2007
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE ILLINOIS COURTS

Administrative Summary
THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

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The 2007 census population estimates were not available for this publication. Therefore, the 2006 estimates were used.

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*Cover Design: Inside the Illinois Supreme Court, Springfield, Illinois.* The murals within the courtroom were completed in 1911 by Albert H. Krehbiel and depict the “Origin, Function, and Continuity of Law” using allegorical and mythological figures. Mr. W. Carby Zimmerman, architect of the Supreme Court Building, considered the work to be an “example of the best mural painting ever executed in the West.” (information source: www.krehbielart.com) Cover photos provided by Daniels-Ackerman Photography.

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I am pleased to present the 2007 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts. The Report highlights the various projects undertaken by the Illinois Judicial Branch during this past year, including a summary of the 2007 Illinois Judicial Conference Annual Meeting and the activities pursued by the Supreme Court’s various committees. The Report also contains an overview of the state and local funding for the Illinois Judicial Branch and statistical information regarding court caseloads. The Report concludes with a brief description of the six divisions of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. In addition, the Report offers a display of photographs which depict the rich and diverse architecture of Illinois’ courthouses. Each of these facilities represents more than a functional structure. They are also the symbol and embodiment of justice under law.

The Administrative Office gratefully acknowledges the clerks of the supreme, appellate and circuit courts for their assistance and support in supplying the statistical data set forth herein. I also wish to express my gratitude to all who contributed to the Report’s preparation. As reflected in the Report, the Illinois judiciary and court personnel remain committed to providing the highest level of quality and access to justice to the citizens of Illinois, a goal which the Administrative Office is both privileged and pleased to facilitate.

For further information on the Illinois Courts and the Administrative Office, I invite you to visit the Supreme Court’s website at www.state.il.us/court/.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director
Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts
I am pleased to present, on behalf of my colleagues who serve on the Supreme Court of Illinois and the entire judicial branch of our state, the 2007 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts. The judicial branch has met many challenges and experienced much success this past year. The Supreme Court, with the assistance of our Administrative Office, has both initiated several key projects and maintained a steadfast commitment to the administration of justice. It has been my pleasure to serve as Chief Justice during this exciting and productive period and I am proud to provide this report.

The expanding utilization of technology in the courts continues to be both an extraordinary benefit and administrative challenge to the judicial branch. No aspect of the justice system has been unaffected as technology enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of court services and functions. However, with increasingly sophisticated technologies comes the need to ensure systems and services are accessible to all, regardless of technical ability. Uniform and sound procedures and privacy protections must be incorporated.

In 2006, the Court adopted the Electronic Business Initiative as an overarching strategy to provide a framework to ensure access and provide compatibility and uniformity in technology among all of Illinois’ trial courts. In an effort to expand our knowledge base of existing technologies available to implement the Court’s strategy, a Request for Information (RFI) was released in 2007. The RFI will form a component of the foundation necessary to ensure that the Electronic Business Initiative is implemented through informed decisions which consider the broad scope of resources available.

The Court established the “Standards for Accepting Electronic Pleas of Guilty in the Illinois Courts Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 529” in 2006. These standards create an environment for the orderly development of practices and procedures relating to the internet-based submission and verification of guilty pleas in minor traffic and conservation offenses. In 2007, requests to develop e-Guilty programs have been received from a number of circuits. Several will likely be implemented in early 2008. In addition, the Electronic Filing (e-Filing) pilot programs in Cook and Will Counties are being finalized while the e-Filing Pilot Project in DuPage County provides the Court with valuable data and insight into a variety of electronic business issues.
The Court’s interest in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the judicial component of the child welfare system remains high. In September 2007, the first ever Illinois Summit on Child Welfare Issues was hosted by the Court. Interdisciplinary teams from all 23 circuits participated in the three-day event held in Chicago. The Summit provided a springboard for local projects fostering systematic change throughout the state.

During 2007, final preparations were made for the delivery of the new 30-hour Mandatory Continuing Judicial Education program. This comprehensive program will require every judge in Illinois to participate in a week-long Education Conference. This effort is designed not only to present training in the law, but will also address issues of judicial conduct, ethics, and professionalism.

Before closing these remarks, I would like to briefly note the work of the Administrative Office. Under the leadership of the Supreme Court’s Administrative Director, Cynthia Y. Cobbs, it serves as the administrative arm of the Supreme Court. The Administrative Office provides organizational, administrative and technical support to all three levels of Illinois’ courts and serves as liaison to the Supreme Court’s various committees. The Administrative Director and staff work with the Chief Justice and the Court to prepare, present and implement policy matters affecting the judiciary. These matters include fiscal and programmatic issues, rules, projects involving the other branches of state government, and interaction with organizations outside the Judicial Branch. A more detailed description of the responsibilities and programs of each of the divisions of the Administrative Office is contained elsewhere in this publication.

I welcome your review of the work and accomplishments of the Illinois Judicial Branch and the Administrative Office as contained in this 2007 Annual Report and am grateful to all who have assisted with the numerous projects and initiatives featured herein. It has been my great privilege to serve you and to work with you as your Chief Justice.

Robert R. Thomas
Chief Justice
Attached is the 2007 Annual Report of the Illinois Supreme Court. I submit this Report to the General Assembly pursuant to Article VI, Section 17 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, which requires the Supreme Court to report annually in writing to the General Assembly regarding the annual Judicial Conference. The Judicial Conference considers the work of the courts and suggests improvements in the administration of justice. In compliance with the constitutional mandate, this Report includes a summary of the work performed by the several committees constituting the Judicial Conference.

The Committees of the Judicial Conference include: (1) Alternative Dispute Resolution; (2) Automation and Technology; (3) Criminal Law and Probation Administration; (4) Discovery Procedures; (5) Judicial Education; (6) Study Committee on Complex Litigation; and (7) Study Committee on Juvenile Justice. The annual meeting of the Judicial Conference was convened on October 25, 2007, to consider the aforementioned committees’ reports and recommendations. Those reports detailed initiatives undertaken during Conference Year 2007. This Annual Report summarizes those initiatives, which also foretell of the projects and goals anticipated being undertaken by the Conference Committees in 2008.

With the submission of this Report to the General Assembly, the Supreme Court renews its commitment to the effective administration of justice and the management of the courts, to the careful stewardship of those resources provided for the operation of the courts, and to the development of plans and goals designed to assure that the Illinois judicial branch provides justice to our citizens and upholds the rule of law.

On behalf of the Court, I respectfully submit the Supreme Court’s 2007 Annual Report to the General Assembly.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Thomas
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Illinois
2007 Illinois Judicial Conference  The annual meeting of the Illinois Judicial Conference was held on October 25, 2007, in Chicago, Illinois. The Conference, which is authorized by Article VI, Section 17 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, is mandated to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice. The constitutional mandate is implemented through Supreme Court Rule 41, which defines the duties and the membership of the Illinois Judicial Conference. Consistent with the Rule, the Conference is composed of judges from every level of the judiciary representing Illinois’ five judicial districts. The Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois, including the Chief Justice, who presides over the Conference, also serve as members.

The work of the Judicial Conference is conducted throughout the year, largely by the efforts of seven appointed committees: Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee; Automation and Technology Committee; Study Committee on Complex Litigation; Committee on Education; Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration; Committee on Discovery Procedures; and the Study Committee on Juvenile Justice. The rosters of the various committees include appellate, circuit and associate judges who serve as full members of the Judicial Conference. Their work is aided by judges, law professors, and attorneys, who are appointed by the Supreme Court to serve as either associate members or advisors to the committees, but are not members of the Judicial Conference itself. Senior level staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts serve as liaisons to support the committees’ activities.

The Executive Committee, which is also authorized through Supreme Court Rule 41, acts on behalf of the Conference when the Conference is not in session. The Executive Committee consists of fourteen judges, six of whom are from the First Judicial District (Cook County) and the remaining eight from judicial districts two, three, four and five. The Executive Committee previews the written reports of the Conference committees and submits, for the Supreme Court’s approval, an agenda for the annual meeting.

The 2007 Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference was conducted in a one-day format to minimize judicial time away from the bench and to effectively manage costs. The meeting was convened by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, the Honorable Robert R. Thomas. In his opening remarks, Chief Justice Thomas welcomed the Conference members and thanked them for their hard work during the Conference year. He also recognized the presence of current members of the Supreme Court as well as retired Supreme Court Justice John Nickels. In concluding his introductions, Justice Thomas recognized Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and thanked the Director and her staff for their work in preparing for the annual meeting of the Conference.

Chief Justice Thomas remarked, notwithstanding that the Judicial Conference is constitutionally mandated, such a gathering to improve the administration of justice would occur nonetheless because of the sense of commitment to duty shared by Illinois’ judges. Reflecting on the role of the courts, the Chief Justice noted that the judiciary is charged not only with deciding individual cases, but also with managing and administering the system in which those decisions are made. Citing the Federalist 82, and Hamilton’s analysis of sovereignty of State courts in regard to Federal jurisdiction, Chief Justice Thomas noted that State and Federal judiciaries are “kindred systems” that can “mature and perfect so compound a system, can liquidate the meaning of all the parts, and can adjust them to each other in a harmonious and consistent whole.” The Chief Justice offered that the same can be said of the components of the State judiciary. The judicial branch is divided into several distinct systems – Circuit Courts, Appellate Districts and the Supreme Court. However, trial judges and those of the reviewing courts are able to forge a spirit of collegiality, respect and cooperation, all committed to serving the cause of justice.

Chief Justice Thomas reminded the attendees that the purpose of the Judicial Conference, “to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice,” essentially provides a compulsory self-evaluation. A little introspection, the Chief Justice suggested, is always a good thing. Coming together and sharing collective wisdom, talent and experience will afford the judiciary an opportunity to take a major step forward in identifying the most efficient ways to administer justice.

A perfect example of this paradigm at work is the Supreme Court’s Special Committee on Child Custody. Formed in 2002 and charged with
developing methods to expedite the review of child custody cases, the primary focus of the Committee was expediting the time that it takes to bring child custody and adoption cases to closure. The Committee met for nearly three years, held public hearings throughout the State and sought input from not only judges and lawyers, but also from social workers, child welfare specialists and parents. The net result was adoption of a new series of Supreme Court Rules. Comprehensive in their application, these rules are designed to expedite custody cases by ensuring the coordination of related matters, regardless of statutory basis. The rules focus on the best interests of the child while protecting the rights of other parties to the proceedings. The new rules represent a major step forward in procedures for child custody matters. The Committee’s work will help ensure that the children of this State are well served by the court system.

In closing, Chief Justice Thomas commented that the important work of the Conference, the amount of study, debate and analysis that are dedicated by each committee to meet its charge and tasks, is the foundation for improving the quality and efficiency of our justice system. The committees’ work during Conference Year 2007 provides insight to the great things to come and will shape the future of the judicial branch.

The Annual Meeting continued with Conference Committee meetings devoted to finalizing Committee reports and initiating planning for Conference Year 2008. The afternoon plenary session included a presentation of each of the committees’ activities in Conference Year 2007 and initial suggestions for tasks in Conference Year 2008. The following summarizes the written and oral substance of those reports:

**Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee**

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee monitors and assesses both the Court-annexed mandatory arbitration programs and mediation programs as approved by the Supreme Court. During the course of the Conference year, the Committee gathered arbitrator reference manuals from all those judicial circuits which operate a mandatory arbitration program. From information received, the Committee developed a uniform arbitrator reference manual. It is the intent of the Committee that, following the Court’s review and approval, the manual will be sent to arbitration supervising judges and program administrators for use as a training tool.

