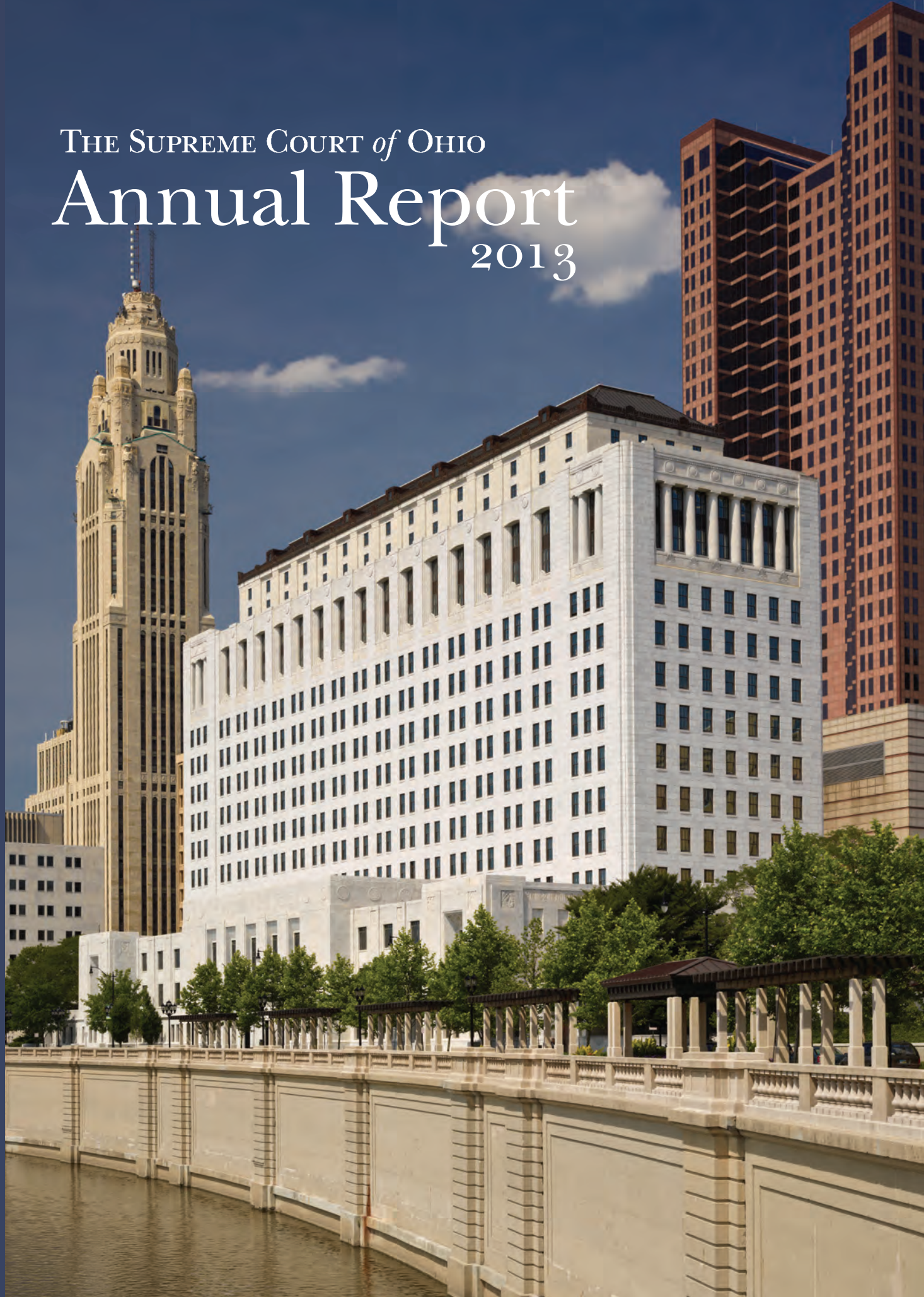


THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

Annual Report

2013





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Maureen O'Connor
Chief Justice

Paul E. Pfeifer
Terrence O'Donnell
Judith Ann Lanzinger
Sharon L. Kennedy
Judith L. French
William M. O'Neill

Justices

Steven C. Hollon
Administrative Director

FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Dear Ohioans,

Buenos dias, bonjour, hallo, habari. Every language on earth has a way of offering greetings. Perhaps the only thing more common in the human experience than our desire to connect and communicate with the simple “hello” is the universal quest for justice.

When I look back on the activities of the Ohio Supreme Court in 2013, it is remarkable the progress that we have made in ensuring that every person in our state – regardless of their native tongue – is afforded the same basic protections and rights under the law.

Ohio is becoming more and more diverse as we head into the 21st Century and continue to increase our participation in the global economy.

Our data show that Ohio courts now handle thousands of cases per year that require some language translation in more than 80 different languages.

In this 2013 Annual Report, you will read about the progress we made this past year in helping local courts to meet this critical need.

And you will read about many other developments, activities, and accomplishments by the justices and staff of the Supreme Court.

Whether it’s in Spanish, French, Swedish, or Swahili, there is one pursuit that unites all of us as humans, and that is the goal of all of us at the Ohio Supreme Court: To see that justice is served.

Thank you for your support of our efforts.

God bless,



Maureen O’Connor
Chief Justice

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SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor became the 10th chief justice in Ohio history in 2011 and the first woman to lead the state's judicial branch. Since taking office, she has led significant reforms and improvements in the Ohio judicial system, including cutting the Supreme Court budget, establishing a task force to examine court funding statewide, creating a committee to examine the administration of the death penalty, and proposing improvements to strengthen judicial elections in Ohio.

Justice Paul E. Pfeifer

Elected in 1992, Justice Paul E. Pfeifer is the most senior member of the Ohio Supreme Court. He grew up on his family's dairy farm near Bucyrus, and he still lives just down the road raising Black Angus cattle. He served in both houses of the Ohio General Assembly, as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee for 10 years, and he crafted the legislation creating the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority.

Justice Terrence O'Donnell

Since joining the Ohio Supreme Court in 2003, Justice Terrence O'Donnell has led statewide efforts to increase professionalism among lawyers and judges across the state. Previously, he served on the common pleas and appellate benches and worked as a school teacher. He also served as chairman of the Ohio Legal Rights Service Commission, which oversees the protection and advocacy of the developmentally disabled and mentally ill statewide.

Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger

After 27 years on the bench and now serving her second term on the Ohio Supreme Court, Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger is the only person ever elected to all four levels of the Ohio judiciary. She maintains an educational blog about the court, justicejudy.blogspot.com, and is the 150th justice and seventh woman to serve on the Ohio Supreme Court. She also was recognized for her 12 years of service on the faculty of the National Judicial College.

Justice Sharon L. Kennedy

A former Butler County Domestic Relations Court Judge, Sharon L. Kennedy won election to the Ohio Supreme Court in November 2012. She previously served on the bench in Butler County, where she improved its case management system to ensure the timely resolution of cases for families and children as administrative judge. Before becoming a judge, she was special counsel to the attorney general and a part-time magistrate. She began her career as a police officer.

Justice Judith L. French

Former appellate judge Judith L. French became the 155th justice of the Ohio Supreme Court on January 1, 2013, after her appointment by Gov. John Kasich. Before serving as an appellate judge, she was chief legal counsel to Gov. Bob Taft, as well as an assistant attorney general and then chief counsel to the attorney general. Twice, she argued before the U.S. Supreme Court – most recently on behalf of the state in the Cleveland school-vouchers case.

Justice William M. O'Neill

A former Army officer, Vietnam veteran, reporter, registered nurse, and appellate judge, Justice William M. O'Neill – a member of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame – joined the Ohio Supreme Court on January 2, 2013. He is a retired Army lieutenant colonel and a retired Judge Advocate General (JAG) lieutenant colonel in the Ohio National Guard. He received the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal for his service in Vietnam.

Standing from left to right: Justice Judith L. French, Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger, Justice Sharon L. Kennedy, and Justice William M. O'Neill. **Seated from left to right:** Justice Paul E. Pfeifer, Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, and Justice Terrence O'Donnell.



STAFF NOTES



Reed Named Clerk of Court

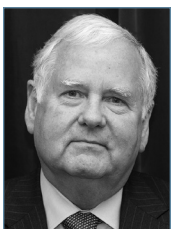
Mark H. Reed became the Supreme Court of Ohio Clerk of the Court on November 1. Reed replaced **Kristina Frost**, who retired August 30. In the interim, Director of Legal Resources **Kent Shimeall** served as the clerk of the court, pro tempore until a permanent clerk of court was appointed.

Reed most recently served as Clerk of Court for the Court of Claims of Ohio. Before that, he was the administrator of the Hamilton County Juvenile Court.

Reed received his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Kentucky. He is a member of the National Association for Court Administration, the Ohio Association of Court Administration, and the Ohio State Bar Association.

PICTURED: Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor swears in Mark H. Reed as the new clerk of the Supreme Court.

Court Approves New Disciplinary Counsel



The Ohio Supreme Court approved the appointment by the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline of **Scott J. Drexel**, a California attorney and former head of the equivalent office in that state, to replace Disciplinary Counsel **Jonathan E. Coughlan**, whose term expired on October 26.

For more than four years Drexel served as chief trial counsel for the State Bar of California, responsible for the investigation and prosecution of complaints against attorneys for professional misconduct and related regulatory proceedings involving attorneys, former attorneys, and applicants for admission to the practice of law.

As one of the three affiliated disciplinary offices, the Office of Disciplinary Counsel investigates and prosecutes allegations of misconduct against lawyers and judges throughout the state before the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline.

New Directors in Judicial Services Division

W. Milton Nuzum III was named director of the Judicial Services Division. As the division director, Nuzum oversees the Judicial College, and the offices of Court Services and Judicial Services.

Stephanie E. Hess, formerly manager of the Case Management Program, was named director of Court Services, an office that includes the Case Management Section, the Children, Families & the Courts Section, the Dispute Resolution Section, the Domestic Violence Section, the Language Services Section, and the Specialized Dockets Section.

Human Resources Manager Hired

Jeffrey White joined the court in October as manager of the Office of Human Resources.

White has more than 12 years of leadership experience working in human resources and is a licensed attorney in Ohio. Most recently, he led the Human Resources department with retail clothier Eddie Bauer.

2013
RETIRES

Charlsia Brown
Program Coordinator
Office of Court Services

Anne Butcher
Deputy Clerk
Board of Commissioners
on Grievances & Discipline

HONORS & AWARDS

Margaret Allen, Stephanie E. Hess, and Lee Ann Ward were elected to officer positions with national groups. Allen is now the vice president of the National Association of State Judicial Educators, Hess is the vice president of the National Association for Court Management, and Ward is the new chair of the Council of Bar Admission Administrators.

After the completion of their vice presidential terms, Allen and Hess will serve successive one-year terms as president-elect, president, and past president with their respective organizations.

Jacqueline Hagerott, manager of the Dispute Resolution Section, was elected to the board of the Association of Family and Conciliation Court, an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

A six-year Ohio Supreme Court employee who focuses her work on increasing professionalism among members of the bench and bar was appointed to a three-year term to a national professionalism committee. **Lori Keating**, Attorney Services counsel and secretary to the Supreme Court's Commission on Professionalism, began her term on the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Professionalism in August 2013.

Corey Schaal of the Office of Judicial Services received the 2013 James Wichtman Award during the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections (OJACC) annual conference. Schaal was recognized for his years of service to the OJACC Board of Trustees and for his dedication to the mission of improving and promoting community corrections through legislative initiatives and public education.



PRESIDENT'S AWARD. In its 40th year, the Ohio Association for Court Administration (OACA) created the President's Award to recognize outstanding service and/or significant contributions to OACA, court administration, and the judiciary. Four Ohio Supreme Court Judicial College employees received the inaugural award in May at OACA's spring conference. Education Program Manager **Margaret Allen**, Education Program Assistant **Lindsey Schmitz**, Education Services Specialist **Sara Stiffler**, and Education Services Specialist **Katrina Webb** were recognized for their continued individual efforts and collective accomplishments in assisting OACA in the planning, coordination, and management of OACA events.



EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE. On March 12, **Stephanie Tansill, James Bumbico, and Melissa Pierre-Louis** were recognized for their professionalism and outstanding service to the Supreme Court in 2012 during a ceremony before Supreme Court justices and staff. The annual awards are the highest honors given to Supreme Court staff. During that same ceremony, more than 40 employees were recognized for reaching 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service with the court.

Ken Butcher
Mail Center Coordinator
Mail Center

Kris Frost
Clerk of the Court
Office of the Clerk

Randy McGough
Investigator
Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Ann Schlatter
Executive Assistant
Justice O'Donnell

Karen Fields
Administrative Secretary
Office of Fiscal Resources

Mary Fry
Librarian
Law Library

Anthony Mohorovich
Records Management Coordinator
Records Management Center

Dennis Whalen
Public Information Officer
Office of Public Information

Supreme Court Launches Court Interpretation Program

The Ohio Supreme Court began a comprehensive program in 2013 to ensure language barriers do not stand in the way of justice being served in Ohio's courts.

The Supreme Court is working with local courts to ensure that those who need a foreign language or sign language interpreter in court are provided with one. Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor announced improvements to the interpreter services program in her annual State of the Judiciary Address in September.

"Ohio courts accommodate approximately 80 languages and handle more than 25,000 cases per year that require interpreters," Chief Justice O'Connor said. "State and federal law require that courts ensure the people in these cases can understand the proceedings."

A requirement that Ohio courts hire a certified foreign language or sign language interpreter, when available, to ensure the "meaningful participation" of deaf and limited English proficient individuals in court proceedings went into effect on January 1, 2013.

Adopted by the Ohio Supreme Court, Rule 88 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio also requires courts to "use all reasonable efforts" to avoid the appointment of interpreters who may have conflicts of interest.

The court interpreter rules are designed to ensure the due process rights of limited English proficient and deaf or hard-of-hearing

individuals and to provide the most qualified interpreters available given the number of possible languages that may appear in the state's court system.

Bruno Romero, manager of the Supreme Court language services program, is working with Ohio courts and judges to help meet the new requirement.

"We know that courts need our help to make this work, and so the Supreme Court is doing everything it can to provide the resources and assistance courts need to meet our obligations to support language access," Romero said.

Data shows that the cost of interpreter services amounted to about \$1.1 million in 2010 across all jurisdictions statewide. Guidance regarding the payment of interpreter services come from three sources: the Ohio Revised Code, the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Executive Order 13166, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on Interpreter Services investigated ways to help courts control costs, which included securing a new interpretation via telephone service that offers courts free 24-hour remote interpreter services for nearly 200 languages.

The Supreme Court began certifying court interpreters in 2010. More than 50 certified interpreters

The new program includes:



A statewide telephonic interpretation service to enable courts to connect with live interpreters in approximately 200 languages.



Bench reference cards distributed to all Ohio judges to provide guidance in handling cases that require an interpreter.



A training video for judges and court personnel that explains Ohio's interpretation rule and how to achieve compliance.



A public information campaign with a website, brochures, posters and other materials to inform litigants and others about rights and responsibilities in the area of language in the courts.



A complaint system with a standardized form to give aggrieved parties a way to bring their issues forward.

are now available in five languages. The certification ensures that interpreters working in the courts meet the minimum standards of language fluency and makes it possible for courts to provide the most qualified interpreters.

Information and resources are available at sc.ohio.gov through the button marked "Language Services."

2013 RULE CHANGES

Among the rule changes that were adopted by the Supreme Court or became effective in 2013 were those that reorganized and renumbered the Rules of Practice to mirror the flow of a case before the court; those that made several changes to the Code of Judicial Conduct, including an increase in judicial campaign contribution limits; and those that enabled some courts to begin submitting caseload statistics electronically. The year saw several more rule revisions, including:

- Adopting permanent rules that govern the establishment and operation of commercial dockets in Ohio and a companion rule that enables common pleas courts that establish commercial dockets to have the option of using retired judges to preside over these cases.



Justices French, O'Donnell Sworn In

A new justice and a returning one were each sworn in at the beginning of 2013. Judith L. French joined the Supreme Court January 1. Justice French was appointed by Gov. John Kasich to fill the vacancy left by the retired Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton. Justice French had served on the Tenth District Court of Appeals since 2004. Justice Terrence O'Donnell took the oath of office for his second, full six-year term on January 10. It came at a time of change on the court as two other new justices joined at the end of 2012 — Justice Sharon L. Kennedy and Justice William M. O'Neill.

TOP: Justice Judith L. French (surrounded by her husband Ed and daughter Julia) is sworn in by Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor.
 BOTTOM: Former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Deborah Cook delivers the oath of office to Justice Terrence O'Donnell as his wife, Mary Beth, looks on.

Portraits of Former Justices Sweeney & Duncan Dedicated



Family and friends of the late Justice Francis Sweeney Sr. (pictured above, left) came to the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center on May 8 for his official portrait dedication ceremony. Sweeney was the 144th Ohio Supreme Court Justice. He served from 1993 to 2004.

The late Justice Robert M. Duncan's portrait was dedicated to the Supreme Court on October 10 during a special ceremony at the Moyer Judicial Center. Justice Duncan was the first African American to serve on the court. He was the 124th justice and served on the court from 1969 until 1971.

Both portraits were painted by Toledo artist Leslie Adams, who also painted Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer's portrait.

- Requiring out-of-state attorneys employed by a nongovernmental employer – and as a result of that employment having a “systematic and continuous presence” in the state – to register for corporate counsel status with the Office of Attorney Services.
- Adopting 23 standardized forms designed to increase access to justice in family law-related proceedings in domestic relations and juvenile courts.
- Changing portions of the rules of appellate procedure, civil procedure, criminal procedure, and juvenile procedure.



2013

YEAR IN REVIEW

FEBRUARY

- ④ Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor swears in the third class of certified court interpreters during a ceremony in the Moyer Judicial Center.
- ⑤ The Supreme Court welcomes the president and CEO of United Way of Central Ohio, Janet E. Jackson – a former judge – as the featured speaker during a special event recognizing Black History Month.
- ②⑧ The three-day Ohio bar exam concludes for 427 aspiring Ohio lawyers.

