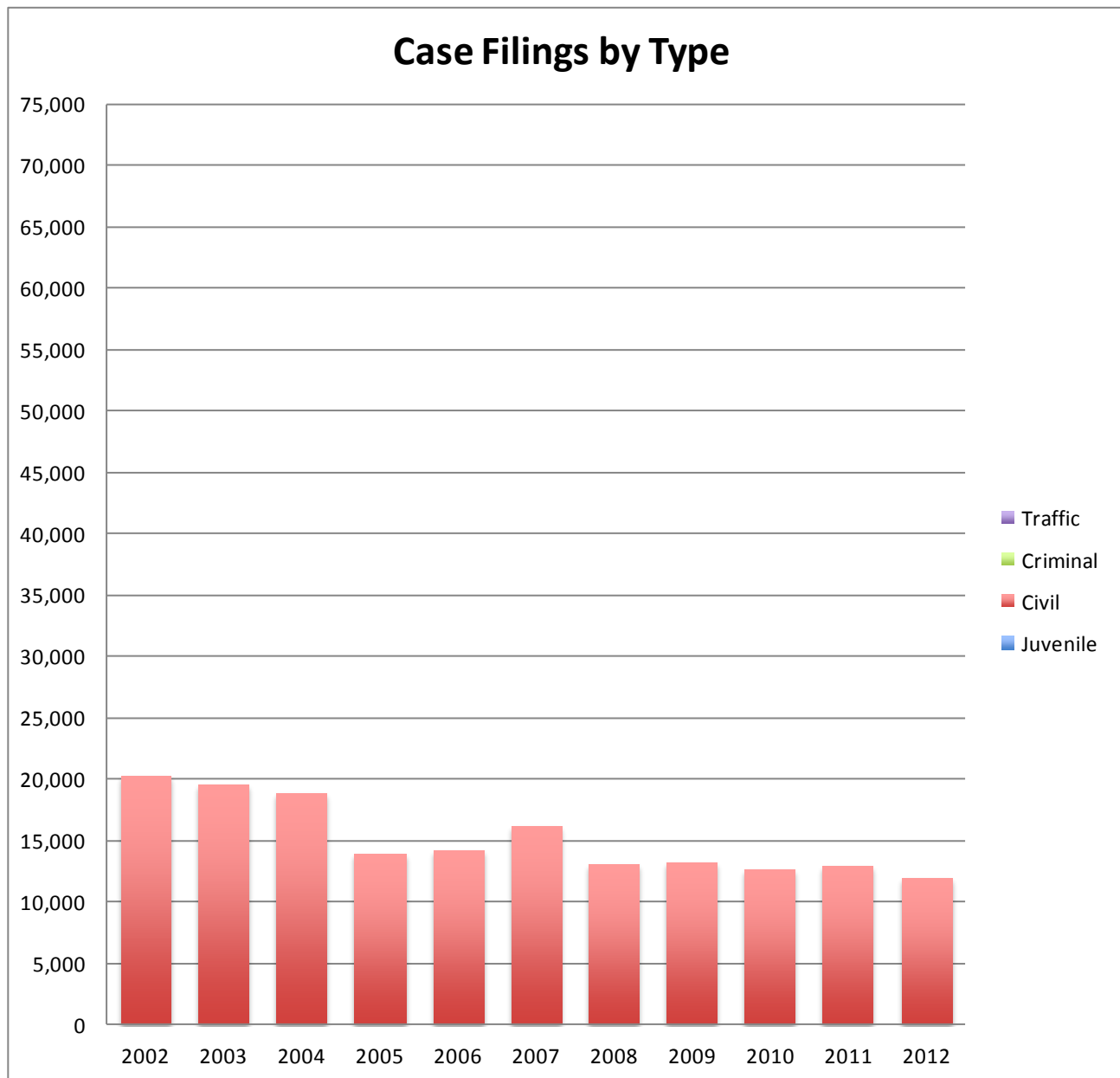
## **ORLEANS PARISH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Fourteen-judge court.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in New Orleans.
- Vested with original civil jurisdiction and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited civil jurisdiction with New Orleans First and Second City Courts.
- Criminal jurisdiction and juvenile jurisdiction are vested in Orleans Parish Criminal, Municipal, Traffic, and Juvenile courts.
- Website: <http://www.orleanscdc.com/>.

## ORLEANS PARISH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT



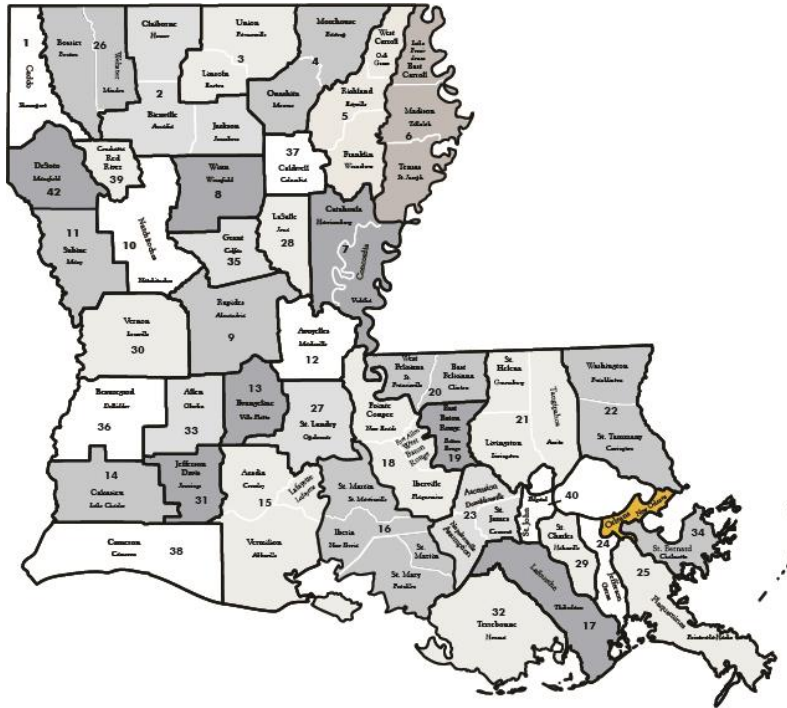
Orleans Civil <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil	20,257	19,466 <sup>ii</sup>	18,763	13,821	14,174	16,106	12,977	13,131	12,682	12,901	11,883
Criminal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20,257	19,466	18,763	13,821	14,174	16,106	12,977	13,131	12,682	12,901	11,883
Civil Jury Trials	0	0	71	41	41	38	32	51	47	39	41
Criminal Jury Trials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> Violations of Traffic, Misdemeanors and/or Juvenile/Family Laws are processed by Parish, City, and or Juvenile/Family Courts.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2003 civil filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2003 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

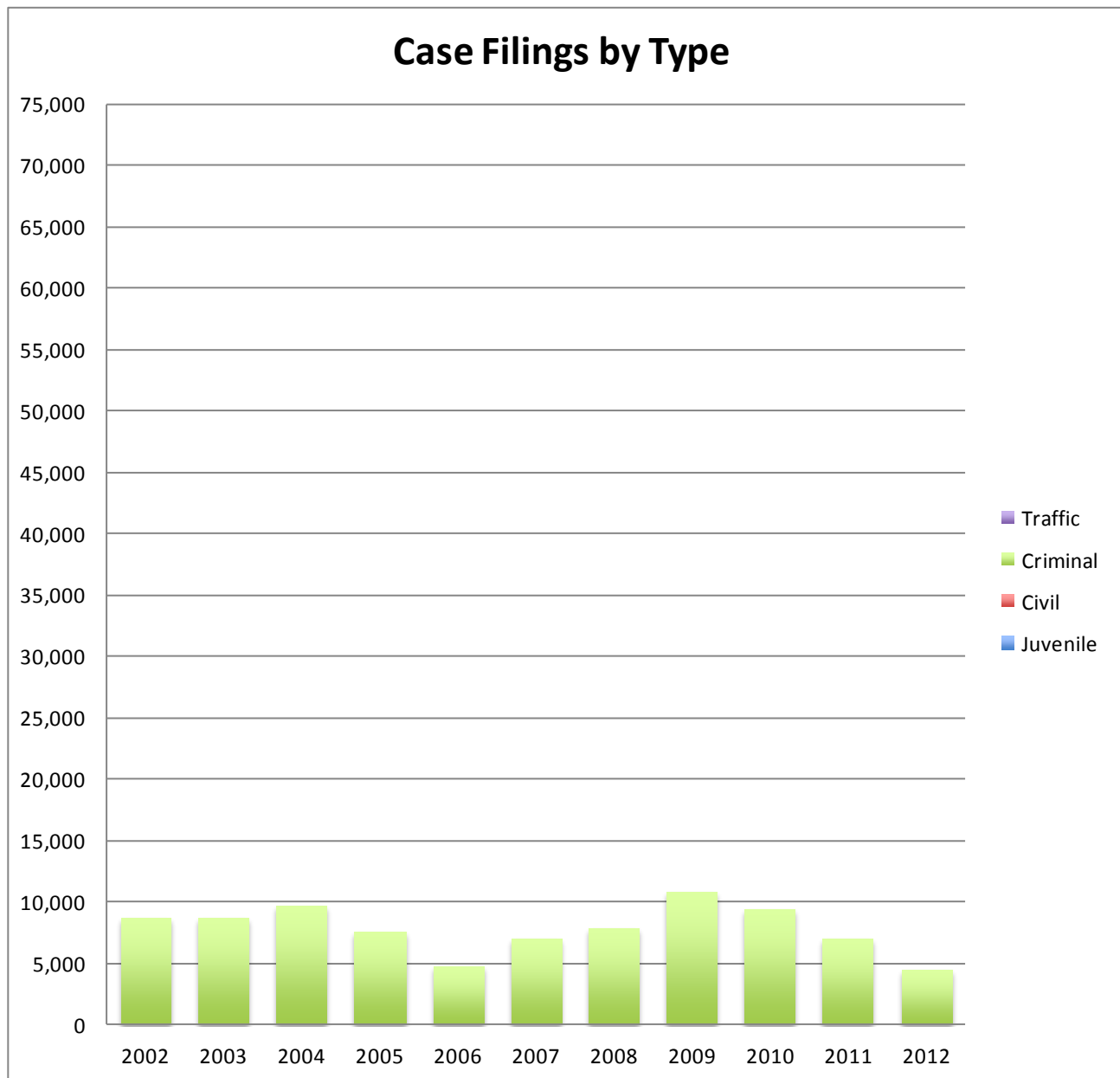
## ORLEANS PARISH CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT



### Quick facts:

- Thirteen-judge court (including magistrate judge).
- Four commissioners.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in New Orleans.
- Operates adult drug court, mental health court, veteran's court, re-entry court, and domestic violence court.
- Vested with exclusive jurisdiction of the trial and punishment of all crimes, misdemeanors, and offenses committed within the parish of Orleans if the jurisdiction is not vested by law in some other court.
- Vested with appellate and supervisory jurisdiction as provided by law.
- Shares limited jurisdiction for misdemeanor criminal and traffic offenses with Orleans Parish Municipal Court and Orleans Parish Traffic Court.
- Website: <http://criminalcourt.org/>.

## ORLEANS PARISH CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT



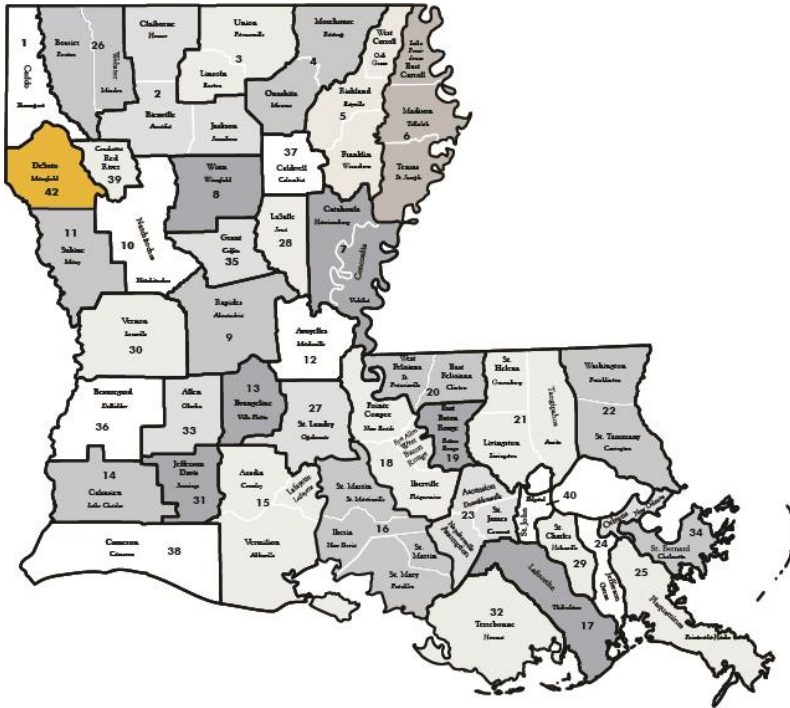
Orleans Criminal <sup>i</sup>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal	8,646	8,684	9,711	7,482	4,663	6,980 <sup>ii</sup>	7,877	10,736	9,370	7,035	4,495
Traffic <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8,646	8,684	9,711	7,482	4,663	6,980	7,877	10,736	9,370	7,035	4,495
Civil Jury Trials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Jury Trials	0	0	221	192	92	237	197	226	282	327	190

<sup>i</sup> Violations of Traffic, Misdemeanors and/or Juvenile/Family Laws are processed by Parish, City, and or Juvenile/Family Courts.

<sup>ii</sup> The 2007 criminal filing data reflects updates received after the publication of the 2007 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

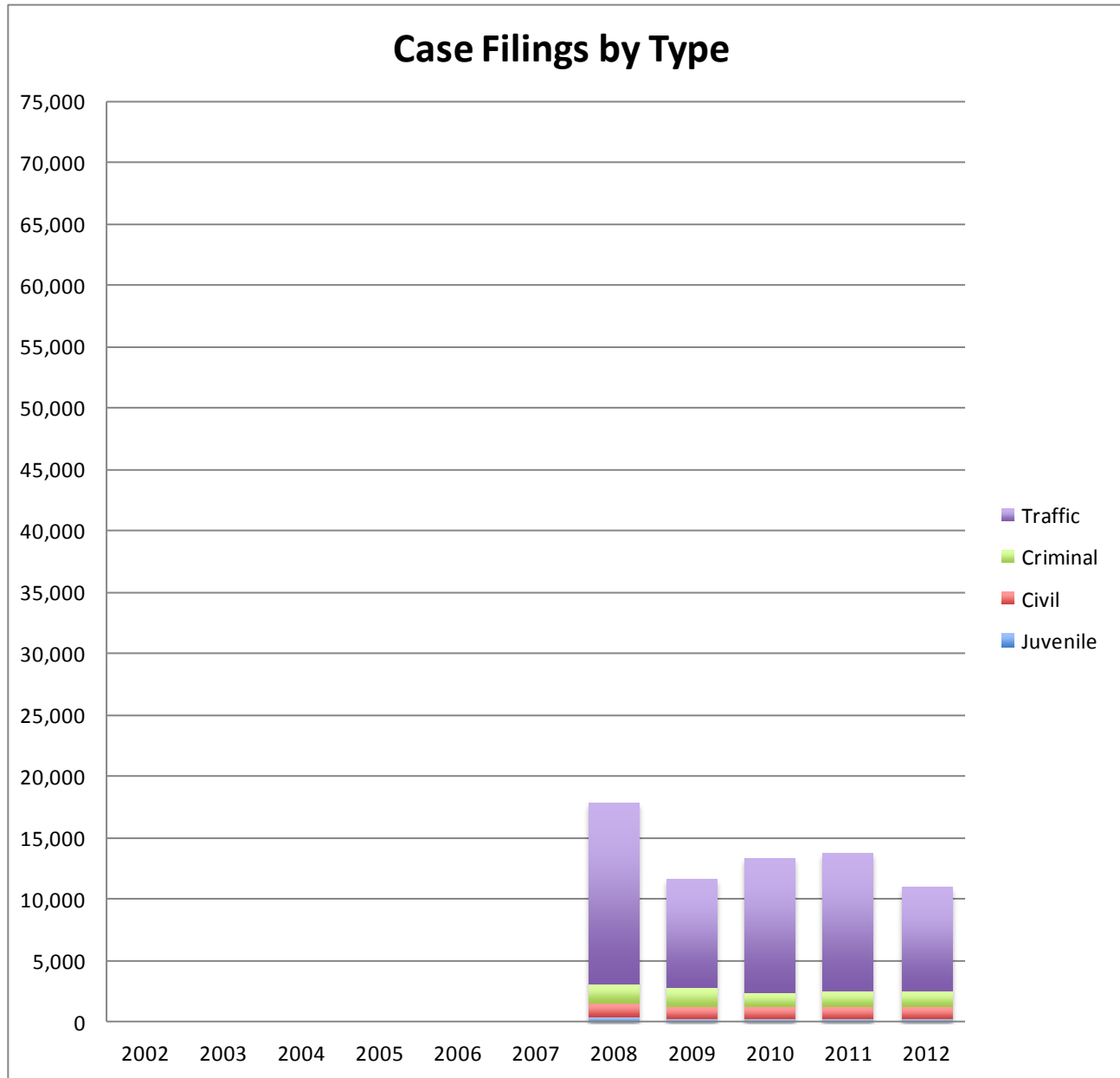
## **FORTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Two-judge court.
- One-parish district in northwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Mansfield.
- Vested with original civil and criminal jurisdiction, including juvenile jurisdiction, and appellate jurisdiction as provided by law.

## FOURTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

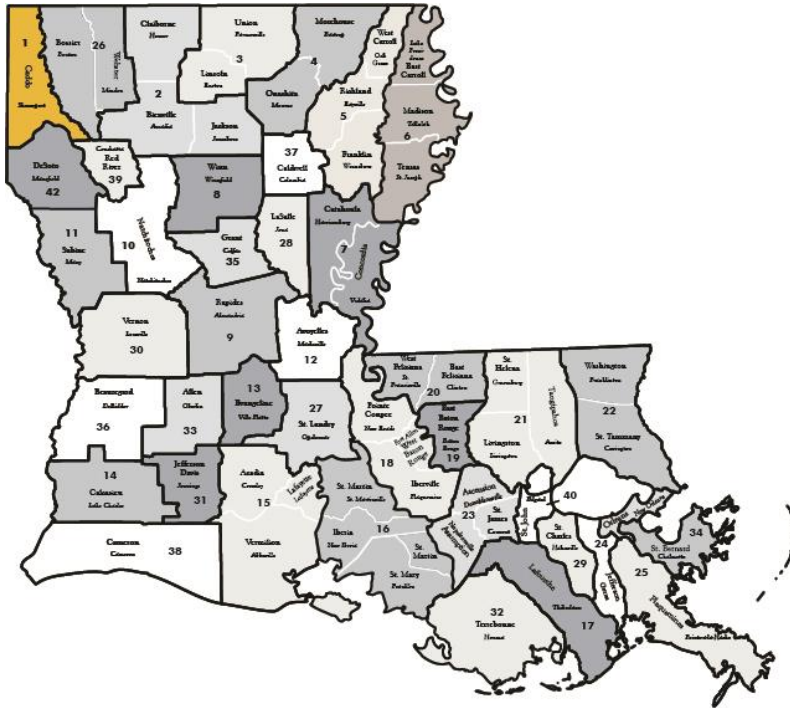


<b>42nd JDC<sup>85</sup></b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0	0	378	269	157	247	255
Civil	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,096	981	1,090	944	985
Criminal	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,580	1,516	1,118	1,281	1,177
Traffic <sup>86</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	14,746	8,802	10,897	11,312	8,456
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,800	11,568	13,262	13,784	10,873
Civil Jury Trials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Criminal Jury Trials	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	7	3	3

<sup>85</sup> In 2008 DeSoto parish moved from the 11<sup>th</sup> JDC to the newly created 42<sup>nd</sup> JDC.

<sup>86</sup> DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

## CADDO PARISH JUVENILE COURT



### Quick facts:

- Three- judge court.
- One hearing officer.
- One-parish district in northwest Louisiana; courthouse located in Shreveport.
- Operates a juvenile drug court, a mental health court, a truancy court, and a family preservation court.
- Vested with exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in Caddo Parish.



## CADDO PARISH JUVENILE COURT

### Caddo Juvenile Court

	2006			2007			2008			2009			2010			2011			2012		
	Filings	Charges	Children <sup>87</sup>	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children
Formal FINS	146	143	136	262	179	262	338	201	338	355	384	355	384	408	384	410	446	413	399	403	398
Juvenile Traffic	554	616	459	552	329	552	449	510	449	274	369	274	458	0	296	399	501	399	353	353	223
Juvenile Delinquency	840	845	655	1,041	623	1,041	1,103	701	1,103	1,787	2,135	1,787	1,817	2,116	1,817	1,153	1,092	1,158	1,634	1,908	1,639
Mental Incapacity to Proceed <sup>88</sup>	0	0	0	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Interstate compact for Juveniles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contempt of Court	18	0	0	37	0	37	156	0	42	393	393	393	506	0	0	334	0	334	317	0	317
Child in Need of Care Cases	208		195	249		249	204		204	154		293	165		294	184		191	148		152
Voluntary Transfer of Custody	54		53	84		84	56		56	29		29	37		0	36		0	23		23
Jud. Certification Adoption	9		9	13		13	11		11	15		15	0		0	16		0	8		8
Surrender of Parental Rights	15		15	20		20	14		14	11		11	12		0	20		0	6		0
Adoption	93		82	116		116	93		93	56		56	38		0	54		0	60		60
Child Support	340		320	620		0	339		0	638		0	634		0	782		0	710		0
Mental Health	37		37	18		0	310		310	291		291	0		0	256		256	192		192
Adult Misdemeanor	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Minor Marriages	0		0	0		0	3		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Protection Terminally Ill Children	0		0	0		0	1		1	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Domestic Abuse	295		273	314		0	279		0	138		138	183		0	170		0	181		0
Other	12		12	8		0	23		0	10		10	272		258	30 <sup>89</sup>		0	19		19
Subtotal	2,621	1,604	2,246	3,340	1,131	2,380	3,379	1,412	2,621	4,151	3,281	3,652	4,507	2,524	3,049	3,845	2,040	2,752	4,050	2,664	3,031

<sup>87</sup> The category of Children denotes the number of children listed in the filed petitions for each case type.

<sup>88</sup> Mental Incapacity to proceed is a subset of the category of Delinquency. The event is enumerated separately as it is considered a significant delinquency event.

<sup>89</sup> The data for Other Filings in 2011 reflects a correction to the 2011 annual report.

## EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH JUVENILE COURT



### Quick Facts:

- Two-judge court.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Baton Rouge.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Vested with exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in East Baton Rouge Parish.
- Website: <http://brgov.com/dept/juvcourt/>.

## EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH JUVENILE COURT

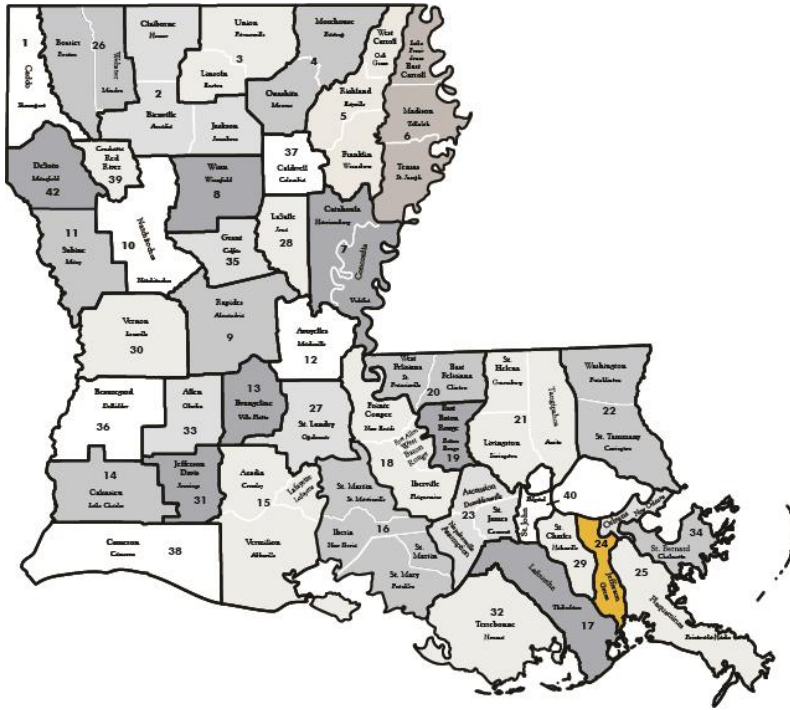
### East Baton Rouge Juvenile Court

	2006			2007			2008			2009			2010			2011			2012		
	Filings	Charges	Children <sup>xc</sup>	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children
Formal FINS	65	160	65	56	138	56	43	89	43	39	115	39	44	116	44	35	108	35	38	114	38
Juvenile Traffic	670	1,095	670	625	996	636	622	909	622	567	895	567	376	594	376	352	553	352	307	456	307
Juvenile Delinquency	974	1,570	974	2,134	3,186	2,134	1,757	2,579	1,757	2,192	3,168	2,192	2,107	3,040	2,107	2,002	2,905	2,002	1,971	2,866	1,971
Mental Incapacity to Proceed <sup>xc</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	16	5	5	32	5	3	31	3	3	8	3
Interstate compact for Juveniles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contempt of Court	288	288	288	1,253	1,253	1,253	1,535	1,535	1,535	1,778	1,778	1,778	2,447	2,447	2,447	385	385	385	336	336	336
Child in Need of Care Cases	149		244	127		173	120		168	95		150	89		119	109		157	101		155
Voluntary Transfer of Custody	58		69	77		105	61		92	61		76	45		58	73		87	63		83
Jud. Certification Adoption	14		18	13		18	12		15	4		4	8		10	3		3	5		5
Surrender of Parental Rights	55		59	69		72	68		62	61		54	93		79	102		84	88		79
Adoption	75		83	74		86	67		77	79		87	71		81	77		85	66		77
Child Support	972		0	1,214		0	1,614		0	1,495		0	1,023		0	0		0	0		0
Mental Health	0		0	3		3	1		1	4		4	10		10	6		6	4		4
Adult Misdemeanor	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	1		0
Minor Marriages	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Protection Terminally Ill Children	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Domestic Abuse	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	1		1	0		0
Other	0		0	10		10	0		0	3		4	1		1	1		1	2		2
Subtotal	3,320	3,113	2,470	5,655	5,573	4,546	5,900	5,112	4,372	6,383	5,972	4,960	6,320	6,230	5,338	3,149	3,982	3,201	2,985	3,780	3,060

<sup>xc</sup> The category of Children denotes the number of children listed in the filed petitions for each case type.

<sup>xc</sup> Mental Incapacity to proceed is a subset of the category of Delinquency. The event is enumerated separately as it is considered a significant delinquency event.

## **JEFFERSON PARISH JUVENILE COURT**



### **Quick facts:**

- Three-judge court.
- Three hearing officers hear traffic, child support, and juvenile matters.
- One-parish district in southeast Louisiana; courthouse located in Harvey.
- Operates a juvenile drug court, informal FINS, and a traffic court
- Vested with exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in Jefferson Parish.
- Website: <http://www.jpjc.org/>.

## JEFFERSON PARISH JUVENILE COURT

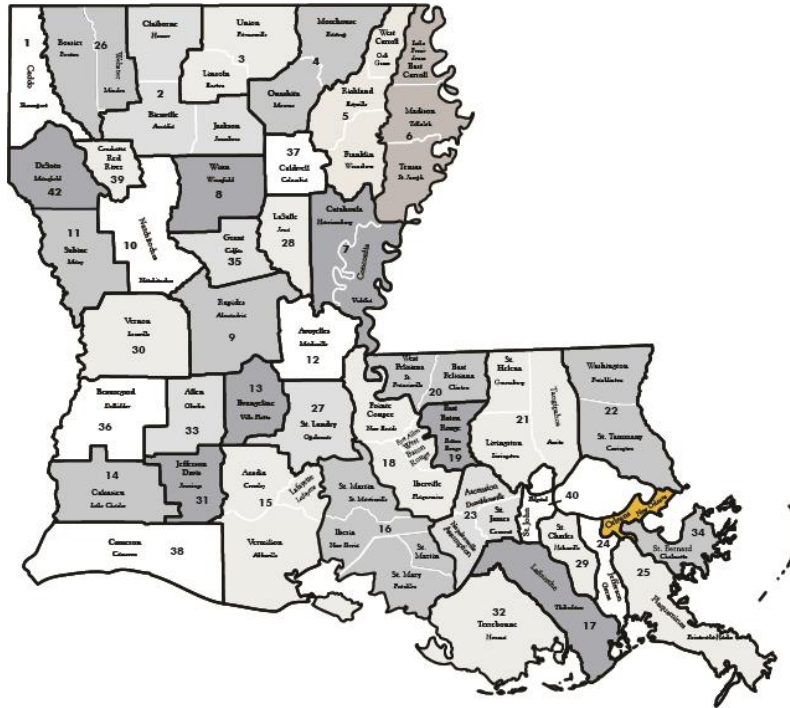
### Jefferson Juvenile Court

	2006			2007			2008			2009			2010			2011			2012		
	Filings	Charges	Children <sup>xcii</sup>	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children
Formal FINS	364	423	367	396	477	396	348	391	348	404	461	404	268	319	268	226	241	226	269	344	276
Juvenile Traffic	726	0	726	718	852	718	581	863	581	563	837	563	408	593	408	336	491	336	349	526	359
Juvenile Delinquency	1,115	1,889	1,115	1,535	2,429	1,535	1,382	2,172	1,382	1,460	2,360	1,460	1,473	2,381	1,473	1,230	2,051	1,230	1,070	1,337	1,036
Mental Incapacity to Proceed <sup>xciii</sup>	32	66	32	55	86	55	27	59	27	46	88	46	32	35	32	26	26	26	1	1	1
Interstate compact for Juveniles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contempt of Court	702	995	702	625	839	625	556	760	556	442	689	442	523	610	523	518	595	518	484	488	484
Child in Need of Care Cases	299		0	280		280	205		205	202		202	202		202	357		357	392		392
Voluntary Transfer of Custody	148		0	222		222	274		274	411		411	298		298	295		298	225		226
Jud. Certification Adoption	53		0	47		47	80		80	77		77	56		56	46		46	63		63
Surrender of Parental Rights	22		0	32		32	35		35	29		29	19		19	19		19	0		0
Adoption	127		0	125		125	202		202	190		190	164		164	131		131	124		124
Child Support	1,369		0	2,253		0	2,203		0	2,166		0	2,283		0	2,482		0	2,759		0
Mental Health	0		0	0		0	0		0	1		1	0		0	0		0	0		0
Adult Misdemeanor	126		0	204		0	101		0	15		0	8		0	3		0	3		0
Minor Marriages	3		0	3		3	2		2	1		1	4		4	1		1	1		1
Protection Terminally Ill Children	0		0	0		0	0		0	1		1	0		0	0		0	0		0
Domestic Abuse	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Other	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Subtotal	5,086	3,373	2,942	6,495	4,683	4,038	5,996	4,245	3,692	6,008	4,435	3,827	5,738	3,938	3,447	5,670	3,404	3,188	5,740	2,696	2,962

<sup>xcii</sup> The category of Children denotes the number of children listed in the filed petitions for each case type.

<sup>xciii</sup> Mental Incapacity to proceed is a subset of the category of Delinquency. The event is enumerated separately as it is considered a significant delinquency event.

## ORLEANS PARISH JUVENILE COURT



### Quick facts:

- Six- judge court.
- One-parish district; courthouse located in New Orleans.
- Operates a juvenile drug court.
- Exercises exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in Orleans Parish.
- Website: <http://www.opjc.com/>.

## ORLEANS PARISH JUVENILE COURT

### Orleans Juvenile Court

	2006 <sup>xciV</sup>			2007			2008			2009			2010			2011			2012		
	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children	Filings	Charges	Children
Formal FINS	12	15	17	21	0	21	23	0	23	39	0	40	54	50	55	64	64	64	52	68	53
Juvenile Traffic	527	0	527	737	0	739	367	0	367	226	497	226	207	439	207	185	369	185	188	406	192
Juvenile Delinquency	357	407	485	605	903	725	710	1,225	869	571	919	694	528	716	582	576	822	619	660	900	686
Mental Incapacity to Proceed <sup>xciV</sup>	0	0	0	66	89	71	0	0	0	19	30	19	22	22	22	9	0	9	0	0	0
Interstate compact for Juveniles	91	0	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	10	10	12	0	0	0	3	3	3
Contempt of Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	9	10	27	27	27	27	0	27	0	0	0
Child in Need of Care Cases	56		95	95		144	83		113	84		111	82		90	96		104	96		105
Voluntary Transfer of Custody	16		18	40		40	23		23	33		39	22		26	27		30	26		28
Jud. Certification Adoption	17		22	6		7	0		0	11		16	23		25	19		19	23		23
Surrender of Parental Rights	12		13	2		2	16		13	16		17	46		44	19		19	7		7
Adoption	65		63	23		25	58		63	49		54	82		89	63		64	71		78
Child Support	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	9		0	0		0
Mental Health	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Adult Misdemeanor	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Minor Marriages	2		2	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Protection Terminally Ill Children	0		0	0			0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Domestic Abuse	0		0				0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0
Other	34		24	16		17	1,073		1,077	1,740		1,201	442		253	339		305	304		281
Subtotal	1,189	422	1,357	1,611	992	1,791	2,353	1,225	2,548	2,799	1,456	2,428	1,545	1,264	1,432	1,433	1,255	1,445	1,430	1,377	1,456

<sup>xciV</sup> The category of Children denotes the number of children listed in the filed petitions for each case type.

<sup>xciV</sup> Mental Incapacity to proceed is a subset of the category of Delinquency. The event is enumerated separately as it is considered a significant delinquency event.

## EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH FAMILY COURT



### Quick facts:

- Four- judge court.
- One-parish district in southern Louisiana; courthouse located in Baton Rouge.
- Vested with exclusive jurisdiction, in East Baton Rouge Parish, over family and certain related matters including divorce, paternity, and child custody and support.
- Website: <http://familycourt.org/main/index.php?page=home>.



## **EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH FAMILY COURT**

<b>EBR Family Court</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
New Cases Filed	3,871	3,491	3,929	4,074	5,711	5,299	4,992
Community Property	187	141	155	163	151	132	71
Contempt State *						1,697	1,938
Deferred Execution *						620	625
Deferred Sentencing *						635	483
Dismissals	269	145	166	176	154	151	188
Divorces	1,875	1,776	1,670	1,693	1,620	1,704	1,487
DVC's	921	909	1,463	1,796	1,796	2,050	2,063
Ex-Parte Custody	82	77	70	55	77	74	80
Income Assignments	498	460	413	497	547	895	1,104
Joint Custody	56	29	36	33	25	8	9
Modification *						280	464
Paternity	1,285	1,043	1,050	1,073	1,191	7	4
Payment Determination *						2,200	1,974
QDRO	152	153	143	144	121	113	112
Review (Non-Support) *						361	249
Rule to Establish Medical Support *						4	0
Rule to Set Arrears *						442	241
Rules	4,595	4,325	4,739	5,488	5,867	5,953	6,407
State Rules *						786	747
Stipulated Judgments	1,241	1,244	1,180	1,321	1,725	1,377	1,408
Suspension Revocation *						9	1
UISA *						581	515
Disavowals	1	2	1	0	2	0	1
Annulments	0	0	2	5	1	0	0

\* In 2011, this court's reporting categories were expanded to include these activities.

# Supreme Court HCR 143 Report

## Exhibit 9

### City Court Profiles and Workload Data, 2002-2012

The Supreme Court collects filing data from each city court annually and publishes it in its annual report. Among all the data collected, filing data has historically been the only data routinely collected by the Supreme Court on a statewide basis that has been used to calculate court workload.

Filing data for the city courts is of varying accuracy and detail, and it is not easily comparable across jurisdictions. This is due, in part, to local variances in criminal charging practices of the district attorneys (which can lead to significant variance in filing numbers), to differences in the design and capabilities of the case management systems used by the clerks of court (whose offices report the data), and to differences in counting and reporting practices generally.

It must be noted that filing data alone is an imprecise measure of judicial activity. This is because filing data reflects case volume only and it does not address the nature of the kinds of cases typically heard in city courts, e.g., cases in which parties represent themselves. This feature of practice in the city courts has a direct impact on the workload demands of judges and on caseflow generally.

**The Supreme Court receives its data from the various clerks across the State and therefore cannot vouch for its accuracy.**

The size of the city courts varies greatly, with regards to the number of filings. This diversity creates range problems when viewing the data in graphs; therefore, the courts in this exhibit are split into three sections of graphical ranges based on the number of filings. They are as follows:

**Filing Range 0-10k:**

Abbeville  
Baker  
Bastrop  
Bogalusa  
Breaux Bridge  
Bunkie  
Eunice  
Franklin  
Jeanerette  
Jennings  
Kaplan  
Leesville  
Marksville  
Minden  
Morgan City  
Natchitoches  
New Orleans 2nd City Ct.  
Oakdale  
Plaquemine  
Rayne  
Ruston  
Springhill  
Thibodaux  
Vidalia  
Ville Platte  
Winnfield  
Winnsboro  
Zachary

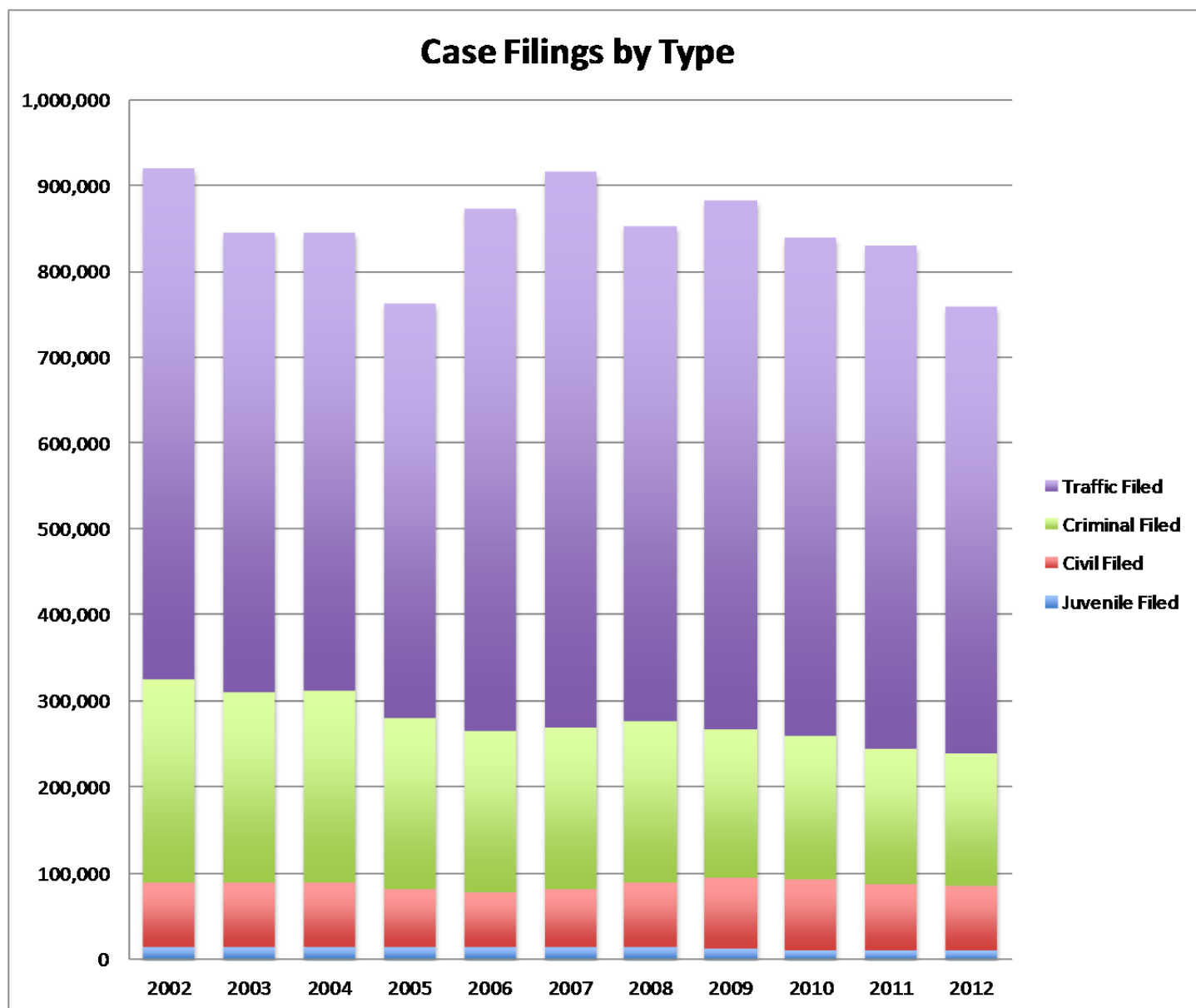
**Filing Range 0-50k:**

Alexandria  
Bossier City  
Crowley  
Denham Springs  
Hammond  
Houma  
Lafayette  
Lake Charles  
Monroe  
New Iberia  
New Orleans 1st City Ct.  
Opelousas  
Pineville  
Port Allen  
Slidell  
Sulphur  
West Monroe

**Filing Range 0-300k:**

Baton Rouge  
New Orleans Municipal  
New Orleans Traffic  
Shreveport

## LOUISIANA CITY COURTS



City Courts	2002	2003	2004	2005 *	2006	2007	2008 *	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	75,166	73,647	74,586	68,808	65,200	68,249	76,219	81,182	81,299	76,072	75,568
Civil Term.	59,820	56,260	57,733	51,412	49,406	50,823	57,609	62,315	63,902	60,756	61,662
Criminal Filed	236,191	221,257	222,519	197,833	185,532	186,391	185,904	173,398	166,024	157,476	154,154
Criminal Term	194,626	172,767	171,053	148,756	145,119	149,730	150,272	155,275	147,749	153,444	141,108
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	593,639	535,216	533,456	482,382	608,824	648,327	576,957	615,114	580,133	585,141	519,489
Traffic Term.	477,490	429,399	426,805	387,414	468,663	515,534	478,772	516,206	529,366	540,208	487,013
Juvenile Filed	14,289	14,779	14,714	13,445	13,573	13,697	13,657	12,982	11,213	11,198	9,860
Juveniles Term.	12,015	12,509	12,552	11,389	11,632	12,351	10,811	10,244	9,181	8,981	8,282
Total Filed	919,285	844,899	845,275	762,468	873,129	916,664	852,737	882,676	838,669	829,887	759,071
Total Term	743,951	670,935	668,143	598,971	674,820	728,438	697,464	744,040	750,198	763,389	698,065
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	91,455	77,061	71,886	70,756	79,831	81,282	84,609	57,922	85,257	93,087	85,345
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	64,396	68,107	72,110	73,544	66,576

\* Data reflects updates received after the publication of the annual report.

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings.

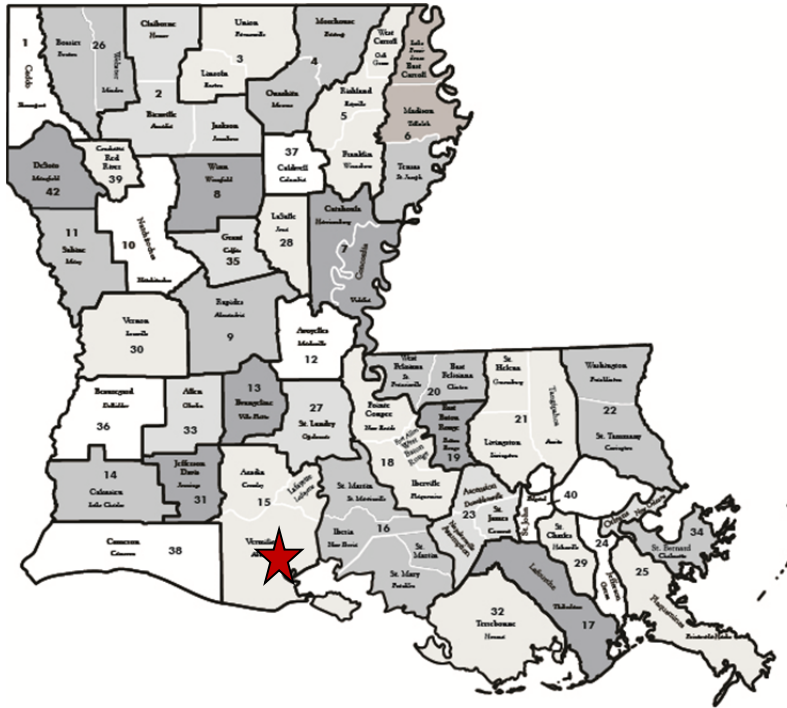
<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extra ordinary writs.