During Conference Year 2007, the Committee also studied the amount of the fee required for rejecting rulings made through the mandatory arbitration program. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 93, a party can reject an arbitration award by paying a fee. The current rejection fee for cases valued at $30,000, or less, is $200. The Committee considered the consequences of raising the rejection fee and the potential impact on revenues as well as its effect on indigent litigants.

The Committee finalized a proposed rule addressing summary jury trials and submitted it to the Supreme Court for consideration. The summary jury trial would offer an additional settlement tool accessible by the Illinois trial courts. The Committee suggested that the summary jury trial could be of assistance to judges in resolving major civil litigation in which potential trial proceedings would consume disproportionate amounts of court time, and also could be useful in rural circuits where trial resources are limited.
Finally, the Committee began its consideration of the efficacy of mediation in child custody cases, and also evaluated the concept of arbitrators providing services for pro bono credit.

**Automation and Technology Committee**

In Conference Year 2007, the Automation and Technology Committee continued to research and study the technologies, capabilities, impact, legislation and rules associated with the use of video court/conferencing systems in the trial courts. The Committee is developing an impact statement to summarize its findings, including the benefits and detriments of video court/conferencing systems as they relate to both civil and criminal hearings. Also, included in the statement will be recommendations for new rules and/or revisions to existing rules relating to the use of video court/conferencing systems in Illinois. A survey was distributed to the chief circuit judges requesting input in regard to their experiences with video court/conferencing systems. The survey results will be included in the impact statement.

The Committee also discussed the need for revisions to the Disaster Recovery Guide presented to the Conference in 2006. Although no changes were recommended at this time, it was noted that opportunity exists for sharing resources among neighboring counties with similar court facilities, infrastructure, and technologies with respect to disaster recovery and related planning.

**Study Committee on Complex Litigation**

During the 2007 Judicial Conference year, the Committee reviewed and culled supreme court and appellate court opinions and other legal developments involving complex litigation issues to keep the *Illinois Manual for Complex Civil Litigation* and the *Illinois Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation* updated and current. The Committee also reviewed the forms contained in the appendixes of both Manuals and added several new documents to assure that any forms/orders are current. The Committee will include this information in the revised Manuals which are anticipated to be completed and disseminated later this year. The text of the Manuals will continue to be available on CD-ROM, which affords users the convenience of downloading, hyperlink and search capabilities. The forms in the appendixes also will be available electronically so that judges will have easy access to form orders.

During the Conference year, the Committee also reviewed and accepted the recommended changes offered by the Alternative Dispute Coordinating Committee with regard to the draft chapter on Alternative Dispute Resolution. The final version of the ADR chapter will be included in the revised Civil Manual.

Also in Conference Year 2007, the Committee studied the practical considerations in handling complex insurance cases and determined that no new text on this issue would be added to the Civil Manual at this time. Last, the Committee reviewed the Civil Manual to determine if additional material was needed with regard to construction cases. Noting that the new ADR chapter addresses this issue, the Committee will further discuss the matter in the next Judicial Conference year.

**Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration**

During the 2007 Conference year, the Committee continued to examine the implications for the judiciary in defining the scope of pre-sentence investigations and specific conditions of probation sentences consistent with the principles of Evidence Based Practices (EBP). The Committee conducted literature reviews and discussed EBP principles and practices in regard to recidivism reduction. This resulted in the preparation of a comprehensive report and a proposed pre-sentence investigation format for potential use by the judiciary and probation officers. Given the depth and complexity of the EBP research, the Committee members also developed initial “At A Glance” EBP Guides for the judiciary and probation.

During the previous Conference year, the Committee developed and distributed a survey to Probation and Court Service Departments regarding the implementation of Problem Solving Courts within each jurisdiction. Based on the responses to the survey, the *Illinois Problem
Solving Court Inventory was created. Throughout Conference Year 2007, the Committee updated the Illinois Problem Solving Court Inventory to include information relating to newly established mental health courts.

Finally, the Committee began considering the utility of a criminal dispute resolution program. The Committee examined criminal dispute resolution programs in four states: Colorado, New York, North Carolina, and Ohio. The research indicated that there are wide variances in the nature, extent, and funding of each program. Based on these variances, the Committee will continue to study the issues related to criminal dispute resolution during the next Conference year.

Committee on Discovery Procedures

During Conference Year 2007, the Committee considered and rejected a proposal, forwarded by the Supreme Court Rules Committee, to amend Supreme Court Rules 206 and 211. The proposal addressed eliminating objections to the evidence presented in discovery depositions.

During the past Conference year, the Committee reconsidered its proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 214 and 216 in light of comments and concerns raised at the Annual Public Hearing in January 2007. In its proposed amendment to Rule 214, the Committee sought to clarify the rule by requiring that documents, produced pursuant to a Rule 214 request, be labeled to correspond with the specific categories in the written request. Likewise, its proposed amendments to Rule 216 addressed the potential abuses arising from the strict requirements for responding to Rule 216 Requests to Admit.

In addition to examining the aforementioned Supreme Court Rules, the Committee was assigned the comprehensive task of studying and defining e-Discovery. In addressing this project, the Committee has begun exploring the electronic discovery provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; has begun collecting the rules from states providing for e-Discovery; and has initiated research of the case law and articles written on this subject. It is the Committee’s goal to prepare a report for the Court’s consideration that addresses preservation, collection, review and production of electronic evidence.

Committee on Education

The Committee on Education is charged with identifying ongoing education needs for the Illinois judiciary and developing short-term and long-term plans to address those needs. In Conference Year 2007, the Committee received a continuing charge to identify emerging legal, sociological, cultural, and technical issues that may impact decision-making and court administration and, based on these emerging issues, to recommend and develop programs for both new and experienced Illinois judges. The Committee was charged with assessing the judicial education needs, expectations and program participation of Illinois judges and recommending topics and faculty for the annual New Judge Seminar, Seminar Series, Education Conference and the Advanced Judicial Academy. The Committee also was charged with the review and recommendation of judicial education programs offered by organizations and entities other than the Supreme Court as potential sources for continuing judicial education credit.

In accordance with its overall charge, the Committee undertook specific activities and priorities in Conference Year 2007:

- In collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, oversaw preparation for the 30-hour curriculum for Education Conference 2008, in accordance with the Court’s Minimum Continuing Judicial Education requirements;
- Launched preparation of comprehensive judicial benchbooks in each of six core curriculum areas, including civil law and procedure, criminal law and procedure, evidence, family law and procedure, traffic law/DUI issues and domestic violence law and procedure;
- Implemented the plan developed in Conference Year 2006 for enhanced identification, recruitment and preparation of judicial education faculty members in each of the recommended core curriculum areas;
• Continued development of plans for advanced use of technology to deliver judicial education programs and resources, including web-casting, web archiving, CD and DVD tutorials and other “distance learning” options and provision of benchbooks through electronic media; and

• Presented the Advanced Judicial Academy, the annual New Judge Seminar and an annual seminar series, consistent with the Committee charge.

**Study Committee on Juvenile Justice**

In Conference Year 2007, the Committee updated Volume I of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*, which addresses juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of delinquency, addicted minors, minors requiring authoritative intervention, truant minors in need of supervision, and confidentiality of juvenile court records. The Committee anticipates that the update to Volume I will likely be available for the New Judge Seminar in December 2007.

The Committee updated the existing section on confidentiality contained in Volume I of the benchbook. In addressing the scope of confidentiality in juvenile matters, the Committee considered Supreme Court Rule 660, which provides that all appeals filed from proceedings under the Juvenile Court Act shall be identified by the minor’s first name and last initial or by initials only. The Committee is in favor of utilizing the same procedure at the trial court level in cases involving notice by publication to parents in juvenile matters.

The Committee is in the process of assessing the efficacy of the juvenile problem-solving courts in Cook County, Kane County, Peoria County and Will County. The Committee is consulting with the judges and the probation departments to obtain additional information, including the number of juveniles in the program and its effectiveness.

Finally, the Committee was assigned the project of gathering data from each circuit court with respect to mental health evaluations and services for juveniles. The Committee is preparing a survey seeking information on the nature and availability of mental health evaluations and services for juveniles in each circuit. The survey also will address the adequacy of services and the application of assessment results in rendering a dispositional order.

**Summary Statement**

The work of the seven Judicial Conference Committees is ongoing, with many of the projects and initiatives that began in Conference Year 2007 continuing into 2008. The Committees covered a broad range of topics and issues. Their work included suggestions on improving alternative dispute resolution processes, assessing the efficacy of problem-solving courts, the utility of video court/conferencing systems in the trial courts, as well as enhancing judicial competence through the development of manuals, benchbooks and course work. This effort will serve well the improvement of the administration of justice in Illinois.
Financing the state court system is a shared responsibility of the state and the 102 counties of the state. Revenue to provide court services to the people of the state comes from a variety of sources: the state income tax, county property taxes, case filing fees, court-imposed fines and assessments, and other fees.

State government pays for the salaries, benefits, and office expenses of supreme and appellate court judges, and salaries and benefits of circuit court judges. Effective July 1, 2007, judicial salaries, as determined by the legislature, were: supreme court justices, $189,135; appellate court judges, $178,011; circuit court judges, $163,348; and associate judges, $155,181. The state also pays for support staff of supreme and appellate court judges, staff in other units of the supreme and appellate courts, a small number of other personnel in the circuit courts, and mandatory arbitration staff in several counties. Part of the cost of operating the mandatory arbitration program is offset by fees paid by participants in the program. During 2007, the arbitration filing and rejection fees collected amounted to $6,912,640.

State funding for probation departments currently covers approximately 3,000 probation personnel, for which the counties receive partial salary reimbursement on a monthly basis. At the present time, state funding provides for about 26% of the total cost of probation services in the state.

County governments pay part of the cost of financing circuit court operations. Counties provide office and courtroom space, maintenance, and support staff to assist the circuit court judges. Circuit clerks collect money to help pay for their operations and some court operations. They also collect and disburse revenues to help fund local and state government programs, as summarized on the next page.

State Funding

Appropriations for State Agencies
Fiscal Year 2008

The graph to the right, shows the supreme court's share of the total appropriations for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008). The total appropriation was $50,657,001,000. The appropriation for the courts was $297,769,000.

Source: Table I-A: Appropriations by Agency, Chapter 11
Governor’s Budget Message to the General Assembly for Fiscal Year 2009
Local Funding

The circuit clerk’s office in each county provides a variety of court recordkeeping and financial accounting services. Circuit clerks are elected for four-year terms by the voters in each county. Circuit clerks, with help from deputy clerks, attend sessions of the court, preserve court files and papers, and maintain complete records of all cases. Employees of the clerks’ offices are appointed by and are accountable to the circuit clerk, with the county board having budgetary authority. During 2007, the total number of full-time employees in all 102 circuit clerk offices was 3,637, assisted by a total of 202 part-time employees. The cost of operating all circuit clerks’ offices totaled $186,903,124 in 2007.

Revenue to pay for these court-related services comes primarily from property taxes, filing fees, and court-ordered fines and costs. Fines, fees and other costs collected by circuit clerks are governed primarily by statute and supreme court rule.

Revenue to Finance Local Improvements

Fees and court-ordered fines were collected in 2007 by circuit clerks and earmarked for improvements in the clerks’ offices and to help defray the cost to the county of operating the courts at the local level.