MARCH

- ①⑨ Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor meets with high school and law school students in the Moyer Judicial Center before delivering her keynote speech during the Moyer Legacy Event.
- ②② The Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission sees its work with the legislature pay off as new felony sentencing guidelines take effect, allowing judges to sentence first-time fourth- and fifth-degree felons to prison if the crime involves a firearm, physical harm, bail or bond violation, and other offenses.
- ②⑥ The Commission on Professionalism publishes a guide of “DOs and DON'Ts” on courtroom professionalism, the first in a series to promote collegiality within the legal environment.



FAR LEFT: Successful applicants take their oath during the November 4 Bar Admissions Ceremony at the Ohio Theatre.

NEAR LEFT: David Singleton (left), executive director of the Ohio Justice and Policy Center, and Judge Nick Selvaggio of the Champaign County Common Pleas Court serve as panelists during the April 23 Forum on the Law event, which focused on the impact of the *Gideon v. Wainwright* decision.

APRIL

- 11 The Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline issues an opinion approving of lawyers texting potential clients.
- 18 In recognition of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month, the Law Library hosts a discussion about dog fighting with a local deputy sheriff who is a national expert on the topic.
- 24 The Supreme Court holds an official court session in Bellefontaine, as part of the biannual Off-Site Court program.
- 26 Nearly 300 applicants learn they passed the February 2013 bar exam.

MAY

- 6 About 250 bar admission applicants take their professional oath during the annual May bar admissions ceremony.
- 7 The Supreme Court announces that volunteer hours by Ohio attorneys totaled more than 100,000 in 2012.
- 9 Chief Justice O'Connor announces an eight-point initiative to reform judicial elections in Ohio.
- 23 During the Forum on the Law event, a panel of legal experts discusses the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision on *Gideon v. Wainwright*, which 50 years ago called for states to provide counsel for indigent defendants under the Fourteenth Amendment.

2013

YEAR IN REVIEW

JUNE

- 28 The Commission on Specialized Dockets gives final approval to five local courts in Ohio, deeming them the state's first certified specialized docket courts.

AUGUST

- 1 More than 1,000 prospective attorneys complete the three-day July Ohio bar exam.
- 21 The Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center is featured in the book, "State Supreme Courts," a pictorial presentation featuring courthouses throughout the country. The piece is published by the National Center for State Courts and the Conference of Chief Justices.

SEPTEMBER

- 10 Members of the State Justice Institute, a non-profit corporation established by federal law, hold an official meeting at the Moyer Judicial Center, to discuss grant opportunities for courts in order to improve the quality of justice in courts and facilitate coordination between state and federal courts.
- 12 Chief Justice O'Connor announces new efforts to facilitate legal interpretation in Ohio courts during her annual State of the Judiciary address to the Ohio Judicial Conference (see page 6 for program details).

- 20 The Commission on Professionalism releases its second "DOs & DON'Ts" guide on "Working with Opposing Counsel."

- 27 Justice William M. O'Neill addresses a class of 37 newly certified court managers from throughout Ohio who completed a three-year court management training program offered through the National Center for State Courts' Center for Court Management.

OCTOBER

- 23 The justices hear cases in Bucyrus – Justice Paul E. Pfeifer's hometown – during the 67th Off-Site Court session.
- 25 The court announces that 1,034 applicants pass the July 2013 bar exam.

NOVEMBER

- 1 The Ohio law licenses of 263 attorneys are suspended for failing to register with the Supreme Court.
- 1 In the Attorney Services Fund annual report, the court announces more than 60 percent of the fund, about \$5 million, was used to support the attorney discipline process in Ohio in Fiscal Year 2013.
- 1 The Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline hosts its annual Miller-Becker Seminar for Ohio lawyers who represent

colleagues in disciplinary cases, bar counsel, and members of the local certified grievance committees. In conjunction with the Ohio State Bar Association and the University of Akron School of Law, the seminar focuses on the impact of aging lawyers on the legal profession.

- ④ The court holds two special public sessions at the Ohio Theatre in Columbus, welcoming nearly 1,000 new attorneys during the biannual bar admissions ceremony.
- ⑥ A former U.S. diplomat discusses her hope with participants of the Forum on the Law that development of the rule of law in Myanmar will lead to foreign investment and economic growth.
- ⑱ The court launches a new online portal developed by the information technology staff, allowing Ohio's 300-plus mayor's courts to receive prompts to comply with caseload reporting requirements.
- ⑳ The court hosts a training session for judges and court personnel on the new remote telephonic interpretation service offered to local and appellate courts in Ohio.
- ㉖ The Law Library begins offering expanded online legal research resources at no cost to patrons through WestlawNext, a service negotiated with WestLaw.
- ㉗ The Clients' Security Fund releases its annual report, documenting the reimbursement of more than \$1.1 million to attorney theft victims during fiscal year 2013.

DECEMBER

- ② After assuming conflict resolution services for government officials, the court issues a statewide survey to public officials asking for input into the creation of a new program. The Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management, which was abolished by the legislature, previously provided this service.
- ⑥ The third in a series of professionalism "DOs & DON'Ts," published by the Commission on Professionalism, outlines appropriate conduct for prosecutors and defense attorneys.
- ⑫ Justice O'Neill testifies before the Judicial Branch and the Administration of Justice Committee of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission in favor of judicial election reform.
- ⑬ The Commission on Continuing Legal Education sanctions 195 attorneys for noncompliance.
- ⑳ Before a new rule went into effect in January 2014 requiring courts to notify law enforcement of violent offenders with mental illness, the court clarifies the rule language and eases the requirements of courts to execute the notification.

2013 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Complete descriptions of the Supreme Court administrative offices are available at sc.ohio.gov/AdminOffices/default.asp. The work of the court's affiliated offices is explained at sc.ohio.gov/AdminOffices/default.asp#affiliated.

Administrative Division

The Administrative Division is the lead division of the Supreme Court. It assists in developing and communicating the long-term vision, values and direction of the court and the judicial branch of Ohio government. The Administrative Director's Office includes administrative counsel, legislative counsel, and policy & research counsel. This division also oversees court communication and outreach and provides support to the court and Ohio judiciary in the areas of fiscal management, human resources, and records management.

