



SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA
2017 ANNUAL REPORT
of the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court



THE SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

From left: Justice Scott J. Crichton, Justice Marcus R. Clark, Justice John L. Weimer, Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, Justice Greg G. Guidry, Justice Jefferson D. Hughes III, Justice James T. Genovese.

CHIEF JUSTICE BERNETTE JOSHUA JOHNSON

Seventh Supreme Court District
Jefferson and Orleans Parishes.*

JUSTICE GREG G. GUIDRY

First Supreme Court District
Jefferson, Orleans, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington Parishes.*

JUSTICE SCOTT J. CRICHTON

Second Supreme Court District
Allen, Beauregard, Bossier, Caddo, DeSoto, Evangeline, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Vernon, and Webster Parishes.*

JUSTICE JAMES T. GENOVESE

Third Supreme Court District
Acadia, Avoyelles, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, St. Landry, and Vermilion.*
Took office January 1, 2017.

JUSTICE MARCUS R. CLARK

Fourth Supreme Court District
Bienville, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Jackson, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Rapides, Richland, Tensas, Union, West Carroll, and Winn Parishes.*

JUSTICE JEFFERSON D. HUGHES III

Fifth Supreme Court District
Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana Parishes.*

JUSTICE JOHN L. WEIMER

Sixth Supreme Court District
Assumption, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Terrebonne Parishes.*

* See Court District Maps on pages 12-13.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Supreme Court Annual Report is a useful guide to judicial personnel and contacts throughout the state, as well as an overview of the Court's progress in 2017 and includes maps of electoral districts for the Supreme Court, the Courts of Appeal, and District Courts.

RESOURCES ON THE WEB AT WWW.LASC.ORG

The **STATISTICAL DATA** section summarizes two-year activity trends in juvenile, civil, criminal and traffic categories for courts at all levels in the state.

The **2017 LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT ANNUAL REPORT** and the **GUIDE TO LOUISIANA COURTS** featuring a list of judges, clerks and administrators (complete with contact phone numbers) for the Courts of Appeal, District Courts, and City and Parish Courts statewide are now available on the Louisiana Supreme Court website at www.lasc.org/press_room/publications.asp.

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT TAKES SHAPE

I am pleased to present to you the 2017 Annual Report of the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana. This report demonstrates the hard work and dedication of the Louisiana state judiciary including: judges, clerks of court, court administrators, department managers, and court staff.

Since the day I took the oath as Chief Justice in February 2013, it has been my goal to change the trajectory and perception of Louisiana as it relates to the concern about the costs and ill effects of Louisiana's high incarceration rate. In 2014, the United States Department of Justice confirmed that Louisiana remained number one among the fifty states, with 38,030 people in prison, having a rate of 816 per 100,000 residents with Russia's 492, China's 119, France's 100, and Germany's 78 people per 100,000 residents.¹ This ignited my drive to be a voice for change. In 2017, through the intergovernmental cooperative efforts of all three branches of government, I believe substantive progress was made to reduce our prison population.

I was honored to serve as a member of the Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force, created by Governor John Bel Edwards and chaired by Department of Corrections Secretary James M. LeBlanc. This was a bipartisan effort to address the issues of mass incarceration. After a series of public town hall meetings and review of the best practices and best research in the field done by Pew Trusts, the Task Force released its final recommendations in early 2017. We estimated that adoption of these recommendations would reduce the state's prison population by 13 percent over the next decade, reduce the number of people supervised in the community by 16 percent, and save taxpayers \$305 million.

After a historic bipartisan effort, 10 bills were passed in the 2017 legislative session, estimated to save Louisiana taxpayers about \$260 million. My focus is to monitor this process so that these savings will be reinvested in programs to keep ex-offenders from re-incarceration. The Judicial Branch will be a key partner with our re-entry courts or other specialty courts.

As I have stated previously, a comprehensive solution to Louisiana's over-incarceration must include pretrial reform – how decisions are made at the point a defendant enters the criminal justice system. In 2017, the Supreme Court worked in conjunction with Orleans Criminal District Court and the City of New Orleans to administer a pretrial services program that incorporates evidence-based practices, including validated risk assessments, for the purpose of making better pretrial decisions, establishing pretrial release conditions and providing pretrial supervision. In early 2018, we anticipate expanding the program to utilize the Arnold Foundation's highly-regarded risk assessment tool for this pilot pretrial services program.

Here at the Court, 2017 marked the inaugural year of Justice James T. Genovese's tenure on the Supreme Court from the Third Supreme Court District. The Associate Justices and I were pleased to participate in several milestone events in 2017. First, we helped mark the 125th Anniversary of Orleans Criminal Court's decision in *State of Louisiana v. Homer Adolph Plessy* by hosting the reenactment of the original oral argument held before Judge Ferguson. Distinguished members of the bench and bar donned period dress in a standing-room-only performance, which was followed by a



fascinating discussion on the development of civil rights over the past 125 years. Phoebe Ferguson and Keith Plessy, descendants of the named parties in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, also shared thoughts.

Second, we hosted the historic exhibit entitled "Lawyers Without Rights: Jewish Lawyers in Germany Under the Third Reich," which was on display in the Louisiana Supreme Court Museum. This highly acclaimed, international exhibit told the important story of Hitler's systemic exclusion of German Jewish lawyers and judges where, in furtherance of his cruel and oppressive dictatorship, he prevented them from practicing their profession. The exhibit was a poignant reminder of why we must dearly guard and preserve the rule of law.

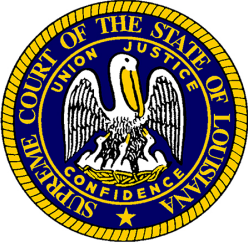
It was also my great pleasure to join in the kickoff of the celebration of the Golden 50th Anniversary of the dedicated work of Southeast Louisiana Legal Services (SLLS). A CLE entitled "The Future of Civil Legal Aid" was followed by a reception and the opening of the "Justice is Golden" exhibit in the Louisiana Supreme Court Museum. According to a 2016 Louisiana Bar Foundation Economic Impact Study, for every \$1 invested supporting civil legal aid, there was \$8.73 of social return on investment. I began my legal career as a legal services attorney with New Orleans Legal Assistance, Inc. (NOLAC). I have been privileged to serve as co-chair of the Louisiana Access to Justice Commission, so I am well aware of the need for civil legal aid in our community. I commend the attorneys of SLLS and all of the many attorneys and active and retired judges who devote their time and energies to providing civil legal assistance to the less fortunate, and who assist self-represented litigants. Thank you for making a difference.

This is just a snapshot of 2017, and I encourage you to peruse the pages of this Annual Report to learn more about the work of our dedicated judges and court staff over this past year. I have the distinct pleasure of submitting to the Supreme Court of Louisiana, to the Board of Governors of the Louisiana State Bar Association, to the citizens of Louisiana, and to other interested parties the Annual Report of the Supreme Court for 2017, which includes reports of the Judicial Council, the Office of the Judicial Administrator, the Clerk of Court, the Law Library of Louisiana, the Louisiana Judicial College, and the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana, as well as statistical information of the state judiciary reflecting the work of the past year. The report also includes information from the Committee on Bar Admissions and the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board, entities which operate under the auspices of the Supreme Court.

All who were involved in our continuing efforts throughout 2017 to improve judicial administration are to be commended and thanked.

Bernette J. Johnson
Bernette Joshua Johnson
Chief Justice
Louisiana Supreme Court

1. See Quigley, Bill. "Louisiana Number One In Incarceration." *Huffpost* 10 May 2016.



THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

The *Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana* was established in 1950 and serves as the research arm for the Supreme Court. It often acts as a resource center where ideas for simplifying and expediting judicial procedures and/or correcting shortcomings in the system are studied. Most of the work done is through standing committees and the creation of ad hoc committees.

The Standing Committee to Evaluate the Need for New Judgeships examines a request for a new judgeship against set criteria and conducts a site visit to the requesting jurisdiction prior to making a recommendation to the Judicial Council. A request for new judgeships must be received by the Judicial Administrator's Office by October 1st of each year. There were no new judgeships in 2017.

In 2003, the Standing Committee to Evaluate Requests for new Court Costs and Fees was created to guide the Judicial Council's process of reviewing and evaluating requests for new court costs, fees, and increases in existing court costs and fees. These requests must be received by the Judicial Administrator's Office by January 15th of each year. Due to the temporary restriction on new court costs under HCR 133 of 2016, only one court cost was approved by the Judicial Council in 2017.

In 2017 the Judicial Council welcomed nine new members: Hon. Greg Guidry, Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court; Hon. John Michael Guidry, representing the Conference of Court of Appeal Judges; Hon. Kim Stansbury and Hon. Pamela Baker, representing the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; Richard K. Leefe, Esq., representing the Louisiana State Bar Association; Leo C. Hamilton, Esq., representing the Louisiana State Law Institute; Hon. Katrina R. Jackson, representing the Louisiana House of Representatives; Hon. Scott M. Perrilloux, representing the Louisiana District Attorneys Association; and Hon. David Dart, representing the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association.

During 2017, the Court continued to administer a grant from the Department of Justice to encourage and disseminate best practices for coordinated and appropriate justice system responses to justice-involved individuals' inability to pay fines, fees, and related charges, including eliminating unnecessary and unconstitutional confinement. Activities under this grant continued efforts begun under a 2015 \$50,000 State Justice Institute grant. The purpose of this grant was to assist in implementing the Judicial Council recommendations to improve the court cost assessment and collection system.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Honorable Bernette J. Johnson, Chair
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Louisiana
 Honorable Greg Gerard Guidry
Justice, Supreme Court of Louisiana
 Honorable Marc E. Johnson
representing Conference of Court of Appeal Judges
 Honorable John Michael Guidry
representing Conference of Court of Appeal Judges
 Honorable Daniel Ellender
representing Louisiana District Judges Association
 Honorable Ramona Emanuel
representing Louisiana District Judges Association
 Honorable Roy Cascio
representing Louisiana City Judges Association
 Honorable Kim Stansbury
representing Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
 Honorable Pamela Baker (Non-voting)
representing Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Richard K. Leefe
representing Louisiana State Bar Association
 Erin O. Braud
representing Young Lawyers Section of the LSBA
 Leo C. Hamilton
representing Louisiana State Law Institute
 Honorable Dan Claitor
State Senator
 Honorable Katrina R. Jackson
State Representative
 Honorable Scott M. Perrilloux
representing Louisiana District Attorneys Assn.
 Todd S. Clemons
representing the Louisiana State Bar Association appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court
 Honorable David Dart
representing Louisiana Clerks of Court Assn.
 Mr. Charles C. Beard, Jr.
Citizen Representative

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Justice John L. Weimer
 Justice Marcus R. Clark
 Justice Jefferson D. Hughes III
 Justice Scott J. Crichton
 Justice James T. Genovese

STAFF OF JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Sandra A. Vujnovich, JD
Judicial Administrator
 Supreme Court of Louisiana
 Royce Duplessis, JD
Special Counsel, Research & Development
 Supreme Court of Louisiana

2017: A YEAR IN REVIEW

This section highlights the initiatives of the Judicial Administrator's Office, the managerial arm of the Louisiana Supreme Court which serves as the staffing and fiscal agent for the Judicial Council and court-appointed task forces and committees. Program departments of the Judicial Administrator's Office include: Children & Families, Drug Courts, the Louisiana Protective Order Registry and Community Relations.

This section also features an update on the work of the Law Library, Judicial College, Committee on Bar Admissions, Clerk of Court's Office, Court Case Management Information System Division, Attorney Disciplinary Board and the Judiciary Commission.