Court Document Storage Fund is used for any costs relative to the storage of court records.

$27,211,608

Court Automation Fund is used to establish and maintain automated systems for keeping court records.

$28,346,269

County Law Library Fund helps defray the costs of maintaining a law library in the county for judges, attorneys, and the public.

$8,562,675

County Fund To Finance the Court System is available from fees collected by circuit clerks to help finance the court system in the county.

$6,760,871

Uncollected Claims

The Administrative Office, the Supreme Court Clerk, the Supreme Court Library, and the Clerks of the five Appellate Districts are responsible for collecting certain fees. Outstanding accounts receivable are normally collected by the unit to which the account is owed. Additionally, a small number of accounts receivable are turned over to private collection agencies and the State Comptroller’s offset system. At the end of FY07, there were 105 claims due and payable, totaling $613,772.44.

Revenue to Finance Other Programs

In addition to collecting fees for local improvements, circuit clerks receive, account for, and distribute millions of dollars to county governments, various local governmental entities, and various state funds. Some of the programs and dollars collected in 2007 by circuit clerks are listed below:

Child Support and Maintenance: Court-ordered payments collected and distributed by Circuit Clerks and the State Disbursement Unit.

$1,050,463,647

Drug Treatment Fund: Court-ordered drug assessments are used to pay for treatment programs for people addicted to alcohol, cannabis, or controlled substances.

$4,435,948

Violent Crime Victims Assistance: Court-ordered penalties in criminal and certain traffic cases are used to support victim and witness assistance centers throughout the state.

$6,881,111

Trauma Center Fund: Fees collected in certain traffic, DUI, and criminal cases are used to support Illinois hospitals that are designated as trauma centers.

$5,170,928

Traffic and Criminal Conviction Surcharge: An additional penalty imposed in traffic and criminal cases is used for training of law enforcement and correctional officers.

$7,945,257

Drivers Education Fund: Penalties and forfeitures in offenses reportable to the Secretary of State are used for driver education programs in high schools.

$2,770,889
Illinois has had a unified court system since 1964. In that year, voters approved an amendment to the 1870 constitution which made major changes in the system.

Prior to 1964, the court system was fragmented. The courts of original jurisdiction had some concurrent and overlapping jurisdiction, and each court operated independently of the others. The old system had a circuit court with statewide original jurisdiction in all cases and some appellate jurisdiction; a Superior Court of Cook County having concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Cook County; the Criminal Court of Cook County also having concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Cook County but limited to criminal cases; a county court in each county with special jurisdiction that partially overlapped that of the circuit court; a probate court in certain counties with special jurisdiction; statutory municipal, city, town and village courts, with jurisdiction overlapping that of the circuit court; and justice of the peace and police magistrate courts with limited jurisdiction.

By 1962, Cook County alone had 208 courts: circuit court, superior court, family court, criminal court, probate court, county court, twenty-four city, village, town and municipal courts, seventy-five justice of the peace courts, and 103 police magistrate courts.

In addition, there were seven supreme court districts numbered from south to north and four appellate court districts numbered from north to south. For example, the first supreme court district was in a part of the fourth appellate court district and the seventh supreme court district was in a part of the first appellate court district.

In today's system, as shown on the left, there are three levels of courts: circuit, appellate, and supreme, all operating within clearly defined geographical boundaries. The circuit court is a court of original jurisdiction which is divided into twenty-three circuits. Each circuit is located in one of five appellate court districts. Cases enter the circuit court via the circuit clerk's office in a county of the circuit. Cases may be appealed to the appellate court in the district containing the circuit court, or, in certain circumstances, directly to the supreme court. After an appellate court decision, parties to the case may seek discretionary review by the supreme court. Supreme and appellate district and circuit maps are found in their respective sections of this publication.
Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of Illinois, in addition to being the state's highest court, is responsible for the state's unified trial court, one appellate court with five districts, and several supporting units. General administrative and supervisory authority over the court system is vested in the supreme court. Several advisory bodies assist with this mission by making recommendations to the court. These include the Judicial Conference of Illinois and the various committees of the court. More information about committees can be found in the following sections. The supreme court also makes appointments to other committees, commissions, and boards as listed at the right.

The chief justice is responsible for exercising the court's general administrative and supervisory authority in accordance with the court's rules. The supreme court appoints an administrative director to assist the chief justice in his duties. The staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts supports this function. Key support personnel exist at each level of the court to assist judges with the administration of justice. At the supreme court level, this includes the clerk of the supreme court, research director, marshal, and supreme court librarian and their staffs. Each support unit is described on page sixteen.

Appellate Court

At the appellate court level, the presiding judge and judges of each appellate district are assisted by a clerk of the appellate court and research director and their staffs appointed by the appellate judges. Appeals enter the clerk's office, where deputy clerks assign them filing schedules and actively monitor and review cases as they progress through record preparation, motions, briefing, and oral arguments. Problems such as late filings, jurisdictional defects, inadequate records or noncompliant briefs are referred to the court. After the court has heard an appeal, the clerk's office issues the court's decision and tracks all post-decision activity. The clerk's office also manages the court's computerized and manual recordkeeping systems and oversees the maintenance of physical facilities. The clerk responds to requests and questions concerning the court's cases and procedures. The research director oversees a staff of attorneys and secretaries providing centralized legal research services to judges.

Circuit Court

Each circuit is administered by a chief judge who is selected by the circuit court judges of the circuit. The chief judge is assisted by an administrative assistant and/or trial court administrator and other support staff. The number of counties in each circuit currently ranges from one to twelve. In each county, voters elect a circuit clerk for a four-year term. Circuit clerks, with help from deputy clerks hired by the circuit clerk, attend sessions of the court, preserve court files and papers, maintain complete records of all cases, and maintain records of money received and disbursed.
THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT

The supreme court is the state's highest court; it also supervises and administers the state's judicial system. The state is divided into five judicial districts, with three justices elected from the first district (Cook County) and one justice elected from each of the other four districts. Justices are elected in partisan elections for ten years and may be retained in office for additional terms of ten years. A chief justice is elected by the other justices for a term of three years.

Justice Freeman received a Juris Doctor degree from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago. Early in his career he served as an Assistant Attorney General, Assistant State's Attorney, and an attorney for the Board of Election Commissioners. He served as a commissioner on the Illinois Commerce Commission from 1973 to 1976. He was in the private practice of law from 1962 to 1976. In 1976, he was elected a Circuit Judge in Cook County where he served for ten years. He was elected to the Appellate Court in 1986 and to the Illinois Supreme Court on November 6, 1990, as the first African-American to serve on the Court. On May 12, 1997, he was selected as Chief Justice and served in that capacity until January 1, 2000.

Justice Fitzgerald received his law degree from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago. He began his career in the law as a prosecutor in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. When first elected to the bench in 1976, he was the youngest Cook County judge. In 1989, he was elevated to presiding judge of Cook County's criminal courts and was appointed to serve as the presiding judge of Illinois' first statewide Grand Jury. Justice Fitzgerald was elected to the Supreme Court of Illinois for the First District in 2000.

Justice Kilbride received his law degree from Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C., in 1981. He practiced law for 20 years in Rock Island, engaging in the general practice of law, including appeals, environmental law, labor law, employment matters, and other general civil and criminal matters. He was admitted to practice in the United States District Court of Central Illinois and the United States Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Justice Kilbride was elected to the Supreme Court of Illinois for the Third District in 2000.
Chief Justice Robert R. Thomas was born on August 7, 1952, in Rochester, NY. He received his B.A. degree in Government from the University of Notre Dame in 1974, and was named an Academic All-American in that same year. He received his J.D. degree from Loyola University School of Law in 1981. He was elected Circuit Court Judge in DuPage County in 1988. There, he presided over civil jury trials and was the Acting Chief Judge from 1989 to 1994. In 1994, Justice Thomas was elected to the Appellate Court Second District. On December 4, 2000, Justice Thomas was sworn in as the Illinois Supreme Court Justice for the Second District. In April 1996, Justice Thomas was inducted into the Academic All-American Hall of Fame, and in January 1999, he received the prestigious NCAA Silver Anniversary Award. Justice Thomas is a member of the DuPage County Bar Association. He was selected as Chief Justice during the 2005 September Term of the Supreme Court.

Justice Garman received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1968. She was an Assistant State's Attorney in Vermilion County from 1969 to 1973. She then engaged in private practice with Sebat, Swanson, Banks, Lessen & Garman and was an Associate Judge for 12 years. Justice Garman was a Circuit Judge in the Fifth Judicial Circuit (1986-95) and Presiding Circuit Judge (1987-95). She was assigned to the Appellate Court, Fourth District, in July 1995, and was elected to the position in November 1996. Justice Garman was appointed to the Supreme Court on February 1, 2001 and subsequently elected to the Supreme Court on December 2, 2002.

Justice Karmeier received his law degree from the University of Illinois. From 1964 through 1986, he engaged in private law practice, clerked for Illinois Supreme Court Justice Byron O. House and United States District Court Judge James L. Foreman, and served as Washington County State’s Attorney. Justice Karmeier has served on the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Pattern Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases, presiding as Chair of the Committee from 2003 to 2004. He served as Resident Circuit Judge of Washington County from 1986 through 2004 when he was elected to the Supreme Court.

Justice Burke was born on Feb. 3, 1944, in Chicago. She received her B.A. degree in education from DePaul University in 1976 and her J.D. degree from IIT/Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1983. She was admitted to the Federal Court, Northern District of Illinois, in 1983, the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in 1985, and certified for the Trial Bar, Federal District Court in 1987. In August 1995, she was appointed to the Appellate Court, First District. In 1996, she was elected to the Appellate Court, First District, for a full term. Justice Burke, the third woman to sit on the state’s highest tribunal, was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court for the First District on July 6, 2006.
There are several support units which assist the supreme court with its work as the state's highest court. These units are located in Springfield, Bloomington, and Chicago.

**Clerk of the Supreme Court.** The clerk of the supreme court directs a staff of deputies who process cases according to court rules, monitor the caseload of the court, keep court files and records, and maintain court statistics. The clerk's office maintains the roll of attorneys licensed to practice in the state, processes the licensing of attorneys, and coordinates the semi-annual attorney admission ceremonies. The clerk also registers and renews law firms under Rule 721, keeps files of judicial financial disclosure statements, and serves as a public information officer of the court. The clerk maintains offices in Chicago and Springfield.

**Marshal of the Supreme Court.** The marshal attends all sessions of the court held in September, November, January, March, and May. In addition, the marshal directs a staff which maintains the Supreme Court Building and grounds, provides security for justices and employees, and conducts tours of the building.

**Reporter of Decisions.** The reporter of decisions directs a staff which publishes opinions of the supreme and appellate courts in the *Official Reports*. Employees also verify case citations, compose head notes, attorney lines, tables of cases, topical summaries, and other materials appearing in the *Official Reports*; and edit opinions for style and grammar.

**Supreme Court Librarian.** The supreme court librarian directs a staff who provide legal reference services to the courts, state agencies, and citizens of the state. The Supreme Court libraries include a 100,000 volume public law library in Springfield, a 40,000 volume private branch library in Chicago, and four private judicial libraries across the state. The librarian oversees all aspects of library administration including budget and program planning, materials and equipment acquisition, cataloging and collection development, and library reference and research services.