Clerk's Division

The clerk of the court supervises the filing of all case-related items and maintains all case files in matters pending before the court. In addition, the Clerk's Office maintains case dockets, the court's journal and relevant trial, appellate, board, and agency records. The office also prepares and issues court orders, schedules oral arguments and other case-related matters for the court's consideration, and coordinates interagency communication in death-penalty cases. The Office of Legal Resources assists in resolving complex legal issues pending before the Supreme Court, while the Office of the Reporter publishes Supreme Court, appellate court, and trial court opinions. The Law Library is one of the largest state law libraries in the nation with a comprehensive collection of Ohio and federal legal sources open to the public.

Attorney Services Division

The Attorney Services Division assists the Supreme Court in its regulation of the practice of law in Ohio.

Judicial Services Division

The Judicial Services Division supports all Ohio trial and appellate courts in the administration of

justice by helping develop policies and procedures, training judicial officers and court staff, and providing access to funding and resources. The division provides traditional and innovative court services in response to and with respect for the needs of local courts and the public they serve.

Information Technology Division

The Information Technology Division operates the court's information technology systems and processes. The division also develops and implements the Ohio Courts Network, provides guidance to Ohio courts on technology-related matters, and facilitates the development of statewide information-technology standards for Ohio courts.

Facilities Management Division

The Facilities Management Division ensures the secure and efficient operation of the Moyer Judicial Center and maintains internal and external comfort, cleanliness, and building standards. The division provides building management services to Supreme Court employees and other building tenants, ensures the safety and comfort of guests, and offers security assessments and assistance to Ohio courts.

Affiliated Offices

In addition to its six divisions, the court has four affiliated offices with a quasi-independent status because of the nature of their work: the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, the Board of Commissioners on Grievances & Discipline, the Clients' Security Fund, and the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission.

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

CHIEF JUSTICE & JUSTICES

The Supreme Court of Ohio

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Steven C. Hollon, Administrative Director
Mindi Wells, Assistant Administrative Director

- Office of the Administrative Director
- Office of Fiscal Resources
- Office of Human Resources
- Office of Public Information
 - Civic Education Section

CLERK'S DIVISION

Mark H. Reed, Clerk

- Office of the Clerk
- Office of Legal Resources
- Office of the Reporter
- Law Library

ATTORNEY SERVICES DIVISION

Susan B. Christoff, Director

- Office of Attorney Services
- Office of Bar Admissions

JUDICIAL SERVICES DIVISION

W. Milton Nuzum III, Director

- Office of Judicial Services
- Office of Court Services
 - Case Management
 - Children, Families & the Courts
 - Dispute Resolution
 - Domestic Violence
 - Language Services
 - Specialized Dockets
- Judicial College

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Robert D. Stuart, Director

- Office of Information Technology
 - Application Development Section
 - Network & Tech. Resources Section

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

W. Craig Morrow, Director

- Office of Facilities Management
- Office of Court Security

CASE STATISTICS

773 CASES PENDING JAN. 1, 2013

2,055 CASES FILED

1,492 Jurisdictional Appeals
 451 Merit Cases
 112 Practice of Law Cases

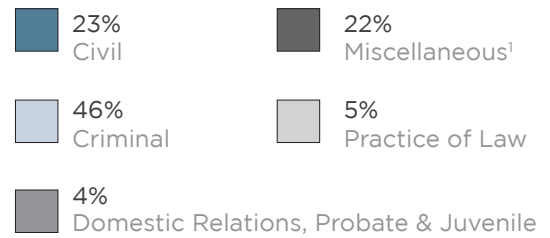
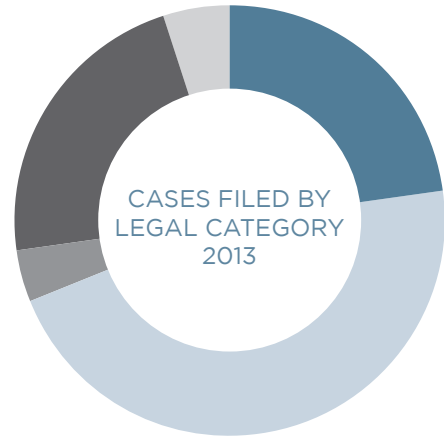
2,040 CASES DISPOSED

1,484 Jurisdictional Appeals
 466 Merit Cases
 90 Practice of Law Cases

788 CASES PENDING DEC. 31, 2013

99% CLEARANCE RATE

In 2013, 2,055 new cases were filed, a .9 percent decrease from the 2,187 cases that were filed in 2012. It is the fifth consecutive year in which the court saw a decline from the previous year in the number of new cases filed. The court's case clearance rate was 99 percent in 2013.



The breakdown of case types filed with the court has remained relatively consistent over the years. Criminal cases routinely make up approximately half of the court's caseload. In 2011, criminal cases comprised 50 percent, in 2012, 51 percent, and in 2013, 46 percent of the filed cases. The percentage of cases filed in the practice of law category has varied little, from 6 percent in 2011 and 2012, to 5 percent in 2013. In 2011, civil cases made up 22 percent of filed cases, in 2012, 19 percent, and in 2013, 23 percent.

CASES FILED IN 2013

1,492 Jurisdictional Appeals

1,398	Jurisdictional Appeals ²
7	Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals
9	Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
78	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications (<i>Murnahan</i> Appeals)

451 Merit Cases

197	Original Actions
41	Habeas Corpus Cases
99	Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)
31	Certified Conflicts
55	Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals
11	Appeals from Public Utilities Commission
1	Appeals from Power Siting Board
4	Death Penalty Cases
0	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in Death Penalty Case
2	Certified Questions of State Law
0	Appeals of Contest of Election under R.C. 3515.15
0	Petition Challenges pursuant to Article II, Section 1g
0	Contest of an Election pursuant to R.C. 3515.08
10	Cases Purporting to Invoke Unspecified Original Jurisdiction

112 Practice of Law Cases

96	Disciplinary Cases
5	Character and Fitness Cases
11	Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases

2,055 Total Cases Filed

FINAL DISPOSITIONS

1484 Jurisdictional Appeals³

1,390	Jurisdictional Appeals ⁴
7	Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals
10	Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
77	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications (<i>Murnahan</i> Appeals)