OFFICE OF THE JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATOR



Sandra A. Vujnovich, JD
Judicial Administrator



Michelle Beaty, JD
Office of Special Counsel



Kelly McNeil Legier, JD
Judiciary Commission



Veronica Cheneau, PHR, CHRE
Human Resources



Kerry Lentini, JD
Supreme Court Drug Court Office



Rose Marie DiVincenti, CCR, RPR
Court Reporter/Trial Reports



Lauren McHugh Rocha, JD
General Counsel



Royce Duplessis, JD
Research & Development



Darryl M. Schultz
Legislative Liaison



Robert Gunn
Community Relations



Terence Sims, CPA, CFE
Chief Financial Officer/Accounting Services



Kären Hallstrom, JD, MSW
Children & Families



Richard Williams, JD
Trial Court Services/Court Interpreters



Ramona Harris
Louisiana Protective Order Registry (LPOR)



Bryan Wolff, CPA
Budget



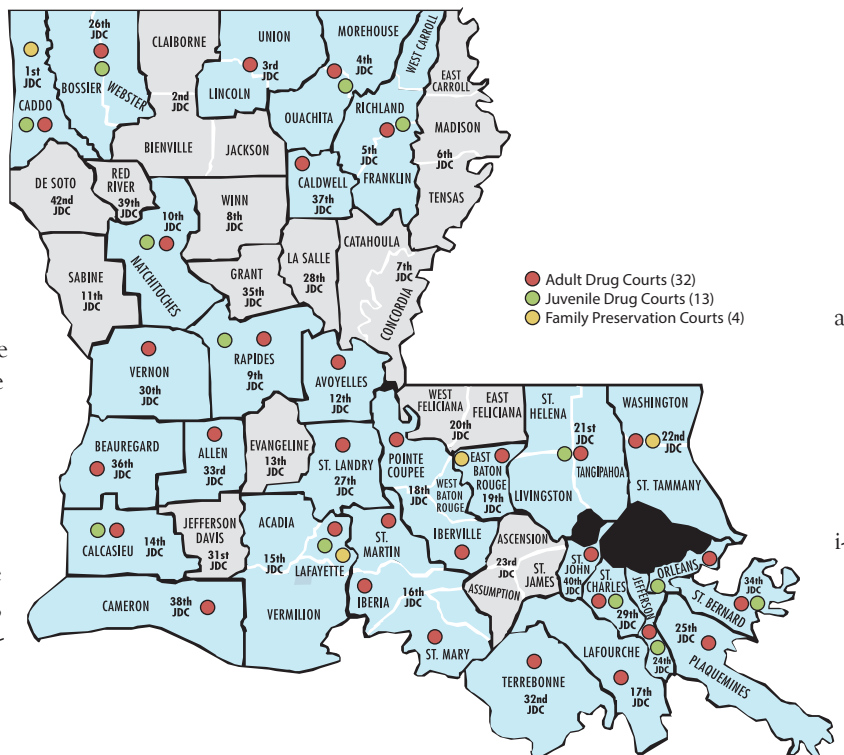
Alanah Odoms Hebert, JD
Children & Families

DRUG COURTS

LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT DRUG COURT PROGRAM

There were 49 operational drug court programs in Louisiana in 2017, comprised of 32 adult drug courts, 13 juvenile drug courts, and four family preservation courts. Of these 49 programs, 37 have been in operation 10 years or longer. Each program is comprised of a drug court team which is led by a drug court judge and includes a drug court coordinator, treatment staff, a prosecutor, public defender, law enforcement representatives, a case manager, and other stakeholders. Drug court teams use a non-adversarial approach to ensure that participants receive the highest level of care possible. Teams also work together to ensure program operations adhere to all applicable standards and policies.

As an effective alternative to incarceration, Louisiana drug courts are demanding programs that require frequent and random drug testing, intensive treatment, judicial oversight, and community supervision and support to assure the best possible outcomes for offenders with substance abuse problems. Funds for Louisiana’s drug courts are appropriated by the Louisiana Legislature and administered by the *Supreme Court Drug Court Office (SCDCO)*. The SCDCO awards funds annually to programs statewide. Additionally, the SCDCO closely monitors each program both fiscally and programmatically throughout the year.



2017 DRUG COURT PARTICIPANTS

	Adult	Juvenile	Family Preservation
Individual Participants Served	3,937	609	265
Individuals Screened	2,102	373	311
New Participants Admitted	1,425	228	131
Treatment Hours Administered	275,999	10,108	16,338
Drug Tests Administered	160,957	7,869	6,789
Community Service Hours	23,473	689	479

PROGRAM SUCCESSES

57	Drug-Free Babies in 2017	In 2017, 57 drug-free babies were born to drug court participants for an estimated savings of \$14,250,000 to the State of Louisiana which is based on estimated medical and related expenses of \$250,000 per baby in the first year of life.*
710	Total Drug-Free Babies Born	Since the inception of drug courts in Louisiana, 710 drug-free babies have been born to drug court clients, for an estimated total cost savings of \$177,500,000.*
11.4%	Drug Court Recidivism Rate	88.6% of 2014 Drug Court graduates remained free of additional convictions 3 years after graduation.
669	GED/Full-Time Employment	The number of participants who graduated in 2017, who earned their HiSET (GED) or are now employed full-time after being unemployed or without a HiSET (GED) at the time of program admission.

*The cost of care and treatment for each child born addicted to drugs is estimated to be approximately \$250,000 for the first year of life, Office of Justice Programs, 1997.

LPOR

LOUISIANA PROTECTIVE ORDER REGISTRY

In 1997, legislation was passed which created the *Louisiana Protective Order Registry* (LPOR) and named the Judicial Administrator's Office of the Louisiana Supreme Court as the entity responsible for the development and maintenance of this database. The registry is a statewide repository for court orders issued to prevent harassing, threatening or violent acts against a spouse, intimate cohabitant, dating partner, family, or household member.

LPOR staff provide training seminars across the state to explain how the registry works, highlight relevant state and federal laws, and disseminate standardized protective order forms and interactive software.

These seminars are designed for, but are not limited to, judges, magistrates, commissioners, hearing officers, judicial administrators, clerks of court, other court personnel, victim assistance providers, victim advocates, legal services providers, and attorneys. In 2017, a total of 511 people attended LPOR training programs.

28,269 orders from courts across the state were added to the registry in 2017. Of those, 18,084 (64%) were civil orders and 10,185 (36%) were criminal orders. Since its inception through the close of 2017, more than 400,000 orders have been entered into the registry.

Certain qualifying records from LPOR are transmitted to the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). At year's end, 280,317 Louisiana orders had been transmitted to NCIC since the start of the program. This includes 24,646 qualifying orders transmitted during 2017.

Also during 2017, LPOR's on-call team responded to 210 requests for order verification submitted by examiners with NICS. This federal program is designed to prevent the sale of firearms, ammunition, and explosives to those who are prohibited, including individuals who are the subject of a qualifying domestic violence order.

Additionally during 2017, LPOR responded to a total of 2,035 calls from local, state, other state, and federal law enforcement with requests for verification of orders of protection.

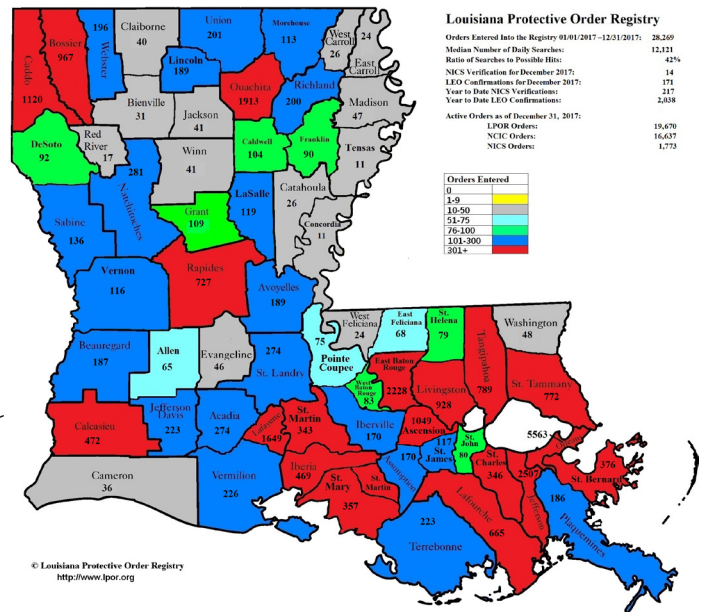


Table One: Civil Orders	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total (1997-2017)
Temporary Restraining Order	12,149	12,019	13,082	13,505	13,870	219,207
Protective Order	3,343	3,369	3,797	4,043	4,097	69,365
Preliminary Injunction	31	53	62	52	47	1,217
Permanent Injunction	40	35	49	57	70	1,763
Total Civil Orders	15,563	15,476	16,990	17,657	18,084	291,552

Table Two: Criminal Orders	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total (1997-2017)
Bail Restriction	3,728	4,945	6,657	7,031	9,121	70,587
Peace Bond	284	284	357	245	245	19,061
Combined Bail/ Peace Bond	700	736	1,124	891	28	9,423
Sentencing Order	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probation Conditions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Combined Sentencing/ Probation	1,285	1,247	1,291	1,180	1,033	10,638
Total Criminal Orders	5,997	7,212	9,429	9,347	10,185	109,709

Table Three: Totals by Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total (1997-2017)
Total Civil and Criminal Orders	21,560	22,688	26,419	27,004	28,269	401,261

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Research provides that in 2017, there were 681 cases of human trafficking in Louisiana, of which 356 were youth under the age of 16, and 72 victims were under the age of 12.

Act 181 of the 2017 Regular Legislative Session, effective on June 12, 2017, created the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to assist state and local leaders in developing and coordinating human trafficking prevention programs, to identify gaps in prevention and intervention services, to conduct a continuing comprehensive review of all existing public and private human trafficking programs, to increase coordination among public and private programs to strengthen prevention and intervention services, and ultimately, to make recommendations with respect to human trafficking prevention and intervention. Governor John Bel Edwards appointed the following champions to the Commission: Chief Justice Bernette Johnson, the President of the Louisiana Senate, the Speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives, the state Attorney General, heads of stakeholder state departments, a member of the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Advisory Board, the state public defender, and the executive director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association. Chief Justice Johnson appointed Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano to serve on the Commission as her designee, and Judge Lobrano was elected as the chairperson of the Commission.

Chief Justice Johnson encouraged the drive and dedication of Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, which made it a priority to identify and put an end to human trafficking of juveniles in New Orleans. As a national outreach effort, Chief Judge Candice Anderson provided consultation to out of state jurisdictions on improving court infrastructure at the National Shared Hope Juvenile Sex Trafficking Conference. She also contributed to an NCJFCJ publication on best practices. This fight to combat human trafficking is a collaborative effort, represented by a diverse coalition of Louisiana organizations, institutions, state agencies, political and religious affiliations. This comprehensive network of high quality public servants includes, but is not limited to, the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force, Child Advocacy Centers, Family Justice Centers, Homeland Security, Covenant House, Eden House, district attorneys, law enforcement, other advocacy and outreach services, counselors, the judiciary and legal aid services, medical services, and other shelter, housing, and transportation services.



Angela White-Bazile
Executive Counsel
to the Chief Justice

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

During 2017, the Supreme Court continued initiatives designed to improve the administration of juvenile justice.



The *Families in Need of Services (FINS)* Assistance Program provides funding for informal FINS offices in 42 judicial districts, including the addition of Morgan City Court, located in the 16th judicial district. FINS officers statewide processed almost 7,000 referrals and continue to provide program and case management strategies that help to increase alternatives to formal processing. Highlights this year include a regional training attended by participants from over 30 parishes statewide. In addition, all judicial districts were invited to an annual professional development retreat centered on family strengthening and engagement, and promoting the *National Standards for the Care of Youth Charged with Status Offenses*, hereinafter “Standards.”


The Standards are aimed at promoting best practices, based on research and social service approaches, to better engage and support youth and families in need of assistance. By April 2018, FINS AP will launch an online FINS Assistance Program Community Services Statewide Directory to enable children and families to identify and access needed services and interventions.


The *Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)* Assistance Program administered funding for CASA programs in 54 parishes and 37 judicial districts. In 2017, CASA programs served 3,485 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) eligible children. Closed cases resulted in 1,358 children being placed in permanent homes. CASA programs trained 544 new volunteers. Expanded use of the statewide case management system continues to enhance uniformity of data collection and analysis resulting in better advocacy and better outcomes for children.



The *Court Improvement Program (CIP)*, through the Pelican Center for Children and Families, worked diligently to provide both legal and interdisciplinary training and education programs designed to improve the safety, permanency and well-being of abused and neglected children in our state. During 2017, the Pelican Center produced 24 in-person trainings or workshops, which resulted in 1,680 hours of CLE being awarded to both judges and attorneys. In addition, the Pelican Center offered online training programming that resulted in 2,312 hours of CLE being awarded. Further, efforts were focused on providing management information systems for attorneys representing abused and neglected children to help support management of those cases by the programs serving them and to provide a mechanism to collect data in support of CIP work designed to improve the quality of representation and hearing quality in general. The CIP Judicial Fellow provided support to judges hearing Child In Need of Care (CINC) cases, as well as providing information and mentoring of new judges assuming CINC jurisdiction. Another area of intense work by the CIP was a joint project with the Louisiana Department of Children and Families designed to improve the quality of safety decision-making by courts in CINC cases.



 Alanah Hebert, the newly appointed Director of the Division of Children and Families, will serve as Co-Chair, along with Senator Gary Smith, of the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Statewide Leadership Collaborative created by HCR 102, and will oversee planning efforts for statewide implementation of JDAI.