City Courts  
Filing Range 0-10k

**Filing Range 0-10k:**

Abbeville  
Baker  
Bastrop  
Bogalusa  
Breaux Bridge  
Bunkie  
Eunice  
Franklin  
Jeanerette  
Jennings  
Kaplan  
Leesville  
Marksville  
Minden  
Morgan City  
Natchitoches  
New Orleans 2nd City Ct.  
Oakdale  
Plaquemine  
Rayne  
Ruston  
Springhill  
Thibodaux  
Vidalia  
Ville Platte  
Winnfield  
Winnsboro  
Zachary

## **ABBEVILLE CITY COURT**

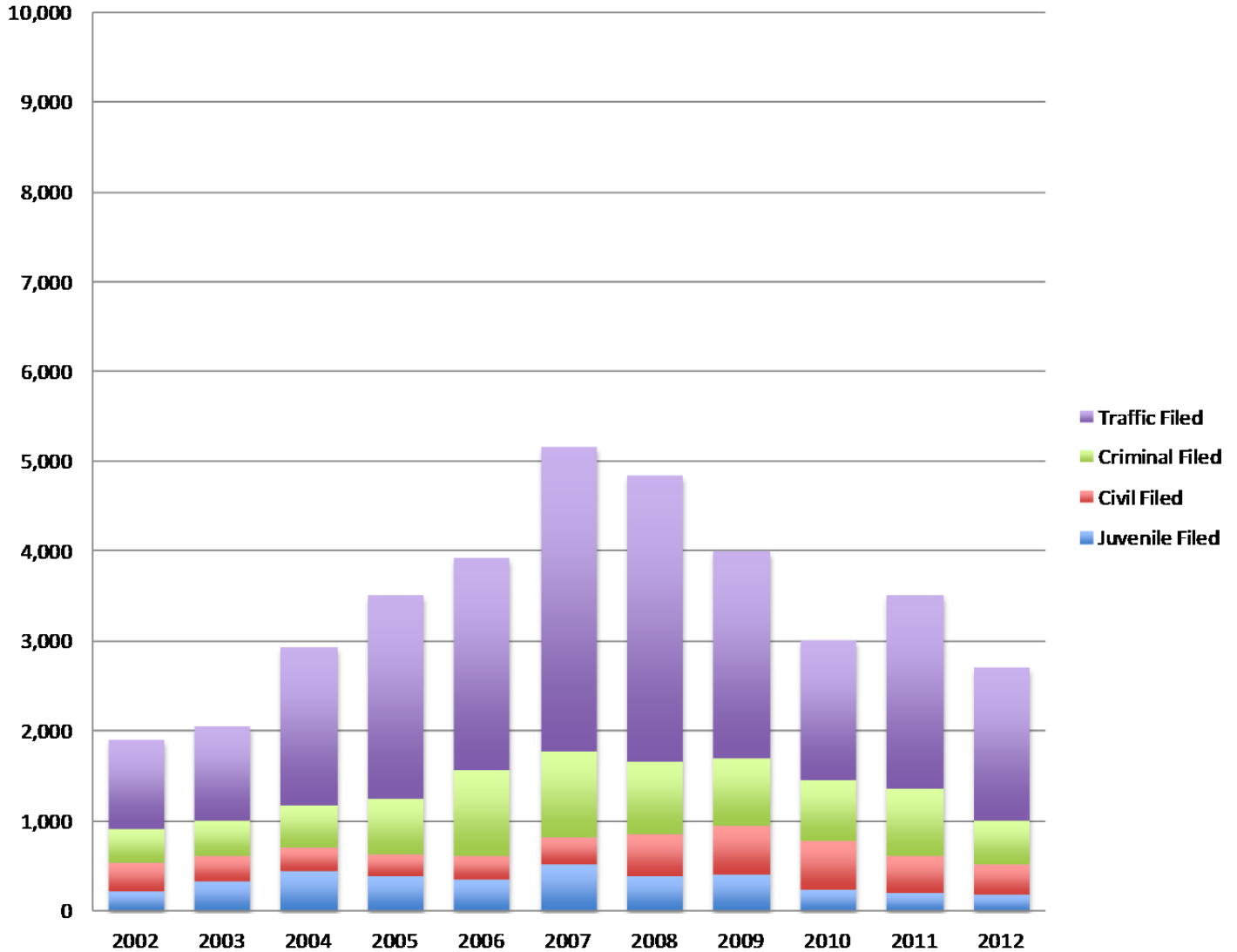


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court located in Vermilion Parish.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Abbeville and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in any part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 15<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, for civil matters with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in criminal misdemeanor state and local offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## ABBEVILLE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



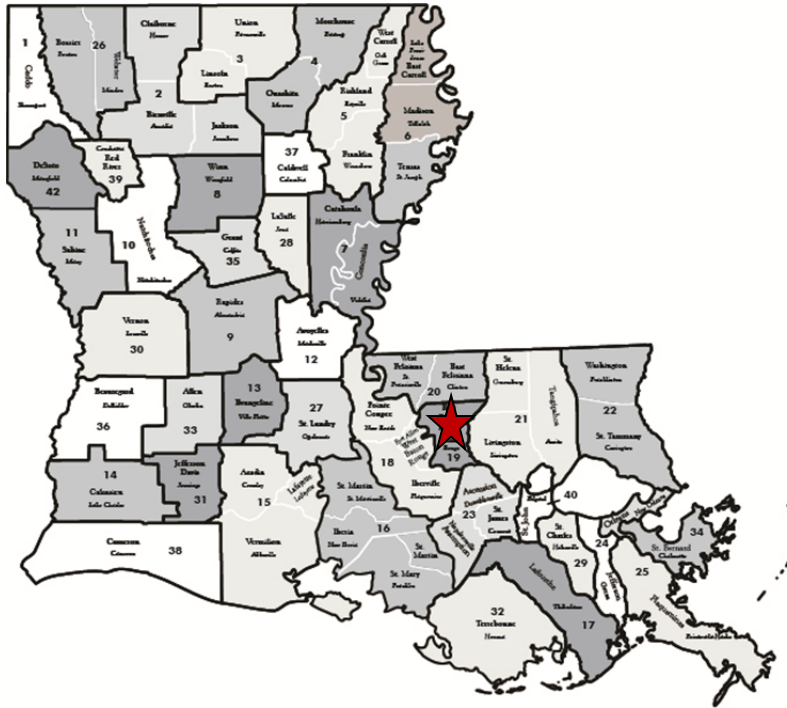
Abbeville	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	327	291	270	246	265	292	456	545	540	411	328
Civil Term.	229	198	215	155	227	207	328	389	396	316	240
Criminal Filed	365	390	461	615	960	950	812	745	670	735	483
Criminal Term	414	365	465	562	828	1,029	953	648	546	624	538
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	994	1,041	1,758	2,270	2,348	3,402	3,181	2,308	1,559	2,166	1,712
Traffic Term.	710	946	1,335	1,983	1,863	3,034	3,274	2,574	1,391	2,043	1,742
Juvenile Filed	212	328	442	386	346	520	394	400	235	204	185
Juveniles Term.	216	345	421	402	367	519	353	399	252	258	195
Total Filed	1,898	2,050	2,931	3,517	3,919	5,164	4,843	3,998	3,004	3,516	2,708
Total Term	1,569	1,854	2,436	3,102	3,285	4,789	4,908	4,010	2,585	3,241	2,715
Other Filed <sup>iv</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>iv</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## **BAKER CITY COURT**

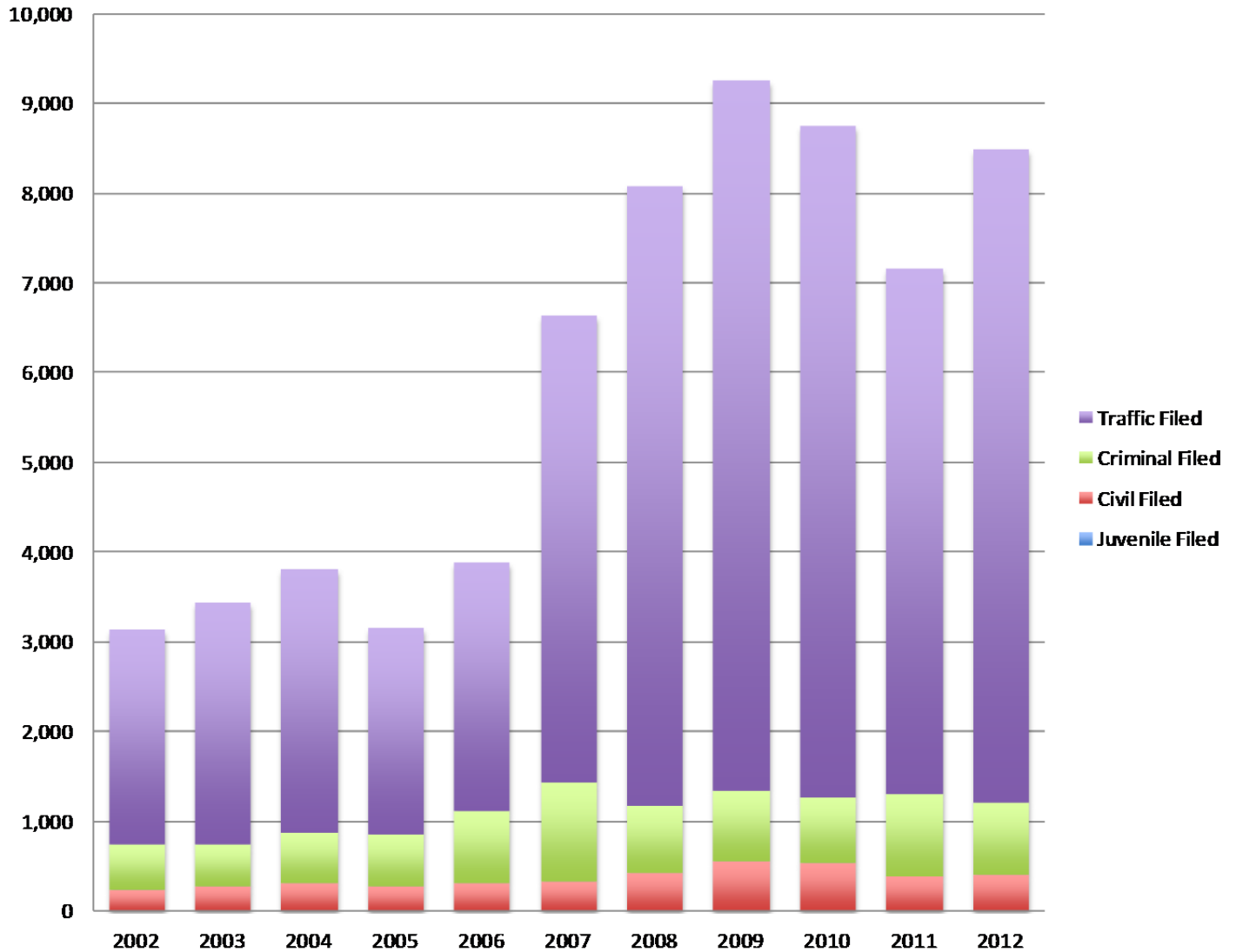


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court located in East Baton Rouge Parish.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Baker.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, for civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, and in criminal state and local misdemeanor offenses.
- Juvenile jurisdiction is vested exclusively in East Baton Rouge Juvenile Court.
- Website: <http://www.cityofbakerla.com/citycourt.html>.

## BAKER CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

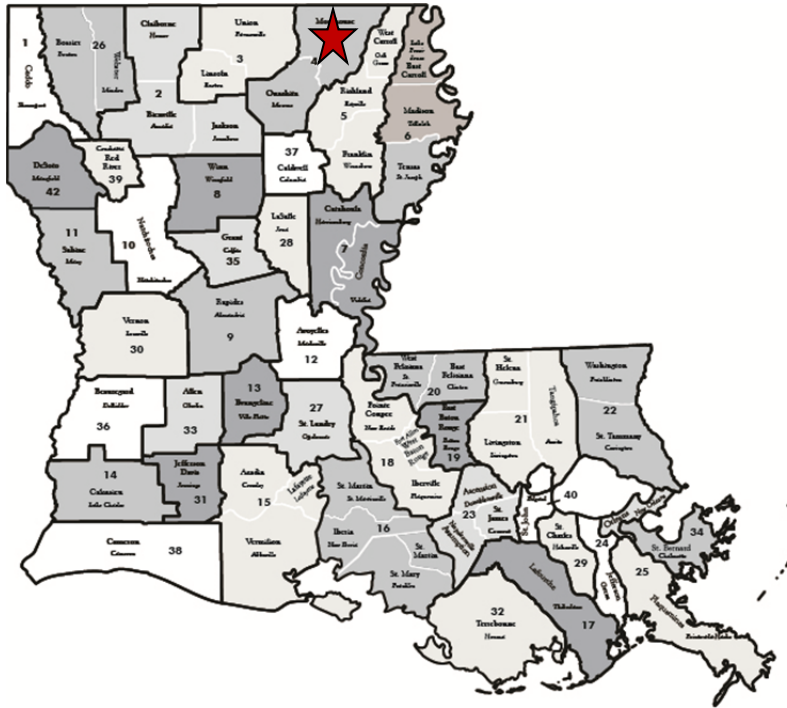


Baker	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	237	274	315	270	316	328	415	560	531	388	411
Civil Term.	164	167	185	227	238	214	317	462	332	347	366
Criminal Filed	504	468	555	584	806	1,110	765	781	728	921	797
Criminal Term	999	468	404	256	414	540	531	345	341	496	622
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	2,399	2,687	2,941	2,297	2,768	5,188	6,899	7,919	7,489	5,853	7,278
Traffic Term.	2,339	2,116	2,749	1,342	2,146	3,072	4,247	6,082	5,150	5,576	5,552
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	3,140	3,429	3,811	3,151	3,890	6,626	8,079	9,260	8,748	7,162	8,486
Total Term	3,502	2,751	3,338	1,825	2,798	3,826	5,095	6,889	5,823	6,419	6,540
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## **BASTROP CITY COURT**

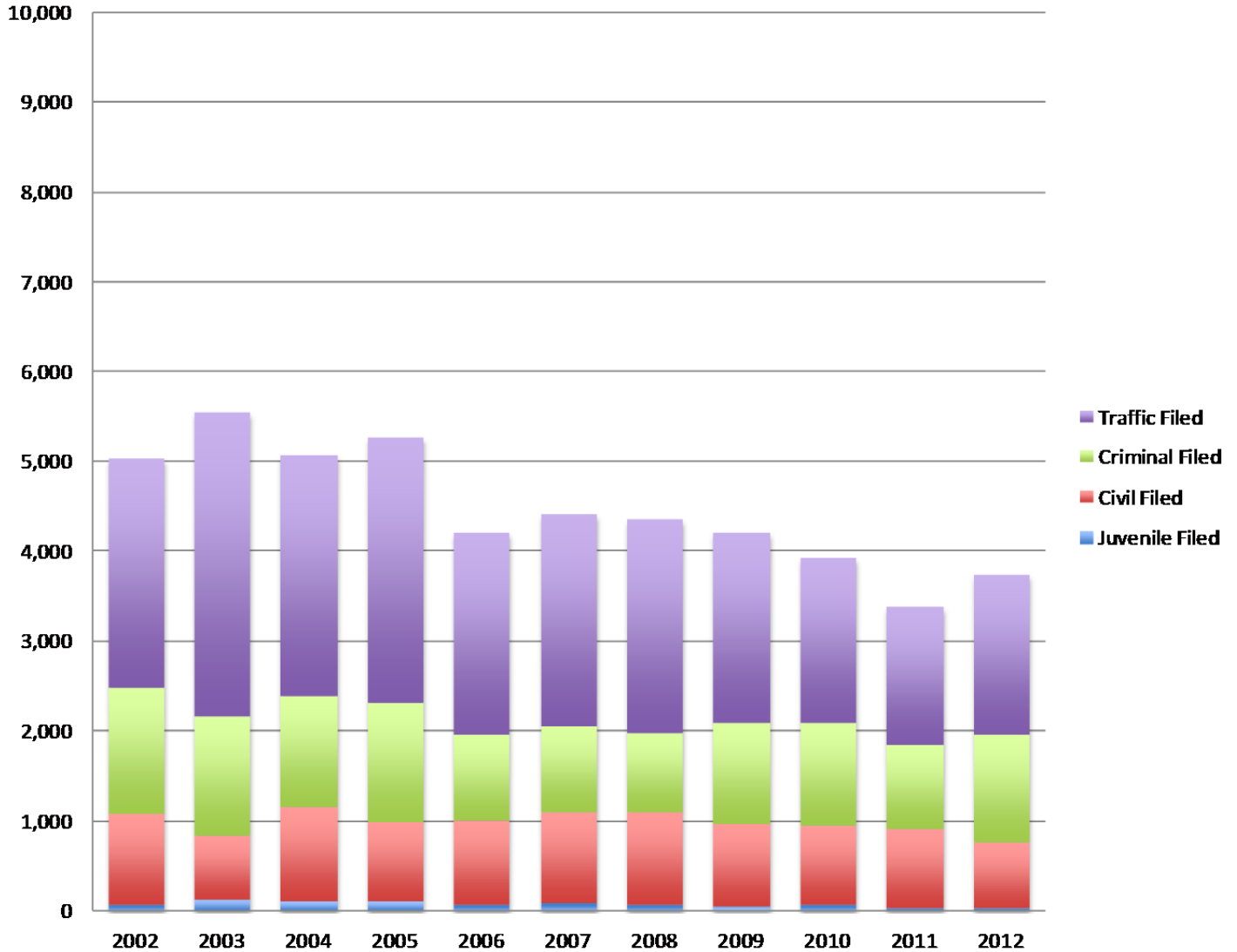


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court located in Morehouse Parish.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Bastrop and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in any part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 4<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://bastropcitycourt.com/>.

## BASTROP CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

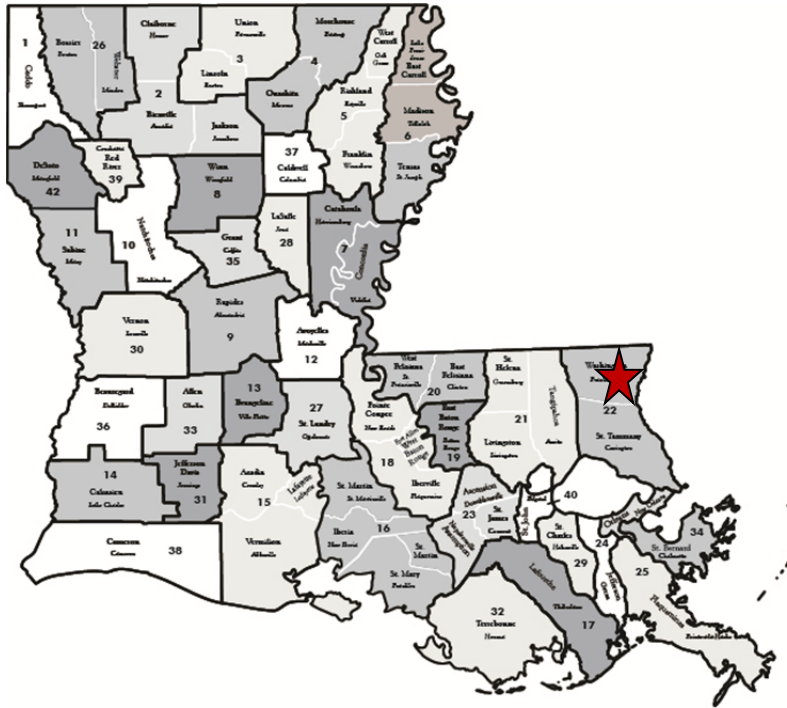


<b>Bastrop</b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	998	700	1,047	881	940	1,013	1,044	916	896	890	729
Civil Term.	752	521	924	760	805	960	972	846	760	712	601
Criminal Filed	1,409	1,325	1,236	1,327	942	948	863	1,108	1,142	924	1,195
Criminal Term	1,164	1,041	1,113	1,196	812	883	757	1,073	1,097	805	1,059
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	2,554	3,402	2,667	2,951	2,250	2,362	2,389	2,116	1,829	1,536	1,790
Traffic Term.	2,118	2,580	2,528	2,747	2,031	2,203	2,218	2,063	1,797	1,446	1,649
Juvenile Filed	72	130	105	113	71	82	61	58	59	23	30
Juveniles Term.	63	115	89	92	54	61	48	51	46	17	23
Total Filed	5,033	5,557	5,055	5,272	4,203	4,405	4,357	4,198	3,926	3,373	3,744
Total Term	4,097	4,257	4,654	4,795	3,702	4,107	3,995	4,033	3,700	2,980	3,332
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	378	402	612	820	904	875	882	833	720	610	599
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## **BOGALUSA CITY COURT**

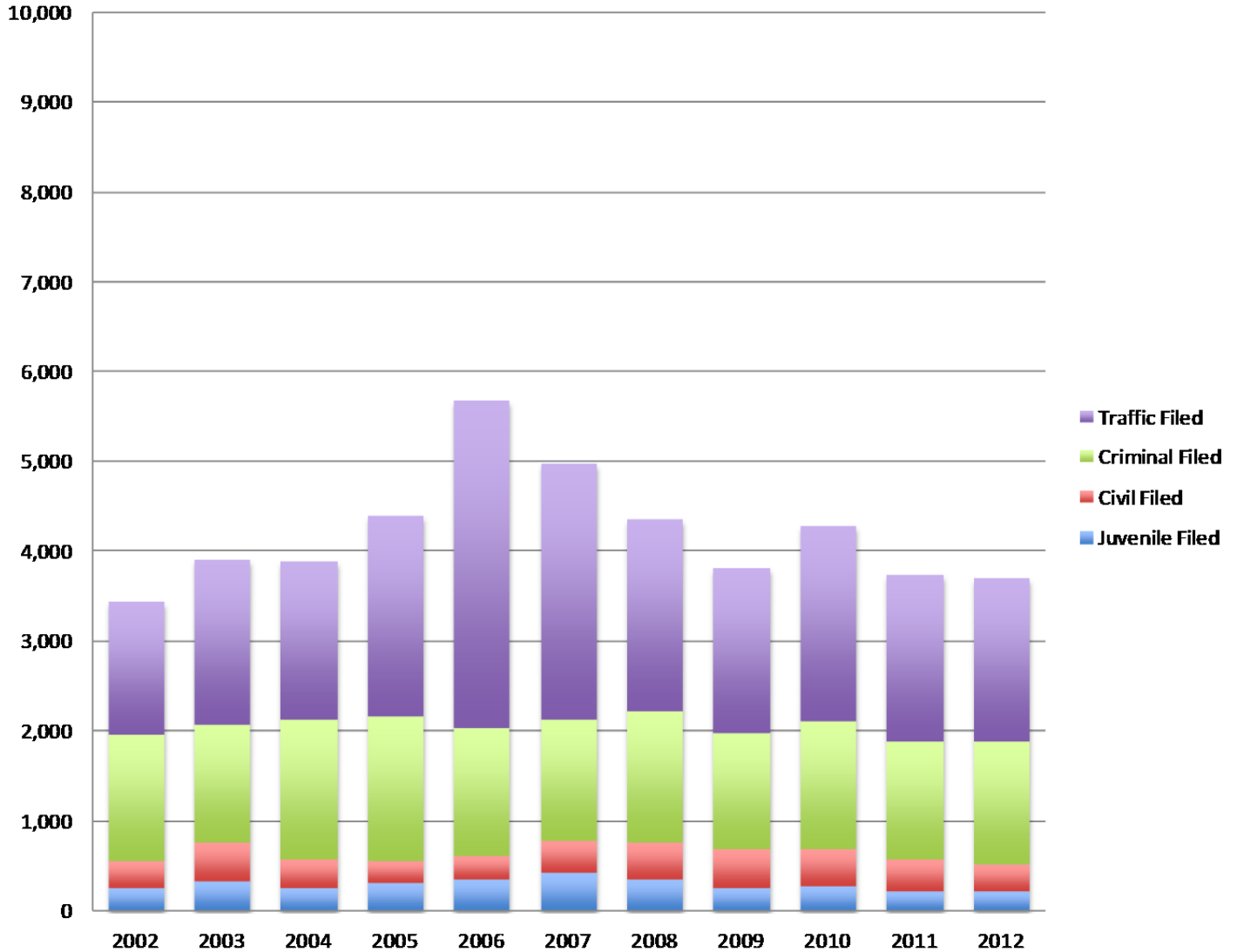


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court located in St. Tammany Parish.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Bogalusa and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in any part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 22<sup>nd</sup>, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.bogalusa.org/departments/index.php?structureid=14>.

## BOGALUSA CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

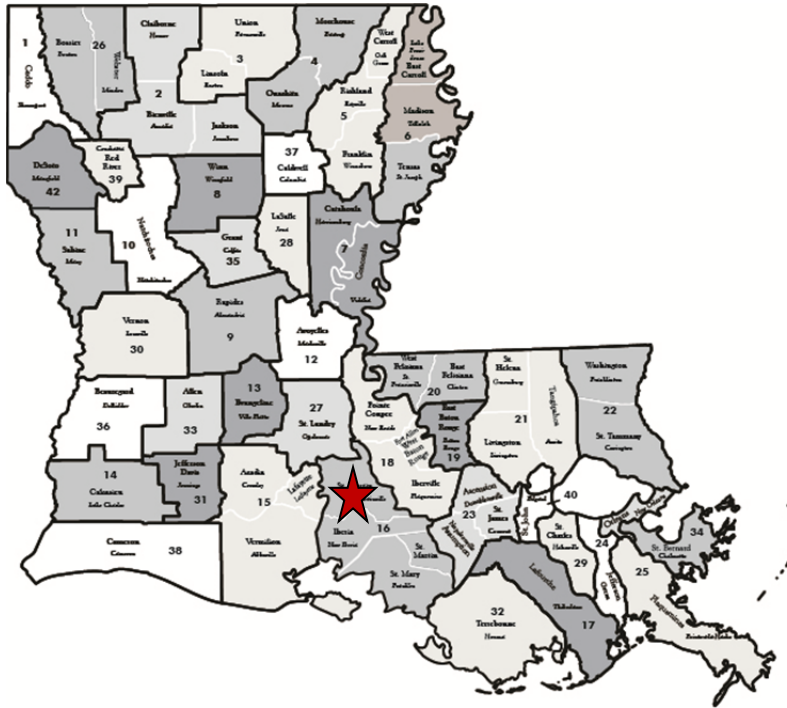


<b>Bogalusa</b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	286	441	310	252	268	359	423	430	418	361	298
Civil Term.	255	325	284	211	184	111	1,816	108	97	67	56
Criminal Filed	1,407	1,302	1,561	1,610	1,414	1,351	1,459	1,300	1,408	1,317	1,357
Criminal Term	1,151	1,208	1,343	1,354	1,326	1,350	1,398	1,308	1,297	1,340	1,181
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,485	1,832	1,756	2,215	3,657	2,842	2,129	1,824	2,186	1,851	1,819
Traffic Term.	1,449	1,560	1,721	1,865	2,719	2,902	2,470	2,453	2,415	2,178	1,834
Juvenile Filed	261	324	259	307	347	416	343	249	273	210	221
Juveniles Term.	220	284	250	332	292	347	214	196	222	166	159
Total Filed	3,439	3,899	3,886	4,384	5,686	4,968	4,354	3,803	4,285	3,739	3,695
Total Term	3,075	3,377	3,598	3,762	4,521	4,710	5,898	4,065	4,031	3,751	3,230
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	2,276	2,356	1,879	2,271	2,754	3,378	0	0	0	2,847	3,097
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,044	3,147

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## **BREAUX BRIDGE CITY COURT**

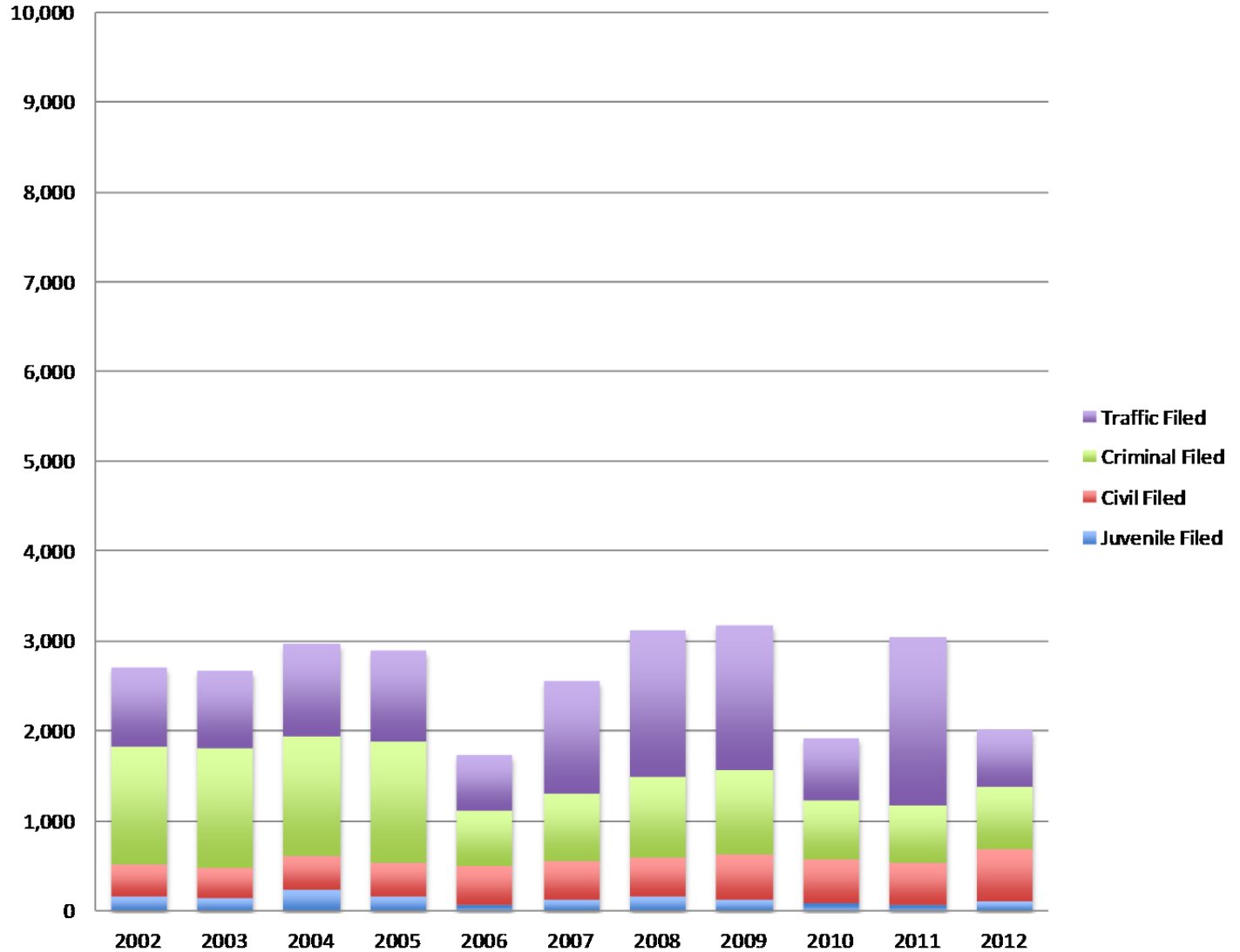


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Breaux Bridge and also the whole of ward 4 of St. Martin parish in southern Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## BREAUX BRIDGE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



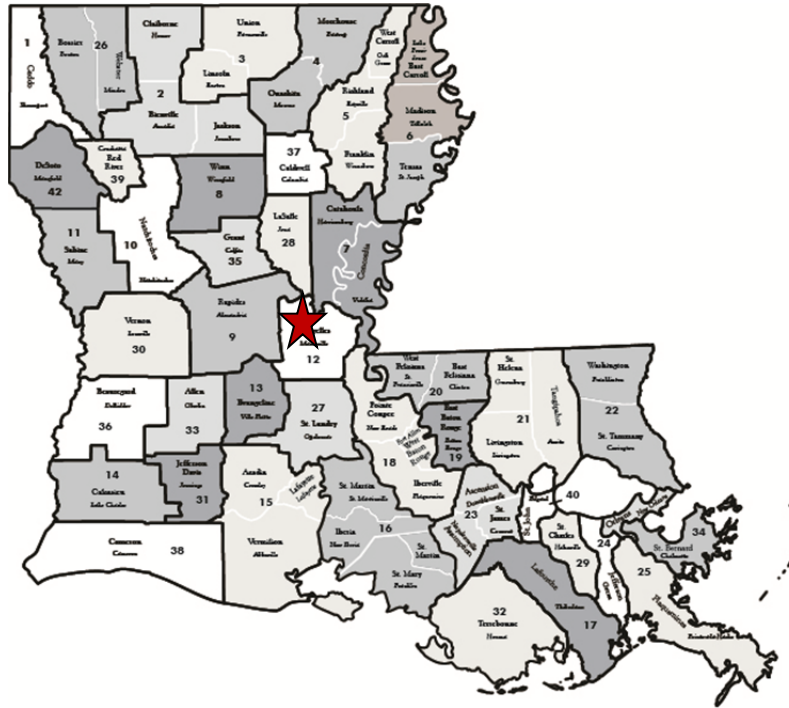
Breaux Bridge	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	345	328	376	373	421	429	427	491	491	462	570
Civil Term.	319	302	342	326	349	477	347	442	450	508	507
Criminal Filed	1,324	1,327	1,335	1,356	627	749	912	949	647	640	689
Criminal Term	1,230	1,095	1,106	1,357	932	690	765	1,053	658	559	344
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	870	863	1,016	1,004	603	1,251	1,620	1,604	688	1,867	653
Traffic Term.	852	833	808	1,063	682	963	1,408	1,623	799	1,584	316
Juvenile Filed	166	145	234	161	73	120	157	131	88	67	111
Juveniles Term.	165	167	234	116	164	130	110	181	77	60	122
Total Filed	2,705	2,663	2,961	2,894	1,724	2,549	3,116	3,175	1,914	3,036	2,023
Total Term	2,566	2,397	2,490	2,862	2,127	2,260	2,630	3,299	1,984	2,711	1,289
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	100	126	126	137	179	132	139	121	139	151	126
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	102	97	133	265

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## **BUNKIE CITY COURT**

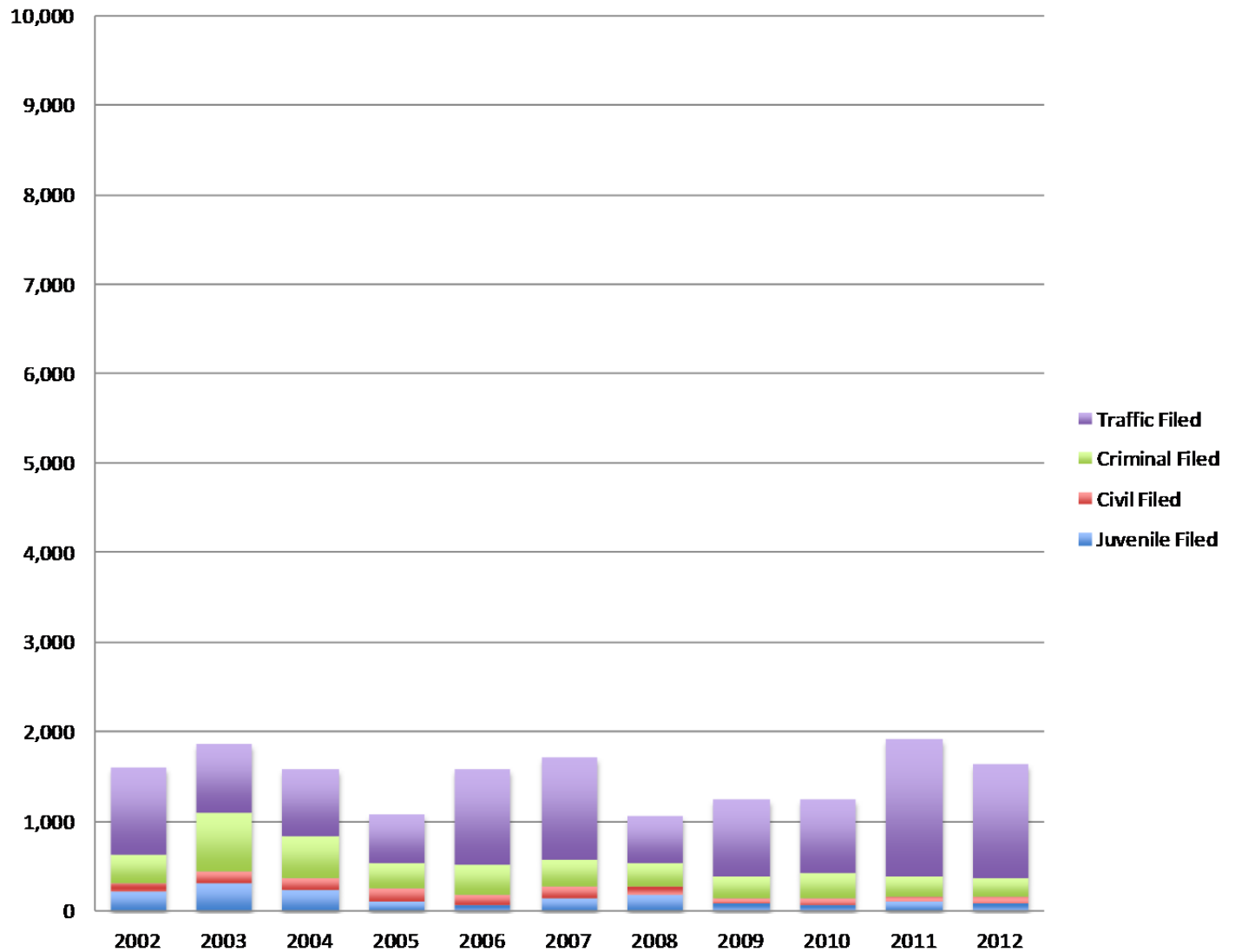


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Bunkie and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 12<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## BUNKIE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



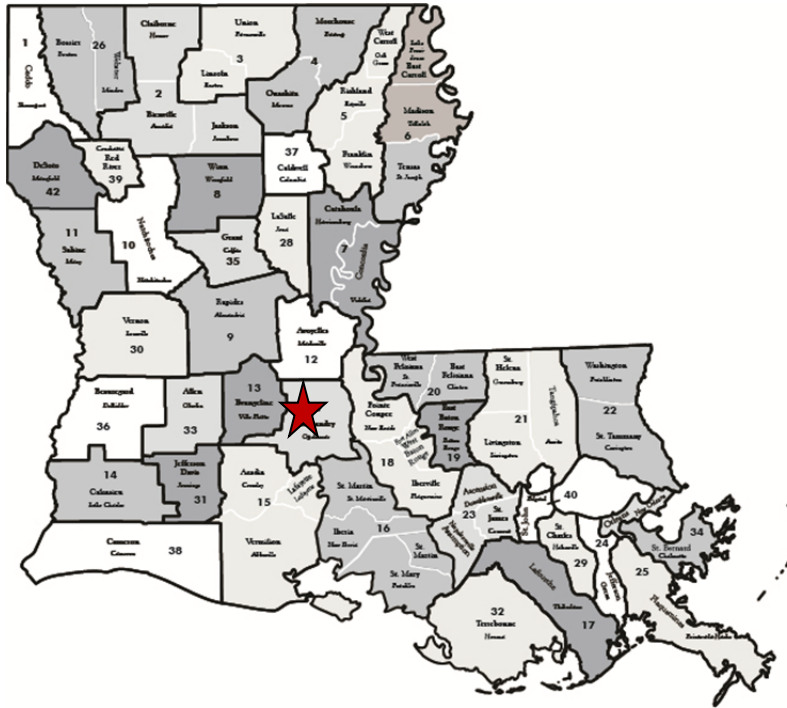
Bunkie	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	77	132	126	147	107	119	99	59	70	72	83
Civil Term.	76	128	132	146	108	119	101	60	69	72	85
Criminal Filed	331	646	474	284	340	309	264	240	286	209	194
Criminal Term	322	646	481	282	344	311	266	240	285	210	194
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	974	772	742	548	1,065	1,132	516	854	829	1,540	1,279
Traffic Term.	970	776	742	548 <sup>ii</sup>	1,074	1,134	516	854	832	1,540	1,279
Juvenile Filed	225	311	236	104	71	149	172	93	67	98	87
Juveniles Term.	218	298	229	99	85	152	171	94	67	98	87
Total Filed	1,607	1,861	1,578	1,083	1,583	1,709	1,051	1,246	1,252	1,919	1,643
Total Term	1,586	1,848	1,584	1,075	1,611	1,716	1,054	1,248	1,253	1,920	1,645
Other Filed <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Traffic Term. has been updated to correct an error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## EUNICE CITY COURT

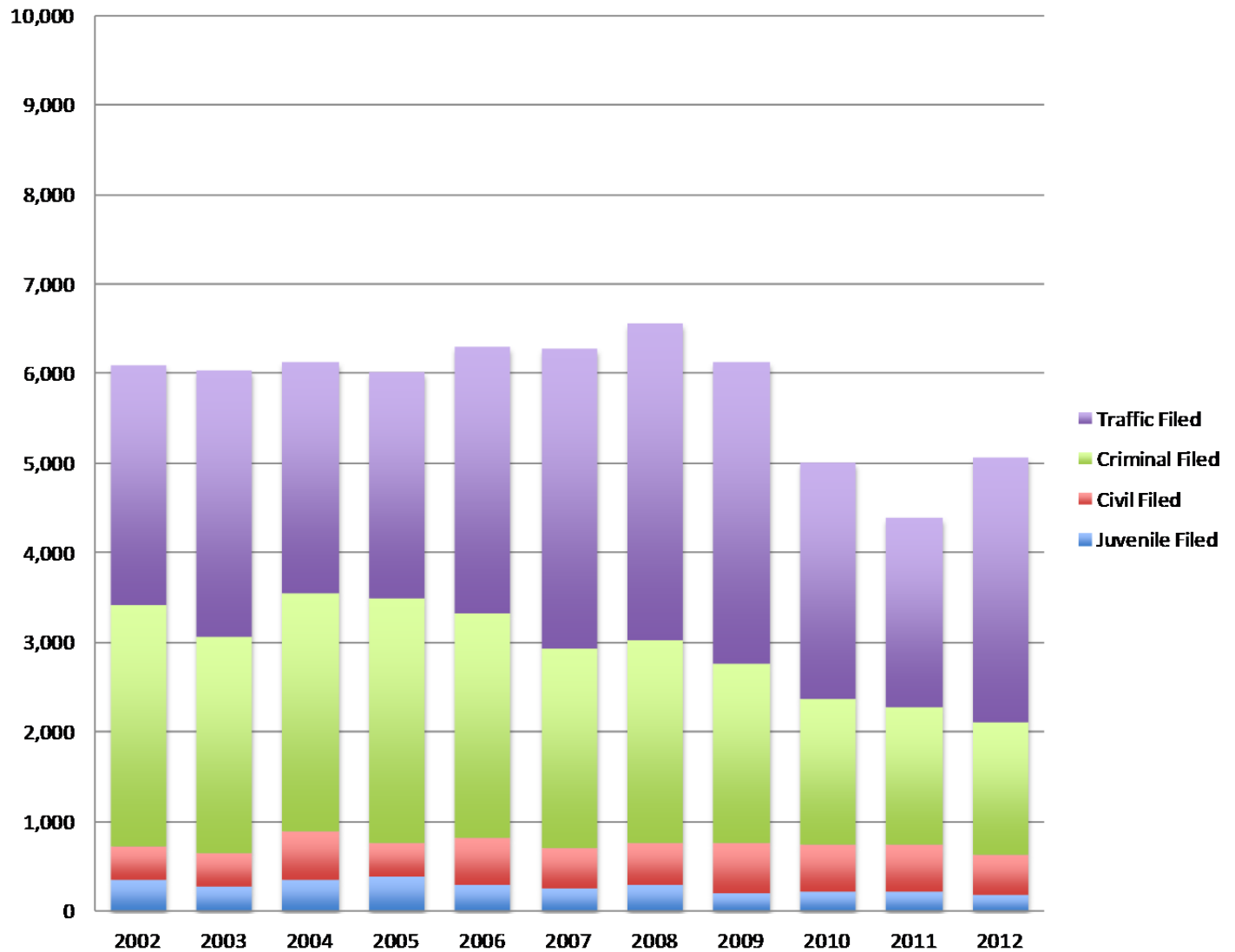


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> voting precincts of Ward 6 of St. Landry Parish and that portion of the city of Eunice situated within the parish of Acadia.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 15<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## EUNICE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

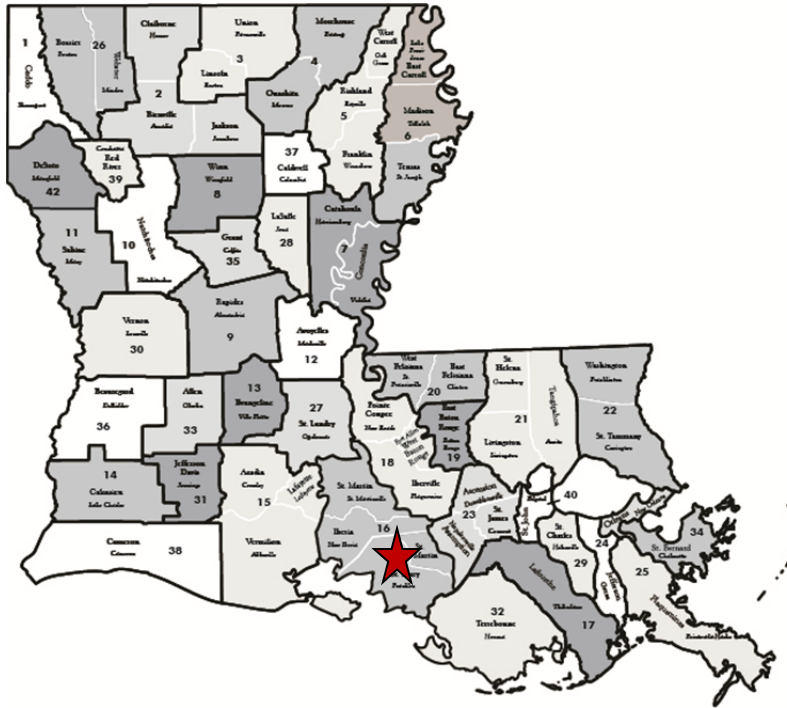


<b>Eunice</b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	363	378	542	376	524	459	467	561	525	528	465
Civil Term.	278	311	394	362	340	239	294	445	338	402	304
Criminal Filed	2,695	2,407	2,668	2,734	2,518	2,229	2,263	2,011	1,642	1,536	1,461
Criminal Term	2,909	2,781	3,089	3,148	3,040	2,340	1,859	2,259	2,029	1,564	1,405
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	2,690	2,988	2,574	2,529	2,977	3,338	3,542	3,357	2,627	2,119	2,958
Traffic Term.	2,968	3,238	2,952	2,621	3,165	3,240	2,915	2,749	2,792	1,923	2,640
Juvenile Filed	351	268	345	379	284	252	291	196	211	212	173
Juveniles Term.	326	237	328	360	245	246	296	196	214	218	172
Total Filed	6,099	6,041	6,129	6,018	6,303	6,278	6,563	6,125	5,005	4,395	5,057
Total Term	6,481	6,567	6,763	6,491	6,790	6,065	5,364	5,649	5,373	4,107	4,521
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## FRANKLIN CITY COURT