466 Merit Cases

213	Original Actions
41	Habeas Corpus Cases
70	Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)
17	Certified Conflicts
0	Certified Conflicts Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
37	Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals
4	Appeals from Public Utilities Commission
1	Appeals from Power Siting Board
3	Death Penalty Cases
2	Certified Questions of State Law
0	Appeals of Contest of Election under R.C. 3515.15
0	Petition Challenges Pursuant to Article II, Section 1g
11	Other Merit Cases
67	Jurisdictional Appeals Accepted for Merit Review

90 Practice of Law Cases

77	Disciplinary Cases
9	Character and Fitness Cases
4	Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases
0	Other Matters Related to Practice of Law

2,040 Total Final Dispositions

CASES PENDING ON DECEMBER 31, 2013

359 Jurisdictional Appeals

331	Jurisdictional Appeals
12	Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals
2	Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption
14	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications (<i>Murnahan</i> Appeals)

357 Merit Cases

43	Original Actions
12	Habeas Corpus Cases
99	Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)
31	Certified Conflicts
50	Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals
18	Appeals from Public Utilities Commission
1	Appeals from Power Siting Board
24	Death Penalty Cases
2	Certified Questions of State Law
1	Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in a Death Penalty Case
1	Other Merit Cases
75	Jurisdictional Appeals Accepted for Review

72 Practice Of Law Cases

65	Disciplinary Cases
0	Character and Fitness Cases
6	Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases
1	Matters Relating to Practice of Law

788 Total Cases Pending

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES: CASES FILED

96 Disciplinary Cases

- 41 Cases on Report of Board
- 8 Consent to Discipline Cases
- 2 Cases under Gov.Bar R. V(7)/Mental Illness
- 7 Attorney Resignation Cases
- 4 Reciprocal Discipline Cases
- 9 Cases upon Felony Conviction
- 3 Cases upon Default of Child Support Order
- 18 Disciplinary Default Judgment Cases pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V (6a)
- 4 Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov.Bar R. V

5 Character and Fitness Cases

- 5 Character and Fitness Cases

10 Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases

- 7 Unauthorized Practice of Law/On Report of Board
- 3 Unauthorized Practice of Law/On Consent Decree

1 Other Matters Relating to Practice of Law

- 1 Notice of Appeal/Motion for Contempt

112 Total Practice of Law Cases Filed

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES: FINAL DISPOSITIONS

77 Disciplinary Cases

Cases on Report of Board

- 6 Public Reprimand
- 12 Definite Suspension
- 16 Indefinite Suspension
- 5 Disbarment
- 2 Dismissed

Consent to Discipline Cases

- 1 Public Reprimand
- 2 Definite Suspension

Consent to Discipline Cases on Remand

- 1 Public Reprimand

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES: FINAL DISPOSITIONS, CONT.

Cases under Gov.Bar R. V(7)/Mental Illness

2 Mental illness suspension

Attorney Resignation Cases

6 Resignation accepted with disciplinary action pending

1 Denied

Reciprocal Discipline Cases

2 Public Reprimand

2 Definite Suspension

1 Indefinite Suspension

Cases upon Felony Conviction

9 Interim Suspension

Cases upon Default of Child Support Order

3 Interim Suspension

Disciplinary Default Judgment pursuant to Gov.Bar R. (V)(6a)

4 Indefinite Suspension

Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov.Bar R. V

1 Definite Suspension

Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov.Jud.R. II

1 Order of five-judge commission reversed; violation removed from record

9 Character and Fitness Cases

Character and Fitness Cases

8 Applicant disapproved, may reapply

1 Applicant disapproved, precluded from reapplying

4 Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases

Cases on Report of Board

2 Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law and civil penalty imposed

Cases on Consent Decree

2 Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law

90 Total Practice of Law Cases Disposed

72 Practice Of Law Cases Pending December 31, 2013

80% Practice Of Law Case Clearance Rate

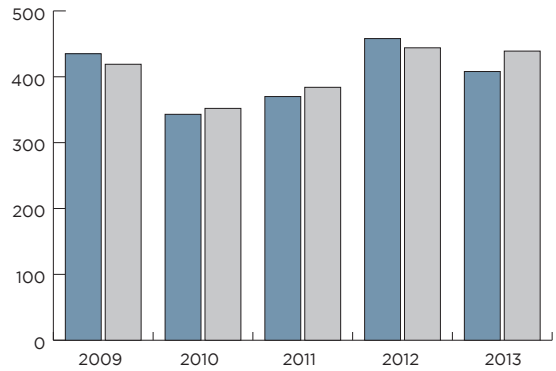
TIME TO DISPOSITION 2009 - 2013

The following charts present the average length of time from filing of an action to final disposition in broad categories of case types including: All cases, jurisdictional appeals accepted for merit review, original actions, and all cases decided with an opinion. The charts provide data for the years 2009 through 2013 for purposes of comparison.

The time-to-disposition reports show the mean and median number of days taken to dispose of cases, from the date of filing to the date of final disposition of a case. The median is the middle of the distribution of days where half the days are above the median number and half are below.

Jurisdictional Appeals ACCEPTED for Merit Review

From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition



2009 — 128 Cases
435-day mean
419-day median

2012 — 82 Cases
474-day mean
456-day median

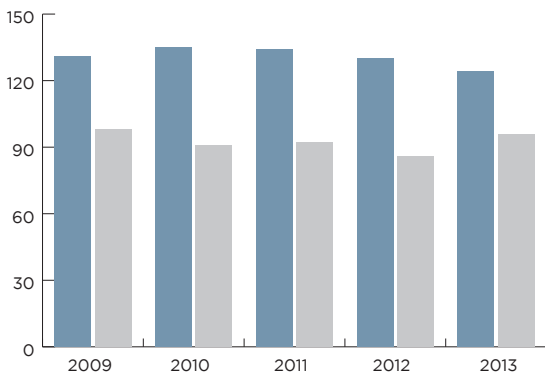
2010 — 101 Cases
455-day mean
421-day median