 The Supreme Court received 3,727 juvenile records from six courts representing urban, rural and city jurisdictions containing standardized Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) data. Seventeen additional district courts have completed modifications to their case management systems allowing them to securely record juvenile case data and report DMC data. More district and city courts will have this capability as they periodically upgrade their systems to Louisiana Supreme Court standards.

COURT INTERPRETER TRAINING PROGRAM

COURT INTERPRETER TRAINING PROGRAM

In 2013, the Supreme Court established the *Louisiana Court Interpreter Training Program*. It was developed to serve litigants of limited English proficiency in the Louisiana court system by enhancing access to justice through quality interpreting services. The Supreme Court adopted the Code of Professional Responsibility for Language Interpreters and adopted policies that established a two-tier interpreter qualification and testing program consisting of “registered” and “certified” court interpreters. The program was initially funded in part by a grant from the State Justice Institute and currently includes court interpreter orientation classes around the state, oral exam preparation and advanced skills classes, and the administration of English proficiency exams, translation exams, and the court interpreter oral certification exam.

The number of interpreters who completed the requirements to become a “registered” court interpreter increased to 160 in 2017. In addition, Urdu and Cantonese were added to the list of languages with an available certified or registered court interpreter. The total number of languages with a certified or registered court interpreter is now 16. A current list of court interpreters, information and registration for upcoming training opportunities and testing, the application for court interpreter reciprocity, and other information about the program is available on the Supreme Court website at www.lasc.org. Finally, in an effort to improve the quality of court interpretation, over 50 interpreters attended four skills training classes held throughout the state.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

The *Community Relations Department* (CRD) is the outreach division of the Louisiana Supreme Court that oversees public communications, meetings and events, courthouse tours, and other public involvement including: managing the court website information and design (www.lasc.org), handling media relations, providing photographic and videographic support, and producing court publications such as the *Annual Report of the Judicial Council of the Louisiana Supreme Court*. In all of these endeavors, the CRD aims to inform, educate, and further public understanding of and public trust and confidence in the Louisiana judiciary.

In 2017, the CRD assisted with media coverage of the work of the Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force, media coverage when the Supreme Court “rode the circuit” – holding oral argument in a venue other than the Royal Street courthouse – at Louisiana State University’s Paul M. Hebert Law Center in Baton Rouge, as well as additional coverage for the international exhibit “Lawyers Without Rights: Jewish Lawyers in Germany Under the Third Reich,” which was on display in the Louisiana Supreme Court Museum.

Law Day always presents an opportunity to reach out to students. In 2017, the Supreme Court hosted nearly 250 students from Lafourche and Orleans Parishes for Law Day court tours and presentations. Additionally in 2017, the CRD staff conducted 56 courthouse tours for 957 court visitors from across the state and country and from around the world.

Also in 2017, in coordination with the Court’s IT department, the CRD began work on the redesign of the Supreme Court’s award-winning website, which will take advantage of advances in technology to modernize the look, feel and navigation of the site.



In 2017, the Louisiana Supreme Court hosted several school groups, including Lafayette Academy Charter School (pictured with Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson), as part of the Court’s Law Day outreach activities.

LAW LIBRARY

LAW LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA



Miriam Childs
Director

Located in the Supreme Court building in New Orleans, the *Law Library of Louisiana* provides valuable services and resources for the judiciary, the bar, and the public throughout the state and beyond. The Law Library, which was founded in 1838, contains over 150,000 physical volumes, in addition to a full array of online legal resources.

In 2017 the Law Library sponsored or co-sponsored six continuing legal education programs that were free of charge and open to the public on a variety of topics of law, including a re-enactment and CLE commemorating the 125th anniversary of *State v. Homer Adolph Plessy* (1892), which was argued in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court.

The Law Library prepared four display cases examining the 2017 Law Day theme, “The Fourteenth Amendment: Transforming American Democracy” and two topical exhibits on education law and music law. The Louisiana Supreme Court Museum hosted the traveling exhibit entitled “Lawyers Without Rights: Jewish Lawyers in Nazi Germany” in the spring, and in the fall, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services installed an exhibit chronicling its 50 years of existence. All exhibits were free of charge and open to the public.

Also of note in 2017, librarians gave three Legal Education and Assistance Program (LEAP) presentations in Lafayette, Destrehan, and New Orleans. The program is a partnership among the Law Library, the LSBA Access to Justice Committee, and the Louisiana Library Association to teach public librarians about legal information resources.

The Law Library’s collection of books and other materials is continually updated. In 2017 the library added 2,142 new titles, 1,517 new volumes, and 566 pieces of microfiche. The staff of the Library continued to publish its newsletter, *De Novo*, as outreach to the judiciary, the bar, and the public to provide useful information on legal topics and library resources.



State v. Plessy panel participants. From left to right: A.P. Tureaud, Jr.; Keith Plessy; Val Exnicios, Esq.; Phoebe Ferguson; Judge Kern Reese; Judge Max Tobias (ret.); and Greg DiLeo, Esq.

THE LAW LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA STAFF

Miriam Childs, MLIS
Director, Law Library of Louisiana
Francis Norton, JD, MLIS
Research Lawyer/Librarian &
Government Documents Librarian
Sara Pic, JD, MLIS
Research Lawyer/Librarian
Cynthia Jones, MA
Librarian
Tara Lombardi, MLIS
Librarian

Catherine Lemann, JD, MLIS
Part-Time Librarian
Ruth Mahoney
Library Associate
Calissa Folse
Library Associate
Gail Bragg
Administrative Assistant

JUDICIAL COLLEGE

LOUISIANA JUDICIAL COLLEGE

2017 was a busy year for the *Louisiana Judicial College*. In keeping with the strategic plan adopted in 2016, the Governing Board hired the College's first full-time Executive Director. Tracy L. Thompson was hired to join the staff of the Judicial College in Jan. 2018. Tracy, a U.S. Navy veteran and graduate of the University of South Florida and Yale Law School, brings 16 years of organizational leadership at the helm of NELLCO Law Library Consortium, Inc., an international collaborative of more than 120 law libraries. Tracy's primary charge as Executive Director of the Judicial College is to implement the strategic plan, and continue to develop and enhance the College's curriculum and program offerings.

Continuing legal education is vital to the development of an informed judiciary. Our judiciary is responsible for providing the citizens of Louisiana with the highest level of justice. In 2017, the Judicial College provided its robust schedule of continuing legal education to members of the Louisiana bench and bar. These included *City, Family, and Juvenile Judges Seminar* (75 registered) in Jan., *Evidence and Procedure Seminar* (54 registered) in March, *Spring Conference for Judges* (124 registered) in April, *North Louisiana Seminar* (50 registered) in May, *Summer School* (217 registered) in June (together with the Louisiana Bar Association), *Fall Judges Conference* (159 registered) in Oct., *Rural Courts Seminar* (32 registered) in Nov., and *Torts Seminar* (57 registered) and *Criminal Court Seminar* (32 registered), both in Dec. This series of conferences attracted a total of 800 participants and offered a total of 86.5 CLE credit hours to judges at all levels across the state. Continuing legal education topics include ethics, professionalism, and a wide variety of subject area specializations.

The Judicial College Staff is instrumental in providing excellent service and support to the College's mission and stakeholders. The staff includes: Marie Anders, Judicial Education Program Attorney, and Flora Williams, Judicial Education Coordinator, in New Orleans; Billie Bennett, Judicial Education Coordinator, and Marion Armand, Administrative Assistant, in Baton Rouge. Professor William Corbett, Frank L. Maraist Professor of Law and Wex S. Malone Professor of Law at LSU, continues to serve as Faculty Advisor to the Judicial College.

BAR ADMISSIONS

COMMITTEE ON BAR ADMISSIONS

The *Committee on Bar Admissions* is comprised of 18 active members of the Louisiana State Bar Association appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court to administer the bar admissions system. It is the duty of the Committee to recommend for admission only those applicants who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in La. Sup. Ct. Rule XVII.

The Committee received and processed 801 bar examination applications, 367 law student registration forms, 32 A.D.A. requests, 8 equivalency applications and 7 in-house counsel applications. Two written examinations were administered. Examiners developed examination questions and, with the assistance of more than 300 volunteer graders, scored test papers for 251 applicants who sat for the February examination and 550 applicants who sat for the July examination. The pass rate was 60.55% in February and 72.09% in July.

In order to assure that each applicant recommended for admission possessed the requisite character and fitness, the Committee's Character and Fitness Department investigated and considered the backgrounds of all applicants. As part of the character and fitness screening process, 4 Commissioner hearings were held and 1 matter was argued before the Supreme Court. The Committee's Character and Fitness Panel recommended 5 applicants be conditionally admitted and 10 applicants be denied admission.

COMMITTEE ON BAR ADMISSIONS

L. David Cromwell
Chairman
Larry Feldman, Jr.
Director of Character & Fitness
J. Patrick Beauchamp
Immediate Past Chair
Keith M. Pyburn, Jr.
Testing Accommodations
C. Peck Hayne
Director of Testing
Dow M. Edwards
Character and Fitness Panel Member
Celeste R. Coco-Ewing
Character and Fitness Panel Member
Richard A. Goins
Testing Committee Member

Hon. Piper D. Griffin
Testing Committee Member
Donna P. Currault
Examiner—Civil Code I
William C. Kalmbach III
Examiner—Civil Code II
Robert P. Thibaux
Examiner—Civil Code III
David R. Frohn
Examiner—Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure
Lawrence J. Centola
Examiner—Torts
John C. Anjier
Examiner—Business Entities & Negotiable Instruments

Troy N. Bell
Examiner—Constitutional Law
Todd S. Clemons
Examiner—Criminal Law, Procedure & Evidence
Glenn L. Langley
Examiner—Federal Jurisdiction & Procedure

LOUISIANA JUDICIAL COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT CO-CHAIRS

Justice John L. Weimer
Supreme Court of Louisiana
Justice Scott J. Crichton
Supreme Court of Louisiana

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Michael A. Pitman (Chair)
1st Judicial District Court
William J. Crain (Vice-Chair)
1st Circuit Court of Appeal
Allison Penzato (Secretary)
1st Circuit Court of Appeal
Lori A. Landry (Treasurer)
16th Judicial District Court
Patricia Evans Koch (Immediate Past President)
9th Judicial District Court

MEMBERS

Susan M. Chehardy
5th Circuit Court of Appeal
Jules D. Edwards
15th Judicial District Court
Nakisha Ervin-Knott
Orleans Civil District Court
Lee V. Faulkner
24th Judicial District Court
Hunter Greene
East Baton Rouge Family Court
Madeleine Landrieu
4th Circuit Court of Appeal
Pammela Lattier
Shreveport City Court
C. Wendell Manning
4th Judicial District Court
Sharon Ingram Marchman
4th Judicial District Court
Robin D. Pittman
Orleans Criminal District Court
Anastasia "Staci" Wiley
Winnfield City Court
Kirk Williams
Baker City Court

EX-OFFICIO

Judi Abrusley
President, Louisiana City Judges Association;
Oakdale City Court
Sen. Dan Claitor
Louisiana State Senate
Ernestine S. Gray
President, Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; Orleans Juvenile Court
Vanessa Guidry-Whipple
Chair, Conference of Court of Appeal Judges;
1st Circuit Court of Appeal
Rep. Walter Leger, III
Louisiana House of Representatives
John J. Molaison
President, Louisiana District Judges Association;
24th Judicial District Court
Dona Renegar
President, Louisiana State Bar Association
Vacant
Executive Counsel to the Governor

JUDICIARY COMMISSION

JUDICIARY COMMISSION

In Louisiana, judges are governed by the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Louisiana Constitution. Under the Louisiana Constitution, the *Judiciary Commission of Louisiana* is charged with receiving and investigating complaints of judicial misconduct and recommending discipline, where appropriate, to the Louisiana Supreme Court.

The Judiciary Commission of Louisiana received and docketed 533 complaints against judges and justices of the peace in 2017. There were 177 complaints pending from previous years as of January 1, 2017. The Commission's Office of Special Counsel also received and responded to 268 requests for complaint forms.

Complaints are received from litigants, non-litigant citizens, attorneys, judges, non-judicial public officials, and anonymous sources. Some complaints are referred to the Commission by the Attorney Disciplinary Board, and the Commission is authorized to review matters on its own motion, which may come from media reports of alleged judicial misconduct.

Of the 533 complaints filed in 2017, 316 were screened out as not within the jurisdiction of the Commission or failing to allege facts implicating a possible violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct. The remaining 217 complaints were reviewed to consider the need for investigation. The Commission authorized in-depth investigations in 75 complaints, some as to complaints filed before January 1, 2017.