**Supreme Court Research Director.** The supreme court research director supervises a staff of attorneys who provide legal research and writing assistance to the court.

**Supreme Court Chief Internal Auditor.** The supreme court chief internal auditor and staff perform audits of the state-funded activities of the judicial branch. In addition, the internal auditor annually assesses the adequacy of internal controls for state-funded activities.

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### Supreme Court Caseload

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SUPREME COURT COMMITTEES

Standing committees of the Court and chairpersons during 2007

- Appellate Court Administrative Committee
  Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officer.

- Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission
  Benedict Schwarz, II, Esq., Chair; Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, liaison officer.
  Review Board...John W. Rapp, Jr., Esq., Chair.

- Board of Admissions to the Bar
  David W. Andich, Esq., President; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

- Committee on Jury Instructions in Civil Cases
  H. Kent Heller, Esq., Chair; Professor Nancy S. Marnder, Reporter; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

- Committee on Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases
  Judge Bertina E. Lampkin, Chair; Patrick J. Cotter, Reporter; Professor John F. Erbes, Professor-Reporter; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

- Committee on Character and Fitness
  Nancy-Ellen Zusman, Esq., Chair; Jeffrey M. Cox, Esq., Vice-Chair (First Judicial District); William F. Bochte, Esq., Chair; Robert E. Jones, Esq., Vice-Chair (Second Judicial District); Robert H. Alvine, Esq., Chair; Cornelius J. Hollerich, Esq., Vice-Chair (Third Judicial District); Forrest G. Keaton, Esq., Chair (Fourth Judicial District); Benjamin F. Edwards, Esq., Chair; Dale F. Wolff, Esq., Vice-Chair (Fifth Judicial District); Chief Justice Robert R. Thomas, liaison officer.

- Committee on Professional Responsibility
  Richard A. Redmond, Esq., Chair; Professor Vivien C. Gross, Professor-Reporter; Justice Anne M. Burke, liaison officer.

- Judicial Mentor Committee
  Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Status Member (Chairperson of Chief Judges’ Conference); Judge Stephen D. White, Status Member (Vice-Chairperson of Chief Judges’ Conference).

- Legislative Committee of the Illinois Supreme Court
  Appellate Judge Alan J. Greiman, Chair.

- Planning and Oversight Committee for a Judicial Performance Evaluation Program
  Appellate Judge Joy V. Cunningham, Chair; Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officer.

- Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases
  Judge Michael P. Toomin, Chair; Judge Thomas E. Callum, Vice-Chair; Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.

- Special Supreme Court Committee on Child Custody Issues

- Special Supreme Court Committee on Pro Bono Legal Service
  Russell K. Scott, Esq., Chair; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

- Supreme Court Committee on Professionalism
  David F. Rolewick, Esq., Chair.

- Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Conduct
  Judge Scott H. Walden, Chair.

- Supreme Court Rules Committee
  John P. Nicoara, Esq., Chair; Hugh C. Griffin, Esq., Vice-Chair; Professor Keith H. Beyler, Esq., Reporter; Professor Jo Desha Lucas, Esq., Emeritus; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.

- Special Supreme Court Committee to Study Courtroom and Judicial Security
  Judge Robert K. Kilander, Chair.

- Special Supreme Court Committee to Study Supreme Court Rule 23
  Appellate Judge Thomas R. Appleton and J. Timothy Eaton, Esq., Co-Chairs.

- Minimum Continuing Legal Education Board
  Jack L. Brooks, Chair.
The Judicial Conference of Illinois, consisting of eighty-two judges, is responsible for suggesting improvements in the administration of justice in Illinois. The Executive Committee, composed of the chief justice and fourteen members of the Judicial Conference, reviews recommendations of the various committees and makes recommendations to the supreme court, resolves questions of committee jurisdiction, acts on behalf of the Judicial Conference between annual meetings, and performs other duties delegated by the supreme court. The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts serves as Secretary of the Conference.

During the 2007 Conference Year, the Committee monitored both Court-annexed mandatory arbitration programs and Court-approved mediation programs. The Committee continued to track mandatory arbitration statistics to determine program efficacy. The Committee undertook many initiatives prescribed by the Court during Conference Year 2007. Some of those projects included development of a uniform arbitrator reference manual, studying child custody and visitation mediation to identify a mechanism for tracking statistical data, presenting a proposed rule governing summary jury trials to the Court for review, considering the impact of increasing certain fees related to mandatory arbitration, and contemplation of a recommendation to allow arbitrators the opportunity to accept pro bono service credit in lieu of compensation. The Committee also met with arbitration administrators and supervising judges of circuits with mandatory arbitration programs to discuss program operations and identify areas for improvement. In the area of mediation, the Committee monitored existing Court-approved mediation programs, observed the inception of new mediation programs in accord with the Supreme Court’s Article IX Rules with respect to child custody proceedings and continued to track statistical information to determine program efficacy.

Studies on the Illinois Manual for Complex Criminal Litigation have highlighted a number of areas for improvement, including the need for clearer guidelines for the use of video court/conferencing systems in the Illinois trial courts. The Committee is developing an impact statement to summarize its findings, including the benefits and detriments of video court/conferencing systems as they relate to both civil and criminal hearings. The impact statement is expected to include recommendations for new rules and/or case law or revisions to existing rules that might govern the use of video court/conferencing systems in Illinois.

The Automation and Technology Committee also discussed revisions to the Disaster Recovery Guide developed by the Committee in 2006. No changes were recommended to the Disaster Guide at this time.

During the 2007 Conference Year, the Committee updated Volume I of the Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook, which addresses juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of delinquency, addicted minors, minors requiring authoritative intervention, truant minors in need of supervision and confidentiality of juvenile court records. In updating Volume I, the Committee revised the existing section on confidentiality, which discusses access to juvenile court hearings and to juvenile court records in the context of delinquency matters. In addressing the scope of confidentiality in juvenile matters, the Committee considered Supreme Court Rule 660, which provides that, in all appeals filed from proceedings under the Juvenile Court Act, the minor shall be identified by first name and last initial or by initials only. The Committee is in favor of utilizing the same procedure at the trial court level in cases involving notice by publication to parents in juvenile matters. In Conference Year 2007, the Committee also began assessing the efficacy of the juvenile problem-solving courts in Cook County, Kane County, Peoria County and Will County by following up with the judges and the probation departments about additional details, including the number of juveniles in the program and its effectiveness. As a final matter, the Committee began gathering information from each circuit court regarding their need for mental health evaluations and services for juveniles. The Committee distributed a survey for each circuit to describe the nature and availability of mental health evaluations/services it offers for juveniles. Each circuit offering such services also is asked to provide some statistical information and to comment on the adequacy of its services and application of assessment results in rendering a dispositional order.
orders, available are current. The Committee will include this information in the revised Manuals. The text of the Manuals will continue to be available on CD-ROM, which affords users the convenience of downloading, hyperlink and search capabilities. The forms in the Appendixes will be available electronically so that judges will have easy access to forms orders. The Committee reviewed and accepted the recommended changes offered by the IJC Alternative Dispute Coordinating Committee with regard to the draft Civil Manual chapter on Alternative Dispute Resolution, which was forwarded for the ADR Committee's review in October 2006. The final version of the ADR chapter will be included in the revised Civil Manual. Next, the Committee studied the practical considerations in handling complex insurance cases and determined that no new text on this issue would be added to the Civil Manual at this time. Last, the Committee reviewed the Civil Manual to determine if text should be added with regard to construction cases. Noting that the new ADR chapter contained text on this issue, the Committee put over to the next Judicial Conference year further discussion as to whether additional text on construction cases should be added to the Civil Manual.

Committee on Education
Judge Hollis L. Webster,
18th Circuit, Chair

The Committee on Education is charged by the Supreme Court with developing judicial education resources which enable Illinois judges to hone the knowledge and skills needed to be efficient, effective jurists. In 2006, the Supreme Court promulgated Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) requirements for all Appellate, Circuit and Associate judges and charged the Committee in collaboration with the Administrative Office, to develop the expanded 30-hour Education Conference for 2008. The Conference, presented in alternate years, would enable judges to fulfill the requirements of the new MCJE provisions. In 2007, the Committee worked closely with the Administrative Office to meet this challenge. A comprehensive "judicial education needs assessment" was used to identify emerging legal, sociological, cultural, and technical issues that impact decision-making and court administration by Illinois judges. Based on the results, Education Conference 2008 was designed to include basic and advanced sessions, using interactive techniques and problem-solving elements, that will provide individual judges the ability to customize their curriculum to match their needs.

In order to implement the expanded curriculum, the Committee worked with the Administrative Office to enhance the identification, recruitment and preparation of judicial education faculty. Faculty is needed both to teach judicial education sessions and to prepare components of the six core judicial benchbooks – Civil, Criminal, DUI /Traffic, Family Law, Evidence, and Domestic Violence. The benchbooks, organized and indexed in a manner to provide judges clear and concise direction on complicated matters, will be made available in electronic and hard copy formats.

The fourth biannual Advanced Judicial Academy was held in June 2007. This year, it addressed the life-altering decisions judges must make in regard to mentally ill and addicted persons. Finally, the Committee planned the annual seminar series, consisting of three regional (2-day) seminars, presented the annual New Judges Seminar, and conducted a Faculty Development Workshop for judges serving as faculty for Committee programs.

Committee on Discovery Procedures
Judge Mary Anne Mason,
Circuit Court of Cook County, Chair

During the 2007 Conference Year, the Committee was assigned the comprehensive task of studying and defining e-Discovery. In addressing this project, the Committee began exploring the electronic discovery provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; began collecting the rules from states providing for e-Discovery, and began examining the case law and numerous articles written on this subject. The Committee’s goal is to prepare a report for the Court’s consideration that addresses the issues arising from the discovery of electronically-stored information; namely the preservation, collection, review and production of electronic evidence. In 2007, the Committee also considered and rejected a proposal, forwarded by the Supreme Court Rules Committee, to amend Supreme Court Rules 206 and 211 to eliminate the making of objections to the evidence presented in discovery depositions. As a final matter, the Committee began reviewing its proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 214 and 216, which were submitted to the Supreme Court Rules Committee in Conference Year 2006, in light of the concerns raised at the 2007 Annual Public Hearing.

Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration
Judge Donald C. Hudson,
16th Circuit, Chair

The Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration undertook several significant projects in 2007. Initial research was conducted on the feasibility of a criminal alternative dispute resolution program in Illinois by examining four other states’ existing criminal alternative dispute resolution programs. A quick reference guide was developed for use by the judiciary for incorporating the principles of Evidence-Based Practices in sentencing. A similar quick reference guide was also developed for use by probation officers in the implementation of Evidence-Based Practices. The Committee presented to the Illinois Supreme Court, for its consideration, a uniform Pre-Sentence Investigation Report based on Evidence-Based Practices to assist court stakeholders in crafting sentences appropriate to individual offenders. The “Illinois Problem Solving Courts Inventory” was updated to include information on problem solving courts that became operational in 2007. The Committee also examined issues affecting criminal law and procedure, and continued to discuss and monitor the impact of the United States Supreme Court case of Crawford v. Washington and any of its progeny concerning confrontation clause issues.
APPELLATE COURT

Except for those cases appealed directly to the supreme court, a person has the right to request a review of a circuit court judge's decision by the appellate court.

The appellate court is organized into five districts. The first meets in Chicago, the second in Elgin, the third in Ottawa, the fourth in Springfield, and the fifth in Mt. Vernon.