2013 — 59 Cases
408-day mean
439-day median

2011 — 54 Cases
481-day mean
415-day median

All Cases

From Filing to Final Disposition



2009 — 2,485 Cases
131-day mean
98-day median

2012 — 2,171 Cases
130-day mean
86-day median

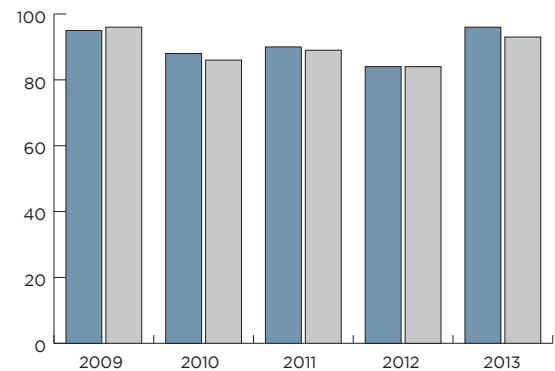
2010 — 2,245 Cases
135-day mean
91-day median

2013 — 2,040 Cases
124-day mean
96-day median

2011 — 2,267 Cases
134-day mean
92-day median

Jurisdictional Appeals NOT ACCEPTED for Merit Review

From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition



2009 — 1,793 Cases
95-day mean
96-day median

2012 — 1,474 Cases
84-day mean
84-day median

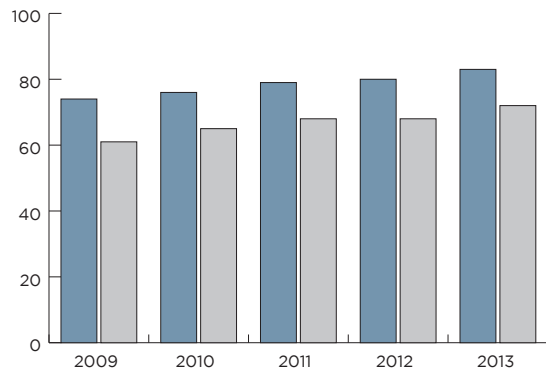
2010 — 1,397 Cases
88-day mean
86-day median

2013 — 1,476 Cases
96-day mean
93-day median

2011 — 1,583 Cases
90-day mean
89-day median

Original Actions⁵

From Filing to Final Disposition



2009 — 203 Cases
74-day mean
61-day median

2012 — 196 Cases
80-day mean
68-day median

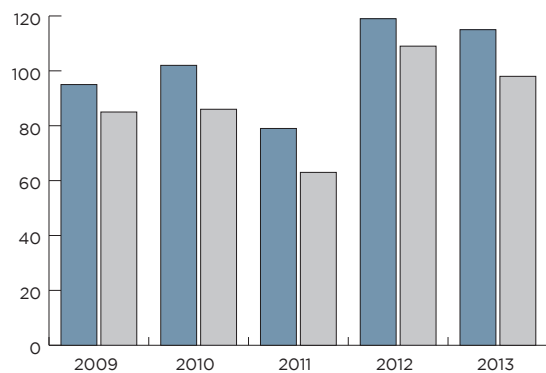
2010 — 233 Cases
76-day mean
65-day median

2013 — 253 Cases
83-day mean
72-day median

2011 — 207 Cases
79-day mean
68-day median

Cases Decided with an Opinion

From Submission to Court Until Issuance of Opinion



2009 — 346 Cases
95-day mean
85-day median

2012 — 338 Cases
117-day mean
109-day median

2010 — 333 Cases
102-day mean
86-day median

2013 — 192 Cases
115-day mean
98-day median

2011 — 265 Cases
79-day mean
63-day median

CASE STATISTICS NOTES

- 1 Miscellaneous cases include Certified Conflict Cases, Certified Questions of State Law, Direct Appeals, Original Actions, and Administrative Appeals.
- 2 In 2013, the Rules of Practice were changed and discretionary (felony and non-felony) appeals and claimed appeals of right were combined and are now called “Jurisdictional Appeals.”
- 3 This category includes dispositions where the court declined to accept jurisdiction and did not review the merits of the case.
- 4 See Note 2.
- 5 This category includes Habeas Corpus cases. In 2013, 38 of the 253 original actions were Habeas Corpus cases.

EXPENDITURES

JUDICIARY/SUPREME COURT

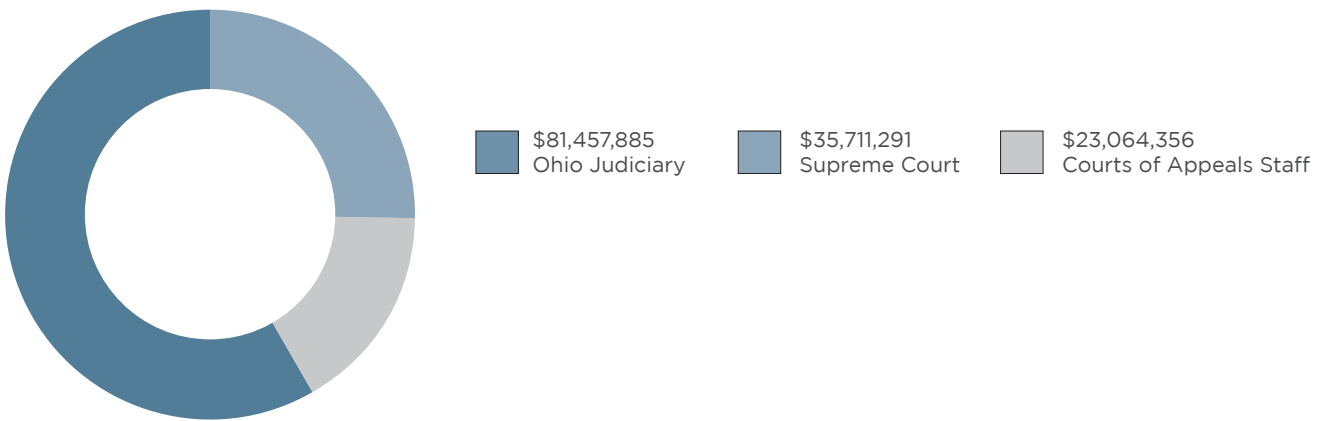
The Office of Fiscal Resources manages the Supreme Court of Ohio/Judiciary budget of more than \$140 million, which is used to support the operation of the Moyer Judicial Center, home to the Supreme Court, as well as the payment of the salaries of Ohio judges and courts of appeals staff.