In 2017, the Commission filed four Notices of Hearing against two judges, one magistrate judge of a mayor's court, and no justices of the peace. No judicial officers resigned or retired after formal charges had been filed. However, two judges retired while investigations of complaints were pending after interim disqualification and formal proceedings appeared imminent. Hearings before a randomly appointed hearing officer were scheduled and conducted in one case. Two Deferred Recommendation of Discipline Agreements were signed, one in a case in which the hearing was held in 2016, and the other where no hearing was held.

Also during 2017, one judge and one justice of the peace personally appeared before the Commission for questioning, one after a hearing before a hearing officer and one before formal proceedings. Another justice of the peace appeared before the Commission regarding a procedural matter.

In 2017, the Judiciary Commission filed with the Louisiana Supreme Court one recommendation for judicial discipline and no recommendations for the imposition of penalties in financial disclosure cases arising under Supreme Court Rule 39. The Supreme Court did not remove or suspend any judicial officers during 2017; however, the Court considered but found no misconduct in one matter. As of December 31, 2017, there was one Judiciary Commission case pending before the Supreme Court.

During 2017, the Judiciary Commission did not file with the Supreme Court any recommendation for the interim disqualification of a judge pending further proceedings.

As of December 31, 2017, the Commission had 111 files pending, having disposed of 546 files in 2017.

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY BOARD

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Regulation of the practice of law in Louisiana is a critically important responsibility resting upon the inherent and constitutionally grounded authority of the Supreme Court. Through the Court's dedicated efforts, the lawyer regulation system ensures that the conduct of Louisiana's nearly 23,500 attorneys comports with the ethical standards reflected in the Rules of Professional Conduct that are designed to protect the interests of the public, the bar members, and the courts.

The Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) is the investigative and prosecutorial arm of the *Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board (LADB)*, a unified agency created by the Supreme Court effective April 1, 1990. In 2017, 2,796 complaints against lawyers were filed with ODC, a third consecutive yearly decline in those numbers. Of those complaints filed in 2017, less than half, or 1,059, were opened for formal disciplinary investigation. The remainder were either dismissed at screening or addressed in alternatives to discipline. In the exercise of a 'firm but fair' approach to attorney discipline, the ODC has aggressively pursued serious misconduct by lawyers, filing a combined 106 formal charges and consent discipline pleadings during the year.

Several underlying causes for this continued decline in complaints include a proactive approach to education by many of the stakeholders in the legal profession featuring: the LSBA award winning Professionalism Program held each year at all four law schools in Louisiana which immerses the first year law student in concepts of both ethics and professionalism beginning day one; the LADB/ODC statewide offering of free CLE seminars focused on solo practitioners and small firm members; LADB/ODC law school presentations, typically focused on 2nd and 3rd year law students and the Rules of Professional Conduct and Rule XIX; the LSBA Diversion programming addressing instances of minor misconduct where there was little or no harm, and where the misconduct is not likely to reoccur; the LSBA sponsored trust accounting school where practical education regarding the proper use and management of a client trust account is taught; and meaningful rule amendments by the Court such as the recently required trust account reconciliation on a quarterly basis which alone resulted in a nearly 50% reduction in the total number of overdraft instances reported to ODC. Of particular note is the extraordinary role played by Louisiana's Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program which leads the nation as one of the premier programs as validated by a recent ABA audit finding.

THE JUDICIARY COMMISSION OF LOUISIANA, CREATED IN 1968 BY AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IX, CONSTITUTION OF 1921, IS CONTINUED IN EXISTENCE BY ARTICLE V, SECTION 25, CONSTITUTION OF 1974.

2017 JUDICIARY COMMISSION

Judge Felicia Toney Williams, *Chair*
Mrs. Suzanne H. Stinson, *Vice Chair*
Judge Timothy E. Kelley
Mr. Philip B. Sherman, Esq.
Mr. Fred L. Herman, Esq.
Mrs. Ashley M. Higginbotham
Mrs. Sibal Suarez Holt
Judge John J. Molaison, Jr.
Mr. Edward J. Walters, Jr., Esq.

STAFF OF THE JUDICIARY COMMISSION

Sandra A. Vujnovich, JD
Chief Executive Officer
Kelly McNeil Legier, JD
Commission Legal Counsel

STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

Michelle A. Beaty, JD, *Special Counsel*

LOUISIANA ATTORNEY DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Carrie LeBlanc Jones, *Chair*
Anderson O. Dotson, III, *Vice-Chair*
Linda G. Bizzarro
Pamela W. Carter
Laura Beth Hennen
Jeffrey L. Little (LSBA Member)
Sheila Elizabeth O'Leary
Markey W. Pierre
Dominick Scandurro, Jr.
Danna Elizabeth Schwab
Evans C. Spiceland
Melissa L. Theriot
Walter D. White
Charles Hamilton Williamson, Jr.

CLERK OF COURT

CLERK OF COURT

The Clerk of Court's Office fulfilled the following key responsibilities or accomplished the following in 2017:

- Processed all filings and dispositions including dissemination of actions to the parties, courts, and the public via U.S. mail, e-mail, and the Internet.
- Scanned all filings and dispositions, which are available to staff via the Court's case management system.
- Continued to develop and configure the Thomson Reuters' C-Track case management software which, besides replacing the current CMS and e-filing systems, integrates with the justices' and staff attorneys' offices.
- Admitted 546 new attorneys to the practice of law, a drop of 89 from 2016, 90 from 2015 and 163 less than the 2014, 709 admittees.
- Issued Certificates of Good Standing. The demand for issuance of Certificates of Good Standing began to increase in 2017 reaching a four-year high of 2,359. As mentioned last year, the average number of Certificates issued in 2010, 2011 and 2012 was about 4,800. Following the July 1, 2013 implementation of a charge of \$20.00 for Certificates of Good Standing, requests for Certificates had dropped more than half. The requests have now begun to increase. Note: Newly admitted attorneys receive two certificates, free of charge, which are not included in these numbers.
- Managed logistics for 265 events hosted by the Court. These events included Court conferences, oral argument days, Judiciary Commission meetings, and other meetings.
- Oversaw courthouse general maintenance and improvements involving roof repairs and assessment of options for more permanent solutions and evaluation of plumbing and ventilation of kitchen/dining room.



John Tarlton Olivier
Clerk of Court

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

John Tarlton Olivier, JD
Clerk of Court
Katie Marjanovic, JD
Chief Deputy Clerk of Court
Vacant
2nd Deputy Clerk of Court
Theresa Barbier, JD
Deputy Clerk
Ryan Chan
Deputy Clerk
Eddie Gonzales
Deputy Clerk-Records Manager
John White, CPA
Fiscal Manager
Tommy M. Anderson
Director of Security

CMIS

COURT CASE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Court Case Management Information Systems (CMIS) Division collects, analyzes and disseminates information to external agencies regarding case filings, dispositions and sentencing information from Louisiana's district courts, city courts and some mayor's courts. CMIS worked with courts and associated agencies throughout the state to provide training assistance, on-site visits, and grant opportunities to enhance the completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of data collected for criminal and traffic dispositions.

Criminal Records

The Criminal Records Project received 437,859 criminal records containing filing, disposition and sentencing information in 2017. Of those records, 95,113 contained information that was shared with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety for inclusion in a computerized history database that is accessible to law enforcement and the courts to help enhance public safety. This is an increase of 30.3% over last year.

Additionally, 63,299 disposition records were posted to the FBI National Instant Check System (NICS) database. NICS is a national system that checks available records on persons who may be disqualified from receiving firearms, an increase of 37.3% over last year. Of the records posted to the NICS database, 50,762 were felony convictions, 4,425 were misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence, 114 were not guilty by reason of insanity, 613 were incompetent to stand trial, 3,149 were probation restrictions, 1,041 were protection orders that posted to NICS, and 1,748 were court-ordered firearm prohibitions under 13:753A(5). Further, in 2017, 58,222 felony indictments (for both 2016 and 2017), 924 civil commitment orders, and 523 criminal orders as conditions of bond under 13:753(A) were posted to the NICS database. As of January 3, 2018 there are 524,482 active records at NICS submitted by the Louisiana Supreme Court on behalf of the State of Louisiana in compliance with LA R.S. 13:753. Also posted to the National Crime Information Center were 24,646 criminal and civil protection orders from the Louisiana Protective Order Registry.

The increase in records posted and shared is attributable to continued training efforts by CMIS and collaborative partners to improve the completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of data required for posting to state and federal databases, upgrades to case management systems, and the implementation of clerk-district attorney data exchanges in some jurisdictions, among other efforts.

Traffic Records

The Traffic Records Project sends final disposition information on traffic cases to the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) for inclusion in the state driver's history database. In 2017, 835,705 traffic records containing filing, disposition, and sentencing information were received. Of those records, 207,062 were posted to the OMV database by the end of the year. CMIS received traffic data from 61 parishes, 16 city courts, and 12 mayor's courts.

CMIS Outreach

In 2017 CMIS committed more than \$1,208,986 in federal and CMIS grants to district and city courts throughout the state to enhance security, to improve the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of disposition reporting, and enhance overall data quality. In addition to efforts by CMIS staff, funds were also provided to the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association through a Memorandum of Understanding for collaborative training and assistance with the identification of causes for incomplete or missing information necessary for posting to the Louisiana Criminal History database and the FBI National Instant Check System (NICS).

Federal Motor Carrier funding was provided to 8 city courts and 12 district courts for replacement or enhancement of case management systems, or to implement a data exchange program in order to improve the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of reporting traffic and DWI dispositions to CMIS for posting to the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles driver history database and the National Commercial Driver's License Information System (CDLIS).

Grant money was also used to help provide tools for judges. During 2017 the CMIS office completed development of an interface with the Louisiana Protective Order Registry for judges in order to provide access to protective orders while on the bench to improve the information available to a judge while adjudicating a case. It was made available to a pilot group of judges in 2017 and will be expanded to all judges who adjudicate protective orders in 2018.



Michael Evanson
Chief Information Officer

JUDICIAL BUDGET

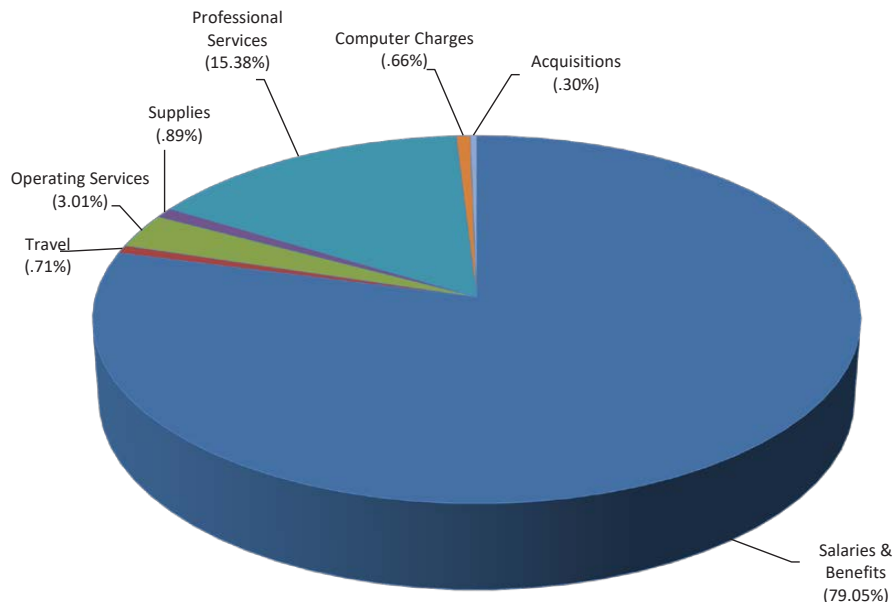
JUDICIAL BUDGET

Louisiana does not have a unified state court funding system. Operations of district, parish, and city courts are primarily funded by local governments. An annual state legislative appropriation funds the operations of the Louisiana Supreme Court and the five courts of appeal, as well as the salaries of all state court judges. The state also funds a portion of the salaries of parish and city court judges, and the compensation of retired and *ad hoc* judges.