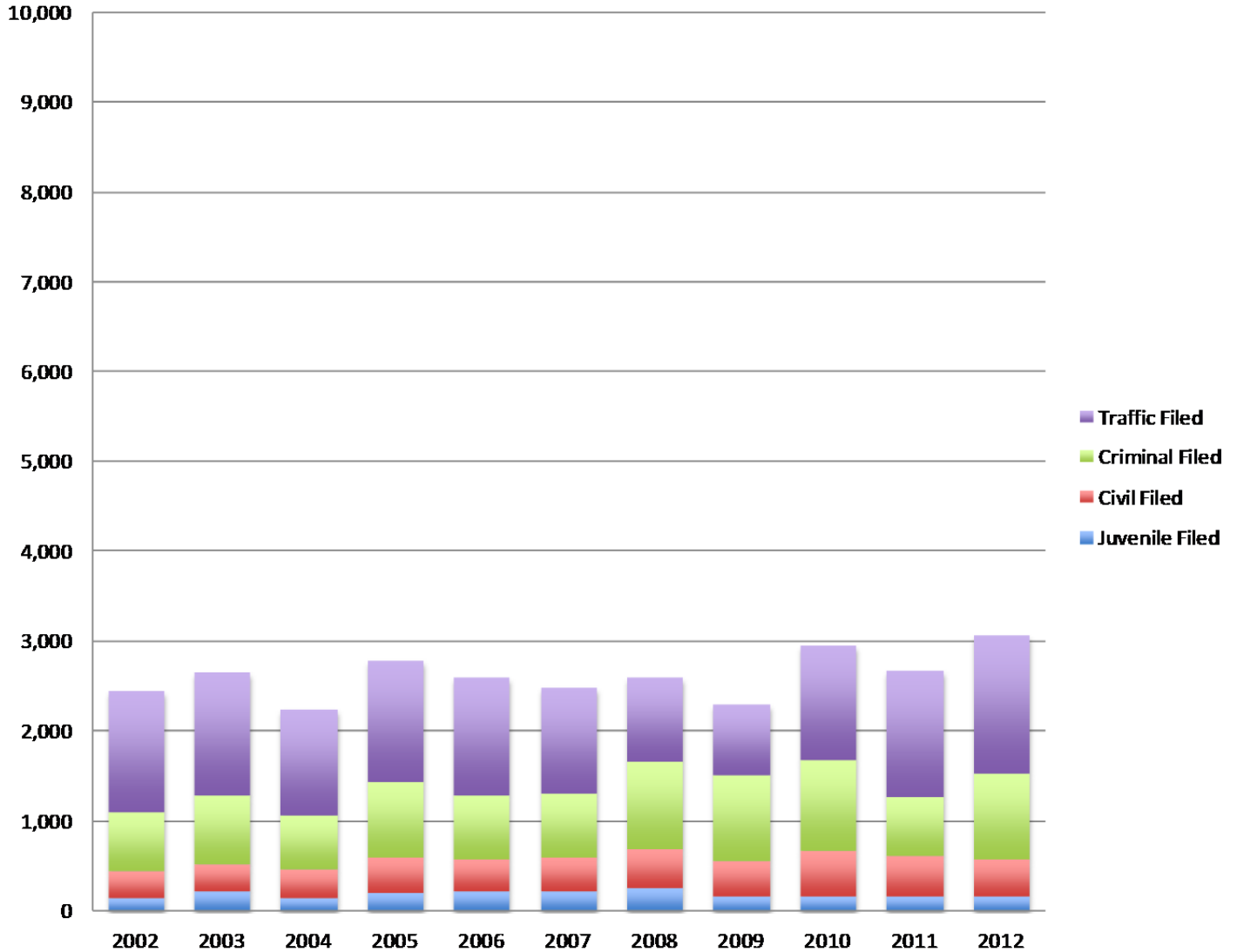


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Ward 3 of St. Mary Parish in southern Louisiana
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## FRANKLIN CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

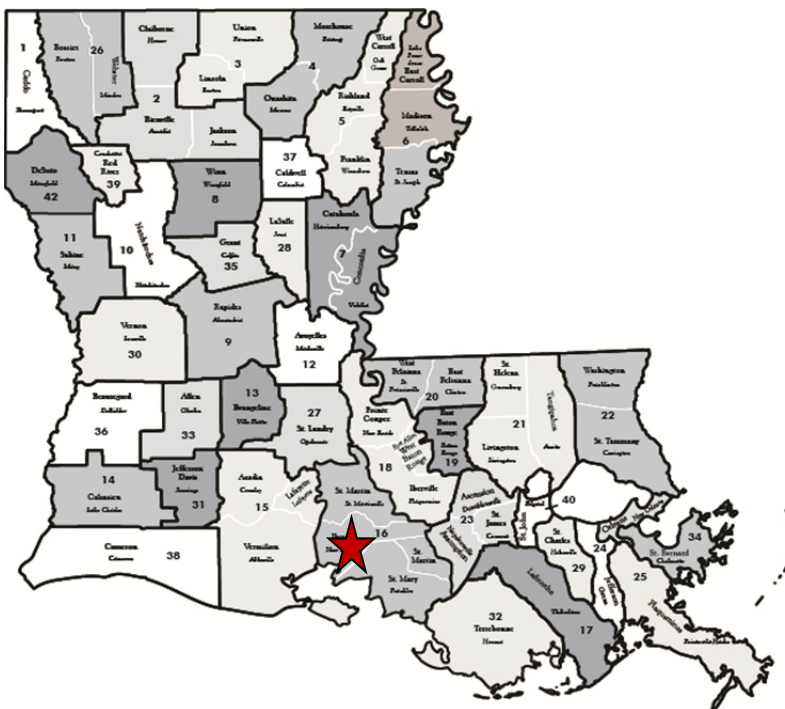


Franklin	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	289	307	322	397	363	373	437	386	502	435	402
Civil Term.	321	279	260	407	328	359	387	340	416	357	406
Criminal Filed	655	763	598	828	696	700	966	958	1,008	670	956
Criminal Term	669	730	451	518	1,158	1,034	1,788	1,591	1,376	912	477
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,360	1,358	1,173	1,355	1,316	1,191	942	791	1,273	1,394	1,530
Traffic Term.	1,208	1,563	983	1,194	1,457	1,042	902	893	1,094	1,391	1,359
Juvenile Filed	147	218	140	202	218	224	254	168	167	169	167
Juveniles Term.	114	129	47	195	148	285	84	52	104	127	159
Total Filed	2,451	2,646	2,233	2,782	2,593	2,488	2,599	2,303	2,950	2,668	3,055
Total Term	2,312	2,701	1,741	2,314	3,091	2,720	3,161	2,876	2,990	2,787	2,401
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	113	123	131	108	120	136	86	134	134	139
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	55	46	63	74

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## JEANERETTE CITY COURT

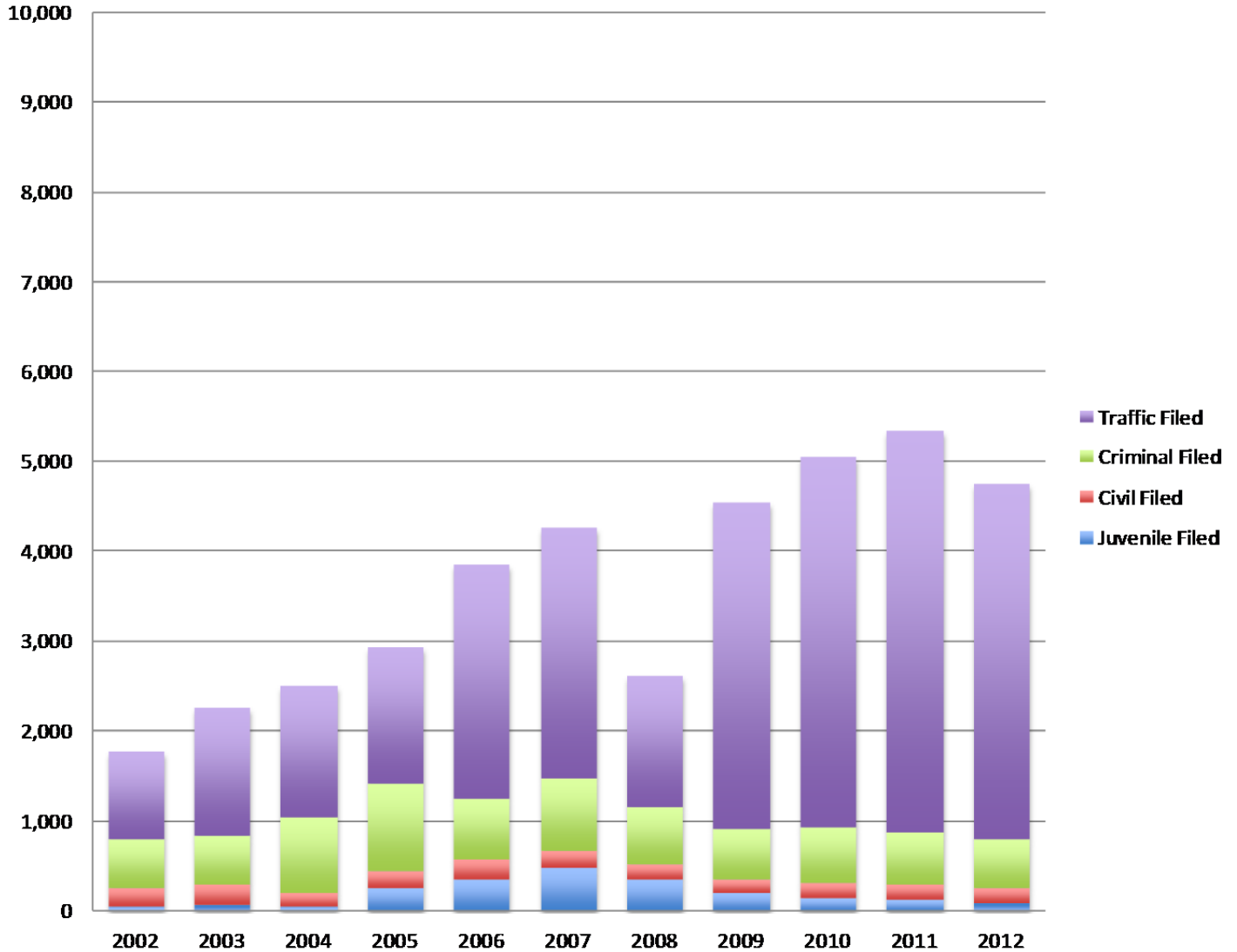


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Jeanerette and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Operates a truancy court.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jeanerette-City-Court/106728399350362>.

## JEANERETTE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



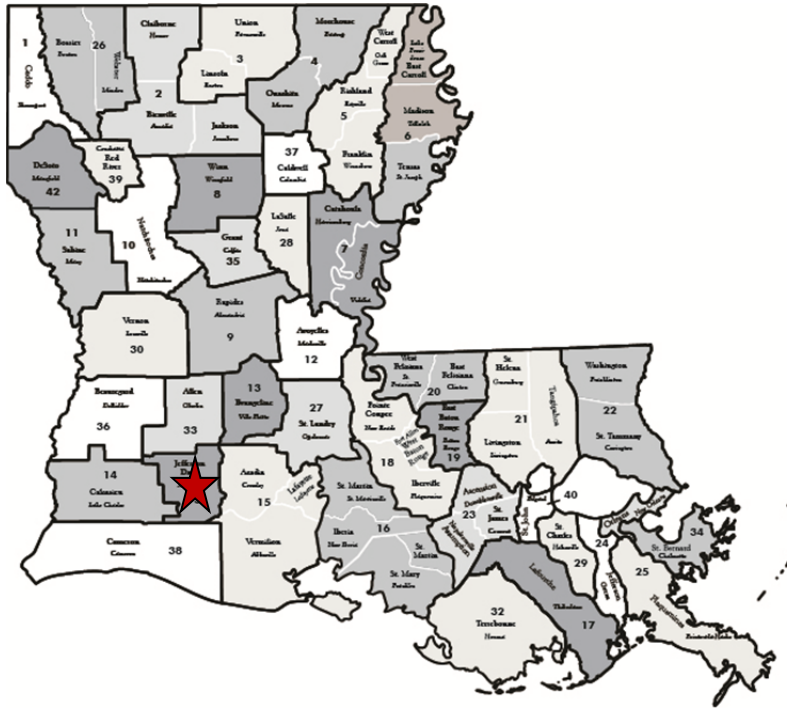
Jeanerette	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	199	219	144	175	214	191	175	138	178	162	170
Civil Term.	173	186	126	158	204	175	267	158	188	162	268
Criminal Filed	555	546	831	981	673	812	630	564	600	582	555
Criminal Term	467	527	783	465	556	649	518	529	458	467	513
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	959	1,425	1,460	1,516	2,603	2,790	1,461	3,630	4,126	4,469	3,943
Traffic Term.	858	1,328	1,365	976	2,395	2,468	1,495	2,958	3,558	4,067	3,694
Juvenile Filed	49	70	58	259	354	475	347	207	142	124	79
Juveniles Term.	82	30	74	156	376	382	380	173	201	99	80
Total Filed	1,762	2,260	2,493	2,931	3,844	4,268	2,613	4,539	5,046	5,337	4,747
Total Term	1,580	2,071	2,348	1,755	3,531	3,674	2,660	3,818	4,405	4,795	4,555
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## JENNINGS CITY COURT

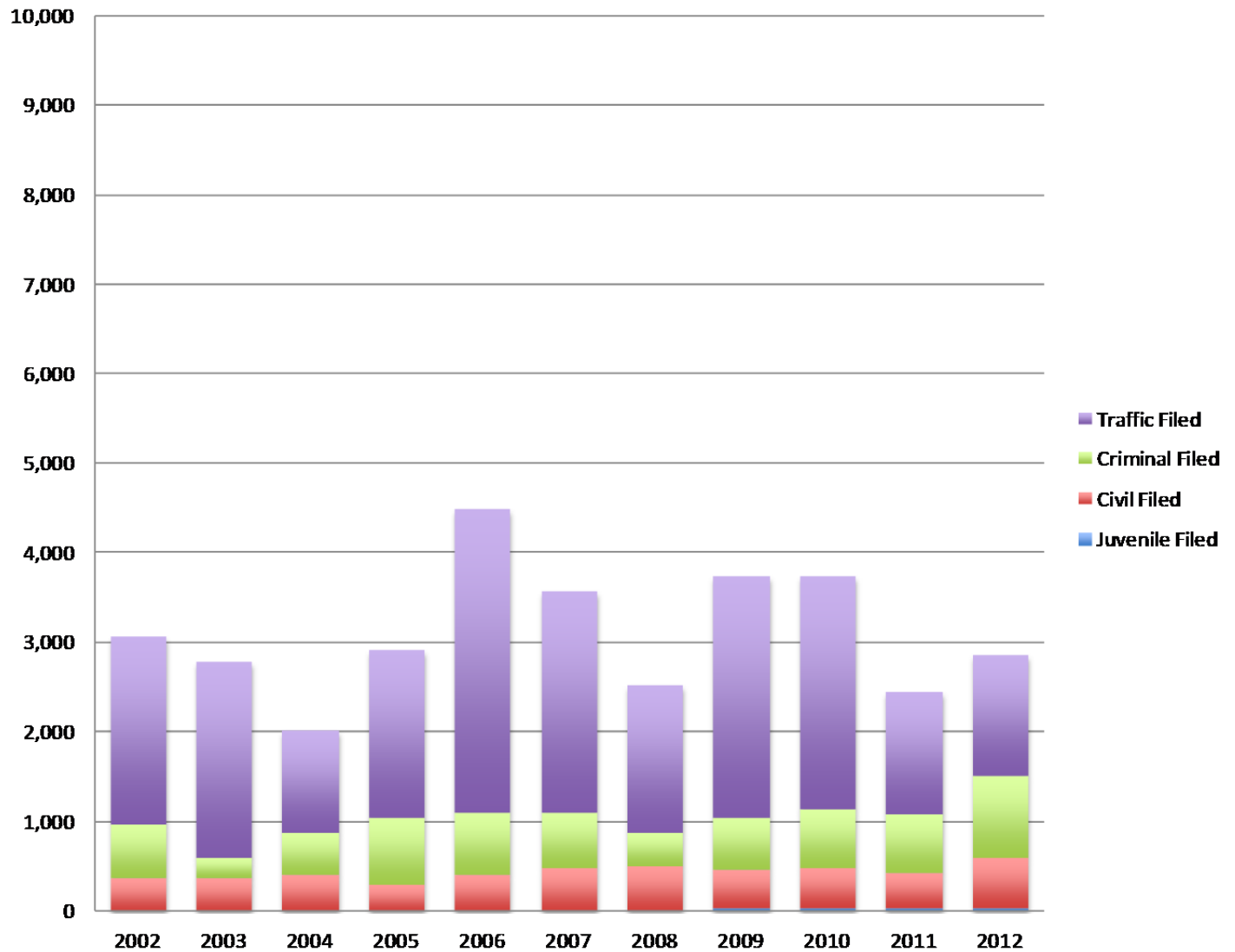


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Jennings and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 31<sup>st</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.cityofjennings.com/departments/city-court/>.

## JENNINGS CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

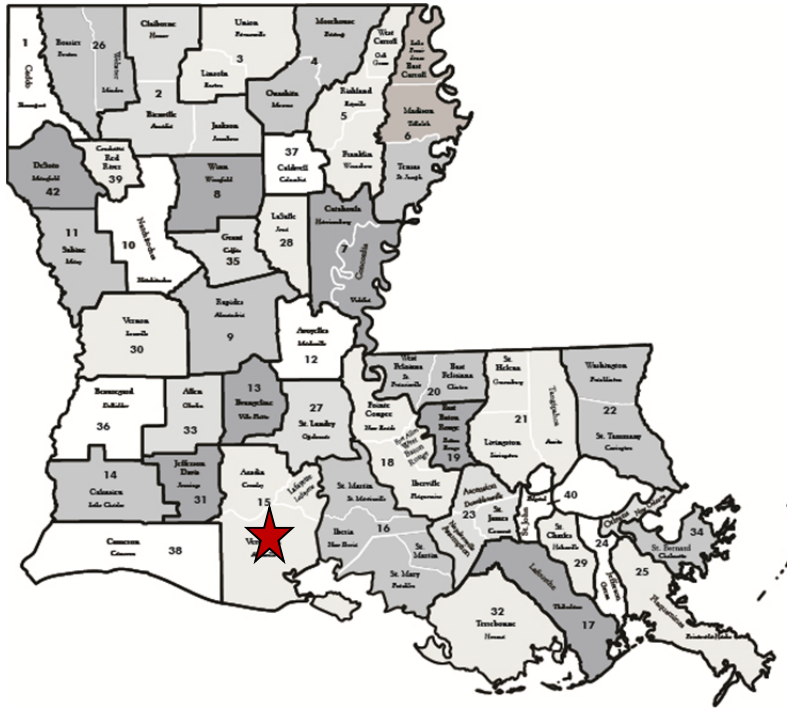


Jennings	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	365	364	405	290	411	480	504	442	447	400	556
Civil Term.	189	157	140	129	277	429	403	391	362	425	437
Criminal Filed	600	237	471	759	678	616	371	571	668	654	915
Criminal Term.	273	260	349	515	504	431	353	273	452	426	432
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	2,103	2,173	1,143	1,866	3,388	2,468	1,635	2,697	2,586	1,352	1,346
Traffic Term.	1,716	2,118	880	1,450	2,553	2,244	1,367	2,138	1,551	810	1,380
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	28	32	37
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	25	29	35
Total Filed	3,068	2,774	2,019	2,915	4,477	3,564	2,510	3,733	3,729	2,438	2,854
Total Term	2,178	2,535	1,369	2,094	3,334	3,104	2,123	2,820	2,390	1,690	2,284
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## KAPLAN CITY COURT

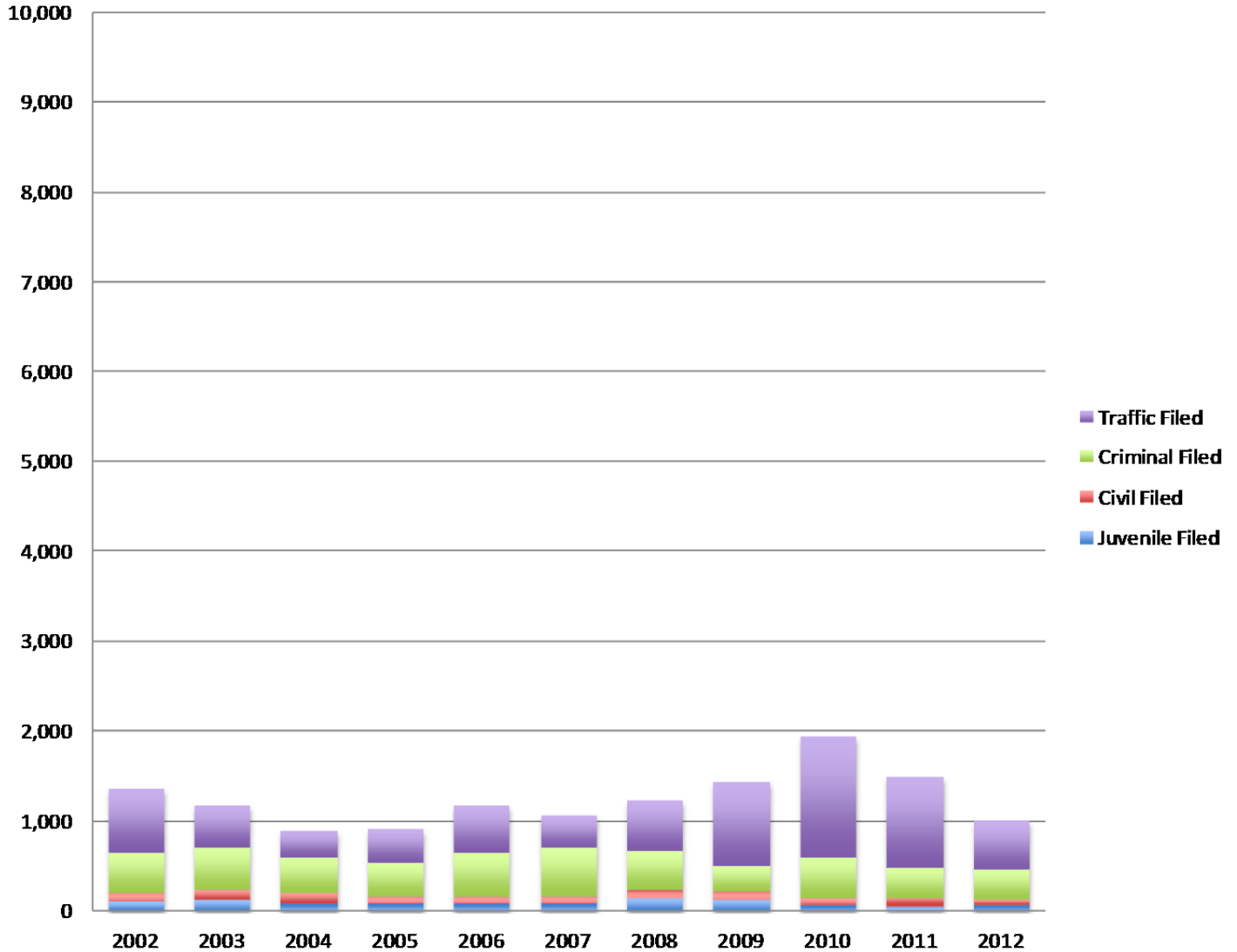


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Kaplan and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 15<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## KAPLAN CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



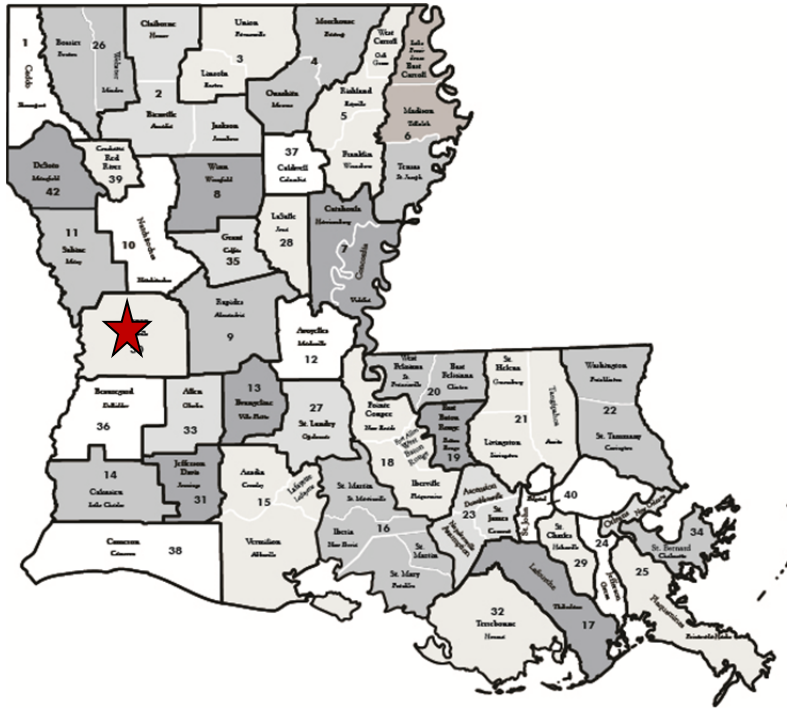
Kaplan	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	88	109	112	81	73	73	97	94	80	80	71
Civil Term.	69	89	70	57	60	72	64	88	69	57	65
Criminal Filed	458	468	391	367	486	531	433	282	454	348	335
Criminal Term	497	432	362	317	374	432	453	327	408	323	291
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	701	484	301	378	519	366	569	939	1,347	1,011	530
Traffic Term.	783	415	359	366	433	374	511	759	1,233	1,101	551
Juvenile Filed	107	119	89	82	93	96	135	126	60	57	60
Juveniles Term.	92	120	101	82	94	93	133	122	73	53	60
Total Filed	1,354	1,180	893	908	1,171	1,066	1,234	1,441	1,941	1,496	996
Total Term	1,441	1,056	892	822 <sup>ii</sup>	961	971	1,161	1,296	1,783	1,534	967
Other Filed <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Total Term. has been updated to correct a math error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## LEESVILLE CITY COURT

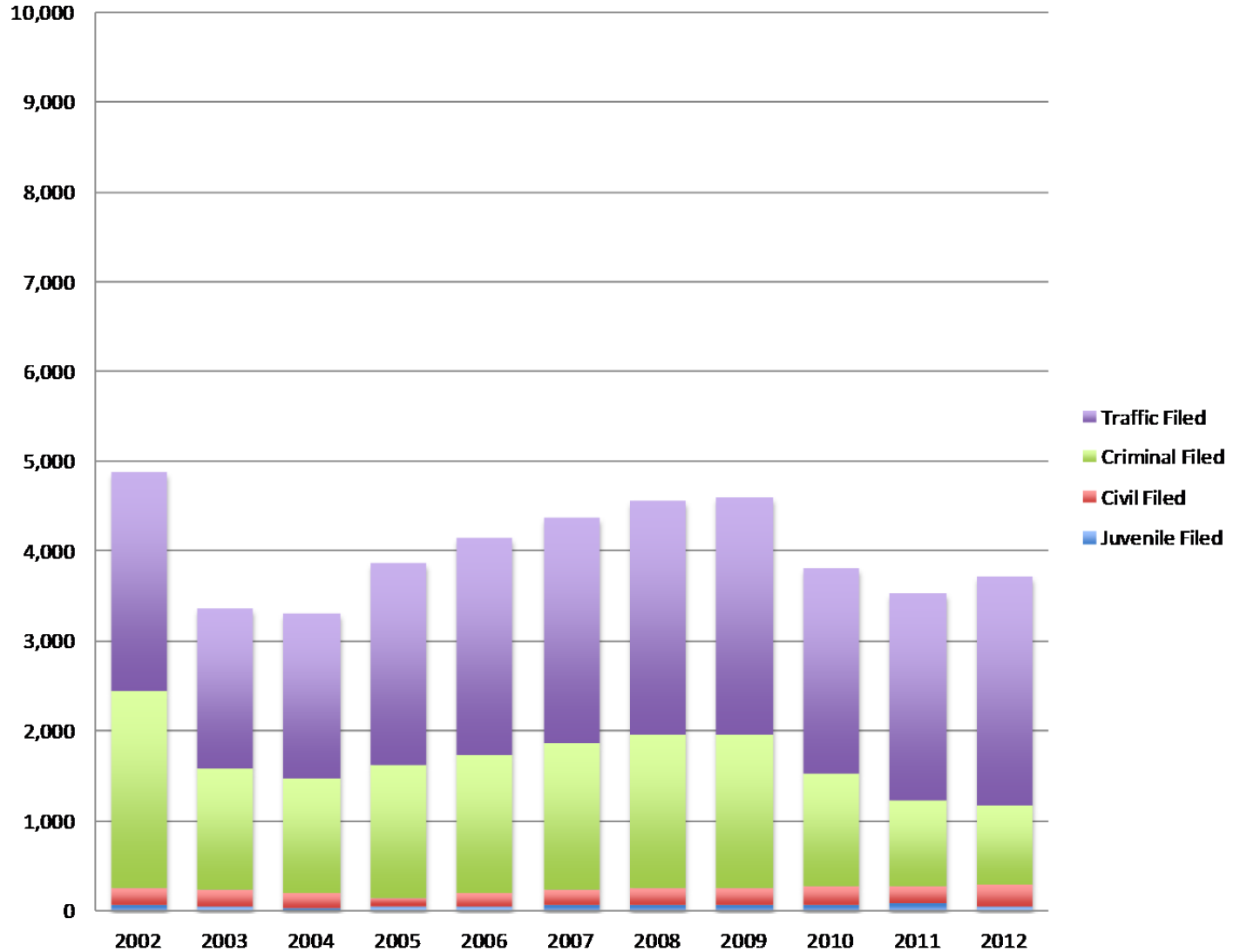


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Ward 1 of Vernon Parish in western Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 30<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://leesvillecitycourt.org/home.html>.

## LEESVILLE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

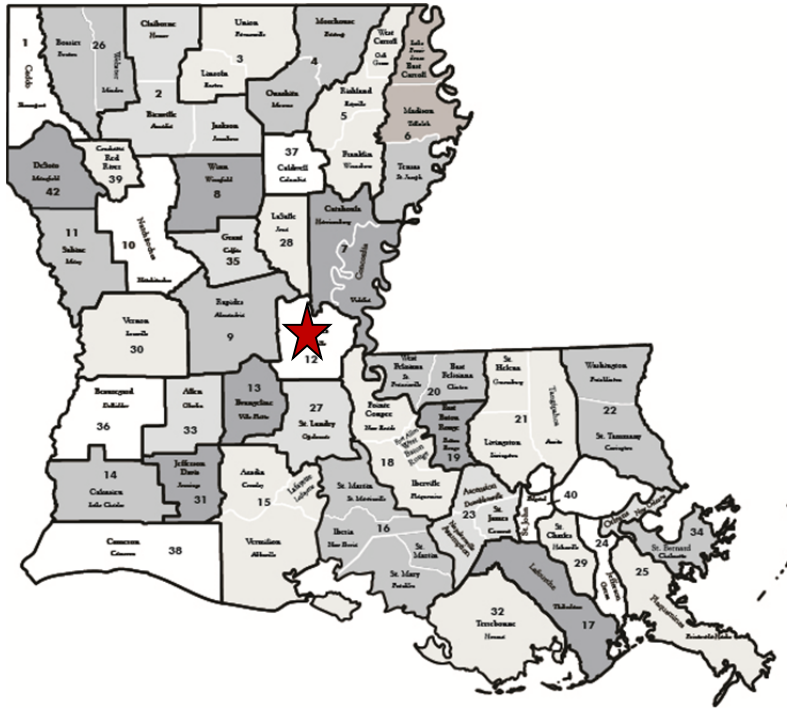


Leesville	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	179	191	160	94	147	169	185	181	203	194	230
Civil Term.	84	64	57	50	62	53	44	38	53	55	65
Criminal Filed	2,196	1,346	1,279	1,472	1,530	1,637	1,693	1,696	1,245	962	882
Criminal Term	2,295	1,653	1,590	1,470	1,527	1,623	1,642	1,656	542	484	435
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	2,432	1,783	1,823	2,247	2,425	2,504	2,601	2,645	2,293	2,288	2,549
Traffic Term.	3,191	2,075	2,085	2,023	1,999	2,102	2,201	2,170	1,642	1,700	1,873
Juvenile Filed	69	46	39	53	51	59	74	76	76	79	54
Juveniles Term.	64	43	23	25	26	30	36	30	29	27	22
Total Filed	4,876	3,366	3,301	3,866	4,153	4,369	4,553	4,598	3,817	3,523	3,715
Total Term	5,634	3,835	3,755	3,568	3,614	3,808	3,923	3,894	2,266	2,266	2,395
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

# MARKSVILLE CITY COURT

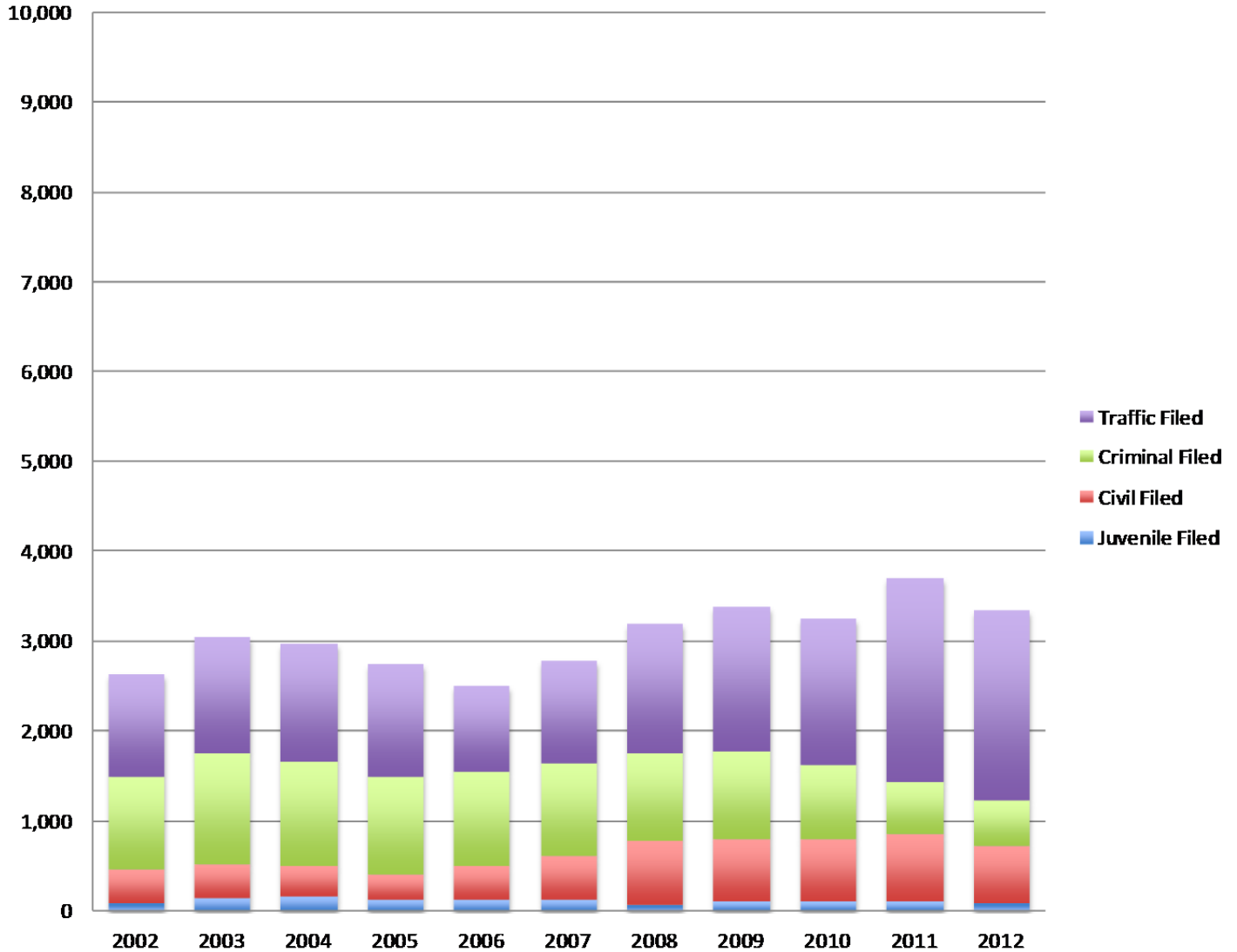


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Operates a DWI court and a truancy court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Marksville and all of ward 2 of Avoyelles parish in central Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 12<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## MARKSVILLE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



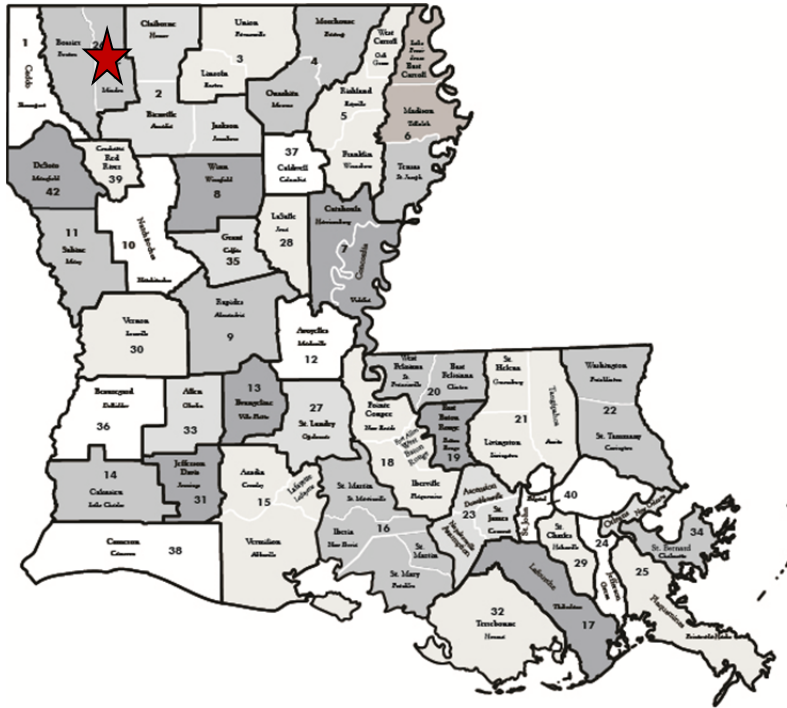
Marksville	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	370	369	326	292	371	479	718	685	676	752	646
Civil Term.	179	239	303	211	349	263	655	654	658	716	614
Criminal Filed	1,030	1,239	1,153	1,090	1,052	1,034	973	981	830	585	496
Criminal Term	779	1,038	1,047	1,006	943	976	889	898	781	548	448
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,130	1,295	1,327	1,251	944	1,139	1,432	1,607	1,636	2,257	2,115
Traffic Term.	861	1,133	1,210	1,204	872	1,036	1,271	1,444	1,541	2,250	2,082
Juvenile Filed	96	139	171	115	128	125	66	106	114	97	81
Juveniles Term.	37	127	161	108	123	118	58	94	110	71	73
Total Filed	2,626	3,042	2,977	2,748	2,495	2,777	3,189	3,379	3,256	3,691	3,338
Total Term	1,856	2,537	2,721	2,529	2,287	2,393	2,873	3,090	3,090	3,585	3,217
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings.

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## MINDEN CITY COURT

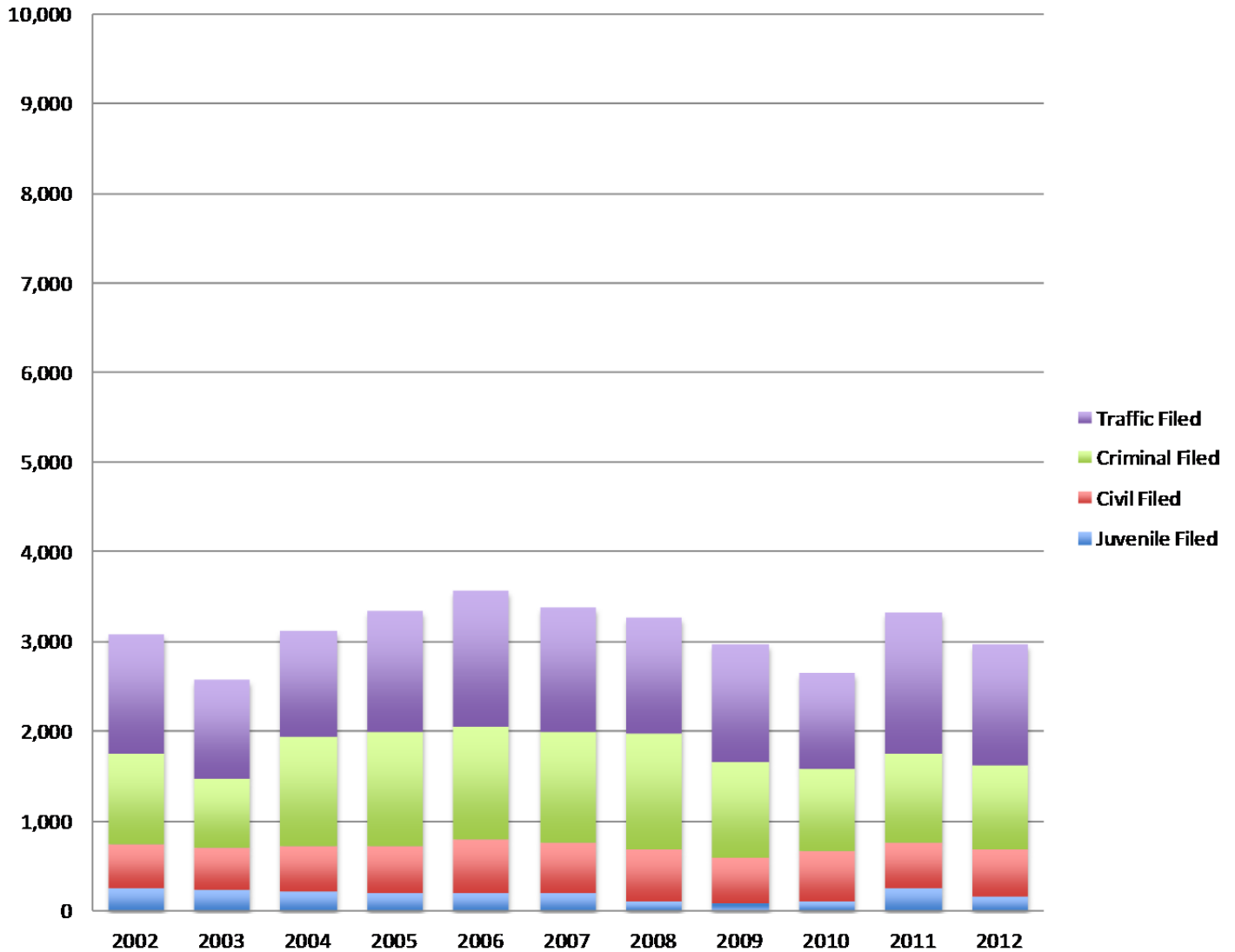


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court
- Operates a juvenile drug court and DWI specialty docket.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Minden and ward 1 of Webster Parish in northwest Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 26<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage:  
[http://www.mindenusa.com/index.php?submenu=Departments\\_Contacts&src=gendocs&ref=CityCourt&category=Departments\\_Contacts](http://www.mindenusa.com/index.php?submenu=Departments_Contacts&src=gendocs&ref=CityCourt&category=Departments_Contacts).

## MINDEN CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

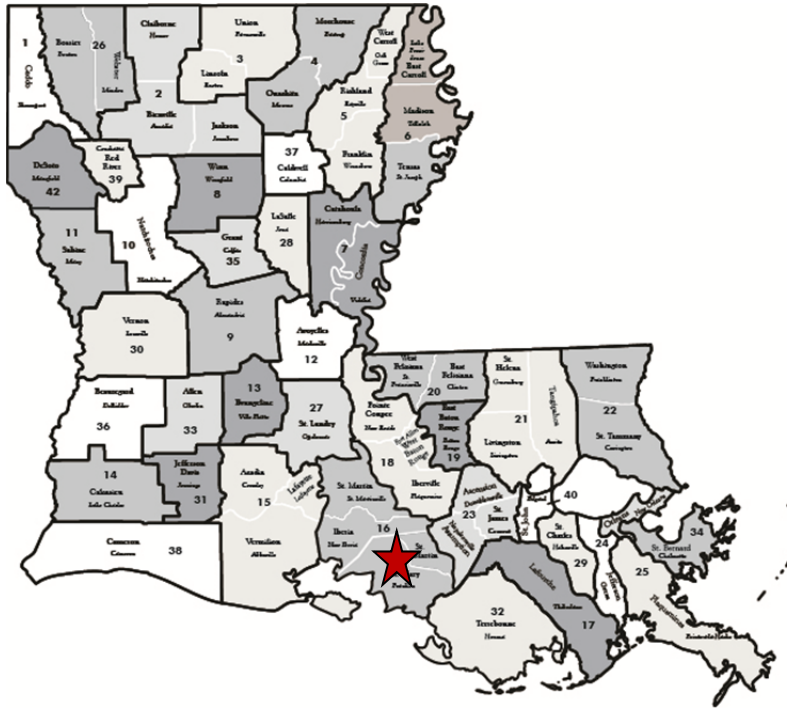


Minden	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	492	466	507	528	609	573	566	503	555	506	522
Civil Term.	553	597	634	637	692	734	607	604	551	566	483
Criminal Filed	1,005	762	1,215	1,271	1,246	1,232	1,290	1,059	913	988	942
Criminal Term	990	543	793	969	935	924	1,035	868	805	884	745
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,342	1,111	1,188	1,356	1,508	1,380	1,289	1,311	1,065	1,585	1,345
Traffic Term.	1,449	994	1,015	1,197	1,261	1,362	1,240	1,213	1,135	1,525	1,309
Juvenile Filed	250	245	216	195	198	196	114	90	108	251	166
Juveniles Term.	223	217	207	168	176	180	96	87	89	134	88
Total Filed	3,089	2,584	3,126	3,350	3,561	3,381	3,259	2,963	2,641	3,330	2,975
Total Term	3,215	2,351	2,649	2,971	3,064	3,200	2,978	2,772	2,580	3,109	2,625
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	155	173	167	179	179	171	149	120	87	78	77
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	149	120	87	78	77

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## MORGAN CITY COURT

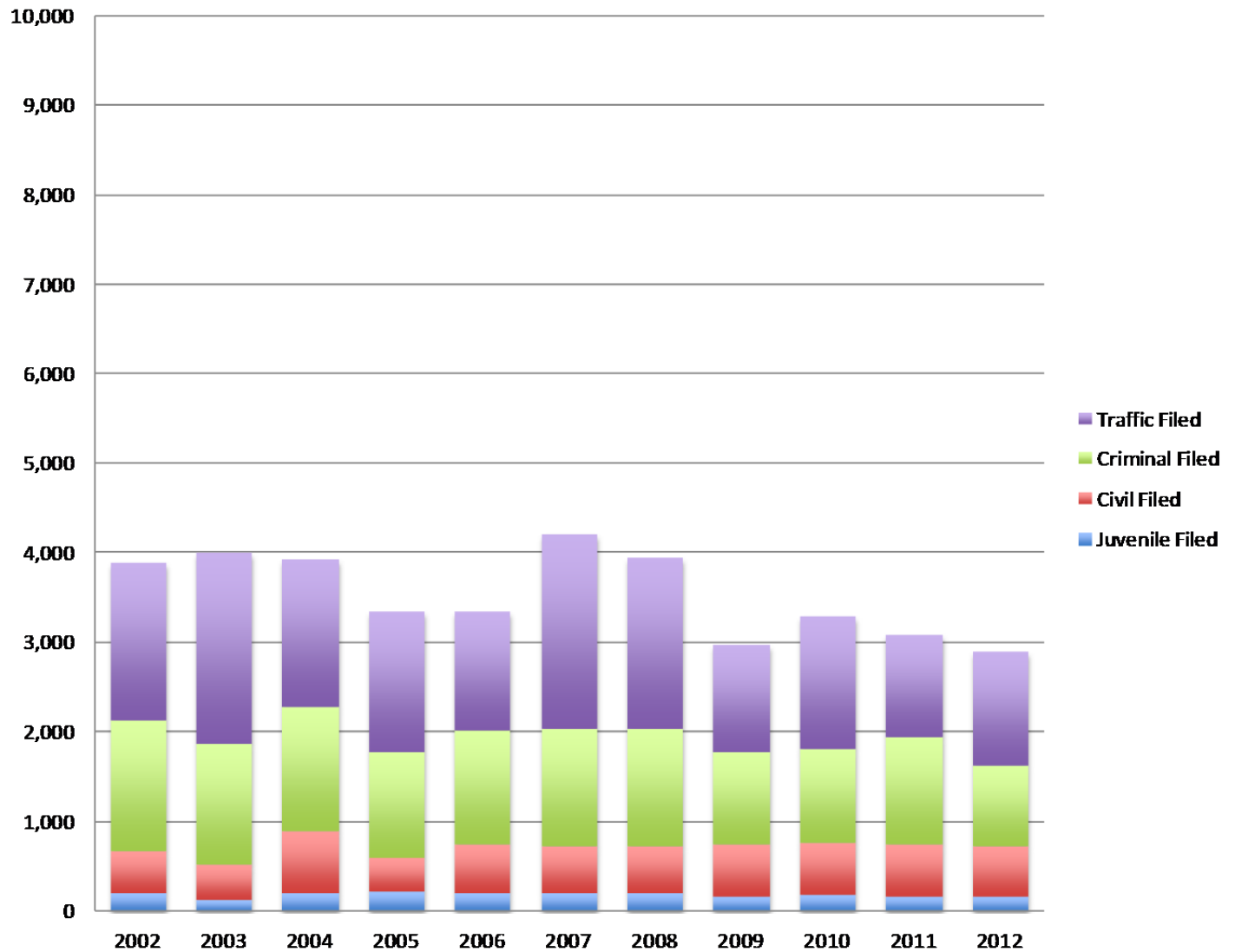


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Morgan City and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, for civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and juvenile matters.