Each district can have one or more divisions. There are six divisions in the first district and one in each of the other four. The supreme court assigns judges to the various divisions. The presiding judge of each division assigns judges to panels of three to hear appeals.

The number of appellate court judgeships, currently fifty-two, is determined by the legislature. The supreme court can assign additional circuit, appellate or retired judges temporarily to any district.

Judges are elected by voters in each district for ten-year terms, and may be retained for additional ten-year terms. Each judge has a support staff of two law clerks and a secretary.

Each district manages its own operations, subject to the overall authority of the supreme court. In the first district (Cook County), an executive committee exercises general administrative authority. This committee elects a chairperson and vice-chairperson for one year. In the other districts, judges select one of their members to serve as presiding judge for one year.

### Total Caseload*

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*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

### Civil & Criminal Caseloads

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*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

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**Annual Meeting:** The appellate court held its annual meeting in September 2007 with Judge Themis Karnezis presiding as honorary chair. Forty-four appellate judges attended the meeting. Pursuant to section 15(e) Article VI of the Illinois Constitution, the Illinois Appellate Court selects two appellate judges to serve as regular members and three appellate judges to serve as alternate members on the Illinois Courts Commission. Judges Margaret Stanton McBride (First Judicial District) and Mary W. McDade (Third Judicial District) served as regular members. Judges Barbara Gilleran Johnson, Sue E. Myerscough, and Stephen L. Spomer were elected as alternate members. Terms of both regular and alternate members pertain to service in 2007. Judge Mary Kay O’Brien was selected to serve as the next honorary chair of the Illinois Appellate Court Annual Meeting to be held in 2008.

**Administrative Committee:** The Appellate Court Administrative Committee studies and recommends improvements to the Illinois Appellate Court. Additionally, the Committee plans and sponsors the annual Appellate Court Conference. The Conference was held in September 2007 in Oak Brook to which fifty-three appellate judges, appellate clerks, and research directors attended. Sessions addressed during the Conference included The Role of Language in Legal Argument, Questioning, and Decisions, Legal Writing, and review and discussion of U.S. and Illinois Supreme Court Decisions. The judges also elected one new member and three alternates to the Illinois Courts Commission. Judge Tom Lytton serves as Chair to the Committee and Justice Rita B. Garman serves as the liaison officer from the Illinois Supreme Court.
APPENDIX

Michael A. Bilandic Building
160 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 793-5600

Steven M. Ravid, Clerk
Marilyn T. Kujawa, Research Director

DIVISION I
Robert Cahill,
Presiding Judge
Rodolfo Garcia*
Robert E. Gordon*
Warren D. Wolfson*

DIVISION II
Thomas E. Hoffman,
Presiding Judge
Shelvin Louise Marie Hall
Themis Karnezis*
Leslie E. South++

DIVISION III
Patrick J. Quinn,
Presiding Judge
Joy V. Cunningham
Alan J. Greiman*+
Mary Jane This

DIVISION IV
P. Scott Neville, Jr.*, Presiding Judge
Calvin C. Campbell
Michael J. Murphy
Sheila M. O’Brien

DIVISION V
James G. Fitzgerald Smith, Presiding Judge
Michael J. Gallagher
Margaret O’Mara Frossard*
John P. Tully

DIVISION VI
Margaret S. McBride, Presiding Judge
Joseph Gordon
Jill K. McNulty
Denise O’Malley

+ chair ++ vice-chair: Executive Committee;
* circuit judge assigned to appellate court

Civil & Criminal Caseloads

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* Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Total Pending Caseload*

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* Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases
Second District Courthouse - Elgin
Completed in 1966 (Second District Photo)

APPELLATE JUDGES
R. Peter Grometer*, Presiding Judge
John J. Bowman
Robert E. Byrne*
Thomas E. Callum
Susan F. Hutchinson
Barbara Gilleran Johnson
Robert D. McLaren
Jack O’Malley
Kathryn E. Zenoff*
*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

Total Pending Caseload* All Case Categories

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*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Civil & Criminal Caseloads

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**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases
**THIRD DISTRICT**

**Appellate Court Building**
1004 Columbus Street
Ottawa, IL 61350
(815) 434-5050

Gist Fleshman, Clerk
Gerald Ursini, Research Director

---

**Third District Courthouse - Ottawa**
Completed in 1860 (Gist Fleshman Photo)

**APPELLATE JUDGES**

Tom M. Lytton, Presiding Judge

Robert L. Carter
William E. Holdridge
Mary W. McDade
Mary K. O’Brien
Daniel Schmidt
Vicki Wright

---

**Civil & Criminal Caseloads**

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**Total Pending Caseload**

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**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases**
FOURTH DISTRICT

Waterways Building
201 West Monroe Street
Springfield, IL 62794
(217) 782-2586
Darryl Pratscher, Clerk
Shirley Wilgenbusch, Research Director

Fourth District Courthouse - Springfield
Waterways Building
Renovated in 2001
(Photo by Terry Farmer Photography, Inc.)

APPELLATE JUDGES
Thomas R. Appleton*, Presiding Judge
Robert W. Cook
James A. Knecht
John T. McCullough
Sue E. Myerscough
Robert J. Steigmann
John W. Turner
*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

Total Pending Caseload* All Case Categories

<table>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Appellate Court

Circuits (Counties):
5th (Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Edgar & Vermilion)
6th (Champaign, DeWitt, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie & Piatt)
7th (Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)
8th (Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Mason, Menard, Pike & Schuyler)
11th (Ford, Livingston, Logan, McLean & Woodford)

District Population:
1,290,029 (2006 est.)

Civil & Criminal Caseloads

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**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases

2007 Annual Report • SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS • Administrative Summary
Circuits (Counties):

1st (Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union & Williamson)

2nd (Crawford, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne & White)

3rd (Bond & Madison)

4th (Christian, Clay, Clinton, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Marion, Montgomery & Shelby)

20th (Monroe, Perry, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

District Population:
1,306,942 (2006 est.)
The court of "original jurisdiction" is the circuit court. There are twenty-three circuits in the state, five of which are single county circuits (Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry). The remaining eighteen circuits contain two to twelve counties per circuit.

In Illinois, the circuit court is the court of original jurisdiction. There are twenty-three circuits in the state. Five are single county circuits (Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry) and the remaining eighteen circuits comprise as few as two and as many as twelve counties each. Except for redistricting of the general assembly and ruling on the ability of the governor to serve or resume office, the circuit court has jurisdiction for all matters properly brought before it. The circuit court shares jurisdiction with the supreme court to hear cases relating to revenue, mandamus, prohibition, and habeas corpus. If the supreme court chooses to exercise its authority in a case of these types, the circuit court loses jurisdiction. The circuit court is also the reviewing court for certain state agency administrative orders.

There are two types of judges in the circuit court: circuit judges and associate judges. Circuit judges are elected for a six year term and may be retained by voters for additional six year terms. They can hear any circuit court case. Circuit judges are initially elected either circuit-wide, from the county where they reside or from a subcircuit within a county, depending on the type of vacancy they are filling. Associate judges are appointed by circuit judges, pursuant to supreme court rules, for four-year terms. An associate judge can hear any case, except criminal cases punishable by a prison term of one year or more (felonies). An associate judge can be specially authorized by the supreme court to hear all criminal cases.

Circuit judges in a circuit elect one of their members to serve as chief circuit court judge. The chief judge has general administrative authority in the circuit, subject to the overall administrative authority of the supreme court. The chief judge can assign cases to general or specialized divisions within the circuit.

Circuit Court Administrative Matters

Conference of Chief Circuit Judges: The Conference of Chief Circuit Judges is composed of the chief circuit judges from the twenty-three Illinois judicial circuits. Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, serves as chairperson of the Conference; Judge Stephen D. White, Chief Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, is vice-chairperson. The conference meets regularly to discuss issues related to the administration of justice in the circuit courts and other matters referred to the Conference by the supreme court. The Administrative Office serves as secretary to the Conference.

Conference Committees and Activities: The Conference has established committees to address particular issues and to provide information and recommendations. Committees active during 2007 include the Article V Committee; Committee on Forms; Committee to Revise the Chief Circuit Judges’ Manual; Domestic Relations Committee; Jury Panel Representation Committee; Juvenile Committee; Long-Range Planning Committee; Orientation Committee; Prison Committee; Probation Committee; Specialty Courts Committee; and several ad hoc committees convened to study specific, short-term topics.

During 2007, the committees and the Conference were active in a number of areas. The Jury Representation Committee, which was convened to study jury practices in Illinois and make recommendations for improving minority representation on jury panels, submitted its final report. The Long Range Planning Committee, with assistance from the staff of the National Center for State Courts, hosted a “Court Divisions, Court Calls and Assignment of Judges” seminar in September 2007 for chief judges and court administrators. The Article V Committee, Domestic Relations Committee, Committee on Forms, Juvenile Committee, Prison Committee, Speciality Courts Committee, and Probation Committee continued to monitor and analyze new legislation and Supreme Court Rules relevant to each committee’s particular subject matter. As necessary, related forms, policy, orders, etc., were modified in accordance with the new provisions. The Conference, at the request of the Supreme Court, also reviewed the summary jury trial concept as an alternative dispute resolution technique for the State of Illinois.

In the interest of furthering the knowledge and skills of its members, the Conference addressed at its meetings a variety of topics relating to trial court issues. For example, the Supreme Court Marshal’s office provided a presentation on protocols for judicial security threats. In addition, the Executive Director of the Lawyers Assistance Program (LAP) and the Executive Director of the Commission on Professionalism of the Illinois Supreme Court both spoke to the group on issues relevant to management of circuit courts.
**CASE CATEGORIES**

**CIVIL:** lawsuits for monetary damages; arbitration; small claims (amounts up to $10,000)*; chancery (e.g., title to real property and injunctions); miscellaneous remedy (e.g., review of decisions of administrative bodies, habeas corpus matters, and demolition); probate (e.g., estates of deceased persons and guardianships); order of protection and civil no contact order (petition for order of protection and civil no contact order filed separately from an existing case); dissolution (e.g., divorce, separate maintenance, and annulment); mental health (e.g., commitment and discharge from mental facilities); eminent domain (e.g., compensation when property is taken for public use); municipal corporation and tax (e.g., matters pertaining to the organization of municipalities and collection of taxes at the local level); adoptions; family (e.g., proceedings to establish parent-child relationship and actions relating to child support).

**CRIMINAL:** felony (e.g., a criminal case in which the offense carries a penalty of at least one year in prison) and misdemeanor. **OTHER:** ordinance, conservation, traffic (excluding parking tickets), and DUI.