FY 2017-2018 Approved Judicial Appropriation - \$171,164,719

In FY 2017-2018, state appropriated funds totaled \$171,164,719¹:

Salaries and Benefits ²	135,307,350	79.05% of total budget
Professional Services	26,320,628	15.38% of total budget
Operating Services	5,159,756	3.01% of total budget
Supplies	1,522,939	.89% of total budget
Travel	1,206,139	.71% of total budget
Computer charges	1,128,471	.66% of total budget
Acquisitions	519,436	.30% of total budget



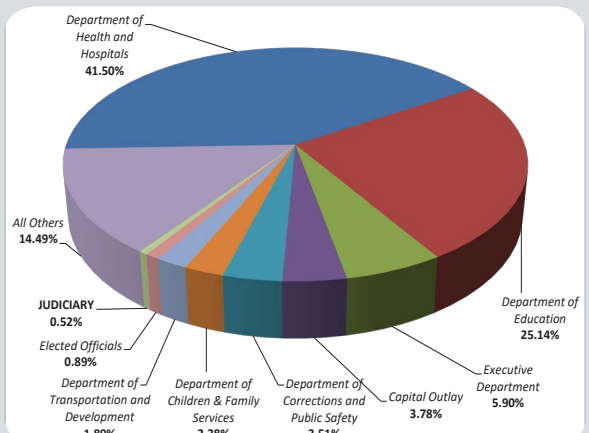
¹In accordance with La. R.S. 24:513, the Louisiana Supreme Court is audited regularly by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, and the audit report is available on the Legislative Auditor's website at www.la.state.la.us.

²Includes Salaries and/or Benefits for 363 state Judges, 8 Commissioners, 229 Supreme Court employees, 369 Courts of Appeal employees, 113 designated lower court employees, and 34 retired judges or widows in Unfunded Pension system.

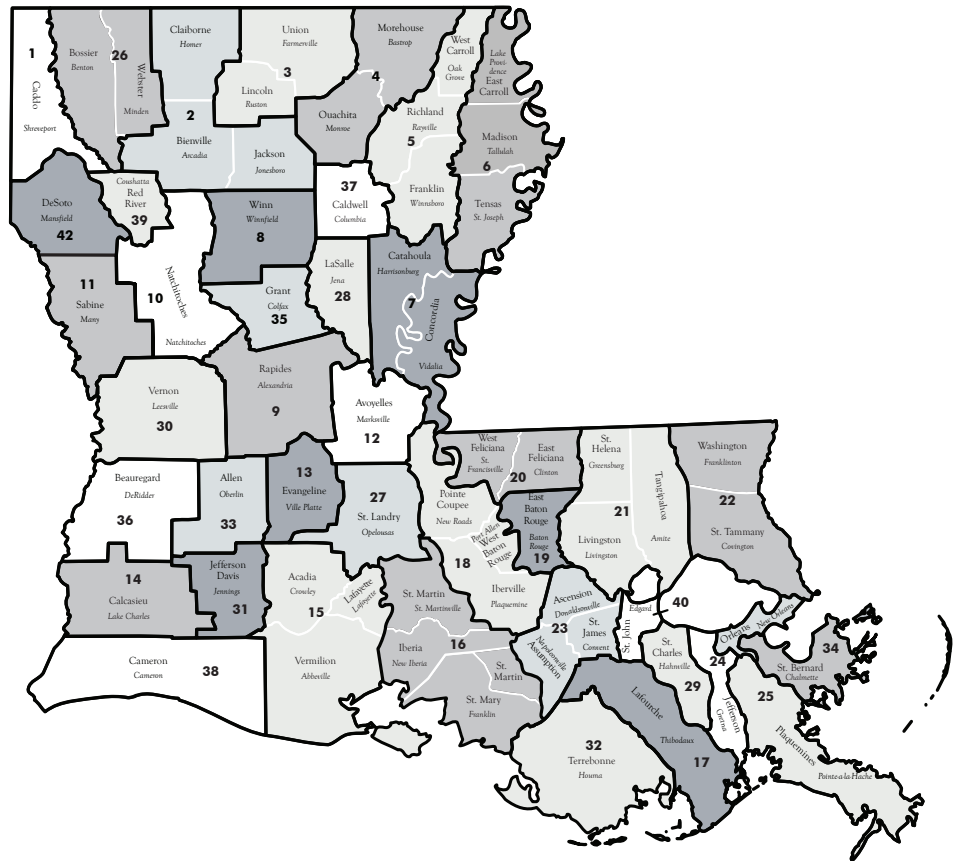
Total State Budget:
\$32,691,622,671
Judiciary Budget:
\$171,164,719

In FY 2017-2018, .52% of the state's general fund was appropriated to the state judiciary.

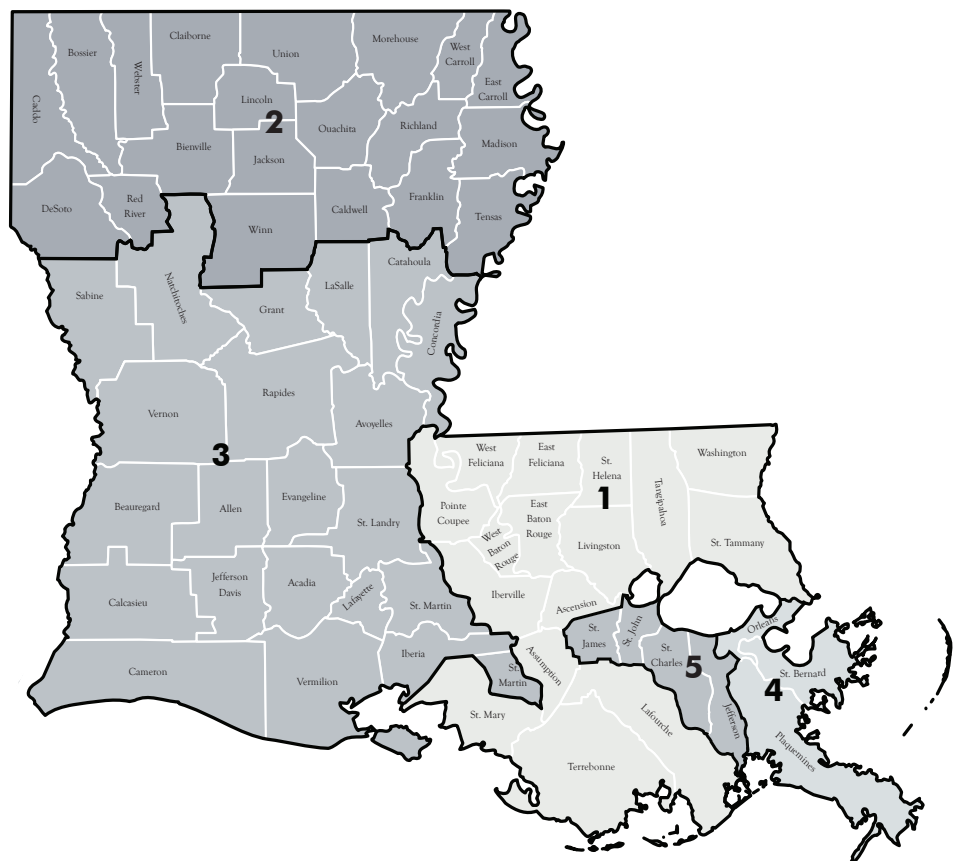
LOUISIANA STATE BUDGET 2017-2018



LOUISIANA DISTRICT COURTS JUDICIAL DISTRICTS



LOUISIANA COURTS OF APPEAL CIRCUITS



[illegible]

Jefferson Parish Precincts in the First Louisiana Supreme Court District are 1-H through 9-H; 1-K through 35-K; 1 through 46; 51 through 108; 115 through 138; 150 through 155; 157A; 157B; 158; 170; 186; 198 and 199.

Jefferson Parish Precincts in the Seventh Louisiana Supreme Court District are 1-G; 2-G through 11-G; 1-W through 9-W; 156; 171 through 181; 187; 188; 210 through 217; and 225 through 238.

The remainder of Orleans Parish Precincts are in the Seventh Louisiana Supreme Court District.

10 ways Justice works for you



1. Access to Justice

An Access to Justice Commission has been established in collaboration with the Louisiana State Bar Association and the civil justice community with the goal to ensure that all Louisiana citizens have access to equal justice under the law.



2. State of the Art Website

The Louisiana Supreme Court website includes a language translation tool which translates 31 languages, a news release alert service, and live online tech support. Additionally, Louisiana Supreme Court oral arguments are streamed live on the court website for anyone, anywhere to see.



3. Outreach to Schools

Using the *Judges in the Classroom* handbook developed by the Louisiana District Judges Association, judges across the state reach out to schools by participating in civics classes and by encouraging students to become future lawyers, probation officers, or judges rather than defendants.



4. Ride-Alongs

Through the Supreme Court Ride-Along Program, state judges host legislators for a “day on the bench” allowing legislators to experience firsthand the complexity and volume of cases handled day-to-day by a judge. Drug Court Ride-Alongs have been a particularly successful outreach effort.



5. Law Museum

The Louisiana Supreme Court building houses a free and open to the public Law Museum which features, among other things, the Louisiana Supreme Court documents from the historically significant *Plessy v. Ferguson* case.



6. Women in Law

In recognition of March being designated National Women’s History Month, the Louisiana Law Museum features an exhibit honoring the women judges of Louisiana and a historical time line exhibit of women in the law.



7. Campaign Oversight

During the qualifying period for state court elections, the Louisiana Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee conducts free, educational seminars throughout the state focusing on Canon 7 of the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Louisiana Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.



8. Law Day

In recognition of Law Day, May 1st, the Louisiana Supreme Court issues a resolution urging all Louisiana state court judges to dedicate the month of May to reaching out to schools to provide students with an opportunity to learn about the law, the role of judges, and the court system from members of the judiciary.



9. U.S. State Department Partnership

The U.S. Department of State launched its first state-level partnership by partnering with the Louisiana Supreme Court. The agreement paves the way for the State Department to leverage the expertise of the nation’s only state court system that relies on civil law to adjudicate non-criminal disputes.



10. Leadership

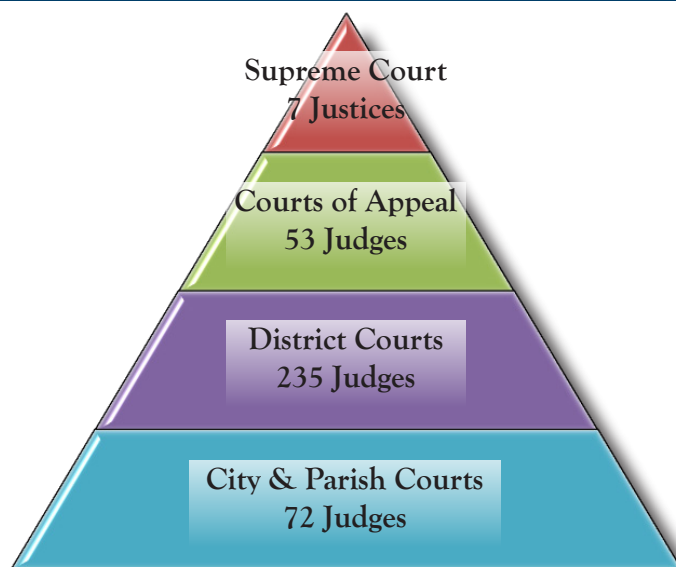
Several judges and court administrators serve in leadership positions on national organizations including: the American Judges Association; the American Bar Association; the National Conference of Court of Appeal Judges; the National Association for Court Management; the Conference of State Court Administrators; the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks; and the National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association.



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

LOUISIANA'S JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

The judicial power of Louisiana, which is the power to interpret the Constitution and the laws of the state, is vested in the Judicial Branch of Government, made up of a supreme court, courts of appeal, district courts, city courts, and other courts authorized by the Constitution. In Louisiana judges, are elected. The court structure consists of: 1 supreme court, 5 courts of appeal, 43 district courts, 5 juvenile or family courts, 48 city courts, and 3 parish courts. A total of 367 judges preside over Louisiana state courts.