## MORGAN CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

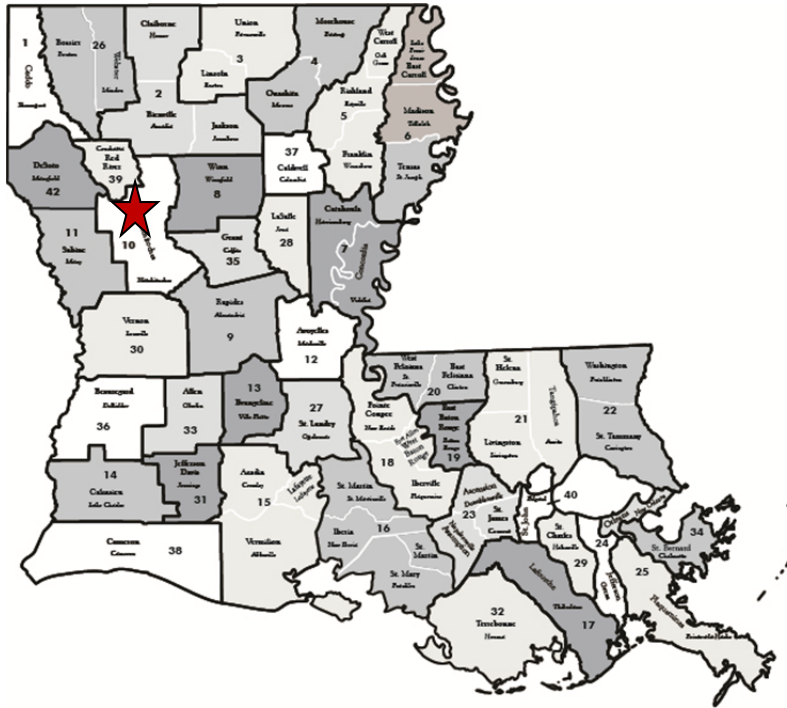


Morgan City	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	467	390	690	364	545	528	538	597	589	591	563
Civil Term.	406	346	617	280	330	375	409	425	483	451	440
Criminal Filed	1,453	1,344	1,397	1,183	1,287	1,311	1,299	1,016	1,043	1,202	886
Criminal Term	1,414	1,112	1,554	1,171	1,320	1,439	1,399	1,163	1,247	1,177	1,082
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,766	2,136	1,648	1,560	1,315	2,177	1,904	1,208	1,479	1,127	1,289
Traffic Term.	1,746	2,129	1,630	1,552	1,402	2,082	1,863	1,163	1,433	1,175	1,379
Juvenile Filed	198	125	192	227	190	194	192	153	172	155	163
Juveniles Term.	161	141	247	229	176	192	162	158	179	168	146
Total Filed	3,884	3,995	3,927	3,334	3,337	4,210	3,933	2,974	3,283	3,075	2,901
Total Term	3,727	3,728	4,048	3,232	3,228	4,088	3,833	2,909	3,342	2,971	3,047
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings.

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## NATCHITOCHES CITY COURT

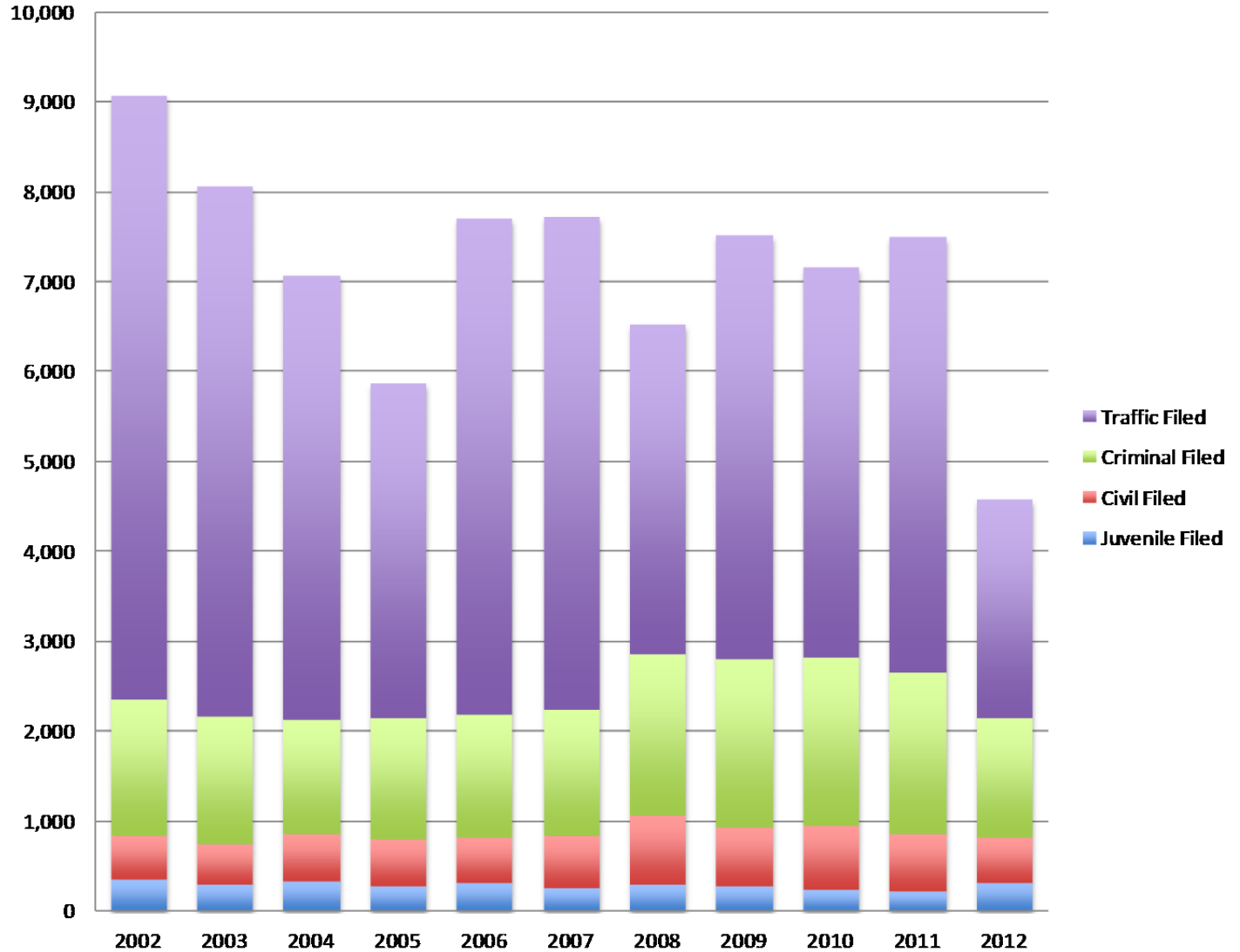


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Natchitoches and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 10<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://www.natchitochesla.gov/default-header/city-court>.

## NATCHITOCHES CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

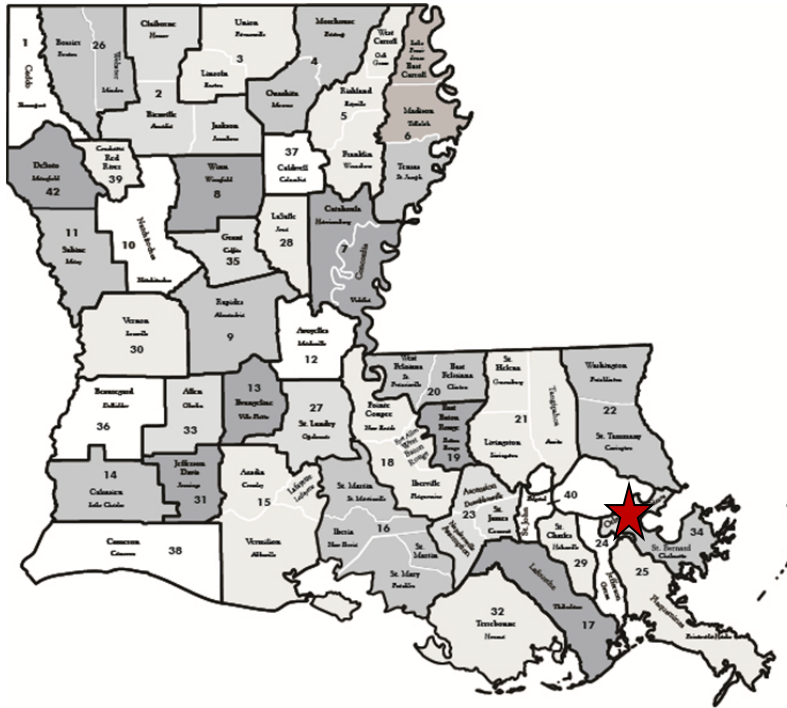


Natchitoches	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	484	451	532	521	504	584	771	660	724	626	520
Civil Term.	311	261	341	294	196	226	260	349	337	341	233
Criminal Filed	1,516	1,425	1,266	1,338	1,366	1,409	1,804	1,865	1,859	1,801	1,329
Criminal Term	1,330	1,236	1,260	1,103	1,367	1,305	1,354	2,152	1,843	1,531	1,379
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	6,728	5,877	4,943	3,726	5,509	5,477	3,651	4,722	4,346	4,838	2,427
Traffic Term.	5,896	5,705	4,895	3,281	5,159	4,863	3,142	5,257	4,581	4,648	2,309
Juvenile Filed	347	296	330	282	317	253	288	276	229	225	304
Juveniles Term.	370	295	311	262	206	207	181	176	173	198	180
Total Filed	9,075	8,049	7,071	5,867	7,696	7,723	6,514	7,523	7,158	7,490	4,580
Total Term	7,907	7,497	6,807	4,940	6,928	6,601	4,937	7,934	6,934	6,718	4,101
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	158	163	179	162	178	162	0	75	81	93	108
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	81	93	108

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

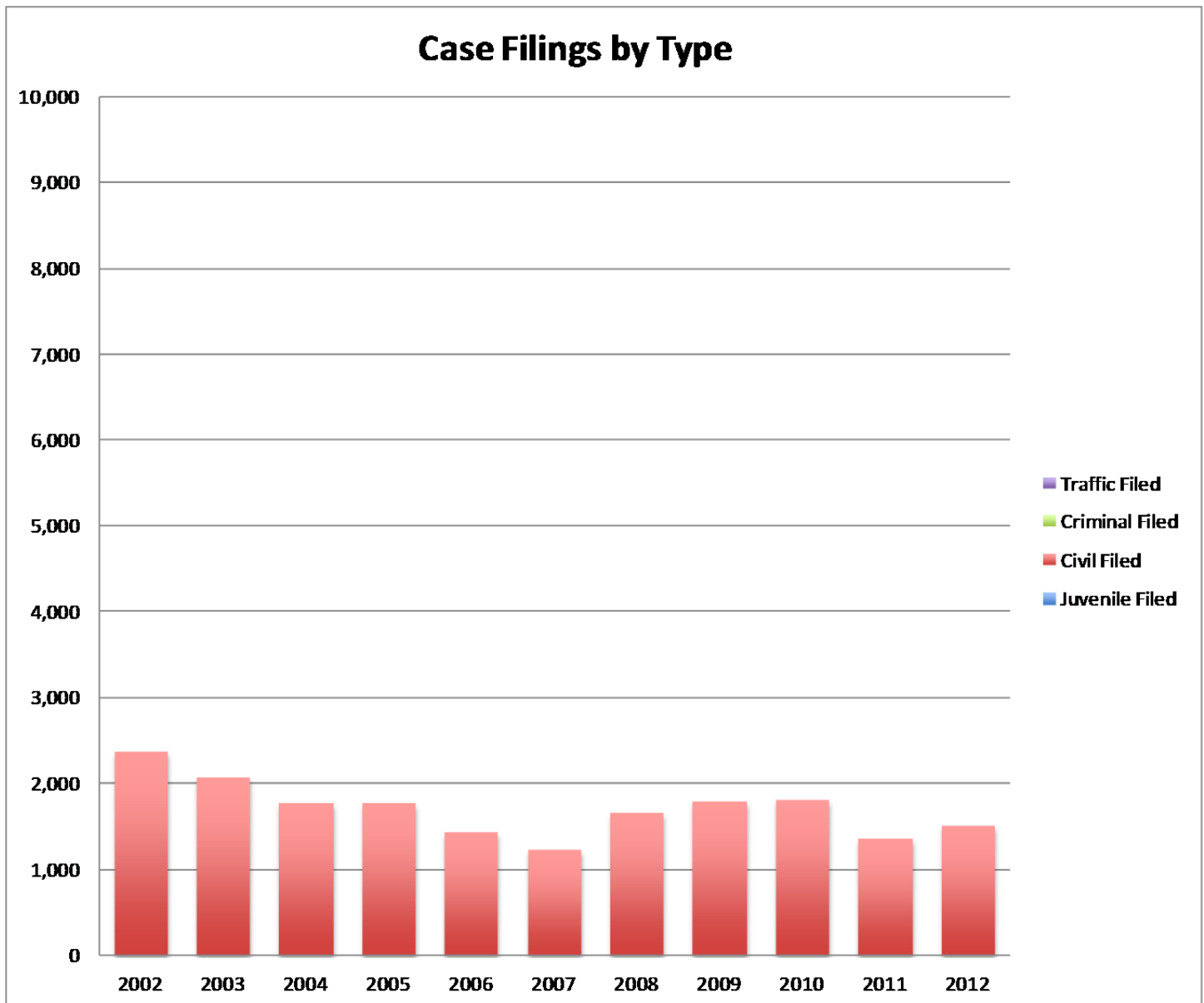
## NEW ORLEANS SECOND CITY COURT



### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the right bank of the Mississippi river within the city of New Orleans.
- Shares with the Orleans Civil District Court, in cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, civil jurisdiction for amounts in dispute up to \$20,000.
- Webpage: <http://www.orleanscdc.com/fccintro.html>.

## NEW ORLEANS SECOND CITY COURT



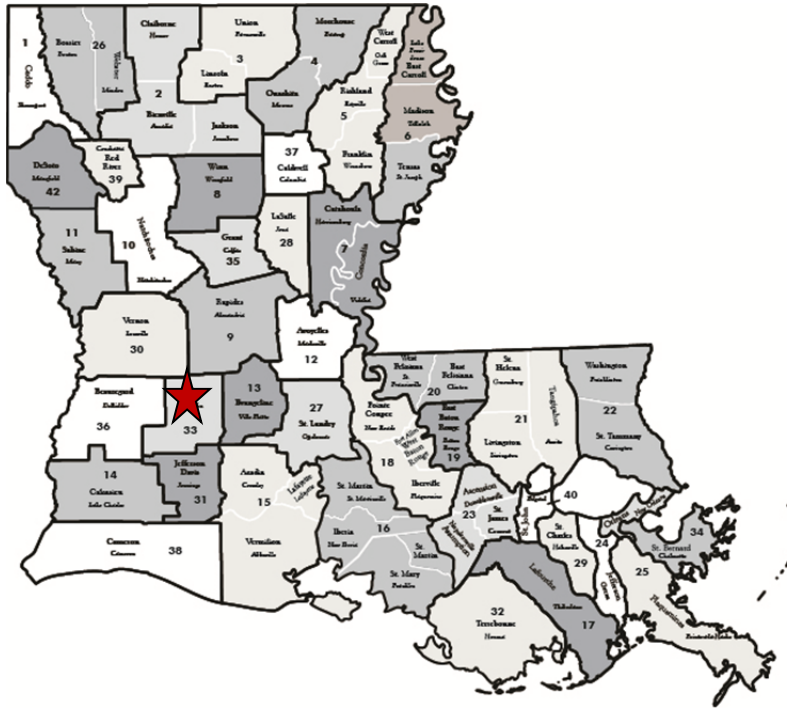
N.O. 2nd City Ct.	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	2,372	2,078	1,774	1,778	1,428	1,231	1,651	1,784	1,809	1,350	1,511
Civil Term.	1,203	1,882	1,576	1,566	1,295	1,001	1,318	1,485	1,486	1,345	1,297
Criminal Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	2,372	2,078	1,774	1,778	1,428	1,231	1,651	1,784	1,809	1,350	1,511
Total Term	1,203	1,882	1,576	1,566	1,295	1,001	1,318	1,485	1,486	1,345	1,297
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## OAKDALE CITY COURT

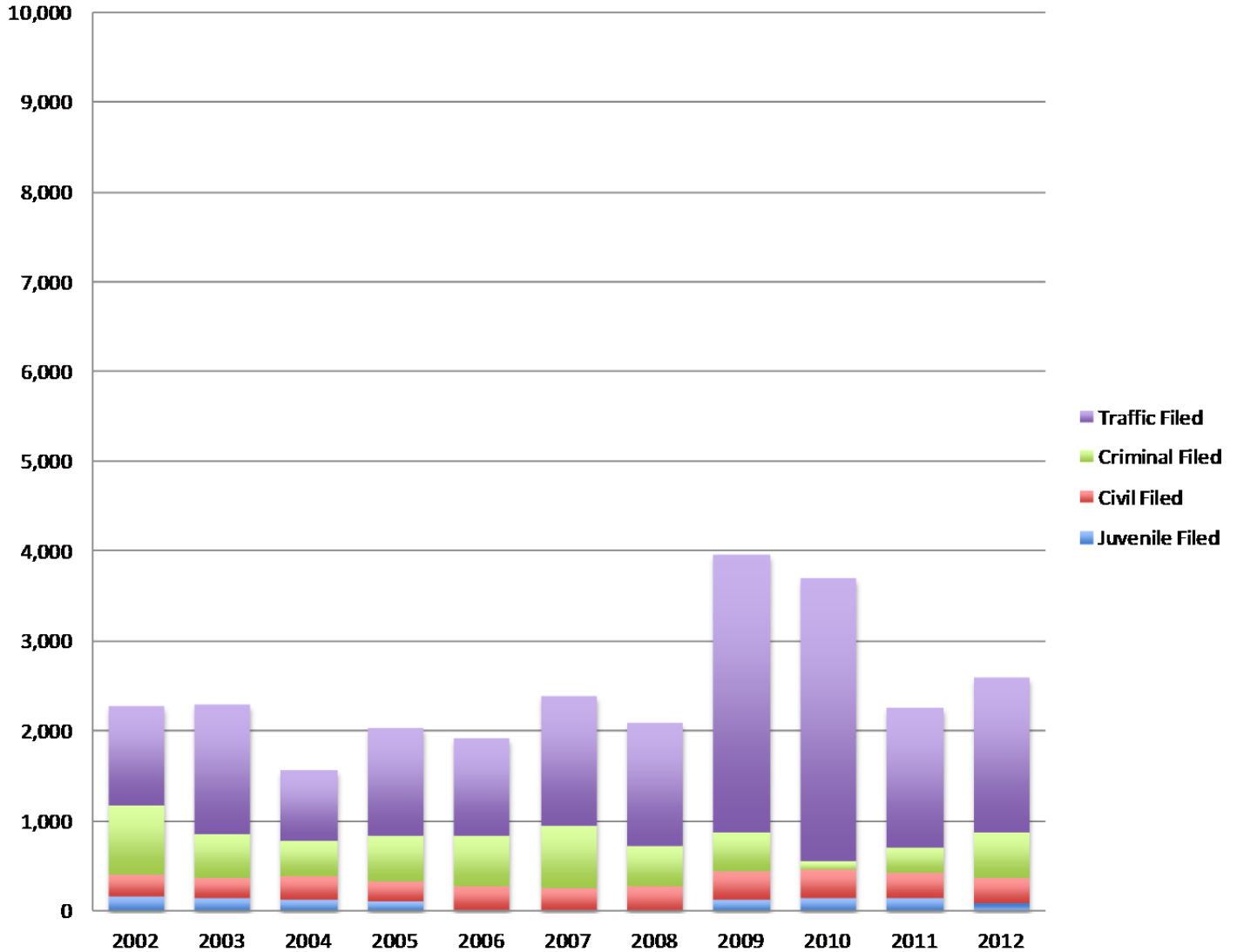


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Oakdale and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 33<sup>rd</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## OAKDALE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

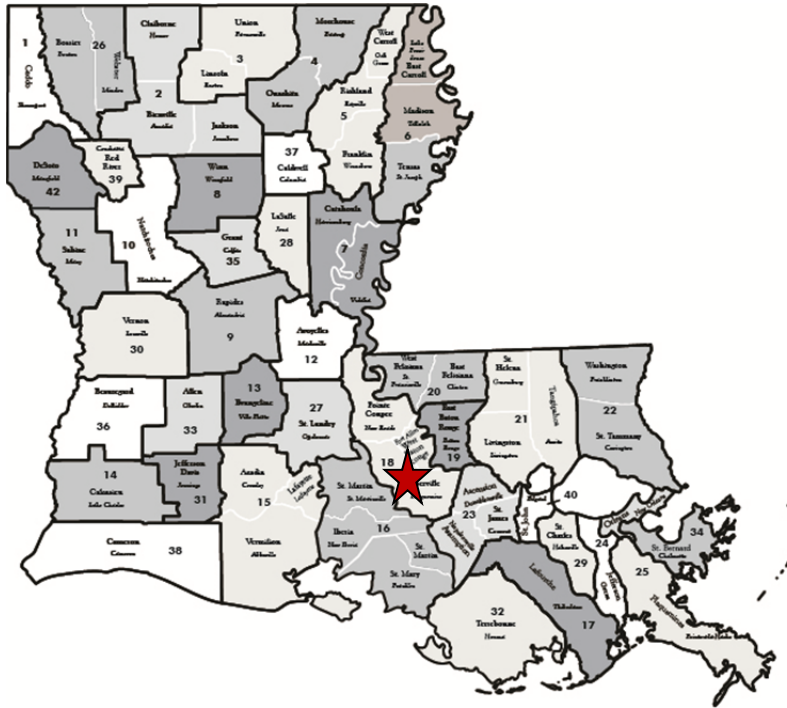


Oakdale	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	249	232	266	216	256	260	277	314	318	280	278
Civil Term.	228	238	259	200	216	197	163	239	205	225	218
Criminal Filed	763	469	394	516	568	678	440	433	78	293	513
Criminal Term	641	618	197	303	428	134	22	131	78	263	215
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,108	1,449	786	1,199	1,078	1,452	1,363	3,084	3,152	1,538	1,717
Traffic Term.	1,909	2,038	1,103	1,389	1,178	509	1,363	452	1,833	1,425	1,657
Juvenile Filed	161	144	128	109	12	3	0	131	151	138	84
Juveniles Term.	132	159	127	160	8	1	0	131	26	68	26
Total Filed	2,281	2,294	1,574	2,040	1,914	2,393	2,080	3,962	3,699	2,249	2,592
Total Term	2,910	3,053	1,686	2,052	1,830	841	1,548	953	2,142	1,981	2,116
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	26	27	26	33	24	20	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## PLAQUEMINE CITY COURT

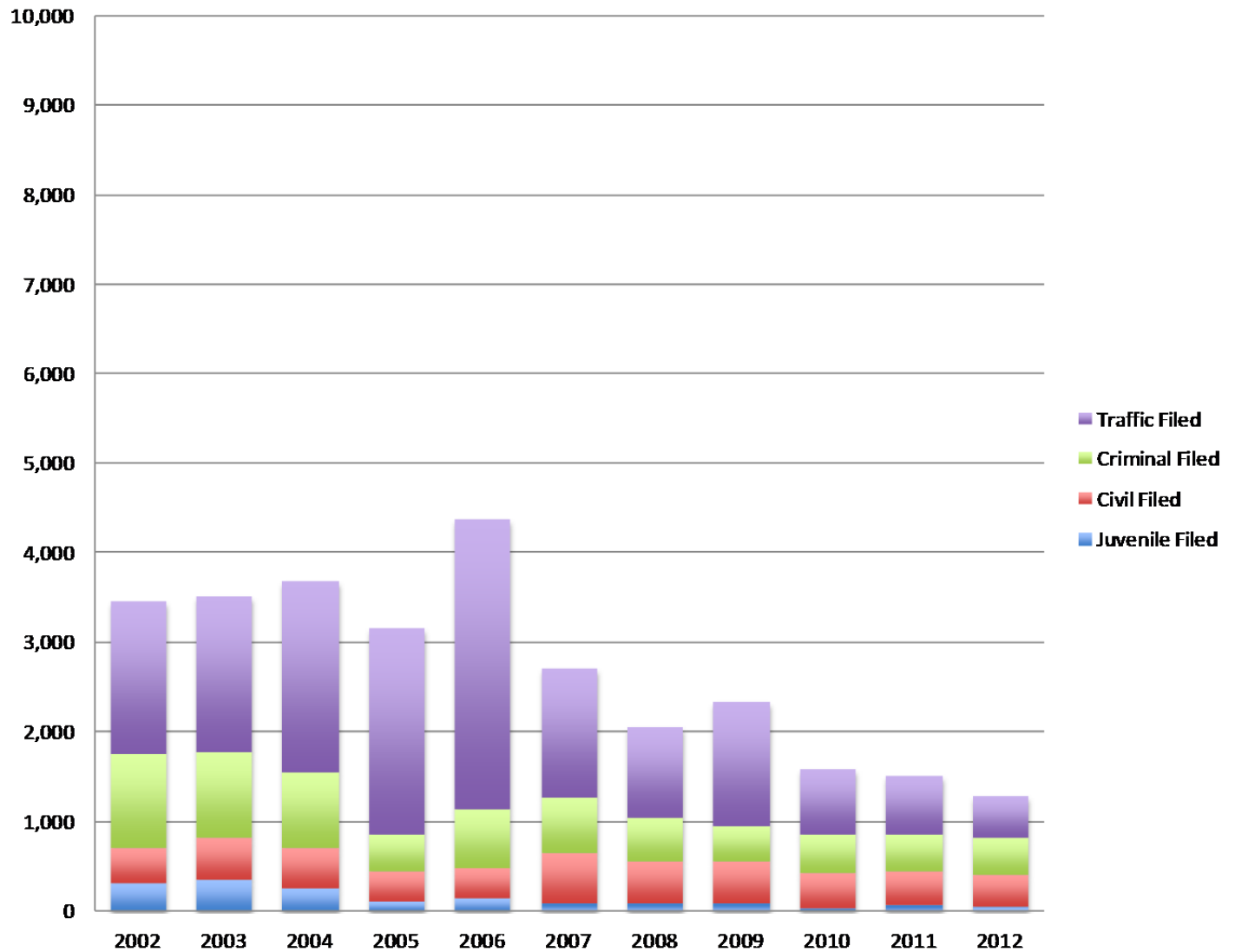


### Quick facts:

- One--judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Plaquemine, but shall not extend beyond city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 18<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://www.plaquemine.org/departments/City-Court>.

## PLAQUEMINE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

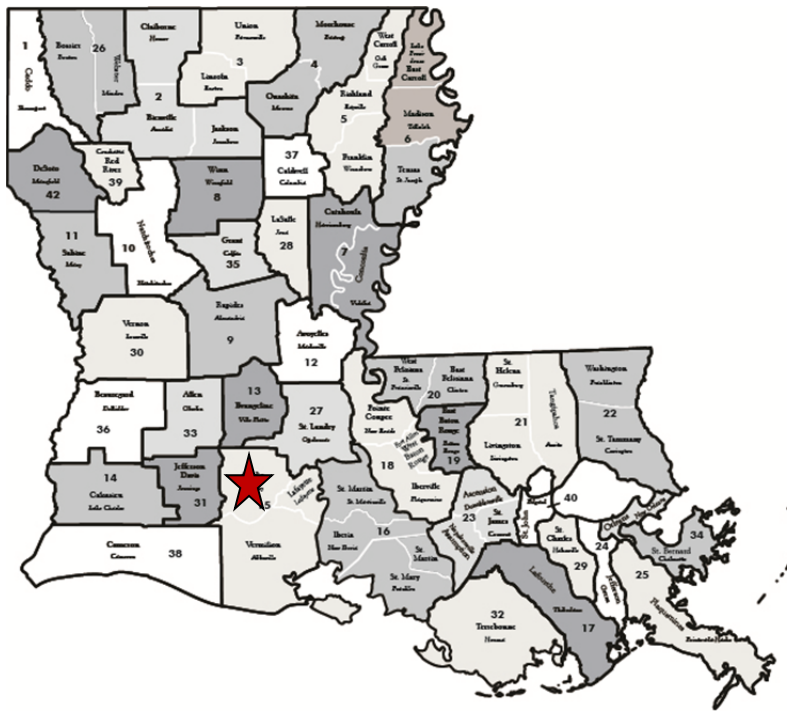


Plaquemine	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	394	472	436	349	347	557	456	460	385	374	354
Civil Term.	392	470	434	349	347	557	456	460	385	374	354
Criminal Filed	1,047	952	850	405	642	618	481	401	436	408	421
Criminal Term	1,015	908	814	382	613	609	476	384	424	175	179
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,710	1,742	2,128	2,308	3,251	1,433	1,014	1,380	732	665	462
Traffic Term.	1,704	1,742	2,115	2,265	3,162	1,429	1,003	1,378	719	501	333
Juvenile Filed	306	347	262	99	138	92	95	92	36	68	49
Juveniles Term.	303	347	262	99	138	92	95	92	36	68	49
Total Filed	3,457	3,513	3,676	3,161	4,378	2,700	2,046	2,333	1,589	1,515	1,286
Total Term	3,414	3,467	3,625	3,095	4,260	2,687	2,030	2,314	1,564	1,118	915
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## RAYNE CITY COURT

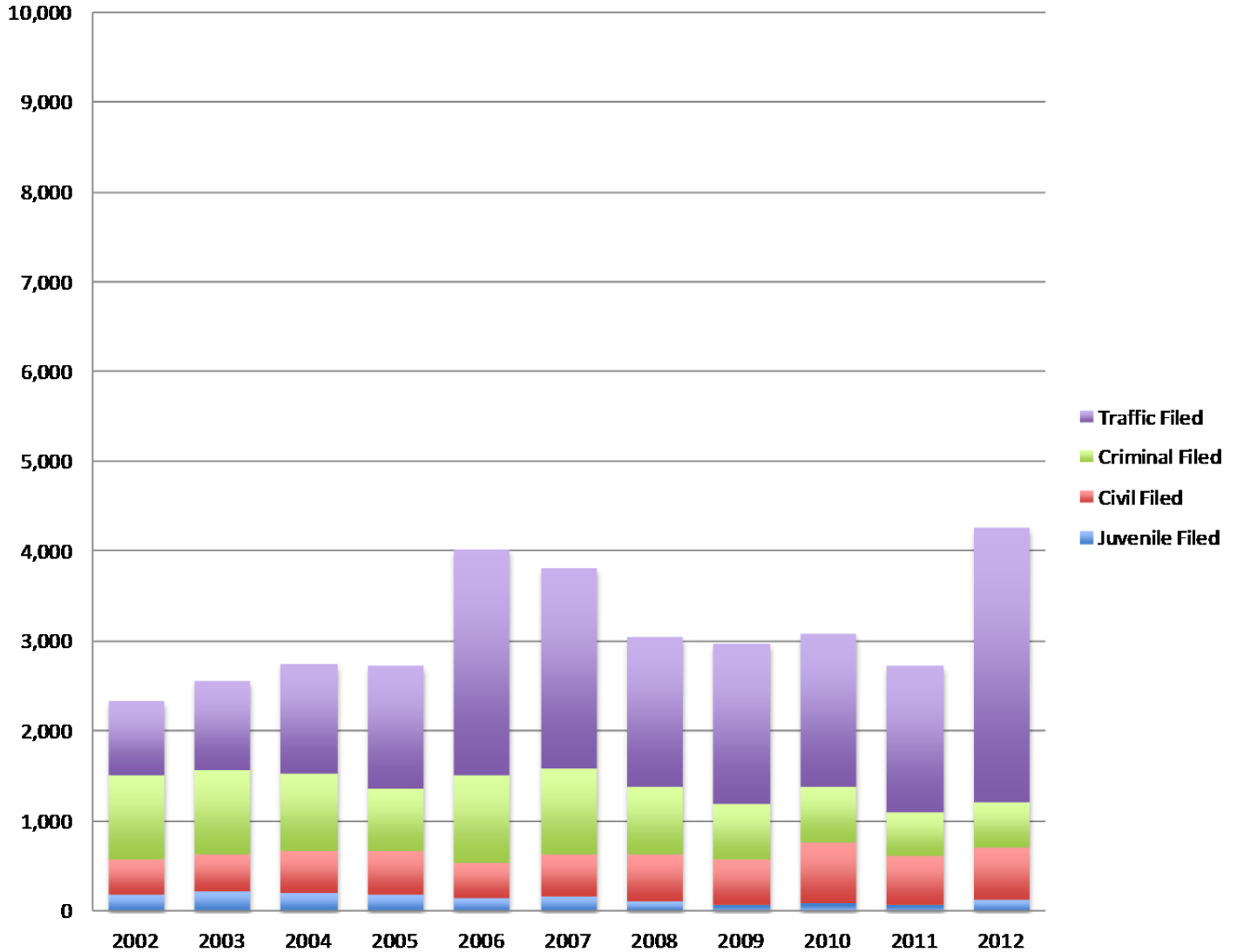


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Rayne and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 15<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.raynecitycourt.org/>.

## RAYNE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

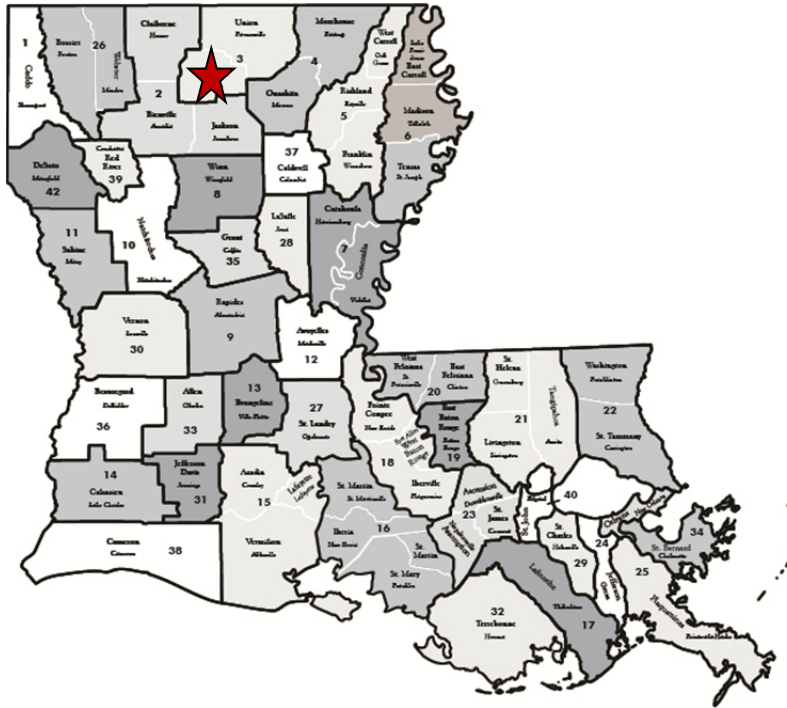


Rayne	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	395	411	471	481	395	476	527	493	662	551	575
Civil Term.	368	381	439	377	398	436	430	463	686	490	530
Criminal Filed	927	924	844	688	965	951	745	624	631	484	518
Criminal Term	829	992	762	718	722	1,032	792	634	689	586	560
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	822	1,004	1,231	1,380	2,510	2,229	1,667	1,779	1,688	1,630	3,037
Traffic Term.	880	1,103	1,128	1,230	2,274	2,070	2,049	1,648	1,748	1,715	2,906
Juvenile Filed	181	221	204	184	143	159	97	72	93	64	123
Juveniles Term.	165	223	178	151	175	143	88	77	94	61	84
Total Filed	2,325	2,560	2,750	2,733	4,013	3,815	3,036	2,968	3,074	2,729	4,253
Total Term	2,242	2,699	2,507	2,476	3,569	3,681	3,359	2,822	3,217	2,852	4,080
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## RUSTON CITY COURT

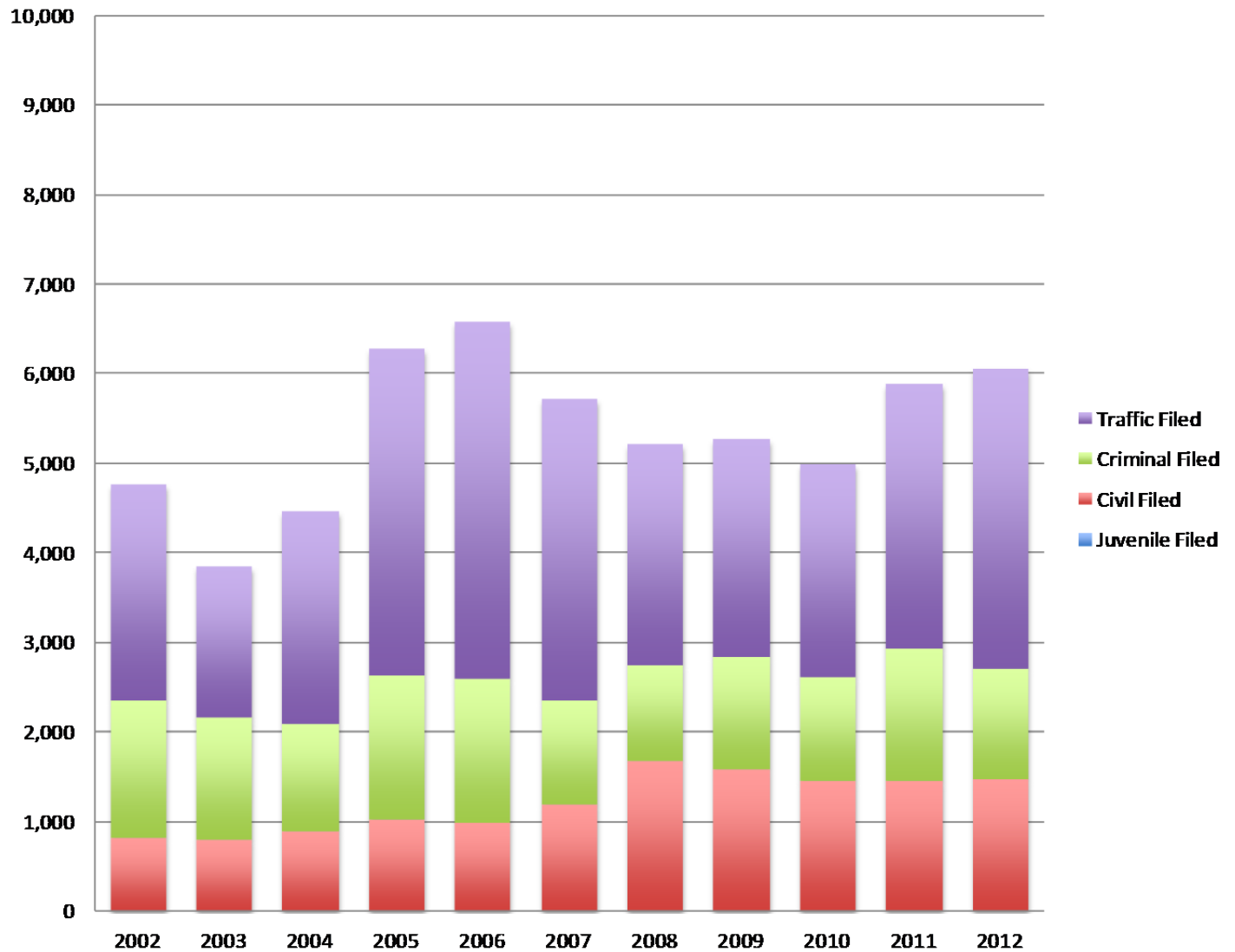


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Ruston and all of Lincoln Parish in northern Louisiana. This jurisdiction does not affect mayor's courts or justices of the peace throughout the parish.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 3<sup>rd</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$50,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://www.ruston.org/citycourt/>.