**JUVENILE:** abuse and neglect, delinquent, and other (e.g., a minor who requires authoritative intervention).

*Small Claim amount increased to $10,000 effective January 1, 2006. (Amended Supreme Court Rule 281).*

---

### 2007 Total Cases Filed

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<td>Juvenile</td>
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### Total Caseload

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CIRCUIT COURT
OF COOK COUNTY
(First Appellate District)

Richard J. Daley Center
(Photo courtesy of the
Chicago Architecture Foundation)

28

Circuit Judges:
Martin S. Agran
Nancy J. Arnold
Robert Balanoff
Patricia Banks
Ronald F. Bartkowicz
Carole K. Bellows
Gerald C. Bender
Richard B. Berland
Andrew Berman
Jeanne Cleveland Bernstein
Robert W. Bertucci
Laura Bertucci Smith
Paul P. Biebel, Jr.
Richard J. Billik Jr.
Patricia Martin Bishop
Daniel P. Brennan
Margaret Ann Brennan
Eileen Mary Brewer
Cynthia Y. Brim
Philip L. Bronstein
Rodney Hughes Brooks
Janet Adams Brosnahan
Mary M. Brosnahan
James R. Brown
Henry A. Budzinski
Dennis J. Burke
Kathleen Marie Burke
Charles Burns
Anthony L. Burrell
Diane Gordon Cannon
Thomas F. Carmody, Jr.
Robert Lopez Cepero
Gloria Chevere
Thomas R. Chiola
Evelyn B. Clay
LaGuina Clay-Clark
Martin D. Coghlan
Mary Ellen Coghlan
Matthew E. Coghlan
Melvin J. Cole
Sharon Johnson Coleman
Claudia G. Conlon
Maureen E. Connors
Clayton J. Crane
Paula M. Daleo
Daniel P. Darcy
Thomas M. Davy
David Delgado
Grace G. Dickler
Francis J. Dolan
Christopher J. Donnelly
John T. Doody, Jr.
Deborah M. Dooling
Jennifer Duncan-Brice
Laurence J. Dunford
Loretta Eadie-Daniels
James D. Egan
Lynn Marie Egan
Richard J. Eiuod
James R. Epstein
Candace J. Fabri
Thomas P. Fecarotta, Jr.
Roger G. Fein
Peter A. Felice
Denise K. Filan
Kathy M. Flanagan
Thomas E. Flannagan
James P. Flannery, Jr.
Ellen L. Flannigan
John J. Fleming
Kenneth L. Fletcher
Peter Flynn
Nicholas R. Ford
Raymond Funderburk
Sheldon Gardner
Vincent M. Gaughan
James J. Gavin
Bettina Gembala
Francis W. Glowacki
Allen S. Goldberg
William E. Gomolinski
Susan Ruscitti Grussel
Catherine M. Haberkorn
William J. Haddad
Sophia H. Hall
Orville E. Hambright, Jr.
Kay M. Hanlon
La Quietta J. Hardy-Campbell
Sheldon A. Harris
Marsha D. Hayes
Shelli Williams Hayes
Curtis Heaston
Pamela E. Hill Veal
Margarita Kuly Hoffman
Thomas L. Hogan
Vanessa A. Hopkins
Carol M. Howard
Garrett E. Howard
Michael J. Howlett, Jr.
Nathaniel R. Howse, Jr.
Annette R. Hubbard
Michael B. Hyman
Cheyrl D. Ingram
Anthony A. Iosco
Moshe Jacobius
Raymond L. Jagielski
Marilyn F. Johnson
Dorothy J. Johnson
Laurence J. Judd
Deborah J. Judy
Allan M. Karp
Kathleen A. Kavanagh
Joseph G. Kazmierski, Jr.
Daniel J. Kelley
James W. Kennedy
Carol A. Kelly
James R. Kennedy

Richard J. Daley Center
(2600 Daley Center
Chicago, IL 60602)

Circuit Population:
5,288,655
(2006 est.)
FIRST CIRCUIT
(Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Alexander (Cairo)
Jackson (Murphysboro)
Johnson (Vienna)
Massac (Metropolis)
Pope (Golconda)
Pulaski (Mound City)
Saline (Harrisburg)
Union (Jonesboro)
Williamson (Marion)

Terry J. Foster
Chief Judge
Williamson County Courthouse
200 W. Jefferson Street
Marion, IL 62959

Circuit Population: 213,881
(2006 est.)

Pope County
Golconda
1st Judicial Circuit
(Pope County Photo)

3rd Judicial Circuit
(Bond County Photo)

SECOND CIRCUIT
(Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Crawford (Robinson)
Edwards (Albion)
Franklin (Benton)
Gallatin (Shawneetown)
Hamilton (McLeansboro)
Hardin (Elizabethtown)
Jefferson (Mount Vernon)
Lawrence (Lawrenceville)
Richland (Olney)
Wabash (Mount Carmel)
Wayne (Fairfield)
White (Carmi)

E. Kyle Vantrease
Chief Judge
Jefferson County Justice Center
911 Casey Avenue
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Circuit Population: 201,654
(2006 est.)

Hamilton County
McLeansboro
2nd Judicial Circuit
(Hamilton County Photo)

3rd Judicial Circuit
(Bond County Photo)

THIRD CIRCUIT
(Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Bond (Greenville)
Madison (Edwardsville)

Ann E. Callis
Chief Judge
Madison County Courthouse
155 North Main, #405
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Circuit Population: 283,358
(2006 est.)

Bond County
Greenville
3rd Judicial Circuit
(Bond County Photo)
### Circuit Judges:

### Associate Judges:
Charles Clayton Cavaness, Kimberly L. Dahlen, Everett D. Kimmel, Walden E. Morris, Christy W. Solverson, John A. Speroni, William H. Wilson

#### Circuit Judges:

### Associate Judges:
Kathleen M. Alling, Leo T. Desmond, Kimbara Graham Harrell, Robert W. Lewis, Mark Lane Shaner, Mark R. Stanley

### Circuit Judges:
Nicholas G. Byron, Barbara L. Crowder, Edward C. Ferguson, David A. Hylla, John Knight, A. Andreas Matoesian, Jr., Charles V. Romani, Jr., Daniel J. Stack

### Associate Judges:

#### Pending Caseload

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#### Total Caseload

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### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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FOURTH CIRCUIT
(Fifth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Christian (Taylorville)
Clay (Louisville)
Clinton (Carlyle)
Effingham (Effingham)
Fayette (Vandalia)
Jasper (Newton)
Marion (Salem)
Montgomery (Hillsboro)
Shelby (Shelbyville)

S. Gene Schwarm
Chief Judge
Montgomery County Courthouse
120 N. Main St., #231
Hillsboro, IL 62049

Circuit Population: 244,434
(2006 est.)

FIFTH CIRCUIT
(Fourth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Clark (Marshall)
Coles (Charleston)
Cumberland (Toledo)
Edgar (Paris)
Vermilion (Danville)

Tracy W. Resch
Chief Judge
Clark County Courthouse
501 Archer Avenue
Marshall, IL 62441

Circuit Population: 180,060
(2006 est.)

SIXTH CIRCUIT
(Fourth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Champaign (Urbana)
DeWitt (Clinton)
Douglas (Tuscola)
Macon (Decatur)
Moultrie (Sullivan)
Piatt (Monticello)

John P. Shonkwiler
Chief Judge
Platt County Courthouse
101 W. Washington
Room 306
Monticello, IL 61856

Circuit Population: 362,621
(2006 est.)
### Circuit Judges:

### Associate Judges:

### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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### Circuit Judges:

### Associate Judges:

### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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### Circuit Judges:

### Associate Judges:

### Pending Caseload

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Civil</th>
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SEVENTH CIRCUIT
(Fourth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Greene (Carrollton)
Jersey (Jerseyville)
Macoupin (Carlinville)
Morgan (Jacksonville)
Sangamon (Springfield)
Scott (Winchester)

James W. Day
Chief Judge
Sangamon County Complex
200 S. 9th Street
Springfield, IL 62701
Circuit Population: 320,291
(2006 est.)

Macoupin County
Carlinville
7th Judicial Circuit
(Macoupin County Photo)

EIGHTH CIRCUIT
(Fourth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Adams (Quincy)
Brown (Mount Sterling)
Calhoun (Hardin)
Cass (Virginia)
Mason (Havana)
Menard (Petersburg)
Pike (Pittsfield)
Schuyler (Rushville)

Thomas L. Brownfield
Chief Judge
Adams County Courthouse
521 Vermont Street
Quincy, IL 62301
Circuit Population: 144,780
(2006 est.)

Menard County
Petersburg
8th Judicial Circuit
(Menard County Photo)

NINTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Fulton (Lewistown)
Hancock (Carthage)
Henderson (Oquawka)
Knox (Galesburg)
McDonough (Macomb)
Warren (Monmouth)

Stephen C. Mathers
Chief Judge
130 S. Lafayette Street
Suite 30
Macomb, IL 61455
Circuit Population: 166,497
(2006 est.)

Hancock County
Carthage
9th Judicial Circuit
(Hancock County Photo)
### Circuit Judges


**Associate Judges:** Rudolph M. Braud, Jr., Diane L. Brunton, John E. Childress, Charles J. Gramlich, Robert T. Hall, Roger W. Holmes, John A. Mehlick, Steven H. Nardulli, Tim P. Olson, Esteban F. Sanchez

### Circuit Judges


**Associate Judges:** Scott J. Butler, Diane M. Lagoski, Thomas J. Ortbal, Chet W. Vahle, John C. Woolleyhan

### Circuit Judges


**Associate Judges:** Steven R. Bordner, John R. Clerkin, Richard H. Gambrell, Dwayne I. Morrison, Patricia A. Walton

#### Pending Caseload

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#### Pending Caseload

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#### Total Caseload

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TENTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Marshall (Lacon)
Peoria (Peoria)
Putnam (Hennepin)
Stark (Toulon)
Tazewell (Pekin)

Stuart P. Borden
Chief Judge
Peoria County Courthouse
324 Main Street, #215
Peoria, IL 61602

Circuit Population: 338,295
(2006 est.)

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT
(Fourth Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Ford (Paxton)
Livingston (Pontiac)
Logan (Lincoln)
McLean (Bloomington)
Woodford (Eureka)

Elizabeth A. Robb
Chief Judge
McLean County Law & Justice Center
104 W. Front Street
Room 507
Bloomington, IL 61701

Circuit Population: 282,277
(2006 est.)

TWELFTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

County (seat):
Will (Joliet)

Stephen D. White
Chief Judge
Will County Courthouse
14 W. Jefferson, #439
Joliet, IL 60432

Circuit Population: 668,217
(2006 est.)
2007 Annual Report • SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS • Administrative Summary


Associate Judges: Jennifer Hartmann Bauknecht, David W. Butler, John Casey Costigan, Charles M. Feeney III, Rebecca Simmons Foley, Robert L. Freitag, Thomas M. Harris Jr., Paul G. Lawrence, Robert M. Travers


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Associate Judges: Jennifer Hartmann Bauknecht, David W. Butler, John Casey Costigan, Charles M. Feeney III, Rebecca Simmons Foley, Robert L. Freitag, Thomas M. Harris Jr., Paul G. Lawrence, Robert M. Travers


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THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Bureau (Princeton)
Grundy (Morris)
LaSalle (Ottawa)

James A. Lanuti
Chief Judge
LaSalle County Courthouse
119 W. Madison, #204
Ottawa, IL 61350

Circuit Population:
194,150
(2006 est.)

LaSalle County
Ottawa
13th Judicial Circuit
(Lasalle County Photo)

FORTTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Third Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Henry (Cambridge)
Mercer (Aledo)
Rock Island (Rock Island)
Whiteside (Morrison)

Jeffrey W. O'Connor
Chief Judge
Rock Island County Courthouse
210 15th Street, #408
Rock Island, IL 61201

Circuit Population:
274,719
(2006 est.)

Rock Island County
Rock Island
14th Judicial Circuit
(Rock Island County Photo)

FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Second Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
Carroll (Mount Carroll)
Jo Daviess (Galena)
Lee (Dixon)
Ogle (Oregon)
Stephenson (Freeport)

William A. Kelly
Chief Judge
Ogle County Courthouse
106 S. Fifth Street, #306A
Oregon, IL 61061

Circuit Population:
176,544
(2006 est.)