Appellate Courts

Supreme Court

- Seven justices, 10 year terms
- Sits in New Orleans
- Chief Justice is the most tenured in office
- Justices preside *en banc* (full court)

Circuit Courts of Appeal

- 53 judges, 10 year terms
- Five circuits:
 - 1st Circuit: Baton Rouge, 12 judges
 - 2nd Circuit: Shreveport, 9 judges
 - 3rd Circuit: Lake Charles, 12 judges
 - 4th Circuit: New Orleans, 12 judges
 - 5th Circuit: Gretna, 8 judges
- Cases generally reviewed by three-judge panels

Trial Courts

District, Juvenile and Family

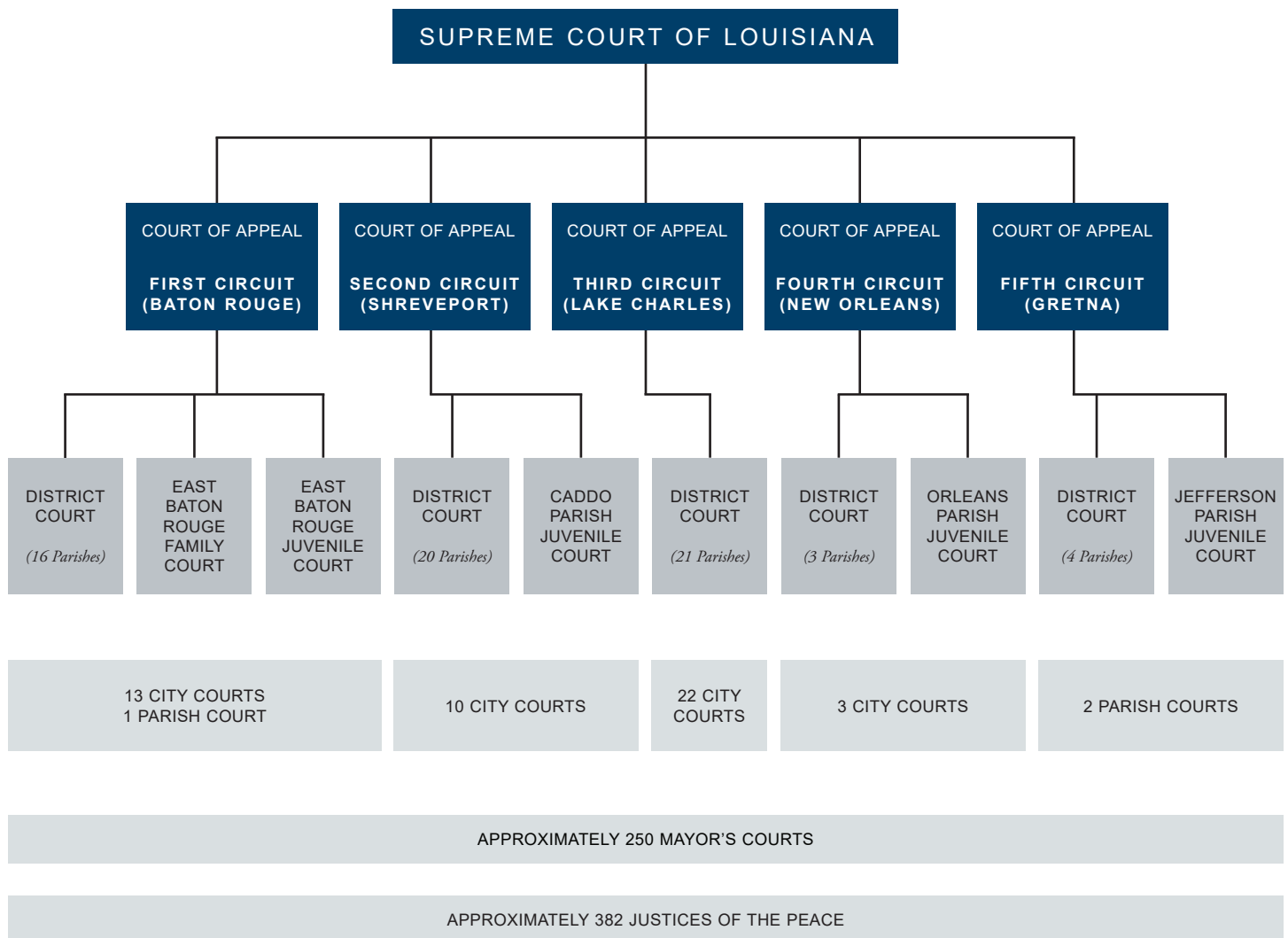
- 235 judges, six or eight year terms
- 43 judicial districts
- 4 juvenile courts
- 1 family court
- Number of judges in each court based on caseload and other factors
- Judges preside individually, not in panels

City and Parish Courts

- 67 city court judges, six year terms
- 5 parish court judges, six year terms
- 48 city courts
- 3 parish courts
- Judges preside individually, not in panels

LOUISIANA COURT STRUCTURE

JANUARY 1, 2018



Number of Justices and Judges:

7	Supreme Court
53	Courts of Appeal
235	District, Family and Juvenile
72	City and Parish Courts
367	Total



LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court is Louisiana's highest court and is domiciled in the City of New Orleans.

Under the Constitution of 1974, the Louisiana Supreme Court is composed of seven justices elected from districts throughout Louisiana. The justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court serve 10 year terms of office. The senior justice in point of service is the Chief Justice, who is the chief administrative officer of the judicial system.

The Supreme Court has *exclusive jurisdiction* in cases involving disciplinary action against lawyers and judges. These cases cannot be heard by any other state court – only the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has *appellate jurisdiction* in cases in which a law or ordinance has been declared unconstitutional and in capital cases where the death penalty has been imposed. These cases originate in the trial court, but bypass review by the intermediate courts of appeal in order to be heard directly by the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has *supervisory jurisdiction* over all state courts. Cases from courts reach the Supreme Court after they have been heard by a lower court; however, the Supreme Court does not automatically hear these cases. A party must first convince the Court in a special application that its case merits high court review because an error occurred in the opinion, judgment, or ruling of the lower court. This procedure is known as *applying for writs*.

2017 Supreme Court Stats

For the fourth year in a row, filings with the Clerk of Court have declined. In 2013, 3,017 cases were filed with the Clerk of Court compared to the 2,181 in 2017, with filings at 2,716 in 2014, 2,365 in 2015 and 2,283 in 2016. All together, the filings have dropped 27.7% since 2013. The all-time high occurred in 1999 when there were 3,652 filings. Since this high, filings have dropped a total of 40.3%. Although there has been a decline in the total number of filings, it should be noted that there continues to be a large number of cases being filed where expedited consideration has been requested. In 2015, 166 such cases were filed, but that number jumped to 221 in 2016. In 2017 that number settled in at 182. These cases interrupt the normal processing of work and are labor intensive requiring immediate attention.



In 2017, the Louisiana Supreme Court “rode the circuit” – holding oral argument in a venue other than the Royal Street courthouse – at LSU’s Paul M. Hebert Law Center in Baton Rouge (l); and hosted several school groups including Thibodaux High (r), pictured with Justice John Weimer, as part of the Court’s Law Day outreach activities.

Louisiana Supreme Court

CASE FILING BY TYPE

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA *Two Year Trend in Activity*

	2016 Total	2017 Total	2017 Civil	2017 Criminal
APPEALS				
Filed	9	4	3	1
Dismissed	0	0	0	0
Opinions Rendered				
With written opinions ¹	12	2	2	0
Per curiams	2	2	2	0
WRITS				
Applications Filed (Except Prisoner Pro Se)	1,305	1,227	806	421
Prisoner Pro Se Writs	788	769	25	744
Granted	166	158	59	99
To be argued	43	56	29	27
With orders & transferred	123	102	30	72
Dismissed	0	0	0	0
Not Considered	211	183	26	157
Denied	1,587	1,561	651	910
Opinions Rendered	49	66	39	27
REHEARINGS				
Applied for	45	20	10	10
Granted	2	2	0	2
Denied/Dismissed	35	33	20	13
Opinions Rendered	0	0	0	0
ORIGINAL JURISDICTION				
Petitions Filed	181	179	179	0
Opinions Rendered	5	2	2	0
Other Actions	183	143	143	0
OTHER MATTERS				
Filed	0	2	1	1
Opinions Rendered	0	1	1	0
Other Actions	2	0	0	0
OTHER PER CURIAM OPINIONS RENDERED	564	671	128	543
TOTAL FILINGS	2,283	2,181	1,014	1,167
Per Justice	326	312	145	167
TOTAL OPINIONS RENDERED	66	71	44	27

The Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction in cases involving disciplinary actions against lawyers and judges, appellate jurisdiction in capital cases where the death penalty has been imposed and in cases in which a law or ordinance has been declared unconstitutional, as well as supervisory jurisdiction over all courts.

1. Reflects updated 2016 total for opinions rendered on appeal with written opinion.



COURTS OF APPEAL

Louisiana has established the intermediate courts of appeal between the district courts and the Supreme Court. The work of the intermediate appellate courts is divided among five courts of appeal, domiciled in Baton Rouge, Shreveport, Lake Charles, New Orleans, and Gretna. The First Circuit (Baton Rouge) has twelve judges, the Second Circuit (Shreveport) has nine, the Third Circuit (Lake Charles) has twelve, the Fourth Circuit (New Orleans) has twelve, and the Fifth Circuit (Gretna) has eight. The majority are elected from districts, with a few judges being elected at large within their circuits. Court of appeal judges are elected for ten-year terms. The judge oldest in point of service on each court of appeal is the chief judge and administers the court subject to rules adopted by it.

Each court of appeal has appellate jurisdiction over all civil matters, all matters appealed from family and juvenile courts, and all criminal cases triable by a jury which arise within its circuit, except for those cases appealable directly to the Supreme Court or to the district courts.

Each court sits in panels of at least three judges selected according to rules adopted by the court. A majority of the judges sitting in a case must concur to render judgment. However, in civil matters only, when a judgment of a district court or an administrative agency determination in a workers' compensation claim is to be modified or reversed and one judge dissents, the case must be reargued before a panel of at least five judges prior to rendition of judgment, and a majority must concur to render judgment.

Except as limited to questions of law by the Louisiana Constitution, or as provided by law in the review of administrative agency decisions, the appellate jurisdiction of the courts of appeal extends to both law and facts. However, in criminal matters, the appellate jurisdiction extends only to questions of law. The supervisory jurisdiction of each circuit court of appeal extends to all cases arising within its circuit, subject to the general supervisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

In keeping with the nationwide trend of declining caseloads, there was a slight drop in overall filings of writs and appeals of 2.5% from 5,453 in 2016 to 5,317 in 2017. While filings of appeals increased by 6.4% from 1,783 in 2016 to 1,897 in 2017, the number of writs filed decreased by 6.8% from 3,670 in 2016 to 3,420 in 2017. The total number of opinions rendered by the courts of appeal decreased by 4.2% from 1,719 in 2016 to 1,647 during 2017.

2017 Courts of Appeal Stats

The number of opinions rendered per judge totaled 44 in the First Circuit Court of Appeal, 25 in the Second Circuit Court of Appeal, 30 in the Third Circuit Court of Appeal, 25 in the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, and 30 in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal.

LOUISIANA COURTS OF APPEAL *Two Year Trend in Activity*

	2016 Total	2017 Total	2017 Civil	2017 Criminal
FIRST CIRCUIT				
Appeals Filed	578	605	487	118
Motions Filed	38	38	32	6
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	600	673	537	136
Writs Refused*	451	432	314	118
Writs Granted	148	171	151	20
Pro Se Writs Filed	480	475	74	401
Pro Se Writs Refused*	445	413	58	355
Pro Se Writs Granted	57	59	13	46
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	89	77	68	9
Consolidated Opinions	31	25	24	1
Opinions Rendered **	495	526	401	125
Rehearings Acted Upon***	115	90	81	9
Appeals Pending	344	345	301	44
Argued But Not Decided	65	69	66	3
To Be Argued	279	276	235	41
Opinions Rendered Per Judge by Circuit	41	44	33	10
SECOND CIRCUIT				
Appeals Filed	245	246	136	110
Motions Filed	9	1	0	1
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	203	169	108	61
Writs Refused*	154	113	78	35
Writs Granted	59	50	31	19
Pro Se Writs Filed	264	225	14	211
Pro Se Writs Refused*	197	194	10	184
Pro Se Writs Granted	76	43	4	39
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	23	13	11	2
Consolidated Opinions	16	8	5	3
Opinions Rendered **	258	224	134	90
Rehearings Acted Upon***	61	45	37	8
Appeals Pending	139	141	69	72
Argued But Not Decided	29	27	10	17
To Be Argued	110	114	59	55
Opinions Rendered Per Judge by Circuit	29	25	15	10
THIRD CIRCUIT				
Appeals Filed	354	473	360	113
Motions Filed	16	3	3	0
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	369	408	245	163
Writs Refused*	258	300	188	112
Writs Granted	71	49	22	27
Pro Se Writs Filed	327	306	20	286
Pro Se Writs Refused*	274	224	14	210
Pro Se Writs Granted	57	40	3	37
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	35	40	37	3
Consolidated Opinions	0	2	2	0
Opinions Rendered **	368	362	271	91
Rehearings Acted Upon***	54	33	30	3
Appeals Pending	140	269	201	68
Argued But Not Decided	16	38	29	9
To Be Argued	124	231	172	59
Opinions Rendered Per Judge by Circuit	31	30	23	8