	Expenditures FY 2013*	Percent of Total	Budgeted FY 2014**	Percent of Total
OHIO JUDICIARY				
Courts of Appeals Judges	\$ 11,542,336	8.2	\$ 12,341,302	8.2
Trial Court Judges	69,915,549	49.9	71,949,813	47.7
TOTAL OHIO JUDICIARY	\$ 81,457,885	58.1	\$ 84,291,118	55.9
COURTS OF APPEALS STAFF	\$ 23,064,356	16.4	\$ 26,377,687	17.5
SUPREME COURT				
Justices and Staff	\$ 4,150,941	3.0	\$ 4,686,192	3.1
Administrative Division	6,362,004	4.5	5,088,410	3.4
Clerk's Division	4,380,061	3.2	5,406,820	3.6
Attorney Services Division	2,296,204	1.6	2,702,680	1.8
Judicial Services Division	5,139,228	3.7	6,234,530	4.1
Information Technology Division	2,830,251	2.0	2,570,238	1.7
Facilities Management Division	4,096,106	2.9	4,584,942	3.0
Affiliated Disciplinary Offices	4,061,993	2.9	5,137,301	3.4
Ohio Courts Network Initiative	2,024,921	1.4	3,350,000	2.2
Ohio Center for Law-Related Education	236,172	.2	236,172	.2
Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission	133,410	.1	204,156	.1
SUPREME COURT TOTAL	\$ 35,711,291	25.5	\$ 40,201,441	6.6
OHIO JUDICIARY & SUPREME COURT TOTAL	\$ 140,233,532	100.0	\$ 150,870,246	100.0

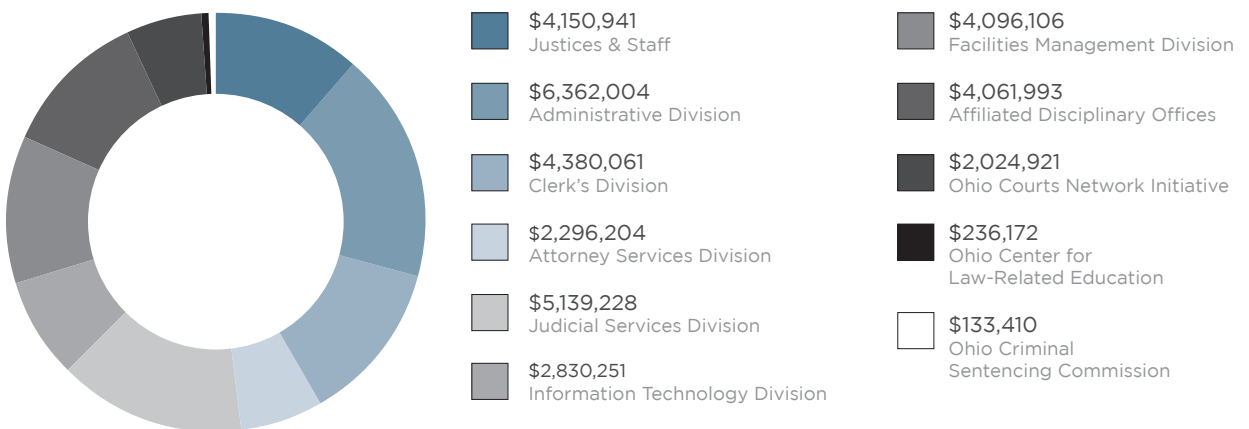
* Includes encumbrances and all fund sources.

** Budget is as of January, Fiscal Year 2014.

OHIO JUDICIARY/SUPREME COURT FISCAL YEAR 2013 TOTAL EXPENDITURES



SUPREME COURT OF OHIO FISCAL YEAR 2013 TOTAL EXPENDITURES





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The court relies upon the volunteer services of dozens of committed judges, attorneys, clerks, court administrators, and private citizens who serve on the Supreme Court’s many boards, commissions, advisory committees, and task forces. These bodies helped the court provide oversight to Ohio courts, regulate the practice of law, and provide efficient and helpful services to the judicial branch of Ohio government in 2013. For a complete listing of these bodies and the nature of their work, refer to www.supremecourt.ohio.gov.

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According to the Ohio Constitution, in the event of a recusal by a justice from a pending case, the chief justice can select any of the 68 sitting Ohio appellate court judges to sit temporarily on the Supreme Court. The court thanks the court of appeals judges who served as visiting judges for Supreme Court oral arguments in 2013.



HON. WILLIAM A. KLATT
Tenth District
Case No. 2011-0778
State v. Noling
January 8



HON. ROBERT P. RINGLAND
Twelfth District
Case No. 2012-0251
State ex rel. Nese v. State Teachers Retirement System
January 9



HON. MATTHEW W. MCFARLAND
Fourth District
Case No. 2012-0535
Cullen v. State Farm
February 26



HON. MICHAEL T. HALL
Second District
Case No. 2012-0216
State v. Willan
March 13



HON. SYLVIA S. HENDON
 First District
 Case No. 2012-0954
Ries v. The Ohio State University Medical Center
 April 10



HON. STEPHEN R. SHAW
 Third District
 Case Nos. 2012-0808
 and 2012-1216
State v. Boykin
 April 10



HON. GENE DONOFRIO
 Seventh District
 Case No. 2012-1235
Schussheim v. Schussheim
 April 23



HON. JOSEPH J. VUKOVICH
 Seventh District
 Case No. 2009-0739
State v. Wesson
 June 11



HON. JULIA L. DORRIAN
 Tenth District
 Case No. 2012-0900
In the Matter of the Application of Black Fork Wind Energy, L.L.C.
 August 21



HON. ROBIN N. PIPER III
 Twelfth District
 Case No. 2012-1741
State v. Miranda
 November 5



HON. LISA L. SADLER
 Tenth District
 Case Nos. 2012-1924
 and 2013-0300
Cincinnati Enquirer v. Honorable Robert H. Lyons
 November 5



HON. BETH WHITMORE
 Ninth District
 Case No. 2012-1272
ProgressOhio.org, Inc. v. JobsOhio
 November 6



HON. WILLIAM H. HARSHA
 Fourth District
 Case No. 2012-2136
State v. Taylor
 November 6

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THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO
April 2014

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