Ogle County
Oregon
15th Judicial Circuit
(Ogle County Photo)
Circuit Judges: Marc Bernabei, Eugene P. Daugherity, Joseph P. Hettel, Robert C. Marsaglia, Cynthia M. Raccuglia, Howard C. Ryan, Jr.

Associate Judges: William P. Balestri, James L. Brusatte, Daniel J. Bute, Cornelius J. Hollerich, Lance R. Peterson

### Pending Caseload

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Associate Judges: Michael R. Albert, John L. Bell, Thomas C. Berglund, Alan G. Blackwood, Raymond J. Conklin, John R. McClean, Jr., Dana R. McReynolds, James J. Mesich, Carol M. Pentuic, Richard A. Zimmer

### Pending Caseload

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Associate Judges: Jacquelyn D. Ackert, Charles T. Beckman, Robert T. Hanson, James M. Hauser, David L. Jeffrey, John F. Joyce, Kathleen O. Kauffmann, Kevin J. Ward

### Pending Caseload

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<td>54,150</td>
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SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Second Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
- Boone (Belvidere)
- Winnebago (Rockford)

Donald C. Hudson
Chief Judge
Kane County
Judicial Center
37 W. 777 Rte. 38, #400 A
St. Charles, IL  60175

Circuit Population:
682,032
(2006 est.)

Kendall County
Yorkville
16th Judicial Circuit
(Kendall County Photo)

SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT
(Second Appellate District)

Counties (seats):
- DeKalb (Sycamore)
- Kane (Geneva)
- Kendall (Yorkville)

Donald C. Hudson
Chief Judge
Kane County
Judicial Center
37 W. 777 Rte. 38, #400 A
St. Charles, IL  60175

Circuit Population:
682,032
(2006 est.)

Winnebago County
Rockford
17th Judicial Circuit
(Winnebago County Photo)
### Circuit Judges:

### Associate Judges:
- Joseph J. Bruce, Fernando L. Engelsma, Patrick L. Heaslip, John S. Lowry, Richard A. Lucus, Steven L. Nordquist, Gary Pumilia, R. Craig Sahlstrom, Brian Dean Shore, John R. Truitt, Steven G. Vecchio, Ronald J. White, K. Patrick Yarbrough, John H. Young

#### Pending Caseload

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#### Total Caseload

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#### Pending Caseload

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#### Total Caseload

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<td>2003</td>
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EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT  
(Second Appellate District)

DuPage County  
Wheaton  
18th Judicial Circuit  
(DuPage County Photo)

County (seat):  
DuPage (Wheaton)

Ann B. Jorgensen  
Chief Judge  
DuPage County Courthouse  
505 N. County Farm Rd., #2015  
Wheaton, IL  60187

Circuit Population:  
932,670  
(2006 est.)

NINETEENTH CIRCUIT  
(Second Appellate District)

Lake County  
Waukegan  
19th Judicial Circuit  
(Lake County Photo)

County (seat):  
Lake (Waukegan)

David M. Hall  
Chief Judge  
Lake County Courthouse  
18 N. County Street  
Waukegan, IL  60085

Circuit Population:  
713,076  
(2006 est.)

* Effective December 4, 2006, Public Act 93-0541 created a new 22nd Judicial Circuit separating the counties of McHenry and Lake into single county circuits. For trend reporting purposes, the five year trend reports provided for the 19th and 22nd Judicial Circuit charts reflect individual county totals for Lake County (19th Judicial Circuit) and McHenry County (22nd Judicial Circuit).
### Circuit Judges

### Associate Judges

### Pending Caseload

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Juvenile</th>
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### Total Caseload

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### Circuit Judges
- James K. Booras, George Bridges, Valerie Boettle Ceckowski, Fred Foreman, Raymond J. McKoski, Margaret J. Mullen, John T. Phillips, Victoria A. Rossetti, Mary S. Schostok, Christopher C. Starck, Jane D. Waller

### Associate Judges
**Circuit Courts**

**TWENTIETH CIRCUIT**
(Fifth Appellate District)

- Counties (seats):
  - Monroe (Waterloo)
  - Perry (Pinckneyville)
  - Randolph (Chester)
  - St. Clair (Belleville)
  - Washington (Nashville)

- Circuit Population: 363,615 (2006 est.)

- C. John Baricevic
  - Chief Judge
  - McHenry County Building
  - 10 Public Square
  - Belleville, IL 62220

**TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT**
(Third Appellate District)

- Counties (seats):
  - Iroquois (Watseka)
  - Kankakee (Kankakee)

- Circuit Population: 139,688 (2006 est.)

- Clark E. Erickson
  - Chief Judge
  - Kankakee County Courthouse
  - 450 East Court Street
  - Kankakee, IL 60901

**TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT**
(Second Appellate District)

- County (seat):
  - McHenry (Woodstock)

- Circuit Population: 312,373 (2006 est.)

- Michael J. Sullivan
  - Chief Judge
  - McHenry County Government Center
  - 2200 N. Seminary Ave.
  - Woodstock, IL 60098

*Effective December 4, 2006, Public Act 93-0541 created a new 22nd Judicial Circuit separating the counties of McHenry and Lake into single county circuits. For trend reporting purposes, the five year trend reports provided for the 19th and 22nd Judicial Circuit charts reflect individual county totals for Lake County (19th Judicial Circuit) and McHenry County (22nd Judicial Circuit).*
### 2007 Annual Report

#### Circuit Judges:
- James W. Campanella, Lloyd A. Cueto, Dennis B. Doyle, Annette A. Eckert, Jan V. Fiss, Dennis Hatch, Robert P. LeChien, Michael J. O’Malley, William A. Schuwerk, Jr., Milton S. Wharton, Patrick M. Young

#### Associate Judges:

#### Circuit Judges:
- James W. Campanella, Lloyd A. Cueto, Dennis B. Doyle, Annette A. Eckert, Jan V. Fiss, Dennis Hatch, Robert P. LeChien, Michael J. O’Malley, William A. Schuwerk, Jr., Milton S. Wharton, Patrick M. Young

#### Associate Judges:

### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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### Pending Caseload

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### Total Caseload

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#### Circuit Judges:
- Adrienne W. Albrecht, Kathy Bradshaw Elliott, Michael J. Kick, Gordon Lee Lustfeldt, Susan Sumner Tungate, Kendall O. Wenzelman

#### Associate Judges:
- James B. Kinzer, Michael D. Kramer, William O. Schmidt, J. Scott Swaim

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#### Circuit Judges:
- Michael T. Caldwell, Michael J. Chmiel, Joseph P. Condon, Maureen P. McIntyre, Sharon Prather, Charles P. Weech

#### Associate Judges:
The Executive Office is responsible for coordinating and guiding the operations of each of the divisions of the Administrative Office and serves as the central resource for operational issues impacting the administration of the judicial branch. It includes the offices of the Administrative Director, the Executive Assistant to the Director, the Senior Attorney, attorneys, and related administrative staff.

The Executive Office, on behalf of the Supreme Court, also manages and coordinates liaison activities with executive and legislative branch officials and agencies. An important responsibility of the office is the consideration and evaluation of non-routine administrative issues, and presenting that analysis to the Court during each Term. The Administrative Director, in collaboration with the Chief Justice, prepares and presents these administrative agenda issues to the Court for discussion and disposition. Agenda items approved by the Court for action are then implemented by the Director through the Executive Office.

The Executive Office plans and directs Administrative Office staff support for the Supreme Court Committees and the Committees of the Illinois Judicial Conference. The study and recommendations which flow from each Judicial Conference Committee to the Supreme Court greatly impact matters related to improving the administration of justice in Illinois. Consistent with the Court’s increased reliance on the work of the Judicial Conference Committees, the Court again in 2007 assigned specific tasks and projects to each Judicial Conference Committee. Senior level AOIC staff with related subject matter expertise serve as liaisons to assist each committee in their assignments.

The Executive Office, in its administration of Rule 39 (Appointment of Associate Judges) on behalf of the Supreme Court, planned for and administered the quadrennial application and appointment process for Illinois’ 395 authorized associate judge positions. Further, the Executive
Office conducted twenty-nine associate judge elections in eighteen of Illinois’ twenty-three judicial circuits during 2007. The Executive Office also processes applications filed under Supreme Court Rule 295 to authorize the assignment of associate judges to felony matters. Additionally, Supreme Court Rule 711 applications are reviewed and approved through the Executive Office to enable law students to provide limited legal representation under certain circumstances.

The Executive Office is responsible for securing and tracking legal representation provided by the Office of the Attorney General for members of the judicial branch in regard to matters arising out of the performance of their official duties. Executive Office staff also negotiates, prepares, and manages office leases and contracts for the Supreme and Appellate Courts, the mandatory arbitration programs, and the Administrative Office.

All vendor contracts generated by the Administrative Office for use in securing goods and services are reviewed and approved by the Executive Office. Written summaries of recent Supreme Court opinions are prepared by legal staff within the Executive Office for distribution to all Illinois Judges. Additionally, the Executive Office provides secretariat services to the Illinois Courts Commission, including filing and preservation of Commission records, distributing the Official Illinois Courts Commission Reports, and performing all other duties typically executed by a clerk of a court of record. Executive Office staff also prepares and executes grants for programming funded through the Lawyers’ Assistance Program Act.
Finally, in September 2007, in concert with Chief Justice Thomas, the Administrative Director, as part of the federally funded Court Improvement Program (CIP), convened a Summit on Child Welfare Issues in the Illinois Courts. The Summit, held in Chicago, was attended by jurisdictional teams comprised of judges, court administrators, and key stakeholders from each of Illinois’ twenty-three circuit courts. As a result of work at the Summit, each of the circuits jurisdictional teams continue to work collaboratively with local child welfare practitioners to improve the well-being of children and families subject to abuse, neglect, and dependency proceedings.

The Administrative Services Division provides technical and support services to the judicial branch through its five operational units; the Payroll/Benefits Unit, the Accounting Unit, the Budget Unit, the Human Resources Unit, and Mail/Reprographics Unit.

The Payroll/Benefits Unit maintains all payroll records for current state-paid judicial branch employees, as well as records for all previous employees. Staff of this unit work with the Office of the Comptroller to produce both monthly and semi-monthly payrolls for over 1,500 current judicial branch employees. Staff also coordinate the state’s varied employee benefit programs, including health, dental, and life insurance.

The Accounting Unit consistently and accurately processes all payment vouchers for the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court, the state-paid functions of the circuit courts, and the Administrative Office. The Accounting Unit also maintains all financial records for the expenditure of resources appropriated by the General Assembly. Staff of this unit work closely with staff of the Comptroller’s Office to reconcile payment information and provide that office any additional information needed to facilitate the payment of judicial branch bills.

In addition to overseeing procurement and inventory controls, the Budget Unit produces highly technical and analytical financial reports used by judicial branch managers and the Administrative Director. These reports track daily spending, contractual obligations, and projected needs. This unit also prepares the comprehensive documentation utilized in the development and implementation of the annual judicial branch budget. The Budget Unit monitors the number of authorized judicial and non-judicial positions within the judicial branch and coordinates the flow of information among the Secretary of State’s Office and the State Board of Elections regarding judicial election.