LOUISIANA COURTS OF APPEAL *Two Year Trend in Activity*

	2016 Total	2017 Total	2017 Civil	2017 Criminal
FOURTH CIRCUIT				
Appeals Filed	334	317	249	68
Motions Filed	10	13	9	4
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	672	511	304	207
Writs Refused*	463	424	258	166
Writs Granted	126	79	49	30
Pro Se Writs Filed	300	221	7	214
Pro Se Writs Refused*	256	207	8	199
Pro Se Writs Granted	55	15	0	15
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	46	34	28	6
Consolidated Opinions	3	14	13	1
Opinions Rendered **	360	297	218	79
Rehearings Acted Upon***	48	59	41	18
Appeals Pending	170	169	142	27
Argued But Not Decided	14	19	13	6
To Be Argued	156	150	129	21
Opinions Rendered Per Judge by Circuit	30	25	18	7
FIFTH CIRCUIT				
Appeals Filed	272	256	148	108
Motions Filed	25	22	11	11
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	237	240	156	84
Writs Refused*	167	170	106	64
Writs Granted	69	56	40	16
Pro Se Writs Filed	218	192	12	180
Pro Se Writs Refused*	206	156	9	147
Pro Se Writs Granted	32	26	3	23
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	16	17	15	2
Consolidated Opinions	0	1	1	0
Opinions Rendered **	238	238	148	90
Rehearings Acted Upon***	31	42	22	20
Appeals Pending	123	117	62	55
Argued But Not Decided	4	6	6	0
To Be Argued	119	111	56	55
Opinions Rendered Per Judge by Circuit	30	30	19	11
TOTAL FOR ALL CIRCUITS				
Appeals Filed	1,783	1,897	1,380	517
Motions Filed	98	77	55	22
Writs Filed (except Pro Se)	2,081	2,001	1,350	651
Writs Refused*	1,493	1,439	944	495
Writs Granted	473	405	293	112
Pro Se Writs Filed	1,589	1,419	127	1,292
Pro Se Writs Refused*	1,378	1,194	99	1,095
Pro Se Writs Granted	277	183	23	160
Appeals Dismissed/Transferred	209	181	159	22
Consolidated Opinions	50	50	45	5
Opinions Rendered **	1,719	1,647	1,172	475
Rehearings Acted Upon***	309	269	211	58
Appeals Pending	916	1,041	775	266
Argued But Not Decided	128	159	124	35
To Be Argued	788	882	651	231
Opinions Rendered Per Judge	32	31	22	9

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

** Includes opinions on appeals, writs, rehearings & supplemental opinions

*** Includes rehearings on writs



AN ACTIVE JUDICIARY

Judges at all levels of court are active partners in justice reform initiatives. Judges at all levels participate on a variety of boards, committees, task forces and other statewide bodies. Examples include:

- Judicial Budgetary Control Board
- Judicial Council
- Judicial Council Trial Court Committee on Judgeships
- Judicial Council Committee to Evaluate Requests for Court Costs and Fees
- Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics
- Judicial Compensation Committee
- Judiciary Commission
- Uniform Rules Committee of the Louisiana Courts of Appeal
- Louisiana Bar Foundation
- Louisiana Judicial College
- Louisiana Sentencing Commission
- 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 Coalition on Domestic Violence
- Louisiana Diversity Awards Nominating Committee
- Sexual Assault Task Force
- Uniform Forms Committee for the City and Parish Courts
- Justice Reinvestment Initiative Task Force
- Child Protection Representation Commission
- Juvenile Justice Implementation Commission

Needs in other areas of particular importance to the courts are addressed through the involvement of judges working on committees of court organizations such as the:

- Conference of Court of Appeal Judges
- Louisiana District Court Judges Association
- Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- Louisiana City Judges Association



DISTRICT COURTS

The trial court of general jurisdiction in Louisiana is the district court. District courts generally have authority to handle all civil and criminal cases.

Civil cases involve actions to enforce, correct, or protect private rights. In general, civil cases include all types of actions that are not criminal proceedings.

In a criminal proceeding, a person is charged with a crime and brought to trial and either found guilty or not guilty. The purpose of a criminal case is to punish the person who violates criminal laws.

District courts are typically the level of court where judicial branch innovations find their broadest application. Drug Courts, Re-entry Courts and other problem-solving courts are currently the most widespread examples of such innovations. 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. Judges handle specialty or problem-solving court dockets on a volunteer basis.

2017 District Court Stats

During 2017 there were 700,818 filings in the district courts, an increase of 5.3% compared with 2016. In 2017, civil filings increased by 7,393 filings, an increase of 5.9%, and criminal filings increased by 4,604 filings, an increase of 3.1%. Traffic filings rose by 22,636 an increase of 6.1%.



JUVENILE COURTS

The juvenile courts have exclusive jurisdiction over delinquency cases involving persons under 17 years of age, with the exception of felony offenses for which 15-16 year olds can be bound over to the district courts. Juvenile courts also handle adoption proceedings of children under the age of 17. Similarly, family courts have jurisdiction over all family matters ranging from delinquency proceedings to divorce and child custody proceedings. Act 501 passed during the 2016 regular session of the Louisiana Legislature will go into effect in July 2018 and expanded juvenile court jurisdiction to include a child who commits a non-violent act and is under the age of 18, and a child who commits any delinquent act and is under the age of 18 (effective July 1, 2020).

2017 Juvenile Court Stats

Juvenile filings in Louisiana's four specialized juvenile courts decreased by 0.6% from 11,331 in 2016 to 11,259 in 2017.

LOUISIANA DISTRICT COURTS Two Year Trend in Activity

		2016 Total Filed	2017 Juvenile Filed	2017 Civil Filed	2017 Criminal Filed	2017 ² Traffic Filed	2017 Total Filed	JURY TRIALS	
DISTRICT	PARISH							Civil	Criminal
1	Caddo ¹	19,652	688	6,869	9,437	4,740	21,734	7	46
	District Totals:	19,652	688	6,869	9,437	4,740	21,734	7	46
2	Bienville	6,864	19	464	264	7,881	8,628	1	4
	Claiborne	3,024	98	411	439	2,269	3,217	0	0
	Jackson	2,332	308	454	856	554	2,172	0	1
	District Totals:	12,220	425	1,329	1,559	10,704	14,017	1	5
3	Lincoln	9,029	413	734	1,380	4,570	7,097	2	6
	Union	3,047	238	726	1,301	847	3,112	0	4
	District Totals:	12,076	651	1,460	2,681	5,417	10,209	2	10
4	Morehouse	7,359	243	483	1,297	6,182	8,205	1	6
	Ouachita	36,931	1,330	4,244	6,968	30,772	43,314	3	19
	District Totals:	44,290	1,573	4,727	8,265	36,954	51,519	4	25
5	Franklin	2,888	227	731	666	898	2,522	0	1
	Richland	5,400	94	596	1,114	4,589	6,393	0	0
	West Carroll	1,432	91	296	446	665	1,498	0	2
	District Totals:	9,720	412	1,623	2,226	6,152	10,413	0	3
6	East Carroll	6,705	58	169	280	6,389	6,896	0	0
	Madison	4,406	70	301	884	6,643	7,898	0	1
	Tensas	1,620	37	138	329	1,821	2,325	0	0
	District Totals:	12,731	165	608	1,493	14,853	17,119	0	1
7	Catahoula	2,530	6	329	1,320	1,258	2,913	0	0
	Concordia	4,655	129	670	1,205	2,535	4,539	0	1
	District Totals:	7,185	135	999	2,525	3,793	7,452	0	1
8	Winn	2,222	65	407	657	729	1,858	0	1
	District Totals:	2,222	65	407	657	729	1,858	0	1
9	Rapides	16,298	1,037	3,310	3,806	10,527	18,680	5	12
	District Totals:	16,298	1,037	3,310	3,806	10,527	18,680	5	12
10	Natchitoches	11,436	1,269	1,038	1,701	9,216	13,224	0	1
	District Totals:	11,436	1,269	1,038	1,701	9,216	13,224	0	1
11	Sabine	3,018	154	737	992	1,332	3,215	0	4
	District Totals:	3,018	154	737	992	1,332	3,215	0	4
12	Avoyelles	8,931	362	1,499	2,577	4,540	8,978	4	6
	District Totals:	8,931	362	1,499	2,577	4,540	8,978	4	6
13	Evangeline	6,094	758	814	1,450	3,355	6,377	1	0
	District Totals:	6,094	758	814	1,450	3,355	6,377	1	0
14	Calcasieu	28,289	1,948	5,885	14,718	5,652	28,203	9	25
	District Totals:	28,289	1,948	5,885	14,718	5,652	28,203	9	25
15	Acadia	5,387	292	1,352	1,743	7,182	10,569	1	4
	Lafayette	19,565	1,401	7,551	4,940	10,842	24,734	15	11
	Vermilion	5,594	214	1,620	1,955	3,541	7,330	0	2
	District Totals:	30,546	1,907	10,523	8,638	21,565	42,633	16	17
16	Iberia	11,517	299	2,512	1,570	6,828	11,209	5	10
	St. Martin	8,516	291	2,205	1,923	7,281	11,700	0	1
	St. Mary	5,390	340	1,505	2,196	1,900	5,941	1	4
	District Totals:	25,423	930	6,222	5,689	16,009	28,850	6	15
17	Lafourche	15,459	489	2,625	4,285	7,751	15,150	2	9
	District Totals:	15,459	489	2,625	4,285	7,751	15,150	2	9
18	Iberville	4,262	196	1,243	1,423	1,114	3,976	5	1
	Pointe Coupee	2,879	137	712	605	2,507	3,961	1	1
	West Baton Rouge	3,376	68	963	876	1,107	3,014	0	2
	District Totals:	10,517	401	2,918	2,904	4,728	10,951	6	4
19	East Baton Rouge ¹	47,718	0	11,376	9,794	20,186	41,356	23	32
	District Totals:	47,718	0	11,376	9,794	20,186	41,356	23	32
20	East Feliciana	3,518	212	1,082	1,189	1,102	3,585	0	1
	West Feliciana	1,275	11	288	830	375	1,504	0	1
	District Totals:	4,793	223	1,370	2,019	1,477	5,089	0	2

LOUISIANA DISTRICT COURTS *Two Year Trend in Activity*

DISTRICT	PARISH	2016 Total Filed	2017 Juvenile Filed	2017 Civil Filed	2017 Criminal Filed	2017 ² Traffic Filed	2017 Total Filed	JURY TRIALS	
								Civil	Criminal
21	Livingston	17,325	842	3,567	4,037	10,878	19,324	4	8
	St. Helena	3,061	84	411	722	1,649	2,866	0	2
	Tangipahoa	27,870	765	3,692	3,751	20,580	28,788	6	7
	District Totals:	48,256	1,691	7,670	8,510	33,107	50,978	10	17
22	St. Tammany	39,429	1,383	7,008	6,106	26,662	41,159	7	21
	Washington	5,361	266	1,212	1,212	2,741	5,431	0	13
	District Totals:	44,790	1,649	8,220	7,318	29,403	46,590	7	34
23	Ascension ¹	5,139	560	3,465	1,725	0	5,750	6	6
	Assumption	2,881	172	564	629	1,303	2,668	0	0
	St. James	3,378	147	658	838	1,938	3,581	1	1
	District Totals:	11,398	879	4,687	3,192	3,241	11,999	7	7
24	Jefferson ¹	19,279	0	11,252	8,867	0	20,119	17	47
	District Totals:	19,279	0	11,252	8,867	0	20,119	17	47
25	Plaquemines	3,949	77	733	1,196	2,305	4,311	2	2
	District Totals:	3,949	77	733	1,196	2,305	4,311	2	2
26	Bossier	14,506	942	3,007	6,512	6,793	17,254	0	7
	Webster	5,793	149	971	1,065	3,435	5,620	0	2
	District Totals:	20,299	1,091	3,978	7,577	10,228	22,874	0	9
27	St. Landry	29,966	604	2,622	2,256	23,237	28,719	1	7
	District Totals:	29,966	604	2,622	2,256	23,237	28,719	1	7
28	LaSalle	3,659	133	445	636	2,664	3,878	0	5
	District Totals:	3,659	133	445	636	2,664	3,878	0	5
29	St. Charles	29,036	289	1,875	1,275	26,086	29,525	1	5
	District Totals:	29,036	289	1,875	1,275	26,086	29,525	1	5
30	Vernon	13,340	278	1,141	1,469	9,568	12,456	1	6
	District Totals:	13,340	278	1,141	1,469	9,568	12,456	1	6
31	Jefferson Davis	7,114	140	932	921	2,287	4,280	0	1
	District Totals:	7,114	140	932	921	2,287	4,280	0	1
32	Terrebonne	29,460	603	2,907	4,650	20,678	28,838	3	17
	District Totals:	29,460	603	2,907	4,650	20,678	28,838	3	17
33	Allen	3,600	202	602	834	2,324	3,962	1	8
	District Totals:	3,600	202	602	834	2,324	3,962	1	8
34	St. Bernard	7,128	321	1,525	1,947	4,041	7,834	2	4
	District Totals:	7,128	321	1,525	1,947	4,041	7,834	2	4
35	Grant	5,430	155	800	1,133	2,926	5,014	0	3
	District Totals:	5,430	155	800	1,133	2,926	5,014	0	3
36	Beauregard	5,950	188	969	1,079	2,667	4,903	0	4
	District Totals:	5,950	188	969	1,079	2,667	4,903	0	4
37	Caldwell	1,933	70	311	422	1,029	1,832	0	0
	District Totals:	1,933	70	311	422	1,029	1,832	0	0
38	Cameron	4,134	44	164	734	2,936	3,878	0	0
	District Totals:	4,134	44	164	734	2,936	3,878	0	0
39	Red River	1,618	22	229	575	1,267	2,093	0	0
	District Totals:	1,618	22	229	575	1,267	2,093	0	0
40	St. John the Baptist	19,950	413	1,765	1,874	15,559	19,611	2	3
	District Totals:	19,950	413	1,765	1,874	15,559	19,611	2	3
42	DeSoto	10,924	118	1,017	827	9,175	11,137	0	2
	District Totals:	10,924	118	1,017	827	9,175	11,137	0	2
	Orleans Civil ¹	11,966	0	11,488	0	0	11,488	33	
	Orleans Criminal ¹	4,029	0	0	7,472	0	7,472		62
	District Totals:	15,995	0	11,488	7,472	0	18,960	33	62
	Statewide Totals:	665,826	22,559	131,671	152,180	394,408	700,818	173	462