## RUSTON CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



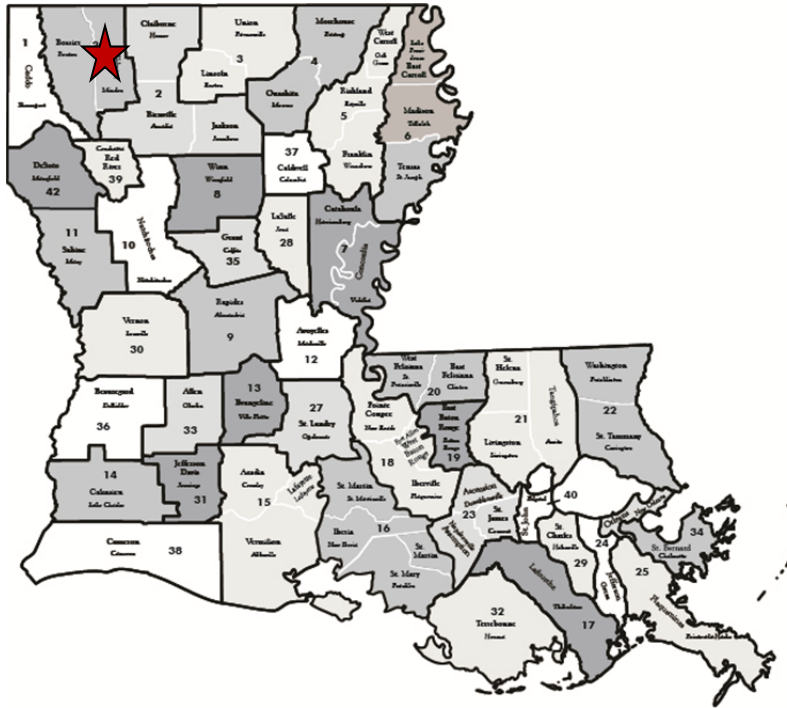
Ruston	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	812	799	885	1,021	977	1,186	1,682	1,582	1,460	1,455	1,464
Civil Term.	535	456	496	575	561	595	987	1,023	827	1,018	916
Criminal Filed	1,538	1,372	1,213	1,618	1,624	1,174	1,064	1,260	1,155	1,483	1,243
Criminal Term	1,030	1,242	1,642	2,360	1,879	907	893	812	826	1,617	908
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	2,418	1,676	2,372	3,637	3,979	3,354	2,476	2,423	2,376	2,951	3,349
Traffic Term.	2,114	1,553	1,997	2,723	2,993	2,986	2,211	2,215	2,086	1,830	3,032
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	4,768	3,847	4,470	6,276	6,580	5,714	5,222	5,265	4,991	5,889	6,056
Total Term	3,679	3,251	4,135	5,658	5,433	4,488	4,091	4,050	3,739	4,465	4,856
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	502	331	225	287	226	605	796	795	676	622	746
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	859	858	701	701	769

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## SPRINGHILL CITY COURT

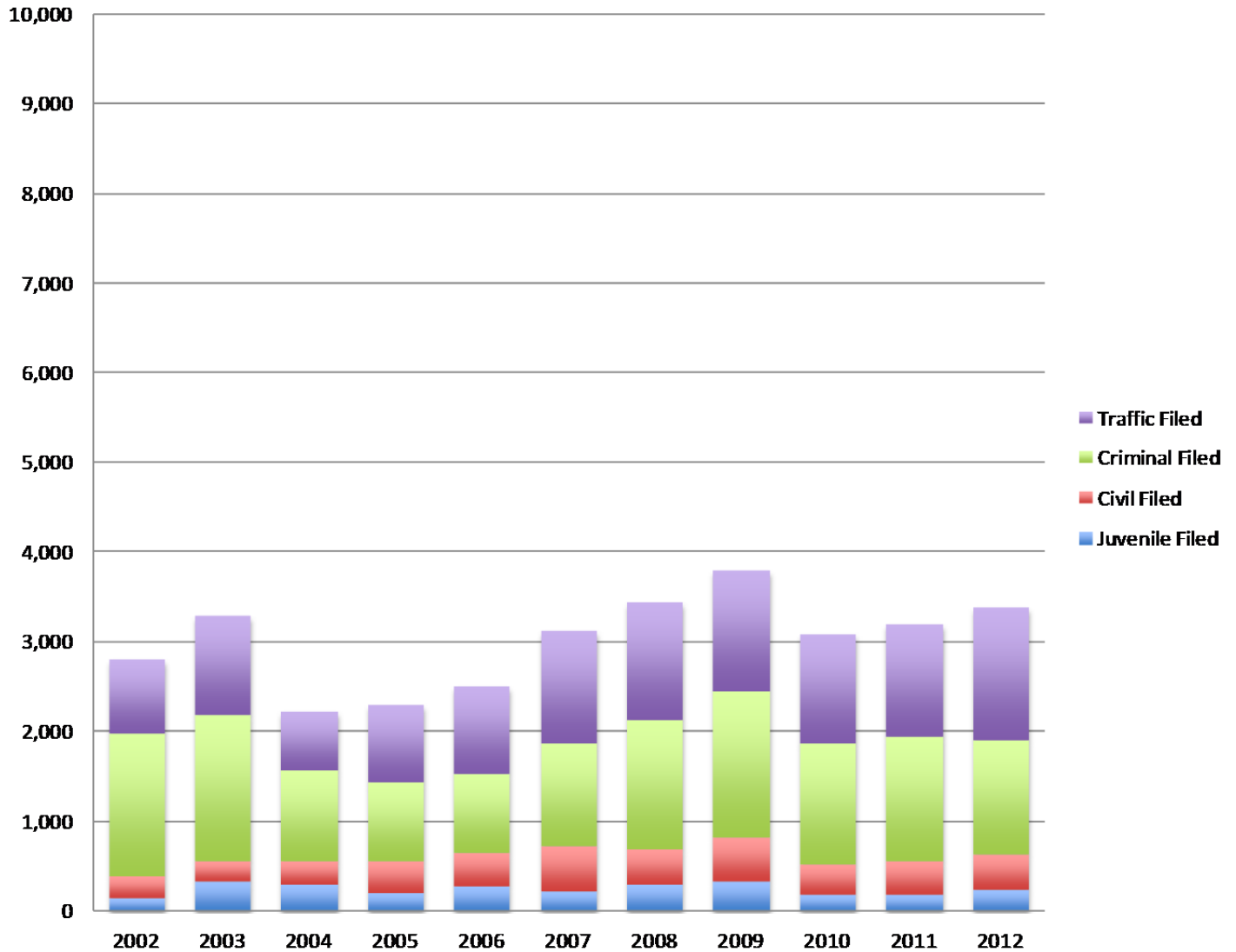


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Operates a juvenile drug court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Ward 2 of Webster Parish in northwest Louisiana
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 26<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## SPRINGHILL CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

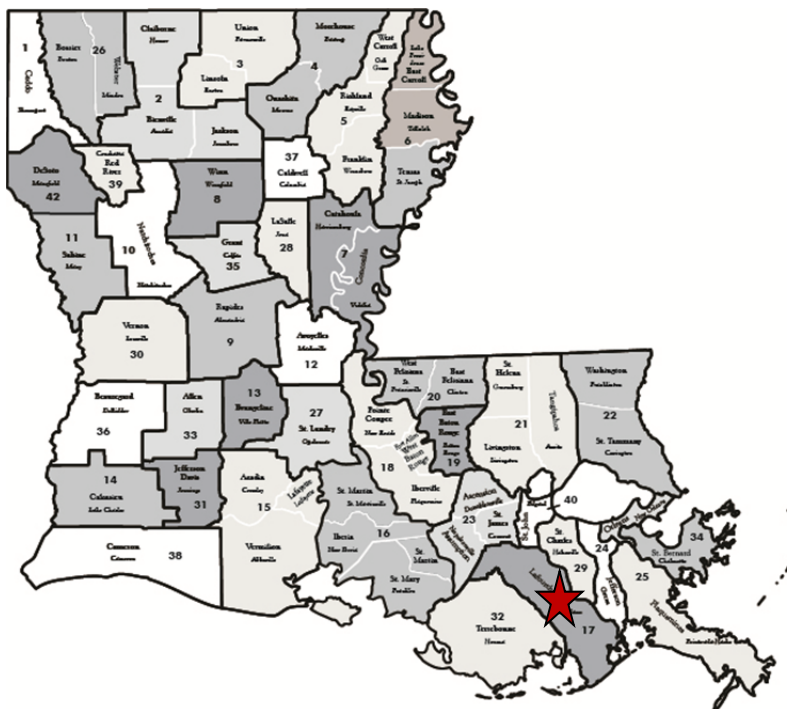


Springhill	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	233	226	273	367	377	491	395	479	336	364	393
Civil Term.	228	224	241	304	344	434	331	453	322	370	339
Criminal Filed	1,585	1,634	1,006	886	890	1,152	1,449	1,627	1,343	1,388	1,282
Criminal Term	1,342	1,210	786	625	610	686	898	986	871	979	924
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	828	1,101	656	850	958	1,255	1,304	1,344	1,210	1,255	1,471
Traffic Term.	828	1,101	656	850	958	1,255	1,304	1,344	1,210	1,255	1,471
Juvenile Filed	152	331	288	190	268	225	291	335	185	183	232
Juveniles Term.	143	162	230	149	186	168	187	251	173	142	174
Total Filed	2,798	3,292	2,223	2,293	2,493	3,123	3,439	3,785	3,074	3,190	3,378
Total Term	2,541	2,697	1,913	1,928	2,098	2,543	2,720	3,034	2,576	2,746	2,908
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	95	189	234	226	181	219	159	201	185	120	124
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	139	71	84	104	59

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## THIBODAUX CITY COURT

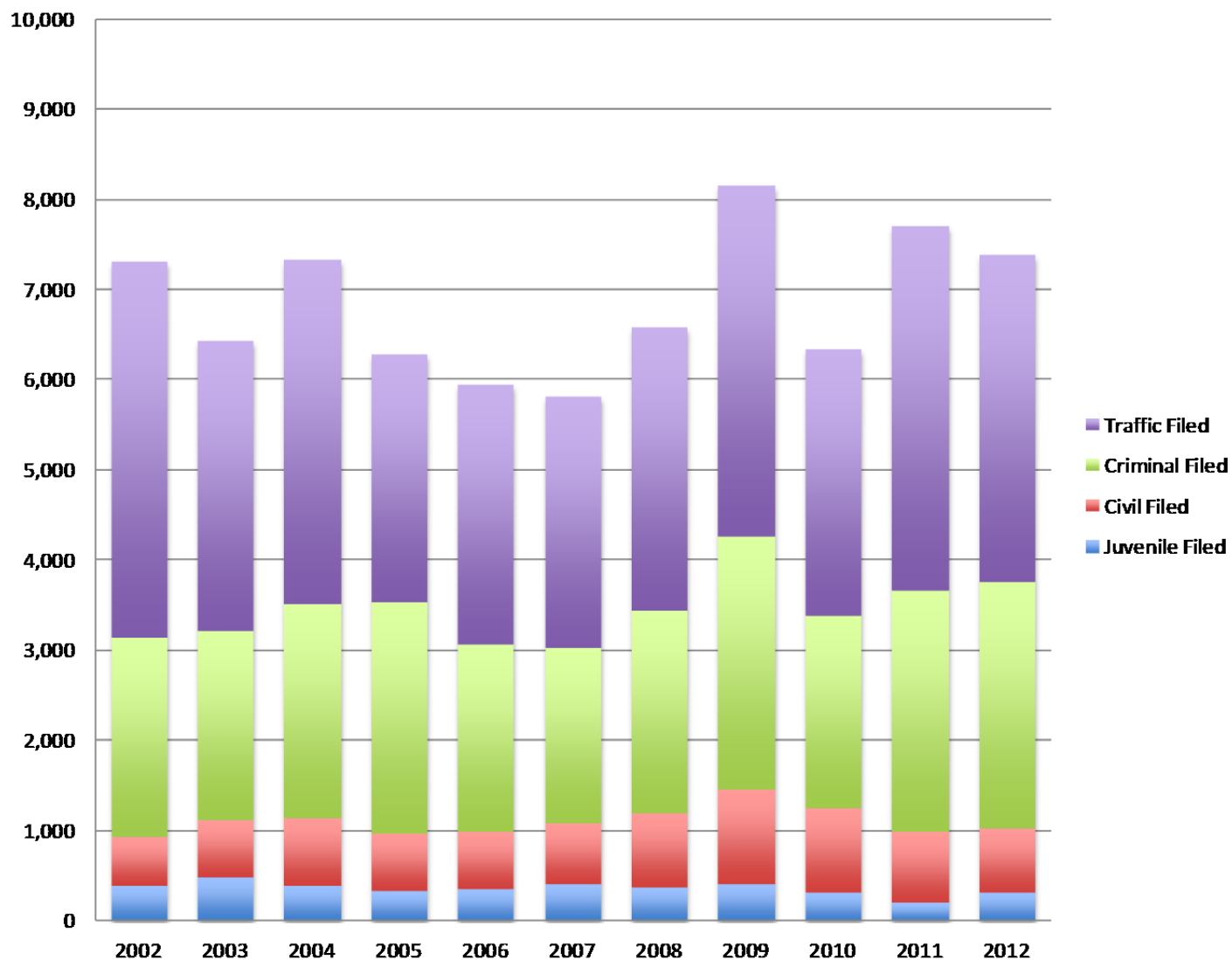


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Thibodaux and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 17<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: [http://www.ci.thibodaux.la.us/departments/city\\_court/index.asp](http://www.ci.thibodaux.la.us/departments/city_court/index.asp).

## THIBODAUX CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

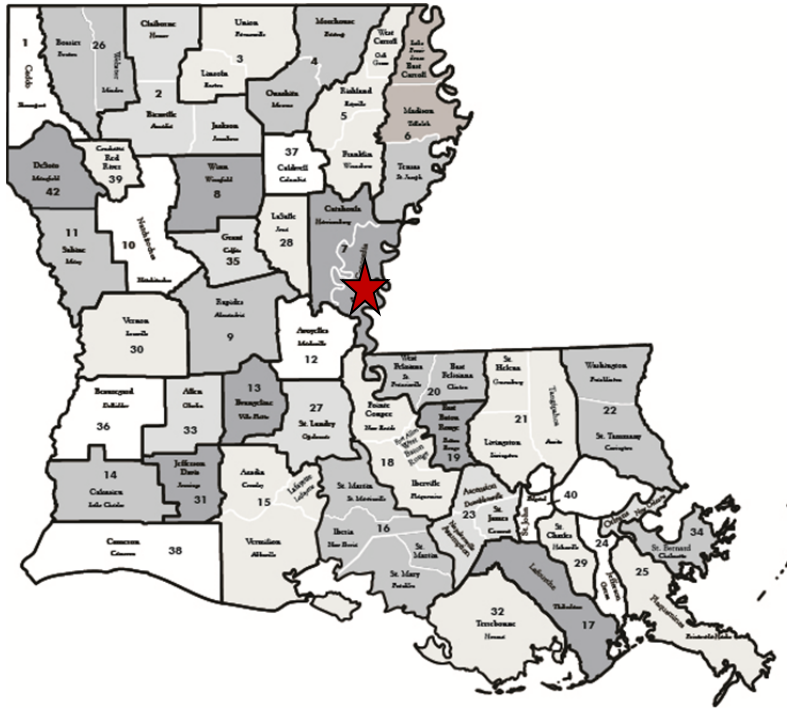


Thibodaux	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	533	646	755	630	634	675	818	1,043	939	795	719
Civil Term.	132	213	368	231	272	243	149	247	355	308	339
Criminal Filed	2,217	2,088	2,368	2,551	2,073	1,949	2,263	2,815	2,128	2,669	2,728
Criminal Term	2,979	2,515	2,732	3,172	2,775	2,097	1,919	2,526	2,275	2,494	2,592
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	4,171	3,211	3,815	2,762	2,892	2,780	3,125	3,891	2,954	4,036	3,623
Traffic Term.	5,260	3,948	4,365	3,127	3,276	3,014	2,886	3,816	2,888	3,752	3,524
Juvenile Filed	388	475	380	339	351	401	364	409	311	196	305
Juveniles Term.	185	308	265	251	282	283	268	367	266	164	204
Total Filed	7,309	6,420	7,318	6,282	5,950	5,805	6,570	8,158	6,332	7,696	7,375
Total Term	8,556	6,984	7,730	6,781	6,605	5,637	5,222	6,956	5,784	6,718	6,659
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	339	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## VIDALIA CITY COURT

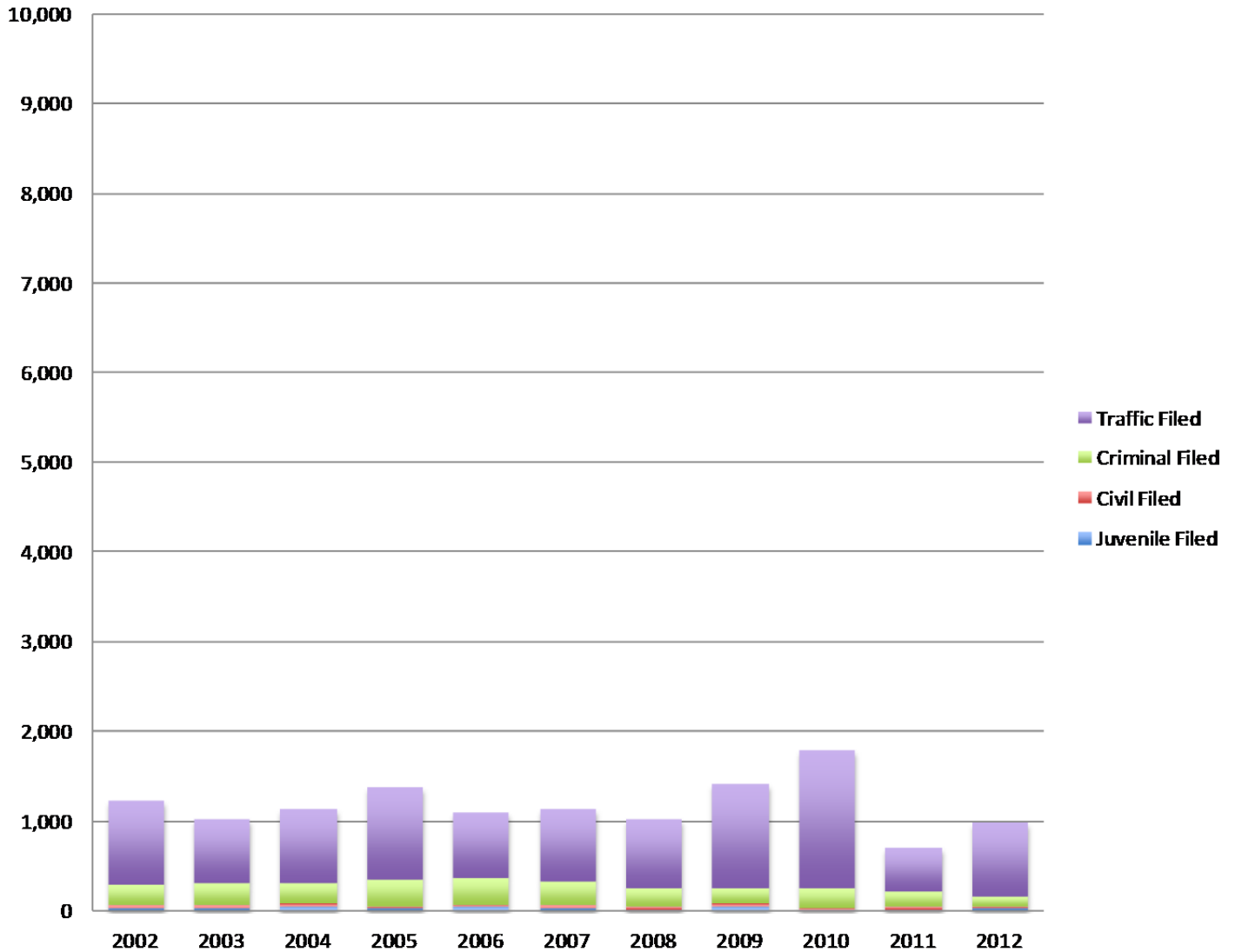


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Vidalia and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 7<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## VIDALIA CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

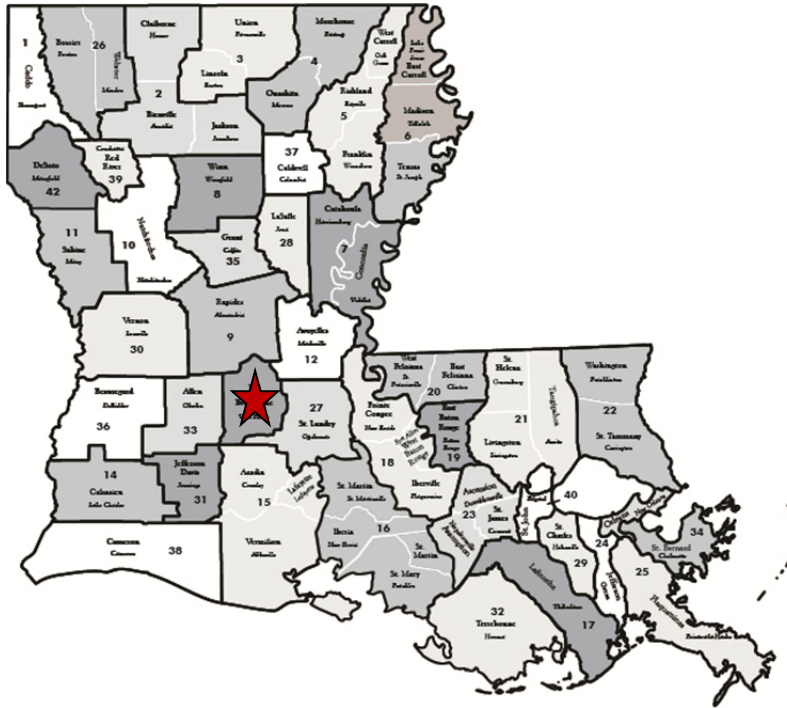


<b>Vidalia</b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	36	26	48	21	26	23	29	26	18	32	21
Civil Term.	4	6	16	15	25	22	15	15	11	14	8
Criminal Filed	227	240	223	294	292	267	202	171	232	164	108
Criminal Term	182	125	141	187	120	157	92	84	51	46	61
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	932	716	823	1,028	742	801	777	1,159	1,518	499	826
Traffic Term.	716	420	539	588	366	389	364	479	482	135	505
Juvenile Filed	30	39	41	28	44	37	18	57	14	16	37
Juveniles Term.	12	13	21	31	38	40	12	27	18	9	14
Total Filed	1,225	1,021	1,135	1,371	1,104	1,128	1,026	1,413	1,782	711	992
Total Term	914	564	717	821	549	608	483	605	562	204	588
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## VILLE PLATTE CITY COURT

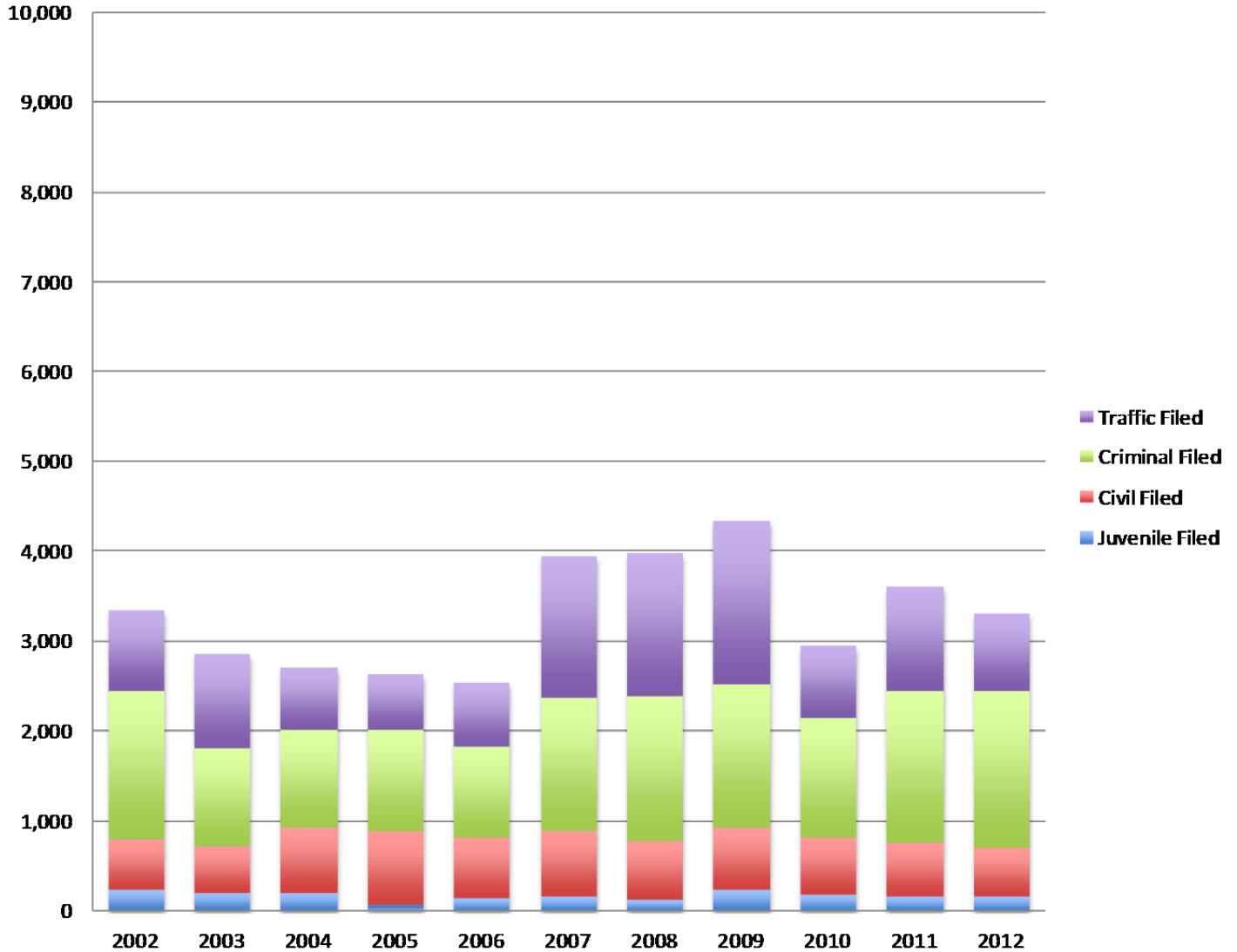


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Ward 1 of Evangeline Parish in central Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 13<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, for civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and juvenile matters.

## VILLE PLATTE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



Ville Platte	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	557	523	732	816	682	722	652	692	631	590	543
Civil Term.	278	198	375	491	408	367	477	431	381	358	390
Criminal Filed	1,639	1,077	1,094	1,122	1,001	1,493	1,604	1,589	1,333	1,684	1,745
Criminal Term.	1,154	855	814	809	752	1,020	1,090	1,075	1,112	1,497	1,859
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	899	1,053	679	611	717	1,557	1,583	1,817	801	1,158	855
Traffic Term.	808	877	574	442	654	1,130	1,089	922	534	849	758
Juvenile Filed	243	201	197	73	140	162	131	232	178	170	165
Juveniles Term.	250	188	181	56	139	165	131	208	178	148	165
Total Filed	3,338	2,854	2,702	2,622 <sup>ii</sup>	2,540	3,934	3,970	4,330	2,943	3,602	3,308
Total Term	2,490	2,118	1,944	1,798	1,953	2,682	2,787	2,636	2,205	2,852	3,172
Other Filed <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

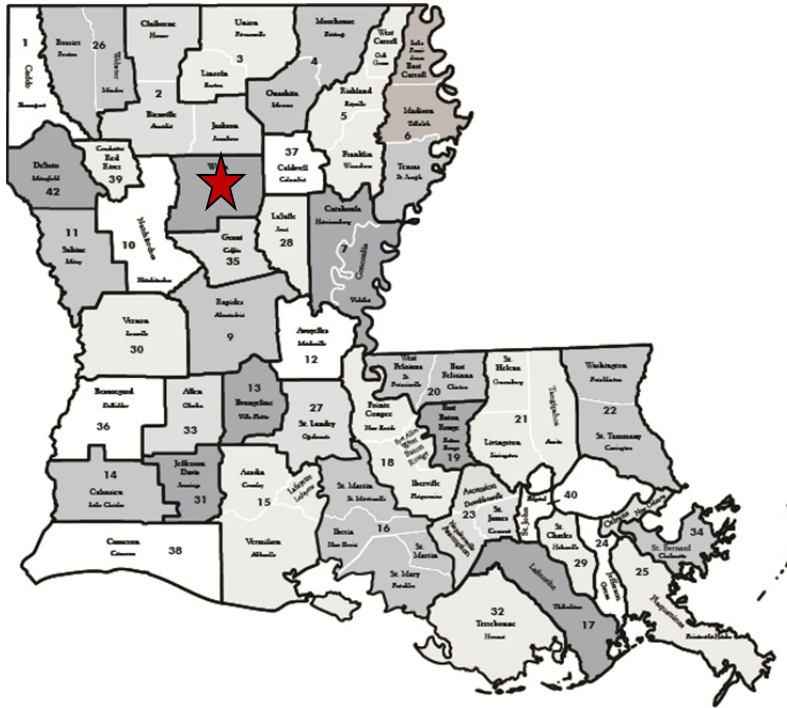
<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Total Filed has been updated to correct a math error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## WINNFIELD CITY COURT

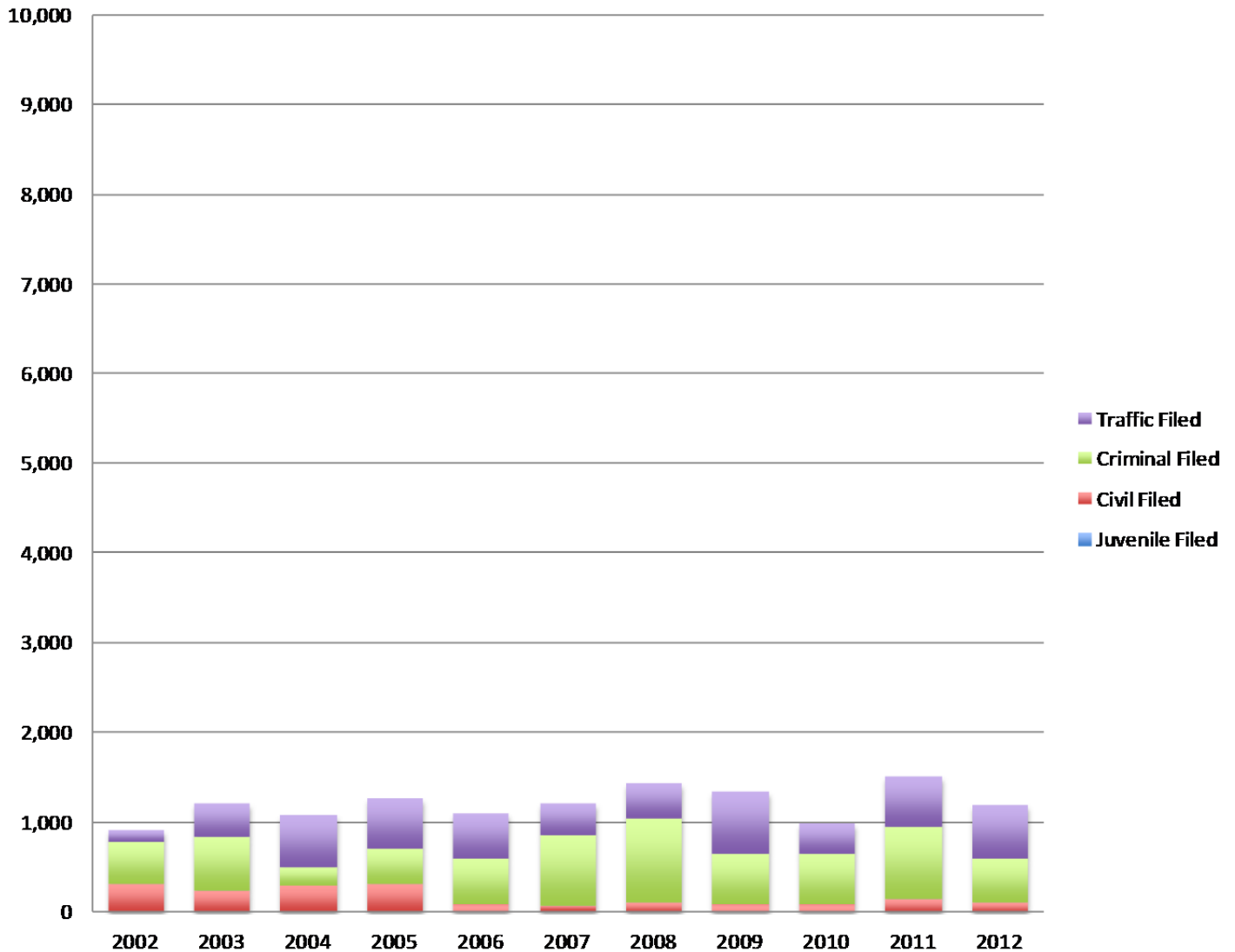


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Winnfield and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 8<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## WINNFIELD CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

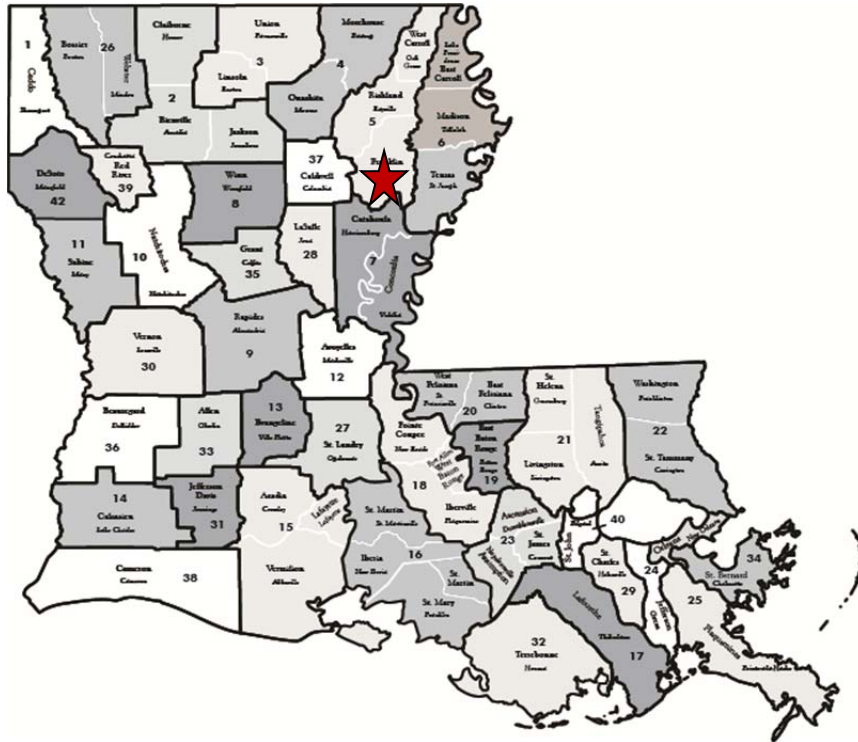


Winnfield	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	304	243	284	318	86	77	108	90	95	136	112
Civil Term.	225	166	176	170	75	93	100	86	88	62	81
Criminal Filed	472	584	218	389	512	771	941	567	557	803	482
Criminal Term	237	389	147	215	337	496	684	344	379	549	347
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	138	391	571	550	491	361	380	686	332	571	589
Traffic Term.	81	201	369	330	292	212	263	435	241	338	387
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	914	1,218	1,073	1,257	1,089	1,209	1,429	1,343	984	1,510	1,183
Total Term	543	756	692	715	704	801	1,047	865	708	949	815
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## WINNSBORO CITY COURT

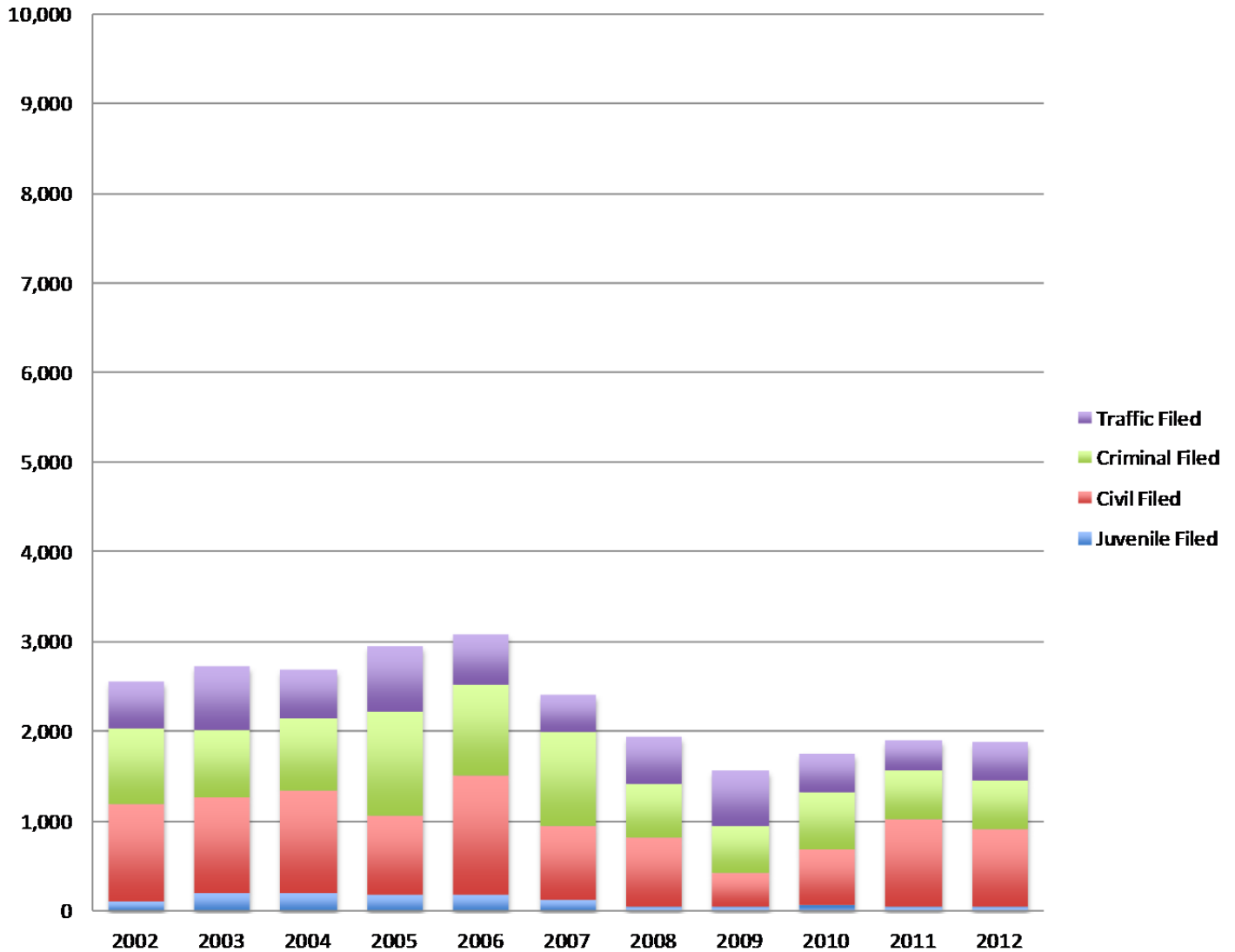


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Winnsboro and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 5<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: [http://cityofwinnsboro.com/?page\\_id=81](http://cityofwinnsboro.com/?page_id=81).

## WINNSBORO CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

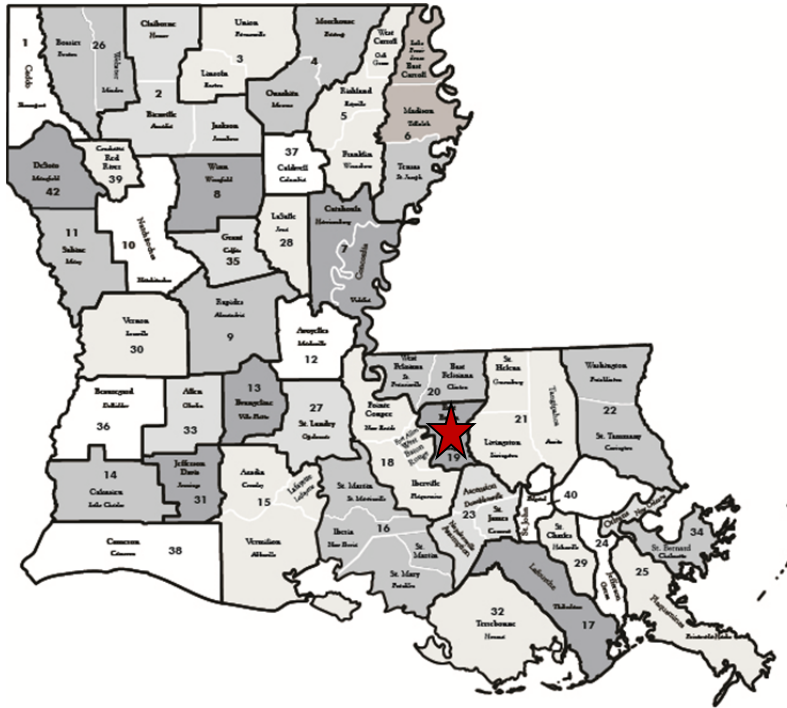


Winnsboro	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,088	1,071	1,144	886	1,321	833	773	380	618	970	869
Civil Term.	679	586	626	467	692	513	281	72	90	62	31
Criminal Filed	831	745	803	1,146	1,016	1,041	591	525	643	540	544
Criminal Term.	843	598	622	767	824	918	589	488	483	519	459
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	519	715	540	733	561	409	535	619	435	346	427
Traffic Term.	431	642	453	590	494	387	500	548	482	492	414
Juvenile Filed	110	198	200	182	187	121	49	41	59	54	46
Juveniles Term.	130	206	200	180	175	164	54	34	58	46	44
Total Filed	2,548	2,729	2,687	2,947	3,085	2,404	1,948	1,565	1,755	1,910	1,886
Total Term	2,083	2,032	1,901	2,004	2,185	1,982	1,424	1,142	1,113	1,119	948
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## ZACHARY CITY COURT

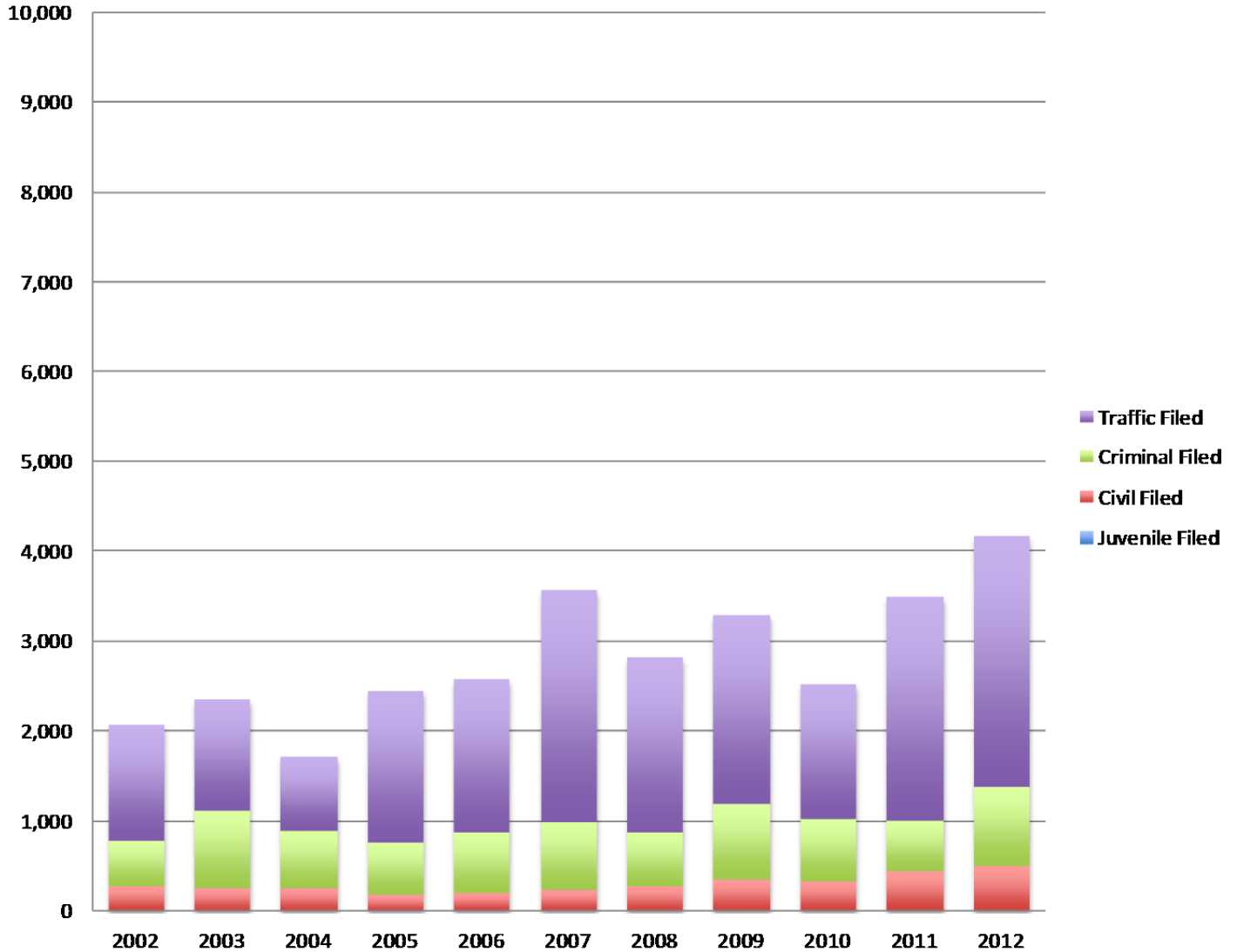


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Zachary and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses.
- Juvenile jurisdiction is vested exclusively in East Baton Rouge Juvenile Court.
- Webpage: <http://www.cityofzachary.org/court.html>.

## ZACHARY CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



<b>Zachary</b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	274	262	254	176	205	242	266	357	329	438	494
Civil Term.	224	178	128	111	123	145	195	217	220	277	329
Criminal Filed	508	845	637	586	668	736	612	826	693	567	883
Criminal Term	270	511	757	776	784	433	656	740	580	522	466
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,286	1,240	832	1,677	1,703	2,595	1,942	2,099	1,493	2,479	2,797
Traffic Term.	1,153	985	822	1,381	1,446	1,927	1,885	1,929	1,199	2,073	1,705
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>2,347</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>2,576</b>	<b>3,573</b>	<b>2,820</b>	<b>3,282</b>	<b>2,515</b>	<b>3,484</b>	<b>4,174</b>
<b>Total Term</b>	<b>1,647</b>	<b>1,674</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>2,268</b>	<b>2,353</b>	<b>2,505</b>	<b>2,736</b>	<b>2,886</b>	<b>1,999</b>	<b>2,872</b>	<b>2,500</b>
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

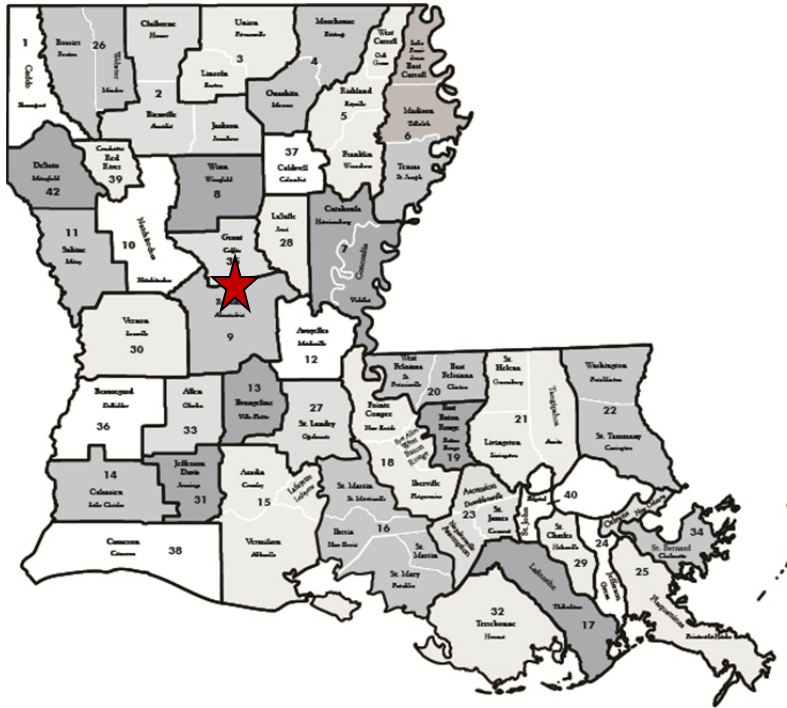
City Courts  
Filing Range 0-50k

**Filing Range 0-50k:**

Alexandria  
Bossier City  
Crowley  
Denham Springs  
Hammond  
Houma  
Lafayette  
Lake Charles  
Monroe  
New Iberia  
New Orleans 1st City Ct.  
Opelousas  
Pineville  
Port Allen  
Slidell  
Sulphur  
West Monroe



## ALEXANDRIA CITY COURT

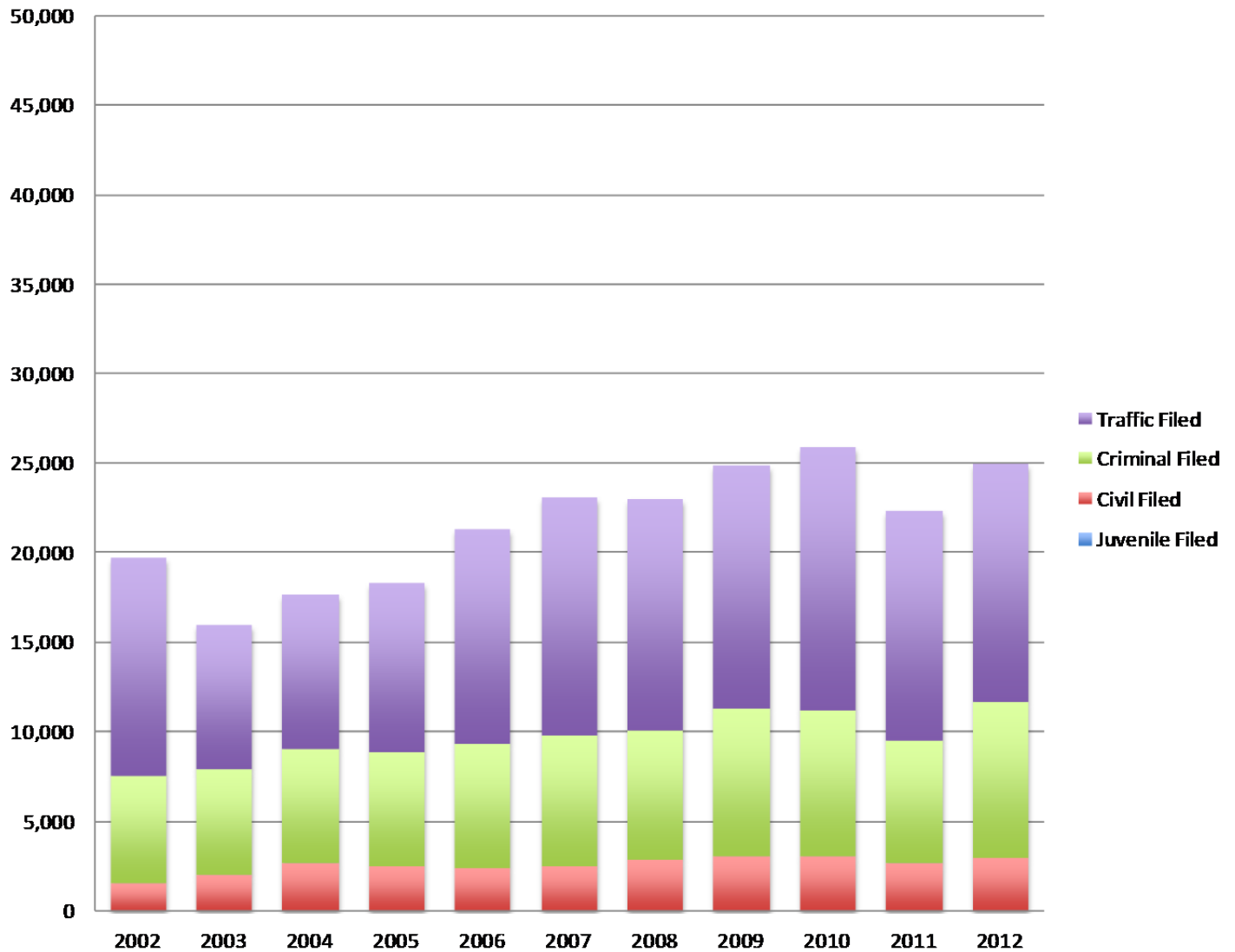


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court in Rapides Parish.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Alexandria and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in any part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 9<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits for amounts in dispute up to \$50,000, over movable or immovable property for amounts in dispute up to \$10,000, for criminal misdemeanor state and local offenses, and for juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.cityofalexandria.com/city-court>.