The Human Resource Unit provides personnel services to judicial branch employees and managers. Staff within this unit maintain comprehensive attendance records for all judicial branch personnel covered by the Supreme Court’s Leave of Absence Policies and assist individuals with questions regarding the associated paid and unpaid leaves of absences. Staff interact with CMS personnel to coordinate the state’s workers’ compensation program. The Human Resource Unit also works with judicial branch employees and managers in administering the judicial branch’s classification and compensation plan. When requested, staff of this unit also assist judicial branch managers in their recruitment and selection process, including the placement of advertisements, the dissemination, collection, and review of applications, administering proficiency testing, and securing reference checks.

The Mail/Reprographics Unit oversees the distribution of mail and parcel services for the Administrative Office. Acting as its own print shop, staff of this unit review materials presented for copying and determine the best method to replicate the originals. In many instances, the Unit produces print quality manuals, brochures, and publications.
The Court Services Division is organized in four working groups (the Child Welfare Unit; the Program Unit; the Recordkeeping and Technology Unit; and the Labor Unit) and is involved in a diverse and wide range of activities and projects affecting judges, circuit clerks, and other components of the judicial branch of government. The Division is responsible for staffing a variety of Supreme Court committees, Judicial Conference committees, and the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges. It produces the Judicial Conference Report and this annual report. The Division also serves as the primary liaison for addressing concerns and initiatives relating to circuit court clerks. It assists with local labor negotiations that impact the judicial branch. In addition, a number of specific-topic programs, such as management of the Capital Litigation Trial Bar and maintenance of judicial branch long-range capital development plans are administered by the Division. Child protection projects, including management of related federal grants, are also one of its responsibilities. The Division provides legislative support services to the Supreme Court, and prepares legislative summaries for Chief Circuit Judges and Circuit Clerks.

The year 2007 was an active one for Court Services. It assisted with and monitored the establishment of a new court-annexed arbitration program in the Third Judicial Circuit, Madison County, which began operation on July 1, 2007. In coordination with the Division, and pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 58, voluntary judicial performance evaluations were completed in the 2nd Municipal District of Cook County and the Third, Tenth, and Eleventh Judicial Circuits. In 2007, Court Services staff processed 122 applications for membership into the Capital Litigation Trial Bar (CLTB) as well as 20 applications for certification as an approved provider of programs for CLTB Continuing Legal Education Training programs. The Division also processed the removal of 22 members of the Capital Litigation Trial Bar for failure to comply with continuing education requirements – and assisted in the drafting of Supreme Court Rule 714(i) to enable a process for reinstatement after such removal. In 2007, 18 impartial medical examination orders were coordinated by staff pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Rule 215(d). The Labor Unit represented judicial employers in negotiating approximately 40 collective bargaining agreements and in advising judges and circuit clerks on matters of contract interpretation and administration.

The Division is responsible for a number of tasks and projects associated with child welfare issues in the Illinois courts, including the management of the federally-funded statewide Court Improvement Program (CIP). There are currently three grant awards (general, data and training) for which the staff manages all technical, fiscal and program components. In September of 2007, CIP funds were used to sponsor a Summit on Child Welfare Issues in the Illinois Courts which was attended by over 200 participants representing all twenty-three circuits.

The Division provides a wide range of guidance and technical support services to circuit clerks and their staff. The Recordkeeping and Technology Unit organized and conducted a major training program in regard to the “Report J” component of the clerk’s Annual Financial Report. Ten regional programs were conducted throughout the State providing circuit clerks and their staff detailed instruction in this complex procedure. Division staff also worked with the Oversight Board for Continuing Education of the Illinois Association of Court Clerks in regard to educational programs for circuit clerks and their staff and coordination of the New Clerk Mentor Program. An update of the Manual on Fines and Fees was completed and distributed on paper and CD to Chief Circuit Judges and Circuit Clerks, with plans for future updates to
be provided in an electronic format. Staff assisted the Office of the Auditor General in review of the Circuit Clerk Audit Guidelines and published and distributed the revisions to county board chairs and circuit clerks. The Division coordinated activities relating to implementation of the Supreme Court approved Electronic Business Initiative, providing a framework for specific statewide e-Business services in the trial courts. Merged jury lists were provided by the Division to 99 counties. The AOIC petit juror and grand jury handbooks were supplied to counties as needed. The Division continues to manage the Offense Code Table (OFT) to identify offenses reported through the Automated Disposition Reporting (ADR) Program. A complete, updated version of the OFT was issued in February 2007, and is currently used for ADR reporting in 83 Illinois counties.

The Judicial Education Division is responsible for the development of judicial education resources to ensure that Illinois judges can acquire the knowledge and skills they need to be effective jurists. In that regard, the Division provides guidance and administrative support to the Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Education, the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases, the Judicial Mentor Committee and to other committees and groups convened for the purpose of developing judicial education resources.

The Supreme Court, in 2006, promulgated Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) requirements for all Appellate, Circuit and Associate judges. In conjunction with the adoption of the MCJE requirements, the Division coordinated development of a new 30-hour curriculum to be presented to all Illinois judges in early 2008 at the Judicial Education Conference. Six “judicial benchbooks” are also being prepared to address distinct areas of Illinois law. The Division has worked closely with the Committee on Education to enhance the judicial education needs assessment processes in place and to improve faculty recruitment and development efforts. The Division also planned and coordinated the 2007 biannual Advanced Judicial Academy, which addressed the life-altering decisions that judges must make in regard to mentally ill and addicted persons and oversaw presentation of the annual seminar series which included three regional (2 day) seminars, and one specialized program. Also in 2007, the Division presented the annual New Judges Seminar and conducted a Faculty Development Workshop for judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. In addition to its work with the Committee on Education, the Division assists the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases in presenting two Capital Cases Seminars each year, in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 43, for Illinois judges hearing death penalty cases. The Division also managed “Family Law Mediation Training for Judges” to facilitate compliance with Supreme Court Rule 905. This six day training focused on mediation issues in child custody and visitation cases.

The Division also staffs the Judicial Mentor Committee and administers the Judicial Mentoring Program, which provides an experienced judicial mentor for all new Illinois judges. Lastly, the Division collaborates with other Divisions of the Administrative Office to develop customized judicial education programs on such topics as effective child protection practices, at risk youth and families in the justice system and evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism of adult and juvenile offenders.

The Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS) Division is one of five divisions within the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) and consists of the Assistant Director, JMIS, the Applications Group, Hardware/Software Group, Internet Services Group, User Services Group and administrative staff. At the direction of the Administrative Director, JMIS provides technology to the offices and staff of the Illinois Supreme and Appellate Courts, Supreme Court supporting units and all divisions within the AOIC.

JMIS’ Applications Group is responsible for the design and development of enterprise database applications in a client-server environment and using Oracle’s web-based applications and development tools. The Internet Services group is responsible for the design and support of the Supreme Court website (www.state.il.us/court) and the use of Internet technologies to improve the exchange of information within the judiciary. The Hardware/Software group manages the Courts’ local and wide area networks, servers, personal computers, printers, network and security policies. The Hardware/Software group is also responsible for the installation and support of the state-provided digital recording systems in the trial courts. The User Services group staffs JMIS’ Help Desk, is responsible for database administration, provides telecommunication services, and manages the inventory and asset tracking of IT equipment.

In 2007, through the Administrative Director and Illinois Supreme Court, JMIS implemented an...
audio and video recording system in the Supreme Court courtroom, where recordings of Court oral argument hearings are posted to the website. With this project and the expanded use of digital multimedia within the AOIC, JMIS has implemented hardware and software systems to create, edit and produce audio and video recordings for archival and use within the judiciary.

JMIS continues to support and install new electronic recording systems throughout the trial courts. The recording systems, which can be operated outside of the courtrooms, provide digital audio recordings that are used to generate transcripts of trial court hearings. As of December 2007, there are more than 280 trial court courtrooms capable of audio recording in Illinois.

JMIS is developing technical specifications and standards associated with the Court’s statewide electronic business initiative. This project requires the establishment of a state court network, data exchange standards, the development of a central data repository and judicial portal to facilitate the electronic filing of trial court documents and compilation of aggregate trial court data.

The Probation Services Division provides services to Chief Judges and their probation staff in all circuits. The Probation and Probation Officer’s Act, at 730 ILCS 110/15(1) states: “The Supreme Court of Illinois may establish a Division of Probation Services whose purpose shall be the development, establishment, promulgation, and enforcement of uniform standards for probation services in the State, and otherwise carry out the intent of this Act.” Consistent with its statutory responsibility, the mission of the Probation Division is to improve the quality, effectiveness, and professionalism of probation and detention services in Illinois. In carrying out this mission, the Division’s training, monitoring, standards-setting, and technical assistance activities extend to all aspects of the administration and operation of Illinois probation and court services departments. These activities include the administration of state reimbursement to counties for probation and detention services, review and approval of annual probation plans submitted by each department, collection and analysis of statewide probation data, administration of probation employment and compensation standards, development and implementation of effective correctional intervention strategies for offenders on probation, monitoring and evaluation of probation programs and operations, administration of the interstate compact for probationers transferring into and out of the state, design and delivery of basic and advanced training for probation and detention personnel, and provision of technical assistance and staff support to circuit courts to improve the administration and operation of probation services in Illinois.
In 2007, the Division focused on four main areas: the development and delivery of basic and advanced probation and detention training, the continued implementation of evidence-based practices (EBP), the development of quality assurance measures, and the creation of a training infrastructure to support and sustain effective probation and detention practices in Illinois.

The Division continued its efforts to improve probation and detention practices and outcomes through the implementation of EBP. Such research based practices provide a framework for greater safety through reducing the risk of re-offending by offenders sentenced to probation. Nearly two thirds of all adult probation officers and managers have been trained on the Effective Casework (ECW) model which consists of a series of three skill-based modules based on the principles of EBP. The ECW for adult probation includes training on the use and scoring of the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R - an offender risk and needs assessments), advanced interviewing techniques, social learning theory, cognitive behavioral interventions and effective case planning. It is anticipated that by 2008, the entire state will be trained on this model.

Statewide training on the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) and the ECW was completed in 2005 for all juvenile probation managers and officers so in 2007 the focus shifted to the development and implementation of quality assurance measures to ensure that the EBP practices are being implemented with integrity to the model. AOIC staff conducted reviews on select probation departments and provided booster training session on the ECW for departments throughout the state.

Another major area of focus was on building a training-for-trainer infrastructure comprised of a cadre of probation officers, supervisors and AOIC staff. This systemic approach provides a mechanism to provide skill and knowledge-based training to probation and detention personnel in a consistent and effective manner. Thus far, a cadre of probation officers and managers are trained as trainers on the scoring and administration of the Level of Service Inventory (LSI-R) and advanced interviewing techniques. In 2007 statewide efforts also launched a series of training events in cognitive behavioral interventions that have been proven as highly effective in reducing offender risk. Three curricula were premiered: Girls Moving On, Thinking for A Change and Aggression Replacement Training (ART). This effort will reduce costs and assists in sustaining effective probation practices in Illinois.

The Division sponsored over 101 training events serving 2,968 adult and juvenile probation and detention officers, supervisors and managers on a variety of probation and detention related topics. One of the events was developed in collaboration with the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision, where regional training was provided to judges on the rules governing the interstate transfer of adult offenders. In addition, the Division concluded a three year project with the National Institute of Corrections and the Crime and Justice Institute to implement an integrated model system of evidence based practices. The project culminated with a probation managers symposium in Oak Brook in November to recognize the progress made by probation departments and to plan for future initiatives.