2017 Report of the Total Amount of Funds Distributed for Wrongful Conviction and Imprisonment*

In 2017, the total amount paid on judgments for wrongful convictions, imprisonments and loss of life opportunities was \$257,038.10.

1. Violations of Traffic, Misdemeanors, and/or Juvenile/Family Laws are Processed by Parish, City, and/or Juvenile/Family Courts. 2. DWI is included in the criminal totals beginning in 1990.

*Pursuant to R.S. 15:572.8, Act 262, Regular Session 2007.

Louisiana Juvenile Courts

JUVENILE JUDICIAL ACTIVITY: FORMAL PROCESS – CALENDAR YEAR 2017

	CADD0				E. BATON ROUGE			
	Filings	Charges	Children ¹		Filings	Charges	Children ¹	
Formal FINS	622	622	622		39	167	39	
Juvenile Traffic	226	226	226		232	360	232	
Juvenile Delinquency	1,349	1,838	1,349		1,100	2,729	1,100	
Mental Incapacity to Proceed ²	0	0	0		2	7	2	
Interstate compact for Juveniles	1	1	1		0	0	0	
Contempt of Court	205	205	205		312	312	312	
Child in Need of Care Cases	300		300		179		307	
Voluntary Transfer of Custody	15		15		33		41	
Jud. Certification of Children for Adoption Cases	32		32		23		32	
Surrender of Parental Rights	15		15		80		65	
Adoption	47		47		73		80	
Child Support	688		0		0		0	
Mental Health	277		277		12		12	
Misdemeanor Prosecution of Adults /Other	17		0		54		0	
Minor Marriages	0		0		1		1	
Protection of Terminally Ill Children	0		0		0		0	
Domestic Abuse	202		0		7		10	
Other	14		14		84		99	
Subtotal	4,010	2,892	3,103		2,231	3,575	2,332	

1. The category of Children denotes the number of children listed in filed petitions for each case type.

2. 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.

Family Court

FAMILY COURT FILINGS - 2017

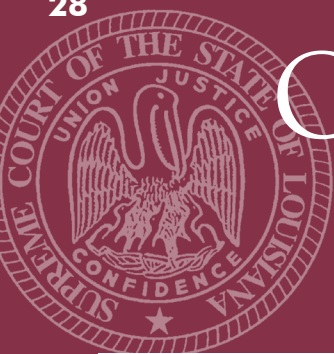
EBR FAMILY COURT			
New Cases Filed	4,425	Payment Determination	1,939
Community Property	189	QDRO	128
Contempt State	1,685	Review (non-support)	1,042
Deferred Execution	802	Rule to Establish Medical Support	*
Deferred Sentencing	277	Rule to Set Arrears	**
Dismissals	84	Rules	4,595
Divorces	1,843	State Rules	1,124
DVC's	3,311	Stipulated Judgments	1,570
Ex-Parte Custody	94	Suspension Revocation	
Income Assignments	399	UISA	516
Joint Custody	3	Disavowals	*
Modification	832	Annulments	*
Paternity	*		

* Included in Stipulated Judgements

** Rules to Set Arrears is included in Contempt State

JEFFERSON			ORLEANS			GRAND TOTAL		
Filings	Charges	Children ¹	Filings	Charges	Children ¹	Filings	Charges	Children ¹
97	110	97	20	27	20	778	926	778
320	475	320	177	179	177	955	1,240	955
711	1,315	702	610	959	610	3,770	6,841	3,761
16	16	4	0	0	0	18	23	6
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
200	200	200	0	0	0	717	717	717
204		203	105		105	788		915
148		148	24		24	220		228
54		54	0		0	109		118
14		14	5		5	114		99
125		125	78		78	323		330
1,435		0	0		0	2,123		0
0		0	0		0	289		289
0		0	0		0	71		0
0		0	0		0	1		1
0		0	0		0	0		0
0		0	2		2	211		12
448		448	225		225	771		786
3,772	2,116	2,315	1,246	1,165	1,246	11,259	9,748	8,996

The Family Court of East Baton Rouge Parish was originally established by the Louisiana Legislature under LA Acts 1990, No. 158 and is the only stand-alone family court in the state of Louisiana. The court consists of four judges who preside over matters including, but not limited to: divorces, community property division, spousal support, child visitation, child custody, child support, garnishments for spousal and child support, and domestic violence in the parish of East Baton Rouge.



CITY AND PARISH COURTS

The city courts are courts of record. This means that their decisions are reviewed on appeal on the record, as opposed to being tried anew in a higher court. City courts generally exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in civil cases where the amount in controversy cannot exceed \$50,000. In criminal matters, they generally have jurisdiction over ordinance violations and misdemeanor violations of state law. City judges also handle a large number of traffic cases.

Louisiana's three parish courts are distinguishable from city courts only in that they are always staffed by full-time judges and their jurisdiction is a bit broader. Parish courts exercise jurisdiction in civil cases worth up to \$20,000 and criminal cases punishable by fines of \$1,000 or less, imprisonment of six months or less, or both. Cases are appealable from the parish courts directly to the courts of appeal.

2017 City & Parish Court Stats

Filings in Louisiana city and parish Courts decreased by 8% from 667,071 filings in 2016 to 613,748 filings in 2017.

LOUISIANA CITY AND PARISH COURTS Cases Processed Report Year 2017

	Filed	Term.	Filed	Term.	Filed	Term.	Filed	Term.	Filed	Term.	Filed	Term.
CITY	CIVIL		CRIMINAL		TRAFFIC*		JUVENILE		TOTAL CASES		OTHER PROCEEDINGS**	
Abbeville	518	389	877	633	2,419	2,011	181	159	3,995	3,192	0	0
Alexandria	4,167	2,300	11,777	8,238	9,394	8,562	0	0	25,338	19,100	0	0
Ascension	768	270	3,250	5,735	10,231	12,981	211	391	14,460	19,377	0	0
Baker	426	332	262	183	617	986	0	0	1,305	1,501	0	0
Bastrop	815	611	747	628	785	731	12	15	2,359	1,985	0	0
Baton Rouge*	10,740	10,109	13,885	12,992	65,158	61,394	0	0	89,783	84,495	33,510	37,836
Bogalusa	387	270	2,061	1,119	2,027	1,798	234	192	4,709	3,379	3,662	3,488
Bossier City	2,618	2,421	1,740	1,569	5,910	6,693	733	761	11,001	11,444	225	143
Breaux Bridge	619	377	868	801	430	308	128	85	2,045	1,571	56	54
Bunkie	123	127	100	100	1,126	1,126	11	11	1,360	1,364	0	0
Crowley	726	609	1,234	1,260	1,318	1,231	132	109	3,410	3,209	0	0
Denham Springs	1,406	1,013	807	553	8,361	8,178	116	106	10,690	9,850	0	0
Eunice	516	318	959	979	2,406	1,869	185	181	4,066	3,347	0	0
Franklin	381	156	448	341	619	499	39	35	1,487	1,031	0	0
Hammond	2,728	2,633	1,364	10,436	10,184	18,000	1,012	312	15,288	31,381	0	0
Houma	4,269	1,477	1,405	1,601	6,310	5,621	743	819	12,727	9,518	1,539	661
Jeanerette	117	154	321	220	5,494	4,169	124	126	6,056	4,669	0	0
Jeff. 1st Parish Ct.	3,132	4,101	4,293	7,136	51,546	84,297	0	0	58,971	95,534	0	0
Jeff. 2nd Parish Ct.	3,301	5,044	3,018	8,230	30,896	71,661	0	0	37,215	84,935	0	0
Jennings	367	321	761	252	1,186	762	24	20	2,338	1,355	0	0
Kaplan	74	57	199	195	883	800	37	47	1,193	1,099	0	0
Lafayette	4,239	4,332	3,085	3,486	20,384	20,307	596	502	28,304	28,627	837	837
Lake Charles	4,365	3,293	4,707	3,615	12,015	10,077	74	58	21,161	17,043	0	0
Leesville	252	28	863	531	2,800	2,598	80	20	3,995	3,177	0	0
Marksville	474	471	449	438	687	622	74	69	1,684	1,600	0	0
Minden	540	374	860	482	722	516	130	91	2,252	1,463	2	2
Monroe	5,827	4,200	3,913	6,749	10,293	8,514	195	249	20,228	19,712	0	0
Morgan City	467	381	1,312	1,754	1,913	1,615	189	186	3,881	3,936	0	0
Natchitoches	684	375	1,218	963	3,991	2,396	321	148	6,214	3,882	109	109
New Iberia	1,152	1,177	895	822	2,271	2,278	105	135	4,423	4,412	192	355
N.O. 1st City Ct.	9,792	5,096	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,792	5,096	0	0
N.O. 2nd City Ct.	1,731	1,906	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,731	1,906	0	0
N.O. Municipal & Traffic	0	0	17,442	15,892	46,909	31,833	0	0	64,351	47,725	0	0
Oakdale	249	183	220	216	4,113	3,833	105	55	4,687	4,287	0	0
Opelousas	776	860	1,071	772	1,097	2,747	346	355	3,290	4,734	0	0
Pineville	669	678	5,685	2,217	8,020	7,105	0	0	14,374	10,000	69	0
Plaquemine	358	272	282	215	337	282	37	34	1,014	803	0	0
Port Allen	190	105	201	148	6,665	5,869	37	9	7,093	6,131	0	0
Rayne	561	515	77	83	2,066	2,685	30	29	2,734	3,312	0	0
Ruston	1,532	1,253	639	445	9,413	8,079	0	0	11,584	9,777	1,443	440
Shreveport	10,457	8,343	5,626	5,505	30,954	30,954	0	0	47,037	44,802	34,515	0
Slidell	1,901	1,584	1,506	1,558	5,567	4,280	492	451	9,466	7,873	1,866	1,866
Springhill	306	273	1,031	622	975	790	231	143	2,543	1,828	144	63
Sulphur	873	627	2,919	3,147	7,060	8,833	123	105	10,975	12,712	154	112
Thibodaux	808	342	1,438	2,091	2,812	2,983	233	165	5,291	5,581	0	0
Vidalia	30	20	147	118	921	650	9	13	1,107	801	0	0
Ville Platte	562	359	715	844	416	376	71	53	1,764	1,632	0	0
West Monroe	2,012	1,998	1,975	1,879	3,317	3,367	75	67	7,379	7,311	475	475
Winnfield	64	27	387	307	553	416	0	0	1,004	750	0	0
Winnsboro	236	4	466	309	1,058	552	84	36	1,844	901	0	0
Zachary	612	374	537	303	1,601	1,089	0	0	2,750	1,766	0	0
STATE TOTALS:	89,917	72,539	110,042	118,712	406,230	459,323	7,559	6,342	613,748	656,916	78,798	46,441

* counts are per charge

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