## ALEXANDRIA CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



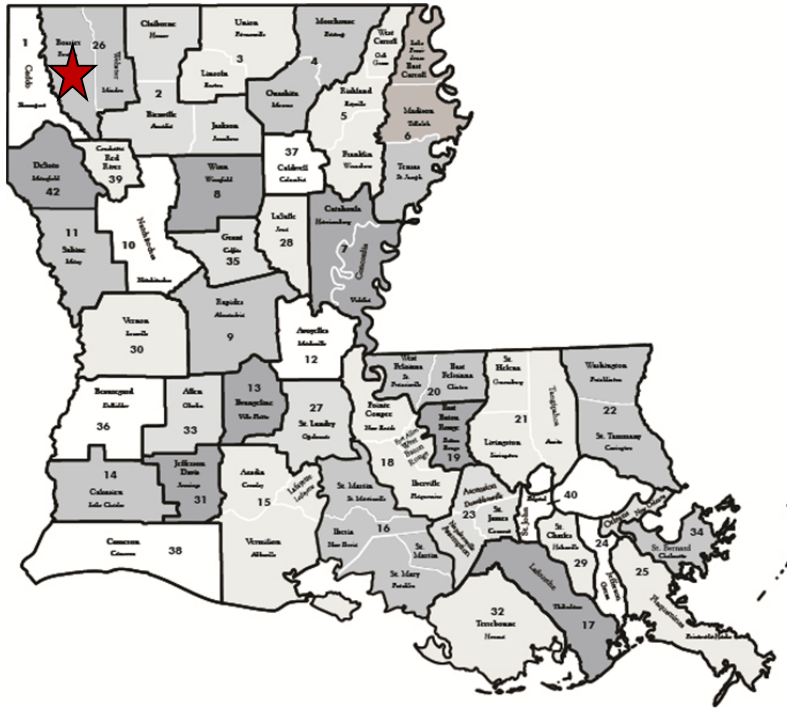
Alexandria	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,564	2,023	2,654	2,466	2,416	2,475	2,824	3,075	3,030	2,700	2,916
Civil Term.	964	1,027	1,270	1,366	1,339	1,460	1,695	1,844	1,784	1,924	2,056
Criminal Filed	5,980	5,854	6,372	6,402	6,868	7,323	7,223	8,196	8,159	6,821	8,763
Criminal Term	4,886	4,660	4,340	4,162	4,414	4,280	4,238	4,801	4,935	6,328	6,887
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	12,192	8,091	8,627	9,405	12,040	13,319	12,929	13,576	14,654	12,806	13,245
Traffic Term.	12,105	7,774	8,625	9,405	12,040	13,319	12,929	13,576	14,654	10,874	11,951
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	19,736	15,968	17,653	18,273	21,324	23,117	22,976	24,847	25,843	22,327	24,924
Total Term	17,955	13,461	14,235	14,933 <sup>ii</sup>	17,793	19,059	18,862	20,221	21,373	19,126	20,894
Other Filed <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Total Term. has been updated to correct a math error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## BOSSIER CITY COURT

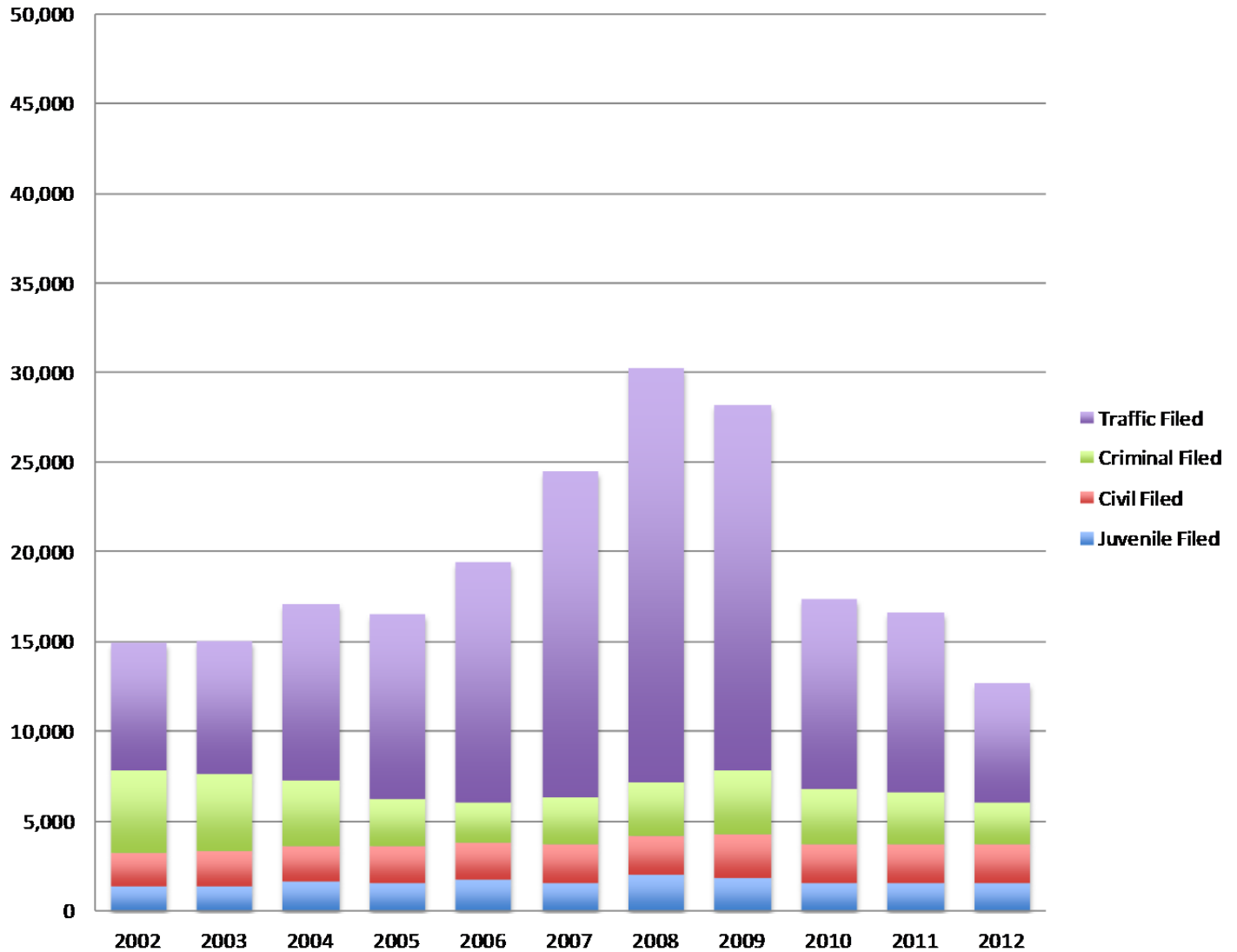


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One attorney volunteers as small claims division arbitrator.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Bossier and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 26<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- <http://www.bossiercity.org/City-Court/>.

## BOSSIER CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

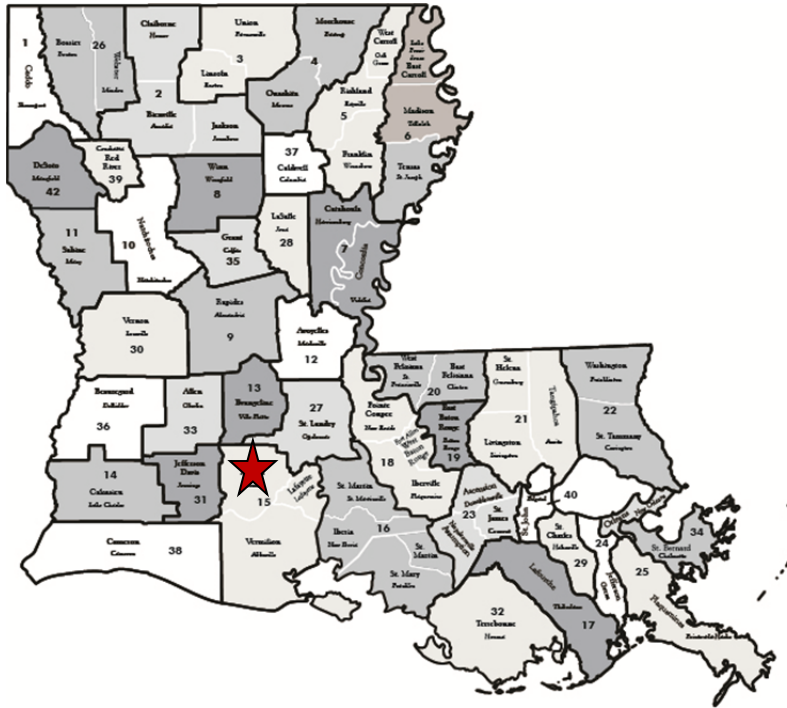


<b>Bossier City</b>	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,853	1,953	1,934	2,080	2,065	2,101	2,212	2,431	2,226	2,134	2,163
Civil Term.	1,105	1,344	1,186	1,282	1,415	1,413	1,566	1,569	1,975	1,412	1,838
Criminal Filed	4,608	4,287	3,692	2,636	2,241	2,644	2,959	3,604	3,043	2,834	2,317
Criminal Term	4,193	4,091	3,620	2,694	2,397	2,595	2,797	2,897	3,120	3,077	2,199
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	7,127	7,394	9,831	10,259	13,412	18,135	23,126	20,340	10,612	10,070	6,656
Traffic Term.	5,690	6,103	7,952	8,815	10,751	13,907	18,175	17,380	13,069	11,338	7,770
Juvenile Filed	1,372	1,369	1,652	1,523	1,750	1,578	1,999	1,796	1,523	1,598	1,526
Juveniles Term.	1,375	1,392	1,589	1,493	1,717	1,497	2,020	1,486	1,360	1,398	1,376
Total Filed	14,960	15,003	17,109	16,498	19,468	24,458	30,296	28,171	17,404	16,636	12,662
Total Term	12,363	12,930	14,347	14,284	16,280	19,412	24,558	23,332	19,524	17,225	13,183
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	281	394	389	458	406	329	389	401	324	301	260
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	345	367	225	762	187

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## CROWLEY CITY COURT

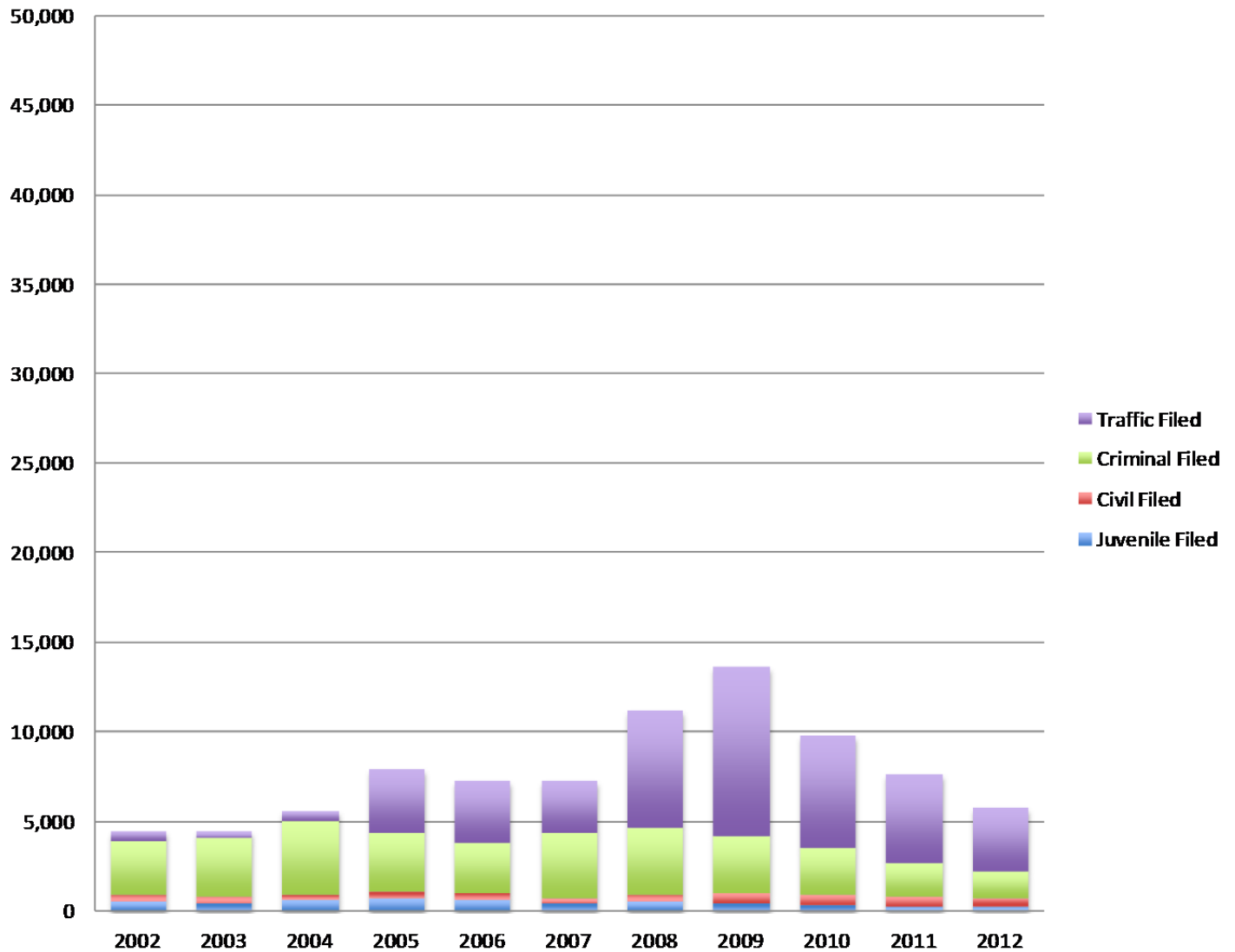


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Crowley and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 15<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## CROWLEY CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

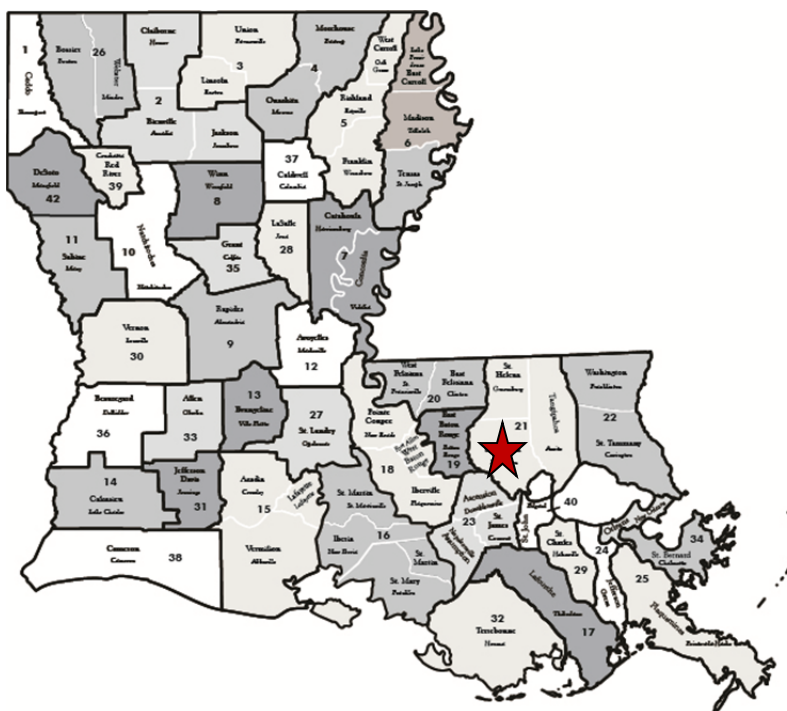


Crowley	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	353	367	365	308	380	319	404	592	545	498	525
Civil Term.	303	286	323	229	488	445	406	469	500	461	406
Criminal Filed	2,981	3,365	4,098	3,283	2,782	3,608	3,758	3,136	2,605	1,868	1,442
Criminal Term	1,361	1,381	1,653	1,220	980	1,272	1,394	1,390	1,319	1,418	1,215
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	597	342	570	3,616	3,482	2,945	6,576	9,414	6,307	4,960	3,546
Traffic Term.	1,232	1,161	1,374	2,217	1,819	1,439	2,832	4,803	4,750	4,114	3,588
Juvenile Filed	548	397	576	748	623	411	500	442	355	272	218
Juveniles Term.	458	342	483	488	521	250	292	331	307	226	250
Total Filed	4,479	4,471	5,609	7,955	7,267	7,283	11,238	13,584	9,812	7,598	5,731
Total Term	3,354	3,170	3,833	4,154	3,808	3,406	4,924	6,993	6,876	6,219	5,459
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

# DENHAM SPRINGS CITY COURT

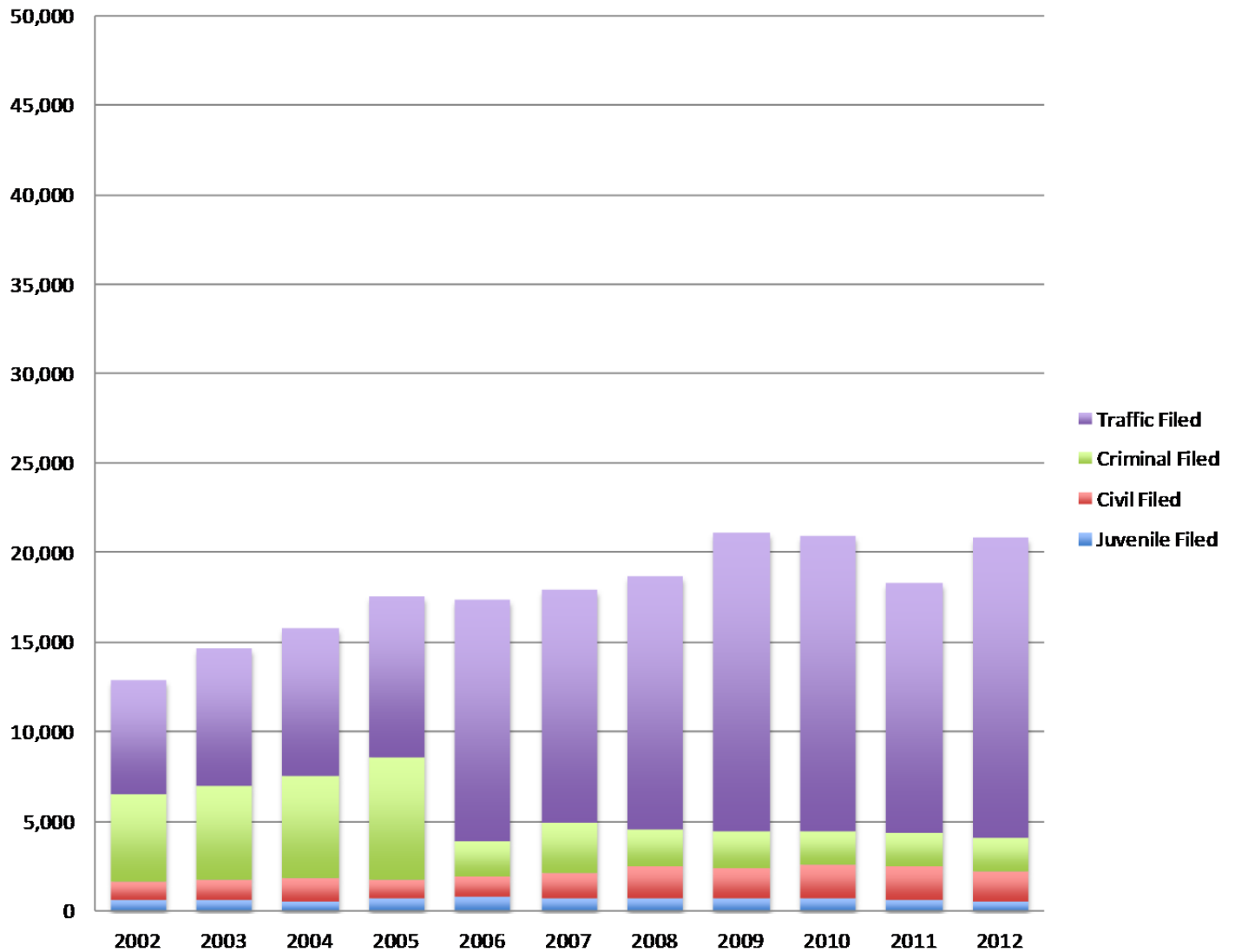


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Denham Springs and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 21<sup>st</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.dsclerkofcourt.org/>.

## DENHAM SPRINGS CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



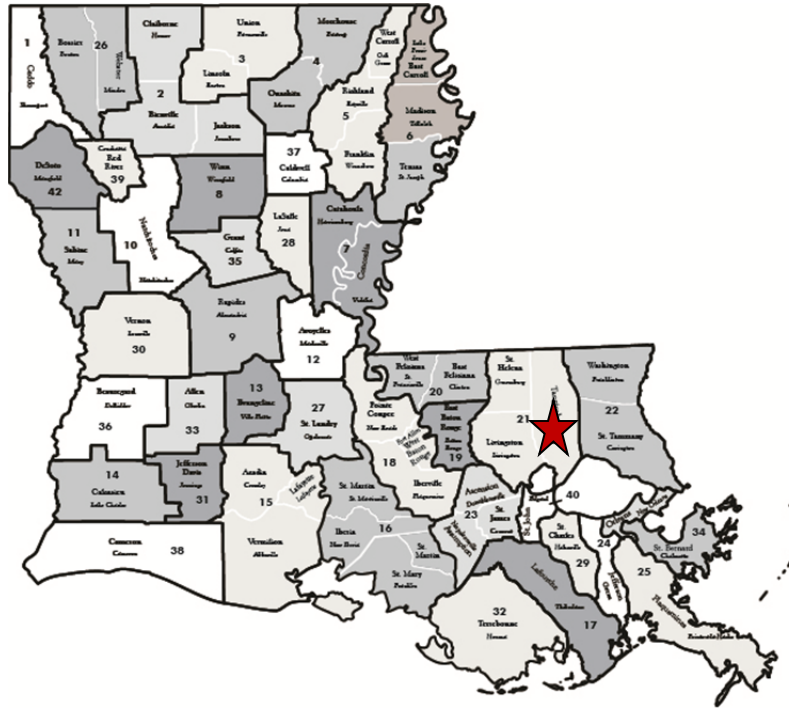
Denham Springs	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,091	1,074	1,250	1,053	1,150	1,397	1,691	1,747	1,871	1,782	1,737
Civil Term.	929	1,154	1,322	1,184	1,093	1,429	1,601	1,645	1,782	1,816	1,695
Criminal Filed	4,818	5,215	5,763	6,847	1,992	2,801	2,063	2,050	1,840	1,952	1,848
Criminal Term	3,903	4,477	5,401	5,841	2,639	2,321	2,061	2,161	2,554	3,268	3,928
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	6,368	7,699	8,238	8,932	13,409	12,967	14,140	16,593	16,478	13,857	16,757
Traffic Term.	5,467	6,466	7,247	8,165	11,965	10,930	12,902	13,818	16,331	15,049	16,170
Juvenile Filed	600	663	550	715	790	739	755	695	710	666	506
Juveniles Term.	809	626	479	690	770	803	726	605	671	597	539
Total Filed	12,877	14,651	15,801	17,547	17,341	17,904	18,649	21,085	20,899	18,257	20,848
Total Term	11,108	12,723	14,449	15,880	16,467	15,483	17,290	18,229	21,338	20,730	22,332
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	134	155	130	169	148	160	148	134	190	179	166
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	134	190	179	188

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## HAMMOND CITY COURT

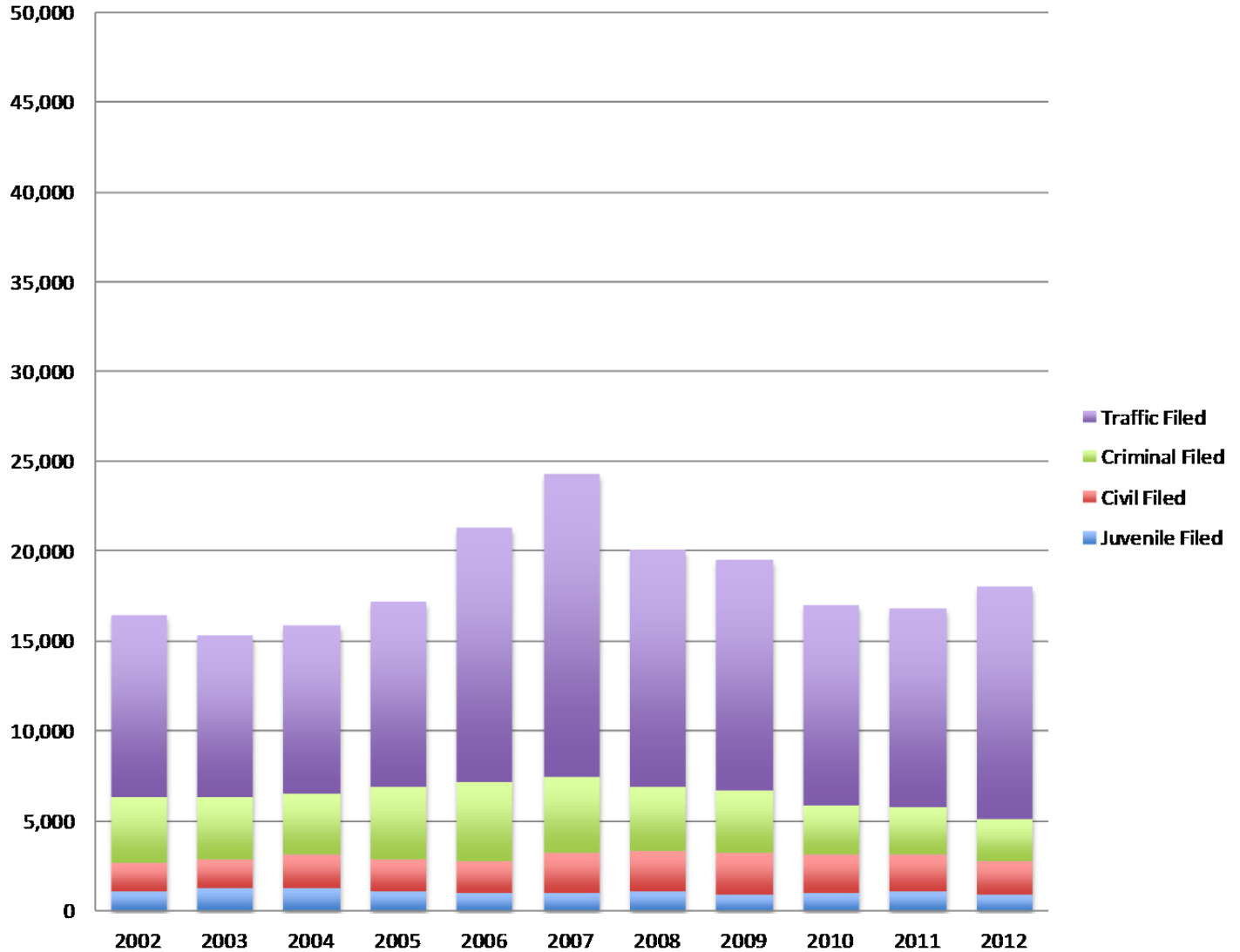


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Operates a juvenile drug court and a truancy court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Ward 7 of Tangipahoa Parish, including the town of Ponchatoula, but not affecting the jurisdiction of the Ponchatoula mayor's court.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 21<sup>st</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.citycourt.org/>.

## HAMMOND CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

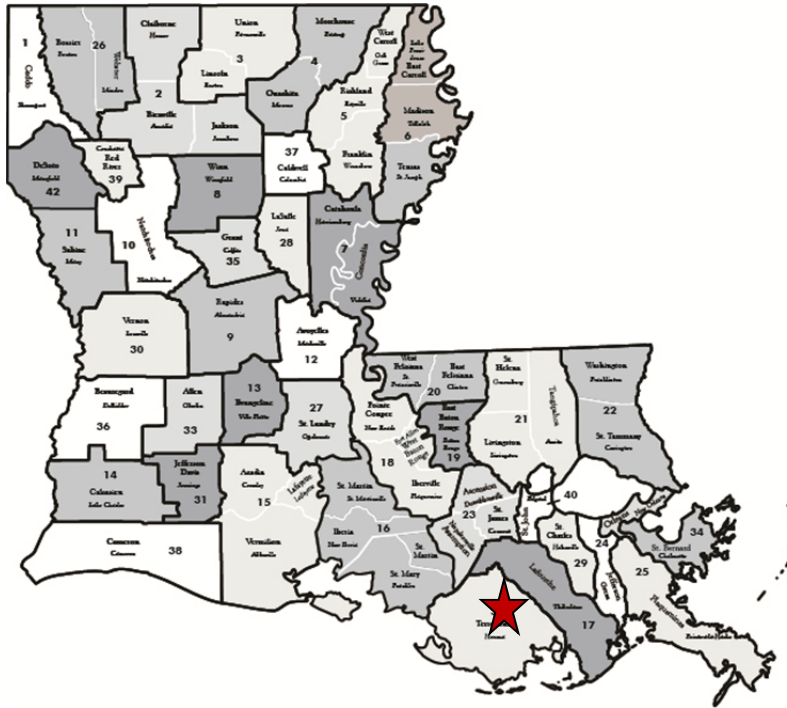


Hammond	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,588	1,588	1,834	1,723	1,817	2,245	2,251	2,387	2,160	2,070	1,848
Civil Term.	1,710	1,557	1,399	1,319	1,260	1,524	1,580	1,804	1,818	1,624	1,431
Criminal Filed	3,696	3,464	3,453	4,018	4,338	4,208	3,552	3,460	2,753	2,620	2,414
Criminal Term	3,189	1,923	2,012	1,881	2,410	1,958	1,614	1,828	1,985	1,362	1,286
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	10,081	8,978	9,280	10,302	14,170	16,827	13,276	12,763	11,087	11,039	12,827
Traffic Term.	8,011	6,216	7,039	6,766	10,063	11,627	10,650	9,455	8,071	8,060	7,938
Juvenile Filed	1,081	1,320	1,272	1,121	996	1,041	1,043	899	950	1,058	894
Juveniles Term.	478	563	989	620	659	543	617	460	395	540	521
Total Filed	16,446	15,350	15,839	17,164	21,321	24,321	20,122	19,509	16,950	16,787	17,983
Total Term	13,388	10,259	11,439	10,586	14,392	15,652	14,461	13,547	12,269	11,586	11,176
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## HOUMA CITY COURT

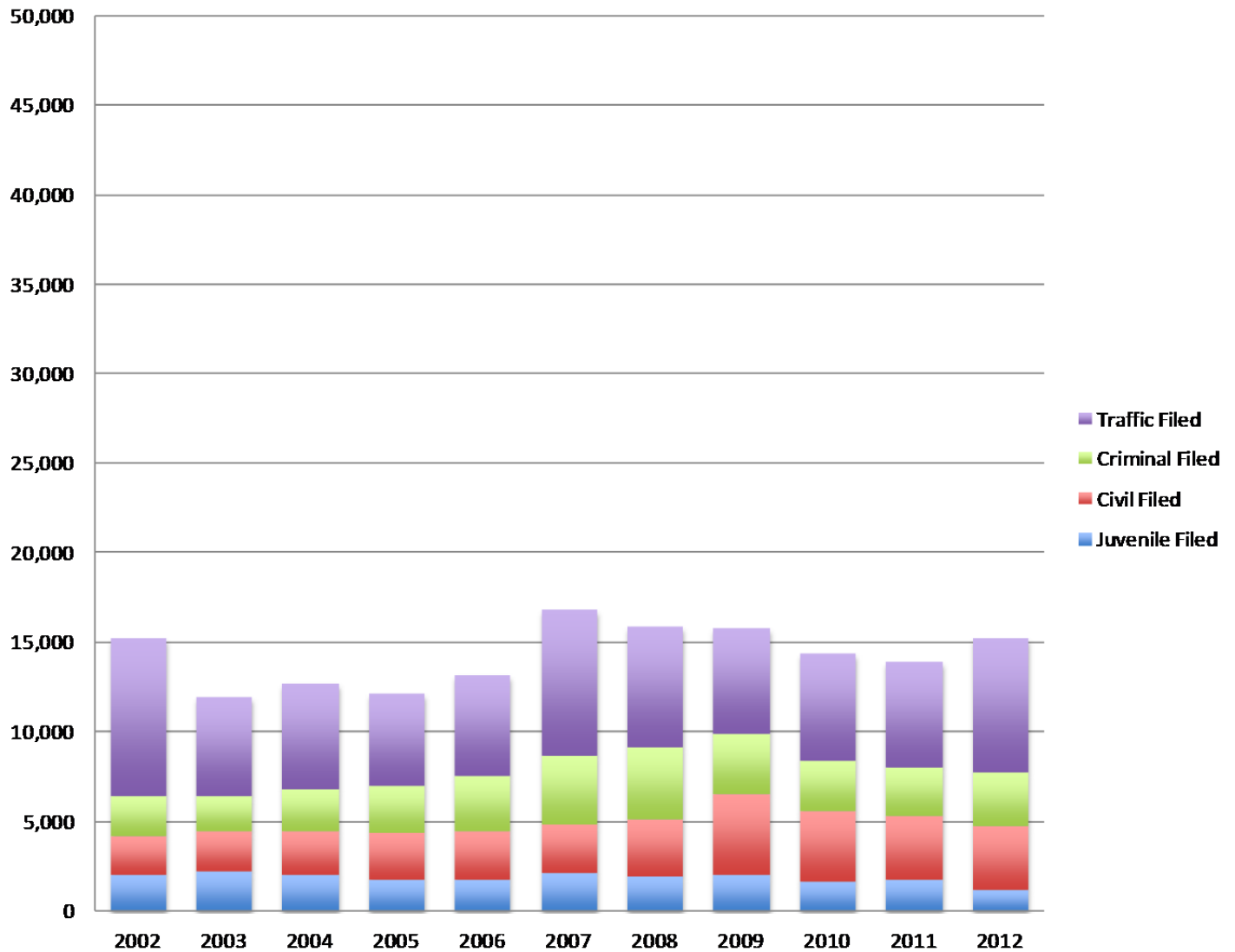


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the entire parish of Terrebonne.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 32<sup>nd</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$20,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.citycourtofhouma.org/>.

## HOUMA CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

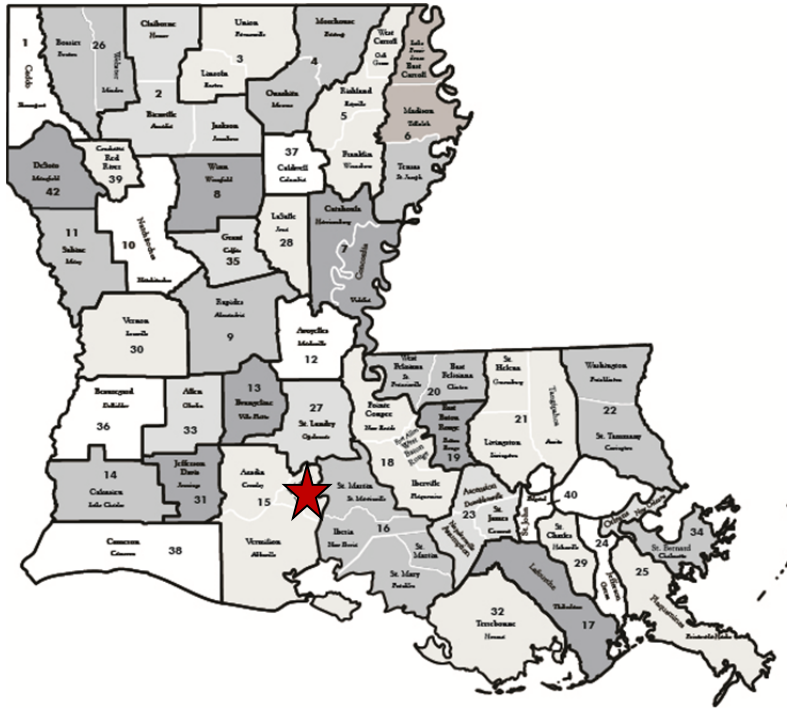


Houma	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	2,157	2,238	2,384	2,625	2,661	2,722	3,178	4,426	3,912	3,616	3,511
Civil Term.	1,489	1,764	1,698	1,756	1,727	2,009	2,172	2,669	2,638	2,383	2,401
Criminal Filed	2,210	1,999	2,366	2,616	3,137	3,823	3,992	3,369	2,776	2,687	2,969
Criminal Term	1,912	1,911	1,953	2,223	2,786	3,495	3,580	4,597	4,374	4,616	2,694
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	8,797	5,534	5,851	5,113	5,610	8,166	6,795	5,930	5,965	5,882	7,568
Traffic Term.	8,343	5,777	6,269	5,428	6,171	7,560	6,530	6,523	7,015	6,219	6,866
Juvenile Filed	2,017	2,177	2,050	1,757	1,780	2,125	1,918	2,068	1,687	1,719	1,211
Juveniles Term.	1,525	1,952	1,635	1,574	1,355	1,821	1,327	1,641	1,467	1,459	1,072
Total Filed	15,181	11,948	12,651	12,111	13,188	16,836	15,883	15,793	14,340	13,904	15,259
Total Term	13,269	11,404	11,555	10,981	12,039	14,885	13,609	15,430	15,494	14,677	13,033
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	643	655	866	969	875	1,017	1,107	1,452	1,434	1,356	1,446
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	714	1,158	1,156	1,109	1,029

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## LAFAYETTE CITY COURT

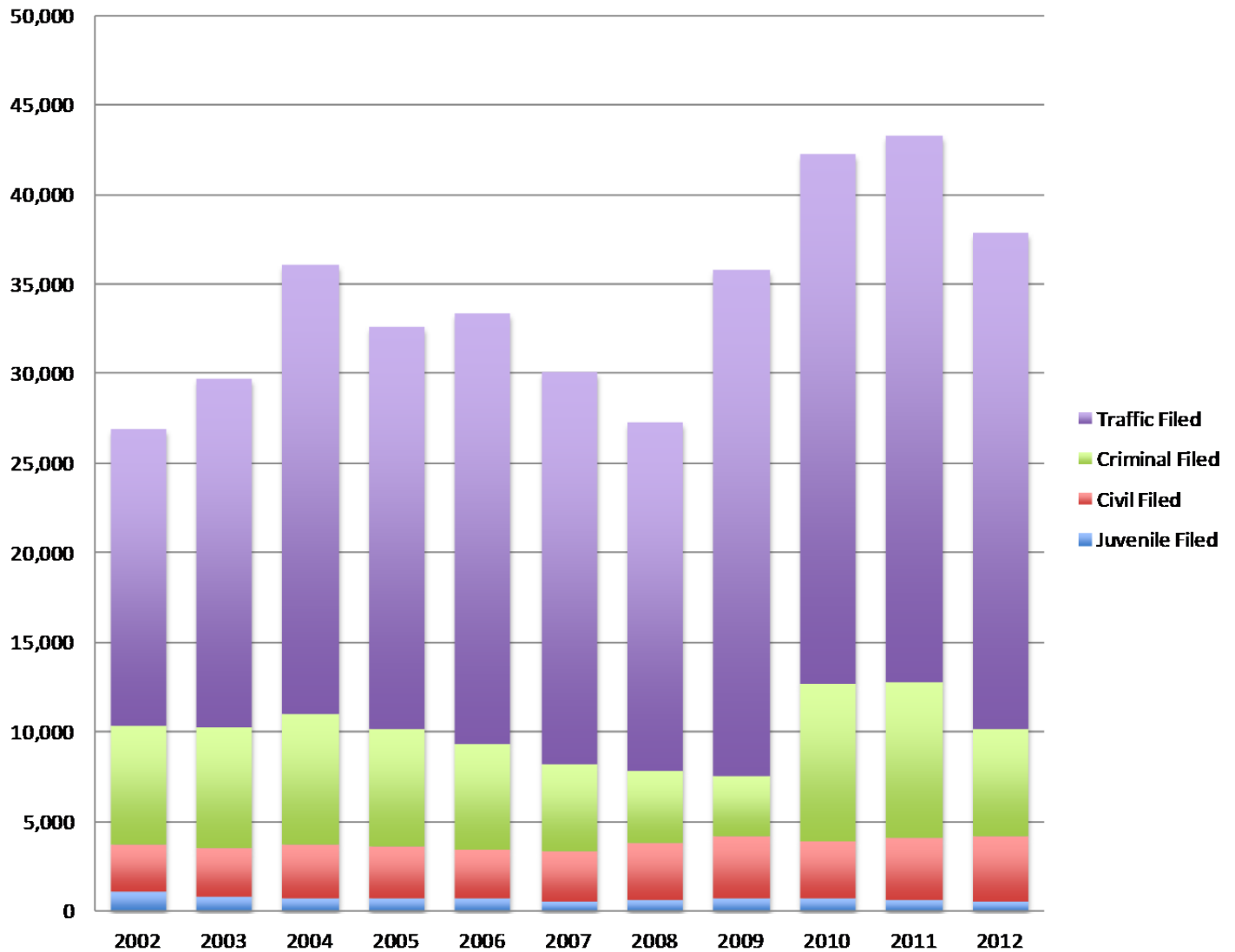


### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Lafayette and throughout Wards 3 and 10 of Lafayette Parish in southern Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 15<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## LAFAYETTE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

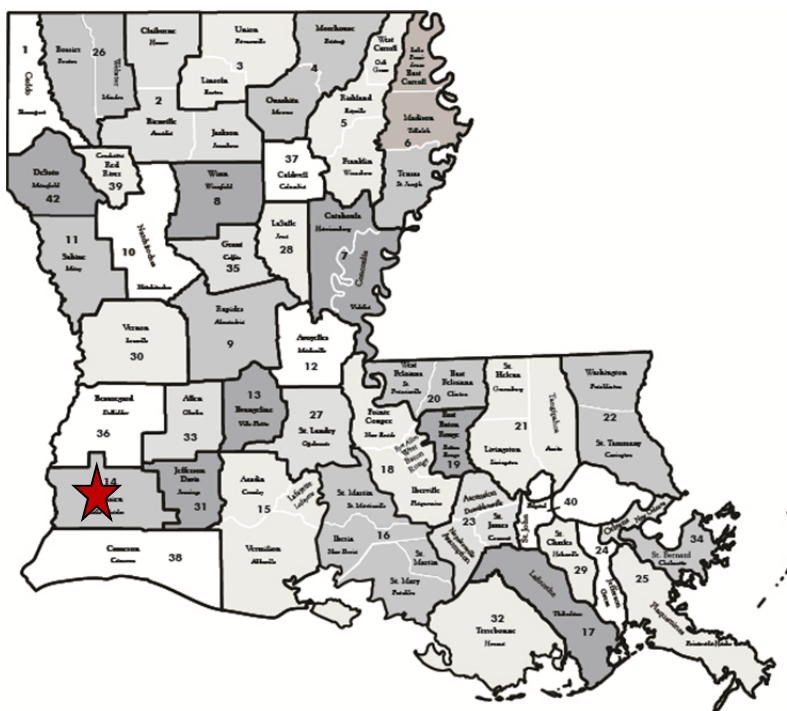


Lafayette	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	2,630	2,704	2,957	2,911	2,750	2,840	3,192	3,469	3,226	3,431	3,598
Civil Term.	2,402	2,476	2,465	2,666	2,463	2,785	3,091	3,327	3,168	3,310	3,500
Criminal Filed	6,614	6,758	7,289	6,578	5,855	4,875	4,056	3,307	8,793	8,695	6,040
Criminal Term	7,066	6,201	6,165	7,020	6,340	4,669	4,177	4,239	4,987	7,829	6,980
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	16,553	19,448	25,078	22,449	24,081	21,843	19,376	28,271	29,572	30,544	27,686
Traffic Term.	19,642	17,290	22,824	22,431	24,533	21,728	20,354	23,590	25,476	29,477	29,732
Juvenile Filed	1,119	777	738	714	717	507	623	736	692	652	568
Juveniles Term.	1,230	855	584	656	759	817	417	499	617	711	623
Total Filed	26,916	29,687	36,062	32,652	33,403	30,065	27,247	35,783	42,283	43,322	37,892
Total Term	30,340	26,822	32,038	32,773	34,095	29,999	28,039	31,655	34,248	41,327	40,835
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	908	869	753	775	844	728	483	574	577	563	610
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	483	574	577	563	610

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## LAKE CHARLES CITY COURT

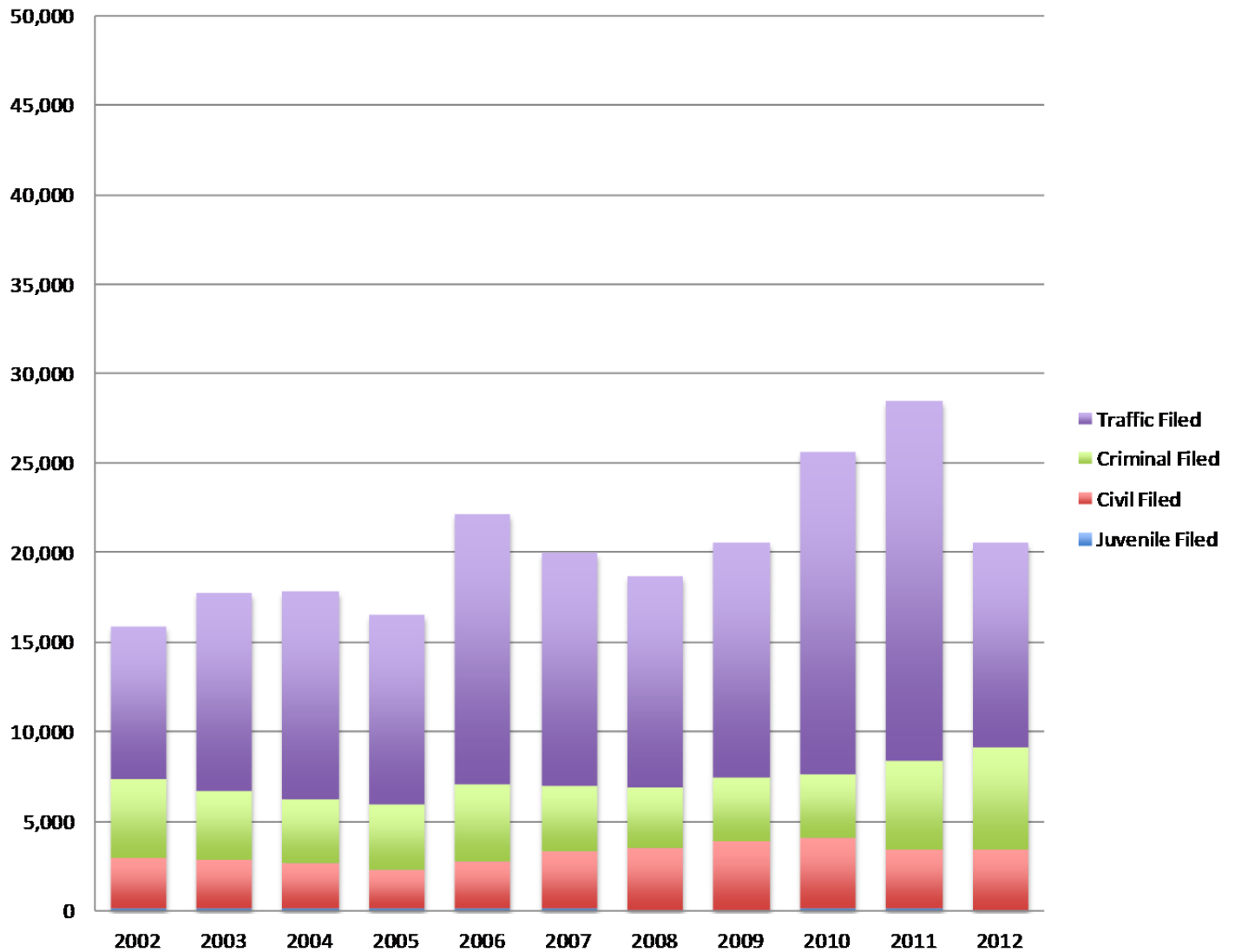


### Quick facts:

- Two-judge court.
- Leadership is based on seniority.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Lake Charles and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 14<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.lccitycourt.org/>.

## LAKE CHARLES CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



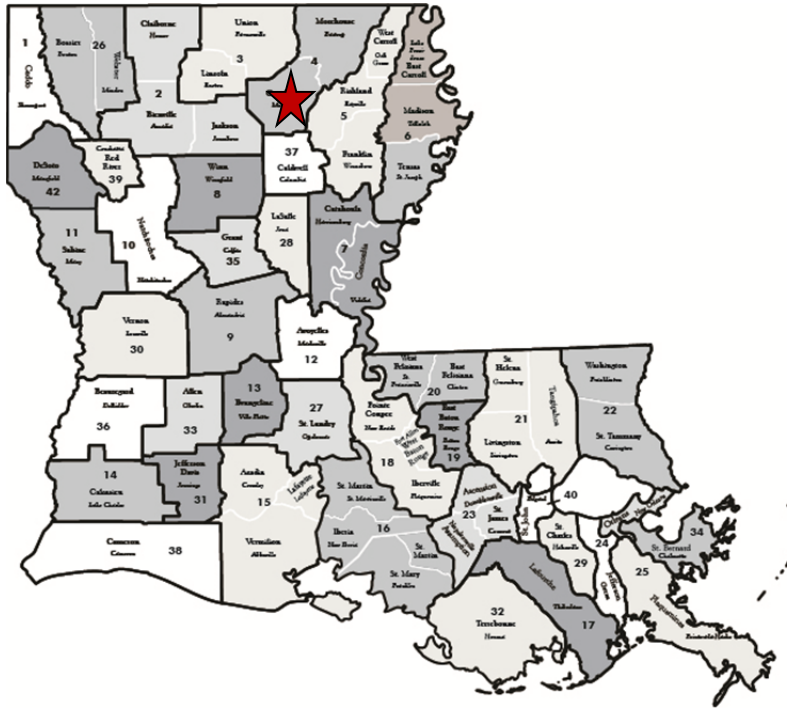
Lake Charles	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	2,795	2,698	2,574	2,208	2,667	3,178	3,418	3,861	3,944	3,330	3,419
Civil Term.	1,968	1,107	532	411	1,772	1,815	2,559	2,726	2,899	2,652	2,492
Criminal Filed	4,455	3,799	3,576	3,586	4,263	3,695	3,336	3,525	3,526	4,911	5,695
Criminal Term	3,629	4,341	4,107	3,045	3,903	11,985	4,386	3,425	2,950	3,670	4,330
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	8,454	11,066	11,558	10,597	15,072	13,026	11,867	13,050	18,010	20,147	11,383
Traffic Term.	7,177	10,291	8,265	8,734	14,079	25,800	12,211	12,354	15,296	18,391	12,786
Juvenile Filed	137	175	129	119	142	126	91	81	121	127	53
Juveniles Term.	171	210	174	137	147	151	112	93	113	110	21
Total Filed	15,841	17,738	17,837	16,510	22,144	20,025	18,712	20,517	25,601	28,515	20,550
Total Term	12,945	15,949	13,078	12,327	19,901	39,751	19,268	18,598	21,258	24,823	19,629
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## MONROE CITY COURT

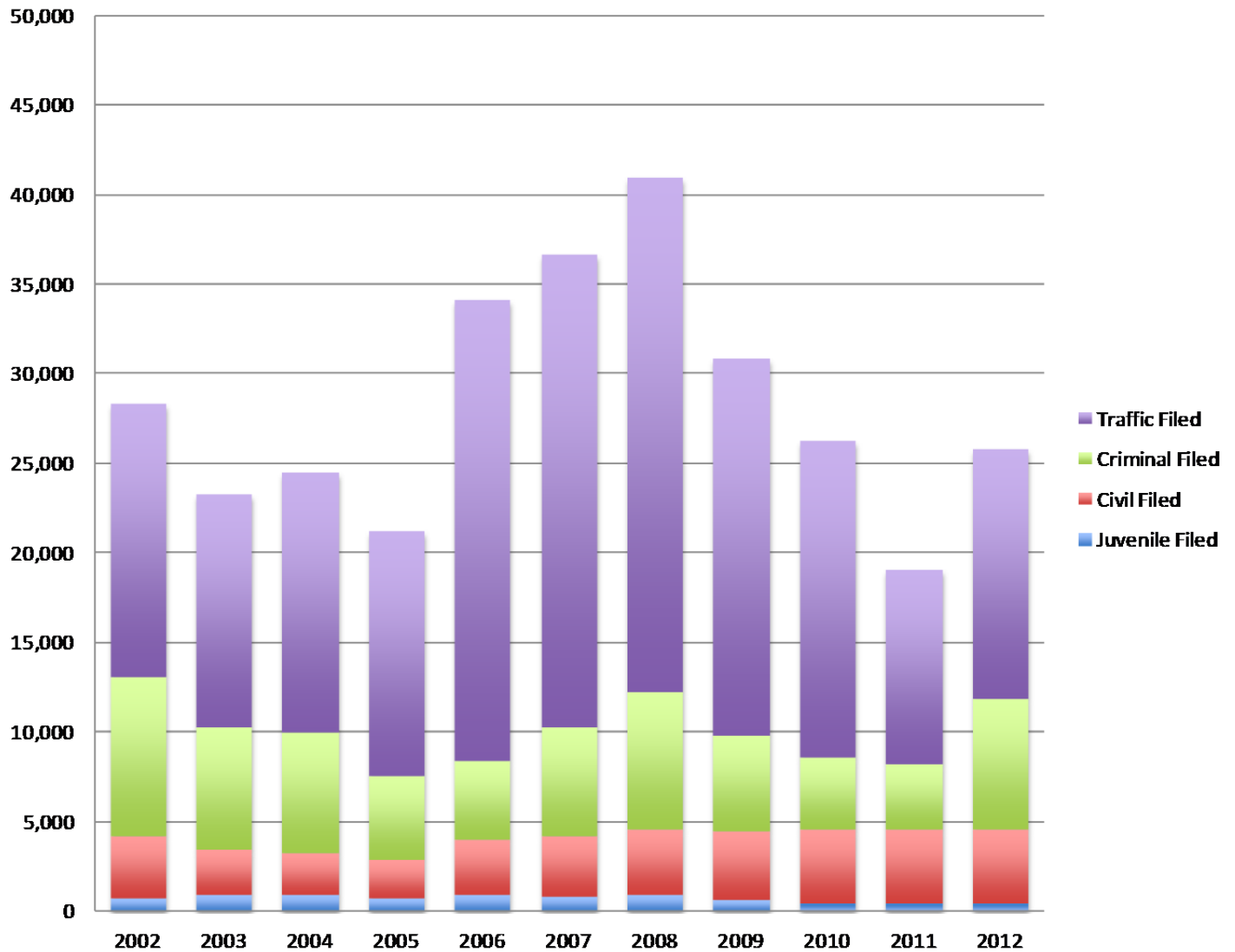


### Quick facts:

- Three-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Monroe and throughout wards 3 and 10 of Ouachita Parish in northeast Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 4<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## MONROE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

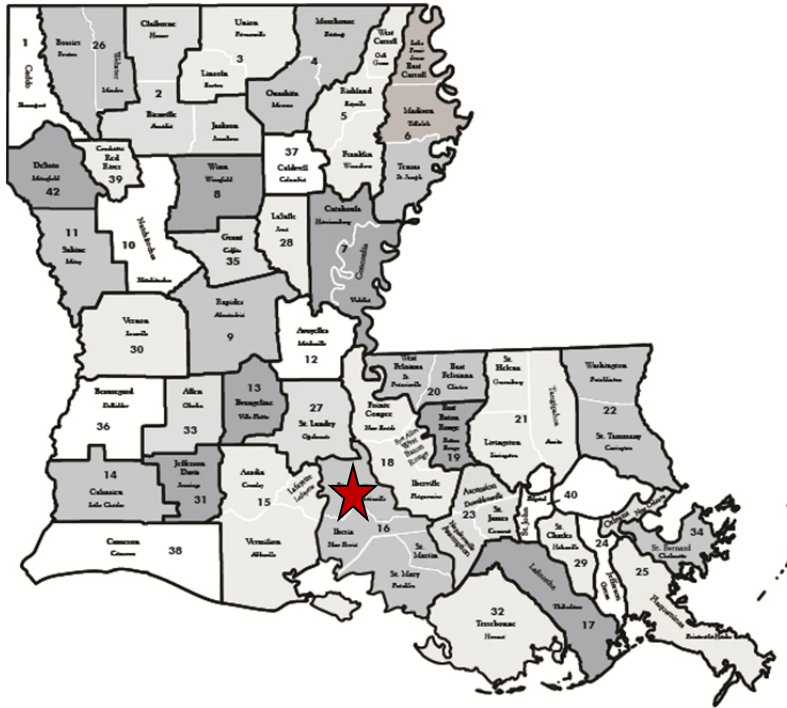


Monroe	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	3,454	2,524	2,272	2,133	3,091	3,406	3,678	3,788	4,086	4,127	4,119
Civil Term.	2,064	1,515	1,258	880	1,325	1,402	1,406	1,582	1,729	1,851	2,693
Criminal Filed	8,872	6,772	6,732	4,633	4,381	6,025	7,636	5,335	4,034	3,604	7,324
Criminal Term	7,489	7,642	6,082	5,855	4,101	3,794	4,878	6,219	5,511	4,840	4,117
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	15,242	13,033	14,500	13,656	25,790	26,451	28,747	21,043	17,701	10,876	13,960
Traffic Term.	9,487	9,123	12,273	10,852	15,006	16,763	17,273	18,705	16,545	10,118	9,165
Juvenile Filed	719	936	947	745	886	800	873	662	451	456	423
Juveniles Term.	189	229	287	384	480	471	236	248	201	154	208
Total Filed	28,287	23,265	24,451	21,167	34,148	36,682	40,934	30,828	26,272	19,063	25,826
Total Term	19,229	18,509	19,900	17,971	20,912	22,430	23,793	26,754	23,986	16,963	16,183
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## **NEW IBERIA CITY COURT**

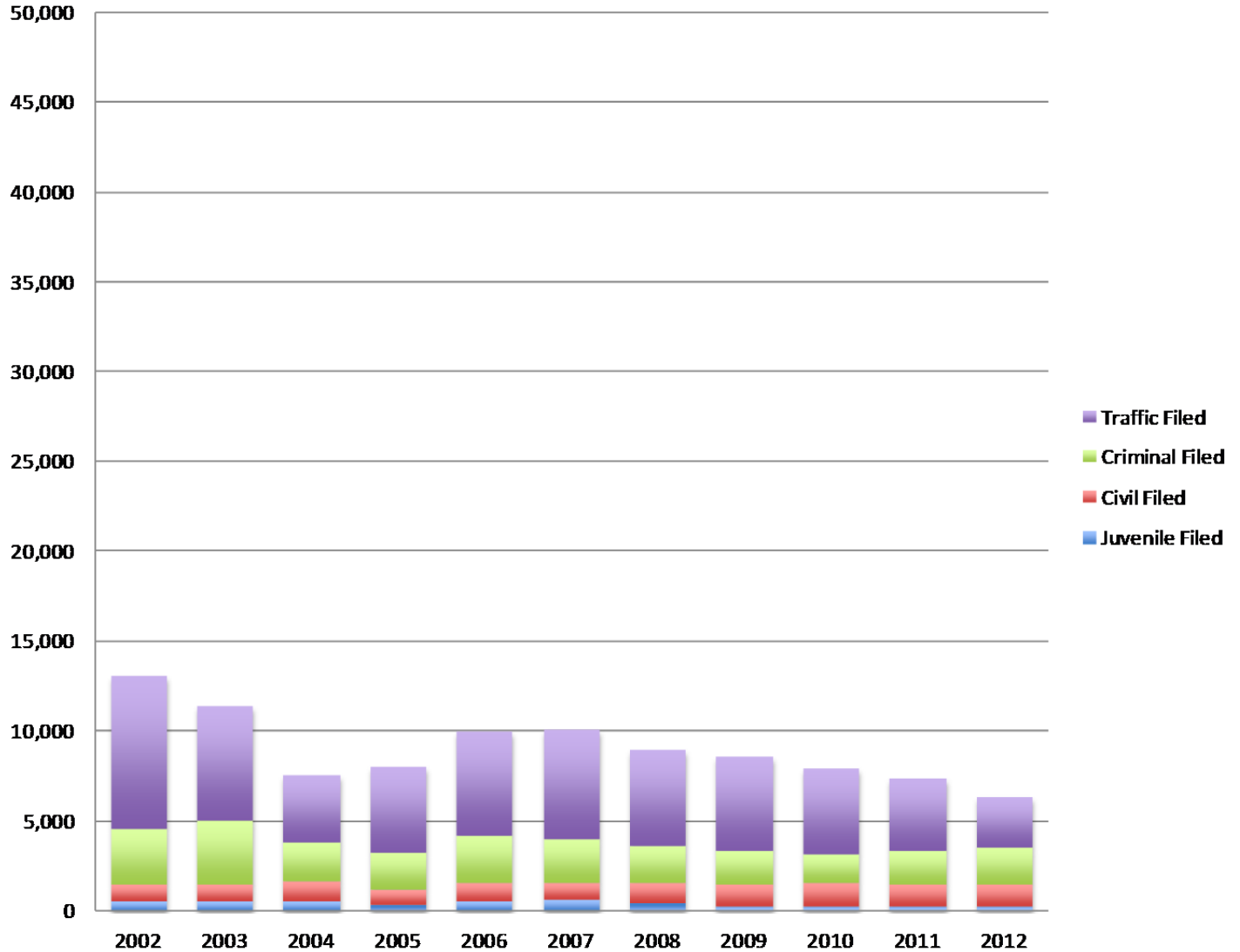


### **Quick facts:**

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of New Iberia and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$30,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.

## NEW IBERIA CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



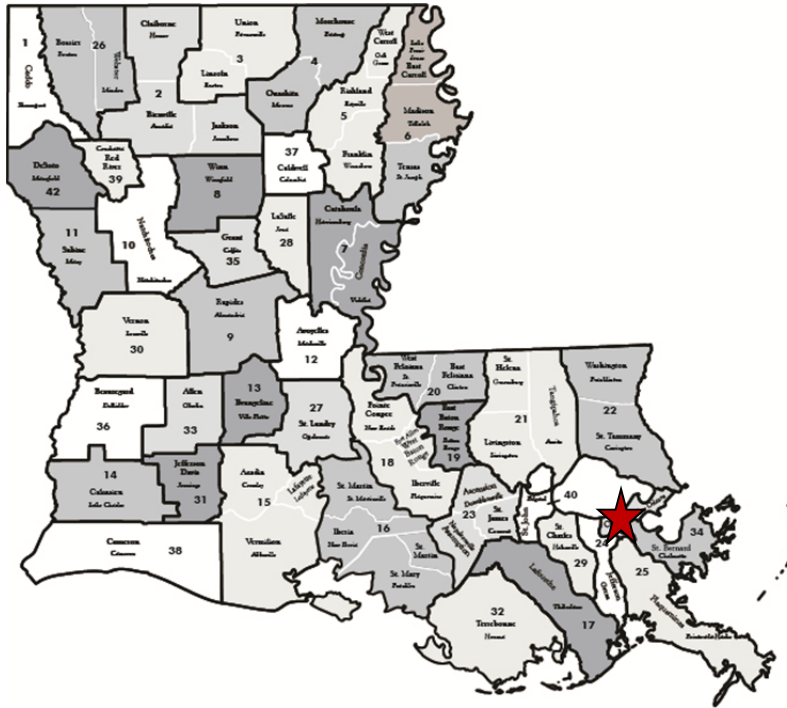
New Iberia	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	960	922	1,057	790	1,002	933	1,125	1,279	1,293	1,171	1,229
Civil Term.	813	957	927	737	893	913	958	1,186	1,132	1,063	1,135
Criminal Filed	3,076	3,601	2,170	2,107	2,656	2,490	2,129	1,847	1,581	1,872	2,068
Criminal Term.	2,906	2,763	3,430	1,959	2,366	2,508	2,215	1,870	1,677	1,971	2,011
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	8,553	6,335	3,755	4,737	5,795	6,105	5,263	5,181	4,818	4,021	2,808
Traffic Term.	7,854	6,382	5,167	4,210	5,228	6,160	4,903	5,321	5,427	4,134	3,186
Juvenile Filed	511	522	550	356	522	584	405	223	231	287	232
Juveniles Term.	546	522	575	368	453	640	462	307	215	254	229
Total Filed	13,100	11,380	7,532	7,990	9,975	10,112	8,922	8,530	7,923	7,351	6,337
Total Term	12,119	10,624	10,099	7,274	8,940	10,221	8,538	8,684	8,451	7,422	6,561
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	198 <sup>iii</sup>	216	218	236	286	286	305	344
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	181	185	192	297	264

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings.

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

<sup>iii</sup> This data reflects changes submitted after the publication of the 2005 annual report.

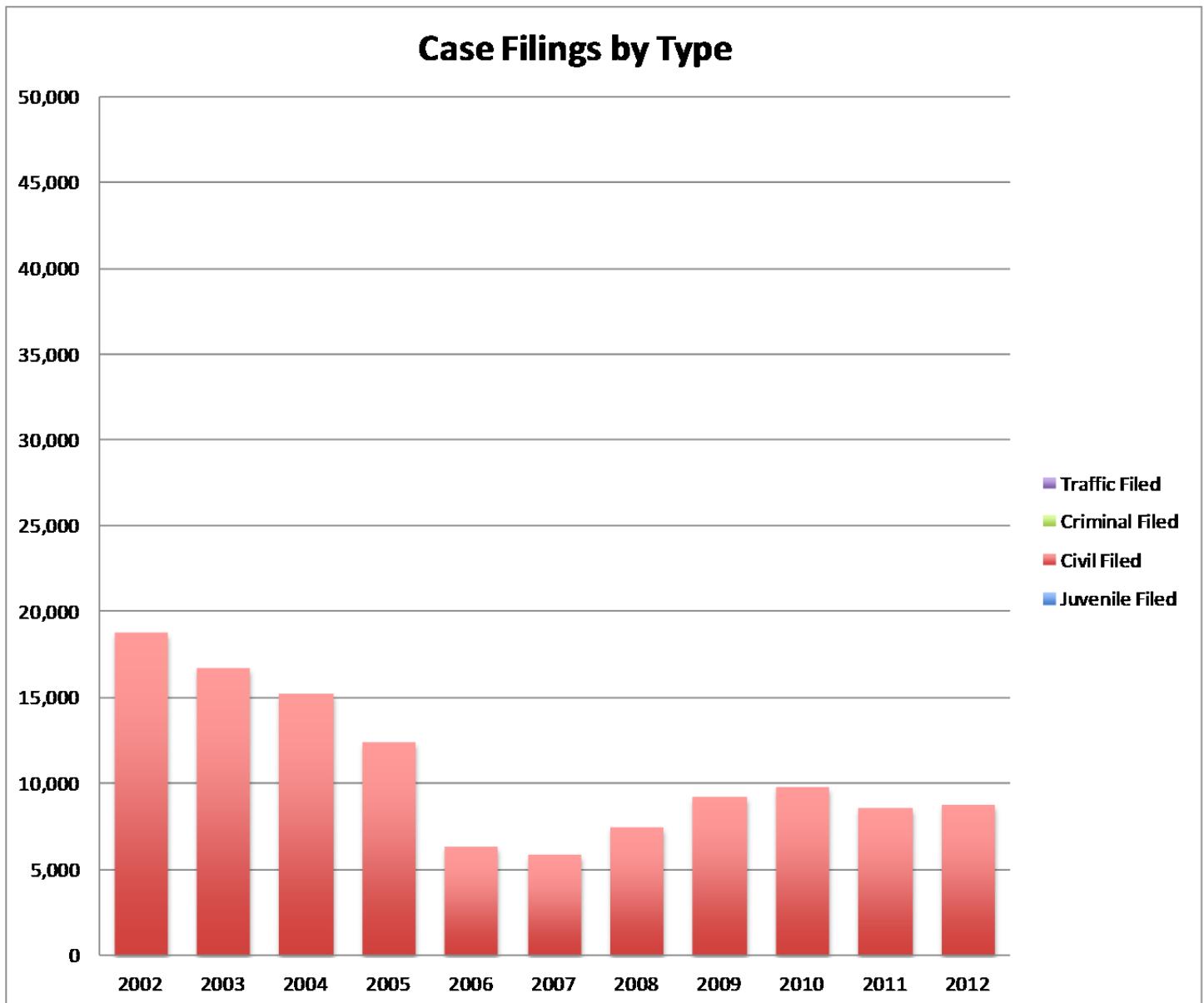
## NEW ORLEANS FIRST CITY COURT



### Quick facts:

- Three-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the left bank of the Mississippi river within city of New Orleans.
- Shares with the New Orleans Civil District Court, in cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, civil jurisdiction for amounts in dispute up to 25,000.
- Has appellate jurisdiction of New Orleans Traffic Court for violations involving the city of New Orleans' automated traffic enforcement system.
- Webpage: <http://www.orleanscdc.com/fccintro.html>.

## NEW ORLEANS FIRST CITY COURT

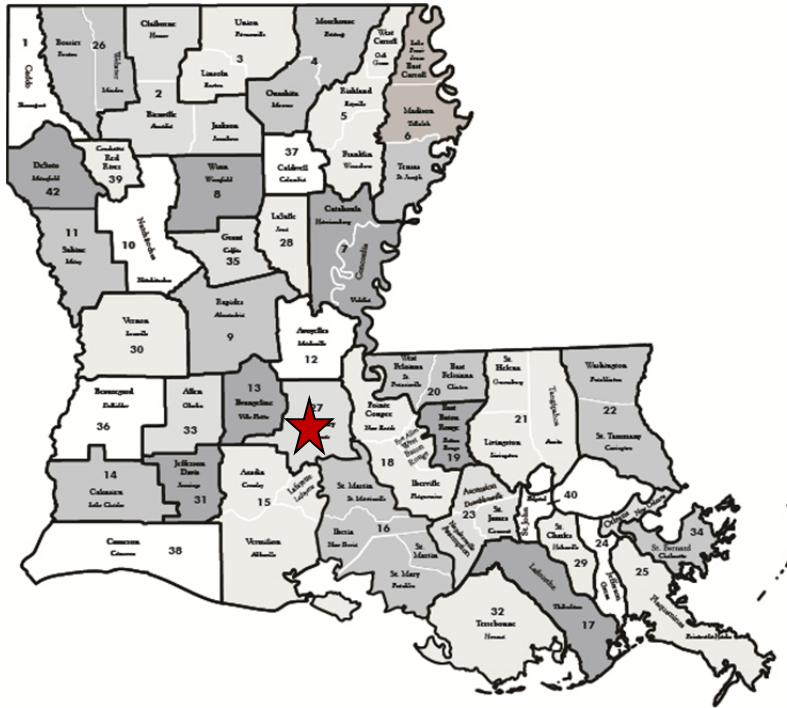


N.O. 1st City Ct.	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	18,804	16,725	15,236	12,397	6,325	5,879	7,461	9,210	9,777	8,526	8,794
Civil Term.	14,181	12,652	11,403	8,392	5,133	3,848	4,918	7,798	7,228	4,886	5,884
Criminal Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	18,804	16,725	15,236	12,397	6,325	5,879	7,461	9,210	9,777	8,526	8,794
Total Term	14,181	12,652	11,403	8,392	5,133	3,848	4,918	7,798	7,228	4,886	5,884
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## OPELOUSAS CITY COURT

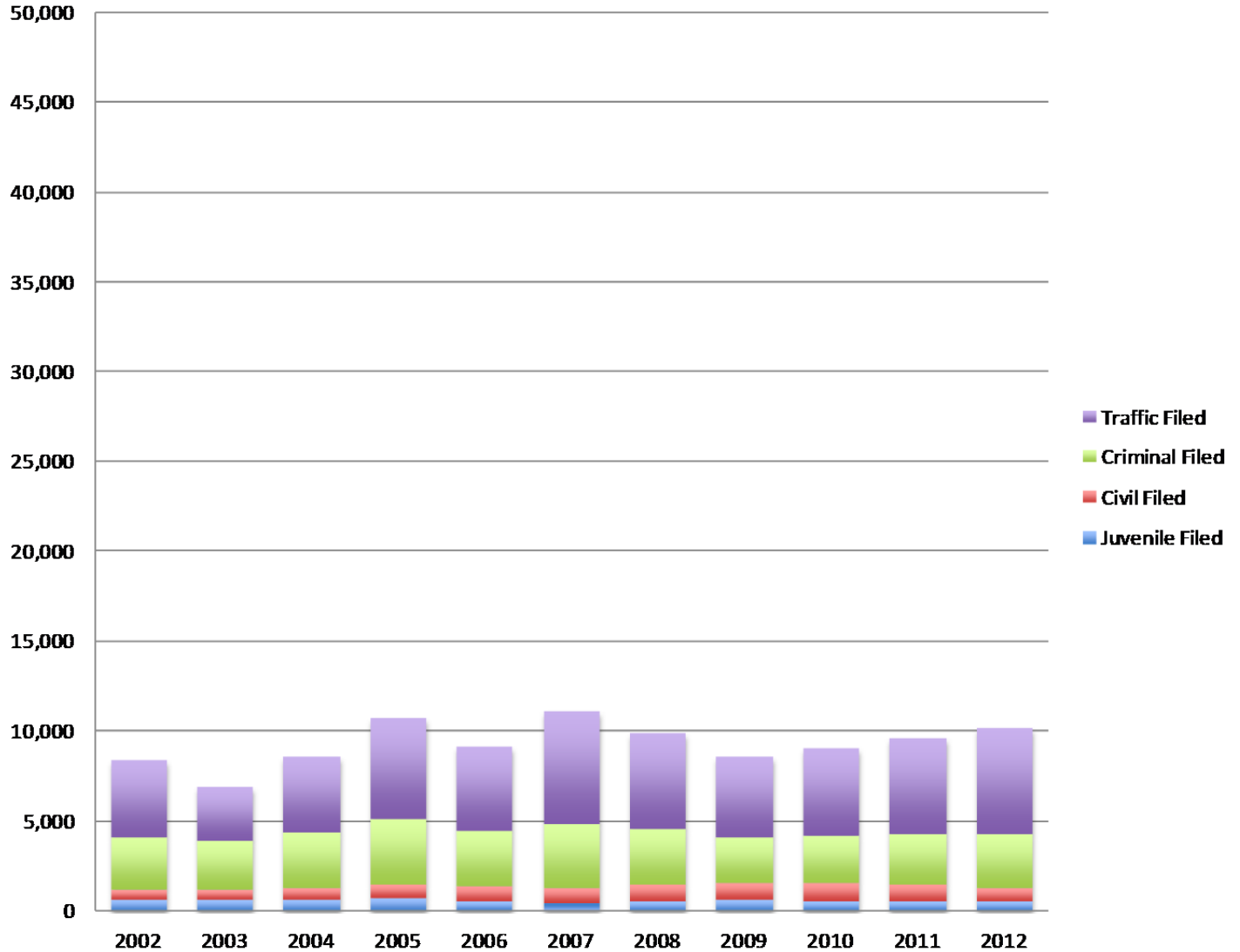


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Opelousas and throughout ward 1 of St. Landry parish in central Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 27<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://www.opelousascitycourt.com/>.

## OPELOUSAS CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



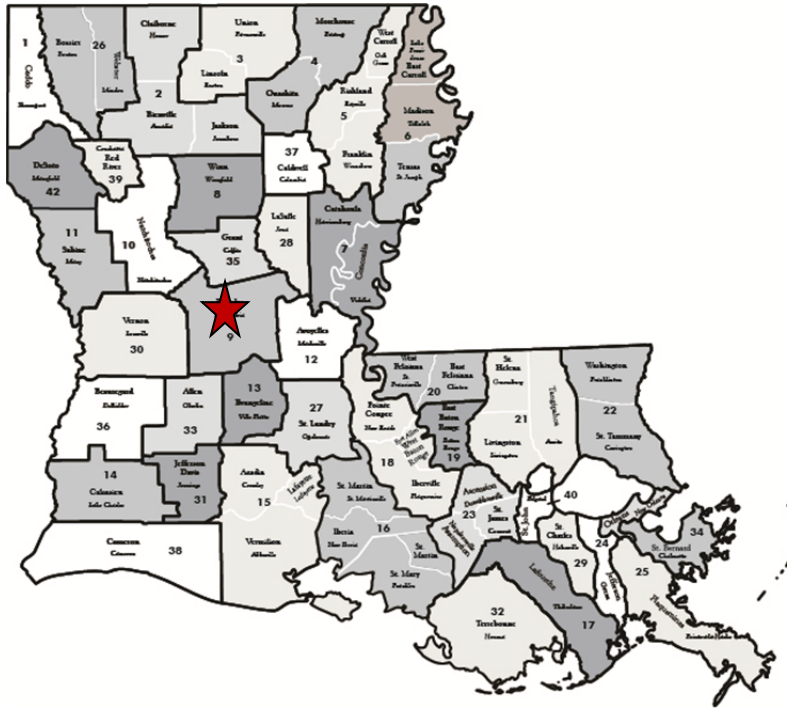
Opelousas	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	534	585	674	722	845	771	991	984	1,096	936	774
Civil Term.	441	461	501	583	705	636	769	760	993	964	743
Criminal Filed	2,925	2,738	3,063	3,640	3,096	3,602	3,048	2,555	2,547	2,739	2,953
Criminal Term	2,601	2,596	2,686	3,031	2,441	1,747	2,799	2,657	2,180	2,647	2,011
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	4,254	3,012	4,233	5,664	4,680	6,238	5,311	4,480	4,942	5,418	5,933
Traffic Term.	4,034	3,115	3,800	4,808	4,107	2,073	4,648	4,035	3,787	4,416	4,135
Juvenile Filed	666	591	641	731	501	470	491	581	501	548	547
Juveniles Term.	665	671	621	601	426	483	520	445	342	357	516
Total Filed	8,379	6,926	8,611	10,757	9,122	11,081	9,841	8,600	9,086	9,641	10,207
Total Term	7,741	6,843	7,608	9,023	7,679	4,939	8,736	7,897	7,302	8,384	7,405
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## PINEVILLE CITY COURT

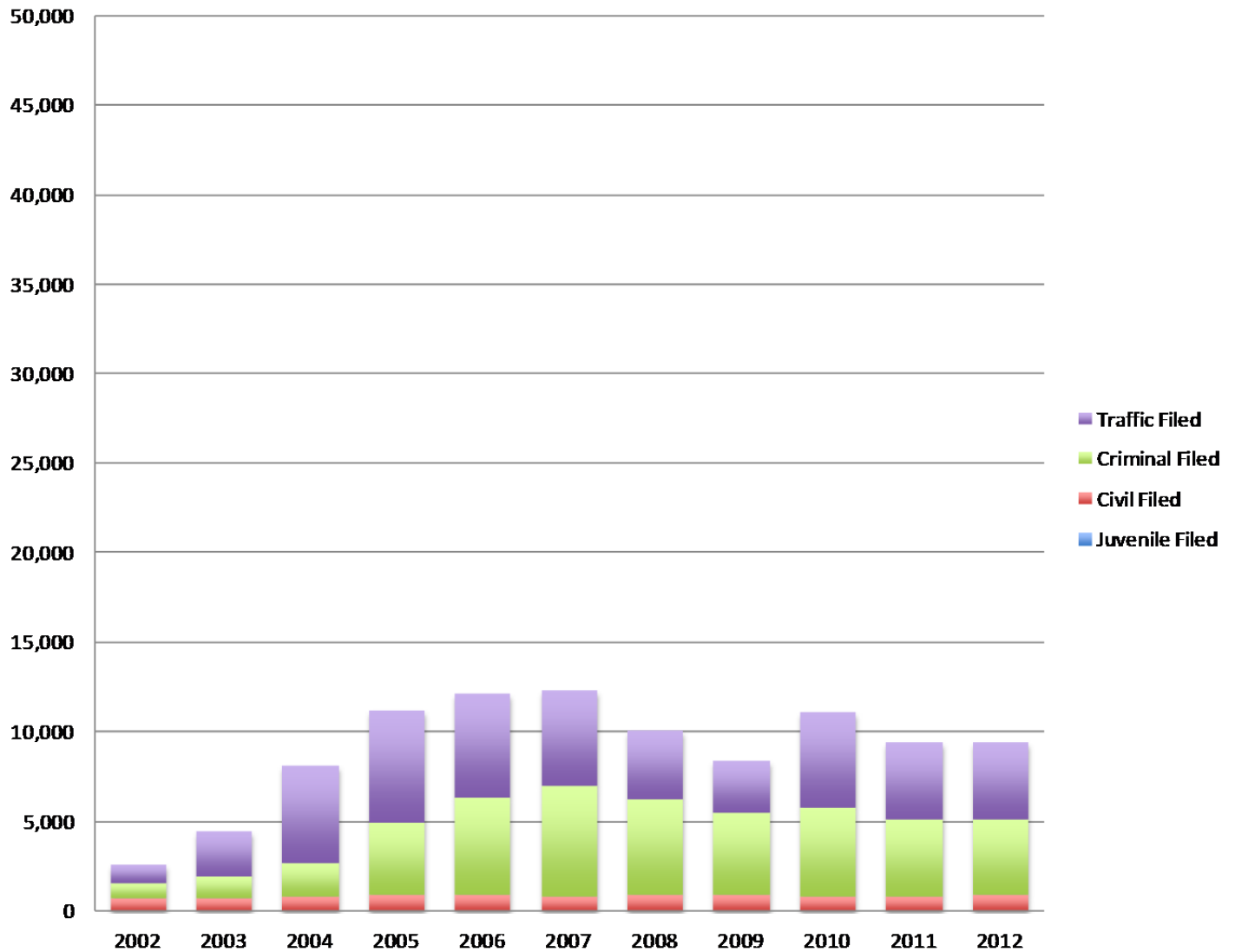


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Pineville and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits, including wards 9, 10, and 11.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 9<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$50,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://pineville.net/department/?fDD=10-0>.

## PINEVILLE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



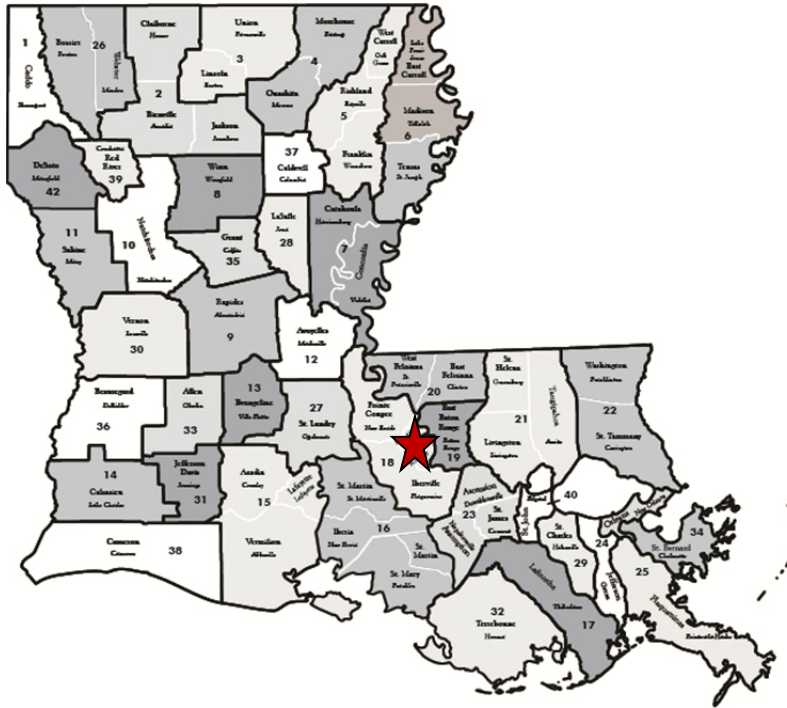
Pineville	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	747	754	795	864	866	854	914	935	833	832	877
Civil Term.	225	340	2,457	925	674	554	526	449	962	1,198	1,247
Criminal Filed	806	1,217	1,890	4,015	5,496	6,105	5,318	4,518	4,958	4,302	4,220
Criminal Term	2,021	1,231	2,277	2,256	4,566	5,230	4,804	4,257	4,202	3,726	3,225
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	1,057	2,448	5,459	6,288 <sup>ii</sup>	5,747	5,309	3,868	2,923	5,345	4,236	4,337
Traffic Term.	1,628	2,448	5,436	7,866	5,371	4,921	3,757	2,975	4,949	3,920	3,829
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	2,610	4,419	8,144	11,167	12,109	12,268	10,100	8,376	11,136	9,370	9,434
Total Term	3,874	4,019	10,170	11,047	10,611	10,705	9,087	7,681	10,113	8,844	8,301
Other Filed <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Traffic Filed has been updated to correct an error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## PORT ALLEN CITY COURT

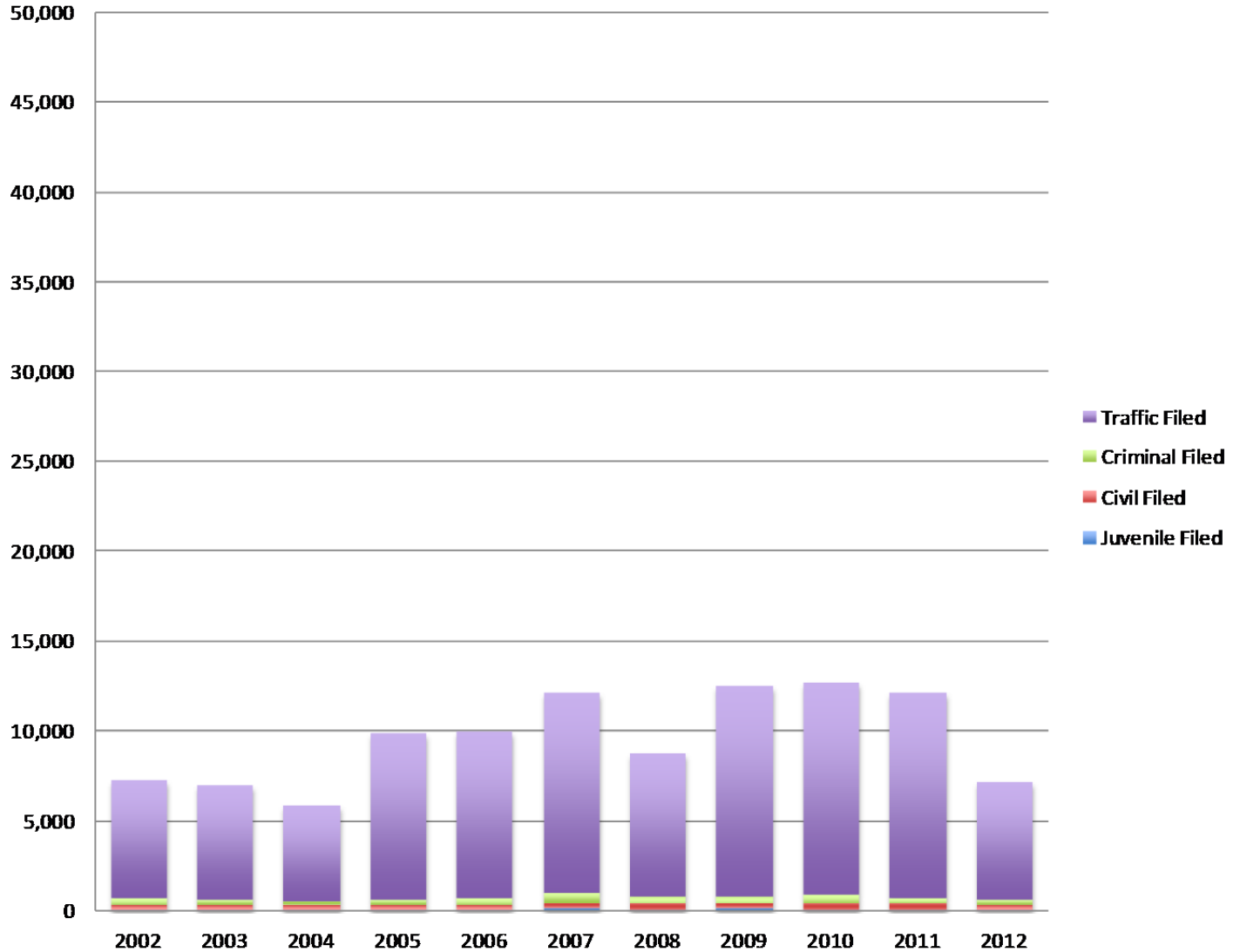


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Port Allen and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Operates a parish ordinance court.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 18<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://portallencitycourt.com/>.

## PORT ALLEN CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



Port Allen	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	298	350	270	249	292	269	315	337	343	327	330
Civil Term.	143	166	140	109	142	130	154	178	220	226	191
Criminal Filed	307	254	196	297	350	612	424	383	446	298	233
Criminal Term	352	191	133	196	193	207	291	240	323	216	156
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	6,553	6,314	5,313	9,285 <sup>ii</sup>	9,267	11,050	7,944	11,620	11,840	11,449	6,537
Traffic Term.	5,649	4,148	4,233	6,560 <sup>iii</sup>	7,553	8,357	6,470	5,352	10,036	10,226	6,932
Juvenile Filed	70	33	35	58	60	161	96	122	100	67	30
Juveniles Term.	64	30	20	35	28	159	96	97	63	63	13
Total Filed	7,228	6,951	5,814	9,889	9,969	12,092	8,779	12,462	12,729	12,141	7,130
Total Term	6,208	4,535	4,526	6,900	7,916	8,853	7,011	5,867	10,642	10,731	7,292
Other Filed <sup>iv</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

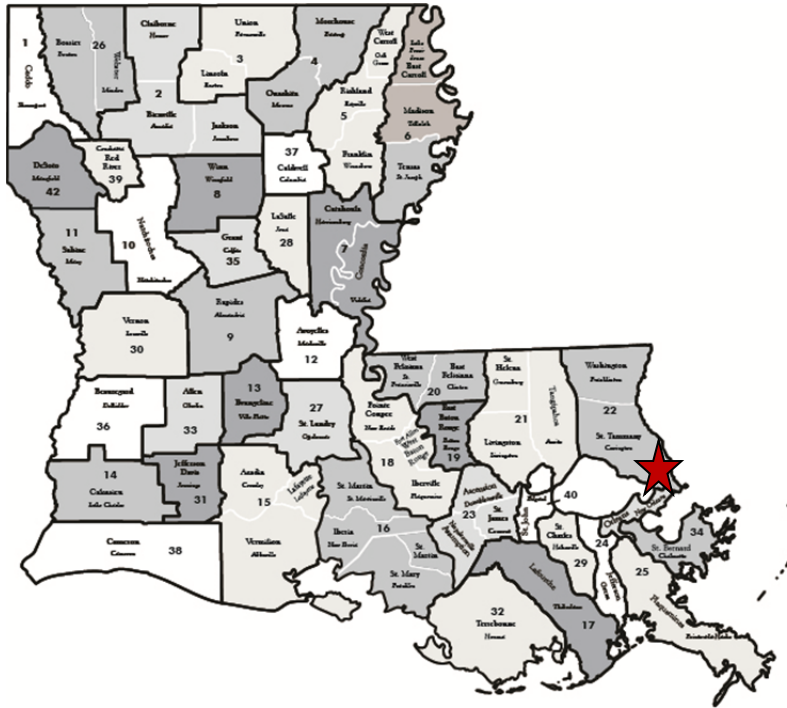
<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Traffic Filed has been updated to correct an error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> The 2005 Traffic Term. has been updated to correct an error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iv</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## SLIDELL CITY COURT

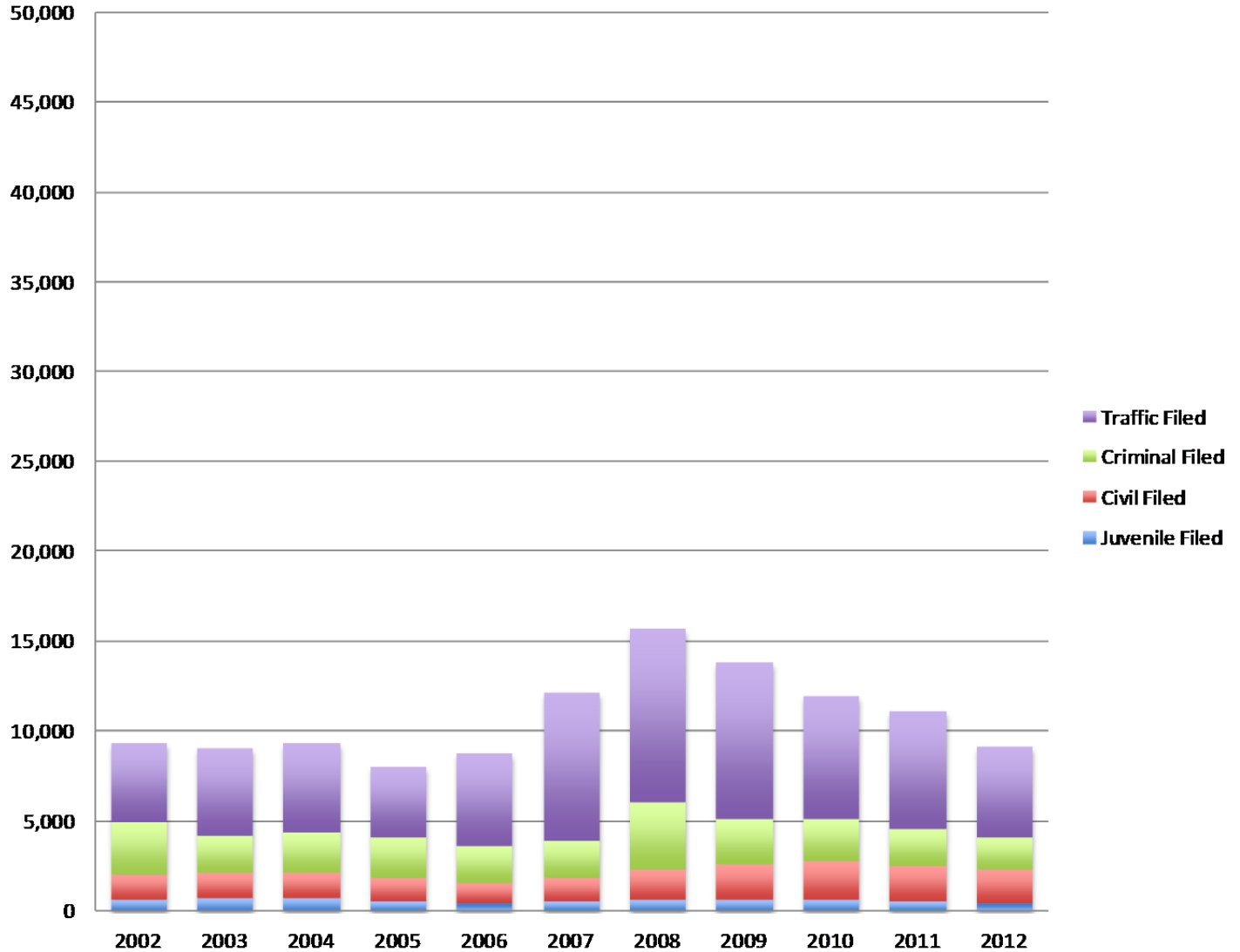


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- One juvenile traffic court referee; two small claims arbitrators.
- Operates a juvenile drug court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Wards 8 and 9 of St. Tammany Parish in southeast Louisiana
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 22nd JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$50,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Website: <http://citycourtofslidell.com/>.

## SLIDELL CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

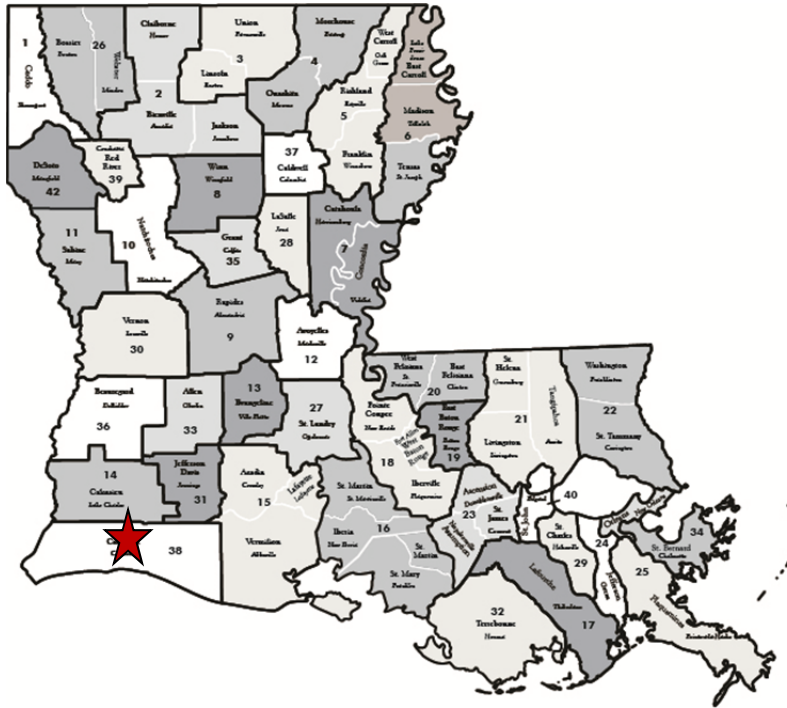


Slidell	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,422	1,412	1,380	1,351	1,100	1,330	1,728	1,952	2,230	1,894	1,829
Civil Term.	1,452	1,468	1,462	1,429	1,112	1,441	1,737	1,555	1,884	1,690	1,531
Criminal Filed	2,832	2,083	2,253	2,237	2,033	2,104	3,750	2,488	2,331	2,054	1,787
Criminal Term	2,470	1,738	2,105	2,090	1,860	1,929	2,767	2,325	2,069	1,987	1,746
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	4,410	4,908	5,017	3,938	5,109	8,220	9,645	8,687	6,793	6,584	5,088
Traffic Term.	3,933	3,752	4,741	3,610	3,898	5,121	8,154	7,968	6,095	6,107	5,045
Juvenile Filed	637	674	705	493	474	485	599	660	576	574	456
Juveniles Term.	517	732	756	496	497	526	619	530	488	466	342
Total Filed	9,301	9,077	9,355	8,019	8,716	12,139	15,722	13,787	11,930	11,106	9,160
Total Term	8,372	7,690	9,064	7,625	7,367	9,017	13,277	12,378	10,536	10,250	8,664
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	325	218	391	717
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	325	218	391	717

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## SULPHUR CITY COURT

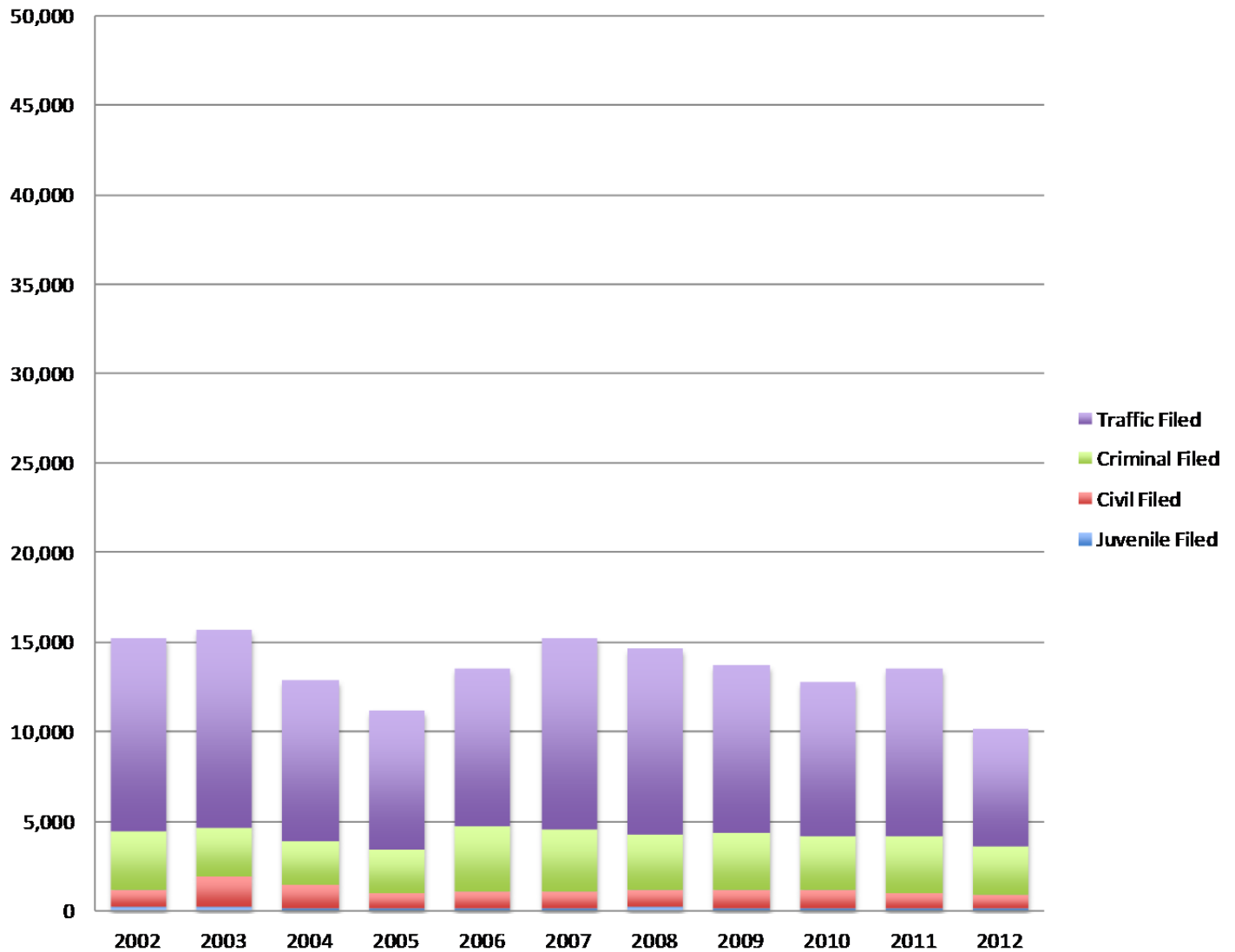


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Sulphur and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 14<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$25,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://www.sulphur.org/departments/index.php?fDD=10-0>.

## SULPHUR CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



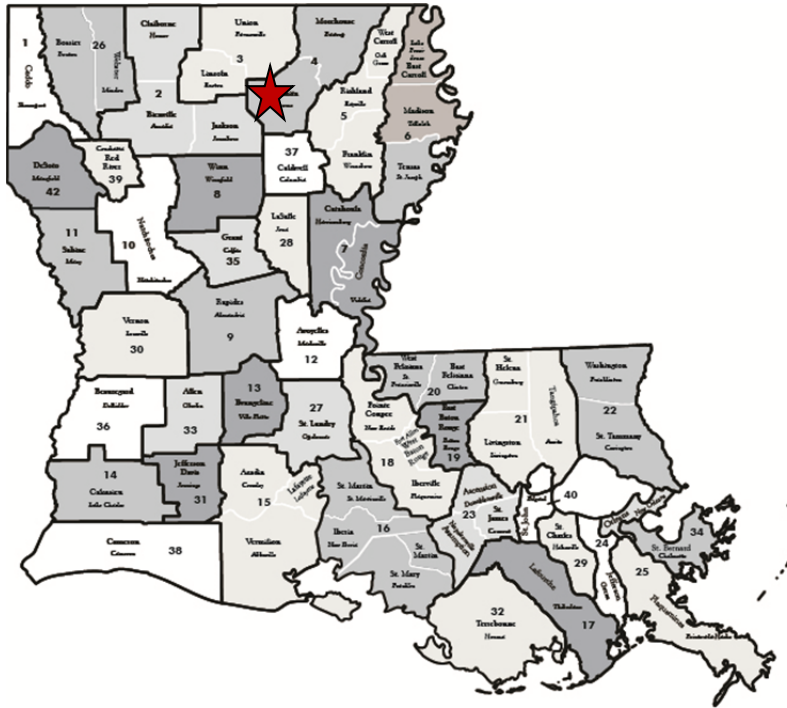
Sulphur	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	950	1,691	1,247	830	927	934	962	1,029	1,043	859	792
Civil Term.	702	822	752	686	602	663	682	742	757	729	634
Criminal Filed	3,192	2,706	2,465	2,454	3,597	3,393	3,128	3,093	2,970	3,114	2,693
Criminal Term	3,125	2,960	3,173	2,907	3,208	4,266	3,284	3,481	3,621	3,545	3,337
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	10,789	11,081	9,014	7,732	8,844	10,735	10,358	9,373	8,634	9,407	6,548
Traffic Term.	10,468	10,221	10,032	8,240	8,229	9,233	10,566	13,179	10,174	10,866	7,778
Juvenile Filed	278	245	171	172	172	180	214	198	150	159	127
Juveniles Term.	50	60	41	27	43	51	100	184	143	114	123
Total Filed	15,209	15,723	12,897	11,188	13,540	15,242	14,662	13,693	12,797	13,539	10,160
Total Term	14,345	14,063	13,998	11,860	12,082	14,213	14,632	17,586	14,695	15,254	11,872
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	272	265	290	259	240	194	177	327	237	276	265
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	183	283	218	240	231

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## WEST MONROE CITY COURT

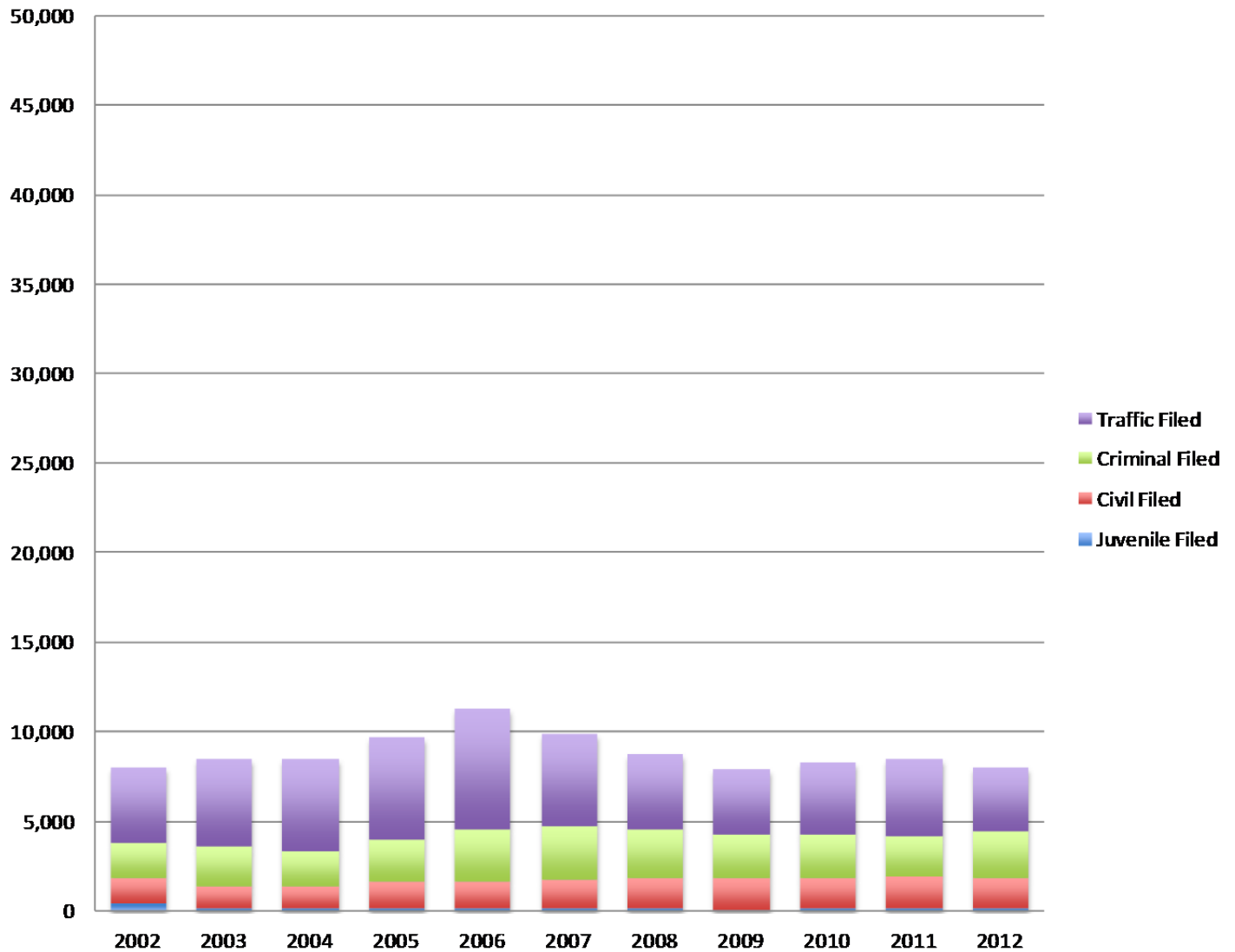


### Quick facts:

- One-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout Ward 5 and those wards contiguous to Ward 5 (1, 3, 6, 7, 8, and 10) of Ouachita Parish in northeast Louisiana.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 4<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$15,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://www.westmonroe.com/judge/judge-court>.

## WEST MONROE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



West Monroe	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	1,428	1,225	1,211	1,503	1,551	1,652	1,679	1,725	1,771	1,768	1,747
Civil Term.	1,213	1,076	1,052	1,081	1,235	1,350	1,375	1,401	1,615	1,713	1,687
Criminal Filed	1,975	2,178	1,974	2,369	2,831	2,939	2,744	2,468	2,408	2,302	2,619
Criminal Term	1,762	2,095	1,560	2,172	2,916	2,345	2,566	2,351	2,402	2,374	2,298
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	4,153	4,921	5,135	5,698	6,779	5,121	4,264	3,641	3,984	4,314	3,510
Traffic Term.	3,290	4,806	6,101	6,315	8,480	6,014	5,830	4,764	4,826	5,085	3,451
Juvenile Filed	413	180	142	124	136	129	117	98	110	123	110
Juveniles Term.	267	171	133	117	104	141	110	104	89	103	88
Total Filed	7,969	8,504	8,462	9,694	11,297	9,841	8,804	7,932	8,273	8,507	7,986
Total Term	6,532	8,148	8,846	9,685	12,735	9,850	9,881	8,620	8,932	9,275	7,524
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	258	202	212	120	204	242	265	289	331	336	327
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	289	331	336	327

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

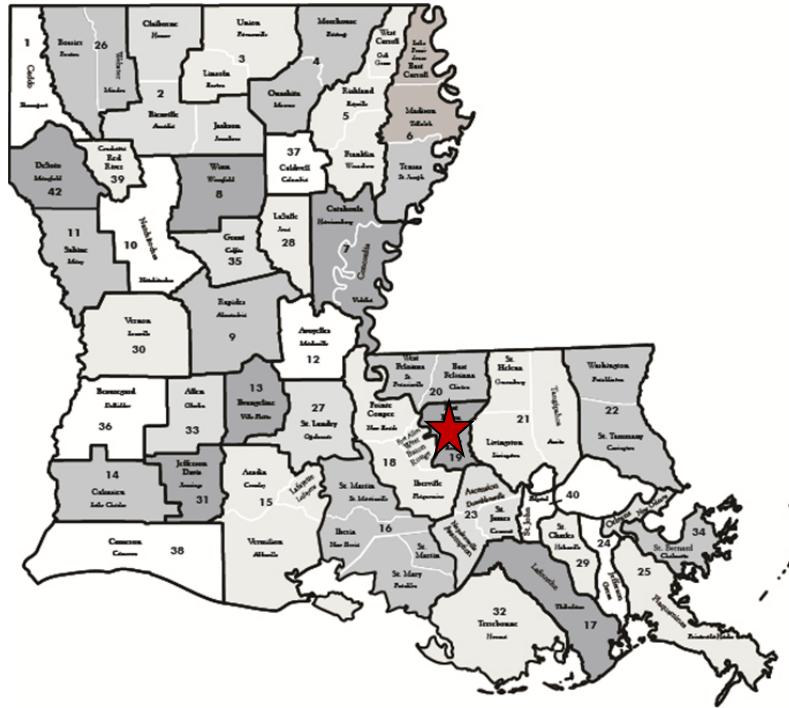
City Courts

Filing Range 0-300k

**Filing Range 0-300k:**

Baton Rouge  
New Orleans Municipal  
New Orleans Traffic  
Shreveport

## **BATON ROUGE CITY COURT**

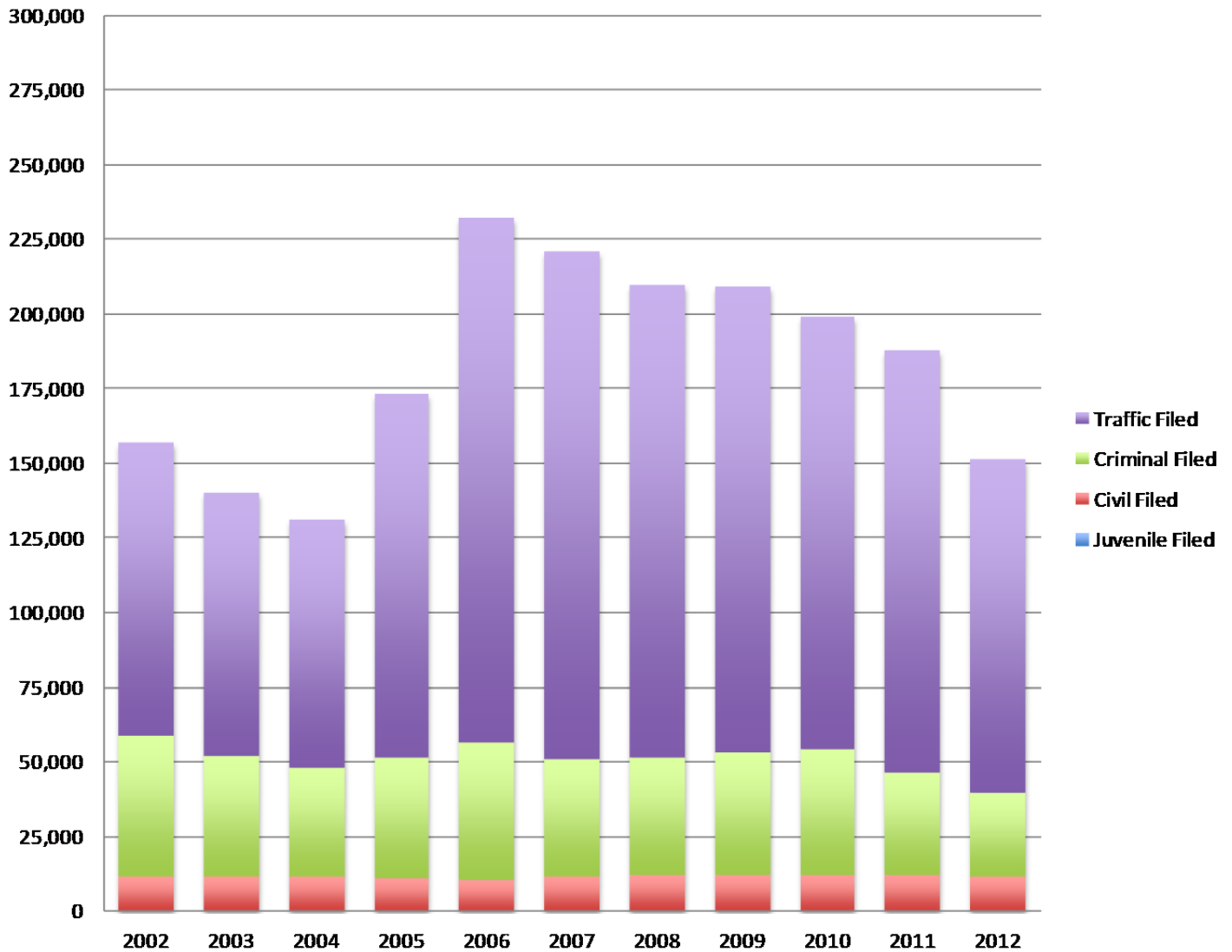


### **Quick facts:**

- Five-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Baton Rouge and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Operates a DWI court and a domestic violence docket.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 19<sup>th</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, and in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses.
- Juvenile jurisdiction is vested exclusively in East Baton Rouge Juvenile Court.
- Website: <http://brgov.com/dept/citycourt/>.

## BATON ROUGE CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type

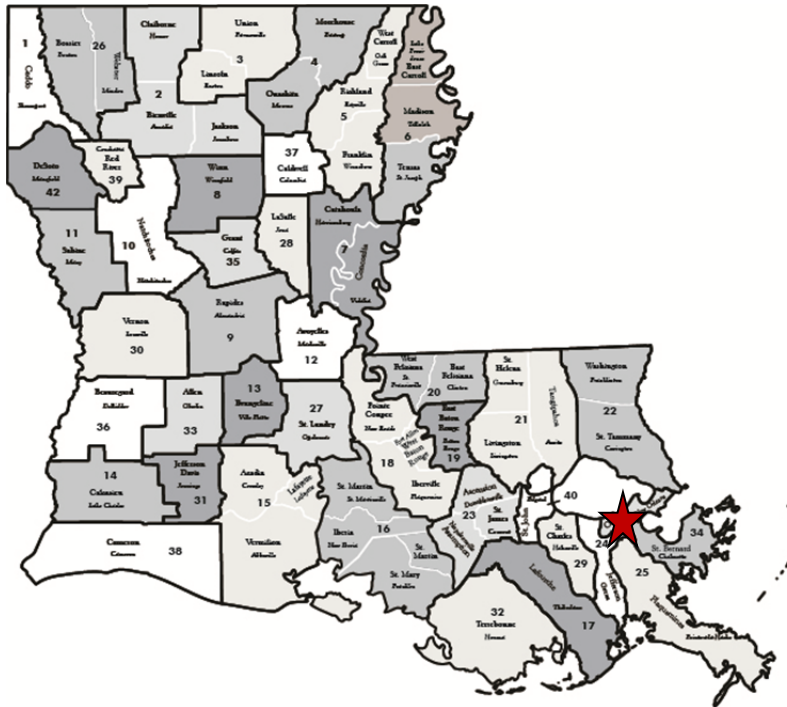


Baton Rouge	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	11,709	11,530	11,845	10,894	10,386	11,392	12,415	11,977	12,157	11,942	11,699
Civil Term.	12,652	10,181	10,343	9,750	8,670	9,199	9,800	9,897	11,106	11,240	11,638
Criminal Filed	47,238	40,275	36,306	40,580	45,863	39,265	39,115	41,173	42,302	34,668	27,888
Criminal Term	23,743	23,861	26,018	25,416	30,502	31,562	33,277	32,228	32,433	31,701	28,837
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	98,094	88,512	82,872	121,694	175,736	170,372	158,371	156,218	144,829	141,066	111,939
Traffic Term.	82,230	66,788	61,308	73,983	124,347	132,402	129,213	125,434	123,980	130,479	111,819
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	157,041	140,317	131,023	173,168	231,985	221,029	209,901	209,368	199,288	187,676	151,526
Total Term	118,625	100,830	97,669	109,149	163,519	173,163	172,290	167,559	167,519	173,420	152,294
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	57,082	42,823	38,859	36,611	44,325	43,838	49,895	51,900	47,626	53,088	45,172
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	60,997	63,508	67,905	65,451	58,524

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## NEW ORLEANS MUNICIPAL COURT

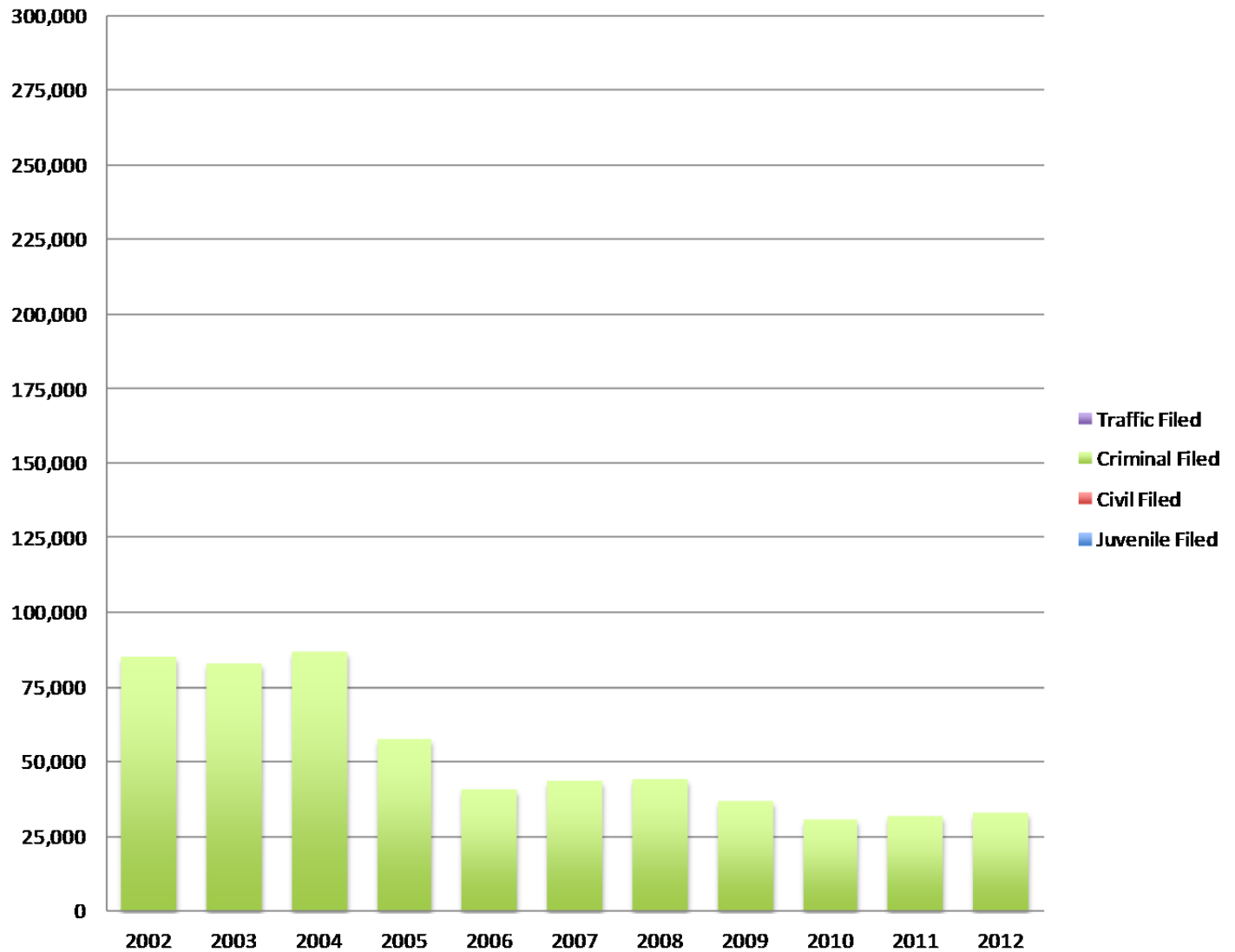


### Quick facts:

- Four-judge court.
- Operates a mental health court, truancy court, homeless court, and marijuana diversion program.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of New Orleans.
- Shares with Orleans Criminal District Court, in cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, criminal jurisdiction for misdemeanor state offenses.
- Exclusive jurisdiction over New Orleans city ordinances.
- Jurisdiction does not extend to traffic violations.
- Webpage: <http://www.nola.gov/municipal-court/>.

## NEW ORLEANS MUNICIPAL COURT

### Case Filings by Type



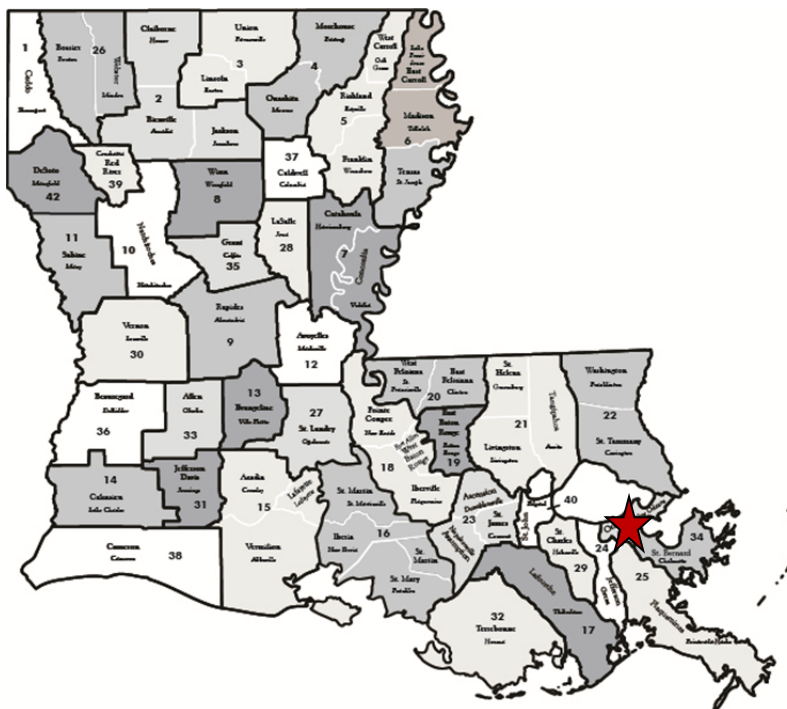
N.O. Municipal	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Filed	84,924	82,771	86,902	57,792	40,678	43,320	44,260	36,680	30,458	31,537	33,117
Criminal Term	77,454	60,800	55,967	35,881	26,907	24,864	30,746	35,232	32,190	32,396	29,546
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	84,924	82,771	86,902	57,792	40,678	43,320	44,260	36,680	30,458	31,537	33,117
Total Term	77,454	60,800	55,967	35,881	26,907	24,864	30,746	35,232	32,190	32,396	29,546
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.



## NEW ORLEANS TRAFFIC COURT

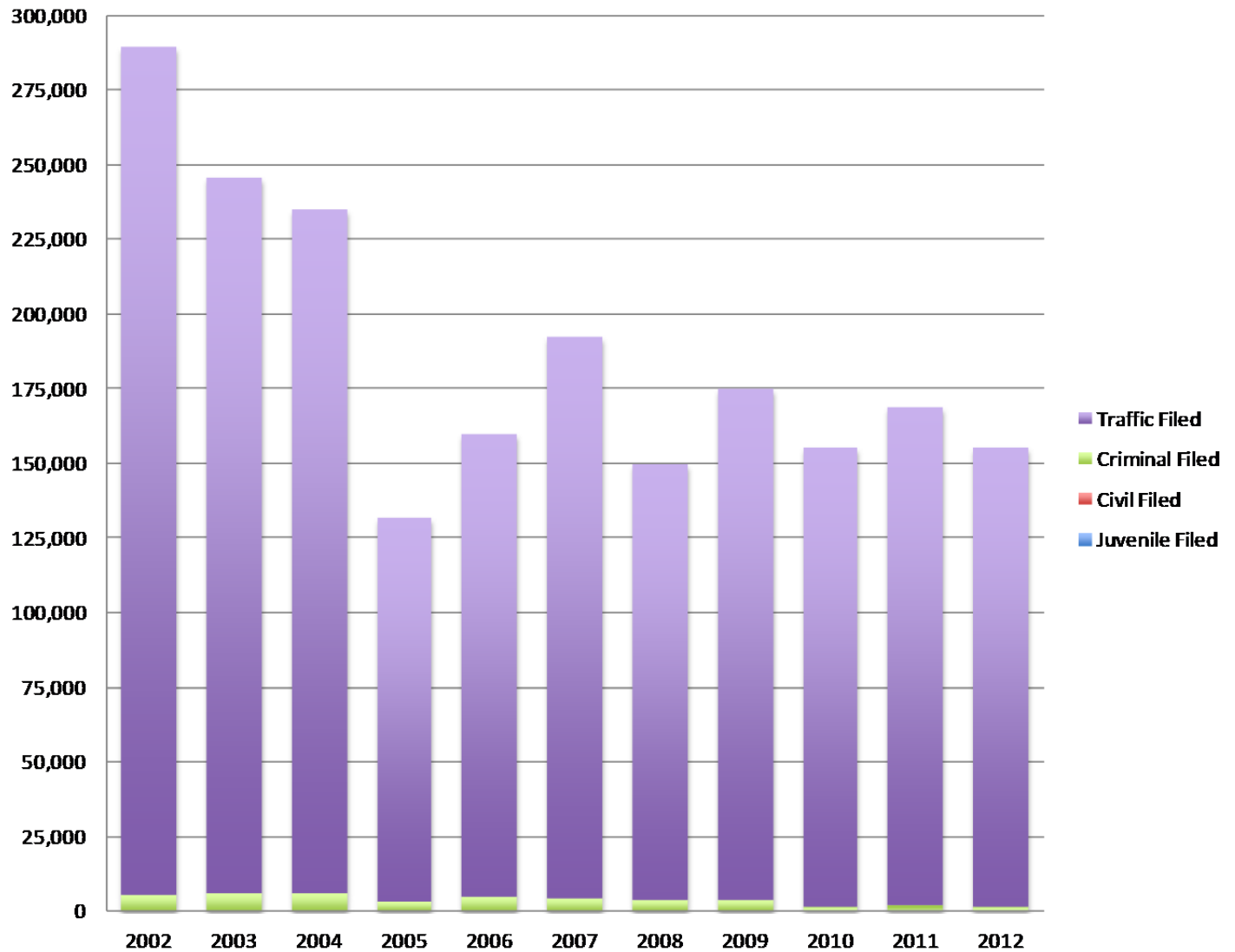


### Quick facts:

- Four-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of New Orleans and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction of this court extends to ordinances of the city of New Orleans regulating traffic within the city.
- Jurisdiction over state traffic offenses is concurrent with Orleans Criminal District Court.
- Webpage: <http://www.nola.gov/traffic-court/>.

## NEW ORLEANS TRAFFIC COURT

### Case Filings by Type



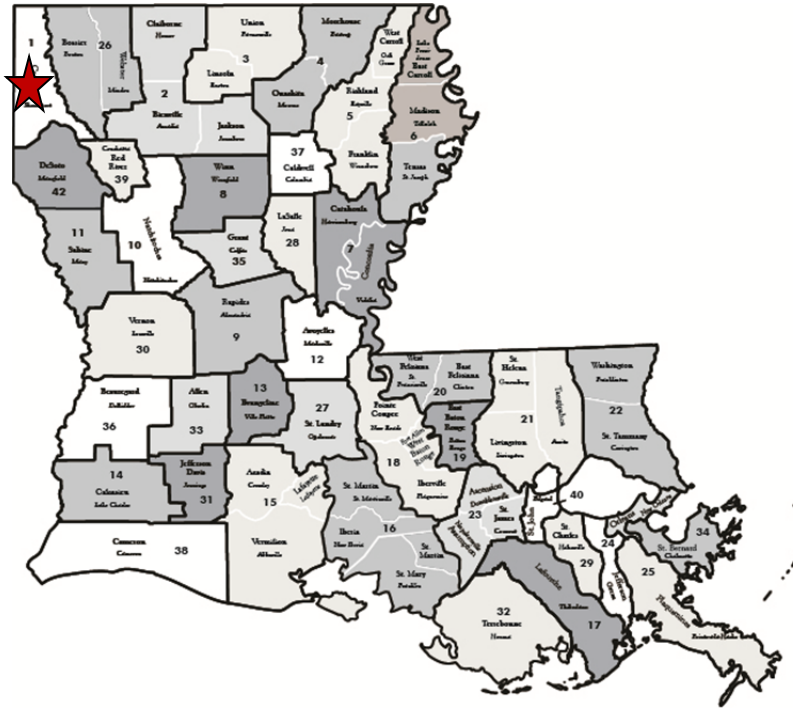
N.O. Traffic	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Filed	5,668	5,931	5,906	3,192	4,956	4,393	3,806	3,761	1,523	1,818	1,724
Criminal Term.	3,464	3,724	3,973	2,530	2,498	3,204	2,379	2,420	1,323	1,613	1,591
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	283,789	239,631	229,075	128,441	155,061	187,883	145,638	171,010	153,501	167,125	153,605
Traffic Term.	202,820	175,651	160,648	100,078	97,895	121,080	106,891	135,435	144,980	147,978	134,343
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	289,457	245,562	234,981	131,633 <sup>ii</sup>	160,017	192,276	149,444	174,771	155,024	168,943	155,329
Total Term	206,284	179,375	164,621	102,608	100,393	124,284	109,270	137,855	146,303	149,591	135,934
Other Filed <sup>iii</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> The 2005 Total Filed has been updated to correct a math error in the 2005 annual report.

<sup>iii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.

## SHREVEPORT CITY COURT

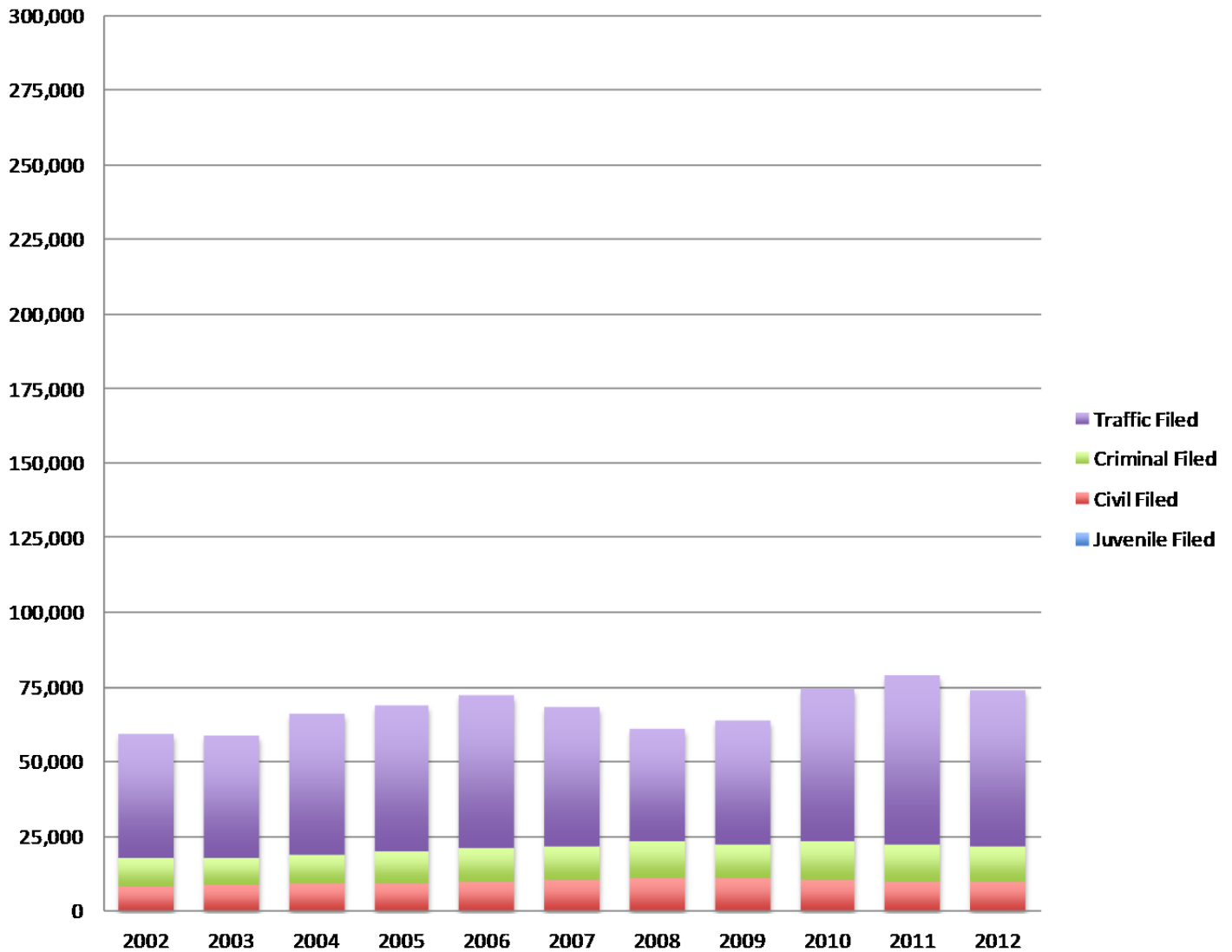


### Quick facts:

- Four-judge court.
- Territorial jurisdiction extends throughout the city of Shreveport and also the whole of any surrounding wards that fall in part within the city limits.
- Subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with the 1<sup>st</sup> JDC, for cases that arise within the city court's territorial jurisdiction, in civil suits with amounts in dispute up to \$35,000, in state and local misdemeanor criminal offenses, and in juvenile matters.
- Webpage: <http://shreveportla.gov/citycourt/>.

## SHREVEPORT CITY COURT

### Case Filings by Type



Shreveport	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Civil Filed	8,016	8,885	9,141	9,355	10,097	10,330	10,825	11,030	10,731	9,936	9,764
Civil Term.	6,210	6,739	7,085	7,361	7,853	8,191	8,441	9,724	9,097	9,157	8,458
Criminal Filed	9,757	9,065	9,512	10,551	11,247	11,408	12,418	11,486	12,599	12,223	12,101
Criminal Term	9,675	9,083	8,794	10,374	11,468	11,054	11,948	12,070	11,661	13,263	12,999
Traffic Filed <sup>i</sup>	41,258	40,944	47,157	48,772	50,663	46,382	37,537	41,188	51,012	56,959	51,840
Traffic Term.	33,432	37,768	42,093	48,604	48,824	47,671	38,527	39,980	47,539	54,035	52,889
Juvenile Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juveniles Term.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Filed	59,031	58,894	65,810	68,678	72,007	68,120	60,780	63,704	74,342	79,118	73,705
Total Term	49,317	53,590	57,972	66,339	68,145	66,916	58,916	61,774	68,297	76,455	74,346
Other Filed <sup>ii</sup>	28,005	27,818	26,816	26,810	27,840	28,874	29,648	0	32,010	31,637	31,022
Other Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>i</sup> DWI is included in criminal filings

<sup>ii</sup> Other proceedings include actions not considered cases, such as post-conviction remedy, preliminary hearings, sentence review and extraordinary